

LAKE MARY HERALD

Vol. 2 No. 8
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Lake Mary, Florida

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Lake Mary's only hometown newspaper

THURSDAY
OCTOBER 2, 2003

Swindlers bilk woman out of \$3,000

From Staff Reports

Victim approached by suspect at Lake Mary Boulevard Kmart

She was promised a share of \$75,000, but when it came down to it, all she ended up with was a hole in her checking account. An Orlando woman was the victim last week of a pigeon drop scheme that occurred in the Lake Mary area.

According to authorities, the victim was approached outside of the Kmart store just off Lake Emma Road and Lake Mary Boulevard. A female suspect struck up a conversation with the victim,

saying that she had just found \$75,000 in a wallet. She offered to split the money, but the victim would first have to put up some good-faith money.

The victim was taken to a couple other locations

and was introduced to a second, and third suspect, who played along in the scheme. Eventually, the victim withdrew \$3,000 out of her bank account.

The suspects and the victim then went in the suspects' car to the Lake Mary Hilton at 705

See Scam, Page 8



A possible suspect in the case has several known identities, including Pauline Babbs and Pauline Marazzi.



Rough road

Mistakes cost the Lake Mary football team a pair of victories as the Rams dropped close road decisions to Oviedo and Gainesville-Buchholz.

See Sports, Page 10

The Beaver to discuss psoriasis

Jerry Mathers will discuss his experiences of living with the skin disease psoriasis during a seminar in Lake Mary next month.

Mathers, best known for his role playing the Beaver on the 1950s television show "Leave It to Beaver," has had psoriasis for more than two decades and knows firsthand the physical and emotional toll it can take. The disease, an autoimmune skin disease in which skin cells multiply 10 times faster than the normal rate, causes cells to pile up on the skin's surface, forming red, raised, scaly plaques that can be painful and disfiguring. The excess psoriasis generally appears on the joints,

Seminar Info

What: Step Into My Skin Psoriasis Seminar

When: 10 a.m. to noon Nov. 8 (registration and breakfast at 9 a.m.)

Where: Orlando Marriott Lake Mary, 1501 International Parkway
Info: (888) 433-7487 or www.stepintomy skin.org

who have psoriasis suffer in silence," said Mathers. "I hope that by talking about my psoriasis I can help reduce the stigma associated with this disease and empower people to reclaim their lives by seeking help and treatment."

Mathers joined the National Psoriasis Foundation's Step Into My Skin campaign to raise awareness of psoriasis, which affects 80 million people worldwide and 4.5 million U.S. adults.

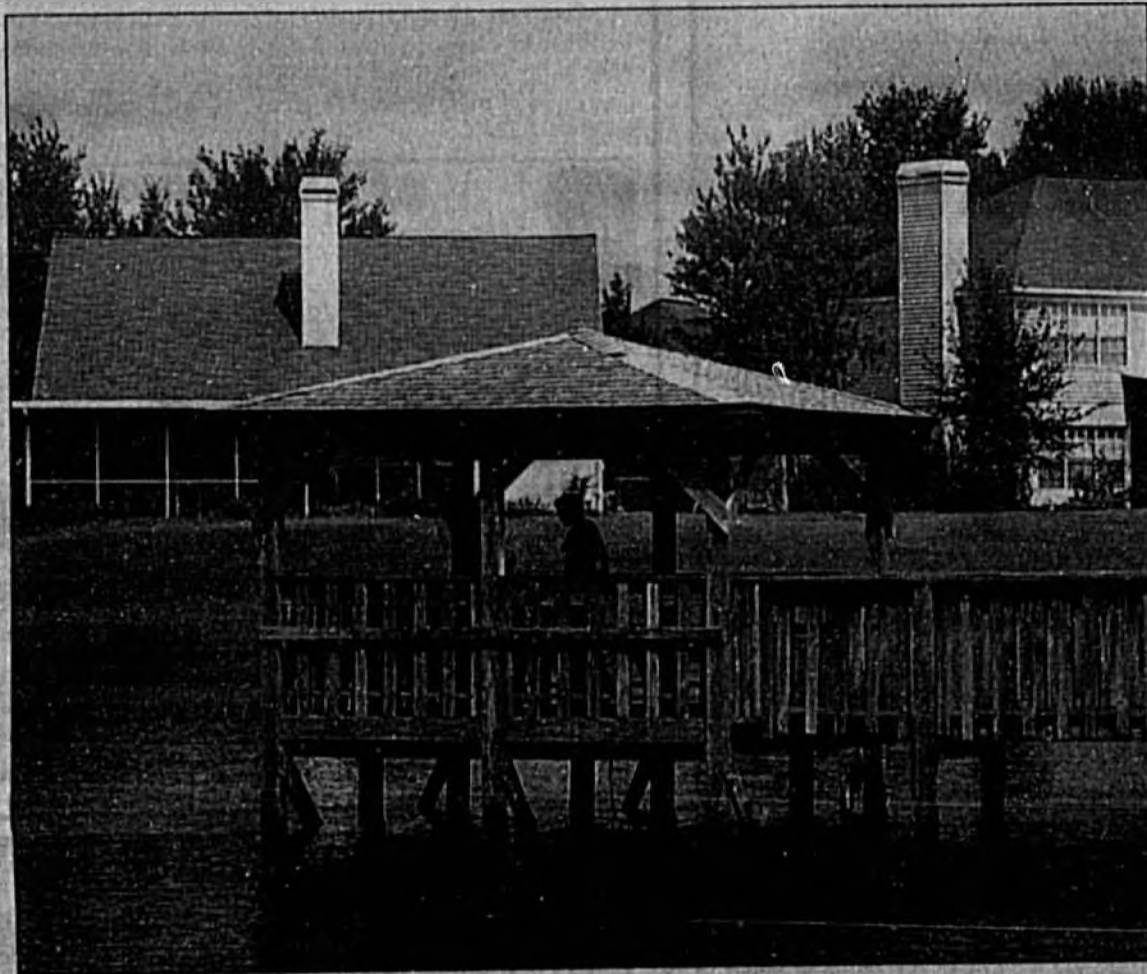
Nell A. Fenske, University of South Florida, College of Medicine, will join Mathers to discuss the immunology of psoriasis and treatment options, including recent medical breakthroughs.

Lake Mary Smile



Sue Thorne — Assistant to Lake Mary City Manager

Lightning strikes one dead; injures two others



Herald photo by Tommy Vincent

A survivor from the deadly lightning strike returns to the Lake Mary gazebo the following day.

22-year-old victim was quiet, mature beyond his years

By Jamie J. Anderson-Potter
Staff Writer

Family and friends gathered to mourn the loss of a 22-year-old Sanford man who died last Thursday after being struck by lightning in Lake Mary.

Throughout the day Friday, people who knew Eric Justin Sperry and others who were touched by a stranger's tragic death gathered inside the gazebo where he died after being struck by lightning. A makeshift memorial with flowers and fishing lures now sits where Sperry's charred fishing pole once laid.

Sperry, a student at Seminole Community College, died last Thursday after taking shelter from an afternoon thunderstorm inside a gazebo at the end of a wooden pier on Green Lake in Renaissance Park in Lake Mary.

Two other individuals, 15-year-old David Malard and 16-year-old Timothy Godbold, both students at Lake Mary High School who were making their way home after ROTC practice, also sought shelter with Sperry.

At approximately 4:20 p.m., the gazebo received a direct lightning strike in which Sperry suffered the brunt. According to officials, Sperry had dropped his fishing pole into the water, which caused it to conduct the electricity generated from the lightning bolt. The rod and reel disintegrated, leaving nothing but pieces of melted line.

Malard and Godbold, who did not know Sperry until they shared the gazebo's shelter, made their way to Green Way Boulevard where they caught the attention of driver Lisa Wulf, a former cardiac-care

See Lightning, Page 5

Public servants dish out annual luncheon benefit

By Jamie J. Anderson-Potter
Staff Writer

Elected officials and dignitaries from Lake Mary and throughout Seminole County gathered during the Fifth Annual Servants of the People Luncheon last week

to pay tribute to Mother Blanche Weaver, founder of the Rescue Outreach Mission in Sanford.

During the luncheon, more than 400 people were served lunch by volunteer "servants" made up of local mayors, commissioners, state legislators and school board officials.

"It is important for elected officials to

See Servants, Page 5



Weaver

New ordinance to regulate bar hours

By Christopher Patton
Managing Editor

While the city of Orlando eyes expanding the hours its downtown bars are open at night, Seminole County Commissioners want nothing to do with twilight alcohol drinking.

With the urging of the Seminole County Sheriff's Office, commissioners will contemplate a change to the ordinance that regulates the hours of

of alcoholic beverages and the closing time of establishments licensed to sell such drinks.

"Right now, the current ordinance leaves out a very important word," said Steve Harriett, chief deputy of the sheriff's office. "It says it is illegal to sell alcoholic beverages after two o'clock (a.m.), but it doesn't say it's presently illegal to consume them."

According to law enforcement offi-

See Drinking, Page 6

Lake Mary, Heathrow readies for art festival

By Jamie J. Anderson-Potter
Staff Writer

The Lake Mary-Heathrow Festival of the Arts will take place this weekend on International Parkway in Lake Mary.

The 17th annual event will feature artists from throughout Florida and the United States, including the poster artist Linda Amundsen, who specializes in oil paintings.

"This festival will provide a cultural legacy that will benefit the entire community," said

John L. Mica, member of the U.S. Congress. "It will give an opportunity for those who attend to not only see the different art exhibits, but to also meet and talk to the artists."

inside

Look for a guide to the 17th Annual Lake Mary-Heathrow Festival of the Arts, Oct. 4 & 5, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The inspiration for "Polly" came to Amundsen when she and her husband were on a family cruise through the Panama Canal. While at a resort in

See Festival, Page 5



Herald photo by Tommy Vincent

The Lake Mary Target donated \$10,000 to the Lake Mary-Heathrow Festival of Arts. Store associates (left to right) Michael Pilla, Larry Drohan, William Evans, store manager Laura Dombroski, Lea Bennett and Tim Nalle pass over a check to chairwoman DeLores Lash and board members Jenny Osborn, Brian Smith, Michael McLean and Cora Rice.

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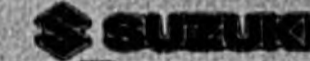


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Endorsements for real moms: Nike should just do it

Lebron James, an 18-year-old basketball player fresh out of high school has a \$100 million endorsement deal with Nike. Tiger Woods has a similar contract. Kobe Bryant has a reported \$45 million deal with the shoe company.

VIEW FROM A BROAD



Molly Tillyer

What I want to know is, where's my endorsement deal? Where are the women represented? I think Nike and the other companies that are passing out the big bucks are missing out on a large demographic.

I checked out Nike's Web site. I'm not going to deny that the sports manufacturer is doing something right. They are, after all, number one in the industry. They have basketball shoes, running shoes, yoga shoes, walking shoes, general athletic shoes, shoes to go to the bathroom, shoes for lazing around on the couch and an entire line devoted specifically for women. The women's line is a division of the company that goes by the name Nike Goddess. P-uke! Nike Goddess? Please.

You want to sell some shoes, Nike — some serious shoes? Let's see you focus on the hundreds of thousands of women who want to lose weight and are intimidated by the mid-riff baring aerobic nymphs you got advertised under your Nike Goddess line. Let's see a real woman, a true American hero that the rest of us can look up to.

