

Republicans win House and Senate in midterm elections

BY CLARE FORRISTER
STAFF WRITER

In the midterm election on Nov. 4, local Senate candidate and Republican Thom Tillis ousted Democratic incumbent Kay Hagan and surpassed Libertarian candidate Sean Haugh.

The Senate and House races were not the sole issues of the midterm election. Voters voted for Supreme Court justices, local sheriffs and referendums.

One referendum allowed criminal defendants to waive their right to trial by jury in non-death penalty trials. Voters passed this proposal while rejecting one that would have increased the sales tax by 25 cents per \$100 to fund public education.

"(Education) is so important to American society," said junior Victoria Saraldi. "To cut funding from schools in order to not have to pay an extra 25 cents is ridiculous and pretty irresponsible."

Many, however, were content with the election results.

"I thought it was a big statement, basically, on the country's satisfaction with what has been going on for the past several years," said sophomore and President of the Guilford College Republicans Harrison Houlihan. "I think it's an opportunity."

Others, like Assistant Professor of Political Science Robert Duncan, do not see a bright future after this election.

"I think we're headed for two more years of gridlock and finger-pointing," said Duncan. "We're going to see more tax breaks for the wealthy and oppression of the poor and the middle class — more and more regression of the advances made in this country."

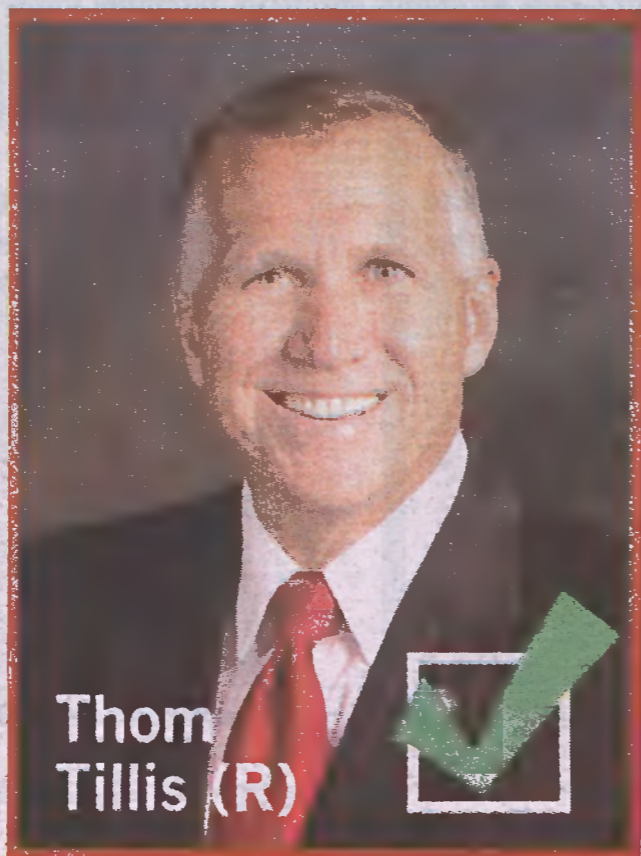
Despite the definitive nature of the election results, several factors, excluding the voters' decisions, affected election results.

According to ThinkProgress, thanks to a new law that bans voting in a different precinct, many voters tried to vote in the wrong place. In addition, a shorter early voting period prevented some people from showing up to the polls. Numerous previous polling places closed this year, and problems were reported with the voting machines themselves, though they were later resolved.

The main hindrance, however, was a lack of voter turnout.

"(In politics), nobody really changes anything," said senior Michael Carlini. "They just talk about change. That's partially why (I decided not to vote). I was waiting to see if one person would have a commercial without cutting down another person. It all needs to change."

