Grateful

Antonio Cruz is one dropout who makes good use of his second chance

WHAT IT TAKES

A series about Central Falls High School

Central Falls, R.I., is the smallest — and perhaps the poorest — city in the smallest state. Long a haven for immigrant families and first-generation Americans, the mile-square city drew national attention every year when each teacher at his high school was hired in a battle over education reform. Starting today and for the next three Sundays, The Providence Journal explores the challenges of learning — and life — facing the dropout, parents, students and teachers at Central Falls High School.

Part One: Dropouts

By TROY MOONEY JOURNAL CORRESPONDENT

We'll see how grateful Antonio Cruz's educational happening.

By ROBERT KERR

CENTRAL FALLS — It is impossible not to notice all those other high school dropouts who fill the city's basketball courts each afternoon or remain, oddly, to improve not the schoolhouse, but what also are they going to do?

Know how this old, 22-year-old man with long coiled hair or early each afternoon to an unseen at the same high school that caused him such anguish, performed his job with such pride to work hard, drive around the bathroom floor, to pick potato chips from the cardboard box. Often he brings a much work he did with him. If Miss Johnson, only a year older, isn't too busy turning ninth graders after school — and she isn't — because she doesn't have to show up — he will turn his desk upside down at a desk and ask her help deciphering algebraic equations.

Sometimes, he collects the trash in English teacher Eileen Lamont's room, they'll discuss a surprising turn of phrases he read in a poetry written the night before.

"Look at all the inspiration I have around me," says this man — his arms spread wide across the hallway — who spent five years at Central Falls High School, the last time trying to pass jamboree junior year, before he backed him out.

Five years of feeling stupid and angry of failing, absolutely refusing to try anymore, knowing what he didn't know for better than the teachers who taught him. Now, he at least had some pride.

No, I'm not going to do the work, he'd say, lying on his head on his desk. Go ahead, send me down to the office. Maybe I'll get lonely and I'll stop you.

"That's what I did," he'd say, watching the trash bucket be caught in the hall. "I stopped away all those tasks of help.

"I tried school because I hated everything else. And anything, even school, I'd do it because I couldn't understand anything," he says. "I would get to a certain level of excellence and that was it. I couldn't understand (explaining for the life of me, no matter how hard I tried.)"

So for those last five years, I have never been to school.

I should always be dumber than everybody else.

And I still do, in a way, I mean to a certain extent. You know what I'm saying? If I'm writing, alright, what you got?"

WEATHER

More summer-like temperatures.
High 80. Forecast 82.

NATION

Gulf of spilt balloons: officials fear it could endanger Atlantic coast.

SPORTS

Jockey Calvin Borel wins his third Kentucky Derby in four years — this time on Super Saver.

FLOODS OF 2010

Millions in aid flowing into R.I.

Federal loans and grants total $45 million so far, and there’s still time for flood victims to apply. For details, see page 1A.

By JOHN PALMER

Hoped New Jersey, its borders and businesses were swamped by Hurricane Irene in August, it was swamped by the $45 million federal aid flowing into Rhode Island.

"It’s huge news for the thousands of homeowners applying for federal aid," said Cheryl P. DiBartolomeo, a public relations officer with the state’s Housing Corporation.

The $45 million is in the form of grants and low-interest loans for individuals and businesses who suffered damage in the November flooding. With four weeks to go until the May 31 deadline for businesses and individuals to apply for aid, that number is only expected to grow.

And that’s because some began to recover the money that was loans, canceled and certain private agencies stand to receive the aid.

MILITARY

Pride, grief for soldier in Fall River


By ROBERT KERR

CENTRAL FALLS — Sergeant Robert Barrett, 21, was killed in combat in Iraq in July.

COLLECTIBLES

Conventioneer proving of being a ‘G.I. Joe’ doll

By ALEX KUPPSIE

PROVIDENCE — Michael Becht doesn’t seem like a giant. He’s quiet-spoken and thoughtful, a former chemistry student with a master’s degree in church history. But make no mistake, the 5-foot-8-inch Becht is a collector born and raised.

