

Eye On World & Local

The 2008 Republican National Convention

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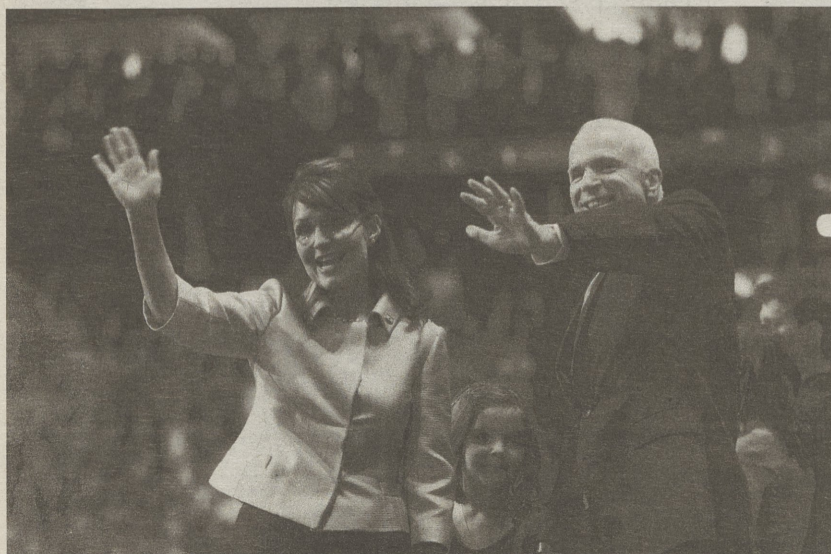
As Hurricane Gustav barreled towards the Gulf Coast, the 2008 Republican National Convention held in Saint Paul, Minnesota announced changes to the convention's program. At the recommendation of Sen. John McCain, on Mon. Sept. 1, all program activities beyond the official business that must be conducted in accordance with party rules were cancelled. The First night of the RNC focused on 'Serving a Cause Greater Than Self.' First Lady Laura Bush and Mrs. Cindy McCain addressed the opening session of the RNC. Their remarks focused on the ongoing relief efforts aimed at assisting the people of the Gulf Coast States. Chairman of the Republican National Committee Robert M. Duncan said, "The safety and well-being of the people of the Gulf States remains our top concern."

The second night of the RNC highlighted 'The Service and Courage of John McCain.' Former candidate for the 2008 Republican nomination Fred Thompson spoke about John McCain's commitment to his fellow Americans. U.S. Sen. Joe Lieberman (ID-Conn.) and former running-mate of 2000 Democratic Presidential nominee Al Gore, addressed the convention and expanded on McCain's campaign theme 'Country First.' He discussed John McCain's pledge to work across party lines and his ability to break the partisan divide in Washington.

President Bush spoke live via satellite from Washington to the RNC Tuesday night, because of his duties to oversee recovery efforts in New Orleans and the Gulf Coast. He supported John McCain saying, "I know the hard choices that fall solely to a president. John McCain's life has prepared him to make those choices. He is ready to lead this nation."

Wednesday's program focused on reforming the federal government. The night's theme was 'Washington is Broken and the Original Maverick Will Fix It'. The featured speaker was Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, the Republican Party's nominee for vice president. She accepted her party's nomination, presented information on her background, and introduced her husband Todd, her five children, and her parents who were all seated in the audience. She hit hard against the Democratic candidate for president Sen. Barack Obama and stood up for her own record saying, "I guess a small-town mayor is sort of like a 'community organizer,' except that you have actual responsibilities." McCain made a surprise appearance on stage with Sara Palin and her family. Other speakers Wed. night included former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney and former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee.

