

## **Vote 2008!**

I can't remember when the race for the White House has been this entertaining. Everybody and their grandmother is tuning in to this one! Who needs sports TV or cable TV when local and national news broadcast such an attractive ball-by-ball account of the men and woman vying to become the next president of the United States of America.

As Vote 2008! moved past Super Tuesday, presidential hopefuls dwindled down to three front-runners and a striving, guitar-strumming politician who might need to play a different tune. Political rhetoric is on the rise as the remaining candidates seek ways to discredit their rivals. Tension is starting to build, but these tenacious candidates are seemingly not going anywhere—until the fat lady sings.

### ***For the Republicans:***

**Arizona senator John McCain.** A pro-life war veteran who supports the troops in Iraq, and the No Child Left Behind Act. Sounds good for the White House? Well, how does this sound? Chuck Norris thinks that McCain might be too old for the White House. He fears that McCain might not be able to handle the pressures of the White House at age seventy-two. I have news for you, Chuck. McCain was recently accused of having sexual relations with a lobbyist. Now *that* makes him White House ready! But hold up, McCain, let's make this clear: you've got nothing on Bill Clinton!

**Former Arkansas governor Mike Huckabee.** Yes, we might as well include him in the lineup, since he's hanging-in for political principle, perhaps. He's the guitar-strumming politician who basically believes that all Americans need a tax break. Yeah for Huckabee! But if he really needs to use a guitar to try to convince America to vote for him, he needs a Mick Jagger and the Rolling Stones campaign endorsement.

### ***For the Democrats:***

**Illinois senator Barack Obama.** An advocate for affordable health care, one whom Delaware senator Joe Biden describes as, "The first mainstream African American who is articulate and

bright and clean and a nice-looking guy.”<sup>1</sup> If you ask me, Biden needs to become more socially aware. Nonetheless, Obama was recently accused of political plagiarism by Democratic rival Hillary Clinton. He dismissed the accusation by saying, “What we shouldn’t be doing is tearing each other down. We should be lifting the country up.”<sup>2</sup> He’s right about that!

Former first lady, **New York senator Hillary Clinton**, a woman who’s been criticized for her lack of emotions. She advocates for health-care reform and hopes to be the woman to wear the “pantsuit” in the White House. However, as it stands, Clinton needs her pantsuit and a huge win if she hopes to make it to the White House. It will take not only a village but a few states and a horse’s shoe for Clinton to make a strong comeback.

As the race for the White House heightens, only one thing is certain: the next candidate to become the president of the United States will make history. Who will it be?

Will it be

- Senator McCain, the war veteran, likely to be the oldest elected president of the United States?
- Senator Clinton, the Pantsuit Pioneer, likely to be the first female president of the United States?
- Senator Obama, the man with the funny name, likely to be the first African American president of the United States?
- Or former governor Huckabee, the strumming stringer, likely to be the first presidential candidate to *not* quit while taking a huge nosedive?

The delegates are stacking up for both Democratic and Republican candidates, but it is the superdelegates who will hold the power of a wild card, but only for the Democratic candidates. Who will win the race for the White House? Tune in to find out. But before you grab your popcorn and soda, don’t forget to Vote 2008!

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<sup>1</sup> Sen. Barack Obama selected Sen. Joe Biden as his running mate. Quote taken from CNN.com, *Biden's description of Obama draws scrutiny*: <http://www.cnn.com/2007/POLITICS/01/31/biden.obama/>.

<sup>2</sup> Quote taken from Newsday.com, *ELECTION 2008: Polite but pointed*: <http://www.newsday.com/news/politics/ny-usdems225587102feb22,0,5669427.story>.