

*CBS Mornings*

08/12/26

7:00:14 a.m. [TEASE]

2 seconds

GAYLE KING: Plus, breaking news overnight on those primary results.

(...)

7:09:02 a.m.

2 minutes and 13 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Results From Key Primary Races]

VLADIMIR DUTHIERS: We've got breaking news from Wisconsin, CBS News has projected a winner in the Democratic primary for governor and it's a surprise. This race turned out to be super close, but we estimate David Crowley has defeated the long-time front-runner, Francesca Hong. Ed O'Keefe joins us to talk more about this. Ed, good morning.

ED O'KEEFE: Vlad, good to see you. We saw another tick-tock tight contest in the Midwest between a moderate and progressive Democrat. Take a look at this. Francesca Hong, a democratic socialist, appeared to have all the attention against Milwaukee County Executive David Crowley, but Crowley just eked it out. Again, look at this. CBS News called the race when Crowley was ahead of Hong by just over 3,000 votes. The margin of victory about as thin as supermarket-sliced cheese. So, why did this happen? Well, because it had been a crowded primary field of seven candidates at one time and it narrowed down to the last two. Even Crowley had dropped out and only got back in the race when another moderate also dropped out. The other candidates, who dropped out, earned enough early and absentee ballots to keep Crowley and Hong in such a close race. But Crowley earned the support of popular, outgoing Governor Tony Evers, who spent the last few weeks warning Wisconsinites that Hong would cost the party the governorship. She had expressed opposition to things like fireworks and Thanksgiving, and called for the abolition of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and once called for defunding the police. She's backed off most of these positions, but for now, Crowley now set to face Republican Congressman Tom Tiffany in a race CBS News considers a toss-up, Vlad.

DUTHIERES: Alright, Ed, so there were also two key Senate primaries last night. There was one in Minnesota and a special election in South Carolina. Break it down for us.

O'KEEFE: Well, let's start in the Palmetto State where newly-appointed Senator Darline Graham succeeded her late brother Lindsey Graham. She did well across the state last night, but not well enough to avoid a runoff in two weeks. She faces Congressman Ralph Norman, who had earlier run unsuccessfully for governor. We will wait to see if the President goes to campaign for Graham in South Carolina. Then, up in Minnesota, Democrat Peggy Flanagan will face Michelle Tafoya, maybe a familiar face to some of you. She's a former sportscaster who literally came off

the sidelines to run for the Senate. The GOP would like to make this a competitive contest. CBS News currently rates it as a seat leaning to the Democrats, Vlad.

DUTHIERS: Alright, Ed, thank you very much.