

WJAR ^{1st} 2nd Quarter Issues and Problems Report

January 1 - March 31, 2004

Date	Duration	Description	Program	Issue
2/3/2004	Various	President Bush blames the September eleventh attacks, the war on terror and a recession for the nation's deficit.	All newscasts	Budget
2/3/2004	Various	Governor Don Carcieri delivers his State of the State address on February 4th. He's expected to talk about Rhode Island's looming 190-million dollar budget deficit. He'll also talk about how the Station nightclub fire has affected the state. And, the governor's plan to have teachers and state employees contribute more to their pensions and health care.	All newscasts	State Budget
2/4/2004	28:25:00	State of the State Address: Governor Don Carcieri delivers his State of the State Address	Special	State Budget
2/3/2004	Approximately :25	Gas Prices: Gasoline prices in Rhode Island are up again. Triple-A says the average price of gas has risen for the fourth straight week. The average price of a gallon of regular, self serve is one dollar, 70 cents. That's 15 cents higher than the average gas price a month ago. Triple A says the continued cold weather and the high price of crude oil are responsible for the higher prices.	All newscasts	Energy
2/3/2004	Approximately :35	Rhode Island has received 15-thousand dollars from the federal government The money will help the state reduce pollution emissions from diesel school buses. According to the E-P-A particles in diesel exhaust can penetrate deep into the lungs and pose health risks including aggravated asthma conditions and other health problems.	All newscasts	Greenhouse Gas Emissions

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2/3/2004	Approximately :25	<p>A suspicious white powder was found at a U-S Senate Office building yesterday on Capitol Hill. Initial tests show that it's the deadly poison ricin.</p> <p>The powder was contained in a letter sent to Majority Leader Bill Frist. 16 People had to be decontaminated but so far no one has shown signs of sickness. Ricin is a biproduct of Castor beans used to make Castor oil. There's no antidote for the poison.</p>	All newscasts	Terrorism
2/2/2004	Approximately :20	<p>Super Bowl: Uncle Sam will "look into" what a lot of us saw at 1/2 time last night. Her publicist says it was a stunt that went wrong--that her bra was supposed to be revealed--but not her breast. They're both apologizing, and so is CBS--but the FCC will still investigate to see if any rules were broken.</p>	All newscasts	Decency & TV
2/2/2004	Approximately 2:00	<p>Rhode Island Democrats fire a salvo at local Republicans over the issue of submitting financial reports to the Federal Election Commission.</p>	All newscasts	Ethics
2/1/2004	Approximately :25	<p>Opponents of gay marriage made their voices heard across the Bay State</p>	All newscasts	Gay Rights
2/1/2004	Approximately :25	<p>The Narragansetts want to roll the dice, again, on gambling in Rhode Island.</p>	All newscasts	Gambling
2/1/2004	Approximately :25	<p>A Rhode Island man killed in Afghanistan is being remembered for his dedication to duty.</p>	All newscasts	War
1/31/2004	Approximately :25	<p>Another chapter of the church sex scandal goes public in Massachusetts. Documents released today by the Worcester County district attorney's office show 7 priests have been charged with abuse since 1985.</p>	All newscasts	Child Abuse
1/31/2004		<p>The Plymouth County D-A will charge a former Middleboro Police officer with sex abuse.</p>	All newscasts	Sex Abuse

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2/1/2004	Approximately :20	Rhode Island Attorney General Patrick Lynch won't give up the fight to bury power lines. The Public Utilities Commission says keeping the lines at the Providence waterfront above ground is safe and cheap. Lynch argues that putting them underground is safer and would make the area look better. And adds the Energy Facility Sitting Board has final say on the issue.	All newscasts	Public Safety
1/31/2004	Approximately 2:00	When Dean esserman was sworn in in January last year, it was supposed to be the dawning of a new day in the Providence police department. He's being well compensated...143-thousand dollars a year. And the city council approved his salary. Now a councillor has said the rest of Esserman's contract has not been ratified. But the Mayor says it doesn't have to be.	All newscasts	Ethics
1/31/2004	Approximately :50	Rhode Island Lawmakers are trying to prevent some residents from being left out in the cold. There's a federal program that helps seniors and low income people heat their homes. But this year, Rhode Island got about a million and a half dollars LESS than last year.	All newscasts	Heating Assistance
1/31/2004	Approximately :15	Participants in the BlueChip Medicare Program will notice some changes. Blue Cross - Blue Shield is lowering premiums and increasing benefits.	All newscasts	Health Care
1/29/2004	Approximately :50	The Rhode Island Foundation releases its study which it says shows gays in Rhode Island are well-educated and hard working.	All newscasts	Gay Rights
1/29/2004	Approximately 2:00	Smith Hill hearings are focusing on the Pharmacy Freedom of Choice Legislation.	All newscasts	Health Care
1/28/2004	Approximately :15	From the classroom to the picket line in Warwick. Teachers are not on strike, they're just trying to send a message to school administrators. The teachers held this informational picket to let everyone know they're frustrated with the slow contract talks	All newscasts	Labor

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1/28/2004	Approximately :40	Homeland Security now includes your "home" computer. The National Cyber Alert System is in effect--to thwart keyboard terrorists. And you can sign up for early warning. And the National Guard's General Centracchio says you should.	All newscasts	Terrorists
Continuing coverage	Various	Same Sex Marriage: Continuous coverage of the Massachusetts Constitutional Convention	All newscasts	Gay Rights
Continuing coverage	Various	Station Nightclub Fire: Continuous coverage as the matter moves to court.	All newscasts	Crime & the Administration of Justice
Continuing coverage	Various	Election 2004: NBC 10 reports on the issues the candidates and the voters are talking about	All newscasts	Election '04
Continuing coverage	Various	Blue Cross/Blue Shield: With 2/3 of the state subscribing to Blue Cross, legislators probe their practices.	All newscasts	Health Care
3/29/2004	Approximately :25	Governor Don Carcieri will host a second town meeting to discuss the state's budget crisis and explain his budget proposal for the coming fiscal year.	All newscasts	Government Administration
3/29/2004	Approximately :25	T-F Green airport is one of 43 U-S airports that needs to expand, according to the federal government.	All newscasts	Public Transportation
3/29/2004	Approximately :25	The average price of gas, nationwide, has hit a record high today... one dollar and eighty cents a gallon. That's up three cents in just the past two weeks. And industry insiders say--don't expect it to drop very much in the near future. The demand for gas is expected to increase with predicted improvements in the economy, not to mention the upcoming vacation season. And higher demand is likely to keep prices high, too	All newscasts	Energy
3/21/2004	Approximately :25	They live in Narragansett and can't take it any more. They say their neighbors... URI students who live off campus... cause all kinds of trouble.	All newscasts	
3/27/2004	Approximate 1:45	Some Providence teachers and parents are upset. They're protesting Governor Carcieri's proposed budget cuts which would affect programs like computers, art and music.	All newscasts	Education

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3/26/2004	Approximately :25	A settlement is in the works in a longstanding dispute over the border between Rhode Island and Connecticut. The states last agreed on a boundary in 18-40...since then the line has shifted in some spots. Disputed areas lie between Foster and Killingly and Hopkinton and North Stonington.	All newscasts	State Border Dispute