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2 June
~~May~~ 1999

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Re

~~New clip~~ ~~2 June~~
New clip from NY - 2 June

FAX DATE:

6/2/99

TO:

FAX #:

FROM: ICKES OR ENRIGHT

202-887-6726

PAGES:

(6)

Memorandum to

The First Lady
By fax 202-456-6244

Cc

Melanne Verveer
By fax 202-456-6244

Susan Thomases
By fax 212-327-4327

P

MV

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Patti Solis Doyle
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Maggie Williams
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Cheryl Mills
By fax 202-456-6279

Tom Friedman
by fax 202-456-7431

Ann Lewis
By fax 202-456-2215

Pam Cecitti
by fax 202-456-9412

From

Harold Ickes

(6) pages including this page



SHELDON SILVER
Speaker

PAT LYNCH
Press Secretary to the Speaker
Room 349, State Capitol
Albany, New York 12248
518-455-3791

To: Harold Stokes

From: Pat

Number of Pages to follow: 4

Comments: _____

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The Buffalo News/Wednesday, June 2, 1999

Mrs. Clinton backs Gore, prepares for Senate race

Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO, Texas — First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton interviewed potential campaign staff members at the White House on Tuesday, endorsed Vice President Gore for president and, according to at least two associates, said she intends to seek a Senate seat from New York.

The associates, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Mrs. Clinton is virtually certain to seek the seat being vacated by retiring four-term Democratic Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan and is close to finalizing that decision.

Mrs. Clinton intends to notify New York Rep. Nita M. Lowey, a Democrat who was considering the race herself, of her plans, but it may be several days before the first lady talks with the congresswoman, the associates said.

"We are not aware of any decision having been made," Lowey spokesman Howard Wolfson said Tuesday.

A senior adviser to the first lady who is intimately involved in her deliberations said the decision is not quite final, "but she's edging awfully close to it."

The official said Mrs. Clinton seemed even more likely to run after spending the Memorial Day weekend with her husband in Florida. Barring a "dramatic change of heart," she will run, the aide said.

Other Clinton advisers said there are tentative plans for her to announce the formation of an exploratory committee during a trip to New York in early July, although they cautioned that another

scenario under consideration is to announce the committee simply through a statement from her White House office.

For the record, Mrs. Clinton's spokeswoman, Marsha Berry, said: "Nothing has changed except that they are back from vacation."

The first lady met Tuesday at the White House with potential campaign workers, including Hank Morris, a New York consultant coming off then-Rep. Charles E. Schumer's victorious campaign to unseat Sen. Alfonse M. D'Amato in 1998; and Gabrielle Fialkoff, who was the chief fund-raiser for New York City Council Speaker Peter F. Vallone's unsuccessful gubernatorial bid last year.

Meanwhile, during a Tuesday rally designed to energize women voters and highlight his support for their issues, Gore drew the endorsement of Mrs. Clinton.

"Al Gore has been out front for women, for children, for families throughout his life," Mrs. Clinton said, drawing cheers from hundreds of women crowded into a Mayflower Hotel ballroom. "And now it's time to be out front for him. He is my choice, and I hope your choice, for the next president of the United States."

The event marked the start — at least the visible one — of the battle for the hearts and souls of female voters, who make up the larger portion of the electorate. Gore will officially announce his candidacy June 16 in Carthage, Tenn., his hometown, his campaign said Tuesday.

NEWSDAY, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2, 1999

Advice for Hillary by Reading Between the Lines

AND SO the first lady of the United States, not one bit relaxed from her Florida vacation, picked up a special telephone and snapped at the White House receptionist, "Send Harold in." Harold Ickes, chief political adviser to Hillary Rodham Clinton, had come prepared for the usual give-and-take.

As if by magic, a purported transcript of their private conversation arrived on my fax machine yesterday.

Hillary: You heard what Bill did, I guess.

Harold: I saw the papers, if that's what you mean.

Hillary: We finally have our little heart-to-heart down at that boring nature preserve. Then he goes and blows the whole thing to the reporters on the plane. He says I have to explain why I want the Senate job. Sometimes, the man can be so dumb.

Harold: Like the time he fired me?

Hillary: Yeah, yeah, but I thought we were talking about me here.

Harold: Fair enough.

Hillary: Well, you know how Bill gets when the political season rolls around. He starts with his Mister-Know-It-All routine, like he's the only person who's ever gotten elected to anything. "Gore is too boring." Hillary doesn't know why she wants to run. He may be right about Gore. I'll admit that. But I know exactly why I want to run for Senate from New York.

Harold: And can say it in a 30-second soundbite?

Hillary: Now, you're really sounding like him.

Harold: So can you?

Hillary: Sure I can. No problem. As they say down



Ellis
Mexican

in Arkansas, "Easy as 'possum pie." I'm running because now is my turn to run. The way Bill treated me all last year — wagging his finger at the camera, saying, "I never had sex with that woman" — then sending me like a doofus onto the "Today Show." "Vast right-wing conspiracy," remember that? I'd say the man kinda owes me now.

Harold: Hillary! Remember what I told you!

Hillary: I remember. Marital bitterness is not a campaign theme. But that's not the only reason I'm running, bitterness. I'm running because I was born to do this job.

Harold: Born to represent New York in the Senate? I'm not sure I'd use that precise expression, not in front of the reporters anyway. They might remember you were born in Illinois. A few nights in the Waldorf Towers does not a New Yorker make.

Hillary: It wasn't a problem for Bobby Kennedy.

Harold: Hillary, I know Bobby Kennedy, and you're no — well, never mind.

Hillary: OK, then. How 'bout this? I'm running because I'm a woman, and women are underrepresented in political life. Half the people in New York are women, aren't they? Probably more than half.

Harold: That's true. But you can't just campaign to them. Some of those women are Republicans. Some of them hate your guts. Some of them actually like Rudy Giuliani. I know we find that hard to believe, but look at the polls. You need a soundbite that will also speak to men.

Hillary: Hmm.

Harold: But what?

Hillary: I always can do the stand-by-your-man thing again. That worked great during Monica. I could pass out chocolate chip cookies on my upstate campaign stops. I could keep changing my hair. You know how people loved that.

Harold: Your numbers do go up whenever people see you as a victim. But I thought you hated the victim thing. And you're supposed to be the candidate this time. You're not in Arkansas any more. "Dutiful spouse" is not the platform for New York.

Hillary: I could run as a liberal then.

Harold: A liberal? I remember those.

Hillary: New York is full of liberals, right? And people have been calling me a liberal for years. You heard what those Republican House members said. So let's just say Bob Barr was right. I'm a liberal. Leave it that.

Harold: We do have some liberals in New York, mostly on the Upper West Side. But politics isn't really left-and-right anymore. You can ask Arthur Finkelstein about that.

Hillary: I have it then. I'll run as the candidate who is most informed. I'm on top of all the important issues. Always have been. I'm thoroughly prepared. I've been in training for this moment ever since my first day at Yale.

Harold: Prepared? Like the way you were for health-care reform?

Hillary: I see what you mean.

Harold: So what then?

Hillary: How about my good judgment and unquestionable character? I'll be a senator whose judgment the voters can trust.

Harold: That's a possibility. What are you thinking of? Whitewater? The Rose Law Firm? Sticking with Bill?

Hillary: I get your point. Maybe not.

Harold: Honestly, this is harder than expected, Hil. I'm not sure what to say. It's really tough. I keep asking myself, "In a situation like this, what would my father have done?"

Hillary: Your father? That's brilliant! Wasn't he Eleanor Roosevelt's closest confidant, the one she consulted when she was thinking about running for the Senate from New York. You know how much I admire Eleanor.

Harold: A very wise man, my father was.

Hillary: So what happened that time? Maybe history can teach us something here.

Harold: Hillary, you know what happened.

Hillary: (Silence.)

Harold: That's right. She decided not to run.

A44

Will Anyone Ask Hillary About the War?

Viewpoints

BILL CLINTON and his wife were just finishing their vacation in Florida when the planes he directs bombed a hospital and an old age home in Yugoslavia. Some people, these Clintons. The hospital bombing only killed 15. They can kill many more with a direct hit on a crowded orphanage.

When the Clintons take their next vacation, and of course there will be a vacation, you don't think blowing up sick, helpless people is going to bother them, they might be at Shelter Island.

On this second vacation, when one of these bombs or missiles hits that crowded orphanage in Yugoslavia and blows babies to bits, Clinton can bite his lip and say he's sorry, and do it in our circulation area.

The Clintons are people who already showed the world that their faces never feel the sting of shame. She will be around today, speaking at City College, and trying to palm herself off as the new Eleanor Roosevelt. She happily extolled the way her husband signed the bill that killed Roosevelt's finest hour, Aid to Dependent Children.

The Clintons and their mouthpieces claim all these bombings of civilians are a mistake, but by now there have been so many mistakes that you are entitled to ask if it is all on purpose.

Yes, that is nasty and unthinkable. So was the first impression of the Louisa case.

This bombing of Yugoslavia is one of the most colossal military mistakes this country has made. You may take this statement up to West Point, or to the Army War College and tell me, if you can find somebody who disagrees. Ask any old general.

When the bombing began, all and any restraints on Slobodan Milosevic were shattered. Suddenly, there was no opposition from anyone to prevent him from pushing a population out of his country by slashing



Jimmy Breslin

and slaughter.

Bombing alone, with these pilots flying 30,000 feet in the air and killing women and children, while not a hair on a fier's head is touched, can create a hatred so deep as to be uncontrollable for more years than we know how to deal with.

They carry a feud for at least 500 years in that part of the world.

If there is a war, there must be ground troops. Then the country will know that there is a hideous price to the war. It is not about sailing through the sky. It is getting somebody's son shipped back in a body bag to Dover Air Force Base. That might cause a country to think before getting into it.

In Clinton's war it is difficult to have God on our side when we act for the devil.

If you ask why there is no anti-war movement in the country and the answer is two words:

No draft.

The day they start one is the day the most massive anti-war movement ever springs from the lawns of all the schools.

Without the draft, all go off for the summer.

When Hillary Clinton speaks at the commencement of City College today, it will be surprising if anybody stands up and asks her about our bombing and killing and maiming women and children.

She used to gush about the Children's Defense Fund. This time the funds should go for building bomb shelters for children of Belgrade.

Yesterday, on the day they counted the dead in a hospital in Yugoslavia, her beloved husband said that our entertainment industry is selling children a "daily diet of violence."

This is the same disdain for people, the same deep liar who wagged his finger on television and said he

didn't have sex with that girl.

The wife today will give you the same arrogant. This business of talking about running for Senate in an election that is a full year and a half away is an abstraction. Besides, she is the only one in the universe who Clinton can beat in an election.

She comes out of a White House that should have a red light over the door. The husband she says is so green went a year running around the hallway with Mrs. Lewinsky and then a year trying to save his job when he got caught. He then blundered into a war that badly scars the soul of the country.

I happened to see our Ma. Lewinsky walking on Thompson Street the other morning, strolling alone on an empty street, shopping bags in her hands, one photographer chasing. The idea that she could help start a war, and she sure did, caused the sky to spin.

I was going to ask her to come to the City College commencement today, but I thought better of it. A press conference where everybody can see her seems much better.

Anyway, no excitement of an anti-war protest is expected today at City College, but then

there is almost none anywhere else. I went through a sheaf of commencement speeches from around the country and found that most of the speakers made great life pronouncements about Columbine High School. Columbine consisted of two imbeciles who had four guns and they shot 13 and killed themselves. If they didn't have guns, there was no story.

The bombings of Yugoslavia, which speakers, students, news workers choose to ignore, are a bit more dangerous. Even if the bombing suddenly stops, those people in the Balkans, with their 500-year memories, know how to keep hate alive. They don't need anybody talking about it today at City College.

'In Clinton's war it is difficult to have God on our side when we act for the devil.'

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From

Harold Ickes

(8) pages including this page

262-223-0358



SHeldon SILVER
Speaker

PAT LYNCH

Press Secretary to the Speaker
Room 349, State Capitol
Albany, New York 12248
518-455-3791

To: Harold Ickes

From: Pat Lynch

Number of Pages to follow: 6

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THE CLINTONS



The Clintons wave as they board Air Force One in Jacksonville, Fla., for return to Washington.

President tells wife candidacy needs rationale

By SONYA ROSS
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Sequestered in their vacation home on a Florida nature preserve, President Clinton gave his wife, Hillary, one bit of advice about the Senate race from New York State that she is considering: "You have to know, you need to know, why you want the job."

Clinton said the first lady has yet to decide whether to seek the seat being vacated by four-term Democratic Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan. But he said he would support her wholeheartedly if she did run.

"Whatever she's for, I'm for," Clinton told reporters Sunday as Air Force One flew back to Washington. When asked whether the family would take another vacation later this summer in New York, he said, "I'll go wherever she wants to go. From now on."

Clinton is barred by the Constitution from serving a third term, but he said, "If I could run again, I would."

"But I'm not unhappy about it. I'm actually looking forward to be-

Clintons: Carville expects first lady to enter race

no hint during a morning meeting about her New York Senate decision.

But a longtime adviser to the first lady said the longer she waits to make an official move, the more likely it was that she would run. Otherwise, other potential Democratic candidates would be cheated of time.

The next step would be forming an exploratory committee in July to cover the costs of unofficial campaigning in New York.

A bid for the seat in 2000 likely will cost \$15 million or more.

James Carville, who was chief strategist for the Clinton campaign in 1992, said Sunday on CNN's "Late Edition" that he expects Mrs. Clinton to run.

