

RAIVA AJA

(THE PIONEER)

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EU arvostelee Suomen korkeaa tuloveroa

EU:n komissio kritisoi Suomen korkeaa tuloveroa ja Suomen työmarkkinoiden rakenteellisia ongelmia. Lisäksi komissio kiinnittää huomiota viime vuoden suhteellisen suuriin palkankorotuksiin Suomessa.

"Vuonna 2000 nimellispalkat kasvoivat keskimäärin neljä prosenttia", todetaan komission arviossa siitä, kuinka Suomi on sopeutunut EU:n yleisiin talouden suuntaviivoihin. Suuret palkankorotukset olivat komission mukaan osasyynä inflaation kasvuun. (STT)

Suomi tukee EU:n omaa aluetunnusta internetissä

Suomi kannattaa EU:n komission ehdotusta luoda internetiin EU-maiden yhteinen aluetunnus. Se merkitsisi, että EU-maissa toimivat internet-palvelut voisivat saada kansallisten, .com-, .net- tai .org-päätteiden sijaan päätteiden .eu.

Hallitus kirjelmöi hankkeesta eduskunnalle maaliskuun alussa. Aloitetta pidetään kannatettavana, mutta Suomi haluaa vielä lisää selvyyttä järjestelmän hallinnoinnista, tavaramerkkien ja tekijänoikeuksien suojasta sekä tietosuojasta.

Yhtenäisen tunnuksen uskotaan lisäävän kuluttajien luotamusta verkkokauppaan. Eurooppalaisella tunnuksella kulkevasta palvelusta kuluttaja tietäisi, että palvelu toimii Euroopassa ja noudattaa eurooppalaisia tieto- ja kuluttajan suoja säännöksiä.

Se helpottaisi erityisesti useissa maissa toimivien yritysten toimintaa, kun joka maahan ei tarvitsisi rekisteröityä uudelleen. (STT)

EU-mailta poliisin valmiusjoukot

EU-maat ryhtyvät kevään aikana kokoamaan poliisin valmiusjoukkoa, jonka voisi tarpeen vaatiessa lähettää kriisi-alueille. Tavoitteena on yhteensä 5000 poliisin valmiusjoukko, joista 1000 saataisiin kentälle 30 päivän varoitusa-jalla. Suomen sisäministeriössä arvioidaan, että Suomi voisi antaa joukon käytettäväksi 50-100 poliisia. Nyt suomalaisia poliiseja on Balkanilla kriisinhallintatehtävissä 35. Asiasta keskustellaan tämän viikon lopulla. (STT)

OECD: Suomalainen varhaiskasvatus laadukasta

Suomalainen varhaiskasvatus on arvioitu kansainvälisesti laadukkaaksi. Taloudellisen yhteistyö- ja kehitysjärjestön OECD:n raportti nostaa kuitenkin esille myös epäkohtia. Muun muassa kotihoidon tuki voi arvioitsijoiden mielestä jättää päiväkotien ulkopuolelle juuri ne lapset, jotka olisivat järjestelmällisen kasvatuksen tarpeessa.

OECD:n mielestä pitkä kotonaolo saattaa myös heikentää naisten asemaa työmarkkinoilla. (STT)



Esa-Pekka Salonen

photo: Kira Gluschkoff

Arts and Letters Award recipient Esa-Pekka Salonen

Maestro Esa-Pekka Salonen, music director of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, is the recipient of the Finlandia Foundation New York Metropolitan Chapter's Arts and Letters Award this year. He was chosen to receive the award because of his contributions to increasing American public awareness of Finnish music.

The Arts and Letters Award is usually presented during the Metropolitan Chapter's annual Gala Award Dinner Dance. Salonen was unfortunately unable to attend the March 10th event. However, he will receive the award and meet with Metropolitan Chapter members during a private reception, this Sunday, March 18th, hosted by the chapter at Scandinavia House in New York City this Sunday.

Esa-Pekka Salonen, the tenth conductor to head the Los Angeles Philharmonic, begins his tenth season as Music Director in October 2001. Salonen made his American debut conducting the Los Angeles Philharmonic in November 1984, and he has conducted the orchestra every season since.

Among the many highlights of Salonen's activities with the Philharmonic have been world premieres of new works by composers John Adams, Bernard Rands, Rodion Shcherin, Steven Stucky, and Salonen himself, critically acclaimed Festivals of music by Ligeti and Stravinsky, and appearances at the Ojai Festival.

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This week in

THE FINNISH-AMERICAN

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• Photographs of Finlandia Week

• Sports Roundup by Harri Siitonen

Suomen uutisia

VM uskoo Suomen talouskehitykseen

Valtiovarainministeriö uskoo Suomen talouskehityksen jatkuvan myönteisenä myös tänä vuonna. Suurin epävarmuus liittyy USA:n talouskehitykseen.

Suomen talouskasvu on jo pitkään perustunut vahvaan vientiin ja niin käy ministeriön ennusteen mukaan tänäkin vuonna. Vienti ja teollisuustuotanto kasvavat ripeästi metalliteollisuuden myötä. Rakentamisessa ja palveluissa tuotannon kasvu on hitaampaa.

Valtiovarainministeriö arvioi koko vuoden talouskasvuksi 4,2 prosenttia. Vahvan talouskasvun myötä työttömyysaste painuu ministeriön ekonomistien mukaan alle yhdeksän prosentin.

Ministeriön mukaan työllisyyden nousu parantaa kotitalouksien ostovoimaa. Myös palkkojen nousu ja inflaation hidastuminen lisäävät suomalaisten ostovoimaa.

(MTV3, STT)

Kirjastoille ehdotetaan puolen miljardin lisärahaa

Kirjastopoliittista ohjelmaa valmistellut työryhmä esittää kirjastobudjettiin yhteensä 568 miljoonan markan määrärahasyystä vuoteen 2004 mennessä. Suurimpana ongelmana pidetään kuntien niukkaa panostusta kirjastoihin. Kirjastojen keskimääräinen osuus kuntien budjetista on pudonnut alle prosenttiin.

Ehdotetut uudistukset maksaisivat kunnille noin 244 miljoonaa markkaa ja valtiolle 324 miljoonaa markkaa. Tämä edellyttäisi 46 prosentin korotusta kirjastojen valtionosuuden ns. yksikköhintaan. Asukasta kohden lisäys olisi yhteensä 110 markkaa vuodessa.

(STT)

Lääkärilakko alkoi

Kunnallisten lääkäreiden lakko on alkanut. Alkuvaiheessa lakko hiljentää Helsingin, Oulun, Turun, Tampereen ja Kuopion sairaalat ja terveyskeskukset. Lakossa ovat myös Jorvin sairaala Espoossa ja Peijaksen sairaala Vantaalla. Laajentuessaan lakko tulisi koskemaan kaikkiaan kolmeatoista kaupunkia.

Lääkäriliitto on vakuuttanut, että kiireelliset sairastapaukset hoidetaan lakosta huolimatta. Lakon ulkopuolella ovat muun muassa syöpähoitot, psykiatria, lastentaudit sekä äitiysneuvolat.

Lääkärilakon alkaminen varmistui viikonlopulla, kun sovintoneuvottelut päättyivät tuloksettomina. Osapuolet eivät ole sopineet neuvotteluiden jatkamisesta.

(MTV3)

Remonttiryhmä lakkauttaa itsensä

Remonttiryhmä-puolue lakkauttaa itsensä. Puolueen puheenjohtaja ja ainut kansanedustaja Risto Kuisma palaa sosialidemokraattisen puolueen jäseneksi.

Lakkauttamispäätöksen teki Remonttiryhmän vuosikokous. Muodollisesti puolueen toiminta päättyy vasta tämän vuoden lopussa, mutta Risto Kuisma siirtyy SDP:hen ja sen eduskuntaryhmään heti.

Remonttiryhmä rekisteröitiin puolueeksi kesällä 1998. Viime kunnallisvaaleissa puolueen listoilta valittiin viisi kunnanvaltuutettua. Puolueella oli viime vuoden lopussa 179 jäsenmaksun maksanutta jäsentä.

(SS)

Köyhyyspaketti ei tyydytä vihreitä

Vihreiden mielestä hallituksen juuri sopima köyhyyspaketti on riittämätön. Vihreiden eduskuntaryhmän mukaan 530 miljoonan markan paketti on vasta alku, mutta ei riittävä toimenpide köyhyyden ja eriarvoisuuden poistamiseksi.

Syrjäytyminen liittyy vihreiden mielestä vähemmän koulutettujen heikkoon asemaan työnsaannissa, siten ammatilliseen koulutukseen olisi kiinnitettävä enemmän huomiota.

Hallitus sopi viime viikolla reilun 500 miljoonan markan köyhyyspaketista. Loppumetreillä pakettia oli pienennetty 200 miljoonalla markalla.

(MTV3)

Ensimmäinen nainen UPM-Kymmenen hallitukseen

Metsäyhtiö UPM-Kymmene on saamassa ensimmäisen naisjäsenen hallitukseensa. Yhtiön hallituksen asettamana nimitysvaliokunta ehdottaa hallitukseen uusina kansalaisista lakinaista Donna Kaufmania ja investointipankki Lazard Brothersin entistä johtajaa Michael Bottenheimia. Hallituspaikoista päättää UPM-Kymmenen yhtiökokous 22. maaliskuuta.

(STT)

Mönkäre lupaa mittavia investointeja syrjäseuduille

Kauppa- ja teollisuusministeri Sinikka Mönkäreen (sd) mukaan hallituksen budjettiriihen ratkaisut mahdollistavat mittavat investoinnit Pohjois- ja Itä-Suomeen. Ministeri totesi Ylen uutisille, että Pohjois- ja Itä-Suomen rakennerahastojen kansallinen osuus on noussut yli 100 miljoonalla markalla. Summalla pyritetään miljardien investointeja, joilla työllisyyttä voidaan kohentaa.

Olympiatuli matkaa Suomeen

Olympiatuli saapui Suomeen 49 vuoden tauon jälkeen. Tuli saapui Vuokattiin ja Kajaaniin, missä se palaa 11.-16. maaliskuuta Euroopan Nuorten Talviolympiapäivien ajan. Tuli sytytettiin perinteisen juhlahin menoin Ateenan Pnyxvuorella, jota pidetään demokratian synnyinpaikkana. Varsinaisten olympiakisojen tuli sytytetään Olympian lehdossa.

