

New director, hours at health center

Weekday service expands

BY SARAH BAKER
Assignment Reporter

A new director isn't the only change in store for the University Health Center this year. Besides appointing new director Linda Herrmann, the health center is initiating new hours and procedures to strengthen the services provided for students on campus.

Herrmann took over the director's post July 1. Peg Blake, associate vice chancellor and now the director of admissions, held the position before. Herrmann has been with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln since 1996 and was the associate director of clinical services at the health center.

She is a specialist in internal medicine and has worked at the University of Illinois at Rockford as the medical director and the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Va.

Herrmann said she was pleased with the changes to the health center.

"In a world where the health-care industry continues to change, we continue to review our services and make changes to provide UNL students the best quality and convenient health care services as possible," she said. "These recommendations are an excellent enhancement to our established clinic services."

Carol Ash, health center community coordinator, said the biggest change the center made was with its hours. The health center used to be open Sundays from 10 a.m. to noon for emergencies but now will be closed.

The health center looked at the number of students who visited the center during different times and then reorganized the hours accordingly, Ash said.

"We saw that not too many stu-

dents were actually visiting the center on Sundays for any emergency situations," Ash said. "We closed the center on Sundays, but then scheduled more hours for appointments on both the weekdays and Saturday, which is a big improvement in convenience for students, especially those who work and couldn't make it to the center during our old appointment times."

The center is now open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., instead of until 5 p.m., as it was in the past. Saturdays, the hours are 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., a change from the old hours of 10 to noon.

This appointment system is not only more convenient for students, Ash said, but is also teaching them about health care.

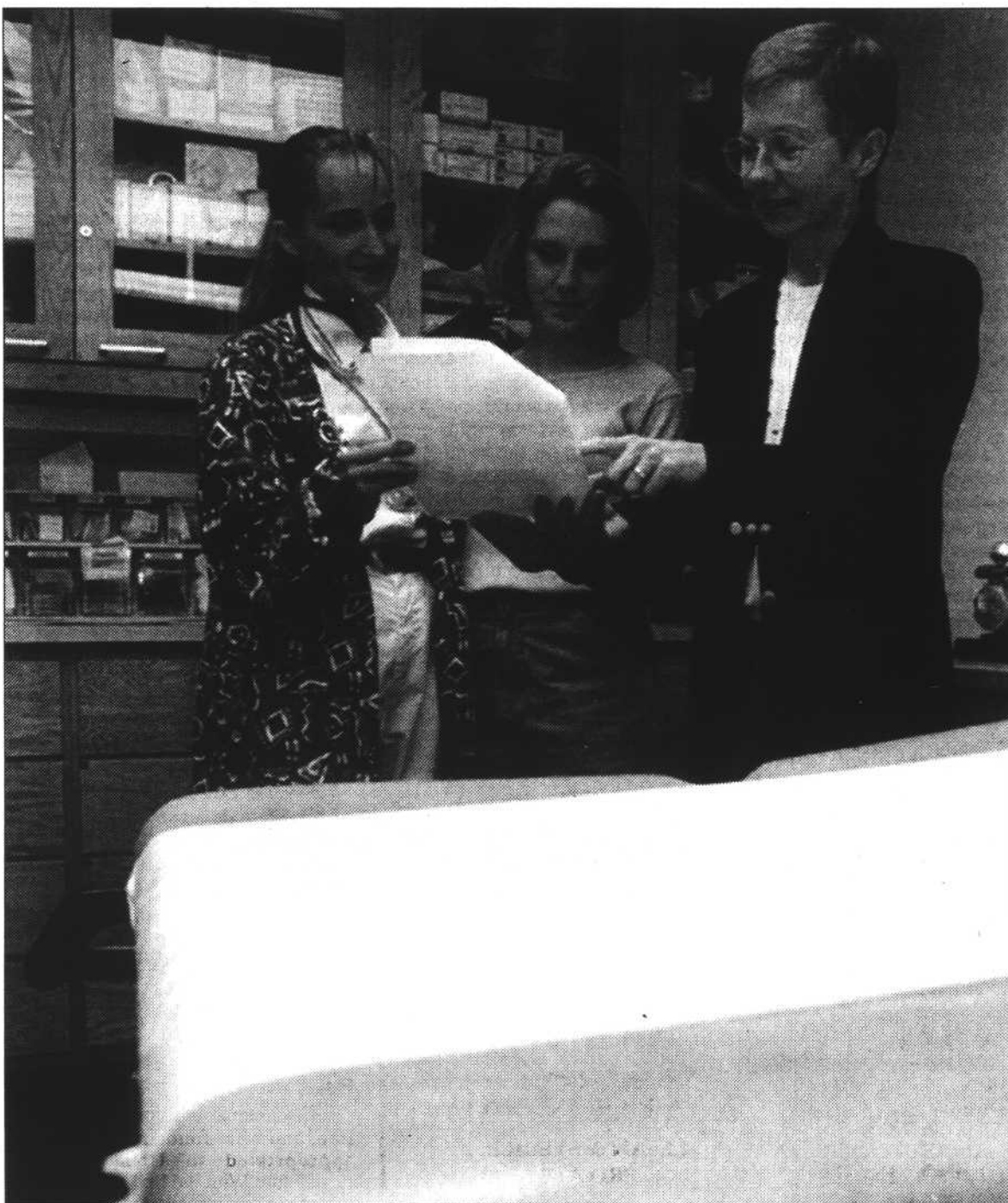
"Our new appointment process teaches students what it is like to take care of their own health-care processes in the real community," Ash said. "This is something they can use in the future."

