

## Politics

## 'First black woman'

## Biden 'picks' Harris as his running mate

WILMINGTON, Del Aug 12, (AP): Joe Biden named California Sen. Kamala Harris as his running mate, making history by selecting the first Black woman to compete on a major party's presidential ticket and acknowledging the vital role Black voters will play in his bid to defeat President Donald Trump.

In choosing Harris, Biden embraced a former rival from the Democratic primary who is familiar with the unique rigor of a national campaign. The 55-year-old first-term senator, who is also of South Asian descent, is one of the party's most prominent figures. She quickly became a top contender for the No. 2 spot after her own White House campaign ended.

She will appear with Biden for the first time as his running mate at an event Wednesday near his home in Wilmington, Delaware.

In announcing the pick Tuesday, Biden called Harris a "fearless fighter for the little guy, and one of the country's finest public servants." She said Biden would "unify the American people" and "build an America that lives up to our ideals."



Biden

Harris joins Biden at a moment of unprecedented national crisis. The coronavirus pandemic has claimed the lives of more than 160,000 people in the US, far more than the toll experienced in other countries. Business closures and disruptions resulting from the pandemic have caused severe economic problems. Unrest, meanwhile, has emerged across the country as Americans protest racism and police brutality.

Trump's uneven handling of the crises has given Biden an opening, and he enters the fall campaign in strong position against the president. In adding Harris to the ticket, he can point to her relatively centrist record on issues such as health care and her background in law enforcement in the nation's largest state.

The president told reporters Tuesday he was "a little surprised" that Biden picked Harris, pointing to their debate stage disputes during the primary. Trump, who had donated to her previous campaigns, argued she was "about the most liberal person in the US Senate."

"I would have thought that Biden would have tried to stay away from that a little bit," he said. Harris's record as California attorney general and district attorney in San Francisco was heavily scrutinized during the Democratic primary and turned away some liberals and younger Black voters who saw her as out of step on issues of racism in the legal system and police brutality. She declared herself a "progressive prosecutor" who backs law enforcement reforms.

Biden, who spent eight years as President Barack Obama's vice president, has spent months weighing who would fill that same role in his White House. He pledged in March to select a woman as his vice president, easing frustration among Democrats that the presidential race would center on two white men in their 70s.

## Expansive

Biden's search was expansive, including Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren, a leading progressive; Florida Rep. Val Demings, whose impeachment criticism of Trump won party plaudits; California Rep. Karen Bass, who leads the Congressional Black Caucus; former Obama national security adviser Susan Rice; and Atlanta Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms, whose passionate response to unrest in her city garnered national attention.

A woman has never served as president or vice president in the United States. Hillary Clinton was the Democratic presidential nominee in 2016. Two women have been nominated as running mates on major party tickets: Democrat Geraldine Ferraro in 1984 and Republican Sarah Palin in 2008. Their parties lost in the general election.

The vice presidential pick carries increased significance this year. If elected, Biden would be 78 when inaugurated in January, the oldest man to ever assume the presidency. He's spoken of himself as a transitional figure and hasn't fully committed to seeking a second term in 2024.

Harris, born in 1964 to a Jamaican father and an Indian mother, spent much of her formative years in Berkeley, California. She has often spoken of the deep bond she shared with her mother, whom she has called her single biggest influence.

Harris won her first election in 2003 when she became San Francisco's district attorney. In that post, she created a reentry program for low-level drug offenders and cracked down on student truancy.

She was elected California's attorney general in 2010, the first woman and Black person to hold the job, and focused on issues including the foreclosure crisis. She declined to defend the state's Proposition 8, which banned same-sex marriage and was later overturned by the US Supreme Court.

After being elected to the Senate in 2016, she quickly gained attention for her assertive questioning of Trump administration officials during congressional hearings.

Harris launched her presidential campaign in early 2019 with the slogan "Kamala Harris For the People," a reference to her courtroom work. She was one of the highest-profile contenders in a crowded Democratic primary and attracted 20,000 people to her first campaign rally in Oakland.

But the early promise of her campaign eventually faded. Her law enforcement background prompted skepticism from some progressives, and she struggled to land on a consistent message that resonated with voters. Facing fundraising problems, she abruptly withdrew from the race in December 2019, two months before the first votes of the primary were cast.

One standout moment of her presidential campaign came at the expense of Biden. During a debate, she said Biden made "very hurtful" comments about his past work with segregationist senators and slammed his opposition to busing as schools began to integrate in the 1970s.

"There was a little girl in California who was a part of the second class to integrate her public schools, and she was bused to school every day," she said. "And that little girl was me."

Shaken by the attack, Biden called her comments "a mischaracterization of my position."

The exchange resurfaced recently with a report that one of Biden's closest friends and a co-chair of his vice presidential vetting committee, former Connecticut Sen. Chris Dodd, still harbors concerns about the debate and that Harris hadn't expressed regret. The comments attributed to Dodd and first reported by Politico drew condemnation, especially from influential Democratic women who said Harris was being held to a standard that wouldn't apply to a man running for president.

Some Biden confidants said Harris' debate attack did irritate the former vice president, who had a friendly relationship with her. Harris was also close with Biden's late son, Beau, who served as Delaware attorney general while she held the same post in California.



