

Junior Jaguars Kids Club Newsletter

November 2013

It's time for Junior Jaguars Nights!

Although Junior Jaguars get in to ALL regular season games for free, Junior Jaguar Nights at the Men's and Women's basketball games are special nights that will include giveaways and chances to be part of the game for our kids club members. These games will be played in "The Jungle" in IUPUI's Physical Education & Natatorium building. Parking is available in the Sports Complex garage. Visit <http://www.iupui.edu/map/> for a campus map.

2013-2014 Junior Jaguar Nights

- Sunday, December 15, 2 p.m.: Women's Basketball vs. Indiana
- Sunday, December 29, 2 p.m.: Men's Basketball vs. Drake (Game televised live on ABC/RTV6)
- Saturday, January 25, 3 p.m.: Women's Basketball vs. IPFW. We will also be celebrating Jinx's birthday with a fun event only for Junior Jaguars!
- Saturday, February 15, 2 p.m.: Men's Basketball vs. South Dakota

For more game schedules, please visit: <http://www.iupuijags.com>

Congratulations, Jaguars! For the first time in program history, the IUPUI volleyball team will be playing in the NCAA Tournament!

The Jags will find out their NCAA Tournament opponent and destination on Sunday, Dec. 1, when the NCAA Volleyball Selection Show airs live on ESPNU at 9:30 p.m.!

Here at IUPUI, we've been trying to help our neighbors. We raised 2.1 tons of food to help those who may be hungry this holiday season. Kids are often the agents of change, so we were wondering, what can you do to help make the world a better place? Sketch an idea below. It can be a food drive, volunteer for a neighbor, or read to your sibling.

Meet one of our student athletes

Kristin Pierce: I'm a Jaguar

by Daniel Frank, IUPUI Sports Information

I'm creative.
I'm focused.
I'm driven.
I'm a Jaguar.



For many kids, college is all about the experience of living in a big city or a sports-centric college town, joining a fraternity or sorority, going to parties, staying up late and sleeping in. IUPUI senior Kristin Pierce seeks a different experience – one in which she takes full advantage of every opportunity to put herself in the best possible position to succeed in the next chapter of her life.

The previous chapter began when Pierce's mother, who played soccer for the Cincinnati Bearcats, taught her to play at four years old. When you do something for your entire upbringing, it becomes a part of who you are as Pierce can attest to; she often refers to herself as "Kristin the soccer player."

The soccer team was in rebuilding mode this past season having graduated eight seniors, but Pierce is a focal point moving forward as the Jaguars attempt to return to the NCAA Tournament. Her dedication and work ethic enabled her to lead the team in minutes played last season from the center back position. Strong one-on-one play and organization of the back line helped the Jaguars give up only eight goals in conference play, including two double-overtime contests and a shutout against South Dakota.

Pierce's hard work on the field has helped her learn what it takes to succeed off the field too. "Soccer has taught me what it means to work hard and reap the rewards of your work," said Pierce. "It wasn't always easy to play competitive soccer, but you learn how to make sacrifices in some areas to excel in others."

In addition to daily workouts and practices last spring, she worked a full-time internship with the Indiana Senate and carried a full slate of classes at IUPUI while maintaining a 4.0 grade point average for the semester.

"She's a great example of the type of student -athlete we are looking for," said Head Coach Chris Johnson. "When Kristin gets on the bus for a road trip somewhere, she's got her books out and she's ready to study. She does well not just because of her natural ability but also because of the time and the effort she puts in."

In between classes, work and soccer, Pierce finds time to explore her creative passion. She was in charge of designing flyers and a presentation for a team fundraiser this year and won a design competition on Facebook for jerseys the team will wear this coming season. As Pierce transitions into a professional environment, she hopes to have more opportunities to take advantage of her creativity – potentially as a social media brand manager.

Pierce is studying marketing with a specific interest in international business and has already been able to travel abroad on a couple of occasions. The soccer team took a weeklong trip to Spain in 2012 and Pierce studied abroad in Copenhagen, Denmark this past summer. Pierce didn't use her study abroad as a break from staying in shape though. She routinely ran in the park near where she lived and discovered her close proximity to the home of the local soccer club, FC Copenhagen.

It is not clear whether Pierce will stay in school after graduating to work on her MBA or take a job right out of the gates, but it is clear that whichever direction she chooses, there is plenty of promise and likely success to be found.