You know what? I'll help ya out. I'll graciously, selflessly put aside my piles of laundry and my Hoover upright to get the ball rolling. I'm more than willing to volunteer myself for the next gazillion-dollar Nike campaign.

Sure, I may not be able to dribble a ball, drive down the fairway, or exhibit any kind of athletic ability whatsoever, but I've got skills. I can cheer from the sidelines at my son's baseball game. I have practiced and perfected the ability to refrain from pummeling the mother on the other team who encourages her son to make the out by hitting my son in the head. I can sit in rush hour

traffic with a minivan full of kids who are hungry, tired, need to go to the bathroom and are, once again, late for some extra-curricular, over-priced activity and I will not slit my wrists. I can wipe a butt, kill a bug and make a meal out of peanut butter and Spam. That's skill, my friends. Where's my Wheaties Box? Let's see those Nike boys try that!

McDonalds has paid millions of dollars to Michael Jordan and Kobe Bryant over the years for their stamp of approval. Now I ask you, what in the sam-hill do those bozos know about McDonalds? I am a true McDonalds officianado.

“ Sure, I may not be able to dribble a ball, drive down the fairway, or exhibit any kind of athletic ability whatsoever, but I've got skills

Have you seen my waistline? Who better than a mother to pitch an indoor playground and a cheap meal?

I'm putting myself out there. I'm offering the deal of all deals. I'm the one who as a child was picked last for every sport. Not a day went by in gym class when I didn't hear, "Aw, man. We got Molly? We get a five point lead." And that from my best friend! I've always

wanted to be athletic. I wouldn't mind prancing around in spandex, but I'm the kind of person who enjoys a good workout solely with the remote control. And point and click and point and click. Whew! That's enough for today.

So, Nike, I urge you to inspire women. Speak to my demographic. Get me a trainer, get me a chef, document my weight loss. Your shoes will fly off the shelf. Forget Air Jordans, women are going to want Tiny Tummy Tillyers. I'm tellin' ya they'll sell. And I'm ready to get started for the bargain basement price of only \$99,999,999.99!

And McDonalds, I haven't forgotten about you. I'll pitch whatever you send my way: Big Mac, Filet of Fish, Quarter Pounder, french fries, icy coke, thick shake, sundae, or apple pie. I'm here for you. Call me.

© 2003 Molly Tillyer

Molly Tillyer is a wife and mother of two young boys. She sits by the phone for hours at a time just waiting for endorsements. She has a lot to offer companies and cites her gift of gab and clean prison record as key selling points. Visit her online at www.mollytilyer.com

Church benefit brings in funds for family

More than \$4,000 was raised recently at a spaghetti supper at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Lake Mary, in an ongoing effort to benefit the family of a church member who is battling ovarian cancer.

Lisa Carroll of Sanford was forced to quit her job as a dental hygienist earlier this year after three years of chemotherapy, even though her family of four relied on her salary to supplement the income of her husband, Chad, who works at Universal Studios.

Although the family has medical insurance, the coverage is nowhere near enough to pay the significant medical costs that have already accumulated.

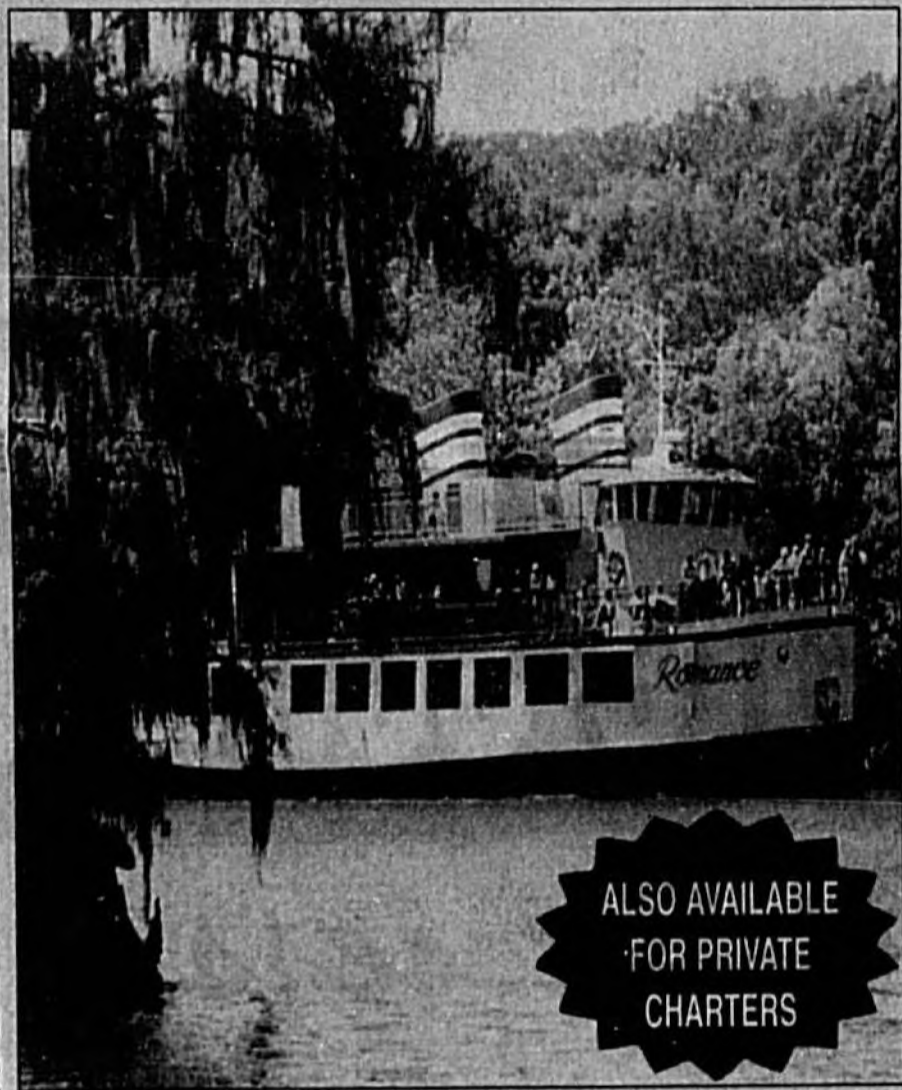
To assist the family, the Daughters of the King — an order of women in the Episcopal Church — organized the dinner, soliciting donations from area businesses as well as charging a nominal fee for

the meal. Some 150 members and friends of St. Peter's Episcopal Church attended the event, which was held on July 25 in Barge Hall, St. Peter's Episcopal Church fellowship facility. More than 30 businesses, most in the Sanford/Lake Mary area, contributed food for the meal and merchandise for a benefit raffle.

The church's Benevolence Fund has been earmarked to help the Carrolls and others in need. Financial contributions may be directed to the Benevolence Fund, St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 700 Rinenart Road, Lake Mary, FL 32746.



St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Lake Mary



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Society gears up for festival

Peggy Wolfe isn't just the president of the Lake Mary Historical Society. She is "Living History."

No, Peggy isn't ancient, but she and her husband David are living history demonstrators. They also run White Wolfe Native Arts. Peggy and David will be at the Lake Mary Healthrow Festival of the Arts this weekend. Their booth will be the only one at the festival featuring Native Arts.

David and Peggy have both won awards for their one-of-a-kind art work. Peggy specializes in dreamcatchers. David specializes in flintknapping; the art of stone tool making. You can check out some of their artwork on their Web site www.whitewolvenativearts.com or stop by the Festival of the Arts.

The Festival of the Arts is this Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 4 and 5 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at International Parkway and Business Center Park just north of AAA. Admission is free.

Chills and thrills coming to historical museum

Are you afraid of the dark? Do chills run up and down your spine when you hear ghost stories? The Lake Mary Historical Society is cordially inviting you to their 2nd Annual "Candlelight Tales."

Step back in time before the glow of electricity lit our homes. Listen to ghostly and ghastly tales by candlelight; tales of terror and haunted places; presented by storyteller Joe Rosier. The fear is free at the Lake Mary Historical Museum, 158 Country Club Road in Lake Mary. The haunting will last from 7 until 8 p.m. Then the Society will dispel the ghosts with electric lights and fall refreshments from 8 to 8:30 p.m. For more information,

contact the Society at 407-327-8207.

Peace Globe lights up woman's club meeting

Imagine creating a work of art that is banned in the city it was created for. That's what happened to Florida artist Rebecca Nova. Rebecca designed her World Peace Globe specifically for the World Peace Center in Bethlehem on Manger Square. Rebecca didn't just tell the Lake Mary Woman's Club about the globe at their recent meeting.

She brought the 48-inch globe with her. The globe visually shows peace. Each country at peace has a steady When you think about senior citizens, you don't always think about excessive drug use. But when most people hear the word drug, they think illegal drugs. The fact is, senior citizens are the largest consumers of prescription drugs in the United States. While drugs can be lifesavers for some, they can be extremely dangerous when used incorrectly.

Victoria Adams from the Center for Drug Free Living was the guest speaker at the September meeting of the Lake Mary AARP. Her topic was "To Your Health — Medication Wisdom." Too many people underestimate the consequences of mixing medication and alcohol. Drinking alcohol while taking certain medications can be dangerous, sometimes even fatal.

Do not drink alcohol if you are taking high blood pressure medication, diuretics, anticoagulants, antidepressants, anti-convulsants, antidiabetic, tranquilizers, painkillers or psychotropics. All have serious side effects. Everyone, from time to time, gets sick and needs an antibiotic. If you drink while taking antibiotics, you could experience nausea or vomiting or the antibiotic could be completely ineffective because of the alcohol.

You're healthy as a horse and you haven't had to see a doctor in years. Occasionally you take an over-the-counter medication for a cold or

headache. Well, guess what? Alcohol can have adverse effects when combined with almost every over-the-counter medication.

You're on a couple of prescription medications, but you try to stay healthy as naturally as possible. You take Echinacea when you feel a cold coming on, garlic for your heart, ginkgo for your memory and maybe peppermint for an upset stomach. Herbs are medicine! Stop taking any herb until you talk to your doctor. All four of the herbs named as well as several others, can cause adverse effects when combined with prescription medication.

Food can make a big difference in your health when you're taking medication. Pay very special attention to the directions on the bottle of prescription medications. Some are better taken on an empty stomach, some on a full stomach. Some medication doesn't work well when taken with dairy.

The important thing to remember is to read the bottle. If the print on the bottle is too small don't be afraid to ask your pharmacist what type of interactions are common with your medication. And if your doctor prescribes a medication and you're not really sure why, make sure you ask for a better explanation. If you go to more than one doctor, make sure they all know what the other has prescribed. Many medications do not work well when mixed with others, whether they are prescribed or over-the-counter.

The best thing to remember is to be vocal. ASK. Ask your doctor, ask your nurse and ask your pharmacist. And if you think you're having a minor adverse reaction to a medication, call Poison Control at 1-800-222-1222 and they can tell you what to do. If you think you're having a major adverse reaction, call 911.

If you have any items of interest in Lake Mary, you can contact Mary Rowell at mjthrowell@netscape.net. Please include a local contact name and number.



Herald photos by Mary Rowell

David and Peggy Wolfe (top) with some of the artwork they have created. Woman's club members (middle) Cynthia Pitcock, Lois Jackson and Charlene Miller welcome new members Lorraine Jameson (second from the left) and Lou Meyer (fourth on the left). Victoria Adams (above left) from the Center From Drug Free Living with Lake Mary AARP Chapter President Paulee Stevens. Woman's Club President Lois Jackson (above right) with Peace Globe Artist Rebecca Nova.



