

**EASY TO TAKE**  
Cool and dry today, with  
highs in the mid 40s;  
increasing clouds tonight.  
**Forecast, E10**

# The Providence Journal

**TUESDAY**  
MARCH 25, 2008

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## Pushed third of eight parts to the limit

STORY BY RICHARD SALIT  
PHOTOGRAPHS BY FRIEDA SQUIRES  
THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL



It's Wake-Up Wednesday, and Marine Gunnery Sgt. Sandra Center walks by as the indoctrination candidates in Class 05-08 do pushups.

Officer Candidate School (OCS) recently returned to Naval Station Newport. Those who complete the rigorous 12-week program become commissioned officers in the U.S. Navy. But not all are successful. Reporter Richard Salit and photographer Frieda Squires followed five candidates—Adam Cole, Sarah Engemann, Matthew Gottschalk, Nicole Lobecker and Jason Moehlmann—who joined Class 05-08 last fall.

### 'Pushups now! ... Get your backs straight now! ... Faster now!'

The sound of military boots on floor tiles breaks the silence in the dimly lit corridor. Eight Marines in camouflage uniforms make their way down the hall and past the small night lights built into the walls. They stop outside a set of closed double doors. On the other side are the students' dormitory-style rooms. Reveille is at 4:30 a.m. Moments away. It's "Wake-Up Wednesday," the first time the newest class at OCS will meet the people who will, in essence, be their puppeteers for the next 12 weeks, the ones who can make or break their dreams of becoming naval officers,

the ones who can inflict pain and anguish like they've never known. They're the Marine drill instructors. The DIs, as they're known, lean against the walls and let Marine Gunnery Sgt. Sandra Center stand right in front of the double doors. She is in charge of Class 05-08. Everyone stands still while Center checks her watch. She puts her arm down. She waits. She checks it again. The third time, someone whispers, "Time for raging bull." Center bursts through the doors, slamming them open.

SEE **ORDERS, A6**

## Decision on Iraq may be delayed

President Bush's top advisers in Iraq recommend that troop withdrawals beyond those scheduled to occur by July be put off.

BY STEVEN LEE MYERS and THOM SHANKER  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — Troop levels in Iraq would remain at pre-surge levels for the rest of the year, under plans presented to President Bush yesterday by the senior American commander and the top American diplomat in Iraq, senior administration and military officials said. Mr. Bush announced no final decision on future troop levels after the video briefing by the commander, Gen. David H. Petraeus, and the diplomat, Ambassador Ryan C. Crocker. The briefing took place on the day when the 4,000th American military death of the war was reported and just after the invasion's fifth anniversary. But it now appears likely that any decision on major reductions in American troops from Iraq will be left to the next president. That ensures that

SEE **IRAQ, A9**

## Providence to look at sale of water system

Advocates say such a move would allow the city to pay off its underfunded pension obligation.

BY DANIEL BARBARISI  
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

PROVIDENCE — The city is considering selling the Providence Water Supply Board and the network of reservoirs and treatment plants it controls in order to pay down the huge debt in the city's pension system. City Council members hope that they can rake in a one-time payment of \$400 million to \$600 million for the water system, which includes the Scituate Reservoir. They plan to form a special committee to obtain an appraisal of the system, and hope that they can line up a private buyer by the end of the fiscal year in June. The Providence system serves about two-thirds of the state's residents, has more than 900 miles of pipes, and operates 6 reservoirs covering 4,600 acres. It is a major asset on paper, but state law prevents Providence from making a profit on the sale of the water itself. Providence can only make enough to cover costs, prompting the city to see how much it will

SEE **WATER, A8**

## Global warming changes climate for coastal building

Among the proposed rule changes are increasing the first-floor elevations of new buildings along the coast.

BY PETER B. LORD  
JOURNAL ENVIRONMENT WRITER

To some, climate change and the resulting sea-level rise just don't seem real. But to those planning to build along Rhode Island's coastline, environmental changes are prompting a very real list of new rules and policies designed to protect buildings from rising seas and intensifying storms.

A team of planners and scientists working on a new coastal-management plan for the Providence metropolitan area is proposing regulations that will re-

quire many buildings to be built on pilings and raised higher, depending on the expected life of the building.

