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Montana Kaimin, November 8, 2000

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MONTANA

KAIMIN

Kaimin is a Salish word for paper

www.kaimin.org

November 8, 2000 — Issue 37

Republicans sweep major state races

Jim Wilkson
Montana Kaimin

While the presidential race remains up in the air, Montana's major political seats are safely in Republican hands today.

Judy Martz — who served as lieutenant governor under Marc Racicot — won Tuesday's gubernatorial election with 52 percent of the popular vote.

In another close race, Dennis Rehberg defeated Democrat Nancy Keenan, garnering 52 percent of votes.

Incumbent two-term senator Conrad Burns narrowly won the senatorial race over Democrat Brian Schweitzer with 51 percent of the popular vote.

The three Republican victories, however, will not mark any changes in Montana's current party representation.

While the state races were almost too close to call at some points throughout the night, Montana voters overwhelmingly supported Texas Gov. George Bush in his bid for the presi-

dency. Bush defeated Gore 59 percent to 33 percent to secure Montana's three electoral votes.

While Republicans celebrated victory in the more prominent state political races, Democrats won many smaller state offices.

Republican Bob Brown defeated Democrat Hal Harper to become the next secretary of state, while Democrat Mike McGrath easily won his contest with Republican Jim Rice to be state

See GOP, page 12

A big hand for Martz



Adrienne Gump/Kaimin

Republican supporters Diane Beck, right, Leslie Henderson, middle, and her husband Corey cheer enthusiastically for gubernatorial candidate Judy Martz as election results show her pulling ahead of Mark O'Keefe Thursday night during the Republican celebration at the Doubletree Hotel.

Martz edges O'Keefe for governorship

Melanthia Mitchell
Montana Kaimin

With a photo-finish win, Republican Lt. Gov. Judy Martz captured the seat for Montana governor Tuesday, beating out Democratic candidate and State Auditor Mark O'Keefe and Libertarian candidate Stan Jones.

Winning by only 4 percentage points, Martz became the first woman to serve as governor of

Montana, but she said being female has nothing to do with being the governor.

In a phone interview, Martz said she has never been anything but a woman, as she said four years ago when she was elected as Montana's first female lieutenant governor, so she has nothing to which to compare her win.

But Martz said she considers herself extremely lucky to serve Montana as its governor.

"It's a great honor to be chosen by the people of this wonderful state," Martz said.

She secured a seat that has been held by Republicans for the past 12 years, including eight years by Montana's current governor, Marc Racicot.

Martz received 203,045 votes, while O'Keefe received 183,727 votes. Jones captured 7,629 votes.

In a race that ran neck-and-neck to the closing of the last poll, Martz said the tone

of the campaign was not always to her liking.

Regarding her own campaign, she said there was much civility, but she had her doubts regarding her competitor.

"I would have chosen more truthfulness in the campaigning," Martz said.

She said she attributes her win to trusting the people of Montana to make the right decision, regardless of

See GOVERNOR, page 12

Historic presidential race still too close to call

(AP) — Texas Gov. George W. Bush fought Al Gore in an agonizingly close presidential election Tuesday that came down to one state and a few thousand votes. Gore called Bush with congratulations, then called back to say he wasn't ready to concede.

There was no argument from the Bush campaign, just disbelief at the turn of events. It all came down to Florida.

Florida election officials prepared for a recount in their stunningly close election for president after the margin between George W. Bush and Al Gore shrank through the night.

At last count, at 3 a.m. MST, the margin between them was 1,888 in the unofficial Associated Press count with all precincts reporting but an unknown number of absentee ballots yet to be counted. Some vote counts had the margin even closer. The total vote in Florida was nearly 6 million votes.

Gore and Bush were tied at 48 percent apiece in the national vote in the early hours Wednesday. The pressure on the recount was intense because Florida, with its 25 electoral votes, is the state that will decide the winner of this closely contested presidential election.

Florida election law requires an automatic vote recount if the margin of difference is less than one half of 1 percent unless the losing candidate declines to call for a recount. Several Florida counties still have absentee ballots yet to count and elections officials expect several thousand votes from overseas. Elections officials weren't sure how long it would take this time, but said it took 10 days in 1996 to count overseas absentee ballots.

After it appeared Bush had won Florida, Bush was declared the winner of the presidency by several of the networks, and his supporters began to celebrate. But the vote margin shrank steadily as late reports came in from heavily Democratic Broward and Palm Beach counties.

Gore called Bush to concede defeat in the early morning hours, and then called back to retract the concession.

His campaign chairman, William Daley, later appeared before Gore supporters in Nashville, Tenn., to say the Gore campaign would request a recount.

"This race is simply too close to call and until the recount is concluded and the results of Florida become official, our campaign continues," Daley said.

Bush campaign chairman Don Evans told a crowd in Austin, Texas, that the Bush campaign was ready to claim victory, but

See PRESIDENT, page 12

OPINION

www.kaimin.org

Election

Electoral College takes away voters' voices

The 2000 election has given us a perfect example of how archaic, unrepresentative and foolish the Electoral College is.

We need a constitutional amendment and fast.

It's the day after Election Day, and according to most of the citizens who voted, Al Gore is our new president.

But depending on which way Florida (where a precarious 1,200 votes show Gore trailing, making for much fun and amazement in this race) leans, George W. Bush could be our next president.

The Electoral College has got to go. It doesn't represent what We The People want.

Founded at the Constitutional Convention in 1787, the Electoral College was created to solve a squabble between one party who wanted Congress to pick the president and another group who wanted the election based on a popular vote.

The Electoral College proved useful in the Pony-Express days of our country when ballot bandits and buccaneers got lost in snowstorms on horseback in Pennsylvania and couldn't be counted on to give an accurate account of the popular vote.

But these are times when a person in New York can access an e-mail account in Tokyo to find out a cricket score in London.

In 1824, 1876 and 1888 the Electoral College has undermined the candidate the people chose.

The Electoral College skews the value of votes. Because of the Electoral College, less than 2,000 voters in, Floridians have more say in who the next president will be than more than 200,000 voters nationwide.

Also, the Electoral College turns voters off. Many people say they don't vote because their votes don't count toward the presidency. They're right. People who vote for president are really just picking representatives pledged to candidates, not voting for the candidates themselves. (Also, those representatives aren't forced to cast their vote for the candidate the people dictated).

The Electoral College robs Americans of the straight dope on candidates. George Bush hardly campaigned in California because he knew he'd lose the electoral votes. Likewise, Al Gore set nary a foot in Texas. We should have a system by which our presidential candidates address all citizens, not just ones in strategic states.

No other democracy in the world hassles with a clumsy Electoral College. The United States shouldn't either.

The presidency should be decided by tens of millions of U.S. residents, not 538 of them.

—Nate Schweber

Notes from the Big Nowhere

Presidential election still up in the air

Column by



Chad Dundas

It's 3:03 a.m. in Missoula, just after 5 a.m. in Florida — a state that during the last handful of hours has become the most important piece of real estate in the western world.

The presidential election has been called off, at least until tomorrow. Bright and early Wednesday morning they'll crank the political machine into action again and the tanned, rested and ready retirees of the Sunshine State will officially put to rest the controversy that already consumes our 43rd president. We hope.

It's been a long night for everyone involved in the political process — especially NBC's Tom Brokaw and Tim Russert, who I sincerely hope are finally getting some sleep — so forgive me if I ramble a bit during the course of my allotted 600 words. The presidential election hasn't ended yet and, from the word go, it's been ... um ... totally fucking insane.

From the beginning, this contest has been mired in singularity and incompetent screw-ups. First, the state of Florida was called for Gore, and it appeared that the powers of good were going to cruise to victory. Then members of the press, apparently bumbling in their haste to beat each other to the punch, revealed that they'd called Fla. prematurely. Then they handed the state over to George W. Bush, sealing victory for the overgrown twelve-year-old. Then, after intelligent Americans had been crying in their beers for almost an hour, Florida was yanked out from under the Texas governor. After all was said and done, the difference in Florida between the two candidates had closed to an astounding 200 votes.

