

TAKING ON A GRANDMASTER



PHOTOS BY BARRY CHIN/GLOBE STAFF



Chess grandmaster Larry Christiansen, standing inside the tables, played 25 simultaneous games of chess in South Station in Boston on Tuesday afternoon. Bill MacLellan of the Boylston Chess Club said Christiansen, currently ranked 15th in the world, will be taking on opponents at South Station about once a month. The United States Chess Federation calls Christiansen "an American master of attack." At left, Carlheb Cemesca, 16, of Everett, a student at Prospect Hill Academy, reacted to a move.

Panel set to rule on driving capacity

► **SAFE DRIVING**
Continued from Page B1

ed in 2010 stopped short of mandatory tests, but does prohibit those over 75 from renewing their licenses online. Lawmakers hoped the requirement to visit a Registry branch and take a vision test would make the least fit senior drivers think twice before renewing.

The 2010 law also required the state Department of Public Health to define cognitive and functional impairments to guide health care providers in judging their patients' ability to drive safely. It is these rules that are to be voted on by the Public Health Council, an appointed panel of doctors, consumer advocates, and professors.

The law included a provision to encourage health care providers and police officers to feel more comfortable filing confidential reports to the state Registry of Motor Vehicles by protecting them from lawsuits when filing a report about a suspected impaired driver.

Elizabeth Dugan, an associate professor who specializes in aging issues at the University of Massachusetts Boston,

Proposed rules are 'evidence-based and clinically relevant guidelines that should be helpful.'

ELIZABETH DUGAN
UMass Boston professor

Ecuador court sentences man to 25 years in Mass. killings

► **GUAMAN**
Continued from Page B1

the 42-year-old former roofer would be set free. Family members said they preferred extradition to the United States, but they helped Ecuadoran prosecutors because they did not want Guaman to be freed from jail.

Manuel Jesus Caguana, Brian's father, who testified via video during the trial, sighed deeply Tuesday after he heard about the sentence. "It's good they're not going to let him go," he said in Spanish.

In a telephone interview Tuesday, Maria Eloisa, one of Palaguachi's older sisters, said she is worried Guaman will not serve the full 25 years because in Ecuador some prisoners are released before they finish their sentences.

"Twenty-five years is not enough for killing two people," Eloisa said in a telephone inter-

view from her home in Brockton. "God willing, he'll come back here. He should be tried here. My nephew, Brian, was an American. He was born here and that's why I want justice here."

Eloisa, who also testified via video conference in the Ecuadoran trial, said it is a relief to know that at least Guaman will not be on the streets.

"This man is not a Christian. He's a demon," she said, speaking in Spanish. "As long as he's not harming anyone, we're happy. But we still hope he'll come back here."

Cruz, in a telephone interview Tuesday, said he would not relent on his demand that Guaman be returned to the Bay State to stand trial. He said he believes that under Ecuadoran law, Guaman could remain imprisoned for as little as 10 years.

"I have no faith whatsoever in

the length of the sentence," Cruz said. "I have no faith in their trial system over there. I still think Guaman should be extradited and we would deal with him here."

Cruz said it is up to the Massachusetts congressional delegation and the Obama administration to pressure Ecuador into sending Guaman to Massachusetts. He said the United States must live up to its treaty obligations with Ecuador and other countries, and it should also require Ecuador and other countries to abide by their treaties.

"What if this was to happen to somebody you knew or to your loved one? Are we supposed to forget about it? I am not prepared to do that," Cruz said. "I have an obligation to that little boy and his mother. I am willing to try this case and to let the chips fall where they may."



STIFFER SENTENCE
If he had been convicted in Massachusetts, Luis Guaman would have faced life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Guaman, who lived in the United States illegally for almost two decades, had pleaded not guilty to the killings and insisted that Palaguachi and her son were alive when he caught a flight to his native Ecuador. He admitted using another man's passport to get through airport security in

New York, but said it was because he had problems with his estranged wife.

In Ecuador, judicial police arrested Guaman in February 2011 for passport fraud, with help from his estranged wife in New York, who told officials he had called from Ecuador and threatened to kill their children and her parents there if she did not send him money.

Ecuadoran officials prosecuted him for passport fraud and he served several months in jail. Then he was held for several more months pending the murder charges, and the court said he would get credit for time served. Guaman's defense lawyer, Italo Palacios, has said he will appeal the conviction.

Maria Sacchetti can be reached at msacchetti@globe.com. Follow her on Twitter @marisacchetti.

said the proposed rules are "evidence-based and clinically relevant guidelines that should be helpful."

Dugan, who testified during legislative hearings on the issue, has long argued against arbitrary age-based driving tests.

"We need to focus on what we know is related to safe driving and not ageist stereotype," she said.

