

SPORTS

Manny Leads Sox Over Yankees; Pirates Beat Pack In 2 OTs. C1



CONNECTICUT

Peru Wants Yale To Return All Artifacts From Machu Picchu. B1

WATCHDOG

Sears' Customer Service Falls Short For Some Buyers. A2

WEATHER

Sunny. High 79. B10

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5★ Northwest Connecticut/Sports Final

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► **POPE MEETS WITH VICTIMS:** Pope Benedict XVI met privately and prayed Thursday afternoon with five people who were sexually abused by Catholic clergy members as children. The victims, who came from the Boston area, were invited to Washington for the 25-minute meeting. "I told him he had a cancer in his church" that he needed to address, one of the victims, Bernie McDaid, told CNN later. **Page A11**

BENEDICT XVI

PAPAL VISIT: APRIL 15-20, 2008

► **FAITHFUL BUT TICKETLESS:** They came from as far as 3,000 miles away. Some of the spectators outside the stadium had a cause: Obama for President. Oppose Abortion. Homosexuality Is Wrong. But most just wanted a glimpse of the pope. **Page A11**

► **TODAY'S EVENTS:** Benedict flies to New York, addresses the United Nations, attends ecumenical prayer service.

CATHOLICS' VIEWPOINTS VARY ON POPE'S RESPONSE TO SCANDAL

A Measure Of Healing

By **ELIZABETH HAMILTON**
COURANT STAFF WRITER

When Jayne O'Donnell sat down to listen to Pope Benedict XVI discuss the sex abuse scandal in the Catholic Church Wednesday evening, she flashed back to a moment last May, standing in line while waiting to enter the Sistine Chapel.

Through the windows, she and her husband, Edward, could see the ancient, majestic stone buildings of Vatican City spread out around them. They stood there in a kind of awed silence until Edward nudged her.

"See what you're up against?" he said, referring to O'Donnell's attempts to make church leaders in the Hartford archdiocese accountable for the abuse of children by priests.

The truth of that statement is certainly not lost on O'Donnell this week as she and other Connecticut Catholics closely follow Benedict's first visit to the United States as pope, waiting with varying degrees of anxiety and interest to hear how the 81-year-old pontiff would respond to the scandal that has produced thousands of victims and cost the church more than \$2 billion in settlements.



on the web
Visit www.courant.com/pope for more about Benedict's visit.

If anyone feared that the pope would ignore the scandal, they were wrong. Benedict has raised the issue early and often, speaking of it on the plane trip from Rome, while addressing his American bishops Wednesday evening and again Thursday during a Mass attended by 46,000 people at the Washington Nationals stadium. He also held an impromptu meeting

PLEASE SEE **POPE**, PAGE A12

Aspiring To Great Heights



RICK HARTFORD / THE HARTFORD COURANT

STEEPLEJACK PAUL BASTIAANSE of Valley Restoration, Torrington, puts a primer coat of paint on the steeple at St. John's Episcopal Church on the green in New Hartford Thursday afternoon. Bastiaanse said that the church will be painted a brilliant white. Bastiaanse followed his father into the family-owned business.

Rail Costs Plague Rell

Video Shows She Was Told Of Overruns In 2006

By **JON LENDER**
COURANT STAFF WRITER

A newly unearthed video recording shows that Gov. M. Jodi Rell was told in December 2006 that the cost of the proposed New Haven rail maintenance yard project was "approaching \$800 million."

The video apparently contradicts Rell's recent statements that it wasn't until weeks ago that she knew the project cost had drastically overrun the original \$300-million estimate.

Rell administration officials have been denying for more than a week that the governor knew of the massive cost-ballooning on the New Haven project. The job now will require an additional \$250 million in state bonding — beyond the original \$300 million appropriated by the legislature in 2005 — just to sustain the project through the current design phase and into the start of construction next year.

But Senate Democrats Thursday

PLEASE SEE **RAIL**, PAGE A14

STILL IN DIAL-UP WORLD

Hundreds

In Rural Parts Of State Left Without Broadband Internet Access

BY **MARK PETERS** | COURANT STAFF WRITER

SHARON — In most of Connecticut, dial-up Internet access is a thing of the past, along with rotary phones, pagers and portable cassette players.

But even though the state is a national leader in the availability of broadband Internet, there are still hundreds of residents who can't get it. For them, the static screech of a telephone modem is their only pathway to the Net.

When Bob Corrao traded the bustle of New York's Westchester County for bucolic Sharon, he just assumed there

would be broadband access. He still sounds a bit surprised as he describes his painfully slow dial-up connection. It's become a running joke: Does he actually live in Connecticut—or some more remote outpost?

"Moving from Rye Brook to here, I knew I was going to give up quite a bit," Corrao said. "I never even gave a thought to high-speed Internet."

Corrao is among the hundreds of people in rural pockets of the northeast

PLEASE SEE **INTERNET**, PAGE A13

AT HOME

A Deeper Green

So, you recycle religiously, you've switched to CFLs, you unplug your chargers, you turn down the thermostat, you've weatherstripped and insulated, you only use no-VOC paint, and everything from your sheets to your salad bowl is made from sustainably harvested bamboo. Now what? There still are plenty of steps you can take around the house to go a deeper shade of green. **Page H1**



LIFE

Making The Break

Neil Sedaka sang it best — breaking up is hard to do. And these days of e-mail and text messages are making a bigger mess of the act of ending a relationship. (In case you didn't know, texting "It's over" is really bad form. Yes, rude.) **Page D1**

RICK GREEN

Probate Outrage

Why has a state probate court granted control of a German citizen's life? **Page B1**

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