

Seminole Herald

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2A



Sanford Babe
Ruth season
opens

1B



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These Idyllwilde
students do!

5A

Briefly

Ace Hardware to host blood drive Thursday in Sanford

The Central Florida Blood Bank will have its mobile unit at Ace Hardware, 207 E. 25th Street in Sanford, from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. Thursday, March 9. The event is being made possible through Bob Parsell, owner of Ace Hardware.

The blood bank serves 16 hospitals in the tri-county area and is in serious need of 400 units of blood per day to meet the needs of those hospitals and others.

Similar drives have been said to be very successful in the past few weeks, but the demand is now outstripping the supply, and some hospitals have been forced to cancel and/or postpone surgeries because of the shortage.

The mobile unit will be in the Ace Hardware parking lot nearest 25th Street.

To donate, persons must be 17 years of age or older, weigh at least 110 pounds and clear of any cold or flu symptoms.

Today is ...

Wednesday, March 8, 2000
 Today is the 68th day of 2000
 and the 78th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1894, New York State became the first state to require dog owners to obtain licenses. On this day in 1950, the Soviet Union announced that it had developed an atomic bomb. On this day in 1987, Bob Seger announced that the "Like a Rock" tour would be his last.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. (1841-1935), Supreme Court Justice; Cyd Charisse (1923), dancer, is 77; Lynn Redgrave (1943), actress, is 57; Susan Clark (1944), actress, is 56; Jim Rice (1953), baseball player, is 47.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1982, Ray "Boom Boom" Manini defeated Art Fina in the final round, winning the WBA lightweight title.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "We don't understand life any better at 40 than at 20, but we know it and admit it." — Jules Renard

TODAY'S MOON: Between new moon (March 6) and first quarter (March 13).

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Schools, BCC ponder tax hike

Schools need \$250M for capital projects

By Bill Kerna
 Staff Writer

SANFORD — The Seminole County School Board on Tuesday unveiled ambitious plans to renovate Seminole, Lake Mary and Oviedo high schools.

However, Board members added that there is one significant roadblock to the plans — the Board does not yet have the funding needed to put the plans into action. In total, school district officials said there are \$250 million in unfunded capital needs.

"This cannot be done unless we find some other source of funding," said School Board member Jeanne Morris.

The School Board is considering asking voters to approve a 1/2 cent sales tax in November to fund improvements to school facilities.

The workshop to discuss renovation plans for the high schools was held in the spirit of a town hall meeting. More than 100 parents, students and school-district staff filled the Educational Support Center, asking the Board questions and discussing facility needs.

The Board plans to have similar workshops to address facility needs in the future, although a date has not been set for another workshop.

"I see tremendous facility needs to

See Schools, Page 2A

County likely to put tax issue on ballot

By Russ White
 Staff Writer

SANFORD — Residents not only will vote for a new president and three Seminole County Commissioners this November, they'll more than likely be asked to decide whether to extend the county's 1-cent sales tax.

The original tax was approved by voters nine years ago when 61 percent said yes to a 1-cent tax to improve and build county roads.

The new tax — if approved — also will be appropriated to roads along with sidewalks, trails, stormwater and other contingencies and possibly

schools.

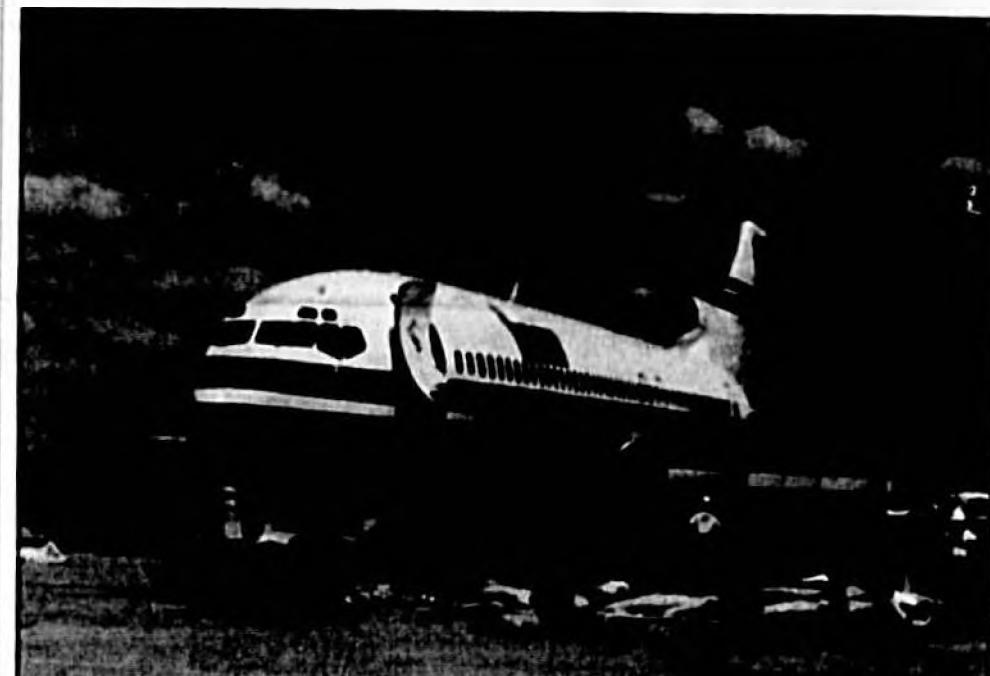
At a priority setting workshop Tuesday, the BCC discussed how the tax money would be used and why it was important to get the issue to the voters in November even though the original sales tax does not expire until October 2001.

