

UPC vows to give alternative to bar scene

By ALEXIS THOMAS
A&E Editor

A professional renowned for his skill at puking up light bulbs, various programs dealing with sex, and the game show "Singled Out" (sorry, Jenny McCarthy wasn't available) will all be part of the University Program Council's semester lineup.

And that's not even half of it. The University Program Council is staffed by students and exists to educate and entertain, Dorene Johnson, UPC president said.

The group does this by sponsoring events such as guest speakers, Crib nights, the International Film Series at the Mary Riepma Ross Theater and

Wacky Wednesdays throughout the semester. While UPC tries to make most events free to students, a portion of student fees make up UPC's \$101,000 budget.

Rich Caruso, UPC advisor, says he is sure students will be particularly interested in hearing several of the speakers UPC has booked.

"The speakers this semester are going to be intense, and I think they're going to draw big crowds," Caruso said.

Especially in tune with the pulse of student issues will be Mariah Burton Nelson on Sept. 26, author of "The Stronger Women Get, the More Men Love Football."

Johnson said, while initially this may sound like a men-bashing ses-

sion, it should actually appeal to the entire student body.

Other speakers of note will be Mel White on Oct. 9, an ex-ghostwriter for the Christian Coalition and now a speaker on homosexuality; Renee Saucedo on Oct. 23, a speaker on immigration issues; and Jane Elliot on Nov. 20, a woman who ran a study on discrimination of children based on children's eye color.

Prices for speakers vary and all speakers start at 8 p.m., with the exception of Elliot, beginning at 7 p.m.

Last year, UPC vowed to give students an alternative to the Thursday night bar scene, and this year they have vowed to do the same. This program varies from week to week and includes poetry readings, comedy

nights, supermarket bingo, the Crib Unplugged and Tales From the Crib, to name a few.

The most entertaining, if slightly repulsive, Crib night may be Stevie Starr on Halloween night, a professional at regurgitation. Caruso said Starr can swallow a goldfish and puke it back up, swallow a lock, key and an audience member's ring and put them all together and swallow light bulbs, butane gas and other crazy things probably marked "not for internal use" on the bottle.

Other events will be the International Film Series at the Mary Riepma Ross Theater throughout the semester, the CBS College Tour Aug. 27-30 and the Big Red Welcome on Aug. 25.

What I did for my summer vacation

It's really not very exciting. I worked at the car wash and my band recorded a CD. Working at the car wash is a beautiful thing. You're pumping gas, washing cars, meeting people and you come and go as you please. It's like hanging out for 40 hours a week.

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