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The Post and Courier

THE SOUTH'S OLDEST DAILY NEWSPAPER • FOUNDED 1803

WEDNESDAY, November 7, 2012

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ELECTION 2012

OBAMA ENCORE

PRESIDENT DEFEATS ROMNEY WITH SHARP
FOCUS ON BATTLEGROUNDS STATES



CHRISS CARLSON/AP

President Barack Obama walks on stage with first lady Michelle Obama and daughters Malia and Sasha at his election night party this morning in Chicago. President Obama defeated Republican challenger former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney.

BY DAVID ESPIONE
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama rolled to re-election Tuesday night, vanquishing former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney and prevailing despite a weak economy that plagued his first term and put a crimp in the middle class dreams of millions.

"This happened because of you. Thank you," Obama tweeted to supporters as he celebrated four more years in the White House.

After the closest, and arguably the nastiest, campaign in history, divided government seemed alive and well.

Democrats retained control of the Senate with surprising ease. Republicans were on course for the same in the House, making it likely that Speaker John Boehner of Ohio, Obama's partner in unsuccessful deficit talks, would reclaim his seat at the bargaining table.

Romney led narrowly in the popular vote, by about 30,000 votes, out of more than 98 million cast, with ballots counted in 74 percent of the nation's precincts.

But Obama's last-minute focus on the

President

Barack Obama, D-D	48,981,701
Mitt Romney, R	48,996,157

Gary Johnson, L

Vigil Goode, C

Bill Stein, G

More on the presidential race

Romney's concession. A3

Editorial: President Obama's second chance. A14

Analysis: Obama hit home run with focused strategy. A18

How South Carolina and the nation voted. A18

Local reaction. A18

battleground states allowed him to run up a sizable margin in the competition for electoral votes, where it mattered.

Even so, Ohio, Wisconsin, Virginia, Iowa, New Hampshire, Colorado and Nevada, seven of the nine battle-

grounds where the rivals and their allies poured nearly \$1 billion into dueling television commercials,

Romney was in Massachusetts, his long and grueling bid for the presidency at an unsuccessful end.

He won North Carolina among the battleground states, Florida remained too close to call.

The election emerged as a choice between two very different visions of government — whether it occupies a major, front-row place in Americans' lives or is in the background as a less-obtrusive facilitator for private enterprise and entrepreneurship.

The economy was rated the top issue by about 60 percent of voters surveyed as they left their polling places. But most said former President George W. Bush bore responsibility for current circumstances than Obama did after nearly four years in office.

That boded well for the president, who had worked to turn the election into a choice between his proposals and Romney's, rather than the simple referendum on the economy during his time in the White House.

Please see OBAMA, Page A3

Special section inside

Key results

A look at local turnout and problems at the polls. A22



U.S. Reps. Olybur, Scott, cruise to re-election. A19

Berkeley, Dardanelle voters support the Yes 4 Schools bond referendum. A21

Governor, Lt. governor will share ticket. A20

Thurmond likely winner in Senate Dist. 41. A20

ELECTION 2012
Voting begins into the wee hours Saturday

More coverage

National races. A19

Statewide results. A20

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POLITICS ONLINE

For more coverage, including galleries, videos and results, go to postandcourier.com/politics.



Bridge P11 Comics P10, 11 Food P1 Obituaries B6

Books B6 Crosswords P10, 15 Local News B1 Sports C1

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Partly sunny
High 59 Low 38
5-day forecast. B8

TROUBLE IN RICHLAND COUNTY: Heavy turnout, machine problems. **AA7**

The State
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2012 | THESTATE.COM

FOUR MORE YEARS

Deeply divided country gives Obama second term



D-HQ CARLSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
President Obama walks on stage with first lady Michelle Obama and daughters Malia and Sasha to give his acceptance speech this morning in Chicago.

Despite a race that looked like it might last until dawn or later, President Obama turns back a fierce challenge from Republican rival Mitt Romney. The question now is, can he end the gridlock that has paralyzed Washington?

