

Sports: B1

Millville goes Grand-Am



Life: D1

Better or Worse gets new look



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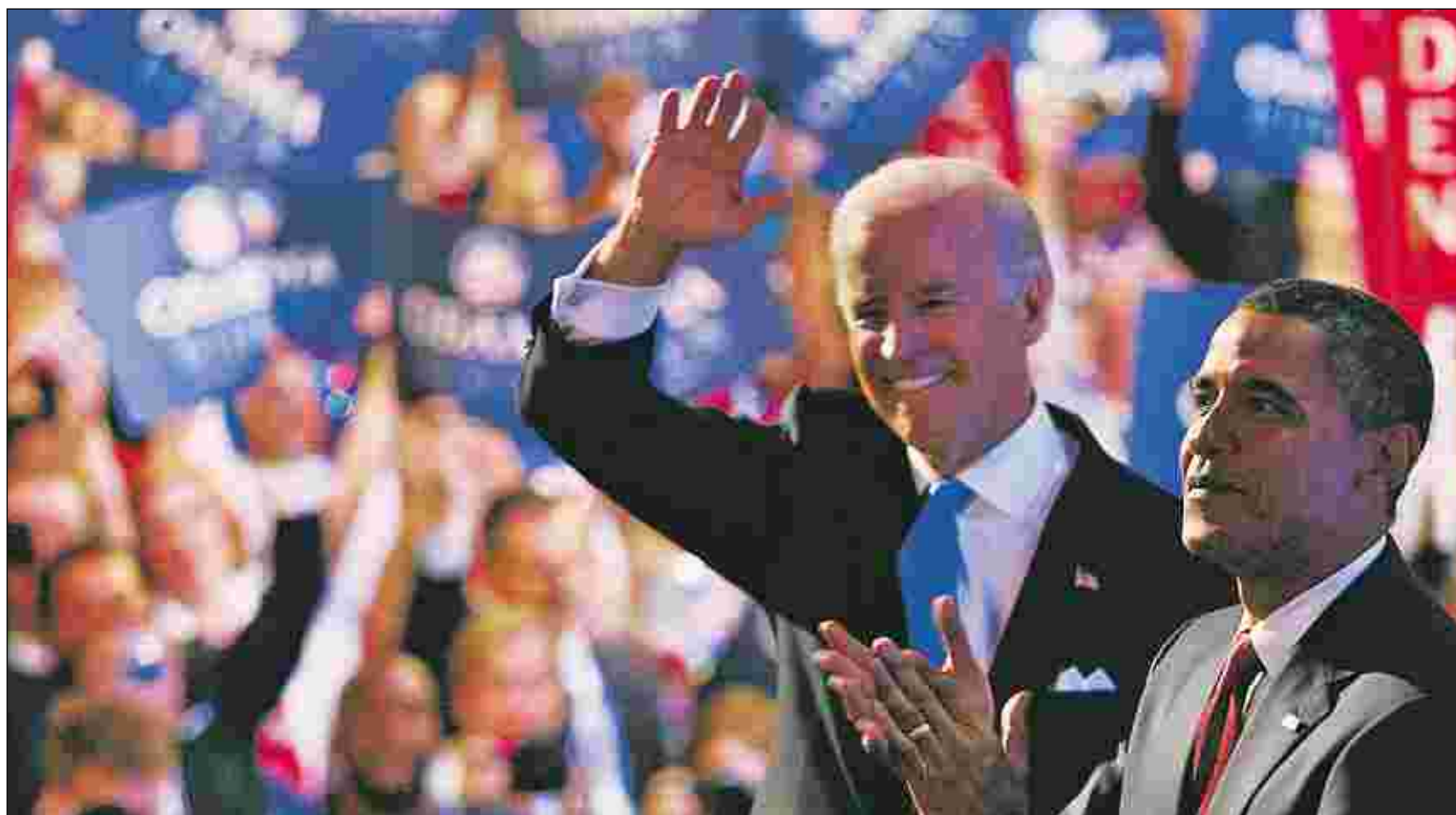
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ATLANTIC COUNTY EDITION

Democratic National Convention

Dems choose Obama in historic acclamation



Sen. Barack Obama joins Sen. Joe Biden on the stage Wednesday after Biden completed his speech. Obama will accept the nomination tonight. Getty Images photo by John Moore

First black presidential nominee by a major national party

By DAVID ESPO
Associated Press

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.

Obama, the son of a black Kenyan father and a white American

mother, is now one victory from becoming president of a nation where, just decades ago, many blacks were denied the vote.

