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Fall back an hour!

Daylight saving time ends Sunday at 2 a.m.

Republicans win House in 2010 elections

By Daniel Heyman / Dave Alexander
Managing Editor / Copy Editor

Republicans gained control of the House of Representatives while Democrats maintained a majority in the Senate on Tuesday night.

In the midterm election, 37 Senate seats and all 435 House seats were up for grabs. Polls across the nation showed many Republicans leading due to Obama's low approval rating. Among the most important issues were the economy, unemployment and healthcare reform.

Democrats won only 9 Senate seats this week, lowering the grip on their majority. When the new Congress convenes in January, there will be 52 Democrats and 46 Republicans. The official count is still out in Washington, with Democrat

Patty Murray leading by 2 percent, according to the Associated Press.

The Republicans were able to overcome the 257 to 178 majority which Democrats previously enjoyed in the House of Representatives. Starting in 2011, there will be at least 239 Republicans and 186 Democrats. Currently, ten races are still undecided.

House Minority Leader John Boehner will likely take over as Speaker of the House when the new Congress takes office in January. Currently, Nancy Pelosi of California holds this position. She will continue to serve as a Representative in California's 8th district.

Additionally, a majority of states now have Republican governors. While this does not provide any formal power, it does make Barack Obama's reelection race in 2012 much more difficult, especially considering that ten of the 29

states with Republican governors are considered swing states.

Republican Richard Burr won reelection to the U.S. Senate in North Carolina. He won 55 percent of the vote in N.C., including Transylvania County. Democrat Heath Shuler was reelected to a third term representing the 11th Congressional district in the House.

Proposition 19 in California failed. If approved, it would have provided an avenue for the legalization of marijuana in the state. Of course, even if Prop 19 had passed, marijuana would still be illegal to use in California at the federal level, due to the Controlled Substance Act of 1970.

Surprisingly, the dimwitted, short-spoken and out of left-field candidate Alvin Greene won 30 percent of the vote in the South Carolina Senate race against Tea Party-backed Jim DeMint.

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E-mail confusion unintentional

The confusion between an athletics E-mail with the subject line "Tornado Watch UPDATE" and the weather updates from Campus Life last week was not deliberate, according to dean of students Chris Holland and athletic director Kim Pate.

The E-mail arrived in inboxes at 8:41 a.m. Oct. 27, in the wake of updates from Chris Holland urging students to use caution during the tornado watch then in effect in Transylvania County.

According to Pate, athletics had been sending E-mail updates for several weeks with similar subject lines to encourage school spirit. A search of earlier athletic department E-mails sent to on-campus users announcing athletic events could not locate a previous instance using the exact phrase "Tornado Watch." However, at least one E-mail sent to Tornado Club members in mid-October did use the phrase "Tornado Watching" in the subject header to refer to opportunities for boosters to watch athletic teams in action that week.

To prevent athletic event announcements from possibly being confused with an actual weather alert in the future, Pate said E-mail announcements from now on will include the tag "Athletics" in the subject header.

The sending of the E-mail with the phrase "Tornado Watch UPDATE" in the subject header last Wednesday while the campus was still

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—Kim Pate

under an actual tornado watch was an "ironic coincidence," Pate said. "We do apologize for any confusion it created," she wrote in an E-mail to The Clarion. "It certainly was not an attempt to capitalize on the circumstances."

"The timing was the ultimate problem," Holland said. He added that he and Stan Jacobsen, Director of Safety and Risk Management, have talked about reviewing the Emergency Response Plan for Brevard College.

"No plan is going to account for all situations," Holland said. He urges students to use common sense in the event of a severe weather emergency. He added, "If you see a tornado in the distance, obviously you shouldn't go outside. However, if you are able to get to your shelter, you probably should."