

BIT OF BOTH
Mixture of sun and clouds with a late day shower; clearing tonight.
Forecast, F8

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BACK ON THE JOB



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / MARY MURPHY

A C-shaped scar remains from the serious head injury suffered by Trooper Brendan Doyle, shown at state police headquarters in Scituate yesterday. In the background is Col. Brendan Doherty, superintendent of the state police.

BY AMANDA MILKOVITS
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

SCITUATE

The odds were that Brendan Doyle would never wear the state trooper's gray uniform again.

He hadn't been expected to survive the severe brain injury caused when a driver he was trying to stop allegedly punched him to the pavement a year ago.

But Doyle lived.

He wasn't expected to be his old self again, regain his memories, or his abilities to walk, see or to speak in his own voice.

But Doyle knew who he was, and when he could speak again, his family and friends recognized their "Buzz," his childhood nickname. He began to walk, and then to run.

He hadn't been expected to be a state trooper again.

The only ones who were sure were Doyle and his father, the world-class marathoner Bobby Doyle, who worked for the last six months before he died coaching his son back to health.

SEE TROOPER, A9

Trooper Doyle makes a full recovery from last year's debilitating assault



Trooper Brendan Doyle works with physical therapist Christine Stone last summer at the Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital in Boston.

JOURNAL FILE
BOB THAYER

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Your turn: To send a note to Doyle and his family, and to watch a July 2007 audio slideshow as Doyle prepared to check out of rehab, go to projo.com

Smoke-shop sentences: Community service for 2

The two tribal members, including Chief Sachem Matthew Thomas, could have their record cleared in a year; a third, Hiawatha Brown, receives a suspended sentence with probation.

BY KATIE MULVANEY
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

PROVIDENCE — After almost five years of litigation and hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal costs, two Narragansett Indian leaders walked out of Providence County Superior Court yesterday with potentially clean records after being sentenced for their roles in the 2003 smoke-shop raid.

For assaulting a state police trooper by grabbing him from behind, Judge Susan E. McGuire yesterday ordered Chief Sachem

Matthew Thomas to perform 150 hours of community service teaching public school students about the history and culture of his tribe.

But she agreed to file the case for one year, saying she recognized that a conviction could affect his ability to act as the tribe's signatory in dealing with federal agencies. "I do not see the merit in punishing [Thomas] as chief sachem."

Though Thomas was found guilty by a jury in April, filing the case means the conviction would be expunged from his record if he obeys the law in the coming year, said Michael J. Healey, spokesman for Attorney General Patrick C. Lynch.

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Your turn: React to the sentencing, and watch a video of the Narragansetts outside court, at projo.com

SEE SERVICE, A11

Thousands in R.I., Mass. failed to claim tax rebate

Many people who don't normally file a tax return don't realize that they're eligible for the payments, which are intended to stimulate the economy.

BY NEIL DOWNING
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

Uncle Sam is giving away money, but about 22,000 Rhode Islanders have not stepped up to obtain their share — leaving at least \$6.6 million on the table unclaimed.

The U.S. Treasury is in the process of distributing about \$108 billion in rebates to nearly 130 million households.

The point of the rebates, au-

thorized by a federal law enacted in February, is to help stimulate the nation's slumping economy.

Most of the rebates are going to people who work, pay taxes and file an annual federal income-tax return. But about 20 million people nationwide who do not normally file a return — because their income is so low — are also generally eligible for rebates.

Source: IRS

SEE REBATES, B2

The scene in city of champions

BY BRANDIE M. JEFFERSON
PROJO.COM STAFF WRITER

BOSTON — They descended the escalator at the Providence train station wearing the green and white jerseys of their heroes for the day. They also wore suits and sundresses. Some wore jeans and T-shirts.

Within a minute of stepping out of the Back Bay train station in Boston's Copley Square, hundreds of people walked past, shuffling downhill on Dartmouth Street toward Boylston Street, with an enthusiastic but unrushed stride that said "Where else would we be going?"

It was noon yesterday and the sky was a brilliant blue, dotted by puffy white clouds and the occasional blimp. The crowds were headed to the "rolling rally," a victory parade

More on the Celtics and yesterday's victory parade in **Sports, B1**

Find a video and slideshow of the parade at projo.com

to celebrate the Boston Celtics' NBA championship. The parade began at TD Banknorth Garden, wound past City Hall and Boston Common, and ended at Copley Square.

The throngs of people walked toward, and then right into, a wall of people who stood shoulder to shoulder, face to sweaty back. People waved flags and fliers reading "We Beat LA," "Sweet 17," or simply "SEVENTEEN," referring to the number

SEE CELTICS, A10



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / BOB THAYER

Paul Pierce holds his NBA Finals MVP trophy as he smokes a cigar Red Auerbach-style yesterday while the Celtics victory parade rolls along Causeway Street in Boston.

Flurry on Smith Hill means the end is near

Lawmakers tackle a host of issues — from the state budget to erasing criminal records — as the legislative session moves to a close.

BY KATHERINE GREGG, STEVE PEOPLES, CYNTHIA NEEDHAM
and EDWARD FITZPATRICK
JOURNAL STATE HOUSE BUREAU

PROVIDENCE — In their usual chaotic rush to finish after six months at the State House, lawmakers raced through votes yesterday on scores of high-profile bills including a new \$6.9-billion state budget now headed to the governor to be signed into law; a bill to "quash-and-destroy" criminal records, no matter how serious the offense, and legislation aimed at easing the brunt of

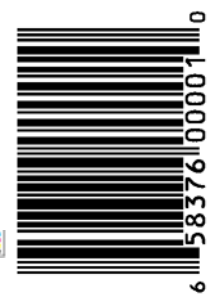
the foreclosure crisis.

Other bills that bubbled to the surface in recent days — such as the proposed \$12.6-million sales-

SEE ASSEMBLY, A9

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Extra: Get the latest from the General Assembly and view a slide show at projo.com



INSIDE TODAY

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6 SECTIONS

Ask Amy	E8	Local News	C1
Bridge	E8	Lotteries	D8
Business	F1	Obituaries	C5
Classified	F5	People	E1
Comics	E9	Rhode Island	B1
Crossword	E8	Sports	D1
Editorial	B4	Television	E7
Legal ads	A11	What's Happening	E8
Lifebeat			
Movies	E1		

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R.I. JOBLESS RATE SOARS

Rhode Island lost 1,800 jobs last month as the state's unemployment rate soars to 7.2 percent — the highest in 14 years. **F1**

OBAMA REJECTS PUBLIC FINANCING

Presumptive Democratic presidential nominee Sen. Barack Obama becomes the first major party candidate to opt out of the public financing system for the general election, a move that will allow him to pump hundreds of millions more dollars into the fall campaign. **A4**



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Our special report on the golf tournament includes a look at this year's players, including U.S. Open runner-up Rocco Mediate, left, tournament schedule, Rhode Island Country Club course map, and a hole-by-hole guide to shooting par at **RICC, D1**