"Everything I know and conversations I've had with any number of people, the first lady included, indicates to me that this is something that she really wants to do," Carville said. "I expect her to mount a heck of an effective campaign. ... And I expect her to win."

One concern has been how Mrs. Clinton would handle the increased scrutiny she would come under, once she herself was the candidate, and not just the candidate's wife.

In an interview published Sunday in the New York Times Magazine, the first lady said she was prepared for such scrutiny, given the pressures that the Clintons have weathered from the Whitewater investigation through the Monica S. Lewinsky scandal.

"It has crossed my mind. But the possibility of partisan or political attacks does not seem as a deterrent," she said in the interview. "That is not anything that would prevent me, after having been through what we've been through, from deciding to run for office."

Continued from Page A1

ing a person again. ... I never had a day in my life where I was unhappy. I always knew what I wanted to do, I was happy doing it, and every day was good to me."

He said he had not decided what he will do when he leaves the White House in January 2001, "but I've got a lot of ideas."

In talking to his wife about the Senate, Clinton said, "I gave her probably the advice I gave everybody: You have to know, you need to know, why you want the job."

"You have to be able to tell somebody in 30 seconds, you have to be able to tell somebody in five minutes, you have to be able to give a 30-minute talk," he said. "I got elected president because I knew, I had a very good idea what I wanted to do, and I think it's very important."

"I think that consistency and the polls — all that stuff — it's all very important. But the most important thing is that you know why you want to serve. It makes the effort of the campaign worth it, and it makes the risk of losing bearable."

The Clintons capped their five-day vacation Sunday by participating in an annual retreat by the Progressive Foundation, a branch of the Democratic Leadership Council. This year's topic was "The Politics of the Third Way," a term moderate Democrats have coined for Clinton's threat of restrained economic policies and a liberal social agenda.

The foundation said the retreat, which was closed to the news media, focused on the challenges that the third way faces "in this country and worldwide," defining the philosophy as the embodiment of "equal opportunity for all, special privilege for none."

According to one attendee, Mrs. Clinton offered

Hillary quote puts Gigante in spotlight

■ Staten Island Democratic Party chairman has been spending a lot of time answering questions about the answer he says he got from the first lady when he asked her if she was running for the U.S. Senate

By JUDY L. RANDALL -
ADVANCE POLITICAL EDITOR

Bob Gigante has been Staten Island's Democratic Party chairman for nine years — nine long years in "Molinaro Country," as he sometimes puts it — but this week in the national spotlight may have almost made up for that.

"Everybody, and I mean everybody, has been calling," said Gigante rather breathlessly yesterday afternoon from his car phone.

That's what happens when you go public with a candid comment from the nation's first lady claiming she's running for the Senate from New York, heightening the already rampant speculation that she has privately decided to do just that.

Indeed, state Democratic Party chairwoman Judith Hope yesterday said that Hillary Rodham Clinton told her that unless she has a change of heart she intends to set up an exploratory committee in early summer to advance her possible candidacy. Mrs. Clinton has also acknowledged that she's house hunting in New York — possibly in Westchester County.

And the Daily News reported



ADVANCE FILE PHOTO

Staten Island Democratic Party Chairman Robert Gigante has been getting a lot of calls about his conversation with first lady Hillary Clinton.

Today that Mrs. Clinton recently told a New York congressman that she made up her mind and would run. The congressman, a Clinton supporter, asked not to be identified.

As for Gigante and his wife, Barbara, an educator, they hopped a limo courtesy of CBS yesterday to tape a quick interview that aired last night on the CBS Evening News with Dan Rather, as a teaser for an exclusive interview Mrs. Clinton gave Dan Rather for "60 Minutes II." Mrs. Clinton didn't tell Rather she was running, but she didn't tell him she wasn't.

PLEASE SEE GIGANTE
PAGE A 20

Gigante

FROM PAGE A15

It was nothing compared to the exclusive Gigante said he got from Mrs. Clinton at a Democratic event Monday night.

She had just given a "great, great" speech, Gigante recounted for the umpteenth time yesterday, and was walking around the ballroom at a fund-raiser honoring Rep. Nita Lowey (D-Westchester), who has said she will run for the Senate next year if Mrs. Clinton does not.

"She had her picture taken with the orchestra and was making her way back to her table when I caught her eye," said Gigante. "She started to walk over, so Barbara and I got up and met her halfway. We were standing between two tables, making small talk. Barbara told her how much she enjoyed having gone to the White House Christmas parties. As she was about to go, I said to her, 'Do you have good news for the people of Staten Island?' And she said, 'Yes.' And I said, 'Does that mean you're running?' And she said, 'Yes.'"

"After she walked away, I said to Barbara, 'Did she just say what I think she said?' And Barbara said, 'She said it.' And that's when I walked out of the room and called the Advance."

Since the story appeared, Gigante said he has been inundated with calls from newspapers around the country, the networks and the wire services. He did a live stand-up on yesterday's CBS Morning News.

"They had the trucks outside the house at 5:30 a.m.," said Gigante, an attorney who lives with his family in Dongan Hills. "Christian (his 9-year-old son) looked out his window and said, 'Daddy, what's going on?'"

When the early morning interviewer reminded Gigante that the first lady is renowned for being guarded with her comments, Gigante said he believes Mrs. Clinton simply gave a candid answer to a straightforward question.

The official White House line regarding Gigante's comments is to call it a "good faith misunder-

standing," and to maintain that Mrs. Clinton has not decided whether she will run.

Sounds reasonable: Making the political announcement of her life by declaring her candidacy for the U.S. Senate via the Staten Island Democratic chairman probably isn't what Mrs. Clinton had in mind.

"If that's what they're going to call it, that's what they're going to call it," said Gigante earlier this week. "I know what I heard. And I believe she knows what she said. If someone doesn't want to believe it, I can't help that. I didn't expect her to say what she said, but she said it."

Or, as Gigante put it yesterday. "No one at the White House has called me up screaming."

Translation: If he was wrong, he surely would have heard about it.

Meanwhile, Gigante brushed aside questions from the Advance yesterday about the political fallout that spilling the beans could have on his future dealings with the White House and on his future as party chairman.

Maybe that's because it's anticipated that Gigante will not seek another term as Democratic leader in September, opting instead to run for a sure-win Supreme Court judgeship this fall.

At 51, ending his political career with the kind of splash he made this week could happily cap what has been a sometimes shaky tenure for Gigante as Democratic boss, at a time when Staten Island's Republican Party was able to dominate the local electoral landscape.

Meanwhile, Gigante added, "There was one other thing CBS and the other networks wanted to know, and that's why I gave the story to the Staten Island Advance which they were all there covering the dinner. And I told them, 'You guys never want to know what I have to say about anything, but the Advance always calls me.' I told them that when this happened, I just decided to give it to my hometown newspaper."

Island officials' outbursts earn national attention

5/30/99

It was just your typical slow week in an off-year election cycle.

Nothing much happened, except that Bob let it slip Hillary is running for the Senate.

Which came on the heels of an equally dull week, during which Guy spilled the beans that George would endorse George.

Hey, who needs Susan Molinari to put Staten Island on the national political map?

It's entirely plausible to us that when Democratic Party chairman Bob Gigante asked the first lady a straightforward question about whether she's going to run next year, she gave him a straightforward answer.

Forget those doubting Thomases out there, judge, we believe you.

Look at it this way: There she was, flying solo, having left the commander-in-chief at home with Buddy. Thus liberated, she kept her uniform — one of those south-of-the-Mason-Dixon-line pastel-colored suits — in the garment bag and donned basic Manhattan black to attend a high-profile fund-raiser. She was on a natural high, having just given a baffe performance for a throng of loving supporters. As she swept along the dance floor, with the band playing "Who's Sorry Now," it suddenly hit her that if she didn't run, she truly would be sorry — and that if she did run, it would be Rudy Giuliani who truly would be sorry. How lucky can a gal get?

At which point she ran smack into Gigante, who flat-out asked her the one question no one had the gall or guts to ask all night long. And so she said, "Yes."

We buy it. Of course, she probably didn't count on Gigante bolting out of the ballroom, cell phone in hand, to call his local newspaper.

Welcome to New York politics, Mrs. Clinton, where 15 minutes of fame can earn you all kinds of press coverage. Besides, what's so wrong with having your candidacy announced in a borough of New York City that considers itself a suburb? In a county that swings between Democratic and Republican candidates? Swinging suburbanites are exactly the voters you're going to need to court.

Come to think of it, why not do your formal announcement in Von Briesen Park? (The Republicans always do theirs on the South Beach boardwalk.) It's picturesque and right over the bridge for easy media access. You could get Ralph's Ices to cater it. You can't get more down-home than that. Then again, you know all about down-home, having spent most of your life in Arkansas.

But, hey, New York is a state of carpetbaggers, er, transplants yearning for a clean slate and a fresh start. Don't sweat it. The important thing is not where you've been, but where you're going. Besides, with the big guy in early retirement on the golf course, you don't want to spend your afternoons baking cookies, do you?

Speaking of going, Gigante's big Hillary splash is the surest indication yet that he's decided not to run for re-election as chair in September in order to take a Supreme Court judgeship. Talk about going out with a bang.

Sure, the Clinton camp may not be exactly thrilled with Gigante right at this moment, but in a couple of weeks, they're going to be too busy setting up a statewide campaign apparatus to exact revenge against a

slitting judge.

Then again, don't look for a federal appointment any time soon, Bob. Oh, and thanks for the memories.

In other political news

... Last Tuesday was "Mayor's Day" on Staten Island. North Shore Democratic Councilman Jay O'Donovan helped organize a sitdown with Council Speaker Peter Vallone. Businessman Richard Nicotra hosted a soiree for city Comptroller Alan Hevesi. And Bronx Borough President Fernando Ferrer talked turkey with developer Randy Lee and other builders.

... Apparently tired of the family feud, some in the Brooklyn Republican Party are looking to kiss and make up. Former state Sen. Bob DiCarlo, who lost his seat in 1996, met the other day with Brooklyn GOP chair Arthur Bramwell.

Bramwell — and to a large extent, BP Guy Molinari — were responsible for DiCarlo's loss in a GOP primary that year. The tensions were fueled in part by DiCarlo's desire to become county chair.

The rapprochement began when Bramwell paid respects to DiCarlo upon the recent death of his father, International Trade Judge Dominick DiCarlo.

"He said, 'Let's talk,' so we did," DiCarlo told us. "We both agreed that there's been enough fighting in Brooklyn, that it's time to make peace, avoid future primaries and work together to elect Republicans."

So will DiCarlo run against Democratic state Sen. Vincent Gentile?

"It's too early to tell," said DiCarlo. "But I'd be lying if I said I didn't want to run again. I wanted to run last year. But Chris Mega decided to run and Guy Molinari was involved. It still bothers me, the way I left, with the primary and all. I thought I had done a good job as senator."

Does that mean DiCarlo is willing to reach out to Guy?

"I would look for his support," said DiCarlo. "You have to put the past behind you and move forward. The thing is, life is too short to stay mad."

... It looks like there could be another family feud within the Independence Party. Seemingly Island Independence chair Tom Hamilton is looking to give the nod to Democrat John Sollazzo for the Mid-Island seat in the bi-county district. But because there is no leader in Brooklyn, the state chairman, Jack Essenberg, apparently has the ability to decide who will receive the line and he's decided it should go to Republican Mid-Island Councilman Jim Oddo.

Then again, Hamilton claims Essenberg is on his way out as party chair. Stay tuned.

Meanwhile, Sollazzo is taking Oddo to task for failing to stand tall with labor leaders at a recent rally for the variable supplement bill. While Oddo helped organize the rally, he backed out of attending at the last minute after incurring the wrath of the Giuliani administration, which opposes the measure and apparently planned a little pay-back if Oddo went.

"Do I risk a great relationship I have with the administration when the leadership of the union knows I'm with them?" said Oddo. "I owe it to the rest of my constituents to do the things I need to get done — like demapping the loop — that can only be done with the assistance of the administration. I can't risk that gratuitously."



JUDY L.
RANDALL
STRICTLY
POLITICAL

5/30/99 DEC 14 First lady rattles state politics

■ A political earthquake has erupted over Clinton's interest in succeeding Moynihan.

WASHINGTON BUREAU

JOHN MACHACEK
and BILLY HOUSE

WASHINGTON — For some, it's no longer a question of whether first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton will run for the U.S. Senate in New York. In recent days, the prospects of her entering the race have

taken on an almost Paul Robeson-like quality.

"Hillary's coming. Hillary's coming."

New York Democrats, hungry for yet more statewide victories as they rise from the ashes of former Gov. Mario Cuomo, have embraced their new star and expect that she will run — barring a last-

minute change of heart.

Republicans and the state's tiny but powerful Conservative Party are sounding the alarm amid divisions over whether the GOP's own big star, New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, should be the one to engage Clinton.

"Don't fear it (a Clinton candidacy)! It's a good thing that she's going to get into the race. It's an opportunity for the conservative movement to define itself." Rep. Rick Lazio,

a Long Island Republican who could challenge Giuliani in a primary, told a Rochester-area Conservative Party dinner this month.

Clinton's interest in the seat being vacated by Democrat Daniel Patrick Moynihan next year has triggered a New York political earthquake.

What already was expected to be a hotly contested battle for New York state's first open

HILLARY, PAGE 4A

Hillary

FROM PAGE 1A

Senate seat since 1993 could now become a de facto national race, watched as closely as the presidential campaign.

