



The News

November 4, 2008

Gilman School

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OBAMA WINS SCHOOL ELECTION

BY CHRISTIAN MOSCARDI

On October 22, the Gilman News administered an election survey to all four grades of the Upper School. Of the 446 boys, approximately 375 surveys came back to the News to be tallied. The survey included questions about political affiliation, influence of parents, specific issues, and students' choice for president.

Barack Obama's win at Gilman, though it may not reflect the national results, tells just as much about Gilman as it does about who Gilman thinks is the best choice in this year's election. Gilman's results correlate closely with national results, with Obama getting 54% of votes and McCain getting 41% as compared to McCain's 41% nationally and Obama's 48%. Gilman's results are almost exactly the same as Maryland's, where Obama is ahead in the polls 54% to McCain's 39% (SOURCE: <http://www.usaelectionpolls.com/>).

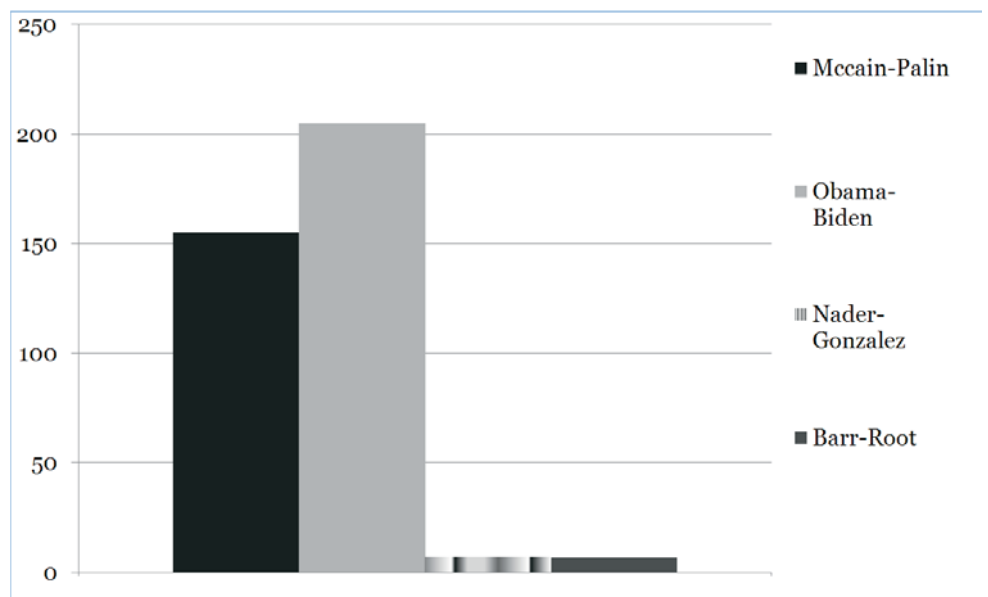
In terms of partisan affiliation, Gilman is a "blue" school, with 41% of the school labeling itself as Demo-

cratic, 35% as Republican, and 24% as a member of another party/having no political affiliation. By class, the freshmen and juniors are largely Democratic while the sophomores and seniors are mostly Republican. Interestingly, the freshmen and sophomores said their parents influenced them while juniors and seniors claimed their parents had little to no influence on their decision, indicating the ways in which the upperclassmen have matured and become more independent.

By individual class, Obama won in every grade except for the sophomores, where McCain won, 47-45. Interestingly, Obama won amongst members of the Republican senior class, if only by four votes (38-34). Does this indicate a national trend and that Obama has reached into McCain's republican base? Colin Powell's endorsement of Obama certainly indicates so, but only the election on Tuesday will tell. The race is certainly still close enough to go either way on Tuesday, but at Gilman, Obama has won.

Overall Student Results

Graphs by Christian Moscardi and Alex Fang



Race to the White House: John McCain

BY HARRISON EBELING

John McCain must feel as though it has been a lifetime since he declared his candidacy for president on April 25, 2007. Indeed, his journey has been long and arduous. After near political disaster in the first half of 2007 with lackluster fundraising, John McCain returned from the dead to steam-roll through the Republican primaries.

In total John McCain received 1,575 total delegates while all six of his opponents combined received only 584 total delegates.

