

Speeches that earned Clinton millions remain a mystery

Associated Press

MANCHESTER, N.H. — Hillary Clinton told voters in the latest Democratic debate there's "hardly anything you don't know about me."

Just minutes later, she got tangled in a question about a part of her resume that is an enduring mystery.

In the 18 months before launching her second presidential bid, Clinton gave nearly 100 paid speeches at banks, trade associations, charitable groups and private corporations. The appearances netted her \$21.7 million — and voters very little information about what she was telling top corporations as she prepared for her 2016 campaign.

What she said — or didn't say — to Wall Street banks in particular has become a significant problem for her presidential campaign, as she tries to counter the unexpected rise of Democratic rival Bernie Sanders. He's put her in awkward position of squaring her financial windfall with a frustrated electorate.

Asked in the debate — and not for the first time — about releasing transcripts of those speeches, she said: "I will look into it. I don't know the status, but I will certainly look into it." She added, "My view on this is, look at my record."

Clinton addressed a broad swath of industries, speaking to supermarket companies in Colorado, clinical pathologists in Illinois and travel agents in California, to name several.

Many of the companies and trade organizations that she addressed are lobbying Congress over a variety of interests.

She typically delivered an address, then answered questions from a pre-vetted interviewer. Her standard fee was \$225,000, though occasionally it could range up to \$400,000.

"That's what they



AP Photo/Matt Rourke

Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton speaks at the New Hampshire Democratic Party McIntyre-Shaheen 100 Club Celebration dinner Friday in Manchester, N.H.

offered," said Clinton, when asked this week whether her fees were too high.

Clinton defended her appearances Friday, saying she thought the speeches were "a good way to communicate" and answer questions about her experience.

"It was a useful exercise for me, because it also enabled me to think through, kind of, where I was in the assessment of what I would do next," Clinton told MSNBC.

Other than her fees, which her campaign disclosed in response to media inquiries, details about most of her closed speeches are nearly impossible to find.

The Associated Press and other news organizations have asked repeatedly for transcripts, and did so again Friday after her promise to review the issue. Last month, she laughed and turned away when a reporter specifically asked for transcripts of her speeches to Goldman Sachs.

"I don't think voters are interested in the transcripts of her speeches," Joel Benenson, Clinton's pollster, told reporters Friday. But it was a voter who asked about her transcripts at a town-hall event on CNN on Wednesday.

AP's inquiries to the campaign about her appearances before several

Wall Street banks went unanswered. Deutsche Bank, which paid Clinton \$475,000 for addresses in New York and Washington, declined to comment, as did Goldman Sachs.

Although many of her remarks were given to large groups, they were frequently barred to media coverage and few recordings are available online.

In many instances, Clinton's contract prohibited her comments from being broadcast, transcribed or "otherwise reproduced," according to a copy of one such agreement with the University of Buffalo.

In a few cases, details trickled out through company blogs and trade publications.

At the time, and increasingly as the months wore on, she was considered a likely prospect to run for president, despite the fact she said little to tip her hand publicly on whether she would.

Many organizations she addressed were reluctant to share details or even confirm her attendance, in part because contracts for those kinds of speakers typically prohibit sharing that information.

"I made speeches to lots of groups," Clinton said this week. "I told them what I thought. I answered questions."

Republicans circle Rubio as stakes grow

Associated Press

LONDONBERRY, N.H.

— On the rise in a tightening race, Marco Rubio shouldered intensifying attacks Friday from moderate-leaning Republicans who fear a strong Rubio showing in Tuesday's New Hampshire primary could spell the end for their frazzled presidential campaigns.

Jeb Bush and Chris Christie both accused Rubio of a lackluster set of accomplishments. Bush, campaigning with his mother, former first lady Barbara Bush, summed up the Florida senator's achievements in one word: "Nothing."

On the Democratic side, the gloves were off in a campaign that had shown more signs of comity than rancor — until now. A day after jousting in a feisty debate, Hillary Clinton struggled to defend herself against Bernie Sanders' insinuations that she's beholden to Wall Street, while Sanders faced fresh doubts about his experience on foreign policy.

As candidates crisscrossed the state, a burst of soggy snow became the latest obstacle to winning support among undecided voters. The winter surprise sidelined Donald Trump and Sanders, who canceled afternoon events as campaigns sent plucky volunteers trudging through the slush to knock on doors.

Blizzard notwithstanding, the all-out push for votes illustrated the growing stakes for Tuesday's vote. New polls showed Rubio on the rise both in New Hampshire and nationally, raising his hopes that a second-place finish Tuesday will spur Republican Party leaders to unite behind him in a bid to defeat the two polarizing front-runners: Trump and Ted Cruz.

"Marco is a talented politician," Bush said on MSNBC. "He's a great guy, but he's not a leader."

His campaign released



AP Photo/David Goldman

Republican presidential candidate, Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., gestures as he speaks at a campaign event Friday in Derry, N.H.

"(Marco) is a great guy. But he's not a leader."

