ELECTION 2016



Maddie Blumm joins fellow South Eugene High School students in a march demonstrating for peace, harmony and unity after the highly divisive 2016 presidential election on Wednesday in Eugene.

Thousands protest Trump's victory

CHICAGO (AP) — The raw divisions exposed by the presidential race were on full display across America on Wednesday, as protesters flooded city streets to condemn Donald Trump's election in demonstrations that police said were mostly peaceful.

From New England to heartland cities like Kansas City and along the West Coast, demonstrators carried flags and anti-Trump signs, disrupting traffic and declaring that they refused to accept Trump's triumph.

In Portland police say a protest that erupted after Donald Trump's election victory did not lead to any arrests.

Protesters took over sections of Interstate 5 late Tuesday and early Wednesday and Interstate 84 in northeast Portland Wednesday night.

In Chicago, where thousands had recently poured into the streets to celebrate the Chicago Cubs' first World Series victory in over a century, several thousand people marched through the Loop. They gathered outside Trump Tower, chanting "Not my president!"

A similar protest in Manhattan drew about 1,000 people. Outside Trump Tower on Fifth Avenue in midtown, police installed barricades to keep the demonstrators at bay.

Hundreds of protesters gathered near Philadelphia's City Hall despite chilly, wet weather. Participants — who included both supporters of Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton and independent Sanders, who lost to Clinton in the primary — expressed anger at both Republicans and Democrats over the election's outcome.

In Boston, thousands of anti-Trump protesters streamed through downtown, chanting "Trump's a racist" and carrying signs that said "Impeach Trump" and "Abolish Electoral College." Clinton appears to be on pace to win the popular vote, despite losing the electoral count that decides the presidential race.

The protesters gathered on Boston Common before marching toward the Massachusetts Statehouse, with beefed-up security including extra police officers.

Protests flared at universities in California and Connecticut, while several hundred people marched in San Francisco and others gathered outside City Hall in Los Angeles. And they spread south to Richmond, Virginia, and to middle American cities like Kansas City and Omaha, Nebraska.

Hundreds of University of Texas students spilled out of classrooms to march through downtown Austin. They marched along streets near the Texas Capitol, then briefly blocked a crowded traffic bridge.

Media outlets broadcast video Wednesday night showing a peaceful crowd in front of the new downtown hotel. Many chanted "No racist USA, no Trump, no KKK."

Another group stood outside the White House. They held candles, listened to speeches and sang songs

Congressional GOP pledges swift action on Trump's agenda

By ERICA WERNER

AP Congressional Correspondent

WASHINGTON — Elated congressional Republicans pledged swift action Wednesday on President-elect Donald Trump's agenda as they heralded an extraordinary new era of unified GOP control in Washington.

"He just earned a mandate," House Speaker Paul Ryan of Wisconsin declared of Trump. "We are going to hit the ground running."

Said Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky: "We would like to see the country go in a different direction and intend to work with him to change the course for America."

Republicans saw their majorities in the House and Senate reduced, but not by much, as Democrats' hopes of retaking Senate control vanished. And though Ryan and McConnell both had well-publicized reservations about Trump, both were quick to declare that the newly elected president deserved the credit.

"Donald Trump pulled off an amazing political feat. He deserves tremendous credit for that," said Ryan, who initially refused to endorse Trump and only last month declared he'd no longer defend him. "It helped us keep our majorities, but it also showed the country that people don't like the direction we were going."

First up would be repealing President Barack Obama's health care law, something Republicans have already shown they can get through Congress with just a narrow Senate majority. What they haven't done is unite around a plan for ensuring that the 20 million who achieved health care coverage under the landmark law don't lose it.

Republicans also celebrated the opportunity to fill the existing Supreme Court vacancy, and potentially more to come, with "constitutional conservatives." McConnell was being widely praised for his strategy, once seen as risky, of refusing to act on Obama's nominee to replace Justice Antonin Scalia, who died last February.

And Republicans pledged to try to unwind any number of executive moves by Obama, including tougher clean air rules on power plants, looser restrictions on travel to Cuba, and tougher rules on sleep for long-haul truckers, among others — "Every



Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell speaks during a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, Wednesday.

"We would like to see the country go in a different direction and intend to work with him to change the course for America."

- Mitch McConnell, Senate Majority Leader, of Kentucky

single one that's sucking the very life out of our economy," GOP Sen. David Perdue of Georgia said in an interview.

