

THE SANFORD HERALD

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50¢



Jeff Blake signs with Chicago Bears

Former Seminole High School star quarterback Jeff Blake is now a member of the "Monsters of the Midway" after signing a contract with the National Football League Chicago Bears.

See Sports, Page 1B

Nelson plans Town Hall meeting Friday

SANFORD — U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson is hosting a Town Hall meeting on Friday, Aug. 19, at 11:30 a.m.

The meeting will take place at the Sanford City Commission Chambers located at 300 N. Park Ave.

Various members of the Seminole County School Board may attend the meeting, according to a School Board news release.

Sanford announces road closures

SANFORD — The city of Sanford Public Works Department has announced two street closures.

From Monday, Aug. 22 through Wednesday, Sept. 7, Park Avenue will be closed between Fulton Street and Seminole Boulevard for street construction.

The second closure will begin Monday, Aug. 28 through Wednesday, Sept. 7. On those dates, Commercial Street East will be closed from Park Avenue for street construction.

SEMINOLE SMILE



Rachel Akers — Communications director American Heart Association

Manager candidates down to 6

By Liane Edixon
Herald Staff

SANFORD — The quest for a new city manager reached another critical point Monday, when interim City Manager Eugene Miller narrowed the field from 49 applicants to six candidates.

A list of the six candidates was forwarded to the city commissioners, who will soon schedule phone interviews.

The five males and one female, include three people from the northern United States and three from the South, (one from Seminole County's backyard). All share one thing in common — 25 years or more of local government experience. (See article, Page 3A.)

Four months ago, after a week of

One woman, five men have at least 25 years experience

negotiations and speculation about his future, former city manager Al Grieshaber Jr. submitted his resignation to the city commission April 15.

The city commission voted 3 to 2 in January not to renew Grieshaber's contract, and because the commission was coming up on elections, a decision either way became a hot topic during the campaign.

Newly elected Mayor Linda Kuhn said in April that she was disappointed the issue had become a part of the campaign, but had earlier said she would

not be inclined to retain Grieshaber, citing his handling of the Andrew Van Gaale case.

Grieshaber attempted to fire Van Gaale for using a city-leased golf cart for personal needs during the Fourth of July celebration in 2004.

The decision to accept Grieshaber's resignation included conditional items such as a continuation of salary and benefits until Nov. 30, in return for consultation on some of the 35 ongoing projects he had been involved with. Then, interim manager Miller came on

board. Miller, who has more than 40 years experience in a city manager position, has introduced a Friday letter to the commissioners that is posted on the city's newly designed Web site, and has also helped the city reorganize its goals, which most recently included instituting 21 more jobs to the city staff to help move the city forward.

In June, Miller was given the go ahead to perform the city manager search for candidates. He promised to narrow the list of applicants down to no more than 10. The six he narrowed it down to will participate in phone interviews with the commissioners during Aug. 18-22.

See Manager, Page 3A

State office to sweep Seminole auto repair businesses

By Staff Reports

TALLAHASSEE — The Florida Agriculture and Consumer Services commissioner announced Tuesday that inspectors will conduct a sweep of auto repair shops in Seminole County next week.

The inspections will make sure that shops are registered with the state and complying with regulations governing estimates and invoices for repair work, according to Commissioner Charles Bronson.

The proactive inspections, which will begin Monday, are designed to enhance the consumer protections offered by Bronson's department to car and truck owners in Florida.

"It is critical that shops are properly registered and providing written statements and invoices," Bronson said. "Shops that fail to comply with these requirements are not treating consumers fairly and enjoy a competitive advantage over shops that follow the rules."

The blitz is expected to continue for two or three days, and will involve visits to each of the 492 registered auto repair shops in Seminole County as well as visits to any unregistered facilities that inspectors detect during their sweep.

Under Florida law, motor vehicle repair shops are required to be registered with the Florida Department of Agriculture and

See Repair, Page 3A

Class Actor



Herald photo by Tommy Vincent

Actor, comedian, third-grader Collin Anthony Cooley DiMascio of Sanford.

8-year-old wants to walk in Eddie Murphy's shoes

By Liane Edixon
Herald Staff

SANFORD — Collin Anthony Cooley DiMascio is not just an ordinary 8-year-old. In school he's Collin Cooley, and on the set of commercials he's Collin DiMascio.

From time to time, he also portrays fake characters to entertain his family. A few years back, he surprised his family

with the character, Pa, a 100-year-old cranky man, who graced his presence briefly at the interview.

"I'm Pa, and I'm not afraid to whip you," Collin cried out from his seat in a wheelchair.

The third grader from Wilson Elementary School decided he wanted to be an actor when he was three years old.

See Actor, Page 6A

School district suspends drivers

By Karla Reyes
Herald Correspondent

SANFORD — The public school district suspended two Seminole County bus drivers without pay for separate reasons and will request termination for both pending administrative hearings.



Nease

Bus drivers Robin Nease and James Carter listened Aug. 9 as Superintendent

Bill Vogel recommended they both be suspended without pay. The School Board voted to suspend both drivers.

John Reichert, executive director for human resources, told *The Herald* that a construction crew had seen Carter giving candy to little girls. The workers went to the School Board.

According to Reichert, when Carter found out the board was looking into the story, he started calling the children's parents to tell them what to say if school officials called.

Reichert also said when the school district found out that Nease had been found guilty on two counts of forgery, they recommended her for sus-

See Drivers, Page 6A

Plan would spend \$7.7 billion, but won't fulfill transportation needs

By Steve Paradis
Herald Staff

LAKE MARY — A regional transportation plan will invest \$7.7 billion over the next 20 years, but that still won't be enough to meet all the needs of Seminole, Orange and Osceola counties, according to the executive director of MetroPlan.

Seminole County Commissioner Randy Morris, former mayor of Lake Mary and chairman of MetroPlan Orlando, along with Executive Director Harold Barley addressed the Lake Mary City Commission Aug. 11 to update the commission about regional transportation plans.

Morris gave the commis-



Morris

ion an update on the proposed commuter rail that would run from Volusia County to Osceola County. He said negotiations with the state to gain control of the CSX tracks for the commuter rail service are expected to be complete by the end of the year or the first quarter of 2006.

"We're moving pretty well down the tracks," he quipped. The local matching money in order to obtain federal funds for the rail project would be 25

percent of the cost.

Right now the commuter train plan calls for stops in Sanford, Lake Mary, Longwood and east Altamonte Springs, Morris said. The Lake Mary stop, ironically, would be located on the original train station site that served so many in the 20th century.

The city will have to provide land and help with designs for the depot, Morris said. He added that people need to know that the commuter rail project removes most of the freight traffic for most of the day.

Only local freight traffic would come through the cities during the day, he explained.

See Transport, Page 3A

Oviedo police looking for teen offering rides to bus students

By Liane Edixon
Herald Staff

SANFORD — Local schools are open now, and just a few weeks in, the safety of children becomes a prevalent issue again.

The Seminole County Sheriff's Office and the Oviedo Police Department are looking for a man they say is approaching middle school aged students at their bus stops and offering them rides.

Several citizens have called in their complaints about the 18- to 19-year-old suspicious man.

The first incident happened Monday, Aug. 8 around 9 a.m. when the suspect asked students at a Chiles Middle School bus stop if they wanted a ride to school.


A parent of one of the students witnessed the exchange and none of the students got into the vehicle. The parent later learned that none of the students knew the man, a news release said.

The parent called the Sheriff's Office to report the incident, which happened at Lockwood Boulevard and Hampstead Cove.

Then on Wednesday, Aug. 10, the Oviedo Police Department took a report of a male approaching some students at another middle school bus stop, located within Oviedo's city limits.

