### 1NC

#### Fiscal cliff will reach a deal – but still obstacles to overcome

Viser and Rowland 11/16 (Matt Viser and Christopher Rowland Globe Staff / November 16, 2012 “Leaders express hope fiscal cliff will be averted” http://www.boston.com/news/politics/2012/11/16/leaders-express-hope-fiscal-cliff-will-averted/qCwdvQP7aJZtfqUDZu254N/story.html //nimo)

Following an hourlong … deductions to raise revenues.

#### The plan drains political capital

Rubinstein, ’12 (Dana, Reporter for Capital New York, has written for Bloomberg Businessweek, the Wall Street Journal, the New York Times, the New York Observer, and the Brooklyn Paper “When is Obama going to have his Eisenhower moment?” March 27, 2012 http://www.capitalnewyork.com/article/politics/2012/03/5524547/when-obama-going-have-his-eisenhower-moment)

Ask a transportation expert who the last … mass-transit financing entirely from the gas tax.

#### Political capital’s key to fiscal cliff

Atkins, 11-8-12 (Kimberly, Boston Herald, “Prez returns to D.C. with more clout” <http://bostonherald.com/news/columnists/view/20221108prez_returns_to_dc_with_more_clout>)

When President Obama … have plenty of fight in them.

#### Falling off the fiscal cliff crushes the economy

Zakaria, 11-12-12 (Fareed, “Breaking the Deadlock” <http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,2128309,00.html?xid=rss-mostpopular>)

Unless Congress acts, …commit economic hara-kiri.

#### Extinction

Kemp, ’10 (Geoffrey, Director of Regional Strategic Programs at The Nixon Center, served in the White House under Ronald Reagan, special assistant to the president for national security affairs and senior director for Near East and South Asian affairs on the National Security Council Staff, Former Director, Middle East Arms Control Project at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 2010, The East Moves West: India, China, and Asia’s Growing Presence in the Middle East, p. 233-4)

The second scenario, … two-thirds of the planet’s population.

### 2NC UQ Wall

#### Framing issue – political capital controls uniqueness – the more he has the more he can hold the line against the GOP

Rowland 11-7-12 (Christopher, Writer at the Boston Globe and Scott Helman, Economy kept Obama afloat, blocked Romney win, Boston Globe, http://bostonglobe.com/news/nation/2012/11/07/economy-kept-obama-afloat-blocked-romney-win/GGjoaHhlk06KobPutBJoSP/story.html)

Next up for Obama is … higher taxes for the wealthy?

### 2NC Link Wall

#### Transportation Infrastructure Spending drains capital – escalates fights with GOP

Tomasky, ‘11

(Newsweek/Daily Beast special correspondent Michael Tomasky is also editor of Democracy: A Journal of Ideas – Newsweek – September 19, 2011 – lexis)

Finally, Barack Obama …conclude that this is working?

#### The GOP will beat Obama up over transportation investment

Johnson, ‘12

Fawn Johnson is a correspondent for National Journal, covering a range of issues including immigration, transportation and education. Johnson is a long-time student of Washington policymaking, previously reporting for Dow Jones Newswires and the Wall Street Journal. She has an M.A. from the Annenberg School for Communication at University of Pennsylvania and a B.A. from Bates College. National Journal Daily AM – March 13, 2012 – lexis

Bipartisanship, investment, job creation: What's … explain the need for a long-term bill.

### A2: Winners Win

#### Winner’s don’t win – two warrants

#### 1. Senators want to show independence

Mann, ‘93

Thomas, Brookings Institution,, BEYOND GRIDLOCK: PROSPECTS FOR GOVERNMENT IN THE CLINTON YEARS – AND AFTER, ed. J.L. Sundquist

Most representatives and senators … independent of the White House."

#### 2. Overreaching during the lame-duck in particular collapses future possibilities

Miniter, ‘12

(Richard, NYTimes best selling author, “Leading from Behind: The Reluctant President and the Advisors Who Decide for Him,” google books, 84-5, accessed 11-8-12)

After the historic defeat, Axelrod went … want to take any more political risks.

### Economy Impacts

#### Perception guarantees immediate decline

Brown, 11-9-12 (Joshua, financial manager and writer for the Christian Science Monitor “The fiscal cliff isn't gradual, and it will matter,” http://www.csmonitor.com/Business/The-Reformed-Broker/2012/1109/The-fiscal-cliff-isn-t-gradual-and-it-will-matter)

Now there is a new … effects of the Cliff.

#### The impact happens January 1st

Shell 11-6-12 (Adam, “In wake of election, fiscal cliff emerges as No. 1 risk”, http://www.usatoday.com/story/money/markets/2012/11/06/post-election-investors-focus-on-fiscal-cliff/1687021/)

Now that the 2012 U.S. … the fiscal cliff uncertainty," he says.

