

DONALD TRUMP:

NOW

WHAT?



Donald J. Trump

Businessman triumphs as the 2016 President-elect

BAILEY BRAMMER
Staff Writer

Donald Trump was elected on Tuesday with 290 electoral college votes, which triumphed over Democrat candidate Hillary Clinton's 228 votes. According to The Associated Press, Trump's victory was shocking to much of the nation and is poised to undo the efforts of President Barack Obama on various issues.

"I was surprised at how wrong the polls were," said The Woodlands junior Alex Getting. "But Clinton wasn't able to come down and talk to the common man like Trump was. They both have lots of money, but Trump has the ability to reach out to the average working American and say, 'Hi, I'm going to make sure your job is safe.'"

According to Trump's website, one of the president-elect's primary goals is to "uphold the law and the Constitution." This includes securing American's right to bear arms, as well as the idea that as multiple Supreme Court Justices near retirement, Trump will be selecting justices that match these views, as well as filling the seat of the late Antonin Scalia.

"I'll tell you what ... you lost a great one with Scalia," Trump said at a rally in Wilmington, North Carolina in August. "We want to replace with justices very much like Justice Scalia, and that's going to happen. It is so important."

As far as health care is concerned, Trump's website states that he plans to "repeal and replace" ObamaCare with Health Savings Accounts and work with Congress and the states to tailor healthcare to the needs of each individual.

This election also brought a rise in the discussion of immigration. Many are familiar with Trump's plan to "build a wall" separating Mexico and the United States; however, Trump's website also details that he is supportive of legal immigration but wishes to put Americans first.

"Oh, we're gonna build the wall," Trump said at a rally in Harrisburg, Pa. in April. "We're going to bring people in, but we're going to bring people in legally."

Trump has also stated that he is "pro-life," and plans

to appoint Supreme Court Justices that share his views. However, Trump believes that the legality of abortion should be left to individual states rather than the federal government.

"If they overturn it, it would go back to the states," Trump said at the presidential debate on Oct. 19. "If we put another two or three justices on, that's what will happen, and it will happen automatically, in my opinion, because I am putting pro-life justices on the court."

With these issues also brings the question as to whether or not Trump is supportive of same-sex marriages and the rights of LGBTQ Americans. According to CNN, Trump has been called "one of the most pro-LGBT Republican nominees ever," and that the issue of same-sex marriage lies with the Supreme Court, not with the Congress or the presidency.

While many Americans believe that Trump can indeed "make America great again," others, such as DeSoto senior Mark Toliver, feel that electing Trump will be "detrimental" for minority groups and for the country as a whole.

"I feel like America implicitly voted for racism, sexual assault and ignorance," Toliver said. "The results [of the election] were astonishing. These issues are real. Racism does exist, misogyny does exist, social issues do exist."

Although America was surprised by the outcome of the election, and the overall inaccuracy of the polls themselves, Peter Klein, professor of entrepreneurship, believes that in order to understand Trump's victory, one must examine the election from a business standpoint, not a political one.

"Trump had no political experience. He looked, sounded and acted different. Clinton, of course, was the quintessential insider, and her campaign was more conventional," Klein said. "It is very difficult to anticipate market outcomes when there is an unconventional challenger to a conventional incumbent. This week's results suggest that political insiders can also be disrupted by competitors who behave completely differently than expected."



Associated Press

Not simply a sidekick:

MEGAN RULE
Staff Writer

There's another name on the ballot when voting for president, and that is the name of the vice presidential candidate, a role that sometimes gets overlooked.

"There are two principle reasons why the role of the vice president is important," said Congressman William Flores, United States Representative for Texas' District 17. "The first is that the vice president is a heartbeat away from being president, and the second reason is because of the constitution, the vice president is the president of the Senate. So, if you have a situation where the Senate is tied, then you need to have somebody that you trust to be the deciding vote on almost every contesting matter."

Going through history, there have been nine times where the vice president has become president due to either death of the sitting president or a resignation. According to the United States Senate website, "Holding the least understood, most ridiculed, and most often ignored constitutional office in the federal government, American vice presidents have included some remarkable individuals."

Vice presidents are next-in-line for the position of commander in chief should anything happen to the president. Flores said that, while there are more than a dozen positions listed in the line of succession, the chances of going below the elected vice president are rare.

David Nichols, associate professor of political science at Baylor University said President Ford was one example where the line of succession came more into play because he was elected neither president nor vice president. President Ford was speaker of the house, then moved his way up with the resignations of then-Vice President Spiro Agnew and then-President Richard Nixon. Nichols said citizens should watch vice presidential debates because the general public tends to know less about those candidates.

"Formal powers are relatively limited," Nichols said. "But the office is important because a lot of vice presidents become president."

Vice presidents play an important role in the campaign of the president as well. Nichols said that, for a while, vice presidential candidates were selected for geographical advantages. For example, if a presidential candidate was struggling to gain

support in an area of the country, they might select a vice president who has a strong presence in that area. Vice presidents can also serve as behind-the-scenes attack dogs, according to Flores and Nichols.

"It depends on the ticket, but most of the time the vice president is the attack dog, the person who goes out and attacks the other presidential candidate," Flores said. "In this case, on the Democratic side, Kaine has been serving that role, and in the case of the Republicans, Pence has been the measuring voice. He has attacked sometimes but been more of a policy person. It varies by ticket."

Flores said that he thinks the selection of a certain vice president has the potential to help or hinder a campaign. Thinking of this year, the selection of Pence was important for Trump because by having Pence, a member of Congress, on the ticket, people feel more comfortable in knowing that Trump would know how to work with Congress, Flores said.

"It's hard to think of a situation where a vice presidential candidate has cost the president the election," Nichols said. "And I think that's because when push comes to shove, most people would say, 'Yeah it's important, but a lot has to happen for it to be.'"

As Flores said, after a ticket gets elected as president and vice president and are sworn into office, the role of the vice president can be fairly fluid depending on what the president would like him or her to do in addition to their constitutional responsibilities. Nichols emphasized the fact that a major constitutional responsibility of the vice president is the ability to break a tie in terms of approving nominations and ordinary legislation.

"In a really good presidential and vice presidential team, a president can leverage the skills of the vice president to do other important things in office," Flores said.

Vice president vital in campaign, presidency



Associated Press

On the campaign trail

A look behind the scenes of the 2016 presidential race



SARAH PYO
Editor-in-Chief

CNN's political producer Ashley Killough, a Baylor graduate, made many sacrifices to cover the 2016 republican presidential race, an experience she said she will never forget. She hit the road in January 2015 to cover one of the most historical presidential races in history.

Killough was assigned coverage of Republican presidential nominees Jeb Bush and Marco Rubio at the start of the campaign trail and then assigned to President-elect Donald Trump before his election.

As a political producer, she was required to travel with each presidential nominee, following each candidate to rallies, conducting interviews and flagging new or significant quotes that the candidates have said and sending them to the network.

"You're always on the trail. I haven't been home. I haven't had an apartment since February," Killough said. "You're the eyes and ears at these events."

During her undergraduate years, Killough was first exposed to presidential news coverage when she was given the chance to travel to Washington D.C. as a staff writer for the Baylor Lariat to cover President Barack Obama's inauguration in 2009. Four years later, she had the opportunity to help cover President Obama's second run for office as an employee for CNN.



"Ashley was kind of like the Lariat legend at the time," said Sommer Ingram, Baylor alumna and former Lariat staff writer. "She's a great reporter with every sense of the word. She's a strong writer, and she has great instincts."

