

Li'l Smokey still in the spotlight

OUR REGION | Page B1



Check out a hot new wine spot

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THE SACRAMENTO BEE



Wednesday, August 27, 2008 **

sacbee.com

Final edition | 50¢

TOP STORIES

OUR REGION

A fish rescue at Alpine County's Caples Lake, which is being drained so its dam can be repaired, nets just one catch in the first three hours. **B1**

Wineries in Placer County can now keep tasting rooms open during business hours, but promotional events will be limited to six per year. **B1**

Keeping the State Fair safe is no small task - it includes 256 officers from 33 law enforcement departments, plus 170 security guards. **B1**

CAPITOL & CALIFORNIA

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger signs a high-speed rail bond measure for the November ballot, less than three weeks after saying he would block any bill that reached his desk until a budget is approved. **A3**

NATION

Nearly 600 plant workers in Laurel, Miss., suspected of being in the country illegally, are detained in the largest single-workplace immigration raid in U.S. history. **A6**

Hundreds of colleges have purchased a training program that teaches professors and students to fight back with any "improvised weapon" when threatened by a shooter. **A12**

WORLD

Russia formally recognizes the independence of two Georgian regions it now occupies, inflaming relations with the United States. **A21**

A suicide bomber blows himself up in a crowd of Iraqis trying to join the police force, killing at least 25 in the second major bombing in Iraq this week. **A22**

BUSINESS

Southwest Airlines will trim four daily flights from Sacramento - to Chicago, Las Vegas, Ontario and San Diego - beginning Jan. 11. **B9**

Hints of an economic recovery are in the air: The glut of new homes falls to a five-month low and home values in some cities are starting to rise. **B9**

The number of troubled U.S. banks leaps to the highest level in five years and bank profits plunge by 86 percent. **B9**

SPORTS

Major League Baseball umpires will be allowed to check video replays on home run calls starting Thursday, reversing a decades-long opposition. **C1**

The LPGA will require players to speak English starting in 2009, with veteran members facing a two-year suspension if they fail an oral evaluation. **C7**



WEATHER
Sunny

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Complete forecast
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RACE FOR '08 | Democratic National Convention

Clinton lifts Dems



CHARLIE NEIBERGALL Associated Press

Hillary Rodham Clinton acknowledges applause after her speech to Democratic delegates in Denver.

Historic candidate rallies all for Obama



BRIAN BAER bbaer@sacbee.com

Steven Ybarra enjoys the convention in California's section Tuesday. He wants to campaign hard this fall and offered his superdelegate vote to whichever candidate backed \$20 million in Latino outreach funds. Unamused, party officials voted to end his status.

DELEGATE PLANS TO WIN IT ALL WITH LATINOS

By PETER HECHT
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DENVER - When the clock strikes midnight Thursday after Barack Obama makes his acceptance speech, Sacramento superdelegate Steven Ybarra will lose his seat on the Democratic National Committee.

Ybarra, a Sacramento City College professor and veteran Latino activist, got voted off the select Democratic panel after a brash publicity stunt - offering to sell his vote to Obama or Hillary Rodham Clinton for a \$20 million party pledge to compete for Latino votes.

But after Ybarra, 61, lost his re-election bid for a state party leadership post, and thus his DNC seat, a curious thing happened: The party pledged \$20 million for a sophisticated voter recruitment effort.

Now the tall, barrel-chested man is working swank hotel ballrooms and party caucuses to push for a Latino

YBARRA | Page A17

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

■ **Today:** Vice presidential nominee Sen. Joe Biden will be the headline speaker in prime time. Other speakers will include former President Clinton, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada and Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts.

■ **Thursday:** Sen. Barack Obama accepts the 2008 Democratic presidential nomination.

TV COVERAGE

■ **Major networks:** The three major networks will broadcast each day from 7 to 8 p.m.

■ **Cable news:** Most of the cable news stations, including CNN, Fox News and MSNBC, are planning extensive daily coverage.

