

Bennett tapped to lead honor outreach

BY BRIAN HUDSON
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

Stacy Jade Bennett was appointed next year's honor system outreach coordinator Tuesday by Student Body President Matt Tepper.

Bennett, a junior psychology major from Gibsonville, will be inaugurated April 6 if approved by Student Congress.

As the outreach coordinator, Bennett will be responsible for organizing honor outreach initiatives on campus, such as Honor and Integrity Week, and inviting speakers to come to UNC to speak about honor.

"I will also be going around to different classes and groups to talk and answer questions about the honor system," she said.

A selection committee chose

Bennett from among five candidates for the position.

She was chosen because she exhibited "extensive knowledge of the system, passion for outreach, and potential to continue this year's unprecedented emphasis on issues of honor and integrity at Carolina," an executive branch release stated.

Bennett had previously served on a number of positions in the office of the student attorney general, including associate student attorney general for the 2002-03 school year.

She said her past work with the honor system provided her with a knowledge that will be invaluable as outreach coordinator, and she will be able to relay that insight into the honor system to the student body.

"This position has been envisioned as a public face for the system ... as a way to foster confidence in the system."

MARC HENNES, 2003-04 HONOR OUTREACH COORDINATOR

"I definitely have a wide knowledge of the honor system," she said. "It basically gave me an insider's look at the honor system."

Marc Hennes, the outgoing outreach coordinator, said he is confident that Bennett will be successful next year.

"I think from her experience ... we are all confident she'll do a great job and carry on the success of this year and hopefully expand upon it," he said.

Hennes was the first person to hold the position after it was creat-

ed last year.

He said as a new position, the outreach coordinator must not only promote honor and integrity, but continue to define the responsibilities.

"The important thing is to be accessible," he said.

"This position has been envisioned as a public face for the system ... as a way to foster confidence in the system."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

Union loaning digital cameras

BY IRIS PADGETT
STAFF WRITER

The Carolina Union and Information Technology Services began offering overnight digital camera check-out to students, faculty and staff Monday.

The three Olympus D560 Zoom 3.2 megapixel digital cameras are available with a valid UNC ONE Card at the main information desk in the newest section of the old Union building. The program is being funded by ITS.

Associate Union Director Scott Hudson said the idea was conceived because both the Union and ITS constantly are looking for ways to serve students.

They got the idea for the cameras by surveying student staff members of the Union and holding focus groups to discuss students' interests, he said.

"The cameras are a great idea, a great service," Hudson said. "The feedback we've gotten so far has just been fantastic."

As technology becomes available, the popularity of an item makes it scarce, he said. Hudson also said the program made sense because the cost of digital cameras has decreased significantly since they were first introduced, and students are more likely to check out

technology that isn't too expensive.

Gina Platz, manager of ITS computer labs, said she thought the camera check-out was a good idea because it would be something students like to see and because not everyone has a digital camera.

Freshman Taylor Stanford said she definitely would check out a digital camera. "Digital cameras are a lot easier to use than regular 35 millimeter cameras," she said.

She said she would use it to take pictures when she went out with her friends or around campus.

Platz said ITS might consider expanding the program to include checking out other electronics if this program proves to be successful.

Hudson said the success of the program will be measured by the number of students who come to check out a camera.

ITS advertised the program by putting information about it on the computer screens in the ITS computer labs, Platz said.

Chrystal Baker, a junior information services assistant who works at the check-out desk, said that the program already appears successful and that several students already have checked out cameras.

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

Taxes, cuts a must to save Medicare, experts say

BY KAVITA PILLAI
STAFF WRITER

Medicare will run out of money by 2019, according to a new report by the program's Board of Trustees, putting a strain on the wallets of both baby-boomers and their children, including college-aged people.

The annual report showed the Hospital Insurance Trust, which is financed by payroll taxes, will go broke seven years earlier than expected. Another part of Medicare that finances physician and outpatient care is funded primarily from the general fund of the U.S. Treasury and not in danger.

The report blamed President Bush's prescription drug plan, as

well as higher expenditures and lower tax revenues for the rapid deterioration of the fund.

Experts say to save Medicare, policymakers might have to increase taxes or cut services. Payroll taxes for Medicare have not been increased since 1985, said Judith Stein, executive director of the Center for Medicare Advocacy.

