Obama advocates investment in jobs, education in SOTU address

Memorable program hosted by the NAACP

Michael Torruella
The Daily Free Press
Boston, MA

U.S. President Barack Obama addressed the nation Tuesday night in his fifth State of the Union speech, focusing on growing the middle class, expanding domestic clean energy production and enacting stricter gun control laws.

Obama opened his speech reflecting on the last four years, saying the nation had come a long way economically.

"Together, we have cleared away the rubble of crisis, and can say with renewed confidence that the state of our union is strong," he said. Then the economy took center-stage as Obama spoke of continuing job growth, recognizing that employment numbers are coming back to America.

"Our economy is adding jobs, every day. The new jobs will not all-in on clean energy, so must the economic struggles of the middle class. Obama turned to the minimum wage, advocating for a large jump from the current $7.25 limit. "I want to raise the federal minimum wage to $9 an hour," he said. As expected, Obama addressed the deficit, assuring Americans that progress is being made to reduce the national debt.

Obama then shifted toward the environment. Obama said growth within the clean-energy industry is crucial, not only to secure a healthy environment for future generations, but also to keep America globally competitive.

"Last year, wind energy added nearly half of all new power capacity in America," he said. "Solar energy gets cheaper by 20 percent every decade and provides assistance to retirees."

Kelley also said the decision to leave the background check system for background checks after five years of the Postal Service's operations of the postal service will no longer affect the background checks.

In light of the numerous gun tragedies that have occurred in the past months, Obama closed his State of the Union with a focus on education and the middle class, Obama turned to the economic struggles of the middle class. Obama turned to the minimum wage, advocating for a large jump from the current $7.25 limit. "I want to raise the federal minimum wage to $9 an hour," he said. As expected, Obama addressed the deficit, assuring Americans that progress is being made to reduce the national debt.

President Obama
gun control. "I know this is not the first time this country has debated how to reduce gun violence," he said. "But this time is different. Despite the looming challenges in the months ahead, Obama closed the address with a call for unity among all Americans. "We are citizens," he said. "...doesn't just describe our nationality or legal status. It describes the way we're made."

Postal Service to drop Saturday mail delivery in August

Ayan Choudhury
Daily Colleague
Pitt State L.

The United States Postal Service will no longer deliver mail on Saturdays to cut costs by $2 million annually. The change in operations will continue to deliver packages six days a week. "[The USPS] simply doesn’t have the cash to run a six-day mail delivery schedule," said Tad Kelley, a spokesman for western Pennsylvania district for The United States Postal Service. The scheduled cutback, which was announced in August, is the total volume of mail delivery, will go into effect in August. Mail will still be delivered to F.O. Box addresses, and offices that are currently open on Saturdays will remain open after the new plan is implemented. Kelley also said the decision has been made after five years of dialogue and surveys around the nation that showed that Americans do not use the Postal Service as they did in the past. Mail delivery has seen a 25 percent drop since 2006 compared to an increase of 14 percent in package delivery, Kelley said. The five-day delivery schedule will not affect the background operations of the postal service because they will continue to run mail transportation and processing at their centers, Kelley said. Along with deferring mail delivery, the U.S. Postal Service has been struggling financially due to increasing costs for mandated expenses to cover future medical costs for postal retirees. The Postal Service is the only government agency that is required to cover these medical expenses that consumed $1.1 billion of losses in 2012. Kelley also said the changes in the delivery schedule would affect 35,000 positions nationwide. The Postal Service cut about 200,000 positions in the last decade and provides assistance for outgoing employees to make a transition, Kelley said.
Author/Photographer/Outdoor Adventurer David Haynes, March 4, 7 p.m., Houston Cole Library

Author/Photographer/Outdoor Adventurer David Haynes, along with his canine companions Bailey and Roscoe, will be featured at the Friends of the Houston Cole Library spring speaker event. Haynes has seen Alabama by land and by water and shares it all in print and photo. His first book, Motorcycling Alabama, Fifty Ride Loops Through the Heart of Dixie, was researched along Alabama’s most beautiful highways and byways, often with Bailey and Roscoe riding shotgun in their own sidecar. Last spring, he and the dogs traveled by canoe on 631-mile, 45-day float down the Alabama Scenic River Trail. The book about this adventure is forthcoming.

Annual Ayers Lecture Featuring Diane McWhorter
March 14, 3 p.m., Stadium Tower
This is a major annual event that brings nationally known journalists to campus. Ms. McWhorter is an Alabama native who won the Pulitzer Prize in 2002.

Holocaust Remembrance Featuring Holocaust Survivor Max Steinmetz
April 11, 7:30 p.m., Ernest Stone Center Theatre
31st annual Remembrance of the Holocaust of World War II. Holocaust survivor Max Steinmetz of Birmingham is the keynote speaker. Between 1942 and 1945, Steinmetz was held in German captivity in at least five ghettos or camps, including both Auschwitz and Dachau.

Gary Sinise and the Lt. Dan Band
May 18, Time and Location TBA
We are thrilled to welcome Oscar nominee Gary Sinise and his band to campus this May for a major event in support of our wounded warriors. Although Sinise is most known for his acting, perhaps his life’s best work is accomplished through his Gary Sinise Foundation, which supports our nation’s defenders, veterans, first-responders, and their families.

