Black Health Awareness Week Begins Today

BY KELLY LOJK

Student organizers of UNC's Health in the Black Community Week, who are sponsoring a minority bone marrow screening drive on Tuesday, are urging students to "get it together" this week in an effort to build awareness.

Other events this week include a Kidney Foundation fund-raiser today, a dis-cussion of dental and nutrition awareness Wednesday, and a blood pressure check

Sponsored by the UNC chapter of Delta Theta Sigma, a black service sorority, the week's events will educate students about health issues in the black community, said Pam Alston, chairwoman of Delta Sigma Theta's service committee. "We couldn't possibly tackle all the important health issues in one week. We just want people to know that health is important. Taking care of the body is important."

Organizers are making a particular ef-

organizers are making a particular ef-fort to promote the minority bone marrow screening drive. The bone marrow drive involves helping others, said Delta Sigma Theta member Anika Goodwin, the drive's coordinator. The drive will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday in Union 205-206. Interested students and faculty will be screened for marrow type and registered with the National Marrow Donor Pro-

with the National Marrow Donor Program, Goodwin said.

The screening, which takes about 10 minutes, consists of answering a brief questionnaire and taking a simple blood test, Goodwin said. Although everyone is encouraged to enroll in the registry, there is a particular need for donors from minority that the particular need for donors from minority that the particular test and according to the National. aces, she said. According to the National Marrow Donor Program, only 5 percent of the 900,000 volunteers listed in the naal registry are black.

Because the characteristics of marrow are inherited, a person's best chance of finding a donor match is from family members. The next best chance for a person in need of a marrow transplant is to find a donor from the same race, Goodwin said.

Alston said that the low percentage of black donors was primarily due to lack of awareness and to misconceptions about the donor program. "People need to re-member that when they become part of the member that when they become part of the registry, that doesn't mean they are going to have to give bone marrow immediately," she said. "They're not going to be stuck with this long needle. There is no guarantee that they will ever be called to donate; their chances of being matched are slim." If a match is found, the donor under-

goes minor surgery lasting about an hour, Alston said. Marrow, which is a liquid, is removed from the back of the hip bone **Health in the Black** Community

nday- Kidney Foundation Fund-raise Donations will be taken in the Pit 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

esday- Minority Bone Marrow Drive 11 a.m.-2 p.m. in Union 205-206 dnesday- Dental and Nutrition

Awareness, features Dr. Minnie McNary, UNC nutritionist and Dr. Jean Woods, D.D.S. in Carrboro, 7 p.m. in Union 224

Thursday- High Blood Pressure Check 11 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Pit

while the patient is under anesthesia. No stitches are required, and the body naturally regenerates the bone marrow within a

The Red Cross will conduct Tuesday's drive, and government funds provide free screening for all minorities in an effort to increase their enrollment, Goodwin said. White volunteers will be charged \$30 to cover the cost of screening. Those at high risk for HIV, the AIDS virus, are not eli-

The Kidney Foundation fund-raiser will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. today in the Pit. Kidney disease is a problem in the woman of the week's organizing com

woman of the week's organizing commit-tee.

"A large percentage of African Ameri-cans suffer from diabetes and hyperten-sion, both of which can lead to kidney failure," she said. "Dialysis, the treatment for kidney failure, is expensive and ongo-ing. Donations to the Kidney Foundation can be used to help people receive dialysis treatment and proper medical care."

A dental and nutrition awareness dis-cussion will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday in Union 224. Dr. Minnie McNary, a UNC nutritionist, and Dr. Jean Wood, a Carrboro dentist, will discuss the impor-

Carrboro dentist, will discuss the impor-tance of healthy diets and regular physical

and dental checkups.

Alston said that obesity and poor diets were a common problem in the black community and that a recent study showed black women to be the least healthy group in the United States.

Goodwin said she attributed these prob-lems in large part to poor health habits such

as not exercising and eating too many foods that were high in fat and sodium.

The sorority is also sponsoring a blood pressure check from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Thursday in the Pit. The check takes about three minutes and helps foster awareness of the connection between blood pressure and health habits such as diet and exercise

Another campus group is also trying to

increase communication among campus women's groups. Student government's Women's Issues Committee will host a

reception for women faculty and student leaders of women groups at 5:30 p.m. Nov. 15 in the Union Gallery. They will discuss possible programs and joint efforts as well as common concerns. All are welcome to

Subjects for Studies of Premenstrual Syndrome **PMS Participants**

UNC Researchers Need

Disease Is Serious Matter, Has Debilitating Effects for Many Women Every Month

BY NANCY FONTI

Researchers at the UNC School of Medi-

Researchers at the UNC School of Medicine are searching for 60 female subjects to participate in studies of premenstrual syndrome, a disorder which affects 5 percent to 10 percent of women.

"We're talking about a group of women with symptoms so severe that they actually interfere with the women's normal ability to function and have a significant impact on interpersonal relationships," said Dr. Susan Girdler, research assistant professor of psychiatry.

of psychiatry.

"If we can identify what aspects of the women's biology is abnormal, it can lead to drug interventions to alleviate the symptoms," said Girdler, who has been researching PMS since 1991.

Researchers will monitor cardiovascular systems and assess the adrenaline systems of about 30 women who suffer from

rems of about 30 women who suiter from PMS. Another 30 women will serve as controls in the study, Girdler said. Symptoms of PMS, a disorder for which there is currently no cure, include anxiety, irritability, fatigue, headaches and suicidal tendencies, she said.