Killough first started writing stories for the political ticker for CNN before becoming a political producer. Following the campaign trail is different and harder than most imagine, Killough said. During the primaries, Killough worked either by

herself or with a partner, traveling to all the events hosted by the nominees she was assigned to, logging notes and keeping up with all their movements, essentially becoming a database of knowledge for that particular candidate.

"When I was covering Bush, it was just myself and going to all of his events and shooting all of his events with my tripod," Killough said. "I enjoyed that. I felt like I had a much better sense of who he was and how his campaign functioned than I did with Trump, because we had a lot of other people and split up the roles."

During the coverage of Trump's presidential race, Killough and the press frequently dealt with crowds that were hostile towards the media, she said. In addition, press access to Trump was very limited, especially while traveling, which showed his relationship with the press.

"Normally presidential nominees travel with the press on their planes, but with Trump there was an accommodation. We traveled in a plane that followed his, like a chase plane," Killough said.

Now that Trump has been elected to be the next president, Killough and her CNN team is focusing more on his transition into presidency, since the results weren't what many people expected.

"I always thought CNN was my dream and my end goal, so I was surprised that I would actually start here." Killough said.



BEHIND THE SCENES Ashley Killough was first assigned to Republican nominee Jeb Bush and personally accompanied him to his events until February when he dropped out of the presidential race. She then moved on to Marco Rubio for two weeks until she was assigned to Donald Trump for the general election.

Young voters fight through election transition

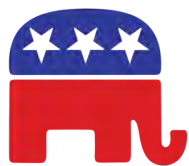


f “To those of you who are using the new president elect as an excuse

to discriminate... Have some empathy and open your eyes to the fact that not everyone is exactly like yourself. All men are created equal. Yes, all of them.” — Libby Smetak, Houston junior

t “We hope the entire campus can unite against his message

of hate!” — Baylor Democrats



f “Regardless of your thoughts on yesterday’s election results,

never forget that we still live in the greatest and freest nation on the planet.” — Baylor Young Conservatives of Texas

t “We who voted Trump are listening to your hearts

and fears...please believe me” — “Sue” to the Waco Tribune-Herald

RAE JEFFERSON
News Editor

In the wake of a tumultuous presidential election, it’s safe to say every student at Baylor likely knows that businessman and reality television host Donald Trump will be America’s next president.

The opinions on the election are as diverse — and often divisive — as the students who hold them. To some students, Trump is a welcome wrench to the ever-running machine that is American politics, to others it is a near-apocalyptic omen.

Austin sophomore Carter Jenkins was recently at a campus protest held by students opposed to Trump. Jenkins, a staunch Republican, showed up with his Trump-iest garb: a campaign t-shirt and a large American flag. He said he’s been a Trump supporter from the very beginning.

“It was different,” he said. “It’s outside government. It’s really just a change against politics.”

Much of the president-elect’s appeal was in his tell-it-like-it-is mentality, Jenkins said.

“It was really the anti-P.C. culture,” he said. “I think a lot of people got tired of being called intolerant or racist or bigots.”

Jenkins said he’s also eager to see what Trump can do for trade, the economy and national healthcare.

“It’s going to take a little while for him to get things going, but I think with having the House and the Senate, he can get things working with Obamacare pretty soon,” he said.

Jenkins said he doesn’t like the division that’s come out of Trump’s win.

“I would really like to come together. I mean, turn around. Not one of them is accepting the outcome of this election,” he said, gesturing to the protesters across from him. “I wouldn’t like it if Hillary had won, but I wouldn’t root for her to fail.”

To other students like Orlando, Fla., senior Sara Ghassemi, the thought of a Trump presidency is unbearable.

“I think the most important thing to do right now is for minorities, women, anyone negatively affected by him to come together to undermine as much of what he wants to do as possible,” Ghassemi said.

Ghassemi said she believes those in opposition to Trump need to put their words into action. For this reason, she plans to spend time volunteering her time with LGBT causes and at Planned Parenthood, an organization many liberals fear will suffer at the hands of Trump.

Ghassemi had been rooting for Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton since the primaries and said she can’t get behind Trump’s platform, but her frustrations fall more on voters than the President-elect. Ghassemi, who’s father is Iranian, said the possible implications of people’s votes for Trump hit her hard.

“I wasn’t so much upset that he was president so much as I was upset by the fact that so many people in America agree with the things he says or don’t find them nearly as reprehensible as they should,” she said. “It was more shock at the people that I’m surrounded by everyday. It was more disgust that there are people out there who really hate my dad because he came here from Iran, or there are people who hate my boyfriend [because he’s Hispanic].”

Houston senior Andrew Salinas, Ghassemi’s boyfriend, holds the more conservative views in their relationship.

Salinas was raised in a Democratic family and voted for President Barack Obama in the 2012 election. However, he was hoping for a “moderation” of political power with this election. He initially had high hopes for Republicans Marco Rubio and Jeb Bush in the primaries.



Jessica Hubble | Photographer

Austin sophomore Carter Jenkins is fully decked out in Trump gear as he stands in support of Trump at the Baylor protest.

When it became clear that the Republican nomination would be between Donald Trump and Ted Cruz, he said he considered voting Democratic once again.

“I was very disenchanted. I didn’t want Ted Cruz or Donald Trump,” he said.

Salinas said he isn’t happy with the election outcome and doesn’t agree with much of Trump’s rhetoric encouraging, intentionally or not, “white nativism,” but he believes there is some good to be found.

“Now people really care about the political system,” he said. “I don’t think protesting is productive at all, but I think in the next four years we’ll get to see, hopefully, a nation that’s engaged and a nation that pays attention to local elections, too.”

Salinas said he wants Trump to surprise his opposition.

“My only hope is that all the apologists who said he’d surround himself by advisors and other people who will reign him in — I really hope that is true,” he said. “I hope he does do a good job.”

Despite some political polarization in Ghassemi’s and Salinas’ relationship, the two have found ways to have productive conversations about the election.

“I think something that everyone needs to understand is that, you know, everyone has a different perspective,” Salinas said. “We always hear, especially at a liberal arts college, about diversity and tolerance. But in practice, that’s a lot harder to do with opinions you don’t agree with. People need to realize that we all are human and are daughters and sons and loved ones of someone.”

In the end, Salinas said he believes Americans should be focused on more pressing issues.

“Alright, America. We have this election, but let’s focus on the more important things — ‘Star Wars: Rogue One’ is coming out in December,” he said with a laugh, “and I think that’s something we can all unify behind.”

Republicans take House, Senate and presidency for the first time since 2005

HALEY MORRISON
Contributor

Tuesday Nov. 8's, results brought a presidential win for Donald Trump as well as a Republican victory for the Senate and the House of Representatives.

This is the first time in eight years that the same party has controlled both the Executive and Legislative branches. The Republican party hasn't held the majority in both the House, Senate and presidency since 2005.

David Schleicher, Waco lawyer and former Democratic party chair of McLennan County, said he is interested in seeing what Donald Trump does to protect the working class, as he

promised in the first presidential debate on Sept. 26 in New York.

Schleicher is particularly interested in what Trump plans on doing about an increase in minimum wage and overtime laws.

"If he repeals those, he will do what the Chamber of Commerce wants rather than support the working class," Schleicher said. "Obama changed overtime rules to make a lot more people eligible for overtime – will he leave those in place, in support of blue collar workers?"

While Schleicher hopes that the Democrats will work with Trump on his policies helping the working class, he is primarily concerned about having the executive and legislative

branches controlled by the same party.

"My biggest concern is that he would violate some Constitutional principle and no one would stand up to him because they are a part of the same party. People generally hesitate to stand up to someone when they are of the same party," Schleicher said.

