

Glenn Thompson, R-Pa., speaks with his supporters at the Republican victory party held Tuesday night at the Ramada Conference Center. Thompson claimed victory by more than 7,000

Thompson keeps 5th district seat

Incumbent wins decisively

By Mike Hricik

a decisive victory. Republican incumbent Clenn Thompson was reelected to the U.S. House of Representatives in Pennsylvania's 5th congression al district on Tuesday.

Thompson, Class of 1981, will resume his second term as representative for the 17-county congressional district, after defeating Democratic candidate Michael Piew and Libertarian candidate Version Etzel.

At his victory party at the Ramada Conference Center, 1450 S. Atherton St., Thompson pledged his dedication to the 5th district by committies to lower taxes, an increase of oural economic development and the responsible use or discellus Shale natural gas

"I think tonight belongs to the American people This is their evening." Thompson said "This comes with a weighted responsibility. It's time to put the sheels back on government.

regaining majority control of the humbled," Pipe said. House

Small Business and Assiculture during his newfound downtime. committees. Chief of Political Thompson D. Brent Pasquinelli

Thompson serves as both vice—tions in the district. co-chairman of the Congressional Rural Caucus and

"I think tonight belongs to the American people. This is their evening."

> **Gienn Thompson** 5th District representative

chairman of Healthcare Congressional Caucus, Pasquinelli said.

He also led a successful campaign against tolling on Interstate 80. Pasquinelli said.

Opposing Democratic candidate Michael Pipe engaged in his first political campaign as a 25year-old. He graduated from Penn State in 2009 and ran on a platform of responsible taxation and job creation.

Though he lost by 7,840 votes, Pipe said his first political campaign taught him valuable les-

"It changed my view of this country and of the American Thompson's victory coincides people. It's been an extraordiwith the Republican Carty nary process. I've been really

He said he has no immediate Thompson is a member of the political plans but will spend House Education and Labor and time with his fiancee. Ashley,

"We're just going to push and Operations for Frierds of Glenn move forward." he said. "I wish [Thompson] the best and that he works for common sense solu-

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Toomey edges past Sestak

By Nick Manella COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

In a race that was neck-andneck late into the night, Republican Pat Toomey was announced by multiple major media outlets as the winner of Arlen Specter's Senate seat Tuesday in what amounted to one of the tightest races in the country.

The race was closer than many predicted early in the election season, with Toomey taking a narrow margin late in the night for the victory over Democrat Joe Sestak -51 percent to 49 percent.

of Pennsylvania. We're sending a message that we're tired and we're going to chart a new Toomey said, who went course,' on to thank his family and those who worked and contributed to his campaign.

Toomey, a former Wall Street investment banker, spoke strongly for financial deregulation in government policy. Toomey's support of free trade became a major sticking point between the two candidates. Sestak accused Toomey of advocating the outsourcing of jobs to China in a television advertisement during election season.

Early in the day Toomey's campaign manager Mark Harris was confident in the Republican's chances.

"We're seeing a phenomenal outpouring for Pat Toomey all across the state," he said. "All indi-Sestak defeating Specter, who had cations are that our voters are switched parties after a long



"This is a victory for the people Pat Toomey, left, talks with the media with his daughter, Bridget, 10, center, and his wife, Kris, after voting at Upper Milford Township.

energized and coming out to career

A former Navy admiral and second term member of the House of Representatives, Joe Sestak was a moderate liberal candidate. Though Toomey attacked him for calling the economic stimulus package too small, Sestak continued to call for a "public option" in the health care overhaul, furthering his push for more government involvement in social and financial affairs.

The race was a quintessential division of left and right ideologies. Both parties attempted to portray the other's candidate as an out-ofcontrol extremist, hoping to win the votes of a traditionally pragmatic state.

As the race heated up with

as a Republican, Democrats were not optimistic about winning the seat.

However, Sestak made a strong push in mid-season polls and led for much of the early portion of Tuesday night before Toomey took the lead and ultimately won the highly contested title.

Jeremey Knout (sophomorepolitical science), who said he voted for Republican candidates Tuesday, said he's happy with Toomey's success.

"It's already been shown that more government regulation is not the answer," he said. "The stimulus didn't work. It's time to try something new."

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

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Local incumbents win races

By Vince D'Imperio and Matt Morgan FOR THE COLLEGIAN

Incumbents swept Centre County's midterm elections.

Republican State Senator Jake Corman and Democratic State House Representative Scott Conklin were re-elected in the 34th Senatorial District and the 77th Legislative District, respectively. They defeated challengers Jon Eich and Joyce Haas.

Kerry Benninghoff, Republican state representative faces for the 171st district, ran unopposed for his seat. He also ran to work," he said. unopposed in the 2006 midterm election, when he won with 97 percent of the vote.

Conklin said he wanted to stress race. that no one who ran should be discouraged by the results.

"Regardless of the outcome, no ple," he said. one should hang their head at the end of the night," he siad.

polls in Centre County and said in an effective way he was "very excited with the

Corman said he will focus on pressing issues like unemployment, and as a Penn State alumnus, he will be dedicated to offering students at his alma mater the

Students, locals turn out for 2010 midterm elections

best education at an affordable cost.

He proposed and helped in passing legislation that enabled college students to stay on their parents' health insurance until age 30 in Pennsylvania. He said he is in favor of lowering the cost of healthcare premiums.

One of Conklin's main priorities is to give the citizens of the state access to quality, affordable healthcare, he said, and he is also eager to work on tackling the the multi-billion dollar deficit the state

"Either way, I'm anxious to get

Conklin said he was pleased to have the chance to campaign for this seat as the incumbent in the Scott Conklin, D-Pa., greets friends

"It's been an opportunity that as been given to very tew peo-

Eich was a proponent of univer sal healthcare and ensuring the Corman spent Tuesday at the Marcellus Shale industry develops

Today, he will return to work as a Centre County commissioner, he

Haas, a Penn State alumna, said low she was in favor of lowering taxes

to create more jobs. "Lowering taxes creates a bet - contributed to this report.



ni a results party.

siness atmosphere," she said. "Government can't create jobs, so the businesses have to."

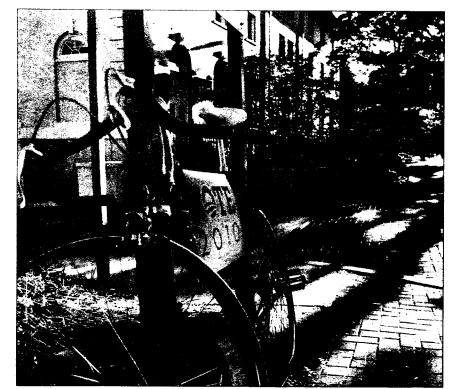
Haas also stood for lowering the price of college tuition and cutting spending. She continues to support the Tuition Challenge Grant that would reward colleges for keeping their tuition

Callegian staff writer Casey McDermott

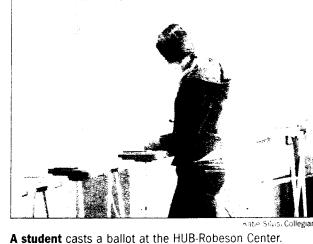
STATE AT THE

Despite a surge in student voter registration,

Tuesday's turnout was relatively on par with past midterm elections.



A bike stands outside the HUB-Robeson Center to remind people to vote Tuesday.



Glenn Thompson observes his opponent, Michael Pipe.