



Cynthia Hamilton Smith joins the march against drug dealers. Story Page 2A

Sanford Herald

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88th Year, No. 240 - Sanford, Florida

Joys, sorrows of Seminole County's developmentally disabled

By **RUSS WHITE**
Herald Staff Writer

Editor's note: The lives of developmentally disabled residents of Seminole County are seldom the focus of local news stories. The Sanford Herald in a four part Sunday series beginning today will explore opportunities available to these special residents, and the critical plight they face when a caregiver, usually a parent, can no longer provide care. We'll also share their joys and accomplishments with you.

Their cries for mercy were not heard. Their cause was not deemed politically pertinent. But their situation had become bonafide helplessness. And on a Saturday night, in the land of the Magic Kingdom, a 65-year old woman drove to a deserted road outside Orlando, Florida, and put fire to her 40-year-old mentally challenged son and then to herself. Police called the death of Raymond Tullis a homicide and that of his widowed mother, Gladys Tullis, a suicide. Homicide. Suicide. For 40 years, a brave mother coped. Then, the coping ended. She had no funds. She had no help. She, herself, was falling in health.

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From left: Ada Allen, Stephanie Tenney, John Overstreet, Jim Moore and Roxanne Hinton assemble needle valves at Seminole Work Opportunity Program, a non-profit organization that provides jobs and training to developmentally disabled in the county. SWOP will be featured next Sunday in part two of this four part series.

No Dems in county political races

By **VICKI DeBORNIER**
Herald Senior Staff Writer

SANFORD — If you're a Democrat in Seminole County, you can sit back and watch the electoral fireworks on Sept. 3. According to Supervisor of Elections Sandra Goard, for the first time in the political history of the county, no Democrats qualified for county-wide elected offices. As a result, Republicans will be making all the choices in the upcoming election. Sanford's elections will be held later in the year and qualifying for those races will be later as well.

Control of the Florida House and Senate are both at stake now that 315 candidates have paid their filing fees and met the Friday noon deadline to qualify for this year's primary and general elections. All of the 120 House seats and 21 of the 40 Senate seats are up for election in November, though 50 House candidates and 10 Senate candidates drew no opposition as filing was completed. Both parties claimed an advantage as filing wrapped up. With 56 percent of Republican state House members running unopposed compared with 46 percent of House Democrats, said state GOP Tom Slade. "It is proper to say that the Florida Republicans will start the fall races on the pole position."

But Senate Democratic Leader Daryl James, D-Miami, countered that his party was fielding a slate of candidates that would let it "take over the Senate. We believe we have a very strong shot." Currently, Republicans hold a 22-18 advantage in the Senate, while the Democrats control the House 63 to 57.

See Election, Page 6A

Preserving history here and there



The Myers' Oak Avenue home in Sanford is being restored to its original 1800s beauty.

Family's love for this old house

Part 3 of four parts

By **VICKI DeBORNIER**
Herald Senior Staff Writer

Editor's note: Historic districts across the country are defining parameters for restoration and renovation, and special families reverse modern construction for homes built a century ago. Next Sunday: How Sanford compares to another Southern city struggling to define codes.

SANFORD — A house is not just wood, nails, paint and cloth. In a way, a house is a living, breathing extension of those who live in it. Properly built and lovingly cared for, the house will

outlive generations of occupants and continue on to tell stories to those who come after. Steve and Kim Myers fell in love with the old house at 718 Oak Ave. in Sanford the moment they set eyes on it. Under a layer of renovations and alterations they saw a beautiful home. The two story home was built some 111 years ago as the George Fox family homestead. Several generations of that family lived in the house before it went outside the familial realm. When the Myers came to own

the house, "modernization" projects had covered seven windows and three doors. Beautiful hardwood floors were covered with carpet. A hallway, which was falling in on itself, was built between the main house and the carriage house behind. "In a way, we bought it sight unseen," he said. The real house was under many layers that hid its personality and architectural splendor. Cleaning it up was not a problem, but the Myerses wondered

about the original look of the house. "We wanted to bring it back the way it was as much as we could afford," he said. In a stroke of luck, they found the Fox family had donated some furniture and some photographs of their Sanford homestead to the Seminole County Historical Museum. Myers said they went to the museum as an aside to the Pioneer Days and Ways festival a few years ago. "I know that most residents in

See House, Page 5A

Time to talk money

Sanford budget faces first day of decision

By **NICK PFEIPAUF**
Herald Staff Writer

SANFORD — Monday evening earmarks the first day of decision for the fiscal 1996/97 budget for the City of Sanford. The first official votes will be called for during the regular city commission meeting beginning at 7 p.m.

