# DAILY Sundial <br> CaliforniaState University,Northridge|November7,2012|Volume54,Issue43|www.dailysundial.com|FREE <br>  <br> + NEWS: Full election coverage p. 2-5 <br> + OPINION:What good is the electoral college? <br> p. 6 <br> + SPORTS: Highlights of the Obama-Romney showdown 

## $\times$ ELECTION 2012



President Barack Obama and the first family enter the stage Tuesday, in Chicago, after the election results.

- Rosters
- Schedules


Students wait in line to vote at the Satellite Student Union

## Matadors cast their votes

GABRIELLE MOREIRA DAIIY SUNDIAL

M
ore than 50 students waited in line at the Satellite Student Union Tuesday to vote either for the first time or once again for the presidential election.

Some students, like Taylor Barker, were voting for the first time. Barker, a freshman liberal studies major, said her beliefs and research helped shape her votes and thinks Barack Obama will win a second term
"Most people I talk to said they were voting for him," Barker said. "He's done a good
job so far and has stuck to what he's said."

Other students said their classes or TV programs, such as The Daily Show, shaped their votes.
"I watch a lot of Current TV, MSNBC, CNN and other news networks," said Bryson Wallace. "The Colbert Report and The Daily Show have helped me out, too."

Wallace, junior recreation and tourism management major, hopes that voters are well informed on the iscue well informed on the issues especially regarding Proposition 30 .
"Hopefully (proposition) 30 will pass because it's meant to help the students," he said. "If people are informed I don't see why it wouldn't pass."

## CORRECTION

In "Professor receives EOP mentoring award,' published Nov. 6, it stated that EOP stands for Equal Educational Program, when it stands for Educational Opportunity Program.


## Campus Voice

Do you want Proposition 30 to pass? Do you think it actually will?


AMANDA MCARTHUR LINGUISTICS

II don't actually know the text but sometimes it comes down to the quality of education."


GEORGE STEWART BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

Yes, because we are already struggling students, so any proposition will help. There are a lot of people who care so I think the message got out."


ANDREW NELSON COMPUTER SCIENCE

Yes, school's education is priority. 1 think more people are recognizing and (the future) of others.


LINA VARTAN PSYCHOLOGY
"If it does what it says it's going to do, I want it to pass. I do think it will pass because California is very Democratic.'


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# Obama gets four more years 

ANDREW CLARK NEWS EDITOR

President Obama won a second term shortly before 8:30 p.m. after keeping nearly all the states he won in his 2008 election.

Once the president was projected to win Ohio, a battleground state with 18 electoral votes, and Iowa, with six electoral college votes, the president had secured more than the 270 votes required to win another four-year term.
"The task of perfecting our union moves forward," Obama said in a victory speech in Chicago. "We are an American family and we rise or fall together as one nation.'

Romney thanked his family and his running mate, Wisconsin congressman Paul Ryan, his campaign staff and supporters for both his presidential campaign and his failed run in 2008.

This is a time of great challenges for America and I pray
that the president will be successful in guiding our nation," Romney said during his concession speech in Boston. "Our leaders have to reach across the aisle to do the people's work. We look to Democrats and Republicans in government at all levels to put the people before the politics."

Earlier in the day during a visit to a local campaign office in his hometown president congratulated Romney on that it's going to

Romney campaigned with run-
of Chicago, the "a spirited campaign." Obama said he was "confident we've got the votes to win, depend ultimately on whether those votes turnout." ning mate Ryan in Ohio, the archetypal swing state that played a central role again this year.
"You know intellectually I've felt we're going to win this and have felt that for some time," Romney told reporters prior to flying back to his Boston campaign headquarters. "We left nothing in the locker room. We fought to the very end."




Assemblyman Scott Wilk waves at drivers at a Valencia shopping center.

## Wilk, a GOP bright spot

## Republican victorious in 38th Assembly District

GABRIELLE MOREIRA

Republican Scott Wilk beat out Democrat Edward Headington by 61 percent for the 38th District Assembly seat. The district was represented by Republican Cameron Smyth until he reached his term limits this year.

Jeannie Atkins, of Newhall, celebrated Wilk's victory with more than 100 people. The district was represented by Republican Cameron Smyth until he reached his term limits this year.

I'm going up there to represent you," Wilk said during his victory speech at a post-election party in Valencia. "This is my pledge to you. First thing we're going to do, because Proposition 30 is going to fail, we need to get rid of those trigger cuts."

