

Iowa caucuses: Dean drops from first to third

Dean says he will forge ahead despite the poor reception from Iowa caucuses Monday

By Thomas Fitzgerald
Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

WEST DES MOINES, Iowa — Former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean went from a dominant position over the summer to a weak third-place finish in Monday night's Iowa caucuses. Trailing Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts and Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina,

Dean immediately went on the airwaves to try to put the best face on a disaster.

"I guess we got winnowed in," Dean said on CNN. "We're just glad to get our ticket punched in Iowa. On to New Hampshire."

Regardless of the third-place finish, strategists said, Dean has more than \$30 million and enough of a grass-roots network from his Internet-based campaign to compete for a long time into the next round of nominating contests.

"Some of these guys are not coming out of here, but for us it's just the

beginning of a long campaign," said Steve McMahon, Dean's media consultant. "We're going to spread the field on these guys fast. Seven states in the next two weeks — you've got to have money. We have a base, we have money and we're going to open a can of whup-ass on these guys."

The capture of Saddam Hussein drained some of the potency from the antiwar message that catapulted Dean to the top of the field, and his gaffes piled up. He said that the United States wasn't any safer with Hussein in custody,

called the centrist Democratic Leadership Council that spawned Bill Clinton "the Republican wing of the Democratic Party" and whined that party Chairman Terry McAuliffe wasn't reining in unfair attacks from his rivals.

Then, last Saturday, Dean shouted down a GOP protester who chided him for bashing President Bush — an incident that got a lot of airtime in Iowa and may have crystallized perceptions that Dean was arrogant and intemperate.

Once Dean became the presumptive front-runner, Kerry and Missouri Rep.

Dick Gephardt attacked him as a gaffe-prone likely loser who would raise taxes on the middle class with his promise to repeal the Bush tax cuts and who was lukewarm to Medicare. Fired up, Dean began last week attacking them and Edwards as weak-kneed Democrats who wouldn't stand up to Bush against the Iraq war. He turned populist, telling Iowans they had the power to "take back the country" from "special interests and Washington insiders."

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Edwards will work to snare Southern vote after Iowa

Edwards predicts his second place Iowa finish will fuel his campaign in New Hampshire

By Jim Morrill
Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

DES MOINES, Iowa — A jubilant Sen. John Edwards, whom polls showed lagging in single digits just three weeks ago, predicted his strong second-place finish in Iowa's

Democratic caucuses would fuel his presidential campaign heading into next week's New Hampshire primary.

"No one expected this to happen," the North Carolina Democrat told reporters in his Des Moines hotel suite. "It's a direct result of people responding to this positive message of hope. It will propel us going into other elections."

Early results showed Edwards winning 32 percent, trailing Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts by six points. But he ran far ahead of former Vermont Gov.

Howard Dean and Rep. Dick Gephardt of Missouri, both of whom had led Iowa polls for months.

Monday's vote marked a remarkable turnaround for a campaign that as recently as last month seemed stuck behind better-known rivals.

"What happened in the last two weeks in this campaign is just phenomenal," Edwards said.

He wasted no time trying to capitalize on the showing, flying late Monday night to New Hampshire, which holds

its primary next Tuesday.

One obstacle facing Edwards in New Hampshire is retired Gen. Wesley Clark, who did not compete in Iowa. Clark has climbed in polls in New Hampshire and stepped up his campaign in South Carolina, whose Feb. 3 primary is considered a must-win for Edwards, who was born there.

Edwards began drawing distinctions with Clark before the final results were in Monday. Clark, who grew up in Arkansas, was born in Chicago.

"I grew up in the rural South," Edwards said. "Having dealt every day with the problems Southerners face, I am intimately familiar with their problems. ... Gen. Clark comes from another place."

Edwards also chided Clark and Sen. Joe Lieberman of Connecticut for not running in Iowa.

"I didn't walk away, I stayed here and fought," Edwards said.

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Gephardt plans to leave race after dramatic loss in caucus

Rep. Dick Gephardt's Iowa defeat effectively ends his presidential campaign, say campaign sources

By Matt Stearns
Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

DES MOINES, Iowa — Rep. Dick Gephardt of Missouri went home Monday night for the wake.

Shortly after conceding defeat in the

Iowa caucuses on which he had banked his second presidential campaign, Gephardt was scheduled to board a chartered flight to his hometown of St. Louis.

Gephardt, 62, will drop out of the race at a Tuesday morning press conference, according to campaign sources, ending his 37-year political career and his two-decade dream of the presidency.

"We did the best we could," Gephardt said as he entered the hotel that served as his caucus-night headquarters.

Gephardt's loss in Iowa — a state in which he had guaranteed a victory that would launch him on the path to the Democratic presidential nomination — was total and unrelenting. In some precincts, he did not meet the 15 percent viability threshold. In one Iowa City precinct, Gephardt had but five supporters. Retired general Wesley Clark, who did not compete in Iowa, had 30 supporters there.

Even before the voting, the campaign had begun to take on a

bittersweet feel. A Sunday evening rally felt more like an elegy as Gephardt thanked his supporters and introduced onstage his entire extended family, some of whom were misty-eyed.

The campaign was expecting a turnout in the range of about 100,000 voters, and Gephardt had said he thought he needed 30,000 to 40,000 to win. A cadre of 5,000 volunteers — including 2,000 from out-of-state — was brought in to rouse the trade unionists and elderly, the voters to whom

Gephardt had tailored his pitch.


But an unusually large turnout swarmed the caucuses around the state, lessening the impact of Gephardt's base. He never expanded his base, and polls indicated he began to lose support in Iowa when he began to exchange negative attacks with former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean.

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Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Recommitting Ourselves to the Legacy

January 19-31, 2004



Wednesday, January 21

UO MLK Jr. Keynote
Dr. Tricia Rose from UC Santa Cruz
7pm, Willamette 100

An author, feminist, noted hip-hop scholar and Professor of American Studies, Dr. Tricia Rose is an authority on politics of Black women's sexuality and issues of race, love and desire.

Thursday, January 22

A chance to engage Dr. Rose in intimate conversation about her lecture. Noon @ Knight Library Browsing Room (Please RSVP at 346-3216)

Saturday, January 24

"Feel the Spirit" Cultural Performances
8-9:30pm EMU Ballroom
w/the UO Gospel Choir and the Eugene African Dance Troop

Wednesday, January 28

Unity Celebration and Candlelight Vigil
6 pm Gerlinger Lounge & 7pm Vigil Procession Begins
Cross-cultural presentations by student activists and leaders honoring and reflecting on the teachings of MLK Jr. and his impact on communities.

Thursday, January 29

MLK Awards Luncheon
11:30pm Gerlinger Lounge


Saturday, January 31

Oregon Student of Color Coalition Conference Keynote
Yuri Kochiyama, human rights activist

Noon McKenzie Room 129-229
Friend of Malcom X and survivor of WWII Japanese-American Internment, renowned activist Yuri Kochiyama has championed human rights, protested radical inequality and supported political prisoners in the US and throughout the world.

Organized by MLK Jr. Committee: Black Student Union, Diversity Education and Support Office-OSL, the ASUO Multicultural Center, and CODAC with the support of various campus units including the President's Fund, the Student Programs Support Fund, and the Office of Multicultural Affairs. Poster design by Ngami Mojica.

Please contact 346-1139 for more information.



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