

The Newport Daily News

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50 CENTS

'It's pretty much crime free and we want to keep it that way.'

— Mark B. Goulet
Prudence Island special police officer

Peace officer

■ Prudence Island, where crime is almost nonexistent, is looking to hire a full-time police officer.

By Susan Cover
Daily News staff

PRUDENCE ISLAND — Prudence Island Special Police Officer Mark B. Goulet does a lot more — and a lot less — than most police officers.

He boards up broken windows for land owners when they are away and spreads the word when the ferry is canceled.

He reminds people when their inspection stickers are about to expire. He checks on the elderly and regularly patrols party spots on the island.

He describes his job as "90 percent public relations."

But he doesn't make many arrests. And that's the way he likes it.

"I'm part carpenter, part errand runner, part almost anything," Goulet said last week as he drove the island's bumpy roads in the police vehicle — a 1985 GMC Sierra truck.

Goulet has been serving as the island's interim police officer since Tom Parker retired about a year ago. The town is seeking a full-time replacement and hopes to fill the \$27,500-a-year position soon.

In the meantime, Goulet — who says he is applying for the job — will continue

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David Hansen/Daily News photo

Prudence Island's interim special police officer, Mark B. Goulet, who is applying for the full-time opening, says the job is '90 percent public relations.'

Thousands of Albanians flee Kosovo

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) — NATO bombs pounded Yugoslavia for a sixth day as thousands of ethnic Albanians fleeing Serb paramilitary forces streamed out of Kosovo today in what may be Europe's worst humanitarian disaster since World War II.

A leading ethnic Albanian leader, Fehmi Agani, was executed Sunday, NATO officials said today. Agani, a key figure considered a moderate in the leadership, was returning from a funeral and was one of the negotiators at the failed Rambouillet peace talks.

NATO said refugees were arriving at the Albanian border at the rate of 4,000 an hour today, straining the already desperate resources of one of Europe's poorest countries.

The Albanian prime minister appealed today to his countrymen to take in the refugees, most of whom were carrying their only possessions by hand and some without even identity documents — taken away, the refugees said, by Serb authorities at the border.

"It's almost as if their identities are being canceled out," NATO spokesman Jamie Shea said today at a news briefing in Brussels, Belgium.

About 60,000 Kosovo Albanian refugees have arrived in northern Albania, double the rate of a few days earlier, the U.N. relief agency said today. Thousands more headed west to Montenegro and southeast to Macedonia.

"Are you American?" Nejmije Kelmendi, 50, asked an Associated Press photographer as she trudged up a steep mountain road near Pec

ALBANIANS, Page A10

Analysis

U.S. has no Plan B

By David Briscoe
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — If Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic fails to buckle under NATO air bombardment aimed at weakening his military and forcing peace in Kosovo, the Clinton administration faces few options for leading NATO out of the crisis.

The only strategy so far revealed: more bombs and missiles.

"We cannot predict with certainty how long these operations will need to continue," President Clinton admitted in his official notification of the action, sent to Congress three days into the operation.

But with the bombing campaign increased over the weekend and the risks of NATO action underscored by the loss of an F-117A stealth fighter jet Saturday, critics are looking for an end game.

Airstrike supporters say weakening Milosevic's military

ANALYSIS, Page A10

Old cemetery gets restored by volunteers

By Ryan Blessing
Daily News staff

NEWPORT — The newly restored St. Joseph's Cemetery on Barney Street has become a visible link to Newport's proud Irish heritage.

A dedication ceremony for the restored cemetery, sponsored by the Museum of Newport Irish History, was held Sunday as part of the Newport Irish Heritage Month celebration.

