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Maine Democrats vote



Staff photo by Andy Molloy

More than 100 people lined up to be counted Sunday to support U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders, of Vermont, during the Democratic Party caucus in Gardiner.

Sanders scores big victory

Huge Portland turnout has officials scrambling

BY KEVIN MILLER
Portland Press Herald

U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont won Maine's Democratic presidential caucuses on Sunday, defeating Hillary Clinton by a sizable margin on a day that saw unprecedented turnout statewide and waits as long as four hours in Portland.

Sanders was leading Clinton 64 percent to 36 percent just after 9 p.m. with 80 percent of the caucus locations reporting, according to a tally from The Associated Press. The latest caucuses were slated to end at 8 p.m., and party officials were still compiling the results from all locations.

With his victory in Maine, Sanders picked up an eighth state — and his third in New England — as he attempted to slow Clinton's momentum and chip away at her sizable delegate lead. While Maine accounts for just 30 of the 3,138 delegates up for grabs nationwide, Sunday's outcome in Maine means Sanders picked up three of the four states that held primaries

CAUCUSES, PAGE A4

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Reuters file photo

Democratic presidential candidate and U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders speaks in Portland on March 2. Sanders was headed for a big win in Maine's Democratic caucuses Sunday.

CENTRAL, PAGE A4

Central Maine Dems lean to Vermonter

BY BETTY ADAMS
Staff Writer

GARDINER — When it came time to count the Bernie Sanders' supporters at Sunday's Democratic city caucus in Gardiner High School, Bree Candland piped up.

"Walk the lunch line," she said, drawing a laugh from the large crowd in the corner of the room.

Those favoring Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders totaled 101. The Hillary Clinton camp, assembled diagonally across the cafeteria, numbered 66.

Absentee ballots increased those numbers to 127 for Sanders and 96 for Clinton, giving them nine and seven delegates respectively to the Democratic State Convention set for May 5 and 6 in Portland. The breakdown between the two Democratic pres-

Nancy Reagan dies at age 94

Former first lady seen as restorer of White House style

BY WILLIAM DOUGLAS
McClatchy Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Nancy Reagan, a movie actress who assumed the role of a lifetime in the White House as the wife of President Ronald Reagan, has died, it was announced Sunday. She was 94.

Nancy Reagan was a Hollywood starlet with 23 movie and television credits; a governor's wife and a first lady who fiercely protected her husband's interests; and a staunch advocate for stem-cell research that she hoped would spare others the pain her family endured as Alzheimer's disease sapped the former president's memory and vitality before his death in 2004.

She was a behind-the-scenes force in the White House, unafraid to speak her mind in private to the president and White House officials about the goings-on in the administration.

"I make no apologies for telling him (the president) what I thought," Reagan wrote in her memoir, "My Turn." "For eight years, I was sleeping with the president, and if that doesn't give you special access, I don't know what does!"

Reagan was viewed by many historians as a "traditional" first lady who focused more on the social aspects of the White House.

She had a flair for entertaining, hosting 34 state dinners in her husband's first term. She was credited — and criticized — for returning an aura of style and sophistication to the White House at a time the nation was struggling through a recession.

"She felt the White House should exemplify the best," said Mark Weinberg, who worked on Ronald Reagan's campaigns, in the White House Press Office, and as a family spokesman after the couple left Washington. "She went about fixing things; then there were these stories about 'Queen Nancy.' It bothered her dearly."

But Nancy Reagan was anything but traditional. Though not as politically overt as Dolley Madison, Eleanor Roosevelt, Betty Ford or Hillary Clinton, former Reagan administration members said she exercised influence in some personnel and policy matters.

She served as Ronald Reagan's protector-in-chief, always watching and listening



REAGAN

REAGAN, PAGE A4

Hallowell city manager Pakulski dies unexpectedly

BY BETTY ADAMS
Staff Writer

Stefan Pakulski, Hallowell city manager since September and formerly town manager in Readfield, died suddenly Saturday night.

An email sent Sunday from Hallowell Mayor Mark Walker said he was told that Pakulski, who lived in Wayne, died after suffering a heart problem. However, a woman speaking on behalf of the family Sunday said they had yet to learn what caused the death.

Pakulski, 57, had worked for 12 years as Readfield's town manager until re-



PAKULSKI

"It's a big loss also for the city. He had stepped in, and in five or six months, he had made a big difference."

HALLOWELL MAYOR MARK WALKER

signing in February 2015 and then signed a three-year contract as Hallowell's town manager in September 2015.

Prior to his job as town manager in Readfield, Pakulski worked as community initiative program director for

the Rockland-based Island Institute, a nonprofit organization that works on behalf of Maine's island communities. He previously worked in international economic development.

He was married to Lynette Johnson, with whom he had two children, one in college and the other in high school.

"Our first thoughts are sorrow and condolence for the family," Walker said Sunday in a telephone call. "It's a big loss also for the city. He had stepped in, and in five or six months, he had made a big difference."

Walker said Pakulski had a medical incident recently when he left the office to go to the hospital, but later told other Hallowell officials it was not heart-related.

Walker also said Pakulski had just concluded a vacation skiing with his daughter, who skis with Maranacook High School ski team. He also had flown out to Utah to be with his son Kai and

skied there, returning just a week ago, "He is a huge loss," said longtime friend Stephen Hayes, of Readfield, who served with Pakulski on the board of directors of Regional School Unit 38, the Maranacook area schools. "His familiarity with town government made it a lot easier for us to work with the selectmen. He was inventive, creative and very well respected. Whatever he recommended, he generally convinced the board because of his excellent capabilities."

Hayes also said the two had been soc-

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