

# What the voters decided . . .

## Tower edges Krueger in Senate race

DALLAS — Republican John G. Tower, who more than any other politician helped bring traditionally Democratic Texas into the two-party system, successfully fought off his most dedicated opponent Tuesday and won a spot in the U.S. Senate through 1984.

Tower, along with upset gubernatorial winner Bill Clements and his triumphant U.S. House candidates, gave the GOP its strongest power base in the 142-year history of the state.

"I think this is the harbinger of the two-party system in Texas," said Tower, basking in the warm sunshine outside his Wichita Falls headquarters. He admitted he had been tense through the long night of vote counting and that he slept very little while the outcome was in doubt.

Tower, a 17-year veteran of the Senate, held off the challenge of scholarly, hard-nosed campaigner Bob Krueger, who ran an aggressive race that made the election one of

the closest statewide balloting in in history.

With only scattered returns left to count Wednesday Tower had polled 1,127,711 votes to 1,112,284 for Krueger.

"I'm aware of the closeness of the race and therefore am sharply conscious of my responsibility to continue an effort to reflect the majority of the people of this state over the next six years," said Tower, who if he fulfills the six-year term will become the fourth longest serving senator in the state's history.

Tower, after claiming victory in Wichita Falls, flew to Austin for a victory party. Krueger, meanwhile, appeared at his Austin headquarters and said:

"If the incumbent senator is retained in office, I wish him well and wish the people of our state well in his service."

Tower and Krueger spent \$6 million between them and conducted a bloodthirsty campaign, the highlight of which came when Tower refused to shake Krueger's hand at a

joint appearance in Houston. That dramatic moment was recorded by a photographer and given widespread publicity.

"It's over now," Tower said. "I think I am generally known as a man who doesn't carry a grudge. I feel no bitterness, no rancor."

But when asked whether he would shake Krueger's hand now, Tower said:

"We'll have to wait and see if the circumstances ever present themselves."

During the critical hours of the ballot counting Tuesday night, Tower said he ordered campaign workers in parts of the state to keep a close watch on ballot boxes.

"As the election wore on into the night, there were a number of counties which seemed to be late in reporting. So he (Tower) had his legal staff focus on them," Tower aide David Martinez said.

"I think they simply made sure that if there was any activity anywhere around where the boxes were

held that that would be reported immediately to the legal staff and they would take appropriate action."

Martinez also said that it was Tower's beliefs the state has moved into a new era of political thinking.

"He feels the Democratic party was campaigning as if this was Texas politics of some years ago," Mar-

tinez said. "They came on so strong in various areas — San Antonio, the Valley, West Texas and Central Texas. They were insisting that voters pull the single lever, vote Democrat, don't vote for a Republican. "And the truth is that Senator Tower had already recognized in almost every community in our state the attitude was look at the man."

## Paul defeats 'rival' Gammage for Senate

HOUSTON— Former Republican congressman Ron Paul, who unsuccessfully protested his 1976 election loss all the way to the House of Representatives, Wednesday unseated arch rival Rep. Bob Gammage in their fourth race in the past three years.

Paul credited superior organization for his victory. Gammage, who barely ousted Paul two years ago then fought off Paul's spirited protest to fellow House members, agreed Paul was better organized, but said a low turnout of his supporters also figured in the defeat.

The News Election Service showed Paul received 54,626, or 51 percent of the vote, to Gammage's 53,441, or 49 percent. Aides said Gammage was unlikely to follow Paul's example in fighting the outcome all the way to the House. The margin of victory, though close, was 1,185 compared to 287 two years ago.

"My organization really worked," said Paul, 43, a Lake Jackson obstetrician. "Over the years, I kept in touch with all of my people. I had an army. They are totally dedicated to the things we believe in."

"He was better organized than we were," agreed Gammage, 40, a lawyer and former state senator. "The only thing that could hurt us was a low turnout and that's what happened. Our voters didn't go to the polls."

