



Tar Heel/Lori Thomas

By **GINIE LYNCH**
Tar Heel Associate Editor

Although UNC is best known for excellence in the academic, athletic and social realm, there is a whole other dimension to UNC-Chapel Hill that many overlook — the international element to the University. UNC has a widely diverse student body but the number of foreign students is relatively small by comparison — approximately 400 each year. Still, it is an important element that should not be ignored.

The best place to learn more about the international students and activities is at the International Center, located in the Carolina Union. The International Center acts as a resource base with a variety of functions. The Center is here to provide foreign students with counseling, especially related to immigration and adjustment to the U.S. culture and to the university," Steve Bennett, a graduate student in social work and assistant to the director of the International Center, said. "The center also sponsors a series of educational and cultural programs including the International Festival and the International Career's Symposium," Bennett said.

Despite its small constituency, the impact of the center on international students is vitally important. "Without the International Center, the students would be lost, it's as simple as that," Jorge Siman, a junior economics major from El Salvador said. "The center," provides everything for the international students from housing information to concerns about immigration problems. Ursula Mich, a graduate student in Library Science from Germany, agrees. "My experience with the International Center has been extremely positive — Jill Bulthuis, director of the center, has been simply wonderful to me."

There are some students who see the center in a different light. "The International Center is a bureaucratic organization and is full of red tape," J.P. Kim, a graduate student said, "I think that

UNC's International

So, How 'BOUT THEM HEELS?
HEY, HOW 'BOUT WE GO GET A SIX PA
OR GO TO A KEG PARTY?... BET YOU
LIKE BEING ABLE TO COME TO A REALLY C
COUNTRY, HUH?... CARS! HEY, CARS! EVER
'EM BEFORE? HEY, YA' SHOULDA' BEEN HE
FOURTH!... I LIKE THE WAY YOU GUYS TALK

OH, BLAH, BLAH

BLAH, BLAH,

BLAH, BLAH

BLAH



UNC policy for foreign students has degenerated." The center needs to pay more attention to the foreign students' families," Kim said. However, according to Steve Bennet the center does provide language classes for the spouses of the foreign students.

AIS and the Center

Crucial to the linkage of the International Center is the Association of International Students (AIS), a club for all interested students at UNC. Its purpose is to promote intercultural exchange between foreign students and North American students. This is achieved in a variety of ways. AIS annually sponsors an International Festival, pot luck dinners, and trips for foreign students. It also holds weekly meetings which includes a cultural presentation.

Scott Elliot, former president of said that the ratio of foreign stu past year was approximately 60-

Because the club is a relatively become more integrated into th whether it be through student g tivities. "It can't be a little inte said. AT one time the club tende involved enough in the university he said.

Insurance and Inte

Some foreign students feel that kind of treatment they receive in

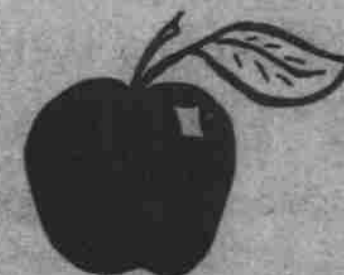
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