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News

The Presidential Debate

By Will Lutz

The first Presidential debate, between George W. Bush and the Democratic contender, John Kerry, was held at the University of Miami, Florida with the main topic being Foreign Policy.

The candidates argued about the post 9-11 military policy in Iraq and Afghanistan. Kerry argued that the war in Iraq is falling apart and that he offers a winning solution; meanwhile, Bush tried to state the good part that has happened so far under his watch.

Many news anchors commented that Kerry looked very Presidential and the early reports said that John Kerry won the first debate by an overwhelming margin. Some reporters said that President Bush ran out of steam two-thirds of the way through the debate. This triumph for John Kerry bounced his numbers in the polls and the candidates are now tied at 49% even considering Ralph Nader. This is bad news for the Bush Administration. Even though the polls are tied at 49%, the Electoral College is favoring President Bush 264 votes to John Kerry's 253 votes. To win the White House the candidates need to reach 270 Electoral College points.

Town Hall Debate

By Will Lutz

President Bush and Senator Kerry went head-to-head in the second Presidential Debate on Friday, October 8, 2004, at Washington University in St. Louis, MO. The debate was in the "Town Hall" format; where undecided voters were able direct their own specific questions at either candidate.

The candidates shared the same stage with a small audience looking on. One interesting encounter occurred when John Kerry blasted Bush for counting his own company, with subsidiaries in timber yards, as a small business. Bush laughed and reassured the voters that his business policies are realistic, but not before a clever jab, "I own a timber company? That's news to me..."

The results about who won are irrelevant; this debate proved that a true tie can happen, both candidates did very well. Among the Kerry supporters Kerry won, and among the Bush supporters Bush won. Some journalists even speculated that George W. Bush was wearing a wire.

Patsy Keever Visits Brevard

By Adam Beeson

Brevard College's chapter of the Young Politicians of America and the Brevard College Debate Society hosted congressional candidate Patsy Keever at the Porter Center for Performing Arts on October 2.

Mrs. Keever spoke for approximately fifteen minutes on issues concerning education, jobs, the economy, and healthcare in western North Carolina. Afterwards, Keever answered questions from Brevard College students as well as members of the Brevard community.

"It is time for a change," said Keever about the current conditions in western North Carolina. Keever said that she

wants to make college more affordable and create more jobs in the 11th District, which she said has lost 5,000 jobs in the past year.

"Washington politicians are out of touch with western North Carolina,"

Keever added, "it is critical to get involved in this election."

Keever is the first candidate to speak at Brevard College this year. Vincent Wong, president of Brevard College's YPA chapter, has invited all the candidates, Republicans and Democrats, to speak on campus in hopes to raise political awareness to the Brevard community, in particular the students on campus.

"Events like this are excellent opportunities for students to learn more about the candidates and their views on the issues, and to learn more about the issues facing western North Carolina," said Wong. Most importantly, Wong said he wants people to register and exercise their right to vote. "Too often we feel it is unimportant and that we can't make a difference by one vote," said Wong. "I would argue that being educated, sharing your knowledge, and making sure your voice is heard is what voting is all about."

"As we receive confirmation that candidates are able to visit our campus, we will make events like this available to the campus community and the Brevard community,"

