

Campus has plenty of ways to get involved

UNC offers activities for all

BY BRIAN AUSTIN
UNIVERSITY EDITOR

So once classes start up and playing Halo every night gets a little old, you might want to get out of your dorm and make some friends. With about 600 student groups on campus, finding one or two that you like is possible for anyone. Here are some choices that are well-represented every year, along with a couple of lesser-known suggestions.

Carolina Fever — It's an organization based solely around one goal: getting people to UNC sporting events to cheer on the men and women who wear Carolina blue. Go to the Olympic sports and you can get set up with basketball tickets once the season rolls around.

Campus Crusade for Christ — For those who want to add a dose of faith to their social calendar, Crusade — also called Cornerstone — brings several hundred UNC students together at least once a week for worship and fellowship.

BSM — The Black Student Movement has been on UNC's campus for more than 40 years, and encourages its members to help diversify and engage the campus about social issues and justice.

Young Democrats/UNC College Republicans — For the politically-inclined among you (alert: it is an election year) these are the two campus groups for the major political parties.

"We haven't been as active in past elections, but I think the youth can have an impact in '08," said rising senior Amanda Vaughn, a member of Young Democrats.

But nothing's stopping you from creating a Labour Party or just spouting your own political agenda

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AMANDA VAUGHN, YD MEMBER
to all comers.

Juggling club — They meet in the middle of Polk Place once a week and throw all numbers and manner of items in the air. It probably takes some practice, but who better to learn from than the guy throwing clubs in the air?

Lab! Theatre — The oldest theater group on campus, Lab! performs between seven and 10 shows each year. It is supported by the department of dramatic art and is entirely produced, directed, and acted by students. And even if dramaturgy isn't for you, Lab! shows are free for students, so make sure you check one out over a weekend.

Skydiving club — It is what it sounds like.

Sport clubs — From racquetball to marathons to underwater hockey teams, sport clubs touch on most every sport there is. They practice seriously and usually compete on a state or national level. A complete listing is available at http://campusrec.unc.edu/sport_clubs/sport_clubs.php.

All these and many more will be available for your perusal at Fall Fest, during the Week of Welcome. You can get free food and have clubs that specialize in every conceivable thing pitch you for your membership. They all want you on their listserv, so make sure you remember your e-mail address and realize how much mail you'll start getting.

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

Union serves as heart of campus

Provides plenty of places to study

BY JENNIFER L. DURHAM
STAFF WRITER

As a UNC student, you soon will become well acquainted with the Student Union — or what seasoned Tar Heels refer to as a second home.

The Union undoubtedly will become your best friend during exam times, your shelter from the storm during sudden rain showers and your arena for a wide range of activities during the school year.

Tom Allin, president of the Carolina Union Activities Board, said there will be numerous scheduled activities in place for students at the beginning of the school year.

Many students choose to utilize the Union for its great study spots and the charge of scenery it provides from the usual libraries.

Allin said the Union is a great place to study, and chances are there will never be a time when you can't find at least one spot to call your own.

"Some of the best places to study are the West Lounge, near Alpine Bagel," Allin said. "It's definitely a happening area, but a lot of folks like to study there."

Allin did concede that the hustle and bustle of the West Lounge could be distracting for some, so he also suggests the art gallery and the area around the fish tank on the top floor of the Union as more secluded spots.

"It's definitely a happening area, but a lot of folks like to study there."

TOM ALLIN, CUAB PRESIDENT

"It's definitely a quieter space, but I know that I've done some of my heaviest reading up there," he said. "Plus, the fish are always a nice study break."

And though the Union is a superb place to study, it is also much more. There is always something happening in or around the Union, and Allin recommends that students go often.

"From study space to coffee space to places for group meetings to great concerts and movies," Allin said, there is something for everyone.

He also pointed out that there are few better ways to get into the Carolina community than to attend these events.

To add even further to the Union's appeal is Alpine Bagel Cafe, a simple bagel shop that you will soon come to know and appreciate — especially during those late nights and early mornings.

"Alpine is one of the few places in Chapel Hill that you'll find yourself craving at just about any time of the day," Allin said.

From bagels and muffins to soup and sandwiches to Red Bull and yogurt, Alpine has a little something



DTR/RACHEL RODEMANN
Rachel Galanter and her daughter, Jasmina, study photos of wedding ceremonies at an exhibition in the Student Union Gallery this summer

for everyone.

