

Campus Calendar

Today

7 p.m. - How can we attain happiness? Come to the Frank Porter Graham Lounge to hear the Baha'i perspective and share your own views.
8:15 p.m. - The Lab! Theatre presents "The Real Inspector Hound," a comedy by Tom Stoppard, in the Kenan Theatre. It will also be performed at the same time Saturday night.
Admission is free; seats will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

Saturday

6 p.m. - The Carolina Electronic Music Symposium will be held in the Union Cabaret. Producers, break

For the Record

In the Nov. 30 story, "Bethlehem Native Discusses Middle East Peace", the story incorrectly stated that Bethlehem is located in Israel. Bethlehem is located on the West Bank, which is occupied by Israel, but the land is part of Palestine. The Daily Tar Heel regrets the error.

dancers and others will be on hand at the forum on electronic music.

For more information, see The Daily Tar Heel story online at <http://www.dailytarheel.com>.

8 p.m. - Come to "How Christmas Stole the Grinch?", the Psalm 100 winter concert in 111 Carroll Hall.

Sunday

9 a.m. - The Beth El Synagogue Chanukah Bazaar and Book Fair will be held at 1004 Waits St. in Durham. Come for a great selection of books, gifts, sizzling latkes and all you need for your Chanukah celebration.

9:30 a.m. - The University United Methodist Church will hold its 54th annual Holiday Bazaar, with crafts, baked goods, prepared foods and mixes.

All proceeds go to missions.

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MANDATE

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going to be displeased anyway."

But while there is no shortage of experts willing to take their best guesses at the future president's effectiveness, most are convinced that nothing is for certain, and the next president might surprise both the pundits and the American people.

"The conventional wisdom that we hear from all the commentators will be that (the president) won't have a mandate; there will be some unhappy Americans and a divided Congress," said Phillip Sharp, a lecturer at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. "All of this could make things difficult for the next president."

But Sharp, a former 10-term Democratic representative from Indiana, added that the expectations for the next president are already so low that any beneficial outcome of the presidency - no matter how small - will be looked upon positively by the American people.

"Any victories (the next president) achieves will be considered a huge plus," Sharp said.

But while the next president might have some minor victories, pundits say Americans shouldn't expect the passage of any of the more radical campaign promises made by either candidate.

"Given the closeness of the election and the makeup of Congress, I don't think we're going to see a \$1.3 trillion tax cut that Bush talked about or the complete restructuring of Medicare that Gore has talked about," Baker said.

Sharp added that this political environment will actually benefit both the winning and losing party of the presidential election.

"It seems quite likely that large shifts in policy will not be possible," Sharp said.

"The most radical policy that one party feared from the other side won't happen."

But Baker said the pressure on Congress to pass legislation could bail out the president.

Baker pointed out that the 435 members of the House and a third of the Senate will be up for re-election in 2

years.

"People in Washington understand that people at home want to see results from their elected officials, not just squabbling," Baker said.

He added that while the word partisanship usually holds a negative connotation, partisanship is only negative when it brings the democratic process to a halt.

"There's always partisanship, but does that mean that things are passed that both sides are satisfied with or does it mean that nothing gets done?" Baker said.

"Most people hope it's the former, not the latter."

But Sharp said the ongoing saga of the election will further complicate congressional-presidential relationships because leaders from both parties have been drawn into the post-election feud.

Less than 24 hours after Florida Secretary of State Katherine Harris certified a 537-vote Bush victory in Florida, both Daschle and House Minority Leader Dick Gephardt vowed to continue supporting Gore's efforts to claim the presidency in a televised phone conference with the vice president and his running mate.

Republican leaders have been no less vocal in their support of a Bush presidency.

Similarly, in the weeks following the 2000 election, congressmen from both parties have appeared in front of television cameras to support their candidate or voice their dissatisfaction with the opponent.

"Unlike in past elections, party leaders have been involved in the aftermath of the election," Sharp said.

"You start with added baggage instead of a clean slate."

Even more up in the air than the president's legislative effectiveness is the political future of both the president and his supporters.

The party of the president traditionally loses seats in the midterm elections. Munger said this swing could be even greater than usual in 2002.

"Whichever party wins this election is swallowing a poison pill," Munger said.

"The party that wins this election is going to be in trouble in 2 years. If Bush wins the presidency, Congress could swing back to the Democrats.

If Gore wins, the Republicans could once again solidify their control of both chambers.

As for the 2004 presidential election, pundits don't really know what to expect.

"If there's anything we've learned in recent weeks, it's that a lot of politics is unpredictable," Sharp said.

But Munger said the 2000 election might be the one and only shot for either candidate to claim the Oval Office - which might explain their unwillingness to accept defeat.

"Both candidates ran terrible campaigns," Munger said.

"I don't think the losing candidate will receive his party's nomination in 2004."

As for the winner, Munger said it is almost always better to run as an incumbent and that the political landscape of both the U.S. and the world could change drastically over the next few years.

"You never know what could happen in four years," Munger said.

"But it's always better to be the president."

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- COSMOPOLITAN VEGETARIAN:** Lettuce and onion, with extra-large helpings of Provolone cheese & tomatoes.
- THE CLUB:** Ham, turkey, bacon, Provolone cheese, lettuce, onion & tomatoes.
- MEATBALL & CHEESE:** Meatballs & tomato sauce (both our own recipes) plus Provolone cheese.
- PHILLY CHICKEN & CHEESE:** Chicken (white breast meat), onions & white American cheese.

AND THERE'S PLENTY MORE WHERE THESE HOT NUMBERS CAME FROM.

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