NC, national candidates await November

By Amy Tsai Summer State & National Editor

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MAY 15 — The May 6 primary elections ended in few surprises overall — despite a crowded and expensive U.S. Senate race and some close victories at the local level in Orange County.

With the primaries finished, nominees from the Democratic, Republican and Libertarian parties will prepare to face off in November's general elections.

The primaries for North Carolina's seat in the U.S. Senate featured 13 candidates running for three parties' nominations.

The race has been identified as one of the most contested and expensive in the

Sen. Kay Hagan, D-N.C., and N.C. Speaker of the House Thom Tillis, R-N.C., won the Democratic and Republican nominations, respectively. Sean Haugh won the Libertarian nomination for U.S. Senate.

The three parties' primary



Kay Hagan is the incumbent Democratic candidate for U.S. Senate. She has raised more than \$13 million.

winners all claimed early leads they did not relinquish.

Tillis, who won 45.7 percent of his party's vote, said in his acceptance speech Republicans are on the same team to unseat incumbent Hagan in November.

"If we want to change

Obamacare, we have to change our senator," he said in the speech.

"If we want to end our nation's financial crisis, we have got to change our senator."

Hagan released a statement after her victory, which she won with 77.2 percent of the vote.

"I am honored to serve North Carolina, but I know that this job is about the families working every day for a better future," Hagan said in the statement.

"I will continue putting them, and North Carolina, first as we continue our work

to make all North Carolina families strong and great."

Thom Tillis

is the N.C.

Speaker of

the House.

Republican

U.S. Senate.

candidate for

He will be the

Hagan has raised more than \$13 million in campaign contributions, while Tillis has raised more than \$3 million.

Haugh, who won 60.7 percent of the Libertarian vote,

said his campaign works with a small budget, and no records exist on his fundraising.

His plan for the general election is to produce issuespecific YouTube videos and host town hall-style events across North Carolina, he said in an interview.

"Communications technology has changed so much that it really makes it possible for me to get my message out without having to spend millions of dollars to do it," Haugh said.

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