

QUIET TIME
Partly cloudy today,
with highs in the mid 80s;
lows in the 50s tonight.
Forecast, E10

LIFEBEAT MOVIES: Queen Latifah narrates *Arctic Tale*,
about dire changes at the top of the world. **E1**

The Providence Journal

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A gambler's dream: Video slot doubled player's money

GTECH, the company that supplied the video lottery terminal, reimburses the state \$450,115 after it is discovered that the machine gave gamblers credit for twice the money they'd put in.

BY ELIZABETH GUDRAIS
JOURNAL STATE HOUSE BUREAU

In gambling, they say the house always wins. But for seven weeks this summer at Twin River, apparently that wasn't true.

One of the Lincoln gambling parlor's 4,700 video lottery terminals was instantaneously doubling gamblers' mon-

ey, giving them a credit for twice what they'd put in.

The machine was issuing credits for double the amount of whatever patrons inserted up to a maximum of a \$100 credit for a \$50 bill, said Robert Vincent, a spokesman for GTECH, the company that supplied the machine. Patrons could redeem the credit with-

out playing a game.

It was, says Robert M. Silva, legal counsel to the Rhode Island Lottery, "a gambler's dream."

GTECH removed the machine on July 15, as soon as the malfunction was discovered. But by that time, it had paid out \$450,115 more than it should have.

GTECH has reimbursed the state for that amount, officials with the company and the state said yesterday. Now, GTECH is mounting its own investiga-

tion to examine how the malfunction happened and whether it might have been discovered sooner.

The company will try to determine whether criminal activity took place and whether GTECH stands to recoup any of the lost money, company spokesman Vincent said.

Vincent said the machine in question offered a game called "Passion Coast," and that it was one of 299 machines at Twin River manufactured by Atronic. He said the machine apparently mal-

functioned from the day it was installed — May 25 — and that it appeared to have been installed with the money-doubling feature turned on by accident. The feature can be used to double patrons' winnings on purpose as part of a promotion, Vincent said. He said GTECH has ascertained that none of the other similar machines had the same feature turned on.

The local NBC affiliate, WJAR Chan-

SEE **SLOT, A5**

Padilla guilty of terror charges

As one of the first Americans to be labeled an "enemy combatant," he had been released from military confinement to be tried in a federal court.

BY ABBY GOODNOUGH
and **SCOTT SHANE**
THE NEW YORK TIMES

MIAMI — In a significant victory for the Bush administration, a federal jury found Jose Padilla guilty of terrorism conspiracy charges yesterday after little more than a day of deliberation.

Padilla, a Brooklyn-born convert to Islam who became one of the first Americans designated an "enemy combatant" in the anxious months after Sept. 11, 2001, now faces life in prison. He was released last year from a long and highly unusual military confinement to face criminal charges in federal court here.

The government's chief evidence was a faded application form that prosecutors said Padilla, 36, filled out to attend an al-Qaida training camp in Afghanistan in 2000.

SEE **PADILLA, A4**

Same-sex case debate intensifies

Opponents raise the specter of "inter-species marriage" while proponents call such "slippery slope" concerns absurd.

BY EDWARD FITZPATRICK
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

PROVIDENCE — The debate stemming from Rhode Island's first same-sex divorce case is escalating as the Supreme Court re-

views a second round of legal briefs that delve into the meaning of the word "marriage," the limits of judicial power and even "inter-species marriage" and "marrying dead bodies."

The case involves two Providence women — Margaret R. Chambers and Cassandra B. Or-

SEE **DIVORCE, A4**

Panel hears DCYF horror stories



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / KRIS CRAIG

Peter Sleicher, of Warwick, who had been a temporary foster parent for four years along with his wife, Tina, says his son's innocence was lost after he was molested by a foster child. Peter Sleicher had not spoken publicly about his family's ordeal before yesterday's Senate hearing.

As the agency's director looks on, witnesses present a long list of deficiencies

BY STEVE PEOPLES
JOURNAL STATE HOUSE BUREAU

PROVIDENCE — Peter Sleicher's son was 7 years old when the boy first visited the Sexual Assault Trauma Resource Center.

With the police watching from the other side of a one-way mirror, the boy told a story that no one should have to tell.

Peter and Tina Sleicher had opened their home a few weeks earlier to a troubled boy in the custody of the Department of Children, Youth and Families. The Sleichers had been temporary foster parents for about four years. Even with two

young boys of their own, the Warwick family felt an obligation to help troubled youth.

"We feel we have more than enough for ourselves and we want to share it with others," Peter Sleicher said.

One Monday the family met with a DCYF representative to talk about the foster child's history. Nothing came up about sexual abuse. Five days later, Tina Sleicher caught the foster child molesting their 7-year-old son.

"His innocence is lost," Peter Sleicher

SEE **DCYF, A5**



Patricia Martinez, director of the Department of Children, Youth and Families, listens to questions from members of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee.

Station announces Cianci will return to Rhode Island radio

WPRO-AM hires the former Providence mayor and convicted felon to host a talk show.

BY ANDY SMITH
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

Talk radio loves its rogues. The list is long, crisscrossing the country, from former Mayor Roger Hedgecock in San Diego to former Massachusetts House Speaker Tom Finneran in Boston, both with their own talk shows. Then there's Watergate figure G. Gordon Liddy, Oliver North of the Iran-Contra scandal,



CIANCI

and Mike Barnicle, who left The Boston Globe amid allegations of plagiarism. Not to be outdone, Rhode Island has former Mayor Vincent A. Cianci Jr. Released in May from federal prison after serving a sentence for racketeering, Cianci ended weeks of rumor and speculation yesterday morning by announcing he will be joining WPRO-AM (630) on Sept. 20,

although the time slot has yet to be revealed.

Not long afterward, WPRO's Web site featured a photo of a smiling Cianci, wearing his toupee, looming over the Providence skyline. A big headline read "Buddy's Back!"

WPRO general manager Barbara Haynes said yesterday that the station plans to announce Cianci's time slot in about two weeks. She said that WPRO's current daytime talk hosts — Ron St. Pierre, John DePetro, Dan Yorke and syndicated conservative Rush Limbaugh

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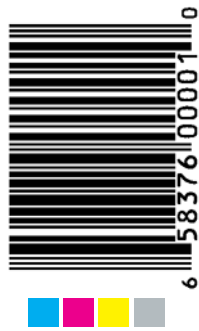
Your turn: What time slot is best for Cianci? To respond, go to www.projo.com

— will remain on the air. She said the station was working on "a couple of scenarios" to make that work.

"There's plenty of room at the inn," said Cianci in a phone interview yesterday.

The former mayor promised a fast-

SEE **CIANCI, A5**



INSIDE TODAY

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A WILD RIDE

The Dow, down at one point more than 340 points, stages a turnaround in the last hour of trading to finish the day down 15 points, a dramatic illustration of the volatility that has gripped the stock market in recent weeks. **F1**

REMEMBER THE TITANS?

The Patriots certainly do; find out what to look for in tonight's preseason matchup between New England and the team from Tennessee. **C1**

PASSAGES MAX ROACH



One of the founders of modern jazz, who rewrote the rules of drumming in the 1940s and spent the rest of his career breaking musical barriers and defying listeners' expectations, dies at his home in New York at 83. **A3**