

**DAMPER**  
Clouding up,  
with rain increasing  
into the night.  
Forecast, F8

# The Providence Journal

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## Homecoming: R.I. family claims instant dream house

"It's nice to see at least deserving people being rewarded."

JEAN McANAUUGH, of Coventry

BY TOM MOONEY  
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

WARWICK — The 1,500 people who waited hours to watch the Silva family claim their new *Extreme Makeover* home yesterday learned an interesting lesson about reality television.

It requires at least two takes to capture spontaneity.

And a fair share of choreography.

When the moment finally arrived and the well-rehearsed crowd chanted the television show's mantra — "Move that bust!" — the motorized curtain moved off and four television cameras rolled, capturing the stunned emotion as Kenny and Doreen Silva and their five children gazed for the first time at their new two-story contemporary home

with its sweeping roof line evocative of a wave.

But when they ran to go inside, they couldn't get beyond the front porch; the cameras weren't yet in place inside.

So, as the camera operators raced around the house, the somewhat befuddled-looking family walked back toward the curb amid the laughter of the crowd gathered on Yucatan Drive. There they chatted with the show's star, Ty Pennington, as a polite stillness fell over the set.

A few minutes passed. Finally Pennington, who resembles a dancing length of rope in denim chic, flared his arms once more. The cheers again erupted and the family was off, headed for the door.

SEE HOUSE, A4



With a crowd of about 1,500 looking on, a jubilant Kenny Silva waves in excitement yesterday as he walks up to his new Warwick house, which was built in one week by the ABC-TV show *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*. The Silva family had just returned from a trip to Walt Disney World.

THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / STEVE SZYDLOWSKI

## Supreme Court to hear R.I. case

The justices have taken on a case that tests the authority of the state and the sovereignty of the Narragansett Indians.

BY JOHN E. MULLIGAN  
JOURNAL WASHINGTON BUREAU

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Supreme Court agreed yesterday to decide whether the Narragansett Indians should be permitted to shield some of their land from state and local laws.

The case concerns a bid to bring under federal and tribal authority a 31-acre parcel that the tribe bought in 1991 for development. The parcel is near the 1,800 acres in Charlestown that Congress granted to the Narragansetts in a landmark land-claims settlement law 30 years ago.

But the case could have big implications for Indian land disputes across the country. Sixteen states from New England to Alaska joined Rhode Island in appealing a decision by the federal appellate

SEE SUPREME, A4

## Counseling offered to Oster jury

Nearly all of the 16 jurors and alternates accept the offer in the wake of the apparent suicide by the convicted former Lincoln town administrator.

BY JOHN HILL  
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

PROVIDENCE — As Jonathan F. Oster's family and friends prepared yesterday for his funeral, court officials sought to provide comfort to another group affected by the former Lincoln town administrator's apparent suicide: the jurors who found him guilty of bribery and conspiracy the afternoon before his death.

Superior Court Presiding Justice Joseph F. Rodgers Jr. said he could not recall a case where a defendant killed himself so soon af-

SEE JURY, A4

## CAMPAIGN 2008

# Huckabee takes center stage



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / BOB THAYER

Former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee plays a few chords for the students at the Community Preparatory School in Providence yesterday. Huckabee emphasized the importance of music and art in the educational system. Music teacher Janet Lee is at left.

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Gallery: For more photos of Huckabee's visit yesterday to a Providence school and his address to supporters at a Warwick campaign stop, go to [projo.com](http://projo.com)

## Charges fly after photo of Obama in tribal garb appears on Internet

BY JIM KUHNHENN  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — A photograph circulating on the Internet of Democratic Sen. Barack Obama dressed in traditional local garments during a visit to Kenya in 2006 is causing a dustup in the presidential campaign over what constitutes a smear.



OBAMA

The Associated Press photograph portrays Obama wearing a white turban and a wraparound white robe presented to him by elders in Wajir, in northeastern Kenya. Obama's estranged late father was Kenyan, and Obama visited the country in 2006, attracting thousands of well-wishers.

The gossip and news Web site The Drudge Report posted the photograph yesterday and said it was being

SEE OBAMA, A5

## Clintons don't have exit strategies

The candidate and the former president have a history of comebacks from seemingly disastrous situations.

BY NANCY BENAC  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — History shows the folly of counting out a Clinton.

If Hillary Rodham Clinton's campaign is looking more and more like the Titanic, she may yet prove to be the unsinkable Molly Brown. Ask Mike McCurry about the Clintons' resilience. McCurry worked for Bob Kerrey, one of Bill Clinton's chief rivals in the 1992 presidential campaign. He remembers the day details broke about Clinton's efforts to avoid the Vietnam draft, just weeks after allegations had surfaced of an affair with Gennifer Flowers.

"He's toast," McCurry told coworkers on the Kerrey campaign. "He's never going to survive this." McCurry went on to become Clinton's chief White House spokesman.

Hillary Clinton was a huge factor in her husband's 1992 victory — and in any number of other recoveries during his agony-and-ecstasy political career. Now, she's the one attempting to rebound from 11 straight primary and caucus losses to Barack Obama.

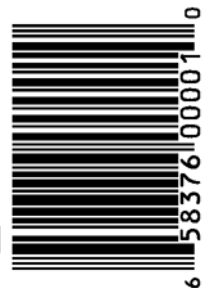
Obama is well aware of the Clintons' super-sized survival instincts.

SEE CLINTONS, A5



AP / ELISE AMENDOLA

Of the Clintons, a colleague says, "They take a very long view of things, and they expect to win."



## INSIDE TODAY

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6 SECTIONS			
Ask Amy	F6	Lotteries	C2
Business	E1	Obituaries	D4
Classified	E6	People	F1
Comics	F7	Poker	F6
Crossword	F6	Rhode Island	B1
Editorial	B4	Sports	C1
Legal ads	E5	Television	F5
Lifebeat	F1	What's Happening	F6
Local News	D1		

## MONEY TO GROW

The state Economic Development Corporation joins forces with a Massachusetts investment firm that state officials hope will pour tens of millions of dollars into local start-ups and growing businesses that have struggled to secure bank loans or tempt venture capitalists. **E1**



## SOX TRY COLON

Boston comes to terms on a minor-league contract with 2005 Cy Young Award winner Bartolo Colon, and the 34-year-old is expected to arrive in camp today. The biggest question: Can he get past his shoulder troubles? **C1**

## EVOLUTION OF FAITH

More than a quarter of adult Americans have left the faith of their childhood to join another religion or no religion, according to a new survey of religious affiliation. Among the findings: People are gravitating to more personal, less institutional ways of worship. **A3**

## RIPTA RUNNING LEAN

The state's transit authority says it will have to cut services and raise fares this year to cover a shortfall. **B1**