

CANDIDATES

FROM PAGE 1

"On Jan. 16 we will have a definite policy," Mosley said.

Two potential candidates for student body president, juniors Bernard Holloway and James Allred, attended the meeting.

Two students expressing interest in CAA president showed up, as did one candidate seeking senior class officer status.

No potential candidates for presidents of RHA and GPSF attended.

Allred and Holloway both had been preparing previously for their presidential bids, both already having laid out much of their core platform and having gathered supporters and staff.

Holloway, who served as student body secretary last year before resigning in September 2004, said he has a core staff of about two dozen and an even larger network of volunteers.

He said in preparation for the upcoming campaign he plans to try to gauge as accurately as possible the opinions of the student body.

"I'm trying to use their ideas to really formulate my platform," Holloway said, adding that most of his core platform points have been established.

Allred, who lives in Chapel Hill, said he plans to turn his home into

"If we're going to do one thing right this year, you're going to know everyone of us personally."

JIM BREWER, VICE CHAIRMAN

somewhat of a "bed and breakfast" by inviting a number of staff members to finish his platform and prepare campaign strategies.

"I'd say we have pretty much all the platform," said Allred, who was tapped to replace Holloway as secretary in October 2004.

He added that a major part of platform preparation is researching the feasibility of different points.

Aside from outlining campaign regulations, board members also highlighted the importance they will place this year on communication with candidates.

The elections board said it will work with candidates to keep a running list of their campaign staffs.

"If we're going to do one thing right this year, you're going to know every one of us personally," said elections board vice chairman Jim Brewer.

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

MANAGERS

FROM PAGE 1

"It's more than basketball ... so many people put so much time and effort into it."

Senior Julie Aridas of Virginia Beach, Va., is working with the varsity team for the first time after three years as a JV manager.

"I wanted to find some way I could be involved (with the men's games)," Aridas says.

"Because I'm a girl, I couldn't play, so manager was the only way in."

The managers each have different responsibilities on practice days and gamedays.

They arrive at the Smith Center at least an hour before practice and leave 30 to 45 minutes after practice ends.

"They do all the little things that have to be done, and really, nobody notices. But if they're not done, then it's a huge deal," Holladay says.

"So if they're really doing their job, nobody will notice during a ballgame or practice."

The managers say the commitment is a serious one.

"You don't have time for anything else, not even school sometimes," says head manager and senior David Hoots of Newton. Howlett agrees.

"I have a new respect for student athletes since I got involved with this," he says.

The managers have to balance their roles as both fans and workers.

"Some games are hectic," Puckett says. "You get caught up in the excitement of the game and have to remember to do your thing, also."

Though the work is demanding, the managers say the perks make it well worth the effort.

The managers receive a small monthly salary in addition to traveling with the team, receiving equipment and as Holladay says, "They got the best seats in the house."

Among all these perks, some managers say the highlight of the job is spending time with the team.

"They're fun to joke around with. They're great guys," Aridas says.

Howlett says the team is like a group of big brothers to her. "They're really, really awesome. I love them to death," she says.

The players all don't leave their competitive spirits on the court. The team and managers play video games in the locker room and turn up the heat in pingpong.

"Me and Dave Noel have been going at it lately. I whoop him

every time," Hoots boasts jokingly. "Nah, we're about even. It kills him every time I win. He takes it to heart."

Pingpong wins or losses aside, the managers are an important part of the team.

"There's a lot of responsibility

placed on their shoulders," Miller says.

"We really appreciate what they do, and we're really happy to have them."

Contact the Features Editor at features@unc.edu

FINANCING

FROM PAGE 1

Scholarships and Financial Aid at N.C. State University, said there is a legal strategy to maximize college savings.

Money set aside to finance college should be saved under the parent's name, not the student's, because of the way need is calculated, they said.

"You still have to report it as an asset, but it won't hurt the family as badly if it's in the parent's name versus the child's name," Rice Mallette said.

This strategy also is endorsed by Mark Kantrowitz, publisher of FinAid.org.

The federal formula for need-based aid expects that students will spend 35 percent of their assets on educational expenses, Kantrowitz said. But less than 6 percent of parents' assets are expected to go toward education.

That means any tax savings that result from saving money under a student's name will be cancelled out by the loss in federal aid eligibility, Kantrowitz added.

North Carolina avoids this issue by adding parent and student assets together and considering family assets as one amount when calculating eligibility for state-sponsored financial aid, Brooks said.

Also, North Carolina does not consider a student's income when calculating financial aid, he said.

Instead the state expects students to contribute \$4,500 toward educational expenses through work or loans.

"A student ought to help herself before the state does," Brooks said.