PENNY TAX

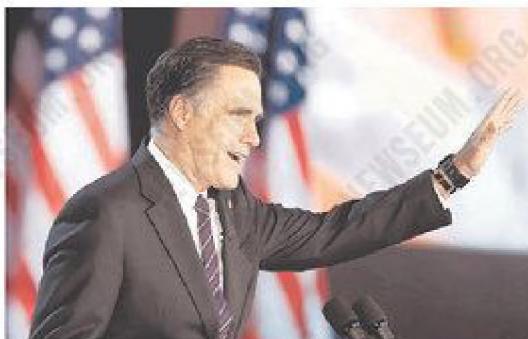
The fate of Richland County's penny tax was too close to call. **Page A7**

LEXINGTON COUNTY

Incumbents hold leads in two council races; Beth Carrigg re-elected. **Page A6**

RICHLAND COUNTY

Incumbents hold leads in County Council races.



STATE SENATE

Incumbents Courson, Setzler win; Knotts loses. **Page AB**

STATE HOUSE

Democrat Bernstein defeats incumbent Brady. **Page AB**

STATEWIDE

Governor, lieutenant governor on single ticket appears to have passed.

The Greenville News

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WEDNESDAY,
NOVEMBER 7, 2012
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

FINAL EDITION K1

METRO Early hacking cost estimates put price tag as high as \$63.2 million, 3B

OHIO: SWING STATE GOES FIRMLY INTO OBAMA COLUMN TO GIVE HIM WIN

SENATE: DEMOCRATS WIN KEY RACES, LIKELY TO RETAIN CONTROL

OBAMA WINS

ELECTION RESULTS

Winners are in bold

PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

36 of 46 counties

Barack Obama, Dem (I)	631,862
Mitt Romney, GOP	794,880
Gary Johnson, Lib	12,468
Jill Stein, Grn	3,998
Virgil Goodis, CDT	3,617

AMENDMENT 1**LT GOVERNOR ELECTION**

36 of 46 counties

Yes	739,117
No	599,602

US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,**DISTRICT 4**

229 of 229 precincts

Deb Marrow, Dem	89,094
Trey Gowdy, GOP (I)	171,505
Jeff Simeral, Grn	3,341

US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,**DISTRICT 3**

330 of 330 precincts

Jeff Duncan, GOP (I)	153,153
Brian Doyle, Dem	75,113

STATE SENATE DISTRICT 2

43 of 43 precincts

Larry Martin, GOP (I)	23,985
Rex Rice, PEC	13,154

STATE SENATE DISTRICT 6

36 of 36 precincts

Mike Fair, GOP (I)	24,614
Tommie Reepo, PEC	10,761

STATE SENATE DISTRICT 7

35 of 35 precincts

Karl Allen, Dem	21,882
Jane Kizer, GOP	11,501

STATE SENATE DISTRICT 12

32 of 32 precincts

Henri Thompson, Dem	15,692
Lee Bright, GOP (I)	28,545

STATE HOUSE OF**REPRESENTATIVES DISTRICT 3**

18 of 18 precincts

B.R Skelton, GOP	5,371
Ed J Harris, Dem	4,675

STATE HOUSE OF**REPRESENTATIVES DISTRICT 24**

21 of 21 precincts

Bruce W Bannister, GOP	13,147
Joseph L Martin, Grn	2,451

SHERIFF

61 of 61 precincts

Rick Clark, GOP	23,433
Tim Morgan, PEC	16,259
Stan Whitten, PEC	3,035

INSIDE

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Area news	18	Obituaries	6B
Bridge	40	Sports	1C



President Barack Obama is joined by first lady Michelle Obama and daughters Malia and Sasha at his election night party early today in Chicago. President Obama defeated Republican challenger Mitt Romney. -O-RIS CARLSON/AP

Race remains tight for much of the night

By Richard Wolf
USA TODAY

President Obama won a decisive victory Tuesday night by sweeping most of the industrial Midwest and breaking open what had been a deadlocked race against Republican challenger Mitt Romney.

The president stormed to victory in swing states from Pennsylvania to Wisconsin, assuring his election even as the verdict in Florida and Virginia remained in doubt.

Ohio put Obama over the top, a fitting status for the state that had commanded more candidate visits, manpower and campaign cash than any other all year long.

Supporters who jammed McCormick Place in Chicago for Obama's victory celebration broke into a frenzy when TV networks began projecting him the winner shortly after 11 p.m. ET. The president was to address them later in the night.

