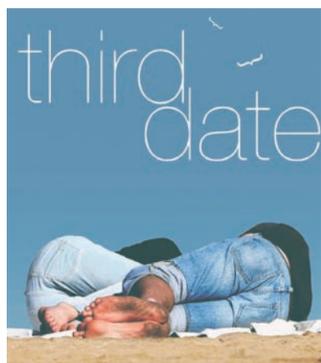


# Time Out Sundance, here we come

Locally made film has its premiere next Thursday  
Page E1



# TELEGRAM & GAZETTE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2007

www.telegram.com

Weather



A2

Morning fog, mostly sunny  
High 82, low 59

WORCESTER MASSACHUSETTS

60 CENTS

## LOCAL NEWS

### WORCESTER

#### STUDENT GETS PRISON TERM

Former WPI student sentenced to 5 to 7 years for rape at frat house.  
Page B1

### WORCESTER

#### HANDICAPPED PARKING CRISIS

New courthouse has only two handicapped parking spaces in front of building.  
Page B1

### WEST BOYLSTON

#### CHARGES IN FATAL CRASH

Driver will be charged in May accident on Prospect Street that killed 76-year-old man.  
Page B1



### Region

#### MURRAY PUSHES CASINO PLAN

Lt. Gov. Timothy P. Murray says casinos would be a way to bring more revenue to the state.  
Page A4

### World

#### BLAST UNHINGES PARLIAMENT

A powerful bomb kills an anti-Syria lawmaker and six others in a Christian neighborhood of Beirut.  
Page A3

### Your opinion

'You gotta know your own kid.'  
— Sam P. Qudsieh, father of 'Kid Nation' participant

### Today's

Would you allow your child to join a television project like "Kid Nation?" See story on this page, then go to telegram.com to vote and offer your opinion.

### Yesterday's

Are you in favor of reforming the criminal records laws to make it easier for those convicted of a crime to put their past behind them?

Yes 44% No 56%

# Bill to limit Iraq tours fails

## GOP refuses to change Bush policy

By Anne Flaherty  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Democrats' efforts to challenge President Bush's Iraq policies were dealt a demoralizing blow yesterday in the Senate after they failed to scrape together enough support to guarantee troops more time at home.

The 56-44 vote — four short of reaching the 60 needed to advance — all but assured Democrats would be unable to muster the support needed to pass tough anti-war legislation by year's end. The legislation,



'I think it's very important that we just put a safety net under our troops.'

SEN. JAMES H. WEBB JR.

D-VA

sponsored by Sen. James H. Webb Jr., D-Va., was seen as the Democrats' best shot because of its pro-military premise.

"The idea of winning the war in Iraq is beginning to get a second look," said Sen. Lindsey O. Graham, R-S.C., who led

opposition to the bill alongside Sen. John S. McCain 3rd.

Webb's legislation would have required that troops spend as much time at home training with their units as they spend deployed in Iraq or Afghanistan. Members of the National Guard or Reserve would be guaranteed three years at home before being sent back.

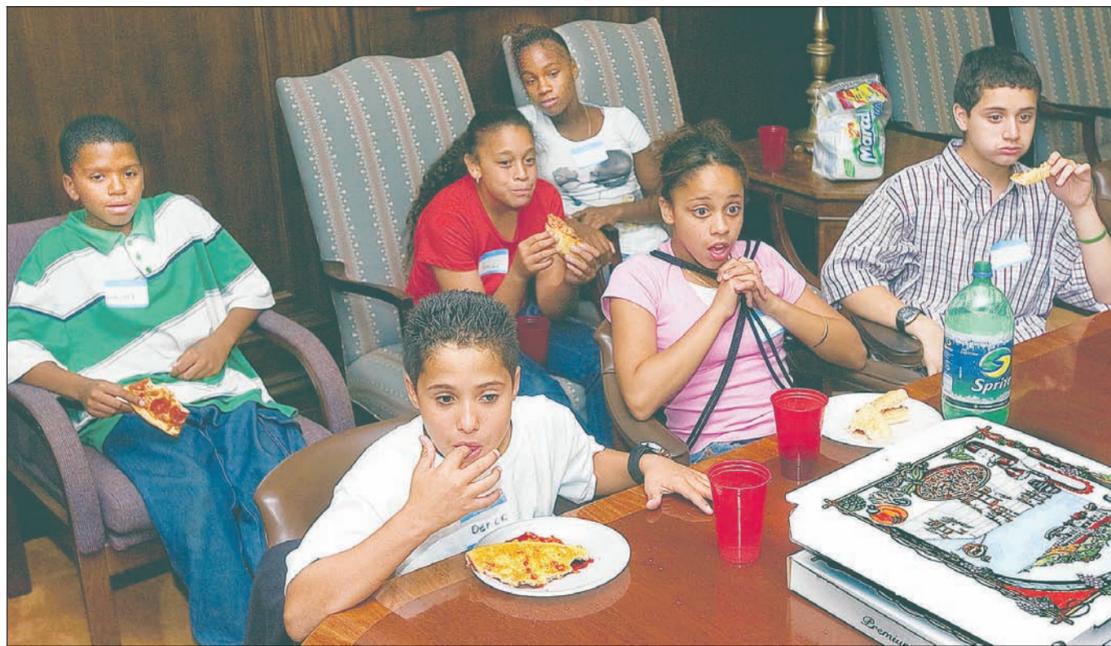
Most Army soldiers now spend about 15 months in combat, with 12 months home.