Commissioner Randy Morris stressed the need to get the issue to as many residents as possible.

"That means having it on the November ballot," Morris said. "We'll wait 65 percent or more involved. If we wait, the turnout will be 10 or at best 15 percent."

See County, Page 2A

Training for disaster



Harold photo by Timothy Vines
 A training exercise at the Sanford airport provided emergency personnel with an opportunity to practice their skills. The scenario included a 727 jet crash landing and colliding with other aircraft before bursting into flames.

Drill includes 'crash' at airport

By Bill Kerna
 Staff Writer

SANFORD — Nine deaths and 75 injured passengers — that's what emergency personnel faced Tuesday at the Orlando Sanford Airport.

Thankfully, the "deaths" and "injuries" were part of a mock drill designed to train rescue workers.

As required by federal law, the Community Mass Casualty and Family Assistance Exercise is held once every three years. More than 20 agencies, including hospitals, emergency response agencies, and support groups, joined forces to stage the mock airplane crash.

Tuesday's exercise presented rescuers with a chaotic scenario: A 727 jet with 75 passengers

was experiencing flight control problems and subsequently crash landed on the airport's southwest ramp. During the crash, the jet collided with a Cessna Sky Hawk carrying six people and a helicopter with three passengers. All three aircraft caught fire.

According to the scenario, a total of 84 people were injured, including the nine fatalities. Five people had to be airlifted to Orlando Regional Medical Center.

Twenty-two people were transported to hospitals in Seminole County, including 11 with intermediate level injuries and 11 with more severe injuries.

Another 48 people were treated at the scene and reunited with their families.

During the drill, agencies focused on triage.

See Training, Page 2A

Police search for new clues in baffling case

Kathy Engles
disappeared
13 years ago;
convicted killer
sits on death row

By Bill Kerna
 Staff Writer

SANFORD — Investigators on Tuesday searched an area in Sanford where they believe 14-year-old murder victim Kathy Engles' body was buried 13 years ago.

The search was called Tuesday because some new apartments are being built in the area behind the Sanford Wal-Mart store, just off East Lake Mary Boulevard.

Investigators are hoping new clues might be found in regard to Engles' disappearance.

Investigators said no significant new evidence was found in the search conducted by the Seminole County Sheriff's Office as well as Lake Mary and Sanford police.

"The area has been searched many times before but with no luck," said sheriff's spokesman Steve Olson. "(Tuesday) investigators zeroed in on five sites on the several acres of land, but each site yielded little new information."

Engles, a 14-year-old Lake

Mary resident, was reportedly missing during Memorial Day Weekend in 1987. At first investigators believed Anton Meyers, now 39 of Sanford, was involved in the girl's disappearance, but this was never proven.

However, Meyers was later arrested and convicted in an unrelated rape case. While in prison, Meyers reportedly bragged to his cellmates how he killed Engles and hid her body, investigators said.

Investigators from Lake Mary, a private investigator and the Seminole County Sheriff's Office persisted in following through on the case while Meyers was in prison and eventually got enough evidence to bring the case to trial, even though Engles' body was never found.

Meyers was arrested as a suspect in the Engles murder shortly after his release from prison after serving time on the unrelated rape charge. He was tried and found guilty of Engles' murder and sent to death row in 1995.

Authorities are continuing in their search for Engles' body and other clues to support the jury's findings. Meyers' case is subject to appeal.

"Locating Engles' remains will also bring closure for her grandparents who were raising Kathy at the time she disappeared and was murdered nearly 13 years ago," Olson said.

Volunteer of the Year



Herald photo by Nick Stahl
 Major Bruce Williams of the Salvation Army presents the Volunteer of the Year Award to Shana Ward. The award was presented to Ward Saturday during the Salvation Army's annual breakfast meeting.

Police warn of scam on elderly

From staff reports

Winter Springs police have issued a report on a probable attempt to defraud the elderly, with the hope that others will become aware of this situation and not fall victim.

According to police Capt. Kevin Brunelle, the case started when the Seminole County Sheriff's office phoned Winter Springs police that there was an elderly senior citizen requesting to withdraw a large sum of money from her bank account. The incident was noticed

by a SunTrust Bank employee who reportedly became concerned over the large amount, said to be used to satisfy a lien on contest winnings of \$400,000.

Brunelle said the senior citizen revealed that she had received a phone call between 11:30 a.m. and noon on March 2, from a male subject advising he was from Chase Manhattan Bank, and that he was holding a check in the amount of \$800,000 from the Canadian Government.

The caller inquired as to why they would be paying her such a

large amount of money. He went on to further say that possibly it was from a contest of some type.