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Servants

Continued from Page 1

give back to the community," said Lake Mary Commissioner Michael McLean, who helped serve drinks during the event, returning to his college roots as a Pizza Hut waiter.

The goal of the annual event, held at the Sanford Civic Center, was to raise \$52,000 for the Rescue Outreach Mission, more than double the \$20,000 from 1999. The money raised will ensure those in need receive food, clothing and shelter.

"It is our opportunity to serve and support those who are out in the community serving every day," said Lake Mary Deputy Mayor Janet Jernigan.

During the festivities, Weaver, who began the Mission from her home more than 16 years ago, was presented the Points of Light Award. Weaver was selected to receive the award by Gov. Jeb Bush in February based on her dedication to the community and continued inspiration to others.

"I can't believe it, I just do what people should do," 78-year-old Weaver said. "I don't turn anybody down. When they come to me, I don't care how dirty they are I see to it that they get cleaned up."

"I treat them like people, not dogs," she added. "I treat them just as nice as I would if they were the president of the United States."

Weaver purchased the property on West 13th Street to build the Mission for \$10 more than 16 years ago. Since that time it has grown to include a 6,000 square foot facility dedicated to providing food, clothing and shelter to those in need. A 5,000 square foot facility known as the Open Door Shelter for women was added to the property nine years ago.

The facility has given Weaver and her staff an outlet to provide shelter to more than 10,400 people and prepare nearly 763,000 meals.

"She has touched thousands of lives," said Jennings. "She is dedicated to the people of her community. She will continue to inspire all of us for years to come."



Herald photos by Tommy Vincent

Lt. Gov. Toni Jennings (top) shares a moment with State Rep. David Meador before the Fifth Annual Servants of the People Luncheon begins. Lake Mary Deputy Mayor Janet Jernigan (above) offers water and tea to those attending the luncheon, which honored Mother Blanche Weaver, founder of the Rescue Outreach Mission in Sanford. Lake Mary Commissioner Michael McLean (right) shares tea and a smile with lunch patrons.

Lightning

Continued from Page 1

nurse at Orlando Regional Medical Center.

The Longwood woman, who was driving home after picking up her son from school, stopped to assist the boys. After assessing Sperry's condition, Wulf performed cardiopulmonary resuscitation for nearly five minutes.

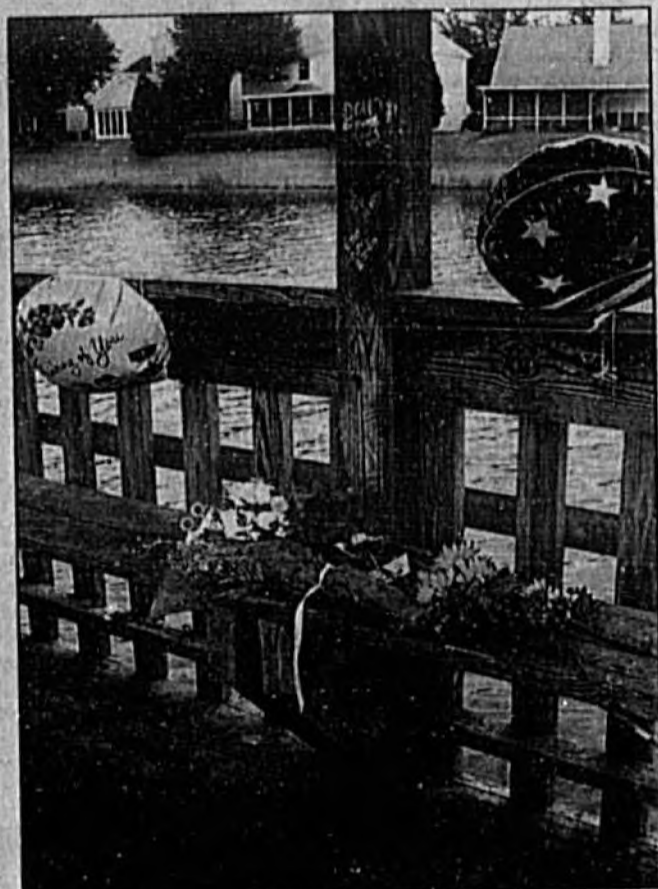
Sperry, however, was pronounced dead at South Seminole Hospital in Longwood later that evening. His death is the sixth in Florida this year.

Malard and Godbold suffered only minor injuries and burns. They were treated and released from Florida Hospital Altamonte that

evening. One of the boys, who asked to remain nameless, returned to the scene Friday afternoon.

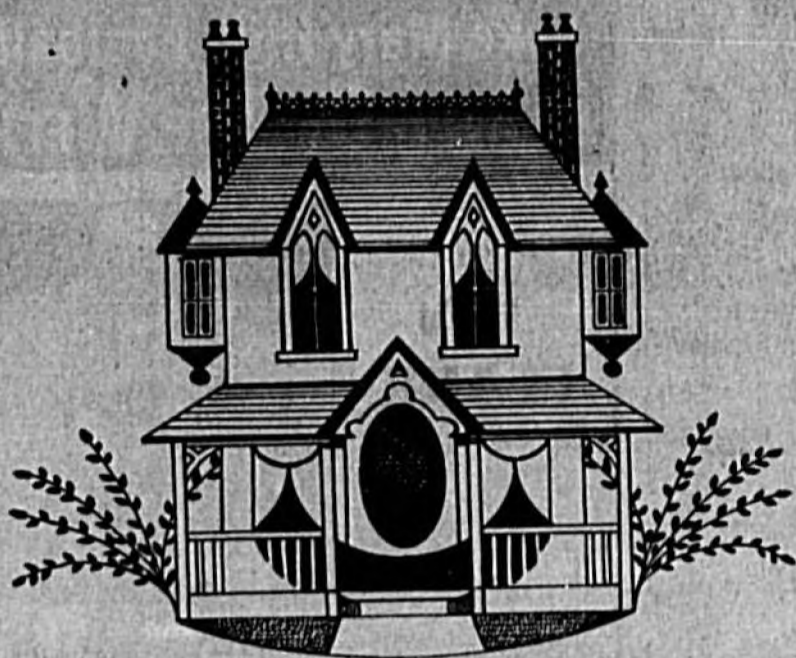
According to Sperry's boss, Danielle Smith of Publix in Lake Mary, Sperry was a quiet, young man, mature beyond his years.

During the brunt of this storm, between 3:45 and 4:30 p.m. last Thursday, Seminole and Orange County fire dispatchers were inundated with calls. According to fire reports, a bolt of lightning hit the attic of an Orange County home located on Ventana Lane, leaving the family homeless. Other calls reported downed trees and utility lines.



Herald photo by Tommy Vincent

Flowers and balloons grace the location where 22-year-old Eric Sperry lost his life last week after being struck by lightning. Family and friends have gathered to remember Sperry and contribute to the makeshift memorial inside the gazebo on Green Lake inside Renaissance Park at Lake Mary.



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Hundreds gather for annual kids event

By Jamie J. Anderson-Potter
Staff Writer

Lake Mary joined more than 1,200 towns worldwide to celebrate children and families during the Sixth Annual Kids Day America/International event Sept. 20.

The festival, hosted by Lake Mary Chiropractic Center in Lake Mary, was dedicated to health, safety and environmental issues that effect children and the community as a whole.

More than 1,500 residents attended the local event held in the parking lot of Lake Mary Chiropractic Center, located on Rinehart Road in Lake Mary, with well over 1 million children participating internationally.

"I don't think we have very many events in the area for families," said Kelly Toma, office manager of Lake Mary Chiropractic Center. "It's a great way for people, who can't afford screenings or who need educational information about health, to meet the doctors in their neighborhood. It's a day for families to come out and enjoy the time with their kids at a very low cost."

The event featured vision, dental and spinal screenings for children, as well as fingerprinting.

Performances throughout the day included Ace Gymnastics, Radio Disney and several local entertainers including dancers and martial artists. Lake Mary Commissioner Michael McLean's daughter, Kaley, sang a duet with a friend during the festivities.

Police Chief Richard Beard, Lake Mary Mayor Thomas Greene and several members



Photo submitted
Darren the D.A.R.E. Lion was one of the entertainers at Kids Day Sept. 20 in Lake Mary.

of the city's staff greeted festival-goers. Representatives from the Lake Mary fire and police departments were also on hand with company vehicles. A petting zoo and D.A.R.E. car show entertained children of all ages.

"This is a great way for all of them to get together and be a part of the community and show kids all the good out there and interact with them," said Toma.

The event raised \$1,400 to purchase supplies for the local

D.A.R.E. Program, a 17-week curriculum taught in the fifth and sixth grades to prevent or reduce drug abuse and violence among children and youth. D.A.R.E. was started in Lake Mary at Lake Mary Elementary School in 1993.

Festival

Continued from Page 1

Costa Rica, she met Polly.

"In the lobby were these beautiful parrots," she said. "They were so fantastic and beautiful I knew I was going to paint them."

Amundsen has donated "Polly" to the art festival where it will be auctioned off to the highest bidder. The proceeds, along with the money raised from T-shirt sales, parking and other fund-raising items, will be given to Seminole County Public Schools for scholarship money.

The Lake Mary Heathrow Festival of the Arts members make a difference in our community," said E. Ann McGee, president of Seminole Community College.

Lake Mary Mayor Thomas Greene will kick off this year's festival for artists and patrons with an opening ceremony. The family event has several activities planned for all ages.

For the fourth year, the Rotary Club will host a car and truck show during the festival. The show is open to all makes and models, with trophies being awarded in various categories both days.

Various entertainers will grace the stage throughout the day, including singers Adriane Truex and Bobby Smith. Miriam and Valerie's Schools of Dance Art will also perform.

"The festival has something for everyone," said Lake Mary



Photo submitted

Linda Amundsen is the poster artist of the 17th Annual Lake Mary-Heathrow Festival of the Arts.

Commissioner Michael McLean, a member of the art festival committee. "Dads like cars, kids like the playground, moms like the art. This is a good way to enhance the enjoyment of the show for everyone. It has worked out really well."

This year's festivities are dedicated to Leo Trepanier, who, since 1988, has donated the use of L & L Acres for the art festival. Trepanier passed away last year, but according to festival committee members, will be at the event in spirit.

For complete festival information, see the special section inserted in this issue of the Lake Mary Herald.



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Longwood man breaks leg in Home Depot parking lot

From staff reports

A Longwood man broke his leg when his own van ran him over Monday.

At about 9:45 a.m. Monday, Victor Lee Jones, Fox Ridge Run, Longwood, parked his 1992 Ford van in the Home Depot parking lot located on Lake Mary Boulevard in Lake Mary. According to Jones, his vehicle refused to start at which point he attempted to jumpstart the Ford with a screwdriver.

According to police reports, the van partially started and began backing up. The right front wheel grabbed Jones' leg, pulling him to the ground. The van continued in reverse, and the wheel then rolled over Jones' leg.

He was taken to an area hospital by Lake Mary fire and rescue workers. He was treated for a broken leg and released.



