In Tampa, organizers undeterred

“...You learn more from losing than you do from winning,” said a Democratic volunteer.

BY LAUREN PEACE
Times Staff Writer

TAMPA — In the darkened corner suite of a largely abandoned strip mall, a worker packs cardboard boxes with her belongings as she expects her desk to be touched and owned powerline. The campaign packs cardboard boxes with her belongings as she empties her desk. She’s usually the last one to leave!

As election night rolled in, hope and undeterred organizers who gathered at Hillsborough Democratic Hispanic hub, largely known as “Casa Crist,” with the goal of drawing Latinos to the polls for her candidates.

As an election candidate might roll in, hope and energy were still abundant. At a watch party Tuesday night, volunteers filled plastic chairs in a backroom of the winding space of a largely abandoned strip mall, a worker packed cardboard boxes with her belongings as she expected her desk to be touched and owned powerline. She’s usually the last one to leave!

The party’s over. It’s time to leave.

Hurricane Nicole

The tropical system Nicole held almost all of Florida in a rainy, windy grip on Thursday after it came ashore on the state’s east coast as the second-latest hurricane to strike the continental United States in recorded weather history.

Nicole was quickly downgraded to a tropical storm once it was over land but still caused hundreds of thousands of power outages across the state, including tens of thousands in the Tampa Bay area. About 12,000 customers in the area remained without power on Thursday evening.

Gov. Ron DeSantis said about 7200 linemen had been deployed to restore power.

“We’re ready and we have resources to respond to whatever post-storm needs may arise,” he said.

Some of the most severe damage from Nicole was reported in Volusia County, where officials said a number of homes toppled into the Atlantic Ocean just weeks after Hurricane Ian had washed away stretches of beach and destroyed sea walls. In Orlando, two people were killed after they touched a downed power line.

The effects were milder in the Tampa Bay area, though schools and some government offices were closed and a tropical storm warning remained in effect much of the day.

Storm’s grip held most of Florida

After doing substantial damage on the state’s east coast, Nicole was expected to move into Georgia early today.

By Michelana Mulligan
Times Staff Writer

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Snowers end

Showers end

People packed sports...