All night, news of ridiculous happenings in a few states drifted in from around the country. Polls in Missouri allegedly violated a slew of voting regulations when a judge allowed polls to stay open late to accommodate high voter turn-out. What's the deal with that? Didn't Missouri have enough time to prepare for the

unusual possibility that folks might actually show up to vote? Does the Show-Me State need more warning that there's going to be a presidential election? Sorry about the short notice, Missouri.

Oh, and a dead guy also won in Missouri. How is it that we can elect an individual who is deceased to the Senate, yet we can't even decide on a living, breathing president?

In Florida, it was reported that several ballot boxes had actually been lost. I can't make sense of this. Perhaps the league of women voters mistakenly left them on top of the station wagon when they pulled out of the parking lot. Also in Florida, a number of elderly voters reported accidentally voting for Pat Buchanan when they meant to pull the lever for Gore. That's right folks, it's spelled B-u-c-h-a-n-a-n, but it's pronounced "Gore."

Meanwhile, the real Al Gore sewed up the popular vote, creating an exact flip-flop of what most professional pollsters had been predicting. The term "constitutional crisis" was thrown around on NBC's coverage while a haggard Russert diagrammed plays on his ever-present dry-erase board and an aggravated Brokaw munched crackers on-air.

In Florida, it was reported that several ballot boxes had actually been lost. I can't make sense of this. Perhaps the league of women voters mistakenly left them on top of the station wagon when they pulled out of the parking lot.

At one point an election official from Florida basically told Brokaw to stick it and to check the Web site for more information. At least now Brokaw knows how it feels to write for the Montana Kaimin.

In a side note, Ralph Nader failed to get 5 percent of the popular vote. He did, however, manage to swing nearly every hotly contested battleground

state Bush's way. In the process he pissed off somewhere around 60 million Democrats and probably ruined the Green Party's chances of ever taking a major hold in American mainstream politics.

It was also revealed that those fabled "matching funds" that Ralph was ultimately after for another run in 2004 would have amounted to somewhere around a paltry \$12 million. Twelve million dollars?

Twelve million dollars is the equivalent of somewhere around eight cents in a national presidential election. Bush had spent more than \$12 million on his campaign before he even got the Republican nomination. Way to go, Ralph.

Did I mention that we still don't have a new president? But don't worry, they'll straighten it out Wednesday. They think.

Montana Kaimin

The Montana Kaimin, in its 103rd year, is published by the students of The University of Montana, Missoula. The UM School of Journalism uses the Montana Kaimin for practice courses but assumes no control over policy or content.

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Republican Burns narrowly retains Senate seat for third term

Damian Ingleby
Montana Kaimin

Incumbent Republican Sen. Conrad Burns withstood the stiff challenge of Democrat Brian Schweitzer in one of the nation's closest and most bitterly fought congressional races.

Burns won with 51 percent of the vote to Schweitzer's 47 percent.

Burns, who ran on his record of bringing federal dollars to Montana and providing high-paying jobs, won voters over despite Schweitzer's well-publicized prescription drug issue that brought strong interest from senior citizens, according to exit polls.

"Conrad Burns based a hard campaign on issues that Montanans cared about and they responded by sending him to a third term in the United States Senate," said Burns' press secretary Dick Wadhams.

Burns, who has 12 years of seniority, sits on the powerful Senate Appropriations Committee and has boasted of his ability to bring hun-

dreds of millions of dollars in federal money to Montana, thereby boosting the state economy.

Schweitzer conceded the race and said although he was disappointed in the results, he respected the choice of Montana voters.

"Montana's spoken," Schweitzer told the Associated Press. "Democracy works. People have grown comfortable with Sen. Burns."

Burns was re-elected after managing to fight off a 13-point surge in the polls by the virtually unknown farmer from Whitefish.

During the campaign, Burns had accused Schweitzer of distorting his Senate voting record. Schweitzer accused Burns of using scare tactics to turn voters against his plan to make prescription drugs cheaper by importing them from other countries.

In an Oct. 9 Bozeman Chronicle

"Conrad Burns based a hard campaign on issues that Montanans cared about and they responded by sending him to a third term in the United States Senate.

— Dick Wadhams,
Burns' press secretary

article, Democratic Sen. Max Baucus said that he was dismayed by campaigns on both sides.

"The campaigns are nasty. A lot of these ads stray so far from the truth, it's shameful," Baucus said.

Despite Schweitzer's prescription drug plan, voters 60 and older who chose the Republican incumbent over Schweitzer by a mark of 61 percent to 46 percent.

Recently, Burns told the Kaimin he will fight for higher education funding in his third term as senator. He said he believes in his approach of

using the private sector to strengthen the tax base and keeping tuition low rather than increasing federal programs like Stafford Loans and work study to pay college costs. He has said the best way to do this is by bringing in federal research money that will attract high-tech businesses.

He said he has been able to attract several new high-tech businesses to the Bozeman area by winning federal dollars for research programs there. Burns was also the guiding force behind NASA's Earth Observing System, a project that brings over \$2 million a year in research dollars to UM.

"This approach of funding growth on and around an academic institution creates a public-private sector partnership that benefits the entire region," Burns said.

Burns said he is also a strong believer in using new technologies, such as telecommunications, to better serve students and provide them with a higher quality of education.

Rehberg squeaks past Keenan for Montana's only House seat

Erik Olson
Montana Kaimin

Republican Dennis Rehberg captured Montana's lone congressional seat, defeating Democrat Nancy Keenan in a close battle.

With 81 percent of the precincts reporting, The Associated Press reported that Rehberg, a former lieutenant governor, took 173,102 votes — 51 percent — while Keenan, the state superintendent of public instruction, took 155,153, or 46 percent.

Libertarian James J. Tikalsky received 8,120 votes, or 2 percent.

Rehberg will replace Republican Rick Hill, who chose not to seek re-election.

Bowen Greenwood, press secretary for Rehberg, said the Billings native promised to introduce a bill to increase benefits for veterans as his first piece of legislation in Congress. Greenwood said Rehberg wanted to get as many veterans off food stamps as possible.

Greenwood added the two candidates presented two different options, and voters preferred Rehberg.

"Denny is grateful to Montanans that they chose him to best represent their values and beliefs," Greenwood said.

He also extended congratulations to the Keenan campaign for running an issue-based campaign.

"I think they ran a good,

hard race," Greenwood said.

Keenan conceded the race early Wednesday morning and was unavailable for comment when the Kaimin tried to reach her. However, she told The Associated Press that she felt good about how her campaign was run.

"I'm disappointed, but I'm absolutely proud of my campaign, proud of my staff and how we ran things," she said.