Again, none of the students got into his car. The car reportedly sped off when another vehicle approached

See Suspicious, Page 6A



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SEMINOLE SUMMARY

A GLANCE AROUND OUR COUNTY

Local teacher union declares contract draw

The Seminole Education Association has declared an impasse with the State of Florida Public Employees Relations Commission in an effort to secure a fair and equitable contract settlement for more than 4,000 teachers they represent who work for the Seminole County public Schools.

Rick Hillman, President of the SEA said, "This was not an easy decision to make. However, after several weeks of ongoing negotiations with no or very little movement from the School Board of securing an equitable salary structure for all teachers in Seminole County, we felt we had no choice but to utilize the problem solving process set forth in Florida Statute by the Public Employee Relations Commission."

The 2005 teacher negotiations began on June 20, 2005 and continued for several sessions throughout the summer. However, discussions came to an end on Thursday, Aug. 11, late in the evening. The final days of negotiations were spent in voluntary mediation resolution to no avail.

A formal declaration of impasse has been submitted to the State's Commission by the teachers' association. Once officially received by the state, an available Special Master will be selected by both sides to assist in securing a settlement for the teachers in Seminole County. The Special Master's role is to evaluate the positions and proposals of both the Association and the School Board, and render a recommendation to both sides.

"We are optimistic that this step in the negotiation process will result in a favorable agreement for the teachers we represent," said Hillman.

"We feel strongly about the priority goals we have set for this year's negotiations and to accomplish them will take very little movement from the School Board - we are not that far apart financially," said Paul Sanchez, Executive Director of the SEA.

Sanchez further stated: "That these priority goals were set by the teachers of Seminole County and they began to define them when they elected President Hillman last April to lead them toward achieving them."

"On behalf of SEA, I want to thank the community for their unwavering support of the teachers," Hillman said.

DAR chapter donates flags to LMHS

LAKE MARY — Mandated by the 2004 Florida Legislature, each public school classroom in the state will be flying a flag of the United States of America at least three by five feet in size when the students return to class Aug. 1. JROTC students have been installing new flags during the summer.

Several financial institutions in Seminole County were contacted by individual members of Sallie Harrison Chapter, DAR, and graciously provided donations for the project. One such institution was the Fairwinds Federal credit Union on Airport Blvd.

Tuesday, July 26, three Navy cadets from the Lake Mary High School JROTC assembled at Lake Mary Elementary School to conduct a flag ceremony. They are Roger Walton, Jr., Evan Skneiderin and Jacob Chaires. Lake Mary Elementary School Principal Mrs. Deborah Wright joined DAR members Dr. Lois Somerville, Regent, Fran Morton, Virginia Powell, Elisabeth Boyd and Mary Anna Rocky. The ceremony took place in Mrs. Christine Watkin's classroom.

Credit Union personnel were unable to attend, but will receive a certification of appreciation for their contributions. Richard Wells, Director of Community Involvement and Public Information for the Seminole County public Schools coordinated the project in compliance with Freedom Flag Act (H1757) provisions.

Educational Uniformity



Ready and willing to absorb all that their teachers have to offer are these young students at All Souls Catholic School in Sanford. Catholic schools in the Diocese of Orlando normally start a few days after the public institutions. These students are excited about the new school year as classes began Aug. 4.

Herald photo by Tommy Vincent

Burglary

• Tefanie D. Wheeler, 32, of Eustis, was arrested by Sanford police early Tuesday in Ridgewood Court. Officers said she had forced her way into a residence on Golf Cove Court. She was charged with burglary with assault or battery, battery on a law enforcement officer, simple assault, and property damage of over \$200.

Drug related

• Timotheus Jerome Liggins, 19, of Maple Avenue, was arrested by Sanford police following a traffic stop Thursday at 11th Street and Maple Avenue. He was charged with possession of cocaine with intent to sell, tampering with physical evidence, battery on a Sanford police officer, possession of under 20 grams of marijuana, and resisting an officer without violence.

• Nathaniel L. Hall, 28, of West 8th Street, was arrested by Sanford police Friday in the 1600 block of West 13th Street. He was charged with possession of under 20 grams of marijuana.

• Jonathan Lemuel Smith, 23, of Oak Avenue, and James Orville Tyes, 27, of El Portal Avenue, were arrested by Sanford police Friday. Officers reported seeing the two involved in what was suspected as drug transactions. Each was charged with possession of under 20 grams of marijuana.

• Linda Gary Chandler, 51, of Summerlin Avenue, was arrested by Sanford police Friday at West 13th Street and Olive Avenue. She was charged with possession of under 20 grams of marijuana, possession of narcotics equipment, and violation of the city's open container ordinance.

• Darron L. Comer, 41, of West First Street, was arrested by Sanford police Saturday in William Clark Court. He was charged with possession of marijuana within 1000 feet of public housing.

• Desmond Lanier Boyd, 19, of Drew Avenue, was arrested by Sanford police Saturday in the 1100 block of Orange Avenue. He was charged with possession of marijuana.

• Demina Eliata Caban, 24, of Cardinal Cove Circle, was arrested by Sanford police Saturday on Highway 17-92 at 5R-417. Officers said she was walking and stumbling on and off the roadway. She was charged with possession of narcotics equipment.

• Shawn D. Blaisdell, 32, of Apopka, was arrested by Sanford police Sunday at 27th Street and



Highway 17-92. He was charged with possession of controlled substances, including over 20 grams of marijuana.

Thefts

• Lenard Britt, 42, of Locust Avenue, was arrested by Sanford police Monday at a store in the 2500 block of French Avenue. He reportedly took items from the store without paying. He was charged with petty larceny.

Assault - Battery

• Willie James Ingram, 33, of Country Club Drive, was arrested by Sanford police Monday at his residence following a dispute with a female. He was charged with battery - touch or strike.

• Amanda L. Shuler, 22, of Millwood Drive, Sanford, was arrested by Sanford police Sunday at his residence following an altercation with a female. He was charged with battery - domestic violence.

• Christopher A. Alley, 20, of DeLand, and Stephen Rampersad, 22, of DeBary, were arrested by Sanford police Sunday at a parking lot at Old England Loop, where they had been involved in a dispute. Each was charged with battery - touch or strike.

Traffic Stops

• Darryl Isacc baker, 24, of Academy Avenue, was stopped by Sanford police Sunday in the 1400 block of West 13th Street. He was charged with driving under the influence (DUI) of alcohol or drugs, and driving with a suspended license.

• Eric Aron Vazquez, 46, of Winter Park, was stopped by Sanford police Saturday in the 400 block of Locust Avenue. He was charged with driving with a suspended license.

• Charles Thomas Sullivan, 39, of Deltona, was stopped by Sanford police Saturday at French Avenue and First Street. He was charged with driving with a suspended license.

• Vernon E. Hopkins, 37, of West 16th Street, was stopped by Sanford police Friday on West 16th Street. He

was charged with driving with a suspended license.

• Joie D. Reed Sr., 40, of Sanford Avenue, was stopped by Sanford police on his motorcycle Saturday at 27th Street and French Avenue. He was charged with driving in a willful/wanton disregard for the safety of persons/reckless driving.

• Rodney White, 39, of Jack Court, Sanford, was stopped by Sanford police Friday at 2nd Street and Poplar Avenue. He was charged with operating a motor vehicle without a valid drivers license, and possession of a firearm (revolver) by a convicted felon.

• Donnel C. Allen, 21, of Mellonville Avenue, was stopped by Sanford police Saturday at Airport Blvd. and Sanford Avenue. He was charged with operating a motor vehicle without a valid license.

Other Arrests

• Steven Cornell Johnson, 39, of West 12th Street, was arrested by Sanford police Monday from a pay phone in the 4100 block of Orlando drive. He reportedly had been making repeated harassing phone calls to a female in the 2100 block of Logan Heights Circle. He was charged with making harassing communications, and property damage of over \$200.