MORE COVERAGE

■ Republican John McCain rips Democrat Barack Obama over his opposition to the Iraq war. **Page A17**

■ Federal authorities downplay threats against Obama. **Page A16**

SENATOR EXTOLS HER OWN RUN FOR PRESIDENT

By DAVID LIGHTMAN AND MARGARET TALEV
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DENVER - Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton on Tuesday turned the second day of the Democratic National Convention into a celebration of her historic presidential campaign as a breakthrough for women, but she left no doubt that she's foursquare behind Barack Obama as her party's nominee for the presidency.

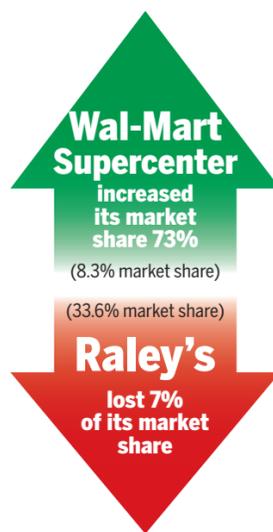
After a video tribute to her long campaign against Obama for the nomination, Clinton walked onstage, introduced by her daughter, Chelsea, who called her "my hero and my mother." Together, they faced a sea of waving white signs scrawled with the word "Hillary" in blue.

Any supporters who were still angry over her loss were drowned out by thunderous applause when she opened her speech by declaring herself "a proud supporter of Barack Obama."

CONVENTION | Page A16

GROCERY CHANGES

Raley's still has the largest share of the Sacramento-area grocery market, but Wal-Mart has posted gains. Here are percentage changes in their market share from December 2006 to June 2008. For a more detailed look at the competitive local grocery market, see table on **Page A20**.



Discount grocer rakes in business

SHOPPERS TURN TO WAL-MART FOR CHEAPER STAPLES

By JIM DOWNING
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Sandra Henderson has shopped for groceries at Raley's for 30 years. So what was she doing wheeling a cart into the West Sacramento Wal-Mart Supercenter on Tuesday?

"It's the economy," she said. Wal-Mart's giant discount stores posted by far the biggest gain in market share of any grocery chain in the four-county capital region through the first half of the year, according to new data from Trade Dimensions Inc., a market research firm.

Meanwhile, West Sacramento-based Raley's, the region's largest supermarket chain, continued to bleed business, according to the report.

Nationwide, conventional supermarkets are losing shoppers to big discounters - a trend that has accelerated as the economy flags and more shoppers feel worried about their financial future.

"Raley's might have very high customer satisfaction, but people still might not come back because they're hedging against (financial) risk," said Ashwin Aravindakshan, a University of California, Davis, professor of marketing.

Nonetheless, the No. 2 local

GROCERY | Back page, A20

POLITICAL CONTRIBUTION | Money to oppose redistricting

\$577,000 donated to Perata group

UNION'S GIFT COMES AS PRISON GUARDS SEEK A PAY RAISE

By ANDY FURILLO
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The state correctional officers union has contributed \$577,000 to a political committee controlled by state Sen. Don Perata, with most of the cash sent over in the final weeks of the current legislative session.

A spokesman for the California Correctional Peace Officers Association said it is his understanding the money is supposed to help defeat the Proposition 11 legislative re-

districting initiative on the Nov. 4 ballot.

Lance Corcoran of the CCPOA also confirmed Tuesday that the union has geared up for an 11th-hour push to obtain a legislative pay raise for the labor organization that has worked without a contract for more than two years.

Corcoran said "there is absolutely nothing, there is no quid pro quo" between the contribution and the anticipated pay raise bill.

"When it comes to the CCPOA, it doesn't matter what the timing is," Corcoran said. "There will always be those who think there are strings attached."

But Jeannine English - the state-

wide president of AARP, which is supporting the Proposition 11 redistricting measure - along with Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and groups such as Common Cause, called the CCPOA contribution shameful.

"For CCPOA to be trying to buy off Senator Perata so they will get a huge pay increase is appalling," English said.

Proposition 11 would take the power to redraw state legislative and Board of Equalization lines away from California lawmakers and place it in the hands of an appointed 14-person commission.

Proponents say the measure will make legislative races more competitive.

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BRIAN BAER Sacramento Bee file, 2007

Senate Pro Tem Don Perata had no comment on the funds donated to his political committee by the California Correctional Peace Officers Association.



VOLUME 296, NO. 240