Nominations

Overview

• Nomination v. general election phase
• Direct primary v. presidential nomination
• Primary rules & outcomes
• Nominations in other countries
• History of presidential nominations
• 1970s reform of presidential nominations
• Presidential nominations today
  – Rules
  – Attrition Game

Elections

• Phases of the election
  – primary election
  – general election

Two systems of nominations

• House, Senate and most state offices
  – direct primary
• Presidential nomination
  – presidential primaries
  – caucuses & state conventions
  – national convention
Direct primary
• Progressive reform (1890s-1910s)
• All candidates from one party
  – Democratic primary
  – Republican primary
• Plurality victory, except:
  – Southern majority victory
  – Southern run-off primary

Defining Who Can Vote in a Primary
• Closed primaries (14 states and DC)
• Semi-open primary (12 states)
• Open (20 states: 11 declare, 9 private)
• Blanket (4 states)
  – California declared unconstitutional

Characteristics of Primaries
• Almost no other country uses primaries
• Primary date varies by states
• Low participation levels - 10% to 20%
• Are primaries divisive?
• Party leader role
  – endorsements - 8 states
  – encourage/discourage candidates to run

U.S. House 7th District
Democrat
Raul Grijalva

Republican
Joseph Sweeney
Comparative Nomination Process

- Great Britain Conservative Party
- Local party select candidates from list approved by national party organization
- To get on list
  - candidates interviewed and winnowed by national party officials
  - remaining 1/3rd on waiting list (n=500)

Comparative Nomination Process

- When opening occurs
  - Candidates apply to local committee
  - Local committee interviews and winnows
  - Select final candidate by majority vote
- Strengthens party
  - Insures nominee agrees with party
  - Balance ticket

History of Presidential Nominations

- Electoral College
- Congressional caucus (1796-1824)
- Convention Era I (1832-1900)
- Convention Era II (1900-1944)
- Convention Era III (1948-1968)
- Primary Dominant (1972-today)

Nominations by Electoral College

- Without parties, no consensus
- Elites nominating elites
- Quasi-parliamentary system
Nominations by Congressional Caucus (1796-1824)

- First used by Democratic-Republicans in 1796 to nominate Jefferson
- Follows pattern used in states
- Congressional parties

Congressional Caucus

- Problems
  - parties needed to expand beyond Congress
  - viewed as unrepresentative
  - viewed as elitist
  - lack true separation of powers between president and Congress

Congressional Caucus

- Fell apart as factionalization of Democratic-Republican party
- 1824 party nominates 5 candidates
- William Crawford by boycotted caucus
- By state legislatures: Andrew Jackson, John Quincy Adams, John Calhoun, Henry Clay

Convention Era I: 1832-1900

- Reform adopted from minor party
  - Antimason party
- More representative
- Separation of powers
- Authoritative nomination
Republican Convention 1860

Convention Era I: 1832-1900
- Candidates not campaign for nomination
- State party delegation basic unit for constructing winning coalitions
- No outside information on candidate popularity
- Could use many ballots to decide nomination - dark horses and bandwagons

Dark horse and future President
James K. Polk, 1844

1896 Democratic convention
- Cross of Gold speech

“Having behind us the producing masses of this nation and the world, supported by the commercial interests, the laboring interests, and the toilers everywhere, we will answer their demand for a gold standard by saying to them: You shall not press down upon the brow of labor this crown of thorns, you shall not crucify mankind upon a cross of gold.”

William Jennings Bryan

Convention Era I: 1832-1900
- Adaptations
- Short party platforms in 1840
- Platforms become more important as slavery issue dominates
- Vice presidential nominations not taken seriously until after Civil War
Convention Era II: 1900-1944

• First limits on convention autonomy
  – Norm to renominate president
  – Growing role for interest groups
  – First public opinion polls in 1930s, with only 1 or 2 exceptions most popular candidate nominated
    • 1952 more popular Kefauver lost to Stevenson
    • 1964 Republican leader unclear

Estes Kefauver
Adlai Stevenson

Convention Era II: 1900-1944

• Limited role for presidential primaries
• First used in 1912 divisive
  – Teddy Roosevelt won 10/12, President Taft renominated, Roosevelt bolts for Bull Moose Party