Clinton, long regarded as more liberal than her husband, is assembling a team of advisers who reflect her philosophical bent more than the carrier "New Democrat" thinking of the president. Any Republican candidate is likely to take cues from Gov. George Pataki's and his government agenda.

"It will be absolute war," declared former Sen. Alfonse D'Amato, who was unseated last fall by Democrat Charles Schumer. It is a similar ideological battle.

The race also has implications for New York's waning influence in Congress.

Pairing Clinton with Schumer, who has quickly established himself as a player, would give the Empire State "insane clout," even has GOP-controlled Senate, argued Rockland County Democratic Chairman Paul Adler.

But Republicans argue that Clinton, or even Lazio, a junior GOP leader in the House, have the same capability and enough star quality of their own to make a mark.

Democrats have elevated the decks for Clinton. Rep. Nita Lowey, D-Harrison, Westchester County, was in the starting blocks early but has deferred to Clinton. Lowey has told prominent Democrats that she will withdraw altogether if the first lady does not make a decision by July 4.

On the Republican side, Giuliani already has formed an exploratory committee to raise money for a possible Senate run. The national Republican establishment in Washington also is encouraging him. But his long-running feud with Pataki over policy is causing uneasiness among Republicans and conservatives to look closely at Lazio.

Some county GOP leaders have not forgiven Giuliani for supporting Clinton against Pataki in the 1994 gubernatorial race. With an eye on his universal re-election as a Democratic city, Giuliani said then that New York City would have been better off under Cuomo's budget and social programs.

"There are a lot of questions of whether a New York City liberal... is going to play upstairs," said Monroe County Republican Chairman Steve Musarik. "But I also want someone (who) is part of the New York Republican team."

D'Amato, meanwhile, the senator turned magazine columnist and Park Avenue consultant, continues to tease Republicans by hinting that he has not ruled out another Senate try.

Pataki and D'Amato have said Giuliani would be a fine candidate. But behind the scenes, they are encouraging a Lazio candidacy. By last week, Lazio had visited 47 of the

Prospective candidates and where they stand

Here are some favorite issues of prospective candidates in next year's U.S. Senate race in New York.

Hillary Rodham Clinton, Democrat: Health care, education and child care. She spearheaded the fight for the Clinton administration's sweeping, but unsuccessful, health care reform plan in her husband's first term. In a Senate campaign, she could lay out more incremental steps to accomplish her former goals. Other likely proposals include: tougher educational standards, improved child care and women's rights.

Rudolph Giuliani, Republican: Crime and jobs. In two terms as mayor of New York City, he has gained national recognition for cleaning up the Big Apple by reducing crime and creating jobs. He could propose ways to spread his success statewide. He's likely to campaign on fiscal

conservatism — lower taxes and less spending — but will speak up for federal aid to urban areas.

Nita Lowey, Democrat: Abortion and women's issues. One of the House's strongest advocates of a woman's right to choose abortion, she would try to block House Republicans from incorporating anti-abortion provisions in federal legislation. Outspoken about sexual harassment and gender discrimination, she seeks tax credits for companies with programs to combat violence against women.

Glenn Lurie, Republican: Housing and economy. As chairman of the House's housing subcommittee, he led a bipartisan overhaul of public housing last year. Look for him to push for more ways to give localities more control over federal programs to help the poor. He will also advocate tax and spending cuts.

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SPEAKERS PRESS

jumped on the carpeting angle, making it clear he would not let voters forget that Clinton has neither lived nor worked in New York.

Appearing last week at a fund-raising event, Giuliani doctored a red Adidas jacket and cap and announced to supporters that he was headed to Little Rock, where the first lady lived and where the president was 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. In fact, I love it so much I'm going to be running for the Senate,'" Giuliani said.

Former Lt. Gov. Mary Anne Krupnick, a key organizer of last year's constitutionalism of the Women's Rights convention at Seneca Falls, said the first lady proved in her speech at that event that she can energize a crowd.

"She has a quality that excites people," she said. "It just flowed through the entire crowd. She clearly is a national leader."

Some will challenge Clinton on residence, but it shouldn't matter, Krupnick said. The first lady speaks to national issues of concern to voters and "she more than anybody is a resident of the entire country," Krupnick said.

Early leads in the polls for the first lady, amid the tidal excitement over a potential Senate run, have diminished somewhat and a race between her and Giuliani is now seen as tight. The polls indicate Lowey and Lazio remain little known.

"You know, she's having a difficult time transitioning from celebrity Clinton to candidate Clinton," said Lee McIntyre, the Marist College pollster. "She has to ground herself in New York politics and really become much more part of the New York scene on a regular basis. And, unfortunately for her, that month bordering so much of the first lady stuff around the world that she's been doing."

The Ickes & Enright Group

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Washington, D.C. 20036-1703

26 May 1999

Phone: 202-887-6726
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jenright@griffinjohnson.com

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By fax 202-456-6244

Kate Butler
phone ext to HRC

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Melanne Verveer
By fax 202-456-6244

Susan Thomases
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Mrs. Clinton has said she plans to live in New York "no matter what I end up doing."

And the New York Times reported Tuesday that friends say she has people looking at residences in the northern New York City suburban county of Westchester. Hope said that's never come up in her extensive talks with the first lady.

"No. Absolutely not. I cannot verify that is correct," she said.

But Ickes said: "She's always said to me she wants to live in New York. And Westchester certainly is a logical place. But there are a lot of other logical places."

"It wouldn't surprise me if she's looking in Westchester County," said Ickes, though he added he did not know for sure.

"I am convinced that they (Mrs. Clinton and the president) are going to live in New York," Hope said of what the first couple plans to do after leaving the White House. "But I do not think that's conclusive evidence she will run for the Senate."

Mrs. Clinton's office said the first couple has not gotten to the point of narrowing down their consideration of where they might live in New York.

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**** printed by:WHPR(SCOH) on 05/25/99 at 19:21EDT ****

bc-ny-hillary-updt-2

N.Y. Democratic official: Hillary Clinton says yes, she'll run for Senate
UPDATE2: Grafts 9-11 with remarks from Ickes, saying Gigante misunderstands;
grafts 25-26 about looking for a house in Westchester; edits throughout.
By BILLY HOUSE

Gannett News Service

WASHINGTON A prominent state Democrat said Tuesday that Hillary Rodham Clinton told him Monday night she is running for the U.S. Senate from New York next year.

The party official, Staten Island party chief Robert Gigante, said the first lady gave him the word at a Manhattan fund-raising event for Rep. Nita Lowey, D-N.Y.

"My wife and I walked over to her, and I said, 'Do you have any good news for the people of Staten Island?'" Gigante recalls. "She said 'yes.'"

"And so, I said, 'Does that mean you're going to run?'" Gigante said. "She said, 'yes.'"

"I was more stunned than anything else. I even double-checked with my wife to make sure that is what we heard. And she said yes. I guess maybe (Mrs. Clinton) told me because I was the only one to ask her point-blank."

And Gigante said he stands by his story despite receiving telephone calls Tuesday morning from former White House deputy chief of staff Harold Ickes, a top adviser to Mrs. Clinton. He said Ickes wanted to know exactly what was said, then suggested he should not tell the story anymore.

"He said 'Look, our position is that she has not made a decision,'" Gigante said of Ickes. He also said Ickes added: "I'm telling the press it was a misunderstanding."

"He didn't say she didn't say it," Gigante said. "He just said our position to the press is that she hasn't made up her mind yet."

Ickes, in a later interview, said exactly that.

"I think there was a good-faith misunderstanding," said Ickes. "I talked to Mrs. Clinton this morning, and she said what I expected her to say that she has not made up her mind."

Ickes also acknowledged calling Gigante, and said, "I told him I've known him for a long time, and that he's been a real good Clinton supporter," but that he's mistaken.

Gigante's story comes as New York Democratic Party chairwoman Judith Hope said her own in-depth talks with Mrs. Clinton in recent days have "made it clear to me she is leaning toward" running.

"But," Hope cautioned, "she could still decide not to do this. She still has not made a decision, let me be very candid with you."

Hope, who talked with the first lady Friday and Monday, said she thinks Mrs. Clinton will withhold any formal announcement even of the formation of a campaign exploratory committee until after a trip in late June to Israel, and possibly into July.

An exploratory committee would enable the first lady to raise money for travel expenses and other costs of events that are purely political and not tied to her White House duties.

Ickes had also said he doubted Mrs. Clinton would be making any announcement during June, or even perhaps anytime in July.

Hope's and Gigante's remarks came a day after she and the first lady spent part of Monday together, including Mrs. Clinton's appearance at several events, including the \$1,000-a-plate event for Lowey.

On Tuesday, Mrs. Clinton departed with President Clinton for vacation in Yulee, Fla., where Hope says Mrs. Clinton plans to further ~~call~~ her potential candidacy. The Clintons plan to stay in Yulee until late Sunday.

Mrs. Clinton's spokeswoman, Marsha Berry, said that while the first lady plans to rest and relax, "she did say that she planned to spend some time thinking about this."

"I think she's thinking about that stuff all the time," Berry said.

In the interview, Hope also said that while Mrs. Clinton is now publicly

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Lowey has said she will run for the Senate seat being vacated by Democrat Daniel Patrick Moynihan next year, if the first lady doesn't.

**** filed by:---F(--) on 05/25/99 at 18:10EDT ****
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bc-ny-hillary-updt

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 UPDATES: New lede and first nine grafs with county chairman's conversation with Hillary.

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Ickes could not be reached for comment.

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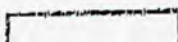
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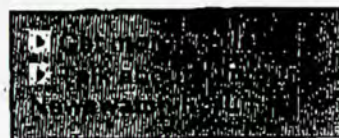
Hillary says yes to U.S. Senate race

Mrs. Clinton stuns Party Chairman Robert Gigante with her unequivocal answer at a Manhattan fund-raiser; officially, a formal declaration isn't expected until next month

May 25, 1999

By JUDY L. RANDALL
 ADVANCE POLITICAL EDITOR

"We have a candidate!" an exuberant Staten Island Democratic Party chairman Robert J. Gigante declared last night, revealing that first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton told him she will run for the U.S. Senate next year.



"I asked her, 'Do you have good news for the people of Staten Island?'" said Gigante, who attended a fund-raiser Mrs. Clinton headlined in a midtown Manhattan hotel. "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!" he said.

Gigante said Mrs. Clinton made her remarks during a chat with him and his wife, Barbara, as the first lady worked the room at a \$1,000-a-head fund-raiser for Rep. Nita Lowey (D-Westchester). Mrs. Lowey has said she will run for the seat if Mrs. Clinton does not.

Mrs. Clinton's decision to make the race could not be independently confirmed late last night, nor could her White House spokeswoman be reached.

If Mrs. Clinton gave Gigante a straightforward answer about her plans, maybe it's because he flat-out asked her if she is running. Because of the aura surrounding any first lady, and because Mrs. Clinton has let it be known that she needs private time in which to make her decision, most party leaders probably have been tip-toeing around asking her the question outright.

Officially, her camp has said Mrs. Clinton will make a final determination within the next week after a family vacation in Florida and that she will announce her plans sometime in June or July. But state Democratic Party bigwigs have been quietly urging that she make her intentions known sooner rather than later.

If Mrs. Clinton confided in Gigante, she continues to be coy about her political plans, except perhaps to a small cadre of longtime loyalists. However, in recent days there has been a growing consensus that Mrs. Clinton will seek the seat being vacated by Democratic Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

For one thing, after repeated visits here in the last two months, Mrs. Clinton's office put out the word yesterday that she has decided to make New York City her home when she leaves the White House -- if not before.

In order to run for the Senate in New York, a candidate has to reside in the

Hillary says yes to U.S. Senate race

state.

Mrs. Clinton has been running neck and neck in the polls with Republican Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani, who has all but announced for the seat. Perhaps as a measure of growing concern over her 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 did not think her residency should be an issue.

Also in the Senate mix is Rep. Rick Lazio (R-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 the commuter tax.

While there is every indication that Giuliani and Lazio would be prepared to go head-to-head in a GOP primary, Mrs. Lowey has said she will step aside for Mrs. Clinton. For her part, Mrs. Clinton has been eager to help Mrs. Lowey raise money for a possible Lowey-for-Senate campaign so that she cannot be later accused of stifling Mrs. Lowey's ability to build a war chest while she was contemplating whether to run. Mrs. Lowey took in an estimated \$1 million last night.

Prior to the start of last night's fund-raiser, Gigante and a handful of other Democratic leaders from around the state met privately with Mrs. Clinton. While the topic of her candidacy was never raised, Gigante said she "spoke like a candidate" in her discussion of the war in Kosovo and the student massacre in Littleton, Colo.

He also said that unlike a month ago when he met her and she was surrounded by the Secret Service, Mrs. Clinton was permitted to walk freely in the ballroom, greeting guests of Mrs. Lowey.

"This time there was no rope line," said Gigante of the literal barrier the Secret Service usually puts between the first lady and a crowd of well-wishers. "She was able to work the room like a candidate."