The senior citizen asked the caller to meet her at the bank where she would withdraw the money and give it to him, so she could receive the \$800,000 check. The unknown caller refused to meet her.

Capt. Brunelle said any citizen who may have received a similar call should contact him at 407-322-1000, the Seminole County sheriff's office or nearest law enforcement agency.

Opinion

Our View

Safety first

Motorists need to be cautious as Bike Week continues

It's considered Bike Week in Daytona Beach through March 12, with racing events scheduled at the Daytona International Speedway and other locations in the area.

While the area is northeast of Sanford and Seminole County, bikers will be traveling through the area in extremely large numbers — many more than some may expect. It brings to mind the need for motorists to exercise additional caution.

Foggy conditions in the early morning hours, very large groups of bikers, many wearing black clothing, and strangers who may not know the area all lend to dangerous conditions. Then too, there are those who cannot refrain from drinking and riding. They are probably the worst dangers on our streets and highways.

Many motorcycle groups are clubs. People who may wear suits and ties to work during the day, don leather at night or weekends. They group together and hit the streets. Most are law-abiding individuals who are probably more cautious than motorists are. Yet the mere sight of these groups, riding together in single or double file, makes some drivers suspicious.

There is a need to exercise caution. During Bike Week and at other times, cars, trucks or sports vehicles colliding with a motorcycle can have only one result — the motorcycle will lose. The cyclist, protected only by a helmet, isn't protected by the frame of a vehicle, and he will probably suffer as well.

Let's have a safe Bike Week time. There have already been some tragedies reported in Volusia County. But here in Seminole County, let's be extra cautious when driving or riding. Give consideration to the others when driving, and be patient. If everyone cooperates, this year's event won't go down as a tragic time. We simply don't need that.

Berry's World



We need your input and opinions.
Letters to the editor and guest columns are both encouraged and appreciated.

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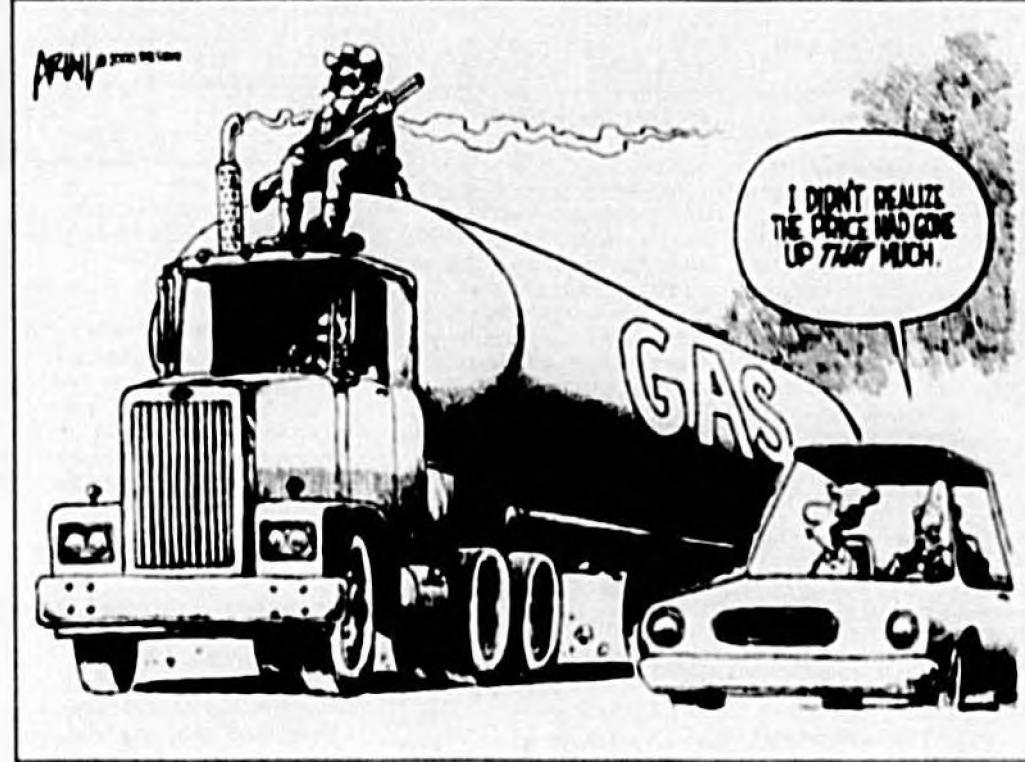
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Your View

Resident has change of heart concerning park

To the editor:

Let me state for the record that I have changed my mind about Save Ft. Mellon Park!

I moved to Sanford a year

and a half ago from Orlando because I liked the prospect of living in a small town, and I saw the potential for progress and prosperity with the proposed new hotel/convention center.

But I must say, that after living in Sanford, participating in community events such as the Fourth of July fireworks dis-

play and just walking along the waterfront, I have had a change of heart.

