

LIKE MOTHER, LIKE DAUGHTER



DTH FILE/SHARON LEVIN

Chelsea Clinton, daughter of former President Bill Clinton and presidential hopeful Hillary Clinton, speaks on behalf of her mother's campaign March 31 in the Student Union. Hillary supporters filled the area in front of Alpine Bagel as Chelsea answered their questions. The event was coordinated by UNC Young Democrats and Heels for Hillary. "So much of what is important to me is important to you," Chelsea said to young voters.

# Out-of-staters have opportunities available

BY JAKE RATLIFF  
STAFF WRITER

Programs from both the University and student organizations can help out-of-staters with the transition to life at Carolina.

"It's actually been really great," said Randall Berg, a junior from Miami, Fla.

"Everyone here has been really accommodating."

Berg said that for him, the Out-of-State Student Association has been the most helpful group.

OSSA, the largest group for out-of-state students at UNC, was founded in 2001 to help students from around the world become better acclimated to life at the University, as well as to advocate for them on issues such as rising tuition costs.

"Most out-of-state students don't know anyone here, and we just want to help them out," said OSSA president Alison Savignano.

"We want to help them out from the first day on."

The group gets a dialogue going early as they contact incoming out-of-state students the summer before they start classes at UNC.

"It helps get them acclimated, and we can answer any questions they have," Savignano said.

The group also offers shuttle services to the airport on the first day of fall, Thanksgiving and spring breaks.

On breaks for which the group doesn't offer shuttle services, they help get out-of-staters in contact with others who are driving to the airport via their Web site's message board, called rideboard.

"That helps out, especially as a freshman, because you may not understand the Triangle bus routes," Berg said.

The university also offers programs that cater to out-of-state students through its Office of New Student and Carolina Parent Programs.

One additional service UNC offers is that residence halls stay open during Fall Break so that out-of-staters don't have to make an additional trip home.

But some out-of-state students say their greatest assets have been the friends they made while at UNC.

"Never be afraid to ask your

friends for help," Berg said.

"You might stay at a friend's house for the night if your flight isn't leaving until the next day."

Berg said that the best advice for incoming out-of-state students is to make friends early.

"In the first few weeks try to meet people and make new friends," he said.

"Though you may only hang with only a few of them regularly, it's still important to have acquaintances for the rest of your time here."

Berg added that it does not take long to build relationships that last through college and after graduation.

"You can come in here having no friends, and now I have a whole group of amazing friends," he said.

"Coming in, it's not so much a problem as it is an inconvenience for a little bit."



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