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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2008 Fort Wayne, Indiana

Daniels rolls
Incumbent governor crushes Long Thompson. Page 1L

FWCS board
Steve Corona retains seat; Code Blue supporters defeated. Page 1L

Souder wins
Longtime representative downs challenger with ease. Page 1L

Results
How Allen County voted. Page 1L

'Change has come'

Sweeping win for Barack Obama, Democrats as U.S. elects 1st black president



President-elect Barack Obama, left, and running mate Joe Biden wave to the crowd before Obama's acceptance speech Tuesday night in Chicago's Grant Park. Obama prevailed in several formerly Republican states, redrawing the nation's electoral map and giving Democrats control of the presidency and both houses of Congress.

STORY BY TERENCE HUNT OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — His name etched in history as America's first black president, Barack Obama turned from the jubilation of victory to the sobering challenge of leading a nation worried about an economic crisis, two unfinished wars and global uncertainty. "The road ahead will be long. Our climb will be steep," Obama cautioned.

Young and charismatic but with little experience on the national level, Obama smashed through racial barriers and easily defeated Republican John McCain to become the first African American destined to sit in the Oval Office, America's 44th president. He was the first Democrat to receive more than 50 percent of the popular vote since Jimmy Carter in 1976. "It's been a long time coming, but tonight, because of what we did on this date

in this election at this defining moment, change has come to America," Obama told a victory rally of 125,000 people jammed into Chicago's Grant Park. After an improbable journey that started for Obama 21 months ago and drew a record-shattering \$700 million to his campaign account alone, Obama scored an Electoral College landslide that redrew

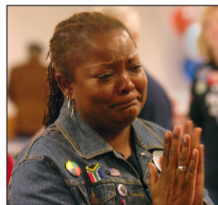
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'Obama lit us,' say local Dems

By AARON ORGAN
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Sofia Rodriguez Mirwaldt's husband will finally get his wife back.

The co-founder of the Allen County for Obama campaign, Mirwaldt has spent the last 11 months tirelessly pushing for her presidential candidate, Sen. Barack Obama, causing her husband to affectionately become an "election widower."



By Ellie Bogue of The News-Sentinel
Angela Shannon cries tears of joy Tuesday night after Sen. Barack Obama won the presidency of the United States.

er behind the Democrats, the original fire was lit by Sen. Obama. It's like we all had this little flame inside, this little gas tank inside, and we needed a match. Sen. Obama was the match. He lit us. He

See **LOCAL**, Page 7A



By Brian Tombaugh of The News-Sentinel
A long line of voters winds out the door Tuesday morning at Blackhawk Ministries, 7400 E. State Blvd.

Record 60% county turnout

About 151,254 votes were cast, up 2% from 2004.

By DREW STONE
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Allen County saw a record number of voters in Tuesday's election. As of midnight Tuesday, with 98 percent of the county's 301 precincts reporting, the Allen County Election Board said 151,254 votes were cast.

Deb Morrone, Allen County Voter

Registration board member, said 253,322 county residents are registered to vote, which means about 60 percent of them cast ballots. In 2004's presidential election, 131,987 votes were cast out of the 226,006 registered, making it a 58 percent turnout.

This year saw long lines for

See **TURNOUT**, Page 7A

A historic Indiana victory for Obama

By TOM DAVIES
of The Associated Press

GARY — Barack Obama made sure Indiana wasn't one of the first states declared for a presidential candidate on Election Night.

Indiana's voters were so closely divided between Obama and John McCain that it wasn't clear Obama had put the state in the Democratic column for the first time in 44 years until long after his victory speech in Chicago.

An unofficial tally by The Associated Press early today showed him defeating McCain by about 23,000 votes out of more than 2.7 million cast — one of the narrowest margins in the country.

Republicans had hoped that the state's conservative leanings would offset Obama's unprecedented Indiana campaign, which spent millions of dollars on advertising and personnel that McCain was unable to match.

"Clearly they took a state that's not been typically a battleground state and turned it into a battleground," said Luke Messer, the co-chairman of McCain's Indiana campaign. "We certainly understand that Barack Obama had a lot more money to spend here and all that, but at the same time it is about winning and they won."

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Inside

◆ County-by-county voting breakdown for the entire U.S. Page 5A

◆ Big House/Senate gains for Democrats. Page 6A

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Weather Get the complete forecast on 9A

TONIGHT Mostly clear with a low of 47. Sunset at 5:31 p.m.

THURSDAY Mostly clear HIGH 73 | LOW 48

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