Mainly, his campaign during the primaries and in the presidential race has been about getting to the point or

"straight talk." John McCain has preached that he is not mainstream Washington; he is a maverick. He has denoted his long military service to America and his leadership ability in the Senate reaching out to Republicans and Democrats alike.

He champions energy independence and rebuilding the economy by decreasing taxes for everyone and encouraging companies to expand in America using tax cuts. He believes in staying in Iraq until the country can govern itself without the need of American troops. McCain hopes this goal will be reached by the year 2012. As for the mortgage crisis, John McCain proposes that the federal government should buy troubled mortgages and give qualified (Cont. p. 3)

Race to the White House: Barack Obama

BY EVAN BEHRLE

When, on the frigid, sunny morning of February 10, 2007, United States Senator Barack Obama formally announced his bid for the presidency, he was but another challenger to the Democratic super-candidate, Senator Hillary Clinton. And yet, from the beginning, through the meticulous planning of the Obama staff, the campaign developed a deliberate sense of inevitability that ironically transcended the petty details of normal, "Washington-style" politics. There was something different about this challenger.

In the speech, Obama paralleled the unification theme of Abraham Lincoln's

famous "House Divided" address, delivered from the same location in front of the Old State Capital in Springfield, Illinois. These grand historical allusions – identified by Obama himself as having a "certain presumptuousness" – added to his broad, inspirational rhetoric, producing a speech that felt spontaneous despite all its planning, something that would come to characterize the entire campaign.

However, upon entering the primary season, Obama undeniably needed an early victory to add some weight to his words. Up to that point, his speeches and debate performances could do little to assuage voters' fears concerning his mere two years of experience as a United States Senator, an early point of criticism that

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Features: Reactions to diversity speaker Kip Fulbeck (Page 2);
Roland Park Country School gears up for fall musical "The Boy Friend" (Page 3)

Sports: Berger's Bytes (Page 4)

Fulbeck's Speech Sparks Discussion

On October 7th, Gilman students headed to Roland Park Country School's new gymnasium for a presentation on the always interesting topic of diversity. Sitting on the floor scattered about, the students of the tri-school community awaited the anticipated beginning of Kip Fulbeck's speech. However, after a long 45 minutes, many Gilman students left the gym unsatisfied and even angry with his words.

Kip Fulbeck's speech was well performed and delivered with poise and confidence. Yet, behind this entertaining façade, the presentation lacked substance and a strong message. Mr. Schmick noted that "his message was diffuse and did not really stay on topic. There was not as much substance as I had hoped." Mr. Fulbeck's comments on diversity did not encourage the audience to think nor did they provide any new insight. It was obvious that he had given the speech many times before and to many, it seemed like an infomercial for his books, which were available for purchase after the speech. But what really irritated us were Mr. Fulbeck's numerous left wing comments and constant jibing at conservative ideology. In his opening, he chose Satan over Dick Cheney. He made pejorative comments and showed pictures of President Bush at the Beijing Olympics with Misty May Treanor while soldiers in Iraq were dying. He even implied that supporting Bush was akin to supporting racism! Instead of providing intelligent commentary on diversity, Kip Fulbeck managed to isolate a good portion of the audience, including us. No matter your political belief, many of Mr. Fulbeck's comments were inappropriate, not because of the content, but because of the setting.

Mr. Fulbeck was supposed to be talking about diversity and his celebrated Hapa project. So, what was the point of his rudeness to the conservative audience? He argued that it was always appropriate to speak your mind and you should always be exercising that right. We take issue with that statement. As American citizens, we have the right to freedom of speech. At Gilman, we the students are often encouraged to speak our mind. However, we also have the duty, in our opinion, to be polite and open to everyone's views. You do not have to agree with another's ideology, but is it too much to ask to respect someone's ideas that oppose your own? Apparently, it was for Mr. Fulbeck. Yes, he stated and even encouraged us to disagree with him. Yet, his comments were taken by many as disrespectful and he came off as someone who seemed unable to tolerate others' beliefs. All of his friends were people of similar liberal ideology. He came to speak out against diversity and he certainly condemned racial identity and stereotyping. Nevertheless, he seemed to be advocating political discrimination. Kostas Skordalos ('10) stated, "I felt that he was advocating political discrimination which can be just as bad as all the other kinds of discriminations he was trying to end."

