

CD reviews, Santas and top Christmas wishes to start off the holidays
Holiday Guide



The Nebraska soccer team takes a surprise fall in the Sweet 16 of the NCAA tournament
In Sports Monday/10



UNL pianist has been around the globe and back again, continuing her playing the entire way
In Arts/10



Competition surrounded media's haste

■ The quick announcement of president on election night may have been caused by the fierce clashes between television and radio stations.

BY GEORGE GREEN

On election night, the media stumbled between wrong calls, recalls and no-calls of the presidential election.

Now that the Nov. 7 fervor has calmed, even though the United States still doesn't have an executive, people are beginning to question the media's role in the election night mayhem.

Congress is looking into the reasons why the television networks were hasty to declare a presidential winner in each state.

In particular, allegations of wrongdoing have plagued the Fox Network, which had an employee related to Gov. George W. Bush who was involved with vote predictions and reportedly gave the Republican presidential candidate's campaign tips on election returns.

Carroll Doherty, the editor of the Pew Research Center for People and the Press, one of the foremost groups that studies the media, said questions about the media's election coverage were backed by widespread public outrage aimed at the media's policies.

"There is a high degree of unhappiness with the media," he said.

The Pew group recently completed a public opinion survey that showed 87 percent of Americans feel the media should not make early projections as to which candidate wins a state based on exit polling.

It also showed that eight in 10 Americans feel the networks made incorrect calls on election night because they were too consumed with a need to be first.

Bob Hopkins, a spokesman for Bush, said the Bush campaign hoped the public discontent would force the media into reevaluating their policies and procedures.

Bush isn't sure how the miscalls affected the election, Hopkins said, but he feels like the

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David Clasen/DN

Kerrey: Thank you, farewell

BY BRIAN CARLSON

ASHLAND — Retiring Sen. Bob Kerrey thanked his constituents in grand fashion Saturday night, saying they had helped him craft laws to improve people's lives.

About 1,000 people, Democrats and Republicans, showed up for a dinner at the Strategic Air Command Museum in Ashland to show their appreciation for Kerrey, who will leave the Senate in January after serving two terms.

"Tonight I have a simple two-word message: Thank you," Kerrey said. "The list of things I've done by myself is short. The list of things I've done with other people is quite long."

Kerrey, a Democrat, served as gov-

ernor from 1983-87. He was elected to the Senate in 1988 and was re-elected in 1994. In between, he ran unsuccessfully for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1992.

Upon leaving office in January, he will become president of the New School University in New York City.

Dining on chicken and roast beef, and seated at tables adorned with red, white and blue balloons, the crowd packed the hall to hear Kerrey bid farewell.

Kerrey presented a video about his 12 years in the Senate, focusing mostly on the things Nebraska accomplished through a partnership between citizens and government: crop insurance, creation of scenic areas along the state's rivers, construction of the

George W. Beadle Center on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus and other accomplishments.

"My hope is that 100 years from now, people will be able to look back on our little 12-year period of time and say we wrote laws that made life better not just for us, but for our posterity," he said.

Kerrey said a U.S. senator has tremendous power to write laws and improve people's lives. If people focused more on the good work public servants do, he said, it would be "an antidote to the toxic cynicism that says our democracy is not worth celebrating."

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Retiring U.S. Sen. Bob Kerrey (right) talks with Shannon Bonness and Rick Bonness of Omaha Saturday night at a dinner Kerrey held to thank his constituents. More than 1,000 people came to the buffet held at the SAC Museum in Ashland.



David Clasen/DN

U.S. Sen. Bob Kerrey thanks everybody who helped and supported him during his career in Nebraska politics Saturday night at the SAC Museum. Kerrey accepted a job as president of the New School University in New York earlier this year.

BY TOBY MANTHEY

Rokeya Sultana's 15-year-old daughter saw snow for the first time last Thursday.

Monsoons and mustard fields spring up more often in the mother and daughter's homeland.

Sultana, a professor and award-winning artist from Bangladesh, is visiting the University of Nebraska-Lincoln until Dec. 1 in an exchange with the University of Dhaka. She will create artwork and teach printmaking in the Nelle Cochrane Woods Art building.

