

Advisers says she is likely to form an exploratory committee in late June or in early July to raise money to pay for her frequent trips to New York.

"I think it's fair to say these next two weeks are a very critical two weeks. If she doesn't say 'no' in very early June, it's an implicit 'yes' and you'll see (formation of) an exploratory committee," one adviser said.

There has been speculation for months on whether the first lady will run for a Senate seat. New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani is expected to win the Republican Party's nomination.

White House spokesman Joe Lockhart, while not commenting on the first lady's political plans, said that Tuesday night the president night called Ken Zebrowski, who lost a hotly contested race for the New York state senate in Rockland County, N.Y.. Mrs. Clinton had campaigned for Zebrowski.

comments@newsdigital.com

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Hillary Clinton Said Undecided On Senate Bid
REUTERS 12.05 p.m. ET (1605 GMT) May 26, 1999

AMELIA ISLAND, Fla. — Hillary Rodham Clinton has not yet made up her mind about whether she will run for a New York Senate seat, her spokeswoman said Wednesday, responding to a report that the first lady has decided to run.

"She has not decided," spokeswoman Marsha Berry said in response to comments from the chairman of the Democratic Party in Staten Island, New York, that she told him she was going to run.

The party official, Robert Gigante, told the CBS News' "This Morning" program that Mrs. Clinton confided her plans to him during a fundraiser in New York Monday for Rep. Nita Lowey, the Democrat who would run for the Senate seat if Mrs. Clinton does not.

"I just said to her, 'Do you have any good news for the people of Staten Island?' She said 'yes.' And I said, 'Does that mean you're going to run?' And she said, 'yes.' And I said, well, we're ready to work. And she said, 'I'm going to need a lot of help,'" Gigante said.

Berry said in response: "People tend to hear what they want to hear."

But the first lady's friends and advisers say she is strongly leaning toward running for the seat being vacated by the retiring Democratic Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

She and President Clinton are spending the rest of the week in northeastern Florida for some vacation and to give Mrs. Clinton some time to ponder her race.

Advisers says she is likely to form an exploratory committee in late June or in early July to enable her to raise money for travel costs associated with her frequent trips to New York.

Westchester towns tooth & claw to woo Clintons

IT'S setting up as The Battle of the Tony Towns.

A day after reports surfaced that the president and Mrs. Junior Senator intend to buy their dream house in Westchester, two of the county's most exclusive enclaves — the Town of Bedford and the Village of Scarsdale — are putting out the welcome mat.

And that means one thing: Let the sniping begin!

"Bedford is nice, I guess, but as Hillary always said, 'It takes a village,'" Scarsdale Mayor E. Markham Bench told *The Gnome*.

The mayor — who works in Fort Lee, N.J., when he's not lording over an empire with some of the most expensive homes and best public schools in the country — even offered the Clintons his home.

"It's for sale, for the right price," Bench said. "But I don't think they'd be interested. It's only seven bedrooms."

Only seven bedrooms? Imagine the indignity.

Folks in Bedford — also known as "the Beverly Hills of New York" because of residents like Glenn Close and Christopher



Reeve — certainly don't have to cram themselves into such puny digs.

Up in that horse-and-hunt-set northern Westchester town, homes are larger, grounds are grander, vistas are wider and security would be easier.

"I have plenty of listings that are truly fit for a president," gushed Dee Roider, a broker at Century 21 Country Living.

Roider pulled out a listing for a Georgian colonial featuring 17,000 square feet in 22 rooms, six full bathrooms, three powder rooms and a 16-acre back yard for the Secret Service agents.

"It's like a mini-White House," said Roider, referring to the public housing from which the president and his spouse will soon be

evicted.

Asking price? A cool \$4 million. Anything less than that, Roider said, "and you'll have neighbors."

One of them would be Diane Straus Tucker.

What? You never heard of Diane Straus Tucker, the editor in chief of Westchester *Wag* magazine?

Perhaps you know her by her other identity: Monica Lewinsky's stepsister.

Yet even Tucker, who published a spirited defense of her flesh and blood in the *Wag* not six months ago, hopes that Bill Clinton will be her neighbor.

"That's all in the past," Tucker said.

Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. — another Bedford resident — also hopes the Clintons become his neighbors.

"With the Clintons, at least we'd have three Democrats in town," Kennedy said.

Scarsdale's politics are a little more in line with the First Family's.

"Did you realize that 65 percent of our residents volunteer in the village?" Mayor Bench pointed out. "We're very involved."

(UPI Spotlight)

Report: Clintons eye move to Westchester

NEW YORK, May 26 (UPI) President Bill Clinton and his potential U. S. Senate candidate wife Hillary Rodham Clinton are reportedly looking for a home in Westchester County. A source tells (Wednesday's) Daily News the couple have more-or-less ruling out living in Manhattan, and say their ``suburb of choice'' is the moneyed county just north of New York City.

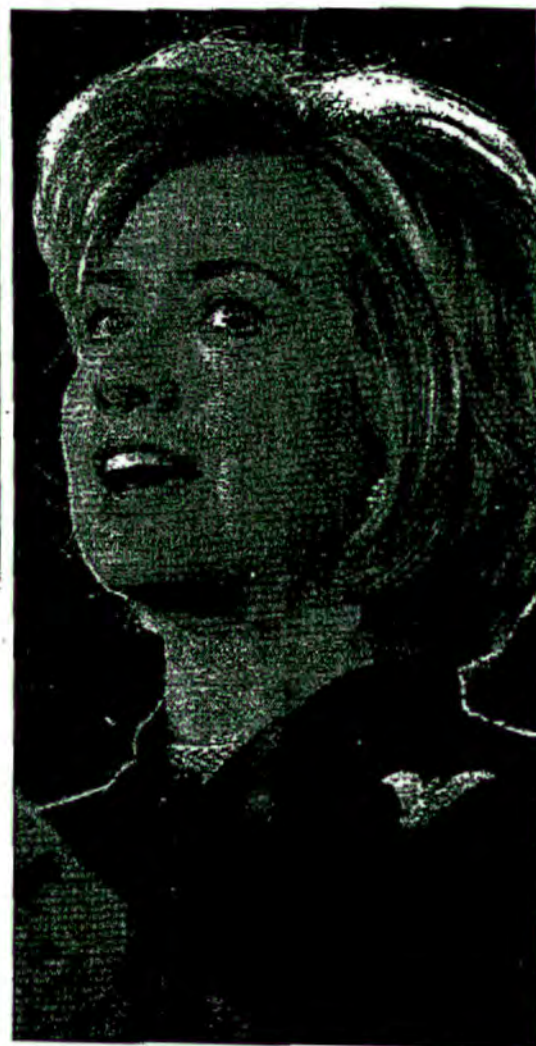
**** filed by:UPI-(us) on 05/26/99 at 09:00EDT ****

**** printed by:WHPR(SCOH) on 05/26/99 at 10:17EDT ****

DAILY @ NEWS

**MITCHELL
FINK**

May 26, 1999



If Hillary Clinton decides to run for the Senate, she faces big pluses, but also big risks.

HL TALKING POINTS

Hillary Clinton's ears must have been burning.

The First Lady was the hot talk Monday as plenty of A-listers weighed in on her impending move to New York and her highly anticipated campaign for the U.S. Senate.

Listen to what historian **Doris Kearns Goodwin** has to say about Hillary's political future.

"The big risk for her is that she runs and loses," Goodwin told me at the La Cirque 2000 party for **Matilda Cuomo's** new book of essays, "The Person Who Changed My Life."

"On the downside, there's the carpetbagger issue," she said. "It's not like she'd be running from Illinois, where she's from, or Arkansas, where she has lived. When **Bobby Kennedy** came to New York and ran for the Senate in 1966, at least he could point to the fact that he spent part of his childhood in Riverdale and Bronxville. And still he was stung by the carpetbagger issue."

Then there's the Clinton marriage. "He will not have her as a companion if she's a senator," said Goodwin. "She wouldn't be around to help him with his legacy, or his library."

But there is significant upside to her running. "If she wants to be President, she has to do it," the historian said. "If you want to be in political elective life, you don't give up a chance like this. She would have other shots down the road, but not like this one. This is the Big Apple."

But "if Hillary loses, she will carry the loss in her emotional psyche forever."

Goodwin isn't the only one thinking about our First Lady. **George Plimpton** loves the idea that she may move to New York.

"It'd be great for New York," he said at Monday's Americans for the Arts National Arts Award Gala at Lincoln Center. "She'd probably teach at Columbia or the

New School. The Clintons could go to Elaine's and get a regular table with **Woody Allen**. Of course, if she's in the Senate, she'd spend most of her time in D.C. Then it would be interesting to see where he'd go."

Alec Baldwin is looking forward to the prospect of a Hillary Clinton campaign, especially one that would pit her against **Mayor Giuliani**.

"I think Hillary would kick Giuliani's a-- up and down the Hudson," Baldwin stated at the Rainforest Alliance event that honored him Monday at the Chelsea Piers.

But the actor also confessed to being fed up with the current political climate in both parties. "If the Democratic and Republican parties are still going to go after each other in an ugly, vitriolic personality-driven way," he said, "then the country is headed for some watershed disaster."

But no matter what happens in the Senate race, Baldwin said, "I think Rudy is finished."

N.Y. Dem says Mrs. Clinton said she is running; her camp denies
2.49 p.m. ET (1849 GMT) May 26, 1999

NEW YORK (AP) — A Democratic Party county chairman says he knows the answer to the big question in New York politics: Will Hillary Rodham Clinton run?

Robert Gigante, Staten Island party chairman, said Tuesday that Mrs. Clinton has decided to run for the Senate from New York. Gigante said Mrs. Clinton told him so at a New York City fund-raiser Monday night.

However, Mrs. Clinton's top adviser denied the first lady told Gigante any such thing.

Gigante said he and his wife were making small talk with Mrs. Clinton when he brought up the subject.

"I ended by saying, 'Do you have any good news for Staten Island,' and she said, 'Yes,'" Gigante reported. "'Does that mean that you're running?' And she said, 'Yes.'"

Asked about the exchange, Mrs. Clinton's adviser Harold Ickes said that according to Mrs. Clinton, the first lady told Gigante that she is thinking it over and hasn't decided yet.

The Senate seat is being vacated next year by Democrat Daniel Patrick Moynihan. New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani is among the Republicans thinking of entering the race.

Mrs. Clinton is on vacation with President Clinton in Florida for the rest of the week. After she returns, advisers expect her to either rule out a Senate race or announce formation of an exploratory committee.

comments@newsdigital.com

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The New York Post

May 26, 1999, Wednesday

SECTION: All Editions; Pg. 009

LENGTH: 873 words

HEADLINE: HILLUVA LOT TO LEARN ABOUT N.Y.

BODY:

QUITE apart from the major hurdle of actually getting herself elected, I foresee enormous difficulties for Hillary Rodham Clinton if she does decide to run for the Senate from New York while still First Lady.

These were apparent the other night when Clinton dropped by Le Cirque 2000 to launch Matilda Cuomo's inspiring new book, "The Person Who Changed My Life," for which the First Lady wrote the foreword.

TV crews, photographers and reporters (some of whom arrived two hours before Clinton was due) were herded behind a rope far from the dais where she was to speak.

Some of the photographers dashed out for ladders and long lenses; the CNN crew decided there was no point filming at such a distance, and departed. Everyone was very angry at being forced to the back of the bus, as it were.

The Secret Service detail accompanying Clinton shrugged it off. That's the way it's always done with the First Lady, one agent said. Well, it may work in D.C. and even Little Rock, but it's not the way it's done here. If the media don't get access, the candidate doesn't get coverage.

Hillary's scheduling also teed off a lot of very influential New Yorkers, all potential donors, who'd sloshed through the storms and were expecting to at least get within a few feet of her.

Instead, after posing for a picture in the library with those featured in the book (like Tony Bennett, Helen Gurley Brown, Kitty Carlisle Hart, Stanley Tucci and Muriel Siebert), Hillary made a brief speech and dashed off to her next function.

You just can't campaign that way in New York, where egos are enormous and where the press people aren't used to being fobbed off with some pre-programmed photo op. Then there are all those smoke-filled rooms - and we all know how Hillary hates smokers.

I still don't think she'll run, but am pleased to see her confirming she'll live here after the White House. Three weeks ago, I reported that her people were looking at property in Westchester and Long Island, close to the United Nations for her and to JFK Airport for Bill.

*

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: May 26, 1999

United Press International

May 26, 1999, Wednesday, BC cycle -10:59 Eastern Time

SECTION: Commentary

LENGTH: 963 words

HEADLINE: Backstairs at the White House

BYLINE: BY HELEN THOMAS UPI White House Reporter

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

If she decides to run for New York Democrat Daniel Patrick Moynihan's Senate seat, friends say Hillary Rodham Clinton will put off publishing her forthcoming book on White House entertaining. One friend said the first lady feels it might have too much of a Martha Stewart feel. She also wants to shed the White House and carpetbagger image if she decides to run. Some of her problems in running will be collecting money and distancing herself from the White House and any appearance of a conflict -- such as using government transportation, which the Secret Service would want her to do. On political trips, she would have to reimburse the government. The first lady is expected to make her decision soon after threshing out the pros and cons with her husband during their Florida vacation. All systems appear to be go, but the problem of having to be in two places at once may be difficult to overcome -- unless she designates Tipper Gore, wife of the vice president, as her social surrogate at the White House. But Gore will have other chores, such as helping to get her husband the Democratic presidential nomination, and if that succeeds, the presidency. ---

Former White House press secretary Marlin Fitzwater is steering clear of politics and writing a novel. Now a newlywed, Fitzwater -- who handled press relations for both President Reagan and Bush at the White House -- has never seemed happier. He wrote another book, during his time at the White House, entitled "Call the Briefing." It was nonfiction and he told it very much like it was. ---

After being embarrassed by reports that his presidential campaign was struggling, Vice President Al Gore had a good week in the press. Of course, there was the bit about him casting the tie-breaking vote in the Senate on a key piece of gun control legislation. But that was largely due to luck, as well as the failure of the Senate's Republican leadership to count votes ahead of time and anticipate the positive publicity about to accrue for Gore. Gore got another piece of good publicity from an action clearly more calculated: When it

came time for the White House to announce federal aid for storm damage in Iowa, President Clinton handed the task to Gore, his favorite candidate in the race to succeed him. Although such announcements are usually distributed in written form and without the participation of the vice president, the White House took the opportunity of the Iowa aid declaration to produce a radio address in which Gore said he and his wife Tipper "are deeply concerned about the terrible losses suffered by many Iowa families." Gore's personal concern for a particular state, while rare, is not totally without precedent. Back on July 2, the vice president issued aid declarations for both Iowa and New Hampshire, which happen to be the first two states to vote for major party nominees each presidential election year. ---

Political correctness is about to come to Air Force One. For the past several years, passengers on the presidential 747 have on occasion been treated, at the start of their flight, to one of those videos instructing them how to put on their seat belts and react to an emergency. It's a lot like the videos on commercial airliners, although there are some elements unique to Air Force One. For instance, the Air Force officers just point out where to find the life vests, but pretty much assume their oh-so-sophisticated audience knows the details of how to use them. Similarly, there's no request to adjust seatbacks or stow tray tables. Also, unlike most commercial jets, Air Force One is shown on the video with its escape chutes actually deployed, including a few casually dressed crew members laughing it up as they demonstrate inside a hangar how much fun it is to slide down the inflatable plastic tubes. And, of course, there's the seat belt buckles emblazoned with the presidential seal. Soon, however, the friendly and familiar video will be retired. The Air Force One bosses have decided, after watching the competition, to hire a company used by Delta Air Lines to produce a new animated version of its pre-flight video. The new one, according to those involved, will include a more racially diverse cast of characters introducing the safety features of the president's jetliner. Not that it all matters too much. The current video is usually only shown about once every half-dozen flights. And unlike on commercial flights, the audio is not broadcast over the public address system, meaning any passengers actually wanting to listen need to grab themselves a set of headphones. ---

As first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton moves toward a possible run for the Senate from New York state, she will likely need to establish her own measure of political independence from the White House. As a start, she might want to consider her own distinct speechwriting team. During the first couple's recent visit with students of Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo., Mrs. Clinton said the shooting rampage by two students against their classmates "has pierced the heart of America." Her husband followed by telling the Columbine students: "We know somehow that what happened to you has pierced the soul of America." ---

While others are planning Fourth of July vacations, President Clinton is

planning to take a bipartisan group of CEOs and members of Congress on a tour of economically distressed American communities to highlight opportunities for innovations and creative projects to help the people. Among the stops will be Appalachia and Native American reservations. The three-day tour starts July 5.

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LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: May 26, 1999

United Press International

May 26, 1999, Wednesday, BC cycle -11:12 Eastern Time

SECTION: Commentary

LENGTH: 819 words

BYLINE: BY HELEN THOMAS UPI White House Reporter

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

How many more hints can Hillary Rodham Clinton give that she is leaning toward running for a Senate seat from New York. Whether she will or not remains to be seen since she is playing her cards close to her chest. And she is not expected to announce before getting a reality check on her chances, fund-raising possibilities and all other aspects of a major campaign, starting with the "exploratory committee" she intends to form. She has already publicly announced that she plans to live in New York, no matter what, after she moves out of the White House. In recent years, the first lady has spent more time on the road and on world travels than at the White House. In some ways, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. has not had the allure for her as it has for some former first ladies. Her role in the Executive Mansion has appeared more obligatory than one of a mistress who genuinely enjoys and cherishes her historic surroundings. She has been reclusive at the White House except when she is engaged in official entertaining. Other first ladies have had pals from the past who visit. Bess Truman often invited her lady friends from the Trumans' hometown of Independence, Mo., to visit her at the White House, although she was not enchanted with Washington. Mamie Eisenhower had her card-playing buddies. Jacqu

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: May 26, 1999

BC-POLITICS-NEWYORK

Mrs. Clinton is Giuliani target at fund-raiser

By Ellen Wulforth

NEW YORK (Reuters) - New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, appearing at a major fund-raiser Tuesday, gave a glimpse of the type of campaign he might wage if he runs for U.S. Senate and if his opponent is Hillary Clinton.

Jumping on the carpetbagger issue that Clinton has no roots in New York, Giuliani donned a red Arkansas jacket and cap and announced he was 'headed to Little Rock, where the first lady lived when President Clinton was state governor.

"I'm going to say, 'I've never lived in Arkansas, I've never worked in Arkansas, I've never been to Arkansas, but I love Arkansas,'" he said to a crowd of some 1,700 supporters.

"In fact, I love it so much I'm going to be running for the Senate," Giuliani continued. "And do you know how I'm going to prepare for it? I'm going to come here and take a vacation, in Arkansas."

Giuliani has not officially declared his candidacy for the Republican Senate nomination but says he is considering it seriously. He has established a political action committee, has been raising money and has traveled around the country in hopes of building support.

Mrs. Clinton, who Monday made her ninth visit to the state this year, has said she is seriously considering a bid for the Democratic Senate nomination.

Making clear that he would not let voters forget that she has neither lived nor worked in New York, Giuliani then tackled another prickly Clinton issue.

"Just exactly where," he asked the crowd, "is the Whitewater River?"

Political observers have cautioned that should Clinton run, the oft-acerbic and pugnacious mayor is likely to wage a hard-hitting campaign and raise such issues as carpetbagging, the White House sex scandal and the Whitewater real estate investigation.

Giuliani's fund-raiser featured an address by Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, brother of the Republican Party's presidential front-runner, Texas Gov. George W. Bush.

The bash, which was held at a midtown Manhattan hotel and which organizers said raised \$2.1 million, was the latest in a whirl of political fund-raising here this week.

On Monday, Republican Gov. George Pataki held a news conference, the contents of which had been cloaked in secrecy and which stirred much speculation, to announce that he would endorse George W. Bush in the presidential race.

The first lady, meanwhile, appeared at a fund-raiser for Democratic Rep. Nita Lowey, who plans to run for the Senate nomination if Clinton does not.

The \$1,000-a-plate Lowey event raised almost \$1 million, organizers said.

Advisers to Clinton say they believe if she decides she does not want to run, she will say so early next month after a Florida vacation with the president.

The Senate seat is being vacated by retiring Democrat Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

REUTERS

**** filed by:RB--(--) on 05/25/99 at 22:55EDT ****

**** printed by:WHPR(SCOH) on 05/26/99 at 10:14EDT ****

PM-NY--Clinton Househunt, Bjt,525

Westchester may be too pricey for the president

By JIM FITZGERALD= Associated Press Writer=

BEDFORD, N.Y. (AP) Bill and Hillary Clinton's Westchester County dream house won't come cheap.

At least that's the view of Sally Siano, a real estate agent who has found homes for several of the rich and famous in Westchester's horse country.

On Tuesday, as The New York Times reported that the Clintons were considering making Westchester their post-presidential home, Ms. Siano thought of four available houses that might suit them. The cheapest was listed at \$5.3 million.