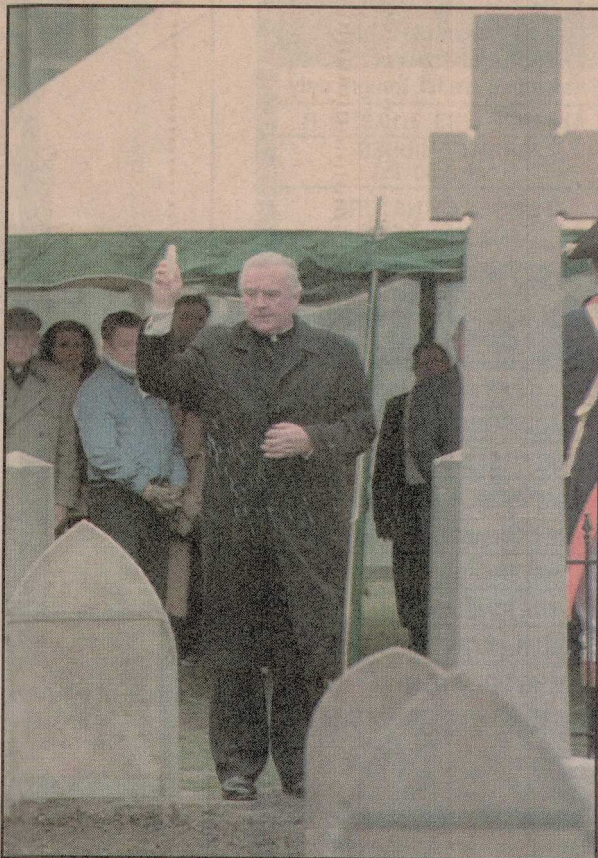
The small cemetery, known locally as the "Barney Street Cemetery," was established after 1828. It is the site of the first permanent Catholic church in Rhode Island.

Before the restoration project began last August, it was evident the cemetery had fallen on hard times. Over the years, headstones had fallen over or been knocked down, and an iron fence that once surrounded the plot had vanished. A stone-carved cross, built about 75 years ago, had been knocked down and was chipped and cracked.

Retired Fire Chief John Booth, a lifelong resident of Newport, coordinated the volunteer effort for the restoration, the first project for the Museum of Newport Irish History.

Booth said that after he retired he was looking for something to get involved with, but he didn't figure on putting as much work as he did into the cemetery.

"It was a fun project, and in the end all the hard work



Brendan Bush/Daily News photo

Auxiliary Bishop of Providence Robert Mulvee sprinkles holy water Sunday during the dedication of St. Joseph's Cemetery in Newport.

paid off," Booth said. Because the project took a lot of time, the restoration team was working on the cemetery until the last minute.

CEMETERY, Page A10

Watchdog group finds holes in Almond budget

By Scott Andrews
Associated Press

PROVIDENCE — The Rhode Island Public Expenditure Council released its annual analysis of the governor's budget plan today, warning that the state government is overextending itself and needs to cut costs to avoid a \$181.2 million deficit by 2004.

The independent, nonprofit group also said a proposed 3.9 percent increase in direct aid to local schools may be too small and could lead to local property tax increases.

"The administration has not identified programmatic changes, management efficiencies or any contingency plans to address the structural budget gap," the group said in its analysis. "To the contrary, the governor's ... budget includes provisions that mask or otherwise exacerbate the structural gap."

The Providence-based organization also praised some aspects of the budget plan, which covers July through June 2000. The group praised allocation of 87 percent of

the increase in education aid to urban schools, the continuation of tax cuts, early debt repayment and more funds for child care.

The group also sided with Almond in one of his fights with state Democratic leaders. The council advocated putting into the general fund any money from the state's out-of-court settlement with cigarette companies over smoking-related costs.

The Public Expenditure Council took a dim view of the state's income tax structure, which forces residents to pay the state a fixed portion of their federal income tax liability.

"Decoupling Rhode Island's income tax system from the federal system could allow the state to structure an income tax system that is more competitive with neighboring states," predictable ... and better able to respond to changing economic circumstances," the group said.

The group's most serious criticism may be that the current economic euphoria is generating government programs that will have to be slashed in future years, when the

economy tapers.