It is important to note that this editorial does not represent everybody's feelings at Gilman. Mr. Foreman, Director of Diversity, thought the presentation was good and stated, "The message was that the observation of someone does not necessarily tell you about him. You have to communicate with someone to really know the person. We have to learn how to hear a speaker and get the main thrust of the message on a particular topic. This is part of being a good listener." However, he

felt that Mr. Fulbeck's political remarks were unnecessary and that Gilman's negative reaction was appropriate. Kostas Skordalos also had some positive comments, "I thought he spoke well and knew his audience, and because of that he was able to communicate his message." Kevin Li ('09), president of the Asian Awareness Club, opined, "The presentation was informative and he was definitely not afraid to express his own views."

Is there a point to this editorial, or is it just a rant about Kip Fulbeck's speech? The answer is most definitely yes. The best aspect of Mr. Fulbeck's speech was not included in those 45 minutes. Instead, it is what came after- our reactions. The halls that day were filled with students making insightful remarks both praising and deriding Mr. Fulbeck. As high school students, there is not a great amount of time before we'll enter the "real world". We may lose friends, facts, and many other things along the way. But we'll always have our opinions and there is no shame in sharing them, as long as they are appropriately presented. The fact that there was this much controversy actually speaks to the intellect of the students, i.e. us. We are not afraid to question "experts" and we are willing to have respectful conversations with those of differing views. That is the essence of this message. This editorial is simply an expression of general opinion. Perhaps it will get you to consider a view that contradicts your previous one. Or, perhaps it will cement your opinion of Kip Fulbeck. Either way, the point is simple. Like Mr. Fulbeck said, we should speak our mind and welcome opposition. Unfortunately, in our opinion, Kip Fulbeck seemed to forget where he was speaking. He did not consider the other side of the issue at all.

-CJL

Fulbeck Justified

BY BRANDON COPELAND

Kip Fulbeck is a teacher, an artist, a public speaker, and an author who spoke to the tri-school community on October the seventh.

Surprisingly, students had mixed reviews to Kip Fulbeck's presentation. The responses from the young men and women that I spoke with after the assembly varied greatly. Some loved him and thought that he was creative, while a few were only offended by his political biases. Most of the crowd loved his message, creative genius, and humorous act, but did not appreciate Mr. Fulbeck's "cheap shots" at their preferred political figures. One could take many messages away from his presentation, but the main theme was that not everyone or everything is as it seems, so one should not judge people. For example, most of the audience was shocked to see the picture of the man who wrote, "I am a family man/ people person." The audience figured that this white male, with long curly black hair and tattoos could not care for his family or people the way that any other human could. But if we should not judge anyone based on the way he looks, does the same not apply for politics?

During the assembly, Mr. Fulbeck stated, "...Because in my world, speaking out is not what you get to do with fame, speaking out is what you have to do with fame..." How can we listen to a speaker, and agree with his entire message which, clearly included, voicing your own opinion, and not expect him to voice his own?

A handful of the students from the tri-school area had already seen Mr. Fulbeck speak in Boston at the National Diversity Conference prior to this assembly, and they expected for all of, or at least most of the community to love his presentation, but it is very surprising and, honestly, unfortunate that the population has taken such great offense to his political views.

"What has happened to our willingness to speak out without fear, and more importantly what has happened to our willingness to speak out in spite of fear ..." Mr. Fulbeck added in closing. Students say, "The Gilman administration is taking all of our privileges away and we should really band together", but when it is time to speak with the administration about the issues that they would like addressed, they are never there. Students use the term "gay" or "fag" in a demeaning way every day, yet no one is offended, or maybe no one seems offended? Students are much more opinionated when it comes to Fulbeck's (one person's) political stance than when they hear someone being picked on in the hallway for being a little bit different. The same kids either keep their mouths shut and just walk by, hoping that they are not the next victim of the verbal hazing, or gladly join in, taking pleasure in upsetting a peer "... It is more important to speak up than to sit

(Cont. p. 3)

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The Gilman News welcomes letters to the editor, columns, and artwork from Gilman students, teachers, faculty, alumni, and from the community-at-large. The News reserves the right to edit all articles for length and grammar. Send correspondence to thegilmannews@gmail.com, or to:

