

Sanford Herald

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86th Year, No. 107 - Sanford, Florida

NEWS DIGEST

INSIDE

Sports

Classic finals set

OVIEDO — Lake Mary and Boone advanced to tonight's finals of the Central Florida Classic with dissimilar victories Wednesday night at Oviedo High School.

See Page 1B

BRIEFS

Closed for the holidays

SANFORD — City governments will be taking two working days off for the Christmas holiday this weekend. With the official holiday falling on Saturday, both the cities of Sanford and Longwood are closed today as well as tomorrow.

Lake Mary City Hall will be closed this Friday, and next Monday.

Seminole County government operations will close only on Friday, as will operations at the Seminole County sheriff's department.

Seminole County Public Libraries will be closed this Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

The Rivershipe Grand Romance will not operate on Christmas Day.

The Central Florida Zoological Park will also be closed on Christmas Day.

Most banking institutions, which are not regularly open on Saturdays, plan to close by 2 p.m. Friday afternoon. They will open Monday at regular hours. The 2 p.m. closure was announced by First Union, Barnett Banks of Central Florida, and First Seminole. For information on other banks, contact the bank offices.

Flea World and Fun World, on S. Orlando Drive, will both close Friday for Christmas Eve at 6 p.m., and be closed all day Saturday. Both will operate at normal hours on Sunday.

For particular businesses, many will close for the holiday on Saturday, but some will be open. Information should be obtained by phone.

Suit against county withdrawn

A civil suit filed by a homeowners group against Seminole County over the Lake Sylvan Park soccer training complex has been withdrawn.

Seminole County attorney Robert A. McMillan said the suit filed by the Friends of Lake Sylvan Homeowners Association was voluntarily dismissed. The homeowners had sued the county claiming the facility violated the county land use plans. The county hoped the soccer complex would be used as a training facility for national teams. Jeff Brown, attorney for the homeowners, could not be reached for comment.

McMillan said the plaintiffs had not provided specific information on why the suit was withdrawn. The county was not engaged in any negotiations in the suit, according to McMillan, and the dismissal of the suit was unanticipated.

From staff reports



2 shopping days to Christmas

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Bundle up



Mostly cloudy with light rain ending by early afternoon. High in the mid 60s. Wind northwest 17 mph.

For more weather, see Page 2A

Still room at the inns

Area tourism up slightly, down elsewhere in state

By NICK PFEIFAU
Herald Staff Writer

SANFORD — More tourists are spending Christmas holidays here, but there is still room at the inn for visitors in the central Florida area.

Tourism industry officials in some parts of the state have been scrambling this year to overcome

crime fears, increasing competition and worldwide economic woes. Tourism is expected to be down slightly in much of the state, except here in central Florida.

The increase however, is expected to be up by only a few percentage points from last year. It may not affect areas beyond a short driving distance from the theme parks.

At Sanford area motels, there are still rooms

available for the holidays although occupancy at some is expected to be higher than normal.

Jim Kettelle, manager of the Holiday Inn on Sanford's lakefront, says the season looks better than had been expected. "We had a good month in November," he said, "and December is outstanding. We are nearing capacity for Christmas Eve, and may be full by Christmas."

See Tourism, Page 5A



Herald Photos by Roger Harnack

The home of an elderly man and his son at 2341 Greenway Street, Midway, was totally destroyed by fire yesterday. No one was injured in the blaze, reportedly started by a faulty heater, (below).

Fire guts home of elderly man

By NICK PFEIFAU
Herald Staff Writer

MIDWAY — The fire that swept through a Midway home, destroying it, has left an elderly man and his son temporarily homeless at Christmas.

Fire Wednesday totally consumed the home at 2341 Greenway Street. Seminole County firefighters say it was caused by a faulty fuel heater.

The home had two occupants, identified as 79-year-old Charlie

See Fire, Page 5A



School food

Cafeterias switch to healthy fare

By VICKI DeSORMIER
Herald Staff Writer

Good. And good for you.

The director of the Seminole County schools food service department said his department is ready to serve healthier, tastier food to the students when they arrive in the cafeterias on January 3.

School lunches have often had the reputation of being comprised of "mystery meat and fat grams" and department directors say that's just not the case any more.

"People are still operating under the perceptions they formed 15, 20, 30 years ago," said Dan Andrews, director of the department. "The food in the lunchrooms today is nothing like it was."

Indeed, the lunches students are eating are fresh, local and tasty.

Each day, students have a choice of meats that are never breaded or fried, of steamed vegetables, of fresh fruit and of whole grain breads. Milk is two percent (though whole milk is available) or one percent choco-

See Food, Page 5A

Crooms clinic is approved

By VICKI DeSORMIER
Herald Staff Writer

SANFORD — The clinic constructed at the Crooms School of Choice over the last year will open for business shortly after the first of the year.

Yesterday afternoon, the school board approved an agreement with the Seminole County Public Health Unit to place a doctor and a registered nurse at the school's clinic.

The clinic is set to serve the medical needs of the young women in the Teen Age Parent Program (TAPP) and their newborns.

For now the district pays for the TAPP students to travel to and from medical appointments for pre-natal and postpartum examinations; for physical examinations; for pediatric evaluations and for family planning, counseling and treatment.

The on-campus clinic will be able to provide those services at a lower cost to county taxpayers, district

See Clinic, Page 5A

Related editorial, Page 4A

Christmas traditions in bloom



Herald Photo by Roger Harnack

While Rick Bebout is selling traditional Christmas poinsettias at a roadside stand along U.S. Highway 17-92, Santa stopped in at the First Impressions Child



Herald Photo by Michael Siedzinski

Development Center in Sanford to hand out tasty candy canes and gifts to youngsters like Vanegas Carter, as he has for generations.

Air Force tracks Santa's journey Friday

Seminole kids can call for updates on his whereabouts

By ROGER HARNACK
Herald Correspondent

The United States Air Force and NORAD (the North American Aerospace Defense Command) will be tracking Santa Claus on his venture into Canadian and American air space Friday night.

According to Kay Cormier, spokesman for the Air Force Space Command headquarters, "the eyes and ears of the (NORAD) men and women

assigned will watch and listen for an unidentified object coming over the North Pole.

"The object will have a trajectory entirely different than those of hostile bombers, ballistic missiles and space satellites," Cormier said Thursday. "Surveillance sensors will locate Santa Claus in his well-laden sleigh pulled by eight tiny reindeer."

Cormier said the first indication in the simulated scenario that Santa is on his way will

probably come from satellites that will detect the heat generated by Rudolph's red nose as he guides Santa and the other reindeer into the North American skies.

Once Santa is located by satellite, Thule Air Base, Greenland, only 800 miles from the North Pole, should pick up Santa, Cormier said. The base will then relay tracking information to several tracking centers across the United States.

See Santa, Page 5A

POLICE BRIEFS

Grinch cases

Christmas decorations and Christmas presents were reportedly stolen Tuesday from a storage shed in the 2500 block of S. Park Avenue.

