

BREAKING NEWS 24/7 AT PALMBEACHPOST.COM



FPL chief: Rate hike will draw investors
IN BUSINESS



POLO MOGUL ADOPTS GIRLFRIEND
Plaintiffs say he's shielding assets
IN LOCAL



How to throw a **'SOUPER' BOWL PARTY**
IN ACCENT

YOUR WEATHER TODAY

Scattered showers
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FRIDAY Partly cloudy 80/69
SATURDAY Partly cloudy 79/69
WEATHER PAGE, BACK OF SPORTS

The Palm Beach Post

Wednesday, February 1, 2012

REAL NEWS STARTS HERE

Final edition | One dollar

IN THE NEWS

Clinton tells U.N. to help Syrians

The secretary of state tries to allay fears of 'another Libya,' arguing the crises are different. **3A**

Calif. teacher accused of lewd acts on kids

Authorities say hundreds of photos found in the man's home led to his arrest. **2A**

U.S. court rejects suit from Florida lawmakers

Two U.S. House members had challenged a voter-approved amendment on districts. **3A**

Drug shows promise for cystic fibrosis patients

Research shows Kalydeco treats the root cause of the lung-clogging disease. **3A**

Fla. has few guidelines on when to close roads

Responsibility often falls to officers on the scene to judge quick-changing conditions. **4A**

Scott wants to halt university tuition hikes

As lawmakers prepare to OK 15 percent increases, he asks schools to tighten belts. **6A**

LOCAL

Jury finds two guilty in Circle K heist, slayings

Darnell Razz and Robert Alvarez are sentenced to life for a 2010 double murder. **1B**

Tough act to replace: Supreme Court justice

Frank Cerabino, a last-minute fill-in for Samuel Alito, gets the red carpet treatment. **1B**

Equestrian village plan draws packed crowd

Wellington's council will continue a hearing on the proposal this morning. **1B**

Superintendent finalist takes job in Alaska

The former Lee County chief's move narrows the county's hunt to three candidates. **1B**

BUSINESS

Officials break ground on public nursing home

The Health Care District's \$25 million, 120-bed facility replaces an aging center. **6B**

Good starts: The Dow and S&P 500 finish with the best January since 1997. **6B**

Prices dip: November home prices fell more than forecast because of foreclosures. **6B**

SPORTS

Gardens tackle ready to unveil college choice

On signing day, 290-pound Avery Young is the county's top uncommitted recruit. **1C**

Easy target: Despite heavy criticism, LeBron James is playing at an MVP level. **1C**

Moving pieces: Belichick's emphasis on versatility keeps the Patriots on their toes. **1C**

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POST ON POLITICS Florida GOP primary

ROMNEY RUNAWAY

Redemption in Florida puts him in control



GERALD HERBERT/The Associated Press

Triumphant in Tampa: Mitt Romney celebrates his primary victory Tuesday night. With 46 percent of the vote, he rebounded from a crushing 2008 loss.

By GEORGE BENNETT and JANE MUSGRAVE
Palm Beach Post Staff Writers

TAMPA — Four years after Florida crushed Mitt Romney's presidential hopes and a mere 10 days after Newt Gingrich pierced his aura of inevitability, the Sunshine State on Tuesday handed Romney a decisive primary victory that puts him in command of the GOP nomination race.

Romney had a double-digit lead over Gingrich in Florida with most precincts counted. In Palm Beach County, Romney had nearly twice the votes that Gingrich did.

But Gingrich vowed to press on with his bid to unite tea party and grass-roots conservatives against Romney and the GOP establishment.

After waging a bitter struggle in Florida, Romney and Gingrich signaled Tuesday night that they are ready to carry their fight into primaries in other states.

But in a victory speech that sounded like he was accepting the Republican nomination, Romney said the battles would not weaken the GOP.

