

# Winter events

## The major news

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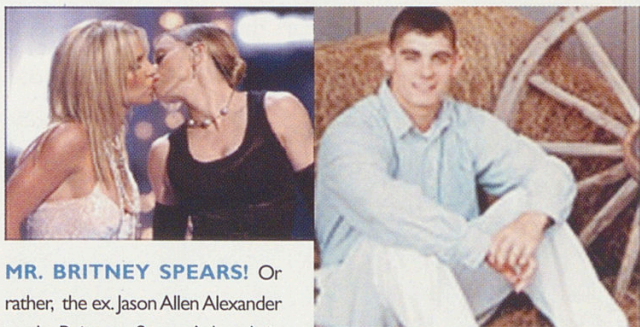


**FOR THE FIFTH STRAIGHT YEAR**, more people have been slain in Cincinnati than the year before. "It's safe to say that we have a crisis," said Councilman David Pepper, Chairman of City Council's Law & Public Safety Committee. "We're now in the company of cities that have reputations of being very dangerous." 90 percent or more of Cincinnati's homicides are tied to street-level drug dealing. All over the country there have been spikes in the homicide rates, attributed to increases in gangs, whose primary money-making activity is drug dealing. The disputes then lead to guns and violence, resulting in higher rates of murder.

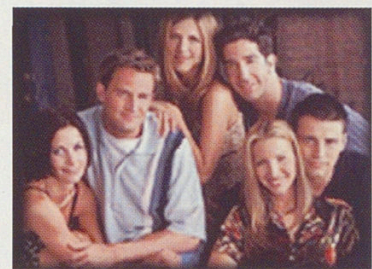
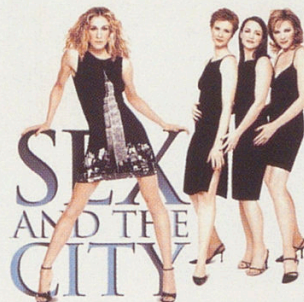
**WHO GETS 162 MILLION DOLLARS?** In the multi-state Megamillions jackpot payoff, there was an unexpected twist. Elicia Battle claimed she lost the ticket with the winning numbers, and asked an Ohio judge to stop lottery officials from paying Rebecca Jemison, the declared winner. In a shocking twist, Battle backs down, admits she lied, because she wanted "to win so badly" for her family.



Elicia Battle



**MR. BRITNEY SPEARS!** Or rather, the ex. Jason Allen Alexander took Britney Spears' hand in marriage at the famed Little White Wedding Chapel in Las Vegas, Nevada in December. Spears only lasted 55 hours before getting the marriage to her hometown friend annulled. Earlier, in September, Spears was part of MTV's Video Music Awards opening act, which included Madonna, Christina Aguilera, and herself kissing.



**WHO HAS NEVER SEEN A SINGLE EPISODE** of these classics of our generation? The HBO masterpiece, *Sex and the City*, and NBC's stunning success, *Friends*, each aired for six seasons. Both shows aired their season finales as the show's finale during the winter season.