Republican Convention 1912

Former President Teddy Roosevelt's arrival in Chicago
President William Howard Taft

Convention Era II: 1900-1944

• Limited roll for primaries (continued)
• Only handful of states use primaries
• Many candidates not run in them
Convention Era III: 1948-1968

- Expanded but still limited role for primaries
  - Not enough (16 states, 40% of delegates) to win
  - Contested only by "outsider" candidates
    - 1948 Harold Stassen & 1952 Estes Kefauver fail
    - 1952 Dwight Eisenhower win
  - Primary loss = exit, primary win = ?

Harold Stassen

1948 Democratic Convention

Hubert Humphrey

"There are those who say to you - we are rushing this issue of civil rights. I say we are 172 years late. There are those who say this issue of civil rights is an infringement on states rights. The time has arrived for the Democratic Party to get out of the shadow of state's rights and walk forthrightly into the bright sunshine of human rights."

1960 Democratic Nomination

- Insider strategy
  - Lyndon Johnson - TX
  - Stuart Symington – MO

- Outsider strategy
  - John Kennedy - MA
  - Hubert Humphrey - MN

Strom Thurman
Speaks at convention
Runs as Dixiecrat wins
39 Electoral College votes
1964 Republican Convention

• “I would remind you that extremism in the defense of liberty is no vice! And let me remind you also that moderation in the pursuit of justice is no virtue!”

Barry Goldwater

1968 Democratic Convention

• President Lyndon Johnson declares late will not run, Vice President Hubert Humphrey enters race instead
• Eugene McCarthy runs in primaries on anti-Vietnam war plank
• Robert Kennedy enters after McCarthy, assassinated in June after winning CA

1968 Democratic Convention

Protesters photographed by Paul Sequeira

Mayor Daley defending the police

Security confronting Dan Rather
1968 Democratic Convention

- “Unfair” and unknown delegate selection rules
- Convention protests inside and out
- Call for reform of rules for 1972
- McGovern-Fraser Commission
  - process must be open to all Democrats
  - process must be timely

Transformation of Nomination

- Proliferation of presidential primaries
  - New rules
  - Media attention and public legitimacy
  - Separate presidential from state politics
- Nomination by accumulating delegates prior to the convention

Growth in Number of Presidential Primaries

Presidential Nominations Today

- Legal nomination = national convention
- Each state sends delegates to convention
  - most selected in presidential primaries
  - some states use caucus/convention system
    - caucus = local party meeting
    - followed by mid-level and state conventions
Election Calendar
• Iowa caucus & New Hampshire primary
  – Traditionally in February
  – 2004 in January
• 2004 change in Democratic Window

Election Calendar
• Others from February - June
• Front-loading of calendar in recent years
  – 2004 Jan & Feb = 20 primaries, caucuses
  – March = 18 primaries, caucuses
  – Remainder = 13 primaries, caucuses

Front Loading:
Percent of Primaries Held By End of March

Presidential Primary Rules
• Parties select number of delegates and distribute to states based on size and party vote
  – Democrats - 4,317  Republicans - 2,509
• Democrats
  – proportional representation rules to select delegates
• Republicans no rules
Campaign Finance

• 1974 campaign finance laws, updated
• Individuals $2,000   PAC $5,000
• Matching funds for individuals only
  – Accept limit spending
• Not accept in 2000
  – Spend own money - Steve Forbes $42 million
  – Raise money - George W. Bush - $90 million


Not Accept Funds 2004

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<tr>
<td>Howard Dean</td>
<td>$41 million</td>
<td>$53 million</td>
<td>$53 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Kerry</td>
<td>$25 million</td>
<td>$177 million</td>
<td>$315 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>George Bush</td>
<td>$133 million1</td>
<td>$201 million</td>
<td>$264 million</td>
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Voters in Presidential Primaries

• Turnout varies
  – Average 25%
  – Number of candidates, spending levels, other contests
• Voters older, more partisan, more informed
• Voters’ choices
  – Candidate qualities, issues, region, strategic considerations
The Attrition Game