"A competitive primary does not divide us. It prepares us. And we will win," Romney told cheering supporters at the Tampa Convention Center, a few blocks from the site of

Map: County-by-county results. **8A**

See PRIMARY, **8A** ▶

Full coverage

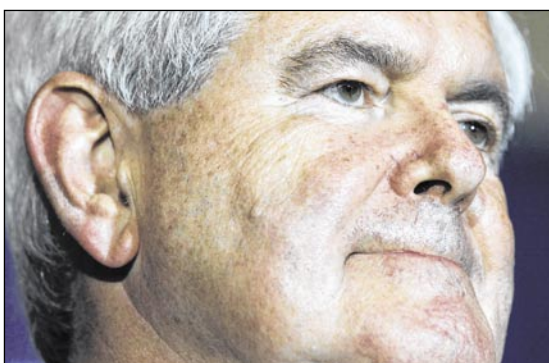
Local voters bury hatchet: Romney, Gingrich fans mingle at Gardens event. **9A**

Gingrich declares '2-person race': He stresses contrasts with Romney. **9A**

Santorum, Paul look west: Upbeat, they focus on Colorado and Nevada. **9A**

Voters share their views: Republicans in county explain choices at polls. **9A**

Super PAC raises \$51 million: Rove's group powerful. **10A**



MATT ROURKE/The Associated Press

Regrouping in Orlando: Newt Gingrich, who won 32 percent, emphasized there's a long way to go.

Far behind the top two in Florida



Rick Santorum (left) amassed 13 percent of the vote; Ron Paul earned 7 percent.



Swift county vote tally 'historic,' Bucher says

By JENNIFER SORENTTRUE, ANDREW ABRAMSON and ANA M. VALDES
Palm Beach Post Staff Writers

RIVIERA BEACH — As Mitt Romney celebrated his win in Florida's GOP presidential primary Tuesday night, Palm Beach County Elections Supervisor Susan Bucher was declaring her

own victory.

After years of slow election-night results, Bucher's office sped through the tally Tuesday, releasing more than 90 percent of the precinct results about three hours after the polls closed.

Bucher called the swift tabulation "historic," saying it was the result of

a new remote reporting system. That system, coupled with modems scheduled to be added to all of the county's ballot scanners later this year, should end years of slow ballot counting that at times has been the worst in the state.



See BUCHER, **8A** ▶ Bucher

ELECTIONS 2012 Florida congressional races

West, Rooney change districts

New boundaries prompt moves into more GOP-friendly territory.

By GEORGE BENNETT and JOHN KENNEDY
Palm Beach Post Staff Writers

Facing a tough re-election fight in a district that was redrawn with a Democratic tilt, U.S. Rep. Allen West, R-Plantation, announced Tuesday that he will instead seek re-election in a more Republican-leaning district to the north that's home to U.S. Rep. Tom Rooney, R-Tequesta.

Rooney will run in a newly created rural district that extends from western Martin and St. Lucie counties to Charlotte County on Florida's west coast and north into parts of Hillsborough and Polk counties. Rooney now represents much of that area.

Moving on



Tom Rooney
R-Tequesta
The new district he'll run in includes parts of Martin and St. Lucie but is largely on the west coast.



Allen West
R-Plantation
With his redrawn district likely to tilt Democratic, Rooney's move opens the door.

See DISTRICTS, **5A** ▶

POST COVERAGE C-51 Reservoir

Water project's \$1 billion price tag shocks utilities

Technical challenges double cost estimates.

By CHRISTINE STAPLETON
Palm Beach Post Staff Writer

The South Florida cities and counties that would pay for a major water supply project for their drought-prone region learned Tuesday that its projected cost has soared from \$451 million to \$1 billion — and they didn't like it.

"To me, the numbers that we see now compared

to the original numbers have cooled my enthusiasm," Alan Garcia, director of the Broward County Water and Wastewater Services, told officials of the Lake Worth Drainage District, the lead agency in the project. "You're at least a half-billion dollars off in those estimates."

But district officials said the project is still the best solution to the region's water needs and told utility

See RESERVOIR, **13A** ▶