

IANNELLA SERVICES — Virginia Iannella, widow of Boston City Council president Christopher A. Iannella, leaves his funeral Mass yesterday flanked by their sons, Christopher (left) and Richard. Nearly 1,000 mourners attended the Jamaica Plain services. Page 17.

GLOBE STAFF PHOTO / BARRY CHIN

As 2d priest indicted, bishop speaks

By Gerard F. Russell
SPECIAL TO THE GLOBE

WORCESTER — After another Roman Catholic priest from the Worcester Diocese was indicted Thursday by a grand jury — the second in a week — Bishop Timothy J. Harrington issued a statement yesterday saying the church condemns “the kind of behavior which is alleged in the indictment.”

Rev. Ronald D. Provost, 53, was charged with posing or exhibiting a child

in a state of nudity. The pictures were allegedly taken on Jan. 11 in Gardner, according to District Attorney John J. Conte.

Bishop Harrington said he was “saddened” that a priest in his diocese was indicted for criminal action that is “incompatible with the priesthood.”

The last parish to which Father Provost was assigned was St. Joseph’s Church in Barre, Conte said. Barre, with a population of less than 5,000, is about 20 miles northwest of Worcester.

Father Provost was at St. Joseph’s from 1988 until earlier this year, when he left the parish on sick leave, according to a town official who did not want to be identified. The priest often held flag football games with town children and hosted baseball card nights, according to the official.

Father Provost had been assigned to many parishes in the diocese since he was ordained in 1970, diocesan officials said.

PRIEST, Page 16

Threat case dismissed, suspect in fatal bombing is rearrested

By Doris Sue Wong
GLOBE STAFF

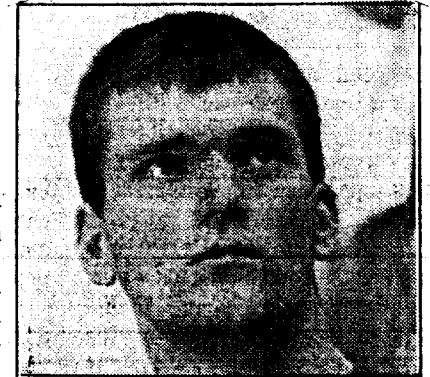
Over the defense attorney’s objection, a state judge dismissed a bomb-threat charge yesterday against Thomas A. Shay, the Quincy man who is a suspect in a 1991 bomb explosion that killed a Boston police officer.

Immediately after the dismissal of the state charge, federal agents arrested Shay, 20, on a complaint issued less than two hours ear-

lier charging him with making another unrelated bomb threat to a Brighton woman in April while he was being held at the jail.

Shay’s attorney, Jefferson Boone, lambasted the federal complaint as a pretext by authorities to keep his client behind bars as they continue to try to extract information from and build a case against him in the death of Officer Jeremiah J. Hurley. Shay has been in jail since March on the first bomb-threat charge.

SHAY, Page 16



AP PHOTO

Thomas A. Shay appears in Suffolk Superior Court yesterday for a hearing on state charges.

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