

Spotlight

Slugfest Weekend pairs spring pastimes for charity



Members of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity sell Slugfest T-shirts in the Pit Wednesday

By LEIGH ANN McDONALD
Special to the DTH

With the advent of spring, there are two things on everyone's mind — partying and, well, softball. Starting tonight the two go together, with the beginning of the Sigma Phi Epsilon's "Slugfest Weekend."

The fraternity's tradition began in 1982 when some of the fraternity members wanted to create an event for charity that involved not only other fraternities, but the community, University and other campus organizations, according to tournament organizer Jeff Morgart. About 20 to 25 teams sign up each year and play softball to win their names on a trophy, which is displayed in Woolen Gym.

Sophomore Neal Cook and his intramural softball team, the Lounge Lizards, will play in this year's tournament. "We thought it would be fun, staying up all night playing," he said.

The games will begin at 6 p.m. on the two Ehringhaus fields and the teams will play until about noon on Saturday. "This will give everyone a chance to go to Springfest," Morgart said.

Morgart said each of the softball teams paid a \$50 entrance fee, which will go to the Ronald McDonald House of Chapel Hill. "It's a good

local charity. We can see our money at work."

The fraternity has raised about \$2,200 so far, and Morgart said it expected to raise more than \$3,000 from team entrance fees and from selling T-shirts and raffle tickets. "We've sought out more sponsors and tried to expand the tournament to a broader expanse of people."

The fraternity's donation will be put into the general operating budget, according to Ronald McDonald House manager Barbara Palmer. "The UNC students have been absolutely phenomenal. They have been backbones of support for this house. I think it's wonderful that young people have the compassion for organizations such as this one."

But the "Slugfest Weekend" is far from over after the winner for the tournament is declared, so Springfest revelers still wanting to party into the evening can take heart. Another all-campus party will begin when WRDU radio pulls into the fraternity's parking lot to play their Rock 'n' Roll radio from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday while fraternity members call the winners of the raffle tickets.

"We always show up for the party," said Ron O'Brien, WRDU director of creative services. "We

like to sponsor people who are well-organized and are donating to good charities — we don't want to get involved if it's just a beer bash."

Around 9 p.m. the Had Matters, a local band that plays classic rock 'n' roll, will play. Senior Dave Adams said the fraternity chose the band because it has a large following of University students and plays music that most people like, such as the Rolling Stones and Pink Floyd.

"The kind of music they play will add variety to the weekend. Bands at Springfest will play mostly Top 40 stuff, and it will be all beach music at Carolina Beach Blast."

During the party, fraternity members will give away tapes, T-shirts, can huggers, mugs, key chains, Frisbees, beach balls and a bomber jacket, Morgart said. Budweiser, WRDU radio and Simply Cellular are providing the fraternity with the giveaways. Other Slugfest sponsors include Audio Visions, DSG Sports, Carolina Pride, Ken's Quicke Mart, Harris Incorporated and Chili's restaurant.

"The party will go on no matter what," Morgart said. "If it rains, we will hold it inside." However, the softball tournament will be canceled if the fields are too wet, and all the money will be refunded to the teams, he said.

Your residence hall key: Don't leave your room without it

By LAURA FRANCIS
Staff Writer

STOW residents need a key to get into the bathroom. Alderman, Kenan, McIver and Spencer residents returned March 20 from spring break to find that self-locking devices had been installed to improve safety conditions in their residence halls.

Housing director Wayne Kuncil said the housing department and area directors had become more and more concerned with how "we could increase the level of safety in residence halls." Kuncil said the bathroom locks were installed upon the request of STOW Area Director,

Sharon McMillen-Cannon, after fall meetings with staff and student leaders in that area.

The locks have been installed on a trial basis this spring, Kuncil said. The housing department will assess how well the locks work in STOW before it decides to have them installed in other residence halls, he said.

"We're trying to convince students to leave their doors locked. Personal property is the responsibility of the student, and the University assumes no responsibility for liability."

Before fall break last semester, three thefts and two attempted thefts occurred in STOW rooms where

residents had left doors unlocked. Fliers were issued to caution students to lock their doors, but McMillen-Cannon said the fliers were not enough. She and the STOW resident assistants (RAs) held four mandatory meetings to "talk up front with the students, make an impact and give statistics."

According to informal surveys completed by about 425 students, 398 students said they left their rooms unlocked from time to time, and 298 students said they left their doors unlocked and/or ajar when they were not in the room. Also, McMillen-Cannon said, 210 students said they left their rooms

unlocked when they were asleep.

"From a show of hands at all four meetings, the majority of females wanted locks" on the bathroom doors, McMillen-Cannon said. She said students supported the idea because it would be safer to enter the bathroom, especially late at night, and it would help keep them from leaving their doors unlocked.

McMillen-Cannon said although residents may now find that the locks are inconvenient, the students are actually locking their doors more often, and fewer residents are coming to the area office to get a key because a roommate locked them out. She said locking doors

would become a new habit.

