



Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Hillary Clinton describes ideas for economic policy at Wake Technical Community College Thursday.

Clinton talks economy in Triangle stop

Students a large presence at event

BY GREG SMITH
STAFF WRITER

RALEIGH — To kick off her battle for support in the N.C. Democratic Primary, Sen. Hillary Clinton gave a speech Thursday that outlined her solutions for the American economy.

The speech was held at Wake Technical Community College, which Clinton said she chose because of its commitment to retraining programs that embody the solutions to structural unemployment that she would like to implement nationwide. Clinton focused on her plans to close tax loopholes for corporations, modernize factories, fund training for "green collar" jobs, increase budgets for research and development and refurbish deteriorating roads and bridges.

"We are trying to run today's economy on yesterday's infrastructure, and it's jeopardizing our future," she said.

The audience was composed mostly of students, who cheered when Clinton briefly mentioned her desire to expand the Federal Pell Grant scholarship program and said she sympathized with students' increasing tuition.

Students also enthusiastically responded to Clinton's proposal for a 21st century GI Bill that would help veterans of this generation's wars attend school.

"I think she really brought it home with issues that are especially important to me as a young person," said Wake Tech student

Holly Barnhart of Apex. "We're concerned about a weakened North Carolina economy and have watched our families and friends suffer as jobs have left the state over the past few years," she said.

Briana Richmond, another student attendee, said she came to compare Clinton with Sen. Barack Obama, whom she had seen Wednesday in Greensboro.

"I liked his energy and his thinking about the future, but Hillary also made some really good points about ending Bush's war on science and funding more research and development," Richmond said.

UNC student Noel Bynum, Heels for Hillary assistant director, also attended the speech, bringing with him a caravan of 10 Clinton supporters.

He remarked on the fact that, although Clinton is in North Carolina competing against Barack Obama for votes in the May 6 primary, she did not criticize his policies.

"They're both trying to keep a unified front," Bynum said.

"I think they both emphasized they have slight differences, mainly leadership differences in style, but not huge policy differences like they have with McCain," he said.

Clinton did make several disparaging remarks about President Bush and quoted John McCain as saying that he didn't know much about economics.

"It's time for a president who is ready to be commander-in-chief of the economy," she said.

Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.

Gun control case reignites debate

BY JACKI HUNTINGTON
STAFF WRITER

The outcry over the murder of Eve Carson has brought back to light Chapel Hill's 1993 efforts to tighten gun control, an issue the U.S. Supreme Court is currently considering because of the contested D.C. handgun ban.

The push for tighter gun control in Chapel Hill came as a result of the 1993 murder of 26-year-old speech therapist Kristin Lodge-Miller, who was shot five times during an early morning jog after attempting to deflect an attack by an 18-year-old male.

Because a full handgun ban would have been unconstitutional according to N.C. law, the Chapel Hill Town Council instead banned the possession of arms in public.

Chapel Hill Town Attorney Ralph Karpinos said the outpouring of public discussion on the Lodge-Miller case spurred much of the gun control legislation.

"The gun control issue was probably the most emotional law we ever passed," said Joe Capowski, a council member at the time.

"We decided we wanted to do as much as we could to ban guns in Chapel Hill."

But despite fervent past efforts, it is unlikely any similar action will result from Carson's death.

"We did a fairly detailed and thorough job researching this issue 15 years ago and haven't studied it carefully since then," Karpinos said.

When the Chapel Hill Town Council revised its gun laws in the early 1990s, it modeled its stringent ordinances after those of Morton Grove, Illinois. However, Karpinos said Chapel Hill could not go as far as the Chicago suburb because of state law.

Careful to stay on the precipice of constitutionality, the Morton Grove's strict gun laws have withstood challenge in court.

Washington, D.C., which had imposed a full handgun ban, is now in the midst of a judicial struggle as city officials appeal a 2007 D.C. Court of Appeals ruling that declared the ban unconstitutional.

Some advocacy groups have questioned whether courts have the right to overturn gun laws.

"States and localities should have the power to pass and enact their own gun laws that they think can keep them safe," said Doug Pennington, assistant director of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence.

"The Supreme Court is starting to look like city council," he said, referring to the current judicial battle in D.C.

However, some have challenged the assertion that stricter gun laws are the way to make residents safer, instead arguing that granting citizens the right to own guns gives them control of their own safety.

"I think the violence we have has nothing to do with firearms available," said Genie Jennings, spokeswoman for Second Amendment Sisters. "It has to do with how we tolerate crime."

The strong emotional response to the gun control issue has made legislation difficult because people on both sides are often reluctant to compromise.

Chapel Hill saw that in its battle to tighten its gun laws.

"It's either, 'Get rid of those damn guns' or, 'Don't take my guns away,'" Capowski said.

Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.

N.C. delegates have increasing influence

BY OLIVIA BOWLER
STAFF WRITER

North Carolina's May 6 primary could significantly impact the Democratic nomination for the first time in 20 years, especially with Florida and Michigan delegates still in contention.

Florida and Michigan, which ran a form of party rules, are petitioning to get their delegates reinstated. Following Pennsylvania, which votes April 22, North Carolina is the only state left with a triple-digit total of Democratic delegates.

"In this kind of a campaign where it's this close, I think every single delegate counts," UNC journalism professor Leroy Towns said. "There's no question that North Carolina is now a major prize for either candidate."

The state hasn't played a large role in the nominating process since 1988, when it was part of the southern bloc of Super Tuesday states.

"The fact that we have a primary in North Carolina that will make a difference for the first time in 20 years is really exciting people," said Jack Sanders, chairman of the Orange County Democratic Party.

The state received 25 percent more delegates for the 2008 election cycle because it agreed to not move its primary earlier. North Carolina now has the seventh-largest number of delegates in the country: 115 delegates and 19 superdelegates.

