



# Seminole Herald

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March 23, 2000  
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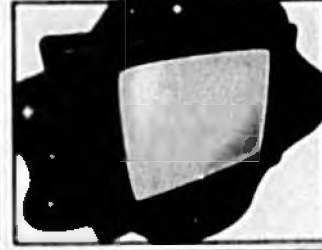
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2A



**Murphy scores  
two runs as  
Oviedo tops  
Winter Springs**  
Page 1B



**What's on the  
tube tonight?  
Check our  
TV listings**  
Page 6B

## Briefly

### Space Show

A Science Fiction show will be presented March 24 to 26, at the Orlando North Hilton in Altamonte Springs. On hand will be Apollo Astronaut Ed Mitchell, Space Shuttle Astronaut Richard Scobee, as well as actors and actresses from television series Babylon 5, and Star Trek Deep Space 9. The celebrities will be at the show Saturday and Sunday to meet guests and sign autographs. There will also be talks and a charity auction.

For tickets or additional information phone (800) 479-8735.

### Spring Arts Festival

The eighth annual Spring Arts Festival will be held from 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Friday, March 24 at Lake Mary City Hall.

The festival is a free family event with music, magic, art and fun for all ages. This year, an a cappella group Toxic Audio will headline the evening.

Jon Armstrong, resident magician at Walt Disney World's EPCOT, will emcee the event. The Lake Mary Band, the Lake Mary High School Drama Club and "Seminole Kids On Stage" will also perform.

## Today is ...

**Thursday, March 23, 2000**  
Today is the 83rd day of 2000 and the fourth day of spring.

**TODAY'S HISTORY:** On this day in 1743, Handel's "Messiah" was performed for the first time in public. On this day in 1916, Marcus Garvey arrived in the United States. On this day in 1991, Wayne Gretzky and Bruce McHale purchased a 1910 Honus Wagner baseball card for a record \$451,000.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS:** Fannie Farmer (1857-1915), cookery expert; Joan Crawford (1908-1977), actress; Akira Kurosawa (1910-1998), film director; Werner von Braun (1912-1977), rocket scientist; Roger Bannister (1929-), athlete-physician; is 71; Chaka Khan (1953-), singer; is 47; Moses Malone (1955-), basketball player; is 45; Amanda Plummer (1957-), actress; is 43.

**TODAY'S SPORTS:** On this day in 1968, UCLA won the college basketball championship by defeating North Carolina 78-55.

**TODAY'S QUOTE:** "The aim of flattery is to soothe and encourage us by assuring us of the truth of an opinion we have already formed about ourselves."  
Edith Sitwell

**TODAY'S MOON:** Between full moon (March 19) and last quarter (March 27).

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# Cop busted in drug deal

By Bill Kerna  
Staff Writer

## 12-year veteran Ladoczky charged after federal probe

**SANFORD** — A Sanford man convicted of dealing crack cocaine led police to his supplier, and, to the investigators' dismay, the supplier was one of their own.

Federal and local agents began a six-month investigation which ended Wednesday with the arrest of Darlene Ladoczky, 34, a 12-year veteran of the Sanford Police Department. She has been suspended without pay.

A federal grand jury indictment charges

Ladoczky with one count of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute and distribution of crack cocaine and two counts of lying to federal drug agents. She pleaded not guilty during a hearing Wednesday in Orlando's Federal District Court House. Her detention hearing is scheduled for 2

p.m. today in federal district court in Orlando.

"While the arrest sacks every honest hard working law enforcement professional, bad cops won't be tolerated and will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law," said Sanford Police Chief Brian Towley. "I,

as chief of police, the community, and the entire Sanford Police Department have no place for a bad cop except in a jail cell."

The charges against Ladoczky have no connection with Tuesday's arrests of 23 students and seven non-students for selling drugs to undercover



Darlene Ladoczky

See Cop, Page 4A

## New at the Zoo

As part of a Species Survival Plan, three new animals are born at the Central Florida Zoo

From Staff Reports

**SANFORD** — Central Florida Zoological Park officials are proud to announce the birth of three animals. Twin cotton-top tamarins were born March 8 and a female clouded leopard was born Feb. 7.

Twin births are not unusual for the cotton-top tamarin, a primate about the size of a squirrel with a shock of white hair. This endangered species is native to Northwest Colombia where they inhabit the upper strata of the rainforest.

Taking care of infants is a family affair as fathers, brothers, and sisters have been observed in zoos carrying infants on their backs. This early infant care experience is very important as parental care is not instinctual, it is learned. This is the second reproductive success at the Zoo and the entire family of cotton-tops is on exhibit.

The female clouded leopard cub is being reared by her mother in an off-exhibit area and is not yet big enough to be on exhibit. This cub is the eighth of this endangered species to be born at the Zoo and she represents an important addition to the captive clouded leopard population in the United States. She weighed 265 grams at birth, opened her eyes at 12 days and began walking at three weeks of age. According to Assistant Curator Bonnie Breitbeil, "The clouded leopard mother and daughter are doing very well and are almost inseparable."

Both the cotton-top tamarin



Herald photo by Tommy Vincent

Central Florida Zoo inmate keeper Diana Haper shows off the new female clouded leopard cub that was recently born at the zoo.

and clouded leopard are part of the American Zoo and Aquarium Association's Species Survival Plan (SSP). SSPs are cooperative population management and conservation programs for selected species in zoos and aquariums across North America. Each SSP manages the breeding of a species in order to maintain a healthy and self-sustaining captive population that is both genetically diverse and demographically stable.

SSP programs serve over 117 individual species through 70 plans. The Central Florida Zoological Park participates in

ten SSPs which include the cheetah, ruffed lemur, elephant, Aruba Island rattlesnake, gibbon, mandrill, cotton-top tamarin, Bali mynah, rock iguana and clouded leopard.

Through the SSP, institutions like the Central Florida Zoo seek to preserve these species by coordinating long-term breeding programs, which maximize genetic diversity.