• Kenneth Mills, 35 of Cypress Avenue, was arrested by Sanford police Monday in the 300 block of Poplar Avenue. Officers said he had been involved in a disturbance with two men. He reportedly gave officers a false identity. He was charged with giving a false ID to a law enforcement officer, resisting an officer without violence, and threats against a public servant. He was also charged with violation of probation on a conviction of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Daniel John Schoch, 19, of Old England loop, was arrested by Sanford police Monday at his residence, following a call regarding criminal mischief. He was found to have spray-painted four tires and a radio antenna on a vehicle. He was charged with property damage of \$1000 or more.

Steven A. Farrell, 46, listed as homeless, was arrested by Sanford police Saturday in the 3600 block of Orlando drive.

He was charged with trespassing - failing to leave property on order of the owner.

OUT & ABOUT

WED 17

The Tuskawilla Lighting and Beautification District Advisory Committee will meet at 7 p.m. in the commission chambers of Winter Springs City Hall. Items on the agenda include several Urban Beautification projects.

The Sanford Seminole County Chamber of Commerce will present "How to get an Edge on the Real Estate Market", at a luncheon from 11:30 until 1 p.m. at the Chamber of Commerce headquarters in downtown Sanford. Guest Speaker will be David Johnson, Seminole County property appraiser.

THU 18

The Oviedo-Winter Springs Kiwanis Club will meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Tuscawilla Country Club. Guest speaker will be attorney Bruce Harris who will discuss eminent domain, and how the Supreme Court ruling has impact on the area.

FRI 19

U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson is hosting a Town Hall meeting at 11:30 a.m., at the Sanford City Commission Chambers located at 300 N. Park Ave.

SAT 20

The third annual Golden Lyre Awards will start at 8 p.m. following a 6 p.m. reception at the Helen Stairs Theatre. Tickets for the black tie event are \$25 or \$12 for theatre members. The awards honor artistic achievement. Call 407-321-8111.

The Seminole Bromeliad Society will sponsor Bromeliad Fantasy on Aug. 20 and 21 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Sanford Garden Club, at Highway 17-92 and Fairmont Drive. For more information call 352-504-6162 or 321-363-7351.

THU 25

Donate Blood at the Little Red Bus. A blood drive will be held from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at Ace Hardware in Sanford. A photo ID will be required from first-time donors. Special gifts may be available to long-time donors.

The City of Winter Springs East Rural Area Property Owners Committee will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the East Training Room of City Hall.

TUE 30

An Alumni Invitational Exhibit will open at Seminole Community College Fine Arts Gallery, and run through Sept. 29. An opening reception will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Aug. 30, with a Gallery talk at 6 p.m. The event is free. Call 407-328-4722, ext. 3018.

THU 1

The Tudor House, 211 Wekiva Springs Lane, Longwood, will hold Enrollment Night, with free tutoring service on Thursday nights in reading, writing and arithmetic, for grades 1 through 6. The Tudor House is sponsored by Wekiva Presbyterian Church. Call 407-869-1608.

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Manager

Continued from Page 1A

The deadline for applicants was July 22, 2005, and what Miller called a stringent list of criteria, is a possible reason for the short list of 49 candidates. Although the list was shorter than usual, Miller said it was helpful in narrowing down the field.

"Upon scanning the resumes as they come in, I believe Sanford is in a great position to hire a quality city manager," Miller said a few weeks ago.

Qualifications that commissioners had requested for the candidates included: International City/County Management Association Credentialed Member; master's degree in public administration or similar; experience with full service local government; demonstrated success; accomplished in a transitional city or economy; strong personality, with the ability to say no to commission; manager, not a dictator; good at inter-local government relations; skilled in diverse community interest groups; an open communicator; an innovator; people oriented (all the time); a mitigator who can deal well with conflict whether internally or externally; willing to get involved in the community.

Of the 49 applicants interested in the position, Miller found six that he felt would be a good fit for Sanford. (See separate list of candidates, this page.)

On Aug. 22, the commissioners will narrow down the candidates to three to five, following phone interviews.

Six finalists for city manager

Duncan Ballantyne: Currently employed for the last nine years as the city manager of Concord, N.H., population of 41,000. Also worked as a city manager for Bath, Maine, for more than six years. He has also worked for five years as an assistant city manager in Grand Rapids, Mich., and an assistant to the city manager in Charlotte, N.C., for more than five years. He began his career in local government more than 28 years ago in Charlotte as a Budget and Evaluations Analyst.

Barbara Lipscomb: Currently employed for the last year as interim city manager in Gainesville, population of 118,000. Before that, she was the assistant city manager in Gainesville for less than a year. She also worked as an assistant city manager/deputy city manager of Lakeland, Florida for 18 years. She began her career in local government in administrative positions in Grand Rapids, Mich., more than 30 years ago.

Dean Sprague: Currently employed for the last ten years as the city manager in Maitland, population of 18,000. He also served as assistant county manager of Brevard County for more than a year. He began his career in local government 26 years ago in Florida holding several administrative positions.

Richard White: Former town manager of Lexington, Mass., population of 32,000, for 17 years. Before that he was town manager of Bedford, Mass., for three years. His local government career spans 27 years.

Robert Yehl: Former president/CEO of Woodlands Community Service Corporation of Woodlands, Texas, population of 80,000 for three years. Before that, he was city manager of West University Place, Texas, population of 14,500 for more than six years. He also served as an assistant city manager for Des Moines, Iowa, for nine years. His local government career spans more than 25 years.

Those finalists will have on site interviews with the commissioners from Aug. 29 through Sept. 10.

A top candidate will be

chosen at that time, and around Sept. 12, an employee agreement between the new city manager and the city will be made.

Transport

Continued from Page 1A

Most of the through freight trains would be rerouted north and west of the commuter rails.

He estimated that by 2010, commuter rail could be in place. At that same time, from 2010 to 2014, heavy construction is expected along Interstate 4, so many people could use commuter trains as an alternative.

Barley said the 20 year regional transportation plan through the year 2025 will meet many needs, but won't keep up with the growth. To continue on the same trend as the region does now, however, would end up with even worse congestion.

And building roads is not going to be the only solution, he told the Lake Mary Commission.

The tri-county plan is the only place in Florida where a regional plan extends beyond one county, he said. The MetroPlan Orlando plan was approved by the board in September 2004.

The plan involves more than just transportation, he said. "Our economy moves on wheels," he explained. Any improvements in transportation will be felt in the economy and environment, for example.

He talked about the causes of congestion in the three county area.

The region greets 50,000 new people per year with an additional 35,000 added cars and trucks for roads. Growth is wonderful, he said, but it comes with responsibilities. He also gave statistics to show that Lake Mary is growing faster than the county and the region, percentage wise.

In addition to new residents, Central Florida of course welcomes thousands of tourists and business travelers to its roads every day.

The plan calls for several rail projects, of which commuter rail will be the first. Light rail plans will return in the future as well as high speed rail.

Bus transportation will increase accordingly as well, Barley said. That will include some rapid transit areas and probably double the number of buses in the future. Extending and adding bicycle paths are also part of the regional plan.

"We have created these problems," Barley said. The area cannot do the same

“
Our
economy
moves on
wheels
”

Harold Barley,
executive director,
MetroPlan Orlando

things it has always done and expect a different outcome.

The plan also searches for new revenue to pay for regional transportation answers, he said. E-pass, for example, has been very successful, he said. Another revenue source may be rental car surcharges. A proposed \$2 per day surcharge could give the region \$60 million extra to help with transportation problems.

Barley said he is convinced people will not stop coming to Central Florida if there is a \$2 surcharge on their rental cars. Legislative help will be needed to get this idea approved.

The recent federal transportation bill also increases funding by 33 percent, Barley said, but it pays for projects done up to eight years ago. "It's eaten that up very, very fast," he said.

