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## OBAMA-NATION



by Travis Wireback  
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On Tuesday, America made history by electing Senator Barack Obama President, making him the first black president.

Obama's election was not only historic because of his race, but because of the states that he won. Obama was able to pull traditionally conservative states Ohio and Virginia—a state which was the capital of the confederacy and had not supported a Democrat in the past ten presidential elections.

The President elect was also able to secure victories in key battleground states including Pennsylvania, Nevada, Colorado, Iowa and New Mexico. Obama ended up gaining a decisive victory, amassing 349 electoral votes to McCain's 163 votes. Only North Carolina and Missouri are still undecided, however there are only 26 electoral votes between the two.

In the wake of this monumental victory, the Democratic Party was also able to pull out a lead in both the senate and the house, giving them control over both houses of Congress as well as the presidency.

Reactions on campus to Obama's victory were generally joyous. Several students were seen wearing Obama masks and tee shirts around campus on Wednesday.

"My mother says she's moving to Canada, but I'm excited. I think it's time for a change," said senior Amber Klein.

Her sentiments were echoed by junior Shane Galloway.

"I'd ten times rather have Obama than McCain. The only way things could be any better is if Obama had picked Hillary Clinton to be his Vice President," Galloway said.

Obama now begins transitioning into the office of president, in preparation for January 20, when he will be sworn in as President.

## Town of Brevard voters favor Obama

*Transylvania County as a whole favored John McCain for president, but voters in the city of Brevard—including BC students who chose to register here instead of in their hometowns—decisively chose Barack Obama for president, contributing to a slim Obama lead statewide in a race whose outcome was not yet determined at press time.*

*Voters in the four Brevard city precincts cast a total of 2,634 votes for Obama and 1,988 votes for McCain, according to election results on the N.C. State Board of Elections Web site. Of the nearly 4,700 votes cast in Brevard, 56.1 percent went to Obama and just 42.3 percent went to McCain. The remaining 1.6 percent were for Libertarian candidate Bob Barr or write-in candidates.*

*Percentage-wise, the city results were almost an exact opposite of how the county voted. According to unofficial election results on the elections board Web site, 55.6 percent of Transylvania County voters favored McCain, while just 43 percent went to Obama.*

*County-wide, a total of 16,733 votes were cast in the presidential election.*

*Voters in Transylvania County also notably differed in when they chose to cast their vote. Ballots cast early during One-Stop Absentee Voting favored Obama by a narrow margin, 4,885 to 4,688, a difference of just 197 votes. Voters who waited until Election Day to cast their vote, however, chose McCain by a 2-to-1 margin, 4,163 to 2,015.*