

FEATURES

54 % of 18-29 year olds voted for Kerry

Bush won 31 states in the popular vote

62 % of Cleveland Co. voted for Bush

5 cabinet members have resigned

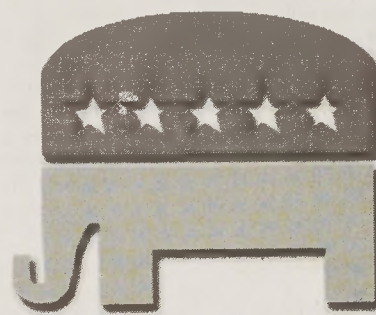
18-29 year olds comprised 17 % of the vote

4.6 million more young people voted in this election



The numbers are in

High voter turnout plays role in 2004 election



Abbie Crago
Pilot Staff

In one of the highest voter turnout elections in American history, President Bush swept much of the country taking 31 states in the popular vote.

A great deal of pressure was placed on college students to make the most of their right to vote. Organizations like MTV's Rock the Vote facilitated star-studded rallies on campuses around the country.

"Talk of the Nation" on National Public Radio

reported that 4.6 million more young people voted in 2004 than in 2000.

"This is the first time since 1972, when 18 year olds got the right to vote, that we've seen a majority of young people turn out," said Jehmu Greene, president of Rock the Vote.

According to CNN, only 45% of 18-29 year olds voted for Bush, while a 54% majority voted for Kerry. Young people in this age group comprise 17% of the total voter population.

Many young people were driven to the polls

because of a troubled economy, the threat of a draft and a waning job market. Both candidates promised a brighter future, and since Bush won he has already begun to make administrative changes.

Major Cabinet changes have been taking place over the last week. Condoleezza Rice has been nominated to replace Colin Powell as Secretary of State, and the resignations of five other Cabinet members prepares the Bush administration for a brand new term.

Cabinet changes aren't

Bush's only plans for his next four years. On Bush's re-election Web site, he outlines his plan for increasing and enhancing Pell Grants. Another reform is to expand loan forgiveness for teachers of math, science and special education.

Sixty-two percent of Cleveland County residents voted republican for Bush for President, while 54 percent voted for the incumbent democratic Governor Easley.

Easley's vision for the state of North Carolina is one of an increased biotech

Around the country

- Alaska missed legalizing marijuana by 14 percent.
- Montana legalized marijuana use for persons with debilitating diseases.
- California now has a state-sponsored stem cell research group.
- Florida teens must now notify their parents before having an abortion.

industry. To help funding for schools, Easley wants to create a state lottery system. He also believes in keeping North Carolina a strong military state.

Easley joins governors from nearly every state in

fighting a shrinking job market and economy.

The next four years will be a fresh challenge for Bush as well with new Cabinet members, and an economic-based agenda.

A Woman's role in ministry

Meeting discusses females during Jesus' time

Abbie Crago
Pilot Staff

In a crowded room in Noel Hall, religion majors, minors and faculty listened to a Christian Ministry Association program on the role of women in ministry.

"We need men and women to help this world change," said Rev. Kitty Rankin, of the John Knox Presbyterian Church and one of the keynote speakers at the CMA meeting.

After growing up in the Presbyterian Church, Rankin said she is accustomed to females in leadership positions. But she recognizes many people are uncomfortable with a woman behind the pulpit.

Divinity Professor Sherri Adams, a former missionary and lifelong Baptist, also spoke at the meeting and presented her interpretation of the New

"I'm 58 years old, and my whole life I've heard it's not time yet. The challenge for you and me is — is it time yet?"

— Sherri Adams, divinity professor

Testament.

"Jesus treated women like human beings," Adams said. "They weren't just vaginas and wombs."

According to Adams, the early church followed Jesus' example by allowing women to hold the same positions as men.

As she looks at the current position of women in the ministry, Adams wonders if it's time for women to take a more active role.

"I'm 58 years old, and my whole life I've heard it's not time yet," Adams

said. "The challenge for you and me is — is it time yet?"

The M. Christopher White Divinity School has two female faculty members, while the university's religion department has only one, Paula Qualls.

"My experience here at Gardner-Webb has been very affirming and supportive," Qualls said.

But her choice to be in the ministry didn't come without hardships. When Qualls worked through seminary, some students

were reluctant to accept a female.

