

HOT STUFF
Humid today with highs in the upper 80s; showers and thunderstorms tonight.
Forecast, C6

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FOURTH OF JULY IN RHODE ISLAND

BACK TO BRISTOL



JOURNAL FILE / ANREW DICKERMAN

BY ALEX KUFFNER
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

BRISTOL

On July 4, 2002, 10 days after Vincent A. "Buddy" Cianci Jr. was convicted of federal racketeering conspiracy, the then-mayor of Providence marched in the Bristol Fourth of July parade, just like he always did on Independence Day.

A spectator at the end of the parade route asked Cianci, who was awaiting sentencing, if he would ever march again. "I'll be back," Cianci replied.

That promise will come true tomorrow, when Cianci is set to make his first appearance in the parade in six years. Released from prison last year and now a radio talk-show host, Cianci has a ready answer for anyone who may think it's inappropriate for a convicted felon to take part in Bristol's storied parade.

"It's America," he said. "Parades are for everybody."

SEE **CIANCI, A7**



Former Providence Mayor Vincent A. Cianci Jr., above, shown in 1980, last marched in Bristol's Fourth of July parade in 2002, shortly after his conviction in Operation Plunder Dome. He vowed at the time that he'd return. Tomorrow, as a talk-show host, left, he will.

THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / KRIS CRAIG

Man held by police died from 'delirium'

The ruling by the medical examiner's office in the case of Leonel Farias of East Providence draws fire from a state mental health advocate and the ACLU.

BY ALISHA A. PINA
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

PROVIDENCE — An East Providence man died in police custody in late February because of "sudden death complicating Excited Delirium Syndrome due to chronic schizophrenia," the state medical examiner's office said yesterday.

"Excited Delirium Syndrome is a life-threatening medical condition characterized by acute delirium due to, in Mr. [Leonel] Farias' case, schizophrenia," said Helen Drew, spokeswoman for the state Health Department, which includes the medical examiner's office.



FARIAS

When asked whether the medical examiner found any physical explanation for why Farias died, Drew said, "He died by the reasons we described in the release."

Dr. Michael G. Conner, an Oregon psycholo-

SEE **AUTOPSY, A5**

Bear market latest sign of slowdown

The 20-percent decline in a key stock-market index points to the deeper challenges facing the economy.

JOURNAL WIRE REPORTS

It probably came as no surprise to anyone who has watched their 401(k) retirement account balance evaporate in recent months or the value of other securities they may hold declining.

But stocks yesterday officially entered bear market territory as the Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 166.75 points, or 1.46 percent, to close at 11,215.51.

That's the Dow's lowest close since August 2006. It also means that the average, which is made up of 30 widely owned stocks that reflect a broad cross-section of the economy, has declined 20.82 percent since reaching a high of 14,164.53 on Oct. 9, 2007.

The Standard & Poor's 500, another widely

SEE **ECONOMY, A6**

Teen charged with attack, rape of 2-year-old girl

BY TATIANA PINA
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

WOONSOCKET — A 17-year-old is being held at the state Training School after he allegedly beat, bit and raped the 2-year-old girl he was babysitting.

The incident occurred between 2 and 3 p.m. Sunday at an apartment in the Borden Street area, according to acting Chief Eric Croce of the Woonsocket Police.

The baby's mother had left her 17-year-old boyfriend in charge of her toddler at her apartment while she visited a nearby apartment. It was not known what the mother went to the nearby residence for, Croce said.

The police said that the 17-year-old allegedly

SEE **ATTACK, B3**

projo.com Extra: For more on the Fourth, go to projo.com

BATTLE BREWS OVER PARADE

The Gloucester Light Infantry may not be in the Ancients and Horribles Parade.

BY PHILIP MARCELO
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

The Gloucester Light Infantry, a citizen militia that rose up against the British during the Revolutionary War, has a new enemy: the 82nd-annual Ancients and Horribles Parade.

The local group of war reenactors — who ran the Fourth of July parade for over a decade and traces its roots to the early days of the irreverent, satirical parade — is at odds with organizers over its appearance fee.

The militia unit is demanding more money

than previous years because of rising costs. The parade organizers were hoping they would appear for free.

Parade committee chairwoman Connie Leathers says that in these tight economic times, local parades need concessions from everyone involved. "We're trying to be good stewards of the money we are given by the town," she says.

For some in the unit, it is the latest parade-related indignity — a list that includes being put

SEE **PARADE, A7**



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / BOB THAYER

Thomas P. Sanzi, a member of the Gloucester Light Infantry, calls the unit's treatment "a grave injustice."

HIGH GAS PRICES KEEPING MANY CLOSER TO HOME

For the first time since 2000, AAA predicts a decline in the number of Americans traveling for the Fourth of July holiday compared with the previous year.

BY TIMOTHY C. BARMANN
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

The highways during the July Fourth holiday weekend will be a little less crowded this year.

At a time of near record-high gasoline prices and a shaky economy, some motorists are expected to stay home, or at least closer to home, for the annual holiday.

"Clearly, gas prices are continuing to take a toll on the traveler's budget," said Lloyd P. Al-

bert, a spokesman for AAA Southern New England.

For the first time since 2000, the auto club is predicting a decline in the number of Americans traveling for the July Fourth holiday period.

The auto club estimated that 40.5 million Americans will travel between tomorrow and Sunday, compared with 41 million during last year's holiday. That

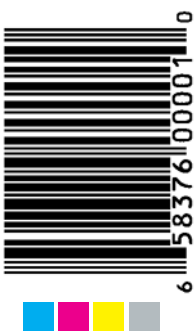
SEE **TRAVEL, A7**

Block Island ferry and Coast Guard ship collide



Passengers on the Block Island ferry yesterday wear life vests after the vessel collided with a Coast Guard ship. No injuries were reported, and the ferry — which was carrying 257 people — was left with a dent about 5 feet above the water line. **Story, B1**

SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL WILLIAM MORRISON JR.



INSIDE TODAY

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The Providence Journal SUMMERTIME FUND™



A total of \$1,731.65 was donated last week. See the latest donations on B2.

GUARDS GET A RAISE

A three-member state arbitration panel awards 1,000 correctional officers who have been working without a contract since June 2003 a 13-percent increase in their regular paychecks. **B1**

SPIN CYCLE FOR SOX

Dustin Pedroia goes 4 for 5 and is only a single away from hitting for the cycle but it's not enough to save Boston from giving up a late-inning lead and losing to the Tampa Bay Rays, 7-6. **C1**

HOSTAGES FREED IN COLOMBIA



Colombian commandos disguised as rebels spirit 15 hostages to freedom, including Ingrid Betancourt, left, a French-Colombian politician held for six years, and three American military contractors. **A2**