

# Greek festival to screen Iranian films

*Reza Mirkarimi's 'So Simple' will participate in the event's ID-08 section and Abdolreza Kahani's 'Over There' will be screened at the International Competition section.*

Kahani's 70-minute production recounts the story of a young man who has to return to the US but cannot leave the country due to marital problems.

A scene from Reza Mirkarimi's 'So

Simple'

So Simple, the story of the daily challenges set before a middle class Iranian woman, has received numerous international awards including the Golden George Award of the 30th Moscow International Film Festival.

Hengameh Qaziani won the Best Actress Prize of Bulgaria's 16th Love Is Folly International Film Festival for her role in Mirkarimi's family drama.

The 2008 Thessaloniki Film Festival will be held from Nov. 14 to 23.



*A scene from Abdolreza Kahani's 'Over There'*  
*Two feature-length Iranian films are set to be screened at the 49th edition of the International Thessaloniki Film Festival in Greece.*

## Teacher faces court over pupil assaults

A 43-year-old West Australian teacher has been accused of assaulting three 13-year-old pupils.

It will be alleged the man from Bunbury, south of Perth, hit one of the boys over the head with a ruler, tripped up another and pushed the third into lockers and poked him in the chest.

The charges were laid after investigations by the Department of Education and Training's standards and integrity directorate and the police child protection squad.

The teacher will appear in the Bunbury Magistrates Court on Thursday.

## Australian chef rescued from Antarctica

An Australian chef injured in Antarctica has been safely evacuated to Hobart.

Dwayne Rooke, 31, from Devonport, Tasmania fell off a quad bike while on a field trip to Trajer Ridge on October 20.

He sustained serious injuries, including multiple fractures.

A medical team flew nearly 2,500km from McMurdo station, Antarctica to Davis station aboard a specially-equipped Hercules to rescue Mr Rooke.

Mr Rooke is now in a stable condition receiving medical care in Hobart.

His rescue team consisted of an Australian doctor and nurse, three US army medical personnel and three US airforce medical personnel.

Dr Tony Press, director of the Australian Antarctic Division, said he was grateful for the support of the United States team.

"It's a tribute to our excellent relationship with the US Antarctic Program and a fantastic example of the collaboration that typifies Antarctic operations," Dr Press said.

Mr Rooke was due to return to Australia in mid-November after 12 months working at the Davis station as the resident chef.

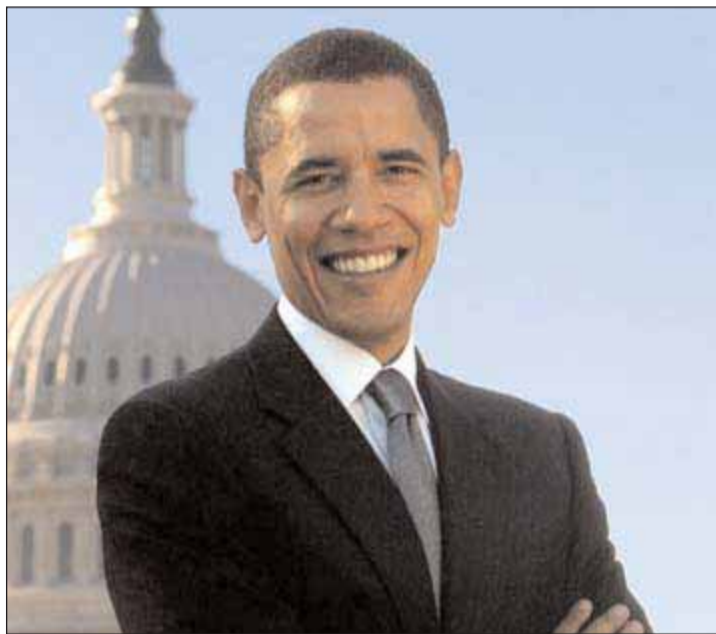
# FM on Obama election: Greeks looks forward to era of great changes, good cooperation with US

Foreign minister Dora Bakoyannis on Wednesday said that Greece looked forward to an era of great changes, good cooperation with the US, and more fruitful cooperation with the EU, in reply to press questions on Democratic candidate Barack Obama's victory in Tuesday's Presidential elections in the US.

Bakoyannis noted that the Greek government desired as soon as possible meetings with both with President-elect Obama and with his aides, in its capacity as the government but also that of current president of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

Responding to another question, Bakoyannis said that there would be a three-month transition period for the President-elect, stressing that there has been contact with his senior staff for some time now.

She further stressed that the foreign policy of every



country is determined by a large number of criteria, adding that there was continuity in the foreign ministries of every country.

Thus, Bakoyannis added, her foreign ministry would continue briefing foreign government's on Greece's views and national issues with the same consistency.

In Athens Hundreds of supporters of US Democrats

erupted in cheers in downtown Athens Wednesday to welcome Barack Obama as the first African-American elected president.

"He made it," said Alexandra Bougadis, 23, early Wednesday. The student joined hundreds of others at a hotel at an election event attended by the US ambassador that began at 9 pm the night before.

"There needs to be a

change and he is the one to do it," she said. "The whole world is backing him."

Bill Kyritsis, executive vice president of the Hellenic chapter of Democrats Abroad said a record breaking 20 per cent of the more than 107,000 Americans living in Greece turned out to vote.

"More than 75 per cent of all the voters in Greece are Obama supporters - it was the biggest voter turnout in years and the victory will hopefully bring about peace and economic stability across the world," said Kyritsis.

"Even though he is an elected US president, Obama will ultimately have a domino affect throughout the world."

Down the street at a another gathering, Republican supporters had packed up and gone home well before the Democrats had gotten out their dancing shoes.

## Museum dedicated to wine and its cultivation opened in northern Greece

*Wine maker Evangelos Gerovassiliou has opened up a museum dedicated to the history of wine production up near his Gerovassiliou winery in northern Greece. The museum, which just recently opened, is said to be one of the best collection of wine making materials in the world, spanning a period from the Middle Ages to the present. The museum is located on the Gerovassiliou Winery which began cultivating wine in 1981. The Gerovassiliou wines are today exported to the EU, Japan, the United States and Canada.*

*Greece has concentrated more heavily on marketing and promoting its wines, of which there are hundreds of great wines from dozens of wineries. In addition to the Kerasma promotions that have been held around the world, wine tastings featuring Greek wines occur in many cities.*