A species must satisfy a number of criteria to be selected for SSP designation. Most SSP species are endangered or

See Zoo, Page 6A

## Charter board drops scheme to scrutinize sheriff

Citizens Review Board already established

By Russ White  
Staff Writer

**SANFORD** — The Charter Review Board dismissed a proposal to create a citizens review board for the Seminole County Sheriff's Office after Sheriff Don Eslinger criticized the plan as redundant.

Eslinger said the proposal, in

the form of a charter amendment, would "damage the credibility" of his office and that a 14-member citizen review board was established in 1993 to hear complaints about officers.

Eslinger provided statistics that county officers needed the use of force 311 times in 1999 — 158 times by deputies and 153 times by detention officers.

"We had seven complaints — seven situations that were investigated and reviewed by a citizens committee. This office

See Sheriff, Page 6A

## Longwood honors students with Juvenile of the Year awards

By Bill Kerna  
Staff Writer

**LONGWOOD** — The first woman to become president of the United States may now only be 10-years-old and living in Longwood.

Emily Morgan is in the fifth-grade at Longwood Elementary School. On Monday, she was among 10 recipients of the 19th Annual Juvenile of the Year (JOY) Award presented by the Longwood City Commission. However, the achievement is modest compared to her ultimate goal.

"I want to be the first lady president," Emily said.

Emily's favorite subjects in school are science and math. For fun, she enjoys reading, spending time with friends, and riding her bicycle.

The person she most admires is not a politician, but country music singer Faith Hill. So far, the secret to her success has nothing to do with fundraising, although some political leaders could learn from Emily.

"I do good in school, and I pay attention," Emily said. "I don't get in trouble."

The awards were presented to at least one student from each of the nine public schools

See Longwood, Page 6A

## Flapjack breakfast



Herald photo by Nick Sibille

Harvey "Chef" Hale, Dot Waller, Bryce and Jacob Nalale, and Fred Rogers were on hand at the Sanford Civic Center to promote the 36th annual Kwanza Pancake Day, which occurs Saturday, March 25 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the civic center. For a \$3 donation, patrons get an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast. The money raised goes to support the activities of the Sanford Kwanza Club.

## Crime victims' rights luncheon is April 11

From staff reports

**SANFORD** — State Attorney for the 18th Judicial Circuit, Norman R. Wolfinger, and the Seminole County Sheriff's Office, will be co-sponsors for a special National Crime Victims' Rights Week luncheon, Tuesday, April 11, at the Country Club at Heathrow.

Featured will be three nationally recognized speakers and a special awards ceremony.

Wolfinger said the observance and luncheon are fitting due to the number of hate crimes and school violence being reported.

Leading the panel of speakers is Evangeline Moore, daughter of

slain civil rights leader Harry T. and Harriette V. Moore, who were murdered on Christmas night in 1951 in Mims, when a bomb destroyed their home.

The second speaker is college professor and author Ben Green who chronicled the events and circumstances surrounding the remarkable life and death of the Moores in the book, "Before his time: the Untold Story of Harry T. Moore, America's First Civil Rights Martyr."

The final speaker will be Kate Stetzer. In 1991, Ms. Stetzer was an elementary school principal in Butte, Montana, when a 10-year old student shot and killed another student, the

youngest student murdered on a school campus at that time. Today, she is Superintendent of Butte Public Schools and is the only school leader appointed to the Presidential Task Force on Youth Violence.

At the conclusion of the luncheon, State Attorney Wolfinger will present the third annual Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award, and Victim Advocate of the Year award. Both awards are given in recognition of outstanding service to crime victims.

Cost for the luncheon is \$14 per person, and reservations are required. For more information, call Victim Services at 407-665-6112.



# Can our politicians be honest for less?

Do you agree that God must hate politicians — otherwise, he would have made some of them honest?

OK, let's proceed. After a sizzling debate Wednesday, the county's Charter Review Commission passed a motion to cut the annual salaries of all county commissioners from \$66,594 to \$49,945 beginning in November 2002. The vote was 7-5 for the cut.

The \$49,945 figure was proposed by Fred Streetman, a former county commissioner who made a little less than that amount during the eight years he served on the board.

"Someone asked me if I was worth that much then," Streetman said.

"No I told them, but I was smart enough to take that money if the people were dumb enough to give it to me."

Two members of the Charter Review team argued that the commissioners should make no more than \$6,000 a year. Their motion failed, 10-2.

I'm not sure what to make of the cut in pay for commissioners. Could this possibly make any of them less honest? Without that fat county paycheck, isn't it possible they'll be accepting handouts more fre-

quently?

"There's no easy job," Streetman said. "A commissioner may work part-time but he works in a pressure cooker. I believe a county commissioner has a more stressful job than a U.S. congressman or a state legislator."

Why less pay? "Currently, our commissioners are paid too much," Streetman said. "If they do a good job, they should be compensated. We vote them into office because they are talented, because we feel they will work hard for us and that they will be successful. We're the ones paying them, however. The new figure we have agreed on is sufficient."

The new salaries would kick in on November 2002 upon the completion of the four-year terms which began in November 1998. Beginning Dec. 1, 2000, and each year thereafter the salaries shall be increased by a percentage equal to the previous year's Consumer Price Index as determined by the National Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The amendment proposed by the Charter Review Board now must be scrutinized by County Attorney Bob Macmillan and Review Board attorney Harry

Stewart. This being done, the issue will be discussed at a public hearing either in April or May. Next step is a referendum to go on the general election ballot in November.

A number of those running for office in November are aware of the Review Board's proposal and are not disturbed about the salary cut.

Jimmy Ross, the elder Charter Review statesman from Longwood, insisted throughout the afternoon that county school board members are more valuable to the community than county commissioners.

"The School Board members serve us far better, they make the more valuable contribution," Ross said. "Is there anything more valuable than our children? Schoolboard members make \$35,000 a year. Ross said, "That's all any of the commissioners should make for part-time work."

It's too bad, I suppose, that commissioners can't be compensated for their degree of honesty and hard work. If this were so, not all salaries would be the same as they are as required by law. Some might get a lot less than the proposed cut.

If 100,000 Seminole residents vote on the proposed cut, how many of you would vote against it? Be honest now.

Russ White's column appears daily in the Seminole Herald.