Mrs. Clinton, who may run for the Senate, has said she plans to live in New York "no matter what I end up doing." And The Times reported that friends say she has people looking at houses in Westchester, where property values are among the highest in the nation.

The problem is, the Clintons aren't fabulously rich. Together, they earned just over \$500,000 last year and he'll soon be out of a job. What if the household has to get along on a U.S. senator's salary of \$136,700?

"Maybe there's someone who would buy a house for them and let them use it," Ms. Siano said brightly.

Security and golf courses are on the Clintons' must-have list, which would seem to push them toward the northern end of the county, with its open spaces, its big estates and Donald Trump eager to turn much of it into sand traps and fairways.

Older southern suburbs like Scarsdale and Bronxville have cachet but real estate agents said there's rarely anything on the market there that would fit the Clintons' need for space.

One "exceptionally large lot," just over an acre, was on the market last week for \$3.1 million, but an acceptable offer has been made, said Vera Blendermann, sales manager at the Houlihan & Lawrence office in Bronxville. Too bad, because the place came with a guest cottage, "perfect for the Secret Service."

Ms. Siano said security wouldn't be a problem at the places she has in mind, all in Bedford, where neighbors would include Richard Gere, Chevy Chase, Glenn Close, Ralph Lauren and tycoons Nelson Peltz and George Soros.

"There are a couple of big residences here, really big estates that have highly professional security systems, lights and cameras and all of that," she said. "You'd have to pay between six and 20."

The "million" was understood.

The houses she has in mind range from 7,000 square feet to 22,000 square feet, from four bedrooms to 10. The \$5.3 million home has a pool house and "a three-car garage building, a beautiful one, set aside from the house with an apartment above it. Chelsea could have her own house on the property," Ms. Siano said.

If Mrs. Clinton can let go of the Westchester idea, Ms. Siano said, "I have the perfect residence for her and she can buy it under \$4 million. It's in Pawling, in Dutchess County. It was the last house owned by Lowell Thomas. It's 50 acres, there are three houses on the property, with views of about three states.

"It's got the columns just like the White House," Ms. Siano said. "And it's white!"

**** filed by:APE-(NY) on 05/26/99 at 03:17EDT ****

**** printed by:WHPR(SCOH) on 05/26/99 at 10:16EDT ****

BC-POLITICS-GORE-HILLARY

Gore hopes Hillary Clinton runs for Senate

DALLAS (Reuters) - Vice President Al Gore said Tuesday he hoped First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton decided to run for a U.S. Senate seat from New York next year and he was convinced she would win if she did.

Addressing Hispanic-Americans at a gathering in McAllen, Texas, Gore said: ``If Hillary Clinton decides to run for the United States Senate, Tipper and I are convinced she's going to win and be a great United States senator. I think she's going to have a resounding victory if she runs, and I certainly hope she does.''

It was the first public comment by Gore on the prospect of Mrs. Clinton running for the Senate seat being vacated by retiring Democrat Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

Mrs. Clinton is said to be close to a decision to establish a campaign exploratory committee that would enable her to begin raising money for the race next year. Her likely Republican opponent would be New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani.

REUTERS

**** filed by:RB--(--) on 05/26/99 at 00:22EDT ****
**** printed by:WHPR(SCOH) on 05/26/99 at 10:15EDT ****

The Times-Picayune

May 26, 1999 Wednesday, ORLEANS

SECTION: NATIONAL; Pg. A13

LENGTH: 449 words

HEADLINE: CLINTON DENIES SHE COMMITTED TO SENATE RUN

BYLINE: By Judy L. Randall Newhouse News Service

DATELINE: NEW YORK

BODY:

Staten Island Democratic Party Chairman Robert Gigante said Hillary Rodham Clinton told him she will run for the U.S. Senate next year, but Clinton denies it.

"I asked her, 'Do you have good news for the people of Staten Island?'" said Gigante, who attended a fund-raiser Clinton headlined Monday night in Manhattan. "And she said, 'Yes.' So I said, 'Does that mean you're running?' And she said, 'Yes.'"

"I was stunned, stunned. We have a candidate!" Gigante said.

Gigante told the Staten Island Advance that Clinton made the statements during a chat with him and his wife, Barbara, as Clinton worked the room at a \$1,000-a-head fund-raiser for Rep. Nita Lowey, D-N.Y. Lowey has said she will run for the Senate seat if Clinton does not.

Harold Ickes, a political adviser to Clinton, said there had been "a good faith misunderstanding" between Clinton and Gigante. Ickes, who was not at the fund-raiser, said he asked Clinton about it Tuesday and she said: "I didn't tell him I was running."

"Gigante is a wonderful guy and has been a loyal supporter from the beginning," Ickes said. "She has not made up her mind." Ickes said Clinton will be "mulling it over" for the next several days during a Florida vacation with the president. "When she gets back she could say no, she could say yes, she could say nothing. All I can say is she has very high regard for (Gigante)," said Ickes, a former deputy White House chief of staff and longtime Democratic party activist in New York.

Clinton's staff has said she would announce her plans in June or July. But

New York state Democratic officials have been quietly urging that she make her intentions known sooner rather than later.

Clinton has made repeated visits to the state in the past two months. Her staff said she has decided to make New York City her home when she leaves the White House -- if not before.

Clinton has been running neck and neck in the polls with Republican New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, who has all but announced for the seat being vacated by Democratic Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan. Perhaps as a measure of growing concern over Clinton's interest in running, Giuliani has been calling the Chicago native and Arkansas transplant a carpetbagger for whom New Yorkers would be wary of voting.

Previously, Giuliani said he didn't think her brief residency should be an issue.

Also in the Senate mix is state Rep. Rick Lazio, a Republican from Long Island. Lazio has been critical of Giuliani in recent days, calling him a "reluctant Republican" for the mayor's failure to take a more conservative stance on a variety of issues ranging from abortion and gay rights to welfare reform and a commuter tax.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: May 26, 1999

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Mitchell Fink

How Rao's Wows The Celebrity Crowd

There's an easy explanation as to why it's so hard to get a reservation at Rao's: Everybody in the restaurant is having such a good time that nobody wants to leave.



That certainly appeared to be the case Monday night at the legendary 103-year-old East Harlem eatery that owner **Frank Pellegrino** calls "an extension of my mother's house in Oceanside, L.I."



Sipkin NEWS
Frank Pellegrino

Revlon billionaire **Ron Perelman** was there giving a grand little bash for his daughter **Debra** on her 26th birthday. His party of seven toasted the night away, occupying a table usually reserved for producer and former French Connection cop **Sonny Grasso**, another Rao's regular.

Not that Grasso minded. He was more than happy to chow down at another table in order to help accommodate Perelman & Co.

Across the room, Mattel honcho **Bill Rollnick** and his wife, photographer **Nancy Ellison**, sat at a table under a strategically placed photo of themselves with **President Clinton**.

Also there was a large group that included Broadway producer **Fran Weissler**, best-selling author **Barbara Taylor Bradford** and Jack Benny's daughter, **Joan**.

When they finally got up to leave, their table was quickly snatched up by restaurateur **Giuseppe Cipriani**, who, on this night at least, chose to eat at Rao's over one of his own places.

All night long, the affable Pellegrino moved from table to table, chatting up the famous and near-famous and kissing just about everybody on both cheeks.

No one missed Pellegrino's eye, not even the guy who

regularly supplies him with soppressata, the Italian sausage. He was having dinner at one table near another guy who supplies Rao's with cheese.

The eclectic gathering was just like Mama used to have, Pellegrino said.

"She would cook constantly," he said. "The coffee was always on. People would start coming during the day, some even with their own food, and they would stay until all hours of the night."

"I do the same thing in my house," he said. Exactly the point.

Hil Talking Points

Hillary Clinton's ears must have been burning.

The First Lady was the hot talk Monday as plenty of A-listers weighed in on her impending move to New York and her highly anticipated campaign for the U.S. Senate.

Listen to what historian **Doris Kearns Goodwin** has to say about Hillary's political future.



Hamburg NEWS
Hillary Clinton

"The big risk for her is that she runs and loses," Goodwin told me at the Le Cirque 2000 party for **Matilda Cuomo's** new book of essays, "The Person Who Changed My Life."

"On the downside, there's the carpetbagger issue," she said. "It's not like she'd be running from Illinois, where she's from, or Arkansas, where she has lived. When Bobby Kennedy came to New York and ran for the Senate in 1966, at least he could point to the fact that he spent part of his childhood in Riverdale and Bronxville. And still he was stung by the carpetbagger issue."

Then there's the Clinton marriage. "He will not have her as a companion if she's a senator," said Goodwin. "She wouldn't be around to help him with his legacy, or his library."

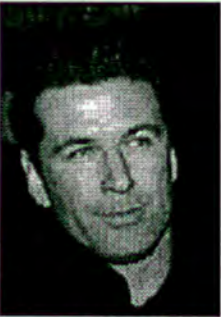
But there is significant upside to her running. "If she wants to be President, she has to do it," the historian said. "If you want to be in political elective life, you don't give up a chance like this. She would have other shots down the road, but not like this one. This is the Big Apple."

But "if Hillary loses, she will carry the loss in her emotional psyche forever."

Goodwin isn't the only one thinking about our First Lady. **George Plimpton** loves the idea that she may move to New

York.

"It'd be great for New York," he said at Monday's Americans for the Arts National Arts Award Gala at Lincoln Center. "She'd probably teach at Columbia or the New School. The Clintons could go to Elaine's and get a regular table with **Woody Allen**. Of course, if she's in the Senate, she'd spend most of her time in D.C. Then it would be interesting to see where he'd go."



Alec Baldwin is looking forward to the prospect of a Hillary Clinton campaign, especially one that would pit her against **Mayor Giuliani**.

"I think Hillary would kick Giuliani's a-- up and down the Hudson," Baldwin stated at the Rainforest Alliance event that honored him Monday at the Chelsea Piers.

Corkery NEWS But the actor also confessed to being fed up with the current political climate in both parties. "If the Democratic and Republican parties are still going to go after each other in an ugly, vitriolic personality-driven way," he said, "then the country is headed for some watershed disaster."

But no matter what happens in the Senate race, Baldwin said, "I think Rudy is finished."

With Emily Gest

Original Publication Date: 05/26/1999

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May 25, 1999, Tuesday, Late Edition - Final

SECTION: Section B; Page 3; Column 1; Metropolitan Desk

LENGTH: 828 words

HEADLINE: First Lady Raises Money for Someone Else

BYLINE: By ADAM NAGOURNEY

BODY:

Amid new indications that she is preparing to move to New York to run for the United States Senate, Hillary Rodham Clinton returned to Manhattan last night as the featured speaker at a political fund-raiser for Representative Nita D. Lowey -- the Westchester Democrat who is hoping that Mrs. Clinton does not run, so that she can.

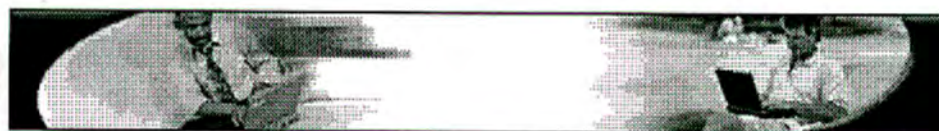
Even for a year that is turning out to be one of the more politically convoluted in recent New York history, Mrs. Clinton's appearance at Mrs. Lowey's \$1,000-a-head fund-raiser was an odd event. The First Lady helped the 61-year-old Westchester Democrat raise \$1 million for a potential race for the Senate, a race that Mrs. Lowey said she would forgo if Mrs. Clinton decided to seek the seat herself. Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan is retiring at the end of 2000.

Even Mrs. Lowey's aides acknowledge that it is increasingly likely that Mrs. Clinton will decide to run. The First Lady has instructed representatives to begin looking for a home for her and President Clinton in Westchester, according to a report that will appear in The New York Times Magazine on Sunday. And Mrs. Clinton told the CBS anchorman Dan Rather, in an interview scheduled to be broadcast on "60 Minutes II" tomorrow night, that she planned "to live in New York no matter what I end up doing."

Mrs. Clinton, in the course of her remarks to a hotel ballroom bustling with Democrats and television crews, did not allude to the topic that had most of the tables buzzing. Instead, she offered an effusive testimonial to Mrs. Lowey's record in Congress and never once mentioned Mrs. Lowey's Senate ambitions.

By contrast, Mrs. Lowey -- who has said she would run for a sixth term in the House if Mrs. Clinton runs for the Senate -- made humorous reference to their situation, and then noted the unusual fact that it is state Republicans, rather

... an exploratory committee would allow her to



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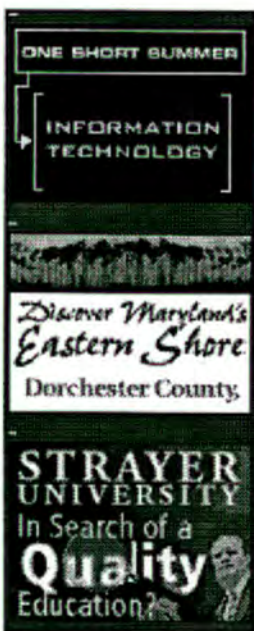


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Mrs. Clinton Commits to Move to New York

By Beth J. Harpaz
Associated Press Writer
Tuesday, May 25, 1999; 7:04 a.m. EDT

NEW YORK — Hillary Rodham Clinton made three speeches during an evening in Manhattan without saying whether she will run for U.S. Senate -- but she has committed herself to living in New York.

The first lady said she will definitely make her home in New York after leaving the White House, whether or not she runs for the Senate here. She made the disclosure during a "60 Minutes II" interview after being asked which New York baseball team she would root for.

"The politic answer, since I do plan to live in New York no matter what I end up doing, is I'll root for both," she said in the interview, which was taped May 20 and will air Wednesday night.

CBS spokesman Kevin Tedesco said there was no significance to her use of the word "I" rather than "we" since she used "we," clearly including the president in her plans, in other parts of the interview.

Marsha Berry, the first lady's spokeswoman, said Mrs. Clinton "and the president have discussed that they would like to live in New York, long before she was approached about this race." Berry said those discussions had been going on "for over a year now."

Mrs. Clinton has not yet announced whether she will seek the Senate seat being vacated by Democrat Daniel Patrick Moynihan. She appeared in New York City on Monday at a fund-raiser for Rep. Nita Lowey, D-N.Y., who will run for the Senate if the first lady does not. Mrs. Clinton made no reference to her impending decision.

Mrs. Lowey highlighted her solidarity with Mrs. Clinton, betraying no bitterness that her own political future might be hurt as she awaits the first lady's decision.

"Let the governor and the mayor have their petty feuds," Mrs. Lowey said. "While the Republicans in this state turn their backs on one another, I am proud to march forward shoulder-to-shoulder with my friend Hillary Rodham Clinton."

Mrs. Lowey's comments about the Republicans refer to New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, who has formed an exploratory campaign committee for the Senate seat, and Gov. George Pataki. On Monday, Pataki said he had no intention of running for the Senate.

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Clinton

• Continued from Page 1A
interview.

Marsha Berry, the first lady's spokesman, said Hillary Clinton "and the president have discussed that they would like to live in New York, long before she was approached about this race." Berry said those discussions had been going on "for over a year now."

Hillary Clinton has not announced whether she will seek the Senate seat being vacated by Democrat Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

She was scheduled to appear in New York on Monday to speak at a fund-raiser for Rep. Nita Lowey, D-N.Y., who will run for the Senate if the first lady does not.

In remarks prepared for delivery at the dinner, Lowey highlighted her solidarity with Hillary Clinton, betraying no bitterness that her own political future might be hurt as she awaits the first lady's decision.

First lady says that after D.C. she'll live in NY

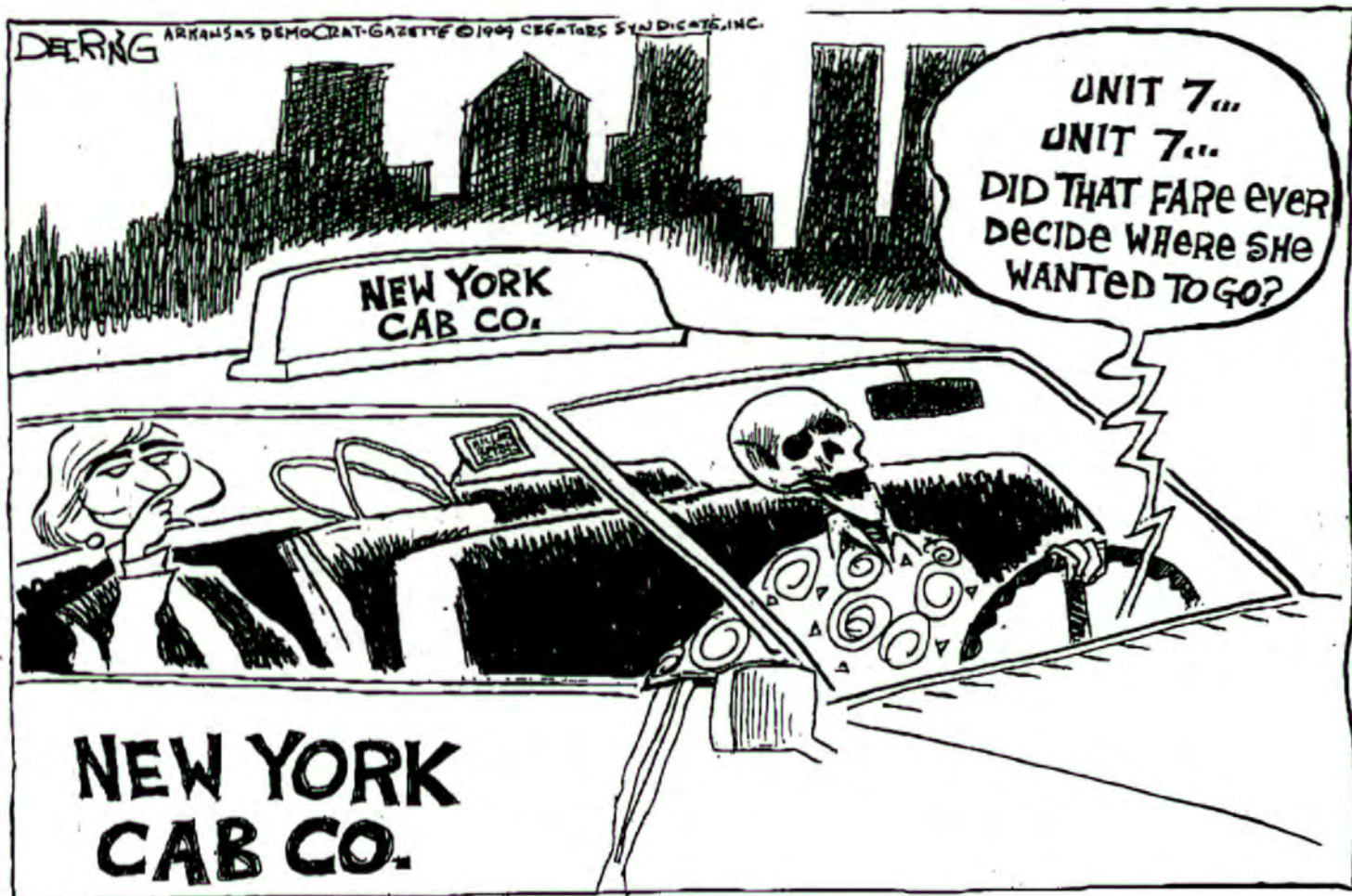
BY BETH J. HARPAZ
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Hillary Rodham Clinton says she will definitely make her home in New York after leaving the White House, whether or not she runs for the Senate.

The first lady made the commitment during a 60 Minutes II interview after being asked which New York baseball team she would root for.

"The politic answer, since I do plan to live in New York no matter what I end up doing, is I'll root for both," she said in the interview, taped Thursday and to air Wednesday night.

CBS spokesman Kevin Tedesco said there was no significance to her use of the word "I" rather than "we" since she used "we," clearly including the president in her plans, in other parts of the interview. See CLINTON, Page 3A



Hillary moving to Big Apple

First Lady Hillary Clinton last night said she loves New York so much that she plans to move to the Big Apple when her husband leaves the White House — "no matter what I end up doing."

But the First Lady and possible wannabe New York senator, a fanatic Chicago Cubs fan, talked like a politician when asked if she'll root for the Mets or the Yankees when she becomes an adopted New Yorker.

"The politic answer, since I do plan to live in New York no matter what I end up doing, is I'll root for both," she told CBS anchor Dan Rather.

That revelation came as Mrs. Clinton made her ninth visit to New York this year to test the waters for a Senate bid that could pit her against Mayor Giuliani.

Both Clintons have hinted that they could move here post-White House — but this is Mrs. Clinton's most definitive remark.

Last night's big event for the first lady was a \$1 million Grand Hyatt fundraiser for Rep. Nita Lowey (D-Westchester), the lady in waiting who says she'll run for Senate if Mrs. Clinton doesn't.

Mrs. Clinton spoke for 17 minutes before introducing Lowey, who spoke for just 12.

