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DTH PHOTO ILLUSTRATION/ ARIANA RODRIGUEZ-GITLER; ORIGINAL PHOTO DTH FILE/KATIE SWEENEY

## A PRESIDENT PREVAILS

**Barack Obama won a second term, despite losing North Carolina.**

By Daniel Wiser  
State & National Editor

President Barack Obama won re-election Tuesday — a signal that

voters were willing to stay the course with the president and his plans for long-term economic recovery.

After a close and bitterly fought contest with Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney, Obama won 303 electoral votes compared to 203 for Mitt Romney as of 1 a.m., according to unofficial results.

But Obama's victory was not as pronounced as it was in 2008, leading

Romney by only about 127,000 votes.

Romney achieved victory in North Carolina — a state he needed to win — by 51 percent to 48 percent, according to unofficial results, but the state did not play a significant role in the overall tally of electoral college votes.

Obama's victory was a celebration

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### ELECTORAL COLLEGE

<b>303</b>	<b>203</b>
OBAMA	ROMNEY

270 needed to win  
Results as of 1 a.m.

**McCRORY: 55 PERCENT**

## McCrory gains a decisive win over Dalton

**McCrory will be the first Republican governor of N.C. since 1993.**

By Sarah Brown  
Staff Writer

CHARLOTTE — As the first Republican governor in North Carolina since 1993, and only the third in the past 100 years, Pat McCrory has a vision of change for the state.

McCrory, former Charlotte mayor, won a decisive victory in the

N.C. gubernatorial race Tuesday and vowed to return the state's economy to prosperity and reform its education system.

"It's time for a Carolina comeback, and it starts tonight," said McCrory in a victory speech to party supporters in Charlotte.

According to unofficial results, as of 11:45 p.m. Tuesday, McCrory won 54.7 percent of the vote, with 98 of 100 counties reporting.

The Democratic candidate, N.C. Lt. Gov. Walter Dalton, captured 43.2 percent of the vote. Libertarian Barbara Howe won 2.1 percent.

The win represents the culmination of a four-year campaign for governor by McCrory, who lost to Democratic Gov. Bev Perdue in the 2008 N.C. gubernatorial election.

Aided by a large financial advantage over Dalton, McCrory led his opponent by double digits in most polls throughout the campaign.

"We did the most we could with limited resources," Dalton said in his concession speech. "We always ran to win, and I am proud of that."

McCrory's comfortable margin of victory shows what a phenomenal campaign McCrory has run,

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**DALTON: 43 PERCENT**

## Republicans keep control of legislature

**Republicans now control 77 N.C. House seats and 32 N.C. Senate seats.**

By Amanda Albright  
Staff Writer

RALEIGH — While state Republicans celebrate today, some student and advocacy groups are worrying about the future of higher education.

Republicans were certain Tuesday night that they would maintain coveted control of both the N.C. House of Representatives and Senate.

Republicans now have 77 N.C. House seats and 32 N.C. Senate

seats, according to unofficial results. Republican gubernatorial candidate Pat McCrory was elected governor.

This is the first time in 140 years that Republicans have control of the governor's mansion and both chambers of the N.C. General Assembly.

There were few surprises Tuesday night. Republicans, who won House and Senate seats by margins as high as 19 percent, were expected to continue their electoral success of 2010 — when the GOP gained control of both chambers of the legislature for the first time in more than 100 years.

Rep. Thom Tillis, R-Mecklenburg and N.C. Speaker of the House,

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**More elections coverage inside:**

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Republicans control the state's U.S. House delegation

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Romney takes North Carolina with 51 percent

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Orange County's transit tax passes with solid majority

“This victory alone is not the change we seek. It is only the chance for us to make that change.”

BARACK OBAMA, 2008