

Karen Ritter easily triumphs in 131st Dist.
PAGE B1

Pressmann wins 3rd term in the 132nd
PAGE B1

Ritter soundly whips Reibman



CHUCK ZOVKO / The Morning Call
Don Ritter celebrates after victory speech.

By TIM DARRAGH
Of The Morning Call

U.S. Rep. Don Ritter yesterday swept to a sixth consecutive term, decisively defeating Democrat Ed Reibman in a race that was marked by harsh, negative advertising and bitter accusations that both candidates were liars. Speaking to hundreds of joyous followers at the Holiday Inn in Hanover Township, Ritter celebrated a "decade of Don" and promised, "You ain't seen nothing yet."

With an unexpectedly high 80 percent turnout in the Lehigh Valley and all 268 precincts reporting, Ritter won by an unofficial count of 106,184 to 79,184.

The victory over Reibman, who began his

campaign 14 months ago, meant Ritter will continue to hold onto the 15th Congressional District seat that he captured 10 years ago with his win over former U.S. Rep. Fred Rooney. It also means the Reibman family is 0-for-3 against Ritter, who beat Reibman's mother, state Sen. Jeanette Reibman, in the 1980 congressional race by more than 33,000 votes.

Ritter attributed his 87 percent to 42 percent win to a "super grass-roots campaign team" and a "solid record of achievement."

Noting Reibman's substantial campaign contributions and unreported in-kind donations, Ritter also said, "You'd think that he would have done better. I think the reason he didn't was be-

Please See RITTER Page A2 ▶

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THE MORNING CALL

LEHIGH VALLEY'S GREATEST NEWSPAPER

Weather

Mostly sunny; upper 50s. Fair tonight; low around 40. Details B2.



Index

BRIDGE ■ D18
BUSINESS ■ B17-22
CLASSIFIED ■ C3-21
COMICS ■ D20, 21
COMMENT ■ A20
DEATHS ■ B16, C8

LETTERS ■ A21
LOTTERY ■ A2
MUSIC ■ C10
RESTAURANTS ■ D18-19
SPORTS ■ C1-8
TV ■ C4

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1988 • 30¢

Bush sweeps to victory

Dukakis calls him, concedes

By DAVID ESPO
Of The Associated Press

Vice President George Bush was elected the nation's 41st president yesterday, sweeping past Michael Dukakis to assure four more years of Republican rule in the White House. Democrats countered with decisive control of both houses of Congress.

"It feels good," the president-elect said as he received the nation's verdict in his adopted hometown of Houston. Asked when he would get down to the work of forming a government, he replied, "Tomorrow."

Dukakis offered Bush his concession first in a private telephone call, then later at a nationally televised rally with supporters in Boston. "This nation faces major challenges and we must work together," he said in remarks that echoed Bush's own remarks.

Bush planned a morning news conference today and then a triumphant return to Washington. He received a late-night call of congratulations from President Reagan, as did vice president-elect Dan Quayle of Indiana.

Dukakis now returns to work as governor of Massachusetts, defeated without a doubt after a long, arduous and often nasty campaign that saw Dukakis making one final round of interviews well after the first votes were being counted.

In the popular vote, with 65 percent of the precincts reporting, Bush had 33,183,114 or 54 percent. Dukakis had 27,540,598 or 46 percent for Dukakis.

It wasn't close where it counted, in the electoral votes. Bush had 337 and

ELECTION ROUNDUP	
As of 12:50 a.m. Electoral Votes	
BUSH	337
DUKAKIS	91
Up for election: Won	
SENATE	
As of 12:50 a.m.	
Republicans	15 9
Democrats	15 17
HOUSE	
As of 12:50 a.m.	
Republicans	177 246
Democrats	259 220
GOVERNORS	
As of 12:50 a.m.	
Republicans	9 5
Democrats	4 5

All times EST

led for 62 more. Dukakis had 80 and led for 52 as the vote counts moved toward the Pacific Coast.

It was a strong, but singular triumph for Bush, with the new Congress in opposition hands for sure.

Democrats were adding to their old 54-seat majority in the Senate and had unquestioned command of the House that will greet the new Republican president. They also picked up governor's offices in Indiana and West Virginia.

The most prominent Republican Senate casualty was in Connecticut, where three-term Lowell Weicker fell to Atty. Gen. Joseph Lieberman. Two former governors — Chuck Robb in Virginia and Robert Kerrey of Nebraska — also wrested seats from the GOP.



Associated Press
Bush gives thumbs up to his victory as wife Barbara looks on.

