

# Students Prepare Floats for CAA Parade

By COLIN SUTKER  
Staff Writer

It will take a little hard work, lots of materials and some imagination to get a float ready for the Carolina Athletic Association parade on Friday.

Just ask Eric Ellis, the special projects coordinator for the CAA, who is heading the building of the CAA float.

After spending six hours planning the design of the float, Ellis said the next task involves allocating materials for the

parade.

Ellis said his group is mostly relying on donations from textile corporations, steel mills and parents.

"We're getting a lot of it donated," Ellis said. "I don't see it costing (the CAA) more than \$150."

Despite the size of the commitment, Ellis said the joy of putting together this feat of engineering far outweighs the work and time.

"It's going to be a lot of work to get the stuff," Ellis said. "But putting this

together and seeing the final project will be really cool."

A team of at least 15 people will spend the next week sawing PVC piping, nailing down fake green grass and painting white lines with the goal of making an old flat-bed resemble a miniature football field, complete with a field goal.

Ideas are plentiful of what to have on the float. It might include tombstones with "Wake Forest" written in as the deceased. Ellis said CAA also is considering options that range from having a small football game being played to having Ramses, the mascot.

The parade is scheduled to begin at 3 p.m. at the Bell Tower before traveling down South Road to Raleigh Street, continuing down Franklin Street and finishing at Granville Towers. It will have floats from 20 student organizations.

The parade also will incorporate Chapel Hill town departments. The police department will be in the front and the back of the parade. The fire marshal also will be present.

The parade is the beginning of

Friday's Homecoming festivities, which will include the showing of "Rudy" at the Carolina Union and Thank Goodness It's Franklin, where local bars and restaurants will sponsor drink specials in connection with Homecoming.

"I feel that it ties in very well," said CAA Homecoming Director Kris Willet. "We hope to end the week on a high note."

CAA President Reid Chaney said he believes this parade will be beneficial toward having a successful Homecoming weekend. "It's just something that's going to be fun for all the students," Chaney said.

CAA Homecoming Assistant Director Eyrn Linkous expressed hope that the parade would generate hype toward Homecoming and the football game the next day.

"They used to do the parade years ago and they're trying to get this to be more of a tradition," Linkous said.

"Basically this is to get the University and the community excited about the game."

# Formal Organized For Seniors

The black-tie affair will be held in the Carolina Inn, and the Hot Nuts are scheduled to perform. Tickets are \$25.

By BRAD CHIASSON  
Staff Writer

Seniors will have the opportunity to dress up and attend the First Annual Old Poplar Ball this week.

The formal, which is being sponsored by Alexander Julian's, will be a black-tie affair, organizers said.

The senior ball will be held Thursday at the Carolina Inn. Tickets are available exclusively at Alexander Julian's on Franklin Street.

Senior Class President Ben Singer said he hopes the formal will become an annual event. "The tradition died out, and were trying to bring it back," he said.

Singer said a substantial number of tickets for the formal already have been sold. But he said organizers were initially skeptical about low participation since tickets priced at \$25 each are relatively expensive by student standards.

"It's a risk we wanted to take," Singer said.

Missy Julian-Fox, the owner of Alexander Julian's, said a group of students working part-time came up with the idea of reviving the formal. She said campus officials, as well as student organizations, received the idea warmly.

Julian-Fox said Alexander Julian's has helped by sending out e-mails and postcards publicizing the formal to students. "The seniors have been very supportive," she said. "Our whole point was to do it for the class."

Senior Stephanie Hunter said she is planning on attending the formal. "I look forward to gathering with the class of 2002 and building camaraderie with everyone that's graduating in May," she said.

Singer said the reason the formal is being held at the Carolina Inn is because students identify it as a fancy establishment, and its environment is a perfect atmosphere for the formal.

"It's a really classy place on campus," Singer said. "There's a lot of tradition there."

Singer said the money raised from the formal will be used to help finance the senior class gift. This year's gift will be an Unsung Founders Memorial, honoring those who helped lay the groundwork of the University.

Doug Clark and the Hot Nuts are scheduled to play, Julian-Fox said. She said the band was chosen because of its high level of recognition among students. "(Clark) was so excited and honored we called him," she said.

Julian-Fox said seniors should not worry about having to bring other seniors as dates and said it was perfectly acceptable for seniors to bring anyone they want with them.

"This is the start of a new tradition we hope," Julian-Fox said. "We're expecting good fun."

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