His collection is prized by thousands of collectors, a flashy red in his pocket, a small statue of the university’s mascot Gussie. Becht is a bricklayer, the kind of man that you’d see at the local bar or supermarket.

He has been collecting dolls since childhood in Texas, where he bought his first G.I. Joe dolls.
Cruz’s attitude has changed

Continued from A1

one-square-mile shop, each trying to feed off one another. Deeply involved in her high school basketball team's efforts to make the state tournament, she was spotted by the team's coach, who noticed her potential and offered her a scholarship opportunity.

"I remember the day when my coach told me about the scholarship," she said. "It was a turning point for me. I realized that I had the talent to play basketball at a higher level."

Cruz joined the basketball team and worked hard to improve her skills. Her dedication paid off, and she earned a scholarship to play at a university.

"I was so excited," she said. "I knew that this was my chance to pursue my dream and make my parents proud."

Cruz's, the school's star player, had been training hard to prepare for the upcoming season. She trained with her teammates every day, pushing herself to the limit. Her hard work paid off, and she led the team to victory in their first game.

"I was so happy," she said. "I knew that we had the talent to win."

Cruz continued to excel on the court, and her success inspired other students to work harder and achieve their goals. Her story became an inspiration to many, and she was named the school's Athlete of the Year.

"I was so honored," she said. "I knew that this was a huge accomplishment and that it would motivate others to work hard and achieve their dreams."
Cruz heads down Sylvan Street in Central Falls toward his home on this way back from exercising GEG building at SVCAW.

BY THE NUMBERS
Profile of Central Falls High School
The school serves some of the most troubled students in Rhode Island and a high percentage of them speak a language other than English. It is one of the most disadvantaged schools in the state, with 94% of students receiving free or reduced-price lunch.

1850
Approximate number of students in grades 9-12

112
Students being English as a Second Language course.

93 faculty
Includes 74 classroom teachers, 12 support staff, and 4 administrators.

82%
Students in poverty

47%
2020 graduation rate

55%
Students proficient in reading

7%
Students proficient in math

Antonia Cruz reads her poetry in the advice:

"It's about the idea that you can make a difference. It's about the idea that you can make a change. It's about the idea that you can make a mark.

My Work Begins

An edited version.

To stay confined and to remain so blind
by the things like... it's... it's not just I fall every time...
Pick or pick on going in this direction, that direction.
And I have no vaccine for this infection.
And it's hard to understand: the good times because my life has been so (identity): I don't remember having any in me.
Where there's a sign with some dotted lines that I can sign to make life so bare...
...Always feels like somebody's trying to put some dirt on me.
So I guess I better stick to poetry...

Antonia Cruz reads her poetry at the advice:

What It Takes
A series about Central Falls High School

Sunday Dropouts
Antonia Cruz is an exception, the point guard is eating it back into the educational mainstream.

May Students
Bayou George
Mayor Georgesman granted me this year by the city of his birth. For many students, the time between success and failure is thin.

May 6: Parents
Jackie Wilson, a single mom, is committed to keeping her daughter in school. For the families, communication represents a lot of hard work.

May 23: Teachers
Jill LaFerriere is a magnet for many students. The school can be a place where students feel successful and find a sense of belonging.

Cruz meets one of his many peers, a break in one of his life's outlooks. A good friend brings a slice of pizza to his house, a new revelation.
Central Falls is the smallest — and perhaps the poorest — city in the smallest state. Long a haven for immigrant families and first-generation Americans, the milesquare city drew national attention this year when every teacher at its high school was fired in a battle over education reform.

This month, The Sunday Journal explores the challenges of learning — and life — facing the dropouts, parents, students and teachers at Central Falls High School.

WHAT IT TAKES A series about Central Falls High School

Part Two: Students

By KAREN LEE ZINER 2500 Northampton St.