Pennsylvania goes to Bush in close race

By STEVEN DRACHLER
And TOM LOWRY
Of The Morning Call

Vice President George Bush took Gov. Michael Dukakis to the wire in capturing Pennsylvania's 25 electoral votes yesterday in one of the closest presidential elections in state history.

The Republican headquarters in Pittsburgh reported that Bush had 2,102,746 votes compared with Dukakis' 2,068,012 with 95 percent of the precincts reporting. Those figures make it the closest presidential race in Pennsylvania since 1960, when John F. Kennedy defeated Richard M. Nixon.

"I think we'll say Pennsylvania is in the bag," said Elsie Hillman, Bush campaign manager in Pennsylvania, while addressing a cheering, tired crowd of staff workers at the Westin-William Penn Hotel in Pittsburgh at 12:50 a.m.

Bush, who was chosen to become the 41st president of the United States, was trailing Dukakis just before midnight by 1,695,452 votes to 1,808,271 with 78 percent of the state's precincts reporting.

Pennsylvania, one of the closest contests in the nation, was a crucial state for Dukakis, who had hoped a victory here would ignite a string of wins in the rust belt states, including Ohio, Michigan and Illinois. But that didn't happen; Dukakis was walloped

Please See STATE Page A19 ▶

Demos come on strong in Congress

By JILL LAWRENCE
Of The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Democrats rode a tidal wave of incumbent victories to renewed control of the House of Representatives as voters turned out to a Democratic chairman dogged by ethical controversy and a two-term Republican under indictment.

In the Senate, the Democrats tightened their grip as they knocked off maverick Republican Sen. Lowell Weicker and engineered wins by two former governors — Virginia's Charles Robb and Nebraska's Robert Kerrey — in GOP territory.

Rep. Fernand St. Germain, D-R.I., chairman of the House Banking Committee, was buried in his bid for a 15th term by political novice Ronald Macchley, a lawyer. St. Ger-

main, who trailed 45-55 with 92 percent of the vote counted, was the first committee chairman to lose since 1980, when Oregon voters turned out House Ways and Means Chairman Al Ullman.

Justice Department documents unsealed late last month said a department investigation had uncovered "substantial evidence of serious and sustained misconduct" in St. Germain's dealings with financial industry lobbyists. The department's criminal division declined to prosecute but referred its findings last May to the House ethics committee, which has not said how it is handling the matter.

In Georgia, former actor Ben Jones, a Democrat, defeated two-term Republican Rep. Pat Swindle in a bitter rematch in their suburban Atlanta district. Jones, a recovered alcoholic, played "Coote" on the

TV series "Dukes of Hazzard." Swindle is fighting perjury charges stemming from a drug money laundering probe. With half the vote counted, Jones led 59-41 percent.

In Florida, where Republicans had held hopes of picking up the seat of retiring Democrat Lawton Chiles, Democratic Rep. Buddy MacKay was holding a narrow lead over conservative Republican Rep. Connie Mack, and ABC projected MacKay would win.

Democrats appeared likely to pad their 54-46 Senate majority by one or two seats, and Sen. Bob Dole of Kansas, the Republican minority leader, conceded his party's numbers in the Senate would be trimmed in the 103rd Congress that convenes next year. "It's going to be tougher," he said.

Dole, who lost to George Bush in the par-

ty's presidential primaries, also criticized the GOP winner. "We could have used a little help from the vice president in some of the states — Florida," he said.

Weicker, whose career has been built on support from an unusual coalition of Republicans and moderate Democrats, lost to a vigorous attack by state Attorney General Joseph Lieberman.

Lieberman accused the incumbent of having neglected the state to pursue his own political agenda and portrayed him in cartoon TV spots as a sleeping bear who had missed important votes. Robb easily defeated black GOP candidate Maurice Dawkins to take the seat of retiring Republican Paul Trible in Virginia. In Nebraska, appointed GOP Sen. David

Please See CONGRESS Page A2 ▶

Hafer defeats Bailey for auditor general PAGE A4

Preate squeaks past Mezvinsky PAGE A4

INSIDE TODAY

LOCAL
Blaze destroys Easton buildings
Five vacant buildings on Ferry Street, Easton, that were undergoing renovation were destroyed early yesterday in a fire officials have called suspicious.
PAGE B6

BUSINESS
Trexler Growers cutting operations
The Trexler Growers orchard in Orford will likely "close its orchard operations" and close its produce store after Thanksgiving, the owner says.
PAGE B17

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