

Republican National Convention rouses right-wing spirit

BY DANIEL GASKIN
STAFF WRITER

Simon & Garfunkel, Thelma & Louise and Itchy & Scratchy have met their match in an unlikely duo that came to the forefront at the Republican National Convention.

That new duo is Clint Eastwood and Governor Mitt Romney. "I remember three-and-a-half years ago when Mr. Obama won the election and, though I wasn't a big supporter, I was watching that night when he was having that thing," said Clint Eastwood in a speech for the RNC, "And they were talking about hope and change; and they were talking about, 'Yes, we can,' and it was dark outdoors and it was nice and people were lighting candles. I just thought this is great. I mean everybody is crying. Oprah was crying. I was even crying. I haven't cried that hard since I found out that there's 23 million unemployed people in this country. Now, that is something to cry for. That is a disgrace, a national disgrace."

Eastwood's speech at the RNC surprised many because of the candor with which he spoke, and the fervor that he generated from a crowd that was surprised to see him.

GOP strategist and CNN contributor Alex Castellanos said Eastwood "proved he cannot do improv. But he did something that is rare in politics. He made it socially acceptable to be able to laugh at Barack Obama."

Romney's speech that followed Eastwood's focused on criticism of President Obama and his inability to create jobs.

"The President hasn't disappointed you because he wanted

to. The President has disappointed America because he hasn't led America in the right direction," said Romney. "He took office without the basic qualification that most Americans have and one that was essential to his task. He had almost



Vice-presidential candidate **Paul Ryan** and Republican nominee **Mitt Romney** wave to delegates at the convention in FL.

no experience working in a business. Jobs to him are about government."

In his speech, Romney harkened to a shared sense of

perseverance in Americans and wanted the audience to know that he was going to be a better president.

"We are a nation of immigrants," Romney said. "We are the children and grandchildren and great-grandchildren of the ones who wanted a better life, the driven ones, the ones who woke up at night hearing that voice telling them that life in that place called America could be better. They came not just in pursuit of the riches of this world, but for the richness of this life. Freedom."

After Romney's speech, a Gallup poll released on Sept. 3 indicates that four in ten adults say they are more likely to support Romney based on what they read or saw from last week's convention in Tampa, Fla.

"I thought Romney's speech was well crafted and showed that he is a good speaker, but he did not show me any great alternatives to the current economic problems that we have," said sophomore Chris Ross.

Thirty-eight percent say they are less likely to vote for the Republican challenger and 22 percent say they did not know or the convention did not make any difference to their vote.

These numbers are similar to John McCain's numbers in 2008, and show that the Republicans may have some work to do before the election in November if they want a different result.

All in all, the RNC showed an intention to bring the fight to the Democrats this November. The Republicans did much to discredit the Democrats and had many Republicans thinking, "Do you feel lucky? Well, do ya, punk?"

J-TERM

J-term expands classroom boundaries

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internships, service learning projects, and independent and group projects.

The faculty and staff have high hopes for the experiment and its effects on students.

"The January term's experiential and integrative learning projects and activities promote self-motivated and applied learning on curricular, co-curricular and also extra-curricular levels," said Jeff Favolise, assistant to the president for planning and management, via email. "The January term provides opportunities for students to learn through experiences and connect classroom lessons with real-world activities."

Students are also enthusiastic about the new term.

"I think it's a good opportunity to study things that aren't required and do experimental learning, which I think is really important," said sophomore Raina Martens.

Guilford is offering a multitude of options for the semester. These are just a few of the opportunities.

Study Away — International

"The Oxford Fantasy Writers" program will allow students to experience the places that inspired Lewis Carroll, C.S. Lewis, J.R.R. Tolkien and Phillip Pullman, known as the original fantasy writers.

"The beauty of it is the idea of seeing how writers respond to a place; to everything from the lamp post Lucy sees in "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe", to the Imperial War Museum that affected Tolkien," said Caroline McAllister, professor of English and the program's faculty leader.

This study opportunity is ideal for English and history majors or anyone interested in fantasy literature.

