UNC faculty, staff serve as freshman (wo)mentors

By Maria DiGiano

With the new wave of political correctness sweeping across the nation, history has become "herstory," and a policeman has become a police officer.

On campus, a "Womentoring" program now is available to freshman women looking for a female mentor and

Womentoring is a leadership development program whose primary goal is to provide a support system for women similar to that of the "good ol' boy" network.

"The way today's society is set up, it is more difficult for women to establish themselves in a career," said Toni Melvin, a freshman pharmacy major who is participating in the Womentoring program.

"I thought it would be good to be matched with someone who could share their insights and experiences."

The Womentoring program was the brainchild of University graduate Dennis O'Sullivan and the Women's Caucus on Leadership and Empowerment. The caucus, which is made up of faculty, staff and students, serves to promote leadership development.

Kathleen Benzaquin, assistant dean of the General College, coordinator and womentor for the Womentoring pro-... gram, said, "Although women hold a number of high profile positions (on campus), we were focusing on how to promote leadership in other areas and how we, as professional women, can share our expertise."

Carol Binzer of the Office of Leadership Development said the components of the Womentoring program were based on an article by Theresa Carroll titled "The Womanagement of Leadership Programs."

The program focuses on four main

areas of leadership development: mentor relationships, networking, the effect of gender on leadership style and the power of language.

The Office of Leadership Development matches freshman women, called protegees, with University faculty and staff women who serve as womentors.

We took the most captive audience, (faculty and staff) women on campus, who don't usually get asked, to come in contact with students," Binzer said. So far, response to the program has

been overwhelming.

More than 700 freshman women showed an interest in Womentoring during the Carolina Testing and Orientation Program Sessions this summer. Out of those interested women, 142 have been matched up with professional women on campus.

More than 100 professional women. from all areas of campus, volunteered to take on at least one protegee.

"We have had lots of positive reaction from women on campus who say they wish they could have had a program like Womentoring when they were in college," Binzer said.

The relationship that develops between the womentors and their protegees is totally left up to their own needs and desires

"The students will gain a personal friendship with a professional woman on campus, insight on career choices, the confidence to pursue leadership positions and the feeling that although UNC is a big place, there are people who care," Benzaquin said.

In addition to a new friendship, womentors and protegees mutually benefit from the program.

The students are able to ask questions, get resources, form networks and gain confidence in their leadership abili-

In exchange, womentors can learn

firsthand about students and student

"Students can talk with someone who has been where they are and is where they might want to be," Binzer said.

The Office of Leadership attempted to match the students with women who were in or associated with one of their fields of interest. The fields of interest ranged from music to business, Binzer

"The fields of interest are pretty balanced," she said. "Business, journalism and physical therapy were well-repre-

The Womentoring program also can be a way for women students to conquer initial fears of talking with an adult in that field, Benzaquin said.

The womentors will meet with their protegee at least twice each month and attend four structured programs throughout the year, Binzer said.

The four programs, which consist of a presentation and a business meeting followed by a reception, is a formal opportunity for the womentors to come together with their protegee," Binzer But the structure of the semimonthly

meetings is completely up to the womentor and the student. Some plan to attend performances together or go walking together. Binzer said faculty womentors

wanted to be a listening ear for their "When making decisions, (your

womentor) is one more person to give alternatives that you may not know exist," Binzer said.

However, a womentor is not supposed to be a mother, General College adviser or career counselor.

"I am not ensuring that they are going to get great summer jobs," Binzer said. This is not a career development program; it is a leadership program."

Although the winter weather in

good in case you run into slick condi-

tread on the tires for traction purposes."

Regan added, "You must have good

But Sull has a different approach to

"There is nothing preventative you

"The only sane thing to do is stay off

the road, keep your feet kicked up and

the sleet and snow dreaded by most

tions," Maji said.

North Carolinians.

can do," he said.

Tis the season to buy cards benefiting children's hospital

By Aulica Lin Rutland

The children at the N.C. Children's Hospital of UNC Hospitals hope that you get lots of cards this holiday sea-

Especially if the cards were designed by them.

Six years ago, social workers in the hospital started the Holiday Card Project. Their goal, modeled after a similar one in Houston, Texas, was to raise money for educational and recreational programs for the children in the hospital.

Since it began, the Holiday Card Project has collected drawings by patients in the children's hospital and used them as designs for cards for the

When children come in for checkups or during their stays in the hospital, they are given crayons and markers and asked to draw something that reminds them of winter or the winter holidays

From these drawings, about five designs are chosen to be produced and sold as cards for the coming holiday

"It's a great way to get the children involved," said Marion Kalbacker, a pediatric clinical social worker and the hospital committee chairwoman for the Holiday Card Project. "Even kids who feel they aren't good artists want to get involved.

"We prefer that it doesn't look like Hallmark."

Being creative for a good cause gives the children a sense of pride, she said. The children whose designs are chosen for the cards have their names printed on the back of the cards and are given the chance to meet Dean Smith, the project's honorary chairman.

