



**Middletown High students educated on the pitfalls of alcohol and drugs. B2**



**A Chinese tr**  
Artist Shen Liping's ex  
at Middfest's Chinese cu  
TODAY IN **GO!**

# MIDDLETOWN JOURNAL

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DAY 213

Mayfield Elementary School kindergartner, Justin Dennis, laughs during a performance Wednesday of Russia's Shkidy Clown Mime Theater in Middletown. Staff photo by Gary Stelzer

## Russian mimes offer universal themes at Middfest

By Carrie Whitaker  
Staff Writer

The Shkidy Clown Mime Troupe from St. Petersburg, Russia, gave elementary students in Middletown a sneak peak of their Middfest performance this weekend.

But the children on Thursday did not see mimes in facepaint trapped inside an invisible box, nor will visitors to Middfest International this weekend.

Laughter from children and the adults filled the cafeteria as members of the troupe spun and kicked, some with clownlike movements and others moving like professional ballerinas.

"The kids would never see anything of this caliber without Middfest," said Rosa Parks Elementary School teacher Jane Blazer, who said her own chances of seeing something like it were slim, too.

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Fifth-grade teacher Ed Corbin is surprised when he became part of the performance Thursday of the Shkidy Clown Mime Troupe at Rosa Parks Elementary School. Staff photo

by Linda Weisenborn

### Middfest 2006

**When:** 5 to 10 p.m. Friday,  
10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday,  
noon to 8 p.m. Sunday.

**Where:** City Building, Donham  
Plaza.

**How much:** \$5 for all three days,  
Children younger than 12 free.

**Call:** (513) 425-7707

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