

# The Michigan Daily

Wednesday  
December 13, 2000

One hundred ten years of editorial freedom

NEWS: 76-DAILY  
CLASSIFIED: 764-0557  
www.michigandaily.com

Vol. CXI, No. 52

Ann Arbor, Michigan

©2000 The Michigan Daily

# IS IT OVER?

## Court rules 5-4; Gore expected to respond today

WASHINGTON (AP) — A divided Supreme Court reversed a state court decision for recounts in Florida's contested election last night, all but transforming George W. Bush into president-elect. Some Democrats urged Vice President Al Gore to give up his challenge in America's overtime election.

Gore "should act now and concede," Ed Rendell, the chairman of the Democratic Party said less than an hour after the court issued its 5-4 late night ruling five tumultuous weeks after the nation voted.

The vice president's campaign manager, William Daley, issued a statement last night saying Gore and running mate Joseph Lieberman were reviewing the ruling and "will address the court's decision in full detail at a time to be determined tomorrow." But even so, as the night wore on, some top aides said privately the vice president would be forced to depart the race. "That's where every discussion is headed," said one.

Former Secretary of State James Baker, representing Bush, said the Texas governor and running mate Dick Cheney were "very pleased and gratified" with the court's ruling. "This has been a long and arduous process for everyone involved on both sides," he added in remarks that stopped well short of either a declaration of victory for Bush or a call for a concession from the vice president.

In an extraordinary late-night decision, the justices said the recount ordered last weekend by the

Florida Supreme Court could not be completed by a midnight deadline for selection of presidential electors and still pass constitutional muster.

"It is obvious that the recount cannot be conducted in compliance with the requirements of equal protection and due process without substantial additional work," the justices wrote. Its ruling came with exceptional haste for the court, the day after it heard arguments in the case.

In a forceful dissent, Justice John Paul Stevens wrote, "Although we may never know with complete certainty the identity of the winner of this year's presidential election, the identity of the loser is perfectly clear. It is the nation's confidence in the judge as an impartial guardian of the law."

The ruling was the latest pivot point in the nation's unbearably close election, a saga of counts, recounts, lawsuits by the dozens and two trips to the highest court in the land. For five tumultuous weeks, it has held Gore and Bush in limbo and the nation in thrall, and seared new terms into the nation's consciousness — "dimpled chad" most prominent among them.

That was one description for partially punched ballots, thousands of which were at the center of the contested election in Florida, the state that stood to pick the next president.

Without the state's 25 electoral votes, neither Bush nor Gore had the votes in the Electoral College.



Read the Daily online during break for the latest developments in the election: [www.michigandaily.com](http://www.michigandaily.com)



Republican vice presidential candidate Dick Cheney talks on the phone from his home in McLean, Va., last night to Texas Gov. George W. Bush after the U.S. Supreme Court released their decision. Vice President Al Gore and running mate Joe Lieberman plan to make a statement today.

## Harvard warns of admissions burnout

By Robert Gold  
Daily Staff Reporter

Are some college hopefuls getting burned out trying to get into their dream school?

One of the most selective universities in the nation thinks so.

Harvard University posted a letter on its Website last week suggesting students are put under more pressure than previous generations to get into the most recognized schools, often thinking there is only one route to success.

"College admission — the chance to position oneself for 'success' through the acquisition of the 'right' college degree — looms large for increasing numbers of students," the letter states.

"Burnout is an inevitable result of trying to live up to alien goals. Time out can promote the discovery of one's own passions," it says.

Harvard Admissions Director Marlyn McGrath said the school wants students who are independent thinkers.

See **ADMISSIONS**, Page 2



Snow sits piled high above Regents' Plaza last night, a day after a blizzard dumped 13.1 inches of snow on Ann Arbor. All public schools in Washtenaw County closed, but the University held classes as usual.

## DIGGING OUT A<sup>2</sup> paralyzed by snow

By Maria Sprow  
Daily Staff Reporter

The blizzard that dropped more than a foot of snow on southeastern Michigan yesterday forced countless businesses, government offices and schools to close, including every school in Washtenaw County and even Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti.

