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“Not So Super Tuesday”

By

Tom Holbrook

"Super Tuesday"... a day like no other day in the political world and good old West Virginia Republican Party started the ball rolling by awarding former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee 18 of its 30 delegates at their state caucus. Nine more delegates will be awarded to someone after the Spring Primary and three will remain as at-large delegates. It took two votes by the 1,200 delegates attending the WV Republican Convention caucus to determine their recipient because the winner must emerge with a majority vote and the results of the first ballot taken showed Romney with 41 percent of the vote, followed by 33 percent for Huckabee and 16 percent for McCain. It is said Senator McCain then called his representatives on the scene and advised them to release his voters to vote for Huckabee, thus the final tally of 52 percent for Huckabee and 47 percent for Romney. Romney, of course, was complaining of a suspected "back room" deal between Huckabee and McCain, but to no avail, and walked off as the loser after investing much time and money into the state. Huckabee, on the other hand, saw the victory as providential intervention and that he was the winner, and not a whiner.

As stated in previous articles both McCain and Huckabee seem to have miraculously risen from the politically dead to score significant victories in various states, i.e., Huckabee in Iowa, McCain in New Hampshire, South Carolina and Florida. Romney, on the other hand has campaigned hard, spent millions of his own money to fund great volunteer organizations in every state, and traveled more miles than either of the other two candidates but still is coming up short in those states in which he feels most confident.

Some have said it is because of his Mormon background; others say he's "too squeaky clean looking," and still others say they just don't trust him for some fathomless reason. Throughout the evening of Super Tuesday it appeared that voters in the Southern states of Alabama, Georgia, Arkansas, and Tennessee, preferred the homespun, aw-shucks talk of Huckabee to the North Eastern charm of Gov. Romney. Romney did well in the states he should have; Massachusetts, Utah, N. Dakota, Alaska, Minnesota, Colorado and Montana and McCain wrapped up the big delegate count states of New York, New Jersey, and California, and added Illinois, Missouri, Arizona, Connecticut, Oklahoma, and Delaware to his victories.

At the end of the evening McCain led the delegate count with a total of 613 to Romney's 269 and Huckabee's 190. A total of 1,191 delegates are needed for any of them to be declared their party's nominated candidate for President.

Hillary and Obama, fought toe to toe all evening and some states were not decided until after midnight eastern standard time. Hillary won the battle for delegates, barely, with 845 to Obama's 765, an 80 delegate difference. Not an insurmountable lead especially since it takes 2,025 delegates to win the Democrat nomination. Obama was feeling great after the vote, however, declaring to his faithful that "their time has come," and they will rise to the occasion.

Missouri was one of the closest races to call during the evening and neither the Dems nor Republicans knew their winner in that state until well after midnight. The Associated Press erroneously named Hillary the winner earlier but that decision was later reversed and the win given to Obama. McCain was the ultimate winner on the Republican side but not more than 2 percent of the vote separated him from Huckabee and Romney. Missouri is deemed important in the mix because over the last 100 years, with the exception of one time, Missouri has accurately given their primary victory to the ultimate winner of the Presidency. They came short of the mark in 1956 when they voted for Adlai Stevenson over the ultimate winner of the Presidency Gen. Dwight Eisenhower. I watched Sen. Obama's victory speech at the end of the evening and it's easy to understand why so many young folks are enamored with him. His words were inspiring with echoes of John F. Kennedy's inaugural theme of "ask not what your country can do for you" speech. He speaks eloquently and passionately so much so that his followers standing behind him can be seen shedding tears at his words of promise, faithfulness, and sacrifice. One could almost see them grabbing sticks and fending off sword wielding enemies of our country if he were to ask them to.

What many of those clinging to his coat tails fail to realize, however, is that many of the promises he is making to his faithful can never be fulfilled or realized, without the Federal Government becoming the Lord over us all and our country becoming nothing more than a Socialistic monolith. A monolith that would suck dry the entrepreneurial spirit of our citizens and leave everyone looking to and dependent upon Uncle Sam to provide everything *it* determines their needs might be.

I wish Obama were someone we could look to for the rebirth of our country's moral and cultural infrastructure but his thinking has been warped so badly by his socialistic roots he would only add to its decay. His rhetoric of "not a White America, or Black America, or Asian America but a United States of America" sounds wonderful and the theme is one to which I wholeheartedly subscribe. Unfortunately, if we were to follow the path that he is marking out for us to take to get to that end, our ultimate destination would be instead the "United Socialist Republic of America."