And its late-night hours — open until 1 a.m. during the school year — mean it's perfect to quell the late-night study munchies.

Regardless of your reason for seeking out the Union, the space is sure to become part of your UNC lifestyle, as well as your daily routine.

It will come to hold memories of 3 a.m. studying (and study breaks),

watching the NCAA Tournament on the big screen in March and countless other unforgettable excursions.

"The Union should be the place that everyone can feel at home," Allin said. "After all, it's the students that make the Union the great place it is."

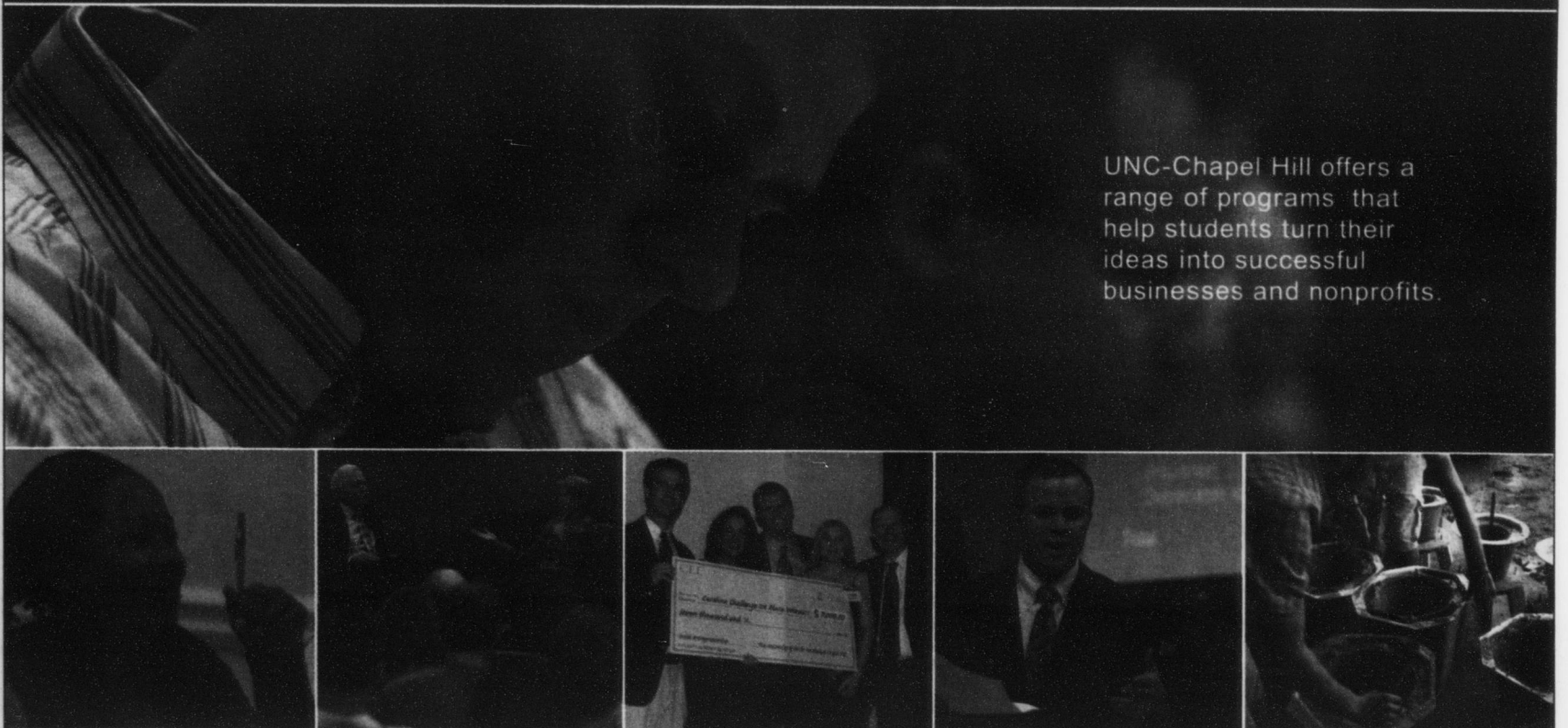
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