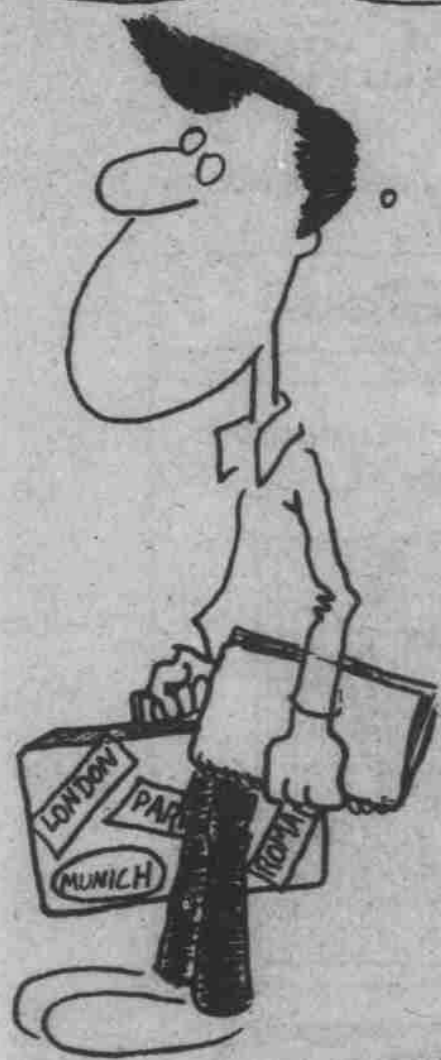


International Center Thrives

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DAVID WASHBURN '83

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students to American students this
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international club in itself," Elliot
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rsity itself. "This is no longer true,"

International Students

that their national origins affects the
re in the United States. "Americans

are biased, they tend to think that all orientals are Japanese," said Kim. Kim came to UNC because of its high academic ratings and the good climate but his adjustment to UNC has now always been easy. "I am always aware of where I am from, always self-conscious."

Housing is a significant problem for foreign students. Craig dorm, known as the International dorm for grad students, has provided some criticism by foreign students. Kim said, "What? Craig Dorm? You mean the foreign concentration camp?" Despite his sarcasm Kim said the atmosphere within the dorm is for the most part congenial. Some students feel that living outside of Craig dorm is the best way to get first hand experience participating in American life. Ursula Mich now lives with an Ameri-



Tar Heel/Lori Thomas

can family, a situation she feels is extremely beneficial for foreigners to experience.

As to whether UNC students are overall aware of foreign cultures, "that is a tough question," Simans said. "Certain segments are. It depends on what type of group you belong to," he said.

As an American, Elliot feels he has become more aware. "I've become more sensitive to different cultures, to question my southern traditional values and to broaden my perspective about the world," Elliot said, of his experience dealing with foreign students.

Juvenio Robles, a Mexican grad student in the chemistry department, summed up his experiences in Chapel Hill well. "I think that the University and the International Center overall has done a good job helping international students, especially the Host family program. But he also said that he wished that there was more basic information for international students, like the fact many buses don't run on weekends. "I waited two hours one Saturday and none showed up." The Center is as bureaucratic as the Immigration offices in Charlotte, but they do their job well Robles said. As to the amount of interest the UNC students have about foreign cultures, Robles said: "Some have it. Some won't take a look at other areas of the world besides the United States. That's a real shame." And that's where the hope for mankind lies — in cultural interest that can make governments attitudes change.

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