Presents were reportedly stolen from under the Christmas tree Tuesday at a residence in the 600 block of Mellonville Avenue.

Gifts valued at approximately \$60 were reportedly stolen from an apartment at Shenandoah Village on S. Orlando Drive in a burglary Tuesday. Police said entry was made by throwing a concrete block through a bedroom window.

Shooting arrests

Sanford police arrested two persons Tuesday in connection with a shooting incident. Arrested were Robert Earl Jacobs, 23, of 800 1/2 Bay Avenue, and Madelyn Elaine Peterson, 27, 500 W. Airport Blvd., both in Bridgewater Apartments.

Police said the two were reportedly driving in the 900 block of Bay Avenue, and drove past a resident. They said the two began firing shots at the man from their vehicle. None of the shots struck anyone, including a number of children and several adults who were in the area.

Both were located near their apartments by police, who placed them under arrest. Each was charged with aggravated assault, culpable negligence, and use of a firearm during the commission of a felony. Jacobs was also charged with possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

Burglary suspects nabbed

Longwood police arrested two persons Tuesday in connection with a burglary on Logan Drive in Longwood. Police said the two apparently went to the unoccupied home, broke in, and put the owner's dog in the bedroom. They said the couple then began removing an estimated \$8,000 in items from the house, including two guitars, which they reportedly delivered to a third person.

Arrested were Misty S. Jones, 18, and Robert Westenberger, 19, both of Savannah, Georgia. Police said when they were located, Westenberger was wearing a pair of boots reportedly stolen during the burglary.

Each was charged with unarmed burglary, grand theft, and dealing in stolen property.

Cops thwart burglary

Sanford police were called Tuesday by the owner of a business in the 200 block of S. Sanford Avenue, who reportedly heard a burglar alarm sound. Police said a window at the business had been knocked out. When police arrived, they found a man, identified as Sam Stafford, 39, who's address was listed as the 1200 block of W. 12th Street, near the building. Stafford was arrested on charges of attempted burglary and possession of burglary tools.

Assault cases

Thomas David Strawn, 29, 5005 Nolan Road, Sanford, was arrested by sheriff's deputies at his residence early Wednesday following a dispute with another man. Deputies said he struck the man's vehicle with a chain. Strawn was charged with aggravated assault.

Carle Lee Williams, 29, 2758 Ridgewood Avenue, was arrested early Wednesday by Sanford police following an argument with her husband. Police charged her with aggravated assault, domestic violence.

Michael Patrick Hendricks, 24, 127 Eastern Fork, Longwood, was arrested at his residence by sheriff's deputies Tuesday following a fight with a female. He was charged with battery, domestic violence.

Incidents reported to the sheriff

A briefcase reportedly containing \$465 in currency, was reportedly stolen early Wednesday from a vehicle parked on Alba Lane, in Lakewood/The Crossings, near Lake Mary.

A business in the 1600 block of N. Beardall Avenue, was reportedly burglarized Tuesday. Items taken included a \$200 microwave oven, a case of soda, three 36-pack boxes of paper towels, and 90 rolls of toilet paper.

Incidents reported to Sanford police

A TV set valued at \$200 was reportedly stolen Tuesday from a residence in the 1700 block of Ridgewood Lane.

A steam pressure cleaner valued at \$1,200 was reported stolen Tuesday from a business storage building in the 900 block of Peralmon Avenue.

Assorted tools and a go-cart were said to have been taken Monday from a business in the 2500 block of Park Avenue.

A 12 gauge shotgun valued at \$180 was reportedly stolen Monday from a home on Burrows Lane in the Roseland Park area of Sanford.

A Sanford woman reported her purse was stolen Monday from a shopping cart as she was loading groceries into her car in a retail parking lot on W. Lake Mary Blvd.

Four residents of the 300 block of Tangerine Drive and the 100 block of Grove Lane, reported their mail had been taken from mail boxes Monday. Some of the mail was recovered by deputies.

A mountain bike valued at \$140 was reportedly taken Monday from a breezeway on Sun Lake Circle at Sun Lake Apartments near Lake Mary.

Traffic stop

Sheriff's deputies arrested John O'Neal, 19, 2410 Randal Street, Sanford, during a traffic stop on 25th Street Monday. He was charged with attached tag not assigned, failing to register a motor vehicle, and driving with a suspended/revoked license.

Double warrants

Sheriff's deputies arrested Janet Hernandez, 28, of 165 Longleaf Pine Circle, Sanford, on Monday. She was wanted for failing to pay a fine on a conviction of disorderly conduct. Deputies later found she was wanted under the name Carolyn Hernandez, by New York City Police, on a charge of robbery.

Some holiday recycling tips

By SHERRY NEWKIRK
Special to the Herald

The holiday season is here again. Shopping for gifts, throwing parties and getting together with the family are all part of the holiday fun.

One thing is certain. We all buy more during the holiday season than any other time of year. Gifts need wrapping paper, bows and boxes. Parties result in more food and beverages.

All this festivity creates more material to throw away. Here are some tips to help reduce the amount of solid waste that may be headed for the landfill, to help protect the environment and to save money all at the same time.

When buying wrapping paper, consider these alternatives. A favorite gift wrap is the comic section of the Sunday edition of the newspaper. These pages are colorful and can be recycled by placing them in your curbside recycling bin.

Also, pages from old magazines, such as nature photos, sports action pictures or landscaping books can be reused as wrapping paper for presents. Old road maps, plain paper with crayon drawings, or old linens with embroidery also make excellent gift wrap.

To decorate packages, bows

can be replaced with dried flowers or evergreen clippings. When opening gifts, remember to save the gift wrap for next year. Gift boxes can also be reused for special occasions through the year.

Some Christmas gifts may require extra packaging for shipping such as cardboard cartons filled with polystyrene. Unfortunately, most of this packaging material ends up in the landfill.

This year, instead of throwing the cardboard cartons away, reuse them as storage containers in the garage or attic. The polystyrene packing material may be recycled by contacting a local pack-and-mail business who will accept this plastic material for reuse.

New clothing is always a welcome Christmas present. As a result, after the holidays, old clothing may be pulled from the wardrobe. But instead of throwing the clothing away, contact local charitable organizations such as Goodwill Industries of Central Florida, Inc., The Salvation Army or homeless shelters to determine whether they are accepting clothing. In addition, some old clothing can have a second life as cleaning rags.

The holiday season traditionally is time for parties. Extra

food and beverages are usually served, resulting in greater volumes of aluminum, steel, and plastic containers to be recycled.

When planning your party, try to buy as many products packaged in containers that can be recycled in your curbside recycling program. In Seminole County, this includes aluminum beverage cans, steel, food and empty aerosol cans (except for City of Sanford residents), clear, brown and green glass containers, and Nos. 1, 2 & 3 plastic containers (check the bottom of

the plastic container for the number located inside the recycling triangle).

During your party, help your guests find the recycling bin by decorating it with colorful recyclable paper. Hopefully, this will help shorten the clean-up time after the party.

