

# Dole coasts to victory in New York

NEW YORK (AP) — Bob Dole won a landslide victory Thursday in the New York primary, opening a resounding lead in the Republican presidential race. He said it was "time to start the fight for November," but Steve Forbes and Pat Buchanan vowed to battle on in the upcoming GOP primaries.

"When it comes to picking the Republican nominee, it's over—it's Bob Dole," said Gov. George Pataki, a Dole partisan.

Dole cast his big win as an "overwhelming statement of Republican unity" and said it was time for Republicans "to defeat Bill Clinton and return conservative leadership to the presidency."

In an interview with The Associated Press, Dole said it wasn't for him to tell Forbes and Buchanan to quit the race, but suggested they take a long look at the lopsided New York results. "Let's move on and recognize it's time to start the fight for November," the Senate majority leader said.

New Yorkers braved snow or chilly

rain to vote, and many had a humdrum attitude about a race that was without a front-runner less than a week ago. "You pick because you have to, but it's not much of a choice," said Maria Avellino, a 22-year-old mother of three in Brooklyn who voted for Dole.

New Yorkers voted for delegates—not directly for candidates—but a voter survey showed that 53 percent favored Dole, compared to 30 percent for Forbes and 14 percent for Buchanan.

As a result, Dole took a daunting delegate lead over Forbes and Buchanan: He won at least 90 of the 93 delegates on the New York ballots, bringing his national total to 380. Forbes had 72. Buchanan was third at 62, with 996 needed to clinch nomination.

"If the others want to stay in, they ought to focus on Bill Clinton and not kick me," Dole told AP from Florida. Speaking via satellite to a New York victory rally, Dole chastised Clinton

for vetoing GOP plans to balance the budget, cut taxes and reform welfare. But his rivals weren't willing to quit, even as they acknowledged the long odds.

Forbes said he would contest the Super Tuesday primaries next week, move onto the big Midwest states next and then make a major push in California at the end of the month. He contrasted his "vibrant vision of the future" with Dole's "politics as usual" but would not say how much more of his personal fortune he would pour into the race.

Forbes blamed his resounding defeat on the New York GOP establishment—led by Pataki and Sen. Alfonse D'Amato. "It was stacked against us," Forbes said.

Pataki said Dole's big margins in recent primaries gave him plenty of leeway to choose a running mate who supported abortion rights, Buchanan's protests notwithstanding.

"I don't know where these people

live—but clearly not in the real world," Bay Buchanan, her brother's campaign manager, said in response to that, promising a vigorous convention fight if Dole took that course.

Only Forbes and Dole were on the New York ballot statewide. Buchanan competed in two-thirds of the state's 31 congressional districts but didn't get any reward for his tenacious effort to overcome New York's arcane ballot access laws.

Thursday's victory capped a climactic week for Dole, who saw the nomination he has coveted so long finally come within reach. Dole won a 10-state sweep Tuesday, and then saw two rivals quit the race and endorse him Wednesday, leaving just Forbes and Buchanan in his path.

Buchanan appeared in no mood to get out of the way.

Campaigning in Tennessee as he scoured the South for a symbolic victory, Buchanan said Dole "waffles" on abortion and labeled him "the biggest taxer in the history of the Republican Party."

## Whitewater investigation may end early

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Republican chairman of the Senate committee investigating President Clinton's business deals with the owner of a failed Arkansas savings and loan offered Thursday to end the inquiry before the political party conventions in August.

Stymied by a Democratic filibuster of his proposal to extend the authority of his Senate Whitewater Committee indefinitely—and possibly into the fall election season—New York Sen. Alfonse D'Amato said he was willing to wind up the panel's work by mid-July.

At the same time, Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle indicated to reporters that Democrats were willing to extend the life of the committee for more than five weeks—their most recent offer.

The Democrats accused the Republicans of pushing a politically motivated investigation in an election year. The Republicans, who head the Watergate-style committee, insist they need to continue the investigation to uncover the facts.

Senators have engaged in hours of sniping partisan debate on the issue since last Thursday, when the committee's authority expired.

The Democrats have offered a compromise that would extend the investigation for five weeks only and provide an additional \$185,000, compared with the open-ended extension and additional \$600,000 in the GOP resolution.

Under the Democrats' plan, the Whitewater Committee would finish its work by April 3 and prepare a report by May 10.

## Video captures trooper abusing stopped driver

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — A state trooper was fired after a video camera in his patrol car captured him shoving, cursing and threatening to cut the clothes off a woman he had stopped for speeding.

The tape of Lance Cpl. W.H. Beckwith's speeding stop was released Thursday and broadcast on South Carolina television stations. Beckwith, an 11-year patrol veteran, was fired after an investigation into the Jan. 8 arrest.

Beckwith was driving an unmarked patrol car along Interstate 95 in Clarendon County when he saw the woman doing 80 mph in a 65 mph zone. He was not wearing his trooper's hat as required, Rose said.

Once the woman stopped, Beckwith approached the car with his gun drawn

and tried to drag her out while her seat belt was still on.

He pulled her out of the car, pushed her face down on the pavement and tried to handcuff her, but her clothing got in the way. "If I can't get it off, I'll cut it off," he said.

When the woman said she could not roll over to stand up because she was next to the car, he shouted: "Roll over and stand your ass up, lady, now! You're fixin' to taste liquid hell in a minute!"

The woman, who suffered bruises and scratches, pleaded guilty to speeding and was released the same day, Rose said.

After the woman complained that day, Beckwith's superiors got the tape from his car. He was suspended Feb. 1 and fired Feb. 22.

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