Yes, I am still for progress and prosperity. But as a neighbor stated so eloquently when I asked her about the proposed hotel, "Build it down the street." (She was waving her arm toward Lake Mary — the "park hating"

community.) I agree! Let's keep our beautiful waterfront commun-

ity. I think it is time for a recount on last year's vote. I wonder how many other residents have changed their minds as well?

Amy Turner
Sanford

Gore's principles threaten U.S. Constitution

In the final Democratic debate before the Super Tuesday election, Vice President Al Gore responded to a question about the type of Supreme Court justices he as president would select. "I would look for justices of the Supreme Court who understand that our Constitution is a living and breathing document, that it was intended by our Founders to be interpreted in the light of the constantly evolving experience of the American people."

Gore went on to note that while the supposed right to an abortion is not in the Constitution, the late Justice Harry Blackmun read that right into it. Gore said that the Constitution must evolve because when it was written Thomas Jefferson owned slaves and women couldn't vote.

Gore's view of the Constitution, shared by most political liberals, is one of the most dangerous philosophies of our time. It establishes a class of philosopher-kings who determine the rights of the people and shreds the Constitution as a document that conforms people to unchanging principles that promote their own and the general welfare.

A "living" Constitution, notes constitutional attorney John Whitehead, means the Constitution is "up for grabs," and it becomes whatever the justices decide, not the people through their elected representatives.



Cal Thomas

• • • • •

The proper way to resolve inequities such as slavery or women's suffrage is the way these issues were, ultimately, resolved — through the amendment process. We wouldn't need a Constitution at all if unelected, elitist judges could decide everything. The Founders intended that the amendment process would cool the hotheads who want to inflame public opinion to do certain things that may not ultimately be in the public's best interest.

The philosopher-kings believe they are best equipped to decide which laws are good and which are not. Knowing that a majority of the people probably would not follow the social engineers into their idea of social and political nirvana, liberals want the judicial class to define everyone's rights.

In the coming election voters must decide whether they wish to remain under the authority of a constitutional republic or a dictatorial oligarchy run by unelected people in black robes. In his 1989 book, "The Tempting of America: The Political Seduction of the Law," Judge Robert Bork observed where the "living Constitution" concept has led: "The abandonment of original understanding in modern times means the transportation into the Constitution of the principles of a liberal culture that cannot achieve those results democrati-

cally." While this might make liberals temporarily happy, would they be as content to see a conservative court majority causing harm to the

Constitution from the right by reading their own biases into the document?

Bork wrote there are only two sides in the war for control of the law. "Either the Constitution and statutes are law, which means that their principles are known and control judges, or they are malleable texts that judges may rewrite to see that particular groups or political causes win." Vice President Gore clearly prefers a legislative judiciary. Gov. George W. Bush says he would name judges who respect and uphold the Constitution as written.

Judge Bork outlined the fundamental reason for having laws in the first place: "When we speak of 'law,' we ordinarily refer to a rule that we have no right to change except through prescribed procedures. That

statement assumes that the rule has a meaning independent of our own desires."

In the debate, Gore advocated designer law which, like fashion, would gratify the changing whims of a population. But this was not the Founders' view of the law. They made the law difficult to change precisely because they intended to preserve, protect and defend the people from corrupt leadership. Respect for the Constitution kept Franklin Roosevelt from packing the Supreme Court with additional justices more favorable to him than faithful to the Constitution. Gore should not be allowed to pack the court with his ideological soulmates who would wreck the Constitution and the law's presumed neutrality. That would make the court merely spoils of political war to be enjoyed by the party and president that win an election.

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Education

Notes

Pine Crest Elementary
Pine Crest will feature a celebration for families participating in the Backpack Reader's Program on two evenings this month, one on March 22 and the other on March 29. The program will feature food, award presentations, and parent training.

In other school action, the Pine Crest Tumblers will perform at Rainbow Elementary School on March 31 between 9:30 a.m. and noon.

Greenwood Lakes Middle School

Greenwood Lakes recently held its spelling bee for all grade levels. After intense competition the top spelling award for the school went to seventh-grader Amy Hill. The run-up honoree went to Jessica Chiu, who is in the eighth grade.

Melissa Clegg, eighth-grade social studies, has been named the school's Teacher of the Year. Meanwhile, executive secretary Melinda Hardin received the noninstructional honors. The entire school faculty votes on a yearly basis and elects a representative for Teacher of the Year and School Related Employee of the Year.

Jackson Heights Middle School

Eliza Rogers and Matthew Byers earned a perfect score in the American Mathematics Competition examination. Out of about 250,000 students worldwide who took the examination, there were 177 perfect scores with five of the students coming from Florida. Governor Jeb Bush will present Eliza's and Matthew's awards on Tuesday, March 28 at a meeting of the Florida Cabinet in Tallahassee.

Eighth-grade student Andres Cantor was selected as one of 12 national winners in the "Just Ask George" contest sponsored by the Arts and Entertainment Network. Andres traveled to Washington, D.C., all expenses paid, and participated in a televised mock interview with George Washington. He also toured Mount Vernon and various other national monuments.