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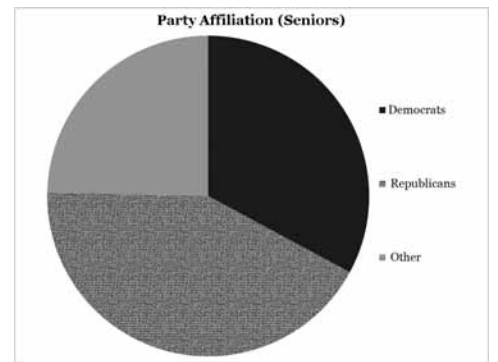
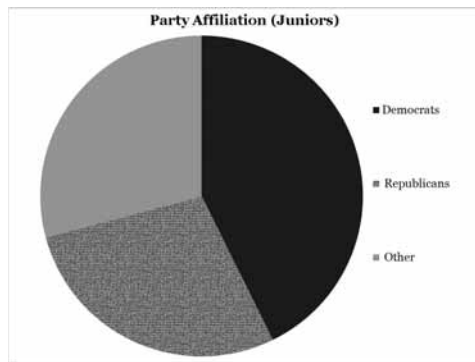
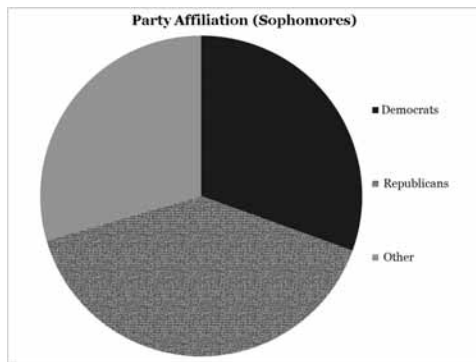
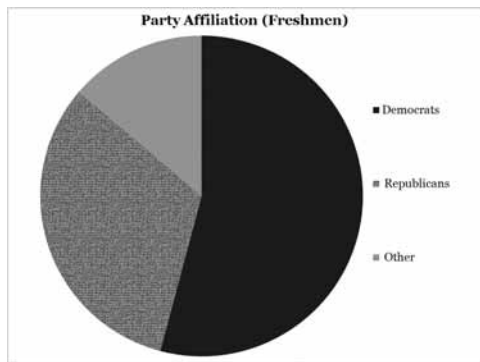
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Corrections October Issue

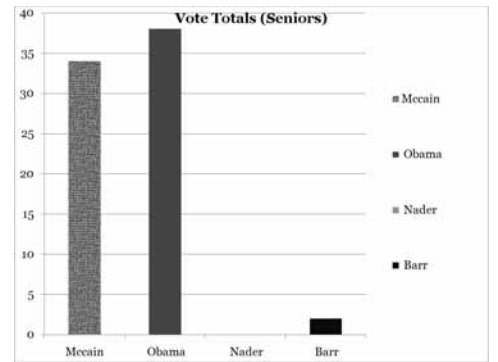
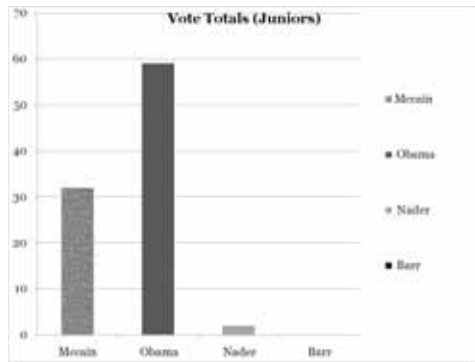
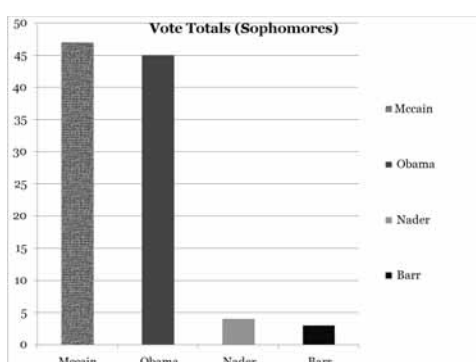
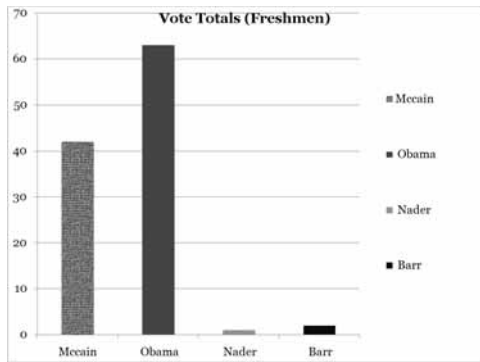
The article entitled "Jacobson Gift Allows for Renaming of Academic Center" in the October issue, by Chris Maddox, incorrectly stated that "the \$50 million Lumen Center", implying that the Lumen Center was worth \$50 million. In actuality, the entire campaign goal was \$50 M. The Lumen Center and the renovation of Carey Hall together totaled \$35 M. We apologize for this error.

