

College voters back Obama

Lydia Emily Bashaw
Editor in Chief

"John McCain's policies seem like putting a Band-Aid on a severed limb. It won't stop you from bleeding to death," said Clackamas student Jacquelyn Kenny, when asked why she was voting for Barack Obama in the upcoming election.

Students around the country are voicing their opinions on the election - which is less than two weeks away - and most are turning their ballots in with a check next to Obama's name.

In an online poll taken by the non-profit organization dedicated to educating voters, MyDebates, more than 59 percent of voters ages 18 to 24 are voting for Obama on Nov. 4. Students in 49 states are looking to democrats to bring change and stabilization to a country on the edge of economic and social turmoil.

"I think we finally have realized that we want a new path for our country," Kenny said. "It's been eight years of hell and before that it was someone else's country. It's our turn; it's young people's chance to speak out for their

future. If we don't stand up now who knows what the U.S. will be like in ten years. I don't want to raise my children in a place where there are no jobs, people aren't healthy and education is impossible to pay for."

Students seem most concerned with the economy and education, with environment coming in a close third, according to a study done by MyDebates.com.

"We need to fix our schools. We need to give students money to go to college, and we need to create jobs to survive," said Ellen Irole, a 23-year-old first time voter.

"This is the first step. By voting Democratic, I know I'm doing something that will matter later. We were behind for a while (in the polls)," said Christian Kellerman, Clackamas student. "Now we are ahead. Anyone who is an Obama supporter has faith that we will come out on top."

Yet, there are McCain supporters who think that Obama will not win. Despite polls stating Obama was in the lead, some still hold on to hope for McCain and his party.

"I think that people will see through the media and Obama's lies," said Julianne



Photo contributed by

Treayson, Clackamas student. "The last election proved that you can't trust the news, or the polls. There is still a chance for McCain to win. I support his policies on abortion, war and our economy. I think he is the best choice for our country."

According to CNN.com, Obama took a step ahead in the polls back in September, when he won by a slim margin in the first debate. The following two debates hit his opponent McCain's campaign hard, with Obama winning them as well with increasing popularity.

After introducing Governor Sarah Palin as his vice presidential running mate, McCain gained points in the polls pulling even with Obama.

"The polls are not definitive," said Treayson. "Americans will see that we don't need someone like Obama in the presidency. We need experience and real insight to what the people want. McCain and Sarah (Palin) stand for what we want in this country. A country where God matters and

life matters."

However, the choice of Palin seemed to weigh negatively with students, with a drop in support from college age voters.

"She isn't what college students want in charge of our country. She has no real experience, is cocky, thinks that freedoms should be taken away such as abortion rights and outright supports people going to Iraq," said Craig Chambers, a first-year business student.

Chambers, whose older brother is an Iraq veteran suffering from post traumatic stress disorder, is completely for withdrawal in Iraq. He also opposes legislation against women's rights and immigration, but most importantly, supports educa-

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Jacquelyn Kenny
Student

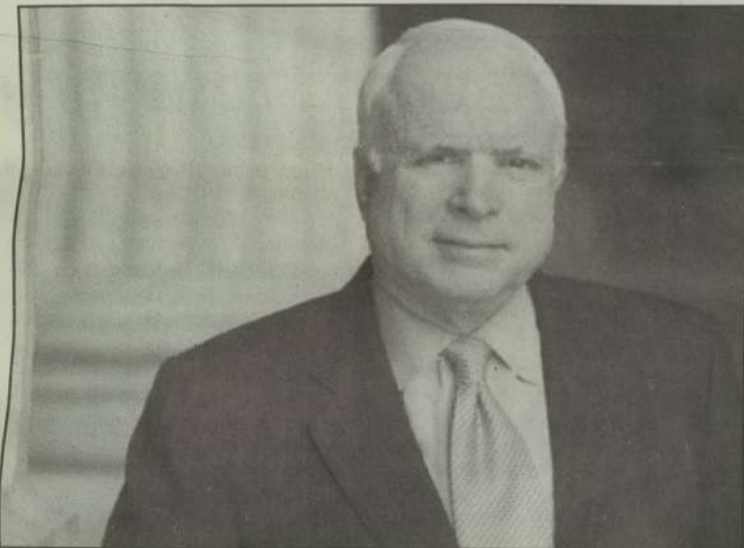


Photo contributed by McCain Campaign

RECYCLE: Bottles fill the trash instead of recycling

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The audit helped to make this clear - out of 325.75 pounds of trash, 128 pounds could have been recycled in one way or another.

Part of the reason so much waste was present is that the school does not have a way of recycling everything that can be recycled.

"We need to find more vendors that will take products that our current vendors won't, such as Styrofoam and glass," Leach commented.

Many vendors will not take much of the school's waste because there is either no market for it, or it is costly to manufacture.

"The cost of melting down glass to make new

bottles is more expensive in energy than making glass from raw materials," said Leach.

The other reason for the amount of waste present in the audit was that people were throwing away items that the school does recycle into waste bins, instead of recycling bins.

One of the big disappointments present was plastic bottles. Out of all the waste collected, five percent was plastic bottles, an item that we currently recycle.

"We got to get people unhooked from water bottles," Howley said.

She believes another one of the recent features added to the campus is imperative, and that is the water bottle filling stations. These stations were

added to help encourage people the campus to reuse water bottles.

Clackamas still has a lot to accomplish to recycling and green technology task is by no means too big for Leach.

"The vision for (the campus' program) is very big, and I hope it is not in coming. The vision includes alternative and large scale composting, selling of resources outside the college or internally."

His vision is unobtainable. Leach, if the college uses energy as it did five years ago, Clackamas would be \$800,000 dollars more a year on energy.

felt about Iraq. He also trusts him with

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