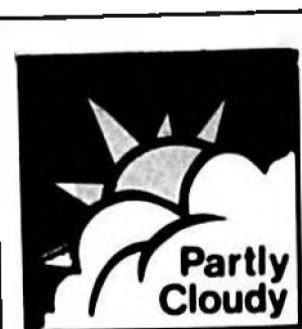
As is required, the budget, which has already undergone extensive review, study and changing, will be brought up for its first official action to be taken by the city.

The matter is scheduled to be presented in four separate items which either need to be acknowledged or adopted by the commission. The four items are as follows:

• Current year rolled-back millage rate — The city is to acknowledge the rolled-back rate established by the Seminole County property appraiser for the upcoming fiscal year. The rolled-back rate is the amount of millage which would be required in order to bring in the exact same amount of tax dollars to the city as received during this past year.

With the increase in taxation income expected by mostly commercial improvements in Sanford during the past year, adoption of the rolled-back rate would, in effect, result in a slight decrease in taxes paid by individual property owners within the city.

See Budget, Page 5A



Today: Partly cloudy with a slight chance of afternoon thunderstorms. Highs in the low to mid 90s. Wind variable 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 20 percent.

For more weather, see Page 2A

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Sanford visitor is lookin' for adventure

By **BON SUMMERS**
Herald Correspondent

Her wheat-colored hair tousled by the wind, one visitor to Sanford arrived at her relatives' home astride her motorcycle, after a 3,200 mile trek from her California home. Driving a Honda 700 motorcycle from Santa Cruz, California to Sanford was an adventure few people accomplish, Becky Fewel admitted, but she said it was worth it for the memories of a cross country trip of America she will have forever. Weighing 120 lbs., this 5-foot 6-inch sophomore at Cabrillo College in Santa Cruz arrived at the Sanford Marina recently to visit

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Becky Fewel visits Sanford on her Honda 700 motorcycle.

Herald Photo by Bon Summers

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IN BRIEF

Waterfront meeting

SANFORD — The Sanford Waterfront Master Plan Steering Committee will hold its July meeting Wednesday afternoon in the city manager's conference room at Sanford City Hall. A number of reports from individuals and special sub-committees are scheduled, including a report on the City/County partnership efforts toward facilitating a new courthouse design for the downtown Sanford area. Subcommittee reports will include those concerned with special events, permitting, midge problems and the ballfields. The meeting will begin at 4 p.m. and is open to the general public.

P/Z meeting

LAKE MARY — The City of Lake Mary Planning and Zoning board will meet Tuesday night, July 23. Items listed on the agenda under old business were all tabled from previous meetings. They include consideration of a 100 square foot building sign from the Lake Emma Road side to the 1-4 side of a building at the southwest corner of Lake Mary Blvd. and Emma Oaks Trail, a conditional use for a new Walgreens pharmacy with drive-up facility at the northeast corner of Lake Mary Blvd. and Rinehart Road, and a site plan review for WKCF-TV, Channel 18 studio and broadcasting facility, to be located at the west side of Skyline Drive, east of I-4. Under new business is a request to vacate a portion of lot 4 of Woldunn subdivision, a minor subdivision replat of lot 4 at Woldunn subdivision, vacating of the east 275 feet of the 20 foot alley located in block 45 of Crystal Lake Winter Homes, and a conditional use for a building expansion at Holy Cross Lutheran Church on Sun Drive. Also listed under new business is the revised final plat and subdivision for Huntington Pointe Phase 3, a site plan review for HTE Building, and conditional review for BellSouth mobility at North Point. The city planner's report and other business is also listed on the agenda. The Lake Mary Planning and Zoning Board meeting will begin at 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 23, in the commission chambers of Lake Mary City Hall, 100 N. Country Club Road.

Happy birthday

LONGWOOD — The Values Reborn Thrift Store of the South Seminole Christian Sharing Center will be celebrating its first anniversary Monday, July 23, with an "Our Thanks to You" sale. All merchandise will be 50 to 75 percent off through the entire store for this one day event. The South Seminole Christian Sharing Center is supported by over 50 churches in the Seminole/Orange county area, and helps to support families who are experiencing trouble by providing such items as clothing, food, rent, utility assistance, gas, and other items. The Values Reborn store is located at 800 N. U.S. Highway 17-92 in Longwood. Store Hours are 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. For additional information, phone 332-0625.