Wilk said the proposed trigger cuts, if Proposition 30 fails, were a political ploy and that education cannot function properly if California does not invest in it. He compared the trigger cuts to the bullet train that will connect from Los Angeles to San Francisco.
"In the next 30 years, with interest, the 'bullet train to nowhere' will be at $\$ 800$ million," he said. "That's almost the same amount as the trigger cuts."

Wilk owns a public affairs firm and is a board trustee for College of the Canyons. He has served as chief of staff for Congressman, and fellow Republican, Tom McClintock. Wilk also worked for Rep. Buck McKeon, whose wife also ran for the district seat.

Wilk had been endorsed by McClintock, Smyth, and Con-
gressman Elton Gallegly, who represents the 24th District. Asked how he will deal with the redrawn district, Wilk told the Sundial that the lines are similar to the early 1990s. The district comprises Santa Clarita, Acton, Montrose, La Crescenta, Glendale and Simi Valley, which is in Ventura County.
"There are three distinct geographic areas, but I think they share similar values," he said. "As far as meeting constituent needs, we'll have to be more aggressive."

Going back to the state legislature, Wilk said many people were "too far to the left or too far to the right" and these problems lead to a lack of compromise.
"Wilk is going to do very well," Atkins said. "He's a member of our community, has served on many foundations and he's a strong Republican."

## Congress stays the same

Republicans maintain House, Democrats keep Senate

MCCLATCHY-
TRIBUNE
WIRE SERVICE

WASHINGTON Democrats appeared to retain control of the Senate on Tuesday while Republicans will continue to rule the House of Representatives, after congressional elections that featured several high-profile races.
Democrats swept some of the most high-profile Senate contests, including the face-off between incumbent Republican Sen. Scott Brown and Democrat and consumer advocate Elizabeth Warren.

Early returns showed Sen. Dianne Feinstein leading GOP contender Elizabeth Emken in the California race.

In Indiana, Democratic Rep. Joe Donnelly defeated Republican state Treasurer Richard Mourdock for the seat being vacated by Republican Sen. Richard Lugar.

Similarly, in Missouri, Democratic Sen. Claire McCaskill, long thought to be one of the most vulnerable incumbents, defeated Republican Rep. Todd Akin, who created a controversy this summer when he said that women rarely got pregnant in case of "legitimate
rape." A lot of mainline Republican support deserted him as a result.
In Wisconsin, Democratic Rep. Tammy Baldwin bested popular Republican former Gov. Tommy Thompson, becoming the first openly gay member of the Senate.

Democrats also retained Virginia's Senate seat, as Tim Kaine defeated Republican George Allen, a former senator, in the battle of former Virginia governors.
In the House, television networks projected that Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, would continue to wield the speaker's gavel with a majority that might grow once the evening ends. The House results represent a bitter setback for Democrats, who'd hoped to at least make a dent in the Republican majority.

On the Senate side, Republican dreams of picking up four seats and becoming the majority party in that chamber seemed dashed as incumbent Democrats racked up early wins. Democrats held on to six seats early as Sens. Bill Nelson of Florida, Joe Manchin of West Virginia, Sheldon Whitehouse of Rhode Island, Thomas Carper of Delaware and Benjamin Cardin of Maryland won easily.

The sixth was a marquee match in New Eng-
and, where Democratic Rep. Christopher Murphy defeated Republican challenger Linda McMahon, a former wrestling executive who spent more than $\$ 42$ million of her own money on her campaign, for the open Connecticut Senate seat created by the retirement of independent Sen. Joe Lieberman, who caucused with the Democrats.

Two New England independents, incumbent Sen. Bernard Sanders of Vermont and Angus King of Maine, won their contests. Sanders, a fierce liberal, caucuses and often votes with the Democrats.

Republicans were hoping to wrest control of the Senate from Democrats, who, along with two independents who vote mainly Democratic, control 53 of the chamber's 100 seats.

While Democrats and Republicans jousted for control of the Senate, there was no doubt that the latter would continue to wield the speaker's gavel in the House.

Republicans hold a 240 190 majority in the House; Democrats would need a net gain of 25 seats to recapture control. That was a tall order, largely because redistricting in several Republi-can-controlled states helped secure incumbents and created friendlier terrain for Republican challengers.


Brad Sherman gets excited at the prospect of President Obama being re-elected.

## Incumbents battle it out

Congressmen Berman and Sherman race held up by ballot delays

## CARLY GILLIS

SENIOR REPORTER STEFANIE DE LEONTZIC SENIOR REPORTER

Democratic Congressman Brad Sherman led Democratic Congressman Howard Berman by 19 percent with 10 percent of precincts reported early this morning.

