

BETTER
Partly sunny,
high in mid-30s.
Forecast, **F8**

The Providence Journal

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Players and management ignored a flood of drugs in baseball, Mitchell Report finds

Baseball's hall of shame

Roger Clemens turned out to be Exhibit A in the long-awaited Mitchell Report on the use of steroids and other performance-enhancing drugs in baseball, a report that cast an ugly shadow on some of the sport's biggest names.

The report culminated a 20-month investigation by former Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell, hired by baseball commissioner Bud Selig to examine the problem. A complete report can be found in **projoSports**, beginning on Page D1.

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Your turn: Would you vote to elect Roger Clemens to the Hall of Fame? To respond, go to **projosports.com/redsox**



ROGER CLEMENS: His former trainer details extensive steroids use.



MO VAUGHN: Allegedly bought human-growth hormone.



ANDY PETTITTE: Allegedly used HGH for an elbow injury.



MIGUEL TEJADA: Allegedly received drugs from a teammate.



ERIC GAGNE: Allegedly had HGH sent to him at Dodger Stadium.



GARY SHEFFIELD: Linked to steroid use in BALCO investigation.

A CRIPPLING STORM



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / GRETCHEN ERTL

The scene around 8:15 p.m. on the Route 95 north on-ramp leaving Providence. A FedEx truck was unable to make it up the ramp, and also unable to back up due to another stuck truck. Across the state yesterday, disabled vehicles on the roads compounded the storm's impact.

It wasn't the amount of snow, but the rate at which it fell that brought the state to a near standstill. In Providence, the police had to help more than 50 schoolchildren get off stranded buses.

BY LYNN ARDITI and AMANDA MILKOVITS
JOURNAL STAFF WRITERS

Fast-falling snow crippled Rhode Island yesterday, transforming downtown Providence into a parking lot — trapping commuters and school buses filled with children for hours into the night — and creating such gridlock that more than 400 state snowplows could not manage to clear the roads.

Traffic jammed every major artery and most smaller roads leading in and out of Providence, encircling East Providence, Cranston, Warwick, Pawtucket and Seekonk. Many people reported commutes of up to six hours in the nation's smallest state.

The storm that caused all the trouble hardly qualified as a record-breaker. As of 7:30 p.m., the snow in downtown Providence

amounted to 6.2 inches, according to the National Weather Service. Compare that with the state's biggest snow storm, in February of 1978, which dumped 28 inches downtown.

Sixty Providence public school buses filled with children still had not completed their routes by 8 p.m. yesterday. Providence police in their SUVs were fanning out through the Olneyville and Valley neighborhoods to rescue dozens of children still trapped on school buses. One bus reportedly had slid into a street pole and gotten

SEE **SNOW, A11**

Health insurer won't be charged

Under the agreement, Blue Cross takes responsibility for the actions of its former executives in corrupting politicians, and agrees to pay \$20 million toward affordable health care.

BY MIKE STANTON
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island avoided criminal corruption charges yesterday by taking responsibility for the actions of its former executives in corrupting politicians, and agreeing to pay \$20 million to promote affordable health care in Rhode Island.

U.S. Attorney Robert Clark Corrente announced the unusual agreement, the culmination of a four-year investigation into Blue Cross' financial ties to three once-powerful lawmakers — John A. Celona, Gerard M. Martineau and William V. Irons.

The agreement clarifies Blue Cross' sudden move this week to dismiss four longtime executives, and says that only Rhode Island's dominant health insurer is spared criminal charges — not any individuals. The sprawling State

SEE **BLUE CROSS, A4**

EU warns it may spurn climate talks

European Union officials say they'll boycott next month's summit called by President Bush if the United States won't agree to firm targets for reducing emissions.

BY ALAN ZAREMBO and THOMAS H. MAUGH II
LOS ANGELES TIMES

NUSA DUA, Indonesia — The European Union threatened yesterday to boycott President Bush's climate summit in Hawaii next month if the United States doesn't allow specific targets for carbon-emission reduction to be included in a draft text being prepared at a summit here this week.

The draft text is a road map for negotiations to replace the 1997 Kyoto Protocol, which expires in 2012. It calls for industrialized countries to reduce emissions 25 percent to 40 percent below

SEE **CLIMATE, A10**

Woman seeks same-sex divorce in a different R.I. court

BY EDWARD FITZPATRICK
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

PROVIDENCE — Less than a week after the Rhode Island Supreme Court said a same-sex couple could not get divorced in Family Court, one of the Providence women involved in the groundbreaking case filed for divorce yesterday in Superior Court, the main state trial court.

Margaret R. Chambers and Cassandra B. Ormiston married in Fall

River in May 2004 shortly after Massachusetts became the first state to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples. And last year, the couple filed for divorce in Rhode Island Family Court.

But in a 3-to-2 decision issued last Friday, the Supreme Court ruled that Family Court lacked jurisdiction to grant the divorce because under the 1961 law that created Family Court, the word "marriage" means the union

of a man and a woman.

Chambers' lawyer, Louis M. Pulner, filed a complaint for divorce in Superior Court shortly after noon yesterday.

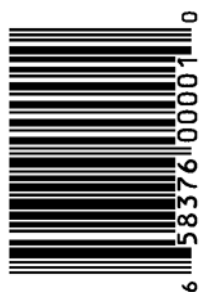
"The Supreme Court is telling us Family Court lacks jurisdiction, but they did not say Superior Court lacks jurisdiction," Pulner said in an interview. "They did not say this couple could not get divorced in Rhode Island. They just said they could not get

divorced in Family Court because of their interpretation of statutory language from 1961."

Superior Court has "extraordinary equitable jurisdiction" that is broader than Family Court's jurisdiction, and Superior Court handled divorces before Family Court was created in 1961, Pulner said.

Although Family Court was given

SEE **DIVORCE, A4**



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NOTE TO READERS

Due to complications arising from last night's storm, today's Business section follows the last page of Sports, in the D Section.



FRANK BEAZLEY TURNS 79

The artist and prominent advocate for the disabled celebrates his birthday at the place that's been his home since 1967, the Zambarano unit of Eleanor Slater Hospital in Burrillville. "I don't think when you're young you realize how fast you can get to 79," he says. **B1**

HOSPITAL MERGER PREVIEW

Leaders of Rhode Island's two hospital groups, Lifespan and Care New England, dampen expectations that their pending merger could make health insurance less expensive. **F1**