But even as he won the nomination, there was open talk in the convention city that Obama's race remained a stumbling block to winning the White House.

"A lot of white workers ... and quite frankly a lot of union members believe he's the wrong race," AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Richard Trumka told a breakfast meeting of Michigan delegates.

□ See Obama, A6

Inside

■ N.J. delegates call the moment historic. **A5**

■ National party figures impress delegates from N.J. **A5**

Convention today

■ Barack Obama accepts the 2008 Democratic presidential nomination. Speakers include Al Gore, Howard Dean.

■ TV coverage: CNN at 6 p.m.; PBS stations WHYY (Philadelphia) and WNET (New York) at 8 p.m.; ABC, CBS and NBC at 10 p.m.



Associated Press photo by Chris Carlson
Sen. Hillary Clinton calls for Barack Obama's nomination by acclamation.



Associated Press photo by Ron Edmonds
House Speaker Nancy Pelosi puts Sen. Clinton's motion to the delegates on the floor.



Associated Press photo by Ron Edmonds
Former President Clinton tells delegates Barack Obama 'is ready to lead.'

High-profile Corzine sows seeds of second term

■ New Jersey's governor is in high demand because he operates in multiple spheres of influence.

By JOHN FROONJIAN
Special Projects Writer, 609-272-7273
and DEREK HARPER
Statehouse Bureau, 609-292-4935

DENVER — New Jersey Gov. Jon S. Corzine is playing multiple roles during the Democratic National Convention: superdelegate, state delegation leader, media darling and national political leader.

He announced New Jersey's votes Wednesday at the Democratic National Convention. But his primary goal this week, allies and aides say, is to rally his base as he launches his re-election campaign.

The governor has been a regular at New Jersey parties and meetings. At a welcoming reception, Corzine schmoozed his way through the room, giving hugs and posing for pictures. Someone mentions his 2009 campaign at every event.

"There's a lot of enthusiasm for him. Everyone wants him to run," one activist said.

But his national reputation has pulled him to events throughout the Mile High City. He is meeting with other governors and party leaders.

□ See Corzine, A6



Associated Press photo by Charlie Neibergall
New Jersey Gov. Jon S. Corzine casts 127 votes for Barack Obama at the Democratic National Convention on Wednesday.

AG office probing wash-ups in Avalon

Medical waste found on beaches could be sabotage, officials say

By BEN LEACH
Staff Writer, 609-272-7261

AVALON — The state Attorney General's Office is offering a \$10,000 reward for information regarding the medical waste that has closed Avalon beaches three times since it was first discovered Saturday.

The Cape May County town's beaches were open again Wednesday, but the investigation continues into the source of the mysterious medical waste that washed ashore. At 10 a.m. Wednesday, after raking all debris from the sand from Ninth Street to 32nd Street and finding no additional waste, officials gave the go-ahead to reopen the beach.

"As of now, they're clean and the beaches are open," said Kevin Thomas, director of the Cape May County Department of Health.

The state Attorney General's Office is working with the city of Avalon to determine the source of the waste. Officials are treating this as a criminal investigation, with sabotage being considered as one of many possible reasons for the waste.

"The investigation is ongoing," said Peter Aseltine, a spokesman for the Attorney General's Office. "We've got people working on it today, and I know that because I've talked to

□ See Avalon, A6

Local 54 move could cause Revel 'a problem'

■ A petition with enough signatures to force a \$54 million bond ordinance on the ballot 'could have an impact' on the company's South Inlet casino project, Revel's CEO says.

By MICHAEL CLARK
Staff Writer, 609-272-7204

ATLANTIC CITY — A local casino union's successful effort to force a \$54 million bond ordinance onto the November ballot could severely affect Revel Entertainment Group's \$2 billion casino project, the developer's CEO Kevin DeSanctis said Wednesday.

Local 54 of UNITE-HERE effectively blocked Revel's creative attempt to sidestep the current credit crunch Tuesday, submitting a petition for a referendum on an already approved bond ordinance for crucial road improvements around the South Inlet megaresort.

The ordinance, passed by City Council earlier this month, allowed Revel to begin negotiating the bond's financial terms with the city, which would act as a vehicle to deliver lower interest rates to Revel from private bondholders.

A referendum "could have an impact on the project," DeSanctis said in a phone interview Wednesday.

□ See Revel, A6

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Low: 65
At Farley State Marina, Atlantic City. Forecast, A2

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