

# Sanford Herald

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90th Year, No. 84 - Sanford, Florida

## Man's bizarre behavior forces school lock-down

### Mom reports son shot himself before running into SHS math building

By MARIA OREM  
Herald Staff Writer

SANFORD - A man with a suspected self-inflicted gunshot wound caused a lock-down at Seminole High School Wednesday when he ran into one of the buildings.

Lynn Williams Jr., 26, of 2818 Marshall Avenue, at 12:42 was reported by his mother, Emily Williams as having shot himself, according to Sgt. Darrell Brewer of the Sanford Police Department.

According to the mother, Brewer said there were gunshots and Williams had a towel wrapped around his arm which appeared to have blood on it. A handgun was later recovered in the home.

"The mother said he had no other weapons and didn't believe he was a danger to anyone," she said.

Emily Williams told the Sanford Herald she thought there was a drug problem.

"The crack made him do it," she said. And although she was surprised when she heard the gunshots coming from her son's bedroom, Williams said she wasn't shocked because there

was crack involved.

"He was in his room when I heard the shots," she said. "I didn't move because I didn't want to get shot."

Williams, who is confined and dependent on oxygen, said her son had lived at home all his life.

As one of the first police officers to arrive at the scene, Brewer said when police checked the residence, Williams, who could be despondent, ran out the back door, jumped over two fences and ran into the Seminole High campus toward the math building.

"When our officers arrived he ran out the back toward the school," Brewer said. "The police officer chasing him said she last saw Williams run into the math building."

Brewer said at that point school officials were notified and the campus was sealed off as police officers searched the buildings. About 12 police officers and sheriff's deputies combed the area with the assistance of the sheriff's Tactical Air Command helicopter.

The campus was mostly empty except for some faculty members and students involved  
See School, Page 6A



A few Seminole High School students remained after school Wednesday, when the campus was locked

down during a search for a man suspected of shooting himself before running into the math building.

## Making Christmas bright

### RSVP: A little help for Santa

By MARY ROWELL  
Herald Correspondent

WINTER SPRINGS - A little know fact is that Santa has had a little help from a Seminole County senior's group for quite some time.

For the 24th year in a row, the Retired Senior Volunteer Program held their Christmas store for Seminole County children. RSVP held this year's Christmas store at Highlands Elementary in Winter Springs. Children from Highlands, Hamilton, Casselberry, Midway, English Estates and Goldsboro Elementary Schools came to the Christmas store. About 1,250 children in all visited the store.

Children don't shop at the store for themselves, but for their families. Each had a name tag for the presents they needed. The name tag listed the family member's names. A volunteer then took the child shopping in the store, making sure they got a present for each family member. Other volunteers then wrapped the  
See RSVP, Page 6A



Herald Photo by Mary Rowell

Kristyn Shields, a fifth grader, is the daughter of Pat Shields, the volunteer coordinator for RSVP. Kristyn likes to help out and here assists Jesse Reese choose gifts for his family.

## Plans hit the road for 'ugliest in the county'

By RUSS WHITE  
Herald Staff Writer

SANFORD - At 33, Kevin Fall is young enough to be one of those who will someday enjoy a more vibrant and economically sound U.S. Highway 17-92.

A whole new 17-92 may take 10, even 20 years, says Fall, the Capital Program Analyst for Seminole County whose efforts helped the county arrive at a redevelopment plan and redevelopment trust fund.

The Board of County Commissioners voted, 3-2, on Tuesday to spruce up the county's No. 1 thoroughfare. Supporters say the plan is necessary to breathe new life into the 12-mile corridor that stretches from Sanford to Casselberry/Fern Park.

Those who oppose the plan claim that it will give too much power to local governments. An attorney for car dealer Bill Ray protested that the redevelopment plan's underlying conclusions are flawed. Commissioners Grant Maloy

and Dick Van Der Weide did not endorse the plan.

The 17-92 redevelopment is intended to enhance the public health, safety, morals and welfare of the county's residents, revitalize the area economically and socially, improve the tax base and promote sound growth.

"Let's face it, 17-92 is the ugliest road in the county," said Sanford Mayor Larry Dale. "It was developed piecemeal, shabbily before anyone had an idea about planning."

"To do nothing about it would be absurd...it's going to take awhile but let's get going," Dale said. "This is the major road through the county, and it needs fixing."

The Sanford Commission is expected to approve the plan and be part of the Community Redevelopment Agency that requires cooperation from the county and the five cities along the highway - Sanford, Lake Mary, Winter Springs, Longwood and Casselberry.

Dale said the Sanford Commission will discuss the plan.  
See Road, Page 6A

## Lake Mary discusses road redevelopment

By SHARI BRODIE  
Herald Staff Writer

LAKE MARY - The city commission tonight is scheduled to hear a presentation by Seminole County on the proposed Community Redevelopment Agency for U.S. Highway 17-92.

Lake Mary falls within the north corridor area, with Sanford, and has three properties, totaling 45 acres, which are affected by the highway improvement project.

The CRA will administer a Tax Increment Financing District which will fund the improvements to 12.6-mile county "Main Street." If Lake Mary

supports the CRA, the city will have one voting member on the board.

Senior Planner Susan Deines prepared a report for the commission that states the city's contribution to the TIF would be less than .5 percent of Lake Mary's ad valorem tax revenues on the properties. That amount is currently \$18,760.

The subject properties are on either side of Weldon Boulevard on the west side of 17-92. This includes Victoria Square shopping center and a proposed commercial/office development called Cypress Point.

Deines said that the redevelopment of the 17-92 corridor

will have a positive impact on the city with the addition of "gateway enhancements at Weldon Boulevard, lake edge enhancements at Lake Minnie including boardwalks and landscape improvements... and sidewalk construction on both sides of U.S. 17-92."

The total cost of improvements in the Lake Mary Planning District is estimated to be between \$884,500 to \$1,091,000.

A resolution has been drafted for the commission's adoption. The county is requesting approval of the resolution so it can move forward with implementation. Deines' report finds  
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Love does not consist in gazing at each other but in looking outward together in the same direction. <sup>9</sup>

-Antoine de Saint-Exupery

## Using the arts to build kids' self esteem

By MARIA OREM  
Herald Staff Writer

SANFORD - Art could be the answer for at risk youth with extra time on their hands and looking for a creative outlet.

Under the auspices of Rose Davis of Brethren Reaching Out (BRO), students from 10 Seminole County schools participated in an art workshop on Saturday at the Sanford Police Department.

"The focus is intervention and prevention," Davis said. "We use the arts an innovative dimension in this program."

The theme of the program was "Creative Minds Help To Make Bright Futures." This particular event, Davis said, was dedicated to the SPD, the program's main supporter for the past three years. The activity was sponsored by the Partners In Art Visual Education under the leadership of Kevin Haran of the University of Central Florida. Other supporters include the Seminole

County Sheriff's Office and members of the Seminole County Juvenile Justice Council.

BRO is an active ministry or program for youth at risk who live in high crime prone areas. The goal, Davis said is to help increase the self-esteem in young people by giving them a chance to participate in activities. Davis' group also provides counseling and mentoring to area youth seeking alternatives to the environment they are surrounded by.

Many of the youth participating in the program live in within the Sanford Housing Authority. In the near future, BRO will be operating from the Seminole Garden Apartments under the supervision of Tony Taylor, the apartment complex manager.

Davis, a member of Reddick Memorial First Born Church of the Living God in Midway for the past 12 years, works with four other churches and many volunteers from the community  
See BRO, Page 6A



Herald Photo by Arch Booth

Sanford Police Ofc. Mike Taylor and Chief Joe Dillard encourage young artists at work.

## IN BRIEF

### State park program

With the initial year of the AmeriCorps Florida State Parks Program drawing to a close, the Florida Park Service recently announced that the highly successful environmental service program will be extended for its second year in 1998. The Park Service is currently recruiting new AmeriCorps Team Members for the Program.

Founded in part through a grant from the Florida Commission on Community Service, the AmeriCorps Florida State Parks program provides Members with the opportunity to learn new skills, take on new responsibilities, and encourages community involvement through service in Florida's State Parks. In return for an 11-month commitment and a minimum of 1700 hours of service, Members receive a modest living allowance and qualify for an Educational Award of \$4,725. The Education Award may be used to finance college, graduate school, vocational training, or to repay student loans.

The AmeriCorps Team within Florida State Parks District 3 will be based in Apopka but will work on projects in state parks throughout central Florida and north-central east coast Florida. By having a team that can work throughout the District area, more projects will be accomplished, thus better serving the AmeriCorps program and Florida State Parks.

The program will also focus on community strengthening. AmeriCorps Members will promote this by communicating the needs of state parks within the local community, and by encouraging members of the community to actively participate in projects helping Florida State Parks.

Team Members will be working in the areas of resource management, ADA and cultural facilities construction, and trail development. Some of these projects will include exotic plant removal,

prescribed burning, trail development and maintenance, and construction improvements to park facilities that will enhance accessibility for physically challenged park visitors.

Applicants must be at least 18 years old, have a high school diploma or GED, (or agree to get a GED while in the AmeriCorps program), possess a valid driver's license, be able to participate in a one-week training academy in January, and be available for some overnight travel.

Anyone wanting to find out more about the available positions and the program may contact Lee Michaels, the AmeriCorps team coordinator, at (407) 884-2000.

### Financial Aid Night

There will be a Financial Aid Night in the Lyman High School Media Center on Tuesday, January 13, 1998 at 7:00 p.m. Parents and students interested in gaining insight into the financial aid process, as well as having specific questions answered, are encouraged to attend. Financial aid forms will also be available at the meeting.

### GoldenRule fund-raiser

GoldenRule Housing & Community Development Corporation, Inc. ("GoldenRule"), a non-profit community-based affordable housing provider, is planning a fund-raiser on Feb. 8, 1998 at the Sanford Civic Center. We are inviting restaurants and other "prepared foods" businesses to participate and showcase a "Taste of Seminole". If you would like to participate, please call Rhonda Flagler at GoldenRule for more information at (407)324-9123 Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### SHS reunion

Seminole High School Class of 1978 will be holding its 20-year reunion June 19-21, 1998. For information call 407-328-8527 after 5 p.m. and leave a message.



### The sights and sounds of Christmas

The Heathrow Women's Club was delighted with the singing of Christmas carols by the students of their adopted Sanford Middle School. The students were directed and accompanied by choir director Mary DeBose. Members said it was heart warming to hear the young voices singing and to see the fresh faces of youth. The club would like to thank DeRose and assistant principal Dr. Cynthia Holt-Miller for allowing the students to attend the meeting. HWC president Pam Collins presents Holt-Miller with gifts of sweaters for some of the students. Others received cookies baked by club members that were delivered to the school by Collins.

Herald Photos by Tammy Vincent

## Where to turn for help during the holidays

### Special to the Herald

ORLANDO - During the holidays, many Central Florida families can be faced with a variety of problems and don't know where to turn for help. Whether they are struggling to pay their utility bills or having a hard time putting food on the table, Community Services Network's **First Call For Help** hotline can help.