Dense fog prevented a helicopter from delivering ballots to a registrar's office in the city of Norwalk, which left both candidates waiting longer for results. Sherman had 59.4 percent of the votes while Berman only had 40.6 per-
cent.
"I don't know how this will turn out," Berman said at an Encino campaign site Tuesday night. "If we win, we celebrate. If we lose, we can be disappointed for a while, but don't disengage."

Both Democratic representatives were pitted against each other following the redistricting of the 30th district based on 2010 Census data.

Although Berman has been endorsed by some big names and organizations, including President Barack Obama, Gov. Jerry Brown and the Los Angeles Times, Sherman took the lead in the primaries and consistently rated higher in the
polls.
Their similar voting records and stances on hot button issues such as immigration, education and healthcare set the stage for heated debates, personal attacks and, during an Oct. 11 debate at Pierce College, a physical confrontation.
"I didn't go into politics to run against Howard Berman," said Sherman Tuesday night. "It has been a humbling experience to seek the support of the San Fernando Valley."
Both incumbents have backed initiatives that benefited college students. Sherman voted for the College Cost Reduction Act which kept student loans from doubling, while Ber-
man voted to increase funding for students receiving Pell Grants.

Among Berman's crowd about 200 supporters, CSUN student Melis sa Realegeno attended the rally at her first election.
"It's very nice," said Realegeno. "I like to see the energy of politics, who's in it and who's involved.
She said she was conerned about the fate of the state propositions, especially Proposition 30 which she felt was directly related to the future of her education.
"I read the pros and cons and made sure I knew what I was voting for," she said "I think it's very important or stude or students to be politi cally active.,


Howard Berman talks to the press during a gathering on Tuesday night at his campaign headquarters in Encino.

# Prop. 30 still too close to call 

Measure narrowly leads in results

ASHLEY SOLEY-CERRO
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The fate of California's education system remained undecided as of midnight Tuesday, with 50.4 percent in favor and 49.6 percent against Proposition 30.

The 2012-13 general fund budget puts several trigger cuts into effect if Proposition 30 does not pass, including $\$ 250$ million to both the Cal State University and University of California systems, \$5.4 billion from community colleges and K-12 education, and substantially smaller cuts to other government programs.

Lets raise our taxes for our kids and schools," said Gov. Jerry Brown, Tuesday. "I thank and acknowledge everyone who supports that - it's a wide coalition that doesn't normally agree."

Nearly half a million students enrolled in the California State University system will endure a 5 percent tuition increase if the proposition does not pass, as voted by the board of trustees Sept. 19 in an 11-3 vote.

If Brown's tax initiative does pass, CSU students will receive a rebate from the 9 percent tuition increase they endured during the 2011-2012 academic year. Students that have graduated will receive a check for $\$ 250$, financial aid will be altered to reflect the change for students who receive it and returning students will receive credit for the following semester.

The measure, supported by the California Faculty Association, California Federation of Teachers, CSUN's own Associated Students, and several other education groups would charge an additional
quarter cent sales tax for four years and will increase the personal income tax for individuals who make more than $\$ 250,000$ a year, from 9.3 percent to as much as 12.3 percent, according to the Legislative Analyst's Office.

Joshua Pechthalt, president of CFT, said Proposition 30 does not solve all our problems, but it is a step in the right direction.
"My daughter's school (a public junior high) hasn't had a full school year for the last five years, and if Proposition 30 doesn't pass she will lose another three weeks," Pechthalt said.

LAO estimated this could bring in an additional $\$ 6.8$ billion in annual revenue. Funds would be kept in the newly created Education Protection Account, which would supplement the 40 percent of the general fund budget that must be allocated for K-12 and community colleges, due to a constitutional amendment made by Proposition 98 in 1988.

Prominent opposers of the tax include National Federation of Independent Business, the Small Business Action Committee and the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association.

Issues with the way California's legislature allocates money and has increasingly chosen to defund education is a key argument against Proposition 30.
"From our perspective, the defeat of (Proposition) 30 will hopefully spur the legislature to do what they should have been doing for the last 15 years, which is to prioritize spending and deal with the waste issues, or luxury items, including the highspeed rail," said Jon Coupal, president of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association

