



Cavs fall to Wizards

Sloppy play prevails in 80-77 loss

B1

What's in the water?

Crestwood students study run-off

A6



RECORD-COURIER

(C) Copyright 2009 by the Record Publishing Co. L.L.C.

178th Year, No. 4

MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2009

50 CENTS

IN BRIEF

Franken to win in Minnesota

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — New York Sen. Charles Schumer says Democrat Al Franken should be seated in the Senate when it convenes Tuesday.



Franken

Schumer, the former head of the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, said in a statement Sunday that it's clear Franken has won the election for Minnesota's Senate seat. He says Republican Norm Coleman can't get enough votes to win, even if claims of double-counted ballots are resolved.

Franken had a 225-vote lead over Coleman when election officials completed their re-count Saturday. The state Canvassing Board is expected to certify the results Monday.

But the election may not be done. Coleman has a court petition pending to add ballots to the re-count and hasn't ruled out challenging the election results in court.

Burris speaks on Senate seat

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Just days before a high-stakes showdown in the nation's capital, the man selected to take President-elect Barack Obama's vacated U.S. Senate seat sought spiritual and political support Sunday at a South Side Chicago church.

Words of support and prayers for Roland Burris contrasted with reactions from Senate leaders, many of whom say his appointment by embattled Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich shouldn't go through.

"The appointment is legal," Burris told the hundreds of supporters who gathered Sunday.

Pen pals amidst war



Lisa Scafaro/Record-Courier

Chad Randall, 12, shows off a flag and other keepsakes mailed to him from Iraq by a pen pal serviceman. The seventh-grade student at Crestwood Middle School has written to more than two dozen troops.

Crestwood student reaches out to soldiers, writes letters to 25 U.S. troops in Iraq

By Dave O'Brien
Record-Courier staff writer

SHALERSVILLE — Like many other children his age, Crestwood Middle School seventh-grader Chad Randall has pen pals.

However, these pen pals wear combat boots and work and live in the heat of the Iraqi desert protecting freedom as part of the U.S. military mission there.

Chad, 12, recently took the advice of a student teacher at school who is a colonel in the U.S. Air Force Reserve and decided to write to American soldiers stationed overseas. Not one to do anything halfway, according to his parents, Chad wrote 25

letters and found someone who would include them in care packages to the soldiers.

"I sat and wrote a couple," Chad said. "They have letters from kids they'll slip in there, too."

As of Friday, Chad already had heard back from two servicemen. One, Senior Master Sgt. William Terry of the 447th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron, shipped to Ohio an American flag that flew over Sather Air Base, Iraq, on Dec. 19, 2008, in Chad's honor.

The folded flag now has found a special place in a triangular case in the Randall family home, along with an official

See Pen, page A8

Obama nominee withdraws from commerce post

N.M. governor Bill Richardson at center of corruption query

By Nedra Pickler
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson on Sunday announced that he was withdrawing his nomination to be President-elect Barack Obama's commerce secretary amid a grand jury investigation into how some of his political donors won a lucrative state contract.

Richardson's withdrawal was the first disruption of

Obama's Cabinet process and the second "pay-to-play" investigation that has touched Obama's transition to the presidency. The president-elect has remained above the fray in both the case of arrested Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich and the New Mexico case.

A federal grand jury is investigating how a California company that contributed to Richardson's political ac-

See Nominee, page A8

Gaza attacks draw Mideast protests



Associated Press

Protestors in Greece burn an Israeli flag Sunday night.

Thousands critical of Israeli actions

By Bassem Mroue
Associated Press Writer

BEIRUT, Lebanon — Thousands protesting Israel's ground offensive on Gaza converged Sunday in Beirut and the Turkish capital, as the leaders of the only two Mideast Arab nations to sign

peace treaties with Israel demanded an end to the attack.

In Yemen, security officials said anti-Israel protesters attacked several Jewish homes in the northern province of Omran, smashing windows and pelting them

See Protests, page A8

WEATHER



BREEZY

29°/18°

Accu-weather A8

INSIDE

CLASSIFIED	B5	LIFETIMES	A5
COMICS	B7	LOTTERY	A2
CROSSWORD	B6	OPINION	A3
DEATHS	A4	PEOPLE	A2
HALL MONITOR	A6	STATE/LOCAL	A4
HOROSCOPE	B6	SPORTS	B1

A special good morning to Record-Courier subscriber Theodore Welke of Garrettsville



7 23380 55556 3

WINDHAM FIREFIGHTER REMEMBERED



Timothy St. Hilaire/Record-Courier

Members of the Windham Fire Department escort the body of Raymond H. Mullett, a former Windham firefighter who died Dec. 29, 2008, at the age of 85, to Windham Township Cemetery Saturday. Mullett's flag-draped casket is visible behind the cab of Engine 2815.

Chase ends with crash

Suspect collided with police car

By Deborah Guziak
Record-Courier staff writer

A Streetsboro man was arrested Saturday on felony charges of kidnapping, felonious assault and aggravated robbery after leading police on a car and then a foot chase.



Trusnik

The charges against Nicholas Trusnik, 19, of 9512 Ellen Drive, stem from an unknown incident that occurred in Ravenna Saturday.

Ravenna police notified Streetsboro police at 4:59

See Chase, page A8

Participants Needed for New Product Trial

Speech-in-Noise Breakthrough

Qualified candidates will be fit with Beltone Reach™ Hearing Instruments* featuring new technology that lets you focus on the speaker in front of you or the voices behind you.

If you have trouble hearing conversations in restaurants or crowded situations, you may qualify for this product trial.

CALL FOR AN APPT. TODAY!

Beltone
Akron 330-784-8480
Ravenna 330-297-0335
Twinsburg 330-425-9772
Norton 330-706-9120
www.beltone.com

*There is no obligation to buy.