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MEDFORD

Former president of Georgia Mikheil Saakashvili to join Tufts University

By **Matt Rocheleau** | GLOBE STAFF DECEMBER 24, 2013

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One month after the end his decadelong service as president of the nation of Georgia, Mikheil Saakashvili announced that he will join Tufts University. Starting in January, Saakashvili will be a senior statesman at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, the university's graduate school of international affairs. "I am very honored," Saakashvili, a lawyer by training who turned 46 on Saturday, said in a statement. "I am back to my roots, as my educational background has everything to do with law and diplomacy. I will also get a chance to share the practical experience I acquired throughout the last several years." Tufts officials said the job will include giving "major addresses and lectures on European governance and other contemporary international and regional issues."

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 ARTICLE

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In this section: Metro

Road closed after 6-foot icicle drops, smashes car window

A street in Chelsea was closed Sunday afternoon when a 6-foot icicle fell three stories from a house, smashing a car's back window, fire officials said. The icicle fell about 3 p.m. near 9 Second Street, forcing authorities to shut down the road for several hours from Broadway to Cherry Street while the owner was called to remove more icicles dangling from the house, Chelsea Fire Captain Mike Thompson said. Authorities also briefly closed sidewalks near Pembroke and Beacon streets Sunday afternoon because of icicles.

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STORY 1 OF 15

Marathon security balances new rules, old ways

With two months to go before the Boston Marathon, officials are working at a feverish pace to lock in a comprehensive safety plan.

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STORY 2 OF 15

Conn. casinos employ hardball tactic to collect debts

Foxwoods and Mohegan Sun have placed dozens of liens on homes across Mass. since the early 2000s, according to a Globe review.

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STORY 3 OF 15

Pope softening tone, not stance, O'Malley says

Cardinal Sean O'Malley cautions that those expecting major changes in church teachings are likely to be

disappointed.

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STORY 4 OF 15

Walsh says Boston will hold gun buyback

Mayor Martin Walsh said the city will partner with the police department on a gun buyback program.

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STORY 5 OF 15

Child welfare agency shows signs of panic

In the wake of Jeremiah Oliver's disappearance, the DCF has moved to take many children from their homes. Is this really what we want?

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STORY 6 OF 15

With horror, hope, Ukrainians watch crisis from afar

Most of the emigres in Mass. are following the increasingly violent struggle against pro-Russian president Viktor Yanukovich.

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STORY 7 OF 15

State Senate president won't run for reelection

Therese Murray, the first woman to serve as the chamber's president, called her time in the Senate "the greatest honor."

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STORY 8 OF 15

Air Force jet lands in Mass. after losing pressurization

The massive C-5, traveling to Delaware, was forced to divert to the Westover Air Reserve Base in Chicopee.

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STORY 9 OF 15

Protesters highlight Chinatown's affordable housing crisis

Marchers also walked to a nearby luxury condominium building to express concern over their plight.

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STORY 10 OF 15

Malden man in drug trafficking ring sentenced

Brendan Joyner, 21, was one of 11 people arrested in 2013 for moving 400 pounds of marijuana from California to Massachusetts.

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STORY 11 OF 15

R.I. man dead after powered paragliding crash off Plum Island

The 49-year-old was powered paragliding off the northern tip of the island, Newburyport police said.

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STORY 12 OF 15

What's the deal with South Station's closed staircase?

Commuters are irked that they received little to no advance warning that their transfer between modes would require them to take the outdoor stairs from Feb. 1 to March 31.

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STORY 13 OF 15

Bird sightings

Bird sightings by the Massachusetts Audubon Society

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STORY 14 OF 15

Officials warn residents about displaced bears

The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department is warning residents about displaced, agitated bears due to the fickle winter. A lack of snow exposes dens and winter rain can make bears uncomfortable and restless, both factors that can cause them to awaken and abandon their dens, said Bear Project Leader Forrest Hammond. The department said it has received reports of bears at bird feeders, in residential areas and in the back country. A bear is reported to have killed a hunter's beagle in Elmore. Disrupted bears sometimes produce nests of spruce boughs in dense evergreen thickets so hare and rabbit hunters should be extra wary of these areas, the department said.

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STORY 15 OF 15

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