This hotline is available 24 hours a day and provides callers with information and referrals to agencies and programs in Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties that are designed to meet their particular needs. The **First Call For Help** hotline numbers are 897-6464, Orange County; 846-7685, Osceola County; 629-1289, Seminole County, and 897-6468, TDD (for the hearing impaired).

The Community Services Network (CSN) serves as an information and referral provider for social service organizations throughout Central Florida. CSN also works with local agencies and businesses to coordinate emergency lodging, rent, mortgage and utility assistance programs.



The Sanford Middle School Chorus includes: (not in order) Ryan Wygant, Jonas Thomas, Kabe Kasper, Emily Wilson, Kelli Tombras, Cassidy Henningsen, Travis Walker, Jolene Gurtis, Justin Marshall, Ryan Lingle, Chns Hunter, Rory Olsen, Frank Banfield,

Pam Missap, Jole Paris, Stacy Nebergall, William Ibister, Danny Strother, Kimberly Williams, Tamca Jackson, Lemauel Jimenez, Lionel Southward, Danielle Williams.

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## WEATHER

### LOCAL FORECAST

**Today:** Sunny. Highs near 70. Lows in the upper-40s.  
**Friday:** Partly cloudy. Highs in the low-70s. Lows in the low 50s.  
**Saturday:** Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid-70s. Lows in the mid-50s.  
**Sunday:** Chance of showers. Highs in the mid-70s. Lows in the upper 50s.

### EXTENDED OUTLOOK

**WEDNESDAY** Sunny 70-47  
**THURSDAY** Partly 72-51

**FRIDAY** Partly 74-55  
**SATURDAY** Partly 78-57

### LOTTERY

Here are the winning numbers selected on Wednesday in the Florida Lottery:

**Fantasy 5**  
 5-7-12-13-18  
**Lotto (Dec. 13)**  
 1-4-18-41-45-48



**Play 4**  
 8-2-4-8  
**Cash 3**  
 8-4-2

### TIDES

**THURSDAY:**  
**SOLUNAR TABLE:** min., 8:30 a.m., maj. 2:20 a.m., min., 9:00 p.m., maj. 2:45 p.m.

**TIDES: Daytona Beach:** high: 10:46 a.m., 11:11 p.m., low: 4:24 a.m., 5:01 p.m. **New Smyrna Beach:** high: 10:51 a.m., 11:16 p.m., low: 4:29 a.m., 5:06 p.m. **Cocoa Beach:** high: 11:06 a.m., 11:31 p.m., low: 4:44 a.m., 5:21 p.m.

### BEACH CONDITIONS

**Daytona Beach & New Smyrna Beach:** Seas are 2-4 feet with a light chop. Water temperature at Daytona is 57 degrees and at New Smyrna, 58 degrees. Winds are from the northwest at 10-15 m.p.h.

### STATISTICS

The high temperature in Sanford Wednesday was 70 degrees and the overnight low was 42.

Recorded rainfall for the period ending at 10 a.m., Thursday totaled .08 inches.  
 \*Sunrise.....7:12 a.m.  
 \*Sunset.....5:32 p.m.

## Christmas Bird Count: An Audubon family tradition

### Special to the Herald

WINTER PARK - It began 98 years ago as a protest against the "side hunt," a traditional holiday event in which two teams or "sides," competed to see who could shoot the greatest number of birds and other small animals in a single day. Ornithologist Frank Chapman, an early Audubon pioneer, was so disturbed by the slaughter, that he organized a protest. He and 27 friends went to 25 locations near Englewood, New Jersey on Christmas Day, 1900. Instead of shooting birds, Chapman and his friends counted them. For 98 years, the Christmas Bird Count has grown to become a part of the Audubon holiday tradition nationwide.

At the turn of the century it was easy to see what was causing the decline in bird populations: hunting and killing of wading birds for their feathers to decorate fashionable hats. In one year alone in the late 1800s, over 130,000 Snowy Egrets were killed for their feathers. What needed to be done to save the birds was clear: create a managed season for game birds and eliminate the shooting of all other birds. The holiday protest began by Frank Chapman and these early Auduboners brought about legislative protection for America's wild birds.

Over the years, the Christmas Bird Count has expanded to become the largest wildlife census in the world. This year, over 45,000 people in fifty states, Central and South America, the Caribbean, several Pacific Islands, and every Canadian province, will participate in the 98th annual Christmas Bird Count. In Florida last year, over 1,700 birdwatchers spent over 5,000 party-hours covering their count area by car, boat, plane, foot or lawn chair. Six counts recorded over 150 species: Coca, North Pinellas, St. Marks, Lake Placid, Jacksonville and St. Petersburg. Cocoa had the highest count in Florida with 172 species. Texas and California counts have recorded over 200 species. Numbers are higher south of the border and much lower in Alaska.

The data collected by each group is compiled and published in a special book-size

edition of National Audubon Society *Field Notes* magazine. Apart from its attractions as a social and competitive event for the participants, this annual county reveals valuable information on the early winter distribution patterns of bird species. "In general, we know much more about birds during the breeding season than during the winter season, and therefore the CBC fills an important niche in expanding our knowledge of bird populations," says Florida Audubon Ornithologist Dr. Gian Basili.

Since birds are one of the first groups of animals to be affected by environmental threats like pollution and habitat destruction, Christmas Bird Count data provides indispensable information, not only on the long-term health of bird populations, but also the status of the environment that they share with all living things, ourselves included.

In addition, Christmas Bird Count results will be integral in the tabulating of the WatchList, an accounting of birds in decline or in potential danger. The WatchList has become the centerpiece of bird conservation at the Audubon Society. This year, the WatchList named 105 birds showing significant declines. (Access the WatchList on the web: <http://www.audubon.org/bird/watch/>).

### How To Participate:

Each count group has a designated circle 15 miles in diameter--about 177 square miles. Counters try to cover as much ground as possible within a 24-hour period. The counts are open to bird watchers of all skill levels. Beginners can help with the tally and learn from the more experienced, but they need to be aware of the competitive nature of the event.

Find an area that is close to you from the list and contact the group leader about meeting time and place. Some people choose to count the night birds and meet around 4 a.m. Others meet at sunrise and stay as long as they'd like, usually until sunset when most of the Bird Counts end. At Wekiva, contact Fred Harden at (407) 323-5678.

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**Lakeview presents songs of the season**

Lakeview Middle School students who are members of the chorus Tuesday entertained shoppers at the Seminole Towne Center mall in front of JCPenney. In keeping with the season, the repertoire included holiday favorites.

Herald Photo by Tommy Vincent



**Use caution during holiday shopping**

Special to the Herald

TALLAHASSEE—Florida Agriculture and Consumer Services Commissioner Bob Crawford today urged consumers to use caution in making sure that they are not overcharged for purchases during the holiday season, and to pay attention to stores' policies on returning or exchanging gifts.

"While joyous for most of us, the holiday season brings a certain amount of stress," Crawford said. "Don't add to it by being overcharged at the checkout counter or by failing to understand a store's policy if you give a gift that may be the wrong size, color or style." Paying attention to those issues can alleviate two of the major concerns that many holiday shoppers experience, he said.

**Overcharges**  
While stores' checkout scan-

ners are generally accurate, mistakes can—and do—occur.

A two-day, pre-holiday sweep of sale items by Crawford's inspectors of some 71 stores around the state last week found 34 scanner errors among 1,420 items that were scanned. The error rate was just over 2 percent. Among errors, more were in favor of consumers than stores.

Nonetheless, consumers can still be shortchanged as a result of the mistakes. In one instance, for example, a department store scanner charged \$10 more for a fax machine than its advertised price.

"What this survey underscores is the need for shoppers to be vigilant," Crawford said. "Check to see how much you are being charged at the checkout line, and review your receipt. As always, careful consumers are the best line of defense."

If an error occurs, it should immediately be brought to the attention of the checkout clerk. If the problem cannot be resolved at that level, shoppers should ask to speak with a store manager.

If that fails, Crawford advises consumers to call his department's toll-free helpline—1-800-HELP-FLA (435-7352)—to report the problem. An inspector often can quickly be sent to a store to check its scanning equipment.

**Return and Exchange Policies**

Although refunds and exchanges for non-defective items are common business practices, no state or federal law requires merchants to offer them, Crawford said.

Most stores do accommodate their customers by offering refunds, exchanges or store credits for a specified period of time after the purchase, but it is important to understand

those terms at the time of purchase. Frequently, they require a receipt of the transaction.

If a store has a return policy, Florida law requires that the store grant a refund on the merchandise within seven days of the date of purchase, provided that the item is unused and in its original carton. Fortunately, most stores that allow returned will accept items for longer periods of time, particularly during and after holiday season.

Some stores, however, do not offer refunds or exchanges at all. If that is the case, they must post a notice of the policy at the point of sale.

"The bottom line is that it is up to an individual store to determine what its policy is," Crawford said. "Shoppers should familiarize themselves with those policies before they make a purchase, and can use that policy to determine where they do their shopping."

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**POLICE BRIEFS**

**Retail theft**

Willie Burton, 51, of 909 Bay Ave., Sanford, was arrested Sunday by Sanford police. Burton was charged with retail theft and arrested in the 1500 block of French Avenue. Burton allegedly picked up an item and tried to exit the store with it.

**Battery arrests**

James Straup, 32, of 32 Doble Bogey St., Sanford, was arrested Sunday by Seminole County deputies. Straup was charged with battery and arrested at the above address. Report said Straup allegedly grabbed his girlfriend by her shoulders, threw her up against a wall and hit her with an elbow.

Eliisa Montgomery, 24, of 2540 Hyrd Ave., Sanford, was arrested Saturday by Seminole County deputies. Montgomery was charged with battery and arrested at the above address. Report said that Montgomery struck a victim in the head.

**Assault charged**

Dominique Pierre, 53, of 1600 W. 12th St., Sanford, was arrested Saturday by Sanford police. Pierre was charged with assault and arrested at the corner of 12th Street and Mulberry. Pierre allegedly threw three bottles at a victim.

**Choked woman**

Raymond Williams, 25, of 416 San Carlos Ave., Sanford, was arrested Sunday by Sanford police. Williams was charged with battery and arrested at the corner of Eighth Street and Hickory. Williams allegedly tried to choke his girlfriend.

**Pulled woman**

Gary Kaplan, 32, of 344 Live Oak, Sanford, was arrested Sunday by Sanford police. Kaplan was charged with battery and arrested at the above address. As his wife was trying to leave, Kaplan allegedly pulled her back into their house and also pulled her hair.

**Fight with sons**

David Anderson, 39, of 5315 Ohio Ave., Sanford, was arrested Sunday by Seminole County deputies. Anderson was charged with two counts of battery. Anderson was arrested in the 4300 block of Weeping Willow Circle. Anderson allegedly got into a fight with his two sons.