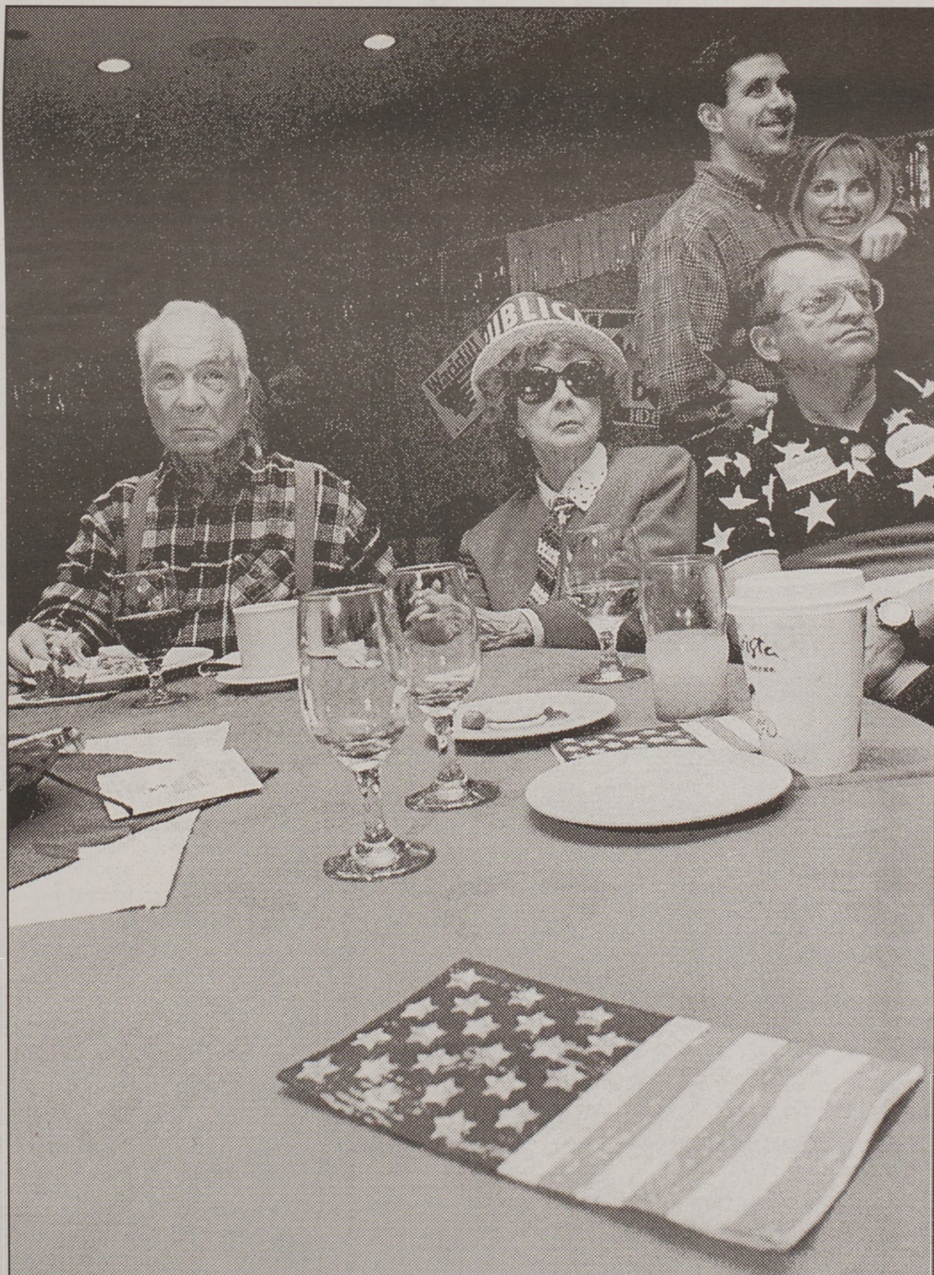
In an earlier interview with the Kaimin, when asked what she hoped Rehberg would do if he were elected, Keenan said she hoped he would pay attention to the desires of Montanans.

"Listen to what the young people are telling us," she said in the interview.

While both candidates identified the same issues that most affect Montanans, each approached the problem in a different way. Both agree that the Montana University System needs more funding, but Rehberg would like to see more funding for on-campus research while Keenan would like to see more financial aid available for students.

Both candidates saw a need to improve the state's economy, but Rehberg wanted to attract more businesses to Montana and create more jobs, while Keenan wanted to improve the state's education system to better prepare students for the job market.

Pure excitement



Republican supporters, retired Col. Lee Wareing, left, Dottie Laird, middle, and former Missoula mayor Bob Lovegrove, watch as election results are announced Tuesday night at the Doubletree Hotel during the Republican celebration.

NEWS

www.kaimin.org/news.html

Initiative 143 passed; new game farms prohibited

Kurt High
For the Kaimin

Reform Initiative 143 passed Tuesday by more than 20,000 votes statewide, 94,236 votes to 72,704.

Missoula County residents voted 68 percent for and 32 percent against the initiative.

"We've asked the voters of Montana to make a difficult choice, and we are gratified that they have agreed with us," said Gary Holmquist, author of the initiative.

Its passage amends state law to prohibit the creation of any new game farms in Montana. Existing game farms may continue their operations, but are prohibited from transferring their licenses to any other party. Game farm operators also can no longer charge fees for captive big game shoots, or "canned hunts."

About 10 percent of Montana's 92 game farms active-

ly engaged in "canned hunts," prior to the passage of I-143.

Opponents say the passage of I-143 deprives them of their livelihoods and constitutes a violation of private property rights.

"Passage of this initiative is a direct assault on our private property rights," said Cascade area game farm operator and Montana Sen. Ken Mesaros. "They may have won this battle, but they haven't won the war."

Holmquist said the threat of disease transmission from captive deer and elk to those in the wild spurred him to push I-143 on to the November ballot.

"The proliferation of game farms pose an unacceptable risk to Montana's wildlife and our hunting heritage," Holmquist said. "Montana's voters sided with the long-term health of our wildlife over the short-term profits of the game farmer."

Mesaros said, "There are no winners tonight. I think most people realize this will be litigated."

Stadium clears funding hurdle

Jason Begay
For the Kaimin

Missoulians were able to decipher the crisscrossed language of a ballot referendum and vote "no" — actually meaning "yes" — for allocating city funds toward the construction of a baseball stadium near McCormick Park on the Clark Fork River.

The final unofficial numbers for Missoula revealed that over 62 percent voted against the referendum that repealed a city ordinance allocating \$1 million of urban redevelopment funds toward the costs of infrastructure on the 3,500-seat minor league baseball stadium. More than 37 percent voted supporting the city ordinance.

"It's a huge margin. I think that's important," said Mayor Mike Kadas, a ballpark supporter.

Michael Kreisberg, a member of Fair Play Missoula, the opposing faction of the ballpark, said he wasn't too surprised with the outcome of the vote.

Many Fair Play members

were pessimistic even before the votes were tallied.

"It's a shame that other neighborhoods thought it was all right to sacrifice this one for the stadium," said Fair Play member Swain Wolfe.

Now that the referendum failed, the city can look to move forward on the project, said Geoff Badenoch, director of the Missoula Redevelopment Agency, the city agency that will allocate the \$1 million in question.

"This is one more hurdle we crossed to get to the day we can start construction on the project," Badenoch said.

However, Badenoch said, the issue could still be tied up in the courts via a lawsuit brought on by Fair Play Missoula.

"It's sad that time and money was spent trying to contest the project," Badenoch said. "It took over resources that could have been used to make the project better."

After the City Council initially passed the stadium plan in April, concerned residents — who later formed Fair Play Missoula — took

the decision to the courts. They contested the legality of the city's choosing how to deal with the land, which once housed a mill for Champion International Corp. They alleged the city broke urban-renewal laws by approving the one-time log yard for a stadium without considering other ways of using the land first.

Opponents, mainly residents near the park, also argued possible noise and traffic issues would surface when the ballpark is complete.

Missoula District Judge John Larson ruled that the city followed proper laws in designating the land for a stadium — dismissing the main argument from opponents. Fair Play then asked for an appeal. The case is now in the state Supreme Court.

"Fair Play could be gracious with the City Council and let go of the case," Badenoch said. "It's pretty clear the community wants (the ballpark)."

The MRA funds would go mostly toward paying for parking lots, trails and other public improvements to the stadium.

Mill levy increase approved for library

Megan Kilwein
For the Kaimin

Missoula residents approved a 3.5 mill levy increase over the next five years for the Missoula Public Library on Tuesday.

Tuesday's final tally counted 62.8 percent voting for and 37 percent against the levy.

"Missoulians love their library and want to see it grow with the town," said Missoula Public Library Director Bette Ammon. "We were optimistic going into this and we're delighted to see all the people's support today."

The library is currently funded by 5 mills per year, or

\$750,000, said Ammon. She said one mill is currently worth \$150,000. The additional 3.5 mills will increase the library's annual budget to \$1,275,000 per year over the next five fiscal years. The additional funding takes effect July 2001, the start of the next fiscal year, and runs through June 30, 2006.

Ammon said the additional funding will go toward more books, tapes, CDs and videos, upgrading their mainframe computer system and Internet service, Sunday hours, more staff and new carpet and furniture.

These needs will be determined by a survey of Missoula residents and focus groups, Ammon said.



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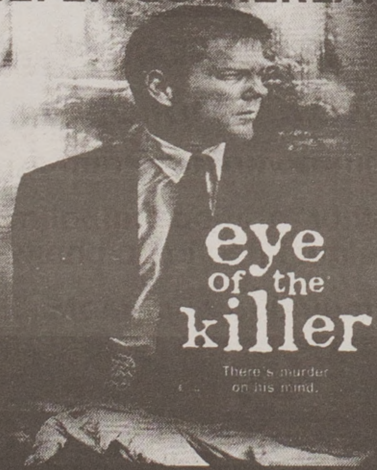
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NEWS

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Brown becomes Secretary of State

Suzanne Colonna
Montana Kaimin

Republican Bob Brown is Montana's new Secretary of State after receiving 49 percent of the vote. Democrat Hal Harper received 46 percent of the vote.

