

Senator Kennedy has brain surgery

The delicate operation is just the beginning of treatment for a tumor that often proves deadly.

BY MIKE BAKER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DURHAM, N.C. — After investigating his options with his trademark intensity, Sen. Edward M. Kennedy underwent 3½ hours of risky and exquisitely delicate surgery yesterday to cut out as much of his cancerous brain tumor as possible.

"I feel like a million bucks. I think I'll do that again tomorrow," the 76-year-old Massachusetts Democrat was quoted by a family spokeswoman as telling his wife immediately afterward.

Dr. Allan Friedman, who performed the surgery at Duke University Medical Center, pronounced the operation a success and said it "accomplished our goals."

Up next: chemotherapy and radiation, aimed at shrinking whatever is left of the tumor.

"The main goal is to remove as much of the tumor as possible to give any other therapy that we do a better chance of working," said Dr. John Sampson, associate deputy director

SEE **KENNEDY, A5**

Race, gender are primary battle lines

Against history's backdrop, the pitched nomination battle between Senators Hillary Rodham Clinton and Barack Obama shows a basic conflict.

BY SHANKAR VEDANTAM
THE WASHINGTON POST

One hundred forty-three years ago, women's suffrage advocate Elizabeth Cady Stanton faced a conundrum: with the Civil War over, Stanton had to decide whether to support the 14th and 15th amendments to the Constitution, which enabled black men to vote — at a time when white women such as herself still did not have that right.

Stanton decided to oppose the amendments: "As the celestial gate to civil rights is

SEE **DEMOCRATS, A6**

Family tells of watching as neighbor shot fireman



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / KATHY BORCHERS

Nicholas Gianquitti, center, at the defense table in District Court, Warwick, with his lawyers, Mark Dana, left, and William Devine. Gianquitti is accused of fatally shooting Cranston firefighter James A. Pagano in a neighborhood dispute last month.

BY DAVID SCHARFENBERG
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

Jim Pagano was angry. His next-door neighbor, Nicholas Gianquitti, had just sworn at his children. His nephews, too. Over a stray tennis ball.

"He said that to you?" Pagano asked his daughter Adriana, after she reported the incident. "He said that to you?"

Pagano got up from the kitchen table and walked briskly to the raised ranch at 16 Daisy Court.

His father, Anthony Pagano, at the house for his 9-year-old grandson's birthday party, trailed just behind.

Jim pounded on the door once. Twice. Three times. And then he turned to leave, with a loud admonition: "You made a good choice by not answering the door."

The door swung open. "What do you want, Jimmy?" Gianquitti asked.

There were words. "Don't swear at my kids," Jimmy shouted at one point. "Just don't [expletive] swear at my kids." Pagano turned to leave for a second time. And then, Anthony remembers, a last verbal jab from Gianquitti.

"Hey, Jimmy," he said, making an obscene gesture, "[expletive] you."

That was it. Pagano swung at his neighbor and tumbled into the foyer. Gianquitti stumbled a few feet back and down a short flight of stairs, still on his feet.

Then Gianquitti pulled the silver, .38-caliber handgun from his waistband. Pop. Jimmy ran down the driveway. Gianquitti pursued. Pop. Pop.

Pagano was down, crouched behind a white car. Gianquitti stood over him, pointing the

Walther PPK semi-automatic at him.

And he said something. Anthony couldn't quite make it out. "I got you now, Jim." Or maybe, "You're done, Jim."

Or was it, as Gianquitti's lawyer William Devine suggested in court yesterday, "Don't die on me, Jim?"

Gianquitti did not fire again. Pagano's sister, Jean M. Verdi, yelled at him to "get the hell out of here." Gianquitti, who briefly served as a Providence police officer, walked back to his house. Pagano, a Cranston firefighter, died shortly after.

And a week after burying him at St. Ann's Cemetery in Cranston, Pagano's father, sister and nephew took the stand yesterday to testify at a bail hearing for Gianquitti before District Court Judge Elaine Bucci.

SEE **HEARING, A4**

City cracks down on VIP treatment by nightclubs



BY GREGORY SMITH
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

PROVIDENCE — A white stretch limousine pulls up in front of the dance club. A stylishly dressed young man and his entourage emerge and are beckoned inside, striding past a waiting line of patrons.

The group is escorted to their reserved VIP booth in perhaps the hottest nightclub in town. A waitress hastens to set out in their enclave at the edge of the dance floor a

SEE **VIP, A7**

PASSAGES: BO DIDDLEY



AP FILE / MICHAEL MOORE

Bluesman and rock pioneer Bo Diddley, who played 17 nights in Providence over a period of 25 years, died of heart failure yesterday at his home in Archer, Fla. **Story, F1**

Free tuition to college workers gets 2nd look

One lawmaker wants to end the free tuition to state colleges given to employees and their families.

BY CYNTHIA NEEDHAM
JOURNAL STATE HOUSE BUREAU

PROVIDENCE — When the letter from the state arrived this winter, the Woonsocket family scanned it with a sense of dread: tuition was on its way up at all three state colleges.

Given the many economic pressures they face, it seemed impossible that they'd be able to afford a 6-percent hike at the University of Rhode Island. So they approached their state legislator for help.

projo.com

Your turn: In a tight budget year, would you spend tax money on free tuition for the children of employees of the state's colleges? To respond, and to read the text of the bill, go to projo.com

Rep. Lisa Baldelli-Hunt had heard the story before. For families with college-aged children, it's not the rising price of gas that's the major worry, it's the growing cost of higher education.

But what the Woonsocket lawmaker soon learned is that while

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AT SIX FLAGS, PRICING TO SELL

Six Flags New England, looking to counter economic jitters, drops its admission by \$10 at the gate and by \$5 online, reducing the amusement park's ticket price to its 2004 level. **E1**

EUROPEANS KNOW GAS PAINS

As the average price of gasoline passes \$4 a gallon in Rhode Island, there may be consolation in these figures: In Germany, a gallon of gas costs \$8.33, and in Norway, it's \$9.69. **E1**



BOSTON FALLS TO BALTIMORE

Manny Ramirez homers in his third-straight game and Tim Wakefield, left, allows just 2 runs over 7 innings, but it wasn't enough, as the Orioles win, 6-3. **C1**