With just weeks until graduation, it's down to the wire at Central Falls High School. Just a few seniors are still struggling to make it across the finish line. Plainfield is the high school's oral presentation showcasing their high school work. If they don't, they won't graduate.

First, they must assemble their "artifacts" — arretricks. Essays. Proof of completed tasks, such as math used to redesign a public park.

Teachers review their three-ring binders. A green sticker means a student passes to the next level, the oral presentation. A pink sticker: needs more work. A red sticker: not worth the effort.

Central Falls seniors race to finish portfolios required for graduation

Jasmine Albino, a senior at Central Falls High School, has overcome difficulties learning to read and write, as well as speech problems, and is headed to Rhode Island College on the fall. Her guidance counselor puts her in the ranks of "miracle kids."

By CHANNING GRAY 2010 THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL COMPANY, PROVIDENCE, R.I. 02901-1900

The number of Four Seasons songs in the show; including "Sherry," "Big Girls Don't Cry," and "Can't Take My Eyes Off of You."

The number of ”Jersey Boys" performances worldwide.

The number of Four Seasons songs included in the musical "Mamma Mia!"

The number of Tony Awards, including Best Musical.

The number of years "Jersey Boys" has been on stage in New York City.

The number of seniors, Baireon Pina Guzman, Juan Valez and Jasmine Albino, graduate in June depends on successful completion of their portfolios.

Whether three seniors, Baireon Pina Guzman, Juan Valez and Jasmine Albino, graduate in June depends on successful completion of their portfolios.

By THE NUMBERS

"Jersey Boys"

4 1/2

The number of years "Jersey Boys" has been on stage in New York City and the hottest ticket.

4

The number of Tony Awards, including Best Musical.

8.9 million

People who have seen "Jersey Boys" worldwide.

20

The number of Four Seasons songs in the show, including "Sherry," "Big Girls Don't Cry," and "Can't Take My Eyes Off of You."

32

The number of "Jersey Boys" performances at PPAC. The show is selling "very, very well," said a PPAC spokesperson.

By MIKE STAYTON 2010 THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL COMPANY, PROVIDENCE, R.I. 02901-1900

The Townsend Group, which counsels 23 of the 50 largest public pension funds in the country, reported Friday that the investment — a Cole subsidiary known as Cole Credit Property Trust III — changes a "jumpy fee structure," has many "material conflicts" and uses "disturbing trends" in its business practices.

NORTH PROVIDENCE

Taxpayers spent $10,000 for council trip to Fla. hotel

It was at the Orlando hotel that councilmen allegedly discussed a $25,000 bribe.

By MIKE STAYTON 2010 THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL COMPANY, PROVIDENCE, R.I. 02901-1900

Triumphs

STEVE SZYDLOWSKI 2010 THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL COMPANY, PROVIDENCE, R.I. 02901-1900

Whether three seniors, Baireon Pina Guzman, Juan Valez and Jasmine Albino, graduate in June depends on successful completion of their portfolios.

WEATHER

Windy and much cooler. High 56. Forecast B12

SPORTS

For the second straight game, the Yankees clobber the Sox in Boston, this time 14-3. C1

ARTS

Rick Massimo: Providence-based rapper Sage Francis thinks big on his new album. D1
HOPEFUL
Continued from AI

Seniors prepare portfolios
Jasmine is ready to get it all out there, to demonstrate her potential. She decided to do this by writing a memoir of her experiences as a student in high school. She says, "I'm happy to share my story with others."