"Make sure it's about God's call and not about being a woman and making a statement," Qualls said.

Ron Williams, chair of the religion department, is a proponent of women's rights to equal participation in the ministry. "We're probably challenging some Baptists in North Carolina in regards to our position on women in ministry," Williams said.

According to Williams, although Gardner-Webb University receives funding from the North Carolina Baptist Convention, the school maintains responsibility for its academic freedom.

"So if we say something and get a lot of irons stirred up then we are responsible for that," Williams said.

Ministry behind bars

Fellowship broadens service

Sarah James
Pilot web editor

Prison Fellowship, a ministry now in its first year at Gardner-Webb University, takes students into prisons to work with inmates and also works with the families of those incarcerated.

"It's an international organization created to help serve and to serve with those in prison, family members of those in prison and those affected by crime," said Hans Koschmann, undergraduate coordinator for campus ministries.

There are two basic ways to get involved: mentoring a child of parents in prison and visiting prisons themselves — leading Bible studies or worship services and spending time with the prisoners.

"PFM is not only geared towards inmates, but it is geared towards helping the children of those who are incarcerated," said Hamal Strayhorn, Prison Fellowship's graduate director. "We can give hope to their children and

their extended family by ministering a word of hope, when they possibly do not see any hope."

Prison Fellowship has affected Koschmann on a personal level.

"Jesus told us to care for those oppressed. Jesus said to the least of these you did for me," Koschmann said. "Prison Ministries has really opened my heart to those in jail. Visiting with inmates changes your perspective on the prison system and judicial system. It changes your view on those in prison and how they are treated."

Prison Fellowship, is currently working on getting involved with the Cleveland County Correctional Institution and organizing more training sessions on campus. Prison Fellowship is also hoping to involve both small groups and FOCUS groups.

Prison Fellowship does not hold specific meeting times but those interested can go by Suttle Hall Room 105 to sign up.

Local business serves as ministry

Anna Sieges
Pilot Staff

Where does real ministry take place?

Seth Stevens, owner of Broad River Coffee Company, knows the answer to that question.

When Stevens graduated from Toccoa Falls Bible College in northern Georgia with a degree in Philosophy, he found himself in a position familiar to many GWU graduates: it was time to go into the ministry.

Stevens did not have a typical Southern Baptist upbringing that prepares some for church vocation.

Stevens grew up in a single-wide trailer in Warm Springs, Ga. His mother, who now makes various cakes and pastries for the coffee shop, worked as a nurse in the ward for paraplegics and quadriplegics at the state hospital.

Steven's father worked as a songwriter in Nashville.

His father has written 23 No. 1 hits for singers like Kenny Rogers, Eddie Rabbit and Tim McGraw.

When Stevens graduated from college, he took a familiar route for religious studies majors. He began youth-pasturing in Charlotte at Indian Trail Baptist Church.

But Stevens says he was able to reach more students by hanging out at the local coffee shop than by keeping his regular office hours at the church.

"In Charlotte I did more ministry and got more done at the local chain coffee shop than my required office hours at the church," Stevens said.

Stevens remembers one young lady specifically. Her name was Leah and she worked at the coffee shop.

According to Stevens, Leah went from being offended by Christian advances to embracing the faith.



photo by Wes Rice

GWU graduate Nate Buchanan has worked at the Broad River Coffee Co. with Stevens since May. He said he admires Stevens for his "uncompromising character."

After her conversion, Leah told Stevens if he were ever to open a coffee shop she would support him in whatever way she could.

According to Stevens, her words were seeds planted just before he and his wife, Heather, moved to Boiling Springs.

In 2000, Stevens reached a price-agreement with the landlord for the space on

Main Street which now houses the BRCC. It was previously a pawn shop.

"I feel like the calling in my life is to be actively involved in people's lives as they grow in their faith," Stevens said. "I've tried to do that by creating an environment to promote community where you can make authentic connections with people you know and don't know."

Tech: Professors can teach Online

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technological familiarity.

Carey said that three years ago, his then 11-year-old daughter had to be hospitalized for several months.

During this time, Carey spent most of his time at the hospital in Greenville, S.C. and was unable to attend his scheduled classes.

"I basically taught Media Law online," said Carey.

But according to Carey, many students are simply inept or unwilling to learn new technology.

Carey has been frustrated several times by students who refuse to take notes on the process for using the "drop box" in the Macintosh network.