



**Protesters of the Canadian National takeover of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railroad Co., which runs through Barrington, march to a hearing held Wednesday night by the Surface Transportation Board at Barrington High School.**

JOE LEWNARD/jlewnard@dailyherald.com

## 5,100 turn out over EJ&E

### Most at Barrington High speak out against sale

See the video at [dailyherald.com](http://dailyherald.com)

**BY ASHOK SELVAM AND ERIC PETERSON**  
aselvam@dailyherald.com  
epeterson@dailyherald.com

The scoreboard remained dark at Barrington High School's gymnasium, but cheers condemning Canadian National's proposed purchase of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railroad Co. rocked the rafters Wednesday night. The public meeting in Barrington

was the third of eight planned by the federal Surface Transportation Board before the Sept. 30 deadline for public comments on the \$300 million merger. Another public meeting is scheduled today at Bartlett High School.

Many in the gym wore red — the color of a stop sign and the official hue of those opposing the deal. Barrington residents say they have safety concerns about the additional freight trains that would come through the village.

Barrington has led the charge against the deal, and police said they recorded more than 5,100 people entering the gym.

Republican Rep. Don Manzullo of Egan quickly got the crowd going and received a standing ovation after he attacked the STB's environmental impact report on the effects of the merger. He wondered if it was

See **DEAL** on **PAGE 11**

## Racing star visits all his recruits

**BY BOB SUSNJARA**  
bsusnjara@dailyherald.com

NASCAR star Dale Earnhardt Jr. rolled up in a white Dodge minivan Wednesday to check out "his" recruit division at Great Lakes Naval Training Base near North Chicago.

Earnhardt, one of racing's most popular drivers, visited the 88 recruits during their final leg of preparations before they start an eight-week boot camp today. The recruits are in the Navy's Dale Earnhardt Jr. Division.

Under an \$800,000 deal, Earnhardt appeared in television commercials and participated in other efforts to attract the Navy recruits to a division named after him. It was part of the Navy's marketing campaign that targeted young adults.

After exiting his Dodge Grand Caravan, and not his usual Chevrolet, Earnhardt first spoke to the recruits in the medical checkup building. He then went to the mess hall and barracks, where he distributed patches emblazoned with "Dale Jr. Division" to the recruits.

Earnhardt told the recruits they are in the first Navy division that stems from a celebrity-endorsed program. He asked them to fully commit to the Navy and said they should expect to be stronger individuals after finishing basic training.

"Hopefully, a couple of you guys, for my sake, can say you made it to the Pentagon," said Earnhardt, who plans to return to see the recruits before they graduate Oct. 17.

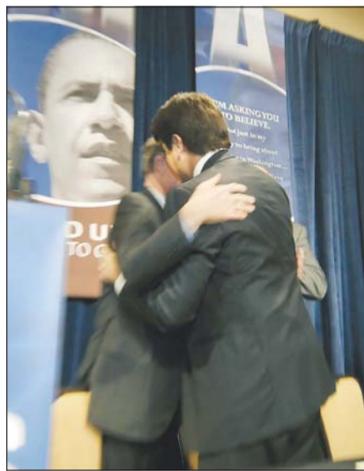
Recruit division Cmdr. Nancy Smogoleski said Earnhardt's appearance should be a boost to the would-be sailors. She said the Dale Jr. Division will be treated the same as the others.

"I've been a big fan of (Earnhardt's) for the last eight, nine years. ... It's a one-time experience to do something like this, but it doesn't take away from what we have to do here," Smogoleski said.

Taking a break before joining some recruits in a mess

See **RACING** on **PAGE 10**

## What a hug! Will it last?



**Yes, Gov. Rod Blagojevich hugged Speaker of the House Michael J. Madigan in Denver. Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr. started it all; he hugged Richard Daley.**



PHOTOS BY JOHN STARKS/jstarks@dailyherald.com

Story on Page 2 • Audio and video on all this at [dailyherald.com](http://dailyherald.com)

## Harry's wants room to grow

### Arlington Heights so far likes plans for downtown bar

**BY SHEILA AHERN**  
sahern@dailyherald.com

The owner of Harry's of Arlington wants to enclose its outdoor patio and build an addition complete with a brick floor, separate bar and fireplace.