(SS)

Amerikkalaiskirja pitää Linuxia vallankumouksena

Amerikkalaisen Glyn Moodyn teos Kapinakoodi - Linus Torvalds ja vapaan ohjelmoinnin vallankumous on ilmestynyt suomeksi. Moody pitää Linuxin luomista ohjelmistoalan vallankumouksena. Kirja ei ole varsinaisesti henkilökuva Torvaldsista, vaan sen pääpaino on laajassa vapaan ohjelmoinnin kulttuurissa, joka mahdollisti Linuxin.

Moodyn mukaan Torvaldsin suurin merkitys ei ole hänen koodaustyössään, vaan siinä, miten hän pystyi organisoimaan tuhannet hakkerit Linuxin taakse. Moody arvioi, että Torvaldsin metodi aiheuttaa vallankumouksen koko ohjelmistoalalla. Hänen mielestään lähdekoodin antaminen hakkeriojien vapaasti kehiteltäväksi tuottaa parempia ohjelmistoja kuin mitä lähdekoodejaan tiukasti varjelevat ohjelmistoyritykset tuottavat.

(SS)

Helsinki-Vantaalle Internet-kioskeja

Helsinki-Vantaan lentoasemalla on otettu käyttöön kymmenen Internet-kioskia. Näistä kahdeksan sijaitsee ulkomaanterminaalissa ja kaksi kotimaanterminaalissa.

Internet-kioskien kautta matkustajat pääsevät Internetiin sekä voivat esimerkiksi lähettää ja lukea sähkö- ja videot. Kioskeista on rajoittamaton pääsy Internetiin. Palvelu maksaa markan kolmelta minuutilta, eli 33 penniä/minuutti. Kioskit toimivat sekä kolikoilla että yleisimmillä luottokorteilla.

Ilmailulaitoksen, Deltacom Finlandin, Soneran ja Nordic Media Networkin sivuille matkustajat pääsevät veloitetusta. Päätelaitteet muodostuvat tavallisesta näppäimistöä ja hiirestä, 17" näytöstä sekä web-kamerasta.

(SS)

RAIVAAJA

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Kuolleita

Laila Walling

MCLEAN, VA - Laila (Makkonen) Walling, 79, kuoli helmikuun 22, 2001. Hän oli vuonna 1983 kuolleen Eric J. Wallingin leski.

Hän oli syntynyt New York Cityssä syysk. 18, 1921 Hilma ja Toivo Makkosen tyttärenä. Lapsuusvuosinaan hän asui Jesupissa Georgiassa, ja viimeksi McLeanissa.

Kalpaamaan jäi kolme lasta, Lisa Leinberger, Santa Fe, NM, Eric (Jussi) Walling, Richardson, TX ja Wendy Hagen, McLean, VA; ja seitsemän lastenlasta.

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Patrick J. Mattson

GARDNER, MA - Patrick J. Mattson, 21, 24 Kraft St., kuoli maalisk. 6, 2001 kamppailtuaan pitkään kystooman kanssa.

Hän oli syntynyt Panama Cityssä (FL) ja oli asunut 18 vuotta Gardnerissa. Hän oli saanut päästötodistuksen Virginiassa toimivasta International Correspondence Schoolista.

Edesmennyt oli työskennellyt apulaisena Parents ravintolassa Winchendonissa. Hän oli eläinrakas.

Kalpaamaan jäi äiti ja isäpuoli, Mary T. (Perginy) Hawkins ja Dean Hawkins, Gardner; isä Donald E. Mattson Jr., Fitchburg; isoäidit Juliette C. Perigny, Gardner ja Ethel Mattson, Ashby; velipuoli Benjamin Mattson, Fitchburg; siskopuoli Nicole Mattson, Fitchburg; isäpuolen lapset David Hawkins, Haverhill, Richard Bergeron, Maine ja Sandra Bergeron, Fitchburg.

Smith Funeral Home, 69 Vernon St., toimitti hautaamisen Hillside hautausmaahan Townsendissa.

Muistithan uusia tilauksesi?

Kaksoiskansalaisuus ehkä kaikille mahdolliseksi ensi keväänä

Hallitus hyväksyy tänä keväänä Suomen ensimmäisen ulkosuomalaispoliittisen ohjelman. Erityisesti ohjelmassa painotetaan ulkosuomalaisen koulutusmahdollisuuksia suomen kielellä.

Ohjelman mukaan ulkomaila toimivien Suomi-koulujen toiminta turvataan korottamalla avustussummaa. Ulkosuomalaisnuorten opiskeluun Suomessa luodaan apurahajärjestelmä.

Internetiä aiotaan hyödyntää opetuksessa entistä enemmän. Oppimateriaalia tehdään ainakin historiasta, maantieteestä, kulttuurista ja yhteiskunnasta. Tavoitteena on tukea internetin kautta tapahtuvaa opetusta niin, että ulkosuomalaiset voisivat suorittaa koko peruskoulun ja lukioasteen etäopiskeluna.

Myös Yleisradion ohjelmien näkyvyyttä ja kuuluvuutta halutaan kohentaa.

Kaksoiskansalaisuus on ohjelman yksi mielenkiintoisimmista esityksistä. Ruotsissa kaksoiskansalaisuutta laajennettiin juuri, joten paineet lainmuutokseen ovat kovat.

Sisäministeriön ehdotus kaksoiskansalaisuuden laajentamisesta on tulossa eduskuntaan syksyllä. Laki olisi tulossa voimaan keväällä 2002.

Uudistus tarkoittaa sitä, että esimerkiksi Ruotsin kansalaisuuden ottava voisi pitää myös Suomen kansalaisuuden.

Nykyään kaksoiskansalaisuuden saa, jos vaikkapa äiti on suomalainen ja isä ruotsalainen. Toisen valtion kansalaisuuden saanut voisi jatkossa saada Suomen kansalaisuuden takaisin. Suomen kansalaisuuden takaisinsaami- seen on tulossa kuitenkin tietty ajanjakso, josta ei ole vielä päätetty.

Hallitus hakee ohjelmallaan ennen kaikkea vuorovaikutusta ja siltä ulkosuomalaisiin. Esimerkiksi Ruotsi ja Tanska ovat omilla vastaavilla ohjelmillaan onnistuneet saamaan näkyvyyttä ulkomaille.

"Jos Suomi aikoo maailmalta näkyä, niin ei se pelkää kannyköillä onnistu.

Kyllä siinä tarvitaan myös ihmisten muodostamia verkostoja ja yhteisöjä", muistuttaa neuvotteleva virkamies Risto Laakkonen työministeriöstä.

Hän on etnisten suhteiden neuvottelukunnan pääsihteerin, jonka vastuulla on ollut ohjelman valmistelu.

"Edullinen investointi lähitulevaisuuteen", ohjelman saatesanoissa mainostetaan. Pääosa ehdotetuista toimenpiteistä on toteutettavissa nykyisten budjettikehysten puitteissa.

Ohjelmassa ehdotetut lisärahoitukset olisi tarkoitus sisällyttää ensi vuoden sekä seuraavan vuoden budjettiehdotuksiin.

Opetushallituksesta kuitenkin kerrotaan, että opetusministeriö ei ole halukas ainakaan ensi vuonna lisäämään Suomi-koulujen avustusta. Se on junnannut jo vuosia parissa miljoonassa markassa. (HS)

Lukijan kynästä

Hyvät ulkosuomalaisasiasta kiinnostuneet!

Ulkosuomalaisparlamentin marraskuussa 2000 laatimat päätöslauselmat ovat nyt luettavissa parlamentin internetsivuilla osoitteessa: www.uparliamenti.org. Pahoittelen "keskenäistä" ulkonäköä. Kotisivujen uusiminen jatkuu yhä.

Ulkomailla asuvien suomalaisten oma sähköpostitila on nyt toiminnassa!

Tahtoisiko tiedustella onko lähimaastossasi muitakin suomalaisnuoria? Oletko kiinnostunut kertomaan muille kokemuksistasi ulkomaille asumisesta tai keskustelemaan kahden maan ja kulttuurin välillä varttumisesta?

Haluatko kuulla muiden nuorten mietteitä ulkosuomalaistoiminnasta toiselta puolelta maailmaa? Ei muuta kuin mukaan!

Listan tilaus- ja peruutusosoite: majordomo@kaapeli.fi. Tilauksien sisältö: subscribe ulkosuomalaisnuoret. Peruutuksien sisältö: unsubscribe ulkosuomalaisnuoret.

Lähetäksesi viestin muille listalaisille, kirjoita viesti osoitteeseen: ulkosuomalaisnuoret@kaapeli.fi.

Juha Savolainen
USP:n sihteeri

Suomen pankki uskoo euroalueeseen

Suomen Pankki uskoo euroalueen menestykseen Yhdysvaltain ja Japanin talousvaikeuksista huolimatta. Vientikysynnän kasvuvauhdin hiipumista korvaa euroalueen kotimainen kysyntä.

Suomen viennin kasvu jää Suomen Pankin mukaan tänä vuonna aiemmin arvioitua hitaammaksi. Sen sijaan yksityinen kulutus vilkastuneen ennustetusti veronkevennysten ja hyvän ansiokehityksen ansiosta.

Suomen talouden kasvuvauhti jatkuu ripeänä, mutta kuitenkin syksyllä ennustettua hitaampana. (STT)

Seurakunnat

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Bethel-seurakunta

Suomenkielinen radioharrastus HYVÄT UUTISET lähetetään joka sunnuntaiamuuna asemalta WEIM am 1280, Fitchburg, klo 8:45.

Maaliskuun hengelliset tilaisuudet sunnuntaisin Elm St. Lähetyskirkossa klo 2 i.p. Tiedusteluja seurakunnan toiminnasta voi tehdä soittamalla numeroon 343-9659. Myös niitä, jotka tarvitsevat kyytiä seurakunnan tilaisuuksiin, pyydetään ottamaan yhteys ylläolevan numeron avulla.

Elm St. Lähetysseurakunta

Jumalanpalvelukset sunnuntaisin klo 9:30 aam. Pyhäkoulu klo 11.

