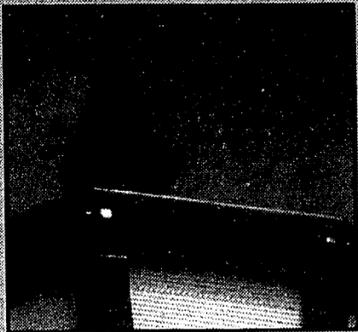


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# OBAMA ELECTED PRESIDENT

by Morgan Ericson  
Staff Writer

With Obama's victory as president-elect on Nov. 5, 2008, consumer psychologists watched as the Obamas' favorites, such as Fran's Chocolates, J. Crew, and Nicorette gum, became the must-haves for his constituents. Eight swing states later and with 349 electoral votes, celebrations erupted in his father's native Kenyan home, Obama's hometown Chicago and even India. Nelson Mandela and Nicolas Sarkozy issued congratulatory letters, and celebrity recognition ranged from 'Oprah unleashed' to Madonna and Hugo Chávez, who attributed Venezuela's "era of change" to Obama's victory.

Unfortunately, there has been an outpour of negative attention, threats and, for some, a continued feeling of gloom. Russia's President Dmitry Medvedev promised to deploy missiles if Obama utilizes an anti-missile system installed in the Czech Republic. Two white supremacists, Daniel Cowart and Paul Schlesselman of Tennessee, were indicted after authorities discovered

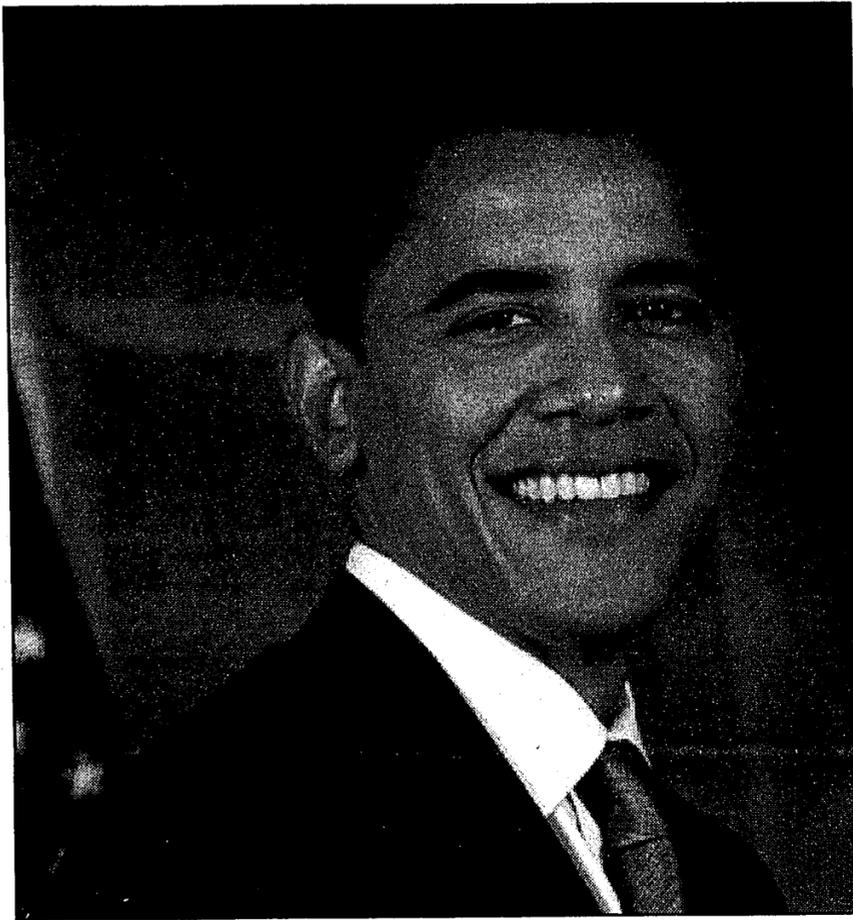


Photo courtesy obama.senate.gov



Photo courtesy The New York Times

their sawed-off shotguns and conspiracy to assassinate Obama and behead other African Americans.

How did Obama arrive at his victory? By turning red states blue. He won eight states that had voted for President Bush in 2004, Indiana, Ohio, Florida, Iowa, Nevada, New Mexico, Virginia, and Colorado. In heavily Democratic suburban areas, voters turned out more than before, and the percentage of black voters also increased.

According to the Wall Street Journal, 66% of 18-29 year-olds favored Obama/Biden over McCain/Palin, a recorded figure of youth voting that has not been matched since 1976.

Also, in battleground states such as Ohio, Indiana, and Florida, college towns saw increases by 92% in young adult voters. We represented 18% of the electorate whereas our elders, those 65 and over, only represented 16%. This shift has already affected how future candidates will have to campaign and leads political analysts to speculate how voting power could be shifting away from the Baby Boomers as they ease into retirement.

By the time this article is published, Obama will probably have appointed many members of his cabinet and have held a conference to publicize his next steps as president-elect. For

those still caught up in all the hate speeches and propaganda that have been infiltrating our televisions for the past months, it might be difficult to remember Obama's stance on issues and various priorities. According to CNN's election issues page, Obama supports the following:

#### Economy

Obama supported the Wall Street bailout package, believing an emergency rescue plan to be necessary. He advocates reforms for "new oversight of investment banks, more disclosure by financial firms...and more consistent rules that apply to all financial institutions..."

Obama also advocates Congress' extension of unemployment for 13 weeks to support families affected the most by the economic crisis. Both Biden and Obama believe in investing more money in infrastructures—highways, bridges, etc.—as a way to create more jobs. Biden advocates tax breaks for small businesses.

#### Iraq

Obama advocates complete removal of troops by summer of 2010. He

See OBAMA, PAGE 2

## Green Tip for the Week of October 27

Install compact fluorescent light bulbs, which use 60 percent less energy and last longer.

During the 2008-09 academic year, Meredith College's campus theme is "Sustaining our Environment: Developing our Greenprint." To help the Meredith community make daily choices that are beneficial to the environment, Angels for the Environment have compiled a year's worth of tips for greener living. To view green tips from previous weeks, visit [www.meredith.edu/campus-theme/environmental-tips.htm](http://www.meredith.edu/campus-theme/environmental-tips.htm).

