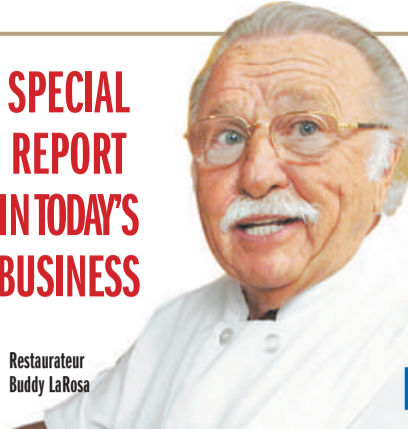


IN A&E
**Big ideas
for the Banks**

Our writers make
10 suggestions

**SPECIAL REPORT
INTODAY'S
BUSINESS**



Our annual look at the region's
100 largest
privately
held
companies

PLUS: LaRosa honored for contributions to community

**COUPONS
WORTH
MORE
THAN
\$165
INSIDE**

THE CINCINNATI ENQUIRER

CINCINNATI.COM

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2005

LATE NEWS/SPORTS **\$1.50**

IN SPORTS

STATE CHAMPS!

- Seton captured the Division I volleyball title.
- Hamilton Badin won the Division III girls soccer title.
- Roger Bacon repeats in Division II volleyball.

Football playoffs

**St. Xavier 12,
Colerain 9 (OT)**



St. Xavier coach Steve Specht celebrates after the Bombers beat the Colerain Cardinals at Paul Brown Stadium on Darius Ashley's 25-yard touchdown catch.

Online: Go to Cincinnati.com for a photo gallery from Saturday's high school games. **Keyword:** preps

Up Front

Must reads inside today's Enquirer

Drug dealers get 'bumped' off

The Kennedy Heights Community Problem-Oriented Policing group made things uncomfortable for drug dealers. Bumps helped chase them away. **LOCAL B1**

French police guard landmarks

Emergency measures were enacted in France Saturday in response to reports calling for "violent actions" against national landmarks. **WORLD A10**

Also ...

■ Readers share memories of "The Sound of Music" as Fox Home Video announces it will offer a 40th anniversary DVD of the beloved film. **LIFE F1**

WEATHER

High 64°
Low 38°
A early shower

COMPLETE FORECAST: B6

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Classified G1-12, H1-28, I1-14
First Run Classified E7

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SPECIAL REPORT: THE COST TO COMPETE

They pay the price

The families of Tony Bradberry, Ben Guidugli and Myia McCurdy spent nearly \$20,000 last year on club sports, training, travel and equipment for their kids. All of it was aside from fees for high school sports. Lots of families are like them.

Across Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky, the cost to compete is reaching stunning heights, an Enquirer series beginning today shows. Thirty local families added up their costs last year to give their high school athletes a competitive edge.

The average amount spent: \$6,100 per child. "I know it's a lot," says Bradberry, who's wrestled in competitions nationwide. "I have a lot of friends who want to do it and can't because it is expensive."

Parents say they'll do almost anything to ensure their children are successful. But there are no guarantees of any big payback - now or in the future.

Are the costs worth it?



\$6,425

Myia McCurdy
Winton Woods High School senior
Top costs
AAU fees and travel, private instruction, summer league ball

\$3,100

Ben Guidugli
Highlands High School senior
Top costs
Football camps, out-of-state travel, equipment, vitamins

\$9,659

Tony Bradberry
Lakota West High School senior
Top costs
21 tournaments, private training, wrestling camps, equipment

In Forum, E1 and E4-5

- 12 athletes, top expenses
- Parents: We're not to blame
- Local clubs and costs

Online: Go to Cincinnati.com to hear teens talk about being competitive today. Also, tell us your thoughts by answering our questionnaire. **Keyword:** amateur

Monday: Paying the pros to find colleges for kids

Tuesday: Are soaring costs leaving the poor behind?

New faces blur party lines on council

Informed voters came to polls with purpose

By **Howard Wilkinson**
Enquirer staff writer

David Pepper got exactly the kind of city council he wanted in Tuesday's election.

But he won't be around to run it.