"I'm pleased and honored — and I'm going to work as hard as I can to do a good job," Brown said after the election.

Brown said his priorities include getting more young people involved in the political process. He said he also wanted to implement an electronic storage and retrieval process for business records in Helena.

The Secretary of State serves as the chief election officer in Montana, and oversees the operation and interpretation of election laws. The office is responsible for voter information pamphlets and regulating proposed ballot measures.

In addition to sitting on the Board of Land Commissioners and the Board of Examiners, the Secretary of State also manages state land trusts.

Brown said he wanted to get as many different people involved in an advisory capacity, so they can

contribute their ideas as they have done in his campaign.

J.R. Myers, the Reform Party candidate, received 2 percent of the vote, while Mike Fellows, running with the Libertarian Party, received 3 percent of the vote.

Harper said he wishes Brown the best of luck as Secretary of State and added he will do everything he can to help.

Harper said he was proud to participate in a clean race.

"It was the chance of a lifetime for service and I took it — and I'm glad," Harper said.

He also said campaign finance is very important, and he wants to see legislation passed that will stop negative advertising in political campaigns.

Brown agreed he was glad to be part of a campaign that was not characterized by negativism, and said he wanted to thank Harper for a good race.

Brown said the hours have been very long and he is looking forward to a little down time before he moves into the Secretary of State's office in about two months.

"I'm sure I have a lot to learn," he said. "It's an exciting challenge."

McGrath victorious in attorney general race

Spiro Polomarkakis
For the Kaimin

Democrat Mike McGrath defeated Republican Jim Rice Tuesday to become Montana's next attorney general, the state's chief law enforcement officer.

McGrath attributed the victory to his 24 years of experience in law enforcement in Montana, the strong support of the Montana law enforcement community and a good lead in fund raising over his opponent.

McGrath is no stranger to running for government positions in Montana. He ran unsuccessfully for both attorney general in 1988 and for governor in 1992.

"I wish him well," Rice said regarding McGrath's victory. "We had a good, positive race."

At press time McGrath held 54 percent of the state's votes and 63 percent of Missoula's votes for attorney general.

As attorney general, McGrath will be in charge of handling the defense of criminal appeals for the state before the Supreme Court, handling civil litigation for the state, overseeing the Highway Patrol, driver's licensing, motor vehicle

licensing, gambling regulation and the state crime lab. The attorney general heads a staff of over 700 people at the state Justice Department.

McGrath said he will focus on crime prevention initiatives.

McGrath was the Lewis and Clark county attorney and was Montana's assistant attorney general from 1977

"I am really honored to be selected by the people of Montana. I look forward to serving as the attorney general."

— Mike McGrath

through 1982. He is a UM graduate and Gonzaga University School of Law alumni.

"I am really honored to be selected by the people of Montana," McGrath said. "I look forward to serving as the attorney general."

McGrath and Rice were competing for the seat held by Democrat Joe Mazurek, who cannot run a third term because of term limits.

Democrat elected school superintendent

Jason Mohr
Montana Kaimin

Linda McCulloch, a state legislator and longtime local librarian, handily defeated Elaine Sollie Herman to become Montana's new superintendent of schools.

McCulloch, who lives in Bonner, defeated Herman, a Helena investment advisor, to succeed Nancy Keenan in the office of public instruction.

After her acceptance speech at the Union Club in Missoula Tuesday night, McCulloch said that she looks forward to working with Keenan and her office staff to get ready for January's upcoming legislative session.

"Nancy is so very organized," McCulloch said. "They've been looking forward to the transition being easy."

She said she will face a legislature that has reduced the proportion of funding for education over the last several years.

"Just because it's leaner times

doesn't mean we shirk our responsibility to kids," McCulloch said. She also said teachers deserve better pay and that a healthy education system produces a healthy economic climate for Montana, she said.

"You can't have an economic plan that doesn't include education," she added.

McCulloch has said that she opposes the use of public money for school vouchers, but would support specialized magnet or charter schools.

McCulloch's victory comes after she barely squeaked out of the primaries earlier this year, winning the Democratic nod only after a recount. That close call



Adam Manthie/Kaimin
Linda McCulloch, candidate-elect for state superintendent for public instruction, reacts to election results during the democratic election party at the Union Hall Tuesday evening.

affected her attitude going into election day, she said.

"I was optimistic, but I don't like to count those chickens before they hatch," she said.

Herman did not return phone calls about the election results Tuesday night.

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Soccer matched with Washington State in first round

Jesse Zentz
Montana Kaimin

Excitement, then a sense of calm were the emotions that define how the Grizzly soccer squad reacted when they discovered they would play the Washington State Cougars in the first round of the NCAA tournament. The team hopes the excitement of victory will follow a calm, focused approach on the field in Pullman, Wash.

Montana soccer's season may turn out to be a story of redemption. After the Grizzlies lost to Sacramento State during the regular season, they rebounded to defeat the Hornets in the first round of the Big Sky tournament. Now they have the chance to redeem themselves after falling to the Cougars in the regular season.

"This is almost as good as it gets," said assistant coach Eric Oman. "We get a shot at them again. What a feeling."

Montana enters the tournament ranked 47th in the nation, while the Cougars are 31st. Head coach Betsy Duerksen said the selection committee gave her team a shot at winning its first round match, and the pairing is an example of seeding, which is based on regions rather than rankings.

"I'm excited because our fans can come," she said. "I really feel that we can win this game and I am more confident in how our team is playing now."

Duerksen said they are playing better defense now than they were when they lost to the Cougars. Earlier this year, Washington State came away with a 4-2 victory that could have easily been a 3-2 victory. The Cougars got their fourth goal when Grizzly goalkeeper Natalie Hiller went down with an ankle injury, leaving the goal open.

Montana will be forced to shut down Washington State's star forward Deka DeWitt. In the September win, DeWitt scored two goals and assisted another. Duerksen said she will be the focus of Montana's defense.

"She's a big-time goal scorer, but I think if we can stop her, our chances improve dramatically," she said.

Natalie Hiller said, "We know them, so we won't have to scout them like we had to do last year against Texas A&M. We need to play good on defense. I think being able to have our families friends and boyfriends there will help as well."

Last year Montana matched up against the 10th-ranked Texas A&M in the first round. The Grizzlies played well in that game, leading 1-0 at one point before falling 2-1. This time, Montana actually matches up well against its opponent, and if history is brought into the equation, chances only look more promising.

Montana holds a 4-2-1 record against the Cougars, but are 1-2-1 in Pullman.

Against common opponents, their record is identical. Both teams lost to nationally-ranked Brigham Young University and Cal Poly. The Grizzlies and Cougars also came away with wins against Utah, Gonzaga and Portland State.

If anything, the game is very evenly matched, with both teams featuring proven scorers and tough defenses.

DeWitt leads the Cougars, with 12 goals and two assists. Washington State also features three other players who scored five goals this season.

Montana features a lethal pair of forwards in junior Heather Olson and freshman Amy Wronski. Olson has 14 goals on the season, while Wronski has tallied 13 so far this year. The team also



Lido Vizzutti/Kaimin

The Grizzly soccer team celebrates a fifth goal in the final two minutes of Saturday's game against the Northwestern State Demons.

benefits from the composure and play-making ability of senior Jodi Campbell, who comes into the game with 11 assists and five goals. However, the team plays the best defensively may come away victorious.

Both the Cougars and Grizzlies proved they have good defenses previous to this game. The Grizzlies roll into the tournament on an eight game winning streak. Five of those wins — including the last four — were shutout victories. On the season, Montana has posted 11 shutouts, one away from the team record achieved three times.

UM's defense is stabilized by senior leadership from midfielder Shannon Forslund and Hiller in the net. But the Grizzlies also start two freshman

defenders who have proven that they play with composure and ability beyond their years.

Washington State also features a strong defense. They posted seven shutouts this season, including one against second-seed Washington last weekend in Pullman. The Cougars emerge from the PAC-10 conference, which sends seven teams to the 48-team tournament. Four of their shutouts are against conference opponents.

