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Findlay, Ohio



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GORDON GRATEFUL FOR ANOTHER CHANCE | B1

DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION

Clinton promises steady hand in dangerous world



PAUL SANCYA / The Associated Press

DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE Hillary Clinton stands on stage after giving her acceptance speech Thursday during the final day of the Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia.

Casts Trump as too hot-headed to 'trust with nuclear weapons'

By JULIE PACE and ROBERT FURLOW
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHILADELPHIA — Promising Americans a steady hand, Hillary Clinton cast herself Thursday night as a unifier for divided times, an experienced leader steered for a volatile world. She aggressively challenged Republican Donald Trump's ability to do the same.

"Imagine him in the Oval Office facing a real crisis," Clinton said as she accepted the Democratic nomination for president. "A man you can bait with a tweet is not a man we can trust with nuclear weapons."

Clinton took the stage to roaring applause from flag-waving delegates on the final night of the Democratic convention, relishing her nomination as the first woman to lead a major U.S. political party.

But her real audience was the millions of voters watching at home, many of whom may welcome her experience as secretary of state senator and first lady, but question her character.

She acknowledged those concerns briefly, saying "I get it that some people just don't know what to make of me." But her primary focus was persuading Americans to not be seduced by Trump's vague promises to restore economic security and fend off threats from abroad.

Clinton's four-day convention began with efforts to shore up liberals who backed Bernie Sanders in the Democratic primary and it ended with an outstretched hand to Republicans and independents unnerved by Trump. A parade of military leaders, law enforcement officials and Republicans took the

stage ahead of Clinton to endorse her in the general election contest with Trump.

"This is the moment, this is the opportunity for our future," said retired Marine Gen. John R. Allen, a former commander in Afghanistan. "We must seize this moment to elect Hillary Clinton as president of the United States of America."

American flags waved in the stands of the packed convention hall. There were persistent but scattered calls of "No more war," but the crowd drowned them out with chants of "Hill-a-ry" and "U-S-A!"

The Democratic nomination now officially hers, Clinton has just over three months to persuade Americans that Trump is unfit for the Oval Office and overcome the visceral connection he has with

some voters in a way the Democratic nominee does not.

She embraced her reputation as a studious wonk, a politician more comfortable with policy proposals than rhetorical flourishes. "I sweat the details of policy," she said.

Clinton's proposals are an extension of President Barack Obama's two terms in office: tackling climate change, overhauling the nation's fractured immigration laws, and restricting access to guns. She disputed Trump's assertion that she wants to repeal the Second Amendment, saying "I'm not here to take away your guns. I just don't want you to be shot by someone who shouldn't have a gun in the first place."

Campaigning in Iowa on Thursday, Trump said there were

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Fuel surpluses trim profits at Marathon

Company earns \$801M in 2nd quarter

By LOU WILIN
STAFF WRITER

Industry-wide fuel surpluses reduced Marathon Petroleum Corp.'s profit by 3 percent from a year earlier to \$801 million in the April-June quarter, the company reported Thursday.

"Most of the refiners including Marathon have increased, stepped up their gasoline production and (diesel) production in anticipation of strong demand. They just overdid it. They created their own problem," said Fadel Gheit, senior energy analyst for Oppenheimer. "They shot themselves in the foot."

Marathon's quarterly earnings amounted to \$1.51 per share. That was actually 47 cents higher than it otherwise would have been. After depressed commodity prices forced a big writedown in the value of assets in the January-March quarter, prices improved a bit in the April-June quarter, causing a reversal of the previous writedown, Marathon reported.

Revenue in the April-June quarter fell 18 percent from a year earlier to \$16.79 billion. Marathon Petroleum sold more refined product, but the gross refining margin dropped over 13 percent to \$12.82 per barrel. Refining operating profit declined about 8.5 percent to \$1.08 billion.

By comparison, Valero Energy Corp.'s refining operating profit fell over 38 percent to \$1.33 billion.