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striking the
quarters in

Hillary

FROM PAGE A1

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ISLAND DEM BOSS ASKS FIRST LADY IF SHE'S RUNNING, AND

Hillary says yes to U.S. Senate

BY JUDY L. RANDALL
POLITICAL EDITOR

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EXCLUSIVE

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Mrs. Clinton shares Party Chairman Robert Gigante with her unequivocal answer at a Manhattan fund-raiser, officially, a formal declaration isn't expected until next month

"I was stunned, stunned. We have a candidate!" he said. Gigante said Mrs. Clinton made her remarks during a chat with him and his wife, Barbara, in the first lady's workshop the room at a \$1,000-a-head fund-raiser for Rep. Nita Lowey (D-Westchester). Mrs. Lowey has said she will run for the seat

if Mrs. Clinton does not. Mrs. Clinton's decision to make the race could not be independently confirmed late last night, nor could her White House spokeswoman be reached. If Mrs. Clinton gave Gigante a straightforward answer about her plans, maybe it's because he flat-out asked her if she is running. Because of the aura surrounding any first lady, and because Mrs. Clinton has let it be known that she needs private time in which to make her decision, most party leaders probably have been tip-toeing around asking her the question outright. Officially, her camp has said Mrs. Clinton will make a final determination within the next week after a family vacation in Florida and that she will announce her



Hillary Clinton



Bob Gigante

plans sometime in June or July. But state Democratic Party bigwigs have been quietly urging that she make her intentions known sooner rather than later. If Mrs. Clinton confided in Gigante, she continues to be cozy about her political

plans, except perhaps to a small cadre of longtime loyalists. However, in recent days there has been a growing consensus that Mrs. Clinton will seek the seat being vacated by Democratic Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan. For one thing, after repeated visits here in the last two months, Mrs. Clinton's office put out the word yesterday that she has decided to make New York City her home when she leaves the White House — if not before. In order to run for the Senate in New York, a candidate has to reside in the state. Mrs. Clinton has been running neck and

PLEASE SEE HILLARY, PAGE 2

A WIPEOUT AT THE GARDEN

Volpe to plead guilty



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Still Undeclared, Still Highly Visible

First lady being vocal on issues dear to NY

By William Douglas

WASHINGTON BUREAU

Washington — Sounding like an all-but-declared candidate yesterday, Hillary Rodham Clinton took a firm stance on another issue that resonates in New York.

Joining President Bill Clinton, the first lady echoed his call for an overhaul in the nation's banking laws to guard consumers' privacy and to give them more information about introductory low interest rates offered by credit card companies.

Two weeks ago, in a powerful speech at a teachers convention in Niagara Falls, Hillary Clinton called for a battle against the "culture of violence" that ripped into the public consciousness after the shooting deaths at Colorado's Columbine High School.

"She's making all the moves a political candidate would make," said one former White House official. "Her great advantage is she already knows what she believes in. The rest is just tactics and strategy."

Though she has not officially declared that she will run for retiring Democratic Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan's seat next year, several political experts say campaign strategy is already at work.

Through her six visits to the state since January and her highly visible participation in a number of issue-oriented events recently alongside her husband, Hillary Clinton has done what a candidate — particularly one who hasn't lived in the state — needs to do: articulate who she is and what she stands for.

While members of her staff maintain that her visits to New York have been on official business, she has managed to give potential voters a flavor of her views as a potential Senate candidate.

In Manhattan last month, she professed her love for the state, using "we" in referring to New Yorkers. At a health-care conference at Hofstra University, she ad-

mitted she made mistakes in 1993 when she headed efforts to change the nation's health-care system, vowing that she would not make the same errors again.

"She's doing the dry-run thing," said Steve Pigeon, Democratic Party chairman for Erie County. "She's clearly interested in issues of the state. I think she would be an advocate for things like Medicare reimbursement [for hospitals], the things that are singular to New York."

And Hillary Clinton was front and center yesterday on another matter that resonates in New York: banking laws. She spoke of the need to protect senior citizens, young people and low-income people who get credit cards in the mail and use them, not fully aware that the introductory interest rate will

increase in a matter of months.

"We have a high percentage of bankruptcy, and the credit card industry has targeted New York in terms of dumping free credit cards in New York," said Sen. Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.). "She was well into this issue last year before Senator Moynihan announced his retirement."

One consumer group that opposes her position charged that the first lady's role in yesterday's White House event smacked of New York politics. "Today's announcement is an example of President Clinton using the White House to launch his wife's political career at the expense of consumers," said Frances Smith, executive director of Consumer Alert, a 2,000-member, nonpartisan consumer group.

NEWSDAY WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 1999

T.R.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 1999

A3

Hillary Clinton raising even more funds for others in New York

By Marc Humbert
The Associated Press

ALBANY — Hillary Rodham Clinton, whom advisers say is edging closer to running for the Senate from New York, is adding to her fund-raising efforts for Democrats across the state, officials said Tuesday.

"I'm delighted," Carolyn Maloney said after learning the first lady had agreed to be the guest of honor at June 2 event in New York City for the congresswoman from Manhattan.

"We haven't even found a place yet," Maloney added.

The Maloney event is the latest evidence the first lady is trying to curry favor with influential New York Democrats by helping boost their bank accounts.

Last week, Clinton was the guest of honor at a major state party fund-raiser in New York City and had earlier done one for U.S. Rep. Jerrold Nadler, a Manhattan Democrat.

On May 24, the first lady is helping raise money in New York City for Nita Lowey, a Democratic congresswoman from Westchester County who is poised to run for the Senate seat if Clinton does not. The first lady also plans a fund-raising event for U.S. Rep.

Maurice Hinchey in Binghamton on June 9.

Maloney, who said she has talked several times with Clinton about the race for the Senate seat being vacated by Democrat Daniel Patrick Moynihan, said she believes there is a "60-40 chance" she will run.

One top adviser to the first lady, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Tuesday that "I think she's concluded she wants to run," but has not yet made the decision to do so.

"She really has to mull through this balancing" of whether she can continue to serve as first lady and run for the Senate seat, the adviser said. "I'm not sure she's concluded she can do both."

One problem Clinton may not face is finding enough volunteers and experienced campaign operatives for a New York Senate race that may pit her against New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani.

"People are volunteering," Harold Ickes, Clinton's top New York political adviser, said Tuesday.

"I take their names down, make a running list and I get that over to Hillary," Ickes said. "People that I don't know very well, I just ask them to send me a letter ... and we're

SB/99 Journal
**First lady increases
fund-raising efforts**

ALBANY — Hillary Rodham Clinton, who advisers say is edging closer to running for the Senate from New York, is adding to her fund-raising efforts for Democrats across the state, officials said yesterday.

Clinton agreed to be the guest of honor at a June 2 event in New York City for Rep. Carolyn Maloney, D-Manhattan. The event is the latest evidence Clinton is trying to curry favor with influential New York Democrats.

Last week, Clinton attended a state party fund-raiser in New York City. On May 24, the first lady will help raise money in New York City for Rep. Nita Lowey of Harrison, who is poised to run for the Senate seat if Clinton does not.

One top adviser to the first lady told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity that "I think she's concluded she wants to run" but has not yet made the decision to seek the seat being vacated by Democrat Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

CK/00

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26 May 1999

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NEW YORK POST

NEWS

READ IT AND WEEP: 67% OF CITY 4TH-GRADERS FAIL TEST

By MARIA ALVAREZ,
GREGG BIRNBAUM and
SUSAN EDELMAN

Two out of three city fourth-graders failed to meet strict new reading and writing standards, startling new test results show.

Sixty-seven percent of the city's 75,400 kids who took the state's new English Language Arts exam in January fell short or performed abysmally.

The other 33 percent met or surpassed the standard.

Statewide, 52 percent of public-school fourth-graders lagged, while 48 percent did well on the tough test - which whipped 9-year-old kids into a frenzy of anticipation and dread.

City and state officials cautioned that many kids who scored a performance level of 2 - the second lowest on a scale of 1 to 4 - "are close" to meeting the standards.

In the city, 21 percent of the fourth-graders, including special-education kids, flunked horribly, compared to 11 percent statewide.

"This is not good enough. We've got to go up from here," said state Education Commissioner Richard Mills. "We can't afford to waste time blaming anyone. I want very much to come back next year with data that show growth. We're going to have work hard to get there."

Mills also noted a performance gap between "high-need" districts, such as New York City, and wealthier suburban areas.

But Schools Chancellor Rudy Crew said the



WHAT A HEADACHE:
Chancellor Rudy Crew has had better days than yesterday, when abominable reading scores were released.
- NY Post:
Tamara Beckwith



Home Delivery



city schools are "holding their own" with less money - and doing as well or better than those in Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse and Yonkers.

"I believe these data demonstrate that we're closing the gap," Crew said. "New York state, as a whole, didn't do a dramatically better job."

Crew's aides acknowledged that comparisons are nearly impossible because this was the first time the test was given.

Last year, about 30 percent of city third-graders failed to achieve "minimum competency" on the old state reading test, compared to a 16 percent failure rate statewide.

The new English Language Arts exam is much harder. Besides reading passages and answering multiple-choice questions, kids listen to stories read aloud and write answers based on their notes. They also have to write essays.

Crew bristled at suggestions that two-thirds of city kids are doing poorly - with one in five showing serious problems.

"I'm not embarrassed by these numbers at all," he said. "I'm encouraged by many of them, and some didn't shock me."

Crew would not say whether heads would roll, but said principals and superintendents will be held accountable.

He also promised "dramatic action" at bottom-of-the-barrel schools.

Crew announced a "two-pronged attack" in minority neighborhoods: look closely at school resources, and work with clergy and community leaders to "mobilize" parents and encourage school "adoptions."

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May 26, 1999

Descriptions of Standards Expected of 4th Graders

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- Most of State's 4th Graders Fail New English Test

The results of New York State's new fourth-grade English test are divided into four categories, based on standards developed last fall by a panel of 22 fourth-grade teachers. The state is sending parents the following explanation of what each level means.

LEVEL 4 (HIGHEST)

Students consistently demonstrate understanding of written and oral text beyond the literal level. They can analyze and interpret a variety of texts, identify significant story elements, compare and synthesize information from related texts, and form insightful opinions, using extensive supporting details. Students' writing is well organized, thoroughly developed and uses sophisticated and effective language, with few or no errors in spelling, grammar or punctuation. 5 percent of all students.

LEVEL 3

Students demonstrate understanding of written and oral text with some attention to meaning beyond the literal level. They can gather information, make inferences, identify theme or main idea, understand character actions and make connections between two related texts, providing some supporting information. Students' writing is generally focused and organized, with minor errors in spelling, grammar or punctuation that do not interfere with readability. 43 percent of all students.

LEVEL 2

Students demonstrate partial understanding of written and oral text at a literal level. They can recognize basic story elements, make some inferences and identify some similarities and differences in two related texts, providing limited supporting information.



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Students' writing shows some focus and basic organization, and uses simple sentence structure and vocabulary. Students follow some rules for correct spelling, grammar and punctuation, but errors sometimes interfere with readability. 41 percent of all students.

LEVEL 1

Students demonstrate minimal understanding of written and oral text. They can locate and recall some stated information, and attempt to construct short and extended responses. Students' writing consists of brief, general or repetitive statements and reveals difficulty in organizing thoughts. Errors in spelling, grammar and punctuation interfere with readability and comprehension. 11 percent of all students.

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May 26, 1999

Most of State's 4th Graders Fail New English Test

Related Article

- Descriptions of Standards Expected of 4th Graders

By ANEMONA HARTOCOLLIS

More than half of all fourth graders across New York State failed the new English test given last January, which replaced an old-fashioned multiple choice test with a three-day marathon that required children to read long passages and write essays.

The test -- a model being watched by educators across the country -- was designed to set new, higher standards for reading and writing that will help prepare children for high school graduation requirements being phased in during the next five years.

But the results left even some leaders of elite districts smarting from results that showed only a small fraction of students, 5 percent statewide, achieving advanced levels. In New York City, 2 out of 3 students failed to meet the state standards, and in a great many schools, the results were abysmal.

"I think it's a pretty dispiriting message for the entire state," Schools Chancellor Rudy Crew said yesterday at a briefing at Board of Education headquarters in Brooklyn.

He said the large proportion of disadvantaged children and that the city spends less per pupil than the state average were partly to blame for the gap with the rest of the state. "I'm not embarrassed by these numbers at all," he added. "I'm encouraged by many of them. Some of them did not shock me in the least."

Dr. Crew said the test would not be used to fail students this year, but would be one of several criteria next year, along with attendance and classroom work. The State Education Commissioner, Richard P. Mills, who imposed the new test with the approval of the Board of Regents, suggested that the low statewide passing rate confirmed his



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prediction that the new test would expose weaknesses in many schools that had been papered over by the test it replaced.

On that test, which measured minimum competency, affluent suburban districts were accustomed to seeing more than 90 percent of their students pass. On the new test, many of those districts saw their results plunge into the 60's and 70's.

"This is an exercise in truth telling," Mills said. "Where do we go from here? We have to go up, obviously."

The test was preceded by months of worry and feverish cramming. Some teachers warned that it was too abstract for 9-year-olds. Schools virtually suspended their normal curriculums to brush up on concepts like "the main idea," and some parents invested in private tutoring.

The results confirmed some of their worst fears.

The test was scored in four levels, with students in Levels 3 and 4 performing at or above the state standards for reading, writing and listening and those in Levels 1 and 2 failing to meet the standards. The standards, developed by a panel of fourth-grade teachers last fall, require students to read long passages of literature and nonfiction, then answer questions and write essays about them. Children must also listen to a passage read out loud, take notes and then recall what they have heard. They are also evaluated on spelling, grammar and punctuation.

The new fourth-grade test replaces a multiple-choice test that was given in third grade. The old test simply required children to read short passages and fill in missing words. Statewide, 84 percent of third graders passed the old test, which measured a minimum level of competency; in New York City, 65 percent passed.

On the new test, 48 percent of the state's 210,000 public-school fourth graders, including special education students, scored at or above the standards, while 11 percent scored in the worst category, meaning that they showed "no evidence" of performing at the standards.