More than 73,000 Cincinnatians - of the 212,000 registered voters - went to the polls Tuesday and, by a small margin, rejected Pepper, the candidate seen by many as a City Hall insider. They chose as their new mayor Mark Mallory, a city government outsider who promised to end the chaos at City Hall.

Then voters sent Mallory four new faces to deal with on City Council. Jeff Berding, Cecil Thomas, Leslie Ghiz and Chris Bortz ran campaigns of conciliation rather than confrontation, and appear unlikely to let their different party labels stop them from working together on council.

They are exactly the kind of council members Pepper was talking about in the campaign when he said he wanted to be a mayor who presided over a council that would put politics aside and work with him on a common agenda.

"I always said throughout the campaign that it was as deep a field of candidates that we will see in a very long time," Pepper said Friday. "These four in particular bring an independent streak that's very healthy. They're not just about their own party label. They each call it as they see it."

Voters elected two new Democrats (Berding and Thomas), a Republican (Ghiz) and a Charterite (Bortz) - maintaining the party balance on City Council - on paper.

But it's also a more moderate and conciliatory council.

**ELECTION
2005**

The new council

A look at the incoming City Council (* new member):

Mayor: Mark Mallory (Democrat)

Democrats: Jeff Berding*, John Cranley, David Crowley, Laketa Cole, Cecil Thomas*

Republicans: Leslie Ghiz*, Chris Monzel

Charterite: Chris Bortz*, Jim Tarbell

■ Profile of new council members, **C2**

See **COUNCIL**, Page **A14**

Muslim nations' meeting stumbles

Objections derail U.S.-led forum

By **Steven R. Weisman**
The New York Times

MANAMA, Bahrain - A meeting of Muslim nations initiated by the Bush administration ended in discord on Saturday after objections by Egypt blocked a final declaration supporting democracy.

The administration did, however, get backing for a \$50 million foundation to support political activities in the Muslim world, with money to be raised from American, European and Arab sources, and a \$100 million fund half-financed by the United States to provide venture capital to businesses.

Diplomats at the confer-

ence said Egypt wanted the language in the meeting's final declaration to say that only "legally registered" groups should be aided by the foundation.

The Americans expressed open irritation with Egypt for its efforts to "scuttle," as one put it, what they had hoped would be a milestone in its efforts to promote democracy in the Middle East.

"Obviously, we are not pleased," a senior State Department official said. Another said, in a tone of exasperation, "I don't understand why they should make this an issue." Both declined to be identified.

Egyptian diplomats have



The Associated Press/Hasan Jamali

A U.S.-backed meeting of Muslim nations attended by U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Bahraini Information Minister Mohammed Abdull Ghafar faltered after objections by Egypt.

complaints that outside financing for groups may end up in the hands of extremists or even terrorists. American officials dismiss those warnings as absurd, noting that some American aid to Egypt, about \$430 million this year, already goes to groups in Egypt that do not have government approval.

But American support for

independent groups in other countries has alarmed some Arab leaders. They cite American aid that supported groups that led the uprisings in Georgia and Ukraine and point out that Russia and Uzbekistan have sought to block American aid to groups in their countries.

See **DISCORD**, Page **A14**

It's time to pick a drug plan TOO COMPLEX FOR SENIORS

By **Robert Pear**
The New York Times

WASHINGTON - Enrollment in the new Medicare drug benefit begins on Tuesday, but even with President Bush hailing the plan on Saturday as "the greatest advance in health care for seniors" in 40 years, large numbers of older Americans appear to be overwhelmed and confused by the choices.

"I have a Ph.D., and it's too complicated to suit me," said William Q. Beard, 73, a retired chemist in Wichita, Kan., who takes eight prescription drugs, including several heart medicines. "I wonder how the vast majority of beneficiaries will han-

Online: Go to Cincinnati.com for answers to frequently asked questions about the new drug plans.

Keyword: Medicare.

dle this. I fervently wish that members of Congress had to deal with the same health-care program we do."

Beard was interviewed at First United Methodist Church in Wichita, Kan., where he and 100 other members of an adult Sunday school class recently received a two-hour explanation of the drug benefit from a state insurance counselor.

See **DRUG PLAN**, Page **A14**



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