Climbing to the Top

By JANE LEAVY
Nursing students captured the Dean’s Award for the best college float at the Homecoming Parade on October 24. The theme for the float was, “Climbing to the Top, Giving our Best Shot.” The students constructed a gigantic plastic-wrapped syringe, which stuck out of the top of a mountain made of haystacks, recycled newspaper, and loads of duct tape. To complete the theme, the students wore climbing harnesses and armed themselves with 60cc cath-tip syringes filled with water. Unsuspecting parade-watchers received an ice cold shower from the loaded syringes along the parade route. A crowd favorite was the mannequin dressed as an injured TCU football player, which several students pushed in a wheelchair behind the float. Crazy BYU fans cheered in hopes of a victory over TCU in football.

Food Drive Challenge

By SHEA HEINER
The Utah Student Nurses’ Association is encouraging all of the nursing schools in Utah to collect food for local food banks during the month of November. On November 23rd, there will be a weigh-in to see which nursing school in Utah collected the most food. BYU has one of the largest nursing schools in the state, so we have the potential to collect a great deal of food for those in need. There is bin in the NLC for students to deposit their food in. Any student, whether they are in nursing or not, can donate food in the NLC. Let’s help those who are less fortunate this holiday season!

For further information about USNA service opportunities, contact Dixie at: usnabtn@gmail.com.
**Opening Luau**

By JANE LEAVY

After a stressful first week of school, nursing students and faculty relaxed at the SNA opening social luau. Family and friends of nursing students and faculty gathered at Rock Canyon Park for a fun night of food and games. Besides enjoying a buffet of Hawaiian haystacks and endless fruit and desserts, students visited with their peers to get to know one another outside of the classroom. In addition, Dean Cole and the SNA board introduced themselves and welcomed all the new students. The event, complete with paper palm trees and rainbow-colored leis, was a success thanks to all those who attended. Mahalo!

“The Dean welcomes students returning from vacation, and encourages the them to get involved in student activities and service”

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**Sigma Theta Tau International FUN RUN**

By BRITTANY BAYLIES

The Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) Iota Iota chapter sponsored a 5K walk/run in Draper on October 15 to raise money for student scholarships. Participants were encouraged to wear purple to represent the official STTI colors, and prizes were given those wearing the most creative outfits. Thanks to everyone who participated in the event and contributed to nursing student scholarships.
Students Influence National Policy

By JEFF BROWN

The National Student Nurses' Association has direct links to the professional nursing world, as well as the world of health care reform. I imagine that most of the nursing students at BYU are unaware of the tremendous force that their voice can have on a national level, and for that reason I would like to tell you all about it.

Last April I was able to attend the National Student Nurses' Association annual convention in Nashville, Tennessee. I really did not know what to expect from the experience, but I hoped to learn a thing or two about nursing. As it turns out, in the annual and semi-annual conventions, there are nursing students from all 50 states and several territories that come together to discuss important issues that affect our nation and the world. A major part of the convention is the meeting of the House of Delegates, where students propose resolutions. This is where politics meets nursing care. This is also where I saw first hand the effect that one person's voice can have on the nation. As pieces of legislation were submitted for the vote of the House, I personally witnessed how one voice can change the opinion of a crowd of voters. One student nurse had the courage to stand and express an opinion, which opened up a discussion that exposed flaws and limitations in a proposal. I hope that we never fear the crowd and have the courage to stand up and make our voices heard.

Here are just a few of the many issues that were presented in April:

- Nationally Recognized End of Life Orders Including Advance Directives
- Including Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Pre-Certification in Nursing Curricula
- Rewriting the Language of the Current Good Samaritan Laws to Cover All Licensed Health Care Personnel Responding to Emergencies and/or Operating Automatic External Defibrillators
- National Standardized Curricula for Nurse Residency Programs
- Legislation Against Genetic Discrimination in the Workplace and for Insurance Purposes
- And one of my favorites... Increasing the Political Awareness of Nursing Students

These are only some of the issues discussed at the convention, and as you can see, the legislation encompassed almost every topic imaginable. The best thing about this is that no matter what your area of interest or expertise is, there is something for you to be passionate about in politics.

In April, BYU's College of Nursing was awarded the prestigious Marilin Bagwell Leadership Development Grant. With the money that we received, we are researching and preparing to present our own resolution on preventing childhood obesity. With this, we (and I don't mean just the SNA board, but all of the students in the BYU CON) have the power to change and improve the care of children. We will be helping nursing students, nurses, health care providers, and politicians understand the seriousness of this rising problem.

But do not be fooled. Just because we are using grant money to aid our proposal does not mean that it has to be a truly expensive venture. You individually, or with other nursing students and faculty, can research issues and put together proposals. You have the resources and the support of the college of nursing to help you raise awareness on important health care issues. If you cannot think of any ideas, look through the old resolutions that can be found on the NSNA website at: www.nsna.org/pubs/resources/ResolutionIndex.asp.

You can aid us right now! To be a part of this astounding movement toward better health care, just ask! On the SNA board, there is a whole committee dedicated to furthering legislation and political awareness. Send an email to byusna@gmail.com to get involved and make a difference with your one voice. Remember, as Plato once wrote, "One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors."

For more opportunities to get involved on a national level, join NSNA by visiting their website: www.nsna.gov. By doing this, you are increasing the voice of BYU and Utah. The more NSNA members we have, the more representatives we get to vote on national legislation. Help BYU and Utah be heard!

"I imagine that most of the nursing students at BYU are unaware of the tremendous force that their voice can have on a national level."

Jeff Brown, SNA 2nd VP
Congratulations!

Alee (capstone) and Sterling Weed
June 19, 2009

Annie (4th semester) and Joshua Kirton
August 14, 2009

Christina (capstone) and Christopher Mack
August 21, 2009

Candice (capstone) and Kellen Moulton
August 15, 2009

Carly (2nd semester) and Peter Meyers
August 15, 2009

Corinne (4th semester) and Timothy Jackman
May 21, 2009

Emily (4th semester) and Daniel Baccera
April 25, 2009

Gabby (3rd semester) and Jake Larsen
May 30, 2009
December 2009 Graduates

By JANE LEAVY
Capstone students are nearing the end of their nursing school journey with only a few more weeks of Fall semester left. The College of Nursing held its summer convocation on August 13 in the Joseph Smith Building auditorium for the capstone students who will be graduating in December 2009. Congratulations to all the capstone students for surviving nursing school and learning the Healer’s Art. Good luck on the NCLEX and in your future nursing careers!

Save the Date!

Food Drive—Now through November 23 in the NLC
Bread and Jam Social—December 4 (time and place TBA)
USNA Convention—February 6 at Snow College

Check your email for weekly updates!

If you are not on our email list and would like to receive updates, please send a message to byusna@gmail.com.

Get Involved!
Get involved in an SNA committee! It’s a great way to get to know other nursing students and gain leadership, service, and networking opportunities.

Contact us at byusna@gmail.com if you are interested in joining any of the following committees:
Service Activities Legislation

Let your voice be heard!

2009-2010 SNA Board

President: Erin Zundel
1st VP: Julie Peterson
2nd VP: Jeff Brown
Secretary: Amie Oster
Treasurer: Heidi Newsome
Membership: Tara Tanner
Publicity: Shea Heiner
Service: McKendra Berry
Activities: Amy Monteverde
USNA Rep: Melina Gherzi
Newsletter: Jane Leavy

(Left to right) Amie, Shea, Amy, Julie, Heidi, Jane, Erin, Tara

(not pictured: Jeff, McKendra, Melina)