**Mother as victim**

Jacob Gaines, 55, of 43 Seminole Gardens, Sanford, was arrested Saturday by Sanford police. Gaines was charged with battery and arrested in the 1000 block of West Fifth Street. A report was made that Gaines had allegedly been beating his mother.

**Incidents**

Cash totaling \$30 was stolen Monday in the 200 block of South Oak Avenue.

A white 91 Pontiac two door, license plate number TSI-76T, was stolen Sunday in the 1600 block of West Airport Boulevard.

A red 85 Mazda RX7 two door, license plate number UWY57F, was stolen Friday in the 3800 block of Orlando Drive.

One roll of electrical wire worth \$28 was stolen Friday in the 700 block of South French Avenue.

A Liz Claiborne purse with identification and personal paperwork was stolen Friday as part of a robbery at the corner of 12th Street and French Avenue.

**Loitering charged**

Michael Gaines, 20, of 2516 Oak Ave., Sanford, was arrested Monday by Sanford police. Gaines was arrested for loitering and prowling and arrested in the 2400 block of French Avenue. Gaines allegedly hid underneath a Jeep from officer.

**DUI charged**

Orlando Ramos, 40, of 2104 Stonebrook Dr., Sanford, was arrested Monday by Sanford police. Ramos was charged with DUI and arrested in the 3000 block of South Orlando Drive. Report said that Ramos was driving with his lights off and was traveling at a high rate of speed.

**Incidents**

One 12-pack Bud worth \$7.99 was stolen Monday in the 2000 block of West 25th Street.

A "Miami Heat" jacket, seven bras, eight packs of meat, five videos and five CDs were stolen Monday in the 700 block of Rosecliff Circle. Total value of property stolen was \$440.

A tool box with sockets and wrenches and eight tires were stolen Monday in the 1200 block of West Sixth Street. Total value of property stolen was \$400.

**Paying for a fuse**

Albert Que, 19, of 4201 Hallelujah Way, Sanford, was arrested Saturday by Altamonte Springs police. Que was charged with petit theft and carrying a concealed weapon. Que was arrested in the 500 block of East State Road 436. Que allegedly tried to take a fuse without paying for it.

**IN THE SERVICE**

**FABRICE COPPENS**

Army Pvt. Fabrice Coppens has graduated from basic military training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

Coppens is the son of Daniel and Marie P. Coppens of 401 Columbus, Longwood, Fla.

**BRUCE G. GIBSON**

Army Sgt. 1st Class Bruce G. Gibson has arrived for duty at Fort Bragg, Fayetteville, N.C.

He is the son of William A. and Jeannette P. Gibson of 1301 Wynnewood Drive, Sanford.

**RYAN G. CAMPBELL**

Army Pvt. Ryan G. Campbell has entered basic infantry training at Fort Benning, Columbia, Ga.

Campbell is the son of Craig W. and Nancy L. Campbell of 372 Kingsley Drive, Casselberry, Fla.

He is a 1996 graduate of Lake Howell High School, Winter Springs, Fla.

**JOHN J. CARROLL, JR.**

Army Pvt. John J. Carroll Jr. has entered basic infantry training at Fort Benning, Columbia, Ga.

Carroll is the son of John J. and Jolea G. Carroll of 934 E. Palm Valley Drive, Oviedo, Fla.

**DAVID S. LANDRY**

While most Americans are celebrating the holiday season at home or with family, Navy Airman David S. Landry, son of Janice R. Sylvester of 102 Wintertown, Sanford, Fla., is scheduled to spend the holidays forward deployed to Atsugi, Japan, with Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron 14.

The 1994 graduate of Baker High School of Baker, La., joined the Navy in August 1994.

**MARK J. DORAGE**

Mark J. Dorage has joined the United States Army Reserve under the Delayed Training Program at the U.S. Army Recruiting Station, Deland, Fla.

Dorage will report to Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C., for basic training June 17, 1998.

He is the son of James S. Dorage of 3350 St. James Ave., Deltona.

**EDUARDO I. FILOMENO**

Army Pvt. Eduardo I. Filomeno has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Knox, Ky.

Filomeno is the son of Eduardo I. Filomeno of 2075 Citrus Cove, Oviedo.

He is a 1997 graduate of Oakridge High School, Orlando, Fla.

**CHALIT WILLIAMS**

Army Pvt. Chalit Williams has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Knox, Ky.

Williams is the son of Johnnie W. and L. Williams of 2847 Yonkers Court, Oviedo.

**WILLIAM H. GUZMAN**

Army Pvt. William H. Guzman has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Knox, Ky.

Guzman is the son of Lidia M. Hernandez of 934 N. Jerico Drive, Casselberry, and William Hernandez of 9595 N.W. 32nd Place, Miami.

He is a 1995 graduate of Lake Brantley High School, Altamonte.

**WILLIAM W. BRAMMEIER JR.**

Army Mr. William W. Brammeier Jr. has graduated from basic military training at Fort Benning, Columbia, Ga.

Brammeier is the son of William W. Brammeier Sr. of 2813 Willshire Drive, Casselberry.

The private is a 1987 graduate of Crooms Academy, Sanford.

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# Editorials/Opinions

## LETTERS

### Save the greyhounds

The true picture of greyhound racing is a nightmare. Greyhounds are racing to death, and the more we can educate the public and ourselves, the sooner we can bring greyhound racing to an end.

Each year, tens of thousands of greyhounds are killed by falling to run fast enough. Anyone who is familiar with Central Florida, is well aware of the greyhound racing tracks, but most people are not aware of the ultimate fate of these poor, defenseless animals.

The greyhound breed dates back to the early Egyptians, with greyhounds second in importance to the birth of a human son. Greyhound remains have been found in the tombs of pharaohs, mummified beside their human companions. Throughout history, the greyhound has been a companion of nobility, a sign of sophistication, and by law only allowed to be the pet of royalty.

In society today, if the retired racing greyhound is fortunate enough to be placed in an adoptive home, he makes an excellent companion for caring families. These gentle dogs have much love to give, and despite many people's belief that they are hyperactive, they are very sedate pets and most have no interest in chasing smaller animals. They are typically very tolerant of children, including young children, and would rather occupy the couch than bark at the mailman.

Then what is the problem, you have ask? **THE PROBLEM IS THAT ONLY A VERY SMALL PERCENTAGE OF THESE DOGS ARE LUCKY ENOUGH TO REACH AN ADOPTIVE HOME.** A greyhound typically retires between the ages of 3 and 5, when they are not as fast as they need to be to continue making money for his/her owner or kennel. Each year tens of thousands of these dogs are destroyed. Despite the 200+ adoption agencies across the country, the industry continues to "retire" these dogs faster than the adoption groups can place them. Some breeders and owners are not willing to even discuss the possibility of adoption after their dogs' racing careers are over. Popular methods of disposal include mass euthanasia, gunshot, starvation, bludgeoning, sale to medical research, abandonment--often with muzzles left on--and electrocution.

Animal Activists of Central Florida is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating the residents of Central Florida about the often hidden abuses of nonhuman animals.

Carla Wilson  
Animal Activists of Central Florida

### Mechanics' liens

Home owners beware, your home is in jeopardy.

Have you ever heard of a mechanics lien, or contractors lien? I hope you don't find out about it like I did along with many other innocent people.

If you sign a contract to have any work done on your property, you are personally responsible for all the supplies and sub-contractors involved. If the primary contractor does not pay them, they can and will put a lien on your property, even if you have paid the primary contractor in full.

Is this a great country or what. This law has been on the books for 50 years or better. Our alert and efficient law makers have been too busy voting themselves unearned pay raises and looking out for big business, instead of looking out for the taxpayer/homeowners of America.

If we can not get them to change this ridiculous law, let me give you some advice to keep you from being victimized like I was.

Do not sign anything, or give them one penny, until they give you a list of all suppliers/sub-contractors involved in the job. Then make them give you a notarized Waiver of Lien from all parties involved.

I personally am devoting all my energies to make the public aware of this unfair law. A government of people, by the people and for the people should be that. We are the people, all races, religions, ages, not a government for big business. The people be damned...

Please warn your family, neighbors and friends, that no one is to have any work done on their property unless they realize they could lose that property or end up paying double...

Genald C. Mathway  
Sanford, FL

### Child care

Isn't the debate about outside-the-home child care simply a question of whether parents love their young children more than they love material things? Not an argument over which day care center is best, but whether parents want to accept the disadvantages of raising a child along with the advantages?

If a mother must work, in order for her and her child to survive, she is not a bad parent. If she works so that she can have the latest material conveniences, she is not a good parent. If she leaves her young child with strangers, and they teach him social values which will shape his life, she may find that the juvenile courts are crowded with the results of false social values.

The sins of the greedy are visited on the child.

William Sheffield  
Sanford

### Let your voice be heard

Our readers are invited to contribute guest opinion columns for publication as well as letters to the editor. Each elected official and politico who has announced candidacy for elected office in Seminole County is encouraged to write as often as once a month. Opinions expressed need not be those of the Herald; we may or may not agree with you, but we will always uphold your First Amendment right to express your views.

## DONNA BRITT

# We must stop to breathe our blessings

WASHINGTON--"It's just the very worst time." The woman's voice on the phone was quiet, hesitant. As someone with clinical depression, she said, she has suffered through the holidays that some see as "the most wonderful time of the year."

These days, her illness is controlled by medication and therapy. But she feels for every soul for whom Christmas' tingly Muzak and cheery TV commercials bring despair, not delight. "There are more suicides...more people are institutionalized," the soft voice continued.

You needn't be clinically depressed to understand what she meant. Certainly, emotionally healthy people's fleeting melancholy is nothing like true depression's vast bleakness. But the holidays can adden and confuse anybody. It's not just that they pounce on us earlier and earlier or that there's never enough time or money for them.

Whom wouldn't be thrown off balance, watching a cynical world gift wrap itself in optimism?

But, as annoying as the season's forced gaiety can be, it's the relentless cynicism of everyday life--the cool, can't-be-bothered pessimism we live with the rest of the year--that's the real pain. The true spirit of Christmas has become too cutting a contrast, making the holiday one more dissonant event in a paradox-filled universe.

Think of it. We live in a peaceful nation in a largely prosperous time, but few of us seem truly happy, secure behind locked doors, linked by faxes, pagers, cellular phones and e-mail, some of us have never felt more scared or more alone.



It's the relentless cynicism of everyday life that's the real pain.

How do we reconcile Christmas' tidings of comfort and joy, its images of a child's healing spirit, with the hatreds and horrors presented us by TV shows, movies, news and the Internet? Hourly, they detail for us assorted meannesses, stupidities and cruelties from around the globe. Dazed by ugly scenes unfolding in my daily paper and on the nightly news, I wonder: Is there a disaster anywhere of which I'm unaware?

This week in Washington alone, the police chief resigned when his crony was arrested on charges of embezzlement and extortion; residents worried that six women's deaths may be the work of a serial killer; a teen-ager was convicted of slaying a boy of 12; and a Harvard study revealed that the city's black men live 14 years less than white men across the Potomac in Fairfax County. The only American men with shorter lives reside on a South Dakota Indian reservation.