The Public Expenditure Council suggests several changes:

■ Do not bank on getting all the tobacco settlement money, because the federal government is considering taking part of it. Almond is relying on the money to balance his budget.

■ Do not enact new spending programs.

■ Limit the number of state employees to 15,985, about 600 more than are on the payroll now.

■ Cut the growth in prison spending by sentencing fewer nonviolent offenders to prison. The Department of Corrections expects an 8 percent increase in the number of inmates next year.

John Rooke, Almond's spokesman, said it is not the time to worry about future deficits.

"I think you have to look at the present time before you look to the future," he said Sunday. "When we get present day tasks in hand, then we can begin to deal with future issues."

Computer users warned to be on lookout for 'Melissa'

Associated Press
with Daily News reports

The e-mail might be smiling but the danger is real.

Security experts are warning computer users to be on guard today for "important" e-mail messages that carry a damaging computer virus called "Melissa."

Melissa, heralded by symbols that form a winking smiley face, usually contains the subject line, "Important message," and the body says "Here is that document you asked for ... don't show it to anyone else."

The virus launches documents into cyberspace and can clog e-mail servers, security experts said Sunday. Unwitting users may think they are receiving e-mail from a friend because the virus plunders address books.

Several businesses and governments around

the world have contacted Carnegie Mellon University's Computer Emergency Response Team for help with the virus, said CERT manager Katherine Fithen.

Problems with Melissa-infected computers had not been reported to Internet companies in this area this morning.

April Lorenzen of I-Net in Jamestown said many computer viruses are harmless, but some are not. "It can be extremely serious," she said. "You can lose all of your data."

Lorenzen advises computer users to be careful opening e-mail attachments, particularly those those marked with the "exe" code.

Discs passed from computer to computer should always be run through virus scanning software, she said. Lorenzen reminded computer users to update that scanning software every few months so that it can battle the most up-to-date viruses.

The Melissa virus spreads via Microsoft's widely used Word 97 and Word 2000 documents which can be attached to e-mail messages, as well as Microsoft's Outlook and Outlook Express e-mail program, according to CERT.

If a computer user opens the infected Word-format document, the virus propagates itself by reading the user's e-mail address book and sends an infected message to the first 50 entries, CERT said.

By sending out that many messages, office e-mail servers can become clogged and crash, although the virus apparently causes no direct damage to a computer's memory or programs.

Information about the Melissa virus is available on the Web at <http://www.cert.org/advisories/CA-99-04-Melissa-Macro-Virus.html>. Microsoft has a patch available at <http://www.microsoft.com/security/bulletins/ms99-002.asp>.

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WHEN DISASTER STRIKES: Red Cross volunteer Jean Littlefield is there to help. Local/State, Page B1.

Peace

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to work the beat on Prudence Island.

The most recent arrest took place last summer, when some teens were nabbed for breaking into a house. Eight people have been arrested on Prudence Island in the last two years, but there's no jail there.

"If we arrest anybody over here they send a police boat over from the mainland," he said.

Goulet, 53, has spent every summer since childhood on the island and became a full-time resident in 1989. He renovated a 1914 cottage built by his grandparents and has a nice view of Narragansett Bay from his picture window.

And while most people can leave their jobs at the office, Goulet's home serves as police headquarters. After returning from patrolling the island's roads, Goulet checks his answering machine.

In the kitchen, Goulet leaves his personal Xerox Memorywriter plugged in so he can type his daily log sheets. On his log from Monday, March 22:

"0600: Began morning patrol. Notified ferry patrons of canceled ferry. Noted downed phone lines."

"0915: Attempt to locate (island electrician) regarding no heat at school."

"1600: Patrol completed."

The log continues from there, noting that Goulet was on call at midnight and was relieved by his part-time assistant, Robert Marshall, at 6 a.m.

