



# Clinton survives Penn.; Obama still leads in delegate count

Banner Staff

Hillary Clinton, buoyed by a strong turnout of women and older voters, earned another must-win victory Tuesday in the bitterly contested Democratic primary in Pennsylvania. Clinton posted the win despite a strong showing from rival Barack Obama, whose battle back from a 20 percentage point deficit in the polls caused some analysts to predict in the early evening that the race would be too close to call.

As of 9:30 p.m., The Associated Press reported that Clinton was leading Obama, 53 percent of the vote to 47 percent, with about 20 percent of the state's precincts reporting. With about 25 percent of the votes tallied and Clinton leading 54-46, both Fox News and CNN projected a Clinton win. The margin had increased to 55-45 by 11 p.m., with 85 percent of the votes counted.

Clinton entered Tuesday's pivotal contest needing a significant win in the Keystone State to ward off calls from fellow Democrats for the New York senator and former first lady to bow out before the party's national convention in August.

The strong showing enables Clinton to at least argue that she still has a shot to overcome Obama's popularity — and fundraising ability.

Campaign figures released Sunday showed Obama holding on to his massive financial advantage, with \$41 million raised in March and \$42 million available to spend against Clinton this month.

Clinton reported raising \$20 million in March and had \$9 million for the primary available at the beginning of April. But she also reported debts of \$10.3 million, putting her in the red.

Republican nominee-in-waiting John McCain continued a remarkable rebound. He was broke at the time of the first primary in New Hampshire, but came back to run his Republican rivals out of the race. His March report showed he raised \$15.2 million and had \$11.6 million in the bank, the best fundraising performance of his campaign.

With just nine pre-convention contests remaining after Pennsylvania, it appears unlikely for either Democratic candidate to gather the 2,025 elected delegates needed for nomination going into the party convention in August.

The candidates appear likely to split the upcoming delegates. Clinton is favored in West Virginia and Kentucky, while Obama is expected to take North Carolina, Oregon and South



Democratic presidential hopeful Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill. (left), and his wife Michelle Obama pose for photos with working families after a discussion at Montgomery County Community College in Blue Bell, Pa., on Monday, April 21, 2008, before Tuesday's Pennsylvania Democratic primary. Obama lost, but retained his overall delegate lead. (AP photo/Jae C. Hong)

Dakota. Two states — Indiana and Montana — are competitive.

But Clinton has a tough reality to overcome to be nominated, no matter what happens — Obama is practically assured to end the primary season with a lead in pledged delegates.

Even a win in Pennsylvania was never expected to net Clinton much in the delegate count, since the urban districts where Obama was strong have more delegates than those in rural areas, where Clinton was likely to do well.

The Pennsylvania vote apportions 158 delegates to the August Democratic national convention, but the party's rules for dividing those delegates meant that even a big Clinton victory would do little to close Obama's overall lead. Clinton gained at least 28 delegates in Pennsylvania, with 130 still to

be awarded.

No matter what happens in the rest of the race, the odds are stacked high against Clinton winning the nomination. But Clinton has proven that she won't back down when she still has a shot, and the Pennsylvania showing gave that to her.

Clinton went into Pennsylvania having most recently won the popular vote in the delegate-heavy states of Texas and Ohio. But Obama leads nationwide in delegates selected in primary elections and state caucuses, in the popular vote and the number of pre-convention state contests won.

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## Campaign '08



Ethiopia's Dire Tune (left) kicks hard as she beats Russia's Alvetina Biktimirova (right) by a scant 2 seconds in the closest women's finish in Boston Marathon history. Tune's winning time was 2 hours, 25 minutes, 25 seconds (Don West photo)

# HPV vaccine debate still on, Senate action stalled

Mai-Anh Hoang

For parents with teenage girls, questions still remain about whether or not to give their daughters Gardasil, the vaccine against human papillomavirus (HPV).

The vaccine made headlines in Massachusetts last July when state Sen. Richard T. Moore, D-Uxbridge, proposed a bill mandating that girls entering sixth grade be vaccinated against HPV, the most common sexually transmitted disease (STD). Certain types of HPV can cause genital warts, while others can cause cancer.

The bill met resistance from several groups who believed its mandate violated parents' rights. Because HPV is sexually transmitted, some religious and family organizations lambasted the bill as ethically and morally offensive.

As it stands, movement on the

mandate appears to have stopped. In February, the Senate sent the bill "to study," making it unlikely that a vote on the proposed legislation will occur in the 2008 legislative session.

Separate from the Senate, however, study findings released in March by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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# Aid arrives in Haiti, but many are left out

Ben Fox

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — Hundreds of Haitians stood in long lines last Saturday, just as others had walked for hours throughout the week to receive the U.N. and regional food aid pouring into the country after a spate of deadly riots.

But amid the tenuous calm, aid groups say they are just buying time

— and long-term solutions seem remote in the desperately poor nation.

"The beans might last four days," said Jervais Rodman, an unemployed carpenter with three children who emerged from a churchyard last Friday with small bags of food. "The rice will be gone as soon as I get home."

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