The First Lady began by warmly praising Lowey as "a tenacious advocate" for New York and then went on to tout her own experiences, like her recent trips to Kosovo and Littleton, Colo.

Lowey hinted at the fact that both are eying the Senate when she said: "I am proud to march forward shoulder to shoulder with

By Robert Hardt Jr.,
Deborah Orin, Fredric U.
Dicker and Alex Devine

my friend Hillary Rodham Clinton ... I don't know who will lead our march, but I do know the road."

Earlier yesterday, Mrs. Clinton went to a book party for former Gov. Cuomo's wife, Matilda, who was asked if Mrs. Clinton would be better for New York than a native New Yorker and replied: "I won't talk about that."

The First Lady also went to a \$10,000-a-head Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee bash that raised \$250,000. The comparatively small amount raised some eyebrows.

DSCC spokeswoman Holly Armstrong said the event was "designed" to be small. Mrs. Clinton didn't call any potential donors to personally ask them to come, she said.

Friends of the First Lady say she'll be close to making a decision about the Senate race when she returns from a six-day family vacation starting tonight in Florida, where the Clintons are taking a freebie break by borrowing a big spread in Yulee, near Jacksonville.

Republican National Committee Chairman Jim Nicholson attacked the First Lady's choice of Florida to make up her mind about running in New York.

"If Hillary wants to represent New York, she should love New York — not Florida," Nicholson said.

It's time for Nita to take Hill to task / Berkman: Page 24



BOOK ENDS: Hillary greets Matilda Cuomo at Cuomo's book party yesterday.

Dave Allocca/DML

Aides: Now it's how, not if, Hillary Clinton will run

Questions about possible Senate bid from New York center on balancing campaign with her duties as first lady

By Mimi Hall
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON — A young Hillary Rodham gave up the promise of a lucrative East Coast law career 25 years ago to follow her heart to Arkansas and tie her fortunes to a man who wanted a career in politics. She has been playing second fiddle ever since.

But no more.

When the clock strikes noon on Jan. 20, 2001, and Bill Clinton's presidency ends, Hillary Rodham Clinton plans to start living on her own terms.

And it looks like she aims to do it as a U.S. senator from New York. She is discussing a possible Senate race with a very tight group of advisers, several of whom were interviewed by USA TODAY. All agreed that she is very close to a decision to enter the race and that the likelihood is strong that she will. But none was willing to speak publicly about her decision until she announces it.

Today, the first lady and President Clinton head to northern Florida for a five-day vacation in Yulee. She has indicated that her possible Senate candidacy will be Topic No. 1.

There are sure to be some serious questions, from how she'd juggle her many duties as first lady with the rigors of a campaign to what would happen if she took a position on an issue that differed from her husband's.

Regardless of such difficulties, aides say, the nature of her talks with her husband and advisers has shifted from *whether* she should run to *how* she will run.

What once seemed like a lark, they say, is fast becoming a reality. She is ready to become a candidate for the seat of retiring Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan and enter a bare-knuckled fight with the Republican nominee, expected to be New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani.

The first lady's top advisers say she has rejected virtually all the other career choices before her.

They say she has little interest in the options once thought to be her future: heading a college or foundation or accepting lucrative appointments to corporate boards. She is said to believe such positions would thrust her straight into obscurity.

Nor does she want to travel the world speaking out on issues such as women's rights. Although she has relished those opportunities over the past six years, they have brought her relatively limited attention from the news media. As a former first lady, friends say, she fears she'd get none.

Aides say she has come to believe that only as a senator could she command the national spotlight for the issues she cares about, such as health care and child care. Only as a senator could she shape legislation that could make a difference in people's lives.

People close to her now say the chances are 90% that she'll enter the race. She has decided that by early July, she'll take the first significant step and form an exploratory committee, they say.

That decision was made sooner than expected because of growing criticism from Republicans that her recent government-paid trips to upstate New York and Manhattan were not just typical first-lady excursions but rather part of her political effort to test the waters.

Her advisers have determined that the criticism is fair, and White House lawyers have told her not to take any more such trips to New York on the taxpayers' dime.

An exploratory committee is not an official declaration of candidacy — and aides say that would not come until fall, because Clinton doesn't want to run an 18-month campaign — but it would allow her to raise and spend money while she makes a decision about entering the race.

She has started lining up a staff, with former deputy White House chief of staff and longtime New York political operative Harold Ickes at the top.

Others on the pre-campaign team: consultant Mandy Grunwald, who worked for candidate Bill Clinton in 1992 and is close to the first lady; Clinton pollster Mark Penn; and Democratic graybeard Mike Bertram.

Meanwhile, staffers for the Democrat who wanted to run for the open Senate seat, six-term Rep. Nita Lowey, say she is resigned to the fact that she won't get to run.

Lowey is still working the state like a Senate candidate, traveling outside her largely suburban New York City district to towns upstate. And the first lady, fulfilling a promise made weeks ago, helped her raise money at a fund-raiser Monday night.

Lowey says she's looking for a final decision from Clinton "sooner rather

than later," but aides say the congresswoman knows she's probably out of the game.

Some of the first lady's friends caution that serious questions remain about her bid to replace Moynihan.

"The threshold question for her is, 'Is this how I want to spend the next seven-plus years of my life?'" says the first lady's former spokeswoman, Lisa Caputo. "It's a life question."

Others say that she has answered that one in the affirmative and that she is determined to figure out a way to deal with the remaining questions.

Among those questions:

► How would she fulfill her duties as first lady while running a campaign in one of the largest states in the nation?

As first lady, she typically attends a couple of state dinners with foreign leaders each month, travels abroad on her own and with her husband, plans and participates in scores of parties each year and attends bill signings and other ceremonies and events involving issues she cares about. She even goes to meetings with White House historians and preservation committee members to weigh in on such issues as

what color wallpaper should be in a room and what kind of gold leaf should be used in a ceiling relief.

Aides say she would have to cut back on all those activities — especially the foreign travel she enjoys.

► What happens if she takes a position on an issue during the campaign that differs from the president's position?

Last year, a firestorm erupted when she was quoted as saying she favored the creation of a Palestinian state — an unpopular position in New York, but more importantly at the time, a position out of sync with her husband's administration, which had not gone that far.

It took months for the White House to get past the diplomatic gaffe and convince Middle East peace negotiators that the first lady's comment neither signaled a shift in administration policy nor was a hint of any secret agenda.

► How would she deal with reporters?

Hillary Clinton's dislike for the news media is well-known in Washington. Conventional wisdom has it that if she dislikes the Washington press corps, she'll hate the abrasive New York City reporters and the feisty tabloids they work for. They can be expected to revive questions about Whitewater, her financial dealings and more personal issues that grew out of the Whitewater investigation.

"I don't know why in the world she would want to do it, to reopen eight years of media scrutiny on the same old tired subjects," says Max Brantley, editor of the weekly *Arkansas Times*. "I don't know how much abuse one person can take."

► Would she enjoy being merely a junior senator? And if Republicans maintain their majority in the Senate, how would Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., treat her?

Aides say it isn't a major concern. Although she would be junior to New York's first-term Democratic Sen. Charles Schumer, she and others believe that her stature would make her more of a "national senator" than simply one of 100. Because of that stature, aides say, Clinton be-

lieves the Senate would be a powerful platform from which she could command attention for her issues.

If Clinton has to traipse back and forth from her Senate office building to the Capitol like most senators (only the most senior members get offices in the Capitol), so be it, her



Gannett News Service
Penn: Has joined pre-campaign team



USA TODAY
Lowey: Likely pushed out of race



Meredith Berkman

It's time for Nita to take Hill to task

HOW much more is poor Nita Lowey supposed to take? I can't help thinking that when Hamlet Hillary appeared at Lowey's fund-raiser at the Grand Hyatt last night, the outwardly grateful congresswoman was inwardly hoping the First Lady would plunge head first off the dais.

And who could blame her?

Back in March, in an extensive interview, Lowey assured me that despite her political pickle — she will run for the Senate only if the equivocating Clinton does not — she doesn't "feel second to anybody." Lowey genially stated that the First Lady was simply "in a different category" and that she would patiently wait out Clinton's decision-making process. "The [waiting] gives me time to explore every aspect of the race," she claimed.

But when I watched Lowey say pretty much the same thing on

her mind. He, in turn, asks another girl, with the caveat that he'll take her if his first choice turns him down. And so the runner up — swallowing her pride and secretly hoping that the queen comes down with the flu — is stuck at home praying that the phone will ring. Even if she gets the call, she knows that everyone else will feel sorry for her because she was an afterthought.

Clinton seems not to care that the longer she dithers, the harder it could be for Lowey to mount an effective campaign. The race may be more than a year away, but Lowey — operating without the benefit of the First Lady's built-in publicity and taxpayer-funded travel budget — needs a serious head start if she wants to fend off vitriolic Rudy Giuliani. Even worse, Lowey's impressive record won't mean very much if the Republicans successfully portray her as the democratic booby prize.

I think the time has finally come for Lowey to take a hard line. Especially because those reports over the weekend that the Clintons may or may not spend their annual August vacation in New York — thus potentially spoiling places like Shelter Island for the rest of us — were a little hard to take.

In a perfect world, Lowey would have seized the moment last night at her dinner, when she and Hillary accidentally found themselves alone in the Grand Hyatt ladies room.

LOWEY, emerging from a stall and advancing on Clinton, who is fixing her hair in the mirror: It's now or never, Hillary. Fish or cut bait.

CLINTON, ignoring Lowey's threatening tone and continuing to spray mousse: Dear, sweet Nita. I came all the way from the White House just to fill your little coffers. Whatever do you mean?

LOWEY, pushing Clinton up against the sink: Give it up, Hillary. I'm sick of that coy routine. Party loyalty is one thing. Sisterhood is another. But this is ridiculous!

CLINTON, panicking now, realizing it's too late for her press secretary to swoop in and save the day: OK, I admit it! I'm a fake! I hate the Yankees! I've never even had an H&H bagel! I love Manhattan, where all my rich friends live, but I could care less about the rest of your state!

Now, it's possible that the First Lady genuinely believes she can serve as New York's most effective senator. Or that her I'm-the-Second-Coming-of-Bobby-Kennedy act is a bid to punish her errant husband by flaunting her public adoration. Either way, Hillary Clinton should show a little compassion and put noble Nita Lowey out of her misery.

Congresswoman Lowey and the First Lady.



"This Week" last Sunday, I sensed a new tightness around her mouth.

"The next senator from New York will be a woman," Lowey declared. "If Hillary Clinton runs, she will win. If I run, I will win!"

I want to believe Lowey's I'm-the-ultimate-team-player rap. I really do.

After all, it's not as if she'll be flat out of luck if Clinton opts to grace New York with her high-profile presence. In that scenario, Lowey would run for her seventh term in Congress, where she would presumably continue her important work on behalf of women, children and health care. (She has fought hard for the very issues that Clinton has — mostly in theory — claimed as her own.)

But I can't imagine that Lowey's not privately seething at the First Lady's galling arrogance, her painfully drawn-out flirtation that essentially cries: "I'll decide when I'm damned good and ready. You peasants can just shut up and wait!"

Clinton is like a selfish prom queen who, when asked to the big event by the best-looking guy in school, demands time to make up

HOME

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City Beat

Headlines Index

Last 5 Days

Search/Archives

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City Beat

She'll Take Manhattan

First Lady says she'll call Big Apple home

By JOEL SIEGEL and THOMAS M. DeFRANK
Daily News Staff Writers

Hillary Rodham Clinton, who is edging ever closer to running for Senate from New York, is moving to the Big Apple "no matter what I end up doing" after she and her husband leave the White House.

The First Lady confirmed she's in a New York state of mind in an interview with CBS' Dan Rather, airing tomorrow.

Asked whether she'd cheer for the Yankees or Mets if she runs for the Senate, Clinton told Rather: "The political answer — since I do plan to live in New York no matter what I end up doing — is I'll root for both."

CBS spokesman Kevin Tedesco said there was no significance to her use of the word "I" rather than "we." He said Clinton used "we," clearly including the President in her plans, in other parts of the interview.

The First Lady yesterday made her ninth trip to New York this year, headlining a political fund-raiser that generated \$1 million for Rep. Nita Lowey (D-Westchester), who is likely to be the Democrats' Senate nominee in 2000 if Clinton is not.



Hamburg NEWS
First Lady and soon-to-be New Yorker Hillary Rodham Clinton

The First Lady made no reference to her impending decision. She lauded Lowey as a "tenacious advocate for New York ... who brings people together."

"With Nita it's not about backroom deals and how many special interests you can satisfy, it's really about whether or not she can make a contribution to the well-being of her constituents, her state and her country," she said.

Lowey — placed in the awkward role of Clinton's political understudy — broached the Hillary-for-Senate issue without

any hint of bitterness that her plans are on hold:

"Let the Republicans argue. Let the mayor and the governor have their petty feuds. While the Republicans in this state turn their backs on one another, I am proud to march forward shoulder to shoulder with my friend Hillary Rodham Clinton," Lowey said.

"We are united and we are confident that on Nov. 7, 2000, New York will elect its first woman to the U.S. Senate," she said.

Clinton then headlined a Democratic Senate Campaign Committee fund-raiser before accepting an award at Lincoln Center honoring her advocacy work for the arts, an official duty that allowed her to partially bill taxpayers for the trip.

She began her visit at Le Cirque 2000, to help former New York State First Lady Matilda Cuomo launch her new book, "The Person Who Changed My Life: Prominent Americans Recall Their Mentors." Cuomo introduced Clinton as "our First Lady and our future whatever she wants to be in New York or in the United States."

Her "60 Minutes II" interview marked the first time the First Lady has confirmed what friends have said for months. Sen. Robert Torricelli (D-N.J.), head of the Democratic senatorial campaign committee and an ardent Run-Hillary-Run advocate, said in January that the Clintons planned to set up shop in Manhattan once their White House years end.

Torricelli said yesterday, "At this point, I'd be very surprised if she doesn't run. Preparations for a campaign are moving remarkably quickly."

Aides said the First Lady's political aspirations will be a prime topic of conversation during the Clintons' six-day vacation beginning today in Yulee, Fla.

With Kenneth R. Bazinet

Original Publication Date: 05/25/1999

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The Associated Press State & Local Wire

May 25, 1999, Tuesday, PM cycle

SECTION: State and Regional

LENGTH: 472 words

HEADLINE: First lady to mull over Senate run on vacation

BYLINE: By BETH J. HARPAZ, Associated Press Writer

DATELINE: NEW YORK

BODY:

Hillary Rodham Clinton made three speeches during an evening in Manhattan, but she said nary a word about the subject foremost on everyone's mind: whether she will run for U.S. Senate.

The first lady, however, will give a lot of thought to the subject over the holiday weekend while she vacations in Florida with President Clinton, her spokeswoman said.

"She's going to take the time in the next few days while she's on vacation to continue to think about it," spokeswoman Marsha Berry said. "I don't expect there'll be any announcement of change after she comes back. She's still working through the process of a lot of weighing both for herself and the people of New York."

The Clintons were to begin a six-day vacation today in Yulee, Fla., on a 7,500-acre plantation that is a conservation center for exotic animals.

The trip follows a busy evening Monday for Mrs. Clinton. She attended a party at Le Cirque 2000 launching a new book by Matilda Cuomo, received an arts award at Lincoln Center and spoke at a \$ 1 million fund-raiser for U.S. Rep. Nita Lowey.

The only references to her potential campaign came from others. Mrs. Cuomo introduced her as "our first lady and our future whatever-she-wants-to-be."

Mrs. Lowey, who plans to run for the Senate seat if Mrs. Clinton doesn't, said: "I don't know yet who will lead our march, but I do know the road. I am proud to walk it with Hillary."

Mrs. Clinton called Mrs. Lowey a leader on issues like gun control, abortion

rights and funding for health care and the arts.

"In every important issue, she's been on the front lines," Mrs. Clinton said. "She is someone who brings people together. ... She's truly a public servant in the finest meaning of that phrase."

The money raised for Mrs. Lowey can be used either for her congressional re-election campaign or for a Senate race.

At Lincoln Center, Mrs. Clinton received an award from Americans for the Arts for her advocacy of the arts. The award was presented by Caroline Kennedy Schlossberg.

Mrs. Clinton returns to New York twice in the next two weeks, for a June 2 fund-raiser for U.S. Rep. Carolyn Maloney in Manhattan and for a June 9 fund-raiser for U.S. Rep. Maurice Hinchey in Binghamton.

Also on Monday, "60 Minutes II" released a quotation from Mrs. Clinton saying she would definitely make her home in New York after leaving the White House, whether or not she runs for the Senate.

The first lady made the commitment after being asked which New York baseball team she would root for.

"The politic answer, since I do plan to live in New York no matter what I end up doing, is I'll root for both," she said in the interview, which was taped May 20 and will air Wednesday on CBS at 8 p.m. EDT.

President Clinton had discussed the possibility of living in New York in a CBS interview in March.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: May 25, 1999

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Hillary Will Call NY Home / Plan regardless of Senate decision

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hillary Rodham Clinton will definitely make her home in New York after leaving the White House, whether or not she runs for U.S. Senate here, the first lady told "60 Minutes II" in a quote released yesterday.

The first lady made the commitment after being asked for which New York baseball team she would root.

"The politic answer, since I do plan to live in New York no matter what I end up doing, is I'll root for both," she said in the interview, which was taped Thursday and will air tomorrow on CBS at 8 p.m.

Marsha Berry, the first lady's spokeswoman, said Clinton "and the president have discussed that they would like to live in New York, long before she was approached about this race."

Clinton and Rep. Nita Lowey presented a united front at a fund-raiser last night intended to send Lowey to the U.S. Senate - or to keep her in the House.

Clinton called Lowey, who plans to run for the Senate only if the first lady does not, "a public servant in the finest meaning of that phrase."

Lowey, for her part, said she was "proud to march forward shoulder to shoulder with my friend Hillary Rodham Clinton."

Clinton has not yet decided whether she will run for the seat being vacated by U.S. Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, and money raised at the dinner can be used for Lowey's congressional re-election campaign if the first lady goes for the Senate seat.

Lowey highlighted her solidarity with Clinton, betraying no hint of bitterness that her own political future might be hurt as she awaits the first lady's decision.

"Let the Republicans argue," she said. "Let the governor and the mayor have their petty feuds. While the Republicans in this state turn their backs on one another, I am proud to march forward shoulder to shoulder with my friend Hillary Rodham Clinton. We are united - and we are confident that on Nov. 7, 2000, New York will elect its first woman to the United States Senate."

Lowey's comments about the Republicans refer to infighting between New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, who has formed an exploratory campaign committee for the Senate seat, and Gov. George Pataki. Another Republican, U.S. Rep. Rick Lazio of Long Island, on Sunday said he was "inching closer" to declaring himself a Senate candidate.

Mrs. Clinton made no reference to her impending decision.

Clinton's visit to Manhattan also included a party at Le Cirque 2000 to launch a new book by Matilda Cuomo, "The Person Who Changed My Life: Prominent Americans Recall Their Mentors." Clinton wrote the introduction to the book by the wife of former Gov. Mario Cuomo. Profits from the book will go to Cuomo's organization, Mentoring USA, which matches adult volunteers with at-risk children.

After the Lowey fund-raiser, Clinton was scheduled to appear at Lincoln Center to receive an award from Americans for the Arts, honoring her advocacy work for the arts.

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Hillary Will Call NY Home / Plan regardless of Senate decision., pp A08.

The Associated Press State & Local Wire

May 25, 1999, Tuesday, PM cycle

SECTION: National Political

LENGTH: 349 words

HEADLINE: Hillary Clinton commits to living in New York

BYLINE: By BETH J. HARPAZ, Associated Press Writer

DATELINE: NEW YORK

BODY:

Hillary Rodham Clinton made three speeches during an evening in Manhattan without saying whether she will run for U.S. Senate - but she has committed herself to living in New York.

The first lady said she will definitely make her home in New York after leaving the White House, whether or not she runs for the Senate here. She made the disclosure during a "60 Minutes II" interview after being asked which New York baseball team she would root for.

"The politic answer, since I do plan to live in New York no matter what I end up doing, is I'll root for both," she said in the interview, which was taped May 20 and will air Wednesday night.

CBS spokesman Kevin Tedesco said there was no significance to her use of the word "I" rather than "we" since she used "we," clearly including the president in her plans, in other parts of the interview.

Marsha Berry, the first lady's spokeswoman, said Mrs. Clinton "and the president have discussed that they would like to live in New York, long before she was approached about this race." Berry said those discussions had been going on "for over a year now."

Mrs. Clinton has not yet announced whether she will seek the Senate seat being vacated by Democrat Daniel Patrick Moynihan. She appeared in New York City on Monday at a fund-raiser for Rep. Nita Lowey, D-N.Y., who will run for the Senate if the first lady does not. Mrs. Clinton made no reference to her impending decision.

Mrs. Lowey highlighted her solidarity with Mrs. Clinton, betraying no bitterness that her own political future might be hurt as she awaits the first

lady's decision.