In fact, the area's worst storm in nearly two years stopped almost everyone in their tracks — except students and faculty at the University of Michigan.

"My car is buried, but that's all right," LSA junior Lindsey Zamplas said. "I can walk."

Fearing safety conditions and poor visibility, the history department allowed faculty and staff to leave an hour early Monday afternoon.

"Staff were permitted to leave early so they could get home safely ... so as not to risk life and limb," said Jean Jones, administrative manager for the history department.

"We just did what we thought was appropriate," she said.

Ann Arbor received 13.1 inches of snow, University weather observer Dennis Kahlbaum said. More snow is expected to accumulate tonight and tomorrow.

The city deployed a fleet of 24 trucks to plow 835 miles of roads. Unlike the snowstorm that immobilized the city two years ago, the city did not declare a state of emer-

gency this week. Genesee and Lapeer counties closed all roads yesterday and proclaimed a state of emergency. The Flint Journal did not publish yesterday for the first time in 42 years because not enough employees were able to reach the office and there was no way to deliver the newspaper.

More than 200 cars were stranded along Interstate 75 near Flint on Monday night and yesterday morning.

Northwest Airlines alone canceled more than 125 flights going to and from Wayne County's Detroit Metropolitan Airport.

Locally, the Ann Arbor Police Department received reports of at least 14 accidents due to snow since Monday, Sgt. Ed Stuck said.

"Let's just say it's been a lot," Stuck said, adding that he had not yet counted accident reports from yesterday afternoon. He could not comment on the severity of the accidents.

Stuck said to avoid collisions drivers need to allow for plenty of following distance and exercise patience.

"The biggest thing is you just can't be in a hurry," he said. "You can't drive like it's 80 degrees and sunny outside ... this means that if the speed limit is 25 and it's snowing outside, 25 might be too fast."

Many students reported being "almost run over" as they navigated the snow-covered intersections around campus.

See **SNOW**, Page 2

## Congress may attempt to ban Internet gambling

By Louie Meizlish  
Daily Staff Reporter

One issue that Congress could examine in the remaining days of its lame-duck session involves punishment for U.S. companies that run gambling houses on the Internet.

Such establishments include online casinos, through which patrons wager on games like blackjack and poker, and betting houses, where patrons wager on the outcome of sports events.

The Internet Gambling Prohibition Act of 2000, would not allow representatives of gambling businesses to "place, receive, or otherwise make a bet or wager" or to "send, receive, or invite information assisting in the placing of a bet or wager."

"State attorneys general were having trouble enforcing Internet gaming because of the interstate nature of the Internet," said Michelle Semones, press secretary for Rep. Bob Goodlatte (R-Va.), who introduced the bill. In other words, the attorney general of one particular state cannot

prosecute Internet gaming sites based in another state.

The penalty for doing so would be either \$20,000 or the amount of the bet that was wagered, whichever is more, and up to four years in prison.

"There are no penalties for the actual bettor," Semones said.

The bill would allow Native American reservations to run their own Internet gaming Websites, Semones said, but "the bet must be placed and received on their own reservation.

I shouldn't be able to place a bet on my home PC."

The bill did not pass when it was brought before the House in July. Goodlatte attempted to get the bill passed under a "suspension of the rules" procedure, under which the bill would have to garner the votes of two-thirds of the House members present. It failed by a vote of 245-159, 24 votes shy of the amount required to pass.

"The bill struck me as a sham," Rep. Lynn

See **GAMBLING**, Page 2

### WEATHER



27°  
Snow

Tonight  
Cloudy.  
Low 12.  
Tomorrow  
Snow. High 32.

### NEWS

#### In the air tonight

Construction to the Rackham Graduate School building has raised concerns about emissions being released into the air, but University officials insist the fumes are harmless to people on campus. **PAGE 3.**

### ARTS

#### One more time

The Power Center gears up for an encore production of William Shakespeare's "The Tempest." **PAGE 5.**



### SPORTS

#### Bowl bound

Michigan football heads down to sunny Orlando, Fla., to play in the Citrus Bowl against Auburn. **PAGE 14.**