Obama, seeking to capitalize on his

THE VOTE**OBAMA**

Electoral votes Popular vote

285 49%

ROMNEY

Electoral votes Popular vote

203 49%

ELECTION 2012

Get Greenville County predict-by-predict results for the president, U.S. House and Statehouse races. Join the discussion on Twitter using the hashtag #gvineacts and visit our Facebook page at GreenvilleOnline.com/facebook to discuss the outcomes and the issues Tuesday night's winners will face. Get the latest post-election coverage from GreenvilleOnline on your smart phone, tablet or desktop computer throughout the day today.

Democrats look likely to hold on to Senate

By Susan Davis
USA TODAY

Democrats are poised to maintain control of the U.S. Senate after their candidates picked up Republican-held seats in Indiana, Maine and Massachusetts, leaving the GOP with no foreseeable path to a takeover with the remaining competitive races that remain undecided.

It is the second election cycle in a row in which Republicans were favored to make gains because they were defending fewer seats, only to see their chances diminish because of missteps by their own candidates.

In Indiana, Republican Richard Mourdock failed to recover from a late controversy over his remarks at a debate that pregnancy resulting from rape is "God's will" in explaining his opposition to abortion rights. Democratic Rep. Joe Donnelly was declared the winner by a narrow margin in a victory that delivered a fatal blow to lingering GOP hopes for a take-over.

Harvard University professor and

See OBAMA, Page 3A

See SENATE, Page 3A

Incumbents fend off challengers



HIGH: 60
LOW: 40
Weather: 6B

A treat for feet: \$17 pedicure at Bluffton's Tranquil Skin & Nails at dealsaver.com/Beaufort

DEMS KEEP CONTROL OF SENATE

Republicans maintain majority control of House of Representatives **14A**



The Beaufort Gazette

WEDNESDAY, November 7, 2012

beaufortgazette.com

Established in 1897 50 cents

ELECTION RESULTS

Unofficial results for contested races in Tuesday's general election. **KEY:** BC - Beaufort County; C-Constitution; D-Democrat; G-Green; I-Incumbent; L-Libertarian; R-Republican; WFP-Working Families Party.

President	Nation	S.C.
Mitt Romney (R)	49%	56%
I-Timothy Obama (D)	49%	43%

Gary Johnson (L), Virgil Goode (C) and Jill Stein (G) each received less than 1 percent of the vote.

U.S. Congress District 1	B.C.	S.C.
70 of 78 precincts reporting		
I-Tim Scott (R)	63%	61%
Bobbie Rose (D, WFP)	34%	35%

Keith Blandford (L) received 2% of the vote.

U.S. Congress District 6	B.C.	S.C.
5 of 6 precincts reporting		
I-James "Jim" Clyburn (D)	92%	93%
Nammi Muhammad (G)	7%	6%

S.C. Senate District 45	B.C.	S.C.
9 of 10 precincts reporting		
I-Letitia Bessinger (R)	42%	34%
I-Clementa Pinckney (D)	58%	66%

BEAUFORT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION (nonpartisan)

District 3	
12 of 12 precincts reporting	
I-Michael Rivers Sr.	47%
Bennie Schein	27%
I-Fred Washington Jr.	26%
District 4	
9 of 9 precincts reporting	
James Beckert	69%
Brian Herrmann	31%
District 5	
6 of 6 precincts reporting	
Gerri Kinton	64%
I-Ronald Speaks	36%

BEAUFORT CITY COUNCIL

(Nonpartisan, 2 seats available)		
I-Mike McFee	39%	
I-George O'Kelly Jr.	32%	
Pete Palmer	28%	

SHOULD GOVERNOR, LT. GOVERNOR RUN ON SAME TICKET?

	B.C.	S.C.
Yes	57%	55%
No	43%	45%

SHOULD COUNTY TREASURER, AUDITOR BE APPOINTED, NOT ELECTED?

	B.C.	S.C.
Yes	39%	
No	62%	

SHOULD COUNTY BORROW \$25 MILLION TO BUY, PRESERVE 'CRITICAL' LANDS?

