

# Hargraves hosts fall carnival for the kids

BY ALEXANDER TROWBRIDGE  
STAFF WRITER

The Town of Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation Department motto, "Play is our thing," came to life Friday as children went from game to game at a fall carnival.

Poor weather did not stop a number of Chapel Hill and Carrboro children from enjoying themselves at the event at Hargraves Community Center.

The indoor festival drew about 40 children ages 6 to 10 to run and play with their peers.

Robbin Justice-Jones, recreation specialist for the town, said the carnival was geared toward celebrating the fall instead of Halloween so as not to offend anyone.

She said she had received positive responses from parents.

"The kids enjoy it. I think it's a good thing, and it brings joy to any child to win something."

Attractions included face-painting, ring toss, a magnetic dart game, arts and crafts, a bean bag toss and a cake walk.

The cake walk was attendee Kiki Sanders' favorite part of the carnival "because we get cupcakes, and I'm the one who got the most."

Bridget Mahoney, a graduate student at UNC working as a therapeutic mentor with Carolina Outreach, brought a 5-year-old patient.

"It's great, especially since it's free," Mahoney said.

"It's a valuable resource in the community."



Sophomore Korsica Lassiter paints a rocket on the arm of a volunteer at a Fall Carnival held at Hargraves Community Center on Saturday.

The UNC women's ultimate frisbee team helped to set up, and Delta Sigma Theta sorority, the first black Greek sorority at UNC, ran activities such as face painting and pin the nose on the pumpkin.

Chloe Russell, a senior journalism major and the service chairwoman of the sorority, said the carnival was important because of Hargraves' importance to the black community in Chapel Hill and Carrboro.

That's why she said her chapter wanted to help out.

The sorority prepared about 200 bags of candy in preparation for a larger turnout.

Not all of the volunteers were

college students. Jamarius Jones, an 11-year-old Carrboro resident who attended the carnival last year, came this year as a volunteer.

"It's pretty fun," he said. "We all just decided to come up here and help out."

Clown Willie, in his third year at the carnival, provided children with balloon shapes. The most popular, he said, were dogs, swords, butterflies and hats.

"The other two years, there were a lot more people," he said. "I guess it's because of the weather."

Contact the City Editor at [citydesk@unc.edu](mailto:citydesk@unc.edu).

# Village project on track to meet fundraising goal

BY KATHRYN BALES  
STAFF WRITER

A partnership to help end poverty in Africa is growing after Bennett College made an announcement last week that it joined the Millennium Village Project.

The Greensboro-based college is joining with UNC and Duke University. The student-led partnership is part of the U.N. Millennium Project.

The project seeks to end extreme poverty in Africa by giving aid to poor villages and help achieve the U.N.'s Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

Junior Manisha Panjwani, a co-coordinator at UNC, said the alliance is a mutual effort on the part of the three schools.

"(Bennett is) a small school so all the students are very involved with what goes on, so it wasn't hard to get them on board," she said.

UNC junior Jaymin Patel, a student-group liaison with the project, said adding another school into the mix is an advantage for the project.

"It was definitely a big positive step for us," he said. "It's a truly unique partnership with a private university, a public university and a traditionally black college. These three very different schools coming together really means a lot."

UNC's contribution to the project, which involves several campus student groups, has reached \$1 million to aid an impoverished village

in Kenya.

The funding has come from an anonymous alumni and other interested parties. The anonymous donor agreed to match funds raised up to \$500,000. Panjwani said she hopes the campuses will raise \$1.5 million by August 2007.

"The fact that all these schools are working together on this is great," she said. "We're well into November, and we've gotten way further than we thought. Right now we're trying to inform students."

"We're really going to make a difference in children's lives."

To stay on track, coordinators have planned "MVP Week" which will run from Nov. 6 through Nov. 10.

There will be events throughout the week, leading up to a free public speech from Jeffrey Sachs at 11 a.m. Nov. 10 in Memorial Hall. Sachs is a Columbia University professor who has played a large role in advocating for the Millennium goals.

A student rally will follow Sachs' speech at 12:15 p.m. in the Pit.

Panjwani said she's hoping for a full house. "(Sachs will) do the rest of the job in convincing people how important this cause is," she said.

The week's events are supposed to increase awareness and start a dialogue about the most effective way to enact the project.

"Bringing this kind of thing to light for students will make them ask questions and really start to understand what's going on," Panjwani said.

"MVP is not just another group

## Millennium Village Project

► A coalition of several student groups, partnering with other universities

► First-ever student led coalition to finance a village and eradicate extreme poverty

► \$1 million raised so far and a goal of \$1.5 million for the year

► Three diverse schools involved: UNC, a public university; Duke University, a private university; and Bennett College, a traditionally black, all-female college

► MVP Week from Nov. 6 to Nov. 10: a week of events supporting the goals of the Millennium Village Project

on campus — but a student movement. It's something that everyone can get involved in."

