

Group starts effort to 'Draft Lou Dobbs'

USA TODAY

January 17, 2008 Thursday, FINAL EDITION

Copyright 2008 Gannett Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Section: NEWS; Pg. 5A

Length: 400 words

Byline: Mark Memmott

Body

Add "**Draft Lou Dobbs**" to the **efforts** by independents to bring another candidate into the presidential race. The movement was launched Wednesday by a **group** called Americans for Legal Immigration. In a press release, it praised the CNN host for "his tough stance on border security and curbing illegal immigration." William Gheen, who heads the organization and its political action committee, said in the release that **Dobbs** "could run and win because he could easily raise the funds and grass-roots support he needs to be a historic and viable candidate quickly."

Would **Dobbs** do it? "I cannot say never," he told The Wall Street Journal this month when it asked about whether he would consider a White House run.

His fans have **started** the loudobbsforpresident.org website. On Tuesday, a "**Draft** Bloomberg" **effort** was launched by admirers of New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg. Its website is draftbloomberg.com.

Not-so-ringing endorsement for Obama

When the Las Vegas Review-Journal's editorial board told its Democratic readers Wednesday that they should support Sen. Barack Obama in Saturday's Nevada presidential caucuses, it made no attempt to hide its conservative leanings. After some highly critical paragraphs about Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton and one line about John Edwards, the Review-Journal wrote:

"Sen. Obama is a relatively young man with relatively little of the kind of real-world experience that prepares a candidate to stand firm against urgent advice to, say, bomb some remote population of defenseless civilians to 'send a message,' or plunge the economy into a dark night of unforeseen consequences by crippling the free market in the name of 'fighting greed.' But Barack Obama is, at least, likeable. He is a good enough orator that there is no need to cringe when he dares to speak off the cuff."

The candidates' plans

Here's where some of the major presidential contenders will be today:

*Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y.: Los Angeles and Santa Barbara, Calif.

*Democrat John Edwards: Henderson, Nev.; Los Angeles.

*Republican Rudy Giuliani: Fort Walton Beach, Destin and Tallahassee, Fla.

*Republican Mike Huckabee: Clemson, S.C.

*Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz.: South West Aiken, S.C.

Group starts effort to 'Draft Lou Dobbs'

*Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill.: San Francisco; Las Vegas.

*Rep. Ron Paul, R-Texas: Fort Mill and Rock Hill, S.C.

*Republican Mitt Romney: Pauline and Greenville, S.C.

*Republican Fred Thompson: South Carolina.

Graphic

PHOTO, B/W, Saul Loeb, AFP/Getty Images

Classification

Language: ENGLISH

Publication-Type: NEWSPAPER

Subject: US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2008 (93%); IMMIGRATION (90%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2012 (90%); HEADS OF GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS (90%); US PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS (90%); US REPUBLICAN PARTY (89%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2016 (89%); US DEMOCRATIC PARTY (89%); CAMPAIGN FINANCE (78%); POLITICS (78%); CAUCUSES (78%); POLITICAL CANDIDATES (78%); ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS (77%); POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS (77%); CELEBRITIES (77%); ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS (77%); CONSERVATISM (76%); POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEES (73%); TERRITORIAL & NATIONAL BORDERS (72%); BORDER CONTROL (72%)

Company: WALL STREET JOURNAL (56%)

Industry: CELEBRITIES (77%)

Person: BARACK OBAMA (89%); HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON (89%); JOHN EDWARDS (78%); MITT ROMNEY (78%); JOHN MCCAIN (78%); MICHAEL BLOOMBERG (72%); RUDY GIULIANI (58%); FRED THOMPSON (58%); MICHAEL HUCKABEE (58%); RON PAUL (56%)

Geographic: LOS ANGELES, CA, USA (91%); SAN FRANCISCO, CA, USA (79%); TALLAHASSEE, FL, USA (78%); LAS VEGAS, NV, USA (78%); NEW YORK, NY, USA (76%); SANTA BARBARA, CA, USA (71%); GREENVILLE, SC, USA (66%); SOUTH CAROLINA, USA (94%); NEVADA, USA (93%); NEW YORK, USA (92%); TEXAS, USA (79%); ILLINOIS, USA (79%); CALIFORNIA, USA (79%); FLORIDA, USA (79%); UNITED STATES (79%)

Load-Date: February 13, 2008

Group starts effort to 'Draft Lou Dobbs'

End of Document