

Obama flexing advertising muscle

by UPI

HARRISBURG, Pa. -- Barack Obama has put his war chest to use, pushing beyond Pennsylvania to advertise in North Carolina and Indiana, a move observers say his rival can't match. Obama, a U.S. senator from Illinois, spent \$250,000 in each state over the past week, The Wall Street Journal reported. The Pennsylvania primary is April 22; North Carolina and Indiana primaries are May 6. His campaign's aggressive advertising "forces Hillary Clinton to spend money in Pennsylvania -- and that's money she can't spend in North Carolina and Indiana," Evan Tracey of the Campaign Media Analysis Group told the Journal. "Obama is putting his money to work." Obama's campaign reported it took in \$40 million in March, double that of Clinton's \$20 million. Neither campaign revealed their ad spending in their battle to become the Democratic nominee for president. Clinton, a U.S. senator from New York, spent two days at fundraisers in California, The Washington Post reported. She planned weekend fundraisers in New Mexico. An Elton John concert Wednesday in New York has a \$2 million goal. Trying to tap into online donors, Clinton's team said it launched an Internet program that allows supporters to choose how their money would be used.

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