

Homecoming offered myriad of activities

By MARY BETH FOSTER
OLD GOLD AND BLACK REPORTER

Where can you go to find parties, dances, dinners, a carnival, live comedy and even meet an astronaut all in one weekend? Last weekend the university was the place to be for all of this and more.

"I think it was one of the best Homecomings we've had," said Kay Lord, the director of Alumni Activities.

More than 250 students, staff members and alumni volunteers worked for 18 months to plan this year's three-day Homecoming extravaganza, Lord said.

"Essentially, when one Homecoming is over, we start planning the next one," she said. The Office of Alumni Activities, the Student Alumni Council, and the Student Union work together to coordinate Homecoming events.

The Homecoming festivities began Friday with luncheons, classes and campus tours scheduled for alumni. That evening, Benson 401 was packed with alumni who each paid \$20 to attend a coat-and-tie Alumni Dinner with President Thomas K. Hearn Jr. Distinguished Alumni Awards were also presented at the dinner.

Especially well-attended that evening was a short talk given by former astronaut Ken Mattingly before the movie *Apollo 13* was shown in Pugh Auditorium.

Though the event was not originally scheduled as an official homecoming event, Student Union organizers said it was a great success.

"We had over 500 people there," said senior Eric Williams, the public relations director for Student Union.

Following Mattingly's talk, comedian A.J. Jamal entertained students and alumni and their families at Brendle Recital Hall.

A carnival on the Quad kicked off Saturday's events. Clowns, balloons, face painting and a booth of university merchandise were among the carnival's featured attractions.

"Primarily, we're concerned with making the alumni and their children feel at home," said sophomore Matt Lane, a member of the Student Alumni Council who helped organize the Quad Carnival.

Student Union provided "Big Kids' Games," such as



Glenn Thompson

Racial Harmony, an interracial music group, performs at the Homecoming Jam held by Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity in Reynolda Gym on Saturday.

air volleyball and air bungee jumping, to attract students to the carnival.

The Student Union also sponsored the Homecoming Court, which was presented during half time of the football game against the Georgia Institute of Technology. Seniors Ingrid Hoover and Jamie Spencer, both sponsored by the Black Student Alliance, were crowned Homecoming Queen and King.

Homecoming events would not be complete without

class reunions, and this year alumni who graduated in years ending in 0 or 5 held class events during Homecoming Weekend. The plans were different from class to class.

The class of 1990 held a post-game social at Ziggy's, while the class of 1965 collected a special party fund to have The Smitty Flynn Band, led by a university alumnus, play beach music at their Saturday night dance.

Bangladesh study trip available to six students

By JENNY HOBBS
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Bangladesh is not usually high on students' lists of vacation hot spots, but dozens of students expressed interest in a trip there this summer.

Six university students are going to be able to go for free, from May 21 to June 10, as a part of a summer study tour sponsored by the American Institute of Bangladesh Studies.

The university, one of the members of the institute, was recently awarded a grant that will cover expenses for six students and a faculty adviser for the three-week trip.

Charles H. Kennedy, a professor of politics, who also serves as director of the American Institute of Pakistan Studies for the Council of American Overseas Research Centers.

He said that this summer program was established three years ago to enable undergraduate students to go to Bangladesh.

According to Kennedy, the Pakistan study institute has been in operation for seven or eight years, and it is currently one of the only centers in the world that has a program like this for undergraduate students.

"Normally, these trips are confined to graduate students, but this program is being pitched at a different level," Kennedy said.

Kennedy said that he hopes at least one student involved in the program will come away with some interest in studying South Asia professionally.

"If one of these six students comes up with an interest in Pakistan, Bangladesh,

(or any South Asian country), then it will be worth the money," he said.

Kennedy said that an information session about the trip was held Monday night, and that there are at least 35 people who are already interested in the program.

After the number of applications has been narrowed down, students will be interviewed before the final selection takes place.