STATE BALLOT MEASURES
51.4 percent of precincts reporting:

| Prop 30 | Prop3 6 |
| :---: | :---: |
| Yes: 51.9\% | Yes: 68.6\% |
| No: 48.1\% | No: $31.4 \%$ |
| Prop 31 | Prop 37 |
| Yes: 40.4\% | Yes: 45\% |
| No: 59.6\% | No: 55\% |
|  | Prop 38 |
| Prop 32 | Yes: 26.9\% |
| Yes: 45.8\% | No: 73.1\% |
| No: 54.2\% |  |
|  | Prop 39 |
| Prop 33 | Yes: 59.4\% |
| Yes: 46.1\% | No: $40.6 \%$ |
| No: 53.9\% |  |
|  | Prop 40 |
| Prop 34 | Yes: 72.7\% |
| Yes: 45.9\% | No: $27.3 \%$ |
| No: 54.1\% |  |
| Prop 35 |  |
| Yes: $82 \%$ | * 4 它403 coverage and |
| No: 18\% |  |

# Opinions 

# Electoral-Schmectoral 

Every state would be a swing state if the popular vote could choose the president


NATHON MCMAHON PROGRESSIVE INDEPENDENT

The presidential election is finally over, as Barack Obama took more than 300 electoral votes. While many volers caste their ballots with excitement Nov. 6, the sad truth is that for a vast swath of the electorate, their votes simply did not count - at least not in the way that they should have
I did not vote for either Barack Obama or Mitt Romney, but for a thirdparty candidate. When I casually mentoned this to a colleague before the election, I was told it was a stupid thing to do because voting outside of the two parties was like throwing my vote away.

What struck me was the irony in the situation. The person who criticized me was invariably going to vote for Romhey. In California, any vote for Romney is an effort in futility - my colleague's vote did not count, just like my third party vote did not count

This is due to our system of voting using the Electoral College. Its intent is admirable, but its execution has been anything but positive in recent years

The Electoral College had a time and place in our history. It was laid out in Article II of our Constitution and was designed so that the number of electoral votes is equal to the number of represendatives in Congress. The total number of votes currently stands at 538 , which breaks down to 435 for the number of members in Congress and 100 for the number of senators and an additional three for the District of Columbia. To win the presidential election, a candidate has to reach a minimum of 270 electoral votes.

This often means that states like Ohio, Florida and Colorado become key battleground states as their politi-
cal landscapes do not inherently lean Democrat or Republican
The original purpose was to allow smaller states and rural areas to have fair say in the major election. Some point out the good that the Electoral College has done in our history. In our 56 presidential elections from 17892008 , there have only been four instances of the popular vote winners losing the electoral vote.

But the impact of the popular vote / electoral vote split is greater today. The most recent instance was in the 2000 election between George W. Bush and then Vice President Al Gore. That election came down to the 25 electoral votes representing Florida, that at the last minute, tipped the scales in favor of

The electoral colloge could have made political campaigning and vote counting much easier back then, but today' world is considerably smaller due to advancements in technology. Getting he word out is one tweet or Facebook post away, and political ads can be run in newspapers, TV or online. The need o level the playing field when it comes to the presidential election is no longer as important

Candidates know the playbook ins and outs and almost universally ignore solid red or blue states; the only time they campaign in them is for the party nomination or to rake in more money for their political war chests.

In California, we are relegat ed to the status of in-the-bag for Democrats, resulting in a lazy election strategy for both parties

Getting rid of the eecoral college could lift our political process out of the two-party entrenchment Because of the hurdles it Bes to get the electoral votes, any substantial thirdparty candidate only acts as a siphoner of votes from one of he two parties.

If we could change to simple
majority vote wins, other parties could help to sway the voting populace. It would help to fix our broken political system rife with corruption and gamesmanship, and introduce substantive ideas into the political conversation.

Nathan is a senior majoring in journalism. He likes to throw away multitude of ideas and initiatives along with his vote. Trash is fun.

\section*{Only my vote counts!

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# MEN'S SOCGER 

CASEY DELICH DAIIY SUNDIAL

The regular season is over, and a possible win or go home scenario is now afoot for the Matadors as they host Big West Conference play at Matador Soccer Field on Wednesday.

Finishing their regular season with a 1-0 loss to visiting UC Irvine, the Matadors earned the Southern Division Big West regular season crown by earning 21 points in division play.

Opening up play against Cal Poly, the Matadors look to win their first Big West Tournament title, having only advanced to the conference final once in 2009. Playing at Cal Poly in early October, the Matadors won 1-0 on a goal 21 seconds into the game by sophomore forward Sagi Lev-Ari.

Junior forward Mackenzie Pridham of Cal Poly was named the Big West Offensive Player of the Year, ranking second in the conference with 11 goals for the season. A 5-1-1 record in their last seven games helped lead Cal Poly into the playoffs, looking for their first Big West Championship.

