

Students for Peace and Justice join other protesters at debate

Rady Large
The Pendulum

Students for Peace and Justice left from Boney Fountain in two waves to protest the presidential debate at Wake Forest University last Wednesday.

They were fighting against the exclusion of the Green Party Candidate, Ralph Nader, from the presidential debates, the same issue that sparked protests in Massachusetts at the last debate.

Other issues were addressed at the protest. Such issues as corporate support of the two major party candidates and unfair treatment by the police forces in Winston-Salem were also of major concern to the people at the protest.

The police forces of Winston-Salem had set up a "pen and chorale" system for the protestors permitted on the actual campus of Wake Forest. Protesters had to go through bag searches, metal detectors and were forced to wear ID bands on their wrists if they wanted to go through the chain link fence that lead to the pre-set protest area.

The protest began at noon with workshops on topics that concerned the participants, such as the immediate reduction of nuclear weaponry, abolishment of the death penalty, the effects of the World Trade Organization and International Monetary Fund on third world nations and the corporate sponsorship of both of the major party candidates.

After the conclusion of the workshop sessions, the demonstrators rallied around speakers who voiced the opinions of the crowd.

One such speaker was Heidi (who didn't want her last name published), a North Carolina high student who attended the protest against the last presidential debate in Boston. In her speech to the crowd, Heidi stated that she was there because of "a duty to represent others who can't represent themselves."

David Solnit was the organizer of the protest. "I am not a protester. I am an artist doing street theatre. I am here to show people how culture can be used as a weapon in creating a new

world," he said.

At 7 p.m., the crowd estimated at over a 1,000, rallied and took to the streets. The police forces of Winston-Salem attempted to keep the protesters on the sidewalks by threatening to arrest anyone marching on the streets. The attempt was thwarted by chants of "Whose streets? Our streets!"

"It was phat! The march was so cool," senior Andy Morley said. "In Philly we were confined all over the place." The march that Andy is referring to in "Philly" was a protest against the Republican National Convention this past summer.

Upon arrival at the protest site the peaceful demonstrators were greeted with a coalition of police forces outfitted in the riot gear. Approximately 500 police force were armed with riot shields, pepper spray guns, tear gas canisters and tear gas cannons.

The confrontation between the police and the protesters was one of uneasy duty and uneasy peace. Both sides seemed to be not at war, but in negotiation.

The protesters on the front



Jennifer McCort/*The Pendulum*

Protesters delivered an "in your face" message to police and the public on Oct. 11 at Wake Forest University during the presidential debate.

line delivered an "in your face" attempt at opening the eyes of the public to their cause. The people towards the back communicated the message of the protest to passing motorists.

The people sat down in a display of civil disobedience as

the police attempted to move them out of the area. The peaceful process of the protest kept the police at bay.

Elon College student, Nate Frigard, summed up the protest, "It was full of spirit and positive energy. A happy place to be."

Rock the Vote combines political and musical influences to encourage voting

Faith Gaskins
The Pendulum

This year's presidential election should be one of the closest in decades. It will determine the path that our country takes for the next four years. Yet, college-age people are in the age demographic that is most likely not to vote. One event seeks to change that statistic.

Rock the Vote was established as a sort of common ground between political and musical influence. It is a forum for young people to hear about the issues that are raised by the presidential candidates and hear how those issues will affect their lives.

"I believe that this event will help to get people our age excited about voting and about politics," Courtney Titus, a

sophomore at Elon, said. "I think that they accomplish this goal by presenting the candidates and the issues with the audience of college-age students in mind."

There are brochures available at the events that provide a youthful impression of the issues and a breakdown of where each candidate stands on that issue.

"Another great part of this event is the bands," Titus said. The fact that many popular groups show up to play at the concert attracts even more people our age.

"Some of the people who come may not get any other exposure to politics so it is exciting for them," Titus said.

Another facet of this event is the opportunity to hear about the third-party candidates and

where they stand on the issues.

"Hearing about the other candidates was very interesting to me," Titus said. "I mean, on the news, the only candidates you hear about are George W. Bush and Al Gore."

Recently Rock the Vote was held in Winston-Salem, N.C. last Wednesday and featured popular recording artists Hootie and the Blowfish.

"Another great thing about it being a concert atmosphere is that you get to hear opinions of other people your age," Titus said. "There were college students there from Wake Forest, Salem College, Elon and many other places. It was fascinating to hear what other people who go to school in the triad thought about these national issues."

Missouri Governor killed in plane crash

Malcolm Garcia
and Deann Smith

Knight-Ridder Newspapers

KANSAS CITY -- Missouri Gov. Mel Carnahan, a two-term governor in the middle of a heated battle for the U.S. Senate, was killed Monday night in a plane crash in Jefferson County, Mo., south of St. Louis.

The Associated Press reported early Tuesday morning that Carnahan was killed, along with one of his sons and a campaign adviser, according to relatives of the campaign adviser.

Sen. Harry Wiggins of Kansas City said a spokesman from the governor's office had confirmed that the plane was Carnahan's, and that the governor was on board.

The National Transportation Safety Board confirmed that the tail number on the plane was registered

to a Rolla law firm of which Carnahan's son was a member.

Reports said the others on the plane were Carnahan's son, Randy, who often served as pilot for his father on campaign trips, and Chris Sifford, 36, Carnahan's campaign adviser and his former chief of staff. His nephew, Frank Sifford, confirmed the deaths.

Carnahan, 66, was one of three persons on board a Cessna 335 that crashed west of Pevely, Mo., after 7:30 p.m. Monday.

The plane that crashed was reported lost at 7:33 p.m. Shortly after that, residents near the crash site heard an engine sound, as if a plane was diving, and some reported a ball of fire, Jefferson County Sheriff's Capt. Ed Kemp said.

He reported that searchers found some remains among pieces of the wreckage.