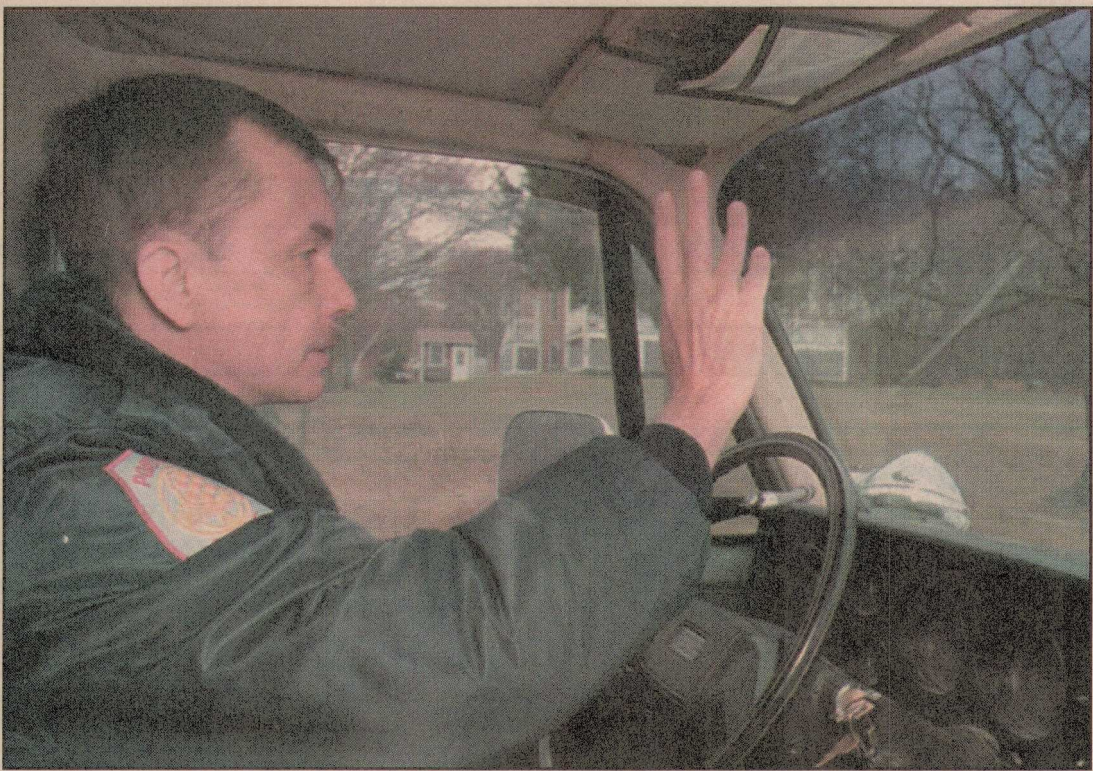
Many times, people call Goulet at home rather than going through official channels. One man called last Wednesday to inquire about the island's camping policy. Others call with problems, but don't always use proper street names.

"You get calls of a dead dog by the Swindells' house," he said.

While driving his route around the island, Goulet passed few cars. Right now, it's the really slow time of year on the island. The summer, when the population swells from 118 to 3,000, is the peak time.

"Labor Day Weekend is wild," he said. "You just try to keep the peace."

Deer hunting season also adds to the police workload on the island. Goulet keeps an eye out for hunters illegally using spotlights to find deer and waits for hunters to return to their cars after dark.



Prudence Island Special Police Officer Mark B. Goulet waves to a passing motorist while making his rounds Wednesday. It's usually quiet work — until the peak season starts in summer.

'Labor Day Weekend is wild. You just try to keep the peace.'

— Mark B. Goulet
Prudence Island Special Police Officer

"They could be lost or hurt," he said. "Or tracking deer. Or still hunting."

Goulet can tell you who lives where and if they are a summer or year-round resident. He notices the small details about people's homes. He can tell if a phone wire is disconnected from a house or if the wind blew in a window. Then he picks up the phone and finds out what the home owner, who is usually living out of state, wants to do about it.

As he drives, the police scanner provides constant background chatter. He encounters wandering deer, a flock of geese, huge white swans and a pair of cardinals flitting from tree to tree.