Kuoron harjoitukset tiistaisin klo 7 ill. Hartaustilaisuus keskiviikkoisin klo 2 i.p. Nuorisoryhmä kokoontuu lauantaisin klo 6 ill.

Lauantaina, 17. maalisk. ruoka- ja kukkamyyjäiset klo 10 aam. - 1:30 iltapäivä.

Messiah Lutheran seurakunta

Kuun ensimmäisenä sunnuntaina suomenkielinen jumalanpalvelus klo 8:15 aam.

Perjantaisin klo 1:00 ip. suomenkielinen raamattutunti.

Sunnuntaisin englanninkielinen jumalanpalvelus klo 9:30 aam. Klo 10:30-11:00 seurustelua ja virvokkeita. Klo 11:00-12:00 aikuisten raamattutunti.

Lauantaina, 31. maalisk. pannukakkuaamiainen klo 8:30 - 10:30.

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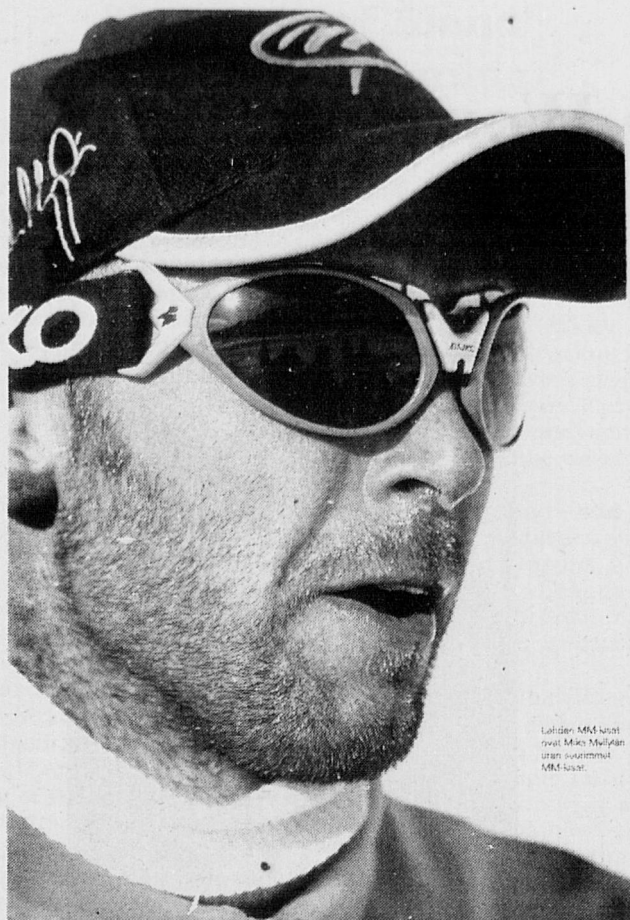
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From the desk of Stig Häggblom:



Miten Mika Myllylä lähestyy nyt ensi talven olympiakisoja? Näin kysytään kautta Suomen ja maan ulkopuolellakin Lahden MM-kisojen tapahtumien jälkeen. RAIVAAJAN kolumnisti Stig Häggblom vertaa Lahtea uuteen nyrkkeilyn raskaan sarjan maailmanmestariin. Hän on John Ruiz, ensimmäinen espanjalaisvähemmistöön kuuluva mestari, joka edvoittit voittoaan koko kotikaupunkiaan.

MM-nyrkkeilijä John Ruiz ja Mika Myllylä samoissa tehtävissä

On totta, ettei kuuden suomalaisen hiihtäjän doping-käry Lahden MM-kisoissa ole herättänyt maailmalla selaista hämmennystä kuin Ben Johnsonin käry 1988 Söulin olympiakisoissa. Vaikutukset voivat kuitenkin olla vieläkin suuremmat ja kohtalokkaamat Suomen kokoiselle pienelle maalle ja maan urheilukansalle.

Vähän toiseen asiaan, nyrkkeilyyn. Kuka Suomessa muistaa Gunnar Bärlundin, GeeBeen, joka 30-luvulla taisteli itsensä erittäin likelle nyrkkeilyn raskaan sarjan maailmanmestaruutta?

"World heavyweight boxing champion", tuossa päämäärä vielä sangen monelle alan yrittäjälle. Viikko Lahden MM-kisojen jälkeen käytiin kova ottelu Las Vegasin tunnelissa kehässä.

John Ruiz, Bostonin lähistöllä sijaistsevan pienen Chelsea-kaupungin asukas, pystyi tuossa kukistamaan hallitsevan maailmanmestarin Evander Holyfieldin kymmenennessä erässä, saavuttaen siten maailmanmestarin arvon ensimmäisenä "hispanic'ina", siis espanjalaisvähemmistöön kuuluvana nyrkkeilijänä. Puhumme nyt

raskaasta sarjasta.

Chelsean asukkailla näytettiin "taivaan merkkejä"! Chelsea on työläisyhteiskunta, hyvin köyhä sellainen, jossa vain vuosia sitten kaupungin johtajat olivat helisemässä. Kaupunki oli täysin konkurssin partaalla ja asukkaiden yrityshalu kuin kuollut sulka maassa.

John Ruiz on yrittänyt valloittaa nyrkkeilyn halutuinta kruunua aikaisemminkin, onnistumatta. Onnistuminen on nyt otettu vastaan koko kaupungissa valoisana tulevaisuuden merkinä. Kun mies lähtee puolustamaan asemaansa seuraavassa ottelussa, hän komentelee yli kahta miljoonaa dollaria. Samalla lailla ja kovasti yrittäen - eri sektoreilla - Chelsea tähtää nyt lähitulevaisuuteen.

Tässä ei ole juuri mitään uutta. Merkit ovat tutut myös pienen Suomen urheilulta horisontilta. Saada kunniaa ja mainetta Suomelle, siinä suurin päämäärä myös hiihdon MM-kisoissa Lahdessa.

Miksi menetitte malttanne Lahdessa, hiihtäjät ja hiihdon johto? Vastausta olemme vielä vailla. Varmaa kuitenkin on, että hiihtomme valmistautuminen ensi vuoden olympiamittelyihin Salt Lake Cityn maisemissa muuttui hyvin ongelmalliseksi.

Kysymyksiä on tällä hetkellä paljon ja vastauksia erittäin vähän.

Kisojen alla sanottiin Suomessa, että Lahden MM-kisat ovat Mika Myllylän uran suurimmat MM-kisat.

Itse mies sanoi kisojen alla näin:

"Kuinka moni uskoisi, jos sanoisin lähteväni kisaan tavoittelemaan hopeamitalia?"

Itse kisoissa Lahdessa Mika Myllylä kuitenkin starttasi vain pari kertaa. Profiili oli hyvin matala ja hiihtosuorituksia kertyi erittäin vähän.

Suomessa kysytään nyt hiihtäjällä äänensävyllä, mutta vakavasti kunnan vastausta odottaen: Miksi näin?

RAIVAAJAN viime numerossa otimme jo esille Suomen urheilujohdon ongelmat. Olympiajohto on remontin tarpeessa, mutta ei ainoastaan se. Uutta verta johtoportaan sekä yleisurheilun että hiihtoon kaivataan kovasti ja pian.

Lahden MM-kisatapahtumat todistivat tämän valitettavan surullisella tavalla.

Hiihtoliitto irtisanoi valmennusjohtoa

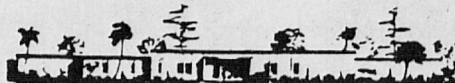
Suomen hiihtoliiton johtokunta on irtisanonut aiemmin hyllytetyt valmentajat Kari-Pekka Kyrön ja Jarmo Riskin sekä lajipäällikkö Antti Lepävuoren.

Kyrö on nyt virallisesti entinen hiihdon päävalmentaja. Leppävuori irtisanottiin maastohiihdon lajipäällikön ja Riski naisten vastuvalmentajan tehtävistä. Esa Klingan tilalle vt. toimitusjohtajaksi on nimetty liiton markkinointipäällikkö Matti Leikoski.

Johtokunta jättää Paavo M. Petäjä mukaanlukien paikkansa arvioitavaksi huhtikuussa kokoontuvalle liittovaltuustolle. Liittovaltuuston ylimääräinen kokous järjestetään 7. huhtikuuta. (MTV3)

Poriin pakolaisia Afganistanista

Pori ottaa vastaan 29 afganistanilaista pakolaista huhtikuun alussa. Satakuntaan saapuva ryhmä on merkittävä avaus pakolaisasioissa pitkään aikaan, sillä maakuntaan ei ole sijoitettu pakolaisia yli kymmeneen vuoteen. Viime vuonna Satakunta ja Etelä-Pohjanmaa olivat ainoat maakunnat, jotka eivät ottaneet pakolaisia. Poriin saapuvat 17 aikuista ja 12 lasta on valittu Intian ja Pakistanin pakolaisleireiltä vuoden 2000 lopulla. (STT)



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9 maaliskuuta

Lepokodin tervehdys!

Kiitokset heti alkuun Helping Handsin työntekijöille jokaviikkoisesta merkittävästä työpanoksesta Lepokodilla. Heidän ansiostaan asukkaiden vaatteet tulevat korjattua ja hiukset hienosti laitetuina mukavan yhdessäolon ja rupattelun lomassa.

Tällä viikolla retkemme kohde oli West Palm Beachin uusi City Place. Kiertelimme katuja katsellen näyteikkunoita, joissakin puodeissa kävimme sisällä. Yhdessä liikkeessä oli myytävänä yksinkertainen puolihame, tehty suomalaisen Marimekon kanakaasta, jonka tunnistin heti lapsuuteni kodissa olevaksi samanlaiseksi verhoakankaaksi. Hinta oli \$89. Tulipas verhoille hintaa!

Istuskelimme siellä suihkulähteen luona katsellen esityksiä, jossa suihkulähteet musiikin tahdissa suihkuttelivat ilmoille erikoisia vesipatsaita. Paikka on todella viihtyisä ja suosittu ihmis- ja eläimästä päätellen.

Lepokodin viime viikon musiikkiohjelmasta vastasi Hen-

ry Forster Reino Pelkosen kanssa mustisoiden yhteen viululla ja hanurilla, sekä Reino Kukkamaa, uskollinen lauantain viihdyttäjämme.

