



CENTRAL COUNTY

# CONTRA COSTA TIMES

Thursday, August 28, 2008

ContraCostaTimes.com

200 Volume 97, Number 89

50 cents plus tax



**I**N A HISTORIC MOMENT Wednesday, Barack Obama won the Democratic nomination for president of the United States. When this campaign ends, after future presidents have come and gone, and when today's young people have grown old, history will remember Aug. 27, 2008, as the day an African-American man became the presidential nominee of a major party.

Join a chat with MediaNews political reporters at the convention from 11 a.m. to noon today at [ContraCostaTimes.com](http://ContraCostaTimes.com).

## DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION

# HOPE REALIZED

### King's words reverberate in Obama's dream

By Bruce Newman  
MEDIANEWS STAFF

Even before the decision to move the speech to a Denver football stadium, the expectations for the historic consecration of Barack Obama as America's first black nominee for president were a mile high — and a little breathless.

Through a fateful quirk of scheduling, Obama's acceptance address falls on the 45th anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech. It's a reverberation so resonant that an eyewitness to King's famous address refers to the mountain Obama must climb in Denver as "The Dream Speech II."

"Barack's candidacy would not have been conceivable 50 years ago," said Clayborne Carson, who was 19 when he joined the throng listening to King's speech at the March on

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PAUL SANCYA/ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEN. BARACK OBAMA made a surprise appearance at the Democratic National Convention in Denver on Wednesday after running mate, Sen. Joe Biden, accepted the vice presidential nomination.

### With nominee, Democrats make history

By Jim Tankersley  
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

DENVER — Democrats swept away more than 200 years of history Wednesday and nominated Barack Obama for the White House, a milestone punctuated by former President Bill Clinton's declaration that the first African-American standard-bearer of a major party "is ready to be president of the United States."

The vote was unanimous after Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton of New York waded onto the convention floor amid a standing ovation and stopped a roll call of states. She urged Obama's unanimous selection "in the spirit of unity, with the goal of victory." Delegates roared their affirmation and the longest, most contentious Democratic primary fight in more than a generation came

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## Fans speak out against English-only golf rule

■ Many in growing Korean-American audience call policy discriminatory; lawmaker will fight to overturn it

By Matt O'Brien  
STAFF WRITER

DANVILLE — When it comes to the Blackhawk Country Club each fall, the Ladies Professional Golf Association attracts Korean-American fans thrilled to see the league's South Korean women golf stars in action.

"They play really well and

we're really proud of them," said Sarah Kim-Lee, spokeswoman for the Korean American Association of San Francisco and the Greater Bay Area.

But that relationship was chilled by an LPGA policy imposed this week that has many fans upset. By the end of next year, says the 58-year-old women's golf organization, those international golf stars must speak English well or face suspension.

Brian Flajole, director of the LPGA Longs Drugs Challenge

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JAY SOLMONSON/STAFF FILE

SOME FANS think the LPGA, by enforcing an English-only rule, is discriminating against a growing contingent of foreign-born players, such as South Korean Se Ri Pak, above.

## Lawmakers push to set parameters for bingo

■ Compromise between tribes, big groups worries smaller charities

By John Simerman  
STAFF WRITER

The state budget crawl drags on, but on some things the Legislature can still hustle.

Lawmakers are moving fast on a bill that would help gaming tribes, churches and some big nonprofit groups, but smaller bingo charities fear it will dry up their fundraising lifeblood.

The bill, SB1369, would ban electronic bingo games that a

growing number of charities now operate in murky legal waters, games that casino tribes say violate their statewide monopoly on slot machines. In exchange, charities could link multiple facilities across California for weekly paper bingo games that could generate what one backer described as "life-altering prizes." Some say those prizes could exceed \$100,000, compared with the \$250 top prize per game state law now permits.

The Assembly passed the bill 56-3 Wednesday. It could

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### Weather

**SUNNY**  
Highs 100s, Lows 60s  
Forecast: Page C6



### 'Miscarriage of justice'

■ Clayton's mayor says planning commission erred in allowing two girls to reopen their shuttered fruit stand. Page 3

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### Storm warning

■ New Orleans readies for the worst as Gustav again builds toward hurricane force. Page 11



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