

Local

Batten down the hatches

Weather watchers are predicting an active hurricane season Page B1



TELEGRAM & GAZETTE

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2008

www.telegram.com

Weather



A2

Mostly sunny and pleasant High 74, low 59

WORCESTER MASSACHUSETTS

60 CENTS

LOCAL NEWS

WORCESTER

NO RED INK

City deals with two deficits and closes the books on fiscal 2008 without any red ink. Page B1

REGION

MAN NABBED AFTER CHASE

A Worcester man was charged with breaking and entering after a chase through several communities. Page B1

STERLING

GROUP ACCUSES SELECTMEN

A group of residents accuse selectmen of backroom deceptions and violations of the Open Meeting Law. Page B1

Teammate sentenced to probation, community service



Anthony G. and Judy DeMeo, parents of Francis J. DeMeo, give a statement yesterday in Clinton District Court.

Parents' grief told Nashoba tragedy killed teen wrestler

By Karen Nugent TELEGRAM & GAZETTE STAFF

CLINTON — She should have been helping her son get ready for college. Instead, she was standing in a stark courtroom tearfully reading a victim witness statement to a teenager and his family, former friends of her dead son. Judy and Anthony G. DeMeo of Stow were in Clinton District Court yesterday morning to watch the proceedings against that friend, David J. Hayden, 18, who was charged in the motor vehicle death of their son, Francis J. "Frankie" DeMeo.

Mr. Hayden, who was a classmate and fellow member of the wrestling team at Nashoba Regional High School in Bolton, was driving the car that ran over Mr. DeMeo on Fox Run Road in Bolton in February as the four buddies took part in a race. Mr. DeMeo, 19, was on foot, with the other three teens in the car in what was described in court as a "friendly agree-

ment" to race to another friend's house. Mr. Hayden, wearing a navy blue blazer and khaki pants, pleaded guilty yesterday before Judge Mark Noonan to sufficient facts for a guilty finding on a lesser charge of driving negligently. A charge of motor vehicle homicide by negligent driving was dropped as part of the agreement between Assistant District Attorney Blake J. Rubin and Mr. Hayden, who waived his right to a six-person jury trial. Mr. Hayden, who graduated

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Milford lawyer facing 1-year suspension

Unauthorized bankruptcy filing

By Shaun Sutner TELEGRAM & GAZETTE STAFF

WORCESTER — A Milford lawyer could be suspended for a year from practicing in U.S. District Court and made to pay \$5,000 in court fines plus other payments to a 19-year-old Medford woman for whom he admitted he filed bankruptcy without her knowledge or consent. Lawyer Robert F. Creasia also is the subject of allegations that he filed similar unauthorized bankruptcies for two Central Massachusetts residents who

were facing foreclosures on their homes. Mr. Creasia's lawyer told U.S. Bankruptcy Court Judge Henry J. Boroff yesterday that his client acknowledged filing the unauthorized bankruptcy, but that he did so because of poor judgment stemming from bipolar disorder and serious personal problems, including a divorce. "Mr. Creasia has remorse over this mistake," lawyer Daniel Doyle told the judge.

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Ethics panel ends Sena inquiry

Ex-city official feels vindicated

By Nick Kotsopoulos TELEGRAM & GAZETTE STAFF

WORCESTER — The state Ethics Commission has terminated its inquiry into allegations that Francis X. Sena, former chairman of the city's License Commission, used his influential position to get free drinks and meals at local restaurants. Nearly one year after the Ethics Commission authorized its staff to conduct a confidential preliminary inquiry into whether Mr. Sena violated the

state's conflict of interest law, the commission recently decided to bring that investigation to an end. Mr. Sena was notified of the commission's decision in a letter dated Aug. 5 to Thomas R. Kiley, Mr. Sena's Boston-based lawyer.

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Georgia

RUSSIA GIVES NOD TO BREAKAWAYS

Russia stuns the West by recognizing the independence claims of two Georgian breakaway regions. Page A3

World

GUSTAV HEADS FOR THE GULF

Hurricane Gustav dumps torrential rains across southern Haiti, killing at least one man and threatening crops. Page A3

Asian longhorned beetle inspector Thomas Rawinski of the U.S. Forest Service inspects trees yesterday along Fales Street in Worcester.



T&G Staff/RICK CINCLAIR

Host-tree mapping begins

By Thomas Caywood TELEGRAM & GAZETTE STAFF

WORCESTER — Thomas Rawinski of the U.S. Forest Service may well have a sore neck this morning after spending much of yesterday in the Greendale neighborhood with his head tilted back, peering into the crowns of trees with a small set of binoculars. Mr. Rawinski, who lives in Durham, N.H., and Gary

Under siege

Wheeler of the city Department of Public Works and Parks' forestry section, formed one of six two-person teams who yesterday began scouring the neighborhood for trees infested by Asian longhorned beetles and mapping every tree susceptible to the destructive insects. The men started their work

about 9 yesterday morning, the first day of a survey expected to take roughly three weeks. By 2 p.m., Mr. Rawinski had plotted on a map the locations of 72 hardwoods of species that Asian longhorned beetles are known to attack, called host trees. They didn't see any conclusive signs of infestation yesterday, but noted several trees to be checked more thoroughly later.

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Your opinion

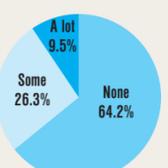
'Like everything else in life, there are times that you have to make an adjustment.' — Bud Selig, commissioner

Today's

Should baseball umpires be allowed to check instant replays on home run calls? See story on Page C1, then go to telegram.com to vote and offer your opinion.

Yesterday's

How much time do you plan to spend watching the Democratic National Convention?



Clinton calls on backers to endorse Obama

Ex-candidate says there's not a moment to lose

By David Espo THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DENVER — Hillary Rodham Clinton summoned millions of voters who supported her in the primaries to send Barack H. Obama to the White House last night, declaring in a Democratic National Convention speech that the man who defeated her "is my candidate and he must be our president." In a prime time address, the former first lady added, "We don't have a moment to lose or a vote to spare." The packed convention floor became a sea of white "Hillary" signs as the New York senator strode to the podium, and thousands of Democrats cheered as she took a pre-speech sip of water. While her prepared remarks included a full-



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y., addresses the delegates last night at the convention.

throated endorsement of Obama, she did not indicate whether she would have her name placed in nomination or seek a formal roll call of

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Patrick says Obama understands America

By Brian C. Mooney THE BOSTON GLOBE

DENVER - Three years ago, Deval L. Patrick was a political unknown, but last night the Massachusetts governor stepped onto a prime-time national political stage to extol the historic candidacy of his friend, Democratic presidential candidate Barack H. Obama, and took shots at the man standing between Obama and the White House, John S. McCain 3rd, the presumptive Republican nominee. Appearing in a coveted convention time slot between

Mark W. Warner, the keynote speaker and Senate candidate from Virginia, and Hillary Rodham Clinton, Obama's vanquished rival, Patrick adhered to comfortable themes such as building a sense of community and renewed civic engagement, what Patrick last night called "a renewed American story."

Those themes defined his upstart gubernatorial candidacy in 2006 and echo those espoused by Obama in his presidential campaign. But he also drew sharp contrasts be-

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