Gerald Flaherty, vice president of medical and scientific programs at the Alzheimer's Association of Massachusetts and New Hampshire, said the proposed rules strike an appropriate balance between individual rights and the need to protect public safety.

But Flaherty said the issue is likely to get muddy when implemented because many primary care physicians may have trouble distinguishing the signs of dementia.

"If clinicians are not recognizing dementia in the first place, it's going to be difficult for them to recognize one's driving ability that may be affected," Flaherty said. "But you also want to be fair in how you apply these regulations be-

Hebrew College cancels planned sale of Newton campus

► **HEBREW COLLEGE**
Continued from Page B1

Lehmann, who plans a formal announcement of the newfound

to high-level Jewish education, and to a sense that Jewish education can occur in this kind of impressive location and building



another for young adults. When facing the prospect of homelessness, Hebrew College had arranged to lease space from

stability at the school's 90th anniversary gala Wednesday evening. "Here is an institution which is the only institution of its kind in New England."

Hebrew College is Boston's largest and most comprehensive institution for community Jewish education and home to the area's only rabbinical school. It was founded in Roxbury and moved to Brookline before settling in Newton Centre in 2001.

The school educates about 600 in its community programs, which allow adults to learn about Judaism. More than 500 students are enrolled in its after-school and weekend programs for middle- and high-schoolers, and about 250 graduate students study at the college, including about 50 in the rabbinical school.

Jonathan Sarna, a professor of American Jewish history at Brandeis University and an alumnus and donor, said a forced sale "would have been a symbol of failure for the Boston Jewish community, one which I was quite uncomfortable with."

"The fact that it will remain is, I think, a symbol that the community remains committed

that had been specially built for it," he said.

But Lehmann said the college, like many other institutions, has learned a painful lesson about tempering ambition with budgetary realism.

"It has to be very, very careful and responsible and sustainable," said Lehmann, who replaced the school's previous leader, David Gordis, just months before the 2008 economic meltdown. "Part of our problem is we got ahead of ourselves. There is a natural desire for growth, but it has to be growth you can afford."

Lehmann said that when the college went on the market early last year, the building drew only limited interest in a deflated real estate market. At the price the building was likely to fetch, he said, Hebrew College's leaders felt they could try to jump in and refinance. The bond insurer agreed to work with the college on a plan.

The deal, which is likely to close within days, required some sacrifice all around, Lehmann said. The bond insurer lost some money; Hebrew College agreed to raise \$3 million in equity; and



Hebrew College moved to Newton Centre in 2001 and is home to the Boston area's only rabbinical school.

Combined Jewish Philanthropies, a major supporter of Hebrew College and the guarantor of its original mortgage loan, must pay \$5.2 million of the debt in the coming years.

But Barry Shrage, president of Combined Jewish Philanthropies, which continues to contribute \$1.5 million to the college each year to support its educational mission, said Hebrew College has agreed to try to pay his organization back over time.

Shrage described the college's current leadership as "terrifically on the ball."

The institution's recovered fi-

ancial stability, he said, will allow it to refocus its energies on programs like Prozdor, the widely respected supplemental school for Jewish teens, which recently received an injection of youthful new leadership, and Me'ah, an adult education program that Shrage described as "the best shot any community ever had at universal adult Jewish literacy."

"I believe this will put us back on target for significant new expansion in those areas," Shrage said.

The college has recently created two new programs on parenting "through a Jewish lens" and

neighboring Andover Newton Theological School.

The Rev. Nick Carter, president of Andover Newton, said the change of plans was welcome news. The two institutions work closely on interfaith efforts, such as developing a new certificate program in interfaith leadership.

"In terms of things that are going to make Hebrew College strong and actually support our exploration into interreligious leadership education, it's far more important that they have a permanent home," he said.

David Micley is the third generation of his family to work at Hebrew College; his grandparents met there, and his mother trains teachers in the Prozdor program for teens, where Micley is now director of recruitment and admissions.

"I know for a lot of people who work here, it felt like a ghost hanging over everybody's head," he said of the onetime threat of having to move. "To have that not be a concern and to focus on programming . . . is definitely invigorating."

Lisa Wangness can be reached at lwangness@globe.com.

cause many people in the early stages of dementia can drive safely."

The proposed regulations also detail what constitutes functional impairments. The list includes an "inability or diminished capacity to consistently maintain a firm grasp on or manipulate a steering wheel or driving hand controls."

It also stipulates that "weakness or paralysis of muscles affecting ability to consistently maintain sitting balance" be considered an impairment.

Steven Evans, director of medical affairs at the registry, said that in the first three months of 2012, the agency has revoked about 1,000 licenses for medical reasons, which include impairments, such as for seizures or heart conditions, that are already included in agency rules.

Evans said the agency compiled about 3,500 revocations in 2011 related to physical or medical problems.

Kay Lazar can be reached at klazar@globe.com. Follow her on Twitter @GlobeKayLazar.