The Koch brothers, billionaires who backed Republican candidates around the



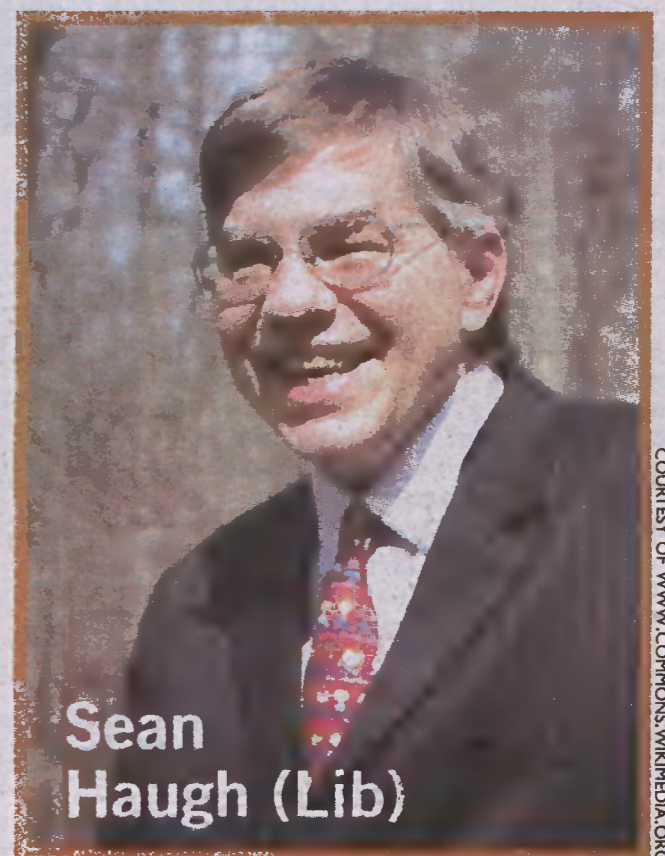
Thom Tillis (R)

Percentage of votes: **48.9%**



Kay Hagan (D)

Percentage of votes: **47.2%**

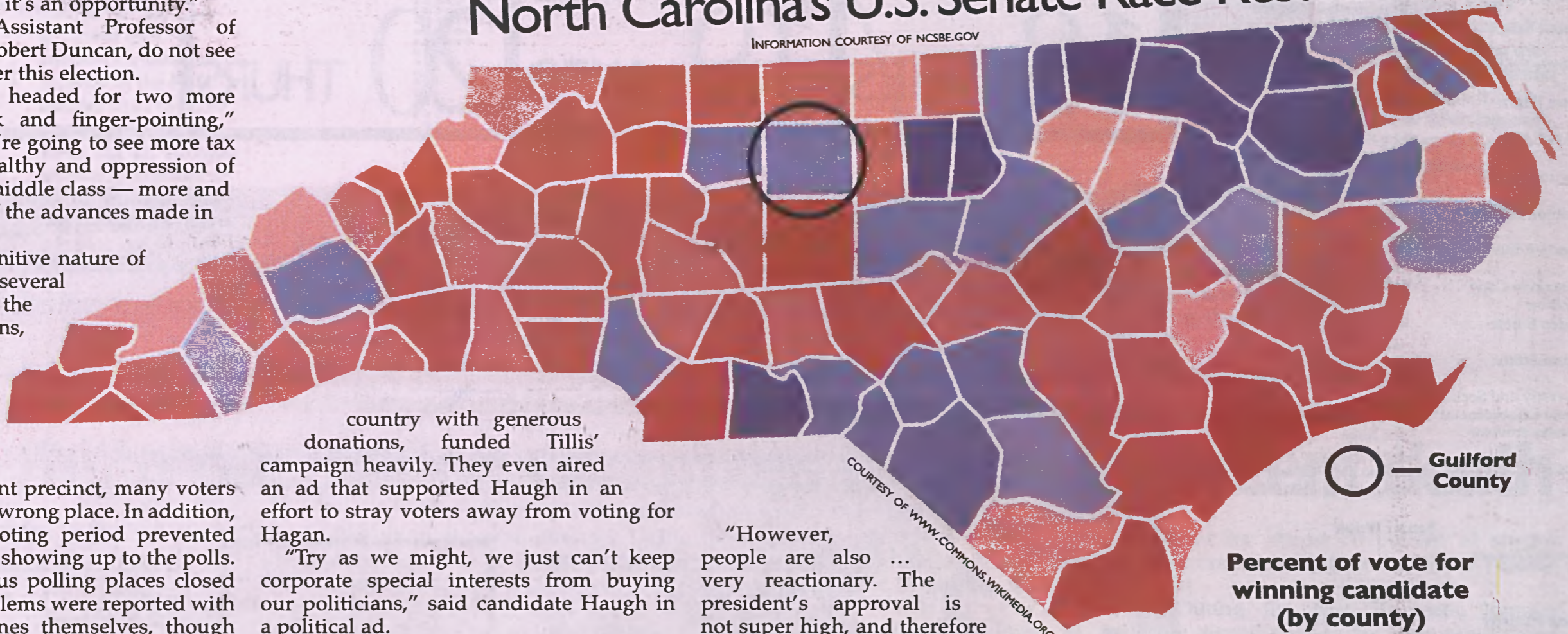


Sean Haugh (Lib)

