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**eligious groups plan
outreach programs**

“Every year, the work team alternates from a project out of the country to one in the country.”

— Lisa Allen

By **MARIA HAREN**
Staff Writer

Working at a Black Mountain camp with high school students, building a church in Santo Domingo of the Dominican Republic and preaching on the beach at Myrtle are only a few of the activities that UNC's campus religious organizations have planned for their members this summer.

Organizations such as InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, Campus Crusade for Christ International, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the Newman Catholic Student Center and the Wesley Foundation continue their campus ministries during the summer in various ways.

The programs include summer projects, outreach programs and membership enrichment seminars.

InterVarsity plans several activities for students to get involved with over the summer, according to Terri Shoffner, a senior psychology major from Greensboro who leads an InterVarsity small-group Bible study in Hinton James Residence Hall.

InterVarsity, an interdenominational Christian fellowship group, conducts two overseas programs — the Student Missions Training program and the Overseas Training Camp.

Students begin preparing during the school year for Student Missions, a program which allows students to travel to a specific village in a designated country, where they stay for the entire summer.

Students apply for the Missions program in the fall. They read books and articles related to the program and do training exercises during the week. And one weekend each month, the students receive intensive training in cross-cultural topics, Shoffner said.

The Overseas Training Camp is different from the Missions program because no pre-trip training is given, she said, and students can travel

around in a designated country ministering to different villages.

Fourteen students from UNC will be attending the overseas camp this summer — most of them members of InterVarsity, Shoffner said.

The group also has a Myrtle Beach Evangelism Project, which lasts from May to August. Students receive training in expressing their faith to others, as well as participating in group prayer, worship and fellowship.

And a Discipleship Project in Charlottesville, Va., from June to August gives group members a chance to grow in their Christian relationships at a summer get-away, Shoffner said.

The Wesley Foundation, a Methodist student group, will send a work team to Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic, said Lisa Allen, a junior from Bowie, Maryland, and a work team member who serves on the foundation's student council.

The group of 27 people will be leaving May 10 for their 10-day trip, where they will be working on a church for the villagers.

“Every year, the work team alternates from a project out of the country to one in the country,” Allen said. Last year, the team went to New York City to work on an inner-city project.

The work team has fund raisers throughout the year to raise some of the \$600 needed to send each member of the work team to the project. Although the cost to individuals varies yearly, the maximum cost per student for the trip this year should be about \$400, Allen said.

The Newman Center, a Catholic church for both students and community members, will be sending students on a foreign project in a program co-sponsored by St. Thomas More Catholic Church.

Kevin Furman, a junior from Castle Hayne who is a campus minister at the Newman Center, said the two groups had raised money to go to a small Mexican village where students would set up educational and vaccination systems, as well as help establish a water system for the village.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes, an interdenominational group composed of athletes and non-athletes, sends its members to weekly YMCA summer conferences as counselors on an individual basis, said John Lotz, FCA's faculty adviser.

Although 25 such conferences are conducted nationally, he said, most UNC students attend a camp in Black Mountain where they act as Bible study leaders, athletic team players and camp counselors for high school students.

“High school athletes and college athletes have a chance to play sports together,” Lotz said. “... Steve Hale (former UNC basketball player and FCA member) went to that camp.”

Drew Van Horn, assistant state director for FCA, said FCA members are also sent to national camps not necessarily FCA-sponsored camps to work as one-on-one counselors with troubled children.

Campus Crusade for Christ International, an interdenominational Christian fellowship group, has summer projects in both the United States and overseas for its members.

“Our goal is the same for the overseas ministry as it is for our campus ministry: to win people to Christ, build them in their faith and send them out to share with others,” said Carol Matthews, associate campus director for Campus Crusade.

Members often use a film about the life of Jesus Christ to communicate the gospel so that people can view the film in their own languages, Matthews said.

In some countries, Matthews said, students work through “one-on-one evangelism,” while in others, they speak in large groups. “It depends on the country you're in,” she said.

Cindy Courson, a senior economics major from Lincolnton and small-group Bible study leader with Campus Crusade, said many projects are conducted at U.S. vacation resorts near beaches, as well as inner-city locations.

Usually about 60 participants get jobs in communities for about 12 weeks, spending time on the beaches to share their faith with others, Courson said. They also lead Bible study groups where they live.

Students from all over the nation meet on such projects. “It's a great opportunity to meet people,” Courson said, adding that the project participants usually live in the same apartment complex or hotel.

Action Group Leaders Conference, held at Myrtle Beach in May, gives Crusade members a week for working on fellowship with other Christians, training in leading a Bible study, and practicing in sharing their faith, Courson said.

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