Kennedy said that the selection process will be completed by next week so that students going to Bangladesh can register for Politics 246, a general introduction to South Asian politics. Students who are selected to go on the trip will be required to take the course next semester.

Students will receive four additional course credits during the summer pro-

gram. Topics of study will relate to politics, economics and society, Kennedy said.

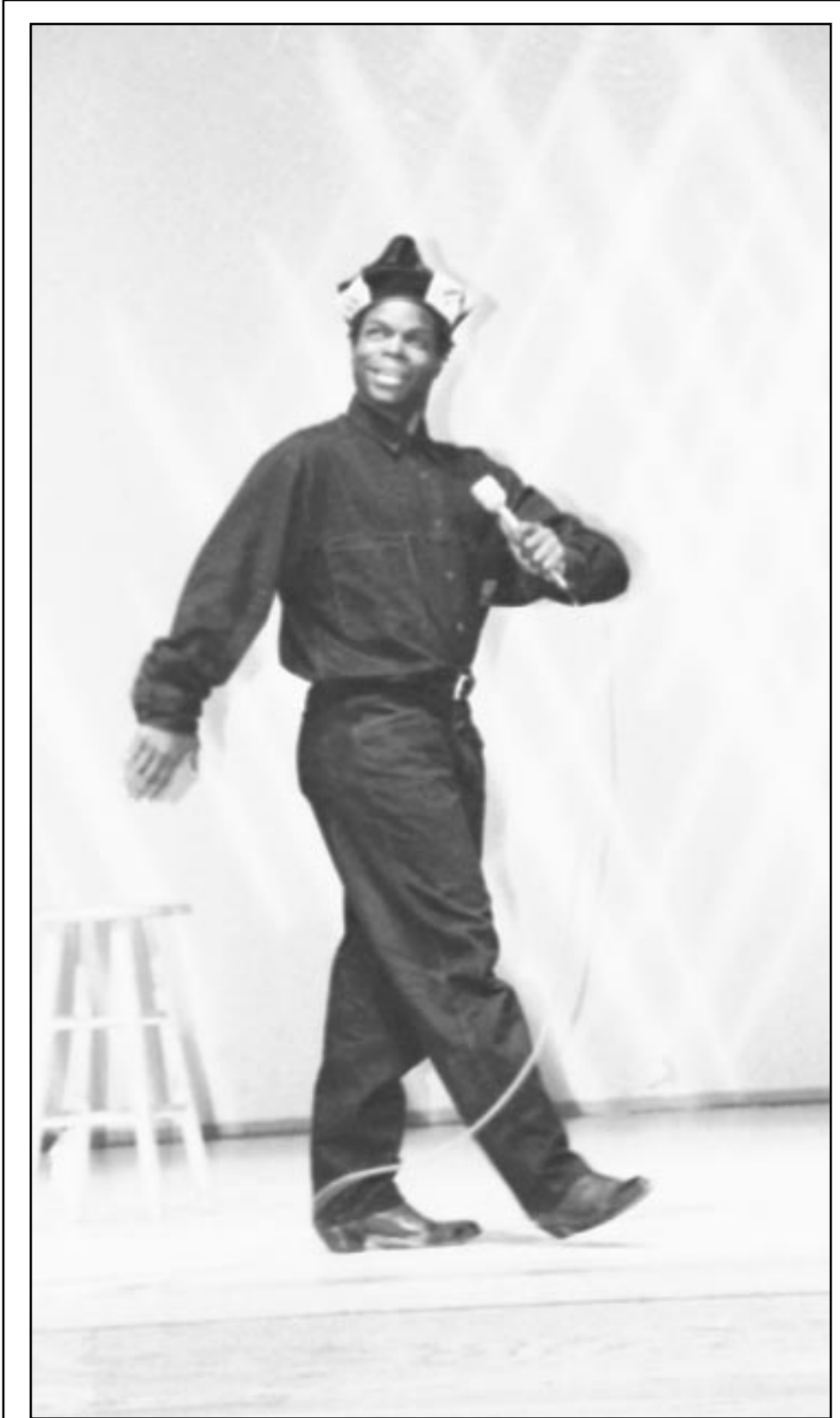
"We'll be all over Bangladesh and traveling most of the time we're there," he said.