Herald photo by Tommy Vincent

Obituaries

JOYCE T. WEST

Joyce T. West, 66, of Lake Mary, died Sunday, Sept. 21, 2003, at home. Born June 8, 1937, in Atlanta, she moved to the area in 1968. She was a retired pediatric nurse at Central Florida Regional Hospital in Sanford. She was a Protestant.

Survivors include husband, Richard West; daughter, Ronda Galloway; son, Scott West; son-in-law, David Galloway; daughter-in-law, Deborah West; five grandchildren.

Baldwin-Fairchild Funeral Home Oaklawn Chapel, Sanford, in charge of arrangements.

Scam

Continued from Page 1

Currency Circle, where the money was to be split. The victim gave one of the suspects her good-faith money to inspect.

The money was in an envelope. The victim eventually witnessed one of the suspects allegedly switching envelopes, with one that contained paper. The victim began asking questions.

One of the suspects began to confront the victim, challenging the victim about mistrusting her. The victim scrambled to get out of the car.

The car, with three suspects inside, then sped off.

The victim was able to get a Florida tag number of V05 (zero five) TIV, which comes back to a white, 2004 Cadillac that was rented recently out of Fort Lauderdale.

Anybody who knows the whereabouts of the suspects, or sees the vehicle, is asked to call Investigator Neal Stewart at 407-665-6600.

One may also call Crime Line at 1-800-423-TIPS, where one can remain anonymous and may receive a cash reward for vital information related to this case.

Drinking

Continued from Page 1

cers, the problem occurs when a bar sells a patron a drink or drinks just before the 2 a.m. cutoff. Depending on the size and strength of the drink(s), the customer could be sitting in the establishment for hours beyond the regulated closing time.

In the reworked ordinance presented to commissioners last week, bars and restaurants serving alcohol would be required to shut off all lights and lock the doors at 2 a.m.

Customers would be allowed to remain in the establishment until 2:30 a.m.

This would, however, make it illegal for customers to drink past a 'clear cut' closing time of 2 a.m.

"What we're looking for is a defined time when establishments that sell alcoholic beverages are deemed to be closed," Harriett said. "That way it allows us to design our resources to ensure safe and orderly dismissal of these establishments."

"From time to time, there are problems that arise with these establishments letting out here and there," he added.

By enforcing a drop dead closing time of 2 a.m., bars may have to begin giving 'last calls' sooner, said Bob Haller, co-owner of the Red Room in downtown Sanford.

"I think this will hurt (business) because people will drink to the last minute," he said. "So if they're going to start closing bars at 2 (a.m.) that means will have to start giving last call between 1 and 1:15 (a.m.)."

"We're trying to attract people to come and spend money in downtown, and stay here and have fun at night," he added. "And they're telling everybody now that they have to leave earlier. I don't think that would be a good thing for business."

The commission is expected to consider the ordinance at its next meeting Oct. 14.

Picnic in the Park

Saturday, October 4
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BUSINESS

Firehouse Subs turns up the heat on the competition

By Michelle Donahue
Special to the Herald

LAKE MARY — Local sub connoisseurs are fired up about the Firehouse Subs shop located at 3579 Lake Emma Road, in the Kmart shopping plaza.

Customers can't help but appreciate the attitude, atmosphere, and most especially, the appetizing menu. The lighthearted tone is set by the hearty greeting given to visitors upon their first step inside the restaurant.

Smiles and courtesy abound while the staff works diligently to quickly customize subs to order. A separate pick-up counter insures

that orders called or faxed in can be processed with convenience as well.

The fun, fire station décor only adds to the easy ambience, with chairs vividly painted fire engine red surrounding tables adorned with Dalmatian spotted tops, and artistic murals of firemen in action depicted on the walls. Other rescue related paraphernalia enhances the visual experience.

But the blazing hot point of the encounter is undoubtedly the food. Firehouse Subs is so unique in flavor that a person has to taste it for themselves to understand the difference. Mike Kelly, area developer for the Central Florida region and

owner of the Lake Mary Firehouse Subs, said that it is the combination of quality product and the sub creation process that is the secret to their uniqueness.

"So many people have told me that Firehouse Subs are the best subs they've ever eaten, though they have trouble putting their finger on exactly why," Kelly said. "The key is that we steam our meats and cheeses together and then put them on a specially selected roll that we have toasted separately."

The Firehouse Subs menu offers something for everybody, with four different styles to choose from including classic hot subs, old-fash-

ioned sandwiches, and cold tuna and chicken salad subs.

The favorites of most patrons, however, are found under the category of "Hot Specialty Subs." Subs like the Hook & Ladder, the Engine Company, and the Firehouse Hero, (to name but three), offer a half pound of meat when ordered as a large.

Firehouse also offers signature hot sauce, award winning chili, and brownies that have a distinct dark chocolate crust.

In addition to these delicious menu items, every kids' meal comes with a free fire hat — a sure recipe for success for the whole family.

Kelly said that there are 50

more stores in local development at this moment, and the company is constantly expanding.

"We're getting calls from all over the United States, even as far away as California, expressing interest in opening our stores," Kelly said, and explained that the company has a very methodical expansion plan in place. "We want to do it right, and that means we work at being fully prepared as we launch into new territories."

It is interesting to note that such success sprung from a dream that began in the hearts of two fire-fighting brothers, Robin and Chris Sorensen of Jacksonville. They started

the company in 1994 on a credit card account donated by a relative, and to their pleasant surprise, their idea took off like wildfire. Since then the company has expanded to more than 100 stores in eight states.

While bragging rights are certainly in order, the founders have not forgotten how it all started and offer the opportunity of Firehouse Subs shop ownership to those who are willing to work hard through their American Dream Ownership Program. For more information on this program and the history of Firehouse Subs, log on to the Web site at www.FirehouseSubs.com.

Business Briefs

Coldwell Banker negotiates sale of Apopka warehouse

Gary Youngblut has purchased a 9,500 square foot warehouse located at 231 Semoran Commerce Place, in Apopka, from DCP Enterprises, Inc. The sale price was \$575,000. Steve Porter of Coldwell Banker Commercial NRT represented the seller and Chuck McNulty of the McNulty Group represented the buyer in this transaction.

Florida Solar names assistant sales manager/trainer

Florida Solar Technology, the world's largest contractor of pool heating systems, has beefed up its training department, said Scott Kacic, company president.

The Longwood-based company has named Anthony (Tony) Schwan

assistant sales manager and trainer professional. Schwan has more than 15 years of experience in training and sales, Kacic said.

Founded in the early 1980s, Florida Solar is a division of Olympian Home Services, which is one of the world's largest providers of swimming pool heating, automation and purification. The firm, with branch offices in Tampa and South Florida, also markets a wide range of services involving solar hot water, swimming pool maintenance and pressure cleaning.

Brewer to start construction of third custom home

Dave Brewer Inc., one of Central Florida's largest and most active luxury custom homebuilders, will start construction soon on a custom home at The Enclave at Alauqua Lakes.

For Dave Brewer, president of the home building company, the third one is the charm.

"We built the first home for this family in Timucuan when they were first married," said Gary Rauch, vice president of Dave Brewer, Inc. "When they were expecting their third child, we built a second home for them at Heathrow Woods. Today they have five children, and we are building a third home at Alauqua Lakes," he said.

Rauch said Dave Brewer, Inc., has built more than 30 move-up homes for his own customers.

"This is the first third home we have built," Rauch chuckled, "and if you could see this family, you'd know why it is such a profound and moving pleasure. This is an American family success story told in luxury homes."

Hospice of the Comforter launches Web site

Hospice of the Comforter, the only nonprofit Hospice that serves Orange, Seminole and Osceola counties, has launched a new Web site, www.hospiceofthecomforter.org. This site provides general Hospice information as well as details about Hospice of the Comforter's services.

Goldman's work prepares UCF for continued growth

S.I. Goldman Company, Inc./Comfort Systems USA recently completed the replacement of piping systems within the Central Energy Plant at the University of Central Florida in Orlando.

In an intricately choreographed operation, the Goldman team completed the re-sizing of the piping sys-

tem in only three weeks. The mechanical contractors moved an existing 16-inch pipe system and installed a new 24-inch pipe to allow for the addition of larger chillers as the campus continues to expand.

Other university work completed by the Goldman team includes its award-winning installation of the HVAC and plumbing systems for UCF's Engineering Building II and the new Health and Public Affairs Building.

Founded in Central Florida in 1959, the company is owned by Comfort Systems USA, one of the largest providers of mechanical services. S.I. Goldman Company, Inc., provides heating, ventilating, air conditioning systems, plumbing systems, medical gas systems, and

See Briefs, Page 10

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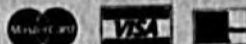
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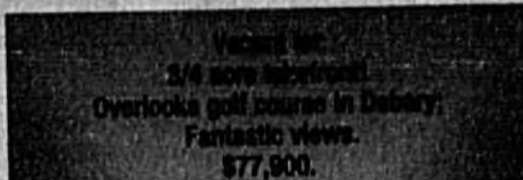
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Briefs

Continued from Page 9

process piping for projects throughout the Southeastern United States. Operating divisions are located in Longwood, Fort Myers, Lakeland and Gainesville. The company staffs more than 300 people.

No downturn expected in Orlando home sales

Local Realtors closed on 1,869 homes in the month of April, according to preliminary figures released by Orlando Regional Realtor Association (ORRA). Sales for the first four months of 2003 are more than 6 percent ahead of last year.

Overall sales in the Orlando MSA, which includes Lake, Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties, were 2,389, which was an increase of about 2 percent from last April. It was also the highest recorded number of sales in the Orlando MSA for the month of April.

ORRA president Dean Asher, GRI, said, "no downturn is expected" in the number of existing home sales being handled by realtors.

"Orlando is not alone," he added. "According to National Association of Realtors (NAR) Chief Economist David Lereah, home sales continue at record setting paces nationwide."

ORRA recorded more than \$325 million in sales in

April, more than 9 percent ahead of last April. ORRA reports that the median price dropped to \$141,421, while the interest rate rose slightly to 5.95 percent.

Home sales on the rise

Sales of single-family existing homes posted their highest increase of the second quarter, as realtors closed 2,044 transactions in June.

According to the Orlando Regional Realtor Association (ORRA), 6,132 home sales were recorded in the second quarter, a 4 percent increase over the spring-selling season of 2002. That boosted year-to-date sales to 11,066, or 6.4 percent ahead of last year.

The mortgage interest rate on a 30-year fixed loan fell to 5.54 percent in the Orlando area, although it has since been on the rise. The median price rose significantly to \$158,098 as home prices in Orlando continue to appreciate. ORRA also reported more than \$402 million in sales in June, 17.6 percent ahead of last year. Year-to-date volume is in excess of \$1.9 billion, a 16.4 percent increase over the first six months of 2002.

Firm announces new projects, promotions

Burke, Hogue & Mills Associates, Inc. is pleased to

announce that they have recently completed design of the new Center for Community Care for Hospice of the Comforter in Altamonte Springs.

This 24,300-square-foot, two-story building will provide much needed administration and training space. It is the first of several buildings to be built on the recently assembled property. Jack Jennings and Sons, as general contractors, will begin construction soon.

In a separate project, Burke, Hogue & Mills Associates, Inc. announced that construction has begun on the Environmental Studies Center in Longwood.

This multi-use educational facility for Seminole County Public Schools in cooperation with Seminole County, was designed by Burke, Hogue & Mills, and is being constructed by United Enterprises.