Harvey Sheppard tempaisi jälleen yleisönsä mukaan rientoon menoon syklofonisäestyksellään ja laulullaan. Lydia Knuttila, myöskin uskollinen viikottainen laulajamme, oli keskelläämme.

Oma kuoromme lauloi torstaina, minkä jälkeen kuoronjohtajamme Henry Forster, Leo Jaakkola ja Charlie Hedlund vielä jatkoivat musisointia. Kuoromme siirtyykin nyt sitten parin viikon pituiselle tauolle, joten kaikille kuorolaisille tiedoksi, että harjoituksia ei ole parin viikkoon.

Keskiviikkona vietimme muistotilaisuuden Anna Treimanin ja Antti Oittisen muistolle. Tilaisuuden piti pastori Timo Hukka.

Sunnuntain hartauden pitäjät, Timo Puustelli sekä Olli ja Irja Pyykkö tulivat Kotikirkosta. Kiitokset kaikille viihdyttäjille ja hartauden pitäjille!

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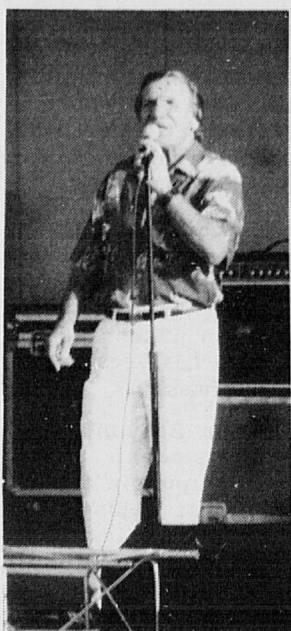
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*The Finnish-American***RAIVAAJA***Finlandia Week in Lake Worth (FL)*

February 4 - 11

*Tango Queen Mira Kunnasluoto.**The one and only Tango King Eino Grön.**Jaana Pöllänen.**all photos: Steven Autula**Festival speaker Esko Aho, left.**War veterans**Suomi-Koulu students singing at Bryant Park.**Audience filled Bryant Park.*



'Example of Åland' focus of UN seminar

NEW YORK - The Åland Islands as an example for peaceful governance is the topic of a seminar "Autonomy - an Alternative to Secession?" at the United Nations Headquarters March 15. The purpose of this seminar will be exploring the potential of this example for the settlement of contemporary disputes which have a regional or ethnic connotation or involve issues concerning the treatment of minorities.

Eighty years ago the League of Nations, predecessor of the United Nations, settled a dispute between Finland and Sweden concerning the Åland Islands by granting Åland the status of an autonomous Swedish-speaking province within the Republic of Finland. At present the autonomy of Åland provides an interesting example for several regions in the world. The question of autonomy will be discussed by high-level experts during the seminar which will be held in the Dag Hammarskjöld Library at the UN.

Although the relations between Finland and Sweden had traditionally been good, tension emerged as Finland declared herself independent from the Russian rule in 1917 and the Åland Islands rather wished to be ceded back to Sweden.

The League of Nations re-

solved the dispute in 1921 but it took years before the islanders could see the wisdom in the solution: The Åland Islands remained part of the Republic of Finland but was guaranteed an autonomous status in many respects, with a parliament, legislation and provincial government of their own. Finland also guaranteed the right to use Swedish as the only official language.

The Åland Islands had already been demilitarized since 1856, but were further neutralized by the League of Nations. No military equipment or personnel are allowed on the Islands.

In later years the peaceful settlement of the dispute concerning the Åland Islands has become an example for others. Various minorities and population groups have used the autonomous status of Åland as a source of inspiration, as the autonomy has not only ensured the maintenance of an old culture but has also contributed to the strengthening of those trades that are most suitable for the archipelago: navigation, food production, tourism and services.

The seminar at the United Nations Headquarters tomorrow will present and discuss the "example of Åland" in

turn to **ÅLAND** page 9

Photos needed for Herman history

HERMAN, MI - The Herman Historical Society is looking for photos and other historic material to include in its forthcoming book detailing the history of Herman (MI). At a February 21 meeting of the society members learned they need more photos and family histories to incorporate into the commemorative volume.

Joyce Koskenmaki and Nancy Mannikko are serving as volunteer editors for the project. According to Mannikko, although many members of the community have volunteered materials for use in the publication, big gaps still exist.

"Most of the photos we have are from the mid-1930s or later," Mannikko said. "There are not photos, for example, of the first Herman Hall." The first hall, built in 1911 by members of the Pyrkias Athletic Society, burned down in 1930. Community volunteers built the current hall in 1932.

Mannikko reminded people attending the meeting that family photos are needed, too, to make the book as complete

as possible. Anyone who has photographs they would like to see included in the book should contact the Herman Historical Society, Route 2, Box 773, L'Anse, MI 49946, e-mail nmannikk@up.net or call 524-4043 to arrange to have their photos copied.

In addition to historic photos, Mannikko and Koskenmaki hope more people with connections to Herman will submit family histories and personal reminiscences about living in Herman. Mannikko noted that other memorabilia, such as pay stubs from the 1940s or children's report cards from the Herman school, would also be welcome additions to the book.

The community of Herman celebrates its centennial this year. Finnish immigrants established the town in 1901 and named it after one of its founding residents, Herman Keränen. Publication of the commemorative volume will coincide with other centennial celebration activities, including a community potluck picnic and dance at the hall on August 11.

News from Finland

EU membership raises state travel costs by hundreds of millions

Expenses incurred by travel by Finnish politicians and state officials have shot up by hundreds of millions of markkas ever since Finland joined the EU. According to official figures, tickets, hotels and travel per diems accounted for just under FIM 900 million in 1995. In 1999 the total had risen to FIM 1.3 billion.

Last year's data is still being processed, but the total for the year 2000 is expected to be much higher than the previous year because of rising prices and the increase in the amount of travel.

The Finnish state has more than 100 accounting offices, ranging from the Parliament and the Presidential Office to the different ministries, offices, institutions and universities.

The largest single source of travel costs of any accounting office is that of the Finnish Defense Forces which spent nearly FIM 170 million on travel in 1999. Coming in second was the Finnish Road Administration with travel expenses totalling FIM 120 million. The large costs are in direct proportion to the large numbers of people employed by the two institutions. (HS)

Finnish Seamen's Union blocks four UK vessels

The Finnish Seamen's Union last week it had blocked four vessels sailing under the British flag and would not handle any of their cargo until it gets further information on employment contracts for the crew.

"It looks like none of these vessels has an approved collective bargaining agreement to determine the crew's employment conditions," union spokesman Simo Nurmi told Reuters.

"The union requires that all vessels calling at Finnish ports have a valid bargaining agreement," he said.

Nurmi said the crews on the ships were almost entirely Latvian with employment contracts signed by a Latvian union which is not a member of the International Transport Federation.

He said the boycott, which prevents the ships from being serviced, loaded and unloaded, would continue until the union and the owner reach an acceptable agreement on the crew's employment and wage conditions.

Two of the four vessels were at the western ports of Rauma and Hanko, with another ship at the eastern port of Hamina and one in Helsinki.

(Reuters)

HIV infections from drug needles exceed previous estimates

Finland appears to have more cases of infection with the HIV virus through shared drug needles than previously estimated. While the National Public Health Institute has reports of 184 such cases during the years 1980-2000, a service centre in Helsinki has already helped 253 HIV positive I-V drug users.

The service center, run by the Helsinki Deaconess Institute, opened its doors in December. The large number of patients came as a surprise to the Institute and staff believe that they are reaching most of the country's HIV positive I-V drug users as the problem is most acute in the Helsinki region.

According to international studies, the real number of HIV infections through drug needles is twice, or even three times the number who register with public health services. (HS)

Doctors' strike begins

The first day (March 12) of the strike by physicians working for municipal public health services passed quite calmly. Fears of overcrowding at public health clinics, especially in the Helsinki area, did not materialize.

The Hospital District of Helsinki and Uusimaa (HUS) did not manage to reach agreement with the strikers on compensation to be paid to those doctors who remain on the job to secure essential medical services.

HUS wants to pay no more than the regular hourly wage for work during the strike. The Finnish Medical Association (FMA) wants the standard compensations for being on call. (HS)

Finnish economy increasingly dependent on consumers

The prospects of the Finnish economy, both this year and the next, depend largely on how much Finns will be spending. The consumption power of the domestic market will be decisive for the growth of the economy, as exports, the past motor of the economy, are slowly declining.

If the downturn in the U.S. economy discourages Finnish consumers, the Finnish economy will be in trouble.

These pictures are painted in the *Euro & Talous* (Euro and the Economy) publication of the Bank of Finland, which was published this week. The journal does not contain any actual economic forecasts. (HS)

Automobile sales have dropped dramatically

Automobile sales are on a clear downward trend in Finland. Despite the booming economic growth and good sales figures in other sectors, car sales are expected to remain at 112,000 new vehicles this year.

This presents quite a drop from the 130,000 that the industry estimated at the beginning of the year. This decline in demand is a cause for grave concern among merchants. If the new estimate turns out to be correct, it may even affect employment. (HS)

Bits and pieces

The number of employees working for Finnish firms but based abroad is growing more rapidly than the domestic work force, a study by the confederation of Finnish Industry and Employers (TT) found. (HS)

The environment ministry has proposed funding for seven grey seal protection areas totalling some 19,000 hectares. The number of seals has dropped sharply in recent decades due especially to toxin emissions in the environment. (TS)

Tight finances in municipalities throughout Finland have led to a reduction in swimming teaching meaning only two thirds of Finland's sixth-graders can swim properly. (HS)

China and Estonia have quickly emerged as significant trading partners for Finland, with Estonia's share of total exports growing four-fold and China's six-fold in the 1990s. (TS)

National carrier Finnair recently reported its best result in five years, posting an April-December profit after financial items of 125 million euros (\$116.3 million) on net sales of 1.26 billion. (KL)

Lukijan kynästä

Full-blooded Finn

Raivaaja,

I enclose twenty dollars for the book "The Finns in Newport, New Hampshire." Keep the balance of what is left over.

