



Cheers at 'SC and in Denver for a promise of change

In Denver and on campus, thousands watch Obama accept the Democratic nomination.

By **ALEXANDER COMISAR**
and **CATHERINE LYONS**

Daily Trojan

With more than 80,000 cheering supporters packed into Invesco Field in Denver and millions more watching on television — from Times Square in New York to the Annenberg lobby on USC's campus — Sen. Barack Obama accepted his party's nomination Thursday night and readied his base for the sprint toward November.

Though many speculated that Obama would shy away from negative comments about his Republican rival, Sen. John McCain, he wasted no time in calling out his opponent for failing to break ranks with President George W. Bush.

Obama aimed to respond to his critics' claims that his language was too vague, outlining his policy plans for the economy, foreign policy and a laundry list of key domestic issues.

The speech was well-received back on campus, as almost 300 students filled every corner of the lobby and flowed up the staircase to watch the Illinois senator's historic moment.

The viewing party, hosted by USC Annenberg School for Communication and the USC Unruh Institute of Politics, began with a discussion panel composed of former McCain Communications Director Dan Schnur, Director of the School of Journalism Geneva Overholser and professor of communication and speech adviser Tom Hollihan.

The panelists discussed what they hoped to hear from the speech, what they thought Obama needed to accomplish in his address and how journalists are covering the Democratic National Convention, particularly last night's culmination of the weeklong event.

Throughout the speech, students cheered along with the crowd at Invesco as Obama rallied his supporters with talk of patriotism and the promise of a reinvigorated American spirit.

For Abim Oduguwa, a junior majoring in international relations global business, Thursday's speech was a first.

"This is my first time really taking the time to hear what Obama has to say and it was empowering to watch someone, almost like a father figure, to accept the nomination," Oduguwa said.

Brian Reich, a sophomore majoring in economics, agreed that the speech succeeded in uniting the party for the upcoming election.

"I think he's a really great speaker," Reich said. "He has a way of unifying America that transcends party lines."

| see **OBAMA**, page 3 |



Photo courtesy of the Democratic National Committee

For one professor, memories of a different speech

By **CATHERINE LYONS**

Daily Trojan

On Aug. 28, 1963, a scorching hot and humid day in Washington, D.C., 200,000 people from all across the nation gathered on the Mall to march for civil rights. It was the same day Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered the most poignant speech of his short life, listing his dreams and hopes for America's future.

Bryce Nelson, a professor of journalism at the Annenberg School for Communication, was a young twenty-something who had just

| see **NELSON**, page 2 |



Quincy Dein | Daily Trojan

Mile High • A packed Invesco field cheered as Sen. Barack Obama accepted the Democratic nomination (top). The enthusiasm was equally strong on campus, where students gathered at the Annenberg School for Communication (below) to watch the speech.



Quincy Dein | Daily Trojan

Shattered • Helicopters, LAPD cars and a dozen DPS officers responded to what appeared to be a shooting at a DPS vehicle Thursday.

'Gunshot' shatters DPS car window

DPS could not confirm a shot; officer heard bang, according to DPS, LAPD officers at scene.

By **ALEXANDER COMISAR**
and **QUINCY DEIN**

Daily Trojan

The window of a Department of Public Safety SUV was shattered on Thursday by what Los Angeles Police Department and DPS officers said they believe was a bullet, according to officers at the scene.

The gunshot, from an unknown shooter, shattered the window near the intersection of 37th Street and Vermont Avenue just after 1 p.m. Thursday, according to DPS and LAPD officers.

DPS Capt. Dave Carlisle said the DPS officers in the car heard "a bang and then the windows shattered."

But a DPS incident notice would not confirm that the broken window was because of a gunshot, calling whatever shattered the window an "unidentified projectile."

Carlisle also said other witnesses did not hear anything, and the incident report said officers could not find a bullet.

Officers on the scene referred to shots being fired. DPS Officer Montgomery, who was directing traffic near the scene, told passers-by that there had been shots. Two LAPD helicopters, LAPD police cars and at least a dozen DPS officers were dispatched to the scene.

Authorities closed Vermont Avenue between Exposition Boulevard and 36th Place at Gate Six for part of the afternoon.

The Trojan Alert system notified students and faculty via text message and e-mail at 1:54 p.m. of

a "police related incident" near the intersection and asked that they stay away from the area.

The DPS incident report stressed that there is no longer any threat near the intersection. But Jesjit Birak, a sophomore who lives a block from the intersection, said he'll remain worried nonetheless.

"It's horrifying to think that we're at a polished, well-guarded university and just 200 meters away, this is happening," he said. "We joke about living in South Central, but when this happens, it's not so funny."

Carlisle said DPS will continue to take every precaution.

"When something like this happens, you always want to be prepared for the worst" he said. "Playing it safe and airing on the side of caution is how we make sure our community is protected."

INDEX

- 2 • News Digest
- 7 • Sudoku
- 4 • Opinion
- 8 • Classifieds
- 5 • Lifestyle
- 12 • Sports



Weekend Pick: F Yeah Fest brings its outlandish fun to the EchoPlex. **PAGE 6**

Coastal Clash: USC heads to Charlottesville for a cross-country game against UVA. **PAGE 12**