Designed as a replacement for the existing structure, the new 11,500-square-foot Environmental Studies Center allows for public use, as well as updated learning environments for students, a transformed environmental museum, and a multi-purpose room for public lectures and demonstrations.

This Florida vernacular structure is designed as a modified "dog-trot" in a unique

angled shape to take advantage of prevailing breezes coming off Lake Jesup. Located off State Road 419 on Osprey Trail, this new facility is adjacent to the expanded Cross Seminole Trail and will provide a unique stop-off for individuals and families utilizing the trail for outings.

The firm also announced that Gary F. Marchese, P.E. has been named a principal in the firm. Marchese, a licensed engineer, has worked at BHM for more than five years. As head of the construction administration department, he supervises contract administration, specification compliance, construction design compliance, as well as coordinating continuing educational opportunities as it applies to design and technical aspects of construction.

Central Florida-based bank to open new branch

First National Bank of Central Florida is proud to announce the opening of its newest branch in Heathrow on Tuesday, Oct. 14.

The Heathrow branch is located at 1511 International Parkway and will be open Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. and Friday until 6 p.m. The drive through will be open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m.

"This beautiful new facility will enable us to better serve the Heathrow/Lake Mary market with state of the art banking and personalized service. It puts us one step closer to achieving our goal of providing all of Central Florida with the absolute best in community banking," said Charles Hall, First National Bank president.

"If you are ready for some old-fashioned customer service, stop by our new office and ask us how we can satisfy all of your banking needs," said Joda Connell, who recently joined First National as vice president/branch manager of the Heathrow office, whose father is a founding member of the Heathrow Country Club.

The Heathrow office will feature personalized banking, with the extra amenities of individual account officers, personalized account set-up and safe deposit services. Locally owned, First National Bank of Central Florida opened its original branch in 1985 in Longwood. In 1999, the bank relocated its headquarters to downtown Winter Park. First National has 10 full-service locations throughout Seminole, Orange and Brevard counties offering high-tech banking to small-to-medium sized businesses.

This community bank has assets exceeding \$238 million,

with total equity exceeding \$17 million. First National Bank of Central Florida's headquarters are located at 369 N. New York Ave. in Winter Park. For the latest information about First National Bank of Central Florida log on to the Web site at www.tomorrowbanktoday.com.

Agency projects record revenues and expansion

Workers Temporary Staffing, one of Central Florida's largest and most active temporary staffing companies with 20 Florida offices and two more in Alabama and Georgia, projects it will see record revenues this year of more than \$41 million.

Mark A. Lang Sr., founder and chief executive officer of the firm, said 30 percent growth so far this year is just a start — he expects to have at least 50 recruitment and training centers throughout the southeast in five years, with more than \$100 million in annual revenues.

The key, Lang said, is the company's focus on its most integral team members — temporary workers. Lang said "temp" is a dirty word around Workers Temporary Staffing. "We call them team members," Lang said, "and it's true. They are the most important members of our team."

Most temp companies operate under the assumption that temporary workers are just that — temporary, Lang said.

"We believe in our team members, and we offer them career benefits that in some cases compete with those offered by major corporations."

Those benefits include vacation pay, safety incentives, access to worker-paid health care, orientation and training and even job site supervision to help team members learn new skills to boost their worth — and their earnings.

Workers Temporary Staffing recently opened new recruitment and training centers in Mobile, Ala., and Atlanta, and the firm plans to open in Birmingham in the next two months, along with a second Atlanta location.

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Sports

Monster crowd attends cross country classic

By Dean Smith
Sports Editor

Several Lake Mary cross country runners got a little treat for all their hard work this season as coach Mike Gibson took a van load of athletes to Cary, N.C., this past weekend to compete in the Great American Cross Country Festival at the SAS Soccer Park.

The Rams boys did well for themselves, placing 18th as a team and had all five of its entrants finish in the top 106. Scoring for Lake Mary were 50th, Stephen Little, 17:41.65, 60th, Daniel Selsky, 17:51.77, 92nd, Jon Halsey, 18:35.58, 99th, Ryan Catchings, 18:37.59, 100th, Sean Staunton, 18:59.70, and 106th, Alex Lanauze, 19:12.89.

Most of the runners earned the right to go to North Carolina after their efforts in the 23rd Annual Lake Mary Cross Country Classic.

With all or parts of 27 teams entered a large gathering of runners was expected.

But 560? That was probably even more than event coordinator Mike Gibson could have hoped for.

The boys varsity race drew 165 entries and it ended up being a good one for the locals with Lyman edging Oviedo by two points for the team title with Winter Springs finishing fourth and host Lake Mary, Lake Howell and Lake Brantley also finishing in the top 10.

Individually, Lyman senior Bryan Christian won by 30-seconds (16:37.50-to-17:07.77) over Bishop Moore's Richard Pereira and four other Seminole Athletic Conference athletes finished in the top eight.

The girls varsity race drew just six less runners, 159, but the locals struggled a little, with only Oviedo (fourth), Trinity Prep (fifth) and Lake Brantley (ninth) finishing in the top 10 in the team standings. The host Rams were 14th.

Individually only two runners were in the top 10, but one of them was the winner.

The Lions' remarkable junior, Jenny Barringer, again paced the field, recording a 18:13.35 to ease past Lavera Morris of Oak Ridge, who came home in Oviedo, 19:10.25.

Freshman Alicia Ivanhoe of Trinity Prep finished sixth.

This Saturday, Oct. 4, will find Lake Mary hitting the road again for a prestigious event, heading to South Florida to compete in the Sebastian River Invitational at Sebastian River High School.

This is the final regular race of the season as the postseason events begin on Thursday, Oct. 9 with the Seminole Athletic Conference Championships.

Also remaining is the Lyman Postal Run on Oct. 16, the Districts on Oct. 25, the Regionals on Nov. 1, the State Championships in Tampa on Nov. 8 and the FACA All-Star Race in Tallahassee on Nov. 22.

LAKE MARY CLASSIC

Saturday, September 20

BOYS VARSITY

TEAM STANDINGS

1. Lyman HS, 87; 2. Oviedo HS, 89; 3. Edgewater HS, 117; 4. Winter Springs HS, 137; 5. Bishop Moore HS, 173; 6. Seabreeze HS, 205; 7. Spruce Creek HS, 228; 8. Lake Mary HS, 232; 9. Lake Howell HS, 270; 10. Lake Brantley HS, 290; 11. DeLand HS, 303; 12. First Academy Orlando, 304; 13. Oak Ridge HS, 311; 14. Apopka HS, 366; 15. Central HS, 369; 16. Mainland HS, 441; 17. Pine Ridge HS, 510; 18. Circle Christian School, 533; 19. Crossroads Academy, 547; 20. Orangewood Christian, 578; 21. Deltona HS, 608; 22. Belleview HS, 622; 23. Warner Christian, 643; NO TEAM SCORES - Seminole HS, Evans HS, Montverde HS, Lake Mary Prep.

INDIVIDUALS

1. 16:37.50, Lyman, Christian, Bryan (12); 2. 17:07.77, Bishop Moore, Pereira, Richard (12); 3. 17:08.21, Edgewater, Richard, Mark (12); 4. 17:14.36, Winter Springs, Gregory, Chris (11); 5. 17:19.25, Winter Springs, Jones, Kyle (11); 6. 17:23.28, Oviedo, Nielsen, Paul (12); 7. 17:28.00, Evans, Goggins, Antonio (11); 8. 17:32.43, Oviedo, Clements, Matt (12); 9. 17:36.99, Oak Ridge, Araya, Robel (11); 10. 17:37.70, First Academy, Blarey, Sean (10); Other Lake Mary finishers - 16. 17:50.39, Lake Mary, Little, Stephen (12); 27. 18:24.72, Lake Mary, Halsey, Jonathan (12); 48. 19:01.19, Lake Mary, Selsky, Daniel (12); 49. 19:04.15, Lake Mary, Staunton, Sean (10); 92. 20:13.75, Lake Mary, Catchings, Ryan (12); 101. 20:28.47, Lake Mary, Jackson, Patrick (9); 127. 21:50.52, Lake Mary Prep, Boudier, Evan (11); 158. 25:33.41, Lake Mary Prep, Lane, David (10); 164.



Herald file photo

It's been a busy time for cross country athletes as they have competed in the huge Lake Mary Classic, traveled to North Carolina to run in the Great American Cross Country Festival and will head to South Florida to compete in the Sebastian River Invitational this week.

28. 45.65, Lake Mary Prep, Schaeffer, Tommy (10).

BOYS JUNIOR VARSITY

TEAM STANDINGS

1. Lyman HS, 97; 2. Oviedo HS, 79; 3. Winter Springs HS, 105; 4. Seabreeze HS, 129; 5. Spruce Creek HS, 193; 6. Lake Mary HS, 214; 7. Bishop Moore HS, 237; 8. Edgewater HS, 242; 9. DeLand HS, 262; 10. Apopka HS, 274; 11. Lake Brantley HS, 290; 12. Belleview HS, 636; NO TEAM SCORES - Mainland HS, Oak Ridge HS, First Academy Orlando, Seminole HS, Crossroads HS, Central HS, Evans HS, Circle Christian School, Lake Howell HS, Deltona HS, Lake Mary Prep, Orangewood Christian, Warner Christian, Pine Ridge HS, Montverde HS.

INDIVIDUALS

1. 19:14.15, Edgewater, Inman, Matt (11); 2. 19:18.82, Lyman, Travers, Matt (10); 3. 19:32.77, Oviedo, Balogh, Will (12); 4. 19:33.48, First Academy, Gamble, Joe Willy (9); 5. 19:37.55, Lyman, Leon-Glass, Ray (12); 6. 19:53.13, Winter Springs, Hutton, Matthew (10); 7. 19:56.72, Lyman, McDada, Jake (9); 8. 19:58.04, Apopka, Libby, Nicholas (11); 9. 19:58.31, Edgewater, Schutz, Joseph (10); 10. 20:04.02, Oviedo, Galder, Eric

(10). Other Lake Mary finishers - 28. 20:59.72, Lake Mary, Polly, Brandon (10); 29. 21:00.10, Lake Mary, Peoples, Ted (12); 30. 21:04.28, Lyman, Dumez, Evan (11); 43. 21:42.72, Lake Mary, Lyman, Kevin (11); 82. 23:41.20, Lake Mary, Taylor, Chris (12); 86. 23:47.95, Lake Mary, Sandeep, Bhawe (11); 90. 24:03.50, Lake Mary, Sando, Lambert (12); 92. 24:07.87, Lake Mary, Moore, Jeffrey (12); 96. 24:30.58, Lake Mary, Moore, Jeremy (9); 120. 26:11.69, Lake Mary, Souders, Corey (9); 123. 27:41.61, Lake Mary, Anthony, Brett (11); 125. 27:46.33, Lake Mary, Miller, Elan (11); 129. 29:03.34, Lake Mary, Taylor, Matt (12); 132. 31:43.29, Lake Mary, Gillett, Joshua (12).

