

CAROLINA DINING SERVICES INTRODUCES

# The Dining Days Giveaway

- \* Sign up for a spring meal plan & you are automatically entered.
- \* We will have 5 weekly drawings between Dec. 9 and Jan. 21
- \* CDS will give away \$100 Dining Flex to 4 student winners, & 1 grand prize FREE MEAL PLAN

THE SOONER YOU SIGN UP, THE MORE CHANCES YOU'LL HAVE TO WIN!



## Hemminger preps for term

BY BRANDON REED  
STAFF WRITER

New school board member Pam Hemminger was the only candidate not present at Thursday's vote for the vacant seat on the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education.

Instead of waiting to hear whether she would be chosen to fill the open seat, which was left vacant after Valerie Foushee was elected to the Orange County Board of Commissioners, Hemminger was volunteering for one of the area's middle school basketball programs.

Hemminger was selected for the spot by a 5-1 vote.

School board member Edward Sechrest said he thinks such dedication to serving the community is indicative of how Hemminger will serve.

Her move from volunteer to public official began earlier this year when she ran for the commissioners and lost by a narrow margin in the July primaries.

Hemminger said the jump was a logical one. "I was frustrated with the lack of responsiveness I was getting from that level," Hemminger said of the commissioners. "I wanted to shake things up."

Hemminger said several people

mentioned the open school board seat, and she thought that with four children in the school system, she would be a good fit.

She plans to run for re-election when her term expires in fall 2005.

Elizabeth Carter, vice chairwoman of the school board, said Hemminger's experience with schools and working on boards carried a lot of weight in her vote.

Hemminger has served as president of the Parent Teacher Association and chairwoman of the School Governance Committee at Ephesus Elementary School.

She also has served on the Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation Commission for four years.

In addition to being the new school board member, Sechrest said Hemminger's experience will be slightly different from that of newly elected members.

"The election process forces you to take positions on things along



School board member Pam Hemminger will be sworn in Dec. 16.

the way," Sechrest said. "Once you've been elected, you feel obligated to follow those positions. When you come in unencumbered by promises you made, you can be like, 'How can I help?'"

Sechrest also filled in for a departing school board member when he was chosen in August 2002 to replace Teresa Williams. He then won re-election in 2003.

"It's a whirlwind process — it happens in like 30 days," Sechrest said. "You go from zero to 60 in nanoseconds."

Carter said one of the biggest challenges Hemminger will face will be getting up to speed in the two weeks before the next board meeting.

Hemminger said she has been given documents such as budgets and enrollment statistics to prepare for the new year. She will be sworn in at the school board's Dec. 16 meeting.

"I'll have lots of reading over the holiday break," Hemminger said.

In January, she will participate in a two-day training session for new board members as well as attend the board's yearly retreat.

Contact the City Editor at [citydesk@unc.edu](mailto:citydesk@unc.edu).

## Honor system focuses on process

BY KATHERINE EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

After conducting a yearlong campus outreach initiative, honor system officials said they have shifted their focus back to the basics this semester.

"We want to make sure that the machine we have going is a well-oiled machine," said Student Attorney General Carolina Chavez.

Two appeals before the University Hearings Board were opened to the public this semester, providing students with an inside view of the system for the first time in four years.

The exact case numbers are not available until after final exams, but David Gilbert, assistant dean of students and judicial programs officer, said the Honor Court has heard 79 cases this semester. As of Friday, 92 honor code violations were reported during the same time frame.

He noted that comparing the number reported and the number tried is not "apples to apples," as some hearings were products of reports

issued last spring and summer.

Of the 79 cases tried this semester, 31 were classified as academic violations and 48 were classified as conduct violations. In these cases, the court handed down 70 guilty verdicts and nine not guilty verdicts, Gilbert said.

Academic violations usually deal with issues of academic dishonesty. Sixteen students accused of these violations received probation, 10 received suspension and five were found not guilty.

Conduct cases, Gilbert said, "run the gamut" from possession of drugs like cocaine to minor property violations. Of those accused of conduct violations, 28 received probation, seven received suspension, nine received written warnings and additional sanction, and four were found not guilty. These numbers are nothing new, honor officials said.

Although Gilbert said it is too early to tell what is causing the increase, he suggested that the heightened awareness among

University police of driving under the influence offenses has contributed to increased reporting. Gilbert also said the new faculty-student resolution policy, which asks faculty members and accused students to reach a compromise before a hearing, also discourages faculty from resolving cases themselves.

This emphasis on a fair legal process for students has been a focal point in Chavez's administration this semester.

Independent Defense Counsel Co-president Tim Lehan said he and Co-president Megan Paul are working to make sure students with Honor Code violations undergo impartial honor proceedings.

"Our goal is to act in the students' best interests," Lehan said.

Lehan said his group wants to increase communication and collaboration with the honor system to better serve student interests.

Contact the University Editor at [univdesk@unc.edu](mailto:univdesk@unc.edu).

# UNC STUDENT STORES TEXTBOOK BUYBACK

## CASH 4 BOOKS

### BUYBACK HOURS

Wed-Fri, December 8-10	7:30am to 8:00pm
Saturday, December 11	10:00am to 6:00pm
Sunday, December 12	1:00pm to 6:00pm
Mon-Thur, December 13-16	7:30am to 8:00pm



Thru



UNC STUDENT STORES

Our Earnings go to Scholarships