

REGION: A Day in the North Stonington Woods With A Lifelong Trapper SPORTS: Pittsburgh Beats UConn 74-56 to Win the Big East Men's Title

The Day

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EASING INTO ENGLISH



DANA JENSEN / The Day

Rashedul Haydar, 11, an English as a Second Language student from Bangladesh, gets some mathematics help Wednesday from classmate Kyle Relliford in teacher Laurie Gome's fifth-grade classroom at the William A. Buckingham School in Norwich.

Norwich schools struggle with students' growing diversity

By MATTHEW J. MALONE
Day Staff Writer

Norwich

IN THE CLASSROOMS OF THE WILLIAM A. Buckingham School, diversity is as common as pencils and paper, books and backpacks.

With roughly 20 percent of the school's population speaking a foreign language, teachers boast that the elementary school is like the United Nations.

And while the languages spoken vary — Spanish, Haitian Creole, Bangla, among others — the mission here is the same: all the

students in kindergarten through fifth grade must learn English.

English as a Second Language is just one of many areas affected by demographic changes sweeping through Norwich schools. Fueled by jobs at the region's two

See NEW LANGUAGES page A5

Languages spoken by Norwich students

- Albanian
- Arabic
- Bangla
- Bengali
- Bulgarian
- Cantonese
- Cebuano
- Chinese
- Creole Cape Verdean
- Creole Haitian
- English
- French
- Gujarati
- Hindi
- Khmer (Cambodian)
- Korean
- Lao
- Mandarin
- Pilipino (Filipino)
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Spanish
- Tagalog

Bangladesh boy finds help at Buckingham

By MATTHEW J. MALONE
Day Staff Writer

RASHEDUL HAYDAR struggles through a vocabulary lesson with the help of his fifth-grade classmate Joe Kortfelt.

Joe, a bespectacled and freckled 11-year-old, wears a red-hooded sweatshirt and sings along to a Beatles CD playing softly from a nearby computer in Laurie Gome's class. Meanwhile, Rashedul, also 11, traces the sentences with his finger as he reads.

Rashedul's manner is polite and refined. His neat hair is shiny black, his eyes dark, his smile sheepish but gleaming. He wears a white button-down shirt tucked into his camouflaged pants.

Joe helps Rashedul fill in the blanks in the sentences from a list of words. For the words he doesn't know, Rashedul has written words in his native Bangla. The letters appear as art, tight swirls and triangles

See LEARNING page A5

PREPARING FOR WAR U.S. identifies Iraqi officials it would prosecute

Saddam's sons, inner circle targeted for their crimes against humanity

By ELISABETH BUMILLER
New York Times News Service

Washington — For the first time, the Bush administration has identified several senior Iraqi officials, including Saddam Hussein's two sons, who would be tried for war crimes or crimes against humanity after an American-led attack on Iraq, a senior U.S. government official said Saturday.

In addition to Saddam himself, the list includes members of his inner circle who sit atop a hierarchy of 2,000 members of the Iraqi elite who were previously identified by American intelligence agencies. But only now are the names of the top group being made public.

Administration officials said they had planned to send the list to Baghdad with a delegation from the Arab League in hopes of persuading the men to leave the country with Saddam as way to avoid a war. But the league, consumed by internal bickering and a brush-off

from the Iraqi government, called off the trip, which had been planned for Friday.

Administration officials said they were making the list public now partly out of frustration, but also as part of the continuing psychological campaign against the Iraqi elite. President Bush and his senior advisers have repeatedly warned Saddam's loyalists that they have a choice between exile and prosecution.

In addition to Saddam's two sons, Uday and Qusay, the list includes Ali Hassan al-Hamid, who was the governor of Iraqi-occupied Kuwait in 1990-91, and Muhammad Hamza al-Zubaidi, who the administration says was responsible for atrocities against the the Shiites living in southern Iraq in early 1991.

"This is the group that we would expect to depart if there's a departure or that we'd expect to appreciate."

See BUSH page A10

See related stories in this section



Lookout Jason Rinaldo stands at his post atop the sail of the USS Providence in the eastern Mediterranean Friday.

TIM COOK
The Day

DISPATCHES AT SEA

Editor's Note: Day reporter Robert Hamilton and photographer Tim Cook are aboard a Navy sub in the Mediterranean to begin their firsthand coverage of preparations for war.

'The Shack' brings the world to boat

Radiomen provide the key link to shore for a sub on a mission

By ROBERT A. HAMILTON
Day Staff Writer

Aboard the USS Providence — As the world changed on Sept. 11, 2001, the mood was ebullient about the Providence, because a six-month deployment was over and the boat was headed home.

At least until Radioman 1st Class James A. Gilly was downloading radio message traffic and learned that terrorists had destroyed the World Trade Center with two hijacked jets, attacked the Pentagon with a third, and crashed a fourth into a field in Pennsylvania.

Suddenly the Providence was on its way back to the Arabian Gulf, its mission extended indefinitely. Within weeks, it would fire the opening shots in the war against the Taliban, which was sheltering the terrorists who had planned the attacks.

Today, Providence is back in the Middle East and preparing to fire again, as the world waits to see if war breaks out against Iraq, which would give it two consecutive combat missions, unprecedented in modern submarine warfare.

If it happens, Gilly is again one of the petty officers

See RADIOMEN page A8

Dr. Toni Waters examines James Bunnell, 14, before his cavity is filled March 10 at the United Community & Family Services Health Care Center in Norwichtown.



KATE GARDINER
The Day

Lack of dental care at root of trouble for region's kids

By ROBERT WESTERVELT
Day Staff Writer

DR. MARGARET A. SMITH, A DENTIST WHO organizes a free mobile dental program, peered into the mouth of a 10-year-old and gasped at what she saw. The boy's gums were red and inflamed, and hues of yellow and brown surrounded rotting enamel throughout his mouth.

He had a dozen cavities. "No child should go without dental care for as long as that boy did," Smith said. "We've got an epidemic out there. And we shouldn't, in this day and age, see what we've seen."

The Plainfield boy was one of thousands of children examined at the Across the Smiles dental van, which has made rounds to schools throughout northeastern Connecticut over the last year.

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Sunday morning movies
Madison Art Cinema's movie club a hot ticket for local film lovers. Daybreak



Region: Norwich council asking about grant money
Perspective: Conn professor argues U.S. risking WWII
State: Open season on mayors in Ganim, Giordano trials

WARMING TO THE SEASON
Highs reaching near 50 today with partly sunny skies. High of 54 on coast and 66 inland projected for Monday, with temperatures in the 50s all week. D12

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