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# Homecoming scales back but keeps major events

by MEGAN O'BRIEN

A&E Editor

The Association for Campus Entertainment's (ACE) homecoming committee selected the theme "Hawkfest 2000: Making a Statement" for the week of games, school spirit and community service. "We came up with it by looking at themes from other schools...it was kind of a combination of those," committee chair Carrie Taylor said. The events start Jan. 31 and run until Jan. 5.

An integral part of Homecoming week is the selection of king and queen. Campus clubs and organizations nominate candidates. Students can vote for the king and queen at the Homecoming basketball game, but no longer is the selection based purely on student votes. Candidates are awarded points for going to the major Homecoming events: the block party, the blood drive or campus clean up, the extreme games and the Barry Drake presentation. Each event is worth five points and attendance must be verified by an ACE member. They also receive points from an interview with a panel, their campus involvement and their grade point average. Each component counts 20 percent of the final score, and the students with the high-

est points become Homecoming king and queen.

The committee planned fewer events for this homecoming week than in years past. Rather than having an event every day and every night, Taylor only wanted to have two events during the day. "It's not just so we don't spread ourselves too thin, but we've had problems getting people to come to day events," she said.

The first event is the campus beautification program, which starts Jan. 31 and ends Feb. 1. Taylor recently sent a letter to clubs and organizations soliciting participation. Individuals are also welcome to participate in the clean up.

The entertainment begins with a block party Jan. 31. The party, entitled "It's Time to Party," will take place in the Warwick Center Ballroom at 8 p.m. and feature a performance by DJ Battle, who performs at Metropolis on Friday and Saturday nights.

Feb. 1 the Red Cross will hold a blood drive in the Warwick Center Ballroom. "We have a goal of 75 units set for it," director of blood services Beverly Dixon said. "It would be great if we exceed the goal." To help meet that goal, ACE plans to have a competition between campus organizations to see which group can bring out the most donors. The campus



File Photo/The Seahawk

Barry Drake

clean up will operate in much the same way, with the organization with the most volunteers winning. The leading organization will be recognized during half time at the Homecoming basketball game Feb. 5. To participate in either event, call ACE or e-mail them at [uncwhomecoming@thespark.com](mailto:uncwhomecoming@thespark.com)

The freshman class talent show will be held Feb. 1 at 7 p.m. in the Hawk's Nest. It follows the success of last year's talent show, which drew a crowd that nearly filled the Hawk's Nest. Freshman class president Amanda Jones organized this year's event.

ACE brought back some of the popular "Extreme Games" that were seen at Mid-

night Madness. Fair favorites like the moonwalk and the bungee run will return, as will an inflatable obstacle course, and a jousting game that works on a similar premise as "American Gladiators," according to Taylor. The games will last from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The theme for Feb. 3's event is "Remember the Time." Barry Drake will give a multi-media presentation about the music of the 80's. Drake participated in homecoming last year with a presentation on the music of the 60's. "It went really well," Taylor said. "He's a really interesting person."

Kenan Auditorium will host a step show Feb. 4 at 8 p.m. ACE's Port City Comedy committee, the National Panhellenic Council and Greek affairs sponsored the show, titled "Stepping into the New Millennium."

A "Millennium Madness" tent party will wrap up the week. It will be held in the quad in front of Hoggard Hall. There will be free food, music and a chance to meet the homecoming court from 4-5 p.m. Raleigh band the Outhouse Poets will perform their eclectic music. Taylor compares their sound to Dave Matthews and Blues Traveler. "The lead singer plays 14 instruments," she said. "There's a lot of variety in their music."

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