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### Leader of the pack



June Geddes shoots a 5-under-par 66 for a 2-stroke lead in the opening round of the McDonald's LPGA Championship at DuPont Country Club. Sports. E1

### Stiffing dissent in Zimbabwe

From different ends of the spectrum, two outspoken men became enemies of the state. A17

## Regional News

### Street not on union's agenda

Mayor's absence from convention reflects sour tone of talks with city workers. B1

### Masked protesters to be fined

City Council approves \$75 penalty. Skateboarders, however, win a reprieve from restrictions. B1

### Questions on Santorum's trip

Groups criticize the senator's less-than-full disclosure over who paid for family's visit to Rome. B1

### Point, click and litigate

The Internet is changing how lawyers practice and people

## Sailing into Phila. in grand fashion

*The Gazela's dedicated crew arrives today with an OpSail flotilla.*

By Patrick Keekstra  
INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

ABOARD THE GAZELA, IN THE ATLANTIC — Joan was drawn by the ship itself, Audie by crisis, and Capt. Patrick by need. Gay grew up watching square-riggers, and race-car-driving Jimmy was looking for a place to heal.

For each of them and the 21 other sailors aboard, this Portuguese-built vessel has become a tonic, a respite and a challenge all at once.

### Inside

A pullout guide to the OpSail 2000 — activities, Weekend.

Together they have hoisted sails, navigated blue Bermuda waters, and spent sleepless hours in stuffy bunks. At night, they've been mesmerized by brilliant luminescent plankton kicked up by high waves that send salt water and the glowing organisms crashing onto the deck and over bare feet.

"We're like pirates riding along in this beautiful, living memory," said Audrey "Audie" Poole, the ship's cook.

For almost two months, the Philadelphia-based *Gazela* and dozens of other



## SEPTA approves Reading rail line

The \$1.4 billion Schuylkill Valley Metrorail could be in use by 2007. Studies and hearings will be conducted.

By Julie Stoiber  
INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

A speedy new train line that could carry up to 50,000 passengers a day between Philadelphia and Reading, and help alleviate traffic congestion in fast-developing Montgomery and Chester Counties, moved a step closer to reality yesterday when the SEPTA board approved the \$1.4 billion project.

The transit agency now can proceed with engineering studies and public hearings for the 62-mile Schuylkill Valley Metrorail. It also can apply for Federal Transit Administration funding, a highly competitive process in which it will ultimately vie with projects in more than 40 other cities.

"This is a giant step in the process," SEPTA general manager John K. Leary Jr. said after the vote.

SEPTA is looking to the federal government to fund 80 percent of the project, with the rest of the money coming from the state.

Construction is expected to begin in 2003, with the system up and run-

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