41%
Child ren living below the poverty line, according to the federal government

21%
Children who are members of the less privileged communities

49%
Children who are members of marginalized communities

36%
Children who are members of indigenous communities

Central Falls High School Ethnicity

Central Falls High School is a school with a remarkable diversity of students. It is located in Providence, Rhode Island, and has a diverse student body, with students from Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, and Cape Verde. The school's population is reflected in the student body of the Class of October 2012:

72% Hispanic

15% Black

13% White

Central Falls High School Profile

The school serves some of the most economically disadvantaged students in Providence, Rhode Island, and a high percentage of students speak a language other than English at home. Here is a look at the student body of 2009-2010:

850
Apparent number of students in the school

122
Students taking English as a Second Language

93
Faculty; 3 classroom teachers, 6 support staff, and 14 student aides

82%
Students are economically disadvantaged

47%
2009 graduation rate

55%
Students are in the top 10% of the class

7%
Students proficient in math

Source: Central Falls High School and WRI (2009-2010)

Jasmine named one of 250 students in Virginia's cabinet.

Some of the "leaders in Virginia's cabinet have expressed concern that the cabinet's science standards will be lowered to the level of students' educational attainment.

By the Numbers

Central Falls: The children

Central Falls High School is a place where students from different backgrounds come together to learn and grow. The school is known for its diversity and commitment to providing a high-quality education for all students.

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Central Falls High School Ethnicity

Jasmine, a junior at Central Falls High School, was one of the first students to participate in the school's new portfolio program. She says, "I'm really excited about this. I think it's a great opportunity to showcase my skills and my work."
I want to do it. I want to do it for my mom.

Baron Pine Guzman

with young kids, demonstrated during a community assembly, and a young girl with a hair ribbon clips her sister’s hair near the center of the room.

PROJO RHODE ISLAND

The Providence Sunday Journal

San Geronimo, portfolio coordinator, talks with guidance counselor William Vaype and senior Baron Pine Guzman (right).

Baron Pine Guzman at home in Central Falls. The 19-year-old works and helps his chemically addicted mother.

Not coming to school, having problems at home, trying to get by in this school. He started out as a student in Central Falls.

Any day that nobody does it, it’s a bad day. He’s a bad day for him and his friends. He’s a bad day for the whole neighborhood.

We don’t really get it. We don’t really understand what’s going on in the neighborhood. We don’t really know what’s going on in the school.

That’s why I think it’s important to get involved in the school. I think it’s important to get involved in the community. I think it’s important to get involved in the neighborhood.

Last Tuesday, portfolio coordinator Brian Baroza said that Baron’s work on his “My School” story was outstanding, but his portfolio was rejected. She said he didn’t have enough evidence of his work in the portfolio, and his portfolio was rejected.

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A day later, Baron worked on his “My School” story, but he didn’t have enough evidence of his work in the portfolio.

He said he didn’t have enough evidence of his work in the portfolio, and his portfolio was rejected.

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On the other hand, Baron’s work on his “My School” story was outstanding, but his portfolio was rejected.

Because of this rejection, Baron worked on his “My School” story, but he didn’t have enough evidence of his work in the portfolio.

He said he didn’t have enough evidence of his work in the portfolio, and his portfolio was rejected.

On the other hand, Baron’s work on his “My School” story was outstanding, but his portfolio was rejected.
WHAT IT TAKES

Now permanent residents of the United States, they moved their high school was fired in a battle over education reform. This month, The Sunday Journal explores the challenges for the parents of learning—and life—facing the dropouts, parents, students and teachers at Central Falls High School.

Another nice day. More stories and videos at projo.com

CRIME

Eyewitness IDs get tougher scrutiny

Faulty lineups have helped convict too many people, leading law enforcement to consider new approaches.

By KATIE MULVANEY

It may be the nation’s best-known case of mistaken identity in a decade, an exotic dancer accused three Duke lacrosse players of rape. But Defense attorneys dismissed the photo array as essentially a multiple-choice test with no right answers.

Jackie Wilson and her daughter Sakira during her junior year.

While you have your life taken out of your hands, it's terrifying.”

By NANCY A. YOUSSEF

WASHINGTON — Nearly a decade after the United States began withdrawing its combat forces from Afghanistan, new war wounds are piling up in domestic battles over law enforcement. Faulty lineups have helped convict too many people, leading law enforcement to consider new approaches.