Before you throw something out this Christmas season, please consider whether it can be recycled or reused. You will bring holiday joy to the ears of your recyclers.

Sherry Newkirk is the director of recycling in Seminole County.

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				Holly Hill Nova Rd 252-1991 Open 7-11
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EDITORIALS

Support clinic for teen moms

The planned clinic at Crooms School of Choice appears to be an excellent concept. It is aimed at helping prospective and new teenage mothers.

The move is to be a combined effort involving the Seminole County Public Health Unit, a doctor and a registered nurse. It is to be conducted under the banner of TAPP, Teen Age Parent Program.

According to advance information, the clinic will provide pre-natal and postpartum examinations, give pediatric evaluations, family planning, counseling and treatment.

It will also be equipped to handle various health education services for the students.

While efforts continue to eliminate pregnancies among girls of school age, they have not proven to be successful. There are still many who find themselves faced with preparing for a child.

There are people who admonish them, saying a girl still in school has no business having a child at that young age.

This does not mean however, that they should be refused proper education and treatment.

The Seminole County School Board approved the program earlier this week.

If all goes as planned, the availability of this service may keep the mothers-to-be from missing what could be a considerable amount of school time. That, in turn, will help them improve their education, and enable them to pursue better employment in the future.

In essence, it will keep more mothers out of poverty, which will produce a better life for them and their children in years to come.

This clinic will not solve all of the pregnant teenagers' problems. But it will be available to help them.

We commend the school board for approving this project. Once established, we suggest this will be an excellent project for clubs or organizations, as well as individuals to support.

LETTERS

Building success

Growing up in a large family doesn't mean that dreams can't come true. That dream came true for me on Monday night, Dec. 13, when I graduated from the finest police academy in the state of Florida.

It wasn't an easy road for me. When I was a child, I always wanted to reach out and help my people. I remember cold mornings when my mother would send one of my three brothers to the store to get kerosene for the heater. We didn't have a lot while growing up, but my parents always instilled in us that through God, all things are possible.

I really wanted to go to Florida A&M University upon graduating from Seminole High School, but my mother's illness kept me here in Sanford for an extra two years. I attended Seminole Community College for those two years until I ran out of money. I knew it was the "Devil" trying to intervene with my dream so I joined the United States Army.

The main ingredient in the road to success is my loving wife Shawntara. Both of us were attending school and we hardly ever saw each other. She and our son, Reginald, understood what was happening. I can finally spend more time with my family now, at least until I start school again.

My objective is to obtain a masters degree in the field of law and minor in political science. Eventually, I would like to be the commissioner for the state of Florida. I don't expect anything to be easy for me, but I am determined to hold a political seat.

As I go from day to day, I see a lot of our young black people who are lost in despair. I want to give back to my community, get drug dealers off the streets, and allow our well-deserved elders the opportunity to enjoy life as they once knew it. It's very sad to see that "Black on Black Crime" carries no stiff penalty. After committing "worthless" crimes, criminals are back on the streets the very next day.

While working in Eatonville in the Criminal Investigations Department, I will get the experience that's required of me to earn that political seat.

I would like to conclude by saying being poor and black doesn't mean anything. Go to school, pray, and be obedient and the good Lord will allow your dream to come true. I'm a prime example, being from a family of 11 children, believe me, it wasn't easy. We helped each other in the time of need. Also, my mother and father-in-law were very supportive of me through this strenuous training. But most of all, thank God for all that he has allowed me to accomplish and everything that he has in store for me.

Sammie J. Edwards
Sanford

WILLIAM A. RUSHER

At home with the Reagan family

As Christmas nears, it occurs to me that my readers might enjoy as I did, not long ago, a short visit with America's most beloved ex-president. How is Ronald Reagan doing these days?

The curving two-lane road in Bel Air (adjoining Beverly Hills) takes us past all sorts of no doubt opulent walled estates, and we turn in at a driveway blocked by a metal door both wide and tall. We speak our names into a conveniently placed microphone. Evidently we pass muster, because soon the door groans open and we drive in.

The house is low-slung and California-style, and we are ushered into the living room. Through a glass wall one can see a green sweep of lawn. In the room itself are comfortable chairs and sofas, and a few handsome Oriental objets d'art. Just down the hall, where we glimpsed it coming in, is the president's study (though Mr. Reagan still goes to his downtown office several times a week).

Nancy Reagan enters the room: warm and welcoming, impeccably dressed and groomed, but with that hint of vulnerability that characterizes her. And then President Reagan joins us.

Is he a bit heavier? At nearly 83, he's entitled. But he stands as erect as ever; his hair, in that familiar pompadour, is still only slightly gray;

and he looks positively avelte in a soft yellow sport jacket. There are deeper lines in his face, but there's still a twinkle in his eyes, and the voice hasn't changed at all.

How, we ask, does he spend his time, aside from those trips to the office? Well, on weekends there's always the ranch. Does he still ride horseback? Yes, but he's given up jumping.

How about golf? Yes indeed, quite a bit of it. And that gives him the chance to tell a little joke — this one at his own expense: "When I was in the White House, the only chance I got to play golf was at Walter Annenberg's place in Palm Springs, where we used to go for New Year's Day. One day I teed up and swung, and the ball



How is Ronald Reagan doing these days?

sailed right down the fairway — a wonderful shot. Another stroke and it was on the green." Here the old actor paused just long enough to let the suspense build a little.

"Then it took me seven strokes to get to the cup!"

We talk comfortably about politics and other subjects, with Nancy chiming in. It isn't widely known that her efforts in the war against drugs have continued since she left the White House. In addition to attending rallies and school assemblies for her "Just Say No" program, she was in Washington in May for an anti-drug rally sponsored by Students Mobilized Against Drugs, and in El Paso in July to address the Texans' War on Drugs Youth Leadership Conference. To the latter she presented a grant check — part of nearly \$4.4 million awarded to drug prevention and education programs by the Nancy Reagan Foundation since she launched it in 1985.

Not for the first time, I marvel at the close relationship these two have established, and the very different roles they play. The president is always relaxed and affable, assuming the good will of everyone he encounters. It is Nancy who "keeps the books," staying always on the alert for anything that might threaten her husband. It is a marriage in a million.



MARTIN SCHRAM

Unions must labor to change

This is the Winter of Labor's Discontent, and President Clinton and AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland have just held their first chilly post-NAFTA meeting in the wrong room. Instead of meeting in the Oval Office, they should have dropped by one of the most popular classrooms at Detroit's Wayne State University — for a quick lesson in how to bridge their politically perilous chasm.

"The Future of the Labor Movement," is the course title. And don't be put off when its ever-candid professor declares: "Truth is, I really don't know what the labor movement's future is."

Presidents Clinton and Kirkland, meet and greet Professor Douglas Fraser.

