

Democratic leader McCain opened political field for women

Editor's Note: This is the third of a six-part series profiling outstanding women in North Carolina and at the University in honor of Women's History Month.

By Kyle York Spencer
Staff Writer

Betty McCain speaks with a sweet sounding southern drawl that belies her outstanding drive and that contrasts well with her electric words.

"Democracy is not a spectator sport," she said Monday in a telephone interview. According to her teammates on the N.C. Democratic Party, McCain is not a spectator. She is one of the most active political players around.

McCain served as the first chairwoman of the N.C. Democratic Party and the first woman on the state advisory budget commission under former Gov. Jim Hunt. She has provided an inspirational model for women across the state.

McCain makes no bones about her admiration for southern women.

"We are not a lot of shrinking violets," she said. "We are much more in the

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mode of the steel magnolia." Perhaps it was this admiration which drove her to become the president of the Democratic Women of North Carolina.

Today, at 60, she holds leadership positions in the state's Democratic Party and on the UNC Board of Governors. According to members of her party, she is both loved and hated.

When asked about her reputation, McCain responded emphatically, "One has to be a tough cookie in this line of work." But she was also quick to point out that the state Democrats are always her friends.

Betty McCain grew up in a small town in Duplin County where her life resembled the one depicted in Harper Lee's famous novel, "To Kill a Mockingbird." She says her father, the only lawyer in the town, always took "the hard cases and did what he thought was right."

Her mother, who taught school in the county, was always available to help

less fortunate neighbors. Today McCain remembers both her parents fondly as two of the best people she ever knew. "I saw the difference my parents' interest, hard work and kindness made in other peoples' lives."

McCain is a born Democrat and as early as her pre-school years, the young McCain could be found mingling with her parents at state Democratic Conventions.

She spent two years at St. Mary's, a woman's college in Raleigh, before transferring to UNC, where she received her bachelor's degree.

Despite her deep-rooted attachment to the South, she ventured to New York City after graduation, where she received her master's degree in music at Columbia University.

"My father always told his children that every Southerner should go north of the Mason-Dixon line for one of their degrees because it will make you glad to be a Southerner," McCain said.

McCain said she raised her two children with the same values she learned from her parents.

"We've all worked together," she



Betty McCain

said. "And today my children are out there working to keep the vision of America in front of everybody."

She rarely misses an opportunity to praise her state. She speaks of North

Carolina in a proud tone that resembles the voice she uses when discussing her two granddaughters.

It was in this tone that she described her fund-raising involvement on the \$30 million state history museum, scheduled to open in Raleigh in 1992.

The museum, among other things, will house the boots and first race car of the famous N.C. race-car driver, Richard Petty.

It is not at all unlikely that race-car driving interests a woman as dynamic as Betty McCain, but what undoubtedly motivates her is a concern for the people of her state.

When describing the benefits of the new museum, she seemed most enthusiastic about the half-million students who will pass through it every year.

"It will be the best history museum in the country," McCain boasted. "And it will be a wonderful teaching tool."

Educational development has been a focal point of McCain's entire career, and she has toiled relentlessly to improve the environments of North Carolina's schoolchildren.

McCain has also concerned herself

with a variety of social issues which she thinks can be eradicated through economic development. With this in mind, she helped found a volunteer group of business people three years ago in Wilson County. "Wilson On The Move" has raised over \$850,000 and encourages industries to establish their businesses in Wilson.

She feels a sense of responsibility for her relatively poor county. She says she would like to turn eastern North Carolina into a more progressive place by decreasing illiteracy, illegitimacy and other "blights on human kindness."

"When you live in a community like this, you've got to get out there and work," she said. "When you start to see things happen, it's very exciting."

McCain has a healthy combination of optimism and realism. She is energetic, ambitious and unusually productive.

When asked how she keeps track of her many projects and positions, she responded matter-of-factly.

"You just do a little job and then start another," she said. "And don't look back. There is too much ahead."

Bush sets National Days of Thanksgiving

By Wendy Bounds
State and National Editor

In support of what he calls the "remarkable unity" of American people during the Persian Gulf war, President Bush proclaimed April 5-7 National Days of Thanksgiving.

In his proclamation, Bush encouraged the nation to fly the U.S. flag and to ring bells across the nation at 3 p.m. (eastern daylight-saving time) on April 7.

"Let us pray in a special way for the innocent men, women and children ... who have suffered as a result of the conflict in the Gulf," Bush said in his March 7 proclamation. "We ... give

thanks for the remarkable unity of our people throughout this conflict."

The Days of Thanksgiving are a one-time celebration, said Sara Emery, assistant clerk for the White House.

The president can issue a proclamation at any time, but usually waits for a joint resolution from Congress, Emery said. Bush, however, made the proclamation about the Days of Thanksgiving before Congress passed a joint Senate resolution calling for a "national day of prayer and thanksgiving," she said.

Although U.S. Rep. Terry Sanford did not favor military action during the gulf war began, he supported the president's proclamation of the Days of

Thanksgiving, said George Miller, staff assistant for Sanford.

"Sanford didn't think all avenues (at the outbreak of war) had been explored vis-a-vis economic sanctions," Miller said. "But once action started, he supported the troops completely."

U.S. Rep. David Price would welcome any chance to show his appreciation for the troops, said his press secretary, Rachel Perry. A House resolution, similar to the Senate's, is up for a vote, but most likely will not be acted upon, Perry said.

The president proclaims holidays such as Thanksgiving, Mother's Day and Memorial Day every year.

a.p.p.l.e.s. gets Bicentennial funding

By Sarah Sumter
Staff Writer

Two six-week internships sponsored by the a.p.p.l.e.s. program are the first student-initiated projects to receive funding from the UNC Bicentennial Observance office.