GIRLS VARSITY

TEAM STANDINGS

1. Oak Ridge HS, 83; 2. Winter Park HS, 98; 3. Bishop Moore HS, 123; 4. Oviedo HS, 162; 5. Trinity Prep, 185; 6. Spruce Creek HS, 183; 7. De Phillips HS, 230; 8. DeLand HS, 263; 9. Lake Brantley HS, 285; 10. First Academy Orlando, 288; 11. Lyman HS, 291; 12. Seabreeze HS, 336; 13. Edgewater HS, 338; 14. Lake Mary HS, 349; 15. Apopka HS, 442; 16. Mainland HS, 460; 17. Montverde HS, 477; 18. Lake Howell HS, 498; 19. Winter Springs HS, 517; 20. Belleview

HS, 535; 21. Pine Ridge HS, 545; 22. Warner Christian, 616; 23. Seminole HS, 621; NO TEAM SCORE - Circle Christian School, Central HS, Deltona HS; Orangewood Christian; NO TEAM FINISHES POSTED - Crossroads HS, Evans HS.

INDIVIDUALS

1. 18:13.35, Oviedo, Barringer, Jennifer (11); 2. 19:10.25, Oak Ridge, Morris, Lavera (12); 3. 20:09.24, Winter Park, Hughes, Sarah (11); 4. 20:14.68, Winter Park, Allen, Audrey (11); 5. 20:40.33, De Phillips, Wilcox, Ashley (12); 6. 20:54.94, Trinity Prep, Ivanhoe, Alicia (9); 7. 20:57.74, De Phillips, Wilcox, Allison (12); 8. 20:59.99, Edgewater, Webber, Alyssa (9); 9. 21:01.97, Bishop Moore, Bellmarsh, Natalie (11); 10. 21:02.46, First Academy, Clark, Brittany (12); Other Lake Mary finishers - 41. 22:41.66, Lake Mary, Booth, Katherine (12); 69. 23:59.32, Lake Mary, Ingalls, Monica (12); 74. 24:10.03, Lake Mary, Staunton, Shannon (12); 76. 24:13.06, Lake Mary, Herrera, Cathalina (10); 89. 24:34.09, Lake Mary, Todinson, Alex (10); 110. 25:23.47, Lake Mary, Little, Stacy (11); 118. 26:18.61, Lake Mary, Simpson, Shana (11).

GIRLS JUNIOR VARSITY

TEAM STANDINGS

1. Spruce Creek HS, 25; 2. Winter Park HS, 110; 3. Lyman HS, 114; 4. Bishop Moore HS, 128; 5. Oviedo HS, 139; 6. Oak Ridge HS, 159; 7. Lake Brantley HS, 249; 8. De Phillips HS, 312; NO TEAM SCORE - DeLand HS, Seminole HS, Trinity Prep, Winter Springs HS, Lake Howell HS, Pine Ridge HS, Belleview HS, Lake Mary HS, Seabreeze HS, First Academy Orlando, Mainland HS, Evans HS; NO TEAM FINISHES POSTED - Crossroads HS, Edgewater HS, Deltona HS, Montverde HS, Circle Christian School, Central HS, Orangewood Christian, Warner Christian, Apopka HS.

INDIVIDUALS

1. 22:22.33, Oviedo, Cox, Allison (11); 2. 22:35.95, Oak Ridge, Chin, Victoria (12); 3. 23:52.79, Spruce Creek, Smith, Danielle (9); 4. 23:57.02, Spruce Creek, Ebner, Jessica (11); 5. 24:00.04, Spruce Creek, Tsai, Eling (11); 6. 24:23.82, Spruce Creek, Brown, Ashley (11); 7. 24:30.69, Spruce Creek, Chamberlain, Rachel (11); 8. 24:35.19, Oviedo, Anderson, Brooke (9); 9. 24:43.15, Spruce Creek, Dunn, Megan (9); 10. 24:50.08, Spruce Creek, Herwald, Trisha (9); Other Lake Mary finishers - 64. 29:43.87, Lake Mary, Wilkins, Katy (10).

Lake Mary Rams struggling to find consistency

From Staff Reports

The Lake Mary football team has seen some of the luster of a potentially great season become tarnished as mistakes have cost the team three potential wins.

This past Friday the Rams traveled to Gainesville and penalties and a stingy Buchholz defense doomed Lake Mary again as it fell to 1-3 in a 21-14 loss to the Bobcats (3-1).

The veteran Rams were penalized eight times for 72 yards and the Buchholz defense held Lake Mary to only 85 rushing yards on 33 carries, with 28 of those attempts going for five yards or less, and 109 yards passing, 44 of which came on a completion that first hit the back of a Bobcats defender.

The Rams actually dominated the early part of the game, holding the Bobcats to only 17 total yards in the first quarter and taking a 6-0 lead early in the second quarter on a seven-yard pass from Jon Clark to Justin Scott.

But Buchholz quarterback Alex Thompson started to take advantage of the young Lake Mary secondary, hitting wide out Bo Smith for 95 yards in the second period, including a 45-yard touchdown pass that put the hosts ahead for good.

Herman Brown rushed for two touchdowns for Buchholz, including a game-clinching one-yard run in the fourth quarter, but the Rams run defense was sound, holding the Bobcats to only 46 yards on 28 carries.

Even with his big fourth quarter, Thompson was still only 9-for-19 for 195 yards, 148 of those yards going to Smith.



Herald photo by Jim Wentz

Keith Rivers dives into the end zone for a two-yard touchdown run during Lake Mary's 33-27 Class 6A-District 2 setback at the hands of the Oviedo Lions recently at John Courier Field. The Rams (1-3 overall and 0-1 in district play) have a golden opportunity to right the ship and still make this a very successful season as they play their next four games at home, starting with a district contest with DeLand tomorrow (Oct. 3) starting at 7:30 p.m. at Don T. Reynolds Stadium. This will also be Lake Mary's Homecoming game.

As usual, All-American linebacker Keith Rivers was the defensive star for Lake Mary, as he was in on 18 tackles, had a tackle-for-loss and a fumble recovery.

Offensively, Clark, making his first start of the season at quarterback, was 5-for-13 for 109 yards and one touchdown. He also scored the

Rams' other touchdown on a two-yard run in the final minute of the game.

The week before in the Class 6A-District 2 opener against powerful Oviedo, Lake Mary had more than a little problem with turnovers in a 33-27 setback at the hands of the Lions at John Courier Field.

Oviedo intercepted Rams passes on their first three possessions and turned each into a touchdown as the hosts built a 21-0 lead.

Jason Raulerson gave the Lions an early lead when he returned an interception 39 yards for a score.

Interceptions by Shamus Wright and Willice Daniels

set up Oviedo's other touchdowns in the first quarter. Quarterback Lee Sloan tossed a 31-yard pass to Charlie Parker to cash in on Wright's pick while a 17-yard touchdown run by Will Harrison converted Daniels' interception.

But the never-say-die Rams pulled even with an

epic rally that included a couple of two-play drives of their own.

The first came in the second quarter after Lake Mary recovered an Oviedo fumble. Two plays later, Carl Buford scored on a 19-yard run. The Rams evened the score on

See Football, Page 1A

By The NUMBERS

STANDINGS

EASTERN DIVISION					
	SEC	All	Top 25	PT	PA
Tennessee	2-0	4-0	1-0	105	60
Georgia	1-1	3-1	0-1	100	34
Florida	1-1	3-2	0-2	195	89
S. Carolina	0-2	3-2	0-2	114	78
Kentucky	0-2	2-3	0-1	133	114
Vanderbilt	0-2	1-4	0-1	110	129

WESTERN DIVISION					
	SEC	All	Top 25	PT	PA
LSU	2-0	5-0	1-0	201	43
Arkansas	1-0	4-0	1-0	168	79
Auburn	1-0	2-2	0-1	96	50
Mississippi	1-0	2-2	0-0	162	128
Alabama	1-1	2-3	0-3	127	107
Mississippi St.	0-1	0-4	0-2	103	156

TEAM LEADERS

RUSHING YARDS

Arkansas	247.75
South Carolina	188.80
Tennessee	188.25
Alabama	167.60
Florida	164.00
LSU	154.00

PASSING YARDS

Mississippi	340.75
Mississippi St.	274.75
Florida	270.40
Georgia	264.50
LSU	256.20

TOTAL OFFENSE

Mississippi	492.00
Florida	434.40
Arkansas	434.25
Georgia	416.75
LSU	410.20

RUSHING DEFENSE

LSU	58.20
Mississippi	74.75
Georgia	79.50
Auburn	92.75
Tennessee	94.25

PASSING DEFENSE

South Carolina	144.20
Auburn	145.25
Arkansas	182.50
Vanderbilt	187.80
Florida	189.00

TOTAL DEFENSE

Auburn	237.5
LSU	256.0
South Carolina	262.4
Georgia	268.5
Tennessee	306.0

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

RUSHING YARDS

Shaun Williams, Alabama	594
Cedric Cobbs, Arkansas	562
Cedric Houston, Tennessee	432
Demetrius Summers, South Carolina	381
Nick Turner, Mississippi St.	325

PASSING YARDS

Eli Manning, Mississippi	1,329
Kevin Fant, Mississippi St.	1,082
Brodie Croyle, Alabama	1,076
David Greene, Georgia	992
Jay Cutler, Vanderbilt	990

RECEIVING YARDS

Justin Jenkins, Mississippi St.	458
Michael Clayton, LSU	477
Chris Collins, Mississippi	317
Erik Davis, Vanderbilt	306
Devery Henderson, LSU	302
Brandon Smith, Vanderbilt	302

TOTAL OFFENSE

Eli Manning, Mississippi	1,333
Brodie Croyle, Alabama	1,118
Jay Cutler, Vanderbilt	1,081
Kevin Fant, Mississippi St.	1,052
David Greene, Georgia	978

SCORING

Jonathan Nichols, Mississippi	52
Shaun Williams, Alabama	48
Matt Leach, Florida	43
Brian Bostick, Alabama	37
Shyrone Carey, LSU	36
Justin Jenkins, Mississippi St.	36
DeShawn Wynn, Florida	36

INTERCEPTIONS

Muhammad Abdullah, Kentucky	4
Sean Jones, Georgia	3
Cory Webster, LSU	3

Distant Replay

Dec. 27, 1958

The Gators' first bowl-game loss came at the hands of Ole Miss in a 7-3 battle at the Gator Bowl. The Rebels scored their only touchdown on the opening drive, when they marched 70 yards and Jim Anderson punched it in. Florida's Jimmy Dunn returned the kickoff to the Ole Miss 30, but the Gators settled for a field goal from Billy Booker for the final margin.

The SEC this week

GAME OF THE WEEK

Mississippi at Florida

Gators seeking revenge

The Gators are looking to avenge one of their most damaging losses ever, and also string together back-to-back wins for the first time this season, when they host Eli Manning and Mississippi at the Swamp.

Mississippi pulled off one of its greatest wins in recent history last year, beating Florida 17-14 in Oxford, denying the Gators a chance to reach the Southeastern Conference championship. However, it's not likely to happen again: Florida hasn't lost back-to-back games to Ole Miss since losing four straight ending in 1958.

A victory for the Rebels would turn things around in a hurry and go a long way toward erasing the bitter memory of last week's fade against Texas Tech. And a huge game for Manning might even put him back in the Heisman Trophy race.

Mississippi at Florida

■ **Records:** Mississippi 2-2 (1-0 SEC); Florida 3-2 (1-1 SEC). ■ **Series:** Mississippi leads 10-9-1. ■ **Coaches:** Mississippi's David Cutcliffe (32-20); Florida's Ron Zook (11-7). ■ **Kickoff:** 12:30 p.m. EDT. ■ **TV:** Jefferson-Pilot.