Crooms Academy
The students representing Crooms Academy came in first place in the Pre-Algebra competition in a Feb. 19 all-day competition at the University of Central Florida. The students competed in the areas of math, spelling bee, the egg drop, bridge building, and the banner competition. The Crooms team is under the direction of Joschim Jeremie and Steven Herman.

Lake Howell High School
Karla Alston and Terry Lewis recently received recognition from The Foundation for Seminole County Public Schools for having earned their master's degrees. In addition, Barbara Mosqueda was recently recognized by The Foundation for having earned her doctorate degree.

Oviedo High School
Senior Nicole Creanza achieved a perfect score of 1600 on the Scholastic Assessment Test. Nicole plans to study biological sciences at Princeton, Harvard, Duke or Dartmouth upon graduation.

Herald Teacher of the Week

Mary Martin
Mary Martin teaches second grade at All Souls Catholic Academy in Sanford. A ten-year veteran teacher, she has been at All Souls for five years. Previously, she taught in the public school system in Jacksonville.



Mary Martin

Hopefully, they can be patient with their kids instead of continuing to constantly push them.

Advice for parents: This is advice that was given to me. Look at your child as an individual. Do not compare your child with others. Reward three successes. Help them to feel proud of themselves.

Advice for students: To enjoy their school experience and to do the very best they can, because you can't repeat it.

Advice for new or prospective teachers: Listen, ask questions and visit veteran teachers. As a new teacher myself, I learned the most by working with older teachers.

Read advice you have ever received: Be open to changes.

Personnel who have inspired you: The kindergarten teacher in Jacksonville who encouraged me to become a teacher. And my American history teacher in high school (in Gary, Ind.).

Favorite book or inspirational message: I really enjoy Eric Hoffer's "The Greatest Generation." Both my husband and I have relatives who served in World War II. My husband's uncle was a prisoner of war in World War II. So, it's a story that hits close to home.

Hobbies: Computers, and I enjoy sewing when I have the time. And I enjoy watching old movies.

If you would like to nominate a teacher for the Herald's Teacher of the Week, contact Herald Editor Dan Ping or Staff Writer Bill Kerns by fax, 407-323-0410, or E-mail, shd@jackson.com.

Application date scheduled for program

Applications will be accepted March 9 for the Pres-Kindergarten Early Intervention Program, which serves economically disadvantaged 4-year-olds in Seminole County. The program provides educational and health screenings for children.

Parents or guardians can fill out applications for the program from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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King named volunteer of the year

From staff reports

Willie King has been honored as Outstanding Volunteer of the Year for Seminole County Public Schools. The award was presented by Dick Schaffner, director of community involvement, during the Florida School Volunteer Week.

Tony Lane, Dividends School Volunteer Program manager said, "Willie King may be retired from the military but he sure is not retired from serving the citizens and students of Seminole County. This dedicated, devoted, committed individual has been a valued volunteer for 10 years and more for many years."

His most recent volunteering

has been at the Harbor Library and Learning Center at Sanford Public Housing. He tutus and works with small groups of students.

He also presents the Junior Achievement's Economics of Staying in School. All 225 students at the Harbor have been given the opportunity to participate and learn the benefit of staying in school and the costs of dropping out, Lane said.

He also presents his life-changing program in middle schools and at Seminole High School's Compact Program.

"Tony Lane, Dividends School Volunteer Program manager said,

"King is expanding the horizons for many students. Because of his volunteer efforts many high-risk students are experiencing their hardships and becoming competent, confident adults," Lane said.

When King is not volunteering, he is working on the board of the Seminole Volunteer Center and on the Compact Oversight Committee.

"King is expanding the horizons for many students. Because of his volunteer efforts many high-risk students are experiencing their hardships and becoming competent, confident adults," Lane said.

Fundamentals of reading



Herald photo by Tammy Vizard
Shannon Ward and Kong Kong read books they received recently through Iveydale Elementary School's RIF (Reading Is Fundamental) program. The children receive three books a year through the reading program.

Rock Around the Block IV

A Rockin' Road Race

Saturday, March 11, 2000

Casselberry, Florida

It's not just a race, IT'S A PARTY!

Casselberry's Rock Around the Block IV will combine musical entertainment and athletics into a unique event that you won't want to miss! This 5k with an "up beat" will feature the best live music in Central Florida performing before, during and after the race. Add some healthy refreshments and great door prizes.

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- Kids Run 9:15 A.M.
- Secret Lake Park, Casselberry

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- Nearly 20 Age Divisions
- Tom, Dick or Harry \$2 Off Entry Fee

Proceeds Drowning is the number one killer of children under the age of four in the state of Florida. Proceeds from this event will help fund the Casselberry Parks and Recreation Drown Prevention Program. This program will provide free and reduced cost drown proofing classes to children 4 years of age and younger.

For More Info

Call 407-262-7720

Community Briefs

School readiness

The Oversight Committee of the Seminole County Schools Readiness Coalition will meet Wednesday, March 8, at 1:30 p.m. at the School Board Educational Support Annex, 1722 W. Airport Blvd., Sanford.