We may not be at war, but we feel under siege. Jobs grate, or usurp our energies. Adults confront their parents' failing health and

See Blessings, Page 6A



## JACK ANDERSON



The Veterans Benefits Administration remains stuck in the computer dark ages.

### Federal outposts fail to keep up

Four years after Vice President Al Gore began his crusade to "reinvent government," some federal agencies still haven't gotten the message.

For several months now, we've chronicled the hapless efforts to modernize the Internal Revenue Service. The tax-collecting agency, which in recent months has been under fire in Congress for its rude treatment of some taxpayers, has thrown away \$4 billion on a modernization plan that had yielded almost no results.

But the IRS isn't the only federal outpost that has failed to keep up with changing technological times.

The Veterans Benefits Administration, which pays out about \$20 billion annually in benefits and other services to veterans and their dependents, remains stuck in the computer dark ages, according to a recent report by congressional investigators.

The General Accounting Office report calls the VBA's ability to develop new computer software "ad hoc and chaotic." In an increasingly computerized society, a federal agency--particularly one dealing with the transfer of billions of dollars a year--needs to be able to continually develop new software to operate efficiently.

But according to the GAO, "VBA did not satisfy any of the criteria for...the minimum level necessary to significantly improve productivity and return on investments."

The VBA received the lowest possible rating. "At this level," the GAO reports, "VBA cannot reliably develop and maintain high-quality software on any major project within existing cost and schedule constraints."

A failure to modernize not only handicaps an agency and the millions who rely on its services, but inevitably causes that agency to waste millions of taxpayer dollars. The VBA says it is addressing the problem, and claims it has launched a new initiative that will make "steady progress in laying the foundation for a sustainable, measurable improvement in...software development capability."

For the sake of America's veterans, let's hope that's the case.

COMMISSION FEVER--Beware of politicians who would rather create commissions than solve problems.

That's the word from Edward M. Gramlich, an economist at the University of Michigan who was the chairman of a high-profile commission to reform Social Security.

The now-defunct commission, appointed by President Clinton in 1994, toiled for two years to come up with a solution to patch up the dwindling Social Security trust fund, which will go broke when baby boomers retire if left unchecked. But the commission couldn't reach a consensus, so they issued three separate proposals and left a host of unanswered questions on the table.

Rep. Nick Smith, R-Mich., who's one of the few politicians willing to openly tackle this difficult issue, was talking to Gramlich recently about the hard time he's been having getting colleagues to take the problem seriously.

"I asked Ed about appointing a commission," Smith said. "His eyes rolled back and he said, 'Don't appoint a commission.'"

That's because "appoint a commission" has become one of Washington's favorite buzzwords. It means: Don't bother us with See Anderson, Page 6A

## ELLEN GOODMAN

# Dreaming of an efficient Christmas

BOSTON--'Tis the week before Christmas and I am wandering the exotic and bewildering aisles of Toys R Us, waving my magic wand.

I wave it over the bar code of a Power Talker Voice changing Mask. Zap! I pass it by the brow of a virtual pet. Zap! I move onward and upward to a Star Wars Gift Set. Zap! Zap!

This thing in my hand is not strictly speaking a magic wand. It's an electronic scanner. Nor is it strictly speaking for anyone in my age category no matter how much I might like a virtual pet--named Buddy of course.

What I have here is the latest, most seductive gift-gouging gadget created since children began wanting more for Christmas than their two front teeth. With this zap gun, even those too young to e-mail the North Pole can now graze through Toys R Us adding every whim, fantasy and passing desire onto their personal list at the gift registry. They even get a printout to send to grandma!

Gift registries for kids? What we have here in the aisles between Anastasia's Dress Up Set and Tinkerbell's Face Paints is the latest in the long, desultory and wildly successful process of turning a child's wonder into demand, and surprise into entitlement.

OK, OK. I will refrain from ranting about the commercialization of Christmas. In return, allow me to rant about the way the marketplace has turned kids into short consumers and how this has affected giving and getting.

It's more than a generation since television first eliminated the middleman--the parent--and began advertising directly to kids. Today kids see roughly 20,000 TV ads a year. They also have schoolbooks with ads, T-shirts with ads, Web sites with ads. The entire movie industry has become a product tie-in.

It's not just Mouseketeer cars and Pop Tart's anymore. Kids are being marketed TV dinners, electronics, fast-food restaurants and even family vacations. We are told by Consumer Reports that children are choosing how to spend \$15 billion a year.

What makes the gift registry new and appalling is that it eliminates even the pretense of parental screening. As Sue Edelman, a self-described trend tracker for Big Blue Box, says, "Kids don't even have to nag." They scan it and they get it.

I am not faulting Toys R Us for this entire cultural scam. Many customers are not dreaming of a White Christmas; they're dreaming of an efficient Christmas. The kids' gift registry, like all the other registries from the prenatal to the bridal, is pragmatic and efficient. It eliminates risk and returns.

But it assumes that kids, like brides, know what they want and should get what they want.



They even get a printout to send to grandma!

In that sense, it's part of the dubious economic "emancipation" of children who are expected to be competent consumers before they are third-graders.

There is a kind of uneasy role-reversal going on in wish lists, electronic or not. "We are asking them what they want us to buy them," says Ellen Wartella of the University of Texas. "We're pushing them into the position of consumers. Is this a role we want them to be in at such an early age?"

At the same time, adults are repositioning themselves. In this upside-down world, parents and grandparents, aunts and uncles don't give personal gifts; they become personal shoppers.

Somewhere deep down where the electronic scanners don't reach, the kids-as-Christmas-consumers makes everybody uncomfortable. We still harbor the fantasy of presents carefully chosen and gratefully received. We believe in generosity and gratitude, not obligation and expectations.

But today Christmas shopping feels more and more like the exchange of credit card debts. And with children we are often torn between a desire to please and a real unease at signs of entitlement.

In the classic Christmas story, a young husband sells his watch to buy a present for his wife's hair. The wife sells her hair to buy him a watch chain. What on earth would Toys R Us make of O. Henry's tale? A classic case of Christmas mismatch? A couple of sorry losers who end up at the return counter?

Forgive me for this holiday dis-spirit. But the idea of kids roaming the toy jungle with zap guns hunting their own presents brings out my inner Grinch. It makes me long for the days when kids worried about being naughty or nice. Ah yes, Santa. Now there was a guy who really knew how to scan.

# People

## CALENDAR

### Sunrise Kiwanis meets Friday

The Seminole Sunrise Kiwanis Club meets every Friday, at 7 a.m., at Shoney's, US 17-92, south of Airport Boulevard. Guest are welcome. For information, call Tony McDaniel at 324-0469.

### Free clinic Friday

Geneva - A free clinic to include blood pressure check, blood sugar screening and immunizations will be held every Friday, from 9 to 11 a.m., at the Geneva Elementary School in the old school building, corner of First and Main Street in Geneva. The clinic is sponsored by the Seminole County Health Department in conjunction with the Seminole County Sheriff's Office and Geneva Elementary School. For information, call 349-9284.

### Substance abuse discussed

SAFE, Substance Abuse Family Education, is conducting a "Families in Crisis" outreach program. Interested organizations wanting to contact the Life Savers Club of SAFE may call Libby Kuharaka at 91-4367.

### COMA announces meetings

The Concerned Organization of Men in Action (COMA) meets the first and third Friday, at 8 a.m., in the church annex at St. James AME Church, Ninth Street and Cypress Avenue, Sanford.

### Seniors meet

LAKE MARY - A seniors group meets for lunch the second Friday of each month at Lake Mary Church of the Nazarene, 171 E. Crystal Lake Ave. The noon meeting is held in the Fellowship Hall. For more information, contact Bill at 322-1006.

### Daughters of Confederacy

Norman deVero Howard Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy meets on the last Friday of the month. For information, call 322-1425.

### Sanbelt Daylily Club

Sanbelt Daylily Club meets the first Sunday of the month at 9 a.m. through April at the Center in Sanford. The club educates members on daily growing through slide shows, guest speakers and trips to daylily gardens. There are no club dues. Call 326-3196 for more information.

### Dixieland band open to public

Dixieland Forever Inc., a non-profit band, plays the second Sunday of every month, from 4-7 p.m., at the VFW Hall, 2706 Wells Ave., Fern park. Open to the public, donation is \$6. For information, call 841-7335.

### Bromeliad Society to meet

The Seminole Bromeliad Society meets the third Sunday of the month, at 2 p.m., at Sanford Garden Club, U.S. 17-92 at Fairmont Avenue, Sanford. All aspects of bromeliad culture are covered during the meetings. The society is affiliated with the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies and the Bromeliad Society Inc. For information, call Bud Martin, 321-0838.

### Blood Bank

Central Florida Blood Bank is asking donors of all types of blood - especially O-type donors - to donate at its Sanford branch, 1302 E. Second St. For information, call 322-0822.

### TOPS

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Chapter #621 meets every Monday, from 10-11:45 a.m., at the Sanford Alliance Church, 1401 S. Park Ave., Sanford. For information, call 321-8240. Visitors are welcome.

### Sanford Rotary

Rotary Club of Sanford meets every Monday at noon, at the Marina Hotel.

### Senior activities

Lake Mary Seniors invite anyone 55 years of older to join them in two weekly activities on Monday: Woodcarvers, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Games from 1 to 3 p.m., at the Frank Evans Center, 158 N. County Club Road.

### Senior employment

An employment program sponsored by AARP Senior Community Service Employment Program is held at the Sanford National Guard Armory, 915 E. First St., Monday through Friday. Interview hours are 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Telephone: 324-8008. The program assists seniors, 55 and over, to return to the work place.

### Cancer Support

Support, Hope and Recovery, S.H.A.R., meets every Monday afternoon at 5 p.m. at Central Florida Regional Hospital in the far corner of the dining room. This is a self help support group for all cancer survivors, whether in treatment now or finished with it. Call 324-8737 or 322-7786 for more information.

### Contract Bridge

Bridge players are invited to play contract bridge every Monday, at 10:30 a.m., at the Sanford Senior Center. For information, call 322-6326.

### AARP

The Winter Springs Chapter of AARP meets the third Monday of the month, at 1:30 p.m., at the Winter Springs Senior Center off Edgemon Avenue. Senior citizens, 50 and over, are invited to attend. For information, call Marian Dolin, 327-7334.

## Celebrating the Past



Left: Sanford Historical Society Vice President Bette Cannavino and President Millard Hunt. Right: Joan Harvey entertains guests at the Sanford Historical Society's holiday party, held recently at the Sanford Museum.

## Historical Society hosts holiday reception

By GRACE M. STINECIPHER Herald Staff Writer

SANFORD - Lots of good food and fellowship were to be had at the Sanford Historical Society's annual holiday reception held at the Sanford Museum recently. A beautifully decorated holly tree adorned the lobby while several unique decorations en-

hanced the food laden tables in the meeting room. Also in the lobby was the Seminole County Historical Society's quilt which pictures various county scenes. Tickets for its raffle, to be held in April, were sold by Karen Jacobs. The quilt will remain at the Sanford Museum through December. Joan Harvey, flutist, provided

the background music throughout the evening which was enjoyed by all. Midway through the evening, door prizes were given. And a highlight of the event was the presentation of several gift certificates and ten long stemmed red roses to Alicia Clarke in honor of her ten years as curator of the Sanford Museum. Ms.

