

Project Pumpkin reaches out to community kids

Halloween festival to include carnival, music, trick-or-treating

By MATTHEW COLEMAN
OLD GOLD AND BLACK REPORTER

Halloween is fast approaching, and that means that thousands of volunteers are gearing up for Project Pumpkin. Oct. 30 from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m., 1,600 Forsyth County children will come to campus for trick-or-treating and other events.

According to senior Chris O'Neal, the chairman of the Project Pumpkin steering committee, over one-third of the student body volunteers for Project Pumpkin. Volunteers take underprivileged children from approximately 35 community agencies trick-or-treating through the residence halls, and student organizations sponsor carnival booths and other entertainment. This year, like last year, the Quad will be the center of activity.

In addition to the outdoor carnival on the Quad, which will have face-painting, music and games, there will also be indoor activities in some of the residence hall lounges. According to O'Neal, two fraternities will have haunted houses. One will be geared toward the younger kids and the other will be for the older kids.

O'Neal estimates that about 1,500 disad-

vantaged kids will be involved in Project Pumpkin activities this year. "We have two categories of kids that participate. The first are kids that come from low income areas of Winston-Salem where trick-or-treating might not be very safe. The other group are kids who

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Chris O'Neal
Project Pumpkin Steering Committee Chairman

have physical or mental disabilities," he said. Over the years, Project Pumpkin has developed a list of community agencies that bring children. Most of this year's agencies have

been involved with the activity before.

"But each year we have agencies come to us and say they'd like to come," O'Neal said. "That's difficult for us because we have to decide if we can handle them and whether they're really disadvantaged. But we try to accommodate everybody that meets our standards."

Because Project Pumpkin has grown to such a big event, it is largely dependent on donations and volunteers. Forsyth County schools provide some of the buses that are used for transportation. And Food Lion will be donating 75,000 pieces of candy - all of the candy for this year's event.

According to O'Neal, as of last week volunteers had already put in 825 hours of work in preparation for the event, and there will be thousands of more hours worked on the day of the event. According to O'Neal, Project Pumpkin provides a valuable community service and proves to the rest of the Winston-Salem community that Wake Forest students care about the city. "Wake students live in a bubble in that there are the gates and we're not really perceived as being part of Winston-Salem. This shows that we want to be part of the community, and we want to help out," he said.



LeeAnn Hodges

Juniors Jackson Williams and Amanda Barger show off this year's Project Pumpkin T-shirt. Project Pumpkin, an event that brings underprivileged children from the Winston-Salem community to campus, will be held on and around the Quad Oct. 30.

Evaluations necessary to retain leased lounge space

By MARK RABUANO
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Eight organizations had to fill out more paperwork than usual this year to keep their lounge space. This school year is the second of three consecutive years in which organizations with lounge spaces on campus, predominantly Greek organizations, will be evaluated.

These evaluations are to ensure that the organizations are utilizing their space "in a manner equitable to all our student groups and in keeping with the university's overall mission," wrote Jack E. Wilkerson, an assistant professor of business and accountancy and the chairman of the Student Life Committee, in his letter introducing the evaluation process to campus organization presidents in fall 1995.

The purpose of these evaluations is to make sure that all organizations with leased lounge space recognize their obligations to the entire university community.

All these organizations are subject to a review once every three years in the spring by the SLC.

Each organization is given a score of zero to 100 based on their addressing of specific criteria.

These criteria include the organizations' judicial histories, their altruistic ventures, their contribution to the residence hall community, and the academic and social

lives of the members. The criterion that is considered most important by the evaluation committee, 20 percent of the total score, is facility care, maintenance, and safety. This factor is assessed by the results of weekly inspections and any damage fines that are doled out to the organization.

The SLC and the office of Residence Life and Housing have the option of revoking the lounge space based on the results of the review. Also, despite the three-year cycle of reviews, the SLC can review an organization at any given time.

Mike Ford, the director of student development, said that each organization must fill out self-assessments and submit any supporting documents. Also, each administrative committee, including RLH and the Student Development Office, will assess the organizations with regards to their respective criteria.

