

**WILD & MILD**  
Mild, with steady rain this afternoon, turning to showers tonight.  
**Forecast, E10**  
**50¢**  
\$2.40 per week by carrier

# The Providence Journal

**FRIDAY**  
JANUARY 5, 2007  
**SOUTH COUNTY EDITION**

projo.com

2006 New England Newspaper of the Year

## Carcieri ally named CEO of Beacon Mutual

James V. Rosati — who worked with the governor at Old Stone Bank and Cookson America — was not the board's unanimous choice for the \$400,000-a-year job.



**ROSATI**

workers' compensation insurer with about 14,000 policyholders in Rhode Island. The company's former vice president of underwriting was

indicted by a grand jury in October in what has been described as a widening criminal investigation into Beacon.

Rosati, 57, an investment banker who worked with Carcieri at Old Stone Bank and Cookson America and served as finance chairman on both of Carcieri's campaigns for governor, said yesterday that he will work to restore "confidence" and "transparency" at Beacon.

"The mission of this company is

SEE **BEACON, A5**

## Mollis' stepson faces charges in attempted murder

The 19-year-old stepson of the secretary of state is accused by North Providence police of firing a shotgun into a Lexus occupied by two men.

at about 10:30 Wednesday night. An hour earlier, North Providence police had issued an all-points bulletin for a 2004 dark-colored Jeep Grand Cherokee, a car registered to Piscione's mother, which he used to flee from the area of the shooting at Smith Street and Third Avenue, the police said.

Neither Kyle Terzian, 22, of North Providence, nor Anthony Munio, 30, of Smithfield, the two men in the 2001 Lexus, were injured by the shots, the police said. But the police said they found a gunshot hole in the right rear fender of the Lexus and two spent rounds on the ground nearby.

North Providence Deputy Police Chief Paul Marino said the motive was jealousy. Just mo-

SEE **SHOOTING, A5**

## THE STATION NIGHTCLUB DISASTER Club neighbor told Derderians of foam

Barry Warner, who worked as a salesman for American Foam, suggested the material as a way to quiet the noise coming from The Station.

ferred to buy Warner an air conditioner so he could shut his windows to the nuisance. But Warner, a foam salesman for American Foam for almost 25 years, suggested a few other options: hang curtains by the stage; build a false wall to absorb the sound. And, Warner offered, "they could buy foam for soundproofing."

"That's all I told them," Warner told a grand jury in 2003 — three years after the foam the Derderians ordered from Warner's company ignited in a rock band's fireworks display. The resulting fire killed 100 people and injured more than 200 others.

"There was no reaction," at that time from the brothers concerning his foam suggestion, Warner told a grand jury. Consequently

SEE **FOAM, B6**



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / STEVE SZYDLOWSKI

At the Warwick Mall yesterday, Lori Bollinger, of Coventry, with her daughter Kelly, 13, who had meningitis a few years ago, talks about being cautious when children get sick.

## 'Abundance of caution' Schools in three Kent County districts close

Health officials try to determine whether the case of a Coventry student with meningitis-like symptoms is related to three earlier cases of encephalitis.

BY **FELICE J. FREYER**  
JOURNAL MEDICAL WRITER

More than 20,000 youngsters in Warwick, West Warwick and Coventry were out of school yesterday, after state and school officials, in what they called "an abundance of caution," decided overnight to shut schools because a Coventry child had been hospitalized with symptoms of meningitis. Schools in the three communities are closed today as well.

The Health Department recommended the school closures because it would take a few days to determine whether this case had any connection to three unusual and highly publicized illnesses in Warwick and West Warwick last month, one of which resulted in the death of a 7-year-old boy.

Test results on the Coventry child, who was admitted to Hasbro Children's Hospital on Wednesday, are expected tomorrow.



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / FRIEDA SQUIRES

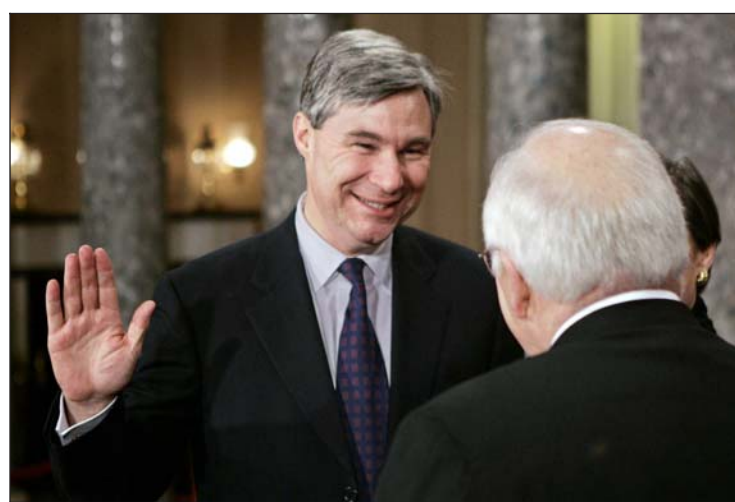
A sign posted on the door of Thayer Arena at the Mickey Stevens Sports complex in Warwick tells all that youth activities have been canceled due to the illnesses in the West Bay area.

Meanwhile, the child is already on the mend and was headed home yesterday.

At a news conference yesterday afternoon, Governor Carcieri and Health Director David R. Gifford acknowledged that they have no evidence that any unusual in-

fection is circulating in the state right now. "I don't think we want to overly alarm people," Carcieri said. But, especially because a child had died, the governor said,

SEE **SCHOOLS, A5**



AP / EVAN VUCCI

Vice President Dick Cheney administers the oath of office to Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse during a reenactment swearing-in ceremony for family members and the media yesterday.

## A Senate celebration: Whitehouse sworn in

His swearing-in completes the first all-Democratic Senate delegation from Rhode Island since 1977.

BY **JOHN E. MULLIGAN**  
JOURNAL WASHINGTON BUREAU

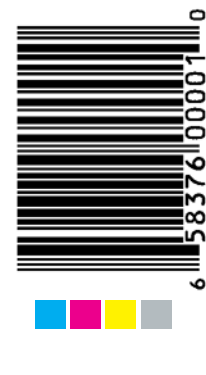
WASHINGTON — Rhode Island Democrat Sheldon Whitehouse was sworn in as a U.S. senator yesterday, as his party took majority control of both houses of Congress for the first time since 1994.

As he marched down the

center aisle of the Senate chamber with Rhode Island's senior senator, Jack Reed, Whitehouse put his right palm to his lips and blew a kiss into the packed gallery above, where his wife, Sandra Thornton Whitehouse, sat with their daughter, Molly, 17, and their son, Alexander, 13.

Whitehouse then placed the same hand on the King James Bible of his grandfather, Edwin Sheldon Whitehouse, and swore the constitutional oath of office

SEE **WHITEHOUSE, A3**



### INSIDE TODAY

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### SECOND SEASON STARTS FOR PATS

The Patriots' defense will need to put forth their best effort when they face the New York Jets Sunday in the first round of the playoffs. **C1**

### NO END TO PROFILING

Saying there is evidence that racial profiling by police continues, the Rhode Island Affiliate of the American Civil Liberties Union calls for "strong legislation" to force changes in police practices. **B1**



### INAUGURATION DAY IN MASS.

Promising to make his office more "accessible and accountable," Deval Patrick is sworn in as the 71st governor of Massachusetts, becoming only the second black to serve as a state's chief executive. **A2**