Clarke has not only guided the museum into a real asset of which the community can be proud, but she also willingly shares her expertise on the Sanford family and the city with various groups and individuals. This historical society is especially appreciative of her helpfulness to the group in so many ways through the years.

## Older parents' aches were big worries for little child

DEAR READERS: On Oct. 18, I asked those of you who were the children of "older parents" to write me about how it affected you, in order to help a couple in their 40s decide whether or not to start a family. I was unprepared for the avalanche of letters I received passionately arguing both sides of the issue. Some of the loving tributes brought tears to my eyes. The letters ran about 4-to-1 in favor of starting a family. However, today we'll hear from those who voted "no." Read on:



Just keep in mind that they'll be counting on you to be around, so take care of your health. Another suggestion: If you're hesitant about having children, why not share your love and life by adopting older children who need loving homes? That way, you won't be the oldest parents at PTA meetings. CALIFORNIA READER

DEAR CALIFORNIA READER: Your letter touched on several points that were echoed by many readers. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: I hope the 40-something who are considering becoming parents will consider my advice: Please don't!

You might be fooling yourselves about how young and fit you are. When your child is an infant, maybe you won't look like his grandparents. But trust me, the age difference will show up before long. Have you ever taken care of an infant long enough to discover how exhausting infant care can be? Will you have the stamina to stay up all night with a sick child and still go to work in the morning? When you're in your 60s and your child is a teen-ager, will you snap back after being up all night wondering where that child is? Or worse, because you do know — thanks to a cop who called to say your kid has been arrested? Don't think it won't happen.

No matter how healthy you feel, the actuarial tables are not on your side. If you feel the need to have children in your life, I recommend you take in foster children. NO NAME PLEASE, ORLANDO, FLA.

DEAR ABBY: My mother was 45 and my dad was 51 when I was born. Dad died when I was 16, leaving me to care for my mother, who was 62. I basically had no parents, and my youth was stolen by responsibility.

If those people want children in their lives, please tell them to be a Big Brother or Sister, or adopt an older child. There are too many unwanted and neglected children out there already.

I grew up with parents who were too old and too tired all the time. I grew up in funeral homes because my dad was the youngest of 12, and the aunts and uncles were dropping like flies. Believe me, it's no life for a kid. Sign me ...

THE ACCIDENT

## NEW ARRIVALS

The following births were recorded at Florida Hospital in Altamonte: Nov. 1 - Christine and Theodore blanton, Sanford, Boy. Nov. 2 - Eva and Adam Glabinski, Lake Mary, Boy; DeAnne and Thomas Apple, Lake Mary, Boy; Margaret and Mark Hutchison, Lake Mary, Girl; Lori and David Mulholland, Sanford, Girl; Janice and David Stone, DeLand, Girl. Nov. 4 - Antonique Green, Sanford, Boy; Alissa and Leonard Davi, Lake Mary, Twin Girls. Nov. 5 - Jennifer and Christopher Anderson, Lake Mary, Boy; Lori and Paul Coscetti, Sanford, Boy. Nov. 6 - Sarah Yockey, DeBary, Girl. Nov. 11 - Diane and Dennis Mears, Lake Mary, Boy. Nov. 12 - Patti and Eric Pate, Oviedo, Boy. Nov. 13 - Barbara and Maurice Brau, Lake Mary, Boy. Nov. 14 - Cheryl and William Brown, Jr., Sanford, Boy; Michelle and Kenneth Rought, Sanford, Girl.

The following births were recorded at Columbia Medical Center in Sanford: Nov. 12 - Lawanda Brooks, Sanford, Girl. Nov. 13 - Kristi Lambert and Dennis Barnes, Sanford, Girl; Jennifer and William Hall, Orange City, Boy. Nov. 14 - Maha and Naser Hussein, Oviedo, Boy; Melody and Julio Eatades, Deltona, Boy. Nov. 15 - Alicia and Shawn Curtis, Orange City, Boy; Sarah Timms and Daren Comer, Sanford, Girl; Laura and Keith Jung, Deltona, Boy; Walesca Hernandez and Julio Cesar Vazquez, Orange City, Girl. Nov. 16 - Dorothy and Walter Aitchley, Orange City, Girl.

Donnalisa and Michael Cornejo, Deland, Boy; Elizabeth Farrell and Leartia Jones, Sanford, Girl; Jennifer Sobolewski, Sanford, Girl; Casse Herring and Richard Scott, Sanford, Boy; Yumelko and Kenneth Snell, Sanford, Girl. Nov. 17 - Lushinda Butts, Sanford, Boy; Octavia and Sylvester Walker, Sanford, Girl. Nov. 18 - Katrina Lynn Ingle and Aaron Reid Palmer, Deltona, Girl; Ann and Gerald Stoner, Sanford, Boy; Ruth Infante and Luis Antonio Ortega, Jr., Deltona, Boy. Nov. 21 - Barbara Ann Fugh and Daniel Lyle Mayer, Sanford, Boy; Dana and David McBroom, Osteen, Boy; Luzelenta Ortiz and Erick Eugene Menefer, Deltona, Boy; Deann and Alan Parker, Deltona, Boy; Suzanne Lynn Martinez, Sanford, Boy; Diana and Matthew Sylvestre, Sanford, Girl. Nov. 22 - Rebecca and John Adams, Orange City, Boy; Aileen and Douglas Desmond, Deltona, Girl. Nov. 23 - Janet and Paul Lomen, Deltona, Girl. Nov. 24 - Melinda Crews, Sanford, Boy; Debra Dye Kline, Sanford, Girl. Nov. 25 - Sherre Catron and Ronald Devinye, Jr., Deltona, Girl; Tracey and David Overstreet, DeBary, Girl.

## THURSDAY PRIME TIME

Time	Channel	Program	Time	Channel	Program	Time	Channel	Program	Time	Channel	Program
6:00	2	News	6:00	11	60 Minutes	6:00	12	60 Minutes	6:00	13	60 Minutes
6:30	2	News	6:30	11	60 Minutes	6:30	12	60 Minutes	6:30	13	60 Minutes
7:00	2	News	7:00	11	60 Minutes	7:00	12	60 Minutes	7:00	13	60 Minutes
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11:00	2	News	11:00	11	60 Minutes	11:00	12	60 Minutes	11:00	13	60 Minutes
11:30	2	News	11:30	11	60 Minutes	11:30	12	60 Minutes	11:30	13	60 Minutes

## COMPARE OUR PRICES

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### Kudos to Seminole High students

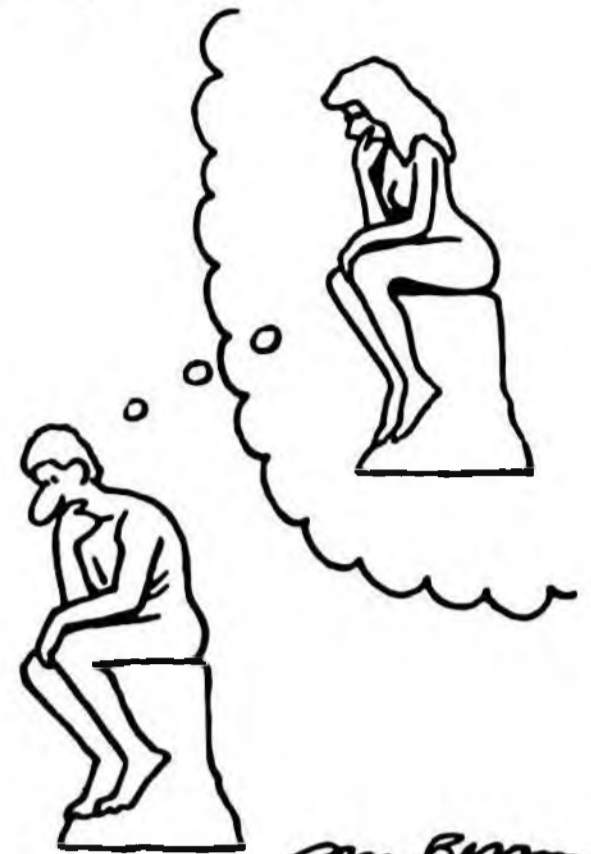
Left: Seminole High School senior Terry McKinney recently won first place honors in the American Legion Oratorical Contest. McKinney delivered an eight-minute oration on the United States Constitution, and will compete in the state competition in January. He also won the Optimist Club oratorical contest as a sophomore, and was honored by the Sanford Optimist Club for his achievements and receives Student of the Month honors from Optimist member Tony Black. Right: Johann A. Thiel, a member of the senior class at Seminole High School has been recog-



Photos Courtesy of John Cullum

nized as a scholar finalist in the National Hispanic Scholar Recognition Program, a program that provides national recognition of the exceptional academic achievements of Hispanic high school seniors, and identifies academically well-prepared Hispanic seniors for postsecondary institutions. Johann was honored by the Sanford Optimist Club for his achievements and receives Student of the Month honors from Optimist member Tony Black.

## Berry's World



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The Williams home at 2618 Marshall Ave.

## School

Continued from Page 1A

in sports and the choir, said school principal Gretchen Schapker. The majority of the students were dismissed at 11:40 a.m. following final exams, Schapker said.

The SPD quit the school search at about 3:30 p.m. and are maintaining an eye out for Williams in case he attempts to go to any of the local hospitals to treat his suspected wounds, Brewer said.

"We suspect that he initially wasn't at the school long," Brewer said. "He probably circled around and left."



SHS Principal Gretchen Schapker discusses the running man with Sgt. Darrell Brewer.

## Lake Mary—BRO

Continued from Page 1A

that formation of the CRA "is not contrary" to the city's comprehensive plan.

The Lake Mary City Commission meets in regular session tonight at Lake Mary City Hall, 100 N. Country Club Road. The meeting begins at 7 p.m. and the county's presentation is the first item on the agenda.

Continued from Page 1A

to ensure the program's success.

The workshop, which was sponsored by the SPD Explorers, was an excellent way to help youth with their creativity, Davis said. Starting Jan. 10, the artwork will hang on the walls of the SPD. A special portrait of Chief Joe Dillard will be displayed in his office. "This program really makes a

difference for at-risk youth," she said.

On Saturday from 2 to 5 p.m. BRO will recognize one of its most active volunteers during an event at First Shiloh Baptist Missionary Church on Elm Street. Mayor Larry Dale will be on hand to make the presentation, Davis said.

**Editor's note:** A related story that appeared Wednesday contained inaccurate information provided to the Herald.

## Road

Continued from Page 1A

discuss the issue at its meeting on Monday and must likely approve. "We've had a consensus to be all for this," he said.