Russ White

## Briefs

**Bye Bye Birdie**  
Lake Mary High School Players of the Arts will be ending their 1999-2000 season with their spring musical, "Bye Bye

Birdie" on April 5, 6, 7, and 8, at 7:30 each evening. Admission is \$3, and everyone is welcome.

The musical will be presented in the Lake Mary High School

auditorium. For tickets or information contact Bill Eiselle at Lake Mary, at 407-320-9672.

**General Dynamics Reunion**  
A Dynatronics-General Dynamics reunion is planned for Friday, April 14, and Saturday, April 15.

All former employees of the Longwood and Lake Mary plants are invited to the reunion. Site location is the Marina Hotel on Sanford's lakelakefront.

To register for the reunion or to request more information, call Pat Dental at 407-814-Rev9.



L to R: Bill Weiborn, Bobby Brisson, Mark Hoelter, Shorty Smith.

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**LOTTERY**

Here are the winning numbers selected in the Florida Lottery.

**Fantasy 5 (March 22)**  
6-10-21-23-24

**Lotto (March 22)**  
9-13-15-17-34-47

**Mega Money (March 21)**  
6-8-12-15 — Megaball 14

March 22  
Play 4  
0-8-2-4  
Cash 3  
8-0-1

# Obituaries

**CHARLES E. BLAICH**  
Charles E. Blaich, 67, Mayhill Street, Deltona, died Wednesday, March 22, 2000 at his residence. Born in New York city, he moved to Central Florida from Hamden, Conn. in 1994. He was a patent agent and a member of American Chemical Society.

Survivors include wife, Iliga, son, Charles E. Crawfordville, Ind.; daughter, Lisa Carey, Longwood; sister, Dolores Mason, Cape May Courthouse, N.J.; four grandchildren. **Baldauff Family Funeral Home, Orange City, in charge of arrangements.**

**NEIL VERNON CASHNER**  
Neil Vernon Cashner, 66, Sewell Road, Sanford, died Monday, March 20, 2000. Born in Chapman Township, Pa., he moved to Central Florida from Jacksonville in 1959. He was self employed and a member of Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy.

Survivors include sisters, Doris Knobrick, North Miami Beach, Shirley Larson, Miami brothers, Fred, Porter, Ind., James, West Brook, Me.; companion, Ruth Hathaway, Matland.

**Baldwin Fairchild-Oaklawn Park Cemetery and Funeral Home, Sanford/Lake Mary, in charge of arrangements.**

**OFELIA S. PEREZ**  
Ofelia S. Perez, 93, E. First Street, Sanford, died Wednesday, March 22, 2000. Born Oct. 6, 1906 in Puerto Rico, she moved to Central Florida in 1975. She was a seamstress and a member of All Souls Catholic Church.

Survivors include husband, Frank, Sanford; brother, Julio Seda, Puerto Rico; sister, Dora Seda Pennington, Sanford; three grandchildren; several great grandchildren. **Brisson Funeral Home.**

Sanford, in charge of arrangements.

**EFFRAIM MICHAEL SANCHEZ JR.**

Efraim Michael Sanchez, Jr., 37, Davidson Drive, Pierson, died Friday, March 17, 2000 at his residence. Born in Bronx, N.Y., he moved to Pierson from Deltona in 1996. He was a general clerk for Aetna Insurance Company, in New York City, a U.S. Navy veteran and Catholic by faith.

Survivors include wife, Zetia, Daytona Beach; sons, Edwin, Efraim, Epifanio, all of Pierson; daughter, Shakeema, Pierson; mother, Eva Negron, Pierson; brother, Erick, Bronx; paternal grandmother, Julia Sanchez, Queens, N.Y. **Baldauff Family Funeral Home, Orange City, in charge of arrangements.**

**WILBUR E. TAYMAN**

Wilbur E. Tayman, 80, South Orange Avenue, Sanford, died Wednesday, March 15, 2000.

Born in Annapolis, Md., he moved to Central Florida in 1970. He was a retired machinist with the U.S. Navy serving during World War II. He was a Protestant member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, and Elks Lodge, all of Sanford.

Survivors include sister, Marie Dixon, Eustis; brother, Calvin B. Tayman, Sacramento, Calif. **Central Florida Cremation, Tayavere, in charge of arrangements.**

**CLARA B. WARD**

Clara B. Ward, 40, North Lake Claire, Oviedo, died Tuesday, March 21, 2000. Born Dec. 10, 1959 in Sylacauga, Ala., she moved to Central Florida from Oklahoma in 1993. She was an underwriter assistant in Aviation Insurance, and a member of Faith Word of Life Church.

Survivors include husband, Robin L. Oyiedo; daughter, Christen Leah Ward, Oviedo; brother, Coy Blanchard, Sylacauga, Ala.; sister, Caton Magouryk, Sylacauga; father, Lawrence G. Blanchard, Crossville, Ala.; mother, Ruth Blanchard, Sylacauga, Ala. **Baldwin-Fairchild Funeral Home, Oviedo, in charge of arrangements.**

**MURIEL J. WOOD**

Muriel J. Wood, 74, Santa Barbara Drive, Sanford, died Saturday, March 18, 2000 at DeBary Manor. Born in Boston, Mass., she moved to Central Florida from Iliion, N.Y. in 1982. She was a homemaker and a Methodist.