	B.C.	S.C.
Yes	62%	
No	38%	

BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Chairman out; 2 newcomers in

By RACHEL HEATON
rheaton@beaufortgazette.com
843-706-8177

Two incumbents went down, and two newcomers won northern Beau-



Helena Island, Lady's Island and Daufuskie Island.

He said his top priority is closing the student-achievement gap and securing adequate funding for the district.

BEAUFORT CITY COUNCIL

McFee, O'Kelley keep seats

By ERIN MOODY
emoody@beaufortgazette.com
843-706-8184

Mike McFee and George O'Kelly Jr. will retain their seats on Beaufort City Council for another four years after a



MORE ELECTION NEWS

For a list of candidates whose races were uncontested, please see **14A**



Did voters approve Beaufort County referendums on a new form of government, land preservation and a Daufuskie special tax district? **15A**

Will the state's governor and lieutenant governor have to run on the same ticket? **15A**

Who has control over the South Carolina House and Senate? **15A**

For precinct-by-precinct results, as well as results from other state and national races, go to beaufortgazette.com/election



FOOD Thanksgiving Day turkey is the ultimate comfort food. **Page 1C**

Morning News

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 7, 2012

www.scmnews.com

The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 cents

TODAY'S WEATHER
Periodic clouds,
sunny and cold,
high 59, low 33
DETAILS 2A

Election ★ 2012 ★

Results as of press time.

National

President (Popular vote)
Barack Obama (D) 49%
Mitt Romney (R) 49%

President (Electoral College)

270 needed to elect
Barack Obama (D) 290
Mitt Romney (R) 201

Congressional

S.C. 7th District
Tom Rice (R) 57.02%
Gloria Tinubu (D) 39.7%

Florence Mayor

Steve Powers (R) 39.5%
Stephen Wukela (D) 60.5%

S.C. House District 53

Phil Powell (PET) 13%
Ted Vick (D) 46.5%
Richie Yow (R) 40%

FSD1 Board Seat 1

Barry Townsend 69.4%
Raleigh Rush 30.6%

FSD1 Board Seat 2

Pat Gibson-Hye Moore 56.5%
Warren Fox 43.5%

FSD1 Board Seat 8

Alicyn Stevenson 26.6%
Richard "Doc" Sojourner 20.4%
Terry B. Law Sr. 53%

Florence County Council District 2

Roger M. Poston (R) 73.6%
Laverne Bazen (PET) 26.4%

Florence County Council District 4

Mary Floyd Springs (PET) 30.28%
Mitchell Kirby (D) 69.72%

Florence County Council District 5

Kent Caudle (R) 66.3%
Andy Wilson (PET) 33.7%

Florence County Council District 9

Willard Dornety Jr. (PET) 84.6%
Warren L. Snell Jr. (PET) 15.4%

Darlington County Coroner

Darin Hayes (PET) 22.4%
J. Todd Hardie (D) 77.6%

Williamsburg County Sheriff

Sandy Thompson (PET) 17.3%
Michael L. Johnson (D) 82.6%

Marlboro County Sheriff

Fred Brantley (PET) 11.8%
Charles English (PET) 9.9%
Fred Knight (D) 78.3%

Dillon County Sheriff

Douglas "Humbunny" Per-

Four more for Obama



President leads Romney in tight race

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama stepped to the brink of re-election Tuesday night, capturing battleground Ohio from Mitt Romney and edging ahead in other pivotal states despite a weak economy and high unemployment that crimped the middle class dreams of millions.

At home in Chicago, the president all but claimed victory. "This happened because of you. Thank you," he tweeted to supporters.

Romney was in Massachusetts after a long and grueling bid for the presidency. He led in the national popular vote with 41 million votes, or 50 percent. Obama had 40 million, or 49 percent, with 59 percent of the precincts tallied.

But Obama led in the competition for electoral votes, where it mattered most.

His triumph in Ohio as well as in Iowa and New Hampshire, two other battlegrounds, gave him 265 electoral votes of the 270 needed for victory. Romney had 200.

The election emerged as a choice

between two very different visions of government — whether it occupies a major, front-row place in American lives or is in the background as a less-obtrusive facilitator for private enterprise and entrepreneurship.

The economy was rated the top issue by about 60 percent of voters surveyed as they left their polling places. But more said former President George W. Bush bore responsibility for current circumstances than Obama did after nearly four years in office.

