

LIMASSOL UPGRADE

Present pain for the future's considerable gain
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Living and TV supplements to last the week



Sunday Mail

February 20, 2011

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LIVING page 30

Complaints pile up in watchdog limbo

Ombudsman's office unable to act on any problem until head appointed

By Poly Pantelides

OVER 2,000 people with problems with the government have been left hanging after the failure to appoint a new Ombudsman means the office is unable to process a single complaint.

The House of Representatives this week rejected the president's nominee for the post, academic Andreas Karpdis, meaning the position has been left empty - and the department in limbo - since the end of last year.

One such couple lodged a complaint against the Interior Ministry on November 9 last year two months after their problem first arose, which was acknowledged on November 24 by Aristos Tsiartas, Head of the Cyprus Anti-Discrimination Body.

After repeated follow-up calls, the couple found out on February 7 that no one could do anything about their case because there was no Ombudsman.

"It is just ridiculous, we are on the verge of giving up hope our problem will ever be solved," they said.

What should have happened is that after the couple made their official complaint, the Ombudsman would chase up the relevant bodies who would then respond to the claim. The Ombudsman would decide if the case was indeed legitimate and suggest a course of action to all parties concerned.

"According to the legislation, all power goes to the Ombudsman, the only one who can authorise officials to act on his behalf. In the

TURN TO PAGE 2

TWO SIDES TO THE DEMONSTRATION



Turkish Cypriot demonstrators calling for an end to the presence of the military within the old city of Nicosia yesterday. A similar protest was held on this side of the Green Line
FULL STORY PAGE 3

In February, double points, double benefits



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Cyprus

Would offshore oil really be a blessing?

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World

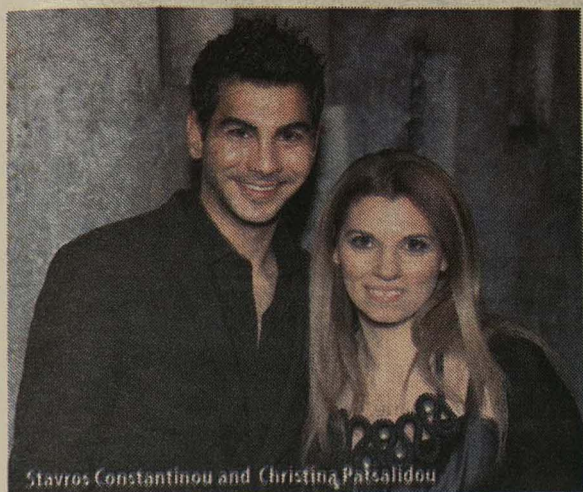
Next weekend's Oscar race too close to call

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Sport

Neville spot kick secures Everton's last 16 berth

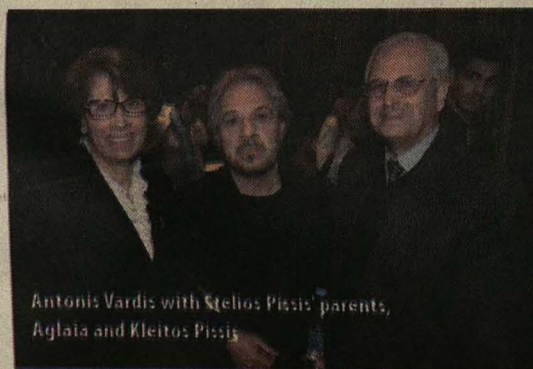
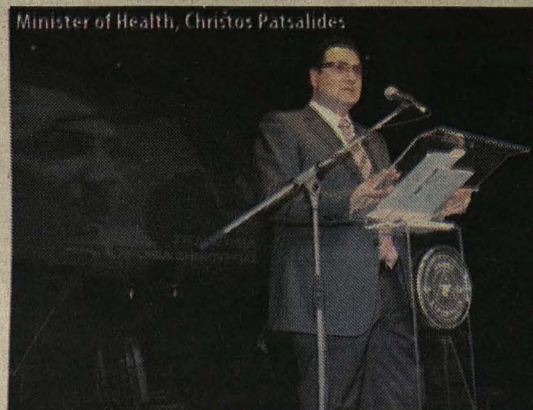
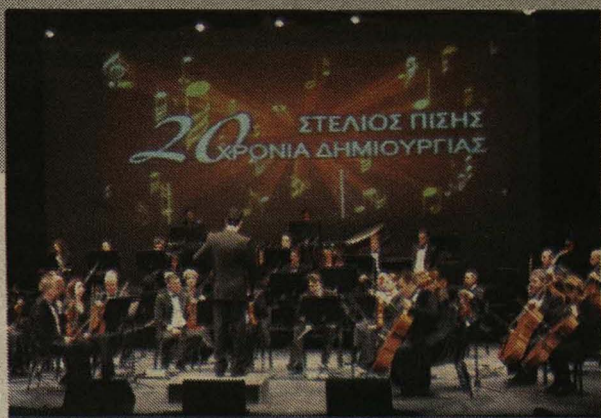
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Stavros Constantinou and Christina Patsalidou



Sofia and Sara Patsalides and Mariam Venizelou



Antonis Vardis with Stelios Pissis' parents, Aglaia and Kleitos Pissis

A magical music journey

The Musical Performance 'Stelios Pissis, 20 Years of Creation' delighted a packed audience at the Strovolos Municipal Theatre last week. The evening included the participation of Antonis Vardis, Alkinoos Ioannides and a surprise appearance by Antonis Remos, all performing songs of the composer, along with Koullis Theodorou, Stavros Constantinou, Dimitris Fanis, Christina Metaxa,

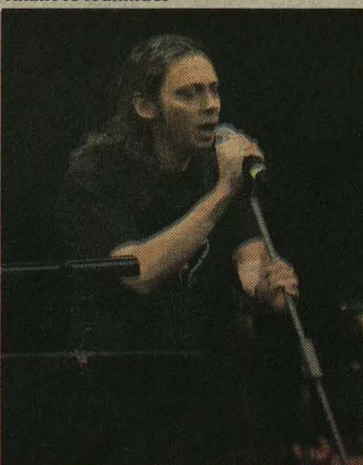
Maria-Elena Kyriakou, Mariam Venizelou, Sara and Sofia Patsalides and other singers, while the Cyprus Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of George Kountouris, performed Stelios Pissis orchestral work.

The musical performance was organised by the Association of Parents and Friends of children with Heart Diseases on the annual occasion of the Month of the Heart under the auspices of the Minister of Health, Christos Patsalides.

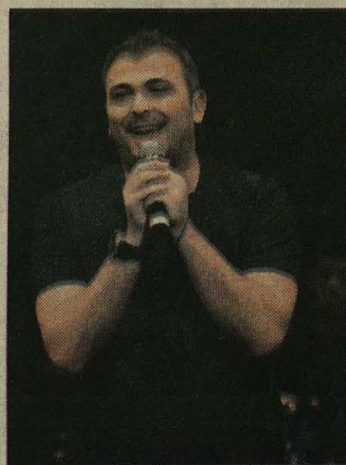
Christina Metaxa



Alkinoos Ioannides



Antonis Remos



Maria Elena Kyriakou



Demetris Sillouris, Niovi Sillouri and Andreas Angelides