Patel said the campus movement has been raising funds through T-shirt and headband sales, online donations and overtures to corporations and student groups.

"You can pretty much name a group, and we've contacted them," Patel said. "They've all shown a lot of enthusiasm."

"We're not asking just one group of people, we're trying to ask anyone and everyone."

Contact the University Editor at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).

# Leaders push exam-free days

BY ANNA KIM  
STAFF WRITER

Within a few years, students might see some extra relief during final exam week.

Student government is advocating for an extension and better placement of reading days.

Student Body President James Allred said reading days — which are intended to be a break from classes and exams — can be scheduled more effectively so students can use at least a full day to study.

"Sometimes they say you get a Sunday to count as a reading day, but a lot of students have other things to do than study on Sundays," he said. "We'd like to see a legitimate break from the exam schedule."

This semester, the reading days fall on Thursday, Dec. 7 and Wednesday, Dec. 13.

In the spring, a Saturday would count as a reading day.

Allred said his administration is advocating a weekday or a Saturday to be protected as a reading day for

students.

Each calendar year is planned two years in advance with the help of the student body president. This year's calendar was created by Matt Calabria, student body president for the 2004-05 school year.

Allred will plan the 2008-09 calendar, and student government's calendar committee will meet in January and February to plan the dates.

The academic affairs committee also is working to catalog reading day processes of other institutions within the Association of American Universities. The information will help guide arguments that have been introduced by student government.

"We want to make sure we protect the ideas of having reading days for students and that students have the time to process and review the material between the end of classes and the beginning of exams," Allred said.

Duke University and N.C. State University have adopted differ-

ent forms of preparation for finals week.

N.C. State has what students call "dead week" during the last week of classes. The school's administration specifically asks that no exams or new assignments are given during the week, said Thomas Conway, dean of the Undergraduate Academic Program at N.C. State.

"Students can plan their time ahead of time to keep their study hours free to prepare for examinations," Conway said.

Duke's exams generally begin on a Monday, with one or two reading days on the calendar.

Reading days are scheduled for the Thursday and Friday of the week before exams begin, and sometimes they are split into half days when there are no exams during the week, said Sue Wasiolek, Duke's assistant vice president of student affairs and dean of students.

"Our general hope is to try to have Saturday and Sunday with two additional weekdays," Wasiolek said.

Allred said that most of the 60 AAU institutions try to set up an ideal reading schedule, and that he is pushing for UNC to follow suit.

"We are just trying to encourage Carolina to follow the best practices that have been set up by other AAU universities."

Contact the University Editor at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).

# Students participate in radio show

## Program features music, news talk

BY EMILY GALLIMORE  
STAFF WRITER

A few weeks ago, 12 Smith Middle School students launched "Teen Spirit," a new radio program on WCOM-FM 103.5.

The show, which runs from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. every Sunday, is a production of the Smith Middle School eighth-grade radio club and is sponsored by teacher Boyd Blackburn.

The title was inspired by the Nirvana song "Smells like Teen Spirit."

It describes the program's target audience — students in Chapel Hill and Carrboro.

"We get to play whatever music we feel like, as long as it's clean," said Nathan Harris, a radio club member.

The students play songs by artists including U2, Rascal Flatts, System of a Down, Hilary Duff, M.C. Hammer and The Cranberries.

"We want to promote local bands as well," club member Matthew Lee said.

The program recently has featured selections from local Chapel Hill band The Old Ceremony.

In addition to the music, the students talk about issues in the news, including the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education's decision earlier this month about

which students should be allowed to stay at their old school when Carrboro High School opens in the fall.

The students invite listener feedback and have recently added an AIM screen name and a blog to facilitate comments, club member Henry Gargan said.

"The show is for teens, by teens," he said.

Blackburn offers some suggestions, but students mostly run the program.

One student always occupies the power seat, running the broadcast.

"I've done just a little bit but we've been getting things rolling but the main idea is ... to have the students do everything," Blackburn said.

Before Teen Spirit took over, Blackburn had his own show, Dance Jam, in the same time spot.

Teen involvement began when Blackburn opened the studio to his students last year.

"Dr. B was running this time spot on the radio and he invited all his students ... I was the only one who showed up," student Tucker Jones said.

"The first weekend of the summer I showed up again — uninvited — with a CD. ... Dr. B wasn't there so I ran the show."

Blackburn trained Jones to run the program when he would be out of town last summer.

Then when school started this



Eighth-grader Henry Gargan of Smith Middle School conducts his first live interview Sunday, Oct. 22, on the WCOM youth radio show.

year, Blackburn held a meeting inviting interested students to broadcast their own program during his time spot.

"I thought it would be more valuable and more in the spirit of community radio if I turned it into a club program," he said.

Andrew George, the station's programming coordinator, said WCOM-FM 103.5 welcomed the idea of having students on the station.

"That is exactly what community radio is about."

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