

NO QUIT IN BOSTON

The Red Sox are playing themselves into another stunning post-season comeback. Saturday's 4-2 victory over Tampa Bay sets up a showdown tonight for a World Series slot.



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VOTE*08

Blue State Blues

Economic Uncertainty Shakes State's Voters, Drives Their Political Choices

By DANIELA ALTIMARI
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To appreciate how the stomach-turning twists of the world economy are affecting American politics at this pivotal moment, drive west on Route 44, past the strip malls of the Farmington Valley, the postcard-pretty village of Pine Meadow and the shuttered storefronts on Winsted's Main Street.

Pull up to Kirk Sinclair's cedar-shingled farmhouse on a country road in Norfolk, the place his father bought for \$4,000 in the 1940s. Take a seat at his kitchen table and listen as he explains how some long-held assumptions no longer hold true.

"My personal plan was to work when I got old, [but] only part time," says Sinclair, a 54-year-old geographic information system manager. He also had hoped to use some of his 401(k) money to help pay college tuition for his three children. Now mayhem in the financial markets is "throwing a little monkey wrench" into those plans.

Sinclair is not affiliated with a political party and has yet to decide which presidential candidate he'll vote for, although he is drawn to Democrat Barack Obama's message of change. "I think these past eight years have been disastrous," he says.

For Sinclair, as for many others, everything these days turns on the economy. You hear it in the rhetoric served up by both campaigns: Obama's joke about how the 401(k) has become the 101(k); GOP vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin's talk of the divide between Main Street and Wall Street.

And you hear it each time one of the candidates invokes the kitchen table,



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BILL MAUNE, 56, OF MIDDLETOWN

"I'm hoping that with the entrepreneurial spirit of our wonderful country, we'll come up with some great new ideas."

Maune is a devout Catholic who embraces the Republican vision of America, and he supports John McCain. The Democrats, he says, are out of touch with average people.

ON THE WEB

Connecticut residents explain how the world financial crisis is impacting their lives and their thinking about the presidential election in a video at courant.com/ctvoters

ECONOMY, A10



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KATHRYN LOVELACE, 51, HARTFORD

"If I lost my job tomorrow, I'm going to adjust my lifestyle. If I have to live by the river in a van, I can do that."

Corporate bailouts bring out Lovelace's up-by-the-bootstraps instincts. She has been a stalwart Republican, but she believes Barack Obama can right the financial mess.

» **WAR OF WORDS:** John McCain says Barack Obama's economic proposals sound "a lot like socialism"; Obama attacks McCain's corporate "welfare." **A11**
» **POLITICAL TARGETS:** White boomer women, middle-aged children of the post-World War II generation, are the focus of a campaign tug of war. **A11**

Questions Haunt Earliest Reardon Victims

By HILARY WALDMAN
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ALBANY, N.Y. — By the time she reached her mid-30s, Ellen Manning had a degree in English and a respectable job with the state of New York. She had a

INNOCENTS ABUSED

large group of friends, a supportive family, a nice house and a cat she loved.

Still, she had always felt somewhat adrift.

She had dated, but never fallen in love.

She didn't have a family of her own. She wondered if, perhaps, she might have been able to accomplish more.

Those aren't especially unusual thoughts for someone moving into the early throes of middle age. But there was something else lurking in the back of Manning's mind. And, in 1987, as she watched and read stories about child sexual abuse and its emotional consequences, the memories of her own past came bubbling forward.

Manning couldn't help but wonder if her own melancholy might have

something to do with a man who lived next door when she was growing up, a young medical student named George Reardon.

Manning is among the first known victims of the late Dr. George Reardon, former chief of endocrinology at St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center who has been accused of sexually molesting **REARDON, A8**

ELLEN MANNING says she was abused by George Reardon for several years, including her year as a fifth-grader, right.



COURTESY OF ELLEN MANNING

CTWEEK

When you try to play by the rules in Hartford, you end up cornered by someone who ignores the rules, who counts on fear and silence. Helen Ubiñas.

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CTOPINION

The call for a constitutional convention: a chance to create a more efficient government, or an opening to mob rule by passionate activists?

PAGE C1

CTCONSUMER

Sure, the Watchdog found some problems with Costco, but overall, he says, the store treated him and his money well.

PAGE D1

CTSPO RTS

UConn's football team literally gave Rutgers a 12-10 win, with gifts of three missed field goals.

PAGE E1

CTWEATHER

The days are looking mostly sunny this week, and seasonably cool.

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