## NEG Elections Updates

### Obama Will Win Now

#### Obama will win now—electoral math and geographic patterns:

Dennis **Quillen, 7/17/2012** (retired geography professor currently residing in Hattiesburg, Accessed 7/20/2012 at [http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/DB/20120717/OPINION/207170311 /Election-geography-suggests-Obama-win?odyssey=nav|head&nclick\_check=1](http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/DB/20120717/OPINION/207170311%20/Election-geography-suggests-Obama-win?odyssey=nav|head&nclick_check=1), rwg)

Based upon current information dealing with electoral mathematics coupled with the geographic patterns of population, unemployment, and ethnic composition, it appears President Obama should be a betting favorite to be re-elected in November. Our electoral system requires 270 votes for either Romney or Obama to be determined the winner. Among three of the major news sources, CNN, USA Today, and Real Clear Politics, Obama currently leads Romney in the anticipated electoral vote count. Similarities exist among the three sources, but differences are shown by the range of delegates in the camp of each candidate. President Obama shows a range of 196-247 likely votes; Gov. Romney shows 181-206 likely votes. Clearly, both are short of the needed 270 votes for election, but the needed votes are found in the seven to 12 "Toss Up" states.

#### Electoral math gives Obama the edge now:

Dennis **Quillen, 7/17/2012** (retired geography professor currently residing in Hattiesburg, Accessed 7/20/2012 at [http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/DB/20120717/OPINION/207170311 /Election-geography-suggests-Obama-win?odyssey=nav|head&nclick\_check=1](http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/DB/20120717/OPINION/207170311%20/Election-geography-suggests-Obama-win?odyssey=nav|head&nclick_check=1), rwg)

The mathematics of the Electoral voting can be rather involved, but a couple of examples illustrate the headwinds that Romney must overcome in order to win in November. CNN shows Obama needing just 23 additional electoral votes to reach 270. Florida alone (29 votes) provides the number needed for victory. An alternate scenario: Obama loses Florida, but takes Ohio and Iowa. That provides 24 votes, one more than needed. Countless other combinations can be found through the examination of the electoral maps produced by the news sources. The path to attaining 270 Electoral votes shows President Obama having a tailwind and Romney facing a headwind. Both candidates are clearly viable candidates at this point. It simply appears at present, though, that the path to victory is easier for the incumbent Obama than the challenger, Romney.

#### Obama will win—better campaign:

**News Sun, 7/20/2012** (“The tempestuous 2012 election,” Accessed on 7/20/2012 at

<http://www.newssun.com/opinion/col-072012-gandelman>, rwg)

In his masterful book, "The Candidate: What it Takes to Win -- and Hold -- the White House", University of California Political Scientist Samuel Poplin says a challenger's campaign must be like a nimble speedboat and adapt quickly, while an incumbent's is like a battleship, slower to course-correct. Romney's campaign today seems the battleship, and Obama's the speedboat. In recent weeks Obama has taken several actions that move him closer to Poplin's specific, historical criteria for winning incumbents.

#### Highly qualified analysts think Obama will win:

**News Sun, 7/20/2012** (“The tempestuous 2012 election,” Accessed on 7/20/2012 at

<http://www.newssun.com/opinion/col-072012-gandelman>, rwg)

Attorney and Moderate Voice blogger Patrick Edaburn analyzed American University political science professor Allan Lichtman's reliable "keys to the White House" and found Democrats have 10 of 8 needed to win. In an interview with a liberal blogger, Lichtman -- who has successfully predicted every Presidential winner since Ronald Reagan's 1984's re-election, -- said the Democrats have three more keys needed to win.

#### Obama will win now—Romney is alienating the Latino vote necessary to win:

Maria **Cardona, 7/20/2012** (staff writer, “GOP's Obama obsession will lose it the election,” Accessed 7/20/2012 at <http://www.cnn.com/2012/07/20/opinion/cardona-romney-latino/index.html>, rwg)

 (CNN) -- A month ago, when Mitt Romney addressed the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials during its annual conference in Orlando, Florida, many thought he was on a path to adopting a more nuanced tone on immigration and coming up with an aggressive strategy to woo Latino voters to his side.¶ Instead, he lately seems to have adopted U.S. Rep. Michele Bachmann's messaging strategy, using a version of the Minnesotan's line from the 2008 campaign when she went on a rant about the views of then-Sen. Barack Obama and his wife being "very anti-American."¶ Romney is not making it easier for Latinos to support him. In fact, the strategy will continue alienating this critical demographic group, along with independents and women.¶ We heard former New Hampshire Gov. John Sununu, one of Romney's top surrogates, use similar language on Tuesday.¶ "I wish this president would learn how to be an American," he said.¶ Granted, he apologized for it later that day, but the subtext is still there. Romney himself is using a version of the line when he says that Obama's way of doing things seems "foreign." To many voters, that is code for "un-American."¶ Repeat offender Rush Limbaugh has also been making headlines.¶ On Monday he declared, "I think it can now be said without equivocation" that Obama "hates this country." And Republicans don't seem to be in a hurry to admonish him or distance themselves from those statements. Romney has not responded.¶ To be clear, as a Democrat, I am not surprised or complaining that the GOP is resorting to such low levels. As for House Speaker Tip O'Neill was fond of saying, "Politics ain't beanbag."¶ As a political strategist, however, I find this new tactic reckless and dangerous for a political party that needs to broaden its base of support to win -- among independents, women and especially Latinos. This kind of language will do the opposite.¶ As an American Latina born in Colombia, I recoiled at this language, the same way I did in 2008 when Bachmann used it. It reminds me -- and I suspect it reminds many other Latinos in this country -- of the lengths to which many in this Republican Party have gone to marginalize those who represent the new and changing demographics in the United States.¶ Given that experts say Romney needs at least 40% of the Latino vote to win, this is an odd strategy for someone who enjoys Latino support in the low 20s. Contrast that to the effort going on in the Obama campaign to continue speaking to Latinos about the issues they care most about.

