

# Fall Carnival proceeds to benefit child care centers

Event organizers hope to make the carnival an annual fund raiser

By Teri Meeuwsen  
Higher Education Reporter

Cowboys and cowgirls are invited to wrestle into them cowboy hats and boots for the Child Care and Development Centers' Fall Carnival on Sunday from 2 to 5 p.m. in the EMU Fir Room.

Live music, a cake walk, a petting zoo and a piñata bust will be just some of the features at this country-style fund raiser. The Fir

Room will be transformed into a barnyard, with donated hay bales and pumpkins, said program organizer Melanie Willis. Scarecrows and time will be donated by the ASUO Women's Center, YWCA and members of the greek system. Belinda Vivier, network coordinator for the YWCA, said the organization wants to be involved in the Fall Carnival to help raise awareness. Because the YWCA is an advocate for child care, the members want to be involved in helping to raise funding for the Child Care and Development Centers, she said.

"The YWCA has been dormant for a while," she said, "and we wanted to make it more visible."

The Fall Carnival proceeds will go toward classroom materials, such as books and toys for children in the care centers, Willis said.

Booths will include carnival games such as Pin the Tail on the Donkey, Go Fish and some family-oriented projects such as face painting and mask making. Information about child care and the greek system will also be available.

Brad Cooley of Theta Chi fraternity has volunteered half an hour

to help run the games and hand out prizes.

"It's going to be cool," he said. "I'm a freshman here, so I haven't seen a lot of opportunities, and when one pops up and it looks interesting, I'll go for it." The organizers of the Fall Carnival expect a decent crowd, Vivier said.

"From the past experiences I've had with schools, they have a really good turn out," she said.

Families involved with the child care centers will be there, Willis said.

"Most of the families plan on attending," she said. "We're expect-

ing around 200 people. At first it was just for families in [Child Care and Development Centers], but we decided to open it to the public."

The carnival may become an annual event, Willis said.

"We want to continue [the carnival] every year," she said. "It would be a good year-after-year fund-raising event."

A \$3 admission fee will be charged per parent or \$5 per family at the door. Children accompanied by a paying adult can get in for free. Events at the carnival will cost one ticket each. Tickets will be 25 cents each or five for \$1.

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