The moment of truth for Ivan and Olga Rojas came in 2008, when their son Esteban feared there were gangs and drugs at the school.

He agreed to pay extra for the care of his daughter, because it’s a step away from the moment in which you have your life taken out of your hands, it’s terrifying.”

Some parents say they will do what’s needed to make sure their kids succeed

In February 2010, when principal Elizabeth Legault sent a letter asking her to come to the high school, Jackie Wilson, a random act of violence forced her to protect her daughter Sakira during her junior year.

Some parents say they will do what’s needed to make sure their kids succeed.

Ivan and Olga Rojas with sons Esteban, 17, and Alejandro, 10. Native government’s residents of the United States, they moved to Central Falls from Colombia 15 years ago.

They parents confronted the challenges head on to protect their children’s education, while navigating their own complicated lives.

Research study finds that a parent’s involvement high casualty rates for troops and civilians, not set equipment that must be replaced and rarely end in clear victory or defeat.

In addition, military thinkers say such wars have put the United States technologically advanced ground forces on the defensive while less sophisticated insurgent forces are able to remain on the offensive. It has led to a widespread perception that the goal is too high for a good outcome to be obtained. One scenario generating much interest is the idea of a counterinsurgency strategy that focuses more on reducing insurgency support and less on targeting insurgents.

Many Pentagon strategists think such a counterinsurgency strategy should involve fewer American troops.

HEALTH CARE

Blue Cross to pay doctors more for complex patients

Under the plan, Blue Cross is now willing to pay doctors an extra monthly fee for each complex patient for which patients with complex medical needs.

The agreement aims to improve the medical system by rewarding doctors for good care instead of the number of patients they see, and by making sure the sickest patients get consistent, coordinated attention.

SEEN EYEWITNESS

John Kostrezwa says there are clues to what triggered the stock market "Flash crash."
In a child's education is critical to success in school. While Esteban, Valerie's, and Saluki's parents and teachers are invested in their children's education, Central Falls High School teachers believe that more parents are not as interested. They acknowledged that the reasons are varied.

Some parents work several jobs, others are grappling with issues such as poverty, disabilities, and social services. "Living below poverty line, they have no resources," says Yeanna Armstrong, the school's intervention coordinator. "They have很多 families that don't have visitors, but they need to have a good education and become professionals to support themselves and the welfare system is not good." Esteban, a junior at Central Falls High School, says he works full-time and part-time, or more than 20 hours, to help support his family.

In some cases, the language barrier is a factor. In Central Falls, more than 75 percent of the students are of Hispanic origin and many speak Spanish at home. The school also has students of Puerto Rican, Dominican Republic, and Mexican descent. Armstrong, who speaks Spanish, Creation and English, said the poor English proficiency of the students makes it difficult to teach them. She added that some of her students' education is a challenge because they don't understand what she's saying.

"I feel that, because their parents don't speak English, it's difficult to communicate with them," Armstrong said. "They don't understand what I'm saying, so they need to understand what I'm saying." Esteban's mother, who is a teacher at Central Falls High School, said she understands that the parents need to be involved in their child's education.

"My mother, she's a teacher, she understands the importance of being involved in their education," Esteban said. "She understands that we need to be involved in their education. She understands that we need to be involved in their education." Esteban was enrolled in the program in the fall of 2000. He said the program has helped him improve his English and has given him more confidence.

Ivan and Olga Rojas moved to Central Falls 10 years ago with their two children. Ivan, a recent graduate of the United States Army, said he has been a teacher at the school for 10 years. He works as a teacher's aide at the school and is currently working on his master's degree in education. Ivan said he has been involved in the community since he moved to Central Falls.

Olga, his wife, said she has been involved in the community since she moved to Central Falls as well. She is a teacher's aide at the school and is currently working on her master's degree in education. Olga said she has been involved in the community since she moved to Central Falls as well.

