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Aalto-näyttelylle palkinto USA:ssa

New Yorkin Modernin taiteen museossa vuosi sitten keväällä nähty Alvar Aallon elämäntyön katselmus on valittu Yhdysvaltain vuoden parhaaksi arkkitehtuurinäyttelyksi. Tunnustuksen myönsi kansainvälisten taidekriitikoiden Yhdysvaltain jaosto.

MoMA:n näyttelyn *Alvar Aalto: Between Humanism and Materialism* suunnitteli museon apulaiskuraattori Peter Reed. Hänet on nyt nimitetty museon arkkitehtuurinäyttelyistä vastaavaksi kuraattoriksi ja hänen kollegansa Paola Antonelli muotoilunäyttelyiden kuraattoriksi. Reed sai työstään Suomessa Valkoisen ruusun kunniamerkin.

New Yorkissa ja Italiassa nähdyn Aalto-näyttelyn kierros on juuri päättynyt Tokiossa, ja näyttelyaineisto palaa omistajilleen. (HS)

Paavo Lipposesta vuoden mielipidevaikuttaja

Pääministeri Paavo Lipponen (sd) on valittu vuoden 1998 mielipidevaikuttajaksi *Suomen Lehdistö* -lehden äänestyksessä. Toisen sijan jakoivat valtiovarainministeri Sauli Niinistö (kok) ja Nokian toimitusjohtaja Jorma Ollila. Niinistö ja Ollila jäivät kahden äänen päähän Lipposesta.

Valinnan tekivät Sanomalehtien liiton jäsenlehtien päätoimittajat. Heistä noin kolmannes eli 77 osallistui äänestykseen. Lipponen on aiemmin valittu mielipidevaikuttajien ykköseksi vuosina 1995 ja 1997.

Vuoden mielipidevaikuttajaksi pyydettiin nimeämään henkilö, joka viime vuoden aikana kirjoituksillaan, puheillaan ja muulla julkisella esiintymisellään eniten vaikutti suomalaiseen mielipiteeseen. Ehdotuksia tuli yli 30 henkilöstä. (SS)

Hallitus ei puutu lennonjohtajien lakkoon, sanoo Lipponen

Suomen hallitus ei ole harkinnut erityistoimia lennonjohtajien lakon lopettamiseksi. Pääministeri Paavo Lipponen (sd) mukaan hallitus on tehnyt ratkaisunsa valtakunnansovittelijan suosituksesta.

Lipponen mielestä olisi ollut tavatonta, jos hallitus olisi toiminut toisin kuin valtakunnansovittelija oli esittänyt. (SS)



Taking part in the Scandinavian American Heritage Society's winter party are, from left, Edith Kaske, Miriam and John Konkola, Irene Kangas, Sirkka Vanderer, Paula Hoffren and Spencer Hildebrand. Edith Kaske's report on page 10. photo: Paul Kaske

EU-komissio tiukentaa urheilubisneksen tarkkailua

Euroopan unionin komissio haluaa valvoa entistä tarkemmin vapaan kilpailun toteutumista urheilubisneksessä. Kilpailukomissaari Karel Van Miert sanoi viikko sitten Brysselissä, että kansallisille viranomaisille valvonta on entistä hankalampaa urheiluliiketoiminnan nopean kansainvälistymisen takia. Van Miert aikoo lähikuukausina puuttua muun muassa suurten urheilutapahtumien televisiointisopimuksiin.

Komissio alkaneen nyt pohtia, onko urheilu enemmän sosiaalista ajanvietettä vai silkkaa liiketoimintaa.

Urheilun siirtymisestä puhtaan

liiketoiminnan suuntaan kertoo se, että kilpailukomissaarin virasto tutkii parhaillaan 60:tä urheiluun liittyvää tapausta. Muutamia vuosia sitten tapauksia ei ollut yhtään. Nyt tutkinnan alla on muun muassa formulakisojen televisiointi ja Saksan jalkapalloliigan ja saksalaisseurojen käymät neuvottelut.

Komissio on nyreissään myös siitä, että urheiluseurat kiertävät niin sanottua Bosman-päätöstä, jonka mukaan pelaajilla on oikeus sopimuksen päätyttyä siirtyä EU-maasta toiseen ilman siirtosummaa. EY:n tuomioistuinin teki asiassa päätöksen vuonna 1995. (HS)

Aku Ankkaa Kalevalan mitalla

Sarjakuvien uusin "murrevillitys" on Kalevalan runomitta. Suomen kansalliseepoksen 150-vuotispäivän kunniaksi *Aku Anka* -lehti on julkaissut Kalevala-erikoisnumeron. Sen johtotarinana on Carl Barksin Kääpiöntiaanit, jossa intiaanit puhuvat kalevalaisella mitalla ja kalevalaisin alkusoinnuin.