Girdler said extreme symptoms of PMS forced some women to remain at home for one week every month. "Millions of women spend one-fourth

to one-half of their reproductive lives with these debilitating symptoms," she said. "It can be a major problem for them. ... We're talking about an important quotient of life for these women." for these women.

Women with the disorder often spend

the rest of the month repairing the damage caused by PMS, Girdler added.

"I did not actually believe in PMS before I began the research," she said. "It wasn't until I met these women that I came to understand that it is a debilitating disor-

book and papers, and said, "I ought to get my gun and kill the son of a bitch." Browning admitted to having made

threatening comments but apologized the same day, according to the "Findings of Fact" section of Morrison's opinion. Morrison ruled that no racial discrimina-tion or retaliation had influenced UNC's decision to fire Browning but that the University had acted too harshly in firing him.

UNC Researchers are looking for women between the ages of 20 and 40 who suffer from severe premenstrual syndrome to participate in an extensive study. Participants will receive at least \$150 for the first phase. For more information, call study coordinator Karen Korach at (919) 966-3815.

In order to conduct the study, which is funded by the Foundation of Hope for the Research and Treatment of Mental Illness, Girdler needs subjects.
"We are looking for women who really

think they experience emotional depression, anxiety, irritability or anger," she

Subjects must be between the ages of 20 and 40, and participants will receive \$160 for the first phase of the study, Girdler said.

Contrary to what researchers had ex-

pected, prior experiments have found that women with premenstrual disorders showed lower levels of response to stress tests than non-PMS women, Girdler said.
"This was all paradoxical," she said.

The women with premenstrual disorders were also found to produce more adrenaline throughout the entire menstrual cycle, which results in a higher heart rate and blood pressure, she said.

The body responds to an increased amount of adrenaline by decreasing the number of adrenaline receptors, Girdler

The receptors cause the increases in heart rate and blood pressure, she said.

One hypothesis is that the regulation of

the adrenaline system might cause PMS symptoms to disappear, Girdler said.

A drug called clonidine, which is used to treat high blood pressure, was given to subjects in prior experiments and symp-toms were reduced, she said.

Browning and McSurely asserted that Browning had been fired because of his role as a leader in the UNC Housekeepers Association and that racial discrimination

and retaliation were involved.

McSurely said the SPC had not consid-

"The SPC did not look at issues that they deemed 'extraneous,'" McSurely said.

Newsletter Provides a Forum for Women's Issues editors Amy Swan and Adrienne Lockie at the WIN office (Room F, Union Suite B) at

UNC women now have another outlet for finding out about events and issues that concern them.

concern them.

The Women's Issues Network (WIN) at UNC has come out with its first newsletter, "Women's Watch."

"The newsletter was created in an effort to increase dialogue in the campus community," said Katie Hultquist, co-founder of "Women's Watch" and co-chairwoman of WIN.

"Our goal is to keep the University updated on issues, events, programs and services that affect women on this campus," Hultquist said.

Susan Covington, co-founder of "Women's Watch" and co-chairwoman

of WIN, said the newsletter would strengthen communication among UNC women's groups and raise awareness of

events they sponsor.

"Its purpose is to unite all of the women's groups on campus," she said. "We had found that there was a lot of fragmentation and little communication between the vari-

ous groups.
"We also found that women did not know about many of the events on campus as well as in the community," Covington said. "Through the newsletter, we hope to build lines of communication for the vari-ous groups on campus and to inform students of the different women's programs taking place on campus.'

The free newsletter is currently available at all residence halls, the Undergraduate and Davis libraries and the Union desk.

The newsletter consists of contributions from different members of the group, a calendar of upcoming programs, a sched-ule of women's athletics and a summary of last month's events concerning women. A quote from Rebecca West across the bottom of the newsletter reads, "Feminism is the radical notion that women are people." Hultquist said she hoped the University

would continue to support women's needs, concerns and issues in three main areas.

"It is our hope that UNC will continue

to promote and support women, provide a forum for women and men to discuss gender equity and communication, and advocate a University environment that ex-tends a supportive climate to all women students, faculty and staff of UNC."

Anyone interested in submitting articles "Women's Watch" can contact co-

Other events concerning women on campus include a Take Back the Night

attend the informal event.

March starting at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Pit and a Women's Studies Lunchtime Colloquium on "Feminist Film Theory and Cross-Cultural Criticism" at noon Nov. 16 in the Toy Lounge in Dey Hall.

BROWNING

While talking to a counselor in human while taiking to a counselor in human resources about his request, Browning overheard a conversation between his supervisor and UNC's training manager, who said the request couldn't be fulfilled until Browning finished a newly created prerequisite.

Then, Browning got angry, threw a note-

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Further, in order to fulfill requirements of law that the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill not aid or perpetuate discrimination against any person by providing significant assistance to any organization which discriminates against any student on the bases enumerated above, the University requires every institutionally sanctioned student organization to file with the Institution a statement of the organization's non-discrimination policy.

As of November 1, 1994, the organizations listed below have been officially recognized by the University administration for the year ending September 30, 1995. Recognition is not granted unless the organization files with the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, a statement of it's non-discrimination policy. Any currently enrolled student who applied for membership in any recognized student organization, was denied membership, and believes the denial was based in whole or in part on his age, disability, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, gender or veteran status, should notify the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs.

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ACADEMIC/PRE-PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
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Alliance of Black Graduate and Professional Students
Alpha Chi Sigma Prof. Chemistry Testernity
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