Commissioners from Casselberry and Winter Springs have voted to support the plan and by voting members of a Community Redevelopment Agency. The issue is on the agenda for Lake Mary's commission meeting tonight and is expected to be approved.

Winter Springs Mayor Paul Partylek, a leader on the county's Spirit of '92 Task Force, is eager for the CRA to guide the redevelopment effort and to unite the efforts of each city.

Longwood is a holdout at present, but Commission Chairman Randy Morris is hopeful the city will join its neighbor cities who are in

support.

In addition to the cities, businesses along the corridor are being asked to do their part in the redevelopment of the highway.

The Redevelopment Trust Fund is partially funded through tax increment financing as a means to finance certain improvements of the plan. The amount depends on the growth rate of the taxable value within the area.

The plan imposes no additional taxes and/or assessments on property owners.

Ideally, the plan should increase the taxable values of properties within the area, thus providing additional revenues to the county upon the completion of the plan. The plan also targets private sector investment, enabling the county to potentially capture a larger share of sales tax and other spin off revenues.

## RSVP

Continued from Page 1A

presents for the children.

Volunteers came from all over Seminole County to help. Besides the RSVP volunteers, there were volunteers from the Sheriff's Department, the Telephone Pioneers of America, and others. There was a wide variety in the ages of the volunteers. The youngest volunteer was Kristyn Shields, a fifth grader. Kristyn's mom, Pat, is the volunteer coordinator for RSVP. Kristyn likes to come to help out at least one day every year. The store was open Dec. 8 through Dec. 12.

While the children were in the store, they were serenaded by the Central Florida Senior Kitchen Band. The band played some great holiday songs and even let some of the children join in on a few numbers. After the shopping was finished, the children got to see Santa, who presented each child with a gift.

RSVP was very fortunate this year with the number of donations they received. Charity Challenge was a major contributor for the event. Grants were also received from the Publix Foundation in Lakeland and the Orlando Sentinel Santa Fund. Donations came in from the Matland Kiwanis, Florida Power and Light and Sanlando Travel. Avon donated a lot of jewelry, which made great presents for moms and older sisters.

The Lake Mary Senior Center, the Casselberry Senior Center, Bram Towers and Sorrento also helped make items for the Christmas store. They work all year long to make items for the store.

## OBITUARIES

### REGINA BAILEY

Regina Bailey, 48, of 1904 Southwest Road, Sanford, died Wednesday, Dec. 17, 1997. Born in Cherokee County, N.C., on Feb. 11, 1949, she has been a lifelong resident. She was a homemaker and a Baptist.

Survivors include grandfather, Willie Bailey Sr., Sanford.

Funeral Home, Sanford, in charge of arrangements.

### MARIE SULLIVAN JONES

Marie Sullivan Jones, 69, State Road West 434, Oviedo, died Tuesday, Dec. 16, 1997. Born in Simpsonville, S.C., she moved to Central Florida in 1947. Mrs. Jones was a retired domestic worker. She was a Baptist and a deaconess at her church.

Survivors include husband, Benjamin Franklin, Oviedo; daughters, Martha J. Harper, Geneva, Betty A. Jones, Geneva, Beatrice Hadgar, Oviedo, Mary Helen Louax, Altamonte Springs, Gloria D. Allen, Oviedo, Joanne Sneed, Winter Park; sons, Benjamin F. Jr., Eatonville, and Joseph Jones, Winter Springs; sisters, Nellie B. Sullivan-Lowery, Bradenton, Pauline Pinson, Simpsonville, S.C.; brother, Judge Sullivan, Newark, N.J.

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

### ROBERT POWELL SMITH

Robert Powell Smith, 85,

Meadowlark Drive, Osteen, died Wednesday, Dec. 17, 1997. Born in Cherokee County, N.C., on Feb. 11, 1912, he moved to Central Florida in 1985. Mr. Smith was a part of maintenance at the CDC in Atlanta, Ga. He was a Baptist.

Survivors include sisters, Lois Kinbrough, Osteen, Ruth Plunkett, Forest Park, Ga.; brother, Grady M. Smith, Morganton, Ga.

Brisson Funeral Home, Sanford, in charge of arrangements.

## FUNERALS

### FELHABER, JOHN ROBERT

Memorial services for Mr. Felhaber will be Saturday, Dec. 20, at 11 a.m. in the Brisson Funeral Chapel with Pastor J.D. Segroves officiating. Mr. Felhaber will be cremated and his cremated body interred in Florida National Cemetery. Brisson Funeral Home, 322-2131, Sanford, is in charge of services.

### MOORE, HERMA LEE

The funeral services for Mrs. Herma Lee Moore will be held Saturday, Dec. 20, at 3 p.m. at Grace Apostolic Temple Inc. with the Rev. Maurice Bennett officiating. Viewing for Mrs. Herma Moore will be Friday, Dec. 19, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Sunrise Funeral Home Chapel.

Sunrise Funeral Home, 900 Locust Ave., Sanford, Fla. Alexander Brothers, owners; Felix M. Snow I.F.D.

## Anderson

Continued from Page 4A

difficult issues. Let's leave it for another day.

**MEDICARE FRAUD**—About 14 cents of every Medicare dollar is lost to waste, fraud and abuse. The health care program for the elderly is an easy target for charlatans—an estimated \$23 billion is milked illegally from Medicare each year.

A new report on Medicare fraud by Citizens Against Government Waste, an independent watchdog group, adds some color to these numbers. Here are some of the more outlandish examples compiled by CAGW of how unsavory characters bilked Medicare:

—A New Jersey medical supply company paid \$330,000 to settle charges that it billed Medicare for expensive, custom billed "spinal body jackets" that turned out to be nothing more than seat cushions provided

to nursing home residents.

—While serving as a doctor's office manager, a Texas woman submitted Medicare claims for a friend—even though no medical services were performed. When the checks from Medicare came in, the woman and her friend split the proceeds. The office manager was sentenced to more than a year in prison and ordered to make restitution of \$11,500. The friend was sentenced to a year of probation and fined \$2,500.

—Ben Carroll, owner of two medical supply firms in Florida, was sentenced to 10 years in prison for over billing Medicare by \$71 million. It seems Carroll repeatedly billed Medicare \$8-15 for "urinary collection pouches" when he was actually providing 35 cent adult diapers.

**NOTE:** Jack Anderson is chairman of Citizens Against Government Waste.

## Blessings

Continued from Page 4A

threats to their children's well-being; youths confront pressures their parents never imagined. Single people despair of finding love or commitment; married people search for meaning in their bonds and lack time to find it.

Even leisure can sap you, as a friend's sudden revelation while watching TV showed.

"You sit there," he realized, "and hear that your hair is bad, your breath smells, you don't have enough insurance and you better buy these tires or your child may die... Death is the premise of 90 percent of the dramas.

"Its messages are terrible. But we barely notice."

Christmas, the ultimate, upbeat blowout, no longer fits. No wonder we've made it about rushing, partying, spending-frantic busyness that we understand—rather than about its namesake's preaching of peace, unconditional love and redemption, notions we can barely fathom. No wonder its rituals—the gifts we buy for those who don't need them; the decorations that look more festive than we

feel—often make us sad for what we've lost.

Of course, I'm part of the problem: the media for whom "news" usually means some failure or disaster. But you don't have to be a journalist to see that the more sophisticated our communications systems become, the more awful stuff they'll reveal to us. More and more, we'll feel overwhelmed, pinned down by the weight of the awfulness we perceive.

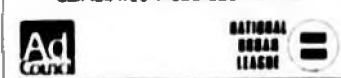
Paralyzed by all that's bad, we'll fail to see what's good in our lives.

Christmas isn't dissonant; we are. Innately spiritual beings, we nevertheless focus primarily on what we can see, hear and touch, knowing everything in the world but this: The faster and more far-reaching our technology becomes, the greater our need to slow down. The more panic-stricken the holiday—or any day—makes us, the more necessary it is to become as still as those plaster figures in those old Nativity scenes.

If we stop to breathe in our blessings, we'll feel what's right. Even during the most chaotic time of the year.

**3-TO-6 PM HAS BECOME A FRIGHTENING TIME FOR CITY PARENTS.**

There aren't enough after-school programs. So kids are exposed to the street. Join with the Urban League to keep programs going. Call toll free 1-888-326-YOUTH.



## Edward C. Wilson

December 18, 1934 - December 18, 1997

The seasons have passed so swiftly since your departure on August 29, 1996.

Our Christian faith and cherished memories of you embedded in our hearts, continue to sustain us. Happy Birthday. Your loving wife and children, Shirley, Sherri, Kimberly, Ed II, & Grandsons.

# Sports

# B

**Extra Points...**

**Jeff Berlinicke**  
Herald Staff Writer



**"....and down the stretch they come with Oviedo leading Lake Howell....."**

**SANFORD** - Imagine if the Seminole Athletic Conference or the Class 5A-District 3 boys basketball wars were a horse race.

There's the few normal front runners, some horses in the middle of the pack, gaining on the outside, a longshot charging fast and some of the best jockeys in any county.

As the teams have come charging out of the gate after the first month of the season, front-runner Oviedo, the team with the best track record, is off to a quick start, led by the most experienced jockey of them all, Ed Krahner.

A neck away are perennial middle-of-the-road Lake Howell and Lake Brantley which has finished up the track in recent years.

Just behind are stumbling Lake Mary, steady Seminole (Class 5A) and the quiet, but threatening, Lyman Greyhounds.

Let's not look for Winter Springs to break its maiden yet, they're running out of their age class, but wait till their three-year-old season.

So who do I place my \$2 on?  
I'm going with Lake Howell by a nose over Oviedo, followed by Seminole in the triecta.

Here's why. Lake Howell has everything, including a dominating defense, a big man and, most importantly, a superstar point guard.

You all know about the junior guard, Reggie Kohn. Typical coaches' son. If he needs points, you get points. Need 15 assists? You'll get them. Division I scouts don't come to Seminole County too often, but check out some of the sweaters in the Lake Howell gym next season when the recruiting process really starts to heat up.

Ryan Smith is one of the most dominating big men anywhere in Central Florida and anybody trying to drive the lane on Smith or shot blocker Kenny Williams better have room for dessert. Against Lake Mary last week, the Silver Hawks knocked away everything in sight and hounded Lake Mary's big man Paul Beik, mercilessly.

More importantly, the Hawks have maturity. When they found themselves ranked in the state's top-10 for the first time last week, they went out and immediately were served with a wake-up call by the surprise of the county, Lake Brantley.

A lot of teams wouldn't have handled it, especially a school which has never won a district title.

Instead, Lake Howell rebounded with a big win and freely admitted that they weren't ready to be ranked. They accepted responsibility and learned from it.

That doesn't often happen in high school basketball where posturing is everything and personal responsibility isn't.

Lake Howell learned a big lesson during the loss and may earn some more at the Great Florida Shootout at which they'll participate with Oviedo and some of the best teams in the nation.

It doesn't matter. Lake Howell proved it can rebound from a loss and it was a sign of maturity that they learned from it.

