

NEWS

Veterans Denied Flags from Bloc MP

In Richmond Quebec, Veterans at a legion are furious with their Bloc Quebecois MP Andre Bellavance for refusing to give them Canadian flags. His office told the veterans that it is against Bloc policy to give out Canadian flags. The party has no such policy and the other parties have strongly criticized the move seen as a slap in the face of veterans just days before Remembrance Day. The government quickly had Canadian flags sent to the legion and Opposition leader Stephen Harper hand delivered more flags to the legion on Saturday.

Food For Thought - Food Drive on Campus

The UPEI Accounting Office is organizing a Food Drive for the UPEI Student Food Bank. The drive runs until November 19. Every person who brings in a donation will receive a ballot for a prizes donated by members of the campus community. A draw will be made each Friday until November 19. Donations can be dropped off at the Accounting Office, AVC Dean's Office, Robertson Library, Sports Centre and Student Union office and ballots are available in each of these locations. Donators can also receive a stamp in your Wellness Passport. The campus food bank is located in the Chaplaincy Centre. Students who need this facility are welcome to visit it at any time - no questions asked. Donations are much appreciated. For further information, please contact Katie McInnis at 566-4310 or Wendy Gillis at 566-0534.

Why Did the World Get Bush for Four More Years??

There seems to be a question that boggles the minds of students on campus these days... why would America re-elect George W. Bush?? The common answer going around goes something like, 'Americans are (expletive) stupid'. Though many argue it is the accurate answer, it seems shallow and ignores the many realities in American politics that few Canadians understand.

Perhaps the biggest reality evident is the immense size and power of the Christian right in the United States. The power of this group is much different in the US than it is here in Canada. Here, in 2000, Stockwell Day counted on winning a few seats based on support from this group. In this US Presidential Election, Bush, a born-again Christian himself, turned to this constituency to be his core of support that would carry him back to the Oval Office for another four years. Bush ignored broadening his base toward the center and concentrated solely on his right-wing base, firing up support with tough stands against gay marriage and abortion. Though extremely important, the size of this right-wing constituency was not the only factor propelling Bush to victory.

Party organization was key. Very simply, the Republicans know how to run a campaign, and the Democrats do not. The organization of the Democrats was much better prepared to get supporters to the polls than in 2000. However, the Republicans were much more prepared too and were able to find more new voters than the Democrats, a huge feat considering

the polarizing influence Bush has had on Americans.

For all his faults, one thing Bush has is the 'personal touch'. Coming off as likable connects with American voters. Many Americans prefer to think of their president as a person they can relate to. Bush has appeared much more personable than both of his defeated presidential opponents, Al Gore and now John Kerry, who was never able to connect with voters.

Then there is 9/11. Many Americans feel threatened and want a leader who will act against this terrorist threat. You can debate the effectiveness of his military policies, but Bush has proved that he has no reservations against acting against enemies, and this is a trait which many Americans want in their president.

One of these reasons alone would likely not have been enough

Nick Stewart

News Editor



to push George W. Bush back into the presidency, but combine them, and the winds of change have been halted, giving the world four more years of W. There appears to be some change coming within the Bush cabinet, albeit not change many would hope for. The world appears likely to be stuck with Bush's most absurdly incompetent secretary, Donald Rumsfeld, and without his best, the lone dove amongst a flock of hawks, Colin Powell. It could be four long years, not only for the United States of America, but for the entire globe.

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