Kalevala-Ankan laatimisessa ovat asiantuntijoina toimineet perinteentutkimuksen professori Seppo Knuutila ja taiteilijaprofessori Heikki Laitinen.

Barks laati Kääpiöankat-tarinan Henry Longfellowin Hiawatharunoelman innoittamana. Longfellow puolestaan sai vaikutteita Kalevalasta. (HS)

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• Mika Myllylä wins another gold



Mika Myllylä

Mika Myllylä wins cross-country marathon at World Nordic Ski Championships

No praise can be too high for the achievements of Finland's Mika Myllylä at the World Nordic Ski Championships, which ended in Austria last Sunday. He was the most outstanding victor ludorum that these championships have seen for years - winning three gold medals and one silver medal.

He triumphed over all others in the 10 kilometers, 30 kilometers and 50 kilometers cross country races and was beaten only by Norway's Thomas Alsgaard in the 15 kilometers pursuit.

His victory in cross country skiing's marathon, the 50 K, on the closing day, was as fine a display of commitment and courage in sport as one is ever likely to see. The race for victory became largely a duel between Myllylä and Estonia's Andrus Veerpalu.

Only once during the entire ordeal did Veerpalu pull

ahead of Myllylä, calculated by interval times, but the two men were never far apart in terms of time as they passed the four official checkpoints. For both of them this meant total concentration from start to finish, no slacking, no rest - only the ever present determination to overcome all obstacles in pursuit of knowledge, knowledge of themselves and their physical limits.

The World Nordic Ski Championships consist of 16 events, covering three disciplines; cross country skiing for men and women, ski-jumping for men only and the Nordic combination, also for men only.

From the total of 16 events, Finland won four gold and two silver medals (expressed as 4-2-0), reaching second place in the medal winners' table after Norway, whose tally was 4-3-2.

Joe Brady for Virtual Finland

Suomi College hires athletic director; to reinstitute intercollegiate basketball

HANCOCK, MI - Art Van Damme, assistant basketball coach at Northern Michigan University, has accepted the position of athletic director at Suomi College. In this position he will be responsible for reinstituting an intercollegiate men's and women's basketball program at Suomi in addition to coaching the men's team.

Suomi College discontinued intercollegiate sports in 1986. However, with the institution receiving accreditation as a four-year degree-granting in 1996, college trustees voted last summer to reinstitute intercollegiate sports. Men's and women's basketball was selected because existing

facilities will support this program and because the college has a long history with this sport. The introduction of additional sports programs is planned for the future.

In order to ensure the success of the new program, student recruiting efforts are currently underway in the United States and Finland. The men's basketball team is scheduled to begin playing in the fall of 2000.

VanDamme is a graduate of Suomi College and Northern Michigan University. He played basketball at Suomi.

Applicants for the women's basketball team coaching position are currently being sought.

News from Finland

Listeria deaths from butter products?

Three persons have died in Finland from a serious general infection - listeriosis - caused by the listeria bacterium. Close to a score of cases of the sickness have come to the knowledge of authorities since the beginning of December.

The apparent source of the disease is thought to be infected butter. The same kind of bacteria, extremely rare in Finland, has been found in Milka pats of butter. All cases were of aged hospital patients. The institute of public health, Kansanterveyslaitos, believes the peak of the epidemic is past, and that further cases are unlikely.

Listeria is rarely a danger to healthy adults or health children. But, when resistance weakens, the bacterium may cause serious ailments such as general infection and cerebral meningitis. Listeria may also cause miscarriages. Every year some 30-50 Finns get the malady. There are fatalities among these. But serious epidemics have been avoided up to now.

The pats of butter are from the Milka dairy at Kokkola. Their production has been suspended, and cleansing of the dairy is under way. It is reportedly the first time in the whole world that a listeria epidemic has been linked to a butter product. (HS)

Archbishop comes out for Kerstin Campoy

Kerstin Campoy has gained an influential supporter in her struggle for the custody of her two sons, Alexander, 7, and Jonathan, 6. In a letter, archbishop Jukka Paarma expresses his support for her and his astonishment at the decisions of the authorities.

Kerstin Campoy is delighted with the backing of the archbishop.

"If I see him some time I'll give him a kiss." She attempted last Friday to abduct her sons from the Haukkala hospital in Jyväskylä, where the boys are being kept. After some dramatic incidents, police halted her attempt to flee with her children.

Kerstin Campoy's custody of the children is disputed by her American husband. Finnish authorities have ordered that the boys be returned to California to await a local court decision on the custody issue. (IS)

Lipponen on return of Ingrians

Finland's position on the returnees from Russia has become stricter, and a review of the policy on the Ingrians is under review, says prime minister Paavo Lipponen, leader of the SDP.