I lived in Newport from 1918 to 1950. I am a full-blooded Finn and at 95 years old I still read the RAIVA AJA without glasses.

Yours truly,
Charles A. Lindholm
Rutland, VT

Marimekko blooms again

Editor,

A few Finnish items in last Sunday's (March 4) *New York Times* caught my eye. Your readers might be amused by them, as I was.

One article stated that "the revival of Finnish home furnishings - Alvar Aalto furniture and Oiva Toikka glass birds - has spilled over into fashion." One store is carrying Marimekko shifts (\$128) and some Jokapoika black-and-white-striped cotton shirts.

Several designers are using Marimekko-inspired prints. One designer commented, "I had found some vintage fabric at a yard sale, and it was so fresh to me." (Why did I throw away that lime-green dress with huge white flowers that I made for our Karen in the early 70s using Marimekko

fabric that Grandma had brought from Finland?)

On the same page was an article on the popularity of dance clubs featuring salsa dancing influenced by Cuban music. One entrepreneur is importing salsa bands from overseas, including Finland's Septetoson. Go figure!

On another note - not connected with the paper, Richard was using the spell-checker on his computer. He had used the word "Pajunen's," which the computer wanted him to change to "Pogonion's."

Helvi Impola
via email



Karen in her Marimekko dress.

Chicago News

by Bob Kujanpaa

Reverend Melvin Johnson will conduct Finnish worship services at S. Marks Lutheran Church in Waukegan at 1:00 p.m., Sunday, March 25. Proceeds from the coffee hour following the services will be donated to Sortavala.

The Chicagoland Finnladies held their annual luncheon Saturday, February 10, at the White Deer Run Golf Club in Vernon Hills. Entertainment included kantele selections by Lee Hoofnagle and songs by Merija Guandah. The selection of officers for the coming year will take place at a later date.

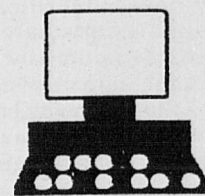
The Chicago Art Institute's Winter Foreign Film Festival included a showing of *Aku Louhimies' Levottomat* (The Restless). The Art Institute

also had a special showing of the Finnish favorite, *Leningrad Cowboys*, March 13.

The Finnish musical group, Tik N' Tak, appeared at the Rosemont Theater February 28 as part of their eighteen city tour of the U.S. Members of the group are six girls between the ages of fourteen and sixteen from the North Helsinki Band School.

Readers are reminded of the Vappu Party sponsored by the Midwest Chapter of the Finlandia Foundation to be held April 28 at the Estonian House. Further details will appear in the next edition of the Chicago News.

Get well wishes to Mildred Braune who is recovering from a fall in her home.



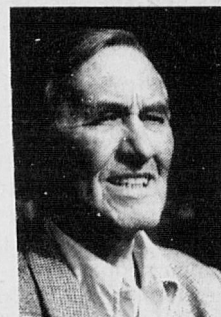
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For almost sixty years Paul Sjöblom observed

Finland FROM THE INSIDE

Eyewitness Reports of a Finnish-American journalist 1938-1997



Paul Sjöblom (1914-1997), journalist, translator and critic, spent a lifetime bridging the linguistic and cultural gap between Finland and North America. In this collection of his popular writings in *Suomen Siltä*, Sjöblom brings his wit, insight and reporter's skills to bear on the topics of Jean Sibelius, the Winter War and the Continuation War and Finnish identity.

He moves the topics out of the realm of dry reportage with his vivid, first-person memories of 'How Sibelius Came to Smoke the Same Cigar with Me' and his tongue-in-cheek 'Meat Mining in the Frozen North.' He explains why 'Finland did not Capitulate' during the horrific fighting of the Winter War and the Continuation War. With each essay he addresses a different facet of the question 'Who are the Finns?' and seeks to shed new light 'On Finnish Identity.'

Glenda Dawn Goss, Ph.D., the award-winning musicologist and expert on Sibelius, enriches the understanding of these essays with an introduction to Paul Sjöblom's life and insightful commentaries on the topics covered in each section of the book.

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Reception following the concert

Directions: Located on Route 117, approximately one mile east of Route 27. St. John can be found from Route 495 by taking the Route 117 exit, and heading east until just across Sudbury border. From east, Route 2 west, just after Arena Farms on your right turn left at light onto Sudbury Road, and then turn right onto Route 117, the church is on the fork a mile down the road.

Scandinavian Dance/Culture Weekend planned for 'Land of the Vikings'

There will be a spring Scandinavian Dance/Culture weekend at the Land of the Vikings in Sherman, Pennsylvania, on May 11-23.

In addition to sessions of Senior Dance (which is very popular in the Nordic countries), workshop sessions are planned on traditional waltz, schottische and polka, some easy Nordic folk dances will be taught, and there will be a sing-along in several languages.

Hans Keller has agreed to give a talk on the Vikings - a very popular topic currently, especially because of the recent Viking exhibit at the Smithsonian and the American Museum of Natural History. He also has a video on the subject.

Land of the Vikings is a pleasant lodge owned by the Sons of Norway. It is nestled in a wilderness area of north-eastern Pennsylvania near Deposit, New York, a few miles off New York Route 17. The accommodations are comfortable, the surround-

ings beautiful, the food excellent, the camaraderie unparalleled, and to top it off, the rates are very reasonable.

For driving instructions, rates, and reservations, contact Elsie Kristiansen, the manager at: Land of Vikings, RR 3 -- P. O. Box 3482, Susquehanna PA 18847-8922; Phone 570-461-3500, Fax 570-461-7500; E-mail: vikingland@mail.tds.net; Website: home.att.net/~shawnee2/snd3-lov.html

Helvi Impola

FEP resolutions available on the Net

Resolutions made by the Finnish Expatriate Parliament in November 2000 are now available in English on the internet at the FEP's homepages: www.uparlamentti.org. I apologize for the appearance of the pages. They are under construction.

Juha Savolainen

Secretary

Finnish Expatriate Parliament

Northeast

Historical Network meeting March 31

The next regular meeting of the Northeast Finnish American Historical Network will be held Saturday, March 31, at 11 a.m. This important meeting will be held at the Kaleva Civic Association hall at Fort Pond, Kaleva Road, in Littleton (MA).

The main topic of discussion will be the election of a new slate of officers or the possible dissolution of the organization.

For more information, call Burton Jernström, 860-376-9761.

Fitchburg, MA

Studying in Finland

Ben Tuiskula, of Fitchburg, is studying this semester at the University of Helsinki in Finland. While there he will study Finnish History, as well as the Finnish language and politics. The trip also provides Tuiskula the opportunity to visit with his Finnish relatives.

Tuiskula is a junior in the Honors Program at the University of Massachusetts - Amherst, majoring in history. He is the son of Janet and Warren Tuiskula of Fitchburg.

ÅLAND

from page 7

detail. Louise Fréchette, deputy secretary-general of the United Nations, and Martti Ahtisaari, former president of the Republic of Finland, will open the seminar.

Professor Martti Koskeniemi, from the University of Helsinki, will give a presentation of the legal status and historical development of the autonomy of the Åland Islands. Gunnar Jansson, member of the Finnish Parliament from Åland, will discuss the self-governance as it is today.

Professor Thomas M. Franck, from the New York University School of Law, will discuss autonomy as an option for the exercise of self-determination. Professor Susan L. Woodward, of the City University of New York, will assess whether the Åland example could be used to bring peace to the Balkans.

The seminar will be moderated by Ambassador Marjatta Rasi, permanent representative of Finland to the United Nations, and closed by Harri Holkeri, president of the 55th Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations and former prime minister of Finland.

Head of the Åland Government Roger Nordlund has contributed to the seminar and will lead a group of politicians and public officials from the Åland Islands, visiting New York and the United Nations in connection with the seminar.

The seminar is being organized by the Permanent Mission of Finland to the United Nations in collaboration with the Provincial Government of Åland.

Kalenteri

CALIFORNIA

Mar. 28 - Los Angeles Philharmonic in concert, Esa-Pekka Salonen conducting, 8 pm, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, Los Angeles. Program includes Sibelius' Symphony No 7. Info: www.laphil.org

Apr. 1 - Los Angeles Finlandia Foundation Annual Awards Luncheon, noon-4 pm, Sportsmen's Lodge, 12833 Ventura Blvd, Studio City. Honorees are Albert & Betty Jokela. Entertainment by dancers Milla Korja & Petri Kauppinen. Info, reservations: 805-686-1101.

- Film 'Pathfinder,' 2:30 pm, Dining Room, Kaleva Hall, 1970 Chestnut St, Berkeley. 1988 Norwegian classic drama (directed by Nils Gaup) about the perils of a Saami tribe in Lapland 1,000 years ago. Video format in Saami with English subtitles. Info: 510-849-0125.

Apr. 21 - Scandinavian Festival 2001, 10 am-5 pm, California Lutheran University, 60 W Olsen Rd, Thousand Oaks. Info: 805-493-3269.

Apr. 22 - Scandinavian Festival 2001 continues, 12 noon-5 pm, California Lutheran University, Thousand Oaks.

Apr. 29 - Los Angeles Finlandia Foundation membership meeting, 1-4 pm, Pasadena Historical Museum, 470 West Walnut, Pasadena. Pot luck luncheons; all are welcome. Program: 'The Survivors - North American Finns in Stalin's Russia' video by Anita Hokkanen Middleton.

CONNECTICUT

Mar. 18 - Finnish American Heritage Society St Urho's Day mystery ride & dinner, 1 pm, Finnish Hall, 76 North Canterbury Rd (Rt 169), Canterbury. Info: 860-546-6671 or info@fahs-ct.org

Mar. 24 - Genealogy Workshop, time to be announced, Finnish Hall, Canterbury. By reservation only. Info: 860-546-6671 or info@fahs-ct.org

Apr. 5 - Finnish American Heritage Society membership meeting, 7 pm, Finnish Hall, Canterbury.

FLORIDA

Mar. 29 - Fashion show & luncheon, 12 noon, Finnish American Club, New Port Richey. Tickets advance sale only. Info: 849-6349, 845-0097, 942-3916.

Apr. 4 - Membership meeting & pot luck, 12 noon, Finnish American Club, New Port Richey.