Fair underway

The Seminole County Fair is in full swing through Sunday, March 12, at the Seminole Towne Center in Sanford. Featuring States Shows, the event will have 45 rides, 80 concession stands, a special Kiddieland midway, and the Marionette Star Theater.

Monday through Friday the gates will open at 5 p.m., with the exception of Friday, March 10 when the gates open at noon. Saturday and Sunday the gates open at noon.

Admission and parking is free.

Volunteers needed

Special Olympics of Seminole County (SOC) is in need of volunteers to coach aquatics and softball. For additional information, phone the SOC Hotline at 407-263-8033.

Seminole Community College. The event is free and open to the public.

Board will be performing several Chopin works published posthumously, including the Nocturne in E Minor, Op. 72 No. 1 and the Waltz in A-flat Major.

Jacqueline Jones in concert

Jacqueline Jones and her band will perform at Seminole Community College Thursday, March 9, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Concert Hall; the concert part of the Blues and Jazz Humanities' Thursday

Night Concert Series is free and open to the public.

For additional details, phone SCC at 407-328-2179.

Alzheimer support

"You are not alone - help for the Alzheimer's caregiver" is the subject of a seminar sponsored by Alzheimer expert Joyce Simard, MSW, sponsored by Chancellor Park of Altamonte Springs. The seminar is for anyone who has loved ones affected by Alzheimer's and other memory related disorders. It will be held Thursday, March 9, from 7 until 8:30 p.m. at Chancellor Park of Altamonte Springs, 217 Boston Avenue.

For additional information, contact Denise M. Laflamme, at 407-261-2345.

Trail hike

The Florida Trail Association will lead a leisurely hike on the Cross-Seminole Trail, Friday, March 10. The group will meet at 6 p.m. at Black Hammock Trailhead at the intersection of CR-417 and SR-434 of the Cross-Seminole Trail. The public is invited to join this group as it hikes about three miles on the paved trail, shaking off the work week.

For additional information and directions, phone Juan Nunez at 407-365-6036.

Audubon Society

The Seminole Audubon Society will meet Sunday, March 12, at 2 p.m. in Room 100 at Seminole Community College. Noted photographer Arthur Morris will present "The Art of Bird Photography." The meeting is free and open to the general public. For addi-

tional information on the meeting, phone 407-323-4079.

GED Testing

Seminole Community College will register GED test candidates for April testing dates, March 20 through 21, at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m., and at 11 a.m. only on March 24. A free GED prep course will also be offered for adults. Interested persons are asked to phone SCC at 407-328-2179.

Canniberry run

The City of Canniberry Parks and Recreation Rock Around the Block IV 5K run will be held at Secret Lake Park, 200 N. Triple Lake Drive, Saturday, March 11 beginning at 8 a.m. This is an all-day family event, with live music, clowns, a rock climbing wall, and many other events for everyone of every age.

Proceeds will benefit the city's Youth Down Prevention Program. For additional information, entry fees or registration, phone 407-498-1313.

Cropwalk

Church World Services Cropwalk will be held Sunday, March 12, at Centennial Park, corner of Fourth Street and Park Avenue in Sanford. Registration begins at 1:30 p.m. The Cropwalk is a walk to help stamp out hunger. A large portion of the registration money goes to local agencies in the past, including help for tornado victims.

While this is a rain-elimination event, arrangements are being handled by Lynda Carter of First Presbyterian Church in Sanford. Call 407-322-2662 for information, or Amy Kligerman at 407-428-7121.

Longwood gives support to commuter rail

By Bill Kornis
Staff Writer

LONGWOOD —

Supporters of commuter rail still have an uphill climb before the idea becomes a reality.

The Longwood City Commission voted 4-1 Monday to pass a resolution in support of a proposal by U.S. Congressman John Mica (R-Winter Park) to form a 52-mile commuter rail system spanning across Volusia, Seminole, Orange and Osceola counties.

"Probably one of the best things about this proposal is that most of the population centers are along this route, so within a short distance of it," said City Commissioner Dan Anderson. "We know that traffic in Central Florida is going to get worse, and you have to do something."

Meanwhile, key cities such as Winter Park and Orlando have yet to support a commuter rail proposal, which would run 52 miles from southwest Volusia County to the Orlando International Airport, with a 10-mile extension to Kissimmee.

Eatonville, Orlando, Winter Park, Maitland, and the Board of Orange County

Commissioners are engaged in fierce debates over the proposal. In particular, cities are battling over proposed routes.

Longwood City Commissioner Steve Miller provided the only dissenting vote during Monday's meeting, saying he is concerned that the plan may actually increase traffic during morning and evening rush hours.

"Where it's going is right in the middle of our city," Miller said. "All this will do is draw more traffic, more stoppage, and more pollution into our city. The guardrail gates will be coming down and blocking traffic during rush hour."

Mica is seeking funding within the federal Transportation Appropriations Bill for a three- to five-year demonstration project.

The CSX rail line Mica is proposing to use crosses SR 434 and County Road 427.

Service could begin in 30 to 36 months. The commuter rail

service would operate two hours each during the morning and evening rush hours on existing private CSX lines.

