

Boston's edge in AL East falls to 1½ games. **B1**



SPORTS

Red alert



NEWS

O.J. deja vu

Simpson freed on \$125,000 bail. **A4**

The Standard-Times

S E R V I N G T H E S O U T H C O A S T C O M M U N I T Y

THURSDAY, September 20, 2007

SouthCoastToday.com

New Bedford, Mass.



Newsstand: 50 cents

Still 'Weird' after all these years

Yankovic rocks Zeiterion with humor, accordion

By **TIM WEISBERG**
Standard-Times correspondent

NEW BEDFORD — Sure, there was an influx of Hawaiian shirts, goofy hats and all-around silly behavior on the streets of the Whaling City last night. But the unusual is nothing out of the ordinary when the legendary "Weird Al" Yankovic is in town.

Mr. Yankovic performed in this city for the first time last night, packing the Zeiterion Theatre to capacity. But before the show, the crowd outside was quietly subdued and strangely ordinary as they awaited their chance to get weird.

"The suspense of how he can turn words and songs around is why I keep listening."

DAVID MCKENNA
of Pawtucket, R.I.

City resident Arthur Benoit walked into the "Z" wearing a plain white t-shirt that read "Angry White Boy," with his wife Nancy sporting a similar shirt reading "White and Nerdy," the title of "Weird Al's" latest hit. Mr. Benoit said he'd been listening to Mr. Yankovic since he was about five years old.

"He's a lyrical genius. He takes a song and makes it his own. He just comes up with some sort of concept and makes a whole song out of it," Mr. Benoit said. "Actually, I listen to his parodies more than I do the original songs."

Freetown's Rick Hassin attended with his son, Brandon, wearing a Frank Zappa T-shirt — evidence of his longtime novelty-music cred. He said he finds the unusual music of artists like Yankovic and Zappa to be right up his alley.

"It's not offbeat to me," he said. "It's normal to me, because I'm an offbeat guy."

But it was more than just the offbeat who descended upon Purchase Street last night. Fans

See **'WEIRD AL' A9**



PETER PEREIRA/The Standard-Times

Station culprit out in March

Band manager free in less than 2 years

By **ERIC TUCKER**
Associated Press writer

CRANSTON, R.I. — The band manager whose pyrotechnics ignited a nightclub blaze that killed 100 people in 2003 was granted parole Wednesday and will be released in March after having served less than half his four-year prison sentence, the state parole board announced Wednesday.



AP file photo

Daniel Biechele, the former tour manager for the 80's rock band Great White, has served 16 months so far after pleading guilty last year to 100 counts of involuntary manslaughter for his role in the fire. The parole board announced its unanimous decision after meeting with Biechele privately at the state's minimum security prison, where he is held.

Biechele, 30, lit pyrotechnics as a stage prop at the start of a Great White concert at The Station nightclub in West Warwick. See **STATION A9**

SOUTHCOASTTODAY.COM ONLINE EXTRA

Watch fans get in their "Al" state of mind.

"Weird Al" Yankovic performs in New Bedford for the first time at the Zeiterion Theatre Wednesday.

Sea scallop levels eyed

By **BECKY W. EVANS**
Standard-Times staff writer

PLYMOUTH — Sea scallop stocks have been rebuilt to sustainable levels, but scientists are keeping an eye on the next generation of scallops to see if stocks will remain robust in the future.

Survey data reviewed by fishing managers yesterday show recruitment levels — the amount of legal-sized scallops that will be available for harvest in the coming year — have dropped in fishing grounds in both Georges Bank and the Mid-Atlantic.

