

Booze not necessary for a good time

BY LESLIE QUIGLESS
STAFF WRITER

Put down those glasses of Kahlua and raise the Coke for 24 hours in honor of the Alcohol and Substance Abuse Awareness Fest that started Wednesday and continues through Friday.

Volunteers with the Division of Health Education of Student Health Service will be in the Pit today asking students to sign a pledge to remain free of alcohol and substance abuse for 24 hours. The period began this morning at 8 a.m.

"The main point of the alcohol and drug abuse—free period is to get students to say it's OK to spend a Thursday night sober," said Brad Torrence, a sophomore volunteer.

The film "When a Man Loves a

Woman," which documents a woman's struggle with alcohol addiction, was shown Wednesday to kick off the fest.

Some residence halls will hold programs this evening encouraging students to think before they drink. Local vendors will award prizes Friday to residents in the halls with the most participation.

Lynda Cesaro, a senior peer health educator, said events like these could help students by showing them that not everyone drinks and that drinking is not necessary to have a good time.

"If there is more awareness that not everyone drinks, then there will possibly be less social pressure to drink," she said.

The results of a survey regarding drinking on UNC's campus conducted by the Department of Health Education earlier this semester fueled the idea for the fest.

The results revealed 73 percent of the 429 students who participated had consumed some alcohol in the 30 days before the survey. The survey also reported that 37 percent had consumed more than five drinks in one sitting.

Matt Sullivan, the coordinator of Substance Abuse Programs at SHS, said the survey results did not give enough credit to the number of students who did not drink and did not feel the need to drink to have a good time.

"There is a vast misconception about student alcohol and drug use on campus," he said. "Thirty percent (of those who participated in the survey) said they wanted events that were drug and alcohol free. When you have those types of numbers, you need to dispel the myths and rumors."

Party hopes to gain visibility at forum

■ The Labor Party isn't running candidates in this year's elections.

BY APRIL DEMERT
STAFF WRITER

Students will have the opportunity to learn more about union-based politics and the platform of the newly formed Labor Party on Saturday night at the Socialist Forum.

After the Labor Party's inception in June of this year when it held its first convention, the Labor Party has committed itself to creating a grassroots organizational force, said Jeff Jones, secretary of the Carolina Socialist Forum.

"The party has a 12-point program,

and its main positions include guaranteed employment, anti-discrimination for all workers regardless of gender, race or sexual orientation, and environmental protection."

Adolph Reed, a political science professor at Northwestern University who has authored many articles about socialism in such publications as the "Village Voice," will speak at the forum. Reed is a socialist known nationwide. Ajumu Dillihunt, a member of the Black Labor Party and the Black Union for Justice, will join a representative from the Labor Party in Greensboro who will also speak at the forum.

Socialist forum sponsored by the Labor Party

7:30 p.m.
Saturday
The Community Church of Chapel Hill
106 Purefoy Road

The party is not running candidates during this election but is directing its energies to increasing its visibility among potential voters.

"The forum will be a great opportunity to discuss the need for a labor-based party," Jones said.

"This party has the potential to be an umbrella organization for many labor-based and professional groups."

The forum is being sponsored by many groups on and around campus, including the UNC Housekeepers Association, the Black Public Workers Association, the Coalition for Economic Justice and Witness for Peace.

The evening discussion will begin with refreshments at 7 p.m. at The Community Church of Chapel Hill. The church is located at 106 Purefoy Road off Mason Farm Road.

Early equal rights activist focus of former professor's book

BY BALKES JARRAH
STAFF WRITER

Author and historian Nell Irvin Painter, a former UNC professor, spoke to students and other guests at the Bull's Head Bookshop Monday afternoon about her new book, "Sojourner Truth, a Life, a Symbol."

The book details the life of Truth, an ex-slave and abolitionist who lived during the early to mid-1800s. Painter's book dispels many myths surrounding Truth, who has been called a symbol of empow-

erment for black women, and interprets her life. "What is remembered about her consists more of myth than of historical fact," Painter said.

Painter dealt with several issues in her talk, ranging from feminism to abolitionism.

She said everything the public knows about Truth has been mediated through someone else.

She said she dedicated an entire chapter of her book to photographs of Truth because she was fascinated with this clash of images.

Painter said her book used psychology to examine how Truth went from having a terrible childhood to becoming a free woman and finally a powerful woman. She said the more she learned about Truth, the less familiar she was with her.

"I was trying to understand Sojourner Truth as a symbol as well as a historical figure," Painter said.

Painter spoke before a crowd of about 35 people for an hour on her book and on Truth. She spoke of Truth's life, read excerpts from her book and answered questions from the crowd.

CIVIL LIBERTIES

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said.

Joe Herzenberg, another member of the Union, said, "In the end, the Town Council had to fork over a good amount of money to the aggrieved parties."

When protesting, the Union usually writes a letter to make sure all concerned parties understand why the Union feels

civil rights are being violated, Herzenberg said.

"Sometimes, it just takes a phone call," he said, referring to a case a few years ago when the District Attorney tried to ban the selling of the music of 2 Live Crew.

"A phone call was made to the District Attorney, and within days, he changed his decision," Herzenberg said, adding that in extreme cases, the Union will take the group violating civil rights to court.

CAMPUS CONNECTIONS

FROM PAGE 1

cancel all of the weekend's events, but it canceled the homecoming parade and other events that would not be in good taste. "We've been struggling with how to be sensitive to the loss of a student and at the same time follow through with a 150-year tradition," he said.

Pam Besel, director of public relations, said the university had responded by setting up a hotline to take calls and

keep the flow of communication going.

Polatsek's blood-alcohol content was .15 percent, which might have inhibited his ability to escape, Macklin said.

Cozzens said the fire was a "wake-up call" to continue to raise awareness about campus fire safety. "We've been struggling with how to be sensitive to the loss of a student and at the same time follow through with a 150-year tradition," he said.

Macklin said frequent false fire alarms within living areas were a problem on campus, and people might not have responded to the alarm as quickly as they should have.

"No one pays a whole lot of attention (when fire alarms go off)," he said.

The fire department will be meeting with OWU's Greek Council and individual students to discuss the fire and possible preventative measures to take against future disasters.

"It is a very tragic situation," Besel said. "We are all coming together as a community in this healing process. It's been very tough on everyone."

Campus Calendar

Thursday

5:15 p.m. - The International Festival Planning Committee will have an organizational meeting in Union 220. All are welcome!
5:30 p.m. - The Vietnamese Students Association will hold its general body meeting on the second floor lounge of the Union. All are invited to attend.

5:45 p.m. - The Baptist Student Union will hold its worship and praise service at the Battle House. A fellowship meal (\$2) will follow. Call 942-4266 for more information.

7 p.m. - The Black Student Movement and CHispA will be giving Salsa lessons in Carmichael Ballroom.

7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. - A workshop titled "Becoming a More Effective Advocate for Women's Issues" will be presented by the Orange County Commission for Women at New Hope Presbyterian Church.

8 p.m. - The Carolina Child Abuse Prevention Program will meet in Union 213.

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