El Paso senior Stephen Rahimian hopes that with a Republican majority, there will be reform, particularly for immigration and healthcare.

"If they repeal Obamacare and replace it with something that would be feasible and work better, that will be great," Rahimian said. "The problem is if they repeal it and don't replace it."

While Rahimian hopes that a Republican

majority will bring changes, he worries about Trump and Congress disagreeing on important issues – primarily term limits.

"There cannot be that in-fighting again," Rhimian said. One of the things that Trump has proposed is term limits, and Republicans don't like that. That right there is a priority for Trump but not for the Senate."

While the Republicans control the executive and the legislative branches, for Rahimian it is imperative that Democrats and Republicans work together for the next four years.

"It's going to be very important for Republicans and Democrats to work together in the next four years. The bickering has to stop."

News Consumption: How people's reading habits might change now that the 2016 election season is over

KAYLA FARR
Reporter

The 2016 election has caused more people than usual to tune into the news since coverage of the presidential race began.

Joseph Riley, the president and CEO of radio station KWBU, said that this is typical with every election cycle.

"Our listenership is, in the last year, up about 60 percent," Riley said. "We are pretty certain it is from this exceptional election year. Something new and crazy is coming out every day."

According to the Pew Research Center, 62 percent of adults get their news from social media. The study also showed that about 5 percent of people who got their news about the election from newspapers considered it the "most helpful." The study goes on to say that advertisement sales have increased during election season due to "the public's pull toward digital."

Maxey Parrish, a senior lecturer in the department of journalism, public relations and new media said he was up late watching the election results on TV.

"I did pay a lot more attention to what was going on," Parrish said. "It's one thing to see something happening on the local level,

but it is another to see something that is going to affect all of us."

There are many reasons why more people had their eye on the news, Parrish said.

"Everybody is interested in interesting characters, and it is probably safe to say that Donald Trump was an interesting character, and a lot of people were attracted to the bizarre factor of what he was going to say next," Parrish said. "There is kind of a strange interest in that. I think that other people said, 'Hey, let's see what these characters stand for and let's see how they are being covered.'"

Parrish said that it is typical for news consumption to drop after an election.

"I think its only natural that there are people who only want to see what's going on in the election, and they only follow it a little more closely than they would otherwise because obviously everybody's got a vested interest in the outcome of the election," Parrish said. "I think its only natural that the number of people goes down now that the dust has settled."

In contrast, Riley said because the election was such a big deal, listenership might not drop off as much this time around.

"What makes this year different is that one of the things we have seen this election year is this divide on the issues," Riley

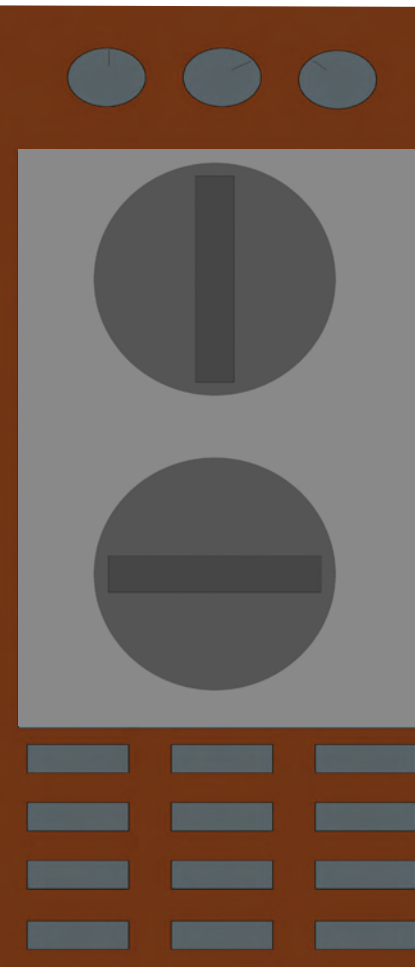
said. "The opinions won't go away after the election, and the stories won't go away for quite a while – certainly until after the inauguration. We don't know how to predict what is going to happen. I would say it is not going to be a steep drop; people are going to listen for a while to see what's going to happen."

One reason people watched the news so closely was because they wanted their beliefs reaffirmed, Parrish said.

"What we see in media consumption is that people follow the networks that align with their beliefs," Parrish said. "Very few people watch the news to be challenged and to have new ideas presented to them. We tend to watch what affirms, what makes us feel comfortable. That's not how we learn – we need to be challenged."

According to Riley, consumption of the news isn't as important as understanding what the information means.

"Understanding what's going on and the conversation that comes from that is vital to a healthy democracy," Riley said. "When I look at journalism and the importance of journalism – to have accurate and well told stories, not from an agenda, digging deep, I don't think we can have a healthy democracy without good journalism."



Fear of division sparks unity

BAILEY BRAMMER
Staff Writer

In light of President-elect Donald Trump's win on Tuesday Nov. 8, many minority groups have expressed fears based on Trump's prior comments about their races, genders and sexual orientations.

"My initial reaction [when Trump was elected] was, 'Oh no, I'm going to lose my rights,'" said Cypress freshman Anna Conner, a member of the LGBTQ community. "There's been so much hate, and even if he does become more moderate, that hate has already taken effect."

At Baylor University on Wednesday, Nov. 9, a group of students gathered at Fountain Mall to protest the election's results and voice their concerns.

Some of the students who opposed Trump attended the gathering in response to an incident that occurred earlier that day in which Dallas sophomore Natasha Nkhama was reportedly pushed off the sidewalk on her way to class and called a racial slur.

Lewisville senior Jasmine Breaux was informed of the incident by multiple friends and believes that protection and compassion must be given to anyone who is fearful as a result of the election.

"I'm disappointed [that Trump was elected] just because of some of the things he's said in the past toward minority groups," Breaux said. "I believe in loving everyone, regardless of race or religion or sexual orientation or whatever. We need to give support to those who feel hurt by this."

Protests such as this have been occurring in the last week on college campuses across the country, not just at Baylor. Sophomore Nathan Mansur is a student at University of California — San Diego, and took part in a walk on Wednesday night consisting of more than 1,000 others.

"I was just in awe over how many people took part in the protest," Mansur said over the phone. "There is a lingering fear here of what a Trump presidency can do. But, when I saw fear on students' faces, I also saw that love and compassion emerged from others."

Following the election, Baylor University has been working to dedicate time and resources for its students to express their doubts and opinions. The morning after the election, a student-led prayer session was held in the Bobo Spiritual Life Center, and the following afternoon, a This Matters forum was held to address the results of the election.

Dr. Joshua Ritter, Assistant Director for Formation and Baylor Student Ministry (BSM), believes that "open and compassionate dialogue" along with showing support for the Baylor community will be key in the next few months.

"I believe that Jesus calls us to love our neighbor by getting to know our neighbor through acts of humility, generosity and hospitality," Ritter said. "We are fortunate that Baylor has several chapels across campus that are always available as spaces where students can come together and pray and discuss."

This evening in the Bobo Spiritual Life Center, a public deliberation forum will be held at 5:30 p.m. for students to gather and address American politics and other post-election topics.

Along with organizing these events, Baylor has been focused upon creating a specific time and place for students to process the meaning of the election, as well as their fears and thoughts. In the past, these spaces have been called "Frankly Speaking," but this name may change, according to Dr. Elizabeth Palacios, dean for student development.

"We just want to make sure all of our students feel valued, supported and safe," Palacios said. "We want to make sure that all students understand that we have the responsibility to uplift each other and not be hostile to each other."