### A2: Cap Args.

#### Cap inevitable and sustainable, solutions can be offered pollution, financial instability, health problems and inequality

Rogoff 11

Kenneth Rogoff, Professor of Economics at Harvard, 12/2/2011, “Is Modern Capitalism Sustainable?,” http://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/is-modern-capitalism-sustainable-, KB

In principle, none … it seems now.

#### Zizek’s critique makes Capitalism inevitable – constructs it as an impossible enemy

Devenney 7 (Mark, Senior Lecturer in Politics and Philosophy on the Humanities Program at the University of Brighton, “Thinking the Postcolonial as Political” Borderlands e-journal Volume 6, Number 2, 2007 http://www.borderlands.net.au/vol6no2\_2007/devenney\_postcolonial.htm)

A growing market in … of postcolonial and cultural politics.

### Racism Module

#### Economic downturn dramatically increases racism

AP 09 (“U.N. Chief: Bad Economy Threatens More Racism” 4/20/09, www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,517127,00.html)

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon … technologies that proliferate hatred.

#### Continued racism leads to dehumanization and death

Tutu 01 (Archbishop Desmond is a Nobel Peace Prize laureate, 9/5/01,

Ecumenical caucus statement at World Conference Against Racism, www.oikoumene.org/index.php?id=2442.)

Racism dehumanizes, disempowers, marginalizes … due the victims of racism, past and present.

### Sequestration Module

#### Lack of compromise triggers sequestration – that causes Middle East war

Hutchison, ’12 (U.S Senator from Texas, Kay Bailey, “A Looming Threat to National Security,” September 21, States News Service, Lexis)

Despite warnings of the dire … economic growth and punish working families.

#### That goes nuclear

Russell, ’09 (James, Senior Lecturer, National Security Affairs, Naval Postgraduate School, Spring, “Strategic Stability Reconsidered: Prospects for Escalation and Nuclear War in the Middle East” IFRI, Proliferation Papers, #26, http://www.ifri.org/downloads/PP26\_Russell\_2009.pdf)

Strategic stability in the region is thus … with substantial risk for the entire world.

### AT: Gridlock

#### Political capital solves gridlock

Fraser, 11-8-12 (Master's degree in Political Economy from The New School for Social Research, He has worked with The Clinton Foundation, The Council on Foreign Relations, and written for publications mainly on finance, politics and music, “Should We Get Ready For 4 More Years of Ridiculous Obama vs GOP Obstructionism,” http://www.policymic.com/articles/18841/should-we-get-ready-for-4-more-years-of-ridiculous-obama-vs-gop-obstructionism)

President Obama indeed … of a Democratic candidate in 2016.

### Top of the Docket

#### Fiscal cliff is top of the docket

AP, 11-8-12 (“Changes coming to Obama administration for second term \_ but not while fiscal cliff threatens,” 11/8/2012, <http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/fiscal-cliff-will-test-all-sides-readiness-for-compromise-after-obama-win/2012/11/08/8302f600-29ad-11e2-aaa5-ac786110c486_story.html>)

WASHINGTON — Big changes are coming … in setting the tone for Obama’s second term.

### Warming Module

#### Success in fiscal cliff negotiations is key to Obama’s second term agenda---specifically warming

Montgomery and Goldfarb 11/6 Lori and Zachary are writer for the Washington Post. “Fresh from reelection, president finds himself on edge of ‘fiscal cliff’,” 2012, <http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/decision2012/fiscal-cliff-clock-starts-in-earnest-as-election-fades-to-background/2012/11/06/c4dfde6e-27b2-11e2-b2a0-ae18d6159439_story.html>

If Obama can engineer a compromise … can address a major issue.”

### A2: No Blame

#### Presidents are tied to agency action – Obama gets the blame

Wallison 3

(Peter J., Resident Fellow – American Enterprise Institute, “A Power Shift No One Noticed”, AEI Online, 1-1, http://www.aei.org/publications/pubID.15652/pub\_detail.asp)

Control over independent … Bush "economic team

### Links – NIB

#### Bipartisan opposition to bank

Orski 11, Former Associate Administrator of the Urban Mass Transportation Administration and government transportation consultant for 2 decades, 11 (Ken, “Infrastructure Bank: Losing Favor with the White House?” August 30, http://www.newgeography.com/content/002408-infrastructure-bank-losing-favor-with-white-house)

But today, the idea is on life … whose time had come and gone.

### Sequestration Weighing

#### Middle East war most likely

Kam, ’07 Ephraim, Deputy Head-Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies, (A Nuclear Iran, p. 50,

http://d.scribd.com/docs/2o4yoqqhx2btgchcpfug.pdf)http://www.tau.ac.il/jcss/memoranda/memo88.pdf

The statements by Iranian … the risk do not yet exist.

#### Sequestration guts power projection – biggest internal link to all conflict

Skelton, ’12 (partner with Husch Blackwell and former Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, 9/20 (“Sequestration means cuts we can’t afford,” Roll Call, Lexis)

Sequestration will also … threats themselves won't wait.