

BROWN CRUISES TO WIN GOP SWEEPS INTO CONTROL OF HOUSE

Political balance shifts to the right

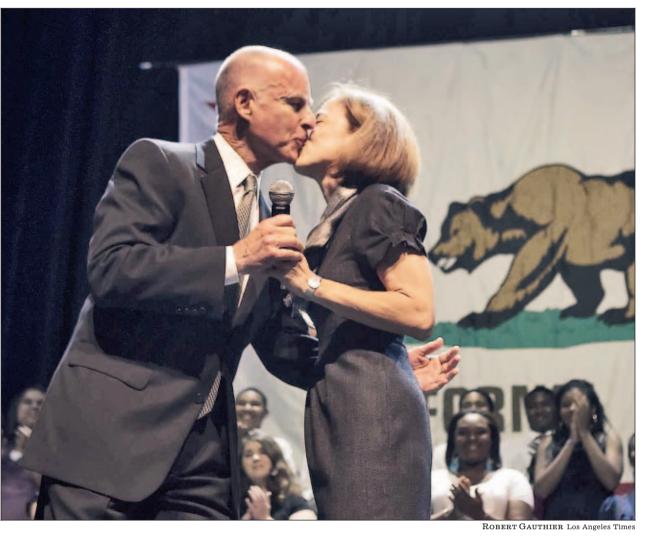
Republicans also gain in the Senate, though Nevada Democrat Reid keeps his seat.

Mark Z. Barabak

Republicans seized control of the House on Tuesday and shrank the Democratic advantage in the Senate, dealing a major setback to President Obama and sweeping a number of "tea party" insurgents into power.

The nearly coast-tocoast blowout - a result of voters' frustration and deep economic anxiety - promised to once more change the country's political dynamic, presenting challenges to both parties in a newly divided government.

Obama, who pushed through the most expansive legislative agenda of any president in generations, could spend the remainder of his term just trying to preserve what he has accomplished. Republicans, with a measure of power, will share some responsibility for governing and may have to do more than simply thwart the president and his fellow Democrats - or face a similar repudiation by voters in



HISTORIC NIGHT: Jerry Brown kisses his wife, Anne Gust, during a celebration at the Fox Theater in Oakland on election night. He called for an end to the divisiveness that has torn Sacramento and Washington.



CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR

BROWN Votes



Totals as of 12:27 a.m. Pacific time with 56.0% of precincts reporting

WHITMAN

2,135,178

Votes

Boxer claims victory in her reelection battle, but Fiorina refuses to concede their Senate contest.

SEEMA MEHTA and Michael J. Mishak

The Republican wave crashing across the nation stopped at the California border on Tuesday, as Jerry Brown won the governorship and U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer claimed a victory that would send her back to Washington for a fourth term.

The veteran politicians, Democratic icons for decades, jumped out to early leads over wealthy former corporate chiefs Meg Whitman and Carly Fiorina, who were making their first forays into public life, trying to ride into office on national sourness about incumbents, the economy and President Obama's administration.

Brown, the state's current attorney general and its governor from 1975 to 1983, claimed victory at a boisterous rally in front of thousands at the Fox Theater in Oakland.

"It looks like I'm going back again," Brown said. "As you know, I've got the knowhow and the experience. This time, we have a first lady, which we didn't have last time."

He called for an end to the divisiveness that has torn Sacramento and Washington, D.C, and proclaimed that it was time for California to become a leader in renewable energy and education. He said he chose the theater for his victory party because it, too, underwent a renaissance after 30 years. "I take as my challenge forging a common purpose, but a common purpose based not just on compromise but based on a vision of what California can be," Brown said Whitman, who shattered spending records with her largely self-funded campaign, spoke about a half hour after Brown, and said [See Election, A15]

2012

Republican leader John A. Boehner of Ohio, who is line to replace San Francisco Democrat Nancy Pelosi as the next House speaker, struck a notably somber tone as he spoke to supporters in Washington.

"This is not a time for celebration," he said. "Not when 1 in 10 of our fellow [See Midterm, A14]

JAY L. CLENDENIN Los Angeles Times

CONFIDENT: Sen. Barbara Boxer waves to supporters at a party in Hollywood. The Bay Area Democrat was leading in her race to return to the Senate.