And take extensive notes. For Fraser — a leading figure of the labor movement who for six years was president of the United Auto Workers — should be drafted to serve as a one-man, one-lane bridge between today's embittered labor leaders and the Democratic president who defeated them in the battle over the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Publicly, Fraser had said he would have voted "no" on NAFTA — because, as he told me, he couldn't desert his old UAW rank-and-file, who had become so fearful that the accord would cost them their jobs. But: Truth is, Fraser thinks NAFTA may turn out to be a great boon to America's hard-working middle-class men and women.

"In the long run, I believe NAFTA will benefit Mexico, the United States and Canada," he told me. Fraser said he thought there was merit to the auto industry's argument that U.S. auto workers would benefit greatly by getting rid of Mexico's 25 percent tariffs on trucks and its strict Mexican-content requirements.

"Now, I know I'm arguing against the auto union," Fraser said. "But I think back to the days of Walter Reuther, and I ask myself: How would he have argued this? And I think he'd have said that a rich nation has an obligation to help developing nations. And as that developing nation prospers, its people will become tremendous customers for the United States."

So, the gospel according to Fraser contains this crucial lesson for his one-time fellow labor chiefs: No side in the NAFTA War had a monopoly on serving working middle-class Americans. NAFTA was not a test to determine who was the greatest friend of — or enemy of — labor's rank-and-file.

Yet that 2-ton nuance was lost on Kirkland

and his labor luminaries. Somewhere in the battle, the once-enlightened AFL-CIO president began viewing darkly all who dared disagree with him. Union leaders threatened to cut off support of all who voted for NAFTA, and when Clinton properly criticized that, Kirkland blasted him for having "abdicated his role" as head of the Democratic Party. Now the AFL-CIO warns it might challenge Clinton for president in 1998. Meanwhile, labor hopes Clinton will support reforms including a ban on permanent replacement of strikers.

Some labor leaders have shifted from merely vehement to vengeful. Consider International Union of Electrical Workers President William Bywater's comments to The New York Times: "I am not going to let bygones be bygones as far as NAFTA is concerned. I am not giving a dime to any candidate who voted for NAFTA, and am going to redouble efforts for those who actually supported us. I am not going to forget NAFTA."

Clearly, Doug Fraser is, to his very core, pro-union, pro-working men and women. Why are Kirkland, Bywater & Company unable to accept that President Clinton was motivated by the same concerns?

Consider this tough truth: Most of today's labor chiefs call themselves liberals, but react with unabashed conservatism when confronted with change. They would do well to take a course from Professor Fraser. "I tell my class, 'Never resist new technology or automation,'" says Fraser. "You have to accept the inevitability of change. Labor's fight today must be to make change work on behalf of the working men and women."

LETTERS TO EDITOR

Letters to the editor are welcome. All letters must be signed, include the address of the writer and a daytime telephone number. Letters should be on a single subject and be as brief as possible. The letters are subject to editing.

JOSEPH SPEAR

Big Bang theory and Christmas

It was just a few wrinkles and ripples, they said, but it was a giant step for mankind because we are now much closer to solving the most profound conundrum of all time: Where did we come from and where are we going?

"The Big Bang Theory Gets a Big Boost," read a headline in Newsweek. "Big Bang 'Ripples' Have Universal Impact," bannered the Washington Post. Bryant Gumbel marveled over it on NBC's "Today" Show. Ted Koppel mulled it over on ABC's "Nightline."

Stephen Hawking, the British physicist who is often described as Einstein's successor, sounded awe-struck. "It is the discovery of the century, if not of all time," he said.

The event that had everyone so aroused was the detection last spring by a team of scientists at the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory of "ripples in the fabric of space-time" that validated the Big

Bang theory of creation. Using sophisticated instruments aboard NASA's Cosmic Background Explorer spacecraft, the scientists had found variations in radiation that was emitted in the first trillionth of a second of the explosion that gave birth to the universe. This would explain why the cosmos, which began as a uniform mass of particles, ended up a clumpy mess of stars and galaxies and clusters.

It was, they said, the missing link. The last barrier to the general acceptance of the Big Bang theory had been removed.

So what does it mean to us earthlings, us — I borrow the words of University of Maryland physics professor Robert Parks here — us "insignificant specks of self-replicating matter on a small planet circling an undistinguished star in an ordinary galaxy" — as we celebrate the holiest of religious seasons? Is science rendering God irrelevant? Will Christmas someday be obsolete? Will we celebrate Big Bang Day instead?

Listen to the words of John Mather, a NASA scientist and one of the driving forces behind the COBE satellite. "The story we found," he told a Washington Post reporter, "is very parallel to the story in Genesis. The universe starts with a great burst of light." He had reread his Bible, Mather said, and found that "the Bible has things in the same sequence as we have. It's just a question of what you mean by a day."

The Big Bang story was just the most spectacular news from the world of cosmology over the past couple of years. There were many more less sensational discoveries, most of them brought to us courtesy of the Hubble Space Telescope:

- In January 1992, Hubble astronomers announced there was much less matter in space than previously thought. This translates into weak gravitational forces and means that the universe might keep expanding forever, instead of eventually collapsing upon itself.

- In June 1992, scientists disclosed that Hubble had photographed a nearby galaxy, the Whirlpool, and found a huge, jagged "X" right in the middle of it. One bar of the X is believed to be a black hole, viewed edge-on.

- Also in June 1992, Hubble astronomers announced the universe was at least 15 billion years old, much more ancient than current scientific opinion held it to be.

- In December 1992, Hubble astronomers said they had found galaxies that could be 10 billion light years away — the oldest of these celestial bodies ever beheld.

They will keep on discovering such things, of course, but they will never be able to tell us the why. Religion can do that. Our faith can do that. Science cannot.



Big Bangs, Schmig Bangs. Christmas is forever.



Fraser thinks NAFTA may turn out to be a great boon to America's hard-working middle class men and women.

Sports

B

IN BRIEF

LOCALLY

Magic waive Williams

ORLANDO — Lorenzo Williams, who had played in three games since joining the Orlando Magic on Nov. 30, was waived Wednesday.

AROUND THE STATE

Marlins re-sign Hammond

MIAMI — Florida Marlins left-hander Chris Hammond, who won one game after the All-Star break last season, received a hefty raise Wednesday to \$425,000 for next season.

Hammond, 27, was 10-4 at the All-Star break this year but finished 11-12 with a 4.66 ERA, his highest in three full major league seasons.

FSU thumps Mount St Mary's

TALLAHASSEE — Bob Sura's 20 points led five players in double figures as Florida State raced to a 108-81 victory Wednesday over Mount St. Mary's of Maryland.

Chuck Graham and 7-foot Andre Reid added 16 points apiece and Maurice Robinson and James Collins contributed 14 each for FSU (15-1).

USF gets past Old Dominion

TAMPA — Chucky Atkins hit three free throws with six tenths of a second remaining to lift South Florida to a 75-73 victory over Old Dominion on Wednesday.

Atkins led South Florida (6-2) with 22 points, 11 in each half, and seven assists. Jesse Salters had 15 points and eight rebounds.