The article entitled "ARTS: A Year in Preview" contained a spelling error. The author's name is Preston Suan.

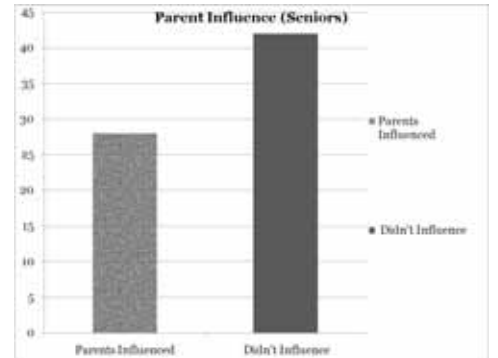
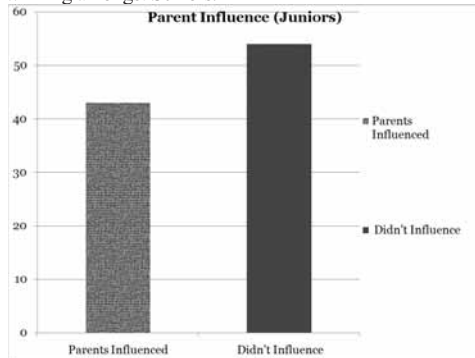
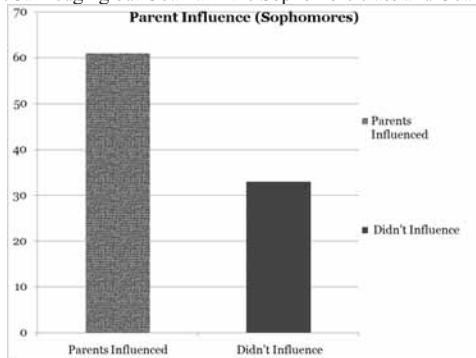
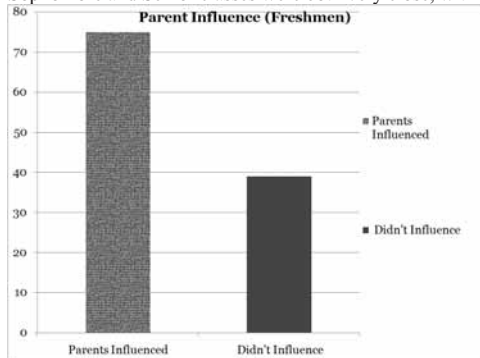
Election Results Breakdown



The freshmen had the strongest traditional party ties, while about 25% of the sophomores, juniors, and seniors claimed affiliation with a third or no party. The freshmen were strongly Democratic; sophomores, strongly Republican; juniors and seniors, about a halfway split between the Democratic and Republican parties with the juniors leaning democratically and seniors toward the Republican party



The Freshmen's strong Democratic inclinations showed in their voting, with Obama having a clear lead in polls. The Juniors also voted proportionately to their claimed party affiliation with Obama soundly beating McCain. The totals in The Sophomore and Senior classes were both very close, with McCain edging out Obama in the Sophomore class and Obama winning amongst Seniors.



The Freshmen and Sophomores said they were influenced by their parents (one sophomore wrote, "Who isn't"), while the more independent Juniors and Seniors said their parents had not influenced their decision.

RPCS Prepares "The Boy Friend"

BY FRANK TAMBORINO AND WARNER MASON

Do you need a break from the endless hours of homework? If so, the Roland Park Country School girls and Gilman boys are currently in rehearsal for a musical production under the direction of Laura Hackman, the musical direction of Erin Farfaglia, and the choreography direction of Annie Ferebee. The musical will surely provide a fun and lighthearted evening for its audience.

