

ABC's *Good Morning America*

08/12/26

7:00:35 a.m. [TEASE]

10 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Breaking Overnight; Race to the Midterms]

RACHEL SCOTT: Breaking overnight, the nail-biter in Wisconsin, the tests in South Carolina, and what happened in Minnesota. The key primaries and what it all means for November.

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7:06:32 a.m.

2 minutes and 48 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Key Primary Victories]

SCOTT: We turn now to politics. Voters headed to the polls on Tuesday for one of the biggest primary nights before the midterm election. Jay O'Brien is in Washington tracking the results. Jay, this was a big test not only for progressives but also for the President.

RACHEL SCOTT: It really was, Rachel. Six states going to the polls yesterday, but all eyes were on Wisconsin. First off, that Democratic primary for governor there a major upset overnight that could have serious implications for the future of the party. Overnight in Wisconsin, an upset for the Democratic Party's progressive wave and a surprise victory for the party establishment. Democratic socialist Francesca Hong, narrowly defeated by the establishment-backed David Crowley. Crowley, posting overnight: "Wisconsin, let's get to work." And the state party chair calling for Democrats to come together, writing: "Tonight, Wisconsinites made their choice and tomorrow, Democrats will unite around David Crowley." The primary was a nail-biter, Crowley only beating Hong by a few thousand votes, even as polls showed Hong with a comfortable lead. But many of the country's top progressives distanced themselves from Hong, who previously called to defund the police. And in a 2020, since-deleted social media post, wrote "cancel Thanksgiving," saying it promoted colonialism. She has since said her views have changed.

FRANCESCA HONG [on CNN's *The Source*, 08/03/26]: Thanksgiving is also a time that's incredibly painful for many people in our communities, and so, I think there I wanted to make sure that people understood that there are multiple views, but views can evolve.

O'BRIEN: Crowley, the Milwaukee County Executive, will now face off against Republican Congressman Tom Tiffany, endorsed by President Trump. Meanwhile, in neighboring Minnesota, the progressive candidate, Lieutenant Governor Penny Flanagan, capturing the Democratic nomination for Senate, a victory for the party's left-wing heading into the midterms and overnight in South Carolina, in a test of the power of Trump's endorsement, Darline Graham, the sister of the late Senator Lindsey Graham, failed to win more than 50 percent of the vote in the Republican primary to replace her brother on the November ballot. Despite the

complete and total support of the President.

SENATOR DARLINE GRAHAM (R-SC): I've been accused of not being a politician. Guilty as charged. I will spend the next two weeks of this runoff meeting with voters. And, unlike some politicians, listening to their concerns.

O'BRIEN: ABC News now projecting Graham will advance to a runoff against Republican Congressman Ralph Norman. So, multiple tests overnight. But it's all really going to come down to who goes to the polls in November, and one more state where the President's endorsement came up short last night was Minnesota in the Republican race for governor. Mike Lindell, a close ally of President Trump's, who backed his baseless claims of election fraud, losing in the Republican primary overnight to the state speaker of the house, Lisa DeMuth. That was the Republican primary for governor, Whit.

WHIT JOHNSON: All right. Jay O'Brien for us. We appreciate it.