

Country lies in ruins; Now What?

It was a thrilling night on November 4, 2008 as Presidential candidates John McCain and Barack Obama battled it out for the long-desired position of President of the United States.

The race was too close to call early in the evening, but by 11:30, all the needed ballots were in for Barack Obama. He had become the first African-American president.

However, as Obama walked out onto the stage in Chicago that night to deliver his acceptance speech, his stance was not that of delight, of joy. It said a very different speech as he stood at the podium, overlooking the horde of supporters gathered to listen to his every word. The look in his eyes perhaps reflected what his words could not.

Now what?

He had been campaigning for two years. He knew how to talk to people, how to convince them of things they would otherwise realize as pure con-artistry; he was a politician after all.

However, Bush has left our President Elect a "Congratulations" present of sorts -- the chaotic frenzy that is the United States of America. Obama has inherited a different kind of fortune; the kind you must repay with interest, and he has no idea what to do to fix this gargantuan problem. He has no clue on how to keep all the promises he has made throughout his campaigning.

So as he stood on that stage, eyes connecting with a dozen and a half people from the audience, his eyes telling a completely different speech than his words



ever could, realization finally dawned on Mister Obama.

Now what?

The race was over, and he had won. But now what? How do you fix something so terribly broken? In a society where we toss whatever needs fixing and just buy another one, Obama must be terrified. He can't very well throw away the United States and just purchase another one.

In closing, I have thought long and hard about the choice for Presidency. As I see it, one of two things could happen with Barack Obama in office: 1) He will run the country farther down into the ground, ruining any chance my generation had of "healing" the world, and Americans will vote Republican in the next four years. Or, 2) Mister Obama could prove to be an asset to the country, and will be re-elected next term. I just hope he figures out his plan before January 20, or it will be the American people, not the politicians, suffering.