The cards also inform buyers where the money from the sale of the cards will go - straight back to the children.

Because this is a state hospital, we don't have a lot of extra funds that other private hospitals might have," Kalbacker said. "This money goes to make a chronically ill child's life workable."

Much of the \$32,000 raised by the Holiday Card Project in previous years has gone into the hospital's family fund, which allows patients who otherwise would not be released from the hospital to leave and have dinner or spend time with their families.

The hospital also purchased tape re-corders with money raised by the Holiday Card Project, allowing parents to record themselves reading stories or simply talking to their child

"This gives the children a feeling of closeness to their parents when they might live several hours away from the hospital and are not able to visit as often as they would like," Kalbacker said.

The Holiday Card Project highlights the needs of chronically ill children who might be forgotten by most people. 'Many of our patients are here for

weeks and months," Kalbacker said. 'Most people don't realize that any child who is here for more than a couple of days is enrolled in a school here in the

Money raised by the project also funds programs and equipment, such as computers, requested by the hospital's eight full-time teachers

In the process of selling the holiday cards, those involved also educate the public about the needs of the children. One great aspect of the program is that it makes the public more aware of the needs of these children," Kalbacker said.

But the Holiday Card Project's ultimate goal is to make the lives of chronically ill children more fun.

Last year, the project helped to fund Camp Celebrate, a weekendlong camp for children who have been treated in the N.C. Jaycee Burn Center of UNC

The project also funded a reunion for the "graduates" of UNC Hospital's neonatal intensive care unit.

The Holiday Card Project already is under way for the 1992 holiday season. Project coordinators hope to display 50 to 100 drawings in a prominent place in the hospital.

But for now, there are several ways that the campus and the Chapel Hill community can contribute to the success of the project, Holiday Card Project coordinator Jane Haber said.

Of course, anyone can buy a box of the cards, which now are for sale at Chapel Hill and Carrboro locations of Kerr Drug Store, Harris Teeter and Food Lion

The project also could use some volunteer help. "If anyone is stuck here over Thanksgiving break, I could sure use their help selling cards at

craft shows in the area," Haber said. Fraternity and sorority members also can take orders for cards and then deliver them, Kalbacker suggested.

Even though the project involves a lot of people, it particularly gives the hospital staff a way to become involved across disciplines, Kalbacker said. "We have physicians, recreation therapists, nurses and social workers all involved.

"It started out as a way to raise money that we couldn't get any other way, but we've seen it grow and blos-

Those interested in the helping out with the Holiday Card Project this or any season should contact Marion Kalbacker at 966-2031 or Jane Haber at 776-8000

In the Fast Lane-----

Winterizing prepares cars for cold and snow

By Maria DiGiano Staff Writer

Jim dashed out of the warm comfort of his house into the piercing cold of a winter morning.

As he opened his car door, spilling his coffee, he realized he was already five minutes late. Impatiently, he shoved the key into

the ignition, only to hear a sick sputtering noise as the engine balked. Jim sat helplessly in his car. It was too late for him to start thinking about

winterizing his car. This winter, don't let this scenario

become a reality for you. "If a car were maintained according to the manufacturer's instructions, all of the winter preparation should be taken care of," said Gene Sull of Auto Logic, \$200 W. Main St. in Carrboro.

But most cars are not maintained by these standards, Sull said, "When conditions become extreme, people start getting concerned with the maintenance of the car."

His By taking a few simple steps, car owners will avoid some of the harsh effects winter can have on their cars.

One of the most essential components in a car for the winter is antifreeze. As its name implies, it prevents the freezing of the engine and the cooling system. A proper dose of this potent stuff will prevent a multitude of engine problems, said Mike Maji of Mike's Auto Service, "Make sure it is good and fresh," he said.

Another important car concern during the winter season is the condition of the battery.

Because there is a greater swing in temperature, it is harder to start the car and harder for the battery," Sull said.

A battery needs to have a good connection to handle the power that is needed to start the car in the winter, he

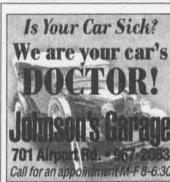
wintertime, Maji said.

"If your battery is poor in the summertime, you can almost bet money it will leave you stranded when it gets cold," he said.

Rodney Regan of East Franklin Car Care, 1710 E. Franklin St., said corrosion of the battery cables and low water level of maintenance-free batteries also could affect the performance of the bat-

Drivers also can prevent cars from stalling by keeping the gas filters clean. This will prevent condensation from entering the gas tank and freezing, which will restrict the flow of gasoline to the

Replacing dirty oil with new oil also will make the car easier to start during



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Chapel Hill never reaches blizzard conditions, drivers should be prepared to encounter ice, sleet and snow on the "Make sure your tires and brakes are

Batteries are more likely to fail in the

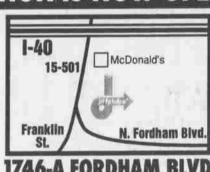


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