Survivors include sister, Phyllis Kriston, St. Charles, FL. **Four Towns Cremation, Inc., in charge of arrangements.**

## FUNERALS

**HAGAN, ELIZABETH**

Funeral services for Elizabeth Hagan, 78, of W. Tenth Street, Sanford, who died March 17, will be 11 a.m. Saturday, March 25, at Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church with Elder Michael Imperato officiating. Visitation is Friday, 5-9 p.m. at Sunrise Chapel. **Sunrise Funeral Home, 900 Locust Ave., 407-322-7303, in charge of arrangements.**

**PEREZ, OFELIA S.**

A mass of Christian burial will be celebrated for Mrs. Perez Saturday, March 25, 2000 at 10 a.m. in All Souls Catholic Church with Rev. Fr. Richard Trist celebrating. Interment will follow in All Souls Cemetery. Friends may call at the Brisson Funeral Home Friday from 4 until 6 p.m. There will be a wake service Friday at 5 p.m. at the funeral home. **Brisson Funeral Home, 405-322-2131, Sanford, in charge of services.**

**HOWARD, ROOSEVELT SR.**

Funeral services for Roosevelt Howard Sr., 75, of Lake Avenue, Sanford, who died March 16 will be 2 p.m. Saturday at Sunrise Chapel with Rev. Ronald Mentzer officiating. Visitation is Friday, 5-9 p.m. at Sunrise Chapel. **Sunrise Funeral Home, 900 Locust Ave., 407-322-7303, in charge of arrangements.**

# Police Log

**Drugs**  
**Sanford** — Darlene Marie Ladozky, 34, Lake Mary, was arrested on March 23 by Drug Enforcement Agency and Sanford Police Officers. She was charged with Possession of Crack Cocaine with Intent to Distribute. Ladozky has been a Sanford Police Officer for the past 12 years.  
**Sanford** — James Walker, 29, 2250 Deepwater Street, Sanford, was arrested by Sanford Police Officers at 6:56 p.m. on March 19. He was charged with Possession of Cocaine and Resisting Arrest.

**DUI**  
**Longwood** — Caroline Guy, 20, 5135 S. Alligator Place, Florida City, was stopped by Sheriff's Office Deputies at 1:39 a.m. on March 20. She was charged with DUI.  
**Altamonte Springs** — Cathie Ann Gray, 29, 662 Glades Circle, Altamonte Springs, was stopped by Altamonte Springs Police Officers at 2 a.m. on March 20. She was charged with DUI and Causing Crash.  
**Altamonte Springs** — Christopher Sykes, 48, 8307 Olympia Court, Longwood, was stopped by Sheriff's Office Deputies at 12:28 a.m. on March 20. He was charged with DUI/Possession of Cannabis.  
**Casselberry** — Ron Wilkinson, 32, West Palm Beach, was stopped by Sheriff's Office Deputies at 2:36 a.m. on March 18. He was charged with DUI.

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# Cop

Continued from Page 1A

agents who posed as students at Seminole and Oviedo high schools for seven months, said Steve Olson, spokesman for the Seminole County Sheriff's Office.

Investigators are convinced that Ladozky's arrest is an isolated incident, Tooley said. He added that no other officers in the police department are under investigation.

Tooley said the investigation was initiated when residents in the Goldsboro community approached him with concerns about an officer. He declined to give further details about the investigation, referring the matter to the State Attorney's Office.

"Some of the information came from the community," Tooley said. "Some residents of Goldsboro approached me and said they had concerns about an officer."

According to court one of the indictments by the U.S. Attorney's Office, beginning at about the summer of 1997, and continuing through about Nov. 22, 1999, Ladozky made arrangements with 26-year-old Antonio Donnell Holley of Sanford and other persons to possess with intent to distribute crack-cocaine.

The charge carries the possible punishment of up to one year in prison.

Holley was indicted in October after drug agents videotaped him selling cocaine on four occasions to an informant in August and September, according to court records. Assistant U.S. Attorney Matthew Perry said that 64 grams were purchased.

Holley told authorities that Ladozky had supplied the drugs, and that she delivered "far greater amounts," Perry said.

On Jan. 26, Holley pleaded guilty to two counts of possession with intent to distribute cocaine. He will be sentenced in April.

Two days after the plea, authorities tape-recorded two telephone conversations between Ladozky and an associate of Holley's that took place while Ladozky was on duty, Perry said.

During the conversations, the associate told Ladozky she believed she was being followed by police and described the cars. Ladozky confirmed the cars were being used by undercover Sanford police and federal drug agents, Perry said.

When drug agents questioned her on Feb. 16, Ladozky denied she had talked to Holley's associate about the cars.

A hearing to determine whether Ladozky can be released on bail will be held today. U.S. Magistrate James Glazebrook will hear evidence presented by the prosecution regarding phone records and the tape-recorded conversations featuring Ladozky.

U.S. marshals agreed not to hold Ladozky at the Seminole County Jail at her request.

Ladozky, who is married to Longwood police Officer Robert Ladozky, 31, and without children, began her career with the police department as a dispatcher. She has been a patrol officer for eight years.

The U.S. Attorney's Office has not said whether Robert Ladozky is under investigation. He is a 12-year veteran of the police department, described by Longwood Chief of Police Tom Jackson as an "exemplary officer."

This is Tooley's seventh month as Chief of Police in Sanford. He previously served as an assistant chief for the Orlando Police Department.

"I've had a few tough days, but this was definitely a tough day," Tooley said.

Ladozky's evaluations generally rated her above satisfactory.



Sanford Police Chief Brian Tooley

and this is her first arrest. However, this is not the first time internal affairs with the Sanford Police Department has investigated Ladozky.

In January, she received a written reprimand after records indicate she pulled her 9 mm handgun and pointed it at the head of a fellow officer while demonstrating how she had drawn her gun while dealing with a mentally ill person that day.

Meanwhile, the Sanford Police Department, which has 96 full-time officers and 116 total officers, has been attempting to build its relationship with residents of the Goldsboro community. Highlighting the effort is a community service center operated jointly with the Seminole County Sheriff's Office in Goldsboro.

Tooley said he hopes the police department's response to concerns among Goldsboro residents about Ladozky would improve the department's relationship with the community.

# Drug arrest not the first time officer's conduct scrutinized

By Bill Kerns  
Staff Writer

SANFORD — The Sanford police officer who was arrested Wednesday has previously come under scrutiny by the department's Internal Affairs division.

Patrol Officer Darlene Ladozky, 34, a 12-year veteran with the police department, is charged with making false statements to federal agents in addition to distribution of crack-cocaine.

She came under scrutiny during Internal Affairs investigations in 1999 that led to the demotion of Lt. Willie Harden to sergeant. Harden had been the Sanford Police Department's highest ranking black officer.

Following an internal affairs investigation into an incident that occurred Oct. 27, 1999, in the police department training room, Ladozky was found to have violated two policies and procedures regarding the display and discharge of a firearm, and dry firing, a procedure where a person pulls the trigger of a gun when there is no ammunition in the chamber.