"The return flow is being restricted, and that is justified as a certain moral duty has been met," he says.

The language demands on Ingrians intending to return are stricter. It is the intention from now on to accept only immigrants who know Finnish. But this presumes a report paper from the government for processing by the foreign affairs committee in which it will call for the language rules to be tightened up. (HS)

Ahtisaari to say by end of April if he will run

President of the republic Martti Ahtisaari should state his wishes about a second term of office by April 29 at the latest. The candidacy proposals are to be closed at the local associations of the Social Democratic Party (SDP) by then and the party executive is to confirm its recommendation on the candidates by that date at the latest.

Ahtisaari confirmed last Thursday that the timetable drafted by the SDP suits him "very well." If more than one candidate is put forward by the the associations, the SDP will hold an advisory primary in May. The presidential candidate will, it is probable, be nominated at the party congress on May 30.

Among the conservatives, consideration is being given as to whether to put off its nomination of a candidate until the autumn. Originally, it was the intention that the matter should be dealt with in May. (HS)

SDP, Leftist Alliance heading for a fall?

The SDP - the leading party in the coalition government - gets the biggest number of negative comments from the nation in a poll by Suomen Gallup ordered by the four biggest parties early this year.

The figures on voting support for the parties was published at the time, but the statistics about the images of the various parties have been kept to the parties that ordered the poll.

Ilta-Sanomat has now gotten acquainted with that material, which is dreadful reading for the leftist parties. In the light of this material, the SDP and the Leftist Alliance will have to work hard to avoid a setback at the parliamentary elections in three weeks time.

But the conservatives look like they are doing pretty well. A plurality (39 percent) of the nation regard that party favorably. Next come the Greens with 36 percent. The SDP gets 33 percent, the Centrists 32 and the Leftist Alliance 20. (IS)

Väyrynen for foreign minister?

Paavo Väyrynen (Centrist), currently a Finnish member of the European Parliament, hopes to be minister for foreign affairs in the government that is to be formed after the upcoming parliamentary elections of March 21.

Väyrynen, former long-serving minister for foreign affairs, ex-chairman of the Centre Party and twice its presidential candidate, discloses his aims in his new book *Itsenäisen Suomen puolesta* (For An Independent Finland). (STT)

Banks near top in EU

The profitability of Finnish banks is now near the top level in the EU. The way from deep crisis to profitable machines has been short but brutal and tens of thousands of bank staff have become superfluous since the start of the 1990s. Yield on equity was above 20 percent on average last year, which is better than in most EU countries.

Talk about the banking crisis and restructuring is being toned down. Now there is investment in expansion and new branch offices. (Hbl)



Left to right: Shannon Kortman, Arja Kortman, Kerrie Kortman, Peter Ross, Kelley Ross, Holley Mihok, Emily Ross, Jessica Ross, Wendy Ross, Martellese Ross, Dick Kortman, Roy Ruuskanen and Selja Rinaman.



Kirsten Anderson and friend Amy accompanied Kirsten's grandfather Bert Stromholm.

Winter party

The Scandinavian American Heritage Society (SAHS) family and friends winter party was held at Nor-Bu Lodge in Lake Telemark (NJ).

Live music by the SAHS member orchestra greeted guests as they arrived. A social hour allowed the people to renew acquaintances and meet new members. A tasty traditional Scandinavian buffet dinner was served.

Highlights of the afternoon included 4-year-old Holley Mihok singing the theme song from the movie "Titanic" followed by Kirsten Anderson and friend Amy singing "Anything You Can Do, I Can Do Better" accompanied by grandfather Bert Stromholm.

One of the year's scholarship winners, Jodie Trappe, sang two songs accompanied by her grandmother Alice Wilhelm.

Edith W. Kaske

photos by Paul Kaske



Holley Mihok singing theme song from "Titanic."

Idolized in New York: Karita Mattila floors 'em again

Finnish soprano Karita Mattila enchanted the music critic of the *New York Times* with a vengeance during a recent solo concert in the Big Apple.

Critic Anthony Tommasini was not charmed only by Mattila's Nordic/Scandinavian/Finnish voice. No, her looks, too, contributed to the conquest. Paraphrase I must, in the absence of the original copy. She is a dazzlingly

beautiful, blond diva, who was dressed as if for an Oscar gala: atop her black trouser suit she wore a cape of almost blinding gold sequins. She is also a very intelligent artist who performed a demanding programme of songs.

Tommasini also praised the soprano's accompanist Ilmo Ranta. The evening's recital at the Carnegie Hall included a song cycle called Poem Path

by Finnish composer Jouni Kaipainen, which the NYT critic felt was a perfect choice for the Mattila voice and presence.

