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FORECAST: 6 a.m. 42, noon 58, 6 p.m. 50. Details, Page A2

THURSDAY

WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONS SOX WIN!



Boston's 3-0 win gives it the Series title for the first time since 1918. The Sox sweep St. Louis in 4 games.



Associated Press photo by Michael Dwyer/Top, AP photo by Sue Ogrocki
Boston Red Sox fans, in a bar near Fenway Park, react to Trot Nixon's two-RBI double in the third inning. Boston won Wednesday 3-0. At top, Red Sox Doug Mientkiewicz, left, and catcher Jason Veritek jump into the arms of Keith Foulke after the win. (Story, Page D1.)

Decision '04

It's Bush vs. Kerry on Iraqi explosives

President Bush and Sen. Kerry trade strong words over the issues of the missing explosives.

By **WILLIAM DOUGLAS** and **JAMES KUHNHENN**
KRT News Service

LITITZ, Pa. — President Bush accused Democratic presidential nominee Sen. John Kerry on Wednesday of "saying almost anything to get elected" for trying to make a campaign issue out of missing high-grade Iraqi explosives without knowing all the details.

Both parties trying to capitalize on early votes.
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Campaigning in Iowa, Kerry fired back, accusing the White House of "dodging and bobbing and weaving in their usual effort to avoid responsibility."

With six days to go before Tuesday's election, Bush tried to reach out to Democratic voters in stops here, in Ohio and in suburban Detroit. But the 380 tons of explosives that disappeared from an Iraqi weapons facility overshadowed that effort and forced him to defend his handling of

See Campaign, Page A5

NJEA advice to teachers: Avoid struck A.C. casinos

The state teachers union's Web site says it has secured reservations for its annual convention at other hotels, and members can cancel arrangements at affected casinos by today.

By **DIANE D'AMICO**
Education Writer, (609) 272-7241

TRENTON — The state's largest teachers union is asking members who plan to attend the annual convention in Atlantic City next week to consider canceling reservations at any hotel that is experiencing the Local 54 Unite Here strike.

A letter posted this week on the New Jersey Education Association Web site advises members that the NJEA has secured reservations at other hotels and that members may cancel reservations at the affected casino hotels by today without penalty.

The NJEA also will not operate shuttle buses from any of the affected casino hotels, which include Hilton, Tropicana, Caesars, Bally's, Resorts, Showboat and Harrah's.

See NJEA, Page A7



Associated Press photo by Muhammed Muheisen
Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat is said to be suffering from a gallstone and other illnesses.

Arafat health worsens; family called to bedside

By **MOHAMMED DARAGHMEH**
Associated Press

RAMALLAH, West Bank — An ailing Yasser Arafat collapsed Wednesday night, was unconscious for about 10 minutes and remained in a serious condition. A team of Jordanian doctors was urgently summoned to treat the ailing Palestinian leader, whose wife headed to her husband's side from Paris.

A Palestinian official in Arafat's office said the Palestinian leader had created a special committee of three senior officials, including Prime Minister Ahmed Qureia, to run Palestinian affairs while Arafat was incapacitated. However, other Palestinian officials, including his spokesman Nabil Abu Rdeneh, denied that such a committee

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INSIDE

LIFE

The reviews are in: Movie critics get mixed notices among fans.
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BUSINESS

A \$45,000 cash 'loan' in a brown bag seals the denial of a gaming license.
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Connors seeks police-recruit emotion tests

By **JARRETT RENSHAW**
Staff Writer, (609) 978-2015

Months after two Surf City patrolmen filed for disability related to what they found at a murder scene, state Sen. Leonard Connors, who is also Surf City's mayor, introduced a bill that would require police recruits to view cadavers and watch footage of graphic motor-vehicle crashes as part of their academy training.

In addition, the bill calls for pre-employment psychological screening.

Observers would monitor and test the recruits' emotional and physical reaction to viewing these graphic images.

Those not up to the task would fail the academy, according to the bill.

"This would save the taxpayers money if we can avoid situations with a little extra training," said Connors, R-Ocean, Burlington,

See Emotion, Page A6



CONNORS

Take bear-hunt applications, judge tells DEP

By **JEFF LINKOUS**
Associated Press

TRENTON — A state judge on Wednesday ordered the Department of Environmental Protection to accept permit applications for a December black bear hunt.

The order by Judge Jane Grall, of the Appellate Division of Superior Court, comes in response to DEP Commissioner Bradley M. Campbell's continued opposition to the hunt.

Campbell maintains that the applications were not authorized and are therefore invalid.

The order gives Campbell until 4 p.m. Friday to respond to the Oct. 14 lawsuit brought by the New Jersey Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance Foundation and three New Jersey hunters.

The suit alleges that the commissioner overstepped his authority by refusing to issue permits for a hunt sanctioned by a state game panel last summer.

See Bear, Page A7

Moon glows in Earth's shadow



Staff photos by Edward Lea

The moon darkens over Atlantic City on Wednesday night in a total lunar eclipse — the last Earth will see for nearly 2½ years, until March 2007. The eclipse began at about 9:15 p.m. and lasted about three hours and 20 minutes. As the Earth passed between the sun and the moon, the only light hitting the full moon was from the planet's sunrises and sunsets, resulting in an orange and red hue on the moon's face. The last total lunar eclipse was May 4, but was not visible in North America.



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