"Has anyone given any regard to the tremendous amount of pollution we bring in every hour with each one of the 2,000 cars traveling on I-4," said City Commissioner John Mainiot. "Are we going to have an environment like California, where we have to rub out eyes from the smog?"

The commuter rail proposal will not live or die based on Longwood's endorsement. The more crucial debates that may decide the future of commuter rail are taking place in Orange County, where Mica's previous light rail proposal also died.

"Orlando and Orange County don't endorse this, it's dead," said Longwood City Commissioner Butch Bundy. "That's where the traffic is going."

However, Longwood is typical of cities throughout Volusia and Seminole counties, where commuter rail has received consistent endorsements.

Deltona, Sanford, Lake Mary and the Seminole and Volusia county commissioners have all passed resolutions in support of the project.

Under the proposal, radio frequency transmissions would let the guard gate know when the commuter rail vehicle is approaching. The estimated delay for the vehicles to cross is 45 seconds, the same as an average traffic light.

The vehicles would arrive at intervals ranging from 10 minutes to 30 minutes, depending on plans under consideration. Freight traffic would be taken off of CSX lines during the morning and evening rush hours when commuter rail is in operation.

Residual funds from the failed light rail proposal would provide \$20 million for the project, which carries an estimated price tag of \$40 million to \$60 million depending on whether equipment is leased or purchased and the number of stations used in the system.

The \$20 million in residual light rail funds are from federal gas tax revenues that can only be used for mass transit.

The number of stations would range from 14 to 17, including three existing Amtrak stations and also a planned Livingston Intermodal Station.

The Transportation Bill will be signed by President Bill Clinton prior to the end of the fiscal year, Sept. 30, with or without funding for commuter rail in Central Florida.

The U.S. Senate and House of Representatives are currently discussing separate versions of the Bill. The versions will be combined into a single Transportation Bill in April.

The commuter rail routes would need to be approved by each county involved in the project.

State funding would assist in the cost of purchasing equipment. Local transit authorities and local governments would underwrite operational costs, which would be equal to current bus operating costs.

Weekday service could accommodate 2,160 passengers per hour in each direction, north and south. Currently, each Interstate-4 lane can handle 2,000 vehicles per hour.

One of the stations would be located in Sanford. Plans call for the Auto Train and Amtrak facilities to be relocated to the Rand Yard area as a new intermodal transportation facility, providing bus and rail service.

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Sports

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Seminole Herald, Sanford, Florida - Wednesday, March 8, 2000 - 1B

Bombats, I.S. open up lead on pack in AAA

By Dean Smith
SPORTS EDITOR

LAKE MARY - The Bombats and I.S. finally started to open some space between themselves and the rest of the pack and clinched at least a tie for the top two seeds in the upcoming playoffs with their sixth victories of the season in the City of Sanford Recreation and Parks Department Women's Polar Bear Slow Pitch Softball League came to an end Tuesday night at Pinehurst Park.

Women's tournament set

Donnie's Darlins, Today Homes-Sharks secure top seeds

By Dean Smith
SPORTS EDITOR

SANFORD - Donnie's Darlins continued their outstanding play and the Today Homes-Sharks bounced back from last week's loss to grab second place as the regular season of the City of Sanford Recreation and Parks Department Women's Polar Bear Slow Pitch Softball League came to an end Tuesday night at Pinehurst Park.

Donnie's Darlins scored five runs in the top of the second inning to erase a 3-2 deficit and held Vaughan Incorporated scoreless the rest of the game as they rolled to their eighth victory of the season, 13-3.

In the late game, the Today Homes-Sharks scored five runs in the top of the first inning and built an 11-2 lead going into the bottom of the fifth inning before holding on for an 11-8 victory over Curtis Alleycats.

The victory wrapped up second place for the Today Homes-Sharks as a loss would have caused a tie between the Today Homes-Sharks and Curtis Alleycats.

Donnie's Darlins ends the regular season at 8-1 and are followed by the Today Homes-Sharks (5-4), Curtis Alleycats (3-6) and Vaughan Incorporated (2-7).

The End of the Season Tournament will be played next

Tuesday night at Pinehurst Park with the same teams playing at the same times as this week.

No. 1 Donnie's Darlins takes on No. 4 Vaughan Incorporated at 6:30 p.m. and No. 2 Today Homes-Sharks faces No. 3 Curtis Alleycats at 7:30 p.m. The winners will then meet in the Championship Game at 8:30 p.m.

Providing the offense were:

Donnie's Darlins: four hits - Carol Garner (home run, three runs, three RBI), Diana Calangio (double, four runs, RBI), three hits - Lori Pez (triple, run, three RBI), Lynette Barkley (RBI), two hits - Amber Massey (run, RBI), Kim Albritton (run), Shirley Zonneville (run), Dawn Evans (run). Ter-

esa Nelson (RBI), one hit - Sheila Sanders (double, run, RBI), one run scored - Barb Martin, one RBI - Deborah Manfredi.

Vaughan Incorporated: one hit - LaAnne MacIsaac (two RBI), Natasha Sanders (RBI), Terri Khan and Debbie Berning (one run scored each), Lynn Webb, Michelle Gaetano, one run scored - Barbara Ferguson.

