By Ashley Cole
Staff Writer

Is fear a factor for you? It wasn’t for sophomore DeAnna Thompson, the winner of Fear Factor: Pembroke Edition sponsored by A.C.E. on March 21 in the U.C. Lounge.

The event, which drew a large and very excited crowd of 100-200 people was derived from the hit TV show “Fear Factor,” known for its gut-wrenching and stomach-turning tasks.

Thompson said about winning, “It feels good, it feels like I’m being accomplished because I’m a really scared person.”

Contestants

Before the show got underway, raffle tickets were handed out to those who wanted a chance to participate.

Twelve numbers were randomly chosen to decide the lucky contestants who would have to put their fears aside and compete to be crowned the winner.

Levels

The contest consisted of four different levels, with each one being harder than the last.

Level 1 was considered a start-up level to get the contestants warmed up, it was called the Infant Level.

Level 2 was the Toddler Level where things really started to heat up.

Bottoms Up

In the first event, called Bottoms Up, each contestant was asked five questions relating to the University.

The number of answers they got wrong determined the number of live goldfish that were put into a glass of water which they had to drink.

All contestants were able to finish their glasses, with a few contestants actually swallowing their fish.

Towel Tearer

The next event on that level, rightfully named, Towel Tearer had contestants answering questions again answering questions. Only this time, the number of wrong answers determined how many times they would have to spin a color wheel which represented different foods and spices.

One unlucky contestant, senior Jack Simpson, answered three wrong questions and had to drink a shake containing chicken, rice, pig feet and potted meat.

It tasted pretty nasty; please excuse my breath,” Simpson said. While drinking the shake he said he was thinking, “I hope I don’t yack.”

Penny War

One of the more gross events of the night was Penny War, where contestants had to pull out as many pennies as they could from a bucket of worms. This event proved to be the hardest for Thompson, Fear Factor’s winner.

“I don’t like nature that much, so the worms are what really got to me,” she said.

The worms brought on a range of emotions and expressions from the contestants, which for the most part was quite a laughing point for the audience.

However, it was not over for the evening’s final event, Lost and Found.

Lost and Found

Blindfolded, the contestants had to search through two boxes to find the matching lock and key in each. It didn’t sound too bad until you add in the fact that one box contained several live mice and the other box contained a live snake.

The night ended with a live feeding of the snake, which had the audience swarming around the table to bear witness.

The snake was the focal point around the planning of this event.

Senior and A.C.E. member Alexandria Watson said, “We actually have a member, who was snakes, so we planned it around feeding her snakes, rats that wouldn’t have to be free in the wild, (instead) they could be eaten.” Watson said a lot of planning went into this event.

Planning

“We probably planned for about a good two months,” she said. “We had to get some legal stuff [and] we had to get a release because the University could be liable.”

Overall, Watson was happy with the way the event turned out and said, “I think it ran a little long, but I think the students were happy, so as long as they’re happy, we’re good.”

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By Gabi Lovers
Photography Editor

Pepper Jensen, a freshman, was crowned as Big Man on Campus by the ladies of Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity on March 21 in the U.C. Lounge.

The event, which drew a large and very excited crowd of 100-200 people, will hold the title of Big Man on Campus for the 2011 – 2012 school year.

The event was held at 7 p.m. in the U.C. Annex.

The money raised will go towards Zeta Tau Alpha’s philanthropy Susan G. Komen to support Breast Cancer Education and Research.

Twelve contestants competed for the title of Big Man on Campus and for the grand prize of a $25 Outback gift card, which was donated. The other titles won were Mr. Photogenic, held by Michael Baty, a sophomore, and First Runner-Up, held by Donnie West, a freshman.

The competition included three parts: beauty, brown and brains.

The beauty portion required the contestants to wear formal attire as they were introduced by the members of Zeta Tau Alpha.

The contestants were judged on appearance, mod-