The picture was even bleaker in New York City, which has always lagged behind the rest of the state. Only 33 percent of the city's 65,000 fourth graders passed the test, while 21 percent fell into the worst category, compared with 6 percent in the rest of the state.

Mills recommended yesterday that all students in the bottom level be sent to summer school this year.

His deputy chancellor for instruction, Judith Rizzo, said students in the lowest category would be sent to summer school if there was enough money. Asked if Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani would be asked for more money, she replied, "I don't know." The city now plans mandatory summer school for students in third, sixth and eighth grades only.

In an indication of the how hard the test was, only 3 percent of New York City's fourth graders and 6 percent in the rest of the state fell into the highest category.

The scores include special education students, because, state officials said, they wanted to make sure that no students were excluded as a way of improving results.

Richard F. Elmore, a professor of education at Harvard University, said the test was one of the most challenging in the country, and that New York students had done better on it than students in other states, like Kentucky and Texas, that have aggressively used testing to measure schools and students.

"What worries me is it brings out the anti-testing people," he said. "At this stage of the game, I think we have no option to choose not to test. This test is much better than tests they've been using in the past."

New York City was, as Dr. Crew put it, "a tale of two cities," with high concentrations of both the highest-scoring and lowest-scoring schools in the state. Six of the 10 schools with the most students performing at the highest level are in New York City. So are all 10 of the schools with the most students at the bottom level.

Robert Tobias, the city's testing director, said scores in those schools might have been pushed down by large numbers of children who do not speak English well.

Dr. Crew contended that the city had some cause to celebrate, because it had scored slightly higher than the state's other big cities, Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse and Yonkers, where an average of 28 percent met the standards.

Echoing that positive assessment, an analysis by The New York Times suggested that the performance of city students improved substantially compared with the results on the state's third-grade multiple-choice test, which was taken by the same students a year ago.

While city students still lagged behind the rest of the state, they scored about three percentage points better than students with similar levels of poverty and limited English in other parts of the state, The Times's analysis showed. On last year's test, city students were behind even after accounting for income and language differences.

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May 25, 1999

PUBLIC LIVES

New Giuliani Fund-Raiser and Her Handler



By ELISABETH BUMILLER

LAURA VAN HOVE, the new 32-year-old finance director for Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani's likely Senate campaign, is considered such a pro that the Mayor's people are constantly saying how pleased they are to have her, etc. After all, she grew up in Iowa, where Presidential candidates turn up like corn borers, and where she met Bob Dole and the elder George Bush while she was at Iowa State. Since then, Ms. Van Hove has raised money for the 1996 Presidential race of Bob Dole, the Republican Senatorial Campaign Committee and the Pennsylvania Republican Party. She has also worked for three Senate campaigns.

But talking with her last week was a challenge due to the concerned presence of Bruce Teitelbaum, the Mayor's former chief of staff and now the executive director of Solutions America, Giuliani's main political action committee.

Teitelbaum sat in on the interview with Ms. Van Hove, in a conference room at the Solutions America office near City Hall, but did more talking than sitting.

"Can I just make an observation?" Teitelbaum said, minutes into the interview, before Ms. Van Hove had a chance to answer a question about Giuliani's big fund-raising dinner tonight, the unofficial opening of his anticipated Senate campaign. "I'm just going to interject."

Teitelbaum then said it is "infinitely more difficult" to raise money



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under the \$1,000-per-person Federal election limits of a Senate campaign than it was under the individual limits of \$7,700 in a Mayor's race.

So far, Teitelbaum said, Giuliani has raised \$743,000 for a potential Senate campaign that would require at least \$10 million against his likely opponent, Hillary Rodham Clinton. But tonight's dinner -- Georgette Mosbacher, Donald Trump, Linda J. Wachner and various city real estate interests are on the committee -- is expected to reap more than \$1 million.

"We definitely expect to have more than 1,000 people at this dinner," Teitelbaum said.

But they still need to raise \$9 million more, no?

At this point, Ms. Van Hove managed to get a word in edgewise. "The election isn't until November of 2000," she pointed out.

Teitelbaum then said that once Giuliani formally announced for the Senate, "it'll be easier." He said that Mrs. Clinton's potential candidacy had not hurt and might be helping fund-raising, and that Ms. Van Hove, who replaces two finance directors deemed inadequate by the Mayor's underlings, has been in place only since March. "We planned this dinner a week or two after she started, and the fact that she's not from New York, and wasn't that familiar with the terrain here, that put us at a certain disadvantage," Teitelbaum said. "But I think we've been able to overcome that."

Ms. Van Hove, who has blond hair, wore a red suit and remained poised and calm throughout the interview, was raised on a 450-acre farm in Iowa, where her family grew soybeans, corn and oats and raised cattle and hogs.

"It's very similar to Brooklyn," said Teitelbaum, who has brown hair and ate two bananas during the interview.

Teitelbaum managed to remain quiet while Ms. Van Hove recounted her pre-Giuliani past.

She went to Forest City High School, where she was a nun in "The Sound of Music," played the saxophone and piano, sang in the choir and competed on the speech team. She was 13 when Ronald Reagan made his first Presidential campaign trip to Iowa, in 1980, and she thinks her parents may have met him at a political meeting. She was too young to go, but watched the televised caucus circus every night.

At Iowa State, she majored in political science and economics, graduated in 1989, then went to work for the unsuccessful Senate campaigns of Tom Tauke, who ran against Tom Harkin in Iowa in 1990, and Jan Stoney, who challenged Bob Kerrey in Nebraska in 1994. In between she was the finance director of the successful re-election campaign of Senator Charles E. Grassley of Iowa. After the 1996 Dole race, she raised money from big donors for the

Republicans, then for Steve Forbes, who plans a second run for President.

The Mayor's people liked Ms. Van Hove in part because of her experience with national Republicans, whose money they want to harvest for the Senate run.

Ms. Van Hove said she heard about the job with Giuliani through a friend from Dole's campaign. In February, she called Cristyne F. Lategano, the Mayor's communications director, who directed her to Teitelbaum. After an interview with the Mayor, Ms. Van Hove had the job, which she considers potentially more interesting than working in a Presidential campaign, particularly if Mrs. Clinton is in the race.

"I personally think she would be a great person to run against," she said.

Why?

"Because I think potentially, ah ----."

Teitelbaum jumped in. "The reason I think it would be an interesting race, you could not get two people who are more polar opposites," he said.

At another point, Teitelbaum spoke up as he was scribbling something.

"I'm making notes for you to do later," he said to Ms. Van Hove.

Ms. Van Hove glanced at the scratches.

"It's taken care of," she said.



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05/24/99 - Updated 11:42 PM ET

First lady or campaigner?

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.

Tuesday, 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-fisted 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.

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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 most, 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 the president in 1992 and is close to the first lady; Clinton pollster Mark Penn; and Democratic graybeard Mike Berman.

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 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 believes 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 aides say. She would not mind.

► What about Secret Service protection?

Her campaign committee could pay for her flights and staff, but the government (read: taxpayers) still would pay for her protection at campaign appearances in New York.

Hillary Clinton's advisers point out that, as the former first lady, she will be protected for life anyway. And they are counting on public goodwill in this area. They say they don't believe voters will begrudge her Secret Service protection on the campaign trail, in the Senate or anywhere else.

But Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., chairman of the Republican Senatorial Campaign Committee, calls that a "legitimate issue."

"How appropriate is it for the federal government to underwrite a Senate campaign?" he asks. "How do you deal with security? ... Does the campaign pay in part?"

McConnell also makes it clear that the Republican Party would not make it easy for Clinton in a race against Giuliani.

"You've got to assume in the Senate race in New York that lots of the issues the Clintons have had to deal with for eight years are going to be hashed out," McConnell says.

Does that mean she should expect a nasty, negative campaign?

"Let's put it this way," he told a group of journalists recently. "I think it'll be a great race to cover. You're going to love it."

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Pataki
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Gov to NYC



Beyond the City

Gov Backs Bush, Snubs Rudy in 1 Swipe

By JOEL SIEGEL
 Daily News Senior Political Correspondent

Summoning party leaders but snubbing Mayor Giuliani, Gov. Pataki yesterday threw the weight of the state Republican organization behind the presidential campaign of Texas Gov. George W. Bush.

Pataki's endorsement of Bush at a midtown hotel ended his own flirtation with a campaign for President in 2000, but it marked the beginning of a more subtle effort: to become the party's vice presidential nominee. Pataki sidestepped questions about his interest in the No. 2 spot, but a Bush confidant said Pataki "is certainly going to be in the running" for the vice presidential nomination.

"Yes, for sure," said real estate businessman and former Texas Rangers co-owner Craig Stapleton, whose wife and Bush are cousins. "I have talked to [Gov. Bush] about it. He has a high regard for Pataki."



Rosamillo/NEWS
 Gov. Pataki with fellow GOPers at Sheraton New York yesterday.

Pataki said Bush had enacted "bold and dramatic change in Texas" by slicing taxes, reforming welfare and improving schools while reaching out to blacks, Hispanics and women "with his doctrine of compassionate conservatism."

"Listen, friend, thank you very much," Bush replied via a satellite link, his face appearing on a 20-foot video screen in the Sheraton New York ballroom. "I heard your speech all the way down here in Texas. It warms my heart."

More than 100 New York GOP leaders, including at least five members of Congress, state Senate Majority Leader Joe Bruno and former Sen. Alfonse D'Amato, flanked Pataki. But the display also highlighted the governor's deep rift with Giuliani: The mayor was not invited.

Asked about Giuliani's absence, Pataki communications director Zenia Mucha and Pataki aide Bradford Race had the same initial response: "Who?"

When pressed on why Pataki's fellow Republican was not invited, Mucha added, "This was the team that was with the governor in '94. . . . This is the team he wanted together, standing there with him when he chose to endorse the next President."

Giuliani said he was not upset: "The focus was on trying to get as much attention for the presidential race as possible."

Mucha said Pataki would travel the country stumping for Bush but that the state party would not block other GOP presidential hopefuls from appearing on the New York primary ballot, as it did in 1996 after backing Sen. Bob Dole.

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May 25, 1999

First Lady Raises Money for Someone Else

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By ADAM NAGOURNEY

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 Monday 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



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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," Wolfson said.



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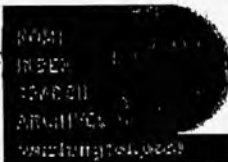
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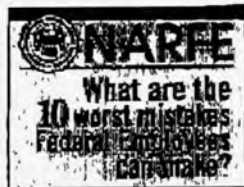
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Mrs. Clinton Commits to Move to New York

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

ASSOCIATION

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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Wed May 26, 1999 15:07 EDT

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N.Y. Dem says Mrs. Clinton said she is running; her camp denies

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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.

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Top News

Westchester may be too pricey for the president

Sports

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

Lotteries

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.

International

National

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.

Washington

Business

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.

Wall Street

Entertainment

Health/Science

Regional

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!"

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NEW CITY, N.Y. (AP) - Ending a campaign that may mean the demise of New York City's tax on commuters, voters in Rockland and parts of Orange counties went to the polls Tuesday for a special election to fill a state Senate seat.

The election for the 38th Senate District seat, left vacant by the April resignation of Republican Joseph Holland, pitted Republican Thomas Morahan, the Rockland County Legislature's minority leader, against Democrat Kenneth Zebrowski, that legislative body's majority leader.

Morahan also had the Independence and Conservative lines while Zebrowski also had the ballot lines of the Liberal and Working Families parties.

The Green Party's James Henderson was also on the ballot.

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The seat opened up after Holland accepted a job as Rockland County's social services commissioner. While he had wanted to leave the Senate early this year for the post, the Senate's GOP leadership convinced Holland to stay on longer in the hope that voter anger in the district against Republicans over President Clinton's impeachment might dissipate.

Despite a 4-3 Democratic enrollment edge, Republicans have held the 38th District seat since 1985.

The campaign made headlines two weeks ago when the Republican-led Senate and the Democratic-controlled state Assembly, each seeking to help state Senate candidates, voted to repeal the 0.45 percent income tax imposed on New York state residents who commute to New York City jobs.

Gov. George Pataki has vowed to sign the measure despite objections from New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani. The mayor has said the revenue loss to the city could range from \$210 million annually to \$360 million and that he will challenge the tax repeal in court.

Govs. Christie Whitman of New Jersey and John Rowland of Connecticut have also threatened to sue in an attempt to have commuters from their states included in the tax break.

The election drew heavy spending by both Republicans and Democrats and Democratic charges that the GOP had pressured organized labor to back Morahan by threatening to stall legislation favored by the unions in the Senate. State Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno denied such threats had been made, but several powerful unions did line up behind the Republican candidate.

Democrats have been viewing the special election as a test of their efforts to make inroads in the politically crucial New York City suburbs.

Going into the election, Republicans held a 35-25 edge in the Senate with the one vacancy. The winner will serve until the end of next year.

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Top News

Republican Morahan wins special state Senate election

Sports

NEW CITY, N.Y. (AP) - Republican Thomas Morahan has defeated Democrat Kenneth Zebrowski in a hotly contested race to fill a state Senate seat in Rockland and parts of Orange counties.

Lotteries

International

National

In unofficial returns Tuesday with 100 percent of precincts reporting, Morahan had 52 percent, or 20,748 votes, and Zebrowski had 47 percent, or 18,903 votes.

Washington

Business

"We're delighted with the victory," Morahan said. "We think it's a substantial margin considering the demographics of the district, which is heavily Democratic."