Palacios said these spaces do not hold the purpose of ending students' protests, but rather aim at promoting discussion and encouragement among students.

"If we only gave opportunities to have your own view, that's one thing, but if we get to learn from each other and support each other, that's taking it a step further," Palacios said. "This is not to halt rallies and protests; this is to get to a deeper level of understanding and support."

For students who do not wish to attend these gatherings or feel unable to speak on their feelings in a group setting, Dr. Jim Marsh, director of counseling services, encourages students to come to the Counseling Center.

"We're here for students, and they can walk in and talk to somebody, Monday through Friday," Marsh said.

While Baylor has provided various opportunities for students to express and debate their views, Ritter believes that taking part in these activities does not come without a bit of bravery.



Jessica Hubble | Photographer

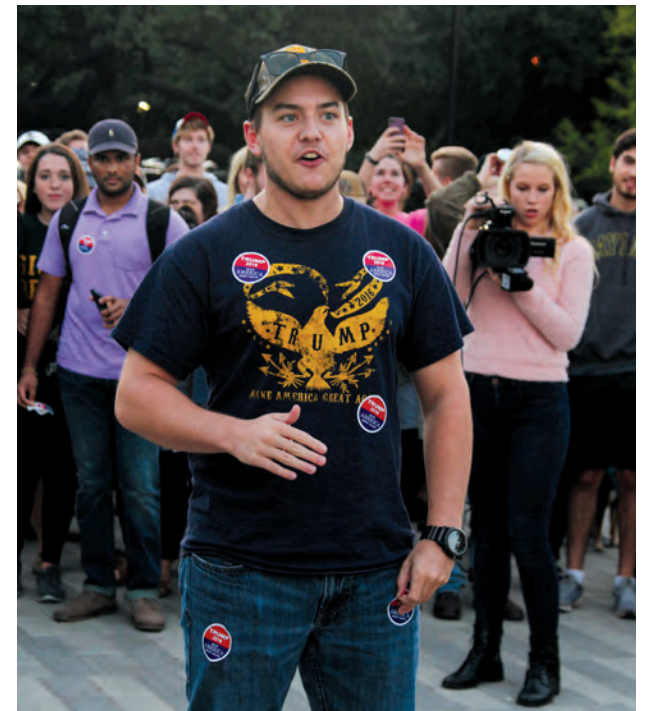
Students stand by classmate Natasha Nkhama (third from right).

"I hope that students will seek solace in these spaces in the coming weeks, but they are more than safe spaces – they are brave spaces," Ritter said. "Even though these spaces are safe, they still require courage, and courage is sometimes scary. But, through the risk of courage, we can all learn to hope and to love together."



Jessica Hubble | Photographer

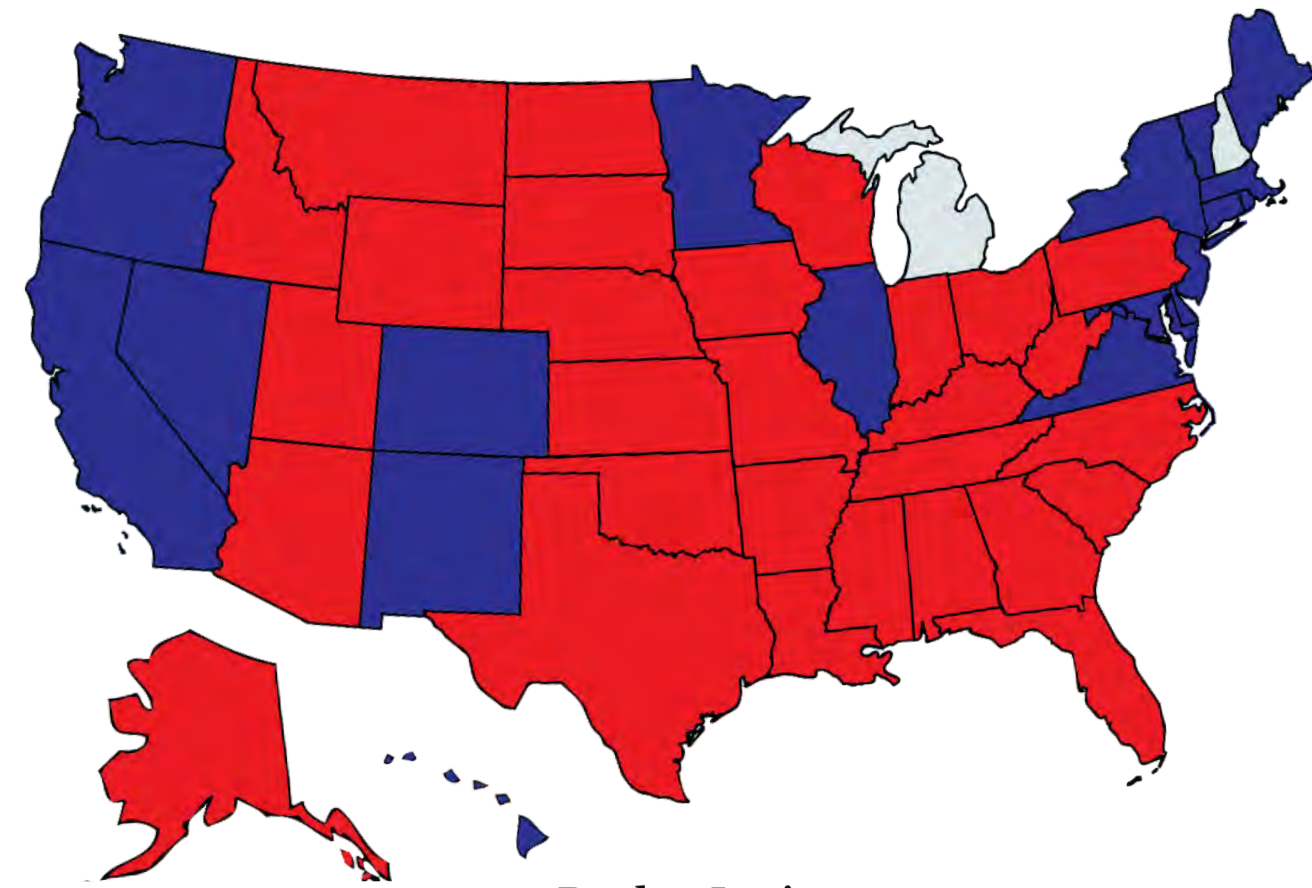
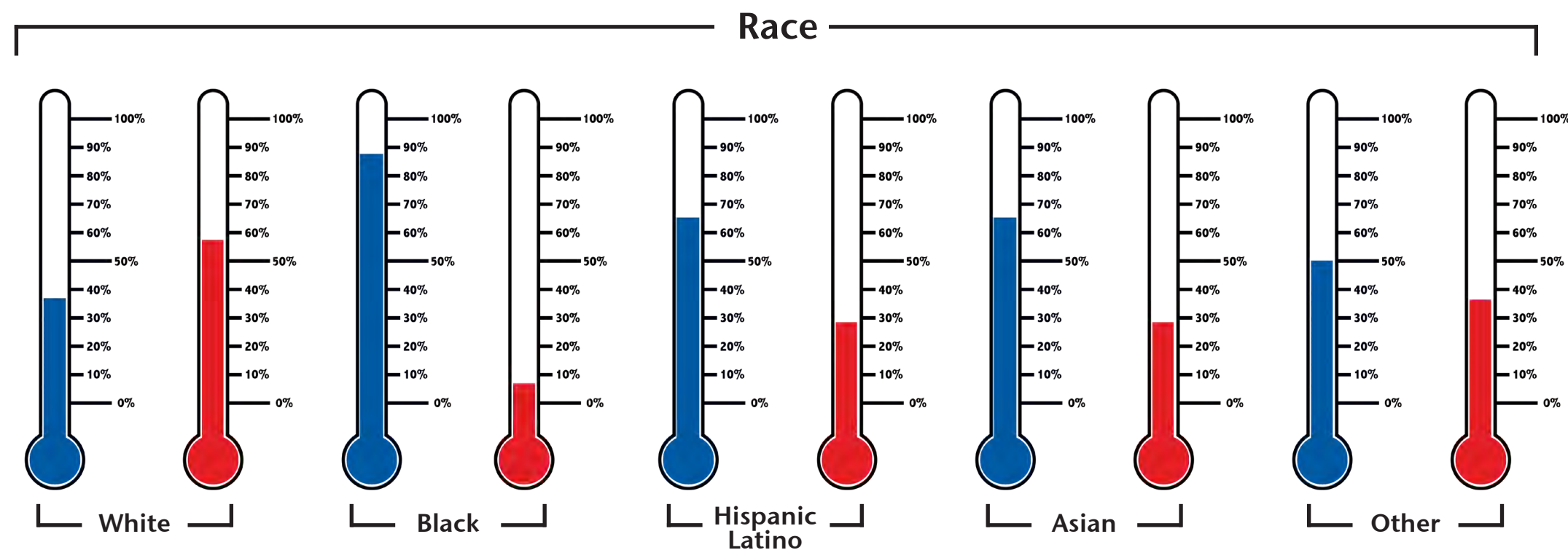
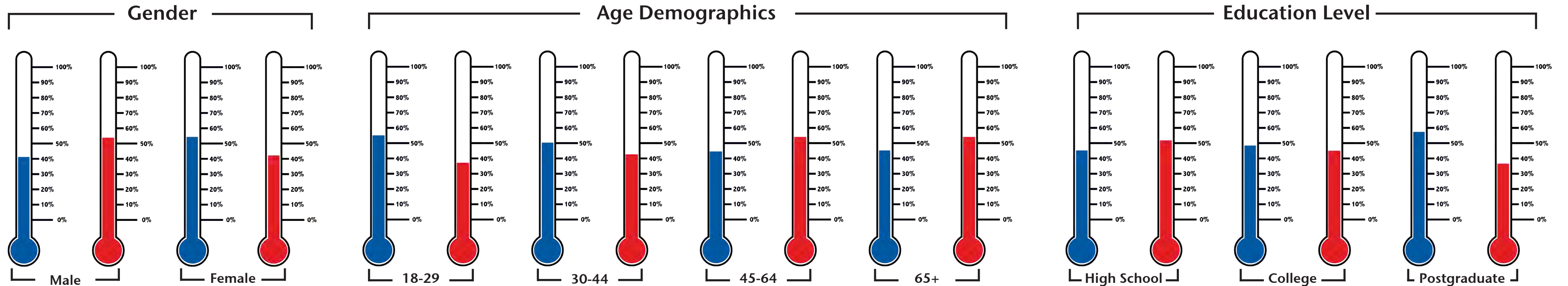
Baylor students share their thoughts at Fountain Mall protest.