But Paul said political attitudes were a major factor, too. "The issues were with me. A year from now it is unbelievable what people are going to have to put up with unless we get a handle on the federal budget," Paul said.

Gammage aide Dan Jensen said reports of election discrepancies would be checked, and if it appeared they could alter the outcome, they might be challenged. But he said Gammage's memories of Paul's 1976 election challenge were painful.

"Congressman Gammage feels that, if he was beaten and beaten fair and square, then why drag it out any more," Jensen said.

## Voters reject incumbents, narrow gap in Congress

The Democrats won another two-year lease on Congress and a majority of the nation's governorships in Tuesday's mid-term elections, but voters sent packing a long list of incumbents from both parties.

Governors and senators fell like ripe fruit in a high wind. But the voters' revolt supposedly kicked off by California's Proposition 13 last summer stirred the air more gently in autumn.

Incumbent casualties included Republican Sens. Robert Griffin of Michigan and Edward Brooke of Massachusetts, the Senate's only black; and Democratic Sens. Floyd Haskell of Colorado, Dick Clark of Iowa, Wendell Anderson of Minnesota, William Hathaway of Maine and Thomas McIntyre of New Hampshire.

But in Texas, incumbent Republican Sen. John Tower squeezed out a razor thin victory over challenging

Democratic Congressman Bob Krueger. And Texans elected multimillionaire oilman Bill Clements as their first GOP governor in 105 years.

Anti-incumbent fever also struck the governors. Losers included Republicans Meldrim Thomson of New Hampshire, Robert Bennett of Kansas and Democrats Bob Straub of Oregon and Martin Schreiber of Wisconsin.

## Clements promises cooperation

AUSTIN — Democratic office holders said they expect to get along with Texas' first Republican governor in 105 years as long as he tends to the governor's job and "doesn't try to meddle."

Governor-elect Bill Clements began telephoning Democratic office holders before Attorney General John Hill conceded the race at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Hill told reporters he believes the heavily Democratic Legislature and other Democratic officials will cooperate with Clements.

"I feel confident the Democratic members of the House and Senate will act responsibly and responsibly," Hill said. "I don't think there's going to be any statement or confrontation unless he creates it."

Clements said he talked with Lt. Gov. William Hobby and Speaker Bill Clayton and anticipated no problems.

"I will stress three things," Clements said. "Communication, cooperation and coordination. We have all three agreed this is the way we will formulate legislation."

Hobby said he pledged full cooperation with Clements but expected little change in legislative operations or his own activities.

"He'll do what governors do and

I'll do what lieutenant governors do," Hobby said. "Gov. Briscoe and I always had very good communication and on legislation where I agreed with him I tried to help him. I would anticipate the same relationship with Mr. Clements."

Clayton said dealing with a Republican chief executive will be a new experience but said he anticipates no problems.

"It's always been my position that a governor, as long as he recognizes the division of powers and does not try to meddle in the legislative branch things are going to work out," Clayton said. "I really think probably Clements understands that."

Clayton said he was favorably impressed at Clement's cooperative at-

titude and suggestion for a meeting with the Democratic officials next week after he takes a short vacation.

Clayton said Clements will need legislative approval to implement some of the proposals he made during his campaign, such as slashing the number of state employees.

Clements told reporters, "I will have no hesitancy to use my veto power."

Hobby, however, said the governor's veto power is not as great as it might appear because spending bills can be written in a manner to make it impossible to forbid specific spending items without blocking spending for essential programs.

Comptroller Bob Bullock, with his own aspirations for the governor's office, said he feels sorry for

Clements. "I said I felt like I was the new kid on the block when I came over here," Bullock said. "But I was a Democrat like the others who were already in office."

Bullock said state agency officials "could make it extremely difficult" for Clements if they desire, but he does not expect any such reaction and said he intends to "help him in any way I can."

"There's no question the man's a successful businessman," Bullock said. "I think he's going to find running the state is different from running a business. When you run a state you're not out to make a profit, you're out to provide a service."

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