Heroin dealers arrested

ORLANDO — State and federal drug agents have arrested a suspect in connection with the heroin deaths of two children youths, federal prosecutors said Friday. The two young victims were among at least a dozen people who have died from heroin usage in this area in the last 15 months, authorities say.

Thomas Mastin, 30, of Orlando, was charged with five counts of distribution of heroin. Court papers say the heroin provided by Mastin "was ingested by Benjamin Barrow and by Michael Ryan Apple and resulted in their death from acute respiratory depression."

Barrow, 18, and Apple, 23, were found dead at Barrow's apartment near the University of Central Florida May 18. Heroin and Rohypnol, a powerful sedative known as roofies, were found on their bodies.

A statement by the U.S. Attorney's Office in Tampa said the arrest followed an investigation by the federal Drug Enforcement Administration and the Orange County sheriff's office in Orlando.

Correction

SANFORD — The candidates for public office filed their qualifying papers in Supervisor of Elections Sandra Goard's office. A caption in Friday's *Sanford Herald* indicated otherwise. We apologize for the error.

Lockhart rallies against drugs

By MARVA HAWKINS
Herald Correspondent

SANFORD — The Lockhart Community Association held its first anti-drug march and rally on Friday evening. Thirty citizens of the Lockhart community, supporters of the community, Seminole Hope, Central Florida Prevention Coalition and other drug agencies joined in the three mile march that meandered down Persimmin Avenue and Southwest Road to the area of Lockhart that has been plagued by the drug trade.

A prayer for the law enforcement officers, the men in green, was stated by Seminole Hope worker Vernon McQueen.

Aigrine Miller, president of the Lockhart Community Association, said the group intended to take back the neighborhood. Along the way the marchers, wearing yellow t-shirts, chanted "Up with hope, down with dope" and other epithets.

As the marchers made their way along the route, the marchers invited neighbors to join them in supporting the fight. They asked them to be a part of the solution, to save the children in the area and to turn in drug dealers when they see them in action. The marchers announced their commitment to saving the community.



Vernon McQueen leads the rally against drugs.

Sheriff Don Eslinger joined the marchers and stated his department's commitment to clearing up the drug area. Eslinger encouraged the community not to be so aggressive, to avoid physical confrontations and to develop a true partnership to solve the problem.

Undersheriff Steve Harriett reminded the Lockhart residents about plans for a community clean up drive next Saturday, July 27 from 8 a.m. until noon. The county will provide inmates from the John E. Polk Correctional Facility to assist community volunteers in their efforts. Harriett promised it would

be the first of a series of clean up efforts in the area. The sheriff's deputies who serve the community are Larry Zumbrun, Matt Hardisty, Pat Donovan and Rich Kay. Miller invited the others to "stand tall, look good and take back your neighborhood."



The group marched along the sidewalks in the community chanting and promising not to give up the fight against drugs in their neighborhood. Thirty marchers joined the first of what they hope will be many rallies.

Wife's call prompts reconsideration of release

ST. PETERSBURG — A man with AIDS given what was thought to be a life sentence last year for brutalizing his family nearly was set free despite warnings that he has threatened to kill his family if he gets out. The Florida Parole Commission, though, voted 2-1 on July 10 to give a medical release to Joseph Bilotta, 47. But now, after a frantic call last week to the three-member commission from Bilotta's wife, the case is on hold for 60 days while it is reconsidered. The

commission will take it up at a meeting in Tallahassee on Wednesday. Bilotta hit his wife and four children with a metal baseball bat and a knife. He locked his wife in a closet, broke her arms and legs, shot tear gas into one child's eyes, sexually abused his children and forced them to buy cocaine for him. In April 1985, Circuit Judge Charles M. Green in Fort Lauderdale sentenced Bilotta to 15 years in prison on 36 felony counts, including kidnapping

and child abuse. "It has been represented to this court that you ... will never walk out of prison," the judge said according to transcripts from the sentencing. "You need to be more than just punished. The facts of this case are outrageous. No child, no spouse ever should ever, if there is a God, have to be subjected to the offenses that you have just pled guilty to." A review of Bilotta's file shows the Parole Commission was notified about the

threat Bilotta posed to his family seven months ago. "Please do not make the mistake of releasing him," wrote Maria Schneider, a Broward County assistant state attorney in a Dec. 4 letter to the commission. "The fact that he may not have long to live actually makes him all the more dangerous because