



## Obama supporters enthusiastic despite results

By Marissa Hayat and Crystalyn Vicendese  
Penn State University

*Story written as an election night deadline assignment for Comm460*

Rotelli's restaurant in downtown State College is unusually packed for a Tuesday night. There is a crowd of over 60 people of all ages and races donning Obama t-shirts and holding up Obama signs.

All of the booths and tables in the Calder Way restaurant are full. More people are lined up at the buffet, all eyes fixed on the flat screen televisions on the wall. Conversations circulate through the crowd as to who will win the Pennsylvania Democratic primary, but like others in the Penn State community, these people have come out to support Barack Obama.

In State College voting precincts 44 and 27, which are comprised of dormitories in East and Pollock halls, Obama has received 569 votes to Clinton's 200 votes.

"Looking at the results from these precincts, I'm happy, very happy," Samuel LaDouceur, a senior from Philadelphia said. "It's a younger generation and students are stepping up in this election."

By 9 p.m., CNN and other major news outlets are predicting Hillary Clinton to win in the state of Pennsylvania. This announcement causes the Obama crowd to yell, "Boo!" at the screens.

Reggie Johnson, a law student from Chicago, said, "Obama is the only candidate who I think can really make a change. I'm from Chicago, so I've already seen some of the changes he's capable of making, especially in the education system. He's awesome."

Johnson has been working on the Obama campaign for over a month. As he hung up "Obama '08" signs on the windows, he explained why he is so dedicated to this campaign.

"I love his stance on foreign policy, and that's what we need right now. We need someone who will talk to foreign leaders and say 'We made a mistake and now it's time to fix it.' I believe what he says. He's real," said Johnson.

With Clinton leading Obama, 54 to 46 percent, the supporters at Rotelli's are slightly disappointed, but remain optimistic. Dagmar Wilson, a Boalsburg resident, who brought her whole family along to watch the results, is one of the people who will not yet accept defeat.

"Barack Obama has everything," she says. "He's the ideal candidate, I've been a fan since the Democratic convention four years ago." She hopes that when the last vote is counted, Obama will come out on top. "I'm trying to be the eternal optimist," she says, "I still think he's going to win Pennsylvania."