That threatened to wipe away key areas of progress highlighted by Democrats under the Obama administration.

Some of Trump's goals could be harder to achieve. A wall on the southern border is estimated to cost \$10 billion to \$20 billion, money that Congress may be unlikely to provide given that cooperation from Democrats would be necessary.

Indeed the Senate Democratic minority stood as the only legislative barrier to Trump's goals, since 60 votes are required for most consequential moves in the Senate.

Republicans will end up with 52 or 53 Senate seats, depending on the outcome in New Hampshire, which remained too close to call Wednesday. That assumes the GOP wins a December runoff in Louisiana, as expected. Democrats managed to pick up only one GOP-held Senate seat, in Illinois, a devastating outcome for a party that went into Election Day with high hopes of holding the White House and winning back Senate control.

In the House, Republicans were on track to lose a maximum of nine seats, an unexpectedly modest reduction to a wide GOP majority that now stands at 247-188, including three vacant seats.

"We kicked their tails last night," said GOP Rep. Greg Walden of Oregon, head of the Republicans' House campaign committee.

Trump's extraordinary win appeared to be going far to heal divisions within the GOP, as even Republicans who'd long harbored doubts about him offered warm pledges of support.

Here and there, notes of caution were sounded, as a few Republicans made clear that Congress would be asserting its constitutional prerogatives as a check and balance on the executive, following what Republicans viewed as overly expansive use of executive power by Obama.

"It's just our constitutional duty to keep the executive branch in check," GOP Rep. Todd Young, the newly elected Republican senator in Indiana, told reporters in Indianapolis.

Yet McConnell appeared to invite executive action by Trump, suggesting he should be exploring what kinds of "unilateral action" he could take — to undo unilateral actions by Obama.

Results as of

Wednesday

1:30 a.m. EST

Trump election elicits fears, some cheers

MOSCOW (AP) — World leaders struggled Wednesday to come to grips with a new reality — Donald Trump will be the next U.S. president — and an as yet unanswerable question: How many of his campaign pledges will he actually act on?

ELECTION 16

How you voted in the 2016 election

Democrat Hillary Clinton led among minorities and women, while Republican rival Donald Trump did well among whites and those without a college degree, according to preliminary exit poll results.

Republicans governorships rise to highest mark since 1922

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP) — Republican power in state capitols will be at its strongest levels in nearly a century when several newly elected governors take office next year.

A remarkable election that propelled Republican Donald Trump to the White House also resulted in Republican wins in a trio of governorships previously held by Democrats in Missouri, New Hampshire and Vermont. The only potential Republican setback came in North Carolina, where Democratic Attorney General Roy Cooper declared victory over Gov. Pat McCrory in a race that remained too close to call Wednesday.

If Cooper's slim lead holds, Republicans will control 33 of the 50 governors' offices — one shy of their record set in 1922.

Republicans also appeared likely to maintain control of about two-thirds of the state legislative chambers, meaning that in many states they will have the power to enact whatever policies they choose.

In Missouri, for example, newly elected Republican Gov. Eric Greitens has pledged to enact a right-towork law barring mandatory union fees in the workplace — a long-sought priority of GOP legislative leaders that had been vetoed by Democratic Gov. Jay Nixon.

Newly elected New Hampshire Gov. Chris Sununu also could be paired with a Republican-controlled Legislature. The GOP held its majority in the state Senate, and House Republicans also claimed victory. Republicans last

saw such a sweep in 2002. In Vermont's gubernatorial election, Republican Lt. Gov. Phil Scott defeated Democrat Sue Minter, a former transportation secretary for outgoing Gov. Peter Shumlin. Scott campaigned on making government more efficient but also appealed to voters in the liberal-leaning state by embracing abortion rights and gay marriage.

The Republican Governors Association spent more than \$50 million on this year's races, primarily targeting seven states. That almost doubled the estimated amount of money coming from the Democratic Governors Association, though Democratic candidates in some states outraised their Republican opponents.

Democrats are hoping for better results in the next two years, when 27 of the 38 governors' office up for election are held by Republicans.

"It's clear that Democrats need to rebuild," said Democratic Governors Association spokesman Jared Leopold.

Democrats did have a few bright spots Tuesday.

