

Chicago Tribune



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BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

ELECTION 2024

A RIGHTWARD SHIFT

By continuing his dominance with white, working-class voters, and by making gains in suburbs, cities and, significantly, with Latinos, this decisive Trump victory was dependent on those once thought of as core Democratic constituencies



Jeff Smith, 47, left, and Milton Olivares, 28, talk outside Cafe Jumping Bean in the Pilsen neighborhood of Chicago on Wednesday. Both voted for Vice President Kamala Harris in the presidential election. **TESS CROWLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

LATINO VOTERS

In Chicago, stark divisions within the community

By Laura Rodríguez Presa
Chicago Tribune

Sitting at a corner of a cantina in Pilsen, with a glass of brandy in hand, Miguel Barajas smiled as he looked up at the TV screen showing the news of Tuesday's historic presidential election.

"*Gano mi compadre Trump. My buddy Trump won,*" he said, smiling as he raised his glass toward the bartender. The sounds of a ranchera song from the old jukebox played in the background.

Barajas, 64, a Mexican immigrant who became a naturalized citizen a little over two decades ago, said he had voted for Democratic candidates in all previous presidential elections until this one, when he cast his vote for Donald Trump.

"He will fix this economy, he knows what he's doing," Barajas said.

As pro-immigrant leaders pledge to continue advocating for the protection and rights of the immigrant community threatened by Trump's promise to deport millions in the U.S. without documentation,

Turn to Divisions, Page 5



Gov. JB Pritzker speaks about the results of the election Thursday in Chicago. **BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

PRITZKER REACTS

Governor to Trump: 'You come for my people, you come through me'

By Olivia Olander and Dan Petrella
Chicago Tribune

Gov. JB Pritzker on Thursday sought to assure Illinois residents that he would fight to preserve the state's protections on fronts including reproductive health, immigration and LGBTQ+ rights during Donald Trump's second term in the White House.

"To anyone who intends to come take away the freedom, and opportunity, and dignity of Illinoisans, I would remind you that a happy warrior is

still a warrior. You come for my people, you come through me," Pritzker said Thursday at a news conference in Chicago, where he made his first public appearance since the election.

Pritzker declined to speculate about what went wrong for Democrats this year, when Trump did far better in blue states, including Illinois, where he cut his losing margin roughly in half from the previous two elections. The governor did say that a longer campaign might have benefited Vice President

Turn to Pritzker, Page 5

CHICAGOLAND

'The community knew better'

Independent school board candidates notched one victory and are expected to win another two of the 10 races in which voters cast ballots to elect Chicago Board of Education members for the first time Tuesday. A look at how they topped charter school and CTU interests. **Page 4**

IN NATION & WORLD

HARRIS ALLIES BLAME BIDEN: President Joe Biden's name wasn't on the ballot, but history will likely remember Vice President Kamala Harris' resounding defeat as his loss too.

FEARS ABROAD: About 50 European leaders called Thursday for a stronger defense posture across the continent that no longer necessitates a fundamental dependence on Washington.

THE TRANSITION: On Thursday, Trump named campaign manager Susie Wiles as his White House chief of staff, the first woman to hold the role.

VOTER TRENDS

Slight movement to GOP swings result in big way

By Michael C. Bender, Katie Glueck, Ruth Igielnik and Jennifer Medina
The New York Times

Republicans sounded alarms for more than a decade about the limits of their overwhelmingly white party. To stay competitive for the White House, strategists warned, they would need to bring more Black, Latino and other voters of color into the fold.

On Tuesday, Donald Trump showed how it could be done.

His victory over Vice President Kamala Harris was decisive, broad and dependent on voters from core Democratic constituencies. Results showed that Trump continued his dominance with the white, working-class voters who first propelled his political rise. But he also made modest gains in the suburbs and cities, and with Black voters, and even more significant inroads with Latinos.

Trump's performance did not suddenly transform the Republican Party into the multiracial alliance of working-class voters that some strategists say is necessary for survival in the rapidly changing country. But he nudged it in that direction.

At a time when the nation is sharply divided — particularly between rich and poor, and between those with and without a college degree — even incremental shifts were enough to sweep Trump back into power and put him on track to win the popular vote. Conservative strategists who have pushed the party to broaden its appeal pointed to the changes as proof of concept. Democrats, long reliant on the support of minority voters, agonized over the trends.

"The losses among Latinos is nothing short of catastrophic for the party," said Rep. Ritchie Torres, an Afro-Latino Demo-

Turn to Trump, Page 11

"All of the most aggressive tones of the Trump campaign around gender, immigration and crime seemed to effectively broaden the MAGA base."

— Daniel HoSang, Yale University professor

MICHAEL MADIGAN TRIAL

Jury hears wiretap about pressure in political hires

By Jason Meisner and Megan Crepeau
Chicago Tribune

Jurors in the corruption trial of former House Speaker Michael Madigan on Thursday heard a wiretapped phone call in which the speaker's longtime confidant

laid out his rather old-school worldview when it came to political hiring recommendations.

It was May 23, 2018, and Michael McClain was talking to Madigan's son, Andrew, about his frustration that representatives of a gas utility were complaining they were being pressured to hire someone recom-

mended by the speaker as part of the state's entrenched pay-to-play system.

"That's what happens when you're in this game," McClain said on the call, which was being secretly recorded by the FBI. "And you never know, maybe someday you can ask for a favor, so. I

mean, that's how this is, you can't be offended with that. Oh, so you got pressure too? Are you kidding me?"

Later in the same call, McClain continued his diatribe, saying, "I just love these people."

"They're in a regulatory body, right?" McClain said. "And they're

offended if people ask for favors. Hello? Dumb (expletives)."

In another call from the same day, Fidel Marquez, then a top executive with ComEd, also talked with McClain about the practice of political hiring and the folly of

Turn to Madigan, Page 2

Man accused of killing cop held

A county judge ordered a 23-year-old Harvey man to be held while awaiting trial during a crowded and emotional hearing at the Leighton Criminal Court Building. **Page 3**

Aldermen seek health funding

Aldermen weigh a Department of Public Health budget plan that's well short of this year's, as the mayor seeks to close a shortfall in the city's spending package. **Page 7**

A big-hearted classic returns

Halloween decorations may linger in the front yard, but those looking for early holiday cheer can feel the treetops glisten at Marriott's production of "White Christmas." **A+E**

TODAY'S WEATHER



High 60 Low 44

Complete Chicagoland forecast on Page 22

\$4.00 city and suburbs and elsewhere
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