



PROVIDENCE COLLEGE | B1

COOLEY: FRIARS ITCHING TO GET BACK ON COURT, AND READY, TOO



THE PATRIOTS | B1

THE INTERCEPTOR: JONATHAN JONES SHUT DOWN THE BRONCOS' AIR GAME

# The Providence Journal

Tuesday, October 20, 2020

Vol. CXCII, No. 71

© 2020 Published daily since 1829

providencejournal.com



@projo



facebook.com/ProvidenceJournal

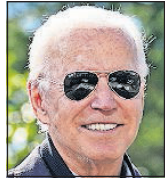
\$3

CAMPAIGN 2020

## Trump goes after Fauci, tries to buck up his team

By Zeke Miller and Jill Colvin  
The Associated Press

PRESCOTT, Ariz. — President Donald Trump came out swinging Monday at Dr. Anthony Fauci, the press and polls that show him trailing Democrat Joe Biden in key battleground states in a disjointed closing message two weeks out from Election Day. On the third day of a western campaign swing, Trump was facing intense pressure to turn around his campaign, hoping for the type of last-minute surge that gave him a come-from-behind victory four years ago. But his inconsistent message, the newly rising virus cases and his attacks on experts like Fauci could undermine his final efforts to appeal to voters outside his most loyal base. Still Trump insisted he was confident as he executed an aggressive travel schedule



Biden



Trump

despite the pandemic. "We're going to win," he told campaign staff on a morning conference call from Las Vegas. He went on to acknowledge: "I wouldn't have told you that maybe two or three weeks ago," referring to the days when he was hospitalized with COVID-19. Seeking to shore up the morale of his staff, Trump blasted his government's own scientific experts as too negative, even as his handling of the pandemic that has killed nearly 220,000 Americans remains a central issue to voters.

See CAMPAIGN, A8

## Study: R.I. kids who most need classroom learning are least likely to have it

By Linda Borg  
Journal Staff Writer

The students who most need to be back in a real classroom — those from low-income families — are the ones spending more of their time learning remotely, according to a study by the Rhode Island Public Expenditure Council. In a nearly 40-page report, RIPEC, a business-oriented research and policy organization based at Bryant University, concluded that distance learning has exacerbated the opportunity gaps between students from low- and higher-income families. "Many of the urban districts that were already among lowest performing are relying most on distance learning," said president and CEO Michael DiBiase. "The students most likely to be denied access to in-person learning ... are the least able to

afford the learning loss expected to result from distance learning." Gov. Gina Raimondo urged districts to reopen classrooms by Oct. 13. About a third of the students in Rhode Island's 36 districts actually had access to fully in-person learning on that date. Only one in four school districts — nine out of 36 — made full in-person instruction available to all students, RIPEC said. The nine districts are exclusively in suburban and rural communities and only make up about 10% of Rhode Island's public-school students. The proportion of students brought back on a full-time basis varies widely among districts, RIPEC reported. In Cumberland, fewer than 5% of students have access to full in-person learning, compared to

See STUDY, A5

## Crash reverberates



Jhamal Gonsalves, left, with his father, Mark, and sister Khayla Gonsalves in a file photo. Jhamal was seriously injured in a crash while riding a moped down a Providence street in a group of vehicles that included off-road motorcycles and ATVs that are not street-legal. The role of a Providence officer driving a cruiser near Jhamal at the time of the crash is under investigation. [THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL, FILE / G. WAYNE MILLER]

## Outrage, probe into Providence police conduct after moped rider badly hurt



Providence Police Chief Hugh T. Clements Jr. steps up to the microphone during a Providence police news conference on Monday about Sunday's crash. [THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / KRIS CRAIG]

By Madeleine List  
Journal Staff Writer

PROVIDENCE — A Providence police officer has been placed on administrative duty amid an investigation of a crash that seriously injured a man on a moped Sunday evening. Providence Mayor Jorge Elorza and Public Safety Commissioner Steven Paré promised a thorough and transparent investigation of the crash, with Paré saying that he hoped to have something to report to the public within two weeks. The attorney general's office and the state police will be involved, and Elorza invited the U.S. Department of Justice to also look into the case. Paré and Police Chief Hugh T. Clements Jr. urged anyone with video of the crash to provide it to investigators. Clements said whether the officer's vehicle struck the

See CRASH, A4



The Graduate Providence hotel, closed during the pandemic, has not announced a reopening date. [THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / KRIS CRAIG]

## Advocate: Half of R.I. hotels will close without aid

By John Kostrzewa  
Special to The Journal

Half the hotels in Rhode Island will close by the middle of next year if they do not soon receive "substantial" government aid to help recover from the pandemic recession, said Farouk Rajab, chairman of the Rhode Island Hospitality Association. Rajab said no specific amount of aid has been requested from the state. But he said the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation is researching assistance for the industry and one figure he has

heard discussed is \$35 million. Any state aid could come from federal money already allocated to Rhode Island under the CARES Act. A second source of federal aid to the hotel industry could come from pending legislation in Congress. Rajab said he knows there are many competing requests for aid from other industries damaged by the coronavirus and government restrictions that have been enacted here and across the country to curb the spread.

See HOTELS, A2

By the numbers

Cases in R.I.: **28,347** (656 reported Monday)  
Negative tests in R.I.: **939,292** (41,512 reported Monday, 1.6% positive rate)  
R.I. coronavirus-related deaths: **1,159** (7 reported Monday)  
Rhode Islanders hospitalized with coronavirus: **128** (16 in intensive care)  
Cases in Massachusetts: **143,660**  
Massachusetts coronavirus-related deaths: **9,737**  
Cases in U.S.: **8,201,554**  
U.S. coronavirus-related deaths: **219,950**

Business.....A10  
Classified.....B5  
Comics.....B10

Crossword.....B8  
Legals.....B5  
Obituaries.....A9

Opinion.....A11  
Television.....B9  
Weather.....A7

TODAY  
Partly sunny  
68° / 59°

WEDNESDAY  
Some sun  
72° / 59°

THURSDAY  
Clouds, sun  
74° / 50°

6 58376 00001 0  
Daily