Key for Mississippi: Try to find a way, any way, to stop the pass. Florida doesn't quite have the aerial attack that Texas Tech (661 yards, 6 touchdowns) does, but you can believe the Gators will be testing that secondary, especially after all the criticism that Ron Zook doesn't take enough chances downfield. The best way to help your secondary is to get some kind of pass rush on freshman quarterback Chris Leak, making only his second start. Defensive end Charlie Anderson needs to get an upfield surge; when he did break through the line last week he forced an interception for a touchdown. More of that would go a long way toward getting above .500.

Key for Florida: Show more discipline on offense. After being flagged five times for illegal procedure and three times for linemen standing up early, the Gators need to cut back on their own mistakes and not help Mississippi. They also need to learn to make adjustments on the fly, especially offensive coordinator Ed Zaunbrecher. The Gators usually decide before the game whether they will run or pass in that game, and they refuse to adapt. After finishing with only 93 yards last week, the Gators will come out and insist on establishing the run, just to prove they can do it, rather than go with what the Rebels give them.

The Rest of the Matchups

Alabama at Georgia

■ **Records:** Alabama 2-3 (1-1 SEC); Georgia 3-1 (1-1 SEC). ■ **Series:** Alabama leads 35-23-4. ■ **Coaches:** Alabama's Mike Shula (2-3); Georgia's Mark Richt (24-6). ■ **Kickoff:** 3:30 p.m. EDT. ■ **TV:** CBS.

Key for Alabama: Find a way to eat up some clock. There are always times in a game when you have to be able to just hold onto the ball and keep the opposing offense off the field. Last week against Arkansas, that time would have been with a 21-point lead midway through the third quarter. Allowing the opponent to have the ball for 28 minutes more than you do is unacceptable. Shaun Williams had 19 carries for 135 yards in the loss, so maybe a few more carries would lead to more points and, more importantly, boost the Tide's time of possession. Head coach Mike Shula loves to stretch the field, but he has to realize where these games are won and lost.

Key for Georgia: Put pressure on 'Bama quarterback Brodie Croyle, who has shown that he can find the open man when given the opportunity. He should see a lot of defensive end David Pollack this week. Take advantage of team speed and stretch those corners to prevent Shaun Williams from breaking a big run, as he usually does at least twice a game. Stack the box and rely on the quickness of your linebackers to wreck the short passing game.

Tennessee at Auburn

■ **Records:** Tennessee 4-0 (2-0 SEC); Auburn 2-2 (1-0 SEC). ■ **Series:** Auburn leads 22-1-3. ■ **Coaches:** Tennessee's Phillip Fulmer (107-25); Auburn's Tommy Tuberville (57-41). ■ **Kickoff:** 7:45 p.m. EDT. ■ **TV:** ESPN.

Key for Auburn: The matchup between corner Carlos Rogers and Volunteers wideout James Banks could decide this game. Banks is by far the Volunteers' top option through the air, and has four touchdowns. If Auburn's thin secondary isn't careful, Banks might have four more touchdowns by the end of this game. All the talk is usually about Tennessee's running game, but with the Tigers moving offensive players around to fill holes in the secondary, you can bet Tennessee will test that possible Achilles heel early and often.

Key for Tennessee: Facing another athletic defense could

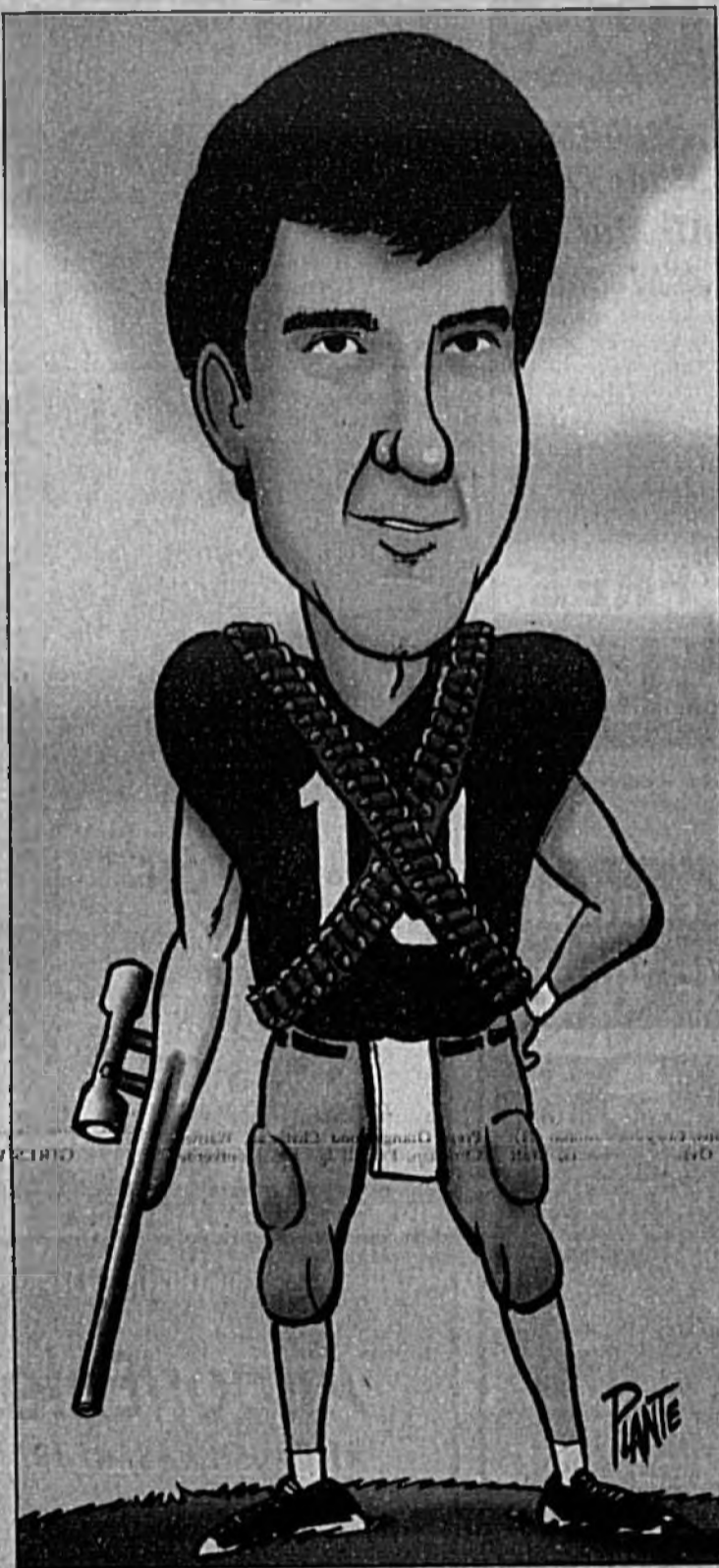


Illustration by Bruce Plante © 2003

give the Volunteers' offense fits. After Auburn studies the film from the Gamecocks' narrow overtime loss to Tennessee, it will try to execute the same game plan and stop the Vols' running attack. If Tennessee's run defense can return to form, the Vols will get their own ground game going in the process. It's difficult for any running back, even Jabari Davis or Cedric Houston, to do much when he's holding his helmet under his arm on the sideline.

Vanderbilt at Mississippi State

■ **Records:** Vanderbilt 1-4 (0-2 SEC); Mississippi State 0-4 (0-1 SEC). ■ **Series:** Mississippi State leads 9-6-2. ■ **Coaches:** Vanderbilt's Bobby Johnson (63-50); Mississippi State's Jackie Sherrill (178-114-4). ■ **Kickoff:** 2:30 p.m. EDT. ■ **TV:** None.

Key for Vanderbilt: Get the running game back on track. Quarterback Jay Cutler does a fine job of avoiding the rush and picking up yards when running lanes open up, but he should not be the leading rusher on a team with two talented tailbacks. Cutler finished with 15 carries for 61 yards in the overtime loss to Georgia Tech, which was more than either Kwane Doster (15 for 60) or Norval McKenzie (12 for 43). McKenzie did have two touchdown runs, but the Commodores need to do a better job of getting their backs involved, even if it means a little creative play calling.

Key for Mississippi State: The Bulldogs need to keep plugging away and improving on defense every week. They came into the game against LSU ranked next-to-last in the nation in total defense, and last against the pass. They allowed only 191 yards passing to the Tigers' potent air attack, and they also got their first interception of the season by cornerback Odell Bradley. If they can continue to chip away on defense and give Vanderbilt its yards without allowing any long plays, they have a shot at removing the goose egg from the win column.

2-MINUTE DRILL

ALABAMA A questionable unsportsmanlike conduct penalty following a Charles Jones interception in the end zone last week turned Alabama's Tide in a hurry. Defensive coordinator Joe Kines wasn't sure if the punishment fit the crime. "They intercepted a pass in an overtime situation. If there's not some emotion with that, they don't have any blood running through their veins," Kines said.

ARKANSAS A solid running team never abandons the run, and that's exactly why the Razorbacks were able to come back against Alabama. Even after falling behind 31-10 halfway through the third quarter, Arkansas continued to rely on Cedric Cobbs, and he ended up with 198 yards on 36 carries.

AUBURN The Tigers have outscored Vanderbilt and Western Kentucky 93-10 in their last two games to pull back to .500 (2-2), but now things get tougher, with games against three top-10 teams this month. Auburn gets a visit from No. 7 Tennessee, then heads over to Fayetteville, Ark., to meet No. 8 Arkansas. Another road trip to No. 6 LSU follows a home game against Mississippi State.

FLORIDA Chris Leak started his first game against Kentucky and finished 20 of 35 for 268 yards and two touchdowns. Leak, who was 18 months old when the Gators last lost to the Wildcats, fared a lot better than the previous three Gator freshmen making their debuts on the road. They combined for 164 yards and no touchdowns with two interceptions.

GEORGIA Head coach Mark Richt indicated the starting tailback and backup running back spots are still up for grabs. He said sophomore Tony Milton, who remains questionable with a leg injury, is one of the best blocking tailbacks he's ever seen. Guess that gives Milton a leg up.

KENTUCKY The blindly thrown interception from Wildcats quarterback Jared Lorenzen to Florida's Johnny Lamar late in the Florida game broke a streak of 75 passes without a pick for Kentucky's husky quarterback. "Laying on the ground and watching (Lamar) run by was the worst feeling in the world," Lorenzen said.

LSU The Tigers are off to their first 5-0 start in 30 years. A big part of LSU's success is its explosive offense, led by quarterback Matt Mauck, wide receiver Michael Clayton and running back Shyrone Carey. But a bigger part is the conference's second-best defense, which forced four turnovers, had six sacks and allowed only 239 yards in last week's 41-6 dismantling of Mississippi State.

MISSISSIPPI Texas Tech stinger B.J. Symons' 661-yard effort against Ole Miss was the third-best passing yardage performance in Division I-A history, as well as a Big 12 record. Ole Miss also saw a couple of records fall when Ole Miss kicker Jonathan Nichols booted six field goals, which broke an Ole Miss record. Meanwhile, Rebels receiver Chris Collins broke the school's career reception record of 143 on Ole Miss' first possession.

MISS STATE The Bulldogs had a different defensive line yet again last Saturday. Mississippi State inserted 276-pound senior Kamau Jackson at defensive tackle. It also moved Tommy Kelly down the line from tackle to end, and switched Jason Clark from end to linebacker.