The federal gas tax is another area that could bring in more revenue for transportation, Barley said. The 18.4 cent federal gas tax has not increased in many years.

"So I think the solution is state, local and user fees," Barley said.

E-pass also cuts down on delays too on toll roads. Barley said 50 percent of the delays on I-4 and other places stem from the fact that accidents happen.

"It's amazing, the rubbernecking phenomenon," Barley said. In March, MetroPlan held a regional safety summit to recognize the 10 worst accident locations and the 10 worst behaviors that cause accidents.

The number of accidents through July is slightly better than last year. Seminole County had 29 traffic deaths through July in 2004. That number was escalating, he said. This year, the county has seen 27 traffic

deaths through July.

"At least it's not escalating as it had been," he said.

The plan will look at the behaviors of motorists. What happens when an accident occurs, he said for instance. Education about clearing lanes can help lessen the time it takes to restore normal traffic flow. Planners will also look at growth in Central Florida.

Barley said the region needs smart growth because urban sprawl and uncontrolled economic growth are a recipe for more transportation problems.

He promised to come back at least once a year to update Lake Mary on regional transportation plans.

County Commissioner Morris said Seminole County has become a more powerful influence on transportation plans in the region because the county and cities stand together on transportation issues.

Repair

Continued from Page 1A

Consumer Services. Those that do not face initial fines of up to \$300.

The law also requires that customers, at their request, be provided a written estimate for any repair that exceeds \$100 and a complete invoice listing all charges after a repair has been performed.

The sweep will be the fifth such effort undertaken by the department in recent years.

In the past, inspectors vis-

ited Duval, Palm Beach, Orange and Hillsborough counties. Additional counties are expected to be visited in the future.

About 22,000 auto repair shops are registered with the department, according to a news release.

Bronson explained the importance of repair shops being registered, saying that authorities cannot track problems at such facilities or perform inspections at them if his department is unaware

of their existence.

By registering them, officials can keep tabs on shops and assist consumers of instances in which shoddy or unnecessary repairs are performed, Bronson said.

The Commissioner encourages all consumers who have a question or complaint against a repair shop to call his department's free hotline, at 1-800-HELPFLA or visit the Division of Consumer Services Web site at www.800helpfla.com.

ACE DOLLAR DAYS

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2/\$1 ACE SHARP BLADE KNIFE Light-duty cutting/trimming knife. 13 individual blade sections. 2798	\$1 ACE LUB-E LUBRICANT 11 oz. 17312	\$1 ACE ACRYLIC LATEX CAULK 10 oz. 10202	\$1 ACE PLASTIC DROP CLOTH 5' x 12'. 11869
\$1 ACE TOILET BOWL CLEANER 24 oz. 17733	\$1 ACE PRUNING KNIFE 3" blade. 6030720	\$1 ACE TRASH BAGS Choose from 13, 33 or 36 gallon. 64069, 54, 58	\$1 ACE HOUSEHOLD SPRAYER 16 oz. 11889
\$1 ACE SOFT WHITE BULBS 40, 60, 75, 100 watts and 50/100/150-3 way. 35835, 1341, 42, 51, 33357	2/\$1 ACE GENERAL PURPOSE ELECTRICAL TAPE 3/4" x 60". 33180	\$1 4 1/2 QT. STORAGE BOX 6108744	\$1 LIQUID HAND SOAP 7.5 oz. Patterns or decorator. 9165, 58

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(Excerpted from the United States Government's Federal Trade Publication - FUNERALS: A CONSUMER'S GUIDE, June 2000)

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BUSINESS



Herald photo by Tommy Vincenzi

Nicole Poch, left, owner of Bone-Jour Dog Boutique and Bakery, and Jennifer Demoris, show the collection to help soldier dogs.

Locals helping war dogs beat the heat

By Charles D. Jackson
Herald Correspondent

SANFORD — Efforts are underway locally to help equip and protect one of America's most vital assets fighting wars in Iraq and Afghanistan — the military K-9 troops.

Military Working Dog Teams are an integral part of the United States mission in the Middle East. Several hundred working dogs perform their duties in the heat and sandstorms. Heat exhaustion is a major concern, with temperatures reaching 130 degrees during the month of August.

To help keep the K-9's cool, a Sanford store is raising money to purchase "cooling vests." Bone-Jour Dog Boutique and Bakery, 210 E. 1st St., in Sanford, launched a campaign last week to obtain the "Chilly Dog cooling vest," which is the specialty item most requested by the dog handlers, according to store owner Nicole Poch.

The vests cost \$130 each with the needed additional

cooling packs of \$80. The vests help combat the intense heat with an active ingredient that is natural so the dogs will not be poisoned if the vest is punctured.

Other items dogs need are treats and biscuits, booties to protect sensitive paws, front-line, protective eyewear, flea collars, toys, shampoo, brushes and grooming supplies and nail clippers.

Poch is working with the Space Coast War Dogs Association in sending the needed supplies to the troops.

"My goal is to get as many vests and we can," Poch said. "These animals are fighting tremendous heat and combatants to help our country's interests, so I think it's important for us to help support them."

Poch said the drive will continue through August. The cooling vests are made by Patrick Air Force Base in Brevard County.

To donate, drop by Bone-Jour on First Street across from the Magnolia Square Clock or call Poch at 407-302-3272.

Pinnacle hires new loan officer

LAKE MARY — Pinnacle Financial Corp. announced Aug. 10 that David M. Sims has joined the company as a loan officer in the Lake Mary office.

Sims is a graduate of Santa Monica College in California and has been involved in all areas of mortgage banking for

more than 30 years.

Pinnacle Financial Corporation (www.pinnaclefinancial.com) is one of the nation's fastest growing, independently-owned direct mortgage lenders.

It was founded in 1988 and headquartered in Orlando.

Grand Opening



Herald photo by Tommy Vincenzi

Hula hooping and other activities kicked off the official opening of the Marketplace at Seminole Towne Center Saturday morning. Street entertainer and juggler Gregg Hosfeld, left, throws some bowling pins around as the ribbon is cut by family members of W.P. Ball, the namesake of the boulevard that fronts the Marketplace; Sanford Mayor Linda Kuhn, second from left; and Mark Toro, right, partner with North America Properties. The center contains a SuperTarget store, Circuit City, Sports Authority, Linens 'N things, Marshalls, Old Navy, DSW, Dress Barn, PETCO, Kirkland's, World Market, Factory Card and Party Outlet.

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Girard Environmental adds new employees

SANFORD — Crystal Marmo and Jared Bonshire recently joined Girard Environmental Services, Inc., a full-service landscaping company based in Sanford.

Marmo is the director of human resources for all of The Girard Companies and has more than 10 years of office management experience.

Bonshire, a graduate of the University of Kentucky, joins GES as an estimator of con-

struction services.

In addition, The Girard Companies promoted Mat McCormick to the position of construction manager for Girard Garden Centers. McCormick will oversee the construction of Girard Garden Centers in Sanford, which is slated to open in the fall 2005 on Rinehart Road.

Established in 1998, Girard Environmental Services provides construction services,

management services and residential services for the "green" industry and generates more than \$15 million dollars in annual revenue.

Serving all Central Florida Counties as well as the Tampa Bay and Northeast Florida regions, Girard

Environmental Services operates a fleet of 80 vehicles and employs 200 full-time employees. For more information, visit

www.girardonline.com.

Timacuan CC names new sales director

LAKE MARY — Timacuan Golf & Country Club has named Kim Shields as director of sales and marketing.

Shields, a native of Massachusetts, has been active in the golf industry in the Orlando area since 1997, when she started with the Jamison Golf Group. Most recently she held the director of sales and marketing position at Sabal Point Country Club. She and her husband John have a family of four children.

