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WEDNESDAY
 AUG. 27, 2008

The Philadelphia Inquirer

75¢
 \$1 in some locations outside the metropolitan area

City & Suburbs Edition D

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180th Year, No. 88

Unisys sign rejected; firm weighs its options

Nutter tried to save the deal to lure its world headquarters after the zoning board ruled against erecting a huge logo.

By Jane M. Von Bergen
 INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

Not long after the Zoning Board of Adjustment nixed Unisys' plan to erect its big red logo high on Two Liberty Place yesterday, Mayor Nutter was on the phone with Unisys' chief executive officer, Joseph W. McGrath. Time to save the deal.

Nutter has been working hard to bring businesses into the city, and reeling in a Fortune 400 company's world headquarters looked like a big catch, even if the Blue Bell tech company was planning to bring in only 225 employees.



Mayor Nutter says move deal shouldn't hinge on just the sign.

"I don't think the total decision should revolve around whether there's a sign on a building," the mayor said yesterday, calling from the Democratic National Convention.

Nutter said he and McGrath discussed other ways to help Unisys Corp. link its brand with the vibrancy of Center City — a Unisys marketing goal and part of the reason that it wanted to move from its bedroom community in Montgomery County.

Unisys spokesman James Kerr said yesterday that the company was re-evaluating its decision to come to Center City. It has a 10-year lease, but could sublet, he said. He said the company was still deciding whether to appeal the board's ruling.

So what does it mean? Is this decision on a sign — a sign not too different from other corporate See **UNISYS** on A10

INSIDE



BUSINESS
Credit squeeze hits home

More homeowners feeling the pinch of banks' tightening of credit lines. **D1.**

STYLE & SOUL
The debate over topless men

As the heat intensifies, more shirts are coming off. But where does it end? **C1.**

WEATHER
 **High 80**
Low 63

Partly sunny today. Rain later this week. Air quality: Moderate. Full forecast, **B11.**

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RON EDMONDS / Associated Press

Sen. Hillary Clinton addresses the convention. She told delegates Sen. Barack Obama "is my candidate and he must be our president" and "the time is now to unite as a single party."

Clinton delivers for Obama

She led the charge: "No way. No how. No McCain."

By Larry Eichel
 INQUIRER SENIOR WRITER

DENVER — With a forceful and gracious Hillary Rodham Clinton setting the tone, the Democratic Party last night called for unity behind Barack Obama and escalated its verbal assault against Republican John McCain.

The unequivocal call to come together was sounded by the New York senator, who ran the most successful presidential campaign ever by a woman and whose most devoted supporters have had trouble accepting that she came up just short.

"My friends, it is time to take back the country we love," Clinton declared, urging her voters to join her as a "proud" Obama supporter.

"McCain calls himself a maverick, but he votes with George Bush 90 percent of the time. That's not a maverick. That's a sidekick."
Pa. Sen. Bob Casey

"And whether you voted for me or voted for Barack, the time is now to unite as a single party, with a single purpose. We are on the same team, and none of us can sit on the sidelines."
 And lest anyone not get the point, she added: "No way. No how. No McCain."

The crowd at the Pepsi Center, which had erupted in a thunderous, 2½-minute ovation when daughter Chelsea introduced her as the evening's headliner, roared its approval.

Clinton thanked her loyalists, including "my sisterhood of the traveling pantsuits," praised Michelle Obama and vice presidential candidate **DEMOCRATS** on A16



JAE C. HONG / Associated Press

Clinton's supporters show her some love

By Thomas Fitzgerald
 INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

DENVER — Beating drums and chanting, hundreds of bitter-end supporters of Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton marched through downtown yesterday, celebrating her historic candidacy and demanding a full roll-call vote at the Democratic National Convention to honor her.

"Rise, Hillary, Rise!" they chanted, as helicopters clattered overhead. "Hillary's race was herstoric," said Gloria Allred, a Los Angeles Clinton delegate marching at the head of the line. "We want the 18 million Hillary voters to be recognized and

honored, and an open roll call is the best way."

The parade came on the 88th anniversary of the adoption of the constitutional amendment that gave women the right to vote, and it reflected tensions among Democrats on the eve of today's roll call, during which Clinton's name is to be placed in nomination alongside that of Sen. Barack Obama.

With the outcome of the convention predetermined and the prime-time rhetoric polished to a high gloss, the only drama left is whether Clinton's supporters can get over See **HILLARY** on A17



Expanded coverage

■ Tonight's main speaker: Vice presidential nominee Joseph Biden. **Preview, A16.**



■ No N.J. voices, but Corzine doesn't see snub. **A15.**

■ Pa. spotlight: How Sen. Casey and Gov. Rendell fared. **A15.**

■ Ted Kennedy left hospital bed to give Monday speech. **A15.**

■ McCain takes aim at Obama's war views. **A17.**

■ Dick Polman: Michelle Obama offers a very personal story with a human touch. **A19.**

■ Dan Rubin: Excerpts from his convention blog. **B1.**

philly.com
 Go to Philly.com for live updates from the convention floor. Also, commentary by Daniel Rubin and Dick Polman.

Russians defy West on areas' secession

Medvedev formally recognized two enclaves' independence: "It is the only way to save the lives of people."

By Clifford J. Levy
 NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

MOSCOW — Russia yesterday recognized the independence of two enclaves that have long sought to secede from neighboring Georgia.

The action deepened strains with the West over the conflict in the vital crossroads of the Caucasus and sparked a broader debate over how to respond to separatist movements.

The Russian decision was intended to consolidate its political and military gains in the 2½ weeks since it invaded Georgia after hostilities flared over the breakaway territory of South Ossetia, an ally of Moscow.

Russian President Dmitry A. Medvedev said in a nationally televised address that South Ossetia and the other pro-Russia enclave, Abkhazia, would never again have to endure what he described as oppressive Georgian rule.

"This is not an easy choice," he said, "but it is the only way to save the lives of people."

With Russia's image and financial markets suffering in recent days, Medvedev took the unusual step of giving a series of interviews to foreign media yesterday to explain the move.

He said Russia had abided by international law in recognizing the two enclaves, but he left no doubt that the announcement was in part retaliation for the West's support earlier this year for the independence of Kosovo from Rus-

See **RUSSIA** on A4



MIKHAIL METZEL / Associated Press

A Russian armored vehicle drives out of a tunnel in Russia's North Ossetia region, leaving Georgia's separatist-controlled South Ossetia, which Moscow formally recognized yesterday.

Tough times could wipe out '07 income gain

Census offers mixed news here.

By Alfred Lubrano,
 John Duchneskie and Matt Katz
 INQUIRER STAFF WRITERS

Americans enjoyed a small bump in income last year, while the nation's poverty rate stayed virtually the same — 12.5 percent, according to U.S. Census Bureau data released yesterday.

Among the seven counties surrounding Philadelphia, some got richer and some got poorer, while Philadelphia held its spot as the ninth-poorest big city in America — with nearly one in four people living in poverty.

Once again, New Jersey trailed Maryland as the wealthiest state in median household income. Pennsylvania ranked 26th.

But this year-old snapshot has already been superseded by rough and powerful economic times — a tsunami swamping the relative good news about rising income and steady poverty.

When the Census Bureau eventually crunches 2008 numbers, analysts say it will see what many already know: Life is getting tougher.

"The year 2008 will be drastically worse than '06 or '07," said Carey Morgan, director of Philadelphia's Coalition Against Hunger. See **INCOME** on A6

Decrease in uninsured

A million fewer Americans were uninsured last year, but crisis lingers. **A6.**