

# Forget About Parking; Try P2P, University Bus

By MATT MINCHEW  
Staff Writer

Message to freshmen: don't get stuck without a ride.

Lack of access to a car is one of the downsides of being a freshman at UNC, but the University provides convenient transportation for students in and around campus.

The P2P Xpress (fondly called the P2P) is the easiest, most accessible form of transportation on campus during evening and early-morning hours.

The P2P Xpress is fare-free and runs seven days a week from 7 p.m. to 3 a.m. during fall and spring semesters. It runs a fixed route around campus, making stops at designated pick-up and drop-off areas. The stops are walking distance from anywhere on campus, and students should be ready to show their UNC ONE Card when picked up.

Scott Fischer, a junior from Greensboro, said that, as a newcomer to a large campus like UNC, it is easy to get lost.

The P2P takes students who are not yet familiar with the area to different parts of campus quickly and conveniently.

"The P2P is not only a good way to travel on weekends, but it provides adequate service on a nightly basis," Fischer said. "The P2P is a good way to get to an unknown spot."

During the day, students can commute around campus by using the University Bus. Like the P2P Xpress, the U-Bus runs a regular route through cam-

pus and is free for students.

For freshmen, who are ineligible for on-campus parking permits, the U-Bus and P2P Xpress provide a welcome alternative to walking.

Parking on campus during the week is virtually impossible without a permit.

Student parking permits are allocated according to a priority system established by student government, and the number of spots is very limited.

Permits are required for most lots from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. during the week.

The University reserves certain spaces for the physically disabled or those with hardships requiring them to have a car.

Many students choose to ride a bicycle around campus, to classes and residence halls alike. UNC provides bicycle racks for parking outside of every residence hall, and around campus as well, so students who ride bicycles can find a rack directly outside of most buildings.

For the most part, students get around campus by walking to classes and residence halls.

"It's easier than messing with the hassle of waiting for the bus," said junior Nakia Hansen of Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

She said even students living on South Campus, which is the farthest area from most academic buildings, usually walk to classes.

"Basically," she said, "It's easiest to just get up and walk to class."

Matt Minchew can be reached at minchew@email.unc.edu.

# Computing Initiative Enters Second Year

By ASHLEY DAVIDSON  
Staff Writer

The Carolina Computing Initiative, a program designed to make laptops more accessible to UNC students, is preparing to embark on its sophomore year as many students receive their new laptops.

The program's far-reaching efforts are evident in the more than 15,000 undergraduates who will have been a part of the CCI by the fall of 2003.

CCI began as a way to equalize students' opportunities.

"It's a way to get rid of the haves and have-nots," said Lori Casile, director for UNC special projects.

Almost 70 percent of incoming freshmen in 1996-97 had computers of their own. But she said that left another large group was left out of the mix: those who could not afford to purchase a personal computer on their own.

Casile said financial aid was not an option for help at the time because, in order to be supported by financial aid, the computers would have to be labeled a requirement.

So UNC officials, including then-Chancellor Michael Hooker, began working together to expand the computing initiative to students in all income brackets by requiring all students beginning with members of the freshman class of 2000-2001 to have laptops.

As a result, UNC received a \$3 million grant fund from IBM in return for the use of its Thinkpads. The grant expanded both the availability of the laptops and their affordability.

The next step? Implementing the program. The CCI was challenged by the problems of both faculty access and utilization. Not all faculty members were completely knowledgeable of the technology and how to use it in their teaching.

But Chairman of Communication Studies Bill Balthrop said the program was greeted by a willing faculty, interested in teaching with technology.

"The CCI has put current technology in the hands of both faculty and students, particularly where the College of Arts and Sciences is concerned," Balthrop said. "On the balance, it's been very successful."

Balthrop said that because of the CCI, faculty are now able to do extraordinary things with writing that would

have been more difficult before.

For example, students are now able to access the Internet in classrooms via their laptops. With this ability, they can do research for class assignments or edit papers in small groups during class.

But some students expressed less enthusiasm for the program.

"I didn't like having to choose (the specific model they offered)," said sophomore Rachel Gurvich.