The changes were put into place after a review team made up of students and health center clinical staff met to evaluate how well the health center resources were being used, Ash said.

Specific topics the team reviewed include hours of operation, urgent care services, after-hours services, appointment procedures, quality of medical clinic visits and East Campus services. After these topics were reviewed, a list of definite changes was targeted. These changes include:

- Nurses taking calls over the phone. This allows students the option to call instead of coming in to ask a nurse about their concerns. These nurses are there to answer questions and make sure students receive proper care.

Please see **HEALTH** on 8

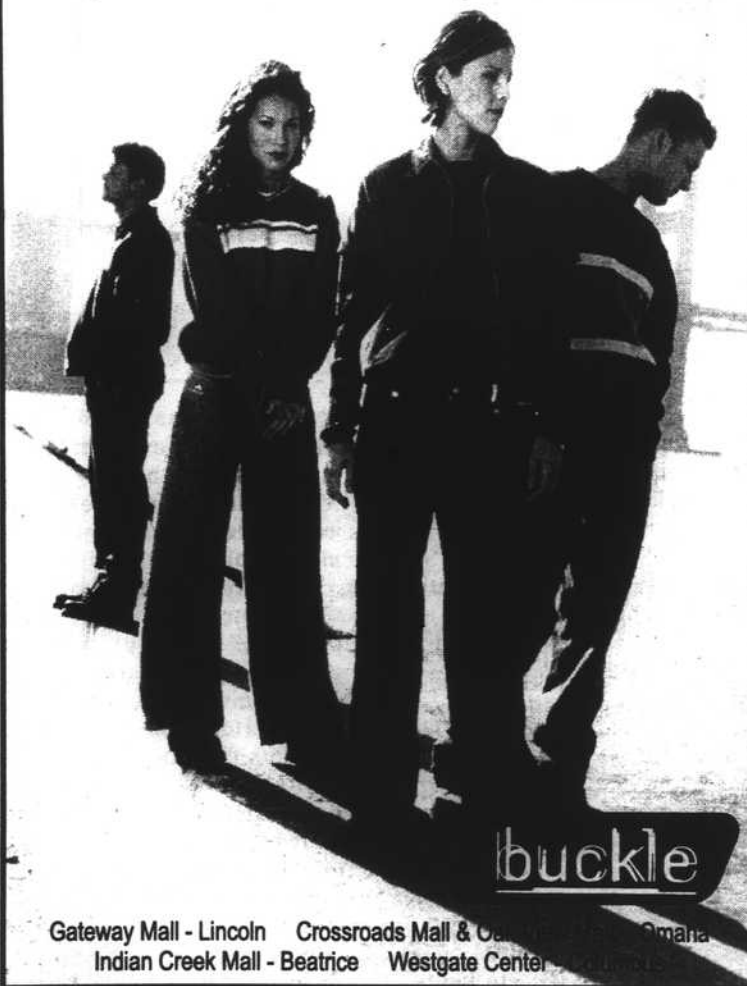


LANE HICKENBOTTOM/DN
NURSE VICKI BRACHT, left, senior biology major Jenny Starr and the new University Health Center Director Linda Herrmann discuss changes to the new nurse triage room. Starr and Herrmann were part of the clinical services review team that searched for potential changes to the health center so it could serve students better.

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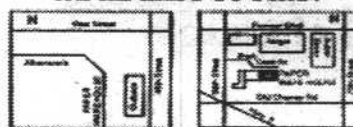
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