

## NEWS FEATURES

# Clinton Wins!! Gantt Loses; Hunt Wins

SPECIAL REPORT

William Jefferson Clinton was re-elected president of the United States last Tuesday. His re-election made him the first Democrat since Franklin Delano Roosevelt, in 1936, to win a second full term as president.

Regionally, Senator Jesse Helms, R-NC, won a fifth senatorial term. He defeated Democrat Harvey Gantt, of Charlotte. Helms had 1,330,165 votes to Gantt's 1,159,263. Jim Hunt won an unprecedented fourth term as governor by defeating Republican challenger Robin Hayes 1,423,793 votes to 1,089,164 votes.

North Carolina voters also felt that a constitutional amendment that would allow the governor to veto legislation should be ratified. North Carolina is the only state, in the country, where the governor didn't have that power. Voters also showed overwhelming support for two other constitutional amendments that will establish rights for the victims of crime and grant judges broad authority to sentence prisoners to unconventional punishment.

Election Day also marked the capstone of the most aggressive effort ever to empower young voters to elect pro-student members of Congress in tightly contested swing districts. The College Democrats of America registered one million young voters, turned out six million young voters, and recruited 50,000 volunteers for the Democratic Party. The organization distributed 400,000 pieces of visibility materials in early September as part of their "Student Vote" campaign.

Here on campus and in Winston-Salem, some people felt that their vote wouldn't make a difference or it just didn't matter.

Kareem Stinson, a senior mass communications major said, "No, I didn't vote because I felt that Helms and Clinton were certain to win. I believe Gantt would have been a better senatorial representative and Clinton is a better President to deal with issues on

education, welfare and affirmative action."

"I didn't vote because I didn't like any of the candidates," said Ann Biggett, of Winston-Salem. "I feel that the 'minority' people would still be in the same bad shape that they are in now."

Allen Funk, an employee at Office Depot said, "There is not a person in this country that can put a dent in the national deficit. So there is no need for me to vote."

When asked if he thought voting made a difference, Brent Lassiter, 25, said, "Personally, NO. This is a government that is based on evil, wickedness and lies. I don't believe in voting for a president or any official on the national level that I don't know."

However, other voters felt differently about the entire voting process.

Danielle Thrower, a freshman music major said, "I voted to make a difference and to be heard."

"I voted because our ancestors fought for this privilege for years and not voting would be letting all their hard work and tears be shed for nothing," said Chassity Miller, 20, a sophomore, elementary education major. "To think your vote doesn't count is also ignorant. Either way someone will be on top. You might as well have some say on who it is."

Elvita Hunt, a WSSU staff member said, "Yes, I plan to vote. I can't complain about how a person runs the office, if I didn't vote."

Sheryl Davis-Little, another staff member said, "Yes" to voting. "To make sure I had a voice in who won and to do my civic duty."

"I voted because at this time in my life, I really felt as though the election would truly affect me," said Michon Evans, 22, of Vista Lindo Court. "It was my first time to vote and I'm filled with a sense of pride."

**NOTE:** Information for this story was compiled by students enrolled in MCM 3340 Newswriting and Reporting.

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