

**LESS THAN PERFECT**  
Cloudy, with occasional showers today and highs in the 50s; clearing tonight.  
**Forecast, G10**

# The Providence Journal

projo.com

WEDNESDAY  
MAY 2, 2007

50¢  
\$2.40 per week by carrier

"I found that much more was the same than was different."

**JOAN COUNTRYMAN**, retired head of the Lincoln School who worked at the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy For Girls in South Africa

## Educator finds inspiration in S. Africa

The retired head of the Lincoln School, Joan Countryman says she was impressed by the determination of the students at Oprah Winfrey's school in South Africa to better their lives.

**BY JENNIFER D. JORDAN**  
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER  
PROVIDENCE — Joan Countryman knew the school she was helping to get off the ground, the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy For Girls, was unusual in many ways, starting with its founder and its mission to educate future leaders of post-apartheid South Africa.

Nelson Mandela, Nobel Peace Prize winner and former president of South Africa. "The thought that he was there and part of the event was extraordinary," Countryman said. "That day was magic." Countryman, a Quaker and former head of Providence's Lincoln School, is accustomed to decidedly more sedate surroundings. But, she says, the nucleus of Oprah Winfrey's academy is the same as that of the American schools Coun-

tryman has taught in for decades — a belief in the aspirations of young people and the desire to help them excel. "I found that much more was the same than was different," Countryman said Monday in an interview at her Benefit Street home. "Imagine a bunch of middle school girls running around a boarding school, and it was just what you'd think." At the same time, the students'



Joan Countryman, of Providence, has just returned from several months in South Africa, where she helped to start Oprah Winfrey's Leadership Academy for Girls.

THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / KRIS CRAIG

SEE EDUCATOR, A4

## IMMIGRATION AT ISSUE



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / ANDREW DICKERMAN

Hundreds of supporters of immigrant rights march up Francis Street to the State House yesterday in Providence.

## A call for action

Instead of the thousands who marched last year, hundreds rally in Providence to support immigrants' rights.

**BY EDWARD FITZPATRICK**  
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

PROVIDENCE — An estimated 500 people marched through Providence to the State House yesterday to call for legalization of undocumented immigrants and to decry immigration raids such as the one that took place in New Bedford in March.

Last year, an estimated 15,000 to 20,000 people marched in Providence during a May "Day Without An Immigrant" boycott and demonstration.

"That was a different time," the Rev. Raymond L. Tetrault, pastor of St. Teresa of Avila Church in Olneyville, said during yesterday's event.

The threat of "oppressive anti-immigration legislation" prompted a wave of protests across the country last year, and this year immigration raids have made many illegal immigrants fearful of attending public gatherings such as the march, Father Tetrault said. Some are even afraid of going to church, he said.

"People are very much on edge," Father Tetrault said. "People are living in fear."

On March 6, federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents raided the Michael Bianco Inc. factory in

New Bedford and detained 361 people suspected of being in the country illegally. They also arrested and charged the company owner with knowingly hiring undocumented workers.

Father Tetrault was one of the speakers who addressed the crowd on the steps of the State House, speaking in both English and Spanish.

He said that 376 years ago "the first immigrant arrived in this land — Roger Williams came in the middle of winter. He came freezing and starving, and the only thing he had was the wet clothes on his back. And he had no documents."

But, Father Tetrault said, "the Indian people, the natives of this state, received him and gave him on the banks of the Moshassuck [River] a place to live, to build his house, to work and to gain his own life." He said the national monument on that site "is calling out" to the descendants of all

SEE MARCH, A7

In Phoenix, Ariz., thousands march on the state Capitol to demand immigration reform. **Story, A7**

AP / TOM TINGLE

## R.I. election: The numbers don't add up

The Board of Elections has one number, while the secretary of state's office has others.

**BY PAUL EDWARD PARKER**  
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

How many people voted in the statewide elections last November?

A. 387,952  
B. 390,340  
C. 392,884

If you don't know the answer, don't feel bad; neither do state officials.

The Board of Elections — which oversees the counting of votes — says 392,884 voters cast ballots in the Nov. 7 general election.

The secretary of state's Elections Division — which oversees the state's Central Voter Registration System and tracks who voted in which elections — counted 387,952 voters in the same

election as of Jan. 16. In a new tally Monday, that number had risen to 390,340.

That leaves 4,932 ballots that were cast without a voter voting — or 2,544, depending on which number you use from the secretary of state.

The Providence Journal began examining the results of the November election this spring, after

SEE VOTERS, A7

## Bush makes good on promised veto

The president rejects a measure to finance the war in Iraq that included troop withdrawal deadlines; now he and congressional Democrats review their options.

**BY SHERYL GAY STOLBERG**  
and **JEFF ZELEVY**  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — President Bush vetoed a \$124-billion war spending bill yesterday, setting up a second round in his months-long battle with congressional Democrats, who are determined to use the financing measure to force the White House to shift course in Iraq.

The veto was only the second of Mr. Bush's presidency and occurred four years to the day that the president stood aboard the

aircraft carrier Abraham Lincoln off the coast of San Diego and declared an end to major combat operations in Iraq.

In his speech, Mr. Bush called the measure a "prescription for chaos and confusion," and said, as he has for weeks, that he could not sign it because it contained timetables for troop withdrawal.

"Setting a deadline for withdrawal is setting a date for failure, and that would be irresponsible," Mr. Bush said. He said the

SEE IRAQ, A4

## The odds have improved for heart attack patients

A new study reports "there have been a lot of lives saved, a lot of complications averted."

**BY THOMAS H. MAUGH II**  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Increased use of angioplasty and the introduction of new drugs over the last six years have nearly halved the number of hospitalized heart attack victims who die or suffer severe heart failure, an international team of researchers is reporting today.

The report showed "remarkable improvements" in the care of heart attack victims in all 14 countries studied, said Dr. Gregg C. Fonarow of the University of California, Los Angeles' Geffen School of Medicine, who was not involved in the study.

"It is not simple to manage these patients. Many therapies

SEE HEART, A5

### INSIDE TODAY

© 2007 Published daily since 1829

Ask Army	E8	Local News	D1
Bridge	E8	Lotteries	C4
Business	G1	Obituaries	D4
Classified	G6	People	C5
Comics	E9	projCars	F1
Crossword	E8	Rhode Island	B1
Editorial	E4	Sports	C1
Food	E1	Television	E7
Legal ads	G4	What's Happening	E8
Lifebeat	E5		

### BUSINESS NEWS MAKES NEWS

Media mogul Rupert Murdoch, owner of the Fox News Channel and Twentieth Century Fox, makes an unsolicited \$5-billion bid for the company that publishes The Wall Street Journal. **G1**

### INSPECTING WHAT WE EAT

Bowing to growing nationwide alarm, the Food and Drug Administration names a food-safety czar and pledges to develop "a visionary strategy for food safety and defense" to take into account the nation's increasing dependence on food imports in a global economy. **A2**

### A BUYERS' MARKET

Prospective buyers entering the housing market this spring will find something they haven't seen in years: lower prices. **G1**

### SOX SMILES TURN TO FROWNS

Kevin Youkilis and the Red Sox appear to be cruising until Jonathan Papelbon gives up the tying run in the ninth; Oakland beats Boston, 5-4 in 10 innings. **C1**