Wall Street

Entertainment

The Green Party's James Henderson had 1 percent, or 562 votes.

Health/Science

Regional

The special election for the 38th Senate District seat took on added significance as it precipitated a vote in the state Legislature to end New York City's tax on commuters.

The seat was left vacant by the April resignation of Republican Joseph Holland.

Morahan, the Rockland County Legislature's minority leader, also had the Independence and Conservative lines, while Zebrowski, the Legislature's majority leader, had the ballot lines of the Liberal and Working Families parties.

Despite a 4-3 Democratic enrollment edge, Republicans have held the 38th District seat since 1985.

The campaign made headlines two weeks ago when the Republican-led Senate and the Democratic-controlled state Assembly, each seeking to help state Senate candidates, voted to repeal the 0.45 percent income tax imposed on New York state residents who commute from outside New York City to jobs in the city.

Gov. George Pataki has vowed to sign the measure despite objections from New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani. The mayor has said that the annual revenue loss to the city could range from \$210 million to \$360 million and that he

will challenge the tax repeal in court.

Govs. Christie Whitman of New Jersey and John Rowland of Connecticut also have threatened to sue in an attempt to have commuters from their states included in the tax break.

The election drew heavy spending by both Republicans and Democrats and Democratic charges that the GOP had pressured organized labor to back Morahan by threatening to stall legislation favored by the unions in the Senate. State Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno denied such threats had been made, but several powerful unions lined up behind the Republican candidate.

In a statement late Tuesday, Bruno said Morahan's victory "demonstrates that not only did we have the right candidate, but equally important, the right message."

The seat opened up after Holland accepted a job as Rockland County's social services commissioner. While he had wanted to leave the Senate early this year for the post, the Senate's GOP leadership persuaded him to stay in the hope that voter anger in the district against Republicans over President Clinton's impeachment might dissipate.

Going into the election, Republicans held a 35-25 edge in the Senate with the one vacancy. Morahan will serve until the end of next year.

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Mrs. Clinton Is Giuliani Target At Fund-Raiser

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Wednesday, May 26, 1999 1:09AM

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By Ellen Wulforst

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-

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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.

Democratic Fund-
Raiser To Plead
Guilty

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.

More...

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.

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.

In Dallas, Vice President Al Gore said Tuesday he was convinced Mrs. Clinton would win if she did decide to run.

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 of the prospect of Mrs. Clinton running for Moynihan's seat.

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Rudy's \$2M Birthday Gift

By MICHAEL R. BLOOD

Daily News City Hall Bureau Chief

Mayor Giuliani celebrated his birthday with the biggest fund-raiser of his political career last night, banking a whopping \$2.1 million at the unofficial kickoff of his expected campaign for U.S. Senate.

A day after Hillary Rodham Clinton — the mayor's possible Senate rival — was in town raising money for Democrats, Giuliani surrounded himself with 1,700 supporters, including Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, at the Sheraton New York.

Giuliani used his remarks to swipe at the First Lady, asking, "Just where exactly is the Whitewater River?"

He stopped short of formally announcing his candidacy for the seat being vacated by Sen. Daniel Moynihan (D-N.Y.) but told the crowd he's "thinking very, very seriously about running for the Senate" next year.

Bush credited Giuliani with taking on the establishment and told him, "When you win, I hope you'll not forget to call me down in little old Florida."

Mayoral aides boasted that the impressive total of donations should answer any questions about Giuliani's ability to raise the funds needed for the race — possibly in excess of \$20 million.

"We just got started raising money," the mayor said after huddling with donors.

Giuliani, who turns 55 on Friday, was the center of everyone's attention later, when the entire gathering sang "Happy Birthday" as a huge cake was brought out.

The hotel was overflowing with supporters, but some big



Watts NEWS
Birthday Boy:
Mayor Giuliani

names on the invitation list failed to show, such as Donald Trump and former Republican National Chairman Hayley Barbour. Noticeably absent was Giuliani's wife, Donna Hanover.

In his speech, the mayor focused on what he called the need for public school vouchers. "What do we care about most — the children or the system?" he asked.

While Giuliani was fattening his political checkbook, Clinton in a TV interview said she was "stunned" during a recent visit to New York by crowding in schools.

In what appeared to be a jab at Giuliani, who has been touting school reforms, she told CBS' Dan Rather that New York's jammed classrooms tell kids, "We are not going to make space for you."

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Can Hillary Relate to Common Folk?

HERE IS the odd thing about first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton:

While she is almost universally written off as a snappish, finger-wagging liberal, who really knows what her political philosophy is?

George Stephanopoulos — in his White House memoir "All Too Human" — seems to confirm the conventional wisdom.

In talking about the turkey of a national health-care system she designed, he explains: "The plan, like the woman who guided it, was ambitious, idealistic and highly logical." Yet he also admits that it was too rigid and complex.

Remember the first lady's plea for a "politics of meaning?" As best I can tell, that was some New Age notion which held that politics might be able to move Americans to a higher ethical and spiritual plane. (Ah — yes, indeed — what a fine example the Clintons have set for us there.)

And yet, as Clinton gears up for a possible statewide Senate campaign — she is talking now about establishing residency in Westchester — her views on most topics remain largely unknown.

Personally — from the perspective of a New York City resident — I'm expecting the worst. I'm expecting a Democratic campaign that will bow like a maitre d' to the party's traditional interest groups while remaining antiseptically distant from the aspirations and struggles of ordinary folks.

I'm expecting a campaign that puts ideology over experience and hasn't a clue about how to address the problems that come with living in one of



Joseph Dolman

the world's most compressed and diverse cities.

Sure, I could be wrong.

People like Will Marshall of the Progressive Policy Institute in Washington believe the first lady is in sync with her husband's Third Way approach on issues like education. She knows the nation can't spend its way out of trouble when it comes to schools, Marshall says.

But if this is true, she has a funny way of showing it. At a recent union rally in Buffalo, the first lady cited a need to add more teachers to the pub-

hundreds of cultures exist side by side.

And yet, life here can still be a rugged struggle.

On Monday, Ellen Young, a board member of the Chinese American Voters Association, drove me around the neighborhood, pointing to ragged streets that looked as if they hadn't been repaved in 30 years and to locations known — even now — for drug dealing and prostitution.

There was a time when she was regularly having to chase drug addicts off her front stoop and out of her yard.

The residents credit Republican Mayor Rudolph Giuliani for many improvements — but point to a job that is hardly done. While overall crime is down 57 percent, the forces of evil constantly lurk. The schools are still dangerously overcrowded, children still aren't learning enough, graffiti still sprouts on the sides of buildings like mushrooms after a rain and — who knows? — the crime rate could spiral out of control again on a moment's notice.

Even loyal Democrats like Young worry about what might happen to Elmhurst and the city when Giuliani leaves office. The progress is so fragile.

I know. Hillary and Rudy are likely to square off for the Senate — not for the right to rule City Hall. But I worry about a senator whose experience in life comes from suburban Chicago, Arkansas and an eerily insulated existence in Washington. The landscape is littered with appointees who came to New York thinking they understood the place only to get blown apart in its crosswinds.

Maybe the first lady — if she runs and wins — will prove to be a quick study. Maybe her policies will be tougher and more inventive than I imagine.

Maybe she has enough natural empathy to feel the struggle of citizens who want to set up a decent life in the city. But I'm not holding my breath.

While overall crime is down 57 percent, the forces of evil constantly lurk.

lic-school payrolls, a need for expanded staff development and a need to oppose publicly funded vouchers.

She wants to help children "navigate into adulthood" through subsidized child care and family leave. In short, she is all for reform so long as it doesn't bother the people who actually run many failing urban schools — the teachers unions.

This is a bad sign. It means she doesn't grasp the sheer tenacity of New York City's lethal status quo. But then, few outsiders do.

Instead of setting up house in Westchester, I wish the First Lady would move to a place like Elmhurst, Queens. This is one of the most diverse neighborhoods in America — a wonderful place where scores of languages are spoken daily and

Joseph Dolman's e-mail address is jdolman@pipetline.com

try to New
- star

Rudy's \$2M birthday gift

By MICHAEL R. BLOOD

Daily News City Hall Bureau Chief

Mayor Giuliani celebrated his birthday with the biggest fund-raiser of his political career last night, banking a whopping \$2.1 million at the unofficial kickoff of his expected campaign for U.S. Senate.

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with 1,700 supporters, including Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, at the Sheraton New York.

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the entire gathering sang "Happy Birthday" as a huge cake was brought out.

The hotel was overflowing with supporters, but some big names on the invitation list failed to show, such as Donald Trump and former Republican National Chairman Haley Barbour. Noticeably absent was Giuliani's wife, Donna Hanover.

In his speech, the mayor focused on what he called the need for public school vouchers. "What do we care about

most — the children or the system?" he asked.

While Giuliani was fatten- ing his political checkbook, Clinton in a TV interview said she was "stunned" during a recent visit to New York by crowding in schools.

In what appeared to be a jab at Giuliani, who has been tout- ing school reforms, she told CBS' Dan Rather that New York's jammed classrooms tell kids, "We are not going to make space for you."

News 6/24

First lady's advisers have look of a campaign team

Ex-White House aide
Ickes leads group of
consultants, organizers

WILLY MOHR
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Hillary Rodham Clinton, in deciding whether to run for U.S. Senate, is drawing advice from a tight group of political loyalists and longtime associates, headed by a fiery former White House deputy chief of

staff.

The group, while still informal as the first lady approaches a decision, has taken on the cast of a political campaign team.

The roughly dozen members, led by former White House aide Harold Ickes, whose New York political connections run deep, include media gurus, veteran Democratic consultants, pollsters, fund-raisers and even labor and

grass-roots organizers.

Nearly all those advising the first lady on a possible run in 2000 have a liberal bent and experience in New York politics. Several have engaged New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, a likely GOP foe for Clinton should she run, in previous campaign battles.

And all are unflinchingly loyal to the first lady or her husband, having — like Ickes — weathered

the ups and downs of presidential campaigning or governing with the Clintons.

Clinton spokeswoman Marshie Berry downplayed as "premature" any talk that a campaign team appeared to be falling into place.

"She's been talking to a lot of people ... this whole process is the ability to talk to a lot of people," Berry said.

But others, in Washington and New York, say the first lady clearly appears to be putting together "Hillary's team" by selecting lieutenants who fill almost every need of a political campaign.

Among them are Washington-based media consultants David Dock and Mandy Grunwald, New York City lawyer and longtime confidante Susan Thomas, pollster Mark Penn and Bill Lynch,

vice chairman of the Democratic National Committee.

Democratic U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer and Rep. Charles Rangel, D-Manhattan, are also giving advice.

As one veteran Democratic New York political consultant, Hank Sheinkopf, said, "Every political professional would like to be on this team. It's going to be the most exciting race in the country."

Wm

HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON'S KEY ADVISERS

Here's a rundown of key players involved with Hillary Rodham Clinton's potential Senate campaign:



HAROLD KOH: The high-powered former White House deputy chief of staff and

side to former New York City Mayor David Dinkins is the top adviser and central figure so far. His thorough takes on extensive New York connections that much of the first lady's roster of advisers is filling out.

later involvement is deep; despite leaving the White House in 1994 somewhat humiliated at having lost the chief of staff job to Erskine Bowles. Known to be profane and explosive at times, he was a key strategist in President Clinton's 1996 re-election campaign. He ran the 1998 Democratic National Convention in Chicago and the second Clinton Inaugural.

Ikoku's loyalty is clearly unquestioned, however, or he would not be so closely involved in advising Hillary Clinton. As Hillary Clinton

MAJOLD
CHIEF: The
high-pow-
ered former
White

spokeswoman Martha Berry put it, Icker "is the only person that she's relying on for particular advice and counsel."

DAVID DOAK
Washington-based media consultant with long personal ties to Hillary Clinton, dating to her work as the Indiana political director for Jimmy Carter's 1976 presidential race when Doak was a consultant to two Indiana congressional candidates. He also is Clinton's friend, involved in Clinton's winning and losing mayoral races against Rudolph W. Giuliani.

Though Doak knows the New York political terrain, his latest forays haven't been good ones, including work for 1998 gubernatorial candidate Peter Vallone, who was soundly defeated by Republican George Pataki. However, Doak was behind TV ads last fall for Democrat Gray Davis' victorious race for California governor. Doak won't say if he is officially on board, but does acknowledge, "I think she's a tremendously talented individual..."

with a lot of friends like me who would do just about anything to help her."

HANDY GUNNARDA
Another Washington-based media consultant and advertising whiz. Her bond with the Clintons was forged in the 1992 presidential primary, when she went on national television to defend Bill Clinton against Governor Howard's charges of marital infidelity. She not only is a longtime personal friend of the first lady, she has New York experience. She was involved in Democrat Ruth Siskinger's losing 1997 campaign against Giuliani.

**SUJAN
THOMAS**
New York
City lawyer
and long-
time con-
stant of the
first lady
who

emerged at Hillary Clinton's side again when the Monica Lewinsky scandal broke. In 1998, Republicans on a special Senate committee head-

ed by then-New York Sen. Alfonse D'Amato had recommended to Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr that Thomas, along with others, be prosecuted for lying to the panel during its investigations into Hillary Clinton's representation of an Arkansas thief. Thomas likely would have no formal role in the campaign, but is certainly offering advice.

MAKES
PINN: The
president's
pollster and
the pollster
for the
Democratic
National
Committee.

He already is polling in New York for the first lady.

BILL LYNCH: A top New York political operative who was a former deputy New York City mayor under Binkins (where he served at City Hall with Ickes), Lynch now is vice chairman of the Democratic National Committee.