I'm sure he is right but I look forward to the day - it's coming soon - when Mattila will be as familiar to and as much admired by critics and public as Hendricks, Te Kanawa or Callas.

Joe Brady for Virtual Finland

Finns participating in ICE ALASKA competition

FAIRBANKS, AK - ICE ALASKA is ready for the 1999 World Ice Art Championships, despite the cold temperatures last month. In the competition, which starts today, March 3, sculptors from around the world create beautiful works of art from the exceptionally clear, huge blocks of ice that the Fairbanks winter produces.

This year 141 different artists, 120 of which are coming from out of town, are participating. They are coming from Russia, France, Canada, Korea, England, the Czech Republic, Finland, Peru, Germany and Poland.

The 1999 World Ice Art Championships are at Ice Park off of Phillips Field Road. They run through March 13 with viewing of the sculptures possible until they melt - usually around the first week in April.

Here is a list of Finns coming for Ice Art:

Kimmo Frosti from Karunki; Tarja Ylitalo, Tuomo Ylitalo, Petteri Oksanen, Marjatta Niemelä, and Juha Ahonen from Pello; Juhani Niskanen and Lauri Mustonen from Rovaniemi and Osmo Oikari from Sodankylä.

They are all members of Blue Ice, an organization in Pello which this February put on their first international ice sculpture competition (also called Blue Ice). Osmo Oikari is the founder and it was his idea. The group came to Fairbanks for Ice Art last year to research the project, and hired two teachers to train them back in Pello.

Due to the unusual degree of preparation they did, their first competition was attended by sculptors from 10 countries.

Historic landmarks highlight new 'Baltic Fascination' tour

NEW YORK - Peter and Paul Fortress in St. Petersburg, the Old Town of Vilnius and Riga's Dome Cathedral are three of the historic landmarks highlighting Norvista's new "Baltic Fascination" tour. The 10-day itinerary combines the capital cities of Finland (Helsinki), Lithuania (Vilnius), Latvia (Riga) and Estonia (Tallinn) with St. Petersburg, once the capital of Russia.

After a night in Helsinki, travelers board the Sibelius train for St. Petersburg, traveling through eastern Finland and Karelia, an area used for centuries as a buffer zone between the warring empires of Sweden and Russia.

Sightseeing in St. Petersburg includes Peter and Paul Fortress, burial place of the czars; the Hermitage Museum, with one of the world's greatest art collections; and Catherine's Palace at Tsarskoe Selo, the village that was a residence of czars from Catherine the Great to Nicholas II, the last czar.

A two-berth sleeping compartment is provided on the overnight train to Vilnius, arriving in the early morning. Here, ancient and modern blend harmoniously and sightseeing includes the university, dating from the 1570s, the Gothic St. Anna's Church, also from the 16th century, and the Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage landmark. An excursion to Trakai visits the Island Castle, built between the 14th and 15th centuries.

Riga, on the Daugava River, was once a prosperous member of the Hanseatic League, the powerful federation that dominated Baltic and North Sea commerce in the Middle Ages. Nicknamed the "Little Paris of the North," it is quickly regaining its status as one of Europe's most charming capitals. Riga has an Old

Town full of Romanesque, Gothic, Renaissance, baroque and classical buildings, restored residences of merchants and an Ethnographic Museum with exhibits depicting the country's life and culture. There is time for shopping, lunch at an old-style pub or strolling before heading to Tallinn.

Landmarks in the Estonian capital include the 18th century baroque palace, built for Peter the Great, and St. Kadriorg Park. A medieval quarter of narrow streets, red-tiled roofs and picturesque cafes surrounds City Hall Square, the marketplace since the days when Tallinn was a Hanseatic League port. A ferry ride returns the tour to Helsinki.

Norvista also offers the "Baltic Panorama" visiting Helsinki; Tallinn, the spa resort of Parnu and the old city of Tartu in Estonia; Vilnius, Trakai and Kaunas in Lithuania; and Riga. The 10-day tour departs weekly from New York and San Francisco, May 22 through August 28, with prices from \$2,189 to \$2,699 per person double.

"Baltic Fascination" departs from New York and San Francisco, late May to late August. Prices of \$2,579 to \$2,799 per person double from New York and \$2,699 to \$2,999 from San Francisco cover roundtrip Finnair flights from the U.S. to Helsinki, accommodations with private bath, rail and private motorcoach transportation, breakfast daily, one lunch and dinner, sightseeing, airport transfers, and services of a tour escort.

Brochures and additional information can be obtained from Norvista Inc., 228 East 45th St., New York, NY 10017; telephone 800-677-6454 or 212-818-1198, fax 212-818-0585; web site <www.norvista.com> Norvista