In 19 games, Washington State allowed a mere 18 goals.

Montana gets its chance at redemption at 2 p.m. in Pullman, Wash. The winner of this game will move on to face the University of Washington in Seattle on Nov. 11 or 12.

Cross country in running for NCAA national meet

Jesse Zentz
Montana Kaimin

UM cross country runners have their work cut out for them if they hope to extend their season past the regional championships this Saturday in Ogden, Utah.

With the mountain region arguably the best in the country, the Grizzlies need to put their best foot forward to move on to the NCAA championships later this month in Ames, Iowa. On the men's side, five teams are ranked nationally. Colorado enters the weekend as the top-ranked program, while Northern Arizona is fifth, Brigham Young is seventh, and Weber State and Colorado State are ranked 14th and 22nd, respectively.

The women also face tough competition on Saturday. Brigham Young enters the weekend ranked first, Colorado is ranked fifth, and Weber State and Colorado State are ranked 15th and 17th.

Head coach Tom Raunig said the teams training program has been pointing toward this meet all season.

"We are looking at what worked best for us earlier this season and we will build on that," he said. "We ran fewer meets and waited longer to do tougher workouts than we have in the past. We should have more run in us for this meet."

Raunig said they will approach this meet with the mentality that they want to qualify as a team for nationals. Not on two teams and top four individuals not on those teams advance to the meet in Iowa. However, Raunig estimates up to four teams could qualify out of the mountain region by virtue of at-large bids.

"There are so many good teams this year. We have a better chance of moving on," he said.

If more teams move on, that also means it is possible that the individuals who advance will be drawn from further back in the field. If the teams don't qualify, Raunig said it is probable that senior Heather Anderson and junior Sabrina Monro have a chance to advance as individuals.

On the men's side, front-runners Brad Treat and Jesse Barnes, both seniors, appear to have the best chance at going to NCAAAs.

But Raunig wants his team to focus on the team objective, which means following a plan. For the women that means Anderson and Monro running up front, while the rest of the team must pack up and advance toward the front throughout the race. Montana's men need to work as a pack, working toward the front.

"We've been pointing toward this all year, so we have to go out there trying to qualify," he said. "We are taking the underdog role, because we have nothing to lose."

The Grizzlies will try to duplicate what Southern Utah did last year when it won the men's race by defeating powerhouse Colorado en route to the win.

"Anything can happen, if you consider that race," Raunig said.

He said they must beat either or both Weber and Colorado State on both the men's and women's side if they hope to travel to Ames for nationals.

Lady Griz b-ball conquers Kiwis

Ryan Divish
Montana Kaimin

The UM women's basketball team isn't going to live and die by the three point shot. But if a wide open three is there, they aren't going to hesitate to let it fly.

The Lady Griz knocked down 11 of 25 three-point shots, including four straight to spark a 19 point run to open the second half, en route to a 80-64 exhibition win over the Manukau Auckland Women's Basketball Traveler Tuesday night at Dahlberg Arena.

Linda Cummings and Lauren Cooper each hit a pair of threes in the first four minutes of the second half, erasing a 1-10 shooting performance from behind the arc in the first half. Cooper and Cummings combined to hit seven of Montana's 10 threes in the second half, while LeAnn Montes added two and Cheryl Keller hit one.

Lady Griz head coach Robin Selvig wasn't worried about the high number of three-point shots his team attempted.

"They were all good lucks," Selvig said. "And that may be too many sometimes, but they collapsed because we had size inside and they were leaving us open. We've got a number of kids that have a green light to shoot the three and fortunately we started knocking them down."

UM started slowly in the first half and struggled shooting 34 percent from the field and a frosty 10 percent from three-point range.

"I don't think we were playing that badly in the first half," Selvig said. "We just shot bad."

The Lady Griz looked like a team

playing its first game of the season during the first half with a few miscommunications on defense and nine turnovers. But Manakou wasn't much better, shooting 34 percent from the field as well, and turning the ball over 10 times.

"The game didn't have a whole lot of flow," Selvig said. "There was a lot of fouls and a lot of substitutions."

UM held only a five point lead at the end of the half, however the 19 point run and a two smaller runs put the game out of reach. But Montana never really got into the flow Selvig wanted, which he blamed partially on himself.

"It was hard for us to get flow for us because I was going to play everybody and I did play everybody significant minutes," Selvig said. "So we had a hard time getting lots of rhythm, yet I thought we put together some pretty good runs especially in the beginning of the second half."

But Selvig wasn't particularly pleased with the way his team rebounded against the smaller New Zealand team. It is something he said his team will have to do a better job of in the future.

The point guard position was biggest question mark heading into the season and it seems to have been answered.

Freshman Brooklynn Lorenzen had another strong performance shooting a perfect 4-4 from the field for eight points while dishing out six assists. Montes, her backup, also played well, scoring eight points while playing tough defensively.

The Lady Griz return to action on Sunday when they will host Deja Vu — a collection of former Lady Griz players. Game time is scheduled for 3:05 p.m. at Dahlberg Arena.

SPORTS

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Griz take ride to No. 1 in polls, prepare for Weber State

Jason Mohr
Montana Kaimin

For the first time since September of 1997, UM football is ranked No. 1 in the country.

Following their 38-21 victory over Idaho State and losses by last week's top two squads Saturday, the Griz ascended to the top of the Sports Network's and ESPN/USA Today's Division I-AA football polls.

UM ball carrier Yohance Humphery scored the first three touchdowns in the UM/Idaho State game and the Griz never looked back. Humphery, a junior, rushed for 145 yards on the day and is now only 101 yards from becoming UM's all-time leading rusher.

The Grizzlies (8-1) have now won their eighth straight and can wrap up the Big Sky Conference title this week-end with a victory at Weber State.

Weber swatted NCAA Division II Western New Mexico 41-10 Saturday and improved to No. 19 on the Sports Network's list.

The Wildcats stand an outside chance of gaining one of the 16 post-season playoff berths if they upset the Griz.

But Weber State mentor Jerry Graybeal knows that when his squad has the ball, it will have a tough time making headway against a stingy Griz defense.

"They always seem to have those big ornery linemen and linebackers who like to toss you around," Graybeal said in a Weber State press release.

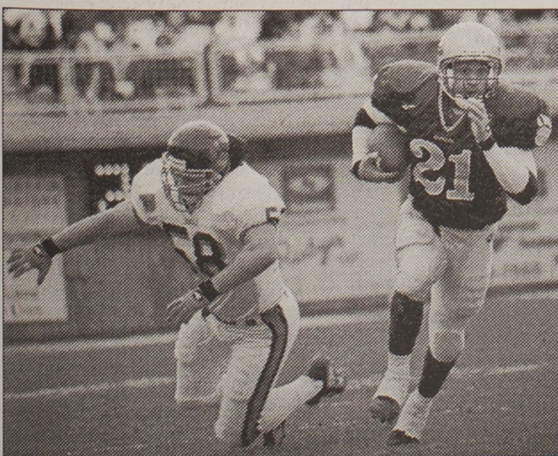
UM linebacker Adam Boomer, one of those "ornery" types, said that the key to stopping Weber State is to contain Wildcat quarterback Cole Cooper's targets, like 6-foot-5 tight end, Ryan Prince.

Cooper has passed for over 2,122 yards and 19 scores this season; Prince has 47 grabs this season, second to wide receiver Jon Jefferson.

"It's a tough offense to stop," Boomer said of Cooper and company. "That kid's going to come out throwing a lot."

Georgia Southern, the previous No. 1-ranked team, was hammered at Furman, 42-10, and subsequently has sunk to No. 6 in the polls. But last year's national champions were only one of the many casualties from the top caste of Division I-AA football.

In fact, six of the Sports Network's top 10 outfits came up losers Saturday.



Grizzly running back Yohance Humphery gets past Idaho linebacker Jason Meador Saturday.



Idaho State offensive linemen Bart Teuscher, left, and Judd Gold, right, deny UM's Herbert Fernandez from blocking a pass during Saturday's game.

Delaware (ex-No. 2), Western Illinois (former No. 4), Hofstra, Western Kentucky, and Northwestern (La.) State were also unceremoniously dumped.

"The football gods were in our corner," said UM head coach Joe Glenn.