TIRINCE MCANULTY: A Washington businessman and fund-raiser who set up the successful Clinton legal defense fund that in one year raised \$44 million to help pay the first family's huge legal bills. He also was a major Clinton fund-raiser in the 1996 re-election campaign and is said now to be providing fund-raising advice to Hillary Clinton.

DEJES RIVERA, President of Local 1129, the 160,000-member National Health and Human Services Employees Union. A state Democratic powerhouse whose union is a major contributor to Democratic candidates, Rivera also has long ties to Telles.

VICTOR KOVNER: Well-connected Upper West Side Manhattan political insider and lawyer who was President Clinton's state co-chairman in 1995. He also is a longtime Jockey friend. Kovner's wife, Sarah, was deputy director of Clinton's 1992 New York state campaign. As a lawyer, Kovner

represents many book publishers, magazines, newspapers and broadcasters. He successfully represented Penhones over the right to publish topless photographs of President Clinton accused Paula Corbin Jones.

**SEN.
CHARLES
SCHUMER**
One of the
most visible
advisers to
Hillary
Clinton

during her protected Senate meetings. His own winning campaign for a New York Senate seat last fall leaves him with some of the freshest statewide political research, data and contacts. It was Hillary Clinton's appearances with Schumer last year that provided his campaign a big boost and sparked talk of a Hillary-for-Senate campaign in 2008. It's payback time. "Schumer will reciprocate," predicted Rockland County Democratic Chairman Paul Adler. "He'll be out there with every

course of his political mus-
cle."

MR
CHARLES
BANGIL, D-
Manhattan:
Dean of the
New York
congres-
sional dele-
gation.

Rangel, from Harlem, along with Sen. Robert Torricelli, D-N.J., who heads the Democratic Senate Campaign Committee, has perhaps worked the hardest to convince Hillary Clinton she should run.

JOINT HOPE: The New York state Democratic Party chairwoman originally from Arkansas launched it all last year by joining Ginni a fundraising event at actor Alec Baldwin's Long Island home. That Hillary Clinton was so popular in New York, she should run for the Senate. That notion took on life when Democrat Daniel Patrick Moynihan announced he would not seek re-election to the Senate in 2000.

R

NEW YORK/NATION

The Journal News Saturday, May 22, 1999 3A

Will first lady run? Ask her in August

Lowey denies she wants Hillary Clinton's Senate decision by July 4, or Harrison Democrat is out

ONLY HOUSE
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — A top adviser to Hillary Rodham Clinton said yesterday that she may wait until August to announce whether she will run for the Senate from New York.

Harold Ickes, the Washington lawyer and former White House chief of staff who is counseling the first lady about a Senate run, said Clinton will not even take the initial step of forming a campaign exploratory committee next month.

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



Nita Lowey



Hillary Clinton

New York Democrats, meanwhile, said Rep. Nita Lowey of Harrison, who says she will not challenge Clinton in a Senate primary, is privately warning that she will withdraw from the race if the first lady doesn't make a decision by July 4.

Lowey yesterday denied setting such a deadline. But, she said, "I've said I need to know sooner rather than later."

"I would hope that she would make it sooner" than July 4,

Lowey said.

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

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

While Clinton may not have trouble raising the expected \$16 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 lesser-known congresswoman.

"It (July 4) 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, Rockland Democratic chairman.

Adler is among a growing number of party insiders and others who see evidence that Clinton has

already decided to run and is in preparation.

Westchester County Democratic Chairman David Alpert said Lowey also has told him that July 4 is "the line in the sand" for her decision on the seat being vacated by retiring Democrat Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

Alpert, thinking 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 Hufalk of the party's prospects, rejecting some party murmuring that Democrats

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 Mayor Rudolph Giuliani is considering running for the seat and has formed a campaign exploratory committee. Rep. Rick Lazio of Suffolk County is also interested.

If Clinton formed an exploratory committee, she could raise money and pay for travel costs in 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 next week.

KM

Gender gap looms large for First Lady

Senate bid by Hillary Rodham Clinton would rely heavily on support of female voters 5-23-99

By DAN FRIEDMAN

and STEWART M. POWELL

Times Union Washington bureau

WASHINGTON—First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, accelerating preparations for a likely Senate race in New York in 2000, is counting on support from women voters to help her win the seat held by retiring Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, D-N.Y.

Clinton is showcasing ties with prominent women in New York on Monday during her ninth visit to the state since Jan. 1 as she lays the



CLINTON

Senate race.

Clinton is expected to reach a final decision during a Memorial Day vacation with President Clinton and the couple's daughter Chelsea at White House Plantation in Yulee, Fla.

The formation of an exploratory committee would enable the First Lady to raise funds to finance her campaign through private contributions. Republicans have criticized her for traveling to New York on Air Force planes at taxpayers' expense.

One former senior White House adviser who remains close to Clinton said she is "nudging toward running. She's much closer than I ever thought possible."

Clinton plans two additional trips to the state in early June and a politically valuable trip to Israel later in the month.

groundwork for what is widely expected to be her announcement in mid-June that she is forming an exploratory committee to raise funds for her

New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani is expected to seek the Republican nomination for the Senate seat New York Gov. George Pataki has scheduled a political announcement on Monday, sparking speculation that he also might seek the nomination.

During her visit Monday, Clinton is expected to raise more than \$1 million at two fund-raising events. She will appear at a \$1,000 per person fund-raiser for Rep. Nita Lowey, D-N.Y., the veteran six-term House member who has vowed to seek the same Senate seat if Clinton declines to run.

Clinton also will appear at an exclusive \$10,000 per person fund-raiser at a private residence in Manhattan. The \$500,000 expected to be raised there will go to the Democratic Senate nominee.

Clinton also plans to take part in a book party honoring Matilda Cuomo and her new book, "The Person Who Changed My Life." Cuomo, wife of former New York Gov. Mario Cuomo, asked Clinton to write the forward for the book.

The First Lady also is taking part in an awards gala at Lincoln Center where the Americans for the Arts will honor her and two prominent patrons of the arts — Brooke Astor and Agnes Gund.

Clinton's multiple appearances with prominent women in New York underscores her ongoing effort to highlight her commitment to issues of concern to women voters, including child care for working women, the role of women in society and strengthening public education.

William Schneider, a public opinion specialist at the American Enterprise Institute in Washington, D.C., says Clinton is already reaping a windfall from women voters in New York.

"Women who are Democrats and independents really have a

reason to vote for her," says Schneider. "They want to make a statement about how she has been wronged and support her effort to strike out on her own."

Schneider added: "Supporting her sticks a thumb in the eye of the Republican Congress, as if they're saying, 'Take that, you middle-aged, conservative old white men.'"

Public opinion polls show sizable support for the First Lady in a hypothetical Senate race against Giuliani.

While polling has narrowed overall between Clinton and Giuliani, Clinton has maintained a large lead among women. The Quinnipiac College Poll completed April 20 shows Clinton leading Giuliani among women by 17 percentage points — 54 to 37 percent — a margin that more than accounts for her eight percentage point lead over Giuliani among all voters.

"Women always vote a little more for Democrats, but in Hillary's case, it's not just the gap, it's a chasm," says Maurice Carroll, director of the Quinnipiac College Polling Institute.

Ruth Mandel, director of the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University in New Jersey, predicts that Clinton will continue to benefit from an edge among women voters.

"To the extent anyone can predict anything in politics and elections this far ahead, I'd have to say that if Hillary Clinton runs for the Senate from New York, she will benefit from the gender gap."

Women voters helped propel Rep. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., to victory last fall over incumbent Sen. Alfonse D'Amato, R-N.Y. Schumer won the votes of 59 percent of women compared to D'Amato's 40 percent share, more than accounting for the Democrat's 55 percent to 45 percent victory over D'Amato.

CLINTON: Female voters needed

▼ CONTINUED FROM A1

Women exceed men in New York not just in voting registration, but also in actually turning out to vote. According to a U.S. Census Bureau survey taken after the 1996 election, 52.3 percent of 1996 actual voters were women.

Ellen Malcolm, president of Emily's List, which raises help for bankroll women who support abortion rights and are running as Democrats, says her network will support Clinton in New York.

Malcolm says a Clinton-Giuliani race would be decided in the suburbs, where independent-minded so-called "soccer moms" are often the deciding factor in close races.

"Hillary will do better upstate than Democrats usually do, and Giuliani will do better in (New York City) than Republicans usually do," Malcolm said. "So the battle will be in suburbia, among suburban women."

Geraldine DeAngelo, president of the New York State Federation of Republican Women, said Clinton may be underestimating the pitfalls of a New York candidacy.

"Don't think that just because she's a woman, she's got all the woman in New York state behind her," DeAngelo said. "I think she'll be in for a big fight."

Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., chairman of the National Republican Senatorial Committee, echoed the sentiment. "The best day (Clinton) has will be the day before she announces."

In addition to formation of the exploratory committee, Clinton plans to continue her efforts to forge close ties with the main Democratic constituencies that she would rely upon in a Senate race. The First Lady plans a June trip to Israel to become the first member of the first family to meet in Israel with newly elected Prime Minister Ehud Barak.

Clinton has been working for months to ease concerns of Jewish Americans who expressed worry over her remarks at a meeting in Davos, Switzerland, last year when she voiced support for an independent Palestinian state.

Democrat stalled by First Lady's indecision

Sources say Senate hopeful Rep. Nita Lowey has set a deadline of July 4 to wait for Hillary Rodham Clinton.

By BILLY HOUSE
Gannett News Service

TL
5-22-99

WASHINGTON — Anxious and frustrated New York Democrats say Rep. Nita Lowey of Westchester County, who says she wants to run for the Senate but will not challenge Hillary Rodham Clinton in the primary, is privately warning that she will not wait on the First Lady beyond July 4.

Nevertheless, a top adviser to Clinton said Friday that she likely will not announce in June whether she will run, as has been widely speculated, and may not do so until August.

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.



LOWEY

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

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. 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 4 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.

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BC-NY--Quinnipiac Poll, 1st Ld - Writethru, 470<

Quinnipiac poll shows Mrs. Clinton edging Giuliani in Senate race,<

Eds: SUBS 5th graf to CORRECT length of poll through Sunday STED Friday.<

NEW YORK (AP) — 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.

AP-ES-05-24-99 1036EDT<

Lazio takes aim at Hil, Rudy

By TIMOTHY J. BURGER

Daily News Washington Bureau

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."

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."

NEW YORK POST, SUNDAY, MAY 23, 1999

Pataki and mayor beat First Lady in poll

By FREDRIC U. DICKER
State Editor

ALBANY — Either Gov. Pataki or Mayor Giuliani could narrowly defeat First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton if the Senate race were held today, a new Post Poll shows.

The survey, from Zogby International of upstate Utica, found Giuliani slightly stronger than Pataki in a race against the First Lady — largely because of the Republican mayor's greater popularity among heavily Democratic New York City voters.

Giuliani led the First

NEW YORK POST
EXCLUSIVE

Lady, 49.3 percent to 43.7 percent, statewide, slightly better than the poll's 3.6 percentage-point margin of error.

Pataki, who after a week of speculation may announce tomorrow whether he's considering entering the race, led Mrs. Clinton by 48.6 to 44.7 percent, in a survey with a 3.9 point margin of error for that question.

"These results show that entering the Senate race is a highly risky venture for Mrs. Clinton," pollster John Zogby said.

"I think when you're a sitting First Lady and you want to run for the Senate you want to look for a situation where you are ahead 2 to 1, not in almost a dead heat against New York's two major political giants."

Zogby said Giuliani's stronger showing in New York City "could translate into his having a slight edge over Pataki in a race against Hillary."

"He's doing about 10 points better in the city and that could make all the difference in the world."

"And the fact that the mayor has won twice in New York City would obviously help him cut into a Democratic stronghold."

The poll found Giuliani doing best in the politically pivotal suburbs, where he overwhelmed Mrs. Clinton 60.6 percent to 31.5 percent.

Giuliani also led the First Lady in heavily Republican upstate areas, 51 percent to 42.1 percent.

Mrs. Clinton led Giuliani among heavily Demo-

cratic city voters, but not by the kind of blowout margin Democrats often need to win statewide elections.

The First Lady led the mayor, 58.7 percent to 44.3 percent, in the city, well short of the 68 to 70 percent landslide numbers many Democrats

candidates have received in the city in the past.

Mrs. Clinton was also slightly ahead of Giuliani among female voters, 48.9 percent to 45 percent.

Pataki also did best in the suburbs, leading the First Lady 58.0 percent to 39.6 percent, and upstate, where he was ahead 54.7 percent to 40.1 percent.

The First Lady did far better in New York City against the governor than she did against the mayor, leading Pataki, 67.2 to 27.7 percent.

Mrs. Clinton also did slightly better against Pataki among women, besting the governor 48.7 percent to 42.1 percent.

She also won the overwhelming support of African-American voters.

Blacks favored Mrs. Clinton over Giuliani by a whopping, 89.2 to 5.7 percent, and over Pataki, by a near-equally-massive 87.1 to 12.9 percent.

The First Lady also won the overwhelming support of Hispanic voters, but by lesser margins.

Hispanics favored Mrs. Clinton over Giuliani, 62.8 to 37.2 percent and over Pataki, 71.7 to 25.9 percent.

Giuliani led Mrs. Clinton among Jewish voters, 49.9 to 36 percent, while the First Lady led Pataki among Jews, 52.9 to 36.1 percent.

