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Forecast, F8

The Providence Journal

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R.I., firm detail plan to make waves with renewable energy

The \$45-million plan would have an Australian firm deploy wave farms off Point Judith and Block Island.

BY TIMOTHY C. BARMANN
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

NARRAGANSETT — State officials and an Australian energy company announced more details yesterday about a plan to develop two wave-energy facilities off the coasts of Point Judith and Block Island that would convert

energy from the waves into electricity.

The facilities, to be built by Oceanlinx, based near Sydney, would cost up to \$45 million, to be paid for by state general revenue bonds, said Andrew C. Dzykewicz, chief energy adviser to Governor Carcieri. That money

would be repaid through the sale of electricity produced by the wave-energy machines, he said.

Yesterday, an executive from Oceanlinx, Governor Carcieri and other state officials held a news conference at the University of Rhode Island's Narragansett Bay Campus to announce a "memorandum of understanding" that had been reached be-

tween the state and the company. The non-binding agreement outlines the company's plans and the state's willingness to arrange financing for the project.

"This is one of the very best responses we've had to our technology," said Tom Denniss, founder and executive director of Oceanlinx. He credited elected officials in the state for being progressive thinkers who have taken the first step in making Rhode Island the epicenter of wave energy in the United States.

The details of both projects have yet to be worked out, including their precise costs, when they

would be built, their locations, and cost of the electricity they will produce.

According to the memorandum, Oceanlinx would develop two projects. The larger one would be a "wave farm" consisting of 10

SEE WAVES, B3

SEE WAVES, B3

Your turn: What do you think about building a wave energy generator off Block Island? To respond, go to projo.com

Huckabee candidacy gains strength

A new nationwide poll finds the former Republican governor from Arkansas pulling into second place, behind Rudy Giuliani.

BY JANET HOOK
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON — Mike Huckabee, the ascendant Republican presidential candidate in Iowa, is enjoying a surge of support across the country — and Rudy Giuliani seems to be paying the biggest price, a new Los Angeles Times/Bloomberg national poll has found.

Huckabee has pulled into second place, close behind Giuliani, in the national survey of Republican-leaning voters. The results

signal that Huckabee's candidacy is catching fire beyond Iowa — where several recent polls have shown him with a slight lead or in a virtual dead heat with former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, who long had led in the state where the nomination process officially starts.

In the Times/Bloomberg poll, Huckabee was preferred by 17 percent of likely GOP voters — up from 7 percent in a similar October survey.

Support for Giuliani, the former New York City mayor who once enjoyed a commanding lead in national polls, slid 9 percentage points over the past two months — to 23 percent.

The one place where Huckabee

SEE CAMPAIGN, A7

ACLU blasts Carcieri record on civil rights

The group issues a report that accuses the governor of nativist comments and a "blame-the-victim" mentality.

BY STEVE PEOPLES
JOURNAL STATE HOUSE BUREAU

PROVIDENCE — Governor Carcieri has consistently attacked the civil rights of the state's most vulnerable residents during the first year of his second term, according to a report released yesterday by the Rhode Island Affiliate, American Civil Liberties Union, which likens the term-limited governor's recent comments to the "nativist" phi-

losophies of the 18th century. The report, according to Steven Brown, ACLU executive director, was prompted by a string of actions the group deemed a broad attack on underprivileged groups such as immigrants, the poor, blacks and Latinos, and gays.

"Whether it is congratulating people who demand an end to language interpreters in the courtroom, chastising women for bettering their lives as a result of no-fault divorce laws, demonizing the poor in general and single mothers in particular for their financial condition, or denouncing civil unions as 'disastrous for fu-

SEE ACLU, B3

An 'extraordinary' bequest to a unique institution

George Sage, founder of Bonanza Bus Lines, leaves \$4 million to St. Andrew's School in Barrington.

BY GINA MACRIS
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

BARRINGTON — A year to the day after the death of philanthropist and entrepreneur George Sage, St. Andrew's School announced yesterday that its longtime friend and benefactor bequeathed \$4 million to the school endowment, the largest

single gift it has ever received.

The bequest boosts the endowment of the small, independent boarding and day school to more than \$21 million, an increase of more than 23 percent.

Sage, an icon in the transportation industry who parlayed a

SEE GIFT, B6

Intelligence issue



AFP / GETTY IMAGES

In February 2006, the media accompanied President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, center, during a visit to the Natanz nuclear facility. Such photos, along with other intelligence, led U.S. spy agencies to change their assessment of Iran's intentions.

Sharp shift over Iran raises serious questions

BY MARK MAZZETTI
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — How could U.S. intelligence agencies have overstated Iran's intentions in 2005 so soon after being reprimanded for making similar errors involving Iraq?

The spy agencies had swallowed hard and pledged to do better after a presidential commission in March 2005 issued a blistering accounting of the intelligence failures leading up to the Iraq war.

But a National Intelligence Estimate on Iran that was issued two months later said that Iran's leaders were working tirelessly to acquire a nuclear weapon — a finding that, like the prewar intelligence on Iraq, has now been acknowledged to have been wrong in its chief conclusion.

Current and former intelligence officials insist that much of the 2005 Iran report still holds up to scrutiny, principally in its judgments about how long it would take Iran to build the bomb.

Speaking at a White House news conference yesterday, President Bush said that Iran was still a danger despite the new assessment.

Mr. Bush said he saw the revised report as "a warning signal" of a continuing threat from Iran, and he insisted that it vindicated his administration's "carrots-and-sticks" approach to the Iranian nuclear question because Iran had halted its weapons program.

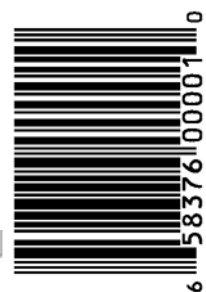
"I still feel strongly that Iran's a danger," Mr. Bush said, in his first

SEE INTELLIGENCE, A9



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / KRIS CRAIG

Valerie Plame, whose position as a CIA operative was leaked after her husband challenged the Bush administration over Iraq's nuclear program, appears at Brown University last night. Story, B1



INSIDE TODAY

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MAN SENTENCED FOR BILKING RISD

A former fire safety official at the Rhode Island School of Design is sentenced to more than two years in prison for defrauding the East Side college out of nearly \$1 million. B1

WORRIES UNDER THE TREE

Tests by advocacy groups on more than 1,200 children's products, most of them still on store shelves, find that 35 percent contain lead — many with levels far above the federal recall standard used for lead paint. A2



RAMS ROMP OVER PC

Browed a capacity crowd at the Ryan Center, Will Daniels leads the URI Rams to a 77-60 thrashing of the PC Friars. Complete coverage in Sports, C1; find more game photos online at projo.com/sports