Sen Kamala Harris, D-Calif, speaks at a campaign rally for Democratic presidential candidate former vice-president Joe Biden at Renaissance High School in Detroit. Before Joe Biden named Harris his running mate, women's groups were readying a campaign of their own: Shutting down sexist coverage and disinformation about a vice presidential nominee they say is headed for months of false smears and 'brutal' attacks from internet haters. (AP)

## Coronavirus

## High school shut in Georgia district

## Over 900 students, staff members quarantined

CANTON, Ga. Aug 12, (AP): A Georgia school district has quarantined more than 900 students and staff members because of possible exposure to the coronavirus since classes resumed last week and will temporarily shut down a hard-hit high school in which a widely shared photo showed dozens of maskless students posing together.

The quarantine figures from the Cherokee County School District include at least 826 students, according to data the district posted online. Located about 30 miles (60 kilometers) north of Atlanta, the district serves more than 42,000 students and began its new school year on Aug. 3.

On Tuesday, Georgia on Tuesday posted its highest single-day death total yet in the pandemic at 137 fatalities, according to the state Department of Public Health. The state is currently averaging reports of more than 60 deaths each day though people may have died earlier.

Of the fatalities reported on Tuesday, Department of Public Health spokesperson Nancy Nydam said 75 occurred in August, 54 in July and eight earlier. More than 4,300 people have died overall in Georgia.

"Given the high number of COVID-19 cases confirmed at the end of July, we are, unfortunately, seeing deaths related to

those cases," Nydam wrote in an email.

The state continues to average more than 3,500 new confirmed cases of coronavirus each day, with more than 222,000 infected so far.

The school quarantines were announced a day after Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp said that the reopening of some of the state's schools amid the coronavirus outbreak has gone well - except for the viral photos of students crowded together without masks.

The photos showed students standing shoulder to shoulder in crowded hallways at North Paulding High School northwest of Atlanta and squeezed together for first-

day-of-school senior photos at two high schools in Cherokee County, including Etowah, which has had more than 300 students and staff members told to quarantine. Few students in the photos wore masks.

Democrats strongly pushed back against Kemp's assessment that school reopenings were proceeding safely, blaming him and President Donald Trump for failures.

Cherokee County School District Superintendent Brian Hightower said the district was temporarily shutting down Etowah High School starting Wednesday and hoped to reopen the school on Aug. 31.

## From everyday tasks to intensive performance, the HUAWEI P40 Pro+ does it all

Today we tend to use our smartphones for almost anything. Watching our favorite series, taking pictures or videos, scrolling through social media, quickly replying to emails or even some intense gaming sessions, a smartphone needs to be capable of doing it all. Huawei's latest premium flagship, the HUAWEI P40 Pro+ aims to give you exactly this, by harnessing the power of its Kirin 990 5G chipset for not only efficient performance, but also robust 5G networking capabilities.

Let's look at everyday tasks first. Answering emails on the go, browsing social media, shopping online or even streaming your favorite series or movies online, all require solid networking capabilities. The HUAWEI P40 Pro+ with its Kirin 990 5G chipset, ensures that all of it is taken care of. The chipset brings to the table super-fast connectivity at all times, ensuring that you are always connected. The HUAWEI P40 Pro+ also supports Wi-Fi 6 Plus for 160MHz bandwidth and advanced 1024-QAM modulation. Simply put, this allows the phone to have high speed transmissions clocked at 2400Mbps.

But powerful performance is only as good as how long it lasts. For example, if you are playing some graphics intensive games on your phone

or running some power hungry apps, smooth performance does not matter if the phone runs out of battery faster than ever. However with the HUAWEI P40 Pro+, you don't have to worry about this either. The Kirin 990 5G chipset, while designed to give you powerful performance, also focuses on being power and energy efficient, which means no matter what you are doing, you can keep doing it for longer than ever before.

Additionally, this is topped off with a massive 4200mAh battery, which can keep you going as you power through all those levels in your favorite game, binge through all the seasons of your favorite show or even stay online to wrap up office work on the go. Don't worry about recharging this battery when it's drained out (which might take a while, let's be honest), thanks to its SuperCharge features. Available both in wired or wireless modes, the 40W HUAWEI SuperCharge ensures that you are back to full charge in no time.

Carrying out intensive tasks or gaming can often heat up the phone, which can get quite uncomfortable to use, or even be dangerous. The HUAWEI P40 Pro+ on the other hand, keeps its cool under heavy load, thanks to its 4-in-1 SuperCool system. This setup uses a graphene

film, a vapor chamber, an ultra-thin heat pipe and graphite to ensure maximum cooling. Thanks to this setup, you get 20% faster cooling while also keeping your phone cool during intensive use, making sure you don't have to put your phone down after a couple rounds of gaming or a few episodes of your favorite show.

In order to get the most out of your phone, you need the best collection of apps. You don't have to go looking around for these apps because the HUAWEI P40 Pro+ comes with HUAWEI AppGallery, Huawei's official app marketplace preinstalled. One of the top 3 app marketplaces in the world, the HUAWEI AppGallery has a wide range of global and local apps under its sleeve. It is now available in more than 170 countries/regions with more than 650 million Huawei device users and over 420 million monthly active users globally since its launch in April 2018.

If you are looking for a smartphone that can tank all the heavy tasks you throw at it, last long and stay cool while doing it all, the new HUAWEI P40 Pro+ is the one you are looking for. Gaming office tasks or even just kicking back to relax, the HUAWEI P40 Pro+ can do it all, no matter how intense.

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