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See You Later, Alligator; Dropping Out Early; The Vision to Lead

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SEE YOU LATER, ALLIGATOR -- It's hard on children in day care when their parents leave them in the morning. To ease the separation anxiety, parents need to do two things: say goodbye—even if there will be tears—and say they'll be back, according to Joan Slonaker, director of the University of Dayton Children's Center. Whether it's with two kisses and a hug or a special blanket or teddy bear, it helps to set up a goodbye routine right away, says Slonaker.

Contact Joan Slonaker at (513) 229-2158 or (513) 293-1541.

DROPPING OUT EARLY -- An increasing number of urban elementary school children appear to be dropping out, largely because of a lack of family and community culture, according to a University of Dayton education professor. "There is insufficient family support to encourage children to continue in school," says Tom Lasley, chair of UD's teacher education department. In addition, he says, students don't encourage each other to succeed. "Few have an appreciation that schooling will lead them anywhere. Many of their friends finish school but are still walking the streets. They then ask themselves, 'Why should I stay in school?'" Lasley says his own children stay in school because "their parents and their friends value grades."

Contact Tom Lasley at (513) 229-3344.

THE VISION TO LEAD -- Tough times call for leader-managers: people who have vision and the managerial skills needed to control progress toward that vision, according to Joseph Schenk, director of the University of Dayton's Management Development Center (MDC). The MDC provides professional development, training and consulting services to clients ranging from Mead Data Central to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. Schenk has identified six essentials to leadership: vision, values, consideration, persuasion and motivation, tireless challenging of the status quo and positive orientation toward risk.

Contact Joseph Schenk, associate professor of management, at (513) 229-3116 or (513) 438-9671.