

SHORT ON CASH?

Here's 10 ways to have fun without emptying your pockets.

LINDI WHITTEMORE
STAFF WRITER

A ten-dollar bill can be a college student's best friend, especially if you know how to use it.

Wilmington has a lot to offer its college population, even for those operating on a low budget. There are four main areas of attraction in Wilmington: close to the campus, the downtown area, the Westfield Independence Mall and, of course, the beach. Although the community does have its share of ritzy restaurants and expensive theatre productions, there are plenty of things to do on a college student's budget, \$10 or less.

"If I had ten dollars, I would go to Carolina Cantina and eat \$1 tacos," junior Ben Ellison said. "Carolina Cantina has taco specials on Tuesday and Thursday nights."

Going out to eat can be rather costly, but there are plenty of places to eat that give good student discounts. Flaming Amy's Burrito Barn gives a 10 percent discount every day to customers who show their student ID.

"I would go to Duck Haven golf course and play 18 holes of golf," junior Justin Frenzel said. "You would have to walk the course, but it costs less than \$10, and it is a good way to exercise." For those who prefer to sit on the sidelines,

athletic events are a great way to get out of the dorm, save some money and have a good time with friends. With soccer, tennis, cross country and volleyball seasons starting, the possibilities are endless.

"I go to the soccer and basketball games so that I can support my friends on the teams," senior Stephanie Amselene said. "I think it is a great way to get everyone in the city involved in on-campus activities."

Thalian Hall has a great series for movie buffs called Cinematique. Cinematique is a weekly showing of an independent or foreign film. The movies are shown Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights at 7:30. Tickets are only \$6, so there's money left over to buy popcorn and a drink.

"I think that Cinematique is a lot of fun," senior Megan Foley said. "It's cheap and you can learn a lot about foreign cultures."

The Student Government Association offers Carmike Cinema movie tickets for \$4.50 and offers free movies on Fridays in the Warwick Center.

Need a laugh every once in a while? Try one of the many comedy shows that play downtown. City Stage offers an off-beat, colorful comedy show called Changing Channels every Thursday night. The show starts at 9 p.m. and tickets

are \$5.

A live stage performance of the cult classic "Rocky Horror Picture Show" will begin at City Stage Oct. 19. Tickets are only \$10 for students.

Cover charges at most clubs and bars fall below \$10, with an average of \$5. By holding off on alcohol, keeping the price low becomes even easier.

If the weather's nice, spend a few of the last days of summer with friends at Jungle Rapids. Putt-putt, a climbing wall, laser tag and go-cart racing are just a few of the activities offered there for under \$7.

Bowling is a great indoor activity to enjoy with friends on a study break. Ten Pin Alley offers a fun-filled, disco-style bowling alley every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday night starting at 10 p.m. The cost is \$3.25 per game.

There are also many other options that don't cost a dime. Wilmington has beautiful parks such as Wrightsville Beach Park, Hugh MacRae Park, Greenfield Lake Park and Airlie Gardens. Sit on the grass and do homework or walk a dog. Check out the Blueherald Wildflower Preserve behind the Hawk's Nest for a natural setting between classes.

Another way to spend your time is by volunteering for various charity organizations in the area. Girls Inc. of Wilmington needs afternoon tutors to help the children with their homework. Work with the Red Cross at one of the blood banks in



Thalian Hall offers many inexpensive and unusual entertainment options from foreign films to musicals.

the area.

Contact the Center for Leadership Education and Service at 962-3877 for more information about volunteer organizations.

When it comes to developing an intelligent retirement plan, so many smart investors come from a single school of thought: TIAA-CREF. That's because TIAA-CREF has a full range of investment choices along with expert guidance to help you achieve your financial goals. With TIAA-CREF, building an intelligent portfolio is easier than you think. Just call us.

For more complete information on our investment products, call 1-800-842-2733, ext. 7506. For program rules, visit www.tiaa-cref.com. TIAA-CREF Individual and Institutional Services, Inc. and Teachers' Personal Investors Services, Inc. distribute securities products. Investment products are not FDIC insured, may lose value and are not bank deposits. © 2001 Teachers' Annuity and Annuity Association-College Retirement Equities Fund, New York, NY 10108

**TIAA
CREF**

Ensuring the future
for those who shape it.™

1-877-209-3144

www.tiaa-cref.org

Investment
Savvy