

Rock the Block

ERIC HOBECK
Contributor

Brings a Community Together

► Rock the Block

On Friday, Sept. 16, Longwood students, staff and faculty, as well as other members of the Farmville Community, went to the Longwood Landings to visit this year's Rock the Block.

This was the third year the Office of First Year Experience put on the event. According to Sarah Whitley, director of the Office of First Year Experience, the event went extremely well, with "a record number of vendors." Whitley also said that this was the largest Rock the Block so far based on community support.

The one downside to this year's event, according to Whitley, was the weather. "Some students were probably deterred by the rain," she explained. Despite the weather, however, the novelty items at the vendor booths attracted many students for the entire evening. "The vendor booths this year," Whitley said, "were the best we've ever had."

This year's edition of the annual block party featured over 60 businesses and organizations offering free items. Many of students' favorite local businesses were present, including Taco Bell, Virginia Credit Union, Farmville Miniature Golf, Poplar Forest Apartments, The Sleeping Bee, and Barnes & Noble. Moe's Southwest Grill and Chick-

Gravity-defying spin machine- Students took a twisted ride as one of the many attractions.



Photo By: MARRISSA DEL PRIORE

fil-A also had tasting booths to showcase their products. Taco Bell and Chick-fil-A had their mascots, a hot sauce packet and cow, respectively, in attendance as well. The Dining Hall featured their usual picnic, but this time around

they were able to use an electronic system to scan students' IDs in for the meal. The picnic has always been included in the students' meal plan along with an additional cost (usually \$10) for those without a meal plan. Brenda Ferguson, assistant director See BANDS Page 5



Photo By: STEPHEN HUDSON

Fireworks in Farmville- At the conclusion of Rock the Block fireworks ended the night with a bang.

Full Metal Jackson Rock the Block Last Friday

KATIE REILLY
A&E Editor

Students and Farmville residents alike turned out to "Rock the Block" on Friday, Sept. 16 for the third of what is sure to remain an annual tradition and partnership between Longwood University and the town of Farmville. Local businesses like Domino's, Sleeping Bee, Karen's Bridal, The Dutch Rabbit, and the like flocked to Longwood University's Landings. They set up booths and games, giving away free samples, coupons, and flyers to advertise their goods to new and old students alike. Many of Farmville's newest additions also turned out to promote their locations, such as Flip Flops, a new frozen yogurt shop, and Main Street Bagels, the new bagel place.

Many forms of entertainment were also provided to draw students and families to the event. There to entertain and rock out the block was a band from Virginia Beach, Full Metal Jackson. "We did Rock the Block last year with the Deloreans," said lead singer and guitarist Frank Hohl. "I started playing guitar when I was thirteen. I was into metal and I had a friend who was doing the same kind of work

in a cover band, so I started doing that. I've been doing it for, like, 18 years now." The band played a large variety of songs, drawing an impressively large crowd. "We play a little bit of everything. We try to sound like DJ, so we tend to go all over the place. Everything from country to rock to rap to pop, the '80s. This band is pretty much all covers," said Hohl. And they rocked the covers, never missing a beat between drums, keyboards and a voice that could cover all levels of music. Students flooded around the stage as the night wore on, and the band did a great job of keeping things going at a level pace, asking the audience to sing along and interacting as much as possible.

"They played 'Bad Fish' by Sublime, which was pretty sweet," said sophomore Katie Cosby when asked what she thought of the bands. "I would like to have them come back next year." And many people seemed to agree. Overall, the largest congregation formed directly in front of the stage and large groups of students danced along, not even missing a beat when the band left the stage and a Zumba Demonstration followed.

Also there to entertain were stations such as face painting, a

photo booth, a Zumba demonstration, caricatures, a mechanical bull, and a gravity-defying spin machine. Mixed with the flowing crowd, free coupons, live music, and good food, the atmosphere was extremely festive, despite the rather cold bit of fall weather. A handful of raffles also took place during the span of the event with gift baskets from various businesses being raffled off as well as gift certificates from places around Farmville. The grand prize raffles took place later on in the evening, and they had entertainment accessories up for grabs like an iPad, iPods, four \$25 gift certificates for iTunes, a Wii, and a flat screen television.

"I love Rock the Block. This is the third year we've done it and every year it seems a success. I'm so happy to be working it again," said Ashley K. Stovall, the program coordinator for the Office of First Year Experience. The Office of First Year Experience was responsible for holding and hosting the event.

Overall, the event drew a large and happy crowd, sitting out on the lawn eating food while jamming out to music, getting their faces painted, or riding the mechanical bull.

IFC Fraternity Walk Held on Iler Field

JESSICA PAGE
Contributor

The fraternity walk, one of Longwood's most popular Greek traditions, took place last Friday on Iler Field at 5 p.m. The tradition welcomes young men into the social fraternities here at Longwood wherein they will begin the process of becoming full-fledged brothers of their chosen fraternities.

Hordes of young men stood with their brothers, clad in Greek letters, while the new bids stood anxiously around the corner of



Phi Kappa Tau charges the field to accept new members.

Dorril Dining Hall (D-Hall). The ceremony started with the presentation of the Balance Man Scholarship by fraternity Sigma Phi Epsi-



Photos By: JESSIE PAGE

Theta Chi welcomes their new brothers as they are launched in the air.

lon. This award is presented to a freshman who demonstrates exemplary leadership and character and does not necessarily have to become part of Sigma Phi Epsilon.

This year the presenter of the award was Scott Hull, president of Sigma Phi Epsilon. The recipients of the award this year were Chris Huber, Alex Brown, and finally, Riley Cole. Cole brought an inspiring piece to the ceremony. Growing up with autism and facing social challenges much unlike the average run-of-the-mill college student, Riley stood in front of the full crowd that wrapped around the back of D-Hall and shared his experiences.

The main idea Cole left his audience with that evening was those who are different also have the potential to be great. Referring to examples such as Van Gogh, Stephen Hawking and Einstein, Cole proclaimed, "The disabled are capable of achieving great things, and I want to follow in their footsteps."

Following the introduction was the announcement of the new bids. The crowd anticipated the arrival of the new bids at the stairwell leading onto Iler. Out in the grass, fraternity brothers impatiently boasted their flags and boys in green full-body suits jumped and jeered.

The bids arrived and the anxiety and excitement fell upon their faces.

One new fraternity brother, Andrew Bradshaw of Phi Mu See WALK Page 5

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