Another way to improve financial aid eligibility is to use bank

"The financial aid system is not designed to be an adversarial system ..."

STEVE BROOKS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

account holdings to pay off credit card debt, Kantrowitz said.

Bank account holdings reduce eligibility for need-based aid, so it is better to pay off debt than keep a cushion in the bank, he said.

Also, it makes good financial sense to pay off high-interest credit loans with money that is only collecting low-interest, he added.

The eligibility calculations for need-based aid do not consider a family's level of debt, Rice Mallette said.

Some families might be living paycheck to paycheck because of high mortgage bills or other debt and yet do not qualify for need-based aid due to their relatively high income, she said.

"It's what you have available, not what you choose to do with it," she said.

Brooks said the financial aid system is designed to deliver a fair assessment of a family's need.

It is difficult to increase financial aid eligibility by moving income around, he added.

While there are strategies that can work for parents who plan ahead, Brook said that searching for loopholes at the last minute is not effective.

"Strategies that take place in the year you're applying for aid generally don't work well," he said.

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

REFLECTIONS

FROM PAGE 1

ing wit and wisdom of professor Christopher Armitage. Everyone who attended the event left with a renewed sense of school spirit and appreciation for the opportunity to be a part of this institution.

The events of this year's Homecoming went very well, and I would like again to congratulate Matt Mullane and Lauren Rennick on winning Homecoming king and queen. The election this year was very close, and the candidates put forth good campaigns. Matt and Lauren are hard at work on their service projects, and I wish them continued success.

Student government also have been hard at work this semester.

After the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina, the public service and advocacy committee kicked into high gear and helped raise well more than \$60,000 for relief efforts. The committee

also sponsored the STRETCH Conference for students to come together and discuss ways to enact change on campus.

The environmental affairs committee helped host a Campus Sustainability Day to inform students about sustainable energy efforts and present the University with a sustainable energy award.

The University services committee worked with Carolina Dining Services to hold a produce market at Rams Head for students to purchase fresh produce, participate in games and sample local treats.

The women's affairs committee has been hard at work hosting the women's forum, putting on safe skills classes and educating the student body about domestic violence.

The academic affairs committee has dedicated a lot of time working on improving the registration system. They would love to hear your opinion about prospective improvements. Please take a moment to visit www.unc.edu/studgov to take

a poll on the options available so that the committee can make the best possible recommendation to the University registrar.

The student life and technology and web services committees, in collaboration with the Division of Student Affairs, have done an incredible amount of work creating SLICE, a gateway to student organization activities and news across campus. This site is powered by Mambo Technology, which makes creating and maintaining a Web site for a student organization as easy as it gets — if you can use Microsoft Word, you can Mambo.

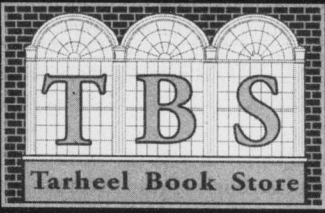
Many organizations already have converted their Web sites, and the SLICE site, <http://slice.unc.edu>, is receiving more than 3,000 hits a day. This site will serve to help students learn about student organizations, foster collaboration between

organizations with similar goals, ease scheduling and publicity for organizations and provide a quick and easy way for students to find out about events on campus.

Furthermore, students have been able to enjoy the benefits of a student government they can relate to and are comfortable calling on — as has been evidenced by your feedback to our attending student organization meetings and holding office hours in the Pit.

With all these accomplishments, this semester flew by. I wish everyone good luck on their final exams, congratulations and good luck to the seniors who will be graduating in December, and safe and happy holidays to all.


Contact Seth Dearmin, a senior geography major, at dearmin@email.unc.edu.



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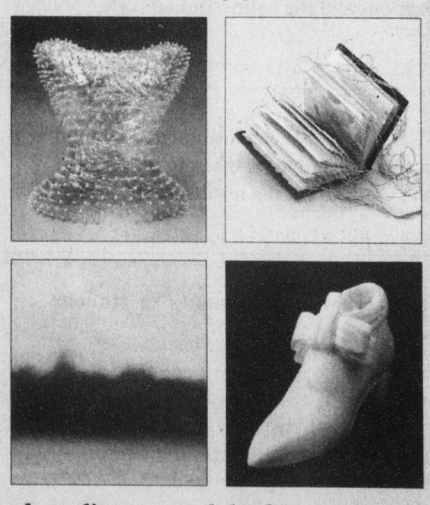
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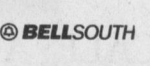

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CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Gwen Bigham, Life Portrait Series: Ornament, 2004; Julia Elias, Circulatory Activities (detail), 2004; David Finn, Ghost, 2003; Hayley Kyle, Untitled (detail), 2004