

SPEED READ

Top stories inside

Breaking news all day at Dispatch.com

NATION & WORLD

House to OK housing help

The House plans to vote today on a pair of housing bills, one of which would send hundreds of millions of dollars to Ohio in aid. But President Bush has promised a veto. | **A3**

Sharpton arrested in protest

The Rev. Al Sharpton was among a dozen people arrested and charged with disorderly conduct as they blocked traffic on the Brooklyn Bridge in New York to protest the acquittal of three police officers who killed an unarmed man on his wedding day. The group wants a federal investigation into the case. | **A3**

Leaders re-emphasize faith

About 70 Christian leaders set out to reclaim the term *evangelical* for their movement, releasing "An Evangelical Manifesto" yesterday. The group, including Christian author Max Lucado and Sojourners founder Jim Wallis, want to purge politics and restore the term as a religious label. | **A5**

Medvedev, Putin begin regime

Russians were left to wonder who's in charge yesterday after Dmitry Medvedev was sworn in as president and quickly nominated his predecessor, Vladimir Putin, for prime minister. Parliament is scheduled to debate Putin's nomination today, a formality. | **A10**

METRO & STATE

Ex-teacher to plead guilty

Kevin M. Chapman, 51, has resigned from Upper Arlington schools, where he was an art teacher and boys swim coach, and will plead guilty to sexual battery and unlawful sexual conduct with a minor, prosecutors say. A former student accused him of having sex with her beginning in 1996, when she was 15. | **B1**

Twin to be tried as adult

Derris Lewis, now 18, will be tried as an adult in the shooting death of his twin brother, Dennis, a judge determined yesterday. His mother, who described the break-in and killing, said Derris wasn't there, but a fingerprint expert said a bloody palm print on a bedroom wall proved otherwise. | **B1**

No-smoking group extinguished

Gov. Ted Strickland snuffed out the state's leading anti-smoking group by signing a bill designating most of its endowment for a job-creation plan. But the group's allies have a day in court today. | **B1**

Payday lenders lobby hard

The payday lending industry is fighting for its life at the Statehouse, with more



SHARI LEWIS | DISPATCH

Van Halen at Value City | Van Halen's original lead singer, David Lee Roth, performs with the rock band on their reunion tour, their first tour together in 24 years. The show landed at Value City Arena last night. Visit Dispatch.com for a slide show; the review by Aaron Beck is at right.

lobbyists, more phone calls and a huge rally. But a change on a Senate committee could spell trouble for the short-term, high-interest lenders. | **B1**

SPORTS

Votto, Volquez power Reds win

Pitcher Edinson Volquez and first baseman Joey Votto have been bright spots for the struggling Cincinnati Reds. They took center stage yesterday in the Reds' 9-0 win over the Chicago Cubs. Votto hit three home runs and Volquez allowed four hits and struck out 10 batters in seven innings of work. | **C1**

Junior-college players on board

The Ohio State men's basketball team officially announced the signings of two junior-college players, forward Nikola Kecman and guard Jeremie Simmons. The NCAA is completing its investigation into whether Kecman played on a team with professionals in his native Serbia. | **C1**

Indians beat Yankees 3-0

Cliff Lee threw seven sharp innings last night to beat Chien-Ming Wang in a matchup of unbeaten starters, leading the Cleveland Indians to a 3-0 victory over the Yankees in New York. | **C1**

Morrow shows the way for Stars

No team in the Stanley Cup playoffs has assumed the personality of its captain the way the Dallas Stars have. Brenden Morrow has played brilliantly in series wins over the Anaheim Ducks and San Jose Sharks to propel Dallas into the Western Conference finals. The Stars meet the top-seeded Detroit Red Wings beginning tonight. | **C1**

BUSINESS

Tween Brands struggling

Tween Brands, which has made a nice living selling clothes and other goods to girls from 7 to 14, has hit a rough spot because of a poor economy and a spring line of fashion that failed to please. Recent times also have seen a management shakeup and shareholder lawsuits. | **C8**

U.S. trails in green ranking

Americans rank last in a new *National Geographic*-sponsored survey that compares environmental consumption habits in 14 countries. Americans were least likely to choose the greener option in three out of four categories: housing, transportation and consumer goods. In the fourth category, food, Americans ranked ahead of only Japanese consumers. | **C8**

REVIEW | VAN HALEN

Roth, Van Halen doing just fine

By Aaron Beck
THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

Permanently grinning singer-emcee-carnival barker David Lee Roth said a lot during Van Halen's concert last night in Value City Arena, a concert that took the audience deep into the influential hard-rock band's song trove.

Roth, however, did not shine light on the "undisclosed medical condition" of guitarist Eddie Van Halen, whose mysterious ailment forced the hard-rock band to postpone several late-winter and early-spring dates on its North American reunion tour.

So, sadly, there will be no gossipy celebrity news delivered to doorsteps this morning. What anyone who didn't spend yesterday evening in the packed-to-the-ceiling arena needs to know is this: the fourth lineup of Van Halen in 30 years is doing what it does just fine.

