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Carter wins narrow victory over Ford



Jimmy Carter and wife Rosalynn leave Plains, Ga., polling place

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democrat Jimmy Carter defeated President Ford and won the White House early Wednesday, ending eight years of Republican rule and crowning his long campaign out of the political wilderness.

The contest was close, a 3 per cent margin in the popular vote, but Carter gained clear command in the electoral college, where presidents are chosen.

Wisconsin and Mississippi put him past the majority with 272 electoral votes in The Associated Press tabulation.

Carter also won Pennsylvania and New York, but lost in New Jersey.

So the outsider, who began his campaign 22 months ago without visible means of political support, became President-elect Carter. On Jan. 20, he will become the 36th President of the United States, and the first Deep South President elected since Zachary Taylor in 1848.

"We've made political history," Carter said as he left Plains, Ga., for Atlanta and a mass victory rally planned long in advance.

And Ford was left to political history as the only appointed President who came close, narrowly what had been a runaway Carter margin in the early polls. But the poll that counted was registered, on Tuesday, by an unexpectedly high turnout of voters.

President Ford went to bed at about 3:15 a.m. EST Wednesday without making any statement on his race with Carter because, Press Secretary Ron Nessen said, "the outcome of the election is in doubt."

Asked if Ford still thought he would emerge the winner, Nessen replied, "Yes."

The White House spokesman told reporters, "The president will not have anything to say until later in the morning."

With 86 per cent of the nation's

precincts tallied, their verdict read this way:

Carter 55,369,937 of 51 per cent. Ford 33,338,442 or 48 per cent. Independent Eugene J. McCarthy 573,572 or one per cent.

The contest drew a heavier-than-expected voter turnout, and while that worked to Carter's advantage, the race was a close one.

Democrats quickly certified their control of both Senate and House in the 96th Congress. They were assured at least the 62 votes they hold in the current Senate, and they appeared on the way to holding about the same 290 to 145 margin by which they dominate the current House.

This was the national picture:

Democrats won 21 of the 33 Senate races and led in California. Republicans won 10 and Independent Harry Byrd of Virginia was re-elected. Forty Democrats and 27 Republicans are holdovers in the Senate, where 51 seats comprise a majority.

In the 435 House races, Democrats won 255 seats, seven Republicans and one Independent took 129 races and were ahead in 29-11 takes 218 seats to forge a majority in the House.

Democrats won in seven of the 14 races for governor and led in two others. Republicans captured five races. The terms of 36 governors, 26 Democrats, seven Republicans and one Independent, did not expire this year.

The states in Carter's victory column were a roster of the South, save for Virginia. Only there did Ford crack his rival's Southern support. To that base, Carter added New York, Pennsylvania, border states and Democratic bastions of the northeast. He won five of the 10 biggest states.

In congressional competition, Democrats ousted three Republican senators and took the seats of retiring Republicans Hiram Fong of Hawaii

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Hobbs appears headed for defeat

By GARY T. KOCHER Of The Morning Call

Republican State Sen. Fredrick H. Hobbs, a member of the Senate since 1967, seemed headed for defeat early today in his bid for re-election from the 29th District of Carbon, Schuylkill and part of Monroe.

New Jersey's 13th Congressional District. She is seeking a second term. Democrat Peter Kostmayer apparently won by 1,000 for Congress in the 8th District of Bucks-Montgomery, replacing retiring GOP Rep. Edward G. Boster Jr.

In the only other State Senate race in the area, Democratic incumbent Michael A. O'Pake won easily in the 11th District of Berks.

Incumbents, Republicans John S. Davies of the 12th (Berks), Marvin D. Wondor of the 14th (Upper Merion), William K. Klingman Jr. of the 14th (Schuylkill-Lehigh), William W. Foster of the 13th (Berks), Roosevelt T. Polite of the 53rd, William H. Yohn Jr. in the 16th and G. Sieb Pancost in the 14th of Montgomery.

Turnout of voters as heavy as 1972

By GARY T. KOCHER Of The Morning Call

Voting in yesterday's presidential election was exactly as heavy as in 1972 throughout The Morning Call's nine-county circulation area.

Nationally, an unexpectedly large turnout of voters was encountered across the nation Tuesday as the United States chose a president in an election forecasters called one of the closest in this century.

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Heinz defeats Green for Senate

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Republican H. John Heinz III was elected to the U.S. Senate Tuesday night.

With 77 per cent of the 9,645 precincts in, Green had 1,646,350 votes to 1,097,979 for Heinz.

Strong candidate. Casey ran because he decided by chance to lunch at the Senate Hotel in Harrisburg last Dec. 12.

Winesap 40 lbs. \$1.00 Schantz Orchards Mt. Ht. 209 Orfield

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The Royal Dukes Tontic at City View Cocktail Lounge, Whitehall

See Gethwille Godspell Group Nov. 6 Seventh Avenue Selections Call for tickets 425-8003 Carleton-St. Timothys

Preview of Murphy's Dinner Menu 25% discount 'til Nov. 6 Call for resv. 435-3377, Hotel Traylor, 15 & Hamilton

Roll'em
The most vocal opponent of casinos, predicted that if Atlantic City got casinos, other areas of the state would demand them also.

In Delaware, voters were rejecting the referendum on legalized statewide slot machines by a margin of almost three to two Tuesday night.

A coalition of church leaders had been urging the defeat of the slot machine question, arguing that it would promote a type of tax that would especially hurt the poor and was generally an immoral activity for the state to become involved in.