

'D' DOES IT

Record-setting defensive play helped the Celtics sink the Bucks, 87-56. **C1**



CARING FOR KIDS: Doctor expands health care for local kids. **D1**

STEPPING IT UP: Woman with MS to take part in walk for a cure. **B1**

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SPENDING PROPOSAL

Hearing on Diman's '12 budget plan set for today

Some federal funds earmarked to school are scheduled to end

Will Richmond
Herald News Staff Reporter

FALL RIVER — The School Committee representing the Diman Regional Vocational Technical School system will be presented with a budget today that is both an increase and a decrease from the school's current spending levels.

The confusing math is due to the end of federal funds earmarked to the school in past years through sources such as the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act and State Fiscal Stabilization Funds, which where stimulus funds given to the state for reallocation.

Superintendent-Director Marta Montleon said the foundation budget for fiscal 2012 is a 2.17 percent increase over the fiscal year 2011 foundation budget. But, when accounting for the loss of those federal funds, Montleon said the budget is a 2.68 percent decline over the current fiscal year.

Regardless of where the funds are coming from, Montleon said a foundation budget

TURN TO **BUDGET**, PAGE A5

PROJECT AT DIMAN

IRONING OUT TEAMWORK



Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School senior Nic Tavares, left, and sophomore Russell Marum smooth out some rough edges on a section of the new athletic fields fence, which prominently displays the Diman Bengal. Diman students involved in all aspects of producing and finishing the fence are taking part in the project. When the fence is completed, it will replace an old chain-link fence separating the school's parking lot from its athletic fields.

HERALD NEWS PHOTOS | JACK FOLEY

Diman students building school fence learn to work together



Diman sophomore Austin Estrella grinds a rough edge on one of the fence pieces.

Will Richmond
Herald News Staff Reporter

FALL RIVER — Like an assembly line, the effort to construct a new fence at Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School wound its way throughout the school.

The wrought-iron fence started in the school's drafting shop, where a design was created. Meanwhile, students in the carpentry shop were busy building a wooden jig that would serve as a template for each of the 40 eight-foot sections to ensure each section was similar.

Once the jig was finished and delivered, the metal fabrication and welding shop stepped in and began assembling the fence. Once they are done, the sections

HE SAID IT
"This is the kind of project that really shows students how big a project can be and the need for help from other departments."
— Diman welding shop teacher Edward Carreiro, on the construction of the fence

will go to the auto body shop, where they will be painted. When the work is done, it will replace the chain-link fence that currently separates the school's parking lot from its athletic fields. The sections will be adorned with emblems of either the school's mascot — a Bengal tiger — or images representing the sports played at the school. A large gate will also be constructed and will include pillars holding plaques in honor of Diman luminaries. All of the work, being done by students, is expected to be completed sometime during the 2011-12 school year, metal fabricating and welding shop teacher Edward Carreiro said. "This is the kind of project that really shows students how

TURN TO **FENCE**, PAGE A5

STAYING IN SCHOOL

BCC student, 94, makes it a mission to keep learning

Grant Welker
Herald News Staff Reporter

After 94 years, Isadore Horvitz still needs to learn something every day to get a good night's sleep. So for the past 21 years, he has taken dozens of classes at Bristol Community College, never earning a degree but getting the reward of learning nonetheless.

Horvitz, known as Issi, retired in 1990 and immediately enrolled in a computer course. Through the years, he's hit nearly every subject: history, literature, biology, astronomy, economics, and plenty in between.

His typical day also includes an elliptical and nautilus workout at the YMCA in Fall

TURN TO **STUDENT**, PAGE A6



HORVITZ

WILBUR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

State probing huge jump in MCAS math scores

Grant Welker
Herald News Staff Reporter

SOMERSET — The state is looking into whether a dramatic jump in performance by Wilbur Elementary School fifth-graders on last spring's MCAS test may have been caused by illegal coaching or some other unfair assistance.

Last spring, Wilbur fifth-graders had the best rate in the state of "advanced" scores on the math portion of the exam at 79 percent. Not one student of 28 in

This photo shows the front of Wilbur Elementary School in Somerset.

HERALD NEWS PHOTO | DAVE SOUZA



the class scored in the "warning" or "needs improvement" category, even though more than half did score in those categories only two

years prior. Statewide, 45 percent of fifth-graders scored in those lowest two categories on math. The leap in performance by

fifth-graders at Wilbur last year far exceeded those at the town's other three elementary schools. At Chace Street, 49 percent of students scored advanced, but only 20 percent did at North, and 7 percent at South.

Even at Wilbur, the performance stood out. Only 21 percent of fourth-graders scored advanced in math, for example, and fifth-graders weren't able to duplicate their math success last year in either of the two other MCAS subjects,

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SAD DADS, MORE SPANKINGS:

A study released online today in the journal Pediatrics found that a surprising number of sad dads spanked their 1-year-olds. About 40 percent of depressed fathers in a survey said they'd spanked kids that age, versus just 13 percent of fathers who weren't depressed. The American Academy of Pediatrics and many child development experts warn against spanking children of any age. The researchers said spanking is especially troubling in children who are only 1, because they could get injured. The authors analyzed data on 1,746 fathers from a nationally representative survey in 16 large U.S. cities, conducted in 1999-2000.



KEEPING TABS?

Apple's new iPad 2 — which is faster, lighter and skinnier — is still reasonably priced, helping it pull further ahead of its rivals. **STORY B4**