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# The Portland Observer

## Gore wins, Bush leads in Iowa caucus vote

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vice President Al Gore won Iowa's Democratic caucuses Monday night, opening the 2000 presidential election season with a comfortable victory over Bill Bradley. In the Republican race, George W. Bush led conservative publisher Steve Forbes in results that left four other candidates far behind.



Vice President Al Gore

The victory blunted Bradley's challenge and validated Gore's status as front-runner going into the New Hampshire primary next week. Bradley has polled even with Gore, or ahead, in New Hampshire. In the Iowa Republican race, Forbes was running close to Bush with Alan Keyes, John McCain, Gary Bauer and Orrin Hatch trailing. Bush was about 10 points ahead of Forbes in interviews conducted by Voter News Service as voters entered their caucus sites. VNS is a consortium of The Associated Press and the nation's principal television outlets. VNS projected that Gore would win by a wide margin. The caucuses, where citizens have to attend neighborhood meetings to make their choice, were expected to

draw no more than 100,000 voters from each party, concluding months of debates, fund raising and grass-roots campaigning here. Iowa launches the presidential race into a frantic six-week stretch, with the New Hampshire primary a week away.

Bradley, once an internationally known professional basketball star, had hoped to sustain his challenge to Gore on the Democratic side. McCain, who spent more than five years as a prisoner of the North Vietnamese, declined to campaign here, but the Arizona Republican was still listed on ballots.

The Iowa process will yield 47 delegates to the Democratic convention and 25 delegates to the Republican convention, where the parties formally pick their candidates. It is a tiny fraction of the total a candidate needs to win the nomination. The true rewards of Iowa are momentum or a validation of the candidate's campaign.

En route to the early contests, Republicans squabbled over taxes and abortion, with international issues only on the sidelines.

Courting religious conservatives who make up a third of the caucus-going population, Bush carefully calibrated his anti-abortion views to make clear his opposition to a Supreme Court ruling allowing abortions. Democrats were poised to campaign on the issue if Bush were to win the Republican nomination.

Gore and Bradley differed in tone more than substance. They wrestled primarily over alternative approaches to federal health insurance policy. While Bradley promised to provide big ideas to solve a few big problems, Gore said the next president should not limit himself to a handful of issues.

A string of setbacks for Bradley, including recurrence of a minor heart condition, threw him off track in Iowa even as polls showed a tight race in New Hampshire.

Despite McCain's failure to campaign in Iowa, except for participation in two debates, he and Bradley have emerged as the significant challengers for 2000. Iowans attended caucuses at 2,100 sites across the sprawling farm state.

In a display of basic grass-roots politics, voters here braved the winter weather and visit classrooms, libraries, fire stations, church basements, grain co-ops and even a few private homes to play their unique role in the American political system.

It was one of the most expensive caucuses in history, with millions spent on TV alone. Forbes spent far more than anyone - about \$3.2 million, according to aides from the Forbes and Bush campaigns. Bush spent at least a million dollars less.

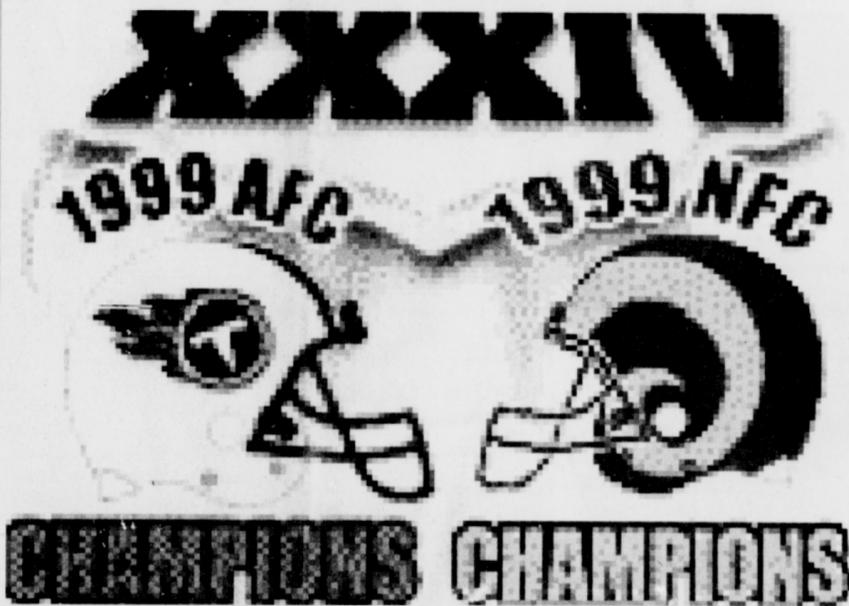
The Democrats spent about \$1.5 million each - closer to \$2 million for Bradley, according to the Gore camp.



George W. Bush

## Longshots make it to Superbowl

SUPER BOWL



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

There is no Steel Curtain in Atlanta this week. No Silver and Black, Doomsday Defense or last hurrah for John Elway.

Those are the kind of big-name images the Super Bowl has been built around, the kind that won't be around come this Super Sunday.

"Maybe some people still want Green Bay and Denver," Titans tight end Frank Wycheck said. "But to me, this is a refreshing game. It's two great teams who have been through some tough times and deserve to be here. For people to say this is not a glamorous game doesn't make sense. These are the two best teams left." Those two teams are Tennessee and St. Louis.

It's a small-market, middle-America game that offers plenty of compelling stories, most of them dealing with underdogs overcoming long odds to finally play for a title.

But whether those stories and those teams are enough to hold the nation's interest through a week's worth of hype, a day full of pregame shows and four hours of football has yet to be seen.

