Campus brings in $30,000 for Relay for Life for Life

By Gabrielle Lover

As 36 cancer survivors walked in unison to the lyrics “Eye of the Tiger” from the band Survivor, onlookers and supporters offered cheers and shouted words of encouragement.

“Relay for Life is an event that raises funds, research and programs that help patients through their battle with cancer. It is an event that will one day help find a cure for cancer and ensure that the world is full of more birthdays,” said Erika Garner, assistant event chair of Relay for Life.

On April 8, UNCP marked its fifth annual Relay for Life to help with the fight against cancer.

The event took place on the University Center Lawn and began at 12 p.m. and ended at 12 p.m. the following day.

Meeting their goal, Relay raised over $30,000 beating out the amount Relay raised over $30,000 for Relay for Life.

There were 53 teams registered and a total of 802 people signed up to participate in the events. Many of the teams sold items such as t-shirts and food in order to raise as much money as they could for Relay.

Theme
Each team was asked to pick a theme to represent;

Alpha chose the movie Monsters, Inc. as their theme and sold Monster Energy drinks as their contribution to Relay.

Other fraternities and sororities participated in Relay for Life, along with many other UNCP organizations.

Many other teams sold barbeque, chicken sandwich and funnel cakes. There was much done in order to remember and honor those that have battled cancer.

The annual luminary ceremony gave participants a moment to reflect about their loved ones and honor survivors. The word “hope” was lit along with 100 luminary bags with the names of loved ones which lit the walkway for those walking the track.

“Coming to UNCP Relay for Life is very exciting to me. To see all of the young people working for a cause so no one have to go through what I have gone through with cancer. It makes me proud that my daughter is a part of such a great thing,” Tina Johnson, a breast cancer survivor, said.

Entertainment for those teams staying the night was provided by the Relay for Life event staff. Beginning at 10 p.m. the members of Phi Mu Alpha and Sigma Alpha Iota sang.

 ● 11:15 p.m. Quarters for a Cure.
 ● 12 a.m. the annual Dodgeball tournament place in the main gym between the members of Phi Kappa Alpha and the UNCP Wrestling team with Phi Kappa Alpha being the champions for the third year in a row.

Student health insurance plan rates to go up for the 2011-2012 school year

By Hilary Aker

The University of North Carolina at Pembroke has made changes to the health insurance plan for students returning for the 2011-2012 school year, including the elimination of student co-pay for office visits, X-rays and laboratory tests.

Students with the school’s health insurance plan will no longer have a $50 co-pay when they are sent to a medical office outside of Pembroke.

Cora Bullard, director of Student Health Services, said that the co-pay was taken out because the department felt that some students didn’t have the money to pay out-of-pocket.

“I believe it will be better for our students to have a $50 deductible and $50 co-pay,” Bullard said.

She said the school has always had a $50 deductible to help students from having to pay out of pocket.

Changes in the health insurance plan also include the removal of vision coverage for students. Only about 2 percent of students who had the health insurance used the vision coverage, Bullard said. She said the department didn’t see the need to keep it.

With the changes next year, students will pay $434 per semester, which is $686 per year. This is $78.50 more per semester and $157 more per year than the payment for the 2010-2011 school year.

“All 16 campuses’ premiums will be going up next year,” said Bullard.

Students can go online now if they want to waive their insurance plan for next year.

The website is www.studentinsurance.com The current deadline for waive insurance for the 2011-2012 school year is Aug. 31. “If they don’t waive, it’s on their account,” Bullard said. “There’s nothing we can do about that.”

Bullard stressed that it is important for students to waive the insurance before the deadline because after that point they are locked into it.

Bullard said anyone with questions about the new health insurance plan or how to waive for next year should visit the Student Health Service website at www.uncp.edu/shs.