NEWS ANALYSIS Obama's next challenge

To win in 2012, he must fix the economy and his coalition

Peter Nicholas AND CHRISTI PARSONS REPORTING FROM WASHINGTON

As he turns to the 2012 presidential campaign that kicks in today, a battered President Obama needs to address two glaring vulnerabilities laid bare by the midterm election: how to fix the economy and rebuild the voting coalition that put him in power.

Inside the White House, aides are making determined preparations to thwart the Republican goal of making him a one-term president.

Look early on for a shift in rhetoric as the first step in a broad effort to court independent voters, whom Obama carried by 8 points in 2008. Independents have since soured on his leadership, unnerved by the deficits and stimulus and bailout packages that the White House said were essential to avoiding a full-fledged depression

Obama campaigned for president on a message of hope and inclusiveness, but as he tried to rally Democratic voters this fall. he resorted to harsh campaign language. By the end, he was referring to Republicans as "enemies" and insisting that [See Analysis, A12]

U.S. SENATOR, CALIFORNIA



FIORINA Votes 2.195.458

2.7%

Totals as of 12:27 a.m. Pacific time with 56.2% of precincts reporting

112TH CONGRESS

THE SENATE

Republicans need 51 seats to control the Senate; Democrats need 50*



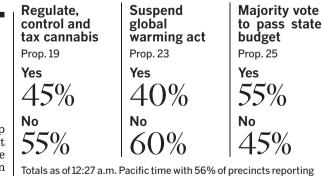
*Vice President Joe Biden would cast tie-breaking vote

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

218 seats needed to control the House



STATE PROPOSITIONS



MORE ELECTION COVERAGE

Prop. 19 headed for defeat

The measure to legalize marijuana was faltering. Prop. 25, which would ease legislative passage of state budgets, was winning. A18

Races for other statewide offices

L.A. County Dist. Atty. Steve Cooley was in the lead over Kamala Harris for attorney general. A20

Nevada Sen. Reid trounces Angle

The Democrat defeats the "tea party" upstart after running neck and neck in a tough campaign. A11

latimes.com/politics

Continuous election coverage is available online.

NEWS ANALYSIS Brown the old pol as the ⁻fresh new face'

CATHLEEN DECKER

In a year dominated by brash political novices, 72year-old veteran Jerry Brown propelled himself back into the governor's office Tuesday with a mix of guile, good luck and timing.

Brown's ascension to the job he held half a lifetime ago came in dramatic fashion, as he vanquished both a national Republican tide and the expansive wallet of Republican Meg Whitman, who broke a spending record by putting more than \$141 million of her own money into the race.

It represented a remarkable transformation, both political and personal. The Brown who first ascended to the governorship in 1975, with a full head of jet black hair, ascended a second time and slightly balding stooped. The governor who gained followers and ridicule talking about satellites and the avant-garde found his footing the second time around talking about the brick-and-mortar accomplishments of his father, Pat Brown, governor from 1959 to 1967.

His victory defied critics including those in his own party who complained openly as Brown sat out most of the spring and summer to husband his re-[See Brown, A16]

Charges dropped in Lexus crash

The driver, accused of manslaughter, had blamed sudden acceleration for the wreck, which killed a passenger. BUSINESS, B1

Sinatra bio hits the right notes

Tim Rutten reviews "Frank: The Voice," a fresh look at the singer. CALENDAR, D1

World	A3
Nation	A8
California	AA3
Weather	AA6

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kill more than 100 At least 17 coordinated

blasts rock Shiite areas. Al Qaeda in Iraq is blamed.

Ned Parker and Jaber Zeki REPORTING FROM BAGHDAD

Militants unleashed a wave of deadly attacks in Baghdad on Tuesday, killing at least 113 people in Shiite neighborhoods in an apparent bid to provoke a new sectarian war in the country.

Seventeen car bombs and other blasts shook the city at sunset in one of the bloodiest days this year. The coordinated attacks, which bore the earmark of the

Sunni Arab militant group Al Qaeda in Iraq, came just 48 hours after 58 people were killed after armed men seized a Baghdad church.

"The new Qaeda has started its work again in Iraq," a senior Iraqi security commander warned, speaking on condition of anonymity. "The situation is very bad.'

The mayhem underscored the extent to which violence continues to define Iraq, even as American troops depart and memories of the 2003 U.S.-led invasion retreat from American consciousness. Each deadly incident, whether a fatal shooting or a major explosion, fuels foreboding that Iraq could once more fall [See Iraq, A6]

Baghdad bombings