Ford said, "The letters will be sent out in November (to the organizations) so they can prepare. They all know that there is a regular evaluation and they've been told to keep their records."

The eight organizations evaluated last spring generally did well, according to Ford. "There are some groups that were asked to improve their performance in some specific areas," Ford said.

Their written plans outlining improvements are due this

fall. The deficiencies will be addressed by the SLC, and the organizations are given a grace period to improve the deficiencies. If they do not address these concerns, they will be in jeopardy of losing their leased lounge space. Ford said, "The Student Life Committee has the prerogative to not renew lounge space."

According to Ford, Greek response is ambivalent, although most understand the need for the evaluation. "Any time someone is asked to justify their privilege of having lounge space, there is some anxiety," Ford said. He also asserted that the groups realize that they are given a great privilege and there needs to exist certain standards that are consistent with the university's mission.

Senior Emily Meyers, the president of Pi Beta Phi sorority, said that the process was not too difficult at all. According to Meyers, every sorority officer did a small report for their respective aspect of the organization and then Meyers compiled the information for the assessment.

"It is a fair process. It's just a matter of being honest," Meyers said. "The university needs to have a comprehensive review of what groups are doing," she said.

Senior Michael Kotzan, the president of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, said that his evaluation process impressions were different because of their unique circumstances. The Pika fraternity was on probation resulting in loss of lounge privileges from Dec. 1993 to April 1996.

The fraternity is now on a separate social probation. Kotzan did admit that the entire process was a necessary evil.

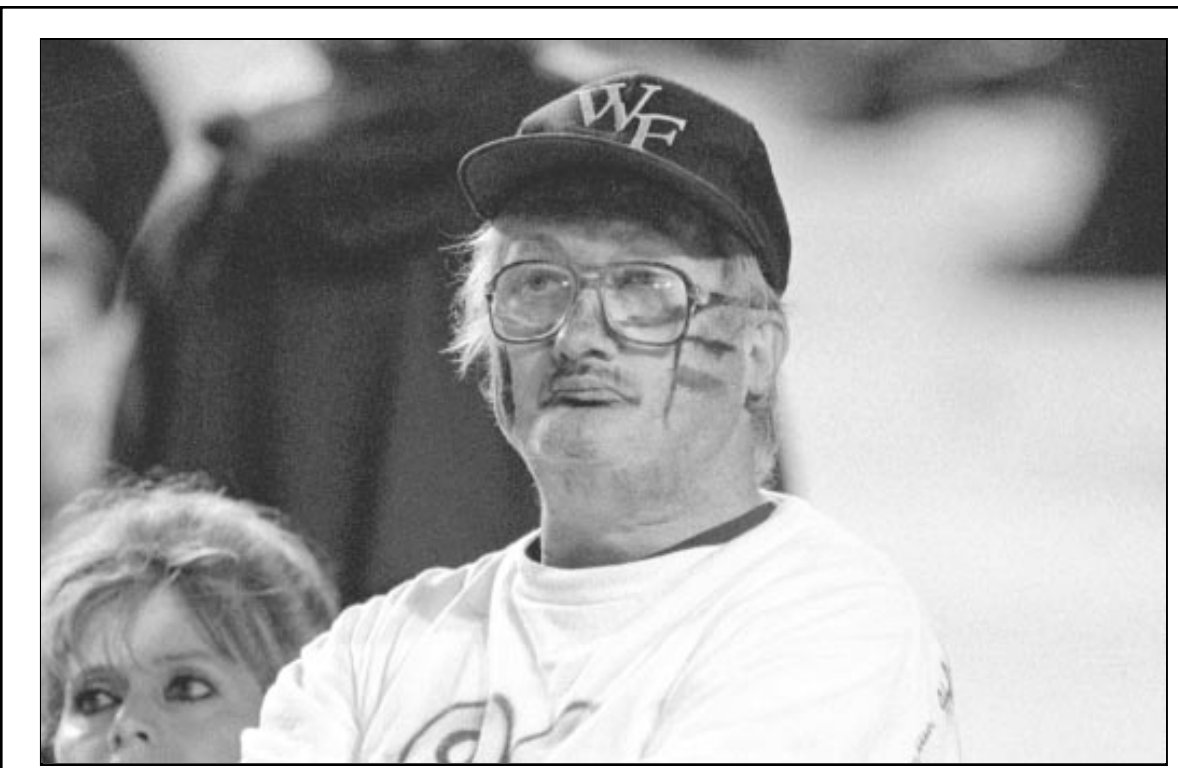
"(The evaluations) are a long overdue process. Everyone realizes that there is a need for review of organizations with a lounge ... when others are without lounge space and would like some. It's a positive thing even though it asks the organizations to be more accountable," Ford said.