Jessica Hubble | Photographer

Trump supporter speaks his mind at Baylor anti-Trump protest.

Where did the votes come from?



Red represents votes for the Republican nominee and president-elect, Donald Trump. Blue represents votes for the Democratic nominee, Hillary Clinton. Gray represents other or no answer. Data was collected from BBC.com and the New York Times exit polling databases.

A MEDICA DIVIDED AMERICA DIVIDED

“A house divided against itself cannot stand.” -Abraham Lincoln, 1858

MOLLY ATCHISON

Opinion Editor

Donald Trump has been elected President of the United States. In one of the most surprising and, for some, devastating elections in recent years, the country has been split down the middle. In key states such as Pennsylvania and Florida, the polls closed with less than a 1 percent difference between candidates. The polls have closed, the results are in, and now about half of the country has to live with a president that they did not vote for.

Around the country, there are protests, both peaceful and violent. Many Hillary Clinton supporters and other groups are speaking out against Trump's election, and while their freedom of assembly supports that, the fact of the matter is that like him or hate him, Trump is our president-elect. Not only do Republicans hold the majority in both congressional houses, but Trump likely will also be appointing between one and three Supreme Court justices.

“The majority is a good place because you get your ideas up for a vote. It's a good place to be to drive your issues,” says Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., in an interview with U.S. News. “But at the end of the day, you need collaboration.”

The collaboration Graham and many Republicans are looking for may be hard to come by, with countrywide division putting fear into the minds of many citizens.

“The parties are so divided now in a way that's so damaging,” said Eastland sophomore Connor Johnson, a political science major. “Even if the Democrats filibuster, I don't think they're going to have much sway to stop the passage of legislation because they don't have the majority. I think everything will be sped up in Congress, though now that the Republicans have the majority.”

Another area of concern for many Americans is Trump's policy on environmental legislation. In National Public Radio's recently released article “Here Is What Donald Trump Wants To Do In His First 100 Days,” his propositions

included, “I will lift the restrictions on the production of \$50 trillion dollars' worth of job-producing American energy reserves, including shale, oil, natural gas and clean coal ..., lift the Obama-Clinton roadblocks and allow vital energy infrastructure projects, like the Keystone Pipeline, to move forward ..., cancel billions in payments to U.N. climate change programs and use the money to fix America's water and environmental infrastructure.”

These changes to American and foreign environmental policies are something the Democratic party has been resisting for years, and now it seems that the new government could reverse these plans.

In the social sphere, many Americans expressed outrage at the rhetoric Trump used during his election campaign, particularly where he used insensitive and derogatory remarks to explain his plans to deport illegal immigrants and monitor the Muslim-American community, as well as the leaked 2005 tapes in which he made crude comments about women.

On the other side of the debate, many are upset with the amount of political correctness Obama encouraged during his administration, protest the need for safe spaces and canceled classes, and argue that in an attempt to be politically correct, the government has revoked the conservative right's freedom of speech.

Whichever side a person leans toward, the question on everyone's mind is: “How did we get so divided, and how do we move forward?” There is much speculation on both sides as to how America got to the state that it's currently in, and there are differing opinions on how to bridge the gap between parties. However, there is still hope in the hearts of young Americans.

“Understanding everyone's point of view, whether or not you agree with them, is the best way to start mending this country,” Portland, Ore., sophomore Kristie Chau said. “We might not necessarily believe the same thing, and we might not be able to relate in any way, but at least being able to listen with an open mind is what's important.”

2016 Presidential Election Popular Vote:

CLINTON: 60,839,922 (48%)

TRUMP: 60,265,858 (47%)



Associated Press

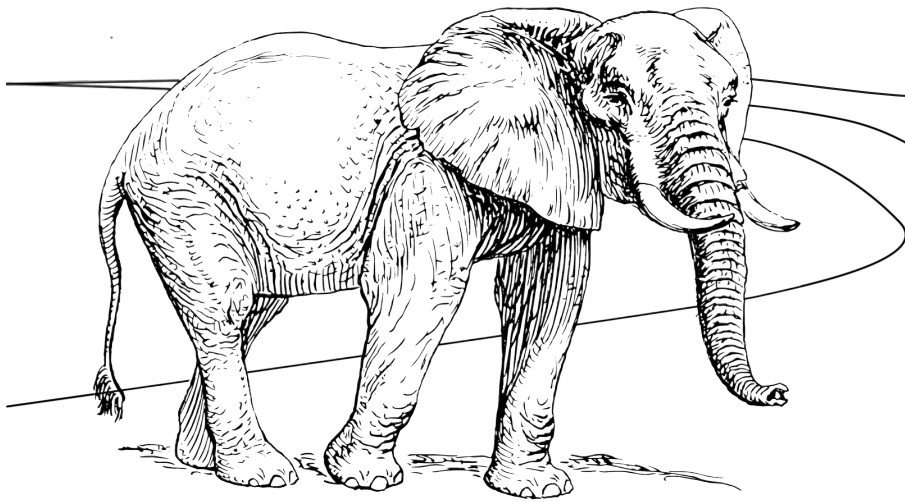
LEFT Guests react to election results during Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton's election night rally in the Jacob Javits Center's glass-enclosed lobby in New York on Tuesday.



