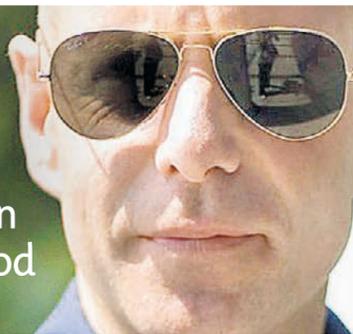


From angry Headstone to respected thespian

He cut his teeth in rock, but now Hugh Dillon is racking up TV hits – and even a Gemini nod

GLOBE REVIEW ▶



Honey badger or leopard?

Wine education gets a dose of bush logic in South Africa

GLOBE LIFE ▶



GREATER TORONTO EDITION » WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2008

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THE GLOBE AND MAIL

CANADA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER



THE ROAD TO THE WHITE HOUSE » WOULD-BE NOMINEE LAUDS HER FORMER RIVAL



Hillary Clinton takes centre stage last night in Denver. Barack Obama called her speech 'outstanding.' PAUL RICHARDS/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

'Obama is my candidate,' Clinton declares

Senator exhorts supporters to put a Democrat in the White House – even if it's not her

BY PAUL KORING DENVER

Hillary Clinton rallied her disgruntled supporters yesterday, urging them to work hard to help the man who trounced her in the Democrat primaries – Barack Obama – reach the White House.

"Obama is my candidate and he must be our president," Ms. Clinton told thousands of cheering supporters at the Democrat National Conven-

tion. "I haven't spent the last 35 years in the trenches ... to see another Republican in the White House," she said.

"I ask all of you who worked so hard for me, and who contributed so much, to work as hard for Barack Obama in the next few months," she said in a speech yesterday that previewed her showcase address to the convention last night.

She exhorted her backers to remember who was most im-

portant in this campaign.

"I want you to ask yourselves: Were you in this campaign just for me?" she said. She urged them instead to remember marines who have served their country, single mothers, families barely getting by on minimum wage and other struggling Americans.

"We need Barack Obama and Joe Biden in the White House."

» SEE 'CLINTON' PAGE 13
JEFFREY SIMPSON, PAGE 15 ▶

'Fair' not free trade

Get set for a barrage of tough talk from vice-presidential nominee Joe Biden.

REPORT ON BUSINESS ▶

Live from Denver

Siri Agrell blogs the convention floor and John Ibbitson talks about the new McCain ad. globeandmail.com ▶

FOOD SAFETY » LISTERIA OUTBREAK

Inspectors failed to adopt more rigorous U.S. measures

New rules pulled lone watchdog off floor of contaminated meat plant, union says

BY TU THANH HA TORONTO
BILL CURRY OTTAWA
AND ANNE McILROY OTTAWA

Canadian meat inspectors failed to learn crucial lessons from a deadly listeria outbreak a decade ago, experts on the bacterium suggested yesterday as the food-safety crisis spread further with three more deaths, including that of a woman in Saskatchewan, under investigation.

And the federal agency responsible for food safety this year began to let the industry conduct its own food testing, The Globe and Mail has learned.

A leaked cabinet document that outlined plans for the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to give the food industry a greater role in the inspection process raised the ire of opposition politicians last week.

However, some of the plans have been in place since March 31, according to a CFIA manager and an official from the union that represents the federal inspectors.

At the Maple Leaf plant behind the listeria outbreak, a single federal inspector was relegated to auditing company paperwork and had to deal with several other plants, the manager and the union official said, contradicting the impression that officials had left last week that full-time watchdogs were on-site.

Under the new system, federal inspectors do random product tests only three or four

By the numbers

29
Confirmed cases of listeriosis across Canada (22 in Ontario, four in B.C., two in Quebec and one in Saskatchewan)

30
Suspected cases (16 in Ontario, 10 in Quebec and four in Alberta)

6
Confirmed deaths caused by the outbreak (all in Ontario)

11
Suspected deaths (Six in Ontario, two in Alberta, one in B.C., one in Sask. and one in Quebec)

» Public Health Agency of Canada, Alberta Health and Wellness

times a year at any given plant. And meat packers are required to test each type of product only once a month.

Under the old system, inspectors had a more hands-on role on the plant floor, did more of the tests themselves and had more freedom to investigate, said former CFIA inspector Bob Kingston, who is national president of the Agriculture Union, a branch of the Public Service Alliance of Canada.

» SEE 'INSPECTORS' PAGE 11

FEDERAL POLITICS » VOTING DAY LIKELY OCT. 14

G-G cancels trip; PM says election nearly certain

BY CAMPBELL CLARK OTTAWA

Prime Minister Stephen Harper has asked Governor-General Michaëlle Jean to cancel her plans to leave for China Sept. 5, portraying a snap election as a near certainty and hinting he will ask Ms. Jean to trigger it next week.

At an Ottawa news conference yesterday, Mr. Harper said he would not be breaking his word by disregarding his own fixed-election-date law that schedules voting day in October of 2009. He argued that opposition parties want to bring down the government before then, so it is up to him to remove doubt about who will govern.

But Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion charged that the Prime Minister's demand for crisis talks is a set-up to shift blame

Harper defends arts cuts

The Prime Minister says trimming the fat is necessary. At the same time, a Conference Board report tallies the benefits of cultural investment. GLOBE REVIEW ▶

for a broken commitment and a rushed election.

The request by the Prime Minister's Office for the Governor-General to cancel her trip – she was to return Sept. 10 – indicates Mr. Harper is putting the wheels in motion for an election call next week. That would likely set voting day Oct. 14.

Only hours before the cancellation was announced, Ms. Jean's press secretary, Marthe Blouin, said the trip was going ahead as planned. » SEE 'ELECTION' PAGE 4

INSIDE TODAY'S GLOBE

Moscow decree scorned

Russia has formally recognized both South Ossetia and Abkhazia in a move observers fear is a first step toward annexing Georgia's breakaway republics. PAGE 12 ▶

Loophole ends battle

The city issues a building permit for a supersize home in Forest Hill despite a neighbour's concern that construction will encroach on his disabled son's privacy. PAGE 10 ▶

GOLF » FAILING ORAL TEST WILL RESULT IN SUSPENSION

LPGA's demand for fluency in English leaves international players teed off

BY DAVID HUTTON

With its brand growing ever more global, the LPGA will require the best female golfers from around the world to speak English – a blatant effort, critics say, to bring the women at the top of its leader board into line with its sponsors.

The Ladies Professional Golf Association has informed its members they must "meet the required level of [English] communication" by the end of their second year of membership.

Starting in 2009, players will be required to pass an oral test proving they can speak English. The rule is effective immediately for new players, with current players facing a suspension if they fail the test.

The organization said its members "are among the best athletes in the world, and we need to ensure that all members communicate with our core audiences – fans, sponsors, media – in English throughout their careers on the LPGA." » SEE 'GOLF' PAGE 6

Smacking a two-year time period on golfers to learn English smacks of xenophobia in the extreme. The idea is offensive, and its implementation is sure to generate hostility.

LORNE RUBENSTEIN, GLOBE SPORTS ▶



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