As for the rest of the county, well, Oviedo is still undefeated with a great point guard in Seth Fowler and a supporting cast that goes talented and deep. Don't underestimate the importance of having the best jockey in the league.

Seminole is currently 10-2, Lake Mary only has three losses, albeit all to conference teams, but Lake Brantley is the shocker. The Patriots have beaten Lake Mary and Lake Howell and Drew Morgan is one of the hottest players in the county. Don't count out Lyman, either. In any other year, Norman Ready's team would be considered a favorite. It's just that, this season, everyone in Seminole County falls into the group.

The county is loaded, but the pick here is Lake Howell.

**Last Second Shot:** When former Golden State Warrior choirboy Latrell Sprewell got fired last week, did they have to spray his locker?

# SAC Coach of Year

## Tribe's Worthington gets nod

By **KELLIE WERNER**  
Herald Staff Writer

**SANFORD** - There are seven football coaches in Seminole County. Last night, one was named the best for 1997.

In front of his players, assistant coaches and special guests, Seminole Athletic Director Mike Powers awarded the Seminole Athletic Conference Coach of the Year Award to Jim Worthington at the school's football banquet.

"I am pleased to present Jim Worthington with this award," said Powers. "He truly deserves it and we are very proud of both him and the program that he implemented here."

This was Worthington's first year as the 'Noles coach. He took them to an 8-3 season complete with an SAC championship, the runner-up position in Class 5A-District 3 and a spot in the state playoffs.

Worthington played football for Duke University and, after a five year stint as an as-

istant at his alma mater, Taylor High School in Pierson, he accepted the job of starting the football program from the ground up at Pine Ridge High School in Deltona.

In three years under his direction, Worthington built the Panthers into a winner, going 8-2 and 9-2 after a 1-9 campaign in the program's first season, but this year Pine Ridge fell off to a 2-8 record.

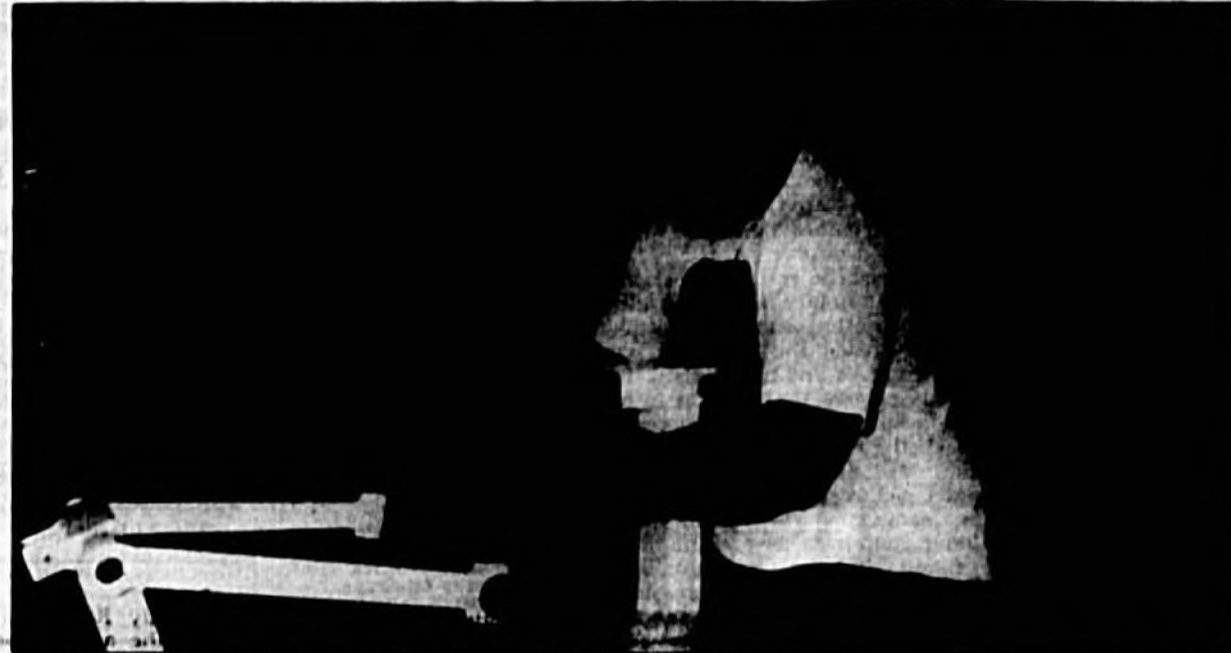
"This kind of thing only happens when you have great kids, a great staff and a supportive administration," said Worthington. "This is truly a credit to the community and the parents."

Besides his obvious coaching talents, Worthington brought a sense of pride and confidence to a program that had lost some of the awe and fear the great teams of the '70s, '80s and early '90s instilled in their opponents.

The coach has his sights set on a state championship and if he continues to coach the way he did this year, that could become a reality in the very near future.



Jim Worthington was named Seminole Athletic Conference Coach of the Year after leading Seminole High School to an 8-3 record in his first year at the helm of the Fighting Seminoles.



Seminole High School senior offensive lineman Steve Brown overcame a serious ankle injury in the pre-season Orange and Black intrasquad scrimmage game that most felt would end his high school football career.

But he worked hard in the weight room to rehabilitate the injury (above) and returned to anchor the Tribe's offensive line that helped Seminole go 8-3 this season.

For his efforts Brown was honored Wednesday night at the SHS Football Awards Banquet with the prestigious Peter Schall Award, the longest continuously given award in the United States, as the most dedicated player for the Fighting Seminoles this season.

File Photo

# Seminole honors football players

By **KELLIE WERNER**  
Herald Staff Reports

**SANFORD** - A very successful football season came to a close last night at Seminole High School.

Coaches, players, students and special guests came together to thank their supporters, relive memories of the season and honor those on the team who stood slightly above the rest.

First year head coach Jim Worthington was the master of ceremonies for the annual football banquet and took the opportunity to thank everyone involved with the program.

"I would really like to congratulate the players on a very successful season at all three levels," Worthington said. "Especially Gretchen Schapker (Seminole High School Principal) for all of her confidence and support and my coaching staff who really did an excellent job this year. And special thanks go out to the parents, who helped the guys to become successful this year."

Athletic Director Mike Powers also addressed the crowd and thanked those who contributed to the football program.

Powers also gave the first award of the evening to Worthington. For his winning season and vast improvement with the team, Worthington was named Seminole Athletic Conference Coach of the Year.

A 20-minute highlight film followed with the best plays from each of the teams eight wins and three losses. The players seemed to enjoy the hard tackles the most and each player had a moment of glory in the film.

Jim "Doc" Terwilliger then awarded letters to the trainers who were a necessity to the team. He also commended the players for working hard in the weight room and building up nicely.

See Seminoles, Page 2B

# Inside-outside game saves Raiders on road

From Staff Reports

**TAMPA** - The guard duo of Daria Kudravytseva and Gemma Riley combined for 38 points and center Jaana Kotova added 17 points as the Seminole Community College Raiders broke away from a 28-28 halftime tie to upend home-standing Hillsborough Community College 71-60 in a Women's Junior College basketball game in Tampa Wednesday night.

With the victory, the Raiders, whom are ranked No. 6 in the state poll this week, improved to 12-3 on the season and will now take off a couple of weeks for the holiday break. Two of SCC's losses have been to No. 2 nationally ranked and No. 1 state ranked Central Florida Community College from Ocala in the championship game of the HealthSouth Classic and No. 3 state ranked Okaloosa-Walton Community College in Ft. Walton Beach.

The Raiders continued their outstanding shooting of late, hitting 23 of 49 attempts from

the floor (46.9-percent) and were competitive on the backboards, which has been SCC's problem on the season.

Doing the damage for the Raiders were Kudravytseva (20 points), Riley (18 points, four assists), Kotova (17 points, eight blocked shots), Jennifer Sweeney (eight points), Izzy Medhanie (three points, eight rebounds), Winsome Clark and Therese Westergren (two points each) and normally high scoring Chinita Lee (one point).

Scoring double figures for the Hawks were Nytki Hutchins (19 points), Karin Martin (15 points) and Sammi Campbell and Telescia Nash (10 points each).

SCC will return to action on Tuesday, December 30th at home against the Canadian National Team starting at 6 p.m. at the SCC Health and Physical Education Center.

The Raiders will also play home games against Glen Oak Community College from Illi-

nois on Saturday, January 3rd at 2 p.m. and Central Florida Community College (the opening game of the Mid-Florida Conference schedule) on Wednesday, January 7th at 8 p.m. All home games are free of charge.

**RAIDERS 71, HAWKS 60**  
Seminole Community College (71)  
Tanner 0-2 0-0 0, Kudravytseva 8-12 3-3 20, Clark 1-1 0-2 2, Sweeney 4-5 0-0 8, Riley 3-10 6-9 18, Lee 0-1 1-2 1, Medhanie 1-3 0-0 3, Westergren 1-5 0-0 2, Kotova 8-13 1-3 17.  
Totals: 23-49 10-19 71.

Hillsborough Community College (60)  
Hutchins 6-11 7-9 19, Ealey 1-3 0-1 2, Newson 3-5 1-4 10, Martin 4-10 7-8 15, Nash 5-12 0-1 10, Campbell 2-8 0-0 4, Carr 0-3 0-0 0. Totals: 21-52 15-23 60.

Halftime - 28-28. Three-point field goals - SCC 5-14 (Riley 2-2, Kudravytseva 2-6, Medhanie 1-3, Tanner 0-1); HCC 1-9 (Newson 1-2, Campbell 0-5, Ealey 0-2). Total fouls - N/A. Fouled out - none. Technicals - none. Rebounds - SCC 30 (Medhanie 8); HCC 35 (Hutchins 11). Assists - SCC 14 (Riley 4); HCC 5 (Nash 2, Ealey 2). Blocked shots - SCC 9 (Kotova 8); HCC 2 (Newson 1, Nash 1). Records - SCC 12-3.







**BLONDIE** by Chic Young

Panel 1: "WE'VE JUST COMPLETED OUR BIGGEST CONTRACT EVER!"  
Panel 2: "AND I'M PROUD THAT EVERY ONE OF YOU PUT IN SUCH LONG GRUELING HOURS."  
Panel 3: "WELL, ALMOST EVERY ONE OF YOU."

**BEETLE BAILEY** by Mort Walker

Panel 1: "I LIKE YOUR RECYCLING EFFORTS, COOKIE!"  
Panel 2: "ARE YOU USING THEM FOR COMPOST?"  
Panel 3: "HOPE. SOUP."

**THE BORN LOSER** by Art Scafe

Panel 1: "HAVE YOU BOUGHT MY CHRISTMAS GIFTS YET?"  
Panel 2: "YES... AND THAT REMINDS ME, I SHOULD GO AND BUY THEM NOW!"  
Panel 3: "THERE... ALL FINISHED!"

