

# FEATURES

## Alpha Phi Alpha brings children fun 'n' games with Halloween party

By MARA LEE

A mummy, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles and Robocop all gathered in the Black Cultural Center yesterday. But the characters weren't escapes from the big screen — children from the Head Start program were dressed for Alpha Phi Alpha's Halloween party.

Head Start, a preschool program for handicapped and low-income children, involves 60 children in Chapel Hill and Carrboro. The program runs from 7:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. during the week, and three sites include two for 4-year-olds and one for 3-year-olds.

The youngsters enjoy everything from traditional nursery school — nap time, playing the triangle, tying shoes and story time. They work on language skills with themes for the week, often related to seasons and holidays. They incorporate art, music, motor skills, elementary math and science, as well as vocabulary-building. But they also get free breakfast and lunch, free dental and medical care, and free speech tutoring.

Daisy Satterwhite, lead teacher at the First Baptist Church site, described why Head Start is important.

"Children who would usually stay at home are exposed to being with other children socially — it prepares them to go on to kindergarten," she said. "A lot of the kids when they come to Head Start, they're not able to express themselves, they're not able to share, they're hitting each other."

A world of difference exists between those children and those who have been in Head Start for a year, she said.

"They may not recognize the letters of the alphabet or be able to write their

name, but they're able to settle down," Satterwhite said. "They're ready to go on to kindergarten and learn those things. They know how to sit still, how to listen, how to follow directions, how to raise their hands."

Many volunteers, including the kidread group from the Campus Y, help out with Head Start. The Alphas spruce up Halloween and Christmas by sponsoring parties.

The children at the party played musical chairs and a cake-walk type game, and they bowled, using a cloth ball and a pyramid of soda cans. And plenty of party food was spread out. Alphas and other college students ran the games and distributed prizes, while parents and teachers looked on or encouraged the shy children.

"The party is wonderful," said Peggy Boone, mother of one of the Ninja Turtles. "The kids enjoy themselves. They get to see adults at their parties."

Rodney Harris, one of the Alphas at the party, explained why this project was important. "It's our commitment to service and to being leaders in the community," he said. "We show them positive black role models, especially males, that are contributing to the community. Hopefully they'll remember that we went to school and did positive things."

The mummy won the musical chairs, and as a helper unwrapped him, he shyly admitted he won a watch and a top. A little girl in a devil costume proudly showed off a neon green bracelet she won.

"We give them attention and show them we care," said Christopher Bracey, another fraternity member, as he looked around at the group. "That's just taking responsibility."

## Elderly join youth in hallowed celebration

By SCOTT MAXWELL

The partying began early yesterday, when the Campus Y Youth for Elderly Service (YES) sponsored a Halloween bash for the residents of Hillhaven Convalescent Center of Chapel Hill at 2 p.m.

Children from the Montessori Day School came dressed in costumes and ready to sing Halloween songs.

One highlight was when YES member Paul Giragos, dressed as an 8-foot Grim Reaper, read tales such as "The Boogie Man" and "The Ghoul" to the children and the elderly.

"I was nervous at first, because I didn't know how the Grim Reaper would be received," Giragos said, "but everyone seemed to enjoy it, and I had a really good time."

As the children chimed in with a chorus of "I've Been Working On My Costume," many of the Hillhaven residents commented how much they enjoyed the intergenerational event.

When the Montessori children's part of the program was done, YES went around the center and visited all of the residents, including those who were bedridden. They distributed handmade Halloween cards and sang songs.

A costume contest was held near the end of the party, with winners receiving personal pumpkins and treat bags.

"It was absolutely fantastic," said Ellen Mlekush, activity director at Hillhaven. "Not only did the residents have a wonderful time, but the staff and small children did, as well."

When resident Lizzie Chambers was asked if she enjoyed the day's activities, she smiled, nodded and gave an enthusiastic, "Oh yeah!"

"The students come and see us, and we get to know each other," Chambers said. "I like to see them come. They help fix calendars and things, and they're real nice."

Cindy Cheatham, a YES chair-



Sophomore Laura Smyth talks with Audrey Statler after presenting her with a Halloween card Wednesday

woman, said she thought the party would be beneficial. "We decided that because the residents have so little contact outside the rest home, this party would be a great way to spend time with them and show our love for them," she said.

Parties such as this one are only one of YES' three main focuses. They also match individual students with elderly citizens in the community, and they promote the awareness of the elderly's

needs.

Cheatham said that YES provided a good means for giving the older citizens some of the things they wanted and deserved, such as care, understanding and respect.

"Once we know the residents, and they know us," Cheatham said, "we make sure we see them often. We establish consistency. That's important."

On November 13, YES will have an elderly awareness program in the Pit.

As the party began to close, many YES members and residents of the convalescent center exchanged warm farewells.

