

IDENTITY
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echo boomers perform some sort of community work, and some, like UNC senior Amy Woodell, plan to start their postcollege life in volunteer services like AmeriCorps.

"I wish other people on campus would care more," said Woodell, a 22-year-old biology major from South Carolina. "There's apathy and then there's activists. There's definitely good stuff going on out there, but it could be so much more."

Woodell is a teaching assistant for "Sex and Gender in Society," a UNC sociology class. Taking the class pushed her to speak out more, she says, and defined what she believed as a feminist.

Regretful of only spending her last year in college as an activist, she now volunteers at the Orange County Rape Crisis Center, educating elementary school students on sexual violence and oppression.

"Being active in the community is most important to me because I learn so much more outside of the classroom," she said. "What I learn in class, I can apply to daily life, and I learn more on how to practice what I preach. People who are active in the community have a better view on life, I think."

Community activism gave Jay Raval more than just a better view on life - it helped to define his goals as a pre-med student. A UNC junior, he is taking time off from school and will return for his final semester next spring.

Raval could be a poster boy for Generation Y - between his work in a UNC lab, volunteering in a local elementary school health room, taking Hindi classes at N.C. State University in prepa-

ration for a summer trip to India, working as a teaching assistant for a Biology 45 section and covering the graveyard shift in the Durham Regional emergency room as an EMT, Raval is booked solid.

And he wouldn't have it any other way, he says.

"Back in high school, I didn't know why I wanted to be a doctor," he said. "It was the thing to do. Then I came to Carolina and tried to find the answer why... But now that I do all this stuff, I realize that being with people, interacting with them, alleviating their pain and suffering - I can't imagine myself doing anything else."

But Raval says he's not on the fastest track.

"I have friends who are into sequential scheduling - they literally have daily schedules on half-hour to hour blocks," he laughed. "They know when they're going to eat, play, work out. I choose a lot of my friends because they try not to be like that."

Raval depends on his cell phone and e-mail to keep in touch with his students, friends and family. He moves about so much that he doesn't have a land line in his apartment.

"Technology isn't jump-starting things anymore - it allows us to keep up with it as it grows and keep up with each other," he said.

He may be right. Generation Y grew up wired to the world, and we now live our lives online. We shop, chat, research, and some have sex through the Internet. It is now possible to live a connected life completely indoors.

At what societal cost? The effects remain to be seen. Sociologists have worried about the alienation factor that comes with the loss of human contact.

But, like our parents' age group, we have a reputation for being committed

"Our Time"

The paradox of our time in history is that we have taller buildings but shorter tempers; wider freeways but narrower viewpoints. We spend more but have less; we buy more but enjoy it less. We have bigger houses and smaller families; more conveniences but less time; we have more degrees but less sense; more knowledge but less judgment; more experts but more problems; more medicine but less wellness.

We drink too much, smoke too much, spend too recklessly, laugh too little, drive too fast, get too angry too quickly, stay up too late, get up too tired, read too seldom, watch TV too much and pray too seldom.

We have multiplied our possessions but reduced our values. We talk too much, love too seldom and hate too often. We've learned how to make a living but not a life; we've added years to life, not life to years.

We've done larger things but not better things. We've cleaned up the air but polluted the soul. We've split the atom but not our prejudice. We write more but learn less. We plan more but accomplish less. We've learned to rush but not to wait. We build more computers to hold more information to produce more copies than ever but have less communication.

These are the times of fast foods and slow digestion; tall men and short character; steep profits and shallow relationships.

These are the times of world peace but domestic warfare; more leisure but less fun; more kinds of food but less nutrition. These are days of two incomes but more divorce; of fancier houses but broken homes.

It is a time when there is much in the show window and nothing in the stockroom; a time when technology can bring this letter to you and a time when you can choose either to share this insight or to just hit delete.

— Anonymous E-mail, Sept. 23, 1999

REPUBLICANS
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tears in their eyes. "I'm not going to let you down all the way through November. We're going to win it all."

Vinroot's election marks the end of a vicious advertising battle against Daughtry in the Republican primary and the beginning of a war against Democratic nominee Mike Easley for the governor's mansion.

"I have a clear message for Mike Easley tonight," he said. "As mayor of Charlotte I stopped runaway spending. State government can and should do the very same thing."