#### Unemployment is going down now—means Obama will win:

Dennis **Quillen, 7/17/2012** (retired geography professor currently residing in Hattiesburg, Accessed 7/20/2012 at [http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/DB/20120717/OPINION/207170311 /Election-geography-suggests-Obama-win?odyssey=nav|head&nclick\_check=1](http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/DB/20120717/OPINION/207170311%20/Election-geography-suggests-Obama-win?odyssey=nav|head&nclick_check=1), rwg)

It is generally accepted that the number one issue in the campaign will be on jobs, specifically the unemployment rate. Among the 12 crucial states, eight have unemployment rates below the national average. Among the four remaining states (with rates higher than U. S. rate of 8.2 percent), all four are showing faster decreases in unemployment than the national average. Consequently, the issue of jobs and unemployment will be relatively less an issue than in other parts of the U.S. This situation should aid Obama more than Romney.

#### Obama will win—Hispanic voters and toss up states:

Dennis **Quillen, 7/17/2012** (retired geography professor currently residing in Hattiesburg, Accessed 7/20/2012 at [http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/DB/20120717/OPINION/207170311 /Election-geography-suggests-Obama-win?odyssey=nav|head&nclick\_check=1](http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/DB/20120717/OPINION/207170311%20/Election-geography-suggests-Obama-win?odyssey=nav|head&nclick_check=1), rwg)

The increased number of Hispanic voters is seen by some to be a factor in particular areas. Hispanics potentially account for nearly 25% of the vote in both Nevada and Florida. Obama is likely to benefit from this factor. A third condition among the crucial states is the fact that Obama won 11 of the 12 current "Toss Up" states in 2008, losing only in Missouri. It is not unreasonable to assume that Obama might well retain a number of these states. A couple of wins in key states would assure his victory.

#### Obama will win now—Latino vote ensures:

Maria **Cardona, 7/20/2012** (staff writer, “GOP's Obama obsession will lose it the election,” Accessed 7/20/2012 at <http://www.cnn.com/2012/07/20/opinion/cardona-romney-latino/index.html>, rwg)

This week, Latino Decisions released a poll that gives Obama 70% of the Latino vote to Romney's 22%, the highest support the president has enjoyed from the Latino community to date. If those numbers hold, it will be very hard for Romney to win the election. This jump in support is a clear sign that the Obama campaign is doing a much more aggressive job of reminding Latino voters what this president has done to help Latino children and families get ahead:

### Romney Will Win Now

#### Romney will win—fundraising advantage:

Robert **Tracinski, 7/19/2012** (staff writer, “How the Election Will Play Out (and Why Romney Will Win),” Accessed 7/20/2012 at [http://www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2012/07/19/how\_the\_ election\_will\_play\_out\_and\_why\_romney\_will\_win\_114848.html](http://www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2012/07/19/how_the_%20election_will_play_out_and_why_romney_will_win_114848.html), rwg)

Obama started out with a distinct money advantage, since he could start raising money for the general election while Romney was still spending money on the primaries. But he is rapidly blowing his money advantage. In recent months, he has raised less than Romney and spent a lot more, particularly on his huge spree of negative ads. Jack Wakeland first pointed this pattern out to me and speculated that Obama is running his campaign finances about as well as he has been running the nation's finances. The result is that it now looks as if Romney and his supporters will be able to outspend Obama by a significant margin in the final months of the race. And if there's one thing we learned from the primaries, it is that Romney can win when he's able to outspend his rivals.