Originally opening on Broadway in 1954, the musical "The Boy Friend," with music and lyrics by Sandy Wilson, takes place on the French Riviera during the 1920s. The show provides "tongue in cheek" humor with its slapstick comedy of sassy servants, flirtatious young girls, old men with desires for younger girls, and crazy love. The plot revolves around a young girl named Polly (Julia Osterman, RPCS '09) who longs to find a handsome, intelligent boyfriend. At a finishing school for young ladies, Polly falls in love with a delivery boy named Tony (Billy Siems '10). Needless to say her father Percy (Jack Mitchell '09) disapproves and thinks that the lad is after her money. The musical is a delight because of the up-tempo musical numbers that bring exuberant energy to the stage with memorable songs such as "I Could Be Happy With You" and entertaining dances of the past such as the Charleston. The supporting roles in

the musical provide additional comic relief and often "steal the show", as they dance around the stage and croon the songs "Never Too Late to Fall in Love" and "Safety in Numbers".

Roland Park is very excited about their upcoming musical. Director Laura Hackman stated, "We picked the show because last year's "Into the Woods" was very heavy and a difficult concept musical. The Boy Friend was the perfect choice because there are a lot of big chorus numbers so we were able to offer many people roles." After recovering from two surgeries, it would seem that the show was in peril. But, against doctor's orders, Ms. Hackman quickly rushed back to the theater. The show will go on!

New to RPCS, Ms. Erin Farfaglia, the director of music, said, "I really am enjoying everything about the RPCS performing arts department." Finally, the show's choreographer, Ms. Annie Ferebee, is responsible for teaching the actors the many difficult dances. She commented, "The kids are very excited about the upbeat dances."

So put away your books for the evening and forget about your troubles. Grab a ticket and a laugh at "The Boy Friend"!

The show opens on Friday November 21st and runs through Sunday November 23rd. The evening performances on Friday and Saturday are at 7:30 and the matinee on Sunday is at 2:00.

John McCain

Continued from page 1

homeowners low-interest mortgages.

During the summer of 2008, McCain trailed in the polls to his democratic counterpart, Barack Obama. In an effort to invigorate the Republican Party and capture the conservative base as well as female voters' interests, McCain made a very controversial choice in picking Governor Sarah Palin of Alaska, as his running mate.

McCain gambled on choosing an inexperienced governor with almost no national political experience, but with Palin came full-fledged support from the conservative right wing of the Republican Party. The conservatives were drawn to her and many women seemed excited at the prospect of shattering the glass ceiling that had for so long kept women out of the top tiers of American electoral politics. However, Palin's strong religious beliefs such as her suggestion to outlaw abortion are simply too radical for some moderate Republicans.

The recent financial crisis has contributed to Obama's apparently insurmountable lead in the polls, yet only the election on November 4th will decide the outcome of the election.

Kip Fulbeck

Continued from page 2

politely, it is more important to live with the consequences of doing so than to stand idly by and watch this beautiful garden go to seed," as Mr. Fulbeck observed.

"Even though he expressed his own opinion, which was the point of his speech, he did not force his own opinion on ... anyone else in the audience. He simply stated his views and even though I might have disagreed with him, he did not twist my arm into making me vote one way or another. I have a brain of my own and I can decide for myself, so why should I be offended again" (Roland Park Student).

Overall, the tri-school community did not take well to Mr. Fulbeck. Some of us, however, wish that in the future we would not stop listening to someone because of a disagreement. "I think that as soon as he started to talk about his own political views, most of the people in the audience, who took offense, shut off and just did not listen to the rest of his speech, but to me, it was awesome. I liked his book idea and loved the way he presented everything to us" (Bryn Mawr Student).

Barack Obama

Continued from page 1

would follow him throughout the campaign. Thus, Obama's eight-point victory in Iowa's caucuses, the nation's first, did much to solidify his candidacy, and dealt a severe blow to third-place finisher Hillary Clinton, whom many Democrats had considered the Party's inevitable nominee before the primaries had even begun. In his victory speech, Obama maintained the theme of unification introduced in his Old State Capital speech, saying, "You came together as Democrats, Republicans and independents to stand up and say that we are one nation, we are one people and our time for change has come." By referencing his "change" theme, Obama continued to perpetuate the idea that a vote for Barack Obama was, in fact, much more than a vote for one candidate – it was a vote for a new United States.