Panthers end Richter's run

MIAMI — Goaltender Mike Richter's club record 20-game unbeaten streak came to an end Wednesday night as the New York Rangers lost 3-2 to the Florida Panthers.

Scott Mellanby had an assist and scored the decisive goal to lift the Panthers.

AROUND THE NATION

Florida bests Villanova

VILLANOVA, Pa. — Craig Brown scored 20 points and Dan Cross added 19 as Florida held off a late Villanova rally and defeated the Wildcats 85-77 Wednesday night in the first meeting ever between the two schools.

Demetri Hill added 15 points for Florida (7-1).

Syracuse shoots down 'Canes

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Adrian Antry and Lawrence Moten helped stake No. 21 Syracuse to a big first-half lead and the Orangemen turned the tables on the Big East's top defense, defeating Miami 81-52 Wednesday night.

Steve Rich was the only Hurricane to solve Syracuse's defense, scoring 12 of Miami's 23 first-half points and finishing with 25.

Creighton holds off FAMU

OMAHA, Neb. — Jerry Vanderheydt scored a career-high 28 points, including two crucial free throws with three seconds left in the game, to lead Creighton to a 74-70 victory over Florida A&M Wednesday night.

Kevin Colson led FAMU (1-6) with 28 points and Demetrius Salters added 10.

Rice leads Heat by 76ers

PHILADELPHIA — Glen Rice scored 25 points Wednesday night, leading the Miami Heat to their first victory in 12 games in Philadelphia, 98-90 over the 76ers.

Clarence Weatherspoon and Dana Barros had 17 points each for the Sixers.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Basketball

Central Florida Classic at Oviedo High School: Seminole vs. Oviedo, 2 p.m.; Luther vs. West Orange (girls), 3:30 p.m.; Lake Brantley vs. Lyman, 5 p.m.; Oviedo vs. Pine Castle Christian (girls championship game), 6:30 p.m.; Boone vs. Lake Mary (boys championship game), 8 p.m.

Boys' Soccer

University at Lyman, 7:30 p.m. (alumni game at 5:30 p.m.)
Lake Howell at Dr. Phillips, Junior varsity at 5:45 p.m., varsity at 7:30 p.m.

Girls' Soccer

Seminole in Flagler-Palm Coast Tournament



BASKETBALL

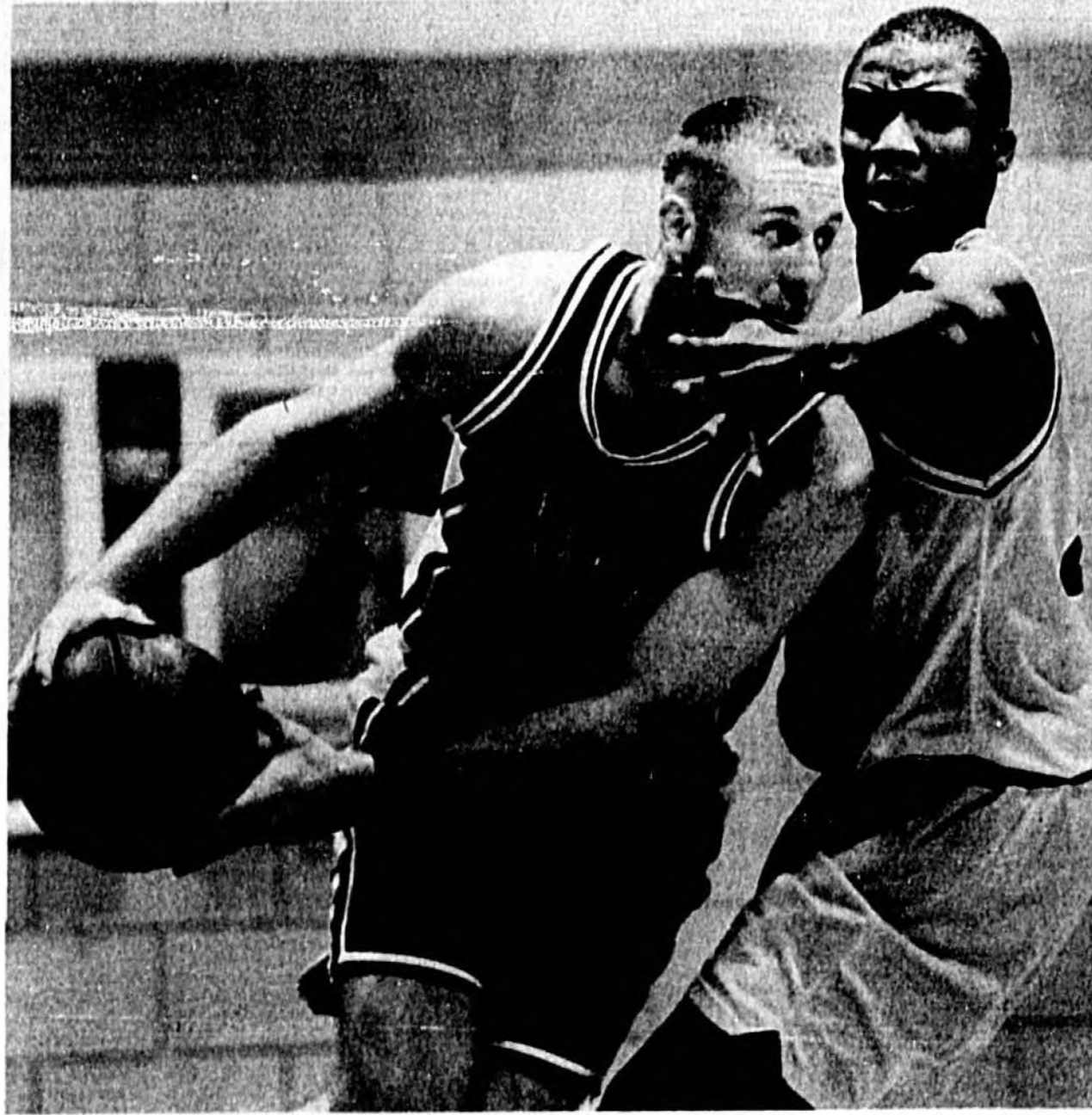
7:30 p.m. — SUN, New Jersey Nets at Orlando Magic, (L)

Complete listings on Page 2B

There are no ugly wins

Rams, Braves gain CFC finals

By TONY DeBORMIER
Herald Sports Editor



After scoring just four points in the first half, Jimmy Nowberry (No. 34, left) came on in the second half to net 15 points and lead the Lake Mary Rams past DeWayne Bell (No. 24, right) and the Lyman Greyhounds into tonight's championship game of the Central Florida Classic.

OVIEDO — While they took different paths, the Lake Mary Rams and Boone Braves ended up at the same place: tonight's championship game of the Central Florida Classic holiday basketball tournament at Oviedo High School.