Associated Press

RIGHT Supporters of Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump cheer as they watch election returns during an election night rally on Tuesday in New York.

So you've got the majority...



Where does the
GOP go from here?

GENESIS LARIN
Assistant News Editor

The Republican party experienced a big win Tuesday Nov. 8 by securing the majority in the House of Representatives, the Senate and the presidency. This will be third time that Republicans have controlled the House and Senate and had a Republican president, the last being in 2003 under George W. Bush, according to politifact.com. However, questions still loom over the party's future.

The 2016 election brought to light a divisiveness within the Republican party through Donald Trump's campaign. Many of Trump's stances on policies such as free trade and social security strayed from the traditional, conservative view of the party. Trump supporters also did not entirely fit the standard Republican mold.

Dr. Patrick Flavin, associate professor of the department of political science, said there have always been divisions within the party, but it was brought to an extreme during this election.

"I think it is pointed to the fact that sizable group of folks that identify as Republican don't necessarily share some of the policy positions of Republican leaders

in Congress," Flavin said. "If I had to point to one thing that defines a Trump supporter [it] is less to do with policy and more with an identity in terms of what his candidacy represents, and sort of the policy are secondary."

In addition, Trump's campaign moved in a different direction from where the Republican party hoped to go. The GOP released a book shortly after the 2012 election outlining the ways in which Republicans can grow and improve as a party. One approach was being more inclusive with minority groups, specifically Hispanics. However, Trump's negative rhetoric against multiple minority groups in his early campaign undercut the trajectory the GOP hoped to have with such groups.

Although Republicans secured a triple crown win on Tuesday, their approach to campaigning as well as which groups they target will change because of the emergence of people who identify as Republicans, but do not align with traditional Republican views. For the party, it may become difficult to sympathize with Hispanic voters while trying to appease voters similar to avid Trump supporters, according to Flavin.

"It would be tough to function as a party that doesn't at least make

some minimal outreach to minority groups, given the demographic," Flavin said.

Given the different views on policy that people who affiliate with the Republican party have, the GOP will face questions about its identity in relation to policy issues.

While some may see this divide as a threat to the success of the party, others see this as an opportunity for overall political growth.

Longview senior Marivious Allen, co-chairman of Baylor College Republicans, said that the American people are trying to move forward as a nation and away from political labels.

"I'm tired of being Democrat. I'm tired of being Republican. I just want to be American," Allen said. "We just have to sit down and listen to the other side. We can't just keep screaming at each other."

There are many options the GOP could choose from in response to the different viewpoints of subsections within the party. However, it is difficult to predict the GOP's next steps post-election, according to Flavin.

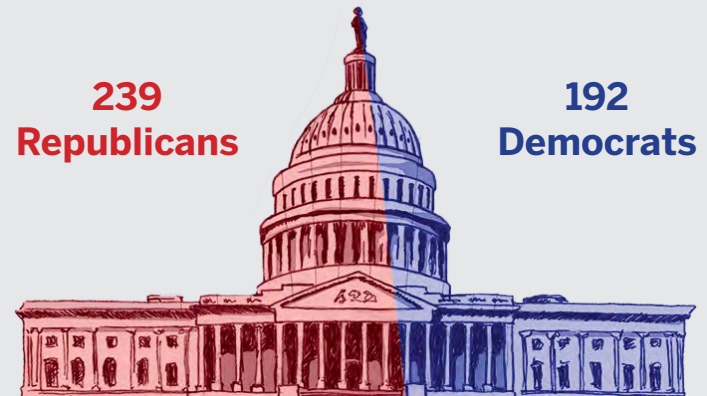
"I don't even know if I have a prediction. I don't think anyone really knows," Flavin said. "Republicans are in a tough spot. It is a challenge to hold all those groups together."

2016 Election Results

House of Representatives

239
Republicans

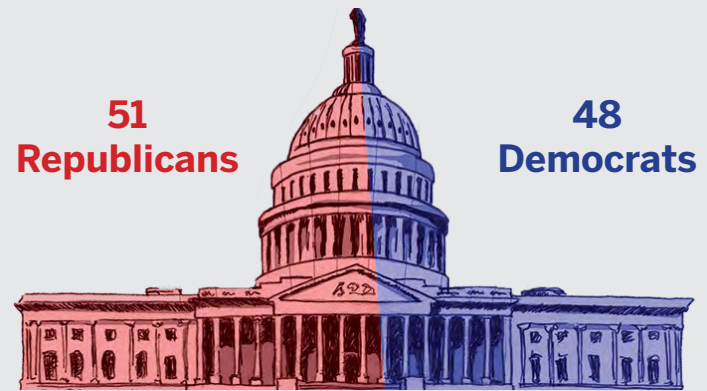
192
Democrats



Senate

51
Republicans

48
Democrats



Original Illustration by Michael Rice | MCT Campus

Political Outsiders

Looking back, will third-party candidates ever get a shot at the presidency?



JOHNSON The Libertarian nominee, Gary Johnson, garnered the most third-party votes, at around 3 percent. Tribune News Service



STEIN The Green Party nominee, Jill Stein, came in with only 1 percent of the popular vote. Associated Press



MCMULLIN An independent candidate, Evan McMullin, gained mass popularity in Utah, but failed to clinch the state. Associated Press

GAVIN PUGH

Digital Managing Editor

This election season left many voters feeling alienated by their preferred parties' candidates. While some people chose not to vote, others found third-party candidates much more preferable to Donald Trump or Hillary Clinton.

Gary Johnson (L-NM), Jill Stein (G-IL) and Evan McMullin (I-UT) were the top three contenders running as third-party candidates.

Though third-party candidates are capable of gaining attention during the presidential election, the hurdles they have to overcome to even win one state are seemingly insurmountable: They have to meet stringent paperwork deadlines and run a campaign, all under a limited budget.

There have been candidates in the past who have fared well, particularly Ross Perot in 1992. Garnering 19 percent of the popular vote, Perot ran as an independent against then-Democratic nominee Bill Clinton and incumbent George H.W. Bush. Though Perot pulled large numbers due to his appeal to the Populist crowd, he still didn't win a single electoral vote.

Dr. Patrick Flavin, an associate professor in the political science department, says our government is not set up for third-party candidates to win major offices.

"Simply, the way that we elect our leaders in this country lends itself to large parties," Flavin said.

Rather than make a bid for the White House and hope their campaign goes viral, Flavin suggests third-party candidates focus on gaining support during the off-season.

"Third parties need to invest in the infrastructure that it takes to actually be a long-lasting party from election to election," Flavin said.

And while those necessary investments could take decades until the party notices any gain in support, their registrants remain hopeful.

"I see Democrats and Republicans who care about the same things but want to do it in a different way," said Bethesda, Md., sophomore Nathan Cooper, a self-proclaimed Libertarian.