About 4 in 10 said the economy is on the mend, but more than that said it was stagnant or getting worse more than four years after the near-collapse of 2008. The survey was conducted for The Associated Press and a group of television networks.

Democrats got off to a quick start in their bid to renew their Senate majority, capturing seats in Indiana and Massachusetts now in Republican hands.

In Maine, independent former Gov. Angus King was elected to succeed retiring GOP Sen. Olympia Snowe. He has not yet said which party he will side with, but Republicans attacked him in television advertising during the race, and

See ELECTION, Page 10A

President Barack Obama speaks to media as he visits a campaign office the morning of the 2012 election on Tuesday in Chicago.



Florence Mayor Stephen J. Wukela kisses his wife, Laura, as he enters Thai House 2 to meet supporters after declaring victory Tuesday.

Another term for Wukela

Incumbent leads by 2,500-vote margin with some votes out

BY ELLEN MEDER
Morning News
emeder@forencountymedia.com

FLORENCE — Florence Mayor Stephen J. Wukela will have another four years at the city's helm after winning his bid for re-election Tuesday night against Florence City Councilman Steve Powers, his Republican

but if you've ever won one by one vote, you don't call it until its over," Wukela said at his victory party at Thai House 2 in downtown Florence.

This was a comparative landslide for Wukela. During his 2008 Democratic primary race, Wukela won by a single vote over Frank Willis, and the race was contested all the way up to the South Carolina Supreme Court.

Wukela, a Florence trial lawyer, was greeted by a small group of his closest supporters, colleagues and family members when

7th District

Horry County carries Rice past Tinubu

BY JOHN SWEENEY
Morning News
jsweeney@forencountymedia.com

CAROLINA FOREST — For the first time in almost 20 years, South Carolina's Pee Dee region has a congressional representative to call its own, and his name is Tom Rice.

Rice unofficially captured the S.C. 7th Congressional District just before 10:30 pm Tuesday. Shortly afterward, he addressed his supporters at Longheads Bar & Grill in Carolina Forest, his wife, Wrenzie, at his side.

"Well, we made it," Rice said. "We crossed the finished line. Looks like we may have finished just a little bit ahead. It's an exciting night and we need to celebrate. I thank you all for being here, but we have to remember this is just the beginning and the hard work is just getting ready to start."

As of late Tuesday, Tinubu had not conceded the race. Rice, but with 294 of 318 precincts reporting, Rice led by more than 18,000 votes.

Rice thanked his wife, family and cam-



WEDNESDAY,
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INDEX-JOURNAL

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**ROMNEY**ELECTORAL
VOTES**206**POPULAR
VOTE**49%****OBAMA**ELECTORAL
VOTES**303**POPULAR
VOTE**49%**

ELECTION RESULTS

U.S. House, Third District
 ✓ Jeff Duncan.....67%
 Brian Doyle.....33%
 Page 2A

State Senate, District 4
 ✓ Floyd Nicholson.....53%
 Jennings McAbee.....46%

State House, District 11
 ✓ Craig Gagnon.....51%
 Lee Garrett.....35%
 Bob Shirley.....14%
 Page 3A

State House, District 13
 ✓ Shannon Riley.....79%
 Bob Merritt.....21%
 Page 3A

State House, District 14
 ✓ Mike Pitts.....63%
 Ed Taylor.....37%
 Page 2A

State House, District 39
 ✓ Ralph Kennedy.....53%
 Phil Perry.....47%
 Page 11A

8th Judicial Circuit Solicitor
 ✓ David Stumba.....57%
 Ben Shealy.....42%
 Page 2A

Greenwood County Clerk of Court
 ✓ Angie Woodhurst....60%
 Felicia Moton.....40%
 Page 9A

Greenwood County Coroner
 ✓ Sonny Cox.....79%
 Write-in.....21%
 Page 5A

Greenwood County Council, District 4
 ✓ Chuck Meates.....68%
 Mike Rakes.....32%
 Page 9A