You could say that Boone took the low road Wednesday, slogging their way to a 46-32 win over the Lake Brantley Patriots in their semifinal contest, where Lake Mary took the high road, rallying for a thrilling 69-65 come-from-behind win over the Lyman Greyhounds in Wednesday's nightcap.

In consolation bracket games played earlier Wednesday, the Oviedo Lions rolled by Lake Howell's Silver Hawks, 77-58, and Seminole's Arrow Force II ripped the Daytona Beach-Seabreeze Sanderabs, 75-45.

The tournament wraps up with five games today, beginning with the consolation bracket finals matching Seminole and Oviedo at 2 p.m. At 3:30 p.m., West Orange and Luther will play in the girls' third-place contest before Lake Brantley and Lyman take the floor at 5 p.m. for the boys' third-place game.

Oviedo takes on Pine Castle Christian Academy in the girls' championship game at 6:30 p.m. while Lake Mary and Boone are scheduled to tangle at 8 p.m. in the boys' championship game.

While his team fell behind early and nearly gave the game away late, Lake Mary coach Willie Richardson was understandably pleased with the Rams' win over the Greyhounds (7-2).

"Any win is a good win," said Richardson, whose squad improved to 7-4. "Lyman does a good job. They really got after us. We tried to tell the guys that they were dangerous. They're not afraid to get in there and dig for the ball."

"We have to take better care of the ball, especially toward the end of the game. We tried real hard to give the game back to them (Lyman)."

See Tournament, Page 2B

First loss of season offers lesson for Rams

From Staff Reports

COCOA — While the long-term benefits may be extremely positive, the immediate return of Wednesday afternoon's exercise of the Lake Mary High School boys' soccer team were substantially lacking.

Thanks to some miscommunication on defense in the waning seconds, the undefeated Lake Mary Rams are undefeated no longer, suffering a 1-0 loss to the Melbourne Bulldogs (11-0) at the Cocoa Expo Center.

Jesse Goldfarb scored the game's only goal when he collected the bounce of a long kick up from the back and flicked it over Ram goalie Lodi Travlos with less than 30 seconds remaining in the game.

"It was more of a desperation play," said Lake Mary coach Larry McCorkle as he tried to describe the goal. "They just boomed the ball down field. We had people in position, but it was one of those 'I got it, you take it' things."

"The ball came down between three defenders and bounced really high. Goldfarb just slipped in and got to it before anyone else did. It was a real strange situation."

Playing without leading scorers Jodi deBruin (who leaves for Mexico Monday with the U.S. Under-20 national team) and Aren Cook (who suffered an injury in the game's first minute), the Rams were outshout by Melbourne, 11-9. Each team had three corner kicks.

"They (Melbourne) are pretty decent," said McCorkle. "We didn't have Jodi and Aren, but that

shouldn't have mattered. We played tentative soccer in the first half, but then we dominated the second half."

"That was some of the best soccer we've played all year, we just couldn't penetrate, we couldn't finish. The ball movement from the back to the front was great, we just couldn't score."

McCorkle said that some of the blame for the loss should fall to him.

"I'm probably as guilty as anybody," said McCorkle. "If I had coached as well as the guys played, we would have won today. There were some things we did today that I wouldn't do in a playoff situation."

Basically, what McCorkle did was use more of his second-line players, getting them quality minutes against a quality opponent in a non-pressure situation.

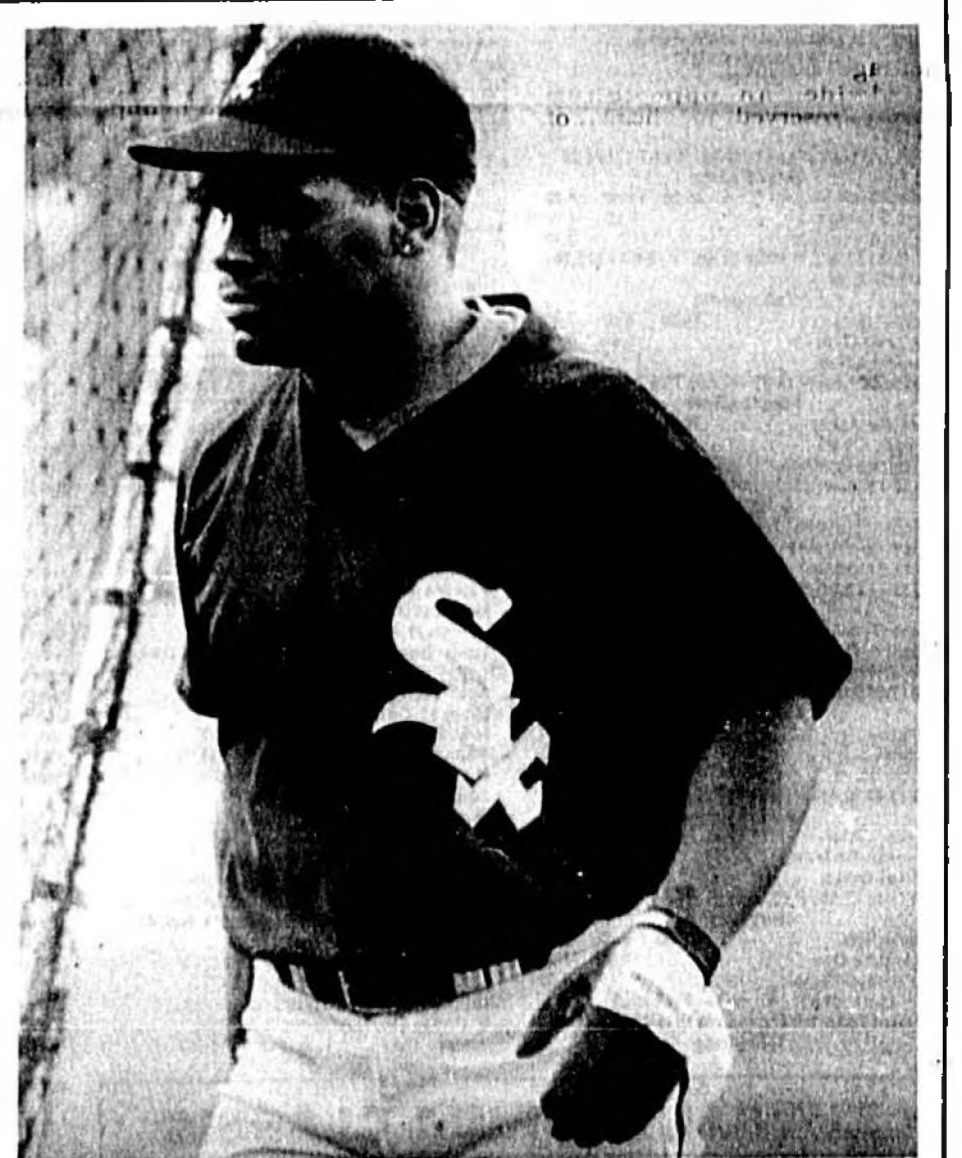
"I felt like we had to get some of those people some game time," McCorkle. "Down the road, we're going to need them."

