

# Debate aftermath

## Area MSU'ers like Bush, Perot

BY CHARESE SANDERS  
SPECIAL WRITER

It was supposed to be the Great Debate, but some students from Oakland County did not think it was so great as they watched bitterly from their living rooms while more than 600 non-students filled ring-side seats at the Wharton Center Monday night.

Thousands of spectators rallied around the campus of Michigan State University hoping to glimpse their favorite presidential candidate, amid the tight security that covered campus prior to the debate.

A mechanical engineering student from Bloomfield Hills, Lawrence Shell, felt cheated because he had to return to his dorm room after watching "quite a few children who would probably fall asleep before the debate was over, enter Wharton."

But this did not stop Shell and other MSU students from the Oakland County area from becoming involved in this historic event.

Jennifer Claus, of Rochester Hills, did not mind watching the debate from her sorority house while surrounded by friends.

The third-year English student feels that regardless of who was able to attend the debate, "it was wonderful that the (presidential candidates) came to MSU. (The debate) sparked interest from the students and in return the students will vote in this election," Claus said.

### Issues-oriented

Like the rest of the public, these students were more concerned with which presidential candidate would best address the issues that will affect them after college.

Claus believes that those who

supported Bush from the beginning of the presidential race, will continue to do so despite the media views on who won past debates.

"I have always supported President Clinton and he finally pulled through in this debate," Claus firmly stated, adding that she hopes voters will now be swayed to the Bush camp in order to save the country.

Nursing sophomore Dawn Tarney of Troy agrees that "Bush is probably the best candidate of all," she said.

"Bush had the opportunity to say more concerning the issues addressed than in any other debate," Tarney added.

Because Tarney thinks "Clinton cannot expect his successful programs in the small state of Arkansas to work for the United States," she says "the nation would be making a mistake to depend on Clinton because he never takes a firm stand on anything."

But George Wooley, an engineering arts senior from Rochester, takes a different position as a result of Monday's debate, which he thinks was the best of the three by far.

"Bush made a strong argument for his future plans and Clinton seemed relaxed as if he did not want to disrupt his lead. But Perot made concrete plans for what he is going to do, not what the people want him to say he will do," Wooley claims.

### What about education?

Important issues not discussed by the candidates were education and financial aid; issues which would have been well received by MSU students if addressed, some students from Oakland County pointed out.

Wooley said he was shocked

that a debate held at a university would not address education, "reaffirming that the debate was not held for the students' interests but more for the purpose of gaining votes in a state where industry issues will directly affect the people."

Coming from a single-parent family as a result of the death of his father, Wooley knows first-hand what it is like to scrape through college.

But his biggest concern is "the outrageous deficit which students will have to pick up the tab for after graduation," Wooley states.

Wooley says he is terrified to graduate from college since he sees no sign of hope for recovery in the future, due to the nation's outrageous deficit.

This registered voter was planning to vote but was not sure for whom. "But the debate solidifies that (his vote) will go for Perot," Wooley says.

He firmly believes that once the deficit is cleared up other problems which have put the country in jeopardy will take care of themselves and "America will be number one again," Wooley said.

He adds that "the only candidate to do the job would be Perot."

None of the Oakland County students interviewed favored Clinton.

The majority stressed that the important issue was not who won the debate or who will become the next president, but that students who would have otherwise not gotten involved will remain more politically aware for the future because of this event.

The writer is an MSU senior in broadcast journalism from Rochester Hills.



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## Local ACLU hosts Detroit schools chief

Deborah McGriff, the superintendent of the Detroit schools, will speak to the American Association of University Women, Oakland branch, at 12:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 26, in the Salvation

Army Church, 3015 Main St. in Royal Oak.

There is no fee to attend. McGriff's speech is entitled "Creating Schools of the Future," and is supposed to give insight

into her philosophy of education.

Before she came to Detroit in 1991, McGriff worked as assistant superintendent of the Cambridge, Mass., schools.

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