After a slow start in the television ratings, the playoffs got a boost last week in the conference title games.

The so-called Grits Bowl, a small-market Southeastern showdown between Jacksonville and Tennessee, drew an overnight 24.2 rating, down just 6 percent from the early game between Atlanta and Minnesota the year before. The St. Louis-Tampa Bay game got a 26.9 rating, a 3 percent jump the previous year's Broncos-Jets matchup in the late game. It was the highest-rated show since the Academy Awards last March.

Still, ABC Sports president Howard Katz seems to be approaching the Super Bowl with a sense of resigned inevitability.

"People have asked how we feel about the teams," Katz said. "We're here to cover the game. We hope it's a great game."

So does the NFL.

"Could there be a small difference in ratings because these teams are from smaller markets and not larger ones? Sure, I'd be stupid if I said differently," NFL network executive Dennis Lewin said. "That said, I think the market size of the teams is going to barely be a blip on the radar screen."

But clearly, Tennessee-St. Louis is a far cry from Pittsburgh-Dallas.

The core of the problem is that there is no history, tradition or significant fan following for these teams on either coast, or in many places in between. "These are not teams that interest me," Atlanta resident Ted Kloster said. "It's the Super Bowl, so you feel like you should watch it. But if the game isn't good, it's not too difficult to turn it off."

## Game raises money for scholarships

BY DANIE CIE  
FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

In a benefit game to raise funds for the Joyce Washington Memorial Scholarship, former Trailblazers battled the Cory Cougars, which is a group of former high school and college standouts.

The game was held at the Self-Enhancement Inc. facility on Sunday evening and raised \$1,300. More than 200 community members attended the game. They also attended the game to honor the life work of Joyce Washington, former publisher of The Portland Observer. Joyce Washington died of a heart attack in 1996.

In addition to the basketball game, there was an auction of donated items from area companies.

It was a nice family affair where children indulged in hot dogs, sodas and cotton candy. And adults enjoyed the humor of the game and announcer Billy Moore. During the game, many adults also talked among each other about Joyce Washington and her love for this community.

An angel. That's how Paul Knauls described Joyce Washington. "She was just an angel," said Knauls, co-owner of Geneva's Shear Perfection. "Everyone respected her. The number of people here shows that."

In honor of Joyce Washington, The Portland Observer established two awards. Charles Washington, publisher of the Observer, received an award. And Gary Ann Taylor, business manager for the Observer, received an award, too.

As for the game itself, although the Cory Cougars were at a heightened disadvantage, they made up for it with hustle and determination. The score was tied late into the fourth quarter at 53-53 when Mark Washington scored with four minutes and 19 seconds left on the clock. Trailblazer alumnus Michael Harper made two free throws with four minutes and four seconds left and Blazer alumnus Mark Radford scored another basket 30 seconds later. In the end, the Blazer alumnus's height and skill advantage was too much for the gutsy, but over-matched Cougars. The Blazers won the game 63-59.

But Dr. Billy Flowers, who was the coach for the Cory Cougars, said his team was a great one. "I didn't dream that I would work with so much talent," Flowers said. The Joyce Washington Memorial Scholarship Fund is designed to assist minority high school students who plan to major in business, English, journalism or athletics. The deadline for the scholarship is Aug. 1. Scholarship applications will be available at the Portland Observer, located at 4949 N.E. Martin Luther King Blvd.

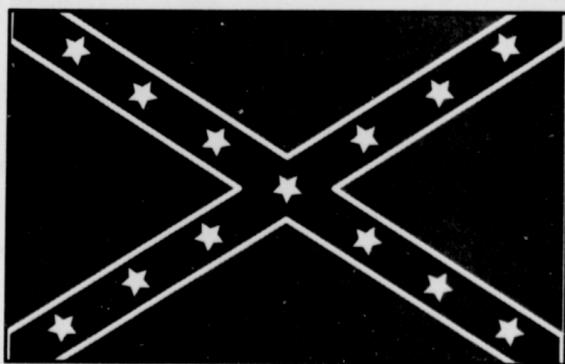
## Jackson asks players to protest Georgia flag

ASSOCIATED PRESS

The NFL will prohibit players from heeding the Rev. Jesse Jackson's request to wear the American flag on their helmets as a sign of protest over Georgia's state flag.

Jackson announced a campaign Monday to protest the state flag, which incorporates the Confederate battle flag, which many blacks and other minorities consider a symbol of slavery and racial supremacy.

"We're in the awkward and disgraceful position of playing the Super Bowl game - the most watched event in America - under the Confederate flag," Jackson said from Chicago, the headquarters of his



Rainbow-PUSH Coalition. "We're calling for the flag to come down," he said.

Jackson said the organization does (Please see 'Georgia' page 3)

## Weather

Through the weekend

Today	Cloudy	46°F/7°C	35°F/1°C
Friday	Occasional shower	50°F/10°C	39°F/3°C
Saturday	Showers	49°F/9°C	36°F/2°C
Thursday	Partially sunny	45°F/7°C	36°F/2°C
Sunday	Showers	48°F/8°C	35°F/2°C

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## This Week

in History

January 26, 1950, India officially proclaimed itself a republic as Rajendra Prasad took the oath of office as president.  
 January 28, 1986, the space shuttle Challenger exploded 73 seconds after liftoff from Cape Canaveral, killing all seven crew members.  
 January 30, 1948, Indian political and spiritual leader Mahatma Gandhi was murdered by a Hindu extremist.  
 January 31, 1865, the House of Representatives passed a Constitutional Amendment to Abolish Slavery.