Catholics preferred both Pataki and Giuliani over Mrs. Clinton, 55.8 to 37.8 percent and 53.6 to 39.6 percent, respectively.

Protestants favored both men over Mrs. Clinton as well, although more narrowly.

Pataki beat Mrs. Clinton among Protestants, 48.1 to 46.1 percent, while Giuliani won, 49.1 to 45.2 percent.

Both Pataki and Giuliani led Mrs. Clinton among self-described "independent" voters, who often play a decisive role in statewide elections.

Pataki led Mrs. Clinton 53.2 to 41.4 percent among independents while Giuliani was ahead, 51 to 42.4 percent.

Zogby polled 748 likely voters, Monday through Thursday, on a possible Giuliani-Clinton race.

He surveyed 669 likely voters Tuesday through Friday on a possible Pataki-Clinton matchup.

HOW THEY MATCH UP

If the election for US Senator were held today and the candidates were Democrat Hillary Clinton and Republican Rudolph Giuliani, for whom would you vote?



Clinton	40.3
Giuliani	53.8
Not sure	5.9
Total	100.0

Loggy

If the election for US Senator were held today and the candidates were Democrat Hillary Clinton and Republican George Pataki, for whom would you vote?



Clinton	40.4
Pataki	55.6
Not sure	4.0
Total	100.0

Hillary's back for another nibble at Apple

By MAGGIE HABERMAN

Turning up the heat on speculation she's running for the U.S. Senate, First Lady Hillary Clinton is heading to the Big Apple tomorrow for a whirlwind day of back-to-back events.

The trip comes the same day that Gov. Pataki will finally make the "major announcement" to state Republicans that he has promised, which has been the buzz of political circles since The Post first reported it last week.

The First Lady's New York jaunt also comes on the eve of the annual birthday fund-raiser for Mayor Giuliani — Mrs. Clinton's potential GOP rival if she decides to run next year for the Senate seat of the retiring Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

While the GOPers are huddling together, Mrs. Clinton will be making the rounds with some of the state's top Democrats. Her first event is an early evening book party at Le

Cirque for Matilda Cuomo, wife of former Democratic Gov. Mario Cuomo and author of "The Person Who Changed My Life: 75 Prominent Americans Recount Their Mentors." A picture of Mrs. Cuomo and Mrs. Clinton adorns the book.

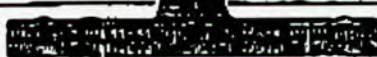
Then, it's on to a dinner for Rep. Nita Lowey (D-Westchester) — who has said she'll run for Senate on the Democratic ticket if Mrs. Clinton decides against it.

Finally, the First Lady

will stop by the Americans for the Arts fete at Lincoln Center. Mrs. Clinton is making the trip as she and her presidential hubby are reportedly scouting for vacation spots around New York state and are eyeing the breathtaking Adirondacks or Shelter Island.

The First Couple is headed to Florida for a vacation later this week, where Mrs. Clinton will focus on what she'll do about the Senate race.

The HillTM



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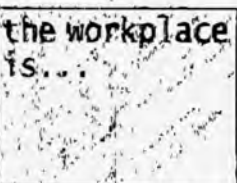
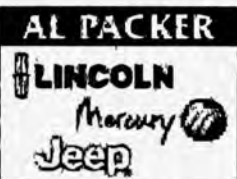
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A Clinton Senate run smacks of contempt for first lady role

Jack W. Germond and Jules Witcover

Jack W. Germond and Jules Witcover



Jack W. Germond & Jules Witcover

WASHINGTON -- Back in 1992, when his family's single-minded ambition was to gain the White House, Bill Clinton advertised his wife, Hillary, as a kind of political bonus for the country. If the voters elected him, he pointed out, they would be getting "two for the price of one."

Soon after his election, he appointed her to be the driving force in perhaps the only truly bold domestic initiative of his presidency, the campaign for universal health coverage. She ran it imperiously and in the end the ambitious and worthy effort failed, shot down by the insurance industry and its mostly Republican allies.

Since then, Mrs. Clinton, while not quite settling into the traditional first lady role of the woman behind the man, has occupied herself with somewhat lower-profile activities.

She has done so while suffering under the burden not only of having a publicly proclaimed unfaithful husband, but also staunchly defending him as the victim of, in her famous phrase, "a vast right-wing conspiracy" to drive him from office.

All this has been quite a full plate, for an ordinary woman anyway. But Mrs. Clinton quite obviously is not an ordinary woman. Still holding the most influential role accorded to any U.S. woman for another 20 months, she is casting a covetous eye on a U.S. Senate seat in New York.

So we have the prospect, if she does run, of Mrs. Clinton spending the next year and a half trying to keep two balls in the air. She would continue being first lady of the land, presumably a nonpartisan position while at the same time being a partisan candidate.

At a minimum, the arrangement would be a king-sized headache

for the green-eyeshade types at the White House and her campaign committee, who would be obliged by law to separate out the cost of her travel and other expenses in the first role from those incurred in the second.

But more important is this question: What's her rush? The Senate will still be there when her husband leaves public office.

A Senate seat from New York presumably won't be open again for some time after 2000, what with newly elected Democratic Sen. Charles Schumer likely to dig in for the long haul. But why New York? If she's going to be a carpetbagger, running in a state where she hasn't lived, there are plenty of others that fit that description.

The first lady would not, to be sure, be the first nonresident elected to the Senate. In New York itself, Robert Kennedy ran and won a Senate seat there in 1964 after a lifetime of residence and association with Massachusetts. But he quit his government job, as attorney general, before seeking that seat. How does a first lady quit that job, short of divorcing the president?

On the most obvious level, her candidacy will set tongues wagging across the country that there might be more than political ambition in her desire to put considerable distance between herself and the president. But the bottom line is, she's got a pretty good job right now. How does she justify this move, other than by acknowledging blind personal ambition?

She has, certainly, the right to run for whatever public office she chooses. But leaving the impression that she can't wait to get on to something that will better demonstrate her political influence in her own right smacks of contempt for a role in American politics that has always been respected, even revered, by the public.

Jack W. Germond and Jules Witcover write from the Washington Bureau.

Originally published on May 26 1999

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27 May 1999

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Politics



Carpetbagger issue

New York City Mayor Rudolph W. 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 first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton.

Jumping on the carpetbagger issue that Mrs. Clinton has no roots in New York, Mr. 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 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," Mr. 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."

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

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

Poll casts pall on Hillary Senate bid

First lady no longer seen as shoo-in

By Liz Trotta
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

NEW YORK — Hillary Rodham Clinton did the town at a typical round of galas and fund-raisers on her ninth visit to New York this year, but beneath the glitz and glamour, there is a growing uneasiness among rank-and-file Democrats that the first lady would not be a shoo-in for the state's open Senate seat.

Polls indicating that she has lost support appeared this week just as Mrs. Clinton appeared to edge closer to making a formal announcement on her candidacy and revealed that she intends to live in New York after her husband leaves the White House.

As she swept into a black-tie dinner at Lincoln Center Monday evening, a well-heeled matron volunteered ruefully to another guest that she could not cast her vote for Mrs. Clinton if she ran in the New York Senate race.

"Bill Clinton has a lot of talent — but it was wasted. It's very tragic," she added, linking her opinion of

the president's past to Mrs. Clinton's political future.

Her comments echo the dilemma of many Democrats who, although they continue publicly to welcome Mrs. Clinton on her frequent visits to this state as she musters financial and moral support for a run, privately admit they have lost enthusiasm for another Clinton in public office.

Her husband's scandals account for a large part of the resistance to Mrs. Clinton's Senate bid.

A tougher obstacle for Mrs. Clinton — the fact that she is an outsider, not from New York — is already being raised by two likely opponents in a Senate race: Republican Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani and Rep. Rick A. Lazio of Long Island, whom the mayor could face in a Republican primary.

The mayor, who has not officially announced his candidacy, continues to joke about running for the Senate from Arkansas.

A Zogby International poll released this week indicated that Mr. Giuliani would defeat Mrs. Clinton if the race were held today by 49.3 percent to 43.7 percent. The mayor did especially well upstate and in the suburbs against the first lady, while Mrs. Clinton led in New York City.

Although she has made no official announcement that she will seek the seat of retiring Democratic Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan next year, Mrs. Clinton's recent statements have led many to believe that she will indeed be in the race.

The speculation got a boost this week when the Staten Island Democratic Party chairman said Mrs. Clinton had told him she plans to run for the Senate seat. Robert Gigante said he asked her at Monday's fund-raiser if she was running and Mrs. Clinton answered "yes." But Harold Ickes, an adviser to the first lady, yesterday

denied Mr. Gigante's account.

Mrs. Clinton is expected to announce the formation of an exploratory committee when she returns next week from a Florida vacation. The committee is expected to reimburse the federal government for some of the expenses she incurs on her New York trips. Mrs. Clinton's critics have already pointed out that the taxpayers are footing the bill for what they describe as campaign trips.

Mrs. Clinton's plans continue to be a hot subject with the New York media. One caller to a radio show on the subject said Mrs. Clinton's "exploratory committee" should be used to "find Buffalo."

On her visits here, Mrs. Clinton always plays to friendly audiences peppered with Democratic Party celebrities. In a strange turn of political positioning on Monday, one of Mrs. Clinton's stops included a \$1,000-a-head fund-raising dinner for Rep. Nita M. Lowey, who continues to say she will run for the Senate on the Democratic ticket if Mrs. Clinton decides against it.

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May 1999

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Wed May 26, 1999 16:54 EDT

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Leader: Unless late change, first lady plans exploratory committee

MARC HUMBERT

AP Political Writer

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — Hillary Rodham Clinton has told New York's Democratic Party leader that, unless she has a change of heart, she intends to form a Senate exploratory committee in late June or early July, the party chief said Wednesday.

In addition, Judith Hope said Mrs. Clinton wants to spend part of this summer visiting families in upstate New York.

The party leader said Mrs. Clinton called her Wednesday morning from Florida, where she is vacationing with the president, to ask for help in setting up this summer's visits.

"She said she doesn't want to do big events," Hope said. "She wants to sit in people's living rooms and hear what kind of problems they're dealing with."

"She seems very exuberant and very excited," the state party leader said. "Her commitment seems to be increasing toward this."

Mrs. Clinton is eyeing the Senate seat being vacated next year by Democrat Daniel Patrick Moynihan. New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, among others, is looking at the race on the Republican side.

Hope said Mrs. Clinton is firming up her plans for how to move ahead with a Senate race.

"She said to me last Friday that she's going away, down to Florida for a few days, she's going to come back and she's going to do a lot of first lady things, including going to Israel," Hope said, "and that if she is still leaning in the direction that she seems to be, which is toward making the race, she would expect to be creating an exploratory committee in late June or early July."

Sources close to Mrs. Clinton had previously laid out similar timetables, but Hope's comments mark the first time one of the first lady's advisers has been willing to publicly talk about it.

According to Hope, Mrs. Clinton said Wednesday morning that she would like to make several trips to various parts of upstate New York this summer, spending a few days at a time "radiating out from a central location" to meet people.

Hope's comments came from one day after Robert Gigante, Staten Island's party chairman, said Mrs. Clinton had told him at a New York City fund-raiser the night before that she would run.

Gigante first made the remarks in a interview with the Staten Island Advance, then told other news organizations the same thing.

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

Told about Hope's comments Wednesday, Ickes said again that the first lady had not made a decision about the race. "This week is a big week for her," he said. He did not dispute the first lady's likely timetable as laid out by Hope.

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, more likely, to move ahead with her planning for the race.

Hope said that Mrs. Clinton has also decided to attend a state Democratic Party luncheon in Manhattan on Wednesday honoring United Federation of Teachers President Randi Weingarten. That is the same day Mrs. Clinton will be in New York City to attend a fund-raising event for U.S. Rep. Carolyn Maloney of Manhattan.

Hope said she did not expect Mrs. Clinton to make any announcements about the Senate race at the Wednesday events.

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First lady's running, says top Democrat

JOURNAL NEWS

BILLY HOUSE

Washington Bureau

5/26/99

WASHINGTON — A key state Democrat said yesterday that Hillary Rodham Clinton told him this week that she would run for the U.S. Senate from New York next year.

Staten Island party chief Robert Gigante said the first lady gave him the word at a Monday night fund-raiser where guests also openly gossiped that White House representatives were scouting Westchester County for a new Clinton home.

■ Westchester hangs out the 'welcome' sign, 4A

"My wife and I walked over to (Clinton), and I said, 'Do you have any good news for the people of Staten Island?'" Gigante said. "She said, 'Yes.'"

"And so, I said, 'Does that mean you're going to run?'" Gigante said. "She said, 'Yes.'"

"I was more stunned than anything else. I even double-checked with my wife to make sure that is what we heard.

And she said yes," Gigante said. "I guess maybe (Clinton) told me because I was the only one to ask her point-blank."

Former White House deputy chief of staff Harold Ickes, a top adviser to Hillary Clinton, said yesterday that Gigante misunderstood Clinton.

"I think there was a good-faith misunderstanding," Ickes said. "I talked to Mrs. Clinton this morning, and she said what I expected her to say — that she has not made up her mind."

Gigante said he stood by his

comments, even though he said Ickes had called to suggest that he should not repeat them.

"He said, 'Look, our position is that she has not made a decision,'" Gigante said. He also said Ickes added: "I'm telling the press it was a misunderstanding."

"He didn't say she didn't say it," Gigante said. "He just said, 'Our position to the press is that she hasn't made up her mind yet.'"

The Clintons were on vacation yesterday in Florida.

Post-It Fax Note

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