At Timacuan, Shields will be responsible for booking groups for tournaments and outings, and will report directly to General Manager Tony Johnson.

Timacuan has garnered many statewide awards, being ranked as high as No. 14 in Florida by The Florida Golf Reporter Magazine.

For more information visit www.golftimacuan.com, or call 407-321-0010.

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Obituaries

DOROTHY MAE CHURCH
Minister, Dorothy Mae Church, 65, of Winter Park, died Monday, Aug. 8, 2005. She was born in Winter Park.

She was a retired school teacher and active minister at New Generation Christian Center.

Survivors include sons Kervin S. Church of Conyers, Ga., Merrick V. Church of Eatonville and Brandon L. Church of Altamonte Springs; brother, McCathorn Clayton, Sr. of Winter Park;

Golden's Funeral home, Inc., Winter Park, in charge of arrangements.

ALBERA JANE CONKLIN
Alberta Jane Conklin, 75, of Sanford, died Thursday, Aug. 11, 2005 at Health Care & Rehabilitative Center, Sanford.

Born in Huntington, N.Y., she moved to Sanford in 1987.

She was a computer assembler and an Episcopalian.

Survivors include son, James Conklin of Bradford, Conn.; daughter, Sharon Peterson of Sanford; sisters, Barbara Dixon of Clearwater, Doris Burkens of Vanlves, Cal.; four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren.

Collison Family Funeral Homes & Crematory, Gramkow Chapel, Sanford, in charge of arrangements.

MARLENE GLENN
Marlene Glenn, 63, of East 7th Street, Sanford, died Sunday, Aug. 14, 2005 at Bayfront Medical Center in St. Petersburg.

She was born Aug. 8, 1942 in Aliquippa, Penn. She was a homemaker and a member of New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church

in Sanford. Survivors include sons, Craig E. Glenn of Arcadia and Sean T. Glenn of Atlanta, Ga.; mother, Jeannie Glenn of Sanford; brothers, Edward R. Glenn of Wilmington, Del., Wallace Glenn of Newark, N.J., and Fernando Glenn of Aliquippa; two grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 20, at New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, 18 East 10th Street in Sanford, with Rev. William Lewis officiating. Visitation will be Friday, Aug. 19, from 4 until 8 p.m. at Sunrise Funeral home chapel, 900 Locust Avenue.

Sunrise Funeral Home, Sanford, in charge of arrangements.

CONNIE FAYE McLAUGHLIN
Connie Faye McLaughlin, 46, of Deltona, died Monday, Aug. 8, 2005. She moved to Central Florida from North Carolina in 1988.

She was a dispatcher for Lynx Services.

Survivors include husband, Jim McLaughlin; sons, Corey and Derrick McLaughlin; mother, June Maxwell; brothers Mike and Roger Maxwell; sisters, Teresa Paige and Debbie Stevens.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 20 at Gramkow chapel of the Collison family Funeral Homes. In lieu of flowers the family requests donations be made in her memory to American Cancer Society, 1601 W. Colonial Drive, Orlando, 32804.

Collison Family Funeral Homes & Crematory, Gramkow Chapel, Sanford, in charge of arrangements.

DOROTHY ADA MITCHELL
Dorothy Ada Mitchell, 83, of Longwood, died Sunday, Aug. 14, 2005 at Lake Mary Health & Rehabilitation Center.

Born in Detroit, Mich., she moved to Sanford in April, 2002. She was a supervisor in the Health Department and a member of St. Stephens AME Church.

Survivors include sons, Thaddeus Mitchell and Gregory Mitchell, both of Detroit; daughters, Adrienne Williams of Longwood, Winada Heins of Chicago and Stephanie Spencer of Detroit; sister, Mary Johnson, of Bellville, Mich.; nine grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren.

Calling hours will be from 3 to 5 p.m. Thursday at Collison Family Funeral Homes & Crematory. Funeral services will not be local. Burial will be at Westland Cemetery in Michigan.

Collison Family Funeral Homes & Crematory, Longwood, in charge of arrangements.

JERRY A. ROBINSON
Jerry A. Robinson, 52, of Casselberry, died Sunday, Aug. 14, 2005 in Longwood. He was born Jan. 10, 1953, in Spokane, Wash. He was a truck driver.

Survivors include wife, Carole L. Robinson; sons, Scott Robinson, Jeff Robinson, and David Robinson; daughters, Sharon Smith, Glenna Smith, and Kim Smith; one granddaughter.

Funeral services will be held Sunday, Aug. 28, at 2 p.m. at Banfield Funeral Home.

Banfield Funeral Home, Winter Springs, in charge of arrangements.

LOUISE BENNETT "GRAMA" WHEATON
Louise Bennett "Grama" Wheaton, 81, of Sanford, died Thursday, Aug. 11, 2005 in Lake Mary.

She was born June 28, 1924 in Lorain, Ohio, and moved to Sanford in 1970. She was a homemaker and a veteran of the U.S. Navy. She was a nurse at the Sanford Hospital.

Survivors include daugh-

ters June W. Burgess of Altamonte Springs; sons, William B. Wheaton of Sanford, Donald E. Wheaton of Winston Salem, N.C., Thomas J. Wheaton of Greensboro, N.C., Wallace W. Wheaton of Sanford; seven grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Monday, Aug. 15 at Baldwin Fairchild Funeral Home.

The family requests memorial contributions to Hospice of the Comforter, 251 Altamonte Commerce Blvd., Suite 1410, Altamonte Springs, 32714.

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

FANNIE MAE WILLIS
Fannie Mae Willis, 77, of East 20th Street, Sanford, died Saturday, Aug. 13, 2005 at her residence.



Willis

She was born June 10, 1928, in Tifton, Ga. She was a homemaker and a member of Progress Missionary Baptist Church.

Survivors include sons, Lucious Willis, III, of Sanford and Lonze Willis of Boynton beach; daughters, Maggie Mae Willis, Betty Jean Reddick, Sara Ann Willis and Dianette L. Willis, all of Sanford; brothers, Woodrow King and Joe L. King, both of Miami; sister, Edna Mae Alston of Fitzgerald, Ga.; 19 grandchildren; 32 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, Aug. 20, at New Life Word center, 1311 Oak Avenue in Sanford with Rev. Ronald W. Merthie, Pastor.

Viewing will be Friday from 4 until 8 p.m. at Wilson-Eichelberger Mortuary.

Wilson-Eichelberger Mortuary, Inc., Sanford, in charge of arrangements.

Pitch for cell phones calls for response

It didn't take long for the Sanford Rotary Club to act on a pitch from Dottie Burkett to help the elderly.

Last week, Burkett, an elder care officer with the Seminole County Sheriff's Department, told Rotarians and guests about the need to help the elderly by donating used cell phones so they can make emergency phone calls.

On Monday, Dave Shidemantle, the club's community service chair, asked Rotarians for their support in fulfilling Burkett's wish of cell phones for the elderly. Immediately, ideas went forth on how to begin collecting the phones. People may be able to drop off used cell phones at members' places of business or give them to any Rotarian.

Burkett said the devices would be a vital link to emergency personnel for seniors who often live solitude lives, many trying to remain independent although their health may be failing.

SPEAKING OF SENIORS: Rotary is planning "John Mercer Day" to celebrate the club's longest-serving member (with perfect attendance), who joined the international organization more than 50 years ago. Mercer is a longtime banker in the Seminole County area, who has given many years to the betterment of his community. He's called on regularly within and without of Rotary to share his knowledge and wisdom. John Mercer Day is scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 20, at the Red Tail Golf Club from 6 to 8 p.m. RSVP to Chris Stubbs, 407-324-7181.

