

Hillary hits the High Country

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Presidential hopeful Hillary Clinton made her way to Blowing Rock- via Foothills Regional Airport in Burke County. *Photo by Lauren K. Ohnsesorge*

While the airport is no stranger to celebrities and dignitaries, even line manager Nate Mull knew this particular visit was special.

According to Mull, Clinton has the best chance of becoming the first female president of the United States.

Clinton's entourage included a blend of local police and suited secret servicemen. The lone two Hillary-fans who showed up knew they were at the right place when a secret serviceman asked them to step outside.

According to Democrat Donna Heavner, when Bill Clinton and Al Gore made a campaign stop years back at the same airport, Clinton went out of his way to come by for a handshake. She and her husband, Mike Heavner, both of Lenoir, had hoped for the same thing from Hillary, but were disappointed when she entered her vehicle without so much as a glance, despite the Heavners' calls.

"At least we saw her... a little bit," Donna Heavner said.

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Donna Heavner was much cheerier than her husband, who said, "I guess it's Edwards now," as the couple was leaving.

Meanwhile, in Blowing Rock, Hillary fans had a different experience with the New York senator. In fact, Watauga Community Band President Steve Frank got to meet her between sets. According to Frank, she was kind and gracious, shaking his hand and thanking him for playing. While the Community band had an extra sax on hand for Bill, he was unable to make it to the \$2,300 per plate fundraiser. Hillary said she'd bring Bill on her next trip. Despite tight security and bomb-sniffing dogs, guests were able to relax and enjoy an evening at Westglow Spa and Resort, with the woman who could be the next president of the United States.



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