Leading the Big West with nine All-Big West Team selections, the Matadors have rounded into form, making them one of the most formi-


Senior defender Joe Franco is held trying to gain possession of the ball against Fullerton earlier this season.
dable teams in California. The offense, led by LevAri, averaged nearly two points per game, and helped lead the team to its best record since 2005. Lev-Ari finished the season leading the Matadors with 12 goals, including
five game winners, and ranks 7th in the country in ooals scored. Senior midfielder Rene Anguiano, Lev-Ari and junior forward Beto Velasquez all earned first time Second Team Big West honors on Monday.

Defensively, the Matadors have one of the strongest back fields in the strongest backfields in the Big West Conference, fielding two recent defensive Big West award winners. Senior defender Joe Franco earned Defensive Player of the Year and senior
goalkeeper Michael Abalo was named the Goalkeeper of the Year on Monday
These two, along with the rest of the Matadors, led the team to a conference-high eight shutouts and tied for the conference lead with just 18
goals allowed on the season Abalos ranked top five in most goalie-related categories in the conference, and leaves the program ranking in the top 10 in multiple Big West all-time categories.

Coach Terry Davila, leading the Matadors to a 13-win season and a No. 21 ranking by Soccer America, collected his sixth Big West Coach of the Year award. The 13 regular season wins stand as the fourth-highest win total in school history

The regular season title isn't enough for the Matadors. An NCAA berth is on the line when they open the Big West Tournament, with a chance for the national title. With one of the best regular seasons in recent memory, the team is well-equipped to advance far into the postseason.

## When: Nov. 7 at $7 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$.

Where: Matador Soccer Field

Tickets: $\$ 10$ General \$5 Student

## COLUMN

# Obama, Romney battle to a split decision 

JONATHAN ANDRADE SPORTS EDITOR

President Barack "The Commander" Obama successfully defended his title against former Gov. Mitt Romney with an electoral count of 303-206 as of midnight Tuesday.

The three-round championship bout between the two political heavyweights didn't take as long as many expected despite the ever-important title of president of the United States on the line. Victories in swing states like Oh io and Florida were enough to give Obama the advantage and take reigns of the political world once again.

Round 1 - Domestic Policy
Romney came out swinging in the first round putting Obama on his back multiple times via a flurry of haymakers on topics ranging from tax cuts to health care.
"The Rumbling Republi-
can" continued looking for the early knockout, easily picking apart Obama's defense
"My view is that we ought to provide tax relief to people in the middle class," Romney said. "But I'm not going to reduce the share of taxes paid by high-income people. Highincome people are doing just fine in this economy. They'll do fine whether you're president or I am."

Obama tried to fend off Romneys combinations with some punches of his own, accusing Romney of attempting to turn Medicare into a voucher program. Romney countered by claiming Obama's idea to cut $\$ 716$ billion from Medicare was not realistic.

The judges and viewers equally agreed the effort by Romney in the opening round was more than enough to take Round 1 and put the champ against the ropes.

## Round 2 - Town Hall

 DebateObama's corner didn't want a repeat of the first round
and made sure the president wouldn't find himself in a 2-0 hole by attempting to gain the advantage on the topics of college graduates and women in the workplace.
The champ came out and tackled the question posed by college student Jeremy Epstein on what each candidate would do to improve the labor market.

Obama not only stated that he wanted to create five million new jobs but he wanted them to be high-paying, highskill jobs rather than outsourced jobs.

There are some jobs that are not going to come back, because they are low wage, low skill jobs," Obama said. "I want high wage, high skill jobs."
Romney battled back with six jabs referring to the " 23 million people struggling to find jobs," despite the unemployment rate floating around 12 million, but simply couldn't steal this round while Obama closed in on him.
Judges had it in Obama's favor with the third decisive round to go.


Obama and Romney went the distance with "The Commmander" coming out on top.

Round 3- Foreign Policy
The two warriors met for their final chance to impress judges and fans alike and delivered memorable blows while dancing around foreign policy.

Both Romney and Obama largely agreed on most issues but traded heated remarks, including Obama's
accusation that Romney wanted tax cuts that would favor the wealthy at the expense of the middle class. Obama taunted Romney's apparent naivete on the subject of America's armed forces and Navy after the righty called for more ships and a bolstered Air Force. "You mentioned the Navy,
for example, and that we have fewer ships than we did in 1916. Well, governor, we also have fewer horses and bayonets," Obama said

After three rounds, the judge's took very little time to tally up their scorecards giving Obama the victory and the presidency title belt once again.

