

Richmond Times-Dispatch

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2008

O BAMA

SENATOR IS FIRST AFRICAN-AMERICAN TO WIN PRESIDENCY

Barack Obama was elected the 44th president of the United States, opening a new chapter in the country's history as the first African-American to lead the nation.

"If there is anyone out there who still doubts that America is a place where all things are possible, who still wonders if the dream of our founders is alive in our time, who still questions the power of our democracy, tonight is your answer," Obama told more than 100,000 people who gathered for a victory celebration in Chicago's Grant Park.

The Illinois senator capped his 21-month quest with a sweeping electoral victory that included wins in the battleground states of Virginia, Florida, Ohio, Pennsylvania and other states.

Shortly after becoming the first Democrat to win Virginia since Lyndon Baines Johnson in 1964, Obama crossed the requisite threshold of 270 electoral votes to defeat his Republican rival, Sen. John McCain of Arizona. He had at least 338 electoral votes to McCain's 145, according to The Associated Press. Six states remained undecided early this morning.

Obama campaigned as the candidate of change and attracted millions of first-time voters.

"Change has come," Obama told the crowd in Grant Park.

Story, Page A8



JAE C. HONG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



BOB BROWN/TIMES-DISPATCH

WARNER DEFEATS GILMORE IN SENATE RACE **A12**



MARK GORMUS/TIMES-DISPATCH

JONES **A16** DECLARES VICTORY AS MAYOR OF RICHMOND

PAGES A8-21 14 PAGES OF ELECTION COVERAGE

• **Video, analysis online**
• Watch reports on the voting and our political team's analysis at inRich.com. Keyword: video.