The more difficult times in refining confirmed Marathon's strategy of expanding its Speedway, logistics and natural gas processing businesses. While they usually generate less profit than refining, they tend to be more stable and they complement refining, said Gary Heminger, chairman and chief executive officer of Marathon Petroleum Corp.

"Speedway basically helps the refining and marketing business because they have their own outlet (by selling refined fuels to Speedway). They have a captive audience," Gheit said. "That gives Marathon a competitive advantage over other companies that would be hostage to outlets they do not own."

Speedway grew operating

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Charge reduces MPLX earnings

Subsidiary ready to grow

By LOU WILIN
STAFF WRITER

Profit fell about 63 percent last quarter for MPLX, Marathon Petroleum Corp.'s logistics and natural gas processing subsidiary. But company officials and analysts agree it has made it through a difficult time.

Its \$19 million profit in the April-June quarter was earned after taking an impairment charge of \$89 million related to an equity method investment. The charge involved no cash.

Otherwise, its profit would have been more than double a year earlier.

Tumbling oil and natural gas prices slowed demand last year and earlier this year for MPLX's business of providing processing, logistics and transportation infrastructure for natural gas, natural gas liquids, crude oil and other products.

That slowed Marathon Petroleum Corp.'s speedy growth ambitions for MPLX for a while.

But analysts on Thursday prefaced questions to company officials with comments like "with MPLX stabilized" and "It sounds like, in every which way,

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Suspect in Toledo student's killing had hidden room

By JOHN SEEWER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOLEDO — Investigators found a hidden room outfitted with restraints inside a barn belonging to a man accused of abducting and killing an Ohio college student, and they were looking into

whether it was used to hold other victims, according to search warrants released Thursday.

The room also had a carpeted freezer with blood inside and had been concealed by hay bales, the documents said.

James Worley, 57, who spent three years in prison after abducting and killing a woman in 1990, has been charged with aggravated murder and abduction in the death of 20-year-old University of Toledo student Sierah Joughin. She disappeared a week ago



Worley

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Findlay's city auditor unveils financial transparency website

Staschiak says site will include both revenues, expenses

By MAX FILBY
STAFF WRITER

Findlay City Council was introduced Thursday to the city's upcoming financial transparency website.

The website was created by the Findlay Auditor's Office and Tyler Technologies, the company that owns the city's financial software system, MUNIS.

The website will be released to the public in the next few weeks under the name FindlayOhioFinances.com.

"I hope you folks like this and I hope the community likes this," Auditor Jim Staschiak told City Council.

The website is similar to a state website called OhioCheckbook.com, except it includes both revenues and expenses. The state's "open

checkbook," which is an initiative by Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel's office, only shows expenditures.

"I'd say it's about two-thirds more powerful," Findlay Deputy Auditor Ginger Sampson said Thursday about the local website.

Findlay's website, which will be updated weekly, will allow users to look at the city's finances from 2012 to the present. It will allow users to see what payments were made to different vendors and where different city departments are spending their money.

Users will be able to download spreadsheets of selected data, and search the database based on funds, categories, functions and departments, Staschiak and Sampson said.

"We're setting the bar for some other cities to use this system," 1st Ward Councilwoman Holly Frische said.

It will also allow users to see the salaries of every city government employee. Staschiak and Sampson said that is what they get the most public records requests for.

Staschiak said they get salary record requests not just from the public, but from unions during negotiating time, too.

The names of minors on the website will

be redacted, but Staschiak said they can be provided through a standard public records request.

The website will automatically vet the city's data so it can be exported to a spreadsheet and submitted to the state treasurer's office when Findlay joins OhioCheckbook.com later this year.

The state's website and Findlay's financial software, MUNIS, are made by competing companies, meaning the city's data cannot be simply linked to the state site, Sampson has said.

Although auditors and finance directors from around the state said joining OhioCheckbook.com did not take much time or effort, Staschiak said his office's website, an extension of MUNIS, would automatically scrub data and eliminate extra work for his staff.

"It's much easier because we're modifying the compatible system rather than a competing system," Staschiak said.

Staschiak said he reached out to the state treasurer's office this week to discuss whatever agreements would need to be made for

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