

parts and services to the U.S. Navy.

Gas prices rise

Statewide gas prices surged 16 cents to \$3.83 a gallon in the past week, AAA said.

AIG insurer fined over health plans

The United States Life Insurance Co. — a subsidiary of AIG — must pay \$760,000 for selling and marketing health insurance plans that violated state law, according to a settlement agreement with the state Attorney General's Office.

Staples pays more

Staples CEO Ron Sargent's pay package rose 41 percent to \$15.1 million in 2010, thanks to higher stock awards and a bigger bonus.

THE OUTLOOK 2011

TODAY

- Beverly's Affiliated Managers Group posts financial results.
- The S&P/Case-Shiller index of home prices for February is released.

THE SHUFFLE

■ **Michelle Grimaldi** joined the Watertown communications firm of Allen & Gerritsen as a marketing supervisor.



— STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

Here are some tips on setting up a Wi-Fi system and keeping it safe.

■ When you first set up your wireless router, make sure you don't use "123456" or "password" for the password. Use a combination of at least eight capital and lowercase letters mixed with numbers and symbols to make it harder to crack.

■ The set-up usu-

ally offers a few types of security. The Wi-Fi Alliance recommends WPA2, or Wi-Fi Protected Access 2, the most up-to-date method.

■ If you've already set up your network without a password, you can edit your network settings by clicking on "Network Connections" in the Control Panel on a PC, or by clicking on "Network" in System Preferences on a Mac computer.

of other risks involved with leaving your Wi-Fi unprotected. An open Internet connection can be used for music or movie piracy. Hackers could also steal personal information such as credit card numbers or install malware to spread viruses.

"The concern about hacking is someone could turn your machine into a zombie," he said.

A recent poll by the Wi-Fi Alliance, an industry

gotten much smarter about protecting their networks," he said.

Aside from ignorance or indifference, some people decide to leave their wireless network open, believing the Internet should be free and open.

"That doesn't mean you need to provide it for your neighbors at the risk of all sorts of problems," Palfrey said.

— bizsmart@bostonherald.com

Manny rents out Ritz digs for \$24G a month

By JERRY KRONENBERG

REAL ESTATE & DEVELOPMENT

Manny Ramirez has tested positive — for the ability to attract tenants.

The ex-Red Sox slugger has rented out his Ritz-Carlton Boston penthouse for \$24,000 a month, temporarily ending six years of on-again, off-again efforts to sell the place.

Ramirez, who left the Sox in 2008 and abruptly retired from baseball this month after reportedly testing positive for performance-enhancing drugs, originally listed the unit in 2005 at \$6.9 million.

But Manny being Manny, he's put the place on and off the market several times since then — and also changed asking prices and listing firms.

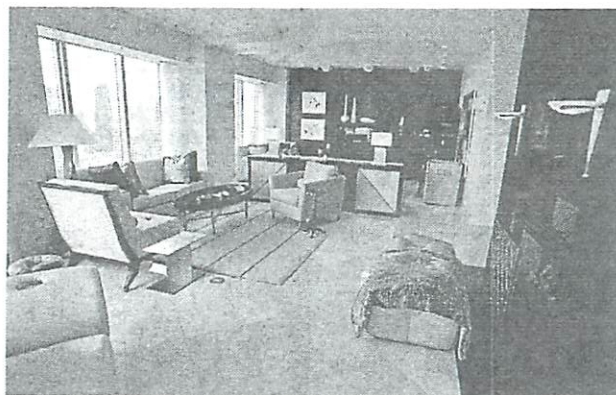
Sources say an entertainment producer recently leased the furnished four-bedroom until August.

Listing broker Carmela Laurella expects the condo to go back on the market in July. "We had a couple of offers last summer and rented

it now for a very, very good amount, so we're very confident that we can sell it this year," she said.

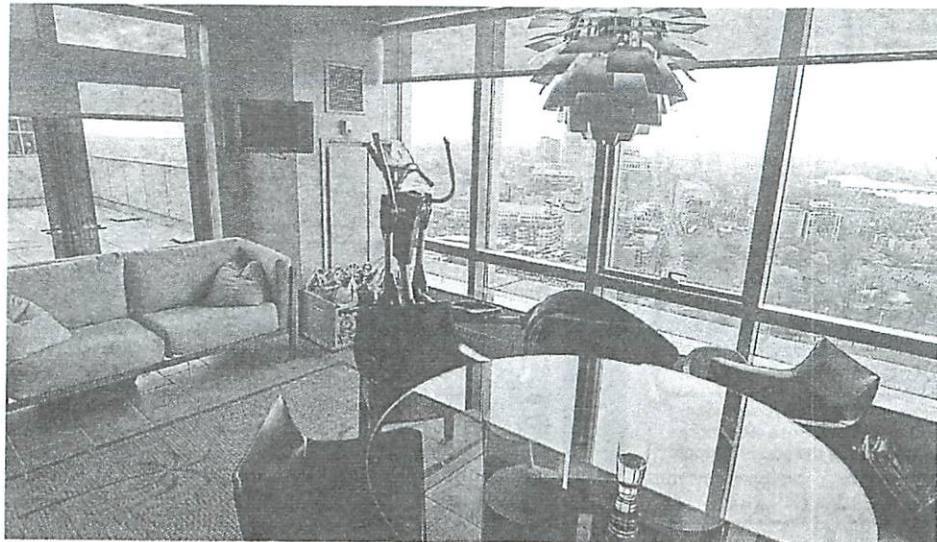
Meanwhile, former Sox third baseman Mike Lowell this month sold his own three-bedroom Ritz condo, garnering \$1.75 million.

— jkronenberg@bostonherald.com



STAFF FILE PHOTOS BY MATT STONE

MONEY VIEWS: Ex-Sox star Manny Ramirez has decided to lease out his Ritz-Carlton penthouse, which failed to sell after six years on the market.



less carrier.

"They're expanding their distribution," Carl Howe, analyst for the Hub-based Yankee Group, said of Apple. "They're



DIGITAL

looking to have as many carriers buying and selling iPhones as they can find."

Howe said he suspects Apple — newly released from an exclusivity agreement with AT&T — will launch the iPhone for T-Mobile this summer. That will likely occur before the anticipated release of the next version of iPhone.

"They want to keep sales numbers up before that, and one of the easiest ways is to bring in new customers," Howe said.

AT&T is looking to acquire T-Mobile in a \$39 billion merger, which would make it the largest wireless network in the nation, surpassing Verizon.

T-Mobile would not comment on the potential iPhone development, and Apple did not respond to requests for comment.

As persistent rumors suggest that iPhones will be available to T-Mobile customers in the coming months, market research suggests many consumers have already taken matters into their own hands.

As many as 4 percent, or 1.3 million, of T-Mobile's 33.7 million customers have obtained iPhones through other means, Howe said. Some are hacked and made to work on the network, commonly called "jailbroken" or "unlocked" phones. Other customers go so far as to buy iPhones from T-Mobile's German counterpart, devices that get spotty reception in the United States.

— jvansack@bostonherald.com