OPTIMIST JEWEL: If you ever decide to attend a Sanford Optimist Club meeting, chances are you'll find retired school teacher Peggy Harden. She's been an integral part of the club for at least 20 years of its 35-year existence. She's held every position from president to parliamentarian. For years, she served the dual role of secretary-treasurer, only recently relinquishing part of her secretarial role. Peggy retired from

Sanford Middle School, where she still holds fond memories of her students and their parents. Her love for children continues through her work in Optimist, which sponsors programs of recognition in local elementary and high schools.

Peggy is a shining diamond in the Optimist world of service.

LIONS BENCH: Walk through Magnolia Square in downtown Sanford, and you'll spot a marble bench situated in front of Divinci's restaurant. It's the Sanford Lions Club "Henry Witte" memorial bench, dedicated in 2000 in honor of the club's 75th anniversary, honoring the club's 75th president for his dedication to the club. The bench is a "reflective bench," said Sam Loper, Sanford Lakeside Lions club first vice president. "You can sit there and ponder Sanford."

YOUTH TRAINING: Youth members of local churches are learning lessons on serving others by helping weekly at the "Grace to Grits" food ministry sponsored by various downtown Sanford and Lake Mary churches. Grace to Grits serves hot meals each Wednesday from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Sanford Civic Center. On a recent Wednesday, about 15 pre-teens and teenagers served meals. Christie Thomas, a high school senior, of Central Baptist Church comes to serve the meals once a month with her youth group. She hasn't missed in the past four years.

Charles D. Jackson, a native of Sanford, is a veteran journalist and public relations practitioner who writes a weekly column on service clubs in Seminole County. Send items to him at The Sanford Herald, 300 N. French Ave., Sanford, FL 32771.

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Sports

Briefs

RAGE TRYOUTS
Open Try-outs for ORLANDO RAGE (Semi-Pro Football) are set for the next two Saturdays, August 20 and 27, at noon at "Showalter Field East" (2525 Cady Way, Winter Park, right behind the Visitors' Stand at Showalter Field).

Registration and Check in at Noon, Try-outs at 1 p.m. Attendance at one of the scheduled try-outs is mandatory for anyone interested in making the 2006 rage roster, including all returning Rage players. The details are as follows:

- 1) Registration Fee of \$30 paid in cash at door for all positions except Offensive Linemen who will pay \$35. Returning 2005 RAGE players will pay only \$35.
 - 2) Each paid registrant MUST sign waiver and release.
 - 3) Each paid registrant will receive Official "Orlando Rage Practice Jersey", Orlando Rage E-mail account, and have an opportunity to make the 2006 Orlando Rage Roster.
 - 4) Registration at noon sharp. Registration closes at 1 p.m.
 - 5) Open Tryouts for any person over the age of 18 years.
 - 6) Bring workout clothes and cleats and helmets (if you have one). Equipment sales reps will be present for ordering.
 - 7) Each registrant will be required to perform a series of speed, strength, endurance and agility drills.
 - 8) Break down into position groups for workout.
 - 9) Full group work out, 7 on 7 drills, etc.
 - 10) "Call backs" will be made for additional Tryouts and "looks".
- Contact Chris Morrison for further details at CMorrison@OrlandoRage.com or Randy Horn at RHorn@OrlandoRage.com or 407-325-1436.

SOAP BOX DERBY RALLY DAY
Central Florida Soap Box Derby and The Sanford Recreation Department will be sponsoring a Rally Derby on Saturday, August 20th at Derby Park (North Oregon Avenue off West 25th Street) in Sanford.

Check in is at 7 a.m. with racing beginning at 8 a.m.

All cars and drivers must meet AASBD standards and there will be three classes, stock, super stock and master.

The cost is \$25 per car, or \$35 for an additional family member (brother or sister), if pre-registered and paid by August 15. After August 15th there will be a \$10 late fee and there will be no on-site

See Briefs, Page 8B



Photo courtesy of VMI Athletics
Former Lake Mary High and Sanford American Legion Post 83 star Ryan Mau has been named pitching coach at VMI.

Mau joins VMI baseball staff

Special to the Herald

LEXINGTON, VA. — VMI head baseball coach Marlin Ikenberry recently announced the addition of a pair of assistant coaches, as Ryan Mau and Joe Hastings will each join the program following a trip to the NCAA Regionals with their former teams.

"I am extremely excited about Joe and Ryan," said Ikenberry. "They both come from great baseball backgrounds both as players and now as coaches. Both played professionally and for programs that competed for championships year in and year out. They both come from programs that played in a regional and know what type of work it takes to get there!"

Mau, a native of Lake Mary who played for coach Alan Tuttle at Lake Mary High

Lake Mary native named pitching coach for Keydets

School and for coach Rod Ferguson on the 1997 American Legion World Series Champion Sanford Post 53 squad, comes to the institute following two seasons at Marist College, the 2005 Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Regular Season and Tournament Champions. The Red Foxes took part in the Baton Rouge Regional last month, falling to LSU and Northwestern State, despite holding leads late in each contest. Mau will serve as the Keydets' pitching coach, a role he held at

Marist, where he coached both the MAAC Pitcher of the Year and Relief Pitcher of the Year last season.

Before his two-year stint in Poughkeepsie, NY, Mau spent one season at Big South foe Charleston Southern, where he lowered the staff ERA by 2.00 runs from the previous season, had a pitcher named Big South Player of the Year and worked with a pair of players drafted in the top 12 rounds of the MLB Draft. Mau also coached the South Carolina Diamond Devils AAU team for two seasons, compiling a 34-17-2 mark and 370 strikeouts while working with 19 future collegiate pitchers, 15 of whom went on to play in Division I.

Mau, a standout pitcher for the College

See Mau, Page 2B

Blake a Bear

Chicago is seventh team for 13-year veteran

Special to the Herald

With former Florida Gators star Rex Grossman scheduled to undergo surgery on his broken left ankle Monday afternoon, the Bears on Sunday agreed to terms with quarterback Jeff Blake.

