

State holding the line

Revenue more than expected, but May's budget cuts likely to stand. - Arkansas, 1B



Alltel deal OK

FCC approves acquisition by Verizon. - Business, 1D



Arkansas Democrat Gazette

ARKANSAS' NEWSPAPER

Copyright © 2008, Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Inc.

Printed at Little Rock • Wednesday, November 5, 2008

ArkansasOnline.com

76 Pages 12 Sections

50¢

OBAMA TRIUMPHS

McCain concedes; U.S. elects 1st black president

Election results

These incomplete, unofficial totals are the latest available before press time and, because of deadline constraints, may not match figures elsewhere in today's newspaper.

U.S. SENATE table with Mark Pryor and Rebekah Kennedy.

U.S. HOUSE 2nd District table with Vic Snyder and Deborah McFarland.

U.S. HOUSE 3rd District table with John Boozman and Abel Tomlinson.

U.S. HOUSE 4th District table with Mike Ross and Joshua Drake.

BALLOT ISSUES

Proposed Amendment 1 Election changes table.

Proposed Amendment 2 Annual legislative sessions table.

Proposed Amendment 3 State lotteries table.

Proposed Initiative Act 1 Foster care/adoption limit table.

Referred Question 1 Water, waste disposal bonds table.

PULASKI COUNTY JUDGE table with Buddy Villines and Phil Wyrick.

PULASKI COUNTY SHERIFF table with Doc Holladay and Patrick Mulligan.

NORTH LITTLE ROCK MAYOR table with Patrick Henry Hays, Bill Laman, Bubba Lloyd, and Michelle McLelland.

ARKANSAS SENATE District 30 table with Gilbert Baker and Joe White.

WEATHER

LITTLE ROCK Today Partly cloudy. High Mid-70s, south winds at 5 to 15 mph.

INDEX table with categories like Food, Movies, Sports, etc.

Home delivery 378-3456 Outside Pulaski County 1-800-482-1121



Bloomberg News/DANIEL ACKER

President-elect Obama and his wife, Michelle, take the stage with Joe Biden and his wife, Jill, after Obama's acceptance speech Tuesday in Chicago.

'Change has come,' Obama proclaims

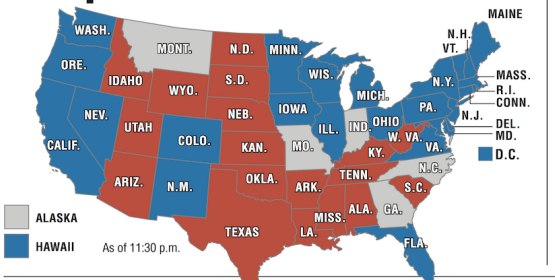
BY MATTHEW S.L. CATE ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

CHICAGO — Ending an improbable journey to the threshold of the White House, Barack Obama on Tuesday proclaimed that "change has come to America."

"If there is anyone out there who still doubts America is a place where all things are possible, who still wonders if the dream of our founders is alive in our time, who still questions the power of our democracy, tonight is your answer," Obama said, six beams of light shining skyward behind him.

Standing on a flag-stocked stage near the shores of Lake Michigan, Obama spoke toward the city's illuminated skyline, the Sears Tower looming over all, its spires reflecting powerful lights colored red, white and blue.

U.S. presidential race



SOURCE: AP

"This victory alone is not the change we seek. It is only the chance we have to make that change," he said. "A new dawn

of American leadership is at hand." It was in Chicago that the half-black, first-term senator

began an unlikely four-year rise from the halls of the Illinois Legislature to the threshold of the

Lifting lottery ban a winner, voters say

Yearly legislative sessions also OK'd

BY MICHAEL R. WICKLINE ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

Arkansas voters on Tuesday opened their state to Arkansas lotteries, banned by the state's constitutions since 1836.

They also OK'd measures requiring annual legislation sessions, allowing the Natural Resources Commission to issue \$300 million in bonds, allowing the General Assembly to decide who will be election officials, and striking "insane" from the constitution.

Proposed Constitutional Amendment 3, authorizing the General Assembly to establish lotteries to finance college scholarships, gained approval despite opponents' claim that

it could lead to casinos, an assertion amendment backers disputed.

With votes counted in 2,177 of the 2,588 precincts, the unofficial tally from The Associated Press was:

For.....562,208

Against.....330,216

Voter approval of the amendment "shifts the debate from the ballot box to the Legislature," said Jerry Cox, president of the Arkansas Family Council Action Committee, which fought the amendment.

Scott Trotter, co-chairman of United Methodists Against Gambling, and Cox said they intend to lobby lawmakers next

See BALLOT, Page 8A



Arkansas Democrat-Gazette/RUSSELL POWELL

Lt. Gov. Bill Halter greets supporters at Sticky Fingerz Chicken Shack on Tuesday night. About two-thirds of the state's voters supported the lottery measure championed by Halter.

Democrats pick up 5 GOP Senate seats, gain in House

BY DAN EGGEN, PAUL KANE AND LYNDESEY LAYTON THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON — Democrats won Senate seats in Virginia and at least four other states Tuesday that had long been in Republican control, putting Democrats on course to make gains in Congress amid heavy

voter turnout and widespread enthusiasm among party members.

The Democratic pickups included two Southern seats that had been in GOP control for more than a generation: Former Virginia Gov. Mark Warner easily won his Senate race against Republican Jim Gilmore, and Democratic challenger state Sen.

Kay Hagan unseated Sen. Elizabeth Dole in North Carolina.

In New Hampshire, Democrat Jeanne Shaheen defeated Sen. John Sununu, and in New Mexico, Democrat Tom Udall won an open seat.

In one of the few bright spots for Republicans, Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., fought off a stiff challenge from

businessman Bruce Lunsford.

Sen. Saxby Chambliss, R-Ga., was narrowly leading his race. If he is able to hold on, Democrats would have a difficult path to winning a filibusterproof 60 seats.

In the House, early returns showed two Florida Republicans, Tom Feeney and Ric

See CONGRESS, Page 9A

Inside

- ARKANSANS GATHER, watch results. Page 7A. WORLD CELEBRATES Obama win. Page 7A. MCCAIN URGES support for new president. Page 7A. VOTERS IN 11 states choose governors. Page 9A. PULASKI COUNTY JP race down to wire. Page 10A. NLR MAYOR Patrick Hays re-elected. Page 1B. CONGRESSMEN MIKE ROSS, Vic Snyder, John Boozman re-elected. Page 1B. MARK PRYOR re-elected to U.S. Senate. Page 1B. GILBERT BAKER wins state Senate race. Page 1B. COUNTY JUDGE Buddy Villines takes big lead. Page 2B. PULASKI COUNTY sheriff Doc Holladay wins. Page 6B.

Foster-care exclusions gaining OK

BY CHARLIE FRAGO ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

Arkansans on Tuesday approved a ban on unmarried, cohabiting adults from adopting or fostering children.

With 2,177 of 2,588 precincts reporting, the unofficial results from The Associated Press were:

For.....509,879

Against.....379,606

The Family Council Action Committee gathered the necessary signatures to put Proposed Initiative Act No. 1 on the ballot, hoping to replicate the group's 2004 successful effort to ban gay marriage in the state.

John Thomas, the group's vice president, said that despite being outpaced in fundraising and high-profile endorsements, their grass-roots message resonated with the help of 500,000 fliers mostly distributed in churches. They aired no television or radio ads.

"We waged a campaign, it just wasn't a media campaign," he said.

Family Council had "a good base, and they built that base from previous issues," said Jen-

See FOSTER, Page 8A