Karen Kunc, a UNL art professor, said her students will benefit from having Sultana's "fresh eyes look at their work and work in their midst."

Sultana's art incorporates traditional symbols, Eastern religious concepts and familial and feminist themes.

A major series in Sultana's oeuvre is her "Madonna" series, which she said her daughter, Laura, inspired. Raphael and Boticelli painted Madonnas featuring Mary and Jesus, but Sultana's mother-and-child prints are different.

"It's a classical theme, but put into (the context of) every contemporary woman's mind and life," Kunc said.

Often, the mother and daughter are seeped in red tones, which Sultana said represents the love and struggle of motherhood. In some prints, the mother and child travel in a rickshaw, a small carriage pulled by men.

"I tried to show a mother holding her daughter's hand, trying to take her into a better world," Sultana said.

She said this journey is necessary because Bangladeshi women face low literacy rates and a 20-percent employment rate outside the home.

Sultana, who works in several mediums, also created an "Earth, Water and Land" landscape series of paintings, which are large abstract expanses of murky gray and pure, cadmium-yellow paint.

"If you've seen Bangladesh,



you wouldn't feel this work was abstract," Sultana said. "The mustard fields look totally yellow."

Sultana was born in 1958 in Chittagong, Bangladesh. Her father was a superintendent for the Bangladeshi police and a freedom fighter in the Bangladesh Liberation War of 1971.

Her husband, Rummy, plays professional cricket for the Bangladesh National Team.

In 1999, Sultana won the Bengal Foundation's national award for best work and received honorable mention at the Ninth Asian Art Biennial to "thunderous applause," said Kunc, the sole U.S. representative at the event.

Her works hang in the Bangladesh National Museum, the Universal Graphic Museum in



Courtesy Photos

Visiting Bangladeshi artist Rokeya Sultana works on a woodcarving titled "Man and Woman in the Sun."

Cairo, Egypt, and are among other collections worldwide.

"I think (Sultana) is very cutting edge, especially for the country she's from," said Kathy Puzey, a UNL graduate printmaking student.

Puzey, who visited Bangladesh last year, said artists

there are dealing with "basic, survival" issues. Considering this, she said, it's surprising that Sultana's work is so sophisticated.

Sultana studied Daoism and Zen as a graduate student at Vishwa Bharati University in Shantiniketan, India. Because of this, she said, she tries to achieve a

state of "zero mind" while painting.

She said this approach makes painting a kind of conversation with her canvas.

"When we start a conversation with someone, sometimes we don't know where it will go," Sultana said.

An important concept in Daoism is "yin and yang," or the play of opposites.

Sultana sees painting in this light.

"If the brush is yin, the ink is yang," she said. "Or if the brush is yin, the paper is yang. Two powers mix and make another energy. Sometimes the canvas takes (an image) out of you."

Besides Daoism, Sultana has also studied and taught art history, but resists its influence on her work.

"Now I want to forget everything," she said. "If something is really true, people will accept it."

reality
Bangladesh artist brings scenery of homeland to plains of Nebraska

Lincolnite fights strife in Somalia

BY JOSH FUNK

The only known copy of war-torn Somalia's legal code is in Lincoln with Gary Hill, who has taken time away from his scrap yard business to help the African republic restore the rule of law.

A world map covers one wall of Hill's CEGA Services office from floor to ceiling with small, yellow pins marking the places he has been.

Hill downplays his role as a consultant with the United Nations and international criminal justice organizations, and says he helps nations establish a criminal justice system and train guards and police.

"I'm basically a secretary," Hill said. "I compile (information) so they can do their jobs."

Hill became involved with prison reforms in the 1960s when he started a program at the Nebraska State Penitentiary. Later he became involved nationally and internationally.

Over the years, Hill has written 43 different training manuals for prison and police in more than 50 countries. Hill first went to Somalia with the U.S. - and UN-led intervention in the early 1990s. Those troops failed to disarm warring factions and bring peace to the country, and they left after several U.S. soldiers were killed.

Somalia's infrastructure has been decimated by a decade without any central government where warlords ruled regions of the country and fought for control of the capitol, Mogadishu, and what was the sole port city, Merca. For example, Hill said there

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