**PEANUTS** by Charles M. Schulz

Panel 1: Snoopy playing music.  
Panel 2: Snoopy playing music.  
Panel 3: Snoopy playing music.

**ECK & MECK** by Howie Schneider

Panel 1: "MY MOTHER WON THE LOTTERY LAST WEEK."  
Panel 2: "HOW! HOW MUCH DID SHE WIN?"  
Panel 3: "IT WASN'T THAT KIND OF LOTTERY..."

**TUMBLEWEEDS** by T.K. Ryan

Panel 1: "TIME FOR YOUR MONTHLY MATH QUIZ, DEPUTY!"  
Panel 2: "WHAT DO YOU DO IF A PRISONER ESCAPES FROM YOU?"  
Panel 3: "I'D RUN AS FAST AS I CAN TO FETCH YOU... VERY GOOD."

**ARLO AND JANIS** by Jimmy Johnson

Panel 1: "MY GIFT TO YOU IS AN EL CHEAPO! SORRY..."  
Panel 2: "IT'S A PICTURE OF ME! YUCK! DUMB, HUNT."  
Panel 3: "IT WAS TAKEN AT THE LAKE NEAR MY DAD'S!"  
Panel 4: "HE HATES THAT BATHING SUIT."

**FRANK AND ERNEST** by Bob Thaves

Panel 1: "...AND BY THE WAY, WHILE YOU WERE HEADING DOWN HERE, YOUR LOTTERY TICKET HIT FOR 10 MILL."

**GARFIELD** by Jim Davis

Panel 1: "JON'S BEEN STRUGGLING WITH THAT CHRISTMAS TREE STAND FOR HOURS."  
Panel 2: "I GIVE UP!"  
Panel 3: "WHY DON'T WE JUST DECORATE YOUR?"

**ROBOTMAN** by Jim Meddick

Panel 1: "THERE THEY ARE, DOWN THERE IN WHOVILLE, BANGING THEIR BANG-BANGLERS AND TWANGING THEIR THANG-TWANGLERS."  
Panel 2: "THE GRINCH TRIED TO STOP THEM, BUT HE WISHED OUT. HIS PROBLEM WAS HE HAD A HEART... A SMALL HEART... BUT A HEART NONETHELESS."  
Panel 3: "BECAUSE I'M ROBOTMAN'S EVIL TWIN, BRUCE, AND I DON'T HAVE A HEART!"

# Drugs may cause coughing

**DEAR DR. GOTT:** My elderly mother experiences violent attacks of coughing several times a day. Her doctor is reluctant to give her medication because he is afraid it might interfere with her heart drugs (Inderal and Vasotec). He suggested over-the-counter cough remedies that have not helped. He doesn't know why she is coughing. Do you?  
**DEAR READER:** I believe so.

Once the common causes of coughing (such as colds, respiratory infections and postnasal drip) have been ruled out, doctors begin to think of less common reasons for violent coughing. Two that readily come to mind are congestive heart failure and ACE-inhibitors.

In the first instance, a weak heart action leads to a progressive accumulation of fluid in the lungs. Along with cough, patients experience breathlessness when lying down or exercising. Inderal, a beta blocker, may contribute to heart failure in some patients. Therefore, your mother needs a chest X-ray, if one has not already been obtained. Heart failure is treated with a variety of medications, including diuretics (kidney stimulants).

A far more likely cause is the Vasotec. Known as an ACE-inhibitor, Vasotec (and other drugs in this class) can cause cough in up to 10 percent of users. Were I your mother's physician, I'd immediately substitute another drug (such as a calcium-channel blocker), provided that the chest X-ray is normal.

I'll bet that the Vasotec is the problem. Address this issue with your mother's physician. Let me know what he says.

**DEAR DR. GOTT:** I have severe arthritis and, on the advice of a friend, began taking chondroitin complex with glucosamine.

The results were miraculous. After 10 days of therapy, I could walk without pain; after two weeks, I could bend over to tie my shoes. I no longer need prescription pain pills.

Is this drug safe for long-term use? I hope so, because I'd really hate to give it up.

**DEAR READER:** Long used by veterinarians for arthritis in animals, chondroitin/glucosamine has recently become popular for human arthritis, too. It is a diet supplement that is supposed to regenerate cartilage, thereby overcoming the pain of joint inflammation.

As I have written before, the jury is still out on this product. Some orthopedic surgeons swear by it; others pooch-pooch the notion that the medicine is effective or even absorbed into the body. One fact is clear, however: Chondroitin/glucosamine is safe, even for prolonged use.

When my patients ask me about it, I

tell them to try it. If it works, great; if not, no harm done.

**DEAR DR. GOTT:** Before my gallbladder surgery, I weighed 198 pounds. About six months later, I tipped the scales at 178 pounds.

Some friends told me that once the gallbladder is removed, weight gain is inevitable. My doctor says that there's no truth in this old wives' tale. He encourages me to exercise more, eat less and avoid sweets. Why does the gallbladder do this?

**DEAR READER:** It doesn't; your doctor is correct.

The gallbladder is not a structure necessary for good health. It is merely a bag that stores bile for digesting fats in the diet. When it becomes inflamed or when stones form in it, attacks of severe abdominal pain can result. Gallbladder removal does not lead to



**MEDICINE**

**PETER GOTT, M.D.**

weight gain.

However, I believe that I have an explanation for your friends' mistaken opinion.

Gallbladder attacks occur most frequently after large meals — especially those that contain a lot of fat. Consequently, many people with this affliction modify their diets to prevent such painful attacks. As you know, fat is a major source of calories in the average American diet.

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**ACROSS**

- 1 Beechler
- 2 To the
- 3 Gifford
- 4 Long-haired
- 5 Receiver of
- 6 Property
- 7 Reconnects
- 8 Remove engine
- 9 Lasted freely
- 10 Fezzini
- 11 Cerebral outfit
- 12 Snake shape
- 13 Curved
- 14 Suits for two
- 15 Engine sound
- 16 White school
- 17 Big cheese
- 18 Sweet potato
- 19 Interlinear
- 20 The race
- 21 Collection of

**DOWN**

- 1 Conference
- 2 Keyboard
- 3 — down
- 4 Words of

**STUMPED?** Call for Answers @ South End or History Place

**Answers to Previous Puzzles**

WELLED	WARRSA
REBOLD	REAPER
FRASER	FRASPT
MOT MINT	STV
REPTIVE	
MAE REBOLD	
ADRI	POTTO
DIANE	ROU
MYRIANS	INDO
NANGON	
ATV	TOVA
WARRSA	REBOLD
LUMBER	REPTIV
STARIN	REPTIV

- understanding
- 6 Statute's org.
- 8 Turn over
- 7 Ignite
- 9 Clergyman
- 9 Yoke
- 10 Rasant (prof.)
- 11 — Arty
- 12 Ome
- 17 Judges
- 21 Like some

# WIN A...

## The same and different

By Phillip Alder

We have many contradictory sayings. For example, John Adams, in defense of the British soldiers in the Boston Massacre Trials of Dec. 1770, said, "Facts are stubborn things; and whatever may be our wishes, our inclinations, or the dictates of our passions, they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence." On the other hand, in "The Old Judge," Thomas Chandler Haliburton wrote, "Circumstances alter cases."

In today's deal, how would you play the spade suit, if taken in isolation, for three tricks? Then, how do you plan the play in six no-trump after West leads a club?

You have 11 top tricks: two spades, one heart, four diamonds and four

clubs. There are two chances for number 12: a third spade trick or a winning heart finesse.

In isolation, the best play for three spade tricks is to cash the ace, then to lead low toward dummy's jack. If it loses to East's queen and the 10 still hasn't appeared and West hasn't discarded, you cash the king on the third round.

That seems perfect, because if you don't get the third spade trick that you're after, apparently you can fall back on the heart finesse. However, in these circumstances an astute East, on winning with the spade queen, will switch to a heart. Now you must commit yourself before knowing the lie of the spades.

So, here it is better to cash the spade ace, enter dummy in a minor, and play a spade, intending to finesse your nine. If it loses to the 10, you can check the spade distribution before, if necessary, falling back on the heart finesse. And with this layout, when the

North 12 13 97

▲ J 5 4  
▼ Q 3  
▲ K Q 9 4  
▲ K Q J 3

West East  
▲ 10 7 6 3 ▲ Q 8  
▼ 10 8 4 ▼ K 9 8 7 5 2  
▲ 7 3 ▼ 6 5 2  
▲ 10 9 8 7 ▲ 4 2

South  
▲ A K 9 2  
▼ A J  
▲ A J 10 8  
▲ A 6 5

Vulnerable: Both  
Dealer: South

South West North East  
2NT Pass 6NT All pass

Opening lead: ♠ 10

spade queen appears on the second round, you are home.  
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# HOROSCOPE

**Your Birthday**  
Friday, Dec. 19, 1987

Several important changes in your career and social life could await you in the year ahead. How you respond to these shifting conditions will determine your degree of success in each venue.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) If you hope to be successful and effective, you must be decisive. You won't have much to show for your efforts today if you can't make decisions. Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail \$2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10154.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Privileged information that comes

your way today might not be of significant value. Before acting upon it, check out the facts carefully.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Enigmatic friends or strangers should be dealt with cautiously today, or else you might be taken in. Be selective when deciding in whom you place your trust.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-March 20) In a partnership arrangement today, have a clear-cut understanding as to who is responsible for what. Lay ground rules if there aren't any.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 20) Avoid criticizing others today for the same shortcomings you find intolerable in yourself. It is time to forgive human frailties, including your own.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) Speculative situations should be avoided today if you wish to be wise. You can't depend upon Lady Luck to back you up each time you fail to act responsibly.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) A bad situation could be made worse today if disagreements between you and your mate aren't resolved privately. Keep

an outsider from butting in.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) Your chances for getting qualified help to handle your daily duties do not look very strong. Do the tasks on your own, or wait until help is available.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) If reciprocating a social commitment today, don't feel obliged to spend more than the person spent on you. It is the intention, not the tab that counts.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Situations over which you'll have little control could severely restrict your mobility today. Instead of getting frustrated, smile and flow with events.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Basically, you're a rather optimistic individual, but today you might evaluate people and conditions from a negative perspective.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Do not be intimidated by your peers today and feel you must go along with something you really can't afford. It is okay to be frugal sometimes!  
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# ANNIE

by Leonard Starr

Panel 1: "I'M... IN A DAZE, ANNIE! THIS PATENT IS WORTH A FORTUNE... AND GIVING TRUDE A HUNDRED SIGNED BLANK CHECKS..."  
Panel 2: "WELL... SHE'S MARRYIN' HIS BROTHER... SO THAT MAKES HER... FRIBBY!"  
Panel 3: "AA... DING! SO I CAN... TAKE THOSE CHECKS FLYING OUT OF THAT CHECKBOOK! HIS ACCOUNT WILL BE EMPTY!"  
Panel 4: "ARISE NOT... TH' PROFESSOR LIVES AT 'DADDY'S' RESEARCH CENTER. GETS HIS REALS... THERE, AN..."