

**EXPECT A DELUGE**  
Partly cloudy today; heavy rain and a flood watch tonight and tomorrow.  
**Forecast, E10**

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The Carcieri administration reverses course on a budget-cutting plan that would have eliminated the \$100,000 needed to finance a school for patients at Hasbro Children's Hospital.



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / BILL MURPHY

Jeffrey Crocker, left, gives a bedside lesson to Brittany Rosa, 17, of Cumberland, in her hospital room Wednesday afternoon. Her illness has made her hair fall out and forced her to remain in isolation since December. At right is Brittany's dad, Ildeberto Rosa.

## A teaching hospital

BY CYNTHIA NEEDHAM  
JOURNAL STATE HOUSE BUREAU

PROVIDENCE

Inside the cheery fifth-floor classroom, 6-year-old Hunter Humeston wrestled with a geography puzzle, his brow furrowed in concentration. At a table next to him, Trevis Woods, 9, made his way through a math work sheet. It was a regular school day in "Ms. Sandra's" elementary school class, except that the students — patients at Hasbro Children's Hospital — worked in their pajamas, IV poles hugging their sides. Since 1977, the school has provided academics to patients as one of the oldest hospi-

tal-based education program of its kind in the country.

Those well enough to attend class work in the elementary school room, or a second one for middle and high schoolers. Those too sick to do so receive tutoring at their bedsides.

The program helps them keep up with schoolwork and to feel normal when nothing around them does.

For two hours a day, these children are not cancer patients and cystic fibrosis sufferers — they're just students learning to read and write like their peers, succeeding and sometimes failing.

But as the state copes with an estimated

\$384-million deficit in the next fiscal year, Governor Carcieri's budget proposal had called for eliminating the \$100,000 in financing for the Hasbro program — about 80 percent of its operating budget — a move that hospital officials feared would force the school to close.

That changed Wednesday evening. As The Journal was preparing a story on the program, the Carcieri administration reversed course, saying the budget office would do what it could to secure the Hasbro money.

The news brought relief to hospital staff members.

SEE **HASBRO, A4**

## A record number of houses foreclosed

An increasing number of Americans are also falling behind on their mortgage payments while more than half owe more than their houses are now worth.

JOURNAL WIRE REPORTS

WASHINGTON — Home foreclosures soared to an all-time high in the final three months of last year and probably will keep rising, evidence of homeowners' suffering and the economic danger from the meltdown.

The Mortgage Bankers Association said yesterday the proportion of all mortgages that slipped into foreclosure set a record, 0.83 percent, from October through December. The previous high, 0.78 percent, came in the July-through-September period.

"Clearly it's the worst it's been," the association's chief economist, Doug Duncan, said in an interview with the Associated Press.

At the same time, more homeowners fell behind on their monthly payments.

SEE **FORECLOSED, A4**

## Mich., Fla. may rerun primaries

BY DAN BALZ  
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON — As Senators Hillary Rodham Clinton and Barack Obama competed through more than 40 primary contests over the past two months, Michigan and Florida remained on the sidelines, barred from participating in the Democratic presidential nomination process because they violated party rules. Now, with neither candidate likely to win enough delegates to capture the nomination, the question is whether the two states will end up deciding the race by holding do-over contests this spring.

Clinton's victories on Tuesday have put renewed pressure on the Democratic National Committee to resolve a months-long dispute over whether the Michigan and Florida delega-

tion process because they violated party rules. Now, with neither candidate likely to win enough delegates to capture the nomination, the question is whether the two states will end up deciding the race by holding do-over contests this spring.

SEE **CAMPAIGN, A4**

## Gunman kills 8 at Jewish seminary in Jerusalem

The attack, the first inside Jerusalem in four years, occurs amid increasing Israeli-Palestinian tensions over clashes in the Gaza Strip.

BY STEVEN ERLANGER and ISABEL KERSHNER  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

JERUSALEM — A gunman entered a prominent Jewish seminary in the heart of Jerusalem last night, killing at least eight students and wounding at least nine others, three of them seriously, the Israeli police said.

In a scene of havoc and confusion while the students prayed, the gunman killed two people at the entrance to the Mercaz Harav yeshiva and then entered the first-floor library, spraying the religious students with gunfire from a Kalashnikov rifle, according to the Israeli police.

The gunman, who was killed at the scene, was thought to be either a Palestinian or an Israeli Arab living inside Jerusalem. He has not been identified.

The dead were thought to be mostly between 20 and 30 years of age.

It was the deadliest attack on Israeli civilians in nearly two years and the first attack inside Jerusalem in four years. It occurred at the start of the He-

SEE **ISRAEL, A5**



AP / KEVIN FRAYER

Medical personnel evacuate a wounded Israeli at the site of yesterday's shooting attack at a Jewish seminary in Jerusalem. At least nine people were injured, three of them seriously.

## Offenders who 'elope' raise security issues

Unions opposed to the governor's plan to put more juvenile offenders in residential programs point to a number of cases of escapes from such facilities.

BY STEVE PEOPLES  
JOURNAL STATE HOUSE BUREAU

PROVIDENCE — No one has escaped from the state Training School in years.

But yesterday alone, nine troubled youths were listed as "eloped" — state jargon for escaped — from residential programs that serve as alternative Training School sentences for more than 150 young people, according to data provided by the Department of Children, Youth and Families.

Governor Carcieri wants to move dozens more Training School inmates into residential programs known as Temporary Custody Placements, or TCPs, as soon as July 1 — a move he says

would save millions of dollars while helping to rehabilitate the youths.

At any given time, between 6 percent and 10 percent of the youths sentenced to residential programs have escaped, according to DCYF Assistant Director Jorge Garcia, who said the numbers may be inflated by technical reporting requirements and don't generally reflect dangerous young offenders.

But the nine boys and girls currently missing have criminal histories that include first-degree sexual assault, assault with a dan-

SEE **YOUTHS, B6**



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### 53 KILLED IN BAGHDAD BOMBINGS

Two bombs go off within minutes of each other in a crowded Baghdad shopping district, killing at least 55 people and serving as a reminder that deadly attacks continue to be a daily threat. **A5**

### ARMS DEALER ARRESTED

A Russian arms dealer dubbed the Merchant of Death for allegedly supplying weapons in some of the world's bloodiest conflicts is arrested on suspicion of conspiring to smuggle guns to Colombia's leftist rebels. **A3**

### SOME OPT OUT OF CON MAN CASE

The number of witnesses expected to testify that alleged con man John P. Kluth Jr. bilked them out of as much as \$5,000 shrinks from 38 to 32. **B1**

### FRIARS DEFEAT HUSKIES



Geoff McDermott, left, helps Providence College rack up one of its biggest wins of the season with a convincing 85-76 upset victory over 13th-ranked UConn. **C1**