The regulations will be based on an anticipated sea-level rise of 3 to 5 feet during the next 90 years, but they would be amended if new science shows the seas are rising higher and faster.

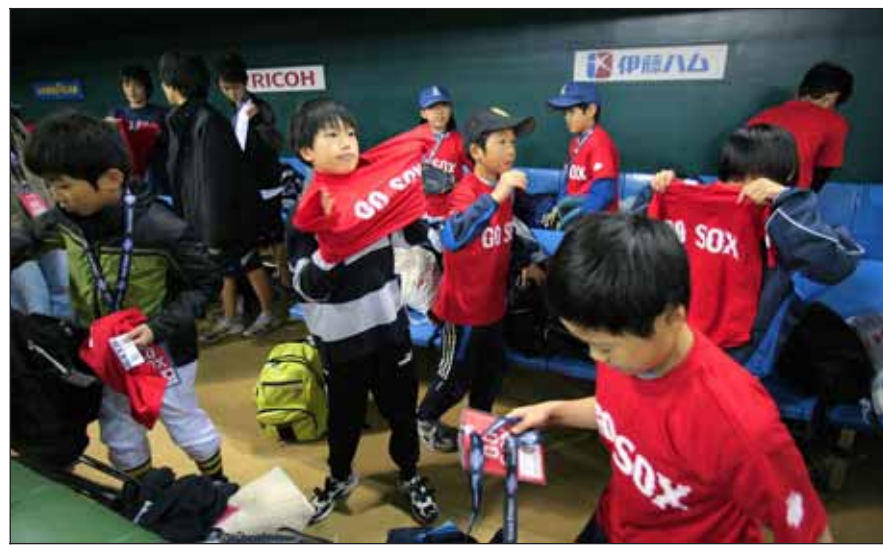
"We already have a vast investment in infrastructure that's in

SEE **COASTAL, B2**

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Extra: What do you think of the proposed regulations? To respond and to read them, go to [projo.com](http://projo.com)

## For Sox fans, a sunrise opener



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / BOB BREIDENBACH

The dugout at the Tokyo Dome yesterday is filled with young fans attending a baseball clinic put on by the Red Sox. This morning at 6:05 EDT, the Sox open the 2008 season in Japan against the Oakland A's. **D1** You can follow this morning's game at [projosports.com/redsox](http://projosports.com/redsox)

## Hazardous-waste site may house solar energy farm

BY TIMOTHY C. BARMANN  
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

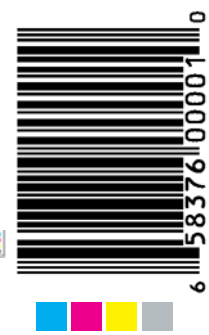
A New York-based private developer plans to announce today it will build a \$45-million solar energy farm on a former hazardous-waste dump in western Coventry.

Allco Renewable Energy said it will sign a letter of intent with the Town of Coventry today to build the project on the former Picillo pig farm, a 100-acre tract of town-owned land. An 8-acre portion of the farm was declared a federal Superfund site in the 1980s.

The developer said it will be the largest solar energy farm east of the Mississippi River.

The agreement with the town gives Allco a 50-year lease to use the site. Allco has agreed to pay the town \$200,000 a year or 4 percent of the elec-

SEE **SOLAR, A8**



### INSIDE TODAY

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### UNIONS BETTING ON CASINOS

The decline in manufacturing jobs is leading labor to increasingly organize service-industry workers, such as the United Auto Workers' efforts to represent dealers at Foxwoods. **E1**

### STRANGER THAN FICTION

The writers' strike is over and most scripted dramas and comedies have returned to TV, but "reality" shows continue to dominate the ratings. **F1**

### DETROIT MAYOR CHARGED

Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick and a former aide are charged with perjury and related crimes for allegedly lying under oath about their sexual relationship. **A2**



### SIXERS SINK CELTICS

Philadelphia's Andre Iguodala scored 28 points, including 10 in a row during a 19-0 fourth-quarter run, to beat the Celtics, 95-90. Boston's Paul Pierce, left, scored 12 in the losing effort. **C1**