"This woman just died so we watch her property," Goulet said, pointing out the window. "This guy is coming back from Florida."

And while speeding and car accidents are not a major problem — there have been two fender benders and two accidents in the last two years — Goulet sometimes reminds people of the 25 mph limit. In the summer, groups like to build bonfires, a no-no on the island.

"They call them campfires," he said. "I call the fire department and have it put out."

Goulet's most difficult assignment was one many police officers dread. He had to notify the wife of a man who had died while walking on the island.

"That's something nobody ever gets used to," he said. "I sat there for an hour or so with her."

During rescue calls, Goulet meets island firefighters at the scene to offer help. If there are no qualified ambulance drivers available, he responds to the fire station to drive the rescue wagon. After the seriousness of the illness or injury is determined, victims are taken to a dock near the lighthouse where they are taken by boat to a hospital.

This summer, he and the firefighters are going to be running a public service campaign to encourage children to wear their bike helmets.

"It's pretty much crime-free and we want to keep it that way," he said.

Cemetery

Continued from Page A1

"I'm relieved the hard work is over. We were working right up until noon yesterday (Saturday) on it, so it's nice to be able to rest and take a look at all the effort," Booth said.

The restoration work is not entirely complete, but very close. The cemetery still needs a rear section of fence, and sod needs to be placed around the headstones, but the major results of the restoration are clearly visible.

Vincent Arnold, president of the Museum of Newport Irish History, said the final touches will be done over the next month.

The 25 headstones were removed in the fall and taken to a local warehouse, where they were washed and scrubbed clean, Booth said. They were then returned to their original locations.

The new black fence that surrounds the restored headstones is a replica of a wrought iron fence of the 1850s. It was made by B & B Welding and Repair Inc. of Newport.

The stone cross was restored to its original likeness by Nick Benson of The John Stevens Shop in Newport.

The brief dedication of the cemetery drew a crowd of people, most of whom were involved with the project or were vocal supporters of it.

Auxiliary Bishop Robert Mulvee

of Providence led the dedication prayer. Mulvee said it was ironic that some of Newport's first Irish immigrants were buried on the same site where they were first able to worship.

"I know from their spot in heaven they thank you," Mulvee said before sprinkling the plot with holy water.

Members of the Newport Artillery Company served as the official honor guard for the ceremony, with bagpiper John Sullivan providing the music.

Arnold said the Museum of Newport Irish History plans to remain active throughout Newport County. A video history of the Irish in Newport is in the works, he said.

The organization, founded in 1996, recognizes and preserves the contributions of Irish men and women of Newport.

"We want to remain active in all aspects of Irish history and immigration as they relate to the Newport area," Arnold said.

Booth said he would like to learn more about the people buried in the cemetery, and if they had any descendants.

"A lot of them died very young, they were babies or children. But it's possible a few of the adults' descendants are still somewhere in Newport," he said.

Police on alert as Muslim ritual nears end

MINA, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Hundreds of policemen shouting "Move on, pilgrim!" directed a sea of Muslims hurling pebbles today at three pillars symbolizing the devil in a closing ritual of the Islamic hajj.

The security forces directed pilgrims to a bridge that leads to the stone pillars standing in a row in the valley of Mina. Loudspeakers strung across the area broadcast messages in English, Arabic and Urdu urging the white-robed pilgrims to avoid congestion.

"Please perform the stoning and

leave from the exit. Do not go back from the same way you came from," the announcement said as policemen showed the way toward an exit lane.

Stoning the devil symbolizes the rejection of Satan's temptations, in one of the final rituals of the annual pilgrimage to Mecca and Medina.

Police were taking extra efforts to keep traffic organized. Last year, incoming and exiting pilgrims milled in the same lane, which contributed to a stampede at the site that left 180 people dead.

Albanians

Continued from Page A1

in southwestern Kosovo, accompanied by her two daughters. "Tell NATO that Pec is burning, and where are the ground troops?"