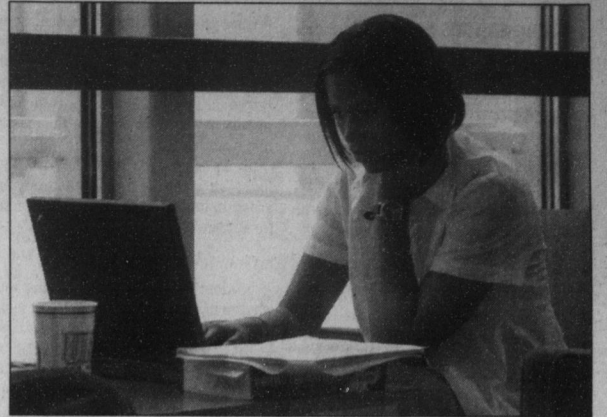
"I think we actually got ripped off." But Balthrop said despite some mixed reports, students generally found the program to be positive.

"Students are very happy," Balthrop said. "Some students don't think faculty are taking enough advantage of it."

Officials attribute this concern to the newness of the program.

After its initial year, leaders continue to look for ways to make the system more beneficial for everyone. Expected changes include increasing financial backing and sustaining faculty development.

Additional IBM grants will continue to allow UNC faculty to undergo work-



DTH FILE PHOTO  
Norledia Moody, a sophomore journalism major, works on a paper in the Student Union. She said her new laptop has been very useful.

shops which will aid them in how to use the technology efficiently in their own courses.

Ashley Davidson can be reached at drsassley@yahoo.com.

## These Boots Aren't Made for Walking

If you don't feel like walking around town, check out these transportation options.

### Point to Point Shuttle

- 7:00 p.m. - 3:00 a.m.
- runs seven days a week during fall and spring academic semesters
- call 962-P-TO-P (7867) for direct service until 5 a.m.

### Chapel Hill Transit

- call 968-2769 for route and schedule information or see [www.ci.chapel-hill.nc.us/transit/](http://www.ci.chapel-hill.nc.us/transit/)

### Taxi Services

- Able Taxi: 933-0911
- Access One Taxi: 942-8580
- Airport & Intown Taxi: 942-4492
- Carolina Taxi: 942-4219
- Chapel Hill Express Taxi: 941-6993

# Lightweight Space Saving Loveseat Sleeper

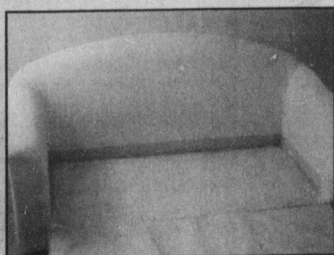
Only \$239

If you order before August 23\*  
Order after August 24 just \$279\*



Four Colors To Choose From:  
Forest Green, Natural, Black or Navy

Order Now At [www.untilseptember.com](http://www.untilseptember.com) For Delivery  
To You On Or Off Campus Address



\* 6% North Carolina Sales Tax will be added to each order  
\*15 delivery fee for orders within a 25 mile radius of the UNC Campus

BIRKENSTOCK CARHARTT TEVA WOOLRICH PATAGONIA GRAMICCI MARMOT

MERRILL BLACK DIAMOND PATAGONIA LOWA MOSS

TOWNSEND  
BERTRAM  
& COMPANY

Adventure Outfitters

EAGLE CREEK MOUNTAINSMITH OSPREY JANSPORT CHACO

Dreaming of Adventure?  
Get outfitted at Townsend Bertram & Co.

933-9712

Carr Mill • Carrboro  
(next to Weaver St. Market)  
M-F 10-7 • Sat 10-6 • Sunday 12-6

SCARPA HELLY GARMONT DANSKO LOWE ALPINE ROYAL ROBBINS MOSS

Welcome New & Returning Tar Heels!

# MOVIES

in Chapel Hill

We would like  
to entertain YOU  
with ANOTHER  
Fine Southern Tradition...

★ **The Plaza Five Theatre**  
Located on Elliott Road, right off of  
Hwy. 15-501. (919) 967-4737

★ **Movies at Timberlyne**  
Off of Airport Road...take Airport Rd,  
make a right on Weaver Dairy Rd. & then  
a right on Banks Drive. (919) 933-8600

Both theatres are located  
conveniently on the bus line!

Enjoy the Movies!!  
EASTERN FEDERAL CORPORATION