Mlekush said that this was one of the more very special programs. "The Campus Y is outstanding. I can't say enough good about them."

## CNN plans better election coverage than Big 3

From Associated Press reports

NEW YORK — The Big Three television networks plan election night coverage in varying degrees of depth, but the Cable News Network is planning its most intensive coverage of an off-year election.

ABC and NBC plan their principal coverage in hour-long news specials at 10 p.m. EST, followed by local news at 11 p.m.; CBS plans a two-hour show, from 9 to 11 p.m., and all three plan 11:30 p.m. wrap-up reports.

CNN's main coverage runs from 7 p.m. EST to 1 a.m., when its 90-minute wrap-up show begins. Its final wrap-up is at 3 a.m. "This is the most extensive coverage we've had in an off year," said CNN spokeswoman Melinda McIntire.

As they did in the last off-year elections in 1986, NBC and ABC are leading into full-time coverage with prime time shows; CBS, the only network that filled all of prime time with its coverage in '86, has cut back an hour.

This year, CBS pre-empt its "Tuesday Night Movie," while NBC and ABC, respectively, pre-empt "Law and Order" and "thirtysomething."

Cliff Kappler, NBC's senior producer of news specials, said technology has cut the time networks must devote to

elections. "I think it compares favorably to the amount of ground that we cover, but we will do it in an infinitely quicker time," he said.

This is the first year that all four networks pool resources for exit polling and winner projections, in a \$12 million joint venture called Voter Research and Surveys, or VRS.

VRS gives each network polls and projections for all Senate, House and governor's races, and state and local races of national interest, such as the Washington, D.C., mayor's race and California's propositions.

The exit polls "provide demographic profiles of each candidate's constituents and the role of issues, such as abortion and President Bush's performance, in shaping voters' choice for office," CBS said.

ABC has scheduled two special reports of between three and five minutes by David Brinkley between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. EST, when the network opens its main coverage anchored by Peter Jennings.

NBC News offers brief reports between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. EST.

Then, at 10 p.m., Tom Brokaw will anchor "Decision '90," with analysis by John Chancellor.

NBC will provide analysis of the elections with Ron Brown, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, and Ed Rollins, co-chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee.

CBS' special coverage, anchored by Dan Rather in New York City, opens at 8 p.m. EST with a seven-minute report. From 9 p.m. to 11 p.m., CBS offers its "Campaign '90: Election Night."

Serious election night junkies will tune into CNN, which opens its coverage at 6:30 p.m. EST with its principal Washington anchor, Bernard Shaw, for an election night preview edition of "The World Today."

The main coverage begins at 7 p.m. CNN's political commentators will include analyst Frederick Allen, political columnist William Schneider of the Los Angeles Times, and Patrick Buchanan, Michael Kinsley, Robert Novak and Mark Shields.

## Intervarsity program to ease racial tension

By BETH TATUM

From the statues in front of Davis to the upcoming senatorial election, controversy and racial tension have marked the last few weeks. Into this atmosphere comes an effort by the Intervarsity Christian Fellowship (IVCF) to ease the tension.

Samuel Barkat, IVCF vice-president and director of multi-ethnic ministries, will be showing a film, "Face to Face: Seeking Racial Reconciliation," in the Black Cultural Center at noon on Thursday. The discussion that will follow will raise the possibility of race reconciliation and inter-ethnic friendships.

"I'm interested in dealing with reconciliation in a fragmented world," Barkat said. "I'm hoping to share the scriptural message of reconciliation — both our reconciliation to God and our reconciliation to each other. We

will see what God has to say and then implement that."

Others would like the meeting to open up lines of communication on campus. "We hope to begin some dialogue between black and white students in understanding each other's feelings, needs and cultures," said Brian Wallace, an IVCF staff worker.

The timing of the film and discussion with the recent events on campus is coincidental. The event was planned last year when some became concerned about the lack of unity on campus and in the Christian community.

"The attitude of most people on campus is that it is too hard for groups to get together," said Joel Collins, IVCF ethnic ministries team leader. "The hate crimes, the issue of the statues and the upcoming election have made racial tensions and awareness more prevalent now than it has ever been during my

time as a student. Now is the time to show the hope we have in Christ."

Barkat, who was born and raised in Sialkot, Pakistan, received a B.A. in English and psychology from Murray College, Pakistan, a B.A. in psychology from Tennessee Temple College, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in psychology from the University of Tennessee. In the past, he served as the vice president of academic affairs, department chairman and professor of psychology at several colleges and universities.

Currently, Barkat is a member of the American Psychological Association, Eastern Psychological Association, president and member of the Board of Directors of the Christian Association for Psychological Studies and on the Board of Trustees of the American Institute of Pakistan Studies.

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