

Fashion, feminism meet in debate over running skirts. *B9*  
Skirting the issue



LPGA LAYS DOWN LAW  
Learn English, golfers told. *B12*

VOL. 10 NO. 256 WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2008 nationalpost.com

NATIONAL POST



nationalpost.com  
Breaking news at nationalpost.com

ARTS & LIFE

OVERCOMING KATRINA  
Two dining museums keep the New Orleans spirit alive. *B3*



INDEX

CLASSIFIED FP15 LETTERS A13  
DIVERSIONS B11 POST SPORTS B12  
EDITORIALS A12 REMEMBERING B7  
FP COMMENT FP17 THORPE FP1  
FP WORKING FP13 WEATHER B6

Published by National Post Company, a general partnership owned by National Post Holdings Ltd. and Canwest Media Inc. Return undeliverable Canadian copies to 300-1450 Don Mills Rd., Don Mills, Ont. M3B 3R5



Publication Mail Agreement Number 40069573

## FEDERAL LEADERS TRADE ELECTION THREATS



*‘That it seems to be taking several weeks just to have a phone call with opposition leaders indicates a deeper issue.... This Parliament is increasingly reaching an impasse on a range of issues.’*

*‘What is his agenda? Nobody has any idea what is his agenda, maybe not [even] himself.... This prime minister is panicking, inventing reasons to trigger an election.’*

Harper's team eyeing mid-October for possible election, Page A4

## PLANTS FACE OVERSEER FATIGUE

Meat inspectors say authority compromised

BY SARAH SCHMIDT

OTTAWA • The inspector stationed at the Toronto plant at the centre of a deadly food-borne outbreak is responsible for six other facilities under a new inspection system that has drawn complaints that staff “are working off their feet.”

The claim comes as federal health officials have increased to 15 the number of deaths linked to the outbreak.

Complaints have flooded in from some inspectors in “resource stressed” areas such as Ontario and Alberta since March, when the Canadian Food Inspection Agency brought in a new compliance verification system (CVS), according to Bob Kingston, head of the agriculture unit of the Public Service Alliance of Canada, which represents food inspectors across Canada.

“They’re facing a choice of, ‘OK, do I concentrate more on doing a thorough inspection or do I concentrate more on getting the paperwork done that says I’ve been to that plant, I’ve looked at the records and that satisfies the legal requirement for international trade.”

The new inspection program resembles more of an auditing system and requires government inspectors to review a company’s records to monitor and verify food-safety practices at all critical points during production, including ventilation at the facility, equipment maintenance and calibration, personnel training, sanitation and pest control programs, and product code identification in case of recalls.

In correspondence to union officials provided to Canwest News Service, one inspector complained, “We do not have the same presence we used to have in the processing facilities. When the cat is away the mice will play.”

Another noted that, “We are not making the observations we used to make when we had more of a hands-on approach. We spend more time looking at paper than anything else.”

The inspector stationed at the Maple Leaf Foods plant in Toronto is responsible for another two meat-processing plants and four cold-storage facilities. Storage facilities require less rigorous inspection processes.

See WORKLOAD on Page A5

More coverage, A5

## DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION

### Suspects held in ‘crude’ assassination plot

#### OBAMA TARGETED

BY TOBY HARNDEN

DENVER • A man at the centre of a suspected assassination plot against Barack Obama said the presidential candidate “ought to be shot” because of his race, a Denver radio station reported yesterday.

The threat by Nathan Johnson, 33, came after he was arrested with two other men when an arms cache was found in a pickup truck.

The men, one of whom is said to have strong ties to the white supremacist movement, were under investigation last night and facing initial charges for illegal firearms possession.

Mr. Johnson boasted in an interview with the CBS4 radio station in the Denver City Jail on Monday night that he and his friends Tharin Gartrell, 28, and Shawn Robert Adolf, 33, had discussed killing Mr. Obama when he accepted the nomination of the Democratic party at a sports stadium tomorrow.

“He don’t belong in political office,” Mr. Johnson said. “Blacks don’t belong in political office. He ought to be shot.”

U.S. authorities said there had been “no credible” threat to Mr. Obama’s life and any plot the suspects had hatched had been “crude.”

See PLOT on Page A9

### The varying accounts of Bill Clinton’s sore feelings ‘Petty, snarky’ — or just Bill?

BY SHELDON ALBERTS  
in Denver

The complaints come in whispers, not shouts. Bill Clinton is still nursing sore feelings about his wife’s defeat, friends say. He thinks Barack Obama hasn’t shown him enough respect. Worse yet, he’s angry Mr. Obama didn’t seriously consider her as his running mate.

Even as Hillary Clinton praised Mr. Obama and appealed for healing in last night’s keynote speech at the Democratic National Convention, her husband and his confidants continue to pick at the wounds of the primary fight.

See BILL on Page A11

Allen Abel talks politics and sex, A11; Why Obama should be himself, A12; Cartoon, A12

INTRODUCING THE WORLD’S FASTEST BLACKBERRY®



EXCLUSIVELY ON CANADA’S FASTEST MOBILE NETWORK™

rogers.com/bold or call 1.866.270.3943

BlackBerry Bold

ROGERS™

\*Fastest wireless network measuring download speeds within HSPA coverage. © (TM) BlackBerry, RIM, Research In Motion, SureType and related trademarks, names and logos are the property of Research In Motion Limited and are registered and/or used in the U.S. and countries around the world. Used under license from Research In Motion Limited. (TM) Rogers, Mobius Design, Rogers Plus & Design, World Ready & Design are trade-marks of Rogers Communications Inc. used under license or of Rogers Wireless. © 2008 Rogers Wireless.