Kennedy said that the group will go together to various places in Bangladesh and will visit political leaders, public officials, judges and the University of Dhaka.

"I'm going to make sure that we get to see some of the artists in Dhaka (as well)," he said.

Kennedy has served as the faculty director for the university's program in Venice and for a program called "Semester at Sea" in the past and said that he likes to travel with students.

"I enjoy and treasure these times," he said.



Brian Herring

Lots of laughs

Comedian A.J. Jamal entertains students, alumni, and their families Friday in Brendle Recital Hall as a part of Homecoming weekend festivities.

SG door to door survey measures student opinions

By BILL BISHOP
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Last week you might have received a knock on your door from a familiar face asking unfamiliar questions. Student Government representatives went door to door asking opinions of students on recent issues relevant to SG.

The survey of 962 students included questions about grade inflation at the university, the honor system and the election process for Judicial Board and the Honor Council, said junior Tyler Stone, the SG speaker of the house.

"These questions are important to the recent Student Government bills and are concerns that we (SG) have," Stone said. "We like to get percentage responses to specific questions from the students."

Concerning the recent discussion of grade inflation at the university, 68 percent of the students surveyed said that they would be in favor of raising the standards for students to graduate with honors to ensure that it is not more difficult to achieve individual grades.

Though the number of students to graduate with honors is expected to reach 70 percent this year, 38 percent of the students surveyed by SG said they would not be in favor of raising honors standards.

SG representatives also asked students if they would be in favor of a written code to be signed as part of the university's honor system. Sixty-seven percent of the students surveyed said that they were in favor of a written code and 33 percent said they were not.

According to survey results, 54 percent students said they would be in favor of reorganizing the Judicial Board and Honor Council election process to one similar to that of the student trustee. Forty-six percent said they were not in favor of such a change.

The fourth question of the survey was an open-ended question about the concerns students would like to see SG address this year.

In response, 73 people said they were concerned about the university's grading policy, 65 mentioned the problems with the key card system and 61 students mentioned the new alcohol policy, Stone said.

"The student government is criticized a lot for not getting enough students involved and some of it is valid, but students should take some initiative," Stone said.

SG will conduct another survey after Thanksgiving and is planning to hold two additional surveys next semester, Stone said.

Each legislator will also be able to e-mail students soon to tell them about issues and get immediate responses, Stone said.

Since there is approximately one SG representative for every 50 students, the SG will set up servers to help legislators keep in touch with students, Stone said.

SG will also put pictures of the SG board on the bulletin board outside of Benson 304 so that students can match the names with the faces of their student legislators, Stone said.

"We are doing everything we can, we are trying to make it as easy as possible," he said.

Fat substitutes pose serious health threat

FDA study reveals that new fat substitute can actually remove nutrients from the body

By LILLIAN NASH
HEALTH BEAT REPORTER

The Health Series answers students' questions about health issues. Send any questions to the *Old Gold and Black* at P.O. Box 7569.

Several weeks ago, Scott Ownby, the director of ARAMARK, said he had pulled the Pit's Weight Watchers line of diet entrees because of suspicions about chemical additives.

He is not the only one concerned about fake fat.

Fat substitutes seem to be everywhere on campus: fat free real and frozen yogurt and salad dressings, just to name a few.

Have you ever wondered, though, what makes these foods fat free and is the substitute any better for you?

Margarine, as a staple in American diets, is said to explain why

Europeans, who traditionally eat butter, have fewer heart attacks. Can the body handle manipulated fat?

The Food and Drug Administration has been refusing full approval of Proctor and Gamble's fat substitute, Olestra, for eight years, according to a recent CNN report.