NATO seemed to back up that statement, saying today that Pec was "substantially destroyed."

Yugoslav officials were defiant, saying NATO's "shameful" attacks were only inflaming the ethnic crisis in Kosovo, where ethnic Albanian rebels have been fighting for independence the past 13 months from Serbia, the main Yugoslav republic.

NATO's assault is aimed at getting President Slobodan Milosevic to accept a peace plan that calls for 28,000 troops in Kosovo, including 4,000 Americans.

President Clinton, on his way to Camp David, was asked whether he believed the air strikes were aggravating repression in Kosovo, he replied, "Absolutely not."

"The continued brutality and repression of the Serb forces further underscores the need for NATO to persevere," the president said.

Asked today whether the NATO mission was succeeding, Shea said:

"Yes, we are being effective. Yes, the mission is working."

Meanwhile, Russia's prime minister, Yevgeny Primakov, announced plans to go to Belgrade on Tuesday in a new bid to end the Kosovo crisis. Russia, which has cultural and historic ties to Serbia, has strongly opposed NATO's air campaign against Yugoslavia.

Early today, Allied warplanes targeted mobile Serb units in Kosovo and cruise missiles launched from U.S. ships in the Adriatic joined in the barrage. Air raid sirens sounded again in the Yugoslav capital at mid-morning.

Serbian state-run television repeatedly showed video of a raging fire in the center of Kosovo's capital of Pristina that it said was set off by a NATO missile attack on a police building.

Rather than restraining the Serbs, however, the attacks appeared only to have intensified their anger at the ethnic Albanians, who make up 90 percent of Kosovo's 2 million people inhabitants.

"The pattern that emerges (from their accounts) is paramilitary forces arriving, rounding people up and telling them at gunpoint to go,"

said spokesman Kris Janowsky of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees in Geneva. "So we are seeing officially sanctioned ethnic cleansing of the Albanian population in Kosovo."

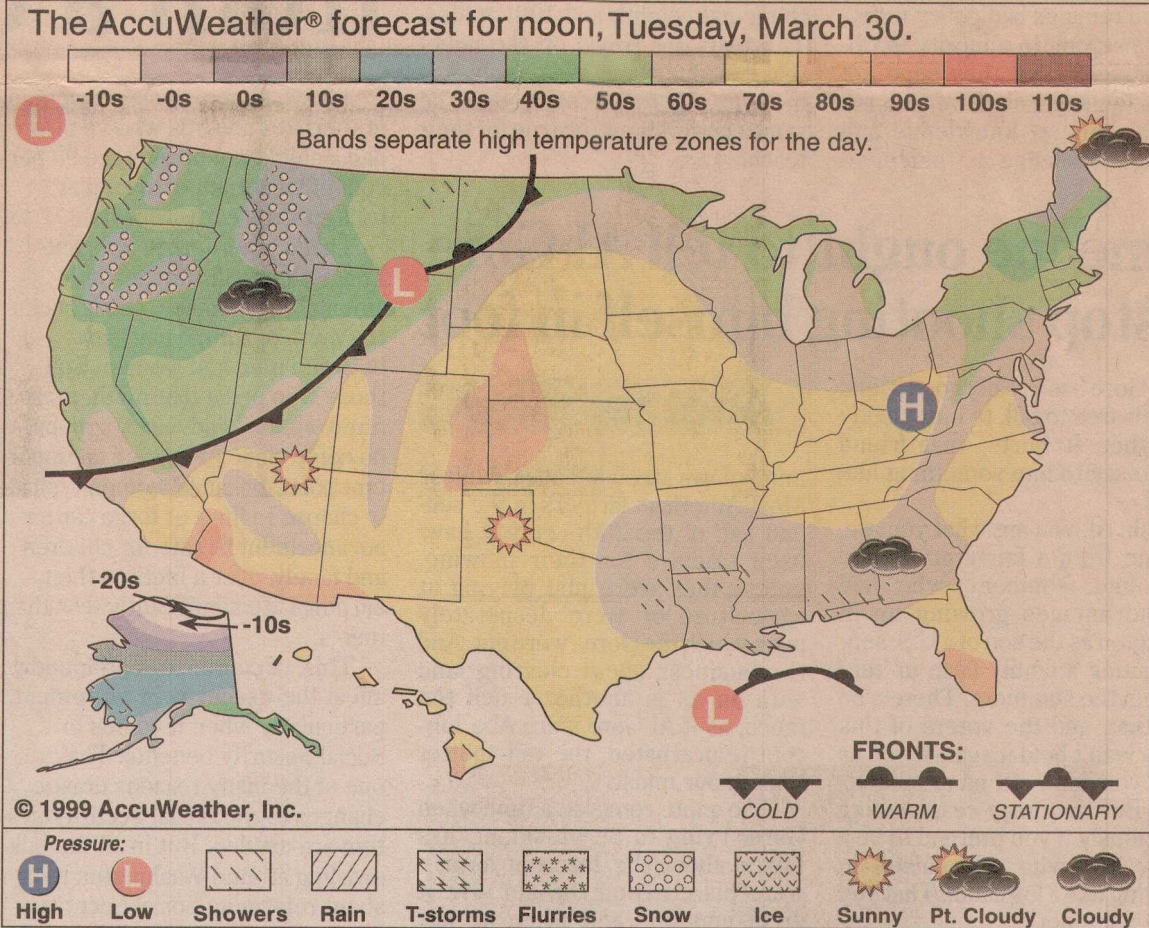
Early today, Yugoslav authorities closed at least one crossing point into Albania, erecting concrete barriers along the main road from the Kosovo city of Prizren to the Albania town of Kukes. It was unclear if other crossing points were also sealed.

