

City native gets to pitch in finale
SPORTS, PAGE 1B



SPORTS, PAGE 1B

Ball State preview

The Journal Gazette

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FINAL 50¢

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 2008

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DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION

Obama on ballot, in history



Party urged to act 'in spirit of unity'

DAVID ESPO
Associated Press

SEE ALSO

■ Running mate runner-up Bayh addresses delegates
■ McCain readies his choice for GOP running mate
Page 4A

DENVER – Barack Obama stepped triumphantly into history Wednesday night, the first black American to win a major party presidential nomination, as thousands of Democrats transformed their convention hall into a joyful, shouting celebration.

Former rival Hillary Rodham Clinton asked delegates to the party convention to make their verdict unanimous "in the spirit of unity, with the goal of victory." And they did, with a roar.

Competing chants of "Obama" and "Yes we can" surged up from the convention floor as the outcome of a carefully scripted roll call of the states was announced. Obama made a brief, unscheduled appearance on stage at the end of the evening to thank the delegates.

The son of a white woman from Kansas and a black man from Kenya whom he barely knew, Obama was

across town in his hotel suite as the party punched his ticket into the general election campaign against Republican Sen. John McCain.

The polls show a close race ahead, and Obama was hoping the party would leave its convention united despite the hard feelings remaining from a bruising primary campaign that stretched over 18 months.

Former President Clinton did his part, delivering a strong pitch for the man who outmaneuvered his wife for the nomination.

"Everything I've learned in eight years as president and the work I've

Obama, Page 5A

Civil rights vets revel in moment

AMANDA IACONE
The Journal Gazette



G. Smith

For civil rights workers George and Louise Smith of Fort Wayne, Wednesday was payday.

Illinois Sen. Barack Obama was officially chosen as the Democratic presidential nominee – the first black candidate ever to lead the ticket of a national party.

And for the Smiths, it was the culmination of a lifetime of work for the rights of blacks in America.

George Smith Jr., now 65, was project director for the Congress of Racial Equality headquarters in Meridian, Miss., during the height of the civil rights movement in the early 1960s – when Obama was just a tot.

George Smith endured beatings

and was jailed. He lost his job and the couple lost their home because of their involvement. They were threatened, and crosses were burned in front of their home.

"The blood, sweat, the tears. Going to jail, being beat up. When I think about today, we got a black man running for the highest office in the United States. It's my paycheck right there for all the work we did for the civil rights movement," he said Wednesday.

But he quickly pointed out that Obama is also qualified for the presi-

Vets, Page 5A

Conservatory, theater get \$1 million donation

KELLY SODERLUND
The Journal Gazette

Looking back through 50 years of meeting minutes, members of the Foellinger Foundation board discovered who had the initial idea for the Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory.

It was Esther Foellinger – board member, mother of former News-Sentinel publisher Helene Foellinger and avid gardener. The suggestion was made in the early 1960s, but Esther Foellinger died before her daughter, Helene Foellinger, could institute a partnership with the Freimann Charitable Trust and what used to be Lincoln National

Life Foundation to open the botanical conservatory in 1983.

It was the second time Helene Foellinger honored a parent. The first came in 1949 when the Foellinger Outdoor Theatre was built in honor of her father, Oscar Foellinger.

In honor of the Foellinger Foundation's 50th anniversary and the devotion of Helene Foellinger to the conservatory and theater, the foundation announced Wednesday a \$1 million grant to the Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation Department for the two entities.

It also announced that a

Donation, Page 6A



Dean Musser Jr. | The Journal Gazette
This 1933 Duesenberg SJ will be among the cars up for auction Saturday at Worldwide Group Auctioneers.

New auction group targets upscale sale

ANGELA MAPES TURNER
The Journal Gazette

Local residents are used to the Labor Day weekend frenzy off Interstate 69's Exit 126 – the trailers of cars, the campers, the motorcycles lined up at Kruse International Auction Park's gate south of Auburn.

This year, a few miles south, another whirl of activity is playing out. Visible from the interstate, the frame of a building sprang up a few weeks ago near the DeKalb-Allen county line, covered in a white tarp.

The concept of business partners John Kruse and Rod C. Egan, The

Worldwide Group Auctioneers is establishing its worldwide headquarters just a few miles from Kruse International. The tent is a temporary replacement for a proposed glass-fronted showroom.

With its inaugural Auburn auction lined up at 6 p.m. Saturday, Worldwide Group is banking on an industry that faces the same challenges as the rest of the economy. As with any industry, success in a weak market depends on what you're selling and to whom.

The company will conduct one

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LIVING

Looks for less

Cool fall fashions for guys without spending a ton

MR, PAGE 8D



BUSINESS

Ready to go

St. Joseph Hospital to unveil \$7 million regional burn center

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SPORTS

Komets re-sign star forward

Curadeau's 2-way deal gives him option to play in AHL

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WEATHER

Partly sunny

High in the lower 80s.

FORECAST, PAGE 2A



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