Today Homes-Sharks: four hits - Robin Bishop (three RBI), three hits - Terresa Newby-Shell (double, two RBI), Anna Lanza (run, two RBI), two hits - Tanya Geiger (double, three runs), Jeremy Flowers (run, RBI), Wendy Hargis (three runs), Dawn Evans (run), Ter-

esa Nelson (RBI), one hit - Sheila Sanders (double, run, RBI), one run scored - Barb Martin, one RBI - Deborah Manfredi.

Curt's Alleycats: three hits - Barber Bartels (two runs), two hits - Debra Flamm (double, two runs, two RBI), Sue Nickell (run, two RBI), one hit - Kathy Kleganowski (three runs), Chris Clark, Kim Curtis and Sharon Kotchey (one RBI each), Jennifer Hemphill, Sue Mohr.

Donnie's Darlins	8-1	13-3
Vaughan Inc.	2-7	2-7
Today Homes	5-4	11-8
Curt's Alleycats	3-6	8-10

Defending champions open 2000 with wins

By Dean Smith
SPORTS EDITOR

SANFORD - The were the best in the City in 1999 and they opened the 2000 City of Sanford Recreation and Parks Department Babe Ruth Baseball League the same way they ended 1999, with wins.

The Babe Ruth League City Series Champion Nobles Communication-White Sox took an 8-0 lead in the top of the third inning and cruised to a 12-6 victory over the Elks Lodge No. 1241-Braves in the opening game of the Babe Ruth League (13-15 year olds) on Rinker-Sienstrom Field at Historic Sanford Memorial Stadium on Saturday.

Meanwhile last night on Roy Holler Jr. Field at Ft. Mellon Park, the Sanford Free & Accepted Masons Lodge #62-Yankees, the defending City Series Champions, doubled the score on the Play It Again Sports-Espn, 10-5, on the opening night of the newly named Cal Ripken Major (11-12 year olds) League.

In the other game from the Cal Ripken Majors, the Railroaders-Cubs used a seven-run fourth inning to defeat the Kid-u-Not, Incorporated Devil Rays, 13-3.

In other Babe Ruth games from Saturday, the Devil Rays edged the Yankees, 10-8, at Historic Sanford Memorial Stadium and the Espn outscored the Indians, 11-8, at Zinn Beck Field.

Tuesday evening at Historic Sanford Memorial Stadium, the Longwood-Athletics nipped the

Please see Baseball, Page 2B



SCC baseball team thumped

By Dean Smith
SPORTS EDITOR

LEESBURG - The Seminole Community College baseball team ran into a Mid-Florida Conference buzz-saw on Tuesday as Lake-Sumter Community College collected 20 hits on the way to an 18-5 victory at Leesburg.

The Lakers counted two home runs and six doubles among their safeties and scored seven runs in the sixth inning to improve to 8-12 overall and 3-2 in the conference.

Half of the Raiders' eight hits went for extra bases, but it was hardly enough as they fell to 6-18 overall and 1-4 in the M-FC.

SCC will play another M-FC road game against Daytona Beach Community College on

Thursday at 3 p.m., before returning home for a conference doubleheader against Florida Community College at Jacksonville on Saturday starting at 1 p.m. and a 2 p.m. contest with Dundalk Community College from Maryland on Sunday. All home games at Raider Field are free of charge.

The game was tied at 1-1 after the top of the third inning and the Raiders only trailed 3-1 after three-and-a-half innings, but L-SCC scored three runs in each of the fourth and fifth innings, then tacked on the big seven-run sixth inning to turn the game into a rout.

B. Sommer, the Number 9 hitter in the Lakers line-up, led the way, going 4-for-5, including an

Please see SCC, Page 2B

Raiders softball team sweeps

By Dean Smith
SPORTS EDITOR

SANFORD - The Seminole Community College softball team showed signs on Tuesday of coming out of its doldrums, sweeping a doubleheader with Grand Rapids Community College from Michigan, 8-3 and 5-4, at Lady Raider Field.

But while the Raiders picked up the important sweep, neither win was easy as the locals

were again plagued by runners left on base, stranding 19 in the daze.

An error led to three unearned runs in the second inning as the Birds took a 3-0 lead.

SCC got a pair of runs back in the bottom of the third inning on a two-run triple by Lake Mary's Jeannie Manz, but the score remained 3-2 Grand Rapids until the sixth inning. Another ex-Ram, Brie Van

Swearingen, led off with a single and Michelle Miranda pinch-ran. With one out, Kelli Vetter singled and Becki Rodak walked to load the bases.

Pinch-hitter Deanna Osborn reached on an error, allowing Miranda to score and Lyman's Miranda Schultz, who had been out since last Thursday because of an injury, was hit by a pitch to score Vetter with the

Please see Raiders, Page 2B



Photo courtesy of Seminole Community College
Lake Mary's Jeannie Manz had a big day, going 4-for-7, including two doubles and a triple, and drove in six runs as Seminole Community College swept a doubleheader from Grand Rapids Tuesday.

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