Despite a dominant victory by Trump in West Virginia, Democratic businessman Jim Justice won the governor's race over Republican state Senate President Bill Cole. And Trump easily although carried Montana, Democratic Gov. Steve Bullock retained his seat against a challenge from Republican businessman Greg Gianforte, who poured millions of his own money into the race.

actually act on?

The remarkable triumph of the politically untested businessman was welcomed in some countries, such as Russia, while in others it was a major shock.

When Trump takes office in January, world leaders will confront a man whose stated views represent a sharp break with U.S. foreign policy orthodoxy. He has cozied up to Russian President Vladimir Putin, warned stunned NATO allies they will have to pay for their own protection, floated a ban on Muslims entering the U.S. and vowed to make the Mexican government finance a multibillion-dollar border wall.

These changes, and others, have the potential to radically remake U.S. policy — a prospect that has given stability-loving partners a cascading case of the jitters.

Trump's victory was hailed in Russia, which has taken an increasingly aggressive stance toward the West in recent months. Putin sent Trump a congratulatory telegram Wednesday and made a televised statement expressing the hope that frayed U.S.-Russian relations could be put back on track.

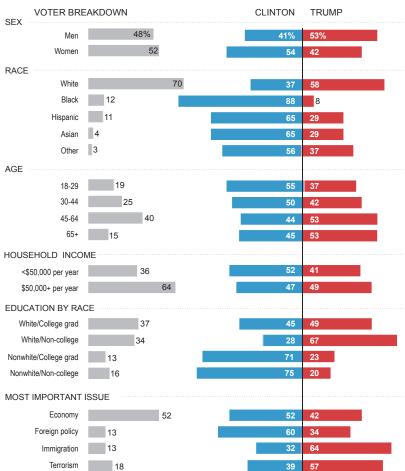
"We are aware that it is a difficult path, in view of the unfortunate degradation of relations between the Russian Federation and the United States," the Russian leader said, adding: "It is not our fault that Russian-American relations are in such a state."

Russia became a focal point during the presidential campaign, with government officials and Hillary Clinton supporters suggesting Moscow was involved in hacking her campaign's emails. Trump raised eyebrows when he expressed admiration for Putin and his tough leadership style, and some Clinton backers questioned Trump's business dealings with Russia.

Dmitri Drobnitski, a columnist at the generally pro-Kremlin website LifeNews, asserted Trump's victory will help the world.

"I congratulate the American people with their will and with their democracy and with their strength and with their courage," he told The Associated Press. "So this is not only a victory for the Americans, who defended their democracy against the liberal, global elite no, this is a victory that the American people brought to the whole world."

There is anxiety in Europe among NATO allies who are waiting to see if Trump follows through on suggestions the U.S. will look at whether they have



NOTE: Survey of 24,537 voters includes preliminary results from interviews conducted as voters left a random sample of 350 polling places nationally Tuesday; 4,404 who voted early or absentee were also interviewed by telephone Oct. 28-Nov. 6; Results for full sample have sampling error of ± 2 percentage points, higher for subgroups.

SOURCE: Edison Research

paid their proper share in considering whether to come to their defense.

That rhetoric has challenged the strategic underpinning of the NATO alliance — in which an attack on one NATO nation is considered an attack on all — at a time when Russia has been ever more confrontational.

"As a candidate, Trump called into question NATO and trade agreements, and reached out to Moscow," said Daniela Schwarzer, an expert on trans-Atlantic relations at the German Council on Foreign Relations.

"Even if President Trump doesn't implement everything, Germany and Europe can't rely on the trans-Atlantic partnership as usual, and will have to stand up for Western values themselves."

Trump's win also caused trepidation in Mexico, where his remarks calling Mexican immigrants criminals and "rapists" were a deep insult to national pride. Trump has suggested slapping a 35 percent tax on automobiles and auto parts made by U.S. companies in Mexico, and financial analysts have predicted a Trump win will threaten billions of dollars in cross-border trade.

AP

Trump's victory is "as close to a national emergency as Mexico has faced in many decades," Mexican analyst Alejandro Hope said.

Trump's electoral triumph was also felt strongly in the volatile Middle East, where multiple crises are unfolding. One major concern is Trump's vehement opposition to the historic nuclear agreement between Iran and world powers under which Iran has curbed its nuclear program in exchange for a gradual lifting of international sanctions.

In Iran, leaders emphasized the need to keep the agreement on track despite Trump's victory. The deal "cannot be overturned by a single government," Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said.