

Upcoming primaries ignite presidential race

Matt Garrison

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As one of the most covered and expensive primary elections in history approaches, voters may have questions concerning the candidates.

Will the primary election affect Clackamas students?

"Of course it will," said Political Science Instructor Dean Darris. "None of us are immune from the political system; we should have learned that by now."

In Darris' view, elections matter in a democracy because they establish policy. The primaries elect candidates for federal and state office, and those individuals determine legislation regarding issues such as war and peace, spending powers, the environment, financial aid and social security.

In primaries, voters can only vote in their registered party.

There are eight candidates for each party, but only the frontrunners are mentioned here.

Democrat Hillary Clinton was First Lady during husband Bill Clinton's presidency from 1993 to 2001, and is the junior United States senator from New York.

The other major primary candidate is Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill. Obama has significantly less political experience than Clinton, but both are in favor of ending the Iraq War and affordable health care for all Americans.

Using her time in the White House and Senate, Clinton "is distancing herself from Obama," about whom many Democratic voters have concerns based upon his inexperience, Darris said.

"Of course, Obama is running on the very fact that he is not a member of the Washington establishment and,

therefore, represents change," he added.

Former Sen. John Edwards, of North Carolina, is another Democratic candidate, who, according to his Web site, is for "the complete withdrawal of all combat troops from Iraq" and implementing policies that

is not surprising given his background as a trial attorney representing working families against corporations," Darris said. "It doesn't hurt that he is from a working class background."

In reference to the Republican Party, Darris said,

But in any event, we have Mitt Romney running essentially on what amounts to his competency."

Romney, a Republican and the former governor of Massachusetts, promotes lowering taxes and the cost of health care.

The priorities of Rudy Giuliani, R-N.Y., former mayor of New York City, include fiscal discipline, decreasing taxes and winning the war on terror.

"Giuliani is running on his activities as mayor of New York during 9/11 of 2001," Darris said. "This is why Giuliani is spending his campaign trying to look presidential."

"Giuliani and Romney both are an uncomfortable fit for the conservative base of the Republican Party. John McCain is struggling, squaring his reputation as a maverick while running on a platform that is simply establishment policies."

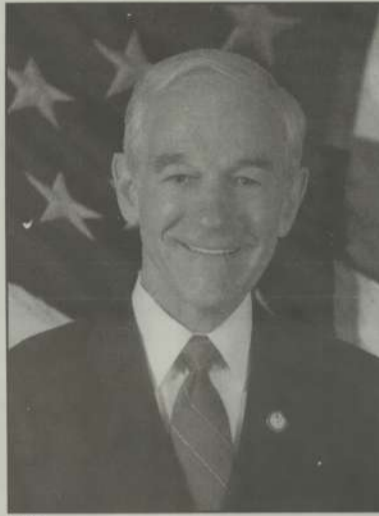
Darris predicts that one of three candidates could win the presidency.

"If we define 'best' as who can win the presidency, then it will be Hillary Clinton and Mitt Romney, or maybe Giuliani," he said. "If we define 'best' as which candidate has the best policy, in my opinion, it would be Dennis Kucinich for the Democrats and Ron Paul for the Republicans, even though neither of them stand a chance at gaining their party's nomination."

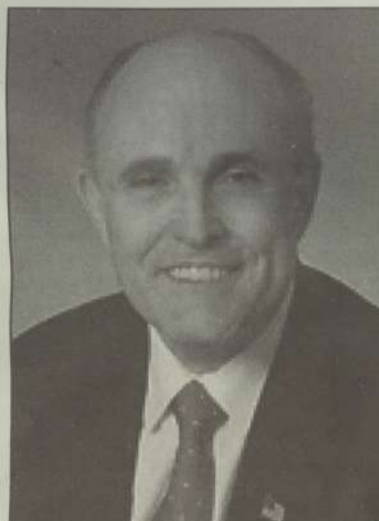
So, students, start thinking about who should be the country's new leader and vote in the primaries on May 20, 2008.



OBAMA



PAUL



GIULIANI



EDWARDS

will "fight the rising costs of middle-class life," among other issues.

"Edwards is running on his very powerful populist, progressive, domestic and foreign policy platform, which

"We need to keep in mind that when it comes to the ... candidates, they are all aware that their chances of winning the presidential election are slim to none, given the current Republican administration.

Jack Kent: new scholarship for campus

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Scholarship is exclusively awarded to two people at a community college in Oregon.

Dave Arter, who is the campus representative for the scholarship, said, "The community college applications were superior to the four-year institutions that they were eliminated from contention."

In order to be selected, student must have good grades, financial needs, a will to succeed, participate in leadership and public service activities and have critical-thinking abilities. If tuition is completely funded for the student's degree, then or she is no longer in the running for the scholarship.

As far as the applications, he or she must show logical reasoning, construct a well-crafted argument and evaluate information in an efficient matter.

According to Arter, "The students are nominated from each community college based on a submitted partial application, and the strongest two coached throughout the whole application process. Nominees are selected by the faculty representative and campus scholarship committee in December 2007 or January 2008."

All applications must be complete and submitted by January 1, 2008.

"The foundation notified all applicants about who won the scholarship in late April 2008," Arter said. "It gives students a chance to go to the dream school, even if it's a school you absolutely can't afford."

Jack Kent Cooke was a businessman and a philanthropist. He also owned prominent sports teams, such as the Washington Redskins and the Los Angeles Lakers, and the Chrysler building in New York City.

When he died in 1997, he left the majority of his money to fund this foundation, thereby cementing his legacy which lives on today.

DEMOCRATS

- Joe Biden
- Hillary Clinton
- Chris Dodd
- John Edwards
- Mike Gravel
- Dennis Kucinich
- Barack Obama
- Bill Richardson

REPUBLICANS

- Rudy Giuliani
- Mike Huckabee
- Duncan Hunter
- John McCain
- Ron Paul
- Mitt Romney
- Tom Tancredo
- Fred Thompson

CANDIDATES

Holidays and student breaks: academic calendar changes

Thanksgiving, Christmas and spring break: all things to be considered when creating the academic calendar for next year.

The academic calendar outlines when the school year begins and ends, as well as what days in between students and staff must attend.

Vice President of Instructional Services Baldwin van der Bijl approves the calendar, which then has to be accepted by the college council and the board of directors.

The 2008-2009 academic calendar will differ from that of previous years. According to van der Bijl, it will be in sync with Portland State University's schedule "so there will be fewer conflicts."

Another change will be that fewer days will be taken off for holidays in order to allow staff more work hours. The campus will remain open to students during holidays, and staff will not be required to take holidays off.

Winter break will also be

three weeks instead of the usual four that it has been for the past several years.

In addition, there are a few rules and restrictions on the schedule that must be followed. "There is a contract that spells out all the holidays," van der Bijl said.

The following holidays must be taken off: Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Veterans Day, Memorial Day and Thanksgiving.

- Compiled by Nick Kornafel

Marijuana Forum

What: A chance to learn more about this infamous drug, from its uses in medicine to the problems it faces today. Petitions will be available for signing.

When: 4 to 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 14

Where: McLoughlin Hall

Who: Hear from many influential speakers from groups such as National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, Voter Rights and Mothers Against Misuse and Abuse.

Sponsored by:
Clackamas Community College Democratic Club
360-521-5877