While the end result was disappointing, what McCorkle saw from his second-line squad wasn't.

"I'm real pleased with what some of second-line players did," he said. "Ralph Eugene came in and did good job in Aren Cook's place. I was really pleased with his effort."

"Defensively, we played real well. At the start of the first half, we were still on the bus, mentally. But Greg (Velho, Lake Mary's starting goalkeeper) had a great first half. He saved a penalty kick and made a couple of other key saves that definitely kept us in the game."

Lake Mary (now 11-1-3) won't play again until next week in the Pizza Hut Invitational.



Raines gets three-year deal

According to several reports Wednesday night, Sanford's Tim Raines has agreed in principal to a new three-year contract with the Chicago White Sox. The total value of the pact is estimated to be \$11 million.

Late pass nets victory for Castro in Bomber feature

By PAUL MARBEGLIA
Special to the Herald

NEW SMYRNA BEACH — With five laps to go, Titusville's Glenn Castro overtook early race leader Bobby Stevens and went on to win the 35-lap Skip's Shoes and Boots-sponsored Bomber feature last Saturday, Dec. 18, at New Smyrna Speedway.

Castro, who set the evening's fastest qualifying time, started the race from the eighth position by virtue of the draw. But by the 13th lap, Castro was in the top five. Eight laps later, he was riding the rear bumper of Stevens, the race leader.

As flagman Ken Golden was indicating that there were five laps to go in the event, Castro slid to the inside of Stevens to claim the point. Once in command, Castro had clear sailing to victory lane.

"The car ran pretty fair, considering that I wrecked it real bad two weeks ago at Orlando," said Castro, 33, who has been racing for two years. "I should have thrown it away then, but I didn't have the money for a new one."

"So I chained the car to a tree and kept jerking

on it 'til I got it fairly straightened out. It still has a few wrecked places on it, but it's OK. It's tough getting ready for a race when you're a one-man operation. I'm the crew, the engine builder, and the driver."

Castro, the current Florida Association of Stock Car Automobile Racing (FASCAR) Bomber points leader, now has five feature wins on the new season.

Stevens trailed Castro to victory lane by seven car lengths. Rounding out the top five, in order of finish, were Johnny Mitchell, Glenn Cordell, and John Smith (who led the first three laps of the event).

"Glen drove me a good race," said Stevens, who has eight feature wins on the season. "If the car didn't get loose on me, it could have been a lot closer finish."

"We developed a small oil leak and we were putting oil on the right rear tire. That's what was causing us to slip and slide."

In Late Model racing action, Gary Balough notched his third consecutive feature win, giving the Pee Wee Griffin Racing Team its 29th checkered flag of the season.

"Our goal for '93 was to win 30 races," said

Griffin, the car owner. "We might still be able to do it. If we don't, we had a good season. I'm proud of everyone connected with our team."

Trailing Balough across the finish line were Ricky Wood, Tuffy Hester, Tom Slattery, and Mike Kubanek.

Keith Blaga came out on top in the Limited Late Model main event. Rounding out the top five were Michael Williams, Timmy Todd, Ted Head, and Gary Schlichter.

In the Sportsman class, Paul Colgan beat Art Chapman to the finish line. Trailing the top two finishers were Darren Gould, Pat McClain, and Barbara Pierce.

The Modifieds feature went to Marc Kinley, who finished in front of Perry Crowe, Gary Salvatore, Wally Patterson, and Ron Blackard.

Conrad Grenier was the winner in the Mini-Stock main event. Bob Doxle came in second with Ted Vulpius, Keith French, and Ed Mann in tow.

Tim Nichols was the winner of the Run-About feature. Orlando's Debbie Santo finished first in the Mini-Stock Enduro.

BLONDIE by Chic Young

LET'S HEAD FOR HOME
I'VE GOT AN IDEA FOR OUR CAR POOL
WHAT'S THAT, DAD?
NEXT YEAR AT CHRISTMAS...
LET'S DO OUR SHOPPING ON ALTERNATE DAYS
I'LL SECOND THAT!

BEETLE BAILEY by Mort Walker

OTTO SHOULD BE DOING SOME WORK AROUND HERE
LIKE WHAT, SIR?
THERE MUST BE SOMETHING... HOW ABOUT GUARD DUTY?
SORRY
I DON'T DO WINDOWS AND I DON'T DO GUARD DUTY

THE BORN LOSER by Art Sansom

OH, YOU BETTER WATCH OUT, YOU BETTER NOT CRY, YOU BETTER NOT POUT, I'M TELLING YOU WHY...
I'M STILL HOLDING YOUR BONUS CHECKS!

PEANUTS by Charles M. Schulz

I THINK I'VE LEARNED SOMETHING
YOU CAN SLIDE DOWN THE STEPS...
BUT YOU CAN'T SLIDE...
UP THE STEPS...

EEK & MEEK by Howie Schneider

HOW COME WE SAY 'THE MOON IS OUT' WHEN IT'S SHINING...
AND LIGHTS ARE 'OUT' WHEN THEY'RE NOT?
I'LL GO CHECK

TUMBLEWEEDS by T.K. Ryan

THE TIME HAS COME FOR ME TO DISAPPEAR AS MYSTERIOUSLY AS I APPEARED!
CLOSE YOUR EYES AND DON'T PEEK!
HOW... WE GET ALL THE TOP TALENT

ARLO AND JANIS by Jimmy Johnson

I CALLED TO TELL YOU MERRY CHRISTMAS! WHAT ARE YOU GETTING?
I'M GETTING CLOTHES THIS YEAR... HOW ABOUT YOU?
THINGS I NEED, YOU KNOW... MAKEUP, BRAS...
SOUL! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

FRANK AND ERNEST by Bob Thaves

TUNA HELPER
BURGER HELPER
SANTA HELPER

GARFIELD by Jim Davis

ATTENTION! DAD IS GOING TO GIVE HIS ANNUAL HOLIDAY READING OF 'BINKY, THE CLOWN WHO SAVED CHRISTMAS!'
SO EVERYBODY GATHER AROUND REAL CLOSE!
OKAY, WHO DRANK THE GARLIC NOG?

ROBOTMAN by Jim Meddick

MR. ROBOTMAN, DO YOU BELIEVE IN SANTA CLAUS?
WELL... ERR... YES... I MEAN IN THE SENSE THAT SANTA CAN AND DOES EXIST IN AN INDIVIDUAL'S HEART... UM... LIKE THE EASTER BUNNY (E-H-EM... AND/OR RELATED PHENOMENA... UMM...
HE SOUNDED LIKE MOM DID WHEN WE ASKED WHERE BABIES COME FROM.
YEAH KIND OF LIKE A POLITICIAN OR SOMETHING.

