

OT students bolster skills at camp

by Sharron Walls

What's summer without summer camp? For a group of 31 occupational therapy students, a week at Camp TBI in Rutledge, Ga., July 12-18 put their curriculum to good use.

As part of their Level I fieldwork, the student volunteers helped 27 campers age 9-21 with traumatic brain injuries in recreational and daily living activities, and cared for them 24/7. This year's theme, "Under the Big Top," provided plenty of opportunity for fun and games, some of which the students helped plan.

"It was a unifying event for the first-year students, facilitating all of their learning," said Dr. Ben Herz, assistant professor of occupational therapy and liaison for the program.

The camp is sponsored by the Walton Foundation and supported by grants.



Camper Jimmy Freels and OT student Laurie Allen clowning around before breakfast



Amanda Russo splashes around with Gerald Lyons



Natalie Muchnick (left) and Celia Perry help Khalyle Cleveland prepare a bow



Chasity Carter gives Deidre Goode tips on her swing



Jason Shew gives camper RJ Moultin a hand



Everybody loves a clown: Tyler Cox (from left), Amber Barbree, Annie Smith, Mary Catherine Thompson, Meagin Knight, Megan Parker, Kate Baly and Alexis Butler (sitting)



Meagin Knight (from left), Mary Catherine Thompson, Annie Smith and Amber Barbree are ready to start strokin'