

2020 Iowa Caucus results

By Eleanor Flannery
Staff Writer

The 2020 Iowa Caucus was held on Monday, Feb. 3, and it was quite the “systemwide disaster.” The statewide caucus encompassed 1,600 precinct locations in determining the state’s preferred Democratic candidate for the upcoming presidential election.

The event caused quite the controversy as there was a major delay in publishing results, as well as candidates prematurely declaring victory, leaving anticipated reporters unable to relay information.

However, many Americans were unsurprised by the aftermath as this year’s caucus was an attempt to revise an out-of-date practice.

In years prior, the Iowa Caucus required voters to be physically present which hindered the participation of many working Americans.

This year’s election had a change in the caucusing format previously carried out in Iowa. In the past, caucusgoers could change

their position of support for their candidate from the first round to the second round, once it was determined whether or not their candidate was viable.

As of this year, if a supporter’s candidate is proved to be viable after the first round, they can no longer move their support from their caucus group into the second round.

While this change was made in an effort to save time, it left room for strategy and negotiation between groups to gather more support for a particular candidate which contributed to the delay in results.

The result of the caucus should have been determined around 9:45 p.m., an hour and forty-five minutes after the caucus began, but it did not go as planned. As the rallying of neighbors at their local gymnasiums, churches, schools and other polling venues was underway, reports of delays in the results flooded news outlets.

Newscasters were left dumbfounded due to no voting results coming in from the Iowa Democratic Party. A statement was finally released before midnight, detailing how “inconsistencies in the reporting of three sets of results” were found, according to Mandy McClure, Iowa Democratic Party Communications Director.

“In addition to the tech systems being used to tabulate results, we are also using photos of results and a paper trail to validate that all results match and ensure that we have confidence and accuracy in the numbers we report. This

is simply a reporting issue, the app did not go down and this is not a hack or an intrusion. The underlying data and paper trail is sound and will simply take time to further report the results.”

Though it was reported that “the app did not go down” when voters were using the platform, it was revealed that voters were having trouble simply trying to install the app and log in, let alone use it. On top of that, when chairman of the Democratic Party in Polk County, Sean Bagniewski’s assistant went to deliver the first round of results to the Iowa Democratic Party headquarters, they were mysteriously turned away.

Results didn’t start coming in until late Tuesday afternoon, showing former Mayor Pete Buttigieg leading with a slight edge over Senator Bernie Sanders of Vermont, followed by Senator Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts in third.

With 100% of the results in, Pete Buttigieg is polling at 13 delegates (26.2% of the votes), a narrow win over Senator Bernie Sanders’s 12 delegates (26.1% of the votes).

In an attempt to have a more efficient election, changes were made in the caucusing format, as well as the addition of the voting application, made by Shadow.

Due to the app inconsistencies, The Nevada Democratic Party, which is to hold their caucus later this month, announced on Tuesday that it would not be using Shadow as its vendor.

“We will apply the lessons learned in the future,” the company said.

THE CLARION

SENIOR STAFF

- Editor in Chief **Zach Dickerson**
- Managing Editor **Julie Carter**
- Copy Editor **Carmen Boone**
- Campus News **Zach Dickerson**
- Opinion **Julie Carter**
- Arts & Life **Chloe McGee**
- Sports **Aia Andonovska**
- Layout & Design **Chloe McGee**
- **Margaret Correll**
- Faculty Adviser **John B. Padgett**

- Eleanor Flannery
- Eli Goodhew
- Sam Hipp
- Caroline Hoy
- Mickayla Smith
- Lande Simpson
- Solomon Turner
- Amber Vance

The Clarion is a student-run college newspaper produced by student journalists enrolled at Brevard College. Unsigned editorials represent the collective opinion of the staff of *The Clarion*. Other opinions expressed in this newspaper are those of respective authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the faculty, staff

All correspondence should be mailed to: *The Clarion*, Brevard College, One Brevard College Drive, Brevard, NC 28712, or send E-mail to clarion@brevard.edu clarion.brevard.edu

✉ **Letters Policy:** The Clarion welcomes letters to the editor. We reserve the right to edit letters for length or content. We do not publish letters whose authorship cannot be verified.

Security report

The most recent security reports for Brevard College have been released as of Monday, Feb. 10 at 12:44 p.m., according to Brevard College Campus Security.

There have been several incidents of female students receiving harassing phone calls. The individual indicates that they have a pizza delivery, their car was bumped or other reasons. requesting for the students to come outside of the dorm and meet them.

The matter is under investigation by Campus Security and the Brevard Police Department. The incidents took place on February 6 with no follow-up calls. It is believed that the individual was attempting to prank the females invovled.

Students are cautioned that if they receive a call, don’t respond, call Campus Security immediately.

A bicycle was reported stolen in one of the Villages. Students are reminded not to prop open any doors in the interest of everyone’s safety and the security of belongings.

It has been reported that someone cut doughnuts in the grassy space adjacent to the turf field. Students are requested not to engage in this act. Not only does it disfigure the landscape, but it also costs a considerable amount of money to repair the damage.

If anyone is observed in this activity they will receive a ticket, be required to appear before a campus judicial committee and pay restitution for the damages.

Everyone is requested to contact Campus Security at (828)-577-9590 if wrongful or suspicious activity is observed on campus.

— Zach Dickerson