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"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"

Obama: GOP wants Clinton

Special to SentinelVoice

CHICAGO - Sen. Barack Obama predicts that Republicans will have a dump truck full of dirt to unload on Hillary Clinton if the former first lady wins the Democratic presidential nomination, and said he offers the party its best hope of winning the White House this fall.

At a news conference on the morning after Super Tuesday, Obama offered some pointed advice to members of Congress and other party leaders who will attend the national convention this summer as delegates not chosen in primaries or caucuses.

He said that if he winds up winning more delegates in voting than the former first lady, they "would have to think long and hard about how they approach the nomination when the people they claim to represent have said, 'Obama's our guy,'" he said.

The Illinois senator won primaries and caucuses in 13 states on Super Tuesday, while Clinton won eight and American Samoa. Obama and Clinton were in a tight race in New Mexico.

Obama said he had won a majority of the 1,681 delegates at stake, although The Associated Press tally showed several hundred yet to be allocated.



Democratic presidential hopeful Barack Obama and his wife Michelle celebrate with supporters on Super Tuesday in Chicago. Hillary Clinton and Obama dug in for a protracted slog for the Democratic White House nomination after battling to a brutal draw in their coast-to-coast Super Tuesday showdown. Obama won 13 of the 22 states up for grabs.

Asked about Clinton's recent comment that she would not allow herself to be victimized by the type of Swift Boat-style attacks that were leveled against Sen. John Kerry in the 2004 race, Obama said he had been

vetted by his opponent in the nominating campaign.

"I have to just respond by saying that the Clinton research operation is about as good as anybody's out there," he said.

"I assure you that having

engaged in a contest against them for the last year that they've pulled out all the stops. And you know, I think what is absolutely true is whoever the Democratic nominee is the Republicans will go after them. The notion that somehow Senator Clinton is going to be immune from attack or there's not a whole dump truck they can't back up in a match between her and John McCain is just not true."

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Williams ends long TV career

Syndicated talk show to end run after 17 years on the air

Special to Sentinel-Voice

Montel Williams says 17 years is enough. The talk show host has announced that his syndicated "Montel Williams Show" will take its final bow at the end of this season.

"I can't say thank you enough to those who've welcomed me into their homes for the past 17 years," Williams says in a statement. "It has been both an honor and a joy."

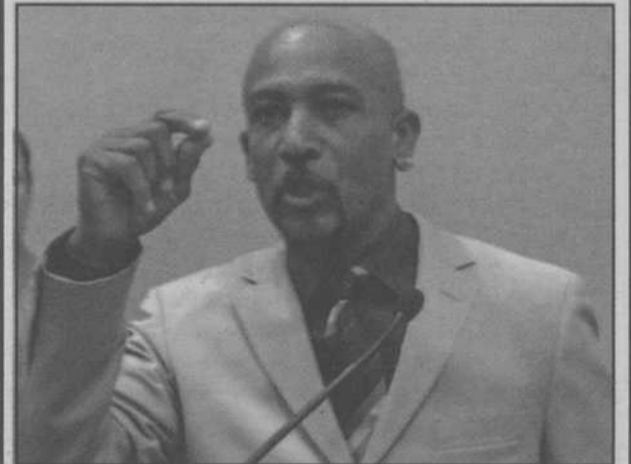
In addition to receiving the 1996 Daytime Emmy Award for Outstanding Talk Show Host, the show that bears his name has also been honored with Daytime Emmy nominations for Outstanding Talk Show in 2001, and Outstanding Talk Show Host in 2002.

In a field in which more than 80 talk shows have come and gone since its debut, The Montel Williams Show has established itself as an enduring brand built on quality and integrity.

Entertaining, informative and relatable, the show's longevity is a testament to Williams' sincerity and compassion, in addition to his willingness to tackle complex issues head on. The show provides a safe forum for provocative and meaningful discussions about family, communication, and personal and social responsibility.

Williams' concern for the welfare of his guests inspired the show's After-Care Program, which be-

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Montel Williams is ending his talk show after 17 years.

UN: Expect huge opium hauls

NEW YORK — The United Nations predicts Afghanistan will harvest a near-record opium poppy crop this year along with an increasing amount of cannabis.

The annual UN winter survey of poppy planting patterns serves as a warning to Europe and the rest of the world to brace for an influx of heroin, The New York Times reported recently.

Released by the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, the report says there is some evidence sharp increases in cultivation are leveling off, yet the "total amount of opium being harvested remains shockingly high." In the preface to the report, the executive director of drug and crime office points to a link between Afghanistan's opium harvest and the

Taliban insurgency.

"This is a windfall for anti-government forces," Antonio Maria Costa said.

The UN report said Afghanistan currently supplies 90 percent of the world's opium.

In addition, the report said the country has become one of the biggest suppliers of cannabis, the plant that yields marijuana and hashish.



GIANT VICTORY

New York Giants' Michael Strahan gestures to the crowd as they celebrate in New York on Tuesday during a parade in honor of their win in the NFL Super Bowl.