#### Romney will win—undecided voters will break against Obama at the end of the day:

Bill **O'Reilly, 7/18/2012** (Fox News Analyst, “Who would win the presidential election if held today?” Accessed 7/20/2012 at <http://www.foxnews.com/on-air/oreilly/2012/07/19/bill-oreilly-who-would-win-presidential-election-if-held-today>, rwg)

Now "Talking Points" believes Barack Obama would not carry one state that voted for John McCain last time around. Therefore, Mitt Romney begins with 173 electoral votes. I also think the President will lose North Carolina. That's 15 electoral votes. He'll lose New Hampshire, four electoral votes; and Indiana, eleven electoral votes. That brings Governor Romney up to 203 electoral votes, 270 needed to win. So the governor is 67 electoral votes away if my analysis is correct. He can get 60 of those votes if he wins Virginia, Ohio, and Florida. That would leave him just seven electoral votes from the presidency. So you can see that Mr. Obama has very little margin of error. According to a poll by Purple Strategies, Ohio, Virginia and Florida are tied right now within the margin of error. As Dick Morris always says when it's a tie, the challenger usually wins because undecideds break against the guy they know best, in this case, the President.

#### Fundraising advantage means Romney will win:

Robert **Tracinski, 7/19/2012** (staff writer, “How the Election Will Play Out (and Why Romney Will Win),” Accessed 7/20/2012 at [http://www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2012/07/19/how\_the\_ election\_will\_play\_out\_and\_why\_romney\_will\_win\_114848.html](http://www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2012/07/19/how_the_%20election_will_play_out_and_why_romney_will_win_114848.html), rwg)

The big picture is that the Obama campaign is reaching its full tide. This is its moment of maximum impact, and everything after this is a pushback from the Romney campaign. So the fact that Obama is still just even in the polls, at the full extent of his effort, means that we can expect that everything from here on out will be a loss. From now on, the campaign will be about Romney making his own positive case, building back his image, setting his own message, firing back in the debates, and sending it all of home with giant advertising buys that Obama won't be able to match.

### DA Turns Case: China Bashing is Racist

#### China bashing is racist—turns the AFF:

Hannah **Gurman, 3/9/2012** (assistant professor at New York University’s Gallatin School of Individualized Study, “Beating China, corporate style,” Accessed 7/20/2012 at

<http://www.atimes.com/atimes/China_Business/NC09Cb01.html>, rwg)

As anxiety about the end of United States hegemony abounds and the US unemployment rate remains high, talk about the necessity of out-competing China is on the rise.¶ The leading presidential candidates have zeroed in on China as a major threat to US economic security and have vowed to ensure that the United States remains on top of the global economic ladder.¶ In campaign speeches, Republicans and Democrats alike are using economic nationalism to appeal to American workers. Across the political spectrum, recent campaign statements on China toggle between two related positions. One calls for cracking down on unfair trade practices. The other looks forward to the¶ ¶ return of manufacturing jobs for American workers.¶ Although this campaign rhetoric is geared toward middle-class and blue-collar voters, it implies that an increase in corporate earnings will benefit American workers - once again peddling the flawed notion that what's good for American CEOs is good for America.¶ Corporatization of US economic nationalism¶ In a wonderful book, Buy American (1999), Dana Frank documents the sordid history of US economic nationalism. From the American Revolution to the 21st century, she shows how "Buy American" campaigns enlisted xenophobic, particularly anti-Asian, sentiment in order to protect the interests of white American workers.¶ Advanced by the big US labor unions in the mid-20th century, this narrow vision could succeed only as long as the compact between US corporations and US unions lasted.¶ As corporations incrementally dismantled this alliance in the 1970s and 1980s, many union members continued to blame foreign and minority workers for their disappearing jobs. By the 1990s, organized labor in America was a shadow of what it had once been. In 1999, only 13.1% of American workers were unionized, compared to the 1950s, when unions represented more than one-third of the American workforce.¶ Meanwhile, Sam Walton and other anti-union corporate bigwigs were simultaneously globalizing and attaching "Made in America" tags to whatever they could, spearheading a new era of "Buy American" campaigns. Thus, a short-sighted and racist strategy designed to protect a narrow pool of workers was co-opted by US corporations whose sole raison d'etre is to turn a profit for the biggest shareholders. The campaign rhetoric on China is the latest chapter in this story. In the guise of economic nationalism, US politicians are currently leading the way to advance the interests of transnational corporations.

## AFF Elections Answers

### AFF: Link Defense

#### No link: everyone’s paying attention to the Olympics and not the election—

Robert **Tracinski, 7/19/2012** (staff writer, “How the Election Will Play Out (and Why Romney Will Win),” Accessed 7/20/2012 at [http://www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2012/07/19/how\_the\_ election\_will\_play\_out\_and\_why\_romney\_will\_win\_114848.html](http://www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2012/07/19/how_the_%20election_will_play_out_and_why_romney_will_win_114848.html))

Then there is the calendar. Outside of Washington and the media, most voters are not paying much attention to the race yet. And in exactly eight days, the Olympics begin. The Olympics are the crucial dividing point, because they will dominate the airwaves and the news, sucking away whatever attention anyone is now paying to the election. So Obama's negative campaign blitz has to have whatever effect it's going to have in those eight days. But what happens when the Olympics start? To begin with, the Olympics provide an opportunity for Mitt Romney to highlight the best part of his record, his successful turnaround of the 2002 Winter Olympics. And he can do so without having to do very much or spend much money. It will be natural, after all, for the sports reporters covering the Olympics to mention Romney's history with the movement.