

# Ritter buries Reibman in 15th

By RICH HEIDORN JR.  
Of The Morning Call

Freshman U.S. Rep. Don Ritter (R-Cooperburg) swept Lehigh and Northampton Counties to win re-election with 59 percent of the vote, while Bucks County U.S. Rep. Peter Kostmayer (D-Solesbury) was facing an upset.

Ritter took Allentown, Bethlehem and Reibman's Democratic hometown of Easton, swamping Reibman with a 61 percent majority in Lehigh County, and a 57 percent majority in heavily Democratic Northampton County to retain the 15th District seat.

As of 11 p.m., Republican James Coyne was leading two-term incumbent Kostmayer by 38,806-35,948 with 105 of 262 Bucks County districts reporting. By 1:30 a.m., the Associated Press had declared Coyne the winner in the 6th District race.

In the 6th U.S. House district, Democratic incumbent Gus Yatron defeated Republican George Hulshart by a 2-1 margin to win his seventh term representing Berks, Schuylkill and part of Northumberland counties.

Ritter's margin of victory over veteran State Sen. Jeanette Reibman (D-Easton) came as a shock to Democrats who had expected a tight race. She conceded shortly

before 10:30 p.m. in her Bethlehem headquarters.

Ritter became the first Republican to represent Northampton County in 45 years when he upset 15-year incumbent Fred Rooney two years ago. His 11,000-vote margin over Reibman there this year should silence Democratic critics who claimed he caught them sleeping in 1978 when he carried Northampton County by only 500 votes.

Largely due to a low voter turnout, Rooney in 1978 got little more than half the votes he had gotten in Northampton County two years earlier.

Coyne's lead was built in Eastern Montgomery County districts where he was expected to be his strongest.

Ritter's large victory in a district in which Republicans are outnumbered 5-3, indicated substantial Democratic defections.

Ritter led the ticket in the district, outscoring Republican Presidential candidate Ronald Reagan.

Reibman even failed to carry her hometown, taking only 48 percent of the vote there. The third candidate in the 15th district race, Libertarian Barbara Karkutt, received less than one percent of the vote.

**OTHER RACES A4**

**5th DISTRICT**  
**Schulze winning**

**6th DISTRICT**  
**Easy one for Yatron**

**8th DISTRICT**  
**Coyne ahead**

**10th DISTRICT**  
**McDade re-elected**

**11th DISTRICT**  
**Musto concedes**

**13th DISTRICT**  
**Coughlin leads**

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# THE MORNING CALL

## Weather



Variably cloudy, breezy and cool today with a high near 50; mostly sunny tomorrow with a high in the upper 40s. Low near 30 tonight. For details, see Page B2

# REAGAN WINS

## Carter concedes; Senate control in balance

"I promised you four years ago that I would never lie to you, so I can't stand here and say it doesn't hurt. The people of the United States have made their choice, and of course I accept their decision, but I have to admit not with the same enthusiasm that I accepted the decision four years ago."



President Carter fights tears in morning speech at Plains, Ga.

By WALTER R. MEARS  
Of The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Ronald Reagan won the White House from President Carter last night in a startling landslide that changed the face of American government. Carter promised Reagan his "fullest support and cooperation" in the transition to Republican rule.

Reagan was gaining 51 percent of the vote. Carter 42 percent. In electoral votes, it was overwhelming: Reagan 496, Carter 88, with almost three-quarters of the precincts counted.

"I am not frightened by what lies ahead," said the president-elect, "and I don't believe the American people are frightened by what lies ahead."

"Together, we're going to do what has to be done," Reagan told a victory rally in Los Angeles. "We're going to put America back to work again."

The polls were still open in the West when Carter acknowledged that his presidency was finished — an hour after telephoning Reagan in Los Angeles to congratulate him on victory.

"He graciously offered his cooperation on the transition and I accepted it," said president-elect Reagan, the conservative Republican who went from Hollywood to two terms as governor of California, and had sought the presidency twice before.

Four Democratic senators fell with Carter as Republicans mounted an unexpectedly strong push to take control of the Senate.

"If the trend continues, we may very well control one house of the Congress for the first time in a quarter of a century," Reagan told his cheering supporters at the Century Plaza Hotel.

