

# Ramp realignments

As of Wednesday, motorists heading for Providence on Route 95 from the south will face a new set of challenges.

**BY BRUCE LANDIS**  
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

**G**etting into the city from the south is about to change. The state Department of Transportation says that on Wednesday morning it will permanently close Exit 20 on Route 95 north, which has for decades carried traffic from the south to Route 195 east, toward Cape Cod. For through-traffic and traffic headed for the city's East Side, there is already an alternate: the new section of Route 195, reached from the new Exit 19 that the DOT opened in November. That takes traffic across the new Providence River Bridge, the steel arch bridge set in place last summer.

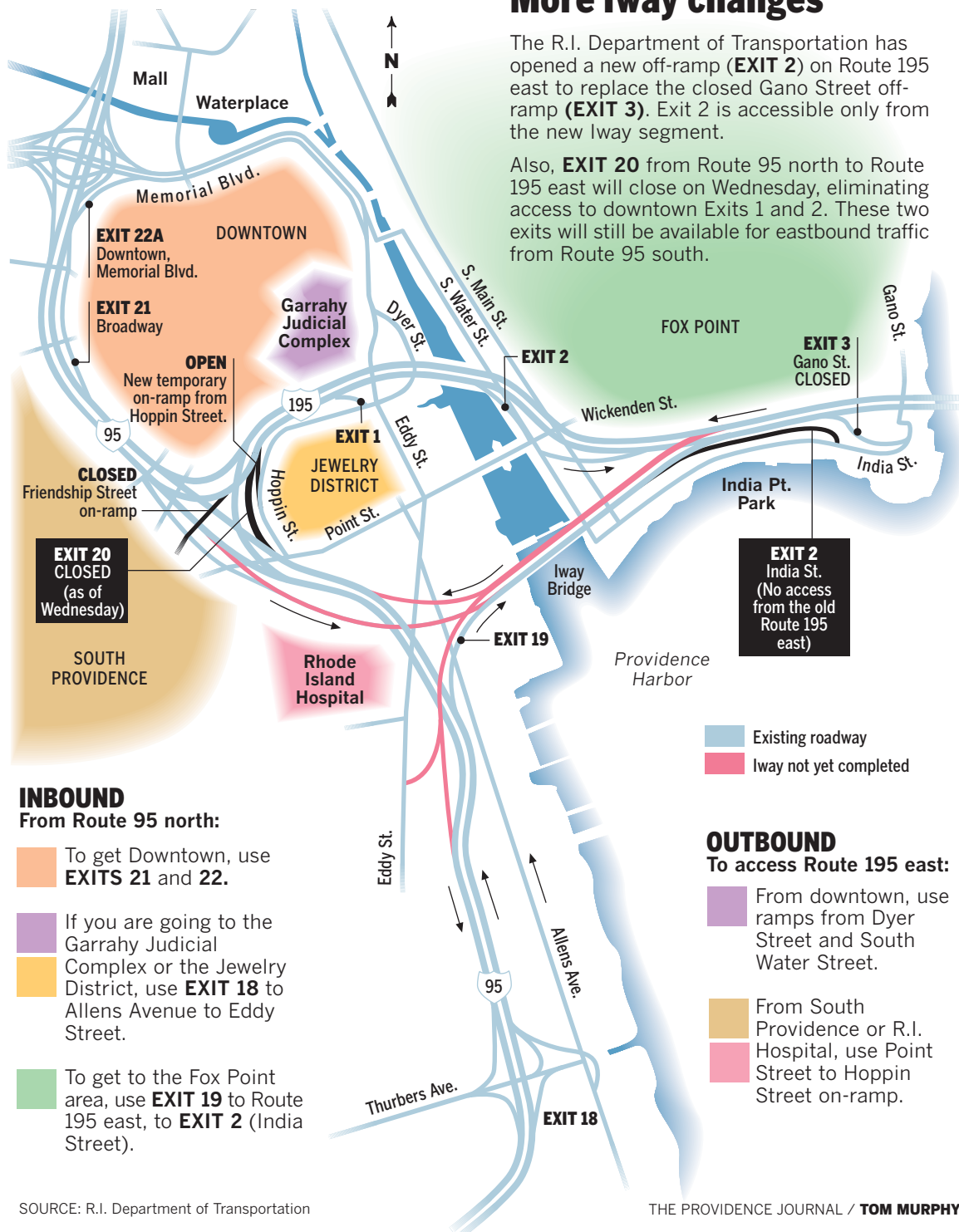
But the closing of Exit 20 will cut off access to two exits near downtown, forcing drivers who have been able to get much closer to their destinations before leaving the highway to detour onto city streets.

The closure is the latest of a series of ramp openings and closings that are rearranging the way that much of the city's traffic gets on and off its highways.

As part of the \$610-million Iway project, the DOT is shuffling traffic around to move the interchange where Route 195 meets Route 95 — just south of downtown — about half-mile south. Roughly a mile of Route 195 is being moved along with it. The new arch bridge over the Providence River is the project's most prominent landmark.

