

Cruz, Sanders emerge victorious in Wisconsin

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Republican Ted Cruz stormed to a commanding victory in Wisconsin Tuesday, denting front-runner Donald Trump's chances of capturing the GOP nomination before the party's convention. Democrat Bernie Sanders triumphed over Hillary Clinton but still faces a mathematically difficult path to the White House.

Trump's defeat capped one of the worst periods of his campaign, a brutal stretch that highlighted his weaknesses with women and raised questions about his policy depth. While the billionaire businessman still leads the Republican field, Cruz and an array of anti-Trump forces hope Wisconsin signals the start of his decline.

"Tonight is a turning point," Cruz told cheering supporters at a victory rally. "It is a call from the hard-working people of Wisconsin to America. We have a choice. A real choice."

Cruz, a Texas senator with a complicated relationship with Republican leaders, also cast his victory as a moment for unity in a party that has been roiled by a contentious primary campaign.

But Trump was unbowed. His campaign put out a biting statement: "Ted Cruz is worse than a puppet — he is a Trojan horse, being used by the party bosses attempting to steal the nomination from Mr. Trump."

Sanders's sweeping win in virtually every county in Wisconsin, except Milwaukee, gives him greater incentive to keep

ELECTION '16

Wisconsin primary

Ted Cruz and Bernie Sanders beat their rivals in the Badger State:

Results as of 12:15 a.m. EDT April 6

DEMOCRATS

VOTES CAST: 837,172

B. Sanders 56.3% (45)

H. Clinton 43.4 (31)

(Delegates allocated out of 86)

PRECINCTS REPORTING: 83%

REPUBLICANS

VOTES CAST: 919,904

T. Cruz 48.9% (33)

D. Trump 34.3 (3)

J. Kasich 14.3

(Delegates allocated out of 42)

PRECINCTS REPORTING: 81%

SOURCE: AP Election Services AP

competing against Clinton. But he still trails her in the pledged delegate count and has so far been unable to persuade superdelegates—the party officials who can back any candidate — to drop their allegiance to the former secretary of state and back his campaign.

At a raucous rally in Wyoming, Sanders cast his victory as a sign of mounting momentum for his campaign.

"With our victory tonight in Wisconsin, we have now won 7 out of 8 of the last caucuses and primaries," he declared.

The results in Wisconsin make it likely both parties' primaries will continue deep into the spring, draping front-runners Trump and Clinton in uncertainty and

preventing both from fully setting their sights on the general election.

With an overwhelming white electorate and liberal pockets of voters, Wisconsin was favorable territory for Sanders. In a sign of Clinton's low expectations in the Midwestern state, she spent Tuesday night at a fundraiser with top donors in New York City.

Clinton congratulated Sanders on Twitter and thanked her supporters in Wisconsin. "To all the voters and volunteers who poured your hearts into this campaign: Forward!" she wrote.

Sanders' win will net him a handful of additional delegates, but he'll still lag Clinton significantly. With 86 delegates at stake in Wisconsin, Sanders will pick up at least 45 and Clinton will gain at least 31.

That means Sanders must still win 67 percent of the remaining delegates and uncommitted superdelegates in order to win the Democratic presidential nomination.

While Trump has been the dominant force in the Republican race, he battled a series of campaign controversies in the lead-up to Wisconsin, including his campaign manager's legal problems following an altercation with a female reporter and his own awkward stumbles in clarifying his views on abortion. Wisconsin's Republican establishment, including Gov. Scott Walker, has also campaigned aggressively against the businessman.

Iceland's prime minister resigns after outcry

First leader brought down by Panama Papers

LONDON (AP) — The leak of millions of records on offshore accounts claimed its first high-profile political casualty Tuesday as Iceland's prime minister stepped aside amid outrage over revelations he had used such a shell company to shelter large sums while Iceland's economy was in crisis.

Icelandic leader Sigmundur David Gunnlaugsson is the first major figure brought down by the publication of the names of rich and powerful people linked to the leaks, dubbed the Panama Papers.

China and Russia, meanwhile, took the opposite

approach, suppressing the news and rejecting any allegations of impropriety by government officials named in the leak of more than 11 million financial documents from a Panamanian law firm.

Officials in Ukraine, Argentina and other countries are also facing questions about possibly dubious offshore tax-avoidance schemes.

The reports are from a global group of news organizations working with the Washington-based International Consortium of Investigative Journalists. They have been processing records from the Mossack

Fonseca law firm that were first leaked to Germany's Sueddeutsche Zeitung newspaper.

The announcement that Gunnlaugsson was stepping down as leader of Iceland's coalition government came from his deputy, Sigurdur Ingi Johannsson, who is also the country's agriculture minister. It followed the refusal by Iceland's president to dissolve parliament and call a new election, and after thousands of Icelanders protested outside the parliament building in Reykjavik.

No replacement has yet been named and President Olafur Ragnar Grimsson did not immediately confirm that he had accepted the resignation.

Celebrating Gloria Rossi

After 39 years in banking, Gloria is retiring. All of us at the Banner Bank would like to say congratulations, Gloria, and thanks for the wonderful memories.

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Presented by Adrian Cagigas, MA, ATC/L

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