Apr. 29 - Vappu Pot Luck, Program & Tea Dance, 2-5 pm, Finnish American Club, New Port Richey.

MAINE

Mar. 18 - Finnish American Heritage Society of Maine monthly meeting, 2 pm, Heritage Center, Maple St, West Paris. Celebrating St Urho's Day.

MASSACHUSETTS

Mar. 17 - Suomi-koulu of New England, 10 am, Waldorf School, Lexington.

- Finnish tenor Pentti Hietanen in concert, 3 pm, St John's Lutheran Church, 16 Great Rd, Sudbury. Program to include works by Merikanto, Kaski. Reception following concert. Sponsored by Finlandia Foundation-Boston Inc.

Mar. 18 - St Patrick's Dinner Dance, 2 pm, Viking Club, 410 Quincy Ave, Braintree. Corned beef & cabbage, Scandinavian music & Irish step dancers. Info, reservations: 781-848-3576.

Mar. 31 - Pannukakku Breakfast, 8:30-10:30 am, Messiah Lutheran Church, 750 Ridge Rd, Fitchburg.

- Northeast Finnish American Historical Network meeting, 11 am, Kaleva Civic Association hall, Fort Pond, Kaleva Rd, Littleton. Info: 860-376-9761.

Apr. 7 - Suomi-koulu of New England, 10 am, Waldorf School, Lexington.

Apr. 8 - Accordion Jamboree, 3-7 pm, Viking Club, Braintree. Info, tickets: 781-848-3576 or 781-659-2206.

MICHIGAN

Mar. 23 - Supper, 5:30-8 pm, lounge, Finnish Center, 35200 W Eight Mile Rd, Farmington Hills. Music by Soittoniekat.

Mar. 24 - Finnish-American Society of West-Central Michigan St Urho's Day Celebration, 7:30 pm, Westgate Bowl, 4486 Alpine NW, Comstock Park.

Mar. 25 - Kalevala program, 3 pm, Finnish Center, Farmington Hills.

MINNESOTA

Mar. 16 - Finnish American Cultural Activities monthly program, 7:30 pm, International Institute, 1694 Como Ave, St Paul. Topic: Finnish Band Music with performer/speaker Paul Niemistö.

Mar. 28 - 'Hidden Treasures: Uncovering the Scandinavian Collections at the Immigration History Research Center,' lecture by Heather Muir, assistant curator for IHRC archival operations, 7 pm, American Swedish Institute, 2600 Park Ave, Minneapolis. Info: 612-871-4907.

Apr. 21 - Maria Kalaniemi, 1 pm, Cedar Cultural Centre, Minneapolis. Tickets: 612-338-2674 ext 2. A feature of the Nordic Roots Festival.

Apr. 22 - Värttinä, 7:30 pm, Cedar Cultural Centre, Minneapolis. Tickets: 612-338-2674 ext 2. A feature of the Nordic Roots Festival.

May 6-11 - Spring Adult Week, Salolampi Finnish Language Village, Turtle River Lake, County Highway 20, Bemidji. Info: 800-222-4750 or www.finnsonline.org

NEW YORK

Mar. 16 - Los Angeles Philharmonic New Music Group, Esa-Pekka Salonen conducting; with Olli Mustonen, piano, 8 pm, Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center, New York City. All-Stravinsky program. Tickets Alice Tully Hall Box Office or CenterCharge 212-721-6500.

- Mikasonik, 9 & 10:30 pm, Cornelia Street Café, 29 Cornelia St, New York City. Info: 212-989-9318.

Mar. 17 - Stravinsky Symposium, 10 am-1 pm, Stanley H Kaplan Penthouse, Lincoln Center, New York City. Christopher Hailey, moderator; Esa-Pekka Salonen, Olli Mustonen among participants. Free admission.

Mar. 18 - Los Angeles Philharmonic, Esa-Pekka Salonen conducting, Olli Mustonen, piano, 3 pm, Avery Fisher Hall, 70 Lincoln Center, New York City. All-Stravinsky program. Tickets Avery Fisher Hall Box Office or CenterCharge 212-721-6500.

Mar. 20 - Lecture 'Marvelous Magic and Medieval Accuracy in Finnish Folklore' by Aili Flint, senior lecturer in Finnish at Columbia University, 6 pm, Victor Borge Hall, Scandinavia House, 58 Park Ave, New York City. Reservations: 212-847-9746.

Mar. 21 - Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra to perform Sibelius Symphony No. 2 in D Major Op 43, 8 pm, Carnegie Hall, New York City. Tickets: CarnegieCharge 212-247-7800.

Mar. 26 - London Sinfonietta to perform 'Symphony Seven' by Charles Wuorinen, 8 pm, Carnegie Hall, New York City. Tickets: CarnegieCharge 212-247-7800.

Apr. 4, 11, 18, 25 - Finnish film festival, 6 pm, Victor Borge Hall, Scandinavia House, 58 Park Ave, New York City. Tickets: 212-879-9779.

Apr. 14 - Finnish playgroup for children ages 3-5, 12:30-1:30 pm, Heimbold Family Children's Learning Center, Scandinavia House, New York City. Sponsored by American Scandinavian Foundation.

Apr. 21 - Children's films from Finland, 12:30 pm, Scandinavia House, New York City. Info: 212-879-9779.

Apr. 28 - 'The Kalevala' and other stories will be told by Carol McGirr of the Hans Christian Andersen Storytellers, 11:30 am, Heimbold Family Children's Learning Center, Scandinavia House, New York City.

PENNSYLVANIA

July 26-29 - FinnFest USA 2001, Villanova University, Villanova. Info: Phone 856-489-1594; FAX 856-489-1106; e-mail: mail@finnfest2001.org; web site: www.finnfest2001.org

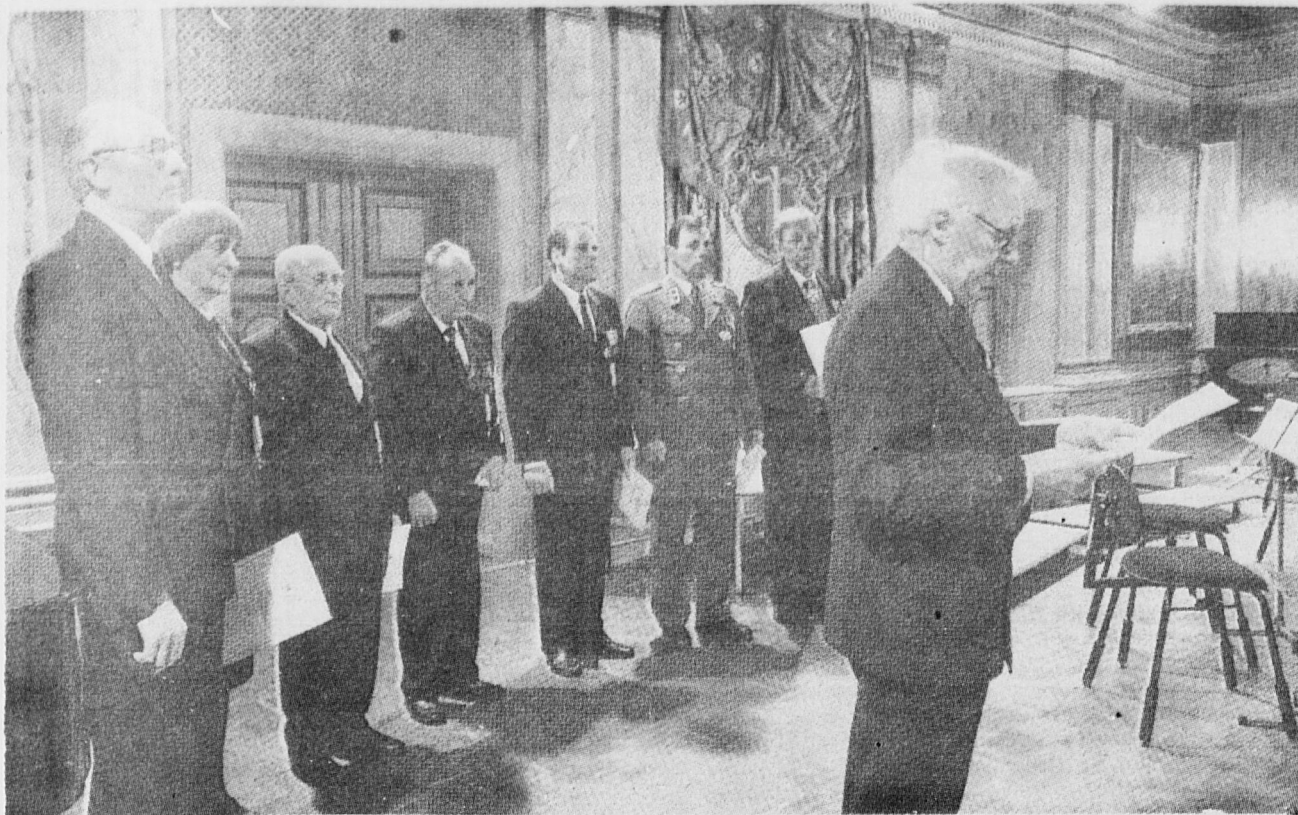
TEXAS

Apr. 12 - Finnish-American Society of Dallas/Fort Worth monthly meeting, 7:30 pm, Walnut Hill Lutheran Church, Royal Lane & Webb Chapel, Northwest Dallas.

WASHINGTON

Apr. 29 - Finlandia Foundation Seattle Chapter annual meeting, 1 pm, Maki Hall, Finnish Lutheran Church, Ballard.

Events subject to change without notice



Fjalar Rosenlöf, right, vice president and chairman of the guild, reads the names of those recognized. From left, Bjarne Hammarström, Eeva Nieminen, Tapani Grönholm, Yngve Biskop, Jorma Rantala, Major John Nordblad and professor Ilkka Virtanen

Ostrobothian war veterans recognized

The defense guild association of Ostrobothnia in Finland held its 20th anniversary celebration in Vasa (Vaasa) in January this year.

Defense Minister Jan Erik Enestam, in his speech, was worrying that it would be hard to keep a solid defense in the coming years unless the appropriation would increase. "Our defense budget is only a third of what the

defense resources are in Sweden," he mentioned. His speech was very well done. It took in a lot of defense questions for the future.