"I think it's very important that we just put a safety net under our troops," said Webb, a former Vietnam veteran and Navy secretary.

"In blocking this bipartisan bill, Republicans have once again demonstrated that they are more committed to protecting the president than protecting our troops," said Senate Majority Leader Harry M. Reid.

Yesterday's vote was the second time in as many months Webb's bill was sidetracked. In July, a similar measure also fell

Turn to **Republicans**/Page A12



T&G Staff/STEVE LANAVA

Watching the new TV show "Kid Nation" are, front row from left, Derick Fernandez, 10, Alexandra Rodriguez, 14, Adam Brioso, 16. Back row, from left, Anthony Fuentes, 11, Cassandra Rodriguez, 13, Torny Harrison, 12.

# 'Kid Nation' kid stuff

## Youngsters pan show

By Jacqueline Reis  
TELEGRAM & GAZETTE STAFF

WORCESTER — "Forty kids, 40 days, no adults" might build a lot of hype, but that doesn't necessarily make it riveting television. "Kid Nation," the controversial CBS reality show featuring 40 kids on their own (aside from a host, a film crew, doctors, medics and supervisors), premiered last night to the horror of some who work with children and the mild interest of six local kids who watched the program at the T&G last night.

Turn to **Kid**/Page A11

## \$1M in thrills beckons for Douglas 'Survivor'

By Richard Duckett  
TELEGRAM & GAZETTE STAFF

The first "tribal council" could be said to have been held last year at Jordan's Furniture in Reading.

That was where Denise Martin of Douglas had her first survival test. Hundreds of people had descended on the store on a June day for a casting call for the CBS reality TV show "Survivor" — one of several such initial auditions held across the country.

The producers conceivably might not have been interested in any of



Martin

Martin's response: "It was pretty much, 'My boss wants me to do this, my kids, my husband, even my dog.

them. The show casts just 16 castaways.

Martin waited 7½ hours. Then she was asked a single question while a video camera taped her: "Why do you think you should be on 'Survivor'?"

Martin's response: "It was pretty much, 'My boss wants me to do this, my kids, my husband, even my dog.

Turn to **Douglas**/Page A11

# Lukes stresses different view

## Conservative posture shown

By Richard Nangle  
TELEGRAM & GAZETTE STAFF

WORCESTER — In the event that anyone would lump Councilor-at-Large Gary Rosen and Mayor Konstantina B. Lukes into the same contrarian mold, Mrs. Lukes is adamant that she and her newest mayoral rival have little in common.

"The differences are clear," she said. "Gary was willing to assume a budget deficit by refusing to fire anybody. He refused to make those kinds of cuts." She also criticized him for refusing to support a change in the city's Medicare program that would have saved \$3 million.

"I voted against the budget," Mrs. Lukes said. "I didn't want to see a budget based on false assumptions like the Municipal Partnership Act."

Mrs. Lukes, a registered Democrat, has not been shy about labeling herself the conservative candidate in the race and drawing contrasts with the rest of the field. With the field set and the general election campaign under way, she wasted no time in attempting to separate herself from the pack.

"Rick Rushton is unfortunately a tax-and-spender, and I think that's unfortunate for the city," she said, adding that like Mr. Rosen, the District 5 councilor would not back the Medicare



Mrs. Lukes

Turn to **Mayor**/Page A13



Instructor Sgt. Roger Wrigley fires a Taser into Westminster Police Officer Jeff Giles' back during a training class at the Gardner Police Department.

T&G Staff/RICK CINCLAIR

# Gardner sold on Tasers

By Danielle M. Williamson  
TELEGRAM & GAZETTE STAFF

GARDNER — Officer Sean Lafrennie braced himself Tuesday morning, with two cops at his side ready to guide him to the ground once 50,000 volts of electricity coursed through his body.

"Taser, Taser, Taser," Sgt. Kevin Minns yelled as he stood 10 feet away from the officer, aiming a Taser X26 stun gun and preparing to shoot.

Sgt. Minns pulled the trigger, sending two probes with small

## Non-lethal weapon disables suspects

### How a Taser works

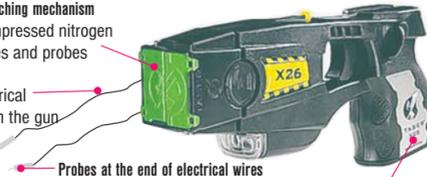
The electric shock delivered by a taser gun overwhelms an attacker's nervous system, forcing his muscles to contract.

#### Disposable launching mechanism

Contains compressed nitrogen cartridge, wires and probes

#### Electrical wires

Provide electrical pathway from the gun to the darts



Probes at the end of electrical wires Attach to attacker and deliver shock

Electric current source Eight AA batteries in grip

Source: Taser International, Inc.; KRT

T&G Staff

Turn to **Gardner**/Page A13