Virginia Tech walk-on tight end Hairston grows role with key blocks

COLLEGE FOOTBALL, SPORTS, B1





A look at how hackers stole $6.3B from world's biggest cryptocurrency exchange

BUSINESS, A10

THE ROANOKE TIMES

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ELECTION 2026

Democrats, Trump to face off

Washington could face two years of deadlock after elections

BRAD HEATH, JASON LANGE AND DAVID MORGAN
Reuters

WASHINGTON — Democrats and Republicans squared up on Wednesday for what could be two years of deadlock in Washington, with the resurgent Democrats vowing to use their resounding midterm election win to rein in President Donald Trump, who signaled he was ready to continue flexing the executive branch's considerable powers.

A wave of anger over Trump's policies, particularly the U.S.-Iran war's role in pushing the cost of living higher, helped Democrats take the Senate, where they flipped seats in deeply Republican states for a majority of at least 54-44, and the House of Representatives, where they gained at least 25 seats.

It will be the first time that Trump, a Republican who also held the White House from 2017 to 2021, has to contend with a Democratic-controlled Congress.

"The American people have connected that corruption into the adverse impact of the policies that have taken place over

Please see **ELECTION**, Page A4

ROANOKE CITY COUNCIL

DEMOCRATS SWEEP ELECTION



HEATHER ROUSSEAU, THE ROANOKE TIMES

Roanoke Mayor Joe Cobb, left, shows Roanoke City Council candidates Vivian Sanchez-Jones, center, and Danny Clawson election results during an election night watch party with Beth Macy, who lost in Virginia's 6th Congressional District race on Tuesday. Democrats Danny Clawson, incumbent Vivian Sanchez-Jones and Raekwon Moore, not pictured, won the council election.

Moore, Clawson and Sanchez-Jones win four-year terms on council

NORA SHELLY
The Roanoke Times

Three Democrats edged out four other competitors in the Roanoke City Council race Tuesday.

In unofficial results with all 20 precincts reporting before 9 p.m., Raekwon Moore was leading the field with 16,408 votes followed by Danny Clawson with 12,867 votes. Council member Vivian Sanchez-Jones, the only incumbent in the race, was in third with 12,577 votes. All three will begin four-year terms on the council in January.

Former mayor and council member David Bowers totaled 10,283 votes, just narrowly ahead of Stephanie Moon Reynolds, who came in with 10,251 votes. Both ran as independents, as did Kathy Cohen, who had 8,403 votes. Amanda Marko, the only Republican on the ticket, won 8,835 votes.

Soon after his victory became clear at his election night gathering Tuesday night, Moore listed growing the city's revenue base to better support things like schools, parks and public transit as a priority.

"I'm really really excited that this community has trusted me in the way that they have," said Moore, a Roanoke native.

Speaking from Democratic congressional candidate Beth Macy's election watch party, Sanchez-Jones also mentioned a desire to work on growing the city's revenue base in her second term on council.

Sanchez-Jones said she was overwhelmed by the outcome.

"I am so grateful that the citizens of Roanoke have given me another opportunity to continue working hard for them," Sanchez-Jones said.

The city's budget woes, school funding and homelessness emerged as top issues during the campaign, as did Flock cameras, the future of the Berglund Center and property taxes.

Clawson, who was also at the Macy event, has a history of working in politics, but always behind the scenes. Being on the ballot, and winning, was a big change.

"This is just the most surreal feeling, I worked really hard to get here," Clawson said.

Clawson also lauded Sanchez-Jones and Moore, who as the top vote getter will serve as vice mayor.

Please see **DEMOCRATS**, Page A8

6TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Cline defeats Macy

Associated Press called race for Republican at 9:10 p.m. Tuesday

SAM MOSTOW
The Roanoke Times

Rep. Ben Cline held off a closer-than-typical challenger in Beth Macy and maintained his seat in Virginia's 6th Congressional District.



Cline

The Associated Press called the race for Cline, R-Botetourt, at 9:10 p.m. Tuesday. With 98% of votes counted by noon Wednesday, Cline had won 55.5% of the vote, as opposed to his Democrat challenger's 44.3%. At that point, Cline earned 175,795 votes; Macy had 140,201.

Please see **CLINE**, Page A8

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SHERIFF

Brown defeats Page

Tim Brown won 62% of the vote in sheriff's race

ETHAN HUNT
The Roanoke Times

CHRISTIANSBURG — Tim Brown, a lieutenant with the Christiansburg police, won the race for Montgomery County sheriff Tuesday, defeating Sheriff Robert Page, who has served in an interim capacity since April.

Brown, 50, received 21,327 votes, or

Please see **BROWN**, Page A8

More Election 2026 coverage
INSIDE A SECTION

US trade deficit narrows slightly
NATION & WORLD, A9

Weather
Showers around
High: 75 **Low:** 57
Forecast: A12

Inside

Obituaries	A4	Puzzles	B11, B12	Lottery	A2
Advice/TV	B9	Opinion	A11	Sports	B1
Comics	B10	Nation/World	A9	Classified	B6

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