

KERRY CONCEDES, BUSH WINS

KIARA JONES
NEWS EDITOR

After a close presidential race, in which all the votes have not yet been counted, Sen. John Kerry has conceded the Presidency to incumbent George W. Bush, according to reports by CNN.

State by state, the electoral votes came in. The votes that would decide the next president of the United States would come in slowly but surely, Vermont won by Kerry and Florida won by Bush.


With so many news outlets covering the election, it was hard to know which one to follow. At one point, Yahoo.com posted Bush as having 249 electoral votes and Kerry at 216, with C-SPAN following suit; Fox News reported the numbers as Bush, 269 and Kerry, 211; and CNN, Bush 249 and Kerry at 196. Reports differed between network television stations: NBC, at one time, projected Bush as winner of all electoral votes for Ohio, as CNN declared they were not ready to take such a step.

In one of the closest elections in the past 36 years, and in the wake of the election fiasco of 2000, networks erred on the side of caution so as not to repeat the mistake of declaring a winner too early.

The winning candidate needed 270 votes to be elected. Even at press time, all votes were not in, and provisional ballots were still being tabulated. Absentee ballots for those in the military were not required to be received until after Nov. 2 in some states, and there is still about a 10-day window for the votes to be counted.

Ohio was the buzzword Tuesday night. With 20 electoral votes to

North Carolina Winners



Governor:
Easley (D): 55%
Ballantine (R): 43%
Howe (L): 2%

Senate:
Burr (R): 52%
Bowles (D): 47%
Bailey (L): 1%

House:
McIntyre (D): 72%
Plonk (R): 28%

Senate District 9:
Boseman (D): 51%
White(R): 49%

offer, it was the state that would ultimately determine the winner. A possible problem in Ohio was created by the provisional ballots. Under Ohio law, only those who have recently moved are allowed to use provisional ballots. Under federal law, those who arrive at the polls and find that either they are not registered or have a problem with their registration are allowed to vote.

Sophomore Richard Phillips thinks that we're in good hands with Bush in the White House.

"The Dow Jones is up 170 points right now. If they're projecting Bush is going to win, I think the stock market is responding," said Phillips, who is a pre-engineering major and an aspiring politician. "Globally, we may remain isolated from our peers in the rest of the world, but that in itself should not cause concern. The right thing to do is not always popular and history has shown that, such as Winston Churchill's opposi-

tion to Hitler. Just because what were doing is not popular doesn't mean we're wrong."

"I think we're going to see a lot of conservative acts pass through the legislature now because now Republicans have such a strong presence in the senate that Republican swing votes won't make a difference now," said Benjamin Stikeleather, a UNCW senior and history major. Stikeleather supported Bush based on his moral standpoints, but was not too confident in his leadership skills. He said that he didn't think that either candidate was top-notch, but Bush's morals are what sold him.

While Kerry's lawyers wanted to contest the election results in Ohio, the candidate declined to do so. In his concession speech, he said, "I would not give up this fight if there was a chance that we would prevail." Still, he cited his desire to not divide the country.



Harry E. Walker / KRT CAMPUS

WASHINGTON, DC - Republican supporters celebrate as a projection of the Ohio vote tally in favor of Bush is shown on a large screen during the election night party for President George W. Bush at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, D.C., Tuesday night, November 2, 2004.

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Editorial: 962-3229
Ads: 962-3789

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