The Griz are now trailed in the Sports Network's poll by Youngstown State—double-overtime winners over Hofstra—at No. 2, Troy State at No. 3, Delaware at No. 4, and Furman at No. 5.

Perhaps indicative of how nothing less than a national championship is sought by demanding Griz fans, UM players and coaches are circumspect when asked about being No. 1.

"It's only a rating right now," Glenn said.

Said Boomer of the ranking: "It doesn't mean anything until the season is over."

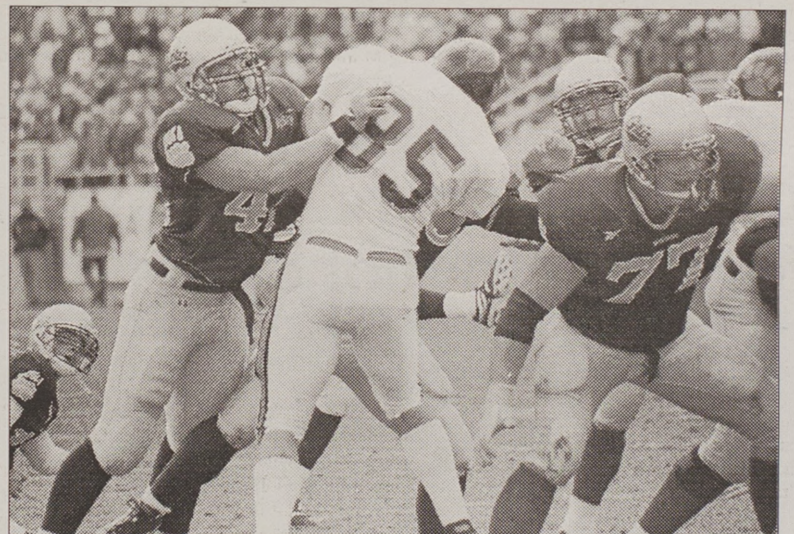
What it does mean is that the Griz have positioned themselves to host up to three playoff games at Washington-Grizzly Stadium.

"I don't think it's any secret to be ranked high at the end of the season," Glenn said. The NCAA will select—and rank—16 teams for the I-AA playoffs.

UM was ranked No. 2 before the 2000 campaign, but lost to Hofstra, 10-9, in its season-opener.

But being No. 1 may now give the Grizzlies two final opponents, Weber State and Montana State, added incentive.

"The little higher up you get up the



UM's Adam Boomer stops Bengal Jeff Main at Saturday's game.

ladder the more your ass is showing," Glenn said.

Boomer, a senior out of American Falls, Idaho, was named Big Sky defensive player of the week for his effort against the Bengals of Idaho State.

Boomer garnered 10 tackles, a sack and an interception and led a UM defensive charge that allowed the Idaho State offense to score only one touchdown. The Bengals' two other touchdowns came on a fake punt and punt return.

Andy Petek, Big Sky defensive player of the week after the Oct. 28 Portland State tilt, also sacked Idaho State quarterback Shane Griggs once to bring his season total to 15, a UM record.

Drew Miller, who was out for two games with an injured right shoulder, returned to quarterback position last weekend, but left the game at halftime after injuring the opposite shoulder.

Miller, who was hurt after tackling

the Bengal defender who nabbed one of Miller's throws in the second quarter, will play against Weber State.

"It was just a stinger in my neck and shoulder," Miller said.

Glenn said that Miller took himself out of the game before the teams came out for the second half.

And with UM leading comfortably at 28-7, Miller didn't hesitate to call on back-up QB John Edwards, Glenn said.

"He knew John (Edwards) could handle it," Glenn said. Edwards tossed a 66-yard scoring strike to Jimmy Farris in the third quarter and helped the Griz grind down the clock in the second half.

Glenn said that he expects that cornerback Damon Parker (shin) and back-up running back Ben Drinkwater (shoulder) will return to the line-up for the trip Weber State's home of Ogden, Utah.

But wide out Tanner Hancock will probably miss Saturday's contest, Glenn added. Hancock aggravated a hamstring injury early in the Idaho State game.

Missoula House Districts go to Democrats

Nick Domitrovich
For the Kaimin

Senate District 32

Incumbent Democrat Vicki Cocchiarella will serve a second term in the Montana state Senate after defeating her opponent, Republican Allen Lee, by a vote of 6,172 to 4,067.

The candidate's campaigns differed sharply on issues such as power deregulation — where Cocchiarella stressed the importance of maintaining affordable power — and Lee who asserted that power had been abnormally cheap during the previous years. In addition, Cocchiarella campaigned on increased funding for both higher education and K-12, while Lee maintained that school budgets are adequately funded but poorly managed.

Cocchiarella has promised to try to spur economic development by promoting education. "A highly educated and highly skilled work force will bring the high-tech, good-paying, non-polluters," said Cocchiarella.

House District 63

In House District 63, incumbent Republican Dick Haines held his seat against Democratic challenger John Rimel. The final vote in the race was 2,896 to 2,528.

Haines ran on a platform of increasing money for research and development at the state's universities, lowering the state business equipment tax and helping smaller corporations flourish.

Haines, who visited nearly 2,400 houses in the district, said that it was important that he talk to so many people because "the Legislature touches everyone's life."

Haines also pledged his commitment to students and said, "If the students at UM have any questions, please call."

House District 64

Democratic incumbent Ron Erickson defeated Republican challenger Amy Fisher in a contest for the Pattee Canyon and Farviews area seat in the Legislature.

Erickson won House District 64 by a vote of 2,611 to 2,245.

Erickson, a former University of Montana professor, ran as a defender of education in Montana, promising to bring school funding to the forefront of the Legislature's business. In addition, he has been a staunch critic of the 1997 Legislature's decision to deregulate residential power, and was critical of additional tax cuts for industry. In the end, Erickson attributed his

victory to personal contact with his constituents.

"My opponent did a nice job, with lots of signs and a good campaign. However, I think the fact that I started walking the district in February, and just finished Saturday night made the difference," Erickson said.

House District 65

Running unopposed, Democrat Rosie Buzzas retained her seat in the Legislature anxiety free, and was able to concentrate on the suspense of other races.

Representing the university area, Buzzas is a self-proclaimed champion of education, and is among the host of Democratic legislators have stressed education's role in Montana's economic development during this election.

Earning 98% of the vote in the district, or 3,311 votes, Buzzas joked, "It was a tough race."

House District 66

In the first of two Missoula races featuring a Democratic candidate pitted against a relatively unknown Constitution Party candidate, Democrat Gail Gutsche retained her seat in the Legislature by a vote of 2,808 to 698 over Kandi Matthew-Jenkins.

In a race where candidates closely focused on their own district's concerns, Gutsche campaigned on economic development through higher education investment, local environmental issues, and securing affordable power for residential needs.

Gutsche thanked all of her volunteers who she thought sealed her victory, saying that their energy "made all the difference in the world."

She also added that her first priority in the Senate would be K-12 and higher education.

House District 67

Democratic incumbent Tom Facey won convincingly over candidate Constitutional Party candidate Steve Larsen by a vote of 2,917 to 740.

Facey, a Rattlesnake Middle School science teacher, campaigned touting increased funding for education, partnerships between the public and private sector to promote economic development and a change to the lien date to begin collection property taxes on new property.

House District 68

Dave Wanzenreid won the four-candidate race for House District 68 with nearly 150 votes over the

Republican candidate George Bailey.

Bailey drew nearly 1,400 votes while Wanzenreid collected about 1,550 votes. The two third party candidates for the district had nearly 270 votes at midnight, Wednesday morning.

HD 68 includes the Southgate Mall area, northwest of Brooks Street, and the Target Range housing development, nearly one mile west of Old Fort Missoula.

Wanzenreid said that Montana's student education was his primary concern for running for the House seat.

"We should treat education as the crown jewels of state, social, economic and political future for Montana," said Wanzenreid. "I want to change the perspective of the Legislature and how the way the University System in Montana is funded."

Wanzenreid said that he wanted to introduce a bill that would treat Montana schools on a longer funding basis and not on the current 10 to 20 year funding basis that many universities have when the state funds new campus buildings. "I want to treat the University System as an investment and not a two-year program," he said.