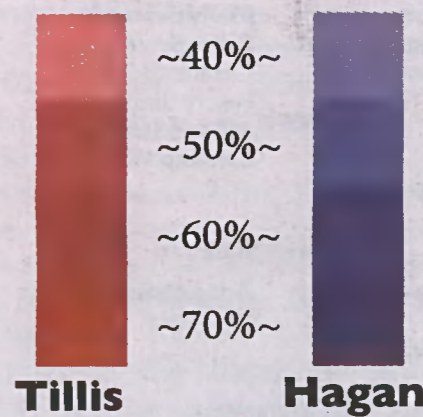
Percentage of votes: **3.7%**

North Carolina's U.S. Senate Race Results

INFORMATION COURTESY OF NCSBE.GOV



Percent of vote for winning candidate (by county)



country with generous donations, funded Tillis' campaign heavily. They even aired an ad that supported Haugh in an effort to stray voters away from voting for Hagan.

"Try as we might, we just can't keep corporate special interests from buying our politicians," said candidate Haugh in a political ad.

Hagan's campaign was another story, according to Hagan's Campaign Press Intern and senior Josh Weil.

"We ran a near-perfect campaign in my eyes," said Weil. "It was definitely a shock (when she did not win). We accomplished a lot, and we got a lot of issues out onto the table."

Weil offered an explanation for the results.

"I think people are angry," he said. "People are fed up with party politics."

"However, people are also ... very reactionary. The president's approval is not super high, and therefore they voted against his entire party."

Whether citizens feel satisfied or frustrated by the results of the midterm elections, CCE student Jennifer Phillips offered her advice for anyone who cares about the way the government is run.

"Get out and vote," Phillips said. "And not just vote, but learn what the politicians are saying, and what they believe in. ... Look at what they plan to do once they're in office, and then vote."

2014 Guilford Shares campaign reaches beyond campus

BY JULIET MAGOON
STAFF WRITER

Access to opportunities for a better quality of life. Connecting people with effective ways to support critical environmental causes. A Greensboro-hosted National Folk Festival free of charge. These and more are benefits of the 2014 Guilford Shares annual giving campaign.

The campaign features three pioneering organizations — ArtsGreensboro, EarthShare North Carolina and United Way of Greater Greensboro. It allows Guilford to reach outside of our campus community and support local nonprofit organizations in the Greater Greensboro area.

"Earth Shares supports sustainability, ArtsGreensboro and the United Arts Council support the arts and theatre and United Way supports a variety of local organizations," said Assistant Director of Facilities Brian Wenger, one of the campaign's tri-chairpersons. "(Guilford Shares) associates the name of Guilford College with charitable giving and supports those individuals who are less fortunate."

Donations and pledges can be made online at GiveAtTheOffice.org.

"If a person goes online to donate, they have some choices," said Director of Human Resources and Payroll Rick Williams. "They choose which organization they would

like to donate to. Then, within each organization, you can designate a specific funded agency. You may also choose to donate to an organization across the board."

One substantial reward of supporting ArtsGreensboro is the National Folk Festival. Chosen from among 32 American cities, Greensboro will host this free festival for a three-year stay beginning in 2015. This will be the first time the

"It's an opportunity for Guilford students and the community to participate and celebrate what makes Greensboro, and by extension Guilford College, a vibrant place to live," he added. "The National Folk Festival, the new Steven Tanger Center for the Performing Arts plus the wonderful gift of the park downtown that will break ground in a couple of weeks provide huge momentum, moving this community in an exciting direction."

Despite its benefits, the campaign's achievements have dwindled over the last few years.

"Our goal is not a monetary one," said Williams. "We decided this year that we wanted to mainly have a participation goal. If we can get participation at 50 percent of its potential community, that would be great."

Although students want to get involved, many are uninformed when it comes to Guilford Shares.

"I had never heard about the campaign before," said senior Hannah Schewel. "It's interesting. I work for phonathon, and we are usually in the know about current campaigns. It's something we could mention to our donors to get the word out."

The Guilford Shares campaign makes it possible for Guilford to translate its values into public action.

"The diversity of opportunities for getting involved with the campaign, either personally or financially, mirrors the diversity of our campus," said Williams.

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Rick Williams, director of human resources and payroll

National Folk Festival has been presented in North Carolina since its founding in 1934.

"It's an 80-year-old institution and is the first and largest of its kind," said ArtsGreensboro President and CEO Tom Philion. "(The National Folk Festival) brings together different communities, highlights all of the wonderful talents we have from the vast immigrant population in Greensboro and honors our heritage from a standpoint of the quest for equality and freedom that is recognized by Guilford students."