"Let the governor and the mayor have their petty feuds," Mrs. Lowey said.
"While the Republicans in this state turn their backs on one another, I am proud
to march forward shoulder-to-shoulder with my friend Hillary Rodham Clinton."

Mrs. Lowey's comments about the Republicans refer to New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, who has formed an exploratory campaign committee for the Senate seat, and Gov. George Pataki. On Monday, Pataki said he had no intention of running for the Senate.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: May 25, 1999

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The New York Times
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Home

Site Index

Site Search

Forums

Archives

Marketplace

monday tuesday wednesday thursday friday weekend

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May 25, 1999

Clintons Hit Texas En Route to Fla.

A.P. INDEXES: [TOP STORIES](#) | [NEWS](#) | [SPORTS](#) | [BUSINESS](#) | [TECHNOLOGY](#) | [ENTERTAINMENT](#)

Filed at 1:36 p.m. EDT

By The Associated Press

EDINBURG, Texas (AP) -- After escorting Al Gore onto George W. Bush's turf, President Clinton is retreating to Florida for a few days of relaxation with his wife at a plantation where reticulated giraffes, cheetahs and rhinos roam.

The president and Hillary Rodham Clinton were heading out today for the White Oak Plantation in Yulee, Fla., after joining Gore here for an empowerment-zones conference at the University of Texas.

Clinton and Gore were touring the Rio Grande Valley empowerment zone and listening to anecdotes about how such zones, launched during Clinton's first term, are bringing new jobs and investment to neglected urban and rural communities.

They also were launching the Southwest Border Economic Development Initiative, which will pump federal resources into poor, rapidly expanding border communities. Clinton was announcing a task force to coordinate economic development along the border; the panel will report to the vice president.

For his part, Gore was announcing \$32 million in grants to help 70 communities redevelop brownfields, or abandoned, urban industrial sites contaminated by waste.

The conference is an annual event held by the vice president, who is seeking the Democratic presidential nomination. This year's gathering allows Gore to test the political temperature in Texas, a Republican stronghold where Bush is the popular governor.

The Clintons are going to Florida as guests of the Howard Gilman Foundation, which lets groups and individuals use its facilities for free, said White House spokesman Joe Lockhart. He said the Clintons were invited to the facility, but he did not say why.

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White Oak, located just across the St. Mary's River from the Georgia border, sits on a 7,500-acre conservation area. In addition to the giraffes, cheetahs and rhinos, it is home to Big Guy, an endangered Florida panther injured in an auto accident.

Those animals stand a better chance of seeing the Clintons than any of the reporters tagging along with them. Lockhart said Monday that the president and first lady -- traveling without daughter Chelsea, who is still in school at Stanford University -- have no plans to venture off White Oak's grounds.

The Clintons plan to linger in Yulee until late Sunday, so they can participate in a conference being held at White Oak by the Democratic Leadership Council and its think tank, the Progressive Policy Institute.

Lockhart would not say whether that conference -- or for that matter, the entire vacation -- would allow the Clintons to discuss the first lady's possible Senate bid.

"You'll have to ask the first couple that," Lockhart said Monday, prompting one frustrated reporter to reply, "When will we have that opportunity?"

Mrs. Clinton's spokeswoman, Marsha Berry, said the first lady plans to rest and relax and that's all. As for whether she would cull issues from the Democratic conference for her potential Senate campaign, Berry said, "She did say that she planned to spend some time thinking about this. I think she's thinking about that stuff all the time."

The Clintons were to stay at Roseland, a two-story, cedar-paneled, five-bedroom house near the St. Mary's River. There, they'd have a view of a white rhino who nests nearby with her 4-month-old calf. And Clinton can either relax beside the pool with a good book or play a few rounds on the nine-hole golf course.

White Oak was created by the late Howard Gilman, chairman and chief executive officer of Gilman Paper Co. in nearby St. Mary's, Ga., the largest privately held paper and building products company in the country. Gilman's father, Charles Gilman, established the plantation in 1938 as a family residence.

Daily News (New York)

May 25, 1999, Tuesday

SECTION: Gossip; Pg. 15

LENGTH: 760 words

HEADLINE: SENATE RUN LOOKING BETTER TO RFK JR.

BYLINE: BY MITCHELL FINK WITH EMILY GEST

BODY:

Robert F. Kennedy Jr. appears to be having a change of heart about running for the U.S. Senate from New York.

The environmental lawyer is reconsidering his political future three months after he asked that his name be withdrawn as a possible candidate for the Senate seat being vacated by Daniel Patrick Moynihan. Kennedy has begun telling political confidants that he will mount a Senate campaign if and it's a big if First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton decides not to run, sources say.

The 45-year-old son of Robert and Ethel Kennedy was initially hesitant to get into the race, fearing that it would take a toll on his family. He's the father of five young children.

But now he has done a 180, sources say, and will wait to make his move pending a decision by Mrs. Clinton.

Some insiders believe that Kennedy would be a stronger candidate than the other alternative to

Hillary, Westchester Rep. Nita Lowey.

The fear, according to one Democratic bigwig, is that Lowey "might not play upstate" because she's largely unknown outside New York City.

"Kennedy obviously has the name recognition," says the source.

Lowey's spokesman, Howard Wolfson, was not aware of Kennedy's plans, but says he expects "the entire [Democratic] Party" to support the congresswoman.

"Nita has been traveling around the state for the last six months," he said. "She is raising money. She is well positioned to run, and win, if Hillary

Clinton does not run."

Kennedy did not return calls seeking comment.

GRAPHIC: Robert F. Kennedy Jr. may follow in his father's footsteps and make a run for the Senate from New York.

LOAD-DATE: May 25, 1999

Daily News (New York)

May 25, 1999, Tuesday

SECTION: News; Pg. 23

LENGTH: 482 words

HEADLINE: SHE'LL TAKE MANHATTAN HIL SAYS SHE'LL CALL BIG APPLE HOME

BYLINE: By JOEL SIEGEL and THOMAS M. DeFRANK

BODY:

Hillary Rodham Clinton, who is edging ever closer to running for Senate from New York, is moving to the Big Apple "no matter what I end up doing" after she and her husband leave the White House.

The First Lady confirmed she's in a New York state of mind in an interview with CBS' Dan Rather that airs tomorrow on "60 Minutes II." Asked whether she'd cheer for the Yankees or Mets, Clinton told Rather: "The politic answer since I do plan to live in New York no matter what I end up doing is I'll root for both."

CBS spokesman Kevin Tedesco said there was no significance to her use of "I" rather than "we." He said Clinton used "we," clearly including the President in her plans, throughout the interview.

The First Lady yesterday made her ninth trip to New York this year, headlining a political fund-raiser that generated \$ 1 million for Rep. Nita Lowey (D-Westchester), who is likely to be the Democrats' Senate nominee in 2000 if Clinton is not.

The First Lady made no reference to her impending decision. She lauded Lowey as a "tenacious advocate for New York . . . who brings people together."

"With Nita it's not about backroom deals and how many special interests you can satisfy, it's really about whether or not she can make a contribution to the well-being of her constituents, her state and her country," she said.

Lowey placed in the awkward role of Clinton's political understudy broached the issue without any hint of bitterness that her plans are on hold: "Let the Republicans argue. Let the mayor and the governor have their petty feuds. While the Republicans in this state turn their backs on one another, I am proud to march forward shoulder to shoulder with my friend Hillary Rodham Clinton."

"We are united and we are confident that on Nov. 7, 2000, New York will elect its first woman to the U.S. Senate," she said.

Clinton then headlined a Democratic Senate Campaign Committee fund-raiser before accepting an award at Lincoln Center honoring her advocacy work for the arts.

She began her visit at Le Cirque 2000, to help former New York State First Lady Matilda Cuomo launch her new book, "The Person Who Changed My Life: Prominent Americans Recall Their Mentors." Cuomo introduced Clinton as "our First Lady and our future whatever she wants to be in New York or in the United States."

Clinton's interview marked the first time she has confirmed what Sen. Robert Torricelli (D-N.J.), head of the Democratic senatorial campaign committee, said in January that the Clintons planned to set up shop in Manhattan.

"At this point, I'd be very surprised if she doesn't run," Torricelli said yesterday. "Preparations for a campaign are moving remarkably quickly."

Aides said the First Lady's political aspirations will be a prime topic of conversation during the Clintons' six-day vacation beginning today in Yulee, Fla.

GRAPHIC: RICHARD CORKERY DAILY NEWS IN RECEIVERSHIP: Hillary Rodham Clinton was joined by former First Daughter Caroline Kennedy Schlossberg yesterday at Lincoln Center where the First Lady was honored by Americans for the Arts for her arts-advocacy work.

LOAD-DATE: May 25, 1999

SAY WHAT?

"The politic answer, since I do plan to live in New York no matter what I end up doing, is I'll root for both."

—Answering **Dan Rather's** question about which New York baseball team she'll support, **Hillary Rodham Clinton** slyly reveals her plans (in the first person singular) to settle in the Empire State. It was much less fascinating seven weeks ago when **President Clinton**, in another interview with Rather, confided the same plans.

The New York Times

May 25, 1999, Tuesday, Late Edition - Final

SECTION: Section B; Page 3; Column 1; Metropolitan Desk

LENGTH: 828 words

HEADLINE: First Lady Raises Money for Someone Else

BYLINE: By ADAM NAGOURNEY

BODY:

Amid new indications that she is preparing to move to New York to run for the United States Senate, Hillary Rodham Clinton returned to Manhattan last night as the featured speaker at a political fund-raiser for Representative Nita D. Lowey -- the Westchester Democrat who is hoping that Mrs. Clinton does not run, so that she can.

Even for a year that is turning out to be one of the more politically convoluted in recent New York history, Mrs. Clinton's appearance at Mrs. Lowey's \$1,000-a-head fund-raiser was an odd event. The First Lady helped the 61-year-old Westchester Democrat raise \$1 million for a potential race for the Senate, a race that Mrs. Lowey said she would forgo if Mrs. Clinton decided to seek the seat herself. Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan is retiring at the end of 2000.

Even Mrs. Lowey's aides acknowledge that it is increasingly likely that Mrs. Clinton will decide to run. The First Lady has instructed representatives to begin looking for a home for her and President Clinton in Westchester, according to a report that will appear in The New York Times Magazine on Sunday. And Mrs. Clinton told the CBS anchorman Dan Rather, in an interview scheduled to be broadcast on "60 Minutes II" tomorrow night, that she planned "to live in New York no matter what I end up doing."

Mrs. Clinton, in the course of her remarks to a hotel ballroom bustling with Democrats and television crews, did not allude to the topic that had most of the tables buzzing. Instead, she offered an effusive testimonial to Mrs. Lowey's record in Congress and never once mentioned Mrs. Lowey's Senate ambitions.

By contrast, Mrs. Lowey -- who has said she would run for a sixth term in the House if Mrs. Clinton runs for the Senate -- made humorous reference to their situation, and then noted the unusual fact that it is state Republicans, rather

than Democrats, who are feuding these days.

"While the Republicans in this state turn their backs on one another, I am proud to march forward shoulder to shoulder with my friend, Hillary Rodham Clinton," Mrs. Lowey said. "We are united -- and we are confident that on Nov. 7, 2000, New York will elect its first woman to the United States Senate."

It was Mrs. Clinton's ninth visit to the state this year, and inevitably reinforced a belief among Democrats here and in Washington that in the end she will run for the seat that Mrs. Lowey would like.

Mrs. Clinton has told friends that she is likely to form an exploratory committee -- it would be the first step toward running -- but has yet to make a final decision about actually running.

President Clinton has said before that he and Mrs. Clinton, who are expected to set up more than one residence after his term expires, would like to live in New York. Mrs. Clinton's friends told *The Times Magazine* that her representatives were looking at potential locations in Westchester, raising the prospect that Mrs. Clinton could have Mrs. Lowey as her Congresswoman.

In choosing places to live after the White House, the Clintons are known to be considering both security and proximity to golf courses, which is presumably what nudged Mrs. Clinton to look north of New York City.

Mrs. Clinton's itinerary yesterday allowed her to attend to both New York and national political concerns. She showed up at a book party for Matilda Raffa Cuomo, the wife of Mario M. Cuomo, at Le Cirque 2000. She attended an awards dinner sponsored by Americans for the Arts at Lincoln Center, and she also appeared at a closed-door fund-raiser for the Democratic Senate Campaign Committee.

At the fund-raiser for Mrs. Lowey, she praised the representative's record on abortion rights and gun control, among other issues. "With Nita it is not about back-room deals or how many special interests you can satisfy," Mrs. Clinton said. "It's really about whether or not she can make a contribution to the well-being of her constituents and her state and her country."

Mrs. Clinton's press secretary, Marsha Berry, said that because about half of what Mrs. Clinton did yesterday was considered official business, half the cost of the trip was billed to the White House and the rest would be billed to the political committees that benefited from her appearances.

One of the reasons that Mrs. Clinton is moving to forming an exploratory committee is that she has come under increasing criticism for making trips to New York at White House expense; an exploratory committee would allow her to

raise money to finance the trips.

If Mrs. Lowey was at all annoyed about how Mrs. Clinton's political ambitions were overcoming her own, she and her aides did not show it last night.

The Representative matched Mrs. Clinton, compliment for compliment. Her press secretary, Howard Wolfson, smiled gamely when he learned that the First Lady might be house-shopping in his boss's district.

"We'd be absolutely delighted to welcome the First Lady to Westchester," Mr. Wolfson said.

GRAPHIC: Photo: Among her other Manhattan stops yesterday, Hillary Rodham Clinton attended a book party at Le Cirque 2000 for Matilda Raffa Cuomo, who edited "The Person Who Changed My Life," 75 essays on mentoring. (Oier Mohammed/The New York Times)

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: May 25, 1999

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NEWS & VIEWS

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Readlines Index

Last 6 Days

Search Archives

QUICK SEARCH

GO

Beyond the City

Capital Stuff

Will Starr Hurt Hil for Senate?

By THOMAS M. DeFRANK
Daily News Washington Bureau Chief

WASHINGTON

Friends and political allies of Hillary Rodham Clinton say it will take a major U-turn to take her out of the race, but she's still nervous that independent counsel **Kenneth Starr** — whom she is known to absolutely loathe — could foil her dreams of being the junior senator from New York when he files his final report later this year.

It's universally believed there's no chance the First Lady faces any legal jeopardy from Starr's four-year probe of the Clintons.

But any negative ink in Starr's report about her would damage her electoral prospects.

"She's in the middle of Whitewater, the travel-office firings and the missing Jones law firm billing records," worries one top Clinton source. "Depending on what he decides to say, Starr could hurt her."

Uncontrolled Muse

Did President Clinton do **Al Gore** a favor when he called The New York Times to talk about the vice president's sputtering campaign?

Some Clinton aides believe the President knew exactly what he was doing — delivering a brutal wakeup call in such a public way that even Gore's pollyannaish spinners couldn't ignore the message.

True to their craft, nevertheless, some Gore courtiers now say it was really just wonderful that their boss got zinged — enabling the veep to distance himself from Clinton by having aides pass the word he was mightily miffed about the President's condescending "help."

But others clearly saw the phone call for what it was.

"This was Clinton in high uncontrolled muse," says a top presidential adviser. "He didn't mean any harm, and the fact is he would never do Al Gore any harm — he has a huge amount riding on Gore. But to put it mildly, this wasn't helpful. Now the entire world knows that Gore's in serious trouble — and that Clinton is very worried about it."

World's Bunker King

If Serb strongman Slobodan Milosevic decides not to sue for peace with NATO, military sources say one of the reasons he could hold out indefinitely is an elaborate system of underground bunkers throughout Yugoslavia stockpiled with supplies and equipment.

"The Yugoslavs are the premier bunker-builders," says one administration official. "There are thousands of them scattered throughout the country. They're so good at it, in fact, that most of Saddam Hussein's bunkers were built by the Yugoslavs."

Which is why U.S. intelligence agencies quietly sought out the Yugoslavs for technical details of Iraq's bunkers before the Gulf war.

Original Publication Date: 05/24/1999

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

▪ [Lazio Takes Aim at Hil, Rudy](#) (05/24/1999)

Quick Reference Menu

GO

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May

24



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Back to Top

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Start finding
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HOME

NEWS & VIEWS
Beyond the City

Headlines Index

Last 6 Days

Search/Archives



Beyond the City

Lazio Takes Aim At Hil, Rudy

By TIMOTHY J. BURGER
Daily News Washington Bureau

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WASHINGTON

Senate hopeful Rep. Rick Lazio showed off his jab yesterday, taking a few pokes at First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton's ambition to run for Senate from New York.

Lazio, a Republican from Long Island, cracked that Clinton "needs an exploratory committee to find Elmira."

"This is somebody who has never lived a day in her life in New York outside The Plaza hotel . . . and roots for the Chicago Cubs," he said mockingly of the First Lady, who is originally from Chicago.

Clinton will be back in Manhattan today for a pair of Democratic fund-raisers. During a Florida vacation starting tomorrow, she is expected to discuss the Senate race with her family.

"I say, bring her on," Lazio said yesterday on ABC-TV's "This Week."

Before he gets to take on Clinton, however, Lazio will likely have to face Mayor Giuliani in a Republican primary, and yesterday he took a few shots at the mayor, too.

"I think he's a reluctant Republican. I think he's the wrong candidate," Lazio said of Giuliani.

"We need somebody who has not endorsed Mario Cuomo," Lazio added in a reminder that Giuliani had crossed party lines in 1994 to endorse Democrat Cuomo over George Pataki, the candidate of Giuliani's own party. Pataki won.



Hamburg NEWS
Rep. Rick Lazio
(R)

And in a dig at Giuliani's famous temper, Lazio repeatedly emphasized that the Senate required somebody with the "right temperament," "somebody willing to compromise and bring people together."

Giuliani spokesman Matthew Higgins said the mayor "didn't see the interview, so we don't have any comment."

The Senate spotlight will shift back to Clinton today when she arrives in Manhattan.

She will raise at least \$500,000 for Rep. Nita Lowey (D-Westchester), who has said she will seek the Senate nod if Clinton doesn't. Clinton will raise hundreds of thousands more for whomever Democrats nominate for the Senate race.

Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) said yesterday on NBC that Clinton is "edging closer and closer to running."

But he cautioned that the First Lady would "have to put the running for the Senate first, ahead of being First Lady."

Original Publication Date: 05/24/1999

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- [Capital Stuff: Will Starr Hurt Hill for Senate? \(05/24/1999\)](#)
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Quick Reference Menu

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 Back to Top

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AP Photo
First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton will visit New York today.



Newsday File Photo/Julia Gaines
Rick Lazio (R-Brightwaters)

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- [Hillary 4 Senate.org](http://Hillary4Senate.org)
- [Rick Lazio.com](http://RickLazio.com)

She'll Do It Her Way

Clinton says she'll decide on a run at 'my own time'

By William Douglas
Washington Bureau

Washington -- Hillary Rodham Clinton said she will decide "in my own way and my own time" whether to run for the Senate, while Rep. Rick Lazio, a potential Republican challenger, yesterday branded her a power-thirsty outsider.

"You can't have somebody representing New York interests who is looking for this as a platform for power," Lazio (R-Brightwaters) said on ABC's "This Week." "And shame on the Democrats, frankly, if they can't find somebody ... who's from New York to actually run for the Senate."

Lazio's broadsides came as Clinton begins a pivotal week in deciding whether to run for the Senate seat to be vacated next year by retiring Democratic Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan and become the first sitting first lady to run for elective office.

Clinton returns to New York today for her ninth visit this year, this time to speak at a fund raiser for Rep. Nita Lowey (D-Westchester), who is poised to run if the first lady does not. The next day, Clinton heads to northern Florida for a vacation with President Bill Clinton.

The first lady is to use the six-day vacation to decide whether to run for the Senate or throw her support to Lowey. Advisers say they expect her to run but not to make a formal announcement until later in the year.

Clinton will likely signal her intent by forming an exploratory committee by mid-June that will allow her to raise funds to pay for her New York visits, according to her advisers.

But Clinton said Saturday night that she has not made up her mind. Speaking aboard Executive Foxtrot One, an Air Force C-32 jet, while returning from a tour of the Southwest, Clinton said, "There are so many issues that I have to think about."

Although she has talked to more than 200 of New York's

most influential politicians, union and civic leaders, Clinton said she needs to talk to more average New Yorkers.

"So I have to figure out a way to stage any sort of decision-making so that I can spend time really out there listening to people," she said. "... That is a big part of my deciding whether this is something that makes sense."

Clinton said she does not feel pressure from state Democrats who want to know whether she is in or out.

"I think it's very understandable that people in New York want to know what my decision is, and I fully appreciate that," Clinton said. "When I make this decision, I'm going to be there 100 percent, whatever it is, and I'm not going to, I hope, regret whatever decision it is."

"So I have to make it in my own way and my own time. And I have to do it fitting it in with all the other things that I am obligated to do, that I've been scheduled to do weeks and months ahead."