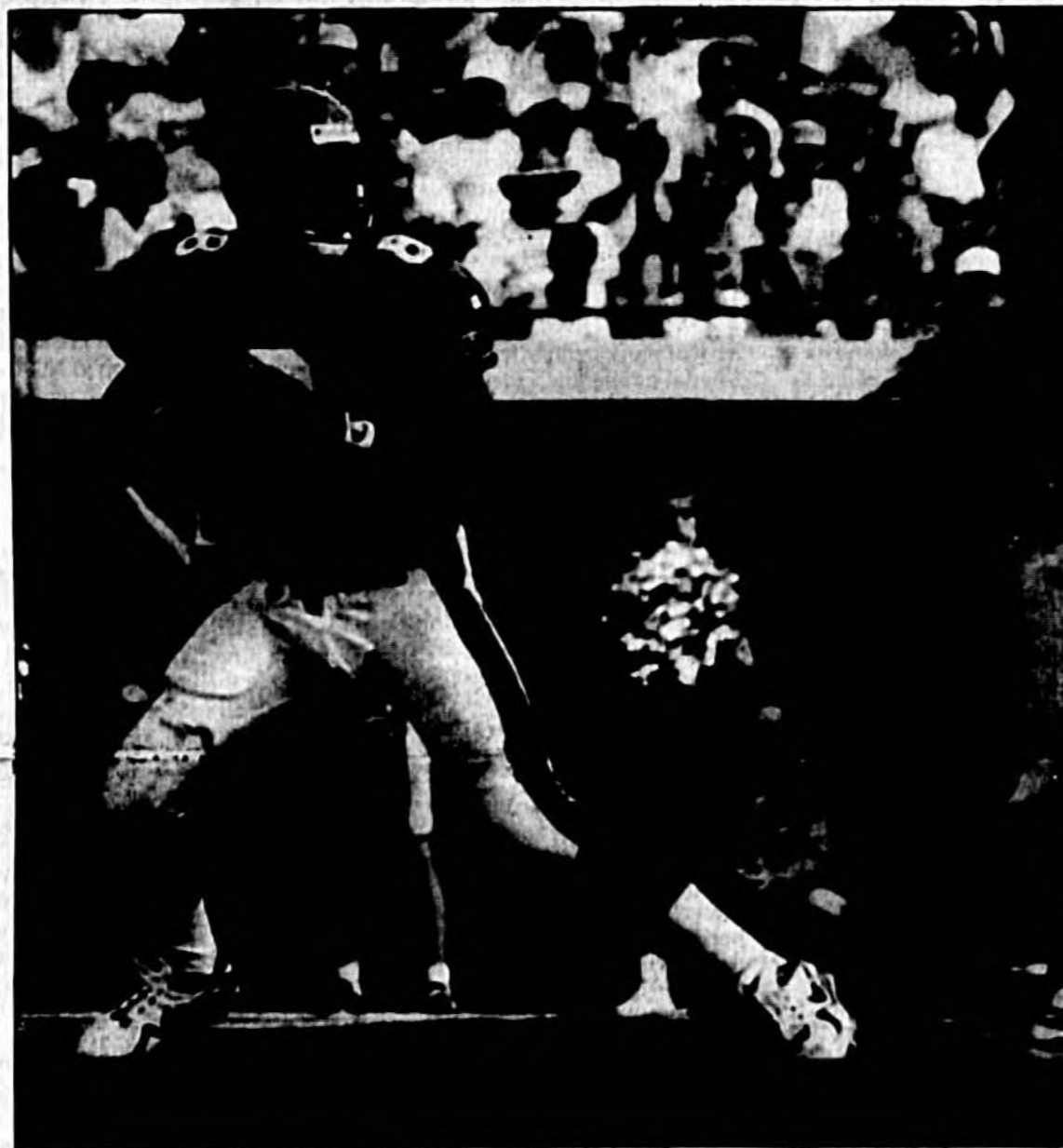
The 14-year veteran will compete for the third-string position behind starter Chad Hutchinson and backup Kyle Orton, coach Louie Smith said Sunday.

"Right now our top two guys will be Chad and Kyle and then Jeff will work in after that," Smith said. "As we've said all along we feel real good about the guys we have here right now. We're going to bring him in as another quarterback that we'll be working with and really kind of go from there."

The Bears will be the Sanford native and Seminole High School graduate's seventh team. The 6-foot-1, 223-pounder has completed 56.3 percent of his career passes for 21,656 yards with 133 touchdowns, 99 interceptions and a 77.9 quarterback rating for the New York Jets (1992-93), Cincinnati Bengals (1994-99), New Orleans Saints (2000-01), Baltimore Ravens (2002), Arizona Cardinals (2003) and Philadelphia Eagles (2004).

Blake appeared in just three games with no starts for the Eagles last season, completing 18 of 37 passes

See Blake, Page 2B



Herald photos by Tommy Vincent

Sanford native and former Seminole High School star quarterback Jeff Blake (above in his Pro Bowl days with Cincinnati) and left with his father and former Seminole High School head football coach Reverend Emory Blake) is back in the NFL for his 13th season, signing with the Chicago Bears on Sunday after the Bears lost start and former Florida Gators star Rex Grossman to a broken ankle.

Hoop coaches named at SCC

Special to the Herald

Seminole Community College recently named Tara Gibson and Bobby Washington head coaches for women and men's basketball for the 2005-06 season following the departure of Coaches Lisa Nuxol and Stan Cromartie.

Tara "Coach T" Gibson takes over the helm as women's basketball head coach following three years as an assistant basketball coach at SCC and four years as an assistant basketball coach at Daytona Beach Community College where she earned the honor of Mid Florida Conference Volunteer Coach-of-the-Year, while assisting the Lady Falcons to four straight state tournament appearances.

A Lake Brantley High School and University of Central Florida graduate with seven years of coaching under her belt, Gibson makes her head coaching debut in familiar territory.

As an assistant at SCC, Gibson helped re-establish Lady Raider basketball as a national powerhouse. In three years, the Lady Raiders earned two state tournament berths, finishing second in Mid-Florida Conference play each year. During the 2004-05 season, the Lady Raiders ranked as high as ninth nationally and as high as fourth in the state.

Gibson enjoys spending time with her mother Lois, sister Tiffany and her nieces Jessica and Jordan along with being involved in her church and other volunteer activities.

Alex de la Fe will continue as assistant coach for the Lady Raiders.

A staple on SCC's bench since 2002, Alex de la Fe is back for his fourth year with SCC. His primary responsibilities include handling recruiting duties, offenses and work-

See SCC, Page 2B

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DeLand teenager injured in boating accident Saturday

Special to the Herald

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) law enforcement officers are investigating a boating accident in which a 13-year-old girl was injured in Lake Beresford in Volusia County about 4 p.m., Saturday.

Danielle Gamroth, 13, of DeLand, was run over by a pontoon boat and then cut by its propeller. The vessel was operated by her father, Donald Gamroth, 43, also of DeLand.

Moments before the accident, Danielle was sitting in front of the boat's guardrails in the front of the vessel, hanging her legs in the water, a practice commonly called "bow riding". The boat was traveling on a plane when Gamroth suddenly slowed it down. The motion caused Danielle to fall overboard, but before he realized his daughter was in the water, Gamroth powered the vessel back up and ran over her, according to FWC Investigator Al Corfield.

"Allowing bow riding is typically considered careless operation," said Joy Hill, FWC's public information coordinator for the Northeast Region. "It is a boating violation and a dangerous practice which often results in people being thrown overboard, as was the case with Danielle."

The pontoon boat was a rental from Holly Bluff Marina in DeLand. None of the six other passengers on board were injured in the accident.

Danielle was transported by Volusia County's Air One to Halifax Medical Center in Daytona. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is investigating the cause of the accident.

Safe Boating Tip: Pay attention while operating a vessel. Careless operation was the number one cause of boating accidents in Florida last year.

"We just can't say it enough - when operating a vessel, pay attention to what's going on around you," said Hill. "A boat's operator needs to be aware of what everyone on the boat is doing, what's in front, behind and on the sides of the vessel, what other vessels in the water are doing, speed zones, manatees, skiers, swimmers - you name it. There's a lot going on out there, and it's the operator's responsibility to be aware of it."

For more information on boating safety, log onto <http://myfwc.com/boating/safety/>.

\$1.9 MILLION WAL-MART FLW REDFISH SERIES TO VISIT TITUSVILLE

The \$1.9 million Wal-Mart FLW Redfish Series - the most lucrative redfish tournament trail in the world - is headed to Titusville this weekend (Aug. 19-20) for the circuit's seventh event. Up to 150 teams will be competing in the Eastern Division's final tournament of the regular season, which features a \$200,000 cash purse.

Anglers, competing in two-man teams, will fish for a top award of as much as \$50,000. Competitors will also be vying for valuable points that could earn them a berth into the no-entry-fee \$300,000 Wal-Mart FLW Redfish Series Championship in Mobile, Ala., Oct. 27-29 for a shot at as much as \$100,000.

A stone's throw from the Kennedy Space Center, some of the nation's best redfish anglers might find the Titusville waters and the popular Mosquito Lagoon a bit low when the tournament arrives in late August.

Sand Point Park will host daily takeoffs and weigh-ins at 7 a.m. and 3 p.m., respectively. Takeoffs and weigh-ins are free and open to the public.

Teams will compete for two days to determine the winner based on accumulated weight.

The winning team earns \$25,000 cash. If a member of the winning team is the original owner of a Ranger, Champion, Aquesport, or Wellcraft boat or a Hydra Sports 1900, 2000 or 2300 Bay Bolt that is used during the tournament, the winners also receive a \$12,500 bonus. Additionally, if a member of the winning team is the original owner of a Yamaha outboard that is used during the tournament, the winners also receive a \$12,500 bonus from Yamaha for total award of \$50,000.