—Jim Schroeder contributed to this article

Still hopeful



Dorothy Smith, right, mother of Ed Smith who is running for re-election for the Clerk of the Supreme Court and Velma Reber, left, cheer as updates for the Keenan/Rehberg race air on television at the Democratic Headquarters at Jorgeson's Inn in Helena Tuesday.

Olivia Nisbet/Kaimin

Morrison new state auditor

Erin Everett
For the Kaimin

Democrat John Morrison defeated Republican challenger Joyce Schmidt Tuesday to become Montana's next state auditor.

"The results show Montanans want a consumer advocate again," Morrison said at a Bozeman rally following news of his victory.

As of late Tuesday night, Morrison, a consumer rights attorney from Helena, led Gallatin County auditor Schmidt with 55 percent of the vote.

The state auditor oversees Montana's insurance and securities industries and occupies one of five seats on the state land board.

According to campaign finance reports filed Oct. 23, Morrison spent over \$200,000 on advertising and other campaign costs while Schmidt spent \$4,141 on an unusually low-key campaign nearly free of advertising and with little contact with media.

Natural Party candidate Rebecca Scott, an interior designer from Great Falls, also carried 4,445 votes in the election.

The candidates could not be reached for comment following the election.

Republicans retain control in U.S. House, Senate

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans retained their hold on the Senate and House by slim margins Tuesday, despite history-making Democratic triumphs by first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton in New York and a dead governor in Missouri.

Remarkably, joining Mrs. Clinton in the Senate winners' circle was Jean Carnahan, widow of Missouri Democratic Gov. Mel Carnahan, killed three weeks ago in a plane crash. In perhaps Election Day's most poignant drama, he outpolled GOP Sen. John Ashcroft anyway, and she has said she will accept the new governor's appointment to the job.

"We remain heirs of a legacy, heirs of a dream," Mrs. Carnahan, 66, told her followers. "On this night, I

pledge to you, rather, let's pledge to each other, never let the fire go out."

No one had ever posthumously won election to the Senate, though voters on at least three occasions sent deceased candidates to the House. Some Republicans have said they might challenge the Carnahan victory, asserting that the late governor was no longer a state resident.

But for now, the Carnahan win assured Democrats at least 47 seats — more than enough to use the minority's power to wreak havoc with the GOP's legislative agenda by forcing procedural delays.

At 2 a.m. MST, there were three remaining races in Nebraska, Michigan and Washington that were

all too close to call.

Holding the majority gives Republicans their first eight-year stretch of Senate supremacy since the 1932 elections ended 14 years of unbroken GOP control.

Of the 29 incumbents seeking reelection, three others besides Ashcroft were toppled from office by early Wednesday: veteran Democratic Sen. Charles Robb of Virginia and GOP Sens. Rod Grams of Minnesota and William Roth of Delaware.

In the House, Republicans picked up six Democratic seats in scattered states, enough to renew their hold for two more years. But they gave back six other seats elsewhere around the country.

At press time, half-dozen or so seats remained in doubt, some of them agonizingly close.

On a night extremely kind to incumbents, only one lawmaker, Democratic Rep. Sam Gejdenson on Connecticut, had lost his bid for a new term, although a few Republicans were trailing in incomplete returns.

Besides their Connecticut victory, Republicans won Democratic open seats in Pennsylvania, New York, Virginia, Missouri and West Virginia.

Shortly before 2 a.m. MST the national trend showed Republicans had won 218 seats and were leading for 3 more, with 218 required to seal control.

Unofficial statistics: UM voters turn out in record numbers

Erik Olson
Montana Kaimin

Students who voted on campus Tuesday broke the 1998 record for voter turnout.

Precinct 52, which comprises all students living on campus, reported 850 voters, breaking the previous record of 648 voters in 1998, according to ASUM President Molly Moon Neitzel.

The number is only preliminary, but U-Vote officials predict the precinct will be one of the highest precincts in Montana for voter turnout. Statistics will be official Wednesday.

Megan Jennings, spokeswoman for Campus Green Vote, said that many students stay registered on campus even though they have moved off campus.

Neitzel said the large turnout shows something about UM students and young people as a whole.

"I think this is phenomenal," she said. "This shows the University of Montana precinct is one of the most influential precincts in Montana."

At times, more than 60 people were backed up outside voting booths, according to U-

Vote officials, and members of the coalition and YouthVote 2000 went to the UC Market and bought candy for people in line to keep them from leaving.

"They were beginning to get discouraged," Neitzel said.

UM students felt this election was too important to ignore.

"It's such a tight election that every vote counts," said Brooke Duty, a junior majoring

in business.

Eric Wright, a senior majoring in finance, said he heard students all around campus discussing the election.

Although he said he didn't vote because he didn't have time to register, Wright said students should get out to the polls.

"It's a right that people need to focus on," he said. "It's important that everyone's involved."

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NEWS

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Inheritance tax repealed; vehicle tax to be flat fee

Jim Schroeder
For the Kaimin

Montana voters abolished the nearly 80-year-old state inheritance tax and also voted to enact a different vehicle tax that imposes a fee based on vehicle's age, and not value.

LR-116 will repeal the state inheritance tax, which brings an estimated \$11 million annually to the state treasury. The tax is levied on the transfer of property when a person dies.

Advocates of LR-116 said that it promotes fairness for landowners, but critics say that it will take away revenue needed for education.

The inheritance tax affects 800 to 900 estates a year out of the approximate 8,000 deaths in the state annually, according to the state Revenue Department.

The referendum repealing the inheritance tax will apply to deaths after Dec. 31, 2000.

Besides changing the estate tax, state voters also decided to impose LR-115 to significantly change how Montana's cars, light trucks and motorcycles are taxed.

Beginning Jan. 1, 2001, vehicles presently taxed on a value basis that uses depreciated manufacturer's suggested retail prices reflecting the age of vehicles will instead be taxed on a flat fee that ranges from \$6-\$195.

The flat fees will be \$195 for a vehicle from 1 to 4 years old, \$65 for vehicles from 5 to 10 years old and \$6 for automobiles more than 10 years old.

LR-115 allows for permanent registrations for all vehicles older than 10 years and a two-year registration of light automobiles of any age.

The measure will also eliminate the state's 1.5 percent sales tax on new cars, which will result in \$5.5 million less in state taxes revenue per year.

Curtiss wins county commissioner

Courtney Lowery
Montana Kaimin

Democrat Jean Curtiss said Tuesday night she has already taken the steps to make her a successful Missoula County commissioner.

Curtiss unofficially defeated Republican Bill Farrell for the only available commissioner position by a margin of 7 percent or 3,100 votes with all precincts reporting.

Curtiss said during her campaign, she has established a "positive working relationship" with many of the Missoula County department heads and, more importantly, with the other two commissioners Republican Barbara Evans and Democrat Bill Carey.

Citing last year's "contentious" board of commissioners, and last spring's budget problems, Curtiss said she and the other two commissioners have high hopes to improve relations. As of May, next year's budget had an anticipated \$2.6 million shortfall.

"They just couldn't focus on

"We need to find a strategic plan to prioritize better – what we do, when we do it and who we do it for. That way, we wouldn't be trying to prioritize when we're already out of money."

—Jean Curtiss

Missoula County Commissioner elect

the real issues in the county while they were bickering," Curtiss said. "But the county is on its way now. The budget is back where it belongs. I think we've learned our lessons."

As commissioner, Curtiss wants better planning to avoid mishaps like last spring's budget crisis.

"We need to find a strategic plan to prioritize better – what we do, when we do it and who we do it for," Curtiss said. "That way, we wouldn't be trying to prioritize when we're already out of money."

Farrell, too, promised during his campaign to work toward uniting the commission.

"We had a County Commission that was a split a lot of the time, and I thought maybe I could help to put the commission back together," Farrell said. "She'll do that."

Farrell commended Curtiss for running a clean campaign and also said he will continue to be active in Missoula County politics.

"I wouldn't turn it into a mud-slinging race, even if we had any mud," Farrell said. "Missoula County is still in good with Jean (Curtiss)."

—Mike Quinn and Tracy K
Whitehair contributed
to this article.

Breuer wins Missoula county clerk

Jim Schroeder
For the Kaimin

Incumbent Democrat Kathleen Breuer defeated Republican newcomer Janet Foss in the race for clerk of

District Court.