On Wednesday, before the morning commute, DOT crews will permanently close Exit 20 off Route 95 north, affecting traffic to and from downtown, the Jewelry District, large sections of the East Side including Brown University and the Rhode Island School of Design, the area including Rhode Island Hospital and areas west of downtown.

SEE **ROADWORK, A5**



## More Iway changes

The R.I. Department of Transportation has opened a new off-ramp (**EXIT 2**) on Route 195 east to replace the closed Gano Street off-ramp (**EXIT 3**). Exit 2 is accessible only from the new Iway segment.

Also, **EXIT 20** from Route 95 north to Route 195 east will close on Wednesday, eliminating access to downtown Exits 1 and 2. These two exits will still be available for eastbound traffic from Route 95 south.

## CAMPAIGN 2008

# Puerto Rico goes to Clinton

But her latest victory does little to quiet calls that she end her contest with Sen. Barack Obama.

**BY ADAM NAGOURNEY**  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton won another overwhelming victory over Sen. Barack Obama yesterday — this time in Puerto Rico — even as many Democrats, including some of her supporters, suggested it would be best if she dropped her threat to battle on past the end of the primary voting tomorrow.

"There's nobody taking Hillary's side but Hillary people," said Donald Fowler of South Carolina, a former national party chairman and one of Clinton's most prominent supporters, referring to her suggestions that she might seek to challenge the way the party resolved the fight this weekend over seating the Michigan and Florida delegations. "It's too bad: She deserves better than this."

Heading toward something less than a triumphant moment of victory as the vot-

SEE **CAMPAIGN, A3**

# How earlier case affected latest verdict

An appeals court ruling illustrates the difficulty in proving corruption involving Rhode Island's "citizen legislature."

**BY MIKE STANTON**  
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

Once upon a time, two executives from a familiar Rhode Island company hired a state senator named John Celona as a consultant.

They claimed they were paying Celona to promote their company on his cable-access television show, and among senior citizens, with whom the senator was very popular.

But then the FBI and federal prosecutors came along, and charged the executives with giving Celona a sham job as a bribe for political influence.

The two executives wound up on trial for a crime called "honest services" mail fraud — namely, using the federal mails to deprive Rhode Islanders of the honest services of one of their elected officials.

SEE **VERDICT, A4**



Exit 20 from northbound Route 95 leading to Route 195 will be closed Wednesday. The closure will also make Route 195 exits 1 and 2 on Route 195 into Providence inaccessible.



Starting Wednesday, motorists on Route 95 northbound seeking to travel eastbound will be required to take exit 19, which will take them over the new Providence River Bridge.

# John Paul seen advancing on the road to sainthood

**BY MICHELLE BOORSTEIN**  
THE WASHINGTON POST

ROME — Evidence overflows from hundreds of boxes stacked to the ceiling in room after room at the Catholic Diocese of Rome — photos, drawings, letters and other items that Church officials are scouring for the answer to a question: Is Pope John Paul II a saint?

The task here at the office of the Postulator of the Cause for Beatification and Canonization is

to judge souls, a complex job even when the soul in question doesn't belong to a spiritual superhero such as John Paul, who died in 2005 as one of the most popular pontiffs in history.

Located down a towering marble hallway, through a locked glass door, the office is tasked with determining whether John Paul meets the Roman Catholic Church's two broad standards of

SEE **JOHN PAUL, A8**

# HOPING FOOD-FIGHT WILL MAKE HER A TV STAR

Jennifer Cochrane appeared last night on the season-opener of *The Next Food Network Star*.



Jennifer Cochrane, of Geppetto's Pizzeria on Federal Hill, is one of 10 contestants on *The Next Food Network Star*.

**BY PHILIP MARCELO**  
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

PROVIDENCE — Jennifer Cochrane learned some valuable lessons one recent day in January.

Given half an hour to cook, she learned that the carrots, prepared in a honey and dill glaze, will come out just fine, but the creamy potatoes au gratin will be raw. The meatloaf will have to be shaped into hamburger-sized patties, briefly baked, then seared on the grill. They will not come out great, but it will

be edible.

Unfortunately these lessons were learned on national television before a panel of some of the most famous chefs in America.

"I can't watch this," said Cochrane, cringing as the footage from that day played out on a flat-screen television.

Last night, a group of well-wishers gathered at Geppetto's Pizzeria on Federal Hill, where Cochrane, 32, is a

SEE **CHEF, A4**



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## REAL-LIFE MOVIE DISASTER

More than 100 firefighters battle a blaze on the back lot of Universal Studios in Los Angeles that destroys numerous movie sets as well as a video vault containing more than 40,000 videos and reels. **A2**

## USHERING IN A NEW STAGE

In his new album, Usher's music moves on from the party scene to the family life, and his new sense of responsibility as a husband and father. **D1**

## MANNY MOVES BEYOND 500



Manny Ramirez doesn't waste any time surpassing his 500-home-run mark, hitting his 501st, left, and driving in three runs to help lead Boston to a 9-4 win over the Orioles. **B1**