The Democratic National Committee's 2008 rules allowed only Iowa, New Hampshire, South Carolina and Nevada to hold contests before Feb. 5. Michigan and Florida held primaries in January, and the committee stripped both states of their delegates to the nominating convention in August.

"If the rules, as they were established, are actually followed ... it would make North Carolina's del-

egation more influential," Sanders said.

The Florida Democratic Party has already ruled out the possibility of holding another primary to appease the DNC but is arguing that its delegates should be seated to be fair to its voters, who turned out in record numbers in January.

Florida has appealed to the DNC's Rules and Bylaws Committee, which convenes in April, said Alejandro Miyar, press secretary for the Florida Democratic Party.

"We're hopeful that we'll find a remedy," he said, adding that an appeal to the DNC's credentials committee would be the next step.

The Michigan Democratic Party is predicting that turnout would be four times higher if another vote was held, one reason the state is not yet prepared to take that step.

There was talk of holding a state-run, privately funded primary, but Liz Kerr, spokeswoman for the Michigan Democratic Party, said that would be logistically difficult.

"Basically, right now we're back at the negotiating table," she said.

Despite the desire of each state to have their delegates seated, many Democrats are worried that a protracted fight about delegate allocation that extends to the convention might erode support for the party in the general election.

"I think there certainly is an urgency to get this resolved," Miyar said, adding that he hopes the nominating process will be done by June.

Kerr echoed the importance of swiftly choosing a nominee. "We need a united Democratic Party to beat John McCain next fall."

Senior Writer Elizabeth DeOrnellas contributed reporting. Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.

Speech analyzes Israeli-Palestinian conflict

Price recounts Middle East travels

BY BECCA DENISON
STAFF WRITER

U.S. Rep. David Price, D-N.C., spoke Thursday to an audience of 35 in the Student Union about diplomatic tensions in the Mideast and his work in the region.

Price, who represents Orange,

ONLINE
A Q & A with Price about democracy-building in Eastern Europe.

Durham and parts of Wake counties, presented a balanced view of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Price continually emphasized the need for proactive U.S. involvement and international collaboration.

"Let's play an assertive role," he said. "This is not necessarily a role we play alone. I think the U.S. is

too inclined to go it alone."

Although he praised President Bush for his recent attempt to garner a peace agreement between Israel and Palestine, Price was critical of Bush's decision early in his first term to end peace efforts begun by the Clinton administration.

"I think President Bush has dropped the ball on this matter in a very serious way," he said.

When asked about which current Democratic presidential candidate would best handle the continuing conflict, Price said he would expect both Sens. Barack Obama or Hillary Clinton to be more interested in diplomacy and more effective than the Bush administration has been.

He said that the presidential debates are not the place to find an

in-depth discussion of the nuances of the U.S.-Israeli relationship, adding that he does not specifically support either Democratic candidate.

While Price said he was glad to see an increased public interest in the Mideast conflict, he asked that those involved don't neglect the needs of individual people.

"A peace process cannot go far without an attentiveness to the human aspects," he said. Any solution to the conflict will not last without popular support, he added.

"The equation of peacemaking always has to be what will garner public support," Price said. "Unless that confidence is there, that popular support is there, you will not have a durable settlement."

The discussion was sponsored by the Carolina Israel Public Affairs Committee, the Roosevelt Institution and UNC Young Democrats.

Nick Anderson, president of the student-run think tank the Roosevelt Institution, said he was pleased to cosponsor the event because students need the opportunity to hear from elected leaders.

And in the midst of Proud to be a Democrat Week, George Drometer, Young Democrats co-chairman, said that the discussion was a great opportunity.

"I think just his presence and his being able to give a really in-depth look at what's going on in that



DTH/SABRINA SHORT

U.S. Rep. David Price, D-N.C., discusses the relationship between the U.S. and Israel in the Student Union Thursday.

region was enough for me to feel satisfied with the event," he said.

While he thought Price's middle-of-the-road stance was informative, junior Mike Radionchenko said his personal views were not affected by the discussion.

"I tend to not take my cues from politicians," he said.

Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.

March 29, 2008

Civil War Symposium

in Honor of Alan Stephenson
Donor of the Stephenson Chair in Civil War History

111 Carroll Hall
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

8:15 A.M. RECEPTION

8:30 A.M. **William Barney, UNC Chapel Hill**
"Rush to Disaster: Secession and the Slaves' Revenge"

9:40 A.M. **Joan Waugh, UCLA**
"The Troubled Legacy of U.S. Grant"

10:50 A.M. **Brian Holden Reid, King's College**
"Robert E. Lee: The British View"

11:50 A.M. LUNCH PERIOD

1:10 P.M. **Joseph T. Glatthaar, UNC Chapel Hill**
"The Army of Northern Virginia and the Narrowing Margin of Error"

2:20 P.M. **Gary W. Gallagher, University of Virginia**
"Causes Won, Lost, and Forgotten: Hollywood and the Civil War Since 'Glory'"

Co-sponsors:
Curriculum in Peace, War, and Defense
Center for the Study of the American South
Department of History

FREE and Open to the Public

Festival of Colors

~ FREE Admission ~

Indian Cultural Music
•
Outdoor Drama
•
Dance & Food

April 12 • 5pm-8pm

1032 Dimmocks Mill Rd.
Hillsborough
732-6492
newgoloka.com

Gowns.
Flowers.
Cake.
Skincare.
Chocolate.
Jewelry.
How-to.
More.

Modern Bridal Fair

Saturday, March 29, 2008 from 2 - 5 pm
University Mall, Chapel Hill, NC

Please join us and help make a difference!
Proceeds benefit the
Family Violence Prevention Center
Register for Free Gift Bag at
www.ModernBridalFair.com