"I have been involved in the community," Olga said. "I have been involved in the community." Olga said she has been involved in the community since she moved to Central Falls as well. She is a teacher's aide at the school and is currently working on her master's degree in education. Olga said she has been involved in the community since she moved to Central Falls as well.

Ivan Rojas at his second job at 210-545-5348, a Spanish-language radio station in Providence, where he works as a technical assistant.

College and army

He wants to be a war hero.

When Central Falls High School senior Ivan Rojas visited the United States, he wanted to be a war hero. He wanted to be a war hero.

"I want to be a war hero," Rojas said. "I want to be a war hero." Rojas said he wanted to be a war hero.

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"I want to be a war hero," Rojas said. "I want to be a war hero." Rojas said he wanted to be a war hero.
Valeria was greeted with a smile. Cheryl A. Valeria, a certified reading specialist and literacy coach, seated her at the table with her materials and gave her a warm welcome. Valeria is a member of the literacy team at the school, and she greeted each student with a smile and a wave.

Valeria took a moment to talk with each student individually, asking them about their progress and offering encouragement. She noted that some students were struggling, but others were making great strides. Valeria emphasized the importance of perseverance and hard work, and she reminded them that every little step they take is progress.

At the end of their session, Valeria shook hands with each student and thanked them for their hard work. She reminded them that they are capable of achieving great things, and that they should always believe in themselves. Valeria left with a warm smile and a sense of pride in the progress she has seen.
Graduation day four colleges hand out diplomas in ceremonies that include a singing president and a non-human graduate. RHODE ISLAND, A-45

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The quality of your ‘classroom teacher is a make-or-break thing for these students.’ Rhode Island Education Commissioner Deborah A. Gattas said of students in struggling schools. Meet three Central Falls High School teachers — Pam Garabedian, Deanna Camputaro, and Joshua Laplante — whose biggest challenge is getting students to push for success in school and in life. Hear their stories at projo.com

By JENNIFER D. JORDAN

Joshua Laplante knows the kids who don’t get dinner at night. He leaves the ones who endure beatings or drunken parents when they go home. He leaves the kids who have no one to listen to. They tell. Yell at them, when needed. Laplante wants to help his students the same way key people in his life helped him. He is a science teacher. But most days, teaching science is secondary. ‘I don’t think you can work in urban education and not feel a responsibility to save them,’ Laplante says. ‘I want to help him to the idea for the Federal Wrap, in downtown Providence.

Laplante remembers the shame of using food stamps. Growing up without a father. Blowing off homework to race to an afterschool job. ‘I’m proud to teach in Central Falls,’ he said.

“What it takes” a series about Central Falls High School

Central Falls is the smallest — and perhaps the poorest — city in the smallest state. Long a haven for immigrant families and first-generation Americans, the mile-square city drew national attention this year when every teacher at its high school was fired in a battle over education reform. This month, The Sunday Journal explores the challenges of learning — and life — facing the dropouts, parents, and students at Central Falls High School.

President tells West Point cadets military force, diplomacy must go hand in hand

Government

Obama puts the focus on diplomacy

President tells West Point cadets military force, diplomacy must go hand in hand. ‘The rest of us must do our part,’ he said. ‘The places that our country cannot fall on our shoulders alone. It also cannot fall on American shoulders alone,’ the commander in chief said. Laplante praised graduates in gray and white uniforms seated on the field at Michie Stadium. Diplomacy and muscle must work together, he said in calling for “renewed engagement” from diplomats, along with development experts, intelligence and law enforcement agencies, and first responders.

“We have succeeded by steering these forces in the direction of liberty and justice, so-called soft power strategies, and we will continue to do so in the future,” Mr. Obama said. “The United States is clear-eyed about the direction of liberty and justice, and we will continue to do so in the future.”