Biopsy needed to detect bone disease

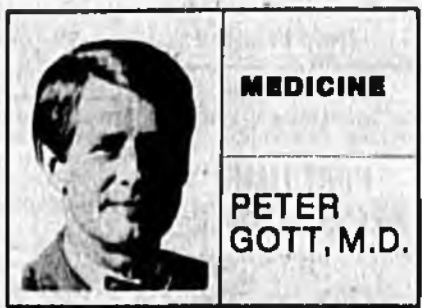
DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm a 61-year-old female who has taken calcium for years. In the last two months I've broken two ribs, one on the left and one on the right, with hardly any pressure. A lung and rib X-ray revealed a hole and deterioration. My doctor seems to think this could be caused by a tumor. A follow-up bone scan revealed arthritis of the neck. While my doctor suggested removal of part of the bone for biopsy to rule out cancer, I don't have any hospitalization insurance and have been reluctant to go through the procedure. Do you have an opinion?

DEAR READER: You need a biopsy. Your doctor is correct. Osteoporosis and other bone diseases marked by a loss of calcium usually affect the weight-bearing bones (such as the spine, hips and legs), where fractures commonly occur. On the other hand, non-traumatic rib fractures almost always reflect a more serious condition. For example, a tumor may have started in (or, more likely, spread to) a rib, causing the bone to collapse. Such tumors commonly originate in the breasts or lungs.

A bone biopsy will enable the doctor to identify the presence of a growth in the bone -- even, perhaps, to diagnose where it came from. This is important information because therapy varies, depending on the source of the tumor. For example, breast malignancies that spread to bone can be treated with anti-hormone pills. Also, certain cancers respond to radiation therapy. Therefore, before suggesting treatment, your doctor will need to know if a tumor is present -- and its source. Of course, your fractured ribs may not be due to cancer at all. This would be good news and the treatment would be different -- medicine, such as Didronel, to strengthen the bones, for instance.

Don't deprive yourself of nec-

essary medical attention because of insurance problems. Most hospitals and doctors are willing to provide free medical care to patients who cannot afford it. Ask your doctor about this. Make an effort to negotiate a way to obtain the biopsy. To give you more information, I'm sending you a free copy of my Health Report "Insuring



MEDICINE
PETER GOTT, M.D.

Your Good Health." Other readers who would like a copy should send \$1.25 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2433, New York, NY 10163.

ACROSS

- Shellfish
- Gripping device
- Polar lights
- Kisses
- Cruel
- Blake
- Paving stone
- Body of water
- Line two
- Actress
- Marie
- Male sheep
- Unplayed golf hole
- Ceremony
- Spending plan
- Roman garments
- Shoe grip
- Penalize
- Fuse
- Honey maker
- Artist's dog

DOWN

- Taxi
- Enice
- In
- Blagen (routinized)
- Mrs. in Madrid
- Summa laude
- Future LL.B. exam
- Actor Ed
- TV, radio, etc.
- Religious poem
- Although
- Creek
- Gallery
- Content
- Celtic language
- Essential character
- UK broadcaster
- Actor
- Brynner
- Dutch town
- Chaney
- Chatter
- Crane arm part
- Enzyme suffix
- That woman
- Sail
- Taut
- TV's - Haw
- The Scriptures
- Got along
- Collect
- Large low couch
- Liver fluid
- Hardy heroine
- Cordon
- Bronie heroine Jane
- Nothing
- Unrefined metal

WIN AT BRIDGE

By Phillip Alder

At the bridge table, talk is informative; but at times silence is more revealing. Where is the key silence in today's deal?

Cover the East and South hands. Look first at the auction. South's one-spade response guaranteed at least five spades. With only four spades, he would have made a negative double.

You lead the heart seven: two, queen, six. Your partner cashes the heart king: jack, five, three. And he continues with the heart ace. After declarer follows suit with the four, how do you defend?

Your side has three tricks in. Might the fourth trick be the diamond ace in partner's hand? No, because East passed as dealer -- the key silence -- and has produced nine points in hearts.

Did you signal for a diamond switch? You should know that won't work, as declarer has 10 top tricks: five spades, one diamond and four clubs.

Were you tempted to ruff the heart ace and try to give your partner a diamond ruff? If so, you are leading partner. With a diamond void, he would have given you a suit-preference signal by playing his hearts in descending order: ace, king, queen. (No, with a diamond void he shouldn't lead a low heart on the third round. What if you are void in trumps and hold the diamond ace?)

You should discard a discouraging diamond three. Hopefully partner will get the message and lead a fourth heart. You ruff with the spade jack, forcing dummy to overruff. If it is your lucky day, this will effect an upruff, promoting partner's spade 10 to the setting trick.

Answer to Previous Puzzle

DOYE	WIS	DOYS
UFOS	HAT	DORE
PLUS	OMA	SMUT
LAC	TABBY	IYO
ETANA	ICAHN	
ENACT	PERKS	
UKE	OLE	
GIL	UDO	
ETHEL	TILTS	
LASTS	NEWEL	
ORE	TRONG	OGA
ALYO	UGO	SWUM
MABT	NEO	FARE
SPAT	KEN	OVER

HOROSCOPE

By Bernice Bede Osol
YOUR BIRTHDAY
Dec. 24, 1893

The year ahead might turn into a period of accelerated activity and travel. Although you may not trek great distances, lots of fun and adventures are indicated.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Someone in your group might try to usurp your unique role with your peers today. His/her chances for doing so are so slim they're infinitesimal. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences which are governing you in the year ahead. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions today by mailing \$1.25 and a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 4465, New York, N. Y. 10163. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Several caring friends might do things for you today they wouldn't do for others. Each might insist, however, that their particular gesture be kept con-

fidential.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Someone you recently met has been waiting for a signal from you regarding your intentions. The gift giving holidays offer you good opportunities to show your true feelings.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Your chances for generating something better than that which you invested are excellent today in areas where you are unselfishly motivated.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) If anyone can infuse spirit and warmth into a social gathering today, you could be the prime candidate. I'm sure all your friends will concur.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) In a gift giving arrangement today where you are concerned that another does as well as you do, the results will be mutually gratifying.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Even though you may play a low profile role in a partnership arrangement today, its benefits will be shared, but not necessarily at the same time.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Your best asset today is your ability to improve upon things which are already pretty darn good. Your ingenious touch adds a new dimension.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Numerous pleasant experiences are indicated for today. You're functioning in a mode where others could feel impelled to do nice things for you without having to be asked.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) If you can't entertain at your place today, try to make an arrangement where you can function as a host or hostess. You'd be superb in this role.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Today if you have to select a gift for someone very special, the thought behind the present will have much more impact than its price.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Material aspects continue to look hopeful for you today. Unique perks are probable from individuals associated with you in your work or career.

ANNIE by Leonard Starr

A THIEF IN THE BARN LAST NIGHT, ANNIE? OH, WELL -- WHEN HE SAW THERE WAS NOTHING TO STEAL...
THAT'S WHAT I FIGGERED, G.G., STILL...
...IT WAS KIND O' SPOOKY! THIS GUY HAD WILD, SCRAGGLY HAIR THAT STUCK OUT, KIND O' LIKE...
YES, ANNIE...
...LIKE WHAT?
ER...