Come meet Coach Clark this Monday!
On Monday night February 18, JSU new head football Coach Bill Clark will visit SGA Senate during the regularly scheduled meetings which takes place each Monday night at 6 pm in the TMB Auditorium. This will be one of the first chances to see and hear Coach Clark since he was named JSU head coach back in December. The Senate wishes to extend, as always, a welcome to this exciting meeting!

Do you miss Mom’s home cooking? Come and try The Village Inn
Grand opening special
*One meat
*Two vegetables
*Plus drink (free refills)
All for $4.99 plus tax

Upcoming events at JSU
Spring 2013
Author/Photographer/Outdoor Adventurer David Haynes

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Foothills Piano Festival begins with four hands

Kara Coleman
Editor-in-chief

Dr. Wendy Faughn has been playing the piano for over 35 years. For the past six years, she has organized the Foothills Piano Fes- tival, a series of concerts, presentations, and Master Classes involving K-12 students. Originally, events for students were held at a variety of locations in the area; the Anniston High School auditorium, the Anniston Museum of Natural History, and JSU’s Mason- Hall. “It started out as a three-day event, with concerts, master classes, and workshop for youth,” says Faughn. “It’s turned into more of a series, where one has had its own unique flavor. The concert tomorrow night, Feb. 15, will feature two performances playing the same piano.”

Past concerts have showcased jazz pianists, classical pianists, and chamber music featuring piano, violin, and cello. But there has also been plenty of non-traditional fare. “There have been works that are very avant-garde and cutting edge, written in the last five years, that involve us using different types of electronics,” said Faughn. “Nintendo’s Wii gaming technology has even been used in past performances.”

One of the pianists performing on Friday night is an Associate Dean of Florida State University, one of the biggest and best music schools in the Southeast. He will be speaking with Music majors at JSU on Friday about careers in music, and how to apply for music graduate programs.

At the end of this month, Jeremy Samo- lsky will give a recital and teach a master class. Faughn explained that this master class is like a public lesson. “It’s where three or four pianists are chosen to play, they get their pieces up to performance-level, and then they play them in front of this artist. Then he gives them further input on how they can improve, and the artists try these new suggestions in front of the audience.”

Faughn and another JSU piano student will also perform a piece the students have composed. “We give them the opportunity to participate in the master classes. There have also been soloists, who received the award. Theannon, is going to be terrific,” said Faughn. “I think that our students, even if they have limited experience attending classical music concerts, will find such an event to be relaxing.”

This week’s concert featuring Seth Backlund and Gai Steward will be held on Feb. 15, 7:30 p.m. at the Steward Center in Los Angeles, and the award recipient. "I think that our students, even if they have limited experience attending classical music concerts, will find such an event to be relaxing."
It was “not in itself very surprising.”

Fiorenza said. After all, it’s Disney magic. And, of course, it was magical. We had the happiest place on earth. And as I said, cliché as it sounds, it was magical. We spent the last week of January in Hollywood Studios. We helped to welcome the first guests to our Disneyland. We had the fastest lines for Space Mountain, escaped a crashed ship. We shot through Space Mountain, escaped a crashed ship, we can say, “Look how jiggly my arms look in that picture.”

We are always reading and hearing about body image and self-esteem, so much that it’s become white noise. But it’s never too late to start appreciating ourselves, especially in the meaningful moments we are lucky to capture. I feel blessed that our daughter and I were able to share such a magical time with our daughter, and I certainly wouldn’t spend hours getting ready each morning. We went to Epcot and found that the new sushi bar and princesses had a stamp along with their picture. And we capture the phrase heard “round the world: “I look terrible in that picture.”

Why do women do this? This you will always

Elizabeth Warren also said that Benedic’s resig nation inevitably rais es questions about the path of succession. While Fiore zevoi said that an American will fill the pope’s position, she believes that the next pope will be someone who has had extensive Vatican exper ience in the last few years. Clooney sug gested that the new pope might come from an English-speaking country.

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JSU rifle takes aim at NCAA sectional

JACKSONVILLE – After winning the 2013 Ohio Valley Conference Rifle Championship last weekend, the Jacksonville State rifle team turned in its second-best score of the season against Mississippi, Illinois, and North Carolina – Columbia hosted “Lion Classic.”

The match, which was scheduled to take place while the second-best score of the season against Mississippi, Illinois, and North Carolina – Columbia hosted “Lion Classic.” The Gamecocks brought in five wide receivers, four of which are at least six-foot tall. Jarren Johnson is only five-foot eleven, but is a three-star recruit and expected to also compete for playing time early.

The Gamecocks also went for second-best score of the season against Mississippi, Illinois, and North Carolina – Columbia hosted “Lion Classic.” Freshman Samantha Bullard was one of those players is two-star linebacker Ramar Dennis from Alexandria. Justice Owens from Alexandria was defensive coordinator at South Alabama. “We developed a relationship here,” he said. “I like his attitude.”

The nightcap of day one was a win, 7-0, over South Alabama. Harbin bounced out win, 7-0, over South Alabama. Senior staff writer

The Chanticleer

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