Ford said that the goal of the evaluation process is to "have a system fair and equitable to all (and) that organizations with lounge space strengthen their organizational life in a beneficial manner."

The organizations that were evaluated last spring are fraternities Alpha Sigma Phi, Kappa Alpha, Kappa Sigma, Pi Kappa Alpha, Sigma Nu and Sigma Phi Epsilon, and sororities Kappa Kappa Gamma and Pi Beta Phi.

Next spring, fraternities Chi Psi and Sigma Pi, sororities Delta Sigma Theta, Delta Gamma, Kappa Alpha Theta, Kappa Delta, Alpha Phi Omega and the Baptist Student Union will all be evaluated.

In spring 1998, the following will be evaluated: fraternities Delta Sigma Phi, Sigma Chi, and Theta Chi, sororities Alpha Kappa Alpha, Chi Omega, Delta Delta Delta, and the Catholic Student Association. The order of evaluations was determined by a random draw made by the criteria development committee.



Jordan Wong

Deacon pride

Spectator Randy Haney shows his Demon Deacon spirit at the football game against UNC Saturday by painting his face. Despite his enthusiasm, the Deacons lost the game, 45-6.

Students view, discuss debate

By PATRICK KELLEY
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

With the presidential campaign now in full swing, students had a chance to check out both candidates and voice their opinions on them as Debate Watch '96 came to the university Sunday evening in the Annenberg Forum in Carswell Hall.

Students gathered to watch the debate and then split up into separate groups to discuss reactions to the statements made by the presidential candidates, Democrat President Bill Clinton and Republican candidate Bob Dole. Each group had a moderator to help keep the discussions moving.

Debate Watch is a national event sponsored by the Presidential Debate Commission. Participants in the event are asked to fill out a survey both before and after the debates on a variety of issues. The surveys are intended to gauge student reactions to the debates. The commission uses the information gathered from the surveys to get an idea of how they can improve the debates.

The event also gave students an opportunity to hear how others feel about the candidates. "It was really nice to see all of the different political perspectives," sophomore Dan Hayford said. "It's good to have people from both parties come out and talk together. We need to have more events

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Chris Dobbins
Senior

like this where you can be exposed to a variety of different opinions."

"We had some real excellent discussions," said senior Chris Dobbins, who was one of the moderators for the group discussions. "We discussed a lot on some of the issues that were

important to the students. I think in particular the debate showed how superficial this campaign was in its attempts to focus on youth issues."

Dobbins is a member of the steering committee that helped bring Debate Watch to the university. Other committee members include senior Will Burns, the committee's chairman and senior Catherine Jones. Allen Loudon, an associate professor of communication, worked with the committee to help set the event up.

"This was really a celebration of the debating process," Loudon said. "Watching the debate in large groups gives a unique perspective on the reactions to the candidates as well as gathering information on how to improve the debates."

Student turnout for the event was high. A similar event will be held for the second Presidential debate to be held Wednesday, again in the Annenberg Forum of Carswell Hall. Interested students who want to obtain more information on the upcoming session should contact Burns at 659-9984 or Loudon at Ext. 5408.

Trustees control university policies

By EMILY BREWER AND PATRICK McDONOUGH
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR AND OLD GOLD AND BLACK REPORTER

Though the board of trustees met on campus this past weekend, many students remain unclear as to their power and their duties.

By definition, the trustees are the directors of the corporation known as Wake Forest University. Their mission is to provide leadership, to construct goals for the university and to insure the completion of those goals.