"Better late than never!" Roth said by way of introduction after the concert opening cover of the Kinks' *You Really Got Me*, the song that introduced Van Halen to the world on its 1978 self-titled debut.

"We're three-fourths original, one-fourth inevitable!" he shouted, referring to bassist Wolfgang Van Halen, original bassist Michael Anthony's replacement and the son of Eddie Van Halen and actress Valerie Bertinelli.

Though he sports the same pudgy build, Wolfgang is no Jack Daniels-chugging common man, the image Michael

Anthony cultivated. But he held his own, anchoring tunes such as *Runnin' With the Devil* and *Romeo Delight* professionally and shooting "C'mon, Dave, gimme a break" looks whenever Roth ad-libbed some ribald lines in a song.

Roth has his detractors, but his ridiculous '50s deejay-matador-motivational speaker-workout video guy shtick perfectly balances the band, given Eddie Van Halen's guitar-hero action — albeit some jaw-dropping guitar-hero action.

Whatever is ailing the 53-year-old Van Halen is not affecting his hands, which remain two objects in nature that need to be seen in performance at least once to be believed. Gone from his repertoire are the flying leg kicks and pogo moves, but the hands remain the same.

But the band simply is at its best when Roth is singing — well, dry-croaking and yelping — deeply into the influential band's discography. (They played all but two of their first album.) Not tequila salesman Sammy Hagar, not the guy from Extreme who took a forgettable turn at the microphone early this decade. Roth.

If anyone on Earth was made to prance, pose, preen and lead a rock band, it's the man with three names, who at 53 must spend his off days doing 22 hours of sit ups and the rest of the time shining his impossibly white teeth. The man apparently has made a deal, not with the Devil, but with Jack LaLanne. abeck@dispatch.com

RESULTS SHOW | AMERICAN IDOL

Dreadlocked singer sent home after gaffes

By Erin Carlson
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Simon Cowell once told Jason Castro that his face would save him from elimination. Not this time.

The dreadlocked heart-throb was voted off *American Idol* last night as the show narrowed the competition to three finalists: David Cook, David Archuleta and Syesha Mercado.

Castro, 20, of Rockwall, Texas, started off strong in the show's seventh season but lost momentum in recent weeks. He gave weaker performances and flubbed the lyrics to Bob Dylan's *Mr. Tambourine Man* on Tuesday's performance show.

Cowell predicted Castro's gaffe could spell the end of him. "Jason, I'd pack your

suitcase," Cowell told the singer.

Castro took his fate in stride and didn't wipe the ever-present grin off his face after learning the result.

Earlier in last night's show, he told host Ryan Seacrest: "I think it's just getting tough for me. I think my inexperience is coming in."

Castro said this week he tried to pick songs he knew — *Mr. Tambourine Man* and *Bob Marley's I Shot the Sheriff* — and yet he "screwed it up."

After Castro's cover of *I Shot the Sheriff*, a less-than-impressed Cowell said: "I don't know what you're thinking!"

Castro replied: "I'm thinking, Bob Marley!"

The program also featured performances by Maroon 5 and *Idol* alum Bo Bice.

ONLINE DISPATCH.COM

Your guide to breaking news, multimedia reports, blogs, special projects, entertainment and more on the Web.

The Hot Issue

Should all Ohio high-school students be required to take physical education classes? Comment at Dispatch.com.

How you voted

About 85 percent of yesterday's voters say they pay bills online rather than by mail.

What you said

"Online banking saves me time, money and gas. I love it!"

"I pay all my bills online, I receive all my bills via e-mail and I do all banking online."

"You have just as much chance of someone stealing the (mailed) check as someone hacking into your account."

"No financial information is on my computer, goes through my computer, and it never will."

SPORTS

Follow the Crew

With five wins in six games, the Columbus Crew is off to the best start in franchise history. Follow the team's progress in stories, statistics and Shawn Mitchell's Covering the Crew blog at Dispatch.com/crew.

PEOPLE

Celebrity Surveillance

Actress Lindsay Lohan has a new job on TV, and it's not on a reality show. Lea Delaveris has the details in her *Celebrity Surveillance* blog. Read it and add your comments at Dispatch.com/blogs.

DISPATCH KITCHEN

Cooking video

Food Editor Robin Davis shows how to prepare Mother's Day Strawberry-Orange Trifle in the new video at DispatchKitchen.com, where you also can sign up for her weekly newsletter.

GAMES

Online Sudoku

Try your hand at the new Daily Sudoku puzzle online, featuring game sounds, a timer and hints. You also can save your puzzle and finish it later. Find the game at Dispatch.com/sudoku.

VIDEO REWIND

Summer movies

Need to get up-to-date on this summer's big



TOM DODGE | DISPATCH

In court | Derris Lewis waves to family as he is escorted past his mother, April Lewis, on his way to jail. He is charged in the killing of his twin brother, Dennis. April Lewis tells about the night of the murder in an audio clip at Dispatch.com.

Hollywood blockbusters? Visit Dispatch.com/multimedia to see clips from upcoming releases and to hear what critics Frank Gabrenya and Nick Chordas have to say about them.

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