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## City & Region

### NEWS IN BRIEF

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No sign of arson in fire that killed 2

There is no evidence the house fire at 134 Eller Ave. that killed two 8-year-old cousins Friday was deliberately set, a Buffalo fire investigator said Saturday.

"We have nothing at this point to indicate that we have an incendiary fire," said Investigator James O'Neill, who noted that the investigation may take a few more days.

Despite attempts by family members and firefighters to reach the cousins, James Archie and Keywan Coleman died within five feet of each other.

Man charged with drug offenses

Police made a drug bust Saturday at a home on Indian Church Road in West Seneca.

An investigation by detectives from the West Seneca and Cheektowaga Drug Task Force led to the raid, police said.

Police charged James M. Hackett, 27, with possession and sale of cocaine, as well as possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

Detectives seized nearly two ounces of cocaine, \$1,800 cash and Hackett's car.

Woman found not guilty in bar brawl

Tameka N. Hicks, a Buffalo home health care worker, was found not guilty Thursday of felony assault and weapons charges in the slashing of a woman during a fight between two groups of women in a Genesee Street bar June 9.

Following over five hours of deliberations after a three-day trial before State Supreme Court Justice Ronald H. Tills, the jury acquitted Hicks, 23, of Parsons Street.

Paul G. Dell, Hicks' attorney, labeled the 21-year-old slashing victim "the girl who cried wolf once too often."

Under cross-examination by Dell, the woman admitted she has a history of fighting with police officers and throwing knives at several of her male relatives.

The nature of the brawl was never disclosed.

Special service planned ahead of Lent

The Right Rev. Keith Whitmore, bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Eau Claire, Wis., will preach at 4 p.m. today in St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 3107 Main St., at a special service called "A Breath Before Lent."

Sponsored by the Western New York Chapter of Affirming Anglican Catholicism, the evensong and benediction are open to everyone.

The Rev. Sarah Buxton-Smith, vicar of St. Andrew's, will officiate at evensong, and the Right Rev. J. Michael Garrison, bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Western New York, will celebrate the benediction.

Suspect sought in East Side shooting

A Bardol Street man was being evaluated in Erie County Medical Center on Saturday for a gunshot wound he received Friday, Buffalo police said.

Michael Norris Jr., no age available, told police he was shot by a Grider Street woman at about 1:30 p.m. Friday on Grider.

As the woman got out of her car on the passenger side, she fired one shot from a handgun, striking Norris in the right hand, he told police.