Five days later, the campaign sustained a hit as Barack Obama lost New Hampshire's primary to Hillary Clinton by two points, despite an apparent ten-point lead in the polls only two days prior. While Obama's victory in Iowa had certainly dampened the air of inevitability that surrounded the Clinton campaign, her victory in New Hampshire assured Obama supporters that his meteoric rise would not go unopposed. As Obama put it, "For those of you who are feeling giddy or cocky and think this is all set, I just [have] two words for you: New Hampshire."

The remainder of the primary battles played out in much the same way. Obama slowly built upon his lead while Clinton refused to let him run away with nomination. Clinton took Nevada by six points. Next, Obama swept South Carolina by

twenty-eight points. With this win, he took another opportunity to enforce the message of unification for change, proclaiming, "The choice in this election is not between regions or religions or genders. It's not about rich versus poor; young versus old; and it is not about black versus white. It's about the past versus the future."

After Super Tuesday on February 5, when voters in twenty-two states went to the polls, the race remained tight. Obama won more states than his rival, including Illinois and Georgia, but Clinton placed first in larger states, such as New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, and California. Next, though, Obama claimed thirteen consecutive states and Washington D.C. in less than a month, developing a real lead for the first time. Clinton still held on, taking Ohio, and, later, the important states of Pennsylvania and Indiana. Her supporters pointed to these victories, arguing that her ability to win in crucial states would allow Clinton to defeat her Republican candidate come fall.

However, Obama had much more money to spend than his rival. In the first six months of 2007, he raised \$58 million, more than any other candidate has ever raised in the first half of the first campaign year. In January of 2008, Obama raised \$36.8 million, more than anyone else during a single month of any Democratic primary. Supporters emphasized the grassroots nature of the donations – in the first year of the campaign, a staggering 600,000 individuals made donations. Even in Pennsylvania, a Clinton success story, Obama managed to close the gap from twenty points in the polls to ten points partially because he outspent her, \$7 million to \$2.7 million. Senator Clinton simply could not stop such

momentum backed by such resources, and Obama went on to win North Carolina by fourteen points. Clinton did not give up, demanding the Democratic National Committee count votes from states like Florida, who lost their delegates as punishment for having moved their primaries to an earlier date. She took this "count every vote" message until the end but eventually conceded her party's nomination to Senator Obama on June 7, four days after he became the presumptive Democratic nominee.

In the general election, the Obama strategy is another reflection of the senator's staff's meticulous planning, as everything about it fits perfectly with Obama's message. By hiring numerous, skilled, grassroots organizers versus a few highly-paid, top-down advisers, Obama has managed to gain innumerable volunteers while ensuring that "they'll be able to call their own shots," says Tim Dickinson of Rolling Stone Magazine. When combined with the expert use of online social networking, Obama's campaign truly has become his supporters' campaign, fulfilling his theme of unification for change, and making the campaign about the country, rather than about Barack Obama.

Now, entering the general election, the Obama staff had mastered its technique. "They have taken the bottom-up campaign and absolutely perfected it," says Joe Trippi, the brain behind Howard Dean's internet campaign of 2004. The use of technology has expanded even further with Obama's purchase of advertising space in Burnout Paradise, a popular game on Microsoft's Xbox 360 system. Despite this masterful campaigning, McCain and Obama were neck and neck during the first half of the main race.

Barack Obama selected Senator Joe Biden as his running mate, choosing an experienced foreign policy expert in a clear attempt to add a serious, safe addition to his ticket. McCain, on the other hand, picked Alaskan governor Sarah Palin, the relatively unknown and inexperienced governor of Alaska. For some McCain supporters, Palin's selection was just the kind of brilliant campaign strategy he would need to defeat Barack Obama. Her strong social conservative roots could help fire up the Republican base, while her gender might win over some Clinton supporters teetering between Obama and McCain, at least in theory. At the same time, critics pointed out her extreme inexperience, reminded voters she'll be "one 72-year-old heartbeat from the presidency," and attacked McCain for attempting to pander to female voters.