Having spent time in the District of Columbia, Cooper says he was influenced by "both sides of the political spectrum," hence his preference for the Libertarian party. The party defines itself as advocating for "freedom in economic matters" while also being "socially inclusive."

"I think it's possible for a third party to become the majority," Cooper said.

Whether or not the Libertarian party would be the one to rise is a different question – Johnson's campaign only gathered 3 percent

of the popular vote. While a single candidate's campaign isn't entirely representative of the success of their party as a whole, an article by FiveThirtyEight.com provides insight as to why the Libertarians struggle to gain popularity.

"Hard-core partisans who vote in presidential primaries are much more likely to take consistently liberal or conservative positions than the broader American population," Nate Silver wrote in the article.

But just because Libertarian's might struggle to gain the ground support they need to become a more competitive party, that doesn't mean the voices of non-Democrats or non-Republicans go unheard.

Bernie Sanders' tenure as Vermont's senator has been without any political affiliation whatsoever, yet his race for the Democratic nomination for president received massive support, particularly from millennial voters. In a Gallup survey, 55 percent of millennials had favorable opinions of Sanders, compared to just 38 and 22 percent for Clinton and Trump, respectively. That a candidate like Sanders gained such support without previous political affiliation reveals that aligning oneself with one of the two popular parties may be the only road to success, presently.

"One might expect that Bernie Sanders supporters would be far more liberal than Hillary Clinton supporters because Bernie

Sanders as a candidate was far more liberal than Hillary Clinton," Flavin said. "Polling showed that wasn't the case. Bernie supporters had roughly the same policy opinions in terms of how liberal they were as Clinton supporters.

"I don't think it was necessarily driven by policy, but more so by a way to identify with something different – something new. Certainly, Bernie Sanders speaks in more grandiose terms and is more exciting to go listen to."

Such was the case for President-elect Donald Trump. Many high-profile Republicans seen as the face of the party, such as Paul Ryan and John McCain, took issue with their then-candidate. Had he run his campaign as an independent, like Perot, the 2016 election might have looked very different.

"[Trump] certainly has an intense following," Flavin said. "But then [having been] a major party's nominee, he also gets the millions of people who are Republican who are going to tend to vote for their party's nominee, no matter who it is. So Donald Trump is benefiting from our two-party system."

The rise of outsider-candidates for the presidency this election cycle indicates a changing political climate. Whether it be Sander's campaign, Trump's winning the election or the trending hashtag "#letgarydebate" to include Johnson in the presidential debates, voters are voicing a desire for something new.

Green and gold. Red or blue.

College Republicans celebrate Trump victory, club campaign

BAILEY BRAMMER
Staff Writer

Although Texas has been a primarily right-leaning state for decades, this year's atypical presidential race brought with it an abundance of new opinions and ideas. For the Baylor College Republicans club, this semester was a chance to spread their conservative ideologies throughout a somewhat divided campus.

The Baylor College Republicans have spent their time focused primarily on the election. The club worked with the McLennan County Republican party, campaigned for U.S. Rep. Will Hurd, volunteered at phone banks and hosted debate watch parties as well as an election watch party on Tuesday.

"We're spreading awareness about Republican values to college students," said Little Rock, Ark., senior Sara Grove, co-chair of Baylor College Republicans. "We want students to get involved in the political process, and we're a resource for students that want to work in politics in the future."

The organization, which is a chapter of the Texas Federation of College Republicans (TXFCR), meets every other Monday and has almost 90 regular members.

According to the TXFCR, the goals of the federation are "to recruit, train and mobilize the next generation of Republican leadership."

For Longview senior Marivious Allen, co-chair of Baylor College Republicans, the club is not only about politics, but also about supporting one another through whatever may come.

"This organization is about having a family you can go and talk to, even when it's not political," Allen said. "If you're struggling in class, if you're homesick ... We're not just a political organization, we're a family."

Along with participating in local and national campaigning, the Baylor College Republicans often have guest speakers from the political world attend their meetings, such as Vincent Harris, founder and CEO of Harris Media, who has played a role in the digital side of presidential elections since 2008.

Following the Republican's national victory in both Congress and the presidential race, the Baylor College Republicans are eager to see where the nation will go next.

"I was very pleased and very excited with the results," Grove said. "Not only did the [American] people say that they wanted a change in the executive administration, but the nation also spoke at their local levels that they wanted a change."

Allen was enthusiastic about the results of the election as well and believes that Trump will be good for the entire country, not just Republicans or Democrats.

"I think Trump will be a great bipartisan president," Allen said. "I think there were a lot of people that were doubtful of him, but now that we've actually won, they're going to try to make the best out of what we have. His platform is for America first, not Conservatives first."

As of October, the state of Texas was in danger of becoming a swing state in the presidential race, according to the Washington Post. While Texas ultimately maintained its Republican nature, Allen said the fight to keep the state to the right was not without difficulty.

"I'm not going to say it was an easy battle to keep Texas red, but it was a hard-fought battle," Allen said. "We're trying to move forward as a nation. I'm tired of being Republican or Democrat, I just want to be American."

Baylor Democrats promote political activism on campus

BAILEY BRAMMER
Staff Writer

For many Baylor students, the 2016 presidential election marked their first opportunity to vote. The ability to finally exercise this right gave plenty of students a push to start paying attention to the news and forming their own opinions on candidates.

For the Baylor Democrats club, however, an election year means much more than just dipping one's toes into the political waters.

The Baylor Democrats took an active part in this year's election by planning on- and off-campus events, such as helping Baylor students register to vote, manning call centers for Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton and campaigning for U.S. Rep. candidate William "Bill" Matta.

"On campus, we try to make sure students are engaged and informed on what's going on in the country and in our local community," said Medford, Ore., junior Micah Furlong, president of the club. "In particular, next semester will be important because we will be figuring out as a club and as a nation where we're headed."

With more than 30 members, the club meets weekly at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays and has been led by Furlong for almost two years. Furlong said the Baylor Democrats divide their goals as an organization into three categories: campus, community and country.

The club was created in 1978 and has partnered with other on- and off-campus organizations like Bears Care, Citizens for Responsible Lending and BU For the Kids, according to the Baylor Democrats website.

Aside from the club's left-leaning nature, Montgomery junior Jessica Green, Baylor Democrats treasurer,

believes that the primary purpose of the organization is to allow students an environment to discuss their beliefs openly.

"Our main focus above all else is just creating a safe space for everyone, whether they're a Democrat or not, to represent their views and to have educated discourse," Green said. "Obviously most of us tend to lean to the Democrat side, but we don't have all Democrats in our group, and we value informing people and being passionate about our values over everything else."

As students who attend a Baptist university, Green said she feels that it is important to shed light on ideas and movements that students may be unaware of if not for the Baylor Democrats.

"I think there's something really powerful about a group of young people getting together and discussing ideas," Green said. "At Baylor, our political views are a minority view, so it's really powerful when we can get together and pray change for a campus that otherwise might not see that change."

Holding onto the idea of being a receptive forum for all students, the Baylor Democrats are entering into a period of change, Green said.

Although Clinton conceded the presidential race to president-elect Donald Trump, and Matta was beaten by incumbent U.S. Rep. Bill Flores, the Baylor Democrats believe that their role on campus is far from over.

"We're just going to focus on reorienting ourselves and figuring out how we can still convey our voices and opinions," Green said. "We need to figure out what matters to us, rally behind that and communicate in a way so that we're still heard, even though we're not the popular opinion right now."