The proposal went before some members of the Arlington Heights plan commission at a workshop on Wednesday. Most plan members said they liked what they saw at the meeting.

"It's really nice and it would be great for year-round seating," commissioner Bruce Green said.

The outdoor patio currently seats about 100 people. After the project the area will only seat about 66 people because Harry's owner wants to add a bar, staircase, fireplace and storage.

The addition will also feature a large glass window along Vail Street, which will be open during the summer months, said Jim Tinaglia, the project's architect.

During the summer, there will also be tables for outdoor diners along Vail near the sidewalk, Tinaglia said.

There will also be a private room for party rental.

Harry's opened in at Vail Street and Campbell Avenue in 1993. The building dates back to 1893.

Local folklore said the old building, which at one time housed a grocery store, had secret underground passages that were used to transport liquor during prohibition.

Not so, said Harry McColm, who owns the eatery.

"We never found it," he said at the meeting.

Harry's expansion will need to go before the full plan commission for a vote before it moves to the Arlington Heights village board for consideration.

Assuming the project is approved, the addition should be open by June 2009, Tinaglia said.

### On the Web

- **Dailyherald.com:** Catch up on today's Illinois delegation breakfast and follow events all day.
- **Animal Farm:** Tom Cross talks about the Denver embrace. Michelle Obama shows up at Daley's party. The Beatles get a nod for theme song. It's all at blogs. [dailyherald.com](http://dailyherald.com).
- **Multimedia:** Tammy Duckworth talks about her time in Iraq. Also, see photo galleries of local highlights in Denver.

### Inside

- **Constable:** Two women discuss an ebony-and-ivory friendship. Page 15.
- **The speech** experts say Obama must give. Page 3.
- **Republican Andy McKenna** says a speech is not enough. Page 2.
- **Clinton delegate** reflects on her own historic vote. Page 2.

### Tonight

- **TV: C-SPAN** at 4 p.m.; CNN at 5 p.m.; MSNBC at 6 p.m.; PBS at 7 p.m.; Fox News at 8:45 p.m.; ABC, CBS, NBC at 9 p.m.
- **Featured speaker:** Sen. Barack Obama.



ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOS

**Sen. Barack Obama joins Democratic vice presidential candidate Sen. Joe Biden on stage Wednesday shortly after Biden's speech at the Democratic National Convention in Denver.**

# History, together

## Clintons, Biden, all make nominee official

**BY DAVID ESPO**  
AP Special Correspondent

DENVER — Barack Obama stepped triumphantly into history Wednesday night, the first black American to win a major party presidential nomination, as thousands of Democrats transformed their convention hall into a joyful, shouting celebration.

"I think the convention's gone pretty well so far. What do you think?" called out the Democrats' man of the hour in a surprise late-night visit to the hall. The crowd thundered its approval, and he and running mate Joe Biden basked in the cheers.

Obama implored the delegates to help him "take back America" in the fall campaign against Republican Sen. John McCain of Arizona.

Earlier, former rival Hillary Rodham Clinton asked the convention to interrupt its roll call of the states and make its verdict unanimous "in the spirit of unity, with the goal of victory." And they did, with a roar.

Competing chants of "Obama" and "Yes we can" surged up from the convention floor as the outcome was announced.

Biden, who has twice sought the presidency in his own right,



**Bill Clinton declared, "Barack Obama is ready."**

See **TOGETHER** on **PAGE 3**

### **Weather** Tropic thunder

Stormy, high of 89.  
See the back of Business.



### **Index**

Comics	5-3
Editorials	1-14
Help wanted	6-1

Horoscope	4-3	Out & About	4-2
Lottery	1-16	Puzzles	5-3
Movies	4-3	Television	4-2
Obituaries	4-3	Weather	3-6

### **Contact us**

• Want to subscribe? Missing a paper? Call (847) 427-4333 by 9 a.m. or go to [dailyherald.com](http://dailyherald.com)

and click on Customer Services.  
• Contact us with tips at [news@dailyherald.com](mailto:news@dailyherald.com) or call (847) 427-4300 during business hours.