Christine Wettach, a sophomore from Pittsburgh, Pa., said: "I don't think people will lock the doors behind them on their way to the bathroom. I don't see how that (the lock) is going to solve the problem."

She said strangers can still easily walk into the dormitory. "If they secure the outside, they wouldn't have to lock the inside."

McMillen-Cannon said the locks would have long-term benefits and may help overall security on campus. "Other areas are looking towards us to see how it works."

Leslie Foster, area director for Cobb/Joynes, said Joynes had a trial lock on a first floor bathroom door. The resident assistants "are doing programming now about safety and security to elevate student concern."

"We're not looking to make moves to do anything different," said Jim Weaver, area director for Henderson Residence College.

"They (housing officials) are predominantly looking at all female residence halls."

However, Weaver said he "sent memos to residents requesting cooperation and responsible behavior — like not propping doors — during Springfest."

"One of the biggest problems is propped doors," said Roger Nelson, area director for Olde Campus. He said he was trying to determine the

"high times" when doors are propped open. Although Olde Campus does not have bathroom locks, it does have improved lighting in the upper and lower quads.

Olde Campus resident assistants will test a pilot program for a week in which they will leave notes at the foot of residents' open doors, Nelson said. The notes will list the items the RA could see from the hallway and could have stolen upon entering through the unlocked door.

Hinton James area director Melissa Finley said highrises did not have as much of a problem with security as other residence halls.

"The main thing is to let the area office know if anyone is suspicious."

Sgt. Ned Comar of the University police said, "If someone breaks in, call the University police (962-6565) because we'll be the first to arrive anyway." He said a cooperative effort between the community and the people in the blue uniforms was necessary for residents to escape being victims.

Interaction between the housing department and students could also solve security problems. "The problem of security is one of constant education; a student should become security-minded," Kuncil said.

Housing "needs to be proactively aware of safety and security concerns and should increase awareness for students," Nelson said. "Security is a very serious issue all the time."

Take a map to navigate in Student Stores

By KIM STALLINGS
Staff Writer

A student wanders blankly through the maze-like aisles. Suddenly, he realizes that he has reached the wrong destination. Confused, he attempts to find another passage to the art supplies department, which, for the moment, seems non-existent.

It has not been unusual to hear customers ask where to find what they are looking for in the Student Stores this semester.

Extensive renovations of the building began last September. The center of the store is scheduled to reopen around April 17. Even so, the carpet and fixtures will not be installed until later in the summer, said Rutledge Tufts, general manager of the Student Stores.

The stores have experienced a drop in sales as a result of the construction, but sales are expected to pick up after renovation is completed.

The store is not efficient as it is now, Tufts said. Selection is limited because all of the merchandise cannot be displayed in the reduced space, which causes an inconvenience for students and employees, he added.

"I don't come in here often, but it is inconvenient. A lot of times, I didn't know where to go to get books," said Beth Jordan, a senior pharmacy major from Whiteville.

The renovations have also been inconvenient for employees of UNC Student Stores. "The employees deserve more credit than they get," Tufts said. "They have to put up with the noise day in and day out. Also, there is lots of dust, which can be frustrating to clean every day, and some hazards do exist."

Even with all these complications,

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responsibility, there remain pariah and pariah issues that we who wish to emulate that mountain of a life must claim as our own family."

Those issues include homelessness, violence against blacks, gay rights, Contra aid, apartheid and the exile of Palestinians from their homeland, she said.

Coalitions are crucial for solving current issues, Jordan said. "We are not gods, and we are many. And if we should finally adopt and carry on the aggressively radical precepts and perceptions of Dr. King, then we will have to coalesce."

the employees have dealt with the situation well, and without much complaint, he said.

Hazel O'Quinn, an employee in the textbook department, said, "Any time you have reconstruction there is inconvenience, but I feel very positive about it."

Robin Eason, an employee in the art supplies department, agreed. "The building as a whole will make it easier to shop, as well as a lot safer. It may not seem like it now, but students will benefit from this."

Some students haven't found the renovation to be that much of an inconvenience. "It hasn't really been that bad, because when they have to move around, they always put up signs," said Kirstie Armstrong, a sophomore from Fairfield. "As far as the Pit Stop, that has been confusing, but I think students have

been willing to compromise."

The store, which has not undergone any renovations in the last 20 years, needed sprinklers, better lighting, and ramps and electric doors for the handicapped. Asbestos also had to be removed, and the stairs leading to the textbook department that used to be in the center of the building have been moved to eliminate crowding near the cash registers.

In the future, Tufts said, new registers will be added to alleviate long lines, especially during the textbook rush.

The store has been modified to give more space, as well as to give the store a fresher and more pleasant appearance, Tufts said. The Bull's Head Bookshop and the computer department will benefit the most from the renovations.

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