A pressing and still unanswered question for Clinton is how to perform her functions as first lady and still spend enough time in New York to try to deflect the "carpetbagger" label.

"Obviously, there are responsibilities that I will still have in this position that I'll have to fulfill, but I would just not take on any new ones," Clinton said.

Clinton would face another logistical headache: how to campaign spontaneously under the blanket of Secret Service protection.

As with the president, Secret Service agents travel wherever the first lady goes. Agents travel days ahead of her to check out places she is scheduled to go. Some of Clinton's advisers say she fears that would hamper her campaign style. The issue, the advisers say, remains unresolved.

Unresolved, too, is where the Clintons would live in New York. Both the first lady and the president said they had thought about moving somewhere in the state once the president's term expires.

Clinton's lack of a New York address -- and New York roots -- was foremost on Lazio's mind. He chastised her as "someone who needs an exploratory committee to find Elmira."

"This is someone who has never lived one day in her life

in New York outside the Plaza Hotel, who never paid [former New York Governor] Mario Cuomo's taxes," Lazio said.

When asked whether he was being used by Gov. George Pataki and former Sen. Alfonse D'Amato as an instrument against Giuliani, Lazio said no.

"I'm not the anti-candidate," Lazio said. "I'm in it because I think I've been a good legislator."

Marsha Berry, Clinton's spokeswoman, declined to comment yesterday on Lazio's assertions. But Lowey, who also appeared on "This Week," defended the first lady.

"I think New Yorkers care what you stand for rather than where you're from," Lowey said.

Clinton said Saturday that she's paid little attention to the goings-on in the state Republican Party: The jockeying between potential Senate candidates Lazio and New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, and the major announcement Pataki is scheduled to make today.

"I haven't really had much time to focus on that," Clinton said. "I have enough problems making my own mind up."

[Home](#) | [News Page](#) | [Top of Page](#)

SECTION: State and Regional

LENGTH: 438 words

HEADLINE: Quinnipiac poll shows Mrs. Clinton edging Giuliani in Senate race.

DATELINE: NEW YORK

BODY:

New Yorkers gave Hillary Rodham Clinton a slight edge over New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani in the upcoming U.S. Senate race, with those in the mayor's own backyard overwhelmingly backing the first lady by a more than 2 to 1 margin, according to a poll released Monday.

The Quinnipiac College poll of 807 registered voters showed Mrs. Clinton beating Giuliani 48 percent to 42 percent overall, but by a vastly greater margin - 62 percent to 30 percent - in the Republican mayor's hometown.

Giuliani did better with suburban voters, who favored him over the first lady by 55 percent to 37 percent and the two tied with upstate voters with 44 percent saying they'd vote for Mrs. Clinton and 43 percent for Giuliani.

Women favored Mrs. Clinton 52 percent to 36 percent while more men said they would vote for Giuliani, 50 percent to 42 percent.

The margin of error in the poll, conducted last Tuesday through Sunday, was 3.5 percentage points.

Neither the mayor nor the first lady have declared their candidacy for retiring U.S. Sen. Daniel P. Moynihan's seat in the November 2000 race. Giuliani, who cannot run for mayor again because of term limits, has formed an exploratory committee to look into it. Rep. Rick Lazio of Long Island is also considering running for the Republican nomination.

Aides to Mrs. Clinton, who was in the city Monday to attend a fundraising dinner for Rep. Nita Lowey and a book signing with Matilda Cuomo, said she is likely to form her own committee next month. Mrs. Lowey said she is set to run for the Democratic nomination should Mrs. Clinton bow out.

The poll also took a look at a possible matchup between Mrs. Clinton and Gov. George Pataki and found a statistical dead heat with 45 percent for Mrs. Clinton and 47 percent for Pataki.

Upstate, suburban voters and men strongly supported Pataki, the poll said, while Mrs. Clinton had the support of New York City voters and women.

Asked which Republican they would favor in a primary for the U.S. Senate, 45 percent picked Pataki, 36 percent said Giuliani, and 8 percent said Lazio.

Quinnipiac pollster Maurice Carroll said both Mrs. Lowey and Lazio have a lot of work to do if they want to be serious candidates.

He said the two remain "virtually unknown in the shadow of giant non-candidates."

Asked to give them a favorable or unfavorable rating, 80 percent of those polled had no opinion of Mrs. Lowey and 79 percent had no opinion of Lazio.

Asked if it mattered to them that Mrs. Clinton may run for Senate in a state she has never lived in, 48 percent of voters said it bothered them and 51 percent said it did not.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: May 24, 1999

SECTION: NEWS, Pg. 9A

LENGTH: 454 words

HEADLINE: LAZIO, NEARING SENATE BID, CHALLENGES FIRST LADY, GIULIANI

BYLINE: JIM ABRAMS; Associated Press

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

Rep. Rick Lazio, R-N.Y., said Sunday he is moving toward a Senate run in 2000 and challenged the qualifications of two well-known figures considering the race: Hillary Rodham Clinton and Republican New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani.

"I'm inching closer and closer," Lazio, in his fourth term from Long Island, said on ABC's "This Week." He said he would be a strong candidate because "I think I've been a good legislator, because I stand for the right values."

Aides to Mrs. Clinton have said she is likely to form an exploratory campaign committee in June, an important step in deciding whether to seek the seat held by retiring Democratic Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

The first lady scheduled a trip today to New York for a book party for Matilda Cuomo, the wife of former Gov. Mario Cuomo. She also was to attend a dinner for Rep. Nita Lowey, D-N.Y., who plans to run for Moynihan's seat if Mrs. Clinton decides not to enter the race.

Two polls released today showed different results in a theoretical matchup between Mrs. Clinton and Giuliani as well as between the first lady and Republican Gov. Pataki.

The latest Quinnipiac College poll showed Giuliani trailing Mrs. Clinton, 48 percent to 42 percent, while a New York Post poll conducted by the Utica-based Zogby International showed him leading the first lady, 49 percent to 44 percent.

The Quinnipiac poll showed Mrs. Clinton leading Pataki, 47 to 45 percent, while the Zogby poll showed her trailing Pataki, 49 percent to 45 percent.

Rep. Lowey, interviewed with Lazio, said the first lady's decision will be

"sooner rather than later." The one certainty, Rep. Lowey said, was that "the next senator from New York will be a woman."

But Lazio said Mrs. Clinton, who never has lived in New York, is not qualified to represent the state.

"She needs an exploratory committee to find Elmira" and, as a native of Illinois, roots for the Chicago Cubs over the New York Mets, he said.

"I say bring her on. I think it's a great opportunity for us to talk about who we are and what we stand for," Lazio said.

Lazio was equally critical of Giuliani, who has formed an exploratory committee to raise and spend money while he decides whether to run.

"I think he is a reluctant Republican. I think he is the wrong candidate. I think we need to have somebody who has not endorsed Mario Cuomo," Lazio said. In 1994, the mayor endorsed the incumbent Cuomo, a liberal Democrat, over Republican Pataki, who won.

Lazio, a moderate, also referred to Giuliani's aggressive, often antagonistic style, saying that Republicans have to be "non-polarizing and inclusive" and that the candidate needs to have "the right temperament to do the job."

GRAPHIC: Associated Press; Rep. Rick Lazio: says the first lady needs an exploratory committee to find Elmira.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: May 26, 1999

SECTION: State and Regional

LENGTH: 705 words

HEADLINE: Hillary Clinton, Nita Lowey express support for each other

BYLINE: BETH J. HARPAZ, Associated Press Writer

DATELINE: NEW YORK

BODY:

Hillary Rodham Clinton and Rep. Nita Lowey presented a united front at a fund-raiser Monday intended to send Mrs. Lowey to the U.S. Senate - or to keep her in the House.

Mrs. Clinton called Mrs. Lowey, who plans to run for the Senate only if the first lady does not, "a public servant in the finest meaning of that phrase."

Mrs. Lowey, for her part, said she was "proud to march forward shoulder to shoulder with my friend Hillary Rodham Clinton."

Mrs. Clinton has not yet decided whether she will run for the seat being vacated by U.S. Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, and money raised at the dinner can be used for Mrs. Lowey's congressional re-election campaign if the first lady goes for the Senate seat.

Mrs. Lowey highlighted her solidarity with Mrs. Clinton, betraying no hint of bitterness that her own political future might be hurt as she awaits the first lady's decision.

"Let the Republicans argue," she said. "Let the governor and the mayor have their petty feuds. While the Republicans in this state turn their backs on one another, I am proud to march forward shoulder to shoulder with my friend Hillary Rodham Clinton. We are united - and we are confident that on Nov. 7, 2000, New York will elect its first woman to the United States Senate."

Mrs. Lowey's comments about the Republicans refer to infighting between New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, who has formed an exploratory campaign committee for the Senate seat, and Gov. George Pataki. Another Republican, U.S. Rep. Rick Lazio of Long Island, on Sunday said he was "inching closer" to declaring himself a Senate candidate.

Mrs. Clinton made no reference to her impending decision.

She praised Mrs. Lowey, saying, "In every important issue, she's been on the front lines. She is someone who brings people together. ... She's truly a public servant in the finest meaning of that phrase."

Mrs. Clinton said Mrs. Lowey has been a leader on issues including gun control, abortion rights and funding for health care and for the arts.

The fund-raiser at the Grand Hyatt Hotel raised \$ 1 million.

Mrs. Clinton's visit to Manhattan also included a party at Le Cirque 2000 to launch a new book by Matilda Cuomo, "The Person Who Changed My Life: Prominent Americans Recall Their Mentors." Mrs. Clinton wrote the introduction to the book by the wife of former Gov. Mario Cuomo. Profits from the book will go to Mrs. Cuomo's organization, Mentoring USA, which matches adult volunteers with at-risk kids.

Mrs. Cuomo introduced her as "our first lady and our future whatever she wants to be in New York or in the United States."

Mrs. Clinton credited Mrs. Cuomo with realizing "that mentoring could be a program and not just something to leave to chance."

After the Lowey fund-raiser, Mrs. Clinton received an award from Americans for the Arts honoring her advocacy work for the arts. The award was presented by Caroline Kennedy Schlossberg, who recalled a meeting between her mother, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, and Mrs. Clinton shortly after President Clinton was elected.

"My mother was thrilled at last that there was someone in the White House who truly cared about the arts," she said.

Mrs. Clinton returns to New York next week, for a June 2 fund-raiser for U.S. Rep. Carolyn Maloney in Manhattan, and on June 9 for a fund-raiser for U.S. Rep. Maurice Hinchey in Binghamton.

Also on Monday, "60 Minutes II" released a quote from Mrs. Clinton saying she would definitely make her home in New York after leaving the White House, whether or not she runs for the Senate. President Clinton had discussed the possibility of living in New York in a CBS interview in March.

The first lady made the commitment after being asked which New York baseball team she would root for.

"The politic answer, since I do plan to live in New York no matter what I end

up doing, is I'll root for both," she said in the interview, which was taped May 20 and will air Wednesday on CBS at 8 p.m. EDT.

Marsha Berry, the first lady's spokeswoman, said Mrs. Clinton "and the president have discussed that they would like to live in New York, long before she was approached about this race." Berry said those discussions had been going on "for over a year now."

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: May 25, 1999

May 24, 1999 6:26 pm Eastern Time

EDITION-1: pm

SECTION: SENATE RACES

LENGTH: 528 words

HEADLINE: Polls Give First Lady Conflicting Counsel On Senate Run

BODY:

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton headed back to New York today in the wake of conflicting polls regarding her potential Senate candidacy. According to a Zogby International survey of 748 likely voters - conducted last Monday through Thursday for the New York Post - New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, a Republican, leads Clinton by 49-43 percent; the survey, published Sunday, has a 3.6 point error margin. But a Quinnipiac College poll of 807 registered voters - conducted last Tuesday through Sunday and released today - gives Clinton a 48-42 percent lead; that survey has a 3.5 point error margin. Clinton, who still is mulling whether to run for the seat of retiring Democratic Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, will spend this afternoon and evening in Manhattan - attending a party for a new book by Matilda Cuomo, wife of former New York Gov. Mario Cuomo and mother of HUD Secretary Cuomo; receiving an arts award at Lincoln Center; and speaking at a fundraiser for Democratic Rep. Nita Lowey, whose own Senate ambitions are on hold while Clinton considers her options. This will be Clinton's fourth visit to the state since April 19; she also has scheduled two more visits for June 2 and June 9.

Meanwhile, GOP Rep. Rick Lazio said on ABC's "This Week" Sunday that he is "inching closer and closer" to running for the Senate. "I think it would be a good thing if we had someone who reflects the values of New Yorkers ... and has got the right temperament to do the job in bringing people together," Lazio said in a jab at both the first lady, who has never resided in New York, and the blunt-spoken Giuliani. If Lazio runs, it could set up an intraparty contest with Giuliani, who still is considering the Senate race; Giuliani angered many state Republicans when he backed Mario Cuomo over now-GOP Gov. George Pataki in 1994.

Pataki held a news conference today to endorse Texas Gov. George Bush for the 2000 GOP presidential nod; until this weekend, there had been speculation Pataki might use the event to jump into the Senate race to thwart Giuliani's ambitions. The new Zogby and Quinnipiac polls also matched Clinton against Pataki, only to find statistical ties. Pataki led Clinton 49-45 percent in the Zogby poll, while

Clinton led Pataki 47-45 percent in the Quinnipiac poll. Both results were within the error margin, since the Zogby poll on a Clinton-Pataki matchup has a 3.9 point error margin.

In other Senate race developments around the county, Billings Mayor Chuck Tooley, a Democrat, said Friday he will decide next month whether to seek his party's nomination to challenge Sen. Conrad Burns, R-Mont. "I'm leaning toward it strongly," Tooley told the Associated Press, adding that he will announce his plans in advance of the state Democratic convention June 25-26. If Tooley, a 51-year-old marketing consultant, does run, he would be the second Democrat in the race: Farmer Brian Schweitzer entered the race in March. Tooley spent more than five years on the Billings City Council before being elected mayor in 1995, and was the state field director for the successful 1978 campaign of now-Democratic Sen. Max Baucus.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: May 24, 1999

United Press International

May 24, 1999, Monday, BC cycle

SECTION: Regional News

DISTRIBUTION: New York, New Jersey

LENGTH: 408 words

HEADLINE: Poll: Pataki and Clinton are a tie

DATELINE: NEW YORK, May 24

BODY:

A new Quinnipiac College poll shows a statistical tie if Gov. George Pataki and First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton faced each other for the U.S. Senate seat being vacated by Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan. The poll showed that Pataki would get 45 percent of the votes and Mrs. Clinton 47 percent. Gov. Pataki is scheduled to make an announcement in New York City at 10 a.m. today at the Sheraton Hotel that his aides say will "shake things up." There is growing speculation that Pataki will announce a run for the seat being vacated by Moynihan. The latest Quinnipiac poll also showed that Mrs. Clinton would top New York mayor Rudolph Giuliani 48 percent to 42 percent in their undeclared Senate race. The poll of 807 New York State registered voters, conducted between May 18 and May 23, has a margin of error of plus or minus 3.5 percent. Maurice Carroll, director of the Quinnipiac College Poll Institute said "Clinton-Pataki is a standoff in this first measure of a possible Senate race. "Don't sell Gov. Pataki short. For a politician often depicted as easy-going, he's been brilliant in attracting attention to today's announcement. "He has titillated the political world for more than a week," Carroll said. The poll showed that voters in upstate New York favor Pataki 52 to 39 percent over Mrs. Clinton, while suburban voters back the governor 57 to 38 percent and men voters support him 53 to 39 percent. Mrs. Clinton, the poll showed, is favored in New York City 63 to 27 percent and by women voters 53 to 39 percent. In a race against the mayor, the poll showed that Mrs. Clinton is favored 62 to 30 percent over the mayor by voters in New York City and by backed by women 52 to 36. But, the poll showed suburban voters back Giuliani 55 to 37 percent over the first lady and men favor the mayor 50 to 42 percent. Upstate voters tie with 44 percent for Clinton and 43 percent for Giuliani. "Upstate seems to be the key here. Asked what they think of Giuliani, 35 percent of upstate voters say they don't know enough to form an opinion. Only 4 percent of upstaters don't have an opinion about Pataki. The Mayor and the governor run just about the same against the first lady in New York City and the suburbs. "It's upstate that tips the balance to Pataki," Carroll said. ---

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Lazio says he's moving toward run, challenges Mrs. Clinton

WASHINGTON (AP) Rep. Rick Lazio, R-N.Y., said Sunday he is moving toward a Senate run in 2000, and challenged the qualifications of two well-known figures considering the race: Hillary Rodham Clinton and GOP Mayor Rudolph Giuliani of New York.

"I'm inching closer and closer," Lazio, in his fourth term from Long Island, said on ABC's "This Week." He said he would be a strong candidate because "I think I've been a good legislator, because I stand for the right values."

Aides to Mrs. Clinton have said she is likely to form an exploratory campaign committee in June, an important step in deciding whether to seek the seat held by retiring Democratic Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

The first lady scheduled a trip Monday to New York for a book party for Matilda Cuomo, the wife of former Gov. Mario Cuomo, D-N.Y. She also was to attend a dinner for Rep. Nita Lowey, D-N.Y., who plans to run for Moynihan's seat if Mrs. Clinton decides not to enter the race.

Lowey, interviewed with Lazio, said the first lady's decision will be "sooner rather than later." The one certainty, Lowey said, was that "the next senator from New York will be a woman."

But Lazio said Mrs. Clinton, who never has lived in New York, is not qualified to represent the state.

"She needs an exploratory committee to find Elmira" and, as a native of Illinois, roots for the Chicago Cubs over the New York Mets.

"I say bring her on. I think it's a great opportunity for us to talk about who we are and what we stand for," Lazio said.

Lazio was equally critical of Giuliani, who has formed an exploratory committee to raise and spend money while he decides whether to run.

"I think he is a reluctant Republican. I think he is the

wrong candidate. I think we need to have somebody who has not endorsed Mario Cuomo," Lazio said. In 1994, the mayor endorsed the incumbent Cuomo, a liberal Democrat, over Republican George Pataki, who won.

Lazio, a moderate, also referred to Giuliani's aggressive, often antagonistic style, saying Republicans have to be "non-polarizing and inclusive" and the candidate needs to have "the right temperament to do the job."

Pataki, attending a fund-raiser in Missouri for GOP Rep. Jim Talent, who is running for governor of his state, poked fun at the notion of the first lady running in New York.

"I think it's a tremendous endorsement of our policies by Hillary Clinton, the fact that she has chosen to consider moving to New York State," he said. "But on the other hand, you have 18 million bright and talented New Yorkers. Any one of them is capable of being a fine senator in Washington. We don't need someone from Washington moving to New York. We need someone from New York moving to Washington."

A statewide poll appearing Sunday in the New York Post indicated Pataki could be a strong contender in a Senate race against Mrs. Clinton.

Pataki is considered a potential GOP vice presidential candidate in 2000.

The poll, by Zogby International of Utica, N.Y., had Pataki as the choice of 49 percent compared with 45 percent for the first lady, a statistical dead heat given the survey's margin of error of plus or minus 4 percentage points. The telephone poll of 669 likely voters was conducted Tuesday through Friday.

Giuliani was favored by 49 percent and Mrs. Clinton 44 percent in a possible matchup, according to poll.

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[Home](#) | [Top of Page](#)

The Washington Times

May 25, 1999, Tuesday, Final Edition

SECTION: PART A; NATION; INSIDE THE BELTWAY; Pg. A8

LENGTH: 800 words

BYLINE: John McCaslin; THE WASHINGTON TIMES

BODY:

STILL HANGING

Inside the Beltway tracked down Howard Wolfson, chief of staff to Rep. Nita M. Lowey, New York Democrat, in the Big Apple yesterday.

The latest word, we told Mr. Wolfson, is that Hillary Rodham Clinton won't reveal whether she's running for the New York Senate seat until after she returns from her upcoming Florida vacation. Is that the congresswoman's understanding, too?

"That's what we've read," replied Mr. Wolfson.

Do you mean to say that Mrs. Clinton continues to leave Mrs. Lowey - who certainly more than the first lady has earned the right and privilege to represent her state in the Senate - in the dark, even after Mrs. Clinton attended the congresswoman's \$1,000-a-plate fund-raising dinner in New York last night?

"I would say communication between Mrs. Clinton and Mrs. Lowey has been regular and steady," replied Mr. Wolfson.

Then why doesn't the Bronx-born Mrs. Lowey not just go ahead and challenge Mrs. Clinton in a Democratic primary?

"It's not realistic to be in a primary with the first lady of the United States," replied Mr. Wolfson.

And why not?

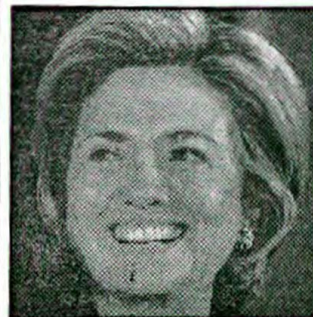
"I can give you a reason for the record, and I can give you a reason off the record," replied Mr. Wolfson.