Every team that receives weight credit in a tournament earns points that determine angler standings. Two hundred points are awarded to the winner, 199 points for second, 198 points for third, and so on. The top 50 teams from each of the Wal-Mart FLW Redfish Series' two divisions - Eastern and Western - will advance to the championship.

Each Wal-Mart FLW Redfish Series Division features four regular-season tournaments.

Named after the legendary founder of Ranger Boats, Forrest L. Wood, FLW Outdoors administers the Wal-Mart FLW Redfish Series and seven other national tournament circuits offering a

combined \$30 million in awards through 214 events in 2005. The 27-year-old organization is the purveyor of America's largest and most prestigious fishing tournaments, including the Wal-Mart FLW Tour, EverStart Series, Wal-Mart Bass Fishing League, Wal-Mart Texas Tournament Trail, Wal-Mart FLW Walleye Tour, Wal-Mart FLW Walleye League and Wal-Mart FLW Kingfish Tour.

For more information on FLW Outdoors and its tournament programs, visit FLWOutdoors.com or call (270) 252-1000.

Wal-Mart and many of America's largest and most respected companies support FLW Outdoors and its tournament trails. Wal-Mart signed on as title sponsor of the FLW Tour in 1997 and today is the title sponsor of all FLW Outdoors events. For more information on Wal-Mart, visit Wal-Mart.com.

AUTO CLUBS MAY FALL SHORT WITH TRAILER BOATERS

What happens when a motorist towing a boat trailer has a breakdown on the side of the road or becomes disabled on a busy launch ramp?

The answer you'll likely get from your auto club is you are on your own, according to Boat Owners Association of the United States (BoatU.S.), the nation's largest organization for recreational boaters. That's because most auto club towing plans only cover vehicles - not boat

trailers.

"When there's a breakdown, trailer boaters are sometimes forced to leave their trailer boat unattended on the side of the road," said Jerry Cardarelli, vice president of BoatU.S. Towing Services. "With our Trailer Assist & Tow program, we do all the work for you by locating over 14,000 professional towing companies across the country that are equipped to handle both tow vehicle and trailer, and are available through our 24-hour-a-day dispatch centers on both coasts. We get trailer boaters on their way in a hurry - all you have to do is sign and drive."

BoatU.S. "Trailer Assist & Tow" is a service that will provide assistance when either the trailer or the towing vehicle suffers a breakdown while trailering a boat. Labor charges for flat tire assistance, fuel delivery, lockout service, or jumpstarting of the towing vehicle are included. Most importantly, if your towing vehicle or boat trailer is disabled while trailering - or even stuck on the launch ramp - Trailer Assist & Tow will pay up to \$150 to have your tow vehicle and/or boat trailer towed to the nearest repair facility or safe location. All you have to do is sign for service.

Trailer Assist & Tow costs only \$24 a year and includes membership in BoatU.S. as well as the See Outdoors, Page 8B



Photos courtesy FAMU Athletics (left) and Seminole Community College

Seminole Community College recently named Bobby Washington (left) and Tara Gibson (center) as the new men's and women's basketball coaches replacing Stan Cromartie and Lisa Nuxol, respectively, who have both moved on to NCAA Division I assistant coaching jobs. It was also announced that Alex de la Fe (right) will stay on as an assistant to Gibson and the women's program.

SCC

Continued from Page 1B
-ing with post players. He is currently working toward an undergraduate degree in education.

De la Fe started his coaching career at Hialeah High as a junior varsity basketball coach during 1995-97. He then became the head women's varsity basketball coach from 1997 to 2000. In 2000-02, de la Fe quickly established himself as a coach at Maynard Evans High School in Orlando.

As the assistant varsity women's basketball coach, de la Fe developed the perimeter players and helped shape a team that went 30-2 and ranked number one in 6A basketball in Florida. He then went on to head up the men's junior varsity basketball team, also assisting the varsity team to a 28-3 record and a number one ranking in the state polls for most of the 2001-2002 season.

Robert L. "Bobby" Washington Jr., joins SCC as men's basketball head coach after serving two years as an assistant coach for the Florida A&M

University Rattlers. A young, enthusiastic coach who brought experience and discipline to the Rattlers coaching staff, Washington plans to bring the same passion for the game and coaching to SCC.

Washington's college playing career was injury-plagued, which resulted in only one full season of play with Bellville Area Junior College. He completed his bachelor's degree in Juvenile Services and Corrections at Eastern Kentucky University in 2001 and continued at EKU, earning his master's in Criminal Justice in 2003.

Washington began his coaching career in 2001 as a volunteer, assisting the boy's basketball coach at his alma mater Bryan Station High School in Lexington, Ky. The following season, he served as a graduate assistant coach at Eastern Kentucky in Richmond, Ky., until he joined the Florida A&M University coaching staff for the 2003-04 season.

Andy Harre will join Washington as assistant men's basketball coach after serving two seasons as an assistant boy's basketball coach at Oviedo High School.

Mau

Continued from Page 1B
of Charleston from 1998-2001, still ranks among the Cougars' best in career victories, games started, ERA, strikeouts and innings pitched. He also established the Cougars' single-season mark for winning percentage (.1000) while posting a 1.79 ERA, the second-lowest single-season total in school history. Following his collegiate career, he signed as a free agent with the Florida Marlins and pitched for two seasons with the Kenosha Mammoths and

the Southeastern Cloverleafs.

Hastings doesn't have far to come with his move to Lexington. He spent last year as the volunteer assistant at the University of Virginia, as the Cavs advanced to the Corvallis Regional as the #2 seed following an improbable run to the ACC Championship game, where they fell 4-3 to #1 seed Georgia Tech.

While at UVA, Hastings worked heavily with the Cavs' summer camp and recruiting efforts while coaching outfielders and first basemen. At VMI,

he will work primarily with the Keydet hitters and infielders.

The Keydets are coming off of one of the most successful campaigns in school history, as they established a new school record for wins in a season (27), while posting three consecutive 20-win seasons for the first time in school history. Over the past four seasons, the 2005 senior class racked up 85 wins, the most in a four-year period, while breaking the school record for wins twice.

This season, the Keydets won six of their final seven regular-season contests to qualify for their first-ever Big South Conference Championship, finishing the season one game under .500 (.27-28) while garnering the fifth seed in the tournament with 11 wins in the league.

(excerpts courtesy of Mariet College Sports Information and University of Virginia Athletic Media Relations)

Blake

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for 126 yards with one touchdown, one interception and a 54.6 quarterback rating.

He began his career in 1992 with the New York Jets - who drafted him in the sixth round from East Carolina - and then had his greatest success in six seasons with the Cincinnati

Bengals. In 1995, Blake passed for 3,822 yards tossed 28 touchdown passes in 16 starts and made the Pro Bowl.

He came back the next season with 24 TD throws in 16 starts.

The 34-year-old started 13 games for the Cardinals in 2003, completing 56.7 percent of his passes, connecting on 208 of 367 passes for 2,247 yards with 13 touchdowns and 15 interceptions. He was sacked 19 times and had a passer rating of 69.6.

"Jeff is a guy that's played in the league for a while," Smith said. "He was available right now and he's a good fit for where we are right now."

"We had a chance to talk with him earlier and he's been working out. But working out's one thing. Getting in football shape's another and we'll just start the process from here."

Two days after Grossman was lost for 3-4 months, Smith on Sunday reiterated his support for Hutchinson and said that Blake wouldn't be coming in to challenge for the No. 1 job.

"He's our starter," Smith said of Hutchinson. "It's as simple as that. He's our guy and we're going from there, but you need three quarterbacks. Chad isn't looking over his shoulder. He's our guy and we can't wait to see him lead us."

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