— Jeb Bush, GOP presidential candidate

a new TV ad showing former Sen. Rick Santorum, who has endorsed Rubio, stumbling in an interview to name one Rubio accomplishment.

Rubio did pick up another endorsement from a fallen rival — former Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal, who dropped out of the race in November.

Cruz, the victor in last week's Iowa caucuses, was struggling to put complaints about his campaign's tactics in the rearview mirror, as new evidence emerged of what challenger Ben Carson has dubbed "dirty tricks." Carson told a Fox News podcast that Cruz's lackadaisical defense brought to mind Clinton's response to the attacks in Benghazi, Libya.

"I'm not saying that it rises to the level of Benghazi, I'm saying it's the same kind of attitude," Carson said. "The attitude being: It's water under the bridge."

Fueling the dust-up were rumors spread by Cruz's campaign hours before

the Iowa caucuses about Carson dropping out of the race. Trump has also cried foul, arguing Cruz "stole" the election by peeling off Carson supporters to surge past Trump.

Cruz has apologized for circulating the rumor based on a news report about Carson traveling to Florida after the Iowa voting. But a string of further revelations has kept the controversy alive, including a Cruz campaign mailer resembling an official "voting violation" notice to Iowans. The latest wrinkle came via a pair of voicemails obtained by Breitbart News, purportedly from Cruz's campaign, telling Iowans to caucus for Cruz because Carson was suspending his campaign.

"By the way, if you get a call on Tuesday night that I dropped out, it isn't true," Rubio said, tweaking Cruz during a town hall in Derry. "Keep voting."

Christie — who, like Bush and John Kasich, has it all on the line in New Hampshire — offered dire predictions about the state's first-in-the-nation primary if voters side with Cruz, Trump or Rubio, a trio that Christie suggested had ignored the Granite State.

"If you reward those folks who don't show up here, there is no reason for New Hampshire to be first," Christie told a town hall meeting in Dover.

BRIEFLY

In Brazil, pregnant women urged to be cautious with kiss

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — In a sign of mounting global concern over the Zika virus, health officials on Friday warned pregnant women to think twice about the lips they kiss and called on men to use condoms with pregnant partners if they have visited countries where the virus is present.

U.N. officials also called on many Catholic-majority countries in Latin America to loosen their abortion laws to allow women to terminate pregnancies if they fear the fetus may be at risk for a rare birth defect that causes brain damage and an abnormally small head, which may be linked to the virus.

The flurry of recommendations began in Brazil, where a top health official warned pregnant women to be cautious with their kisses.

Paulo Gadelha, president of the Fiocruz research institute, told a news conference that scientists have found live virus in saliva and urine samples, and the possibility it could be spread by the two body

fluids requires further study.

He said that calls for pregnant women to take special precautions, and suggested they avoid kissing people other than a regular partner or sharing cutlery, glasses and plates with people who have symptoms of the virus.

Strong quake hits Taiwan, killing 3; 221 rescued

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — Rescuers in the southern Taiwanese city of Tainan pulled out 221 people and three dead from a residential high-rise complex that collapsed when a shallow 6.4-magnitude earthquake struck before dawn Saturday, leaving still others trapped inside.

Firefighters and soldiers scrambled with ladders, cranes and other equipment to the two towers that folded like an accordion in a pile of rubble and twisted metal and extracted dazed survivors.

The emergency response center told The Associated Press that three people were killed, including a 10-day-old infant, a 55-year-old woman and a 50-year-old man.



D & B Supply - Pendleton, OR 2015 Commercial Recycler of the Year



D&B Supply - 2015 Commercial Recycler of the Year

Each year the employees of Pendleton Sanitary Service, Inc. (PSSI) nominate several commercial businesses or institutions for the Commercial Recycler of the Year award. The winning recipient is determined by a vote of PSSI employees, as they are the individuals who deal directly with the recycled materials, and are impacted by the quality of those materials. This award is given to a commercial recycler that does an outstanding job in recycling, and/or has made significant improvements to their recycling efforts over the past year.

The employees of Pendleton Sanitary Service voted unanimously to choose D&B Supply (D&B) as Pendleton's Commercial Recycler of the Year for 2015.

In September of 2014, D&B began cardboard recycling services with PSSI. Through a joint effort, we devised a container system which allowed PSSI to pick up the baled cardboard, which D&B produced via their cardboard baler. In 2015 D&B generated 51 bales of cardboard totaling 23 tons! In addition to cardboard, D&B makes a diligent effort to recycle all items possible from the store. Other items recycled include: Office paper, aluminum cans, plastic bottles, wood waste, newspaper and magazines.

Not only does D&B do an outstanding job of recycling with the significant volume of recycled materials they produce, the quality control in their recycling effort is extraordinary, which makes a significant impact on reducing waste going to the landfill.

Pendleton Sanitary Service would like to congratulate and thank D&B Supply for their outstanding efforts in recycling with special thanks to Linda Hansen, Bev Etter, and Manager Bill Arrington at D&B! Great job!



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