GOP challengers ousted Democratic Sens. George McGovern of South Dakota, the party's 1972 nominee; Birch Bayh of Indiana; Warren G. Magnuson of Washington, the senior member of the Senate; and John Culver of Iowa.

Sen. Frank Church of Idaho, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, was far behind in his re-election bid. Democrats limped toward renewed control of the House, but Republicans stood to gain more than 20 seats there.

As his electoral vote total soared, Reagan said he certainly hadn't looked for such a landslide. "Listen, I was happy to get 270," he said. That's what it took to win.

Then, in the hotel ballroom, before his partisans and the television cameras, Reagan said:

"There has never been a more humbling moment in my life... Even if it had been the cliffhanger we were all expecting, it would have been the same. I consider the trust you have placed in me sacred, and I will do my utmost to justify your faith."

A cliffhanger it was not. Reagan's margin rivaled history's great landslides, those of Richard M. Nixon in 1972, Lyndon B. Johnson in 1964, and Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1936.



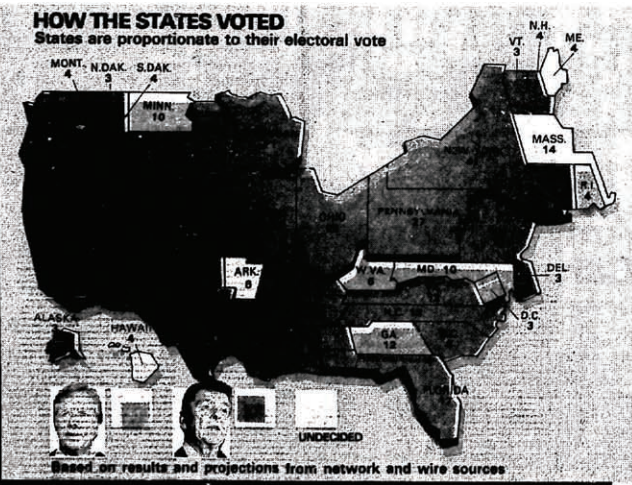
Reagan waves to supporters outside Beverly Hills barber shop yesterday morning.

Reagan had won 35 of the 50 states, led in 6 more. Indeed, it was so one-sided, and over so fast, that some West Coast voters were angry he had conceded before they had even cast their ballots.

So ended the longest campaign, in an electoral vote runoff that belied the forecasts of the President and the pollsters that it would be close. It never was, from the moment the first polls closed.

With 70 percent of the nation's precincts counted, Reagan had 30.2 million votes, or 50 percent, for 462 electoral votes; Carter had 25.4 million, 45 percent, for 72 electoral votes; and independent John B. Anderson had 3.7 million, or 6 percent. Anderson wasn't getting any electoral votes, but he did reach the 5 percent

Please See VICTORY Page A3



**Republicans gain in House A2**

**Zimmerman leads O'Pake A6**

**Casey ahead for Treasurer A6**

**A GOP day**

It was a tough day for Democrats and Indiana Senator Birch Bayh, left, and South Dakota's George McGovern were among the losers, as the GOP neared control of the Senate.

**A2**

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## Specter beats Flaherty



By MARCIA COYLE  
Call Harrisburg Bureau

Republican Arlen Specter shed his image as a loser and a "retired" on the state political scene by defeating Democrat Pete Flaherty early today in their hard-fought race for the U.S. Senate.

With 92 percent of the vote counted, the former Philadelphia district attorney had garnered 2,040,535, or 52 percent, to Flaherty's 1,876,871, or 48 percent.

Specter moved into the lead after trailing Flaherty in early returns. Addressing about 150 supporters at the Hyatt House in Pittsburgh, Flaherty

conceded defeat and acknowledged his third consecutive loss in a statewide race.

"The tide was going the other way tonight," the Democratic loser said. "I picked the wrong year. I suppose."

Specter, the underdog at the start of the campaign to fill the seat being vacated by Republican Richard Schweiker, was shown to be closing the gap between him and Flaherty in several polls taken in the last two weeks.

It has been an uphill battle in more ways than one for the Republican candidate. Democratic voters in Pennsylvania outnumber Republicans by 700,000.

Please See UNDERDOG Page A6

The Worst Art Show — exhibit your Most Disastrous, Hilarious Art! Enter by Nov. 8 Ann Ar Book Shoppe, 432-9045

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