

BRISK
Partly cloudy skies,
windy and cool today.
Forecast, F12

50¢
\$2.40 per week by carrier

The Providence Journal

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CAMPAIGN 2006



Sen. Lincoln D. Chafee holds up a photograph from June 2002 that shows Vincent A. Cianci, then the mayor of Providence, with Sheldon Whitehouse. Whitehouse later rebuts the charge that he was reluctant to prosecute Cianci.

New accusations

Sen. Lincoln D. Chafee alleges that Sheldon Whitehouse didn't aggressively pursue the prosecution of Vincent A. Cianci.

BY MIKE STANTON AND KATHERINE GREGG
JOURNAL STAFF WRITERS

PROVIDENCE — U.S. Sen. Lincoln Chafee returned to the scene of the crime yesterday to accuse Sheldon Whitehouse of being soft on crime — specifically, political corruption and the Operation Plunder Dome investigation of former Providence Mayor Vincent A. Cianci.

Standing outside the business of Antonio R. Freitas, who secretly taped

SEE **SENATE, A4**



Tenn. ad accused of crossing the line

Democrats say the Republican TV spot, directed at black congressman and Senate candidate Harold Ford Jr., plays on racial stereotypes.

BY ROBIN TONER
THE NEW YORK TIMES NEWS

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — The Tennessee Senate race, one of the most competitive and potentially decisive battles of the midterm

election, became even more unpredictable this week after a furor over a Republican television commercial that stood out even in a year of negative advertising.

The commercial, financed by the Republican National Committee, was aimed at Rep. Harold Ford Jr., the black Democrat from Memphis whose campaign for the Senate this year has kept the Republicans on the defensive in a state where they never expected to have trouble holding the seat.

The ad, which was first broadcast last

week and was pulled off the air yesterday, featured a series of people in mock man-on-the-street interviews talking sarcastically about Ford and his stands on issues from the estate tax to national security.

The controversy erupted over one of the people featured: an attractive white woman, bare-shouldered, who declares that she met Ford at a "Playboy party," and closes the commercial by looking into the camera and

SEE **CAMPAIGN, A4**

Bush says war in Iraq is still winnable

While the president admits that he is not satisfied with the way the conflict has proceeded, he insists that his administration is developing new strategies to deal with the growing violence.

BY JIM RUTENBERG
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — Facing public dismay over the war in Iraq, President Bush yesterday somberly acknowledged the broad scope of U.S. setbacks and missteps there. But he urged Americans to look beyond the violence on their television screens and avoid disillusionment over a war he said was still winnable.

Mr. Bush's comments, in a news conference at the White House, were a stark indication of concern within the West Wing over eroding support for the war. The violence in Iraq has reached near-record peaks just as voters are considering their final choices for Congress in midterm elections less than two weeks from now, a contest that Mr. Bush has cast in part as a national referendum on the conflict.

With a subdued tone and a new emphasis on tactical flexibility, Mr. Bush seemed intent on aligning himself and his party

SEE **BUSH, A8**

Iraq's leader rips U.S. over deadlines, raid

The prime minister insists his government will not be bound by benchmarks created in Washington.

BY CHRISTOPHER BODEEN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq — An angry Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki disavowed a joint U.S.-Iraqi raid in the capital's Sadr City slum yesterday, and criticized the top U.S. military and diplomatic representatives in Iraq for saying his government needs to set a timetable to curb violence in the country.

Al-Maliki spoke at a news conference a day after U.S. Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad said Iraqi leaders had agreed to set deadlines by year's end for achieving specific political and security goals laid out by the United States, including reining in militia groups.

"I affirm that this government represents the will of the people and no one has the right to impose a timetable on it," the prime minister said.

The prime minister dismissed

SEE **IRAQ, A9**

New Jersey ruling may open door for same-sex marriage

The state's highest court orders legislators to craft a bill offering gay couples the same rights as heterosexuals.

BY MICHAEL POWELL AND ROBIN SHULMAN
THE WASHINGTON POST

NEWARK, N.J. — The New Jersey Supreme Court left the door ajar for the approval of same-sex marriage yesterday, ruling that gay couples are entitled to rights no different from those of heterosexual couples.

The court gave state legislators 180 days to craft a bill offering gay couples the same rights as heterosexuals, though it ap-

peared to leave open a choice between same-sex marriage and civil unions.

"Although we cannot find that a fundamental right to same-sex marriage exists in this state, the unequal dispensation of rights and benefits to committed same-sex partners can no longer be tolerated under our state Constitution," the court stated in its 4 to 3 ruling.

The New Jersey decision could stoke the flagging fires for social conservatives elsewhere in the nation, who have complained loudly of their unhappiness with the Republican Party during this election cycle. New Jersey, how-

SEE **MARRIAGE, A4**

Tinkering with time by shifting daylight savings

BY BRYAN ROURKE
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

Fall back. But don't spring forward anymore. You'll be a season late.

This weekend ends daylight-saving time as we know it, which will now start earlier and last longer.

Next year, instead of beginning in spring, the first Sunday in April, daylight-saving time will start in winter, the second Sunday of March. And instead

of concluding the last Sunday in October, it will be the first Sunday in November.

Politicians made this possible, not by adding daylight to the earth, but by shifting our exposure to it, from mornings to evenings, and making the change law.

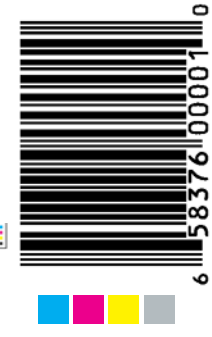
How this law will affect our lives depends on who you ask: Michael Downing or David

SEE **DAYLIGHT, A10**



Farmer Jason Escobar tries to get Heidi into the barn at the Portsmouth dairy farm that's been run by three generations of Escobars. Farmers have long opposed the time change.

PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / BOB THAYER



INSIDE TODAY

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PAYING FOR PARKING

The state Supreme Court rules that the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation must pay a private company the profits from operating a parking garage at T.F. Green Airport. **F1**

COMBATING CANCER

Researchers report that a lung-cancer screening test could save millions of lives by detecting the disease early and treating it immediately, when it can still be cured. **A2**

VIETNAMESE HOME COOKING

Pho Horn's restaurant on the Providence-Pawtucket line offers a dizzying array of dishes just like mom used to make. **E3**



JERSEY ON THE EAST SIDE

If it seems as if there was a little bit of New Jersey on Providence's East Side, blame it on the cast and crew of *Dan in Real Life*, starring Steve Carell, a Disney movie currently being filmed in the city. **B1**

C M Y K