Veteran Fjalar Rosenlöf, the oldest member of the guild and vice president and chairman, presented a well earned medal in form of a cross to each of the veterans for their many years of service in the organization.

The jubilee festivals started with the Ostrobothnian Military Orchestra playing the "Marskalkens Silverhorn" one of Artturi Rope's compositions. This number was very appropriate as it was exactly 50 years from Marshall Mannerheim's death date.

Fjalar Rosenlöf presented the following recipients with their medals: professor Ilkka Virtanen, the Guild chairman;

Major John Nordblad, secretary; Yngve Biskop, chairman for the Karleby area defense guild; Tapani Grönholm, chairman for Vasa war and front veterans; Eeva Nieminen, chairwoman for the women's war and front veterans; Bjarne Hammarström, chairman of soldier boys' organization; Ole Fagerås, chairman of the traditional Jaeger battalion 27; and Mai-

ja-Liisa Nikkanen. Each received a placard.

Nikkanen was an initiator in starting the Mannerheim Room in Ostrobothnia Museum and she also donated many artifacts for the museum. Artist Ann-Christine Krooks received the defense guild's table center piece.

On this January Sunday the Vasa organization Itsenäisyyden Puolesta laid reefs on the freedom fighter veterans' graves.

Aatto Wuorenlinna held a remembrance speech at this special event.

Fjalar Rosenlöf, the vice president of the defense guild, was born in Kaskö (Kaskinen), Finland, the writer Nils Granfors' hometown. They grew up together in Kaskö. Fjalar served in the marine coast guard in Kaskö during the Winter War. He later served in the Continuation War in Karelia. He was a platoon leader in the Finnish army, but later on became a captain. His brother Ralf Rosenlöf died in Juuslita Kilpenjoki June 28, 1944. Fjalar saw his brother 12 hours before he was killed by a Russian attack. Ralf was also a platoon leader during the war.

Fjalar served as a director and councilor for 20 years in the city of Vasa. He was a very admired person amongst his fellow directors of the city. He worked as an engineer at Stramberg in Vasa for many years.

We thank all these great veterans of the Finnish wars for their sacrifice during the wars of 1939-1940 and 1941-45.

Nils Granfors

Saku Koivu kicks up storm for Canadiens

Center Saku Koivu stole the show with his two goals and two assists figuring in all the Montreal Canadiens' scoring as they defeated the Pittsburgh Penguins, 4-2. These were Koivu's 10th and 11th goals of the season, both scored in the third period.

Näsi, Halkoaho shine in Finnish junior indoor

Tuomas Näsi set a new Finnish record in the 60-meter dash and Jenniina Halkoaho garnered three golds in the Finnish Indoor Junior National Track & Field Championships at Kuopio on March 3 and 4.

Näsi, who is the reigning 100-Meter national outdoor champion from last summer, set a new indoor record of 6.59 seconds for the 60M. At Kuopio he became the Men's Age 22 national indoor champ.

Jenniina Halkoaho took the Women's Age 19 championship in three events: the triple jump with 12.40 meters, the long jump with 595 centimeters, and the 60M hurdles in 8.87 seconds. She

is the younger sister of Johanna Halkoaho, Finnish long jump national champion, both outdoor and indoor.

Double winners included: Petteri Toivonen in the M-19 long jump (732cm) and triple jump (15.00M), and was second in the 60M dash; Tuomo Salo in the M-19 60M (6.92) and 200M (21.89); Suvilä Mäkelä, W-22 400M (55.26) and 800M (2:13.46); Nicklas Sandells in the M-17 800M (1:57.84) and 1500M (4:09.38); and Heidi Hannula, W-22 60M (7.34) and 200M (24.45).

Other outstanding performances:

Mari Järvenpää, W-22, first in 1500M (4:37.21) and second in 400M (56.45); Robert Häggblom, M-19 national shotput record (19.48); Henrietta French (13-years old and youngest competitor), Finnish national record in the pole vault for Girls ages 13 and 14, as well as season's best for W-17 (349cm); Helmi Leppänen, (W-22), overall shotput season's best (14.31); Tommi Evilä, M-22, season's

best long jump (7.84);

Carla Bosco (W-19), 200M (24.43) - younger sister of Manuela Bosco, Finland's top hurdler. The Bosco's are half-Finnish, half-Italian, but compete for Finland; Antti Kempas (M22), 5000M Racewalk (21:23.71) and Tiina Muinonen (W22), 3000M Racewalk (13:35.40).

Teemu Selänne sold to San Jose Sharks

Veteran right wing Teemu Selänne was traded by the Anaheim Mighty Ducks of the National Hockey League to the San Jose Sharks on March 5. It's been long rumored that the Finnish star has been wanting to be traded for a long time to a contending club, instead of being mired in the NHL Western Division cellar with the Ducks. The latter team received Steve Shields and Jeff Friesen in the trade.

The Sharks were at the top of the division when injuries to Vincent Damphouse weak-

ened them so they've been on the losing end recently. So the high scoring Selänne was secured to help them win the division and compete for the Stanley Cup.

Selänne broke into the NHL with Winnipeg for the 1992-93 season. He went to Anaheim in 1996. He has consistently been one of the NHL's top scorers.

Schumacher wins Australian Formula One auto race March 4

Reigning Formula One auto racing champion Michael Schumacher of Germany and his Ferrari won the season's first race at Melbourne, Australia, on March 3. He was 1.717 seconds ahead of David Coulthard of Britain (McLaren-Mercedes). His Ferrari teammate Rubens Barrichello of Brazil came in third.

Two-time Formula One champ Mika Häkkinen (McLaren-Mercedes) of Finland, and the German's top rival

was only able to finish 25 of the 58 laps due to car trouble. But a rookie driver from Finland, Kimi Räikkönen (Sauber-Petronas) created a sensation by finishing seventh, one place out of the points range.

Räikkönen startled the field during an earlier practice drive by clocking the 11th fastest time. Rival teams worried that this 21-year-old was too inexperienced for F-1 driving after only having done 23 single-seater career outings and feared he would cause an accident.

There was an accident on the course, but Räikkönen had nothing to do with it. There had been a collision between Jacques Villeneuve and Ralf Schumacher (Michael's brother), and a tire flew off Villeneuve's car and killed a track marshal positioned nearby.

Immediately following the Grand Prix, Kimi Räikkönen was boosted to sixth place in the race standings as his predecessor was disqualified for an F-1 rules infraction. Thus, Räikkönen earns a race point to start his career in his very first race.

turn to SPORTS page 12

Sports Roundup

by Harri Siitonen

Werner Wiskari: 'NO NIIN'

U.S. Finns, non-Finns and a family crest

The world of my boyhood - Michigan's Upper Peninsula - was populated by two kinds of people, Finns and non-Finns.

That was the world view of my parents, who came to this country from Finland in 1913, five years before I was born. It was, I dare say, the traditional Finnish world view, as attested to by the Finnish word "toiskielinen," meaning a person who speaks "another (or a different) language." As commonly used in the world of my boyhood, it was the Finnish word for "non-Finn."

Those were the years when Finnish could commonly be heard on the streets of Calumet and Ironwood and other Upper Peninsula towns or in Fitchburg or wherever there were many Finnish-Americans. But no longer.

Since my boyhood, the American "melting pot" has been working so well that, for a long time now, most Finnish-Americans have been speaking only that "other language," which my Upper Peninsula elders would slangily refer to as "venkuli." Most Finnish-Americans, therefore, are "toiskielisiä" (plural of "toiskielinen").

That word for "non-Finn," however, is not much used any more. "Toiskielinen" was still included in V.S. Alanne's Finnish-American dictionary published in 1956, but Aino Wuolle found no reason to put it into hers of 1979. With fewer and fewer Finnish-Americans speaking Finnish, the word had clearly lost usefulness.

As a Wiskari, I feel fortunate to be able to belong to the Finnish-speaking Finnish-American minority. Because of my upbringing, I still often think in Finnish, the only language of my boyhood home, of Sunday School and church.

In my first six years or more, the English I spoke was broken at best. One of my early memories was of getting angry at a "toiskielinen" boy and huffing, "Yoo gan't blay in my takapiha (back yard)."

I flunked kindergarten and so was given more kindergarten time with other-language speakers. It didn't help. I remember sitting in first grade and still wondering what was going on.

In this 21st century, American youngsters learn the English alphabet already in pre-school, but such was the influence of my Finnish-only upbringing in the third decade of the 20th that the alphabet remained beyond me

through the first three grades.

At the beginning of the fourth grade, my teacher asked for a show of hands by everyone who knew the alphabet, and I was conspicuously the only one who sat with hands down. Finally, at the end of that school year, I raised my hand and said proudly, "Teacher, I now know the alphabet."

"Werner," Teacher replied crushingly, "it's too late." For me, of course, it wasn't, but the sting of her words lingered on. No doubt, it spurred me on to master "venkuli."

In a way, however, it was my Finnish that was more important whenever I visited Finland during my years as a correspondent for *The New York Times*. It gave me an advantage over other visiting correspondents who needed an interpreter to interview many Finnish notables. But I discovered on first arriving in Helsinki that I had been living in a Finnish-American linguistic cocoon.

"Where did you learn your Finnish?" one politician asked. "We haven't talked like that for 30 years."

"Your Finnish is very good," a Helsinki editor said, "but every now and then it veers a little askew."

Askew, perhaps, and not as up-to-date as it ought to be, but it is a Finnish that one of my daughters, Sandra, wishes I had taught her. She is proud of her Finnish roots, including the fact that the Wiskaris happen to have a family crest, or heraldic insignia, and I am afraid I let her down and so contributed to the making of another "toiskielinen."

I did not even try to teach Sandra Finnish - or her two sisters and brother, either -

principally, I suppose, because my hours of work were such that I did not see them much during their childhood. Unfortunately, their mother, my wife Millie, was not able to teach them Finnish in my absence.

To her credit, Millie, who has forgotten most of the Finnish she knew as a child, tries to remember some if need be and does quite well. But then there was the time when she chanced to use the verb "to be" in place of "to have" and asked a Finn during a thirsty moment if she might "be a glass of water," thereby setting off a confidence-eroding burst of hilarity.

