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(Out)shooting Stars

Rookie sensation Patrik Laine scores hat trick as Jets light up Dallas 8-2 / **D1**

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2016

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Politics, America changed forever



MANCHESTER, N.H. — Nine months ago, Donald Trump stood on a stage here and thanked the state for breathing life into his presidential dream.

"Oh wow," he exclaimed after winning a decisive victory in the first primary of the long campaign. "Oh wow. So beautiful. So beautiful."

The words might prove to be the theme song of Trump's entire election, and his supporters at Republican headquarters at a Manchester country club were giddy as Trump seemed to be one or two states away from claiming victory Tuesday night.

Only a few states were standing between him and the presidency at press time.

His supporters said even if he doesn't hang on to win, he has changed politics in the Republican party — and America.

"Trump was a fresh face. He started a movement, and we followed," said John Olexa, a Vietnam War veteran from Amherst, N.H.

As banners shouting "End the corruption" and "Her lies matter" floated above him in a Manchester country club where Republicans gathered to watch the results, Olexa said Trump's success is as much a repudiation of the GOP establishment as it is Hillary Clinton.

The Republicans will have to change.

● CONTINUED ON A6



The Trump effect

Polarizing election puts reality-TV star inches from the White House as his wave of anger upsets Hillary Clinton's attempt to make history / **A3-9**

PAUL SANCTA / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Religious right showed its might

SARAH PULLIAM BAILEY

WHITE evangelicals voted in high numbers for Donald Trump, 81-16 per cent, according to exit polls. That's the most they have voted for a Republican presidential candidate since 2004, when they overwhelmingly chose George W. Bush by a margin of 78-21 per cent. Their support for Trump will likely be seen as part of the reason the GOP candidate performed unexpectedly well in Tuesday's election, according to website Five Thirty Eight.

White evangelicals are the religious group that most identifies with the Republican party, and 76 per cent of them say they are or lean Republican, according to a 2014 survey. As a group, white evangelicals make up one-fifth of all registered voters and about one-third of all voters who identify with or lean toward the GOP.

Evangelicals also play prominently in swing states such as Florida, where they are anticipated to make up 20 per cent of the state's votes. There they polled 85-13 per cent.

Trump's candidacy has caused a huge divide among evangelical leaders, but evangelical voters coalesced around him as a presidential candidate, many citing his promise to appoint Supreme Court justices who would overturn *Roe vs. Wade*.

Evangelicals are a subset of Protestant Christians, and there is much debate over who gets to define them and speak for them. Thomas Kidd, a history professor at Baylor University, for instance, has argued the term "evangelical" has been watered down too much to be a useful term.

Tuesday's election, though, will likely create some hand-wringing in the evangelical community about their involvement in politics. Reactions to election results were still trickling out late Tuesday as reactions began to pour in, and some lamented the role of evangelicals in the election.

Ahead of Tuesday's election, evangelicals warred among themselves over whether Trump would be a good president. The debate became especially fierce after a video of Trump's crude comments toward women was published, and evangelical women began to speak out.

● CONTINUED ON A7

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