



# THE MAC WEEKLY



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## Minnesota shows record turnout to reelect Obama



Top left: The Obama family celebrates at the President's acceptance speech. Photo courtesy of The Telegraph. Top right: Students rejoice in Kagin at the news of President Obama's reelection. Photo by Lora Hlavsa '13. Below: The First Lady, President, Vice President and Second Lady take in the praise at their reelection. Photo courtesy of Democrat and Chronicle. For more election coverage see pages 2-5.



### Kagin watch party caps off election season

By KYLE COOMBS  
Associate News Editor

Tuesday night, nearly 500 Macalester students watched an historic night for Minnesota and national politics during the Election Night Watch Party in the Kagin Hill Ballroom.

Minnesota became the first state to reject an amendment to ban same-sex marriage, voted down a voter ID amendment and Barack Obama was re-elected.

True to the student body's characteristic liberal lean, the night was punctuated with cheers every time Obama gained electoral votes and groans when Rep. Michele Bachmann, who won a close race against Jim Graves, took an early lead.

The non-partisan watch party was sponsored by MPIRG, Mac Dems and Program Board.

"[We're keeping it as non-partisan] as we can," Johnson said. "Obviously, a lot of people here are democrats, but we don't

want to make people feel offended or like their opinion doesn't matter."

Mac Dems co-chairs Lucas Asher '15, Zack Avre '14 and Rick Beckel '15 were pleased with the turn out and energy of the crowd.

Excitement peaked when Barack Obama was declared the 44th president of the United States at 10:12 p.m. As the realization spread throughout the crowd, students rose to their feet cheering, hugging and dancing. Another spike in emotions came when the voter ID amendment was called as not passing.

"I'm absolutely thrilled that we won this election," Asher said. "It doesn't feel real."

Mac GOP member Jeff Garcia '14 was less excited by Obama's victory. He voted for the Libertarian candidate, Gary Johnson and opposed both amendments.

"...I look around this room and I do see how partisan this campus really is," he said. "...I am interested like everyone else is

*Election night, continued on page 3*

### Sandy challenges East Coast voters

By PAUL LEE  
Staff Writer

Many states along the East Coast are still recovering from the devastating aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. Considered to be one of the largest and most powerful storms to hit the Eastern Seaboard, mainstream news has been filled with photos of the destruction left behind by the storm since it hit Tuesday morning. Many parts of lower Manhattan are completely flooded, and sections of New Jersey were left completely destroyed, including Atlantic City and the Jersey Shore.

In addition to the severity of the destruction, Sandy struck the country during a critical election cycle and became a part of the political discussion during the last few days of the campaign season. For some Macalester students with homes on the East Coast, Sandy has had physical and political ramifications.

Andy Timm '15, is from South Jamesport in Long Island, New York, and his family suffered damage to their yard, their base-

ment and the first floor of their house. Due to their proximity to the bay, Timm's family was required to obtain flood insurance, and a majority of the recovery process is being financed out of their previous plans.

Most parts of Long Island are not considered to be national emergency zones, and the various townships in Long Island have played an active role in the clean-up process.

"The recovery efforts have mostly been town level government efforts," Timm said.

The hurricane also had political implications in Timm's local race in New York's First Congressional District. Congressman Tim Bishop who represents parts of eastern Long Island from Smithtown to Montauk Point was running for re-election as a Democrat in a heavily conservative district. Bishop was re-elected in 2010 by a margin of a third of a point (593 votes), and the Congressional race in 2012 was polling as very close, up until Sandy.

*Hurricane Sandy, continued on page 5*