

Costume show to urge respect on Halloween

BY MEERA JAGANNATHAN
STAFF WRITER

Scantly-clad schoolgirls and nearly nude nurses will flock to Franklin Street tonight for the town's Halloween celebration.

But before that, some of them will model their costumes in a fashion show in the Pit.

Project Dinah, a UNC women's safety and empowerment group, is running the event. Organizers said the costumes modeled will range from revealing to conservative.

"The message we're trying to send is that no matter what your costume is, everyone deserves to be respected," said Alyson Culin, co-chairwoman of the group. "No one deserves to be touched or harassed or groped against their will."

Culin said the blame for sexual assault incidents is often placed on the victim rather than the perpetrator.

She said women should never be to blame in these situations.

"Regardless of what she's wearing, regardless of what she's been drinking, it's wrong," she said.

Between the two shows, safety resources, treats and tips for both men and women will be provided. Audience members also can sign a pledge to practice nonviolence on Halloween.

David Bennett, a sophomore journalism major, said he approved of the event's goals.

"I feel like women shouldn't be afraid," he said.

But he also said he thought wearing provocative clothing puts women at risk, making them more likely to be singled out by men.

First-year student Ted Driggs

ATTEND THE FASHION SHOW
Time: 11 a.m. and noon today
Location: The Pit

also said he thought wearing provocative clothing puts women at risk.

"I think it makes them more enticing," he said. "Provocative attire provides the would-be predator with a look at exactly what they're dealing with."

Other male students, including first-year English major Moe Long, said women wearing revealing clothing can't expect to avoid harassment.

"I think the reason that they are dressing provocatively is that they want to get harassed," he said. "It's a desire to feel desired."

But some people maintained that sexual harassment is a danger to all women, regardless of their attire.

Assistant Dean of Students Melinda Manning, Project Dinah's adviser, said even modestly dressed women are groped and grabbed on Halloween.

"I can speak from personal experience," Manning said. "I've been on Franklin Street, dressed fully covered up, and I've been groped."

Ruby Archer, a sophomore communications major, said she thought women could still have fun in modest costumes.

"Mine's a full-length dress, and I feel like I'll have just as much fun or more than girls who are dressing for their boyfriends or for random guys on the street," she said.

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

Greeks host haunted house for kids

BY SAMANTHA HALPERN
STAFF WRITER

As brothers Marcus and Dominique Graham strolled through the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity house, a man wearing a mask and carrying a chainsaw jumped out and began chasing them.

Marcus freaked out. "I grabbed my brother, threw him on the floor and held him," Marcus said.

The boys screamed as they walked through the haunted house hosted by Alpha Tau Omega and Chi Omega sorority Thursday night for local middle and high school students.

The Graham brothers, both students at Phillips Middle School in Chapel Hill, said they found the house terrifying.

As they walked through it, they clutched each other in fright.

They began their house tour by crawling through a spider web-filled maze. They were then led through rooms filled with hanging Jason masks, a man faking electrocution and a surgical room with possessed doctors.

About 70 people attended, many of whom went through the house several times.

After the haunted house, which filled the basement and first floor, visitors were led upstairs to trick-or-treat at the fraternity brothers' rooms.

Alpha Tau Omega philanthropy co-chairman Stephen Mann said the Greek community does a great job of raising money for various causes, but actual service like Thursday's event is often forgotten.

Mann said the fraternity was looking for an event in the fall that focused on giving back to the community and asked Chi Omega to host the haunted house with them.

Blair Buter, Chi Omega's philanthropy chairwoman, said the sorority was excited to get involved and they hoped the haunted house would become an annual event.

"We think it's fun to give back to the community," Buter said.

Sophomore Cramer Price, a member of Alpha Tau Omega, said many of the kids he spoke with said they loved the house and were planning to return next year.

Price said since the event is the night before Halloween, it is safer and quieter for the kids.

East Chapel Hill High School student Ashley Webb said she heard



DTH/DANIEL VAN NIEKERK

Students jump in fright as they encounter Bobby Mittelstadt, with a pumpkin head, upon entering the Alpha Tau Omega Haunted House on Thursday.

about the event from her aunt and came with her family. She said she screamed as she walked through the house and held on to her friends.

"The part that scared me the most were all the glowing Jason masks," Webb said.

While the event was fun for the members of the fraternity

and sorority, the main focus was the kids.

"Our ultimate goal is for the kids to have a good time," Mann said. "Hopefully we won't scare them too bad."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

Doctor's ghost said to haunt Carolina Inn

BY HILLARY ROSE OWENS
STAFF WRITER

The smell of flowers that aren't there, shadows without bodies and mysterious voices are just some of the things a guest might encounter at the Carolina Inn.

The Inn, opened in 1924, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and was named one of the nation's "nine best haunted hotels" this year by professional-travelguide.com.

Since 1965, stories about the ghost of Dr. William Jacocks haunting the inn have mystified employees and guests.

Jacocks, a physician with the International Health Division of the Rockefeller Foundation, retired to the Inn in 1948 and lived in a suite on the second floor. While there, he was known as a prankster.

In 1965 he died, but not at the

hotel. Not long after that, odd things started happening at his former apartment.

When staying in Jacocks' suite, guests would report waking up in the morning and smelling flowers. But they wouldn't be able to find any in the room.

Others reported room keys not working. One time the maintenance crew had to climb through a window to open the suite.

Even after switching to key cards, some guests still have problems getting into the suite, said Mark Nelson, director of sales and marketing at the Inn.

Allan Kartaou, an employee at the Inn, recalled a former co-worker's encounter near the room. He said she heard people talking and a piano playing inside the suite, but found no one when she opened the door.

Nelson said he has heard of at least

DTH ONLINE: Watch a video of the Carolina Inn's haunted rooms and hallways.

a dozen strange occurrences during his three years working there.

He said the most recent report of paranormal activity occurred in 2003 when professional ghost hunter Christopher Moon came to the hotel.

Nelson said Moon picked up ghostly activity in the historic part of the building, including the Old Well Ballroom and the Carolina Crossroads Restaurant.

Nelson said he is not worried about guests not wanting to stay at the Inn because of Jacocks.

"It doesn't deter anybody since he is a friendly ghost," he said.

But some guests at the hotel said they were afraid of the spirits.

"My aunt and uncle request to stay in the new wing," employee Kat Byrd said. "They don't want to stay in the old wing because they think it's haunted."

More spirits might be living in the hotel — not just Jacocks, Nelson said.

Spooky spots at the Carolina Inn

➤ Second-floor suite: the ghost of Dr. William Jacocks, an Inn resident from 1948-1965, is said to haunt the room.

➤ Staircase: several shadows going up the stairs have been seen by employees.

➤ Historic section: paranormal experts picked up activity in 2003 in certain older areas, including the Old Well Ballroom and the Carolina Crossroads Restaurant.

In the past, employees also have reported seeing shadows moving up the staircase.

The hotel was built where a chapel once stood, and Nelson said a lot of activity has happened on the site.

"A lot of things have occurred in the hotel," he said. "It's not just bricks and mortar and plaster."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

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