Both candidates currently work in the clerk of District Court office in the Missoula County Courthouse.

The county clerk's office handles all District Court

records of proceedings that involve issues such as marriage, licensing and criminal cases.

Breuer has been the county clerk since 1989 and said that making records more accessible over the Internet was her main reason for seeking re-election.

Breuer said that two years ago she estimated the Internet changeover cost at nearly \$50,000. Breuer was unsure of the cost to modernize court records, however.

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Nader fails to gain 5 percent

Nate Schweber
Montana Kaimin

Though Ralph Nader didn't reach his goal of securing 5 percent of the nationwide vote, local supporters say they're thrilled by the Green Party candidate's strong showing in Montana and specifically, in Missoula.

Nader, who at press time had around 6 percent of the statewide vote, got 14 percent of the vote in Missoula County.

"We're going to build on this," Missoula County Nader campaign coordinator Briel Johnson said. "We want to run candidates in 2002."

Johnson said neither she nor fellow party members are apologetic about voting Green in a cliffhanger election where Democrat Al Gore lost key states, like Oregon, by fewer votes than Nader received.

"Sometimes you have to sacrifice somewhere. Do you look at the next four years or the next 50 years?" Johnson said. "I know this will upset a lot of people, but getting Bush in the White House will get a lot of people active."

Nader's shortfall, getting around 3 percent of the nationwide vote, also cost him the \$12 million in feder-

"Five percent are conveniences to us. But the rigor of the Green Party rests on people and is far more important than a few million dollars."

—Ralph Nader

Green Party presidential candidate

al funds for the Green Party in 2004.

From a press conference in Washington D.C., Nader said the hard work that went into his campaign means more than the money he failed to get.

"Five percent are conveniences to us," Nader said. "But the rigor of the Green Party rests on people and is far more important than a few million dollars."

Nader pledged the Green Party will run "thousands" of candidates in 2002.

"We're coming out of this election the third largest party in America – replacing the Reform Party," Nader said. "We're building a long-term progressive movement."

Rich Wachs, Montana field coordinator for Nader 2000, said he was disappointed,

but not phased, by not securing 5 percent of the nationwide vote.

"It's a setback, but not an insurmountable one," Wachs said. "We're not going to go away."

Wachs said Nader 2000 boasted more than 300 volunteers in Montana and he said Nader's strong showing in Big Sky Country is indicative of the issues Montanans care about.

"People in Montana and Missoula county are concerned about the progressive issues Nader represents," Wachs said.

Johnson said Montana Green Party members will attend a party-building rally in Georgia in August. She said the party will begin the process of nominating candidates for 2002 in the spring.

Montana passes tobacco money, workers' comp amendments

Erik Olson
Montana Kaimin

Tuesday night, Montana voters approved two constitutional amendments, one that would create a trust fund for tobacco settlement money and another that would invest up to 25 percent of the state's workers' compensation fund in the stock market.

C-35 was approved by a hardy margin, 74 percent to 26 percent. The amendment will earmark 40 percent of the tobacco settlement to fund health care benefits, service and tobacco disease prevention.

C-34 passed by a smaller margin, 53 percent to 47

percent. That amendment will authorize the state Board of Investments to invest assets from the workers' compensation fund into private corporate capital stock.

Proponents of C-35 say about \$12 million will go into the trust fund each year, with \$800 million to \$900 million going in the fund over a 25-year period. The remainder of the settlement money would go into the state's general fund.

Proponents of C-34 say the investments will allow the workers' compensation to keep pace with increasing costs and increase its ability to financially help injured workers.

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continued from page 1

President

acknowledged the race was extremely close.

"We hope and believe we have elected the next president of the United States," he said.

Florida Attorney General Bob Butterworth, who is also Gore's Florida campaign chairman, said all parties involved needed rest, but added: "The Florida vote will be an accurate vote for whichever candidate it might fall for."

"Much of the ballot is actually counted in the state of Florida through electronic means, through computers, so it will not take that long," he said around 3 a.m. MST Wednesday.

The chaos in Florida was likely to be intensified by voter confusion in Palm Beach County when several dozen voters said they voted for Pat Buchanan instead of Al Gore because of ballots that were not clearly marked and had an arrow from Gore's name, listed second, pointing to the third hole on the ballot. Elections officials said the confusion was caused by making type on the ballots larger so voters could read them.

And so after months of campaigning and \$3 billion in political spending, Election Day passed without the country knowing who would be president.

Not that it mattered in the Electoral College, but with votes tallied from 96

percent of the precincts, Gore had 47,242,846 and Bush had 47,101,968 votes. Green Party candidate Ralph Nader was at 3 percent and Pat Buchanan barely registered.

Nader did well enough in to potentially tip several states to Bush.

"You can't spoil a system spoiled to the core," Nader said.

TV networks projected Bush the winner, igniting GOP celebrations in Austin. Later the networks rolled back and declared the election too close to call, as did the New York Times.

Florida had been the epicenter of the campaign all along and Tuesday night was beyond chaotic. At mid-evening news organizations said Gore was the winner, but they backtracked as more votes were counted and Bush eased ahead. Hours later, the TV outlets did it again, this time for Bush.

The presidential race — among the closest in a generation — was excruciating for both campaigns. Both candidates were within reach of an electoral majority, and agonizing defeat. By 2 a.m. MST, Bush had won 29 states for 246 electoral votes of the needed 270. Gore had won 17 states plus the District of Columbia for 243. Florida offered a tantalizing 25 votes to its winner.

continued from page 1

Governor

the obstacles she said she faced.

"It's not about the amount of money you spend; it's about the message you send," Martz said. "I thank the people for trusting us and our leadership ability. We will do the best we can to serve them."

Thankful for her win, she said she recognized the importance of everyone working together, adding that now is the time for all sides to focus on the future.

"Now isn't the time for us to be divided," Martz said. "It will take every one of us to go forward."

Martz said her immediate plans as governor include working on her inaugural address and choosing her cabinet members.

She said her plans for higher education have not changed. She said she still feels that for higher education to benefit, Montana's slowly developing economy must improve.

"We've got to create jobs in Montana," Martz said. "You can't keep funding things if you can't afford them."

Martz's plan for economic development includes a five-year tax credit for

existing high-tech companies and new businesses that want to move to Montana. It also calls for the reorganization of the commerce department to remove barriers to economic growth.

Her push for higher education funding comes from a plan to increase the maximum tax-deductible contribution to an educational savings account.

The current limit on contributions is \$3,000 for individuals and \$4,800 for couples. Martz's plan would increase those numbers to \$4,800 for individuals and \$6,000 for couples.

From his campaign headquarters in Helena, O'Keefe said that although Montana has traditionally shifted party lines in the state house every 8 to 12 years, it still has been an uphill battle for a Democrat to take the state.

"We were just hoping that shift would happen tonight," O'Keefe said.

For now, he said his immediate plans are to spend time with his family.

"(Wednesday) we'll be celebrating my daughter Greer's ninth birthday," O'Keefe said. "Win or lose, that's what we would be doing."

continued from page 1

GOP

attorney general.

Democrat John Morrison handily defeated Republican Joyce Schmidt in the race to be state auditor. Meanwhile, Democrat Linda McCulloch of Bonner will be the new superintendent of public instruction, the position Nancy Keenan presently holds.

Former Montana Power attorney Karla Gray beat Whitefish private practice attorney Terry Treweiler in the non-partisan contest for state Supreme Court Justice. Pat Cotter defeated Chris Tweeten for court justice position three.

Legislative Referendum 115, which aims to reduce the taxation of light vehicles and eliminate the sales tax on new motor vehicles passed with 58 percent of the popular vote.

Constitutional Amendment 34, which will authorize the Board of Investments to invest up to 25 percent of the workers compensation fund in the stock market passed, gathering just under 52 percent of votes.

Constitutional Amendment 35 seeks to give at least 40 percent of the national tobacco settlement to a trust fund for health care benefits. The amendment passed easily, garnering 73 percent of votes statewide.

Initiative 143 to prohibit new game farms, prohibit transfer of existing game farm licenses and prohibit shooting of game farm animals for a fee narrowly passed with 51 percent of the vote.

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