Students can also study religion in France, attend the Gaiety School of Acting in Dublin, Ireland, or study marine biology in the Caribbean.

Study Away — Domestic

One of the major options is the "Ghost Ranch Experience." This will be held in New Mexico and

will offer many different study opportunities for people of different interests.

Some of the programs offered at the Ghost Ranch will be arts related, such as black and white landscape photography or Southwest weaving. Other programs include a camping and wilderness trip and an archeological study.

On-Campus Seminar

"Woodworking and Furniture History," led by Jim Hood, professor of English, will give students an opportunity to learn a hands-on skill.

"This is a class for anybody, from environmental studies majors to art majors to business majors, or anybody interested in a craft hobby," said Hood.

This seminar will include classes and field trips to places such as Old Salem and the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts.

Other on-campus seminars include developing apps for iPhones, exploring the logistics of a college pep band and learning fly fishing.

Internships

Internships will also be offered based on individual interest. Students can contact the Career Development Center with ideas for internships, or experts at the center can brainstorm with students.

"Students can do short term research for a museum or company like Syngenta, or work for a nonprofit like Downtown Greensboro Inc.," said Megan Corkery, coordinator of internships and career counselor.

The exciting opportunities of the January term do not come without a price. Study away opportunities can cost over \$6,000.

These high costs worry some students and discourage them from participating.

"My number one concern is just the cost. That makes me really frustrated. Many of the options look so awesome, but I can't do any of them," said Martens.

"I'm personally not going to do it because of the cost," said early college junior Kristen Witkemper.

January term grants will be offered, but will be given based on demonstrated need and merit.

Despite the high costs, January term will be an exciting change for Guilford.

No butts about it: new smoking policy ignites ire

BY JOSH BALLARD
STAFF WRITER

Behind King Hall. Behind the Mail and Print Services building. Behind the Community Center. On the North Apartment porches, but only when the proper forms are signed.

If you are a smoker on campus, you would do well to know these places.

Recent changes to Guilford's smoking policy have coincided with a change in designated smoking areas on campus.

Students who are found smoking anywhere except the aforementioned areas will now receive a \$25 fine for their first two offenses and the third will result in a judicial hearing.

"The new policy is ridiculous," said senior Geoff Merwin. "The fines are classist because they create situations where people with more money can pretty much ignore the rule. They'll worry about getting caught less, so virtually there is a rule for some but not for all."

Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Aaron Fetrow said the fine was added to curb smoking outside of the designated areas.

"We had to turn to a more draconian method to stop people from smoking where they are not supposed to," he said. "It's more of an enforcement policy."

CCE senior Atia Ahmed took issue less with the fine and more with the principle of the change.

"Because I smoke a cigarette I'm diverse," said Ahmed. "How can you deny that diversity on campus? It really seems to go against the core beliefs."

Part of the issue was litter from cigarettes in high-traffic areas. As such, the smoking areas were moved to more low-

traffic spots. The main impetus for getting rid of the spot near Bauman was because of its location near the Early College.

"There are some legalities with smoking being so close to a high school," said Fetrow. "The Early College principal received something along the lines of 20-25 letters of petition from the parents of Early College students."

However, some students feel that Public Safety is partly to blame for the new rules.

"Decisions on the smoking policy, including locations of the smoking areas, are made completely independently of Public Safety," said Director of Public Safety Ron Stowe in an email interview. "Our role is strictly to help enforce the policy once decided upon."

Other complaints are more about the new spaces than anything else.

"It's inconvenient that they're so sparsely situated, but I understand that some people don't want to be around (smoking)," said junior Fhalyshia Orians. "I just want protection from the sun and the rain."

"The only complaints we've really received about the new areas are about a lack of cover and lighting," said Fetrow. "We're working on getting lights and covers for the areas."

Fetrow said that these new policies are part of a "continued progression to a smoke-free campus."

"We don't want to be overly friendly to smoking," he said. "Many schools have become smoke-free."

Many are even wondering what is going to happen to the covered smoking areas near Bauman and behind Mary Hobbs. Fetrow says that plans are in the works to convert them into covered bike racks.