"While the cost of health care increases, we have continued to insist upon relying on the same amount of contribution," she said. "If we insist on refusing to pay more for that which is more expensive, logically it will go bankrupt."

In addition to rising health costs, Medicare is being stretched by the

overall graying of the population as baby-boomers reach retirement age. People are also living longer, adding to the strain. Medicare bankruptcy has been seen as inevitable, but the earlier date adds more urgency to the issue.

"We're going to have to revisit Medicare financing for the baby-boom generation," said Robert Field, director of the graduate program in health policy at the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia. "Once we get by that, we'll have to revisit it again before

generation X, Y or Z gets there."

Field added that if the working population is not willing to accept paying more for Medicare, the program will face major service cuts.

"This (situation doesn't) mean Medicare won't be there for (the younger generation)," he said. "It means we'll be paying more in taxes sooner or dramatically cutting back on what it covers. And my guess is we're not going to want to do that."

Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.

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CORRECTION

A Wednesday article about student government's voter registration drive should have stated that about 2,300 students were registered.

To report an error contact Managing Editor Daniel Thigpen and dthigpen@email.unc.edu.

Iraqi insurgents' attacks kill 3 west of Baghdad

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Insurgents attacked a U.S. military patrol west of Baghdad early Wednesday and an ensuing fight left three civilians dead and two U.S. soldiers injured, the U.S. military and Iraqi hospital officials said.

The fighting came a day after assailants shot at a van carrying police recruits south of Baghdad, killing nine, while gunmen killed two policemen in the north. On Wednesday, the police chief of a nearby district was shot and killed.

In a speech in central Baghdad marking the last 100 days of U.S. political control, top U.S. administrator L. Paul Bremer said Iraq is "on the path to full democracy"

and has made significant economic progress since Saddam Hussein was toppled almost a year ago.

Associated Press Television News footage of the aftermath of the fighting in the town of Fallujah, 32 miles west of Baghdad, showed two civilian cars burned, bloodstains on the ground and bullet holes in walls, as well as two wounded Iraqis being taken into a hospital.

The U.S. military said two "coalition personnel" were injured. They were flown from Fallujah to a combat hospital after attackers detonated a roadside bomb and raked their vehicle with gunfire, a U.S. official said. Three civilians died and three others were wounded, a doctor at Fallujah General Hospital said.

Request for Nominations

The Class of 2004, the General Alumni Association and the Division of Student Affairs present the

Edward Kidder Graham Awards

In 1917, Graham called for a structure to enhance student life on campus. Now, it's your turn to recognize the individuals who embody that spirit Graham envisioned.

Nominate an outstanding:

- Senior of an officially recognized student organization
- Professor, TA or instructor for work both inside and outside the classroom
- Advisor of an officially recognized student organization

Nomination forms can be picked up at the Student Union (South Road Desk) or downloaded from alumni.unc.edu.

Nominations are due by 5 p.m. March 25, Suite 2501 Room A, FPG Student Union

Questions? E-mail seniorweek@unc.edu

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Women's Week 2004

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CAROLINA WOMEN'S CENTER
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Program Highlights for Thursday, March 25:

Women's Health Fair
11am - 2pm, the Pit

Get informed about important issues regarding women's health, and enjoy some free ice cream! Co-sponsored by the Carolina Women's Center, Student Health Services, and the Women's Affairs Committee of Student Government.

Women as Entrepreneurs
3pm, Multipurpose Room (1505 Student Union)

Female business owners from the Triangle will share their experiences and answer questions concerning the challenges they have faced and the successes they have enjoyed as women and as entrepreneurs. Co-sponsored by the Carolina Women's Center and the Kenan-Flagler School of Business.

Winona LaDuke
7pm, Student Union Film Auditorium

Winona is an internationally renowned Native American Indian activist and advocate for environmental, women's and children's rights. She is the founder and Campaign Director of the White Earth Land Recovery Project, a reservation-based and land acquisition, environmental advocacy and cultural organization. She is also founder and co-chair of the Indigenous Women's Network. Co-sponsored by the Carolina Women's Center, the Carolina Union Activities Board, and the Office for Minority Affairs.

For more information and an updated schedule, go to: www.unc.edu/womenscenter

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