

Reaction to Obama's first year in office

by **Chris Novak**
Contributor

Barack Obama has been called many of different things: The Messiah, Barry, the anointed one, dumbo, the joker and many more. It has been over a year since American voters were driven to the polls and voted for Obama on his promises of hope and change. So far Barry here has gone through with a few of his campaign promises; but the important promises he made have either been stalled or broken.

On his campaign trail he promised to urge states to treat same-sex couples with full equality in their family and adoption laws. Seriously all he had to do was say, "Hey treat same sex couples as you would opposite sex couples," it's not that hard to do. He didn't say he was going to make gay marriage legal, he just said he would suggest it to the states.

Also the Bamster promised to raise minimum wage to \$9.50 a hour by 2011. This one is not even in his sights right now- and what does that mean for us as college students? It means that we will not be earning that extra \$2.25 over summer or

winter break.

Yet another promise that is stalled is releasing oil from our strategic petroleum reserves. If he actually followed through with this, the gas prices would drop a fair amount. There are way more promises that Barack O'Change Obama has either broken completely; or is well on his way to failing. These here are just a few.

What the Obamateur has done so far in office that has outraged me the most is that there was an attempted terrorist attack on 26 December 2009, and it took him three days to respond to that. But when a natural disaster hits a Haiti he has something to say right away. Honestly shouldn't we have a President that cares more about his own country than someone else's country? I'm not saying we should not help Haiti, I'm just saying we need to worry about our own country before we try to fix someone else's.

Now as far as my personal feelings on Comrade Obama go, I believe he is the

new Jimmy Carter when what we need right now is Theodore Roosevelt. What I mean by this is that a president should not go around apologizing to every country we might have offended in the world.

I have grown up in the "New American Way" which means that if you piss someone off, that's their problem. And if they confront you about it you just say, "How big a boy are ya?" and whatever they respond just say back to them that that's just the right size for an ass-whoopin'.

America doesn't need someone who talks loudly and doesn't carry a stick we need someone who will "talk softly and carry a big stick," as Theodore Roosevelt did. I hope that my view on President Obama is wrong and that he turns this country around.

But as of now, I am not impressed one bit by his actions while in office. All Urkel is going to do is promise hope and change, but in the end all we will be left with is the change in our pockets.

The Editorial Staff of the Clarion would like to note that articles in this section in no way reflect the views of The Clarion. Student commentary is welcome and appreciated. If you have a view on politics, society, the environment, or just about anything, The Clarion would like to encourage you to make your opinion heard.

BC Green's tips for living sustainably

by **Jen Nyman**
Contributor

If light bulbs were created to see in the dark, then why is it that they are on all day? Next time you're in the bathroom in the art building (or any building) switch off the lights when you leave. Simple actions everyday can reduce your impact on the planet.

Living sustainably seems to be a popular phrase these days but it does not require extreme measures. Most people wonder what they can do to help. Well, here are



some easy tips to live more sustainably while on Brevard College's campus.

Brevard is a pretty small campus so walking to class and out to the athletic fields can reduce your impact on the environment while not forcing you to go out of your way. It's a bit ridiculous and pricey to drive to the cafeteria from the Villages or any of the other residence halls.

When you leave your dorm room, simply turn everything off. Even your computer is better off shut down if you don't plan on using it within the next 16 minutes. Also, if you're in the caf don't use a paper cup and rush off to class; relax and grab a mug.

As far as water goes, we all know to turn off the faucet while brushing our teeth and

to take short showers. However, we really need to stop buying bottled water. Get a Nalgene and refill it. Plus, you might find yourself with extra cash at the end of each week.

Now we have all seen the big green bins around campus, but seriously they are RECYCLING ONLY. This is nothing difficult; you don't even have to sort the recyclables. Just don't put trash in them.

Our campus theme for the past two years has been sustainability: awareness into action. And as it comes time to change our theme many students don't think we have lived up to it. If you agree that we can still do a lot more with this theme, email Kathryn Gresham and let her know that as a college we don't want to stop until we reach this goal.