Major duties of the Trustees include the approval of the budgets for both the Reynolda and Hawthorne campuses and the approval of significant changes in the academic curriculum, such as the Plan for the Class of 2000.

Last spring, the trustees also approved the plan to go forward with the construction of Shorty's as a campus coffeehouse and pub. The Shorty's project had to be voted on by the Trustees, because it was a project of significant financial expense not accounted for in the university budget.

"The trustees own the university and can change anything they want to," said Sandra Boyette, the vice-president for public affairs.

"They rely on the administration to man-

age the day-to-day business of the university."

According to Leon Corbett, the secretary of the board of trustees and the vice president and counsel for the university, the board balances its powers with that of the administration.

"The board of trustees is a policy-making body and generally does not interfere in day-to-day actions. If the board feels that those actions are not being properly discharged, then it would make a recommendation to that effect," Corbett said.

Prior to 1986, before the university broke its ties with the Baptist State Convention, all trustees were Baptist.

While the board is now open to people of all religious beliefs, the bylaws of the university seek to ensure that the university's Baptist and North Carolina heritage is represented on the board.

New trustees are selected by the incumbent trustees and the nominating committee, and they serve four-year terms.

Trustees may serve more than one term on the board, but must wait a minimum of one year before beginning a second term.

At any time, there are no less than 36 and no more than 40 regular trustees on the board.

In addition to the regular trustees, there are also life trustees, who are non-voting mem-

bers of the board, and the student trustee, who is a voting member.

Life trustees are former board members with records of exceptional service to the university. Life trustees may attend meetings and serve on committees of the board, but do not vote in matters decided by the board. They are not included in the number of trustees determined each year.

Every two years, nominees for student trustee are picked from a series of interviews of prospective candidates conducted by Student Government. SG chooses six nominees, whose names are forwarded to the student body for a campuswide election. The top three candidates from the election are interviewed by the Student Life Committee, which decides which student will be student trustee, pending approval of the board of trustees.

The student trustee serves a two-year term. The board of trustees has 12 committees, each of which is comprised of approximately five trustees. These committees are concerned with academic affairs, academic planning, admissions, scholarship and student aid, institutional planning, investments, bylaws and health affairs.

According to Boyette, the minutes of the meetings of the trustees are kept confidential. After each meeting, the trustees hold a press conference to discuss their rulings.

Trustees

From Page A1

more students to attend the lectures and speakers on campus.

The committee also discussed the racial divide at the university. Recognizing that the issue is a national problem, the committee suggested improvements which could be made on campus.

The committee said that some positive steps had been taken this year, with the addition of four minority professors among the 11 new faculty hired and the creation of an ethnic studies minor.

Vermillion said she was encouraged by these steps, and will be meeting with the office of multicultural affairs and reporting back to the trustees on how the university can strengthen the recruitment of both minority students and faculty.

"The trustees would like to vote on the implementation of some definitive programs regarding minority recruitment at their February meeting, but realistically, such a vote will probably come at the end of the year," Vermillion said.

The committee also asked the student panel about the students' perception of the board. One student said most students see

the board as "a group of 60-year old, conservative, white Baptist men."

Several board members said they resented this portrayal, but recognized the importance of ameliorating relations with the students, and are developing plans to bring more students into contact with the trustees. "Many people think that the administration and the board of trustees are out to get everybody. They're not the enemy. They have a strong interest in students," Vermillion said.

Vermillion said that the best way for students to get information to the trustees is to speak with her or Ken Zick, the vice president for student life and instructional resources. "We're fortunate that we're a small university. It is relatively easy for a student to meet with the administrators here if they have concerns. I think many people have voices to be heard, but don't take them anywhere," Vermillion said.

Considering campus social life, the trustees realized that their infrequent visits to campus would limit their ability to make changes. "The trustees can't plan a great party," Vermillion said.

However, the board told Vermillion that it would be willing to hear any student proposals that it may be able to help implement.

"This isn't a 'you plan it, we fund it' proposition, but they're very willing to listen to student input," Vermillion said.