It’s a small share of the cost of retirement benefits but is politically charged

Courts

Judges’ pensions have candidates running for curbs

Some return to work to earn more benefits, collecting both pensions and paychecks — in some cases, 100 percent state-paid health insurance, judicial pensions and post-retirement benefits have drawn increased scrutiny from lawmakers and at least one candidate for governor as the General Assembly struggles to cut the soaring cost of pensions for retired state workers and teachers. And at least one thing is clear: The state’s $1.734-million contribution to the judges’ pension fund is relatively small, but politically charged, portion of this cost

John M. Cicilline

Disbarred lawyer John M. Cicilline hit upon a new career while serving time in a federal prison.

By W. ZACHARY MALINOWSKI

PROVIDENCE — John M. Cicilline, once a prominent defense lawyer, took the rap and now he is making the wraps at his new downtown sandwich shop and pizzeria. Federal Wrap.

The affable older brother of Mayor David N. Cicilline honed his new skills in prison for 18 months at a federal prison in Massachusetts, where a fellow inmate affectionately nicknamed him ‘Johnny Wraps.’

Now Cicilline has traded in his expensive dark suits for a T-shirt and onion. He works 10- to 12-hour days bread-making dough, slicing pepperoni and sliding pizzas into 50-degree oven at his business at Richmond and Friendship streets.

“I’m making a living,” said Cicilline, who lost 80 pounds in prison. ‘I’m not killing it, but I’m making a living. I just got out of jail and I don’t have a job. I done this thing.

Cicilline is not running away from his time spent behind bars. The menu board high shows the counter has wraps named after inmates he befriended at Fort Devens, the federal prison compound about 40 miles west

WEBER

Weather

Clouds, sun. A bit cooler.

High 67, Forecast, C12

SPORTS

Columnist Bill Reynolds says this Celtics team resembles the one that won it all in 1969.

CICILLINE, A-7

Hogra, the non-human graduate.

RHODE ISLAND, A-5

Four colleges hand out diplomas in ceremonies that include a singing president and a non-human graduate.
The Providence Sunday Journal

PROJO RHODE ISLAND

Teachers talk about challenges at high school

"For every kid who connected with, helps get into college, or hopes at the end of the day, there are the students who slip through his fingers," Lepore says. "I've had moments of sadness but I've also had moments of great happiness.

The problem is when he's supposed to be one of the most involved schools in the country.

Working at Central Falls High School is not what many people sign up for when they decide to become teachers.

The problems the students are facing.

"It's not what we thought it was going to be," Lepore says. "We need all the help that we can get."

"We can claim our achievement gap," Gask says.

Central Falls High School teacher Jessica Lepore says working at her alma mater was one of the top three places she would like to work.

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For Gist and teachers, debate on poverty

Educational commissioner says 'poverty is not destiny' but teachers see challenges in classroom

By JENNIFER J. DORAN

CENTRAL FALLS — Central Falls High School is one of the poorest performing schools, but why is it so? Is it due to this year’s rigorous new SAT prep? Giambarba, Deans, and teachers in the community debate the issue.

Even through the Central Falls Teachers Union and City News, teachers Pierson and Fagan find an agreement that last year was responsible for the job this year's teachers had to do because the school has to go through four months of turmoil.

Many teachers throughout Rhode Island say that the school has been scandalized completely for a new wave of reviews that raises the school’s rising prices and reduces the learning performance of students to continue to fall.

Students and teachers at the Springfield Education Service Area Department propose the worst performing schools in the state are in the Calumet, Gist, and teachers at the high school are the teachers fault. Rather, they argue, the enormous child length of urban education must be addressed in new ways.

Dean of Educational Innovation, Deborah A. Gist, has embraced Don-

Continued from A12

Another $200,000 to help you. What is this? A plan. But, you know, it isn’t the best, but it’s still better than the other plans. I think we need to work on it. We need to work on it. We need to work on it.

Deans Foret works with Joanne Carr, a senior in her art class, in Central Falls High School. Deans Foret also runs the art department of programs at Central Falls High School.

For Gist, teachers and students debate on poverty.

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