

B25 City & Region**New England**
*in brief***BOSTON****Witness says van driver was aggressor**

A woman who witnessed a deadly case of road rage that led to the death of a school van driver says it was the school van driver who was the aggressor. Creda Carney said yesterday that she watched the confrontation unfold as she sat in an MBTA bus during rush hour on Nov. 30. Dana Lombardi, 45, of Chelsea has pleaded not guilty in the incident that left Sandra Thomas, 57, of Everett dead. Prosecutors said Lombardi and Thomas got into an altercation after a minor fender-bender in Charlestown. Lombardi has been accused of driving off with Thomas clinging to his car hood and running her over after she fell off. After a pretrial court hearing yesterday, Carney told WHDH-TV, Channel 7, that Lombardi had cut off several vehicles, but was not involved in an accident with Thomas's van. She said she saw Thomas approach Lombardi's car, trying to open the driver-side door and jumping onto the hood, after a traffic incident. (AP)

BOSTON**Convicted 1991 bomber loses bid**

A federal judge has rejected a bid by convicted bomber Alfred Trenkler for a new trial, saying it was filed too late. Trenkler, serving a life sentence for building a bomb in 1991 that killed Boston Police Bomb Squad technician Jeremiah Hurley and maimed his partner, Francis X. Foley, contended that federal agents fabricated a receipt introduced as evidence during his trial. Federal agents said corporate records disprove the allegation, but US District Court Judge Rya W. Zobel ruled the point was moot because Trenkler's motion was filed at least two years too late under federal court rules.