

# Bruins still kicking

5-1 winner over Montreal sends playoffs back to Boston Page C1



# TELEGRAM & GAZETTE

FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 2008

www.telegram.com

Weather



A2

Very warm, patchy clouds High 76, low 54

WORCESTER MASSACHUSETTS

60 CENTS

VISIT OF POPE BENEDICT XVI

# Pontiff meets abuse victims



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pope Benedict XVI walks down the center aisle after celebrating Mass yesterday at Washington Nationals Park. Story, Page A3.

# Cardinal O'Malley arranges talks

By Michael Paulson THE BOSTON GLOBE

WASHINGTON — Pope Benedict XVI, in a dramatic move likely to alter forever the image of his pontificate, met yesterday afternoon with five victims of clergy sexual abuse from Boston.

The private meeting, which was first reported by The Boston Globe and confirmed later by the Vatican, was brokered by Cardinal Sean P. O'Malley of Boston. The meeting took place at the papal nunciature, which is the home of the pope's ambassador to the United States. The meeting did not appear on the pope's schedule, but took place during the window between morning Mass at Nationals Park and a talk later to Catholic educators gathered at Catholic University of America.

A papal spokesman told the Associated Press O'Malley presented the pontiff with a notebook listing the names of more than 1,000 abuse victims from the Boston archdiocese.

The meeting between a pope and abuse victims is a huge development in the clergy sexual abuse crisis that has rolled the Catholic Church since 2002, when the

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## LOCAL NEWS

### WORCESTER

#### PASTOR DENIED

Judge denies the Rev. Thurman Hargrove's request for an injunction to force an election at the Second Baptist Church. Page B1

### WEST BOYLSTON

#### STREETLIGHTS STAYING ON

Municipal Light Board offers \$22,100 to help balance town budget and to stop streetlights from being shut off. Page B1

### WORCESTER

#### MOTORCYCLIST INJURED

A Worcester man and woman are seriously injured in a motorcycle accident in Clinton. Page B2



### World

#### BOMBER KILLS 50 AT FUNERAL

A suicide bomber strikes the funeral of two Sunni tribesmen who joined forces against al-Qaida in Iraq, killing at least 50 people. Page A3

### Nation

#### FLU SEASON REALLY SICKENING

The current flu season has been the worst in four years, partly because the vaccine didn't work. Page A9

### Your opinion

'I acknowledge the pain which the church in America has experienced as a result of the sexual abuse of minors.' - Pope Benedict XVI

### Today's

Will Pope Benedict XVI's decision to meet with clergy abuse victims help restore the Catholic Church's image? Read the story on this page and then go to telegram.com to vote and offer your opinion.

### Yesterday's

Do you think convicted child rapists should be subject to the death penalty? Yes 68.5%, No 31.5%

# Police chief wants gun range license suspended

By Scott J. Croteau TELEGRAM & GAZETTE STAFF

WORCESTER — The Boston Gun Range's license may be in jeopardy after police say the Route 20 operation violated city ordinances by letting people without a license to carry a firearm fire weapons there and enter the target area.

Police Chief Gary J. Gemme will ask the License Commission Thursday to suspend the Boston Gun Range's license to operate.

The business already has a pending legal case in Worcester Superior Court where the range asked a judge to overturn the chief's prior suspension of its license to sell and rent firearms, sell ammunition and to operate as a gunsmith.

That suspension stemmed from an investigation into the gun range, at 317 Southwest Cutoff, that followed a suicide at the facility in October 2006.

The city and gun range owner came to an agreement in the court case to allow the range to continue operating as long as the owners agreed to follow city ordinance regulations stating only people with either a valid firearm identification card or gun license are allowed to engage in target shooting or enter a live-fire area at shooting ranges.

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T&G Staff/TOM RETTIG

Gov. Deval L. Patrick speaks with community and business leaders yesterday at Gateway Park.

# Housing gets a boost

## Governor delivers funding for projects

By John J. Monahan TELEGRAM & GAZETTE STAFF

WORCESTER — Hoping to rescue several affordable housing programs in city neighborhoods from a stalled real estate market, Gov. Deval L. Patrick yesterday delivered almost \$1 million in state grants to help three local community development housing programs.

News of the awards came as Mr. Patrick brought together a group of

government, business and academic leaders to hash over key elements of local economic development strategies with an eye toward stabilizing neighborhoods and repositioning the growing life sciences and biomedical industries.

Telling leaders the current economic downturn presents opportunities, Mr. Patrick said he is confident the region and the state will rebound strongly, especially if leaders make the right

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# Numbers muddy jury pool

## Auditor criticizes unnecessary calls

By Glen Johnson THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOSTON — State Auditor A. Joseph DeNucci said yesterday the state should work harder to cut the number of people called unnecessarily for jury duty to ensure residents remain willing to carry out the vital service.

The jury commissioner said many of the concerns already had been addressed.

DeNucci said his audit of the Office of Jury Commissioner found that roughly 1 million people statewide were summoned for jury duty in 2006, but only 340,000 ended up serving. Another 100,000 postponed their service for a year.

### Summoned for jury duty

Served on a jury 34%, Dismissed 56%, Postponed service 10%

Source: State auditor's office

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Lauren Chang was a member of a team for the Watertown-based Energized Athletics.

# Cheerleader injured at DCU event dies

By Scott J. Croteau TELEGRAM & GAZETTE STAFF

WORCESTER — A 20-year-old Newton woman died this week from injuries suffered while competing in a cheerleading competition at the DCU Center.

Lauren Chang, a member of a team for the Watertown-based Energized Athletics, was catching another cheerleader as part of a routine Sunday when she was somehow kicked, police said.

Reports said she was struck in the head, but police said it was still unclear

where she was struck. State officials are saying she was kicked in the chest.

"It appears to be a tragic accident," Detective Capt. Edward J. McGinn Jr. said. "The victim somehow got kicked."

The incident occurred at the Minuteman Mass Championships at the DCU Center Sunday. Ms. Chang was performing with her co-ed team — Energy Cheer — at the event when she was accidentally struck by a "tumbler," Capt. McGinn

said.

A Leicester woman who witnessed the accident said there were thousands of people watching the competition. She said Ms. Chang, whose team was performing in the exhibition hall, fell, got up and ran toward stairs. She said the victim appeared to be convulsing or having a seizure. Some people in the hall rushed to

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