Along Kosovo's border with Yugoslavia's smaller republic of Montenegro, thousands of Kosovo Albanians were trying to cross today. Police were charging \$60 per car to allow refugees to cross.

A 24-year-old refugee from the Suva Reka area of southern Kosovo, Jeton Vranovski, told a reporter in Albania that when NATO airstrikes began, Serb police "came to our village and told us to go to America, go to NATO and they will help you."

NATO spokesman Shea said Sunday that the situation was on the brink of a major humanitarian disaster, unprecedented since World War II.

Today's weather report



Coastal R.I.

Tonight, mostly clear and breezy. Low temperature near 40. Tuesday, sunny and windy. High temperature in the mid 50s.

Marine

Tonight, northwest wind 20 to 30 knots. Waves 1 to 3 feet. Tuesday, northwest wind 30 to 40 knots. Waves 2 to 4 feet.

Extended

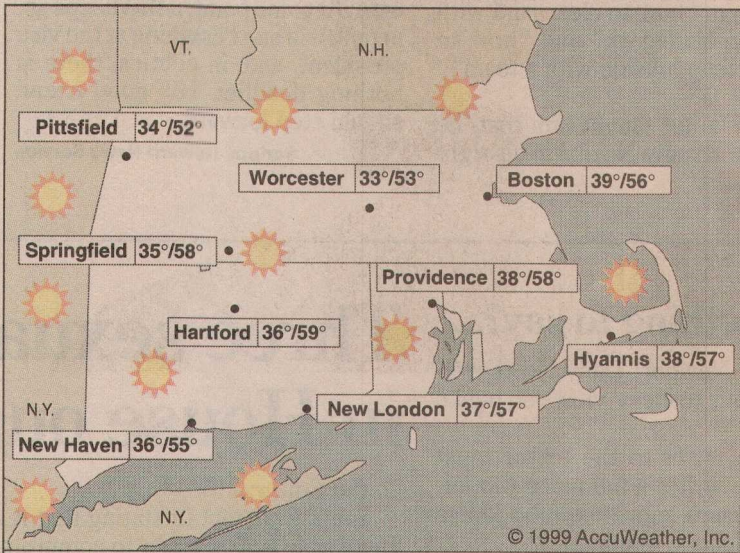
Wednesday, partly cloudy. Low in the 30s, high in the mid 50s to mid 60s. Thursday, partly cloudy. Low 35 to 45, high 55 to 65. Friday, partly cloudy. Low 35 to 45, high near 60.