But Vinroot said he would solicit support from Democrats and former mentors in a bipartisan effort. "Republicans can't win by themselves in this state. I'm going to get Coach Dean Smith to help me on that."

This stance comes after criticism from many that Vinroot had shifted his views to the right after losing in 1996 with a moderate agenda.

Democrat, Duke University graduate and longtime friend Carole Lesley said she was a prime example of Vinroot's broad support base. "North Carolina needs Richard Vinroot," she said. "My biggest thing is getting people with integrity."

"He has more integrity than anyone I've ever met."

Daughtry was upbeat as he told supporters he would throw his support behind Vinroot and the Republican party. He also said the elections process was rewarding, even in defeat.

"It was a great experience to travel all over the state," Daughtry said. "We're still happy with the results but we just didn't get enough (votes)."

He said he was headed back to Smithfield to take up the life of a private citizen. "I'm going to sleep. I have a good business and a good family."

But Neely was visibly disappointed.

He began his concession speech with a story once told by Abraham Lincoln about a little boy who fell down in the road. "He stood up too hurt to laugh, too big to cry," Neely said. "Maybe it should have been 'too old to cry.'"

He asked supporters to carry on his message of local control of education, lower taxes and gambling restrictions.

His campaign's weakness, he said, was poor fund raising and slim advertising. "You're not real in a lot of people's lives until you're on the TV screen," he said. "If I had done that, I believe I would have won."

Vinroot also attributed his successful primary to better fund raising than in 1996. "I was a better candidate this time," he said.

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DEMOCRATS
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Easley said he was planning to run a clean campaign in the general election, where he would meet former Charlotte mayor Richard Vinroot.

He said his efforts this fall would focus on senior citizens, the environment, a state lottery proposal and education. "There is a constitutional and moral duty to provide a high quality education to every child in North Carolina," Easley said.

He also commended Wicker on a challenging race. "I want to congratulate Wicker on his tenacity," said Easley.

He then celebrated his victory by dancing on stage with his family to the song "We Are Family."

Easley supporters, proudly donning their campaign pins and stickers, were overjoyed at the attorney general's victory. "I'm so happy. I have shaken everyone's hand tonight," said Sam Samsell, an Easley supporter from

Johnston County. At about the same time Easley's supporters were celebrating victory, Wicker gave his concession speech to a much quieter audience in downtown Raleigh.

Wicker said he was disappointed by his defeat, especially considering the effort that was put into his campaign. "Nobody tried harder, nobody worked harder than we did," Wicker said.

Despite the disappointment his supporters felt, Wicker said they must rally behind the Democratic nominees come November's general election.

"Unite behind the party to win in the fall," urged Wicker. "Unite behind (Al) Gore, Mike Easley and all Democratic candidates that won tonight."

He said he would fully support Easley's bid for governor in November. "Let's commit ourselves to Democratic victory in November and to the best four years in the history of the state."

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DOWNES
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getting around Congress," Bell said. To reverse such a decision, Congress would have to present charges and impeach Downs, Bell said.

"I'll bring the charges myself," she said. Earlier in the session, Bell had

warned representatives to avoid possible influence from the executive branch, which has been vocal in supporting Downs' appointment.

Student Body Vice President Lerrisa Rentas said she supported Downs but noted the importance of adhering to congressional decisions.

"I am pleased to see the system of checks and balances at work, for it is our

ability to disagree and have dialogue that maintains the integrity of self governance."

Downs' failed appointment preceded many other favorable congressional confirmations, including the approval of 56 Honor Court members and several other student University committees.

Just before they adjourned, Congress members shifted discussion to the Board of Governors' recent budget proposals to the state, which include a \$600 UNC tuition increase.

Beginning next week, the N.C. General Assembly will consider the proposed tuition increase, \$31.8 million

financial aid package and \$3 billion bond package for systemwide capital improvements.

Members voted favorably to endorse the recent proposal of the Coalition for Educational Access, which would combine the three proposals into one legislation while also setting \$28.3 million aside for faculty salaries systemwide.

The coalition wants all three budget requests to be combined to ensure the state does not raise tuition without investing state resources to supplement financial aid and faculty salaries.

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