Thursday night at the RNC presented the 2008 Republican Presidential nominee Arizona Sen. John McCain to the nation. The program focused on the theme 'A Safer and More Secure Nation'. Former Pennsylvania Governor Tom Ridge spoke about his friend "John [who] dares to think differently, to act boldly and to put country before self." Cindy McCain gathered on stage with her three children, her three step-children, and the family's adopted daughter. She spoke about her husband's character and love for his country and family. John McCain took center stage afterwards, to accept the Republican Party's nomination for president. He spoke of his service in the military and about how his experience has shaped the man he is today. "I fell in love with my country when I was a prisoner in someone else's....I loved it for its decency; for its faith in the wisdom, justice and goodness of its people. I loved it because it was not just a place, but an idea, a cause worth fighting for. I was never the same again. I wasn't my own man anymore. I was my countries."



VP Nominee Gov. Sarah Palin (R-AK) and Republican Presidential Nominee Sen. John McCain. (R-AZ) at the 2008 Republican National Convention. (photo courtesy of the Associated Press)

Hometown Hero



Name: Lee B. Presto

Age: 25

Hometown: Thornton, Pa.

Service Branch: US Army

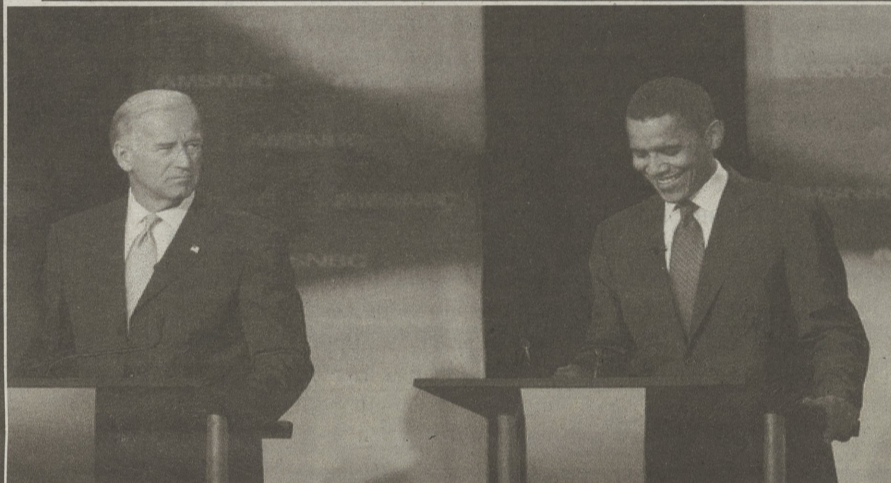
Status: Military Intelligence Corps Specialist

Boot Camp: Fort Leonard Wood, 2007

Special Training: Hand to Hand Combative Instructor

Lee Presto graduated from West Chester East High School in 2002 and then attended Penn State University where he graduated with a B.S in Management Information Systems in 2006.

Do you know a hometown hero who you want to be recognized in the Lion's Eye? If so email **Erin Kaskela @ eck137@psu.edu**



Democratic VP Nominee Sen. Joseph Biden (D-DE) and Democratic Presidential Nominee Sen. Barack Obama (D-IL) take the stage at the Democratic National Convention in Denver, CO. (photo courtesy of the Associated Press)

Denver Hosts The 2008 Democratic National Convention

By: Paul Dipietro
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It would seem that beneath the spark and flair of the drama that was the Democratic primary season, there arose a bang; powerful like an atom bomb, aimed at the so-seemingly deemed plague of a Republican party. The Democrats have been attempting to make clear that it is the Republicans who have brought down this nation from the time of the Clinton administration.

With the over-exaggerated "scars" that had been placed upon the Democratic Party, the primary goal of the convention was to bring the party and the voters back together under Illinois Senator Barack Obama. His choice of Delaware Senator Joseph Biden as his running mate was generally applauded by the liberal wing. Many people questioned the fact that New York Senator Hillary Clinton was not chosen to be Obama's running mate, because she was not fit for the position. Most concerns for this matter have dwindled off since the convention, and the only remains of it will linger on if Senator Obama should lose the general election.

While the overall concern of the Clinton situation has died down, there is still the lingering question of Republican John McCain's running mate Sarah Palin. Many people feel that McCain chose the Alaskan Governor simply because Senator Clinton was not chosen by the Democrats, and choosing Palin could possibly capitalize upon women voters.

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