Either way, McCain's vice-presidential choice does not seem to have done enough to combat Obama's performance. After winning all three presidential debates (according to USA Today / Gallup polls of debate watchers) by a minimum of twelve points, Obama has opened a ten point lead over McCain with registered voters, and a seven point lead with likely voters, as of October 19. Obama's improved polling is likely helped by the country's recent economic crisis, since more voters trust Obama over McCain in dealing with an issue like the economy rather than national security.

At this point, the outcome of presidential race still remains entirely unclear. If, though, Obama does manage to secure the presidency, his election will forever be a testament to the power of expert campaign management, refreshing charisma, and of mobilizing an entire generation to finally "rock the vote."

Berger's Bytes

BY MATT BERGER

FACT: John Eisenberg, formerly a sports columnist for The Baltimore Sun, wrote on occasion "fact-opinion" columns. In these pieces, he would produce a list of facts covering both local and national sports. Then, he would pair each story with his own opinion of it.

OPINION: As a kid, I loved these columns for both Eisenberg's view on each issue and the neat way in which it was presented to me. I wish today that John Eisenberg was still writing for The Sun, as he was definitely the best sports writer for the paper.

FACT: The Baltimore Orioles, probably the team followed most by Eisenberg, finished their 2008 season with just 68 wins. The O's finished in last place in the division and nearly the worst record in the entire American League. Again the team limped to the finish line, winning just 17 of its last 54 played.

OPINION: This is a disturbing trend that I see with the Orioles. The 2008 season saw yet another September plunge deeper into the cellar of the division. Doesn't it seem like the team struggles towards the

end of the season every year? Well, the stats back that up. The O's have had only one winning September since 1997. Then again, the O's have had no winning seasons since 1997. It seems to me that every fall, with the Orioles way out of playoff contention, the team just starts looking ahead to the offseason and gives up on the current season. That's a big problem. These guys are professionals, and they need to play all 162 games.

FACT: Charm City native Michael Phelps was back in Baltimore celebrating his eight Beijing gold medals. The celebration at Fort McHenry was just part of the whirlwind that is Michael Phelps' life. Not only did Phelps sign big contract deals with companies like Kellogg, Verizon, Speedo, and more, but the swimming star talked personally with President Bush and helped lead the Closing Ceremonies from the Olympics' 2012 home, London.

OPINION: How cool was it when NBC cut to Ravens Stadium after Phelps won his 8th medal? Move over Cal Ripken and

Ray Lewis, and make room for the newest superstar athlete in Baltimore. The only thing more amazing than Phelps actually winning eight gold medals was his ascending international fame along the way. When you think of the Beijing Olympics, you will always think of Michael Phelps first. Currently, Phelps has 1,626,923 fans on Facebook, surpassed in popularity only by the fanpage of presidential candidate Barack Obama.

I'm only fantasizing here, but what if Phelps, a Towson native, had decided to attend a private school just minutes from his house on the corner of Roland and Northern? Again, pure fantasy.



Michael Phelps swimming for the gold.

FACT: With the fall season winding down even though the biggest games have still yet to be played, it's time to look ahead to winter athletics here at Gilman. Gilman Squash and Swimming head into 2008 looking to defend MIAA championships. One of the school's most successful programs, JV and Varsity Squash combined

for a 38-3 record last year. In the pool, a resurgent Gilman squad avenged losses to St. Paul's and Severn in the regular season with a 1st place finish in the championship. Hockey, Wrestling, and Basketball will all look to improve in 2008. Varsity Basketball will be led by new head coach, Tim Holley. Finally, Gilman Indoor Track placed between 2nd and 5th in all meets during last year's campaign. This year's team heads into the 2008 season with hopes of 1st place finishes and a league championship.

OPINION: Yes, it is partly my job to hype Gilman sports, but I really do believe that the 6 winter programs all have a chance to be great. As a basketball player, I see great strides being made to restore the program back to MIAA heavyweights. In a summer trip to Villanova University, the team went 6-0, winning its division. I think there is this same feeling of resurgence among other winter programs looking to be great. For Swimming and Squash, the goal should be to again win a championship. In the stands, the spirit appears to be sometimes diminished during the winter. I'm not sure if the cold weather is to blame or if it is because teams play indoors, hidden from students walking by. In any case, I know that attendance at these games will be strong. Spirit at Gilman is better than at any other school in the MIAA, and that's a fact.