Tides

Tuesday's sunrise 5:31, sunset 6:07. High tides 6:33 a.m. and 6:52 p.m. Low tides 12:32 a.m. and 12:43 p.m.

Sunday's temperatures: high 44, low 35.

Southern New England



MAP shows the forecast and high and low temperatures for tomorrow.

New England temperatures

Massachusetts				Maine			
	H	L	P				
Boston	41	38	.00	Portland	46	41	1.65
Chatham	42	36	.00	Bangor	65	42	.42
Worcester	39	36	.00	Caribou	62	36	.01
				Eastport	56	40	.63
Rhode Island				New Hampshire			
Providence	42	37	.39	Concord	43	39	.46
				Mt Washington	32	22	.23
Connecticut				Vermont			
Hartford	45	37	.44	Burlington	55	25	.00
Bridgeport	48	38	.23	Barre-Montpir	51	19	.00

Analysis

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will be enough to justify the assault and allow an exit.

"The end state of action here is a substantially diminished military capability, a substantially diminished Milosevic, a substantially higher cost. I would say that's a better ending," National Security Adviser Sandy Berger said on ABC-TV's "This Week."

Critics say even an air campaign that hits its targets but leaves Milosevic in power raises new dangers that may require ground troops — something neither Clinton nor NATO is publicly considering.

After five days of attacks, both Clinton and Milosevic are standing firm.

Corrections

The Newport Daily News seeks to be fair and accurate in reporting the news. If you believe we have published an error, please let us know. Call the newsroom (849-3300, Ext. 250) or write us at 101 Malbone Road, Newport, R.I. 02840.

The conflict has already affected neighboring countries, with two Yugoslav planes shot down over Bosnia and 100 Marines dispatched to Macedonia to protect the U.S. embassy from violent protests by Macedonian Serbs.

And democratic leaders of Montenegro — which, like Serbia, is one of two republics of Yugoslavia — find themselves undermined by NATO strikes that are hitting their soil as well as Serbia.

And in the Serbian province of Kosovo, which NATO aims to protect, violence continues.

"What this portends for the United States is a very nasty, counter-productive result from whatever our declared strategy tries to achieve," said Bruce Johnson, senior fellow at the Hudson Institute.

NATO boosters in Congress are counting on the pounding to render Milosevic too weak militarily to abuse Kosovo.

"The dynamic that is hoped for at this stage is that people inside Milosevic's administration will start to see the advantage of bringing the slaughter of Kosovar Albanians to an end," said Rep. Sam Gejdenson of Connecticut, the ranking Democrat on the House International Relations Committee.

Rep. Ike Skelton of Missouri,

senior Democrat on the House Armed Services Committee, said Milosevic "is going to wake up one of these mornings and find he hasn't got a military. When the Serbs in Kosovo see their godfather in shambles, there's not much they can do."

Milosevic has no defenders on Capitol Hill, but there were doubts from the beginning about the legality and efficacy of NATO's use of violence to achieve peace. Now, concerns are growing about how it will end.

Sen. Paul Wellstone, D-Minn., reluctantly voted to support the assault. But now he criticizes Clinton for linking an end to attacks not just to a cease-fire but to acceptance by Milosevic of the Rambouillet peace accord.

"Such a goal is too open-ended, too vague and too open to the potential for 'mission creep,'" he said.

Skeptics doubt that Milosevic will collapse and see little hope for success in an operation that does not aim to remove him from power.

Some members of Congress want to revert to a non-violent strategy aimed at ousting the Yugoslav strongman. As the attack goes under way, a group of Republican senators proposed to toughen sanctions, increase propaganda broadcasts and provide \$100 million to develop democracy in Yugoslavia.