Photo Courtesy of MCT Campus

Making your voice heard

Baylor's Young Americans for Liberty club reaches out

KALYN STORY
Staff Writer

McKinny senior Nan Tolson has been involved with politics since she was in high school, but during this past election season she was looking for people who shared her desire for open political discussion.

Tolson found that space with Baylor's chapter of Young Americans for Liberty.

"This election has been overwhelming. I wanted a place where I could go and talk to students about what is going on in our country," Tolson said. "I wanted to hear differing opinions on candidates and policies in a civil manner where everyone can share their opinion and learn from each other. I am seeking an opportunity to engage with students different from me. I want to have an open mind and learn from a wide variety of sources and backgrounds, and Young Americans for Liberty provided that for me."

Tolson said that aside from the discussions, she likes that the organization encourages college students to be involved in the political process beyond just voting.

"Our generation doesn't understand the importance of engaging in the political process," Tolson said. "We've always been taught that we don't really have a voice and it doesn't really matter what we think, but we have to unlearn that. We are the leaders of tomorrow; we have to start right now engaging in policies and engaging in politics because we are the ones that are making the decisions when we are voting."

Tolson said she thinks college is the perfect time to become engaged politically because students are surrounded by opportunities to learn from and interact with a wide range of opinions.

"In order to know your own opinion, you have to know the other side. You have to be able to argue for what you believe," Tolson said. "In college it is important to engage in those discussions. We need to learn to formulate our own arguments in a respectful and civil way."

Tolson said she thinks Young Americans for Liberty is different from other political groups on campus because the organization is based on values rather than centralized around a particular party's platform or focused on



Courtesy of Young Americans for Liberty at Baylor University

supporting a certain candidate or policy.

"We welcome limited government conservatives, classical liberals, and libertarians who trust in the creed we set forth," Young Americans for Liberty's website states. "WE, as Young Americans for Liberty believe: that government is the negation of liberty; that voluntary action is the only ethical behavior; that respect for the individual's property is fundamental to a peaceful society; that violent action is only warranted in defense of one's property; that the individual owns his/her body and is therefore responsible for his/her actions; that society is a responsibility of the people, not the government."

Jacksonville, N.C. senior Danny Benavidez has been involved with Young Americans for Liberty since his freshman year and described the club as a big tent of ideas. He said he continues to be an active member of the group because he appreciates learning from his peers and feeling that they learn from him as well.

"We don't subscribe to the same philosophies, so I love going into a meeting thinking one thing, and I come out with a

totally different perspective because I never thought of the issue from that light," Benavidez said. "I don't always change my opinion, but it is always beneficial to step outside yourself and look at situations from another person's perspective."

Benavidez said the group was a great place for him to work through his opinions during this election season.

"It's refreshing compared to what I hear on campus. It's different from just talking to friends because when you come into the room, you know everyone is well researched and strong in their opinions. Everyone is worth listening to, and we can learn from everyone," Benavidez said.

Benavidez said, with this post-election season beginning, he is excited to hear what other members of the group think about political hot topics that may come up. He encourages any students who wish to be politically and civically engaged to consider joining Young Americans for Liberty and expressing their views.

@Twitter talk

Young Americans for Liberty

@YALiberty:

"Americans Are Still Freer Than Most, But the Trend Lines Are Worrying"

@YALatVTech

"What a great day to petition for free speech on our campus! #RepThe1st"

@YALiberty

"Regardless of how Americans vote in the election, data shows a majority want a different foreign policy direction"

@FreedomMatt

"Great day @sunny_cortland fighting for free speech! Cortland and Ithacastudentsalike loved our message @YALiberty #CortacaFreeSpeech #YAL"

Checks and balances limit presidential influence

KALYN STORY
Staff Writer

President-elect Donald Trump has made many promises during his campaign, but come Inauguration Day, will he have the power to follow through?

The president of the United States undoubtedly has a massive influence on the nation and the rest of the world. He or she is the commander in chief of the world's largest military and is even called the leader of the free world.

The president gets his or her power from Article Two of the United States Constitution. With the Constitution comes the notion of checks and balances between the three branches of government.

Political science professor Dr. David Bridge describes the system of checks and balances by saying it is Congress's job to set the agenda and the president's job to carry out the agenda.

"It is unrealistic to expect the president to be able to unilaterally accomplish anything," Bridge said. "It's the way the system works."

For example, as commander in chief, the president has the power to control the military, but only Congress has the power to declare war.

While the United States government has three branches, the president is the face of the nation.

"The president is like the quarterback," Bridge said. "They get too much credit when things go right and too much blame when things go wrong."

The Constitution was written 229 years ago, and the role of the president has changed and evolved since then.

One large change that has

become normal over time is the use of executive orders. Executive orders do not require Congressional approval to take effect, but they have the same legal weight as laws passed by Congress. While the power to give an executive order is not explicitly found in the Constitution, the idea for the power comes from Article Two, Section One which grants the president "executive power."

Political science professor Dr. Patrick Flavin says the powers of the president have steadily expanded over time. He attributes the increase in power of the executive branch to an often unproductive Congress.

"Due to the lack of efficiency of a gridlocked Congress, most of the policy happens through the executive branch," Flavin said. "The founders would be surprised by the size and power of the executive branch."

For example, President-elect Donald Trump has made many comments about immigration. Through executive orders, Trump could speed up deportations and end President Barack Obama's programs that protected children of undocumented immigrants.

While Obama made large changes through executive orders, he also

found that there are limits. Courts struck down his effort to expand the deportation protections to cover undocumented adult immigrants.

Trump has also talked about building a wall at the U.S.-Mexico border in an effort to secure the border and decrease illegal immigration. In order to do that, he would need Congressional approval of funds. Congress has the sole power to spend money; the president needs their approval to spend tax dollars.

Trump has also talked about a complete ban of Muslim immigrants to the United States, but experts are unsure if that would be in his power or not. Some experts

have said that because potential immigrants are not U.S. citizens, they are not protected by the Constitution and therefore are not entitled to "equal protection" or "due process of law." Other experts have said courts would most likely strike down such a law because it is "irrational and sweeps too broadly," as University of California, Los Angeles law professor Hiroshi Motomura said.

Trump has also been outspoken on his dissatisfaction with Obamacare and has promised to repeal it. This he could not do on his own, but with a Republican-controlled House and Senate, it is very likely to happen.

Flavin said one of the most overstated powers

of a president is their effect of the economy.

"In a separated system, one person, even the president, has very little effect of the nation's economy," Flavin said. "It is just easier to blame or praise one person than it is to step back and analyze the government as a whole."

A New York Times article titled "Ask not what the President can do for the economy," analyzed two papers by economists Alan S. Blinder and Mark Watson and found that the strength or weakness of the economy was overwhelmingly tied to factors out of a president's control.

"Whatever influence the president may have at times wielded over the economy is diminishing," the NYT article said. "With a gridlocked Congress, presidents are less and less able to push through enormous legislative changes that would substantially shift the course of the economy."

Flavin said he thinks the biggest indication of how powerful and impactful a presidency will be depends on the strength and will of the other branches.

"Every branch tries to grab as much power as they can, only to be stopped by the other branches," Flavin said. "In a system of separation of powers, you have to get the other branches on board to be able to really accomplish anything, but the branches each protect their own turf. Each branch is greedy in their own way and wants to have as much influence as they can."

Bridge said the largest and most important check and balance of the federal government is democracy.

"Elections are a built-in mechanism for the people to protect against an abusive executive power," Bridge said. "Elections are the lifeblood of American democracy."

"The president is like the quarterback. They get too much credit when things go right and too much blame when things go wrong."

Dr. David Bridge | Baylor Political Science Professor



