



Patriots look to get some players back for opener

SPORTS, 1B

The Providence Journal

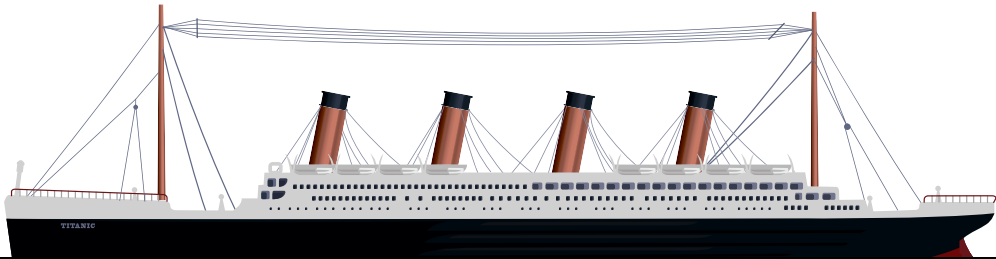
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The tow vehicle Angus captured the first images of the RMS Titanic on the ocean floor in 1985. Since teams discovered its final resting site, the railing of the iconic bow has collapsed.



‘TITANIC SPOKE TO US’

Marking 40 years since famed wreck’s discovery

Heather McCarron
Cape Cod Times
USA TODAY NETWORK

It was nearly two hours past midnight on Sept. 1, 1985, and ocean explorer Bob Ballard was trying to rest aboard the Navy-owned research vessel Knorr – unaware that he and his team were minutes away from discovering one of the most iconic shipwrecks in history.

The RMS Titanic.

He hadn’t originally come to that remote stretch of the North Atlantic to find a famous shipwreck. Officially, he was on a classified U.S. Navy mission. But the expedition had quietly pivoted

See TITANIC, Page 7A



John Steele, WHOI director in 1985, and Robert Ballard, then the head of WHOI’s Deep Submergence Lab, stand aboard the R/V Knorr after the discovery of the RMS Titanic.

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY WOODS HOLE OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION

Charter schools still fight for funds

How those entities are run in Rhode Island

Nish Kohli

Providence Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

Rhode Island’s first public charter school opened its doors in 1997. In subsequent years, the state’s charter school system has flourished to boast 37 schools that educate 10% of all Rhode Island public school students, as of 2023 data.

As student enrollment steadily declines at standard public schools, the demand for more charter school seats is on the rise, especially in the state’s urban core.

Political division over whether to invest in or curb charter school growth is nothing new, but the issue has resurfaced as Rhode Island communities reckon with decades of underinvestment in their school systems and frustration over divvying up limited resources.

“If we go back to the beginning, when charter schools first started, they were originally intended to be experimental with innovative ideas that were supposed to be brought back to district schools. But that’s not really what’s happened,” explained Mary Barden, executive director of the National Education Association Rhode Island. “What we’ve created

See SCHOOLS, Page 6A

Sharks stealing fish off the line

Jack Perry

Providence Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

NEWPORT – Fishing off the coast of Newport in 14 feet of water, Captain Mel True saw one of his clients reeling in a big striped bass – then his line went dead.

At first, the fishermen thought the bass slipped its hook, but they felt the tug of something still on the line.

“Next thing you know, he’s reeling in half a fish,” True said.

Sensing an easy meal, a shark

See SHARKS, Page 4A

Paul Masse

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