Though the FDA has approved similar substitutes, the nature of the FDA's complaints

about this product should raise concerns about the additives in our food and if they could do more harm than we think.

Olestra is the first artificial no-calorie fat substitute that could be used for frying and baking, and it had been approved for use in prepared foods such as potato and tortilla chips.

Scientists are worried, though, that even small amounts of Olestra could actually remove nutrients from your body.

Olestra's molecule is a larger and a different shape than fat, thereby

preventing its absorption into the body.

But many fat soluble vitamins and nutrients dissolve in Olestra and leave the body with the synthetic molecule.

Proctor and Gamble had planned to fortify potato chips with those lost vitamins, but a Washington consumer health group is concerned that other nutrients are not being replaced.

The missing nutrients include the carotenoids found in tomatoes and carrots that may help to prevent cancer, strokes, heart disease, and blindness, a spokesman said.

Other researchers, such as Harvard nutrition expert Walter Willet, agree that Olestra is harmful.

Willet said a single order of french fries cooked with Olestra could cut the body's amount of carotenoids in half.

Until we know the whole story about these artificial substitutes, the best health advice at this point seems to be cut down on the real fat, eat lots of vegetables and to exercise.

The FDA is looking into these new problems with Olestra, despite pressure from Congress to speed up the process to approve food additives.



Debate team wins awards at tourneys

Awards, honors highlight debate team's season, hint at possible future successes

By STACY LANDIS
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

The varsity debate team won numerous honors and awards in the five tournaments it participated in in October. As of now, there are no rankings yet out for the country's college debate teams, but debate coach Ross Smith predicts that partners senior John Hughes and junior Brian Prestes and partners sophomores Ken Rufo and junior Bryan Yeazel will be asked to the national debate tournament in April. Smith also predicts that the university will send a third team of senior Chris Cooper and sophomore Daveed Garstenstein-Ross to the tournament.

During the weekend of Oct. 5-7, Hughes and Prestes went to the University of Kentucky for the Thoroughbred Round Robin. Nine teams were invited to participate. Hughes and Prestes were awarded third place at this tournament and Hughes was named fourth speaker.

On Oct. 8-10, the Henry Clay and Jefferson Davis Debates were held at the University of Kentucky once again. This time 61 varsity teams participated in the debates. The university sent six teams.

Honors were gained by Hughes and Prestes who won Top Seed and were in the Octa-finals. Hughes also won first speaker while Prestes was named eighth speaker.

In addition, Kristen Langwell and Nicole Runyan, the two freshmen on varsity, participated in the Pre-season Novice National Championship Division for first year college debaters. In this cat-

egory they won first place and Runyan was named fourth speaker.

In the same month, on Oct. 14-16, the debate team traveled to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where 41 varsity teams participated in the tournament.

Out of the five teams from Wake Forest, Cooper and Gartenstein-Ross were in the semi-finals and Cooper was named fourth speaker. Gartenstein-Ross was named seventh speaker. Rufo and Clay Rhodes were in the quarter finals as were Langwell and Runyan.

In the Replacement Debates at Mary Washington University in Fredericksburg, Va., on Oct. 20-22, Sean Nowak and Armen Zohrabian participated from varsity, and they advanced to the semi-finals. Zohrabian was named third speaker and Nowak was named ninth speaker. Drew Brown was in the novice category of the tournament and he was named seventh speaker.

The 35th annual Harvard Debates were held at Harvard University on Oct. 28-30. Forty-five teams participated in the tournament overall. Five teams from the university competed, and honors were achieved by Hughes and Prestes who made it to the quarter-finals, as did Yeazel and Rufo.

Hughes was named third speaker and Prestes was named fifth speaker. Gartenstein-Ross and Cooper were in the octa-finals.

The teams' next debate tournament is on Nov. 10 at Northwestern University, which will be the team's last major competition of the fall.

"We can do even better," Smith said.