



April 13, 2006 Lowell, Massachusetts

INSIDE

0 Cents

N STEPPIN' OUT



Ready to rock

The Casino Ballroom offers something for everyone this summer.

Tabloid tales



Lowellita dreams of the perks she'd enjoy as a gossip queen.

Dropouts studied

A new state survey finds poor grades and problems at home are top issues. LOCAL NEWS, Page 3



Kings of the court

The Sun all-stars in boys basketball take a bow. SPORTS, Page 12

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fally Moore's husband, Jern died from exposure le Agent Orange. On Monday she will see his sarifice recognized.

Panagiotakos staying put

Says he will not pursue Lowell manager's job

By CHRISTOPHER SCOTT Sun Staff

LOWELL - Sen. Steven Panagiotakos said yesterday he is not interested in the city manager's job, ending speculation that he would likely

Business community differs on Cox/3

succeed Lowell's top municipal executive, John Cox.

In a survey conducted Monday by The Sun, five city majority of the nine-member board expressed no confidence in City Manager Cox's job performance.

Panagiotakos, a Lowell

Please see PANAGIOTAKOS/7



"The city has never had all four of its representatives on Beacon Hill in leadership positions and we see a lot of opportunity ahead."

Sen. Steven Panagiotakos



Chelmsford attorney Susan Gates hugs Dimitri Kyriakides after the unveiling of his father's statue in Hopkinton.

A SURVIVOR, AWINNER

Hopkinton statue honors Greek runner, thanks to local attorney's marathon effort

By DAVID PERRY Sun Staff

OPKINTON - Yesterday morning, about 200 yards and eight days shy of 60 years from where Stylianos Kyriakides began his 26-mile, 385-yard run to eternal Greek glory, a 10-year journey crossed the finish line.

And the work of Susan Julian Gates, the Chelmsford attorney who never hesitated to make the next phone call, was done.

None of this should have ever happened. But there was Jim Davis, president and CEO of New Balance Athletic Shoe of Boston, who had commissioned this

Please see STATUE/7



The Spirit of the Marathon shows Stylianos Kyriakides, left, on his way to winning the 1946 Boston Marathon, guided by Spiridon Louis, who won the first modern Games in Athens in 1896. SUN PHOTOS / JON HILL

I won't budge on contract

By BRIDGET SCRIMENTI Sun Staff

WESTFORD - Police Chief Robert Welch said he refuses to renegotiate his new contract with the Board of Selectmen.

In a telephone interview vesterday, Welch said his contract was ratified in executive session and signed by Town Manager Steve Ledoux.



Robert Welch ... deal should be honored

"As far as I'm concerned, I have a ratified contract and I expect them to honor that," Welch said.

On March 16, The Sun received a press release from Ledoux's office announcing the ratification of Welch's contract, which stated: "The Selectmen's vote in this matter was unanimous and recognizes Chief Welch for his 30 plus years of service to the citizens of Westford."

Please see WELCH/7

Amid pain, seeking justice

Family members endure as 9/11 trial revisits the horror

By KRIS PISARIK Sun Staff

Families whose loved ones were murdered in the Sept. 11 terrorist

attacks will never escape that painful horror.

But as the fate of admitted al-Qaida terrorist Zacarias Moussaoui plays out in a federal courthouse in Virginia, those left behind are coping in very differ-

Linda Gay ... watching ent ways as the defense attempts to trial closely convince a jury to spare his life. And they all want him to know



The wreckage of United Flight 93 in Somerset County, Pa., shown in an image from a court exhibit

While she won't say whether believes Moussaoui should live of - his lawyers say killing him

Please see FAMILIES /s

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TODAY'S QUESTION

How should Lowell close the \$4.5 million funding shortfall for the new parking garage?

- ▶ Raise taxes
- Raise parking rates
- Reduce the scope of the project
- Cut back services elsewhere

Log on to lowellsun.com to record your answer

YESTERDAY'S **QUESTION RESULTS**

Will rising gasoline prices affect

Total responses: 180

your summer travel plans?

Dems fume as Romney signs health-care bill

By REBECCA FATER Sun Statehouse Bureau

BOSTON - For all the fanfare that accompanied Gov. Mitt Romney's signing of the state's health-

Rally for home care/8

care reform bill at Faneuil Hall yesterday, one may have thought he was single-handedly responsible for the new law.

Democrats, however, were quick to remind him that the socalled landmark reform was a bipartisan effort promising to

Please see HEALTH CARE/20