

FEC Reports Show Kerry, LaRouche Two-Way Race

by Anita Gallagher

The March 2004 Monthly Reports filed with the Federal Election Commission (FEC) again place Lyndon LaRouche first, among all current candidates for the Democratic Party's Presidential nomination, in the total of itemized individual contributions to his campaign. LaRouche's 37,867 contributions to John Kerry's 35,337 make it a two-way contest, as LaRouche forecast it would be, relative to the other candidates still in the race: Dennis Kucinich, with 7,622 contributions, and Rev. Al Sharpton, with 2,486.

As of the end of February, LaRouche led all candidates in the cumulative number of itemized individual contributions in 35 states; Kerry led in 14, plus the District of Columbia; and Kucinich led in Hawaii. In 12 states, candidate LaRouche is number one in the cumulative absolute dollar amount of contributions, as well as the number of itemized individual contributions: these states are Alaska, Delaware, Kansas, Montana, North Carolina, North Dakota, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, and West Virginia. Overall, LaRouche is second to Kerry in the total amount of money raised from individuals, ahead of Kucinich and Sharpton.

"Itemized individual contributions," which the FEC requires every candidate to report, are those given by any individual who has contributed \$200 or more to a campaign. The figure indicates the combined breadth, depth, and duration—repeated contributions as the campaign progresses—of a candidate's base of supporters.

LaRouche Has a Mass Base

LaRouche's *average* itemized individual contribution is, at \$143.02, the lowest of any of the candidates: compared with Kerry, at \$844.60; Kucinich at \$297.75; and Sharpton, at \$203.44. This is because LaRouche has a large base of repeat contributors of small and medium amounts. He also currently has \$1.5 million in *un-itemized* contributions (i.e., from individuals who have not yet given \$200), which is an identified base of continued future support over the rest of the campaign ahead.

LaRouche's having the lowest average itemized contribution figure, and lead in total itemized contributions, show that he is the most successful candidate in organizing his base for ongoing support and activity. For example, a person who gives \$50 for the fourth time, has given four itemized contributions, according to the FEC. This is the mass-based organizing process represented by LaRouche campaign sta-

TABLE 1

LaRouche and Rivals' Itemized Contributions

Candidate	Cumulative Number Itemized Individual Contributions	Itemized Contributions in February '04	Cumulative Amount, Itemized Contributions	February '04 Amount, Itemized Contributions
LaRouche	37,867	1,587	\$6,996,333	\$258,106
Kerry	35,337	9,479	\$31,636,134	\$7,833,845
Kucinich	7,622	1,411	\$6,044,145	\$585,436
Sharpton	2,486	635	\$484,340	\$51,083

Source: Federal Election Commission, inclusive of March 2004 Monthly Report 2004.

TABLE 2

LaRouche and Rivals' Federal Matching Funds

Candidate	Cumulative Matching Funds Received	February '04 Matching Funds Received
LaRouche	\$1,004,367	\$ 165,518
Kerry	—	—
Kucinich	\$2,163,384	\$1,427,719
Sharpton	—	—

Source: Federal Election Commission, inclusive of March 2004 Monthly Report 2004.

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The FEC confirmation of LaRouche's mass base makes the near-zero vote, credited to LaRouche in many primaries so far, highly dubious. It is evident that for each identified supporter of a candidate, there are necessarily many more unidentified ones who would vote for him. Besides outright vote tampering, the other danger is that supporters become so disgusted at the Party's refusal to include LaRouche in the nomination process, that they no longer turn out to vote—and indeed, participation in the Democratic primaries has fallen since New Hampshire.

As LaRouche said on March 29, through such stupidity, following the orders of DNC head, "Mother McAuliffe," Democrats could lose to even the dumbest President we've ever had—Bush.

While LaRouche has been excluded, the banker-controlled Party and media have kept their approved candidates, like Al Sharpton, visible. It is of interest that of the 635 "itemized individual contributions" listed in Sharpton's March monthly report, only 57 actually qualified as itemized individual contributions (totalled \$200 or more) and thus had to be reported under FEC rules. LaRouche has \$1.5 million in un-itemized contributions, Kerry has \$1.6 million, and Kucinich \$3.7 million; but only the Sharpton campaign has, from its inception, reported each contribution as an

itemized contribution. Without this reporting practice, Sharpton's cumulative itemized contributions would shrink to 582, instead of 2,486.

LaRouche's total of 37,867 itemized individual contributions, according to FEC statistics, is an objective representation that LaRouche is the leading candidate in terms of the breadth and depth of his base of support nationwide, and must be included in the Democratic Party nomination process if Bush is to be defeated. These statistics are one sign that it's now a two-way race, between LaRouche and Kerry.



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