The internships reaffirm the Bicentennial's mission to promote service in North Carolina, said Steve Tepper, associate general secretary of the Bicentennial Observance. One of the internships will require service work in a rural N.C. community, and the other will require service in an urban N.C. community.

Tony Deiffel, advising chairman for a.p.p.l.e.s., said the funding would encourage other groups seeking money from the Bicentennial Observance. "It shows people students can do a good

job and sets a precedent in terms of showing administrators and faculty members that when students are given support, they'll come up with really good ideas."

Allowing people to plan learning experiences in service was formed in the spring 1990 to educate students and faculty about learning through community service.

Serena Wille, summer service internship coordinator, said, "We want people reflecting on volunteerism, and we want people to have hands-on experience to complement their in-class learning."

Tepper said a.p.p.l.e.s. had done an excellent job creating support for the internship program. "It's fortunate for us to get a chance to help them highlight what they do." Wille said the internship program

would be a pilot program this summer.

The interns will receive stipends ranging from \$1,000 to \$1,400 and will earn three hours of academic credit, she said. They will be doing service work involved with anything from migrant workers to homeless shelters.

Interns also will be required to keep a journal, read different articles concerning various issues, and write a final paper, Wille said. "We want to challenge the individual and make them think about issues they've never thought about."

The internship is open to all General College freshmen and sophomores and to juniors in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Applications are due April 3 in the Center for Teaching and Learning. Interviews will be April 4 and 5.



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Campus Calendar

WEDNESDAY
Noon: The Institute of Latin American Studies presents "Women on the Transition to Democracy: The Case of Chile" by Maria Elena Valenzuela of the Ministry of Women's Affairs, Government of Chile and visiting professor of Sociology. In 210 Union.
2 p.m. PC SAS session 2 is in 02 Manning until 3:15. Jose Sandoval is teaching this short course.
3 p.m. The Future of International Cooperation in the Health and Population Fields: Lecture and discussion by Dr. Charles Panneborg, the World Bank in Washington, D.C., in 1301 School of Public Health.
JOB HUNT 101: Basic information on how to use the UCPPS office will be held in 306 Hanes.
3:15 p.m. Conversion and Differences in Rhetoric of Southern Protestantism: Consequences for Cultural Diversity by Ruel Tyson of the IRSS Southern Studies Working Group in Toy Lounge of Dey Hall.
3:45 p.m. UCPPS will hold Careering Ahead Workshop for freshmen, sophomores and juniors in 210 Hanes.
4 p.m. SPSS PC+ session 2 is in 02 Manning until 5:15 p.m. Jose Sandoval will teach this short course.
"The Afrocentric Idea" by Professor Molefi Kete Asante, chairman of Afro-American Studies at Temple, in 104 Peabody. Sponsored by the Curriculum in

African/Afro-American Studies.
5 p.m. Wildlife Preservation Committee will meet today in the Campus Y Lounge.
AIESEC, Association of Students Interested in Economics and Commerce, will meet in the Union. Everyone welcome. Check at Union desk for room number.
FREE VEGETARIAN DINNER: Homemade meal today and every Wednesday in Gerard Hall. Sponsored by the UNC Vegetarian Society.
5:30 p.m. The Asian Students Association will have its weekly meeting in 206 Union. An origami demonstration and workshop will be the program.
6 p.m. The RAMS group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets tonight and every Wednesday night in Chase Dining Room B. This is an open meeting.
Wesley Foundation wants to remind all its members that tonight is election night, so come out and vote for the officers who will serve next year.
6:30 p.m. The Black Pre-Professional Health Society meeting in 107 Berryhill Hall. Dr. Velma Wats, Bowman-Gray; Dr. Strayhorn, UNC; and Dr. Pounds, Duke present information on medical school.
Voulez-vous parler francais avec La Maison Francaise? Vous devez assister a notre reunion a Lenoir Hall (North Dining Room) a 7:30. On discute

des actualites, des Francais et de tout ce que vous aimez!
7 p.m. The Research Institute for the Comparative Study of Africa and Afro-America in conjunction with the Curriculum in African and Afro-American Studies presents "Black Feminism" by Professor Frances White of Hampshire College in 101 Greenlaw.
7:30 p.m. UNC Cycling Club will hold its first meeting in 104 Ferzer. All skill levels and all types of cyclists welcome.
ITEMS OF INTEREST
Attention: We are seeking donations in the form of old clothing, personal hygiene products (shoes, socks, razors, toothpaste, ooms, etc.) So give to the Interfaith Council Emergency (Homeless) Shelter. Drop sites: South Campus lobbies, Mid-Campus, North Campus Area Offices. Sponsored by Zeta Amicae.
Class of 1994: Show your Pre-Bicentennial Spirit Wednesday, April 3 at Players. Tickets on sale in the Pit March 27-April 3.
FREE TAX HELP! Wednesday afternoons from 3:30-5 p.m. in 222 New Carroll and April 1 and 8 from 5-7 p.m. Call 932-3361 for more information. Sponsored by MACSA.
Discover Allied Health Job Opportunities at the fourth annual Allied Health Job Fair. Talk with more than 100 employees from hospitals and health care agencies on Thursday, March 28, 1991, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in Carmichael Auditorium. Sponsored by the Department of Medical Allied Health Professions. Free pizza and frozen yogurt.

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Correction

In the March 25 Daily Tar Heel brief, "Teachers wanted for summer enrichment," the information was incorrect. The Community Schools Program is not looking for teachers for its summer enrichment program. The DTH regrets the error.



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