We asked for both, and trust us, the latter reason is the newsworthy of the

two.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: May 25, 1999



HILLARY CLINTON
Mulling her options.

GOP Senate prospect beats up on Hill & Rudy

By VINCENT MORRIS
and TOM TOPOUSIS

A likely GOP New York Senate candidate yesterday dismissed Mayor Giuliani as a "reluctant Republican" and mocked First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton as "not fit to campaign."

Clinton, who has so far not confirmed rampant speculation that she'll run, is due in the Big Apple today for a series of events.

Rep. Rick Lazio (R-Long Island), who hasn't declared either, nevertheless dumped on the First Lady while touting his own experience.

"She's absolutely not [qualified]," he said on "This Week."

"She needs an exploratory committee to find Elmira. This is somebody who's never lived one day of her life in New York."

Lazio also turned his guns on Giuliani, dredging up the mayor's endorsement of Mario Cuomo over George Pataki in the 1994 election for governor. And Lazio also accused Giuliani of not embracing core GOP issues.

"I think he's the wrong candidate, frankly," Lazio said of Giuliani.

Mayoral spokesman Matthew Higgins said Giuliani would not comment.

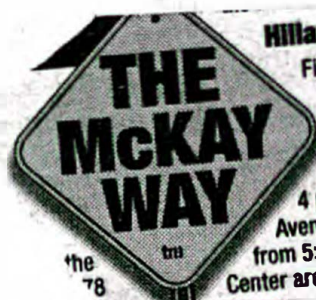
A Post Poll yesterday showed that Giuliani or Pataki could narrowly defeat the First Lady if the Senate race were held today.

Giuliani holds a 5.6 point lead over the First Lady while the governor is 3.3 points ahead of her, the poll found.

"The way I read that is I have a lead over her, I do better against her than Gov. Pataki does," said Giuliani.

Meanwhile, Sen. Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.) said Clinton is moving "closer and closer to running," but that before she does she needs to come up with a new strategy.

**Avoid Hillary-lock
/ Traffic: Page 61**



Hillary alert...

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton is in Manhattan today, and will impact rush-hour traffic. Avoid Madison Avenue in the 30s and 40s, around Le Cirque 2000, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.; the Hyatt and Park Avenue, around Grand Central Terminal, from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.; and the Lincoln Center area from 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Daily News (New York)

May 24, 1999, Monday

SECTION: News; Pg. 2

LENGTH: 352 words

HEADLINE: LAZIO TAKES AIM AT HIL, RUDY

BYLINE: By TIMOTHY J. BURGER Daily News Washington Bureau

BODY:

WASHINGTON Senate hopeful Rep. Rick Lazio showed off his jab yesterday, taking a few pokes at First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton's ambition to run for Senate from New York.

Lazio, a Republican from Long Island, cracked that Clinton "needs an exploratory committee to find Elmira."

"This is somebody who has never lived a day in her life in New York outside The Plaza hotel . . . and roots for the Chicago Cubs," he said mockingly of the First Lady, who is originally from Chicago.

Clinton will be back in Manhattan today for a pair of Democratic fund-raisers. During a Florida vacation starting tomorrow, she is expected to discuss the Senate race with her family.

"I say, bring her on," Lazio said yesterday on ABC-TV's "This Week."

Before he gets to take on Clinton, however, Lazio will likely have to face Mayor Giuliani in a Republican primary, and yesterday he took a few shots at the mayor, too.

"I think he's a reluctant Republican. I think he's the wrong candidate," Lazio said of Giuliani.

"We need somebody who has not endorsed Mario Cuomo," Lazio added in a reminder that Giuliani had crossed party lines in 1994 to endorse Democrat Cuomo over George Pataki, the candidate of Giuliani's own party. Pataki won.

And in a dig at Giuliani's famous temper, Lazio repeatedly emphasized that the Senate required somebody with the "right temperament," "somebody willing to compromise and bring people together."

May 24, 1999, Monday, CITY EDITION

SECTION: EDITORIAL, Pg. 6A,

LENGTH: 495 words

KICKR: POLITICS

HEADLINE: LOOKS LIKE HILLARY'S IN THE RUNNING

SUBHEAD: First lady faces tough challenges in New York Senate race

BODY:

Unlike weathermen, racetrack touts and stock brokers, a columnist should openly admit error. Or a screeching U-turn in opinion.

So a minor confession: I've probably been wrong about Hillary Clinton. The hunch expressed here was that Hillary would never run for the open 2000 Senate seat in New York. Nope, her encouragement of the political buzz was an ego-driven PR stunt. She'd enjoy the tease and dance away.

Having been chilled by Clinton's frostiness toward reporters - or kept 80 feet away - I couldn't imagine her exposing herself to the Godzilla hammerlocks of the New York press.

For someone thin-skinned about privacy, why would Hillary be a target for a rain of dead cats - Whitewater, the 'lost' law records, Webb Hubbell's tangle, Vince Foster's suicide, the health-reform fiasco? And Monica Lewinsky.

Why leap into a mud pit with bruising New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani, already snarling that she's a carpetbagging left-winger?

Maybe the conventional thinking, as usual, is muddled. Shift my vote on Hillary from 'no way' to 'leaning yes.' Evidence is piling up: The lady's a pol edging toward the starting gate. It's beyond ritual first lady photo ops - riding a camel with Chelsea in Morocco, comforting Kosovo refugees in Macedonia. She's phoning New York county chairmen. Or schmoozing with spear carriers Harold Ickes and Rep. Charlie Rangel. Or stumping to cheers from Manhattan to Niagara.

'She talks like a candidate,' one Democratic chairman said. 'If it looks like a duck and walks like a duck, it's a duck.' Granted, Hillary-for-Senate will be trickier than tottering a tightrope over a pool of piranhas. Legal headaches

will nag. After she opens the usual exploratory committee, Hillary can raise money. Ten million dollars? No sweat. But carping's predictable: Taxpayers providing for a first lady's political trips will revive Bill's '96 campaign-money ghosts.

And don't discount New York's fickleness toward celebs.

Polls once rosy for Hillary now tilt toward Giuliani. His raging at carpetbagger Hillary - although Sens. Robert Kennedy and James Buckley were outsiders - could damage. 'She's not from anywhere,' sniffs pollster Lee Miringoff. 'She's from TV.'

But I suspect Hillary's No. 1 cheerleader is her marriage partner. Bill said recently that he asks wannabe candidates, 'Why do you want the job? If they can't answer in a sentence or a minute, they're in trouble.'

Hillary, I suspect, passed. But why would Clinton be enthused about his wife's political scrimmage? It's her turn? Monica guilt? It fits their post-presidential plan to live in NYC? Burnish the soiled legacy with Hillary in the Senate, Al Gore in the White House? His last chance to campaign? Who knows.

Get ready, Rudy. You're in for a rough ride, New York.

* SANDY GRADY is the Washington columnist for The Philadelphia Daily News. Address: Knight-Ridder Washington bureau, 700 National Press Building, Washington, D.C. 20045.

TYPE: COMMENTARY

LOAD-DATE: May 25, 1999

The Dallas Morning News

May 24, 1999, Monday THIRD EDITION

SECTION: VIEWPOINTS; Pg. 11A; RICHARD COHEN

LENGTH: 753 words

HEADLINE: Rank shouldn't have political privileges

BYLINE: Richard Cohen

BODY:

Droit du seigneur is the term for the alleged feudal right of the lord to take the virginity of his vassal's bride on the wedding night. It is the basis for many a play and one great opera, Wolfgang Mozart's Marriage of Figaro.

Droit du seignora is the term invented by me for the right of a first lady to get her party's Senate nomination in any state she so chooses. Hillary Rodham Clinton has picked New York.

In fact, she seems raring to go. Mrs. Clinton has made a list of likely campaign aides. It starts with former presidential assistant Harold Ickes at the top and includes Robert Shrum, a political consultant and whiz speech writer; Mandy Gruenwald, who probably would handle the advertising; and other veterans of Bill Clinton's presidential campaigns. Those people, she is saying, are the staffers she would choose if she were going to run. But that "if" has turned into a virtual "when" an exploratory committee within a month, a likely candidacy soon after.

This is an amazing turn of events. On the basis of her domestic dilemma, New York's Democratic Party simply has turned itself over to Mrs. Clinton. This is the party of Al Smith, Franklin Roosevelt, Mario Cuomo, Daniel Patrick Moynihan and the late, great Mario Procaccino, who lost the 1969 mayoral race to John Lindsay but left us with the term "limousine liberals."

The Empire State is loaded with political talents, many of them Democratic in ideology, and yet they all have moved aside to allow the first lady to get what, for some reason, everyone thinks is hers if she wants it.

The most prominent person to step aside is Nita Lowey, a Democratic congresswoman from Westchester County for the past decade. She is a declared candidate for the Senate but only if Mrs. Clinton doesn't run. If Mrs. Clinton does, then Mrs. Lowey is out, having recognized the eminent right of the first lady to represent a state in which she never has lived. With a bit more logic,

Mrs. Clinton could have run from Illinois, her home state, or from Arkansas, where she once was first lady.

There is something wacky about this state of affairs. By what right does Mrs. Clinton get the New York nomination by acclamation? What would be wrong with a primary fight in which Mrs. Clinton would have to explain how she is going to be first lady and Senate candidate all at one time? What would be wrong in having an opponent ask her if she isn't shortchanging the voters the ones to whom Mr. Clinton once promised an activist first lady? Those are legitimate issues the voters might want to decide in a primary. It appears, though, they won't have the chance.

One reason, paradoxically, is that Mrs. Clinton is the darling of feminists. But it is Mrs. Lowey who has built a career all on her own. No one ever heard of her husband, Stephen, a lawyer, although I am sure he is a fine fellow. What's more, Mrs. Lowey has been a champion of women's issues everything from the funding of breast cancer research to a no-equivocation defense of abortion rights. An opponent once called her "Bella Abzug without a hat."

Mrs. Clinton, on the other hand, is getting her current boost in the polls from playing the most conventional of female roles. No longer is she a policy-maker, health care czarina or some such thing. Instead, she has become the person she once dismissed: the stand-by-your-man wife of country music lore. This is a tune she now hums herself, although a Senate race would suggest that her standing days may be coming to an end soon.

Don't get me wrong. I am a fan of Mrs. Clinton's. I think she would make a dandy senator from any state. I say that as a citizen. As a journalist, I would far prefer a Clinton-Giuliani race to any other. But my selfish concerns are immaterial. The voters deserve a nomination fight, if only to see whether Mrs. Clinton on her own can be a credible candidate.

Just as Bill Clinton's sexual shenanigans taught America about America (Who thought he would survive? Who thought he would thrive?), so has Hillary Clinton's apparent Senate candidacy given us a lesson. She prospers in the polls (an 8-point lead over Rudolph Giuliani, the likely GOP candidate) not only because of her manifest abilities (she is a great speaker, among other things) but also because as a wounded woman loyal, suffering and all the rest she can take what she wants. It is a form of *droit du seigneur*. As for Mrs. Lowey, another feudal term applies: lady in waiting.

Richard Cohen writes for the Washington Post.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: May 25, 1999

Giuliani spokesman Matthew Higgins said the mayor "didn't see the interview, so we don't have any comment."

The Senate spotlight will shift back to Clinton today when she arrives in Manhattan.

She will raise at least \$ 500,000 for Rep. Nita Lowey (D-Westchester), who has said she will seek the Senate nod if Clinton doesn't. Clinton will raise hundreds of thousands more for whomever Democrats nominate for the Senate race.

Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) said yesterday on NBC that Clinton is "edging closer and closer to running."

But he cautioned that the First Lady would "have to put the running for the Senate first, ahead of being First Lady."

LOAD-DATE: May 24, 1999

The first lady's New York state of mind

To run or not? A decision could be imminent

BY KENNETH T. WALSH

Everything is in place for Hillary Rodham Clinton to run for the Senate. She has studied the issues, lined up some big-time advisers, and received a boffo reception throughout the state, which she will visit on May 24 for the ninth time this year.

The only thing missing is a decision. Will she run? The answer, finally, may be imminent. Her confidants expect the first

will emphasize the need for improvements in education and child-care programs, more government spending for health care, and the need to strengthen Medicare and Social Security.

At a forum on working women in Buffalo earlier this month, Clinton drew loud applause when she said the nation's leaders had to "start talking about the importance of marriage" and families. "I know there are problems," she added. "Marriages are hard. They are hard work. I'd be the first to tell you."

The first lady has made it clear she is unafraid to split with her husband on some key issues. She says it is time to "buck the gun lobby" and press for strong gun-control measures, which are popular in New York. The president, meanwhile, has said he wants to avoid a "big fight" with the National Rifle Association. Given the Senate's swift about-face last week on gun-show checks, Mrs. Clinton's approach looked more prescient than her husband's. "You'll see more of that," says a senior strategist. "She wants to express her feelings on these issues,

and at the same time she wants to test the waters, see how people react in Buffalo, New York City, and Ialip."

Yet some of Mrs. Clinton's political advisers concede that her outsider status could hurt. New Yorkers have elected nonresidents to the Senate before, most notably Robert Kennedy in 1964. But the state's voters have less tolerance for such "carpetbaggers" today, according to the first lady's advisers. Says one: "Many men and women wonder if she would be in the race to represent them—or simply to further her own career. She will need to convince people it's in their self-interest to elect her." Even Mrs. Clinton's advocates say she has yet to do that.



In Buffalo, testing the waters as voters take her measure

lady to make up her mind during a Florida vacation with President Clinton and their daughter, Chelsea, over the Memorial Day weekend. "That," says a key adviser, "will be the watershed."

Most of her close friends now expect the first lady to say yes, and the core of her strategy has already emerged: She would focus on soliciting the women's vote, where some Democratic strategists say she has a base of more than 60 percent. Meanwhile, her presumed opponent, New York's Republican mayor, Rudolph Giuliani, is expected to appeal strongly to male voters. The result could be a particularly divisive race.

Keying her appeal to women, Clinton

First kid

If first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton takes the plunge and runs for the Senate in New York, who's going to mind the house? First kid Chelsea, suggest boosters. They say the Stanford University sophomore could occasionally fill in as first lady and she might even like it. White House insiders, however, tell our Kenneth T. Walsh that there's a

downside: Playing such a visible role would encourage the media to peel back the veil of privacy surrounding Chelsea. Still, it beats a summer of flipping hamburgers at McDonald's.

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On latest New York trip, first lady helps raise dollars for Lowey

Rep. Lazio may join GOP field in New York Senate race

May 24, 1999

Web posted at: 12:01 p.m. EDT (1601 GMT)

WASHINGTON (AllPolitics, May 24) — First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton is in New York Monday, again — this time to help raise money for a woman who has her eye on the same New York Senate seat for which Mrs. Clinton is considering a run.

The first lady will attend a fund-raiser for Rep. Nita Lowey (D-New York). Lowey has said that she will run for the seat Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-New York) will be vacating in 2000 if Clinton does not.



Rep. Nita Lowey

The first lady has not yet announced whether she'll jump into that race. She is expected to soon take a big step into the political waters by forming an exploratory committee, but a formal decision is not likely until July.

Lowey told ABC's "This Week" Sunday that the first lady's decision will be "sooner rather than later." The one certainty, Lowey said, was that "the next senator from New York will be a woman."

The first lady will also attend a book party for Matilda Cuomo, the wife of New York's former Democratic Gov. Mario Cuomo.

On the Republican side, it seems GOP front-runner New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani may have some competition. Rep. Rick Lazio

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Now, what was her number?



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may have some competition. Rep. Rick Lazio (R-New York) said Sunday he is moving toward a Senate run in 2000. "I'm inching closer and closer," Lazio said Sunday, also appearing on ABC with Lowey.

Lazio, a moderate Republican in his fourth term representing Long Island, is already challenging the qualifications of the big name front-runners.

Clinton is not qualified to represent New York, Lazio said, since she's never lived there. "She needs an exploratory committee to find Elmira" he said.

"I say bring her on. I think it's a great opportunity for us to talk about who we are and what we stand for," Lazio said.



Rep. Rick Lazio

Lazio was also critical of New York City's mayor, who has already formed an exploratory committee to raise and spend money while he decides whether to seek the Moynihan's seat.

"I think he is a reluctant Republican. I think he is the wrong candidate. I think we need to have somebody who has not endorsed Mario Cuomo," Lazio said. In 1994, the mayor endorsed the incumbent Cuomo over Republican George Pataki, who won.

A statewide poll appearing Sunday in the New York Post indicated Pataki could be a strong contender in a Senate race against Mrs. Clinton.

Pataki is considered a potential GOP vice presidential candidate in 2000.

A statewide poll released Sunday by Zogby International of Utica, N.Y., showed Giuliani was favored by 49 percent and Clinton 44 percent in a possible matchup. The survey of 669 likely voters was conducted Tuesday through Friday and has a margin of error of +/- 4 percentage points.

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For Release SUNDAY, May 23 and thereafter
New York, the new home of wacky politics
Eds: Moving on news and political circuits
AP News Analysis

By MARC HUMBERT= AP Political Writer=

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) It used to be that California was the home of wacky politics, but New York seems to have taken the crown. Just look at what's happened in the past couple of months.

The prohibitive favorite for the Democratic nomination to fill the U.S. Senate seat being vacated next year by Daniel Patrick Moynihan is someone who has never lived or worked in New York. Hillary Rodham Clinton has lived in Illinois and Arkansas.

The front-running potential candidate for the Republican nomination for Senate is one of the nation's best known politicians, has twice been elected to the top job in a heavily Democratic region and has widely gotten credit for turning around the nation's biggest city. But New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani's biggest stumbling block to getting the nomination may be the state's Republican governor even though he has said he doesn't want the job himself.

Early in the past week, U.S. Rep. Nita Lowey of Westchester County announces she will seek the Democratic Senate nomination if Mrs. Clinton doesn't do so. The same day, associates of the first lady say they believe the president's wife will form an exploratory committee to help pursue her own possible Senate bid. The developments come just five days before Mrs. Clinton is due in New York City to star at a Monday night fund raiser to benefit the congresswoman.

A special election Tuesday to fill a state Senate seat in Rockland and parts of Orange counties has resulted in the state Legislature approving a bill to strip New York City of at least \$210 million annually in tax revenue and possibly as much as \$360 million. Giuliani has complained loudly. His fellow Republican, Gov. George Pataki, has vowed to sign the commuter tax repeal measure into law. All this stemming from a race that doesn't even threaten control of the state Senate, where Republicans have a 35-25 edge even before the special election. The New York Daily News editorially blamed "the jellyfish in Albany."

Pataki, in an attempt to boost his national standing among Republicans, has been traveling around the country preaching the need for tolerance within the GOP and party unity. At home, he is engaged in major battles with several fellow Republicans, including Giuliani and New Jersey Gov. Christie Whitman.

Staten Island's Republican Borough President Guy Molinari, a former congressman and father of the woman who gave the keynote address at the 1996 Republican National Convention, former U.S. Rep. Susan Molinari, says the Pataki administration is staffed by "rank amateurs" and that "maybe Giuliani was not all wrong when he endorsed (then-Democratic Gov. Mario) Cuomo" in the 1994 governor's race won by Pataki.

In a speech to a bankers group, Manhattan Democrat Herman "Denny" Farrell says that when he became chairman of the powerful, budget-writing Assembly Ways and Means Committee "I found out that one and one is not two ... One and one is whatever me and Shelly (Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver) want it to be."

In August of last year, a powerful Brooklyn Democrat, state Assemblyman Anthony Genovesi, was killed in a car crash. As is traditional, the state Assembly arranges a tribute to Genovesi to be held in the chamber when it is convenient for his family. The event is scheduled for Monday and his family, including several very young grandchildren, come to the state Capitol. Silver makes them wait until after debate is finished on the commuter tax repeal bill. The tribute begins after 9 p.m. and doesn't wind up until after midnight. The Republican minority leader complains about the "shabby"

First lady is close to forming exploratory panel, sources say

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Hillary Rodham Clinton's close friends and advisers expect her to take a step closer to running for the Senate in New York by forming an exploratory campaign committee in June.

Two longtime associates said this week that the first lady has suggested that she will form the committee, which would allow her to raise and spend money while determining whether to seek the seat of retiring Democratic Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

But a senior adviser intimately familiar with Hillary Clinton's decision-making said Wednesday that Hillary Clinton has not directed her political or legal teams to

form the committee.

Final word on the matter is not expected before she and President Clinton return from a brief Florida vacation May 30, the adviser said, also speaking on condition of anonymity.

Hillary Clinton plans to use that time to discuss the race with the president and their daughter, Chelsea, officials say.

The adviser said that while it was not likely, it still was possible Hillary Clinton could decide this month not to seek the nomination.

She is more likely to return from vacation and remain mum on her intentions, continuing to explore the race and moving ever closer to a full-fledged campaign, the three sources said.