SAROLINA Freshman tailback Demetrius Summers rumbled for 158 yards on 27 carries in the overtime loss to Tennessee, gaining more yards than the Vols did combined (117). He also became the first USC freshman since Thomas Dendy in 1982 to rush for 100 or more yards in consecutive games.

TENNESSEE Volunteers punter Dustin Colquitt kept the Gamecocks pinned deep all night and helped the Vols pull the game out despite gaining 100 fewer yards than USC. Colquitt averaged 52 yards on seven punts.

VANDERBILT After falling 24-17 in overtime to Georgia Tech, the Commodores are now 56-44-5 all-time against schools from the Atlantic Coast Conference. Vanderbilt owns a winning record against every ACC team except Georgia Tech (15-18-3) and North Carolina (5-8). Luckily, they haven't played Florida State since the Seminoles joined the conference in 1991.



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Butera cited by *Baseball America*

Special to the Herald

UCF catcher Drew Butera was named one of the top 10 pro prospects coming out of the Great Lakes League this summer by *Baseball America*.

The list of top 10 Great Lakes League prospects was compiled by *Baseball America* editor Allan

Simpson and national writer John Manuel through consultation with league managers and area scouts.

Simpson stated that Butera, a Lake Mary resident who graduated from Bishop Moore, easily had the best arm of any catcher in the league.

A stout defensive catcher,

he also hit .340 for the summer. As a freshman, Butera hit .305 with one home run and 30 RBI in 49 games including 38

starts.

Behind the dish, Butera threw out 20 of the 39 base runners attempting to steal against him.



Photo courtesy of UCF Athletics

University of Central Florida's Drew Butera (shown making tag against FAU this season), a Lake Mary resident, is one of the top catchers in the nation.

IN HIS WAKES to make stop in Altamonte Springs

Special to the Herald

World champion water skier Kristi Overton and Altamonte Sports are bringing IN HIS WAKES, a non-profit organization formed to introduce people to the life-changing power of Jesus Christ through involvement in water sports, to Cranes Roost in Altamonte Springs on Saturday, October 11, for a "Night of Champions" & "A Day to Remember".

IN HIS WAKES will be holding a program called "A Day to Remember" on the morning of Oct. 11 from 8:30am to noon at Cranes Roost. This special program is for a pre-selected children's group to come and spend a day with the pros of water sports. The pros will give the children the opportunity to water ski and ride in a boat. The group pre-selected from the Orlando area is a group of children from Frontline

Outreach. The children from Frontline Outreach will also be presented with gold medals for their effort.

As part of the ministry, IN HIS WAKES will conduct a nationwide event entitled "A Night of Champions". A Night of Champions will feature professional water ski and wakeboard athletes such as Andy Mapple, Kristi Overton Johnson, Jeff Rodgers, Scott Clark, Dan Stewart, Lauren Harf, Shaun Murray & Gerry Nunn.

The event, which is free and open to the public, will begin at 2 p.m. with pre-ski show activities. Live musical entertainment, great food from Bermuda Grill, kid's activities, moonwalks, clowns, souvenir sales, auto-graph opportunities, and a water ski/wakeboard show by some of water sport's greatest athletes will be the event's entertainment.

Former Sounds of Liberty singer, Jeannie Peoples, will perform along with a free concert by Kanon, winner of Inspirational Network's nationwide Christian talent search. A ski and wakeboard event show, created and hosted by Sea World show writer Alex Jacobson, will intertwine analogies between the athlete's Christian walk and the sports of waterskiing and wakeboarding. It will include testimonials from the professional athletes and exciting on water exhibitions. The ski show, which begins at 4 p.m., will feature nonstop action by some of the world's greatest waterskiers and wakeboarders. Water sport exhibitions will include barefoot skiing, wakeboarding, freestyle jumping, ski flying, and head to head slalom & trick competitions.

For more information about the "IN HIS WAKES" event, please contact Kristi Overton Johnson at 352-473-4598 or 352-745-1892, or visit www.inhiswakes.com or www.kristioverton.com.

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Sports Breifs

FLAG FOOTBALL OFFICIALS NEEDED
The City of Sanford Recreation and Parks Department is looking for referees for the Youth Flag Football League.

Games are played on Saturday mornings. Interested parties should contact Jim Schaefer at 407-330-5697.

POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE BASKETBALL SIGN UP

The Seminole County Police Athletic League (PAL) is now registering boys and girls, grades Kindergarten through High School, for basketball league play.

On site registration will be held Oct. 4 and 11 at Milwee Middle School and at the Seminole High School gym, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m., for the winter basketball season. The cost is \$80. There is a discount for additional siblings of \$10.

Games are played at Milwee Middle School, Indian Trails Middle School, Liberty Christian School and Seminole High School on Saturday and Sunday afternoons.

If you have further questions, please call the PAL Basketball Hotline at: 407-324-3668.

BASKETBALL LESSONS START IN LAKE MARY

Former Lake Mary High School basketball stars Jason Junker and Ben Fratrick are offering private or semi-private (3 to 6 kids) basketball instruction through the Elite Basketball Academy.

Fratrick, the Boys Junior Varsity coach at Lake Mary High, said he and Junker will cover anything player want to work on or they will develop their own individual workout.

All the lessons will be held at Lake Mary High School and can be scheduled by calling (407)310-7139 or emailing elitebasketballacademy@hotmail.com.

See Briefs, Page 15

Football

Continued from Page 12



Cameron Bateman's four-yard run two plays after Scott blocked an Oviedo punt early in the fourth quarter.

The Rams had cut the deficit to seven points on Rivers' two-yard touchdown run in the third quarter.

"The kids busted a gut out there," said Lake Mary head coach Greg Stanton. "A little bit of you dies when you see the kids work so hard and not come away with a better result than this. But everything we want is still right there in front of us."

Shortly after Sloan and Harrison connected to put the Lions back in front, Brice Patrick scored an insurance touchdown for the Lions on a 48-yard dive through the center of the Lake Mary defense.

Clark scrambled three yards for a touchdown as time expired for the Rams.

Bateman rushed for a game-

high 97 yards on 23 carries for Lake Mary.

The Rams have a golden opportunity to right the ship and still make this a very successful season as they play their next four games at home, starting with a district contest with DeLand tomorrow (Oct. 3) starting at 7:30 p.m. at Don T. Reynolds Stadium. This will also be Lake Mary's Homecoming game.

The Rams will then play non-district games against Lake Howell (Thursday, Oct. 9) and powerful Osceola from Kissimmee (Friday, Oct. 17) before hosting district and neighborhood rival Seminole for Senior Night on Friday, Oct. 24.

Lake Mary will finish the season with what should be a huge district game at Lake Brantley on Friday, Oct. 31 and a season-ending conference game at Winter Springs on Friday, Nov. 7.



Herald photos by Jim Wertz

Senior running back Cameron Bateman (No. 5, top) ran for a game-high 97-yards on 23 carries and scored on a four-yard run in Lake Mary's 33-27 loss to Oviedo, while senior Jon Clark (No. 10, above) resumed his duties as the starting quarterback, running for a touchdown in relief against the Lions, then throwing for 109 yards and accounting for all of the Rams' scoring, with a touchdown pass and a touchdown run, in a 21-14 defeat at the hands of Buchholz.

Briefs

Continued from Page 14

Prices vary depending on how many lessons are desired and whether it is private or semi-private.

GLIDERS GOLF TOURNNEY IS OCT. 11

The 5th Annual Gliders Speed Golf Tournament will take place, Saturday, Oct. 11, at 7 a.m., at Winters Springs Golf Club.

This unique event incorporates two great passions - golf and running! It's played like regular golf except players run from shot to shot. A player's score is made up of combined golf score and running time. Awards are given in overall male and female categories, best golf score and best running time. New this year is a Junior Category for youth.

Additionally, the Gliders will host its second annual "4-person Golf Scramble Tournament" on, Friday, Oct. 10, at noon at the Winter Springs Golf Club.

Early registration for both tournaments is suggested, as entries are limited for this event. Winter Springs Golf Club is located on State Road 434 in Winter Springs. Proceeds benefit the Central Florida Glider's academic, athletic and community outreach programs, including its college scholarship program, athletic travel scholarships and helping needy families.

Additionally, there are many opportunities for sponsors to benefit from this annual charity event.

The Central Florida Gliders is 501(c)3 non-profit running organization. Additional information on its running and community outreach programs as well as both golf tournaments and past results is available on the Glider's Web site: www.cfgliders.com.

For an entry form, a sponsorship proposal, or more information, contact: Tournament Director Jim

Podschun at 407-671-0960 or podschun@atlantic.net or Tournament Organizer, Craig Wise at 407-682-1368 or coachwise@hotmail.com.

YOUTH BASKETBALL BEGINS IN NOVEMBER

The Sanford Recreation Department is offering Youth Basketball beginning in November.

The league features three divisions, Elementary, Middle and Prime Time, and the entry fee is \$40 per player.

For more information, contact Duane Lafollette at 407-328-3732 or the SRD at 407-330-5697. Information is also available on the Web site at ci.sanford.fl.us.

GLIDERS LOOKING FOR RUNNERS

The Central Florida Gliders Track Club is looking for athletes that would like to run cross-country this fall.

The Gliders are a non-profit youth running club, for ages 8-to-18, based in Altamonte Springs. Over the years, the club has produced athletes and teams of national caliber.

This cross-country season, the Gliders will compete in various local, state and national competitions, including the Footlocker National High School & Age Group Cross Country Championships in Charlotte, NC and the youth National Cross Country Championships.

Those interested in competing in cross country or trying out for the national team that will represent Florida in the national championships, contact Coach Craig Wise at coachwise@hotmail.com or 407-682-1368; Coach Tamara Patterson at Tptuplu@aol.com or 407-682-8553; or visit the Glider's Web site for further information at: www.cfgliders.com.

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Vivona's Pizza

What began as a baker's dream turned into the perfect pizzeria, and the eventual claim to serving the best pies in Seminole County. Vivona's Fine Italian Pizzerias, located at 601 Weldon Blvd. and 2477 S. Park Ave., serve up some of the hottest and freshest pizzas in Lake Mary and Sanford.

Owner Nick Vivona's first thought in the food preparation business, wasn't all pepperonis and mozzarella. When he started out 11 years ago in Sanford, he was out to make the best bread.

"I couldn't find good bread so I started making my own," said the Sicilian-born Vivona who has found a home in Sanford. "I started making my grandma's recipe and it just took off, but grandma makes it better."

The famous family recipe received its greatest attention when a few customers asked if he made pizza. The word about his homemade pizza pies spread like wildfire and he changed his Sanford location, opened in September of 1991, from a bakery to an Italian family eatery. The biggest draw was his reasonably priced 18-inch, three-topping pizza.

"The price was right and the taste was excellent," he said. "It was home style."

About two years ago, a second Vivona's Fine Italian Pizzeria opened in Lake Mary. Along with its homemade bread and pizza doughs, the two restaurants feature lasagna, baked ziti, chicken marsala, shrimp diablo and chicken cacciatore.

Vivona's also offers catering services for parties up to 60 people. A few of the dishes served up for events such as business functions, weddings and birthdays include pizza, lasagna, sausages and peppers, chicken marsala and eggplant parmesan.

The Lake Mary location is open 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. everyday and the Sanford restaurant is open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

"Everything we make is prepared fresh to order. It takes a little bit longer, but it's worth the wait," Vivona said.

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