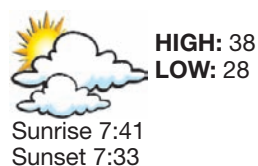




TOURNAMENT TIME

Ohio State among No. 1 seeds. **B1**See the full bracket. **B4**

Today's weather



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Pro-union sentiment resounds in Medina



JENNIFER PIGNOLET / GAZETTE PHOTOS

U.S. Rep. Betty Sutton, D-Copley Township, speaks Sunday during a rally against Senate Bill 5 on Medina Public Square.

Rally against Senate Bill 5 draws about 500 to square

Jennifer Pignolet
The Gazette

MEDINA — The continuous honking of horns from cars passing by Medina Public Square on Sunday became the backdrop for chants of "Kill the bill!" and "This is what democracy looks like!"

About 500 people and various state and local officials turned out for a rally against Senate Bill 5, which, if passed, would rewrite collective bargaining law for public employees and prohibits them from going on strike.

The Ohio House of Representatives is currently reviewing the bill, which the Ohio Senate passed by a 17-16 vote March 2.

Speakers at the rally Sunday afternoon included U.S. Rep. Betty Sutton, D-Copley Township, current House minority leader Armond Budish, D-Beachwood, Medina County Democratic Party President Pam Miller and several union representatives.

Sutton called the bill an attack on workers and the middle class.

"It is the middle class that makes this country strong. We have to say enough is enough."

U.S. Rep. Betty Sutton,
D-Copley Township

"It is the middle class that makes this country strong," Sutton said. "We have to say enough is enough."

JoAnn Shire, president of the Medina City Teachers Association, quoted children's books during her speech.

"Dr. Seuss had it right in 'Horton Hears a Who.' All those small voices in Whoville raised their voices and at last they were heard," Shire said. "A person's a person no matter how small."

Miller said she was happy with the "energized" crowd, a large number of whom were teachers.

See RALLY, A3



Highland teacher Sandy Schilling, of Strongsville, holds up signs for passing cars Sunday during the rally against Senate Bill 5.

DISASTER IN JAPAN

Death toll could hit tens of thousands

Barbara Demick
Los Angeles Times

SENDAI, Japan — Japanese authorities said thousands may have died in the massive earthquake and tsunami that left many survivors stranded or shivering in makeshift evacuation centers that were running low on supplies Monday.

In Miyagi, one the three hardest-hit prefectures, at least 10,000 were killed, police spokesman Go Sugawara told The Associated Press late Sunday. Only 400 people had been confirmed dead in Miyagi, which has a population of 2.3 million.

Elsewhere, about 1,800 people were confirmed dead Sunday — including 200 bodies found along the coast, according to The Associated Press. About 1,900 were injured and more than 1,400 were missing late Sunday.

More than 500,000 people have been forced to evacuate from quake- and tsunami-affected regions, Kyodo News reported.

Televised reports showed hundreds of thousands of hungry survivors huddled in darkened emergency centers, cut off from rescuers, aid and electricity. At least 1.4 million households had gone without water since the quake struck and some 1.9 million households were

See JAPAN, A3



An official scans a man for radiation at an emergency center Sunday, in Koriyama, northeastern Japan.

Hydrogen explosion at nuke plant

The Associated Press

TOKYO — Japan's chief cabinet secretary said a hydrogen explosion has occurred at Unit 3 of Japan's stricken Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear plant. The blast was similar to an earlier one at a different unit of the facility.

Yukio Edano said people within a 12-mile radius were ordered inside following today's blast. AP journalists felt the explosion 30 miles away.

The No. 3 Unit reactor had been under emergency watch for a possible explosion as pressure built up there following a hydrogen blast Saturday in the facility's Unit 1.

More than 180,000 people have evacuated the area.

Edano said the reactor's inner containment vessel holding nuclear rods is intact, allaying some fears of the risk to the environment and public.

See NUCLEAR, A5

14 dead after bus crash; riders say driver swerved

Tom Hays
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Passengers and witnesses to a horrific New York City crash that sheared the top off a bus and killed 14 people Saturday told investigators that the driver's account of getting clipped by a tractor-trailer didn't match up to what they felt and saw before the vehicle slid off the road and into a sign pole.

Some of the 31 passengers were still asleep when the bus crashed at 5:35 a.m. Saturday. The bus scraped along the guardrail for 300 feet, toppled and crashed into the support pole for a highway sign indi-

cating the exit for the Hutchinson Parkway. The pole knifed through the bus front to back along the window line, peeling the roof off all the way to the back tires.

Driver Ophadell Williams had told police that his World Wide Tours bus was hit just as it crossed the New York City line on a trip from the Mohegan Sun casino in Connecticut.

But passengers said Williams had already swerved at times to the right for no reason before the accident, a law-enforcement official said Sunday.

See CRASH, A3



The Waterfront restaurant is pulled by a tugboat Saturday in Covington, Ky.

Restaurant gone adrift back to shore

COVINGTON, Ky. — Crews moved a floating restaurant back to shore on Sunday after it partially tore loose from its moorings and stranded more than 80 people on board for hours.

By late in the afternoon, the crippled Waterfront restaurant was sitting in the river near a landing, waiting for crews to secure it.

The restaurant broke loose on the Ohio River on Friday, requiring everyone on board to

be rescued using ladders and ropes for a makeshift gang-plank. Authorities said Cris Collinsworth, a former NFL star long associated with Ruby, was among those taken from the boat during the hours-long rescue.

It remained unclear Sunday why the restaurant pulled away from its moorings. The restaurant did not sustain heavy damage, officials said.

— from wire reports



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