Incidentally, the Wiskari family crest is actually the Viskari family crest, duly adopted by a congress of Viskaris convened a few years ago in Helsinki. But it is also the Wiskari family crest because the Wiskaris used to be Viskaris.

The change came about when my father, newly married and about to leave Finland with his bride for America, decided to impress her by replacing the "V" with the more elegant "W."

It made no difference in the Finnish pronunciation, but by the time he learned there was a difference in English, it was too late for simple corrective action. "W" was on all key documents and would have required court action to change back to "V."

The family crest features a stylized pointed horseshoe in white with its points extending upward on a field of black. Upside down across the top is the notched top of a parapet in red.

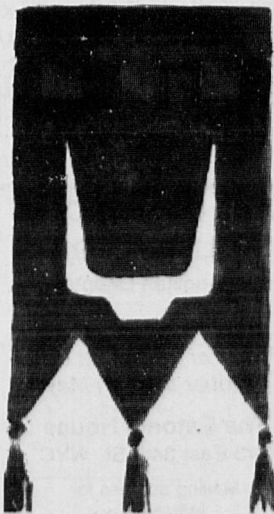
The horseshoe represents the kind used in days of yore on horses hitched to sleighs in the winter. The horse-shows would throw snow back toward the driver. The verb "viskata" means "to throw," and so "viskari," the thrower, is on the Viskari crest.

While most Wiskaris - my brother Arthur's family in Illinois included - are, alas, "toiskielisiä," they on the whole are at least interested in Finland. But in the case of most Finnish-Americans, the "melting pot" has melted away such interests as well.

As a result, once-thriving Finnish-American organizations have been dwindling away, and many of those remaining, if not all, have been filling in their ranks with "friends of Finland."

But Finland today is no longer the land the organizations were formed to celebrate. Freed from having a Soviet neighbor and active in the European Union in this globalized and Internet age, Finland is continuing to change at an accelerating pace.

In the opinion of cyber-enthusiasts, Finns and non-Finns alike are heading toward eventual citizenship in one vast global village.



The crest of the Viskaris but of the Wiskaris, too.

Finlandia Foundation-Boston Inc.

Aina Swan Cutler New England Music Scholarship

Applications for a scholarship for a student of Finnish-American heritage from New England studying music, excluding hard rock and electronic music, for the year 2001 are available from:

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The Finn in Me

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This author retraces the steps of her long, and sometimes frightening, life journey from Finnish Karelia to North America and, finally, the U.S. When she was eight years old the Winter War forced her family out of their home. The author's diaries and journals from the 1930s to the '50s form the basis of this book.

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RECIPIENT

from page 1

During the 2001-2002 concert season, Esa-Pekka Salonen will conduct 12 weeks of subscription concerts with the Philharmonic, followed by a two-week tour of Japan in May. In August and September they return to Europe for a three-week tour of summer festivals.

In January 2001, Salonen returned to his Philharmonic post following a one-year composing sabbatical. New works premiered during the year 2000 include *Mania* (a cello concerto) and *Dichotomie* (a two-movement work for solo piano). *Mania* was given its world premiere by the Ensemble Avanti! in Porvoo, Finland in June 2000. *Dichotomie*, written for pianist Gloria Cheng, received an acclaimed world premiere at a December 4 Green Umbrella New Music Concert in Los Angeles.

Salonen and the Philharmonic have made eight critically acclaimed international tours since 1992. Before assuming the post of Music Director in the fall of 1992, he and the orchestra enjoyed exceptional acclaim from the international press during their month-long residency at the 1992 Salzburg Festival.

In 1993, Salonen conducted his first European appearances with the orchestra as its Music Director at the Lucerne (Switzerland) Easter Festival. Three tours in 1994 took them to Japan and Taiwan, to six European festivals, and to Mexico.

They were in residence at the Theatre du Chatelet in Paris for a highly acclaimed series of opera and concert performances in the fall of 1996, and returned to Europe for a successful visit to the Canary Islands Music Festival and Spain in early 1997.

They undertook their last tour of European festivals in the summer of 1998, re-

turned to New York City's Lincoln Center for critically acclaimed concerts in March 1999 (where they return this week), and performed two concerts in Mexico City in September of 1999.

Salonen signed an exclusive recording contract in 1985 with Sony Classical. The original release of his Los Angeles Philharmonic recording of Lutoslawski's Symphony No. 3 won a Grammy Award, a Cecilia Prize, a Koussevitzky Award, and the 1986 Gramophone Award for Best Contemporary Record.

Esa-Pekka Salonen was born in Helsinki in 1958. After studies at the Sibelius Academy in Finland and with private teachers Franco Donatoni and Niccolò Castiglioni in Italy, he made his conducting debut with the Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra in 1979.

The Finnish musician has been one of the world's most sought-after conductors since his brilliant debut in London with the Philharmonia Orchestra in September 1983. Since then he has appeared with major orchestras throughout Europe and North America, serving as principal guest conductor of the Philharmonia of London from 1985 to 1995.

In 1995 and 1996, Salonen served as artistic director of the Helsinki Festival; he also served as Music Director of the 1999 Ojai Festival. In July 1993, Esa-Pekka Salonen became the first conductor ever to receive the Siena Prize, awarded annually by the Accademia Chigiana.

He has also been awarded several medals: the *Officier de l'Ordre des Arts et Lettres* from France, the *Literis & Artibus* from the King of Sweden, and the *Pro Finlandia* from the Finnish government.

SPORTS

from page 10

Teemu's surgery delays debut with Sharks

A day after Teemu Selänne became a member of the San Jose Sharks NHL hockey team, he went under a surgeon's knife on March 6. He is undergoing arthroscopic knee surgery to repair a loose cartilage which has recently been causing soreness and minor swelling. He is expected to resume playing within two weeks.

Xavier women hoopsters Atlantic-10 champions

The Xavier University women's basketball team of Cincinnati, Ohio, has won the Atlantic-10 Conference playoffs and its championship for the second year in the row, after finishing in first place during the regular season.

With several high scoring players on its roster, two of them are Finnish exchange students, Taru Tuukkanen and Reetta Piipari. Both of them figured prominently during the playoffs as well as during the season.

On March 1, the Musketeers defeated the University of Massachusetts, 86-64, with Tuukkanen scoring 14 points with 6 rebounds. Piipari had eight points with ten assists.

On March 3, Tuukkanen had 22 points as top scorer as Xavier defeated Dayton, 80-71. Piipari had 11 with six assists and three 3-point goals.

In the final on March 5, Piipari starred in a Xavier victory over George Washington, 81-56. She came through from long-range and scored six 3-point baskets and led her team with 20 points! Tuukkanen had 16 points.

Tuukkanen is a 6'3" senior who plays forward and center and has been a consistently high scorer all season. She hails from Helsinki. Piipari, 5'7", is a scrappy sophomore guard whose hometown is Kotka. Her father, Risto Piipari, is the Finnish women's national team coach.

This has been Xavier's most successful season so far, with 28 victories, two losses under

its belt. They now qualify to compete in the NCAA playoffs, dominated by powerful women's teams like Notre Dame, Tennessee, Connecticut, and Rutgers.

Hanna Palamäe in new Finnish PV record at NCAA indoor

Hanna Palamäe, an athletic scholarship student at Eastern Michigan University set a new Finnish women's indoor pole vault record of 410 centimeters at the US National Collegiate Indoor Track & Field Championships at Fayetteville (AK), March 9-11. Hailing from Espoo, she finished in sixth place with the victory going to Thorey Edda Elisdottir of Iceland who set a new Nordic women's indoor record of 451cm.

Janne Vartiainen, also of Espoo and a T&F scholarship student at the University of Texas at El Paso, finished 13th in the weight throw with 20.36 meters.

Meanwhile, Hanna Ritakallio from Hämeenlinna, on a T&F scholarship at Harding University finished fourth in both the women's mile and the 800-meter runs at a meet at Boston the same weekend. It was a tough chore for her as she qualified for the finals in both events in elimination heats the previous evening at 7:15 and 9:15 PM. Then she ran the mile the next day at 1:40PM but scored a personal best of 4:51.85, and an hour or so later ran the 800M in 2:12.69.

Back in Finland, Tiina Kankaanpää set a new national Finnish women's indoor record in the discus at 57.44 meters on March 11. She eclipsed her own former record by 1.34 meters, at a meet at Myllypuro. She represents the Seinäjoki Urheilijat.

Kallio, Koivu tops in NHL scoring

Tomi Kallio's 11th goal of the season in the second period plus two assists in the third were a major factor in the Atlanta Thrashers' 7-5

victory over the Boston Bruins in a NHL game on March 10. Jarno Kurri of Boston also had an assist.

The same day Saku Koivu's 13th and 14th goals in the third period enabled the Montreal Canadiens to tie the Phoenix Coyotes, 3-3. Ossi Väänänen of the Coyotes had an assist.

Defenseman Janne Laukkanen of the Pittsburgh Penguins got his third goal of the season as they defeated the Calgary Flames, 6-3. Meanwhile, goalie Tommy Salo had his second straight shutout as his Edmonton Oilers whipped the Buffalo Sabres, 4-0, on March 9.

Timo Aaltonen fourth in shotput at Lisbon

Finnish shotput artist Timo Aaltonen earned fourth place in his specialty at the 2001 World Indoor Track and Field Championships at Lisbon, Portugal, on March 9. The top two spots were taken by U.S. athletes, John Godina in first place with 20.82 meters, Adam Nelson in second with 20.72 and Spain's Manuel Martinez third with 20.67. Aaltonen's best effort was for 20.24. He was the only Finnish athlete competing at Lisbon.

Godina was world champ twice before, in 1995 and 1997. Nelson was the silver medalist in last year's Olympics, behind Arsi Harju's victory. Aaltonen had defeated Martinez for the European indoor championships earlier. The Turku area resident's fourth place finish was the second best accomplished by a Finnish shotputter in the history of the world indoor title meets. In 1995, top spot was won by Finland's Mika Halvari.

Nieminen wins it for Avalanche

Ville Nieminen's two goals made the difference in a National Hockey League victory by the Colorado Avalanche over the Atlanta Thrashers on March 6 at Atlanta. The goals were Nieminen's ninth and tenth of the season.

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