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Students Help Make Santa Ana Boy’s Wishes Come True

Chapman University Media Relations
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Money raised by sorority enables Make-A-Wish to grant a young leukemia patient with a Toys R Us shopping spree.

ORANGE, Calif., April 11, 2003- Chapman Universitys chapter of the national Alpha Phi sorority recently helped make the wishes of a Santa Ana boy come true. The sorority raised more than $3,200 through a fund-raising event and decided to make a difference in the community by donating the money to the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Orange County.

Their donation helped Reinaldo, an 8-year-old Leukemia patient, have his wish of a whirlwind shopping spree at Toys R Us come true. Reinaldo, who lives in Santa Ana with his parents and two brothers, is a typical little boy who loves to read and play soccer. He enjoys watching his two favorite cartoon characters, Scooby Doo and Spiderman, and playing basketball with his brothers.

Reinaldos wish day began on a Saturday morning, starting with his first ever limousine ride which took him and his family to the Rainforest Caf at South Coast Plaza. From there, they took the limo to a nearby Toys R US store and spent the afternoon searching for all the toys Reinaldo had ever dreamed of having. Among his final selections were a Playstation 2, with plenty of games to go along with it, as well as the Stuart Little 2 and Like Mike movies. Not only did Reinaldo get himself toys, he also made sure that his brothers got the toys they wanted. Reinaldos wish day was everything he had hoped for said his mom and dad, who felt they received just as much joy from the event, We were all very happy to be able to share this special day with Reinaldo it was wonderful to see how happy he was.

Recently members of the Make-A-Wish Foundation presented the Chapman sorority members with a plaque which included Reinaldos picture and a description of his wish day. The experience was very meaningful to all the girls, and we were happy to have touched the lives of Reinaldo and his family, says Mayumi Hasegawa, vice president of marketing and spokesperson for the sorority.