Friday, May 21, 1999 *****

WASHINGTON

Senate race: Clinton leap expected

By Scott Shepard
WASHINGTON BUREAU

Washington — Will she or won't she? Here and in New York, more and more political pulse-takers are convinced that first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton does indeed plan to run for the Senate in New York next year.

If so, her race could have far-reaching consequences, affecting the 2000 presidential contest and fund-raising by both parties.

"It's clear to me that she wants to do this," said New York Democratic Chairwoman Judith Hope. "She has been trying it on for size, and so far it's been a real good fit."

"I think she's going to run, I really do," said Comptroller H. Carl McCall, one of the numerous New York Democrats with whom Clinton has consulted about seeking the seat of retiring Democratic Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

"All the signs are she is going to do it," said Lee Miringoff, director of the Marist Institute for Public Opinion in New York. "She seems to be crossing the line a little bit more." Her office acknowledges that she is weighing the formation of an exploratory committee that could pay for her travel to the state.

The Washington Post, citing unidentified sources, reported Thursday that the first lady would take such a step within weeks of returning from a Florida vacation later this month with President Clinton and daughter Chelsea.

But the revelation did not startle anyone in New York who has followed Clinton's activities since the trial balloon for a possible campaign was floated earlier this year.

In the past four weeks, Clinton has visited New York four times. And she will visit again Monday, attending an arts event, a book signing for Matilda Cuomo, wife of former Gov. Mario Cuomo, and a fund-raiser for the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, the group that heads efforts to increase Democrats' numbers in the U.S. Senate.

The first lady also reportedly plans to travel to Israel to visit incoming Prime Minister Ehud Barak next month, a trip interpreted as an attempt to reassure the large and politically active Jewish vote in New York. Though a strong supporter of Israel, Clinton has made controversial statements supporting an independent Palestinian state.

Such moves reinforce the widespread belief that "she wants to do this in the worst way," said Erie County Democratic Chairman Steve Pigeon.

However, the double-digit lead

Clinton initially recorded in hypothetical polling matchups with New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani has disappeared. The race, if held today, would be a tossup, according to Miringoff.

What appears to be hurting Clinton most is the "carpetbagger issue" — the fact that she is not from New York. However, on that issue, according to Miringoff, she

has at least one advantage over the late Robert F. Kennedy, who moved from Virginia to New York to win a Senate seat in 1966.

"She isn't from anywhere. She's from TV, so she's not quite as much a carpetbagger," he said. "She's a celebrity. But the difficulty will be moving from celebrity to candidate."

Indeed, one of the reasons to

form an exploratory committee is to avoid legal complications over traveling so frequently to New York at taxpayer expense.

Some watchdog groups already have hinted at possible lawsuits challenging Clinton's travels to New York, and forming an exploratory committee would allow her to raise money to help finance the trips.



KHUE BUA / Associated Press

MAY 21, 1999

THIS JUST IN . . .

■ **Hillary Rodham Clinton's** Senate campaign brain trust is telling the First Family to vacation in New York state this August. Instead of sailing with the **Cronkites** and **Kennedys** off Martha's Vineyard, Mass.—where they've holidayed five times since taking office—the Clintons are looking into the Adirondacks and Shelter Island. Nicknamed "Elba" by the locals, the island is less glitzy than the Hamptons and only 10 minutes by ferry from such chi-chi Clinton pals as **Steven Spielberg** and **Tom Hanks**.

■ Author **Edmund Morris** is finally, really finished with his long and long-awaited **Ronald Reagan** biography. Morris told us yesterday that he's pulled four all-nighters in the past month at Random House's Manhattan headquarters to get "Dutch: A Memoir of Ronald Reagan" ready for September publication.

■ Class notes: This Sunday at Washington College in Chestertown, Md., **John F. Kennedy Jr.** will give a commencement speech and get an award for helping the disabled through his Reaching Up foundation. And this fall at Northwestern University, **Oprah Winfrey** will teach a business management and strategy course.

★FRIDAY, MAY 21, 1999 /

Pruden on Politics

By Wesley Pruden



Good news and bad for Bill and Hillary

There's good news this morning in the Clinton household.

There's a spot of ominous news, too.

The good news is news for Hillary, that the flattering buzz about a race for the U.S. Senate continues to sputter, if not actually sizzle. It's all sound and fury, signifying mostly that hubris and ego are alive and well in Gotham, but an abused wife is entitled to take her consolations when, where and for as long as she can.

The bad news for the president is that he's cruising for another humiliation, this time back home, where his presidential library — prospective, like the first lady's Senate career — is threatened by a taxpayer revolt.

The Clintons were in Colorado yesterday, squeezing what they could from an appearance at Columbine High School on a day when the best school-shooting photo-op was 1,500 miles away in Georgia. Soon they're off for a family vacation and long, mellow talks illuminated by flickering candlelight and warmed by old wine (perhaps a Weiderkehr's Arkansas mountain cabernet or a Freyaldenhoven's Conway County Beaujolais) about the future, His and Hers if not Theirs.

The political scribes joined the political pharisees yesterday to try to give the Hillary buzz a kick in the can, canvassing various hangers-on (and those looking for a place to hang on) and recycling the clip files to try to make an old story look fresh. Doughnut shops slather melted butter on stale goods to make them look fresh, and the recycling of old clips is a news-room version of laying on the melted butter.

Miss Hillary, so the New York Times reported, "has told friends in recent days that she is likely to form an exploratory committee," which will enable her to start raising money for her expenses. So far she has charged most of the cost of her ghost campaign to the taxpayers, contriving a little "official business" to justify larking off to New York aboard the president's jet to get her ego massaged by Democratic politicians desperate to find a candidate to stop Rudy Giuliani.

The Washington Post reported that "friends and political associates" think it's a virtual lock that she'll run. One of these "friends and political associates" employs a metaphor unfortunate in any discussion of the Clintons: "The finger is on the go button. . . . She just hasn't decided to push it yet."



Not yet a senator

Some of these worthies are tripping over themselves to construct a fantasy of getting back to the White House. One of them even calls her a candidate for '04, which, taken together with the president's critique last week of the stumbling Gore campaign, tells us what the Clintons actually think of the veep's chances next year. Said one insider to The Post: "If Gore loses next year, then it's Hillary in 2004."

The chattering heads of network news, having read the newspapers, chimed in on the chorus: "People who consider themselves good friends of hers now describe her as very likely to run," said Ann Compton of ABC News.

"Mrs. Clinton is one big step closer to running for the Senate in New York state," echoed Peter Jennings of ABC News. "She is going to form what is called an exploratory committee and begin raising money for a Senate campaign. Her advisers tell us that she is almost certain to run."

From Israel, Wolf Blitzer of CNN reported that the new prime minister will signal the Jews in New York that it's OK to shower campaign contributions on Mrs. Clinton, even if she is a shill for Yasser Arafat and his scheme to declare a Palestinian state, which may or may not signal whether Israel will any longer resist such an Arab dagger in its bosom.

Meanwhile, back at the plantation, the old folks at home are angry about a convoluted scheme to raise taxes to buy a patch of the Arkansas River front in Little Rock for the president's library. The downtown establishment, which imagines that the presidential library will make some of them rich, insists that the tax referendum, on next Tuesday's local ballot, is not about the library. They're only technically correct. The city took money from appropriations set aside for the zoo and the golf courses to buy the land, and on Tuesday they're trying to get the money to put back in the pot for the rhinos and duffers.

Naturally everyone caught on to the scam, and the referendum is popularly known as a vote on Bill Clinton's library tax. A lot of angry Arkansans say they'll vote it down to pay the president back for making Arkansas the butt of so many Clinton jokes.

The president even enlisted the help of Steven Spielberg when he was in Los Angeles last week to shake down Hollywood on behalf of Al Gore. Mr. Spielberg, who terrorized the nation with dinosaurs in "Jurassic Park," said he might come up with some special effects for the library. But this has not assuaged fears. A Monica as big as *Tyrannosaurus rex*, even on her knees, would frighten a razorback.

Wesley Pruden is editor in chief of The Times.

The Washington Times

★ FRIDAY, MAY 21, 1999

Six theories

Three new theories have emerged concerning New York Gov. George E. Pataki's mysterious "major political announcement" due Monday, the New York Post reports.

That is on top of the three original theories about the Republican governor's announcement.

"The leading and most complex of the new scenarios — which originated with a top Pataki aide — has the governor announcing Monday that he'll run for the U.S. Senate next year," said reporter Fredric U. Dicker.

"One source said Pataki is '100 percent convinced' first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton won't run, and he'll be able to claim he's 'the one who drove her out.'"

"The plot in this scenario gets even thicker, with Mayor [Rudolph] Giuliani, Pataki's longtime political nemesis, being forced to pull out of the Senate race because he can't beat Pataki in a Republican primary.

"Then, with Pataki triumphant over Clinton and Giuliani, the governor announces at the end of the year that he's withdrawing from the Senate race in favor of Long Island U.S. Rep. Rick Lazio."

Got it?

The two other new scenarios had Mr. Pataki announcing he will run for president not as a favorite-son candidate from New York, but as a full-fledged national contender; or announcing his support for former Sen. Alfonse M. D'Amato in the race for the U.S. Senate seat being vacated by retiring Democratic Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

Oh, yes. The three original theories (will it ever end?):

- Mr. Pataki will endorse Texas Gov. George W. Bush for president.

- Mr. Pataki will announce his favorite-son candidacy for president.

- Mr. Pataki will announce his sincere candidacy for that U.S. Senate seat.

Some Rules for Mrs. Clinton

Word that Hillary Rodham Clinton is about to form an exploratory committee and start raising campaign cash makes it increasingly likely the First Lady will run for Pat Moynihan's Senate seat. Which means that it's time to start treating New York's political newcomer like a candidate, not an icon.

For one thing, it means that Mrs. Clinton should start paying for all those campaign trips here masquerading as "official business" instead of making the taxpayers pick up the tab.

For another, it means recognizing that a seat in the U.S. Senate is not hers for the asking merely because she's decided she wants it.

For another, it means she's going to have

start talking credibly about important issues before folks who know what she's talking about — or not talking about, as the case may be. (New Yorkers know a little about the commodities markets, and cattle futures, for example.)

Hillary Clinton will have to start familiarizing herself with New York issues, which means learning about the concerns of people in Sunnyside, Syracuse and Salamanca — not just Park Avenue and Central Park West.

In short, Hillary will have to prove that she's more than just the wronged wife of a morally bankrupt president or an Eleanor Roosevelt wannabee who wants to preach about "the great moral issues."

From here on out, the gloves are off.

Political Memo

Sound of Silence: New York Republicans Holding Their Breath

By DAN BARRY

Traditional salutations are no longer offered around City Hall these days. Instead of "Good morning, that's a nifty tie," one is more likely to hear variations of the following:

Hear anything? Whaddaya hear? Anything?

The context is understood. The questions center on trying to divine what Gov. George E. Pataki is up to with the political speech he plans to make on Monday, the details of which are being guarded as though a leak might compromise national security. The Governor's aides will only issue assurances that what he has to say is Very Important.

Whether it is the Governor's intention or not, the extraordinary secrecy has spurred fevered speculation within the Giuliani administration, ranging from convoluted analysis to panicked suspicion. But the curiosity is understandable. If just one of the several rumors about the nature of the speech is true, it will have a direct impact on the political future of Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani, who is considering a run for the

United States Senate seat being vacated by Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

Yesterday alone, the following rumors were uttered on the steps and in the corridors of City Hall: the Governor is endorsing Gov. George W. Bush of Texas for President; he plans to run for President himself; he is running for the Senate, believing that he alone can beat Hillary Rodham Clinton, a possible Democratic candidate, and that the Senate majority leader, Joseph L. Bruno, will succeed him; he is endorsing Rick A. Lazio, a Long Island Representative, for the Senate.

Wait, there's more. That former Senator Alfonse M. D'Amato is running again. That Mr. Pataki is endorsing Elizabeth Dole for President. And this: that the Governor's wife, Libby Pataki, will be running for the Senate.

An elementary understanding of politics, or just common sense, would lead most people to eliminate several of these options.

For example, an endorsement of Governor Bush is a lot more likely than a Senate run by Mrs. Pataki,

and Mr. D'Amato is said to be content with his lucrative post-Senate career as a rainmaker/consultant.

But whatever the announcement turns out to be, several in City Hall expect that the Governor's speech will be designed in some way to undermine the Mayor.

First, the Governor's camp and the Mayor's camp do not like each other for reasons that range from distrust to competition; about all they share is political paranoia. Second, impishness is not a characteristic often attributed to the Governor. But when he announced his coming announcement earlier this week, he refused to say outright that he had no plans to challenge Mr. Giuliani for the Republican nomination for the Senate.

Third, dozens of the state's Republican leaders and elected officials have been invited to attend Monday's speech. Everyone, it seems, except Mr. Giuliani.

Some in Mr. Giuliani's camp even detect a sinister message in both the timing and the location of the Governor's announcement. It is to be held

in the very same ballroom at the Sheraton New York Hotel and Towers that Mr. Giuliani is scheduled to use for his annual birthday fundraising event the very next night.

"The timing of the announcement and the place of the announcement are clearly designed to steal some of the thunder from the Mayor's big fund-raiser the next day," said a Giuliani aide. "I don't believe in coincidence. And it's hard to believe that the Governor decided to do this at the same hotel the day before, unless there was some ulterior motive behind the decision."

Several state Republican leaders said that aides to the Mayor had sought them out, asking for intelligence. But they said they knew as much as the aides did, which is to say nothing. Brendan Quinn, the executive director of the Republican State Committee, spoke for many when he said, "I don't know anything."

Kieran Mahoney, a political consultant close to the Pataki administration, brought a John le Carré-like level of secrecy to his "no comment."

"I can't even off the record tell you whether I know or don't know," the adviser said. "I am totally noncommunicative on this one subject. If I make any informational statements, they provide clues. And I'm not in the clue business today."

The secrecy and the urgency have annoyed some Republicans. County leaders from around the state find themselves putting up their own money for transportation and hotel accommodations to attend a meeting whose purpose is unknown to them. Several leaders expressed concern that the Pataki camp might have outsmarted itself by overselling what could turn out to be an anticlimactic announcement.

"There is some dissatisfaction about the way this is being done," said one official from upstate. "The timing, the secrecy."

Until the announcement, and absent any leaks, the rumors are sure to continue. The Pataki camp supposedly has ordered balloons for Monday's event at the Sheraton.

"Balloons?" one person asked. "Why balloons?"

BC-POLITICS-HILLARY-MCCURRY

McCurry sees Hillary Clinton winning Senate bid

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Former White House press secretary Michael McCurry predicted Thursday that first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton will run for the U.S. Senate in New York and win.

Asked if Clinton would run, McCurry said: ``Yes, she will and yes, she will win.'' Answering questions after a speech to a financial industry trade group, he added that he did not have any inside information about the first lady's plans.

Clinton has been weighing a possible run for the Senate seat being vacated by retiring Democrat Daniel Patrick Moynihan and advisers believe that if she decides not to run she will say so in early June. If she runs, she will likely face Republican New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani.

``It would be a fabulous thing to have Hillary Clinton in the Senate,'' McCurry said. ``I think she would be an eminently worthy successor (to Moynihan).''

Asked if the Democrats had a shot at recapturing control of Congress, McCurry said they were within ``striking distance in the House'' but it is ``harder to see'' such a comeback in the Senate.

McCurry stepped down as President Bill Clinton's press secretary last year.

REUTERS

**** filed by:RB--(--) on 05/20/99 at 17:25EDT ****

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(NOTE; recasting; adding dropped words)
(UPI Focus)

Report: Hillary poised for Senate run

WASHINGTON, May 19 (UPI) First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton is set to form an exploratory committee to look into a run for a U.S. Senate seat from New York.

The Washington Post is reporting in its Thursday editions that friends and close associates of the first lady say it is virtually certain that she will run for the Senate. Clinton is reportedly keeping her options open and will slowly roll out the campaign.

A knowledgeable Democrat told the Post, ``The finger is one the go button. She just hasn't decided to push it yet.''

Clinton has warned associates she is not yet ready to make a final decision, but the newspaper's sources say she is past the question of whether she should run. Even the roll out of the campaign could be a lengthy process as the exploratory committee would likely be announced in July.

There are actually no announced candidates to run for the seat being vacated by the retiring Daniel Patrick Moynihan, who is a Democrat like Clinton. It is expected that New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani will seek the Republican nomination. Polls on a race between Clinton and Giuliani show the first lady winning the election in what would be a highly watched and tough campaign.

The existence of an exploratory committee, which would allow her to raise funds, would help quiet some criticism about Clinton's recent trips to New York eight since the first of the year that have mostly been paid for by taxpayers. Clinton, at the insistence of the Secret Service, travels on Air Force jets. Funds raised through the exploratory committee could be used to defray those costs.

Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., told the Post: ``It's obvious to anyone who sits down with Hillary Clinton that she is enthusiastic about being a senator.''

But, he added, ``you have to be a full-time candidate. He also said that the first lady needs to become 'comfortable with the risk she may lose.''

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bc-ny-pols-fi

First lady may not announce until August her bid for N.Y. Senate seat

CORRECTION: Resending to fix head

Eds: also moving on Washington wire

By BILLY HOUSE

Gannett News Service

WASHINGTON A top adviser to Hillary Rodham Clinton said Friday that she likely will not announce in June whether she will run for the Senate from New York, as has been widely speculated and may not do so until August.

Meanwhile, antsy and frustrated New York Democrats say Rep. Nita Lowey of Westchester County, N.Y., who says she wants to run for the Senate but will not challenge Clinton in the primary, is privately warning that she will not wait on the first lady beyond July 4th.

No word from Clinton by then, the Democrats say, will be taken by Lowey as evidence Clinton is gearing up for a Senate run and Lowey will announce she will again run for the House.

Harold Ickes, the Washington lawyer and former White House chief of staff who is counseling the first lady about a Senate run, said Friday she has not decided and he doubts she will even take the initial step of forming a campaign exploratory committee in June.

Clinton likely won't announce whether she will run until July, and perhaps as late as August, he said.

"She is still giving this very serious thought. It's a big decision for her," Ickes said in an interview. "I would not expect any definitive indication one way or the other in June."

Lowey, since early this year, has repeatedly said she would "defer" to the first lady, but otherwise would run in 2000 for the seat being vacated by Democrat Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

In an interview Friday, Lowey denied setting a deadline for knowing what the first lady will do. But she said, "I've said I need to know sooner rather than later."

Of the possibility that Clinton could wait until August to announce, Lowey replied, "I would hope that she would make it sooner than that."

"I'll be talking to her in the coming weeks," Lowey said, adding that she expects those conversations will clarify the situation.

Other Democrats say they have detected no animosity developing between the two women. In fact, Clinton is to appear at a fund-raiser for Lowey Monday in Manhattan.

But they say Lowey's sees July 4th as a deadline based on political reality.

While Clinton may not have trouble raising the expected \$15 million to run a Senate race in New York and put together an effective statewide organization, Lowey recognizes those tasks will not be so easy for a little-known congresswoman.

"It (July 4th) is the outer limits of discretion. It's the outer limits of being able to properly plan for herself and the party," said Paul Adler, Democratic chairman of Rockland County, N.Y.

He is among a growing number of party insiders and others who see evidence that Clinton has already decided to run and is in preparation.

"I can't blame her (Lowey)," Adler said. There are political realities at play. She has a safe (House) seat. And she's an effective voice in the Congress."

Westchester County Democratic Chairman David Alpert said Lowey also has told him that July 4th is "the line in the sand" for her decision.

ADD FOR NEW YORK POINTS

Though denying having set that deadline, Lowey said, "It's a major effort to run for the Senate." Though confident of her chances, Lowey said she needs to soon begin that effort in earnest.

Alpert, believing Lowey would be the stronger candidate, said he has tried without success to talk her into running for the Senate, regardless of what

Clinton does.

A spokesman for state Democratic Party chairwoman Judith Hope would not comment on Ickes statements about how soon Clinton may declare.

"We're confident, regardless of whether the first lady or Nita Lowey will be our candidate," said Matthew Hiltzik of the party's prospects, rejecting some party murmuring that Demcorats could be left in the lurch without a prepared candidate if the first lady ultimately announces she's not running.

On the Republican side, New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani has said he's considering running for the Senate next year, and has formed a campaign exploratory committee.

If Clinton did the same, she could raise money and pay for travel costs to New York. Her trips to the state so far this year have been paid mostly by the government, prompting criticism that she is using taxpayer dollars for political purposes.

Since last week, there had been reports that Clinton would announce at least the establishment of an exploratory committee within weeks of returning from a Florida vacation with her husband and daughter late this month.

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6TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1999 The New York Times Company
The New York Times

April 21, 1999, Wednesday, Late Edition - Final

SECTION: Section B; Page 5; Column 3; Metropolitan Desk

LENGTH: 424 words

HEADLINE: Hillary Clinton Checks Out Suburbs

BYLINE: By ELISABETH BUMILLER

BODY:

Hillary Rodham Clinton made a campaign-style trip yesterday into the heart of the Long Island suburbs that would be crucial to winning a race for United States Senate, then came back into Manhattan for two more events to finish off a 13-hour day.

