



BETTER LIVING:
5 Things To Do
includes enjoying
wines off Garden
State vines. **F-1**



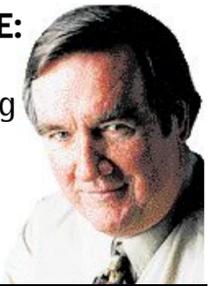
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Testing hydrogen power as the fuel of the future.

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Mets reclaim first place with
their own big comeback. **S-1**

JOHN ROWE:
Preview of
the upcoming
college
football
season.
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The Record

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www.northjersey.com Keep on top of the Democratic National Convention with photos, video and Herb Jackson's blog.

AT A GLANCE

3 teens charged in paintball attack

Three Wayne teenagers are facing juvenile charges stemming from a drive-by paintball shooting that injured three people in Totowa.
The 17-year-old who admitted firing the gun has been charged with unlawful use of a weapon, aggravated assault and possession of a weapon. The driver and another passenger face charges of conspiracy to commit aggravated assault.
Totowa police say strangers sometimes target Norwood Terrace – rumored to be "Midgetville," a place where all the inhabitants are said to be less than 5 feet tall.
— Complete story on L-1

Rutgers runs up OT costs at stadium

Overtime costs are mounting as Rutgers rushes to ready luxury seating at its football stadium in time for Monday's season opener.
The school has racked up \$300,000 in labor costs for extended weekday and weekend hours for construction of mezzanine-level seating, said university spokesman E.J. Miranda.
Miranda said the 856 club seats and 28 loge boxes will be ready Monday. Tickets have already been sold.
Despite spikes in the cost of labor and materials because of higher fuel costs, university officials say the project will come in "on time and on budget" but have not given specifics on how.
— Patricia Alex

Storm threatens to hit New Orleans

On the eve of Hurricane Katrina's third anniversary, a nervous New Orleans watched Wednesday as another storm threatened to test everything the city has rebuilt.
Forecasters warned that Gustav could grow into a Category 3 hurricane in the next several days and hit along the Gulf Coast. Taking no chances, New Orleans officials began planning a mandatory evacuation in hopes of avoiding a catastrophe like in 2005.
— Complete story on A-9

Factory orders up, but worries remain

U.S. factories saw a surprisingly hefty increase in their orders for big-ticket products in July, reflecting continued strength in export sales and a boost to business investment from the government's tax stimulus package. Economists, however, remain worried that spreading economic weakness overseas and a rebound in the value of the dollar could spell an end to the export boom later this year.
— Complete story on B-1

A day after one football death,
another stuns North Jersey

2nd tragedy on the field

Parents are urged not to panic

By **MARY JO LAYTON**
STAFF WRITER

The sudden deaths of two Bergen County teen athletes this week have triggered concern among parents and coaches over safety in sports and proper medical screening to diagnose potentially fatal conditions.
Should defibrillators be on every field? Are screening physicals thorough enough? Should athletes undergo an EKG as part of that screening?
Physicians, sports-medicine experts and researchers are urging parents to take a deep breath: The cases are rare, about 115 a year, ac-

■ Sean Fisher of Waldwick reportedly died during football practice of a **previously undetected** heart condition. **A-7**



FISHER

ording to a national registry – and unavoidable most of the time.
"It's a very frightening problem and thankfully it's rare," said Dr. Richard Goldweit, chief of cardiology at Englewood Hospital and Medical Center.
Cliffside Park High School junior Douglas Morales died Tuesday of a

subdural hematoma – a type of bleeding in the brain that is often caused by a head injury, Police Chief Donald Keane said. Authorities said he collapsed after being tackled during a football practice Friday morning.
A 13-year-old Waldwick boy, Sean Fisher, died Monday on his birthday after collapsing during a recreational league football practice. The schools superintendent said the county Medical Examiner's Office believes the cause was an undetected heart condition.
While most sports deaths appear unpreventable, experts say parents See **PARENTS** Page **A-7**



Douglas Morales, 17, died from a head injury sustained during football practice last week.

Fairview teen hit in routine drill

By **JOSEPH AX, GREG MATTURA, MICHAEL GARTLAND and COLLEEN DISKIN**
STAFF WRITERS

A Cliffside Park High School junior is dead from a head injury suffered during a football practice – the second death this week of a young Bergen County football player in a terrible coincidence that has stunned the athletic community.
Douglas Morales, a 17-year-old running back from Fairview, collapsed after being tackled Friday morning and was unconscious and unresponsive when emergency workers arrived. He was taken to Hackensack University Medical Center, where he remained on life support until his death at 8:31 p.m. Tuesday, said Mayor Gerald Calabrese.
His death came a day after Sean Fisher died on his 13th birthday after collapsing during a running drill at his football practice in See **DEATH** Page **A-7**



■ **Capital Games:** The N.J. delegation knows the **landscape back home** could change quickly. **A-6**
■ **Governor Corzine** is busy **promoting himself and the state** in Denver. **A-6**



TARIQ ZEHAWI/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Sens. Joseph Biden and Barack Obama accepting the party's applause Wednesday.

United behind Obama

Democrats finalize ticket for battle with GOP

By **DAVID ESPO**
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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.
"I think the convention's gone pretty well so far, what do you think?" the Democrats' man of

the hour said in a jubilant late-night visit to the hall. The crowd thundered its approval, and he and running mate Joseph Biden basked in the cheers.
Earlier, 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" were heard throughout the night.
See **OBAMA** Page **A-6**

INSIDE

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TOMORROW

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Going in the tank

The Road Warrior checks out a promotion at a service station selling gas for a mere \$1.04 a gallon.