Alcohol sales permitted on Sundays
 ✓ Yes.....65%
 No.....35%
 Page 2A

Ware Shoals Mayor
 ✓ John Hansen.....54%
 Bonnie Maxwell.....44%
 Page 9A

Ware Shoals Town Council (3 seats)
 ✓ Jack Sullivan.....22%
 ✓ Marshall Webster...18%
 ✓ B.J. Smith.....17%
 Pete McGrew.....12%
 Calvin Culbertson....10%
 John Paul Alewine.....8%
 Rick Curtis.....7%
 Randall Pearson.....5%
 Page 9A

Abbeville County Sheriff
 ✓ Charles Goodwin...47%
 Skipper OBannen.....40%
 Raymond Vandiver.....13%
 Page 8A

Abbeville Mayor
 Brenda Anderson.....39%
 Sarah Shewlood.....31%
 Harold McNeill.....30%
 Top two will meet in a runoff Nov. 20
 Page 8A

Abbeville City Council, Seat 7
 Joshua Baughman.....46%
 Joe Scoggins.....32%
 Joseph Seawright.....21%
 Top two will meet

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

4 MORE YEARS

Despite weak economy, Barack Obama secures another term

Associated Press

President Barack Obama rolled to re-election Tuesday night, vanquishing former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney

"This happened because of you. Thank you" Obama tweeted to supporters as he celebrated four more years in the White House. Romney telephoned the president to concede.

After the

costliest — and arguably the nastiest — campaign in history, divided government seemed alive and well.

Democrats retained control of the Senate with surprising ease. Republicans were on course for the same in the House, making it likely that Speaker John Boehner, of Ohio, Obama's partner in unsuccessful

See OBAMA, page 4A



ASSOCIATED PRESS

President Barack Obama embraces first lady Michelle Obama on Monday during a campaign rally in Des Moines, Iowa. Obama secured re-election Tuesday, topping Republican foe Mitt Romney.

Nicholson rolls past McAbee to reclaim District 10 seat



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2012

The Times and Democrat

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OBAMA AGAIN

PRESIDENT WINS KEY STATES IN GAINING SECOND TERM



AP

President Barack Obama is embraced by a volunteer as he visits a campaign office the morning of the 2012 election, Tuesday, Nov. 6, 2012, in Chicago.

By DAVID ESPO
AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama won re-election Tuesday night despite a fierce challenge from Republican Mitt Romney, prevailing in the face of a weak economy and high unemployment that encumbered his first term and crimped the middle class dreams of millions.

"This happened because of you. Thank you!" Obama tweeted to supporters as he secured four more years in the White House.

The president sealed his victory in Ohio, Iowa, New Hampshire and Colorado, four of the nine battleground states where the two rivals and their allies spent nearly \$1 billion on dueling television commercials.

Ultimately, the result of the brawl of an election campaign appeared likely to be the political status quo. Democrats won two more years of

control of the Senate, and Republicans were on track to do likewise in the House.

Romney was in Massachusetts, his long and grueling bid for the presidency at an unsuccessful end.

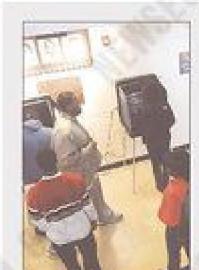
The two rivals were close in the popular vote.

Romney had 45.2 million votes, or 49 percent. Obama had 45 million, also 49 percent, with 65 percent of precincts tallied.

But Obama's laser-like focus on battleground states gave him the majority in the electoral vote, where it mattered most. He had 284, or 14 more than needed for victory. Romney had 200.

Yet to be settled were battlegrounds in Florida, Virginia and Nevada.

The election emerged as a choice between two very different visions of government — whether it occupies a major, front-row place in American



See OBAMA, A1

Voter Voices, A2**By the numbers, A2**

- Voting results from area precincts

Election Results, A3

- Orangeburg County
- Bamberg County
- Calhoun County



VOTING WOES

Lines, problems don't stop voters in The T&D Region

The Herald

75 CENTS

WEDNESDAY November 7, 2012

IT'S BRITT RE-ELECTED SHERIFFS

Blackwell wins
heated York County
Council race • 1B

Sen. Hayes easily
defeats Thompson
• 1B

Lancaster re-elects
Faile; Underwood
likely in Chester • 2B

FOUR MORE FOR OBAMA



Jeff Taillon

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