But in a total of six appearances before such Democratic constituencies as teachers, lawyers, women, Jews, members of minority groups and patrons of the arts, Mrs. Clinton made no teasing references to her potential Senate race, as she has in the past, and stayed within the bounds of First Lady.

Still, this First Lady's business is sometimes hard to distinguish from a candidate's stump speech. In an address at Hofstra University in Hempstead, she first mentioned her failure on pushing Congress to enact sweeping national health care reform, then described herself as a new incrementalist.

"I come from the school of smaller steps now," she said, adding that 3.1 million New Yorkers have no health insurance and that 1,500 children in New York may lose their insurance as they get older.

At a lunch for the Long Island Women's Agenda in Woodbury, Mrs. Clinton sat next to Libby Pataki, the wife of Gov. George E. Pataki. The Republican Governor has a quarrelsome relationship with Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani, a potential rival of Mrs. Clinton in a Senate race. The two women praised each other in their speeches; Mrs. Pataki called herself "the warm-up act" for Mrs. Clinton.

Mrs. Clinton started her day at the Village Elementary School in Syosset, where she observed frogs in a classroom. "She did not seem to be playing to a broader audience," said Jeffrey Rozran, president of the Syosset Teachers' Association. "She was playing to this audience, and I'm grateful for that."

In the afternoon at the New York University School of Law, Mrs. Clinton presented awards to Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa and Dr. Alexander Boraine, a professor in the school's global law program. Dr. Boraine told the First Lady that "who knows, we may see more of you in New York."

In the evening, Mrs. Clinton attended fund-raisers for the United Jewish Appeal and the Whitney Museum. At the U.J.A. event, Mrs. Clinton, who once created a stir with remarks suggesting support for a Palestinian state, simply said she hoped everyone in the room supported the Clinton Administration's

The New York Times, April 21, 1999

approach to the peace process. "We will stand behind any agreement the parties can reach and, similarly, we will oppose any unilateral step that prejudices the outcome of the negotiations," she said.

GRAPHIC: Photo: Hillary Rodham Clinton visited Hofstra University yesterday in Hempstead, N.Y., where she was honored for her work in health care. With her, front row, from left, were Harold Ickes, Basil A. Paterson and William J. Cunningham 3d, all from the law firm of Meyer, Suozzi, English & Klein, the award sponsor. Behind her was Anthony L. Watson of the Health Insurance Plan of New York. (Vic DeLucia/The New York Times)

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: April 21, 1999

26TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1999 The Detroit News, Inc.
The Detroit News

May 21, 1999, Friday

SECTION: Front; Pg. Pg. A10

LENGTH: 441 words

HEADLINE: GOP will take gloves off if Hillary makes N.Y. run: Among questions they plan to ask: Who pays for her Big Apple trips?

BYLINE: Paul Barton / Gannett News Service

BODY:

WASHINGTON -- The man who will direct Republican campaigns for the Senate in 2000 said the GOP can hardly wait to take on First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton in a potential New York match.

Her candidacy, he said this week, would energize Republicans.

"The best day she will have will be the day before she announces," said Sen. Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, chairman of the National Republican Senatorial Committee. McConnell's job is to raise money and help plan strategy for all GOP Senate candidates.

A potential bid by Hillary Clinton for the Senate seat being vacated by the retiring Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, D-N.Y., has tantalized the nation's capital, New York and national political circles for months.

The two most often mentioned Republican candidates to oppose her are New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and Rep. Rick Lazio from Long Island.

McConnell said neither is "cowered" by the thought of running against the first lady.

Clinton is expected to use a Florida vacation with her husband later this month to make a decision about entering the race, with an announcement coming in early June.

The longer she plays with the idea, McConnell said, the more it seems she is serious about running.

But Clinton's sudden adoption of New York for political purposes will be more of a problem for her than Democrats think, he said.

"I think this widespread notion that New York is too sophisticated to care ... is one of the problems the first lady will have," he said. "The second is the government underwriting a campaign."

McConnell hinted Republicans will make an issue of Clinton's frequent trips to New York this year as first lady and will pose questions about how she would separate her official duties from obvious campaign swings paid for by the taxpayers.

"How many times do you go to New York over the course of three months," he said.

The situation is a unique one in American political history, he said, adding that there are no reimbursement formulas similar to the ones that vice-presidents have to use when they are traveling on the government's tab and running for president.

"I think it will rival the presidential race in terms of attention," he said, adding, "It will be written about, talked about and discussed in every state in America."

Like Vice-President Al Gore's bid for the presidency, a Clinton Senate race would serve as a referendum on the Bill Clinton years, he said.

Noting polls that show Gore running behind potential GOP nominees George W. Bush and Elizabeth Dole, McConnell said, "It seems to me there is a kind of fatigue factor with the Clinton years."

GRAPHIC: First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton is expected to use a Florida vacation with her husband to make a decision on the New York race. Doug Mills / Associated Press

LOAD-DATE: May 21, 1999

In N.Y., Clinton Is Second Fiddle to First Lady

By JAMES GERSTENZANG
TIMES STAFF WRITER

NEW YORK—As far as New Yorkers were concerned, the White House sent the wrong Clinton to visit on Wednesday.

Ever since she announced in February that she was eyeing a race for the U.S. Senate here, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton has been mobbed by curious voters and hungry photographers every time she sets foot in New York.

Clinton, in his seventh year as president and commander in chief of the armed forces, proved less of a draw.

There was one lonely photographer awaiting his arrival at John F. Kennedy International Airport aboard Air Force One.

He had planned to stay in town long enough to attend a fund-raising dinner to help Geraldine A. Ferraro, the Democrats' 1984 vice presidential candidate, pay off debts from her race for the party's 1998 Senate nomination. But the \$1,000-a-person party was canceled for lack of interest.

To be sure, there were crowds gathered Wednesday along 34th Street, a major cross-town thoroughfare in midtown Manhattan. But that's what happens when the police set up their blue wooden barricades before a motorcade crawls through at lunchtime.

Even on the sidewalk alongside the Empire State Building, top tourist territory, pedestrians paid little heed, hurrying along while the president drove by.

Clinton joked that there is little distance in political office between dogcatcher and president and one of the events that drew him to New York was normally reserved for mayors: a ribbon cutting without the ribbon, the unveiling of an architectural model for a public building.

So there he was in the main New York City post office, the James O. Farley Building, across Eighth Avenue from Madison Square Garden. To be exact, he was in the basement—dark corners, exposed heating vents and all—marveling over plans to turn the postal facility into a new Pennsylvania Station, Amtrak's New York terminus and a major stop in the New York City subway system.

The president was also drawn to the city by the sort of attraction that takes him to most other destinations these days—the challenge of getting Democrats to open their wallets one more time, in this case for a \$10,000-a-person luncheon of cold tomato soup, bass with risotto, lamb stew and meringue with fresh berries.

New York Times 5/20/99
(front page, bottom left)

Aides Say First Lady Inches Closer to Run

Hillary Rodham Clinton has told friends in recent days that she is likely to form an exploratory committee that would allow her to raise money and pay bills associated with a campaign for a New York seat in the Senate, several associates of the First Lady said yesterday.

The suggestion by Mrs. Clinton that she is, in the words of one adviser, "inching very close" toward a critical step in her decision-making process. An exploratory committee would let her raise money to pay for visits that even her own supporters say have taken a decidedly political cast, as more and more Democrats seem certain she will run.

But even if she goes ahead with an exploratory committee, several associates of Mrs. Clinton said, she has still not made a final decision to run for Senate.

Article, page A27.

★ THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1999

Friends report Hillary is close to forming exploratory group

She apparently wants family discussions about Senate bid

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hillary Rodham Clinton's close friends and advisers expect her to form an exploratory campaign committee next month, taking a dramatic step closer to running for the Senate in New York.

Two longtime associates, both speaking on condition of anonymity, said this week the first lady has told them she intends to form the committee, which would allow her to raise and spend money while determining whether to seek the seat of retiring Democratic Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

But a senior adviser intimately familiar with Mrs. Clinton's decision-making process said yesterday that the first lady has not directed her political or legal teams to form the committee.

Final word on the matter is not expected before she and President Clinton return from a brief Florida vacation May 30, the adviser said.

Mrs. Clinton plans to use that time to discuss the race with the president and their daughter, Chelsea, officials say.

The adviser said that while it was not likely, it still is possible Mrs. Clinton could decide this month not to seek the nomination.

She is more likely to return from vacation and remain mum on her intentions, continuing to explore the race and moving ever closer to a full-fledged campaign, the three sources said.

If she takes this route, political and legal considerations would force Mrs. Clinton to form an exploratory committee almost im-

Unless Mrs. Clinton rules out the bid in June, she is not expected to enter the race formally soon. Advisers say it would be difficult to turn back once she forms an exploratory committee.

mediately, the adviser said.

All three sources said Mrs. Clinton's staff and advisers now believe she is more likely than not to run.

Mrs. Clinton's supporters long have suspected she would form an exploratory committee. The matter took on greater importance after she began to be criticized for traveling to New York at taxpayers' expense.

Forming a committee would allow Mrs. Clinton to raise money to help finance the trips.

Arranging for the first lady to travel is expensive, though the full costs never are disclosed. Mrs. Clinton goes with a Secret Service entourage and a handful of aides, staying at expensive hotels and flying aboard government planes.

Even with the exploratory committee, taxpayers would cover most of her costs. Under federal policy, campaigns do not pay the full cost of flying government planes or providing Secret Service protection.

Unless Mrs. Clinton rules out the bid in June, she is not expected to enter the race formally for weeks or months. Friends and advisers, however, say it would be

difficult to turn away from the race once she forms an exploratory committee.

She determined weeks ago that a Senate seat would be a good platform for her advocacy of children and women's issues and a steppingstone for a potential long-term goal — seeking the presidency. Associates also say Mrs. Clinton knows she could lose the race, and is increasingly willing to take that risk.

Her most likely GOP rival, New York Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani, would be a formidable candidate. Aides to GOP Gov. George E. Pataki say he plans to make a major political announcement next week, stirring rumors that he might seek the seat.

Among the potential hurdles to the race are the logistics of running for the Senate in New York while being first lady, one of the associates said.

A second associate, a longtime ally who would prefer that she not seek the seat, said Mrs. Clinton has told friends the opportunity may be too good to pass up.

First Lady Said to Inch Closer to Senate Bid

By DON VAN NATTA Jr.

Hillary Rodham Clinton has told friends in recent days that she is likely to form an exploratory committee that would allow her to raise money and pay bills associated with a Senate campaign, several of her associates said yesterday.

The suggestion by Mrs. Clinton that she is, in the words of one adviser, "inching very close" toward a critical step in her decision-making process comes as she has faced some criticism for a flurry of trips to New York that were billed as official White House business. An exploratory committee would allow her to raise money to pay for visits that even her own supporters say have taken a decidedly political cast, as more and more Democrats seem certain she will run.

"An exploratory committee is being considered," said Marsha Berry, the First Lady's spokesman, by telephone last night from the Grand Canyon, where Mrs. Clinton was visiting. "But at this point, any talk of an actual announcement is premature."

Even if Mrs. Clinton goes ahead with an exploratory committee, several of her associates said, she has still not made a final decision to run for Senate. One close adviser said last night that the First Lady was still weeks away from making a final decision even on the exploratory committee, though this adviser said that such a step appeared increasingly likely.

Nonetheless, Mrs. Clinton's remarks to associates are the latest indication that she is moving toward what would be the unprecedented

step of running for the Senate from the White House. What is more, the First Lady has asked several trusted advisers to give her the names of political staff members and fundraising experts in New York who could help raise money for the exploratory committee, should it be formed, the aides said.

In recent days, Mrs. Clinton has told her closest advisers, including Harold M. Ickes, the former White House chief of staff, and several other associates to begin making staff preparations for a possible campaign for the seat being vacated by Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

"She at least wants to be able to continue to consider it," said one adviser, after speaking to Mrs. Clinton on Monday. "It's not the same as making a decision to run."

Another close associate, who also spoke on the condition of anonymity, said: "I think she has concluded that being a senator is something she wants to do. She is figuring out whether she is prepared to make a decision that will consume the next seven-and-a-half years of her life."

The prospect of Mrs. Clinton running for the Senate has stirred great interest among her friends and Democrats, including a number of political consultants who would like to work for her in a campaign and who have in recent days been furiously trading information — or rumors — about the First Lady's intentions. Mrs. Clinton is known for keeping her counsel, and thus there were some discrepancies last night in accounts of what she is doing.

For example, two associates of

Mrs. Clinton said the First Lady had gone so far as to instruct associates to move ahead with forming an exploratory committee, with the intention of announcing a decision sometime in June or early July. Two other people who are close to Mrs. Clinton described those statements as exaggerated, saying she in fact had still reserved the possibility of not making the race in the end.

In any event, pressure on Mrs. Clinton to signal some sort of intention is growing. For one thing, aides to Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani, the Republican who is likely to run for Senate next year, have questioned the trips Mrs. Clinton has made to New York at taxpayer expense.

And Representative Nita M. Lowey, the Westchester Democrat who has said she would run for the nomination if Mrs. Clinton does not, is said by other Democrats to be becoming increasingly anxious for Mrs. Clinton to make a decision. If Mrs. Clinton runs, Ms. Lowey is going to run for re-election.

Even if Mrs. Clinton goes ahead and forms an exploratory committee, she still could back out. As a practical matter, though, such an announcement would be seen in New York as approaching a definite decision and would almost certainly lead to Ms. Lowey exiting the race.

In any event, there is a growing consensus that Mrs. Clinton is going to run. "Do I think she wants to run?" said James Carville, the Democratic consultant. "Yes. Do I think the President would like to see her run? Yes. Do I know yet whether she has decided to do it? No."

A12 THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1999

First Lady Is Likely To Run, Aides Say Many Moves Afoot For Senate Race In New York

By JOHN F. HARRIS
Washington Post Staff Writer

Friends and political associates of first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton said yesterday they now regard it as a virtual certainty that she will run for Senate in New York next year, a candidacy she plans to advance by establishing an exploratory committee within weeks of returning from a Florida vacation later this month.

The exploratory committee would allow her to raise money and pay for travel costs to the Empire State. The first lady flies on Air Force jets for all her travel; her eight visits to New York so far this year have been paid for mostly by the government but in part by various political groups that had invited her.

Clinton, according to people close to her, has cautioned in recent conversations that she is not yet ready for a final decision and an announcement of candidacy. But a variety of Washington and New York political sources who have spoken to her or her strategists said yesterday that—after weeks of sometimes agonized deliberations—she is past the essential question of should-I-or-shouldn't-I. At this point, sources said, not running would require a change of mind on the first lady's part and a reversal of the assumptions on which nearly all her recent conversations have been based.

As a practical matter, she has the rudiments of a political operation in place, drawing on personnel used by President Clinton in his 1992 and 1996 campaigns. Former White House deputy chief of staff Harold Ickes, a Washington lawyer with deep roots in New York Democratic politics, has been advising her for two months about the likely contours of a Senate race. Political consultant Mandy Grunwald, who established close ties with the first lady during the 1992 campaign and her husband's first term, is part of the core group.

So are two people whose connections with the Clintons were established in the 1996 race: Mark Penn, the president's pollster, is advising the first lady's prospective candidacy. And fund-raiser

First Lady Nears 'Yes' To N.Y. Race

HILLARY, From A1

Terence McAuliffe, on friendly terms with both Clintons, is offering advice on a fund-raising strategy, sources said.

The slow unveiling of Clinton's potential candidacy—which associates said even she viewed as a lark when speculation began last winter and has now taken on air of inevitability—is likely to continue for some time. The exploratory campaign could be established as soon as early June, some political sources said. But one adviser said it was more likely this will wait until early July, in part because of a schedule that will take the first lady to the Middle East next month.

The first lady's spokeswoman, Marsha Berry, cautioned that the first lady's plans may not become as clear as soon as even some supporters are assuming. "She's certainly looking at an exploratory committee, but I think people are jumping to conclusions" about whether its formation is imminent.

Even then, however, associates say, she will try to keep an element of doubt about her intentions—in part to preserve her flexibility to change her mind, in part to avoid immersing herself fully in 2000 politics at the expense of the other projects she has pursued as first lady.

"The finger is on the go button," said one knowledgeable Democrat. "She just hasn't decided to push it yet."

"The scale is dipping appreciably on the 'run' side of the fulcrum," said one Democrat close to the first lady and her strategists. "She could still wake up one day and say ... to heck with this."

Not one of several associates of the first lady yesterday said they consider that likely. Despite Clinton's preference for keeping her 2000 intentions opaque, there are several factors forcing some measure of clarity.

One factor is legal. Clinton, like her husband, travels on Air Force planes. When travel is deemed essentially political, the Clintons partially reimburse the government according to a formula based on what it would cost to fly commercial. White House lawyers, including Counsel Charles F.C. Ruff and deputy counsel Cheryl Mills, according to sources, have strongly advised Clinton to avoid ethical controversy—some of which is already brewing in the New York media—by forming an exploratory committee and reimbursing the New York travel.

Associates of the first lady have said the Secret Service wants her to fly on Air Force planes, not on commercial flights. The other factor pushing Clinton's timing involves the possibility of a backlash in New York if she lags too long in signaling her plans. "Hillary really has an obligation if she's not going to run to say so in early June," said one adviser, who fully expects a candidacy.

Polls show Clinton leading New York Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani (R), who also has not announced his intention to run, in a hypothetical matchup. Associates say that Clinton knows that a race against the hard-hitting Giuliani would be very tough and that she is prepared to take on the fight.

"It's obvious to anyone who sits down with Hillary Clinton that she is enthusiastic about being a senator," said Sen. Charles E. Schumer (D-N.Y.), who has sat down with her. Schumer said he believes among Clinton's misgivings is the need to immerse herself fully in New York politics, effectively giving up other duties. "You have to be a full-time candidate," he said. He also said that the first lady needs to become "comfortable with the risk she may lose."

In fact, say associates, she has spent considerable time discussing this—knowing that the unprecedented candidacy of a sitting first lady, particularly in a state where she has never lived, would carry implications far beyond those facing the typical candidate be interpreted as a kind of referendum on the agenda of her husband and their personal reputations. "She's not naive about this," said one adviser. "She doesn't expect to lose, but you have to go in with the understanding you might." After a period of soul-searching, this person added, "she's reconciled to that."

For now, Clinton is determined that her potential candidacy exist in tandem with her work as first lady. She is on a tour of southwestern states this week promoting preservation, and today will attend a service with her husband in Littleton, Colo., to mourn last month's high school massacre. While in Colorado, according to associates, she will give an interview to CBS's Dan Rather, to be aired in next week's edition of "60 Minutes II."

Next week she will take yet another trip to New York. She will attend a book signing for Matilda Cuomo and attend an arts event. Then in an event designed to leave pundits scratching their heads, she will keep a pledge to attend a fund-raiser for Rep. Nita M. Lowey (D-N.Y.), who has said she plans to run for Senate if the first lady doesn't.

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We're
About

original content

HOME

NEWS & VIEWS

Beyond the City

Headlines Index

Last 6 Days

Search/Archives

QUICK SEARCH

GO



Beyond the City

Hil Will Run For Senate: Report

STAFF AND WIRE REPORT

Hillary Rodham Clinton's friends and political associates believe it is a "virtual certainty" the nation's First Lady will run for the U.S. Senate in New York next year, according to a published report.

The report, in today's Washington Post, which quoted unnamed New York and Washington sources, was the strongest indication yet Clinton might jump into the race to replace retiring Sen. Patrick Moynihan in 2000.

That could set the scene for a bruising battle for the Democrat against Mayor Giuliani, a Republican who is mulling a run for the seat.

The Daily News reported Tuesday that Clinton is expected to form an exploratory committee next month or in July — allowing her to start raising money.

She's expected to discuss her options with President Clinton next week when the two take a vacation to Florida.

Sources earlier this week told The News that Clinton has gotten the go-ahead from First Daughter Chelsea, who backs her mom's political ambitions.

While friends told the Washington Post they are certain she will run, Clinton has yet to make a final decision and has no immediate plans to announce her candidacy.

"The finger is on the 'go' button," one unnamed Democrat told the paper.

"She just hasn't decided to push it yet."

Clinton, a frequent visitor to New York in recent months, could have the Democratic nomination for the asking and has



Hamburg NEWS
It looks like the
Hillary Clinton
will run for Senate
after all.

been leading Giuliani in the polls.

But Clinton, an Illinois native who lived for years in Arkansas with her husband, would surely draw fire from the mayor and other critics, who have derided her as a potential carpetbagger.

And while she has been an integral part of her husband's victories as Arkansas governor and President, the Yale Law School grad has never run for elected office.

See our special on the Senate race.

Original Publication Date: 05/20/1999

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