"We have a little concern about recruitment on Georges Bank," Dr. James Weinberg said. "It's low, but it

See **SCALLOPS A9**

IF YOU GO

What: The 2007 Working Waterfront Festival

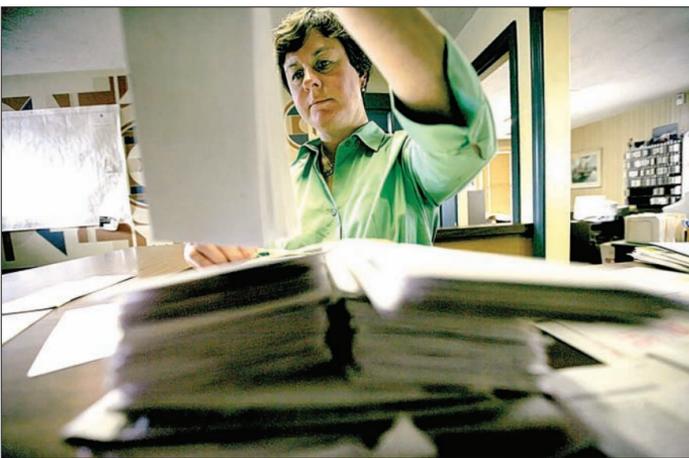
Where: Fishermen's Wharf/Pier 3 and Steamship Pier, New Bedford

When: Saturday, Sept. 22, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Sunday, Sept. 23, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Cost: Free

MORE INSIDE

Wide range of activities planned for this year's Working Waterfront Festival. **Coastin'**



PETER PEREIRA/The Standard-Times

Anne Jardin-Maynard, 45, a partner at Jardin & Dawson Inc. settlement house on Front Street in New Bedford, sorts mail. New Bedford's settlement houses, which handle the finances of fishing vessels, have been owned and managed primarily by women since being established in the 1930s and 1940s.

Women play vital role on waterfront

By **BECKY W. EVANS**
Standard-Times staff writer

NEW BEDFORD — Fishing vessel owners from Connecticut to Maine count on settler Anne Jardin-Maynard to keep them in the green by paying bills, distributing paychecks, preparing tax returns and organizing their finances.

Since 1985, Ms. Jardin-Maynard, 45, has worked

See **WATERFRONT A9**

SOUTHCOAST TODAY.COM ONLINE EXTRA

For more on the Working Waterfront Festival, visit **SouthCoastToday.com/workingwaterfront**

INSIDE TODAY

Vol. CLVIII, No. 183. 50 pages, 3 sections.

WEATHER Morning fog; high 79, low 50. **A2**

LOTTERY Daily Number: **0872**; more lottery, **A2**.



YOUR SECTION

Ad index **A4**
Advice/Comics **A18**
Classified **B6**
Crossword **A18**
Horoscope **A19**
Movies **Coastin'**
Obituaries **A12**
Opinion **A14, 15**
Television **A17**

YOUR TOWN

Freetown **A11**
Lakeville **A3, 11**
New Bedford **A3, 5, 8**
Tri-town **A5**

License revoked

Doctor who pleaded guilty to nine counts of sexual assault loses right to practice medicine. **A3**

Dartmouth loses a library

By **CURT BROWN**
Standard-Times staff writer

DARTMOUTH — The Russells Mills Library has become the latest victim of town budget cuts with the trustees' decision to permanently close the building.

"The biggest news is it won't reopen," said Denise Medeiros,

the town's director of libraries, explaining the Russells Mills Library closed in July due to a lack of funding.

Mrs. Medeiros said the North Dartmouth Library on Tucker Road is closed at least until July 2008, also because of budget concerns. But she added the Board of Library Trustees plans

to seek funding to reopen the library for the 2009 fiscal year.

"There have been three libraries in Dartmouth for 105 years," she said. "It's a sign of the times, I guess, which is not good."

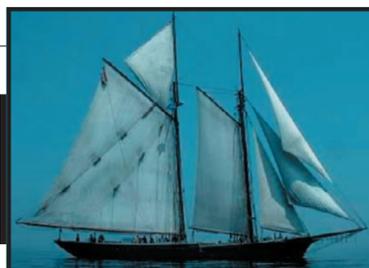
Library trustees also decided to transfer custody of the Russells Mills Library — which See **DARTMOUTH A9**

SOUTH COAST TODAY .COM

Breaking news: Get it in your e-mail for free. Sign up now.

SouthCoastToday.com/breakingnews

HISTORY LESSONS



Explore local history with pages on the Ernestina, Frederick Douglass and the 54th Regiment, with more to come.

SouthCoastToday.com/special_projects