

Election Night 2018

Lansing State Journal

November 6, 2018

DEMOCRATS SWEEP MI



Photo credit: David Guralnick, The Detroit News Gretchen Whitmer defeats Republican Bill Schuette for the state's top job.

Whitmer is second woman to lead state

Republican

By Jonathan Oosting and Beth LeBlanc The Detroit News

Democrat Gretchen Whitmer will be Michigan's 49th governor and end eight years of total Republican rule in state government after defeating Republican attorney general Bill Schuette in Tuesday's high-stakes mid-term election.

The Associated Press declared the race for Whitmer at about 10 p.m., projecting her as the winner of the combative race to replace term-limited

Governor

Gov. Rick Snyder, a Republican who will leave office at the end of the year.

"We may have all gone to the polls for very different reasons, but today we as Michiganders came out because we all loved this state and because we want a Michigan that works for every one of us," Whitmer said in her victory speech. "No matter where you were born, how much money's in your pocket, what you look like, who you worship, or who you love."

Whitmer, who ran on a pledge to "fix the damn roads" and protect expanded Medicaid coverage for lower-income residents, was leading Schuette 53 percent to 44 percent with 80 percent of precincts across the state reporting results.

"I guess we're going to have to fix the damn roads now, right?" she told supporters...

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Photo credit: David Guralnick, The Detroit News U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow held off a challenge from Republican John James.

Stabenow holds off challenge from James

52.2% Vote Democrat 45.8%

Republican

Leonard N. Fleming The Detroit News

U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow defeated Republican challenger John James by her smallest margin since getting elected in 2000, winning a fourth term in a contest in which President Donald Trump backed James.

The Associated Press projected Stabenow would win after 11:20 p.m. James, the 37-year-old Farmington Hills businessman, conceded the race to Stabenow after 11 p.m. in a speech at the headquarters

Senator

of his family businesses.

Stabenow, 68, of Lansing had 52 percent to 46 percent for James with 99 percent of precincts reporting. The Iraq helicopter pilot veteran waged an energetic campaign in a contest between those who favored an experienced stalwart versus a new face with new ideas and energy.

"I want to thank the people

of Michigan for your continued trust and support," the senator said in a statement. "It is my honor to suit up everyday to fight for our families and our state. I am very proud we ran a positive campaign that focused on Michigan."

Trailing the major party candidates were the Green Party's Marcia Squier with 1 percent, the U.S. Taxpayers' George Huffman with 0.6 percent and Natural Law Party candidate john Wilhelm 0.4 percent.

The race has received... See STABENOW on page 6

Scott, Tebay win MSU Board of Trustees

Female Democrats win two seats at Michigan State

Kim Kozlowski The Detroit News

Democrats were poised to hold majorities on Michigan education boards, apparently clinching seats on the state's Big Three public universities and the Michigan Board of Education.

Wins would give Democrats majorities on the governing boards of Michigan State University and the state Education board, and amp up their majorities at the University of Michigan and Wayne State University.

The Democratic wins of Brianna Scott and Kelley Tebay in the closely watched race of the MSU Board of Trustees gave hope to some that culture change is on the

MSU Board of Trustees

horizon after the Nassar sex abuse scandal.

Unofficial counts of Wayne County combined with the Secretary of State vote totals showed that Scott of Muskegon and Tebay of Pittsfield Township won with 1,801,747 votes and 1,728,323 votes, or 25.7 and 24.7 percent, respectively. Republican Mike Miller of Okemos garnered 1,517,739 votes, while Republican business executive Dave Dutch of Traverse City captured 1,485,226 votes, meaning they had garnered 21.7 and 21.2 percent of the vote, respectively.

"To all of you Voters and Supporters of Brianna Scott 4 MSU, I say thank you for sharing your stories and hope for a better Michigan with me and giving me the opportunity to do my part as a Trustee of Michigan State University!," Scott said in a statement Wednesday morning. "I look forward to serving and restoring the trust, integrity and pride back to MSU."

Tebay said she was humbled that voters chose her to represent them.

"I am looking forward to getting in there and working with students, faculty and staff," Tebay said. "We have a lot of work to do as a community and I am looking forward to being part of it."

Morgan McCaul, one of Nassar's hundreds of accusers, said she looks forward to a new future at MSU.

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Photo credit: Dale G. Young, The Detroit News Candidates for the MSU Board of Trustees stump during a meeting of the MSU University Council on Tuesday, Oct