The internal affairs investigation also found that Harden acted improperly during the incident, when Ladozky drew her weapon in the department's training room. Internal Affairs also found Harden violated procedures during a child abduction investigation.

The Internal Affairs report indicates that on Oct. 27, Harden, Ladozky and Officer Robert Shull were in the department's training room, standing

within three to four feet of each other. Harden was making comments to Ladozky to demonstrate how she drew her weapon on a call that day involving a mentally ill person, the report said.

Ladozky drew her weapon and pointed it in the direction of Shull's head, then holstered her weapon, the report said.

For her actions in the training room, Ladozky received a written reprimand.

Harden took Ladozky and Shull into the break area of the police department and counseled Ladozky that what she had done was wrong and to not let it happen again. He told them that the incident would end there.

Harden did not document the incident nor did he advise Ladozky's supervisors. He did not advise anyone in his chain of command, the report said.

In the Oct. 27 incident, Harden was found to be in violation of five General Orders, including performance of duty, substandard performance, incompetence, carelessness, Obedience to Lawful Orders, disclosure of confidential information of an administrative investigation, disciplinary procedures.

On Nov. 11, two weeks after the training room incident, Harden was walking with his children from Hamilton Elementary School to his police vehicle when Officer Jordan Beckner approached and informed him of that an elementary-aged child had reported an attempted abduction, according to an internal affairs investigation by the department.

Beckner informed Harden he had called in the complaint. Harden then left the school to take his own children home, telling Beckner he would return.

However, Harden did not return to the school, located at 8th Street and Scott Avenue. He also did not inform the police communications center of any of his activities during the incident, the internal affairs investigation concluded.

Harden passed Ladozky, who was responding to the call on 7th Street near Wades Grocery.

Ladozky investigated the complaint and determined that no crime had been committed. The boy returned home with his mother, the internal affairs

report said. Meanwhile, Harden did not acknowledge to the police communications center that he had been at the scene. He did not call, inquire or direct any police activity or personnel responding to the call, the internal affairs report said.

On Nov. 17 at approximately 9 p.m., after being instructed not to discuss the on-going internal affairs investigation with anyone except legal counsel or the investigator, Harden in uniform went to Ladozky's home, the report said.

He told Ladozky that he was under internal investigation for the incident of the attempted child abduction, as well as for the incident in which she drew her gun in the department training room.

Harden showed Ladozky the written notifications of the investigation, and also told her to not tell anybody that he had come and talked about the internal investigations to her because he could be fired, the report said.

He asked Ladozky if she knew who was behind the complaints on him. Harden also asked her if she had seen his children in his vehicle when they passed on 7th Street, and had additional discussions with Ladozky concerning the investigation from when she drew her weapon in the training room, the report said.

The investigation also found Harden had once used an on-duty subordinate police officer, Corporal Michael Taylor, to pick up his children at Hamilton Elementary School and transport them to Midway.

As a result of his actions on Nov. 11, Harden was found by internal affairs to have violated five department General Orders, including performance of duty, substandard performance, incompetence, carelessness, obedience to lawful orders, insubordination, disclosure of confidential information of an administrative investigation, transportation of persons other than Sanford Police Department employees or authorized persons.

As a result of the findings, Harden was demoted to the rank of sergeant, and received 40 hours suspension without pay. He is appealing the disciplinary action, according to a department spokeswoman.

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# Life Style

## Responsible gun ownership begins with proper safety

**DEAR ABBY:** Concerning the letter from "Debra in Oklahoma City" whose father informed her that guns are still loaded when the clip is removed — let me state my qualifications for writing. I am a former Army officer specializing in instructing small arms and hand-to-hand combat, and a former police officer.



Anyone who doesn't have the sense to open the action of his (or her) automatic weapon to remove any round left in the chamber — as illustrated by the letter in your column — should have several thoughts about owning one. Having a loaded weapon lying around if one has no intention of using it is asking for a disaster.

If someone knows nothing about firearms and has no interest in owning one, I have no quarrel with that. However, if someone has no knowledge of firearms and is intent on owning one — PLEASE get qualified help before purchasing one.

**D.A.J. HERMISTON, ORE.**

**DEAR D.A.J.:** Good advice from a weapons expert. Predictably, Debra's letter brought me a fusillade of mail. For a sample, read on.

**DEAR ABBY:** I hope no other family has to learn how true "Debra's" statement is about there being a bullet still in the chamber after the clip has been removed.

On Oct. 31, 1999, my 4-year-old and 2-year-old great-grandsons were playing with a 9 mm gun at their home. They found it in an unopened case within their reach. The 2-year-old pulled the trigger and fatally shot the 4-year-old. Yes, the clip had been removed, but a bullet was still in the chamber.

Parents, please lock up those guns, because even a 2-year-old can fire a gun!

**GRIEVING GRANDMOTHER IN ARIZONA**

**DEAR GRANDMOTHER:** I offer my sincere sympathy for the tragic loss that has befallen your family. I hope your chilling letter will be a wake-up call for those who need one. Read on.

**DEAR ABBY:** It amazes me that someone with such little knowledge of firearms would purchase and carry a semi-automatic handgun. My brother-in-law, who is a responsible and knowledgeable gun owner, left a bullet in the chamber of his gun — and accidentally shot himself in the hand. Even longtime gun owners can have accidents.

New gun owners should make it a priority to become familiar with their weapon. Go to a gun range and practice with it. Learn how to handle it safely. Learn proper storage of the weapon. The law states that all firearms must be stored out of the reach of children. Remember, what you hold in your hand has the power to take a life — yours, a loved one's, or an innocent bystander's. **RICK ETZ, COCOA, FLA.**

**DEAR RICK:** It's frightening how often that law is misunderstood or ignored. Read on.

**DEAR ABBY:** My only daughter and dearest friend, Tara, was killed three years ago by a man well-versed in gun safety. He's an ex-Marine and NRA member. As he sat in his apartment cleaning his guns, he failed to notice that one was loaded. The bullet penetrated the common wall and struck my daughter in the head.

The senselessness of my daughter's death and the resulting trauma will forever be in our lives.

**ANNE COAKLEY, BOULDER, COLO.**

**DEAR ANNE:** Please accept my deepest sympathy for your loss. No parent should ever have to face the heartache of burying a child. Let's hope that your letter serves as an important lesson that could prevent a tragedy.

## Family Builders strive to preserve homes

A few months ago we discussed the role of an investigator from the Department of Children and Families when investigating allegations of abuse, abandonment, or neglect.

As indicated then, if an investigator determines that a child requires services such as homemaker care, day care, protective supervision, or other services to stabilize the home environment, including intensive family preservation services through the Family Builders Program, such services must be offered for the voluntary acceptance of the parents or other person responsible for the child's welfare before the child is removed from the home.

Naturally, the Family Builders Program is available only to those families which meet its eligibility requirements. Additionally, the program must have space available at the time of the

referral. However, if a family is eligible and space is available, the program may enable a family to prevent removal of a child from the home.

The purpose of the Family Builders Program is to provide family preservation services designed to achieve long-term changes within families that will allow children to remain with their families and as an alternative to the more expensive and potentially psychologically damaging program of out-of-home placement.

In keeping with the above, the Family Builders Program seeks to achieve a number of goals which include: ensuring child health and safety while working within the family; helping parents to improve their relationships with their children and to provide better care, nutrition, hygiene, discipline, protection, instruction, and supervision; helping parents to provide a better household environment for their children by improving household maintenance, budgeting and purchasing; providing part-time child care when parents are unable

to do so or need temporary relief, performing household maintenance, budgeting, and purchasing when parents when parents are unable to do so on their own or need temporary relief; and assisting parents and children to manage and resolve conflicts.

Furthermore, the Family Builders Program seeks to assist parents to meet the special physical, mental, or emotional needs of their children and help parents to deal with their own special physical, mental, or emotional needs that interfere with their ability to care for their children and to manage their households; help families to discover and gain access to community resources to which the family or children might be entitled and which would assist the family in meeting its needs and the needs of the children, including the needs for food, clothing, housing, utilities, transportation, appropriate educational opportunities, employment, respite care, and recreational and social activities; and provide such additional reasonable services for the prevention of maltreatment and unnecessary

order to strengthen a family at risk.

In order to achieve its goals, Family Builders may help families by providing cash or in-kind assistance to meet their needs for food, clothing, housing, or transportation when such needs prevent or threaten to prevent parents from caring for their children, and when such needs are not met by other sources in the community in a timely fashion.

Unfortunately, not everyone can enroll in the Family Builders Program due to its eligibility requirements and limited availability. However, for those families who are able to enroll, Family Builders presents an excellent opportunity for families to implement long term changes that will allow children to remain in the home. In the coming weeks we will discuss other aspects of dependency and juvenile law.

Manny Acevedo is a practicing attorney in Seminole County and a member of the Florida Bar Association. His column is for general information and should not replace consulting an attorney about your specific problem.



**Manny Acevedo**

## Briefs

### Space Show

A Science Fiction show will be presented March 24 to 26, at the Orlando North Hilton, 350 South Northlake Blvd., Altamonte Springs. On hand will be Apollo Astronaut Ed Mitchell, Space Shuttle Astronaut Richard Scobee, as well as actors and actresses from television series Babylon 5, and Star Trek Deep Space 9. The celebrities will be at the show Saturday and Sunday to meet guests and sign autographs. There will also be talks and a charity auction.

For tickets or additional information phone (800) 479-8735.

### Meals on Wheels

Play golf for Meals on Wheels of Seminole County and Better Living for Seniors, at Rock Springs Ridge, Friday, March 24, beginning at 11:30 p.m. as part of the Central Florida Association of Health Underwriters Fourth Annual Golf Tournament.

The Scramble format costs \$75 per person or \$280 for a foursome, including golf, range balls and dinner.

Deadline to enter is March 10. For information or registration, contact John Koval at 407-260-9293.

### Spring Arts Festival

The eighth annual Spring Arts Festival will be held from 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Friday, March 24 at Lake Mary City Hall.

The festival is a free family event with music, magic, art and fun for all ages. This year, an a cappella group Tonic Audio will headline the evening.

Jon Armstrong, resident magician at Walt Disney World's EPCOT, will emcee the event. The Lake Mary Band, the Lake Mary High School Drama Club and "Seminole Kids On Stage" will also perform.

Each Lake Mary student will have one piece of original art on display.

Hamburger and hot dog dinners will be available for a small

fee. Free activities include admission, face painting and an art table for children.

### Kiwanis Pancake Day

For the 36th consecutive year, the Sanford Kiwanis will hold the annual Pancake Day at Sanford Civic Center. The event will be Saturday, March 25, with serving from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cost is \$3 per person, for a large pancake meal.

In addition, there will be a men's barbers' mart, silent auction, bake sale, fresh produce, entertainment, music, door prizes and free balloons for the children.

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Continued from Page 1A
The committee will be made up of representatives from the...

Zoo

Continued from Page 1A
The interest of qualified professional staff in the...



A female cotton-top tamarin and her two babies were born March 8. Two births are not unusual for the cotton-top tamarin...

Longwood

Continued from Page 1A
The Longwood community is currently experiencing...

The Longwood community is currently experiencing...

The Longwood community is currently experiencing...

ing the population outgrow the available space...

species problems, results that projects have been successful in returning certain species to their natural places...

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Briefs

Lawrence Pinaker Day
The Lawrence Pinaker Day celebration will be held...

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# Holmes, Lubrano lead Lions

## Oviedo's senior stars give Hitt victory over former charges

By Tony DeGennaro  
 HERALD CORRESPONDENT

WINTER SPRINGS - Justin Holmes had three hits and three RBI while winning pitcher Paul Lubrano scattered six hits as the Oviedo Lions posted a 4-2 win over the host Winter Springs Bears in a GA District 3 baseball contest Wednesday night.

Holmes, who had given Oviedo a 1-0 lead with an RBI single in the top of the third, broke a 1-1 tie with a two-out, two-

run triple in the top of the fifth inning.

That was plenty of runs for Lubrano (5-1) to work with as he allowed just two runs (one earned) on six hits. He struck out eight without issuing a walk. Winter Springs bunched their safeties, collecting consecutive hits in the third, fifth, and seventh innings.

"It was a struggle tonight," said Oviedo coach Harold Hitt. "Winter Springs pitcher Clint Maher can be tough. He was throwing hard tonight and he was hitting

his spots. Heading him the way he was throwing tonight is a good win for us."

For Hitt, it was his first visit back to Winter Springs as the head coach of the Lions. After serving as an assistant coach at Oviedo, Hitt was named Winter Springs' first head coach three years ago. This past fall, he came to Oviedo to succeed Kerne Brown.

"It's been a while since I've been in this (the visitors') dugout," Hitt said with a smile. "I think the only time I was ever

over here in a game was when I was at Oviedo as an assistant and we came over here when Lake Howell was in residence here while their school was being renovated."

Oviedo's game-winning rally began with Nick Terakles leading off the fifth with a single. After a pair of fielder's choices that left Brett Murphy on first base with two out, Jared Goodwin singled Murphy to second. Holmes followed with a triple to

See Preps, Page 2B

### CHILDREN'S HEALTH FAIR

MIAMI - Florida Children's Hospital, WESH "2 Your Kids," Public Supermarket Charities and the Jewish Community Center of Greater Orlando will present "Celebrating Your Child" - a Children's Health Fair on Sunday, April 2, 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Mia 105 will do a live broadcast from the JCC campus at 851 N. Maitland Ave., Maitland and the live event will be held rain or shine.

Activities will include hearing and spinal checks, allergy and asthma screens and many educational programs.

Children can be entertained by "Healthy Herb," a puppet show on protecting themselves, a magic show on safety and a play about our history. They can be fingerprinted, facemapped and videotaped. They can also climb into an ambulance, police car, fire engine and helicopter. They can also try their skills at a bicycle rodeo, make lots of craft projects and practice on a "111 Simulator." There will be a micron walk a train ride and a wonderful final concert.

It's going to be a really great day here at the "1" Anyone wanting to sponsor, participate or volunteer for this exciting event should contact Sylvia Pansak, (407) 645-9911, Ext. 259.

### RACQUETBALL TOURNAMENT

ALTAMONTE SPRINGS - The City of Altamonte Springs (Eastmonte Park) will be hosting a singles racquetball tournament for both men and women on Sunday, April 15th, 8:00am.

The entry fee is \$10.00 and one can of racquetballs.

All participants will receive a park shirt and two hours of free racquetball play. The winners and runner-ups will receive trophies.

Refreshments will be furnished.

For more information, please call Bob Garnett at (407) 841-3821 or (407) 309-9286.

### NEW 50-AND-OVER VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE BEING FORMED

SANFORD - The Sanford Recreation Department is now offering a recreational, 50-and-over volleyball league to begin in the spring.

This is a new league, just beginning. Team sign-ups are preferred, but you may sign up as a single and we will try to form some teams.

The games will be played on Tuesday and/or Thursday evenings at Sanford Middle School.

The Sanford Golden Age Games will be offering volleyball as an event this year and this league would be a great warm-up. This league is not a requirement to compete in the Golden Age Games.

For more information call 407-330-5697.

### WINTER SPRINGS BASKETBALL LEAGUE REGISTRATION

WINTER SPRINGS - The City of Winter Springs Parks and Recreation and the Winter Springs Basketball League announce registration for the spring basketball season.

Parents can register their youngsters by mail to Winter Springs Basketball League, 102 Laurel Drive, Sanford, Florida 32773.

The Winter Springs Basketball League has the following divisions: K-1st grade Co-Ed, 2nd grade Co-Ed, 3rd, 4th, 5th grade girls, 3rd grade boys, 4th grade boys, 5th grade boys, 6th grade boys, 7th grade boys, 7th & 8th grade girls, 8th grad-High school girls and high school boys.

The registration fee is \$75.00 per child and provides a highly organized league, reversible jerseys, guaranteed playing time, certified coaches, eight games and a tournament, and certified officials.

Coaching opportunities are available.

For more information, please call 407-327-8952.

### CASSELBERRY CO-ED SOFTBALL LEAGUE

CASSELBERRY - The City of Casselberry Parks and Recreation Department is offering an Adult Co-Ed Softball League that will begin play on Tuesday night's starting April 4th.

Games will be played at Secret Lake Park and the cost is \$225 for league fees and a one-time ASA fee of \$35. Space is limited.

Call 407-696-5189 for more information. See Sports, Page 2B

## Franchitti ready to compete in Miami

Special to the Herald

MIAMI - CART FedEx Championship Series driver Dario Franchitti successfully completed two days of testing at Nazareth and has been cleared to participate in the March 24-26 Marlboro Grand Prix of Miami presented by Toyota at Homestead Miami Speedway.

Franchitti, who suffered a fractured pelvis and brain contusions in a testing crash Feb. 9 during Spring Training at Homestead Miami Speedway, showed no lingering effects from his injuries. His times compared favorably to the speeds turned by Team Kod Green teammate Paul Tracy, who joined him in the Nazareth session.

"I was a little rusty at first, but everything came back pretty quickly," said Franchitti, who finished second to Juan Pablo Montoya in the 1999 CART FedEx Championship after the pair ended the season tied in points. "We just took our time, didn't put any pressure on ourselves to set lap records, and everything came together in its own time. Paul's done a fantastic job shouldering the testing work for the last few weeks, and he gave me a car that was well balanced from the start."

"I feel fine. I was a bit mental. See Racing, Page 2B



Winter Springs High School volleyball star Courtney Bliss (seated, right) signed a full scholarship to attend American International College in Springfield, Massachusetts on Wednesday. On hand for the signing were head volleyball coach Kim Vichi (seated, left), Courtney's father and mother, Don and Selma Bliss, and Athletic Director Rick Tribit (standing, left to right).



Photo courtesy of Donna MacDowell

University of Central Florida recruits (left to right) Lauron Debellas (Lake Mary), Patty MacDowell (Lake Howell), Amanda Sidor (Seabreeze) and Andrea Clarkson (Astronaut) represented the East squad in the FACA State All-Star Soccer Tournament last weekend.

## UCF recruits show well in FACA all-star event

Special to the Herald

LAKELAND - Four of the class of 2000 girls soccer recruits for the University of Central Florida were selected to play on the East All-Star Team which competed in the FACA (Florida Athletic Coaches Association) on March 17 & 18 at the Lakeland

Christian School. The East lost to the West, 2-1, Friday, but came back strong on Saturday to defeat the North All-Stars, 6-3.

Amanda Sidor (Seabreeze High School) scored once, Andrea Clarkson (Titusville-Astronaut High School) put in two goals. See Soccer, Page 2B

## Babe Ruth League getting busy

By Dean Smith  
 SPORTS EDITOR

SANFORD - With Spring Break out of the way, the 2000 City of Sanford Recreation and Parks Department Babe Ruth Baseball League is ready to hit high gear.

The results from games since March 8th were: Babe Ruth (14-15) League - March 9, Sanford Kiwanis Club Indians 16, Sanford Rotary Club Expos 12, March 11 - Sanford Kiwanis Club Indians 14, Sanford Elks Lodge #1241 Braves 11 and Sanford Rotary Club Expos 6, Sanford Nobles Communication White Sox 2.

Prep (13 year olds) League - March 11, Sanford Blitz Clean New York Yankees 23, Sanford Dean, Ringers, Morgan & Lawton P.A. Tampa Bay Devil Rays 2, March 20, Longwood Astros 9, Sanford Dean, Ringers, Morgan & Lawton P.A. Tampa Bay Devil Rays 2.

Cal Ripken Majors - March 11, Play It Again Sports Expos 10, Kid U-Not, Inc. Devil Rays 4 and Sanford F & AM Lodge #62 Yankees 7, Railroaders Cubs 2, March 14 - Sanford F & AM Lodge #62 Yankees 21, Kid U-Not, Inc. Devil Rays 3 and Play It Again Sports Expos 10, Railroaders Cubs 4, March 21 - Railroaders Cubs 14, Kid U-Not, Inc. Devil Rays 0 and Longwood Yankees 10, Play It Again Sports Expos 0.

Cal Ripken Minors - March 11, Sanford Police Department Athletics 15, Elks Lodge #1241-Cardinals 5 and Disabled American Veterans Indians 13, Sunland Corporation Mariners 2, March 13, Network Electric Red Sox 15, Disabled American Veterans Indians 13 and Sunland Corporation Mariners 7, Elks Lodge #1241-Cardinals 0, March 20 - Elks Lodge #1241-Cardinals 15, Disabled American Veterans Mariners 9 and Network Electric Red Sox 22, Sanford Police Department Athletics 1.

The current standings are:

Babe Ruth (14-15) League - Sanford Kiwanis Club Indians and Sanford Rotary Club Expos (both 2-1), Sanford Nobles Communication White Sox (1-2), Sanford Elks Lodge #1241-Braves (0-3).

Prep (13) League - Longwood Astros (1-0), Sanford Blitz Clean New York Yankees (1-1), Sanford Dean, Ringers, Morgan & Lawton P.A. Tampa Bay Devil Rays (1-2).

Cal Ripken Majors - Sanford F & AM Lodge #62 Yankees (3-0), Longwood Yankees (1-0), Railroaders Cubs and Play It Again Sports Expos (both 2-2), Kid U-Not, Inc. Devil Rays (0-4).

Cal Ripken Minors - Network Electric Red Sox (2-0), Sanford Police Department Athletics and Sunland Corporation Mariners (both 1-1), Elks Lodge #1241-Cardinals and Disabled American Veterans Indians (both 1-2).

The upcoming schedule is:

Babe Ruth League - Thursday, March 23rd, Sanford Rotary Club Expos vs. Sanford Elks Lodge #1241 Braves, 7 p.m. at Historic Sanford Memorial Stadium; Sanford Nobles Communication-White Sox vs. Longwood Rangers, 7 p.m. at Zinn Beck Field; Saturday, March 25th, Sanford Elks Lodge #1241 Braves vs. Sanford Nobles Communication White Sox, 10 a.m., and Longwood Yankees vs. Sanford Kiwanis Club Indians, 12:45 p.m., at Sanford Stadium; Longwood Braves vs. Sanford Rotary Club Expos, 10 a.m. at Zinn Beck; Tuesday, March 28th, Sanford Rotary Club Expos vs. Longwood Rangers, 7 p.m. at Sanford Stadium.

Prep League - Saturday, March 25th, Sanford Blitz Clean New York Yankees vs. Longwood Braves, 3 p.m. at Candyland Park Field #3, Longwood Longwood Yankees vs. Sanford Dean, Ringers, Morgan & Lawton P.A. Tampa Bay Devil Rays, 12:45 p.m. at Zinn Beck Field; Monday, March 27th, Sanford Blitz Clean New York Yankees vs. Altamonte Springs-Marlins, 7 p.m. at Sanford Stadium; Sanford Dean, Ringers, Morgan & Lawton P.A. Tampa Bay Devil Rays vs. Altamonte Springs-Devil Rays, 6:30 p.m. at Eastmonte Park, Altamonte Springs.

Cal Ripken Majors - Saturday, March 25th at Roy Holler Jr. Field in Ft. Mellon Park; Play It Again Sports Expos vs. Sanford F & AM Lodge #62-Yankees, 1 p.m.; Longwood-Braves vs. Kid U-Not, Inc. Devil Rays, 3 p.m.; Tuesday, March 28, at Ft. Mellon Park; Railroaders-Cubs vs. Longwood-Braves, 6 p.m. and Kid U-Not, Inc.-Devil Rays vs. Longwood-Mets, 8 p.m. at Candyland Park Field #1, Longwood; Sanford F & AM Lodge #62 Yankees vs. Longwood-Red Sox, 8 p.m.

Cal Ripken Minors - at Ft. Mellon Park; Saturday, March 25th, Sunland Corporation Mariners vs. Network Electric Red Sox, 9 a.m. and Sanford See Baseball, Page 2B