- Start with 6 or more candidates
- Establish reputation in pre-election year
- Compete in early primaries, exit if do not do well
- As candidates withdraw, finally one left
- Usually by mid-March game is over
- Officially need half of delegates

2000 Nominations

- Early exits
  - Lamar Alexander (R) August 1999
    - after weak finish in Iowa straw poll
  - Dan Quayle (R) September 1999
  - Elizabeth Dole (R) October 1999

Iowa caucus, January 24

**Republican Results**
- McCain not campaign in state
- Hatch (Utah senator) withdraws

**Iowa caucus, January 24**

**Democrats**

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Al Gore</th>
<th>Bill Bradley</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>64% of vote</td>
<td>New Jersey Senator</td>
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</table>
New Hampshire Primary

- Republican delegates
  - McCain - 10
  - Bush - 5
  - Forbes - 2

- Democrats
  - Gore 49.7% vote
  - 13 del.
  - Bradley 45.6% vote
  - 9 del.

McCain’s momentum strategy

Small state interlude

- February 5 - February 29
- All Republican primaries, Democratic window
  - Delaware, South Carolina, Arizona, Michigan, Puerto Rico, North Dakota, Virginia, Washington
- Bush wins most, McCain - MI, AZ
- Forbes exits after 3rd place in Delaware

March 7

- 16 states
  - 1315 Democratic delegates (30%)
  - 605 Republican delegates (29%)

- Republican
  - Bush wins 8, McCain wins 3
  - Bush 633 delegates, McCain 229

- Democrats
  - Gore wins all
  - Gore 1406 delegates, Bradley 264

End of Attrition Game

- McCain and Bradley withdraw on March 9
- Arizona Democratic primary
  - March 11
  - Internet voting
- March 14 - southern states
  - Bush 1,102 delegates, surpass 1034 to win
  - Gore 2,575 delegates, surpass 2,170 to win
2004 Democratic Nomination

- Early exits
  - Bob Graham exit October 6, 2003
  - Carol Moseley Braun exit January 15, 2004

Iowa caucus, January 19

- Clark & Lieberman not campaign in state
- Gephardt withdraws

New Hampshire Primary

January 27, 2004

- Kerry wins 13
- Dean wins 9

February Events

- New Democratic window
- Feb. 3: Arizona, Delaware, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Carolina primaries; North Dakota caucus
  - Kerry won all except
    - Oklahoma won by Clark
    - South Carolina by Edward
  - Feb. 4 Lieberman exits
Arizona
2004
Democratic
Primary

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Vote</th>
<th>Del.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kerry</td>
<td>43%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clark</td>
<td>27%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dean</td>
<td>14%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edwards</td>
<td>7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lieberman</td>
<td>7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kucinich</td>
<td>2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sharpton</td>
<td>0%</td>
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More February Events

- Feb 7 – 24: Michigan, Tennessee, Virginia, Wisconsin, Utah
- Kerry wins all
- Clark drops out February 11, won 1 primary
- Dean drops out February 18, won no primary

March 2 – Super Tuesday I

- 10 states
  - 1151 Democratic delegates (33%)
- Kerry wins all but Vermont (Dean)
- Edward drops out March 3, won 1 primary
- Only Kerry, Sharpton and Kucinich in race

March 9

- Southern Super Tuesday
- 4 states
- Kerry only real candidate
- Secures almost enough delegates for nomination, only 30 short
Delegate Count

End of Attrition Game

- By March 3 Kerry only real candidate
  - Secures enough delegates by March 13
  - Sharpton drops out March 15
  - Kucinich drops out in summer

Post-Primary; Pre-Convention

- New stage in 2004
- End of March - summer
- Presumed nominees begin "fall" campaign

Role of Convention

- Officially nominate president & vice president

George W. Bush acceptance speech, Republican National Convention 2000
Role of Convention

- Ratify national party platform
- Change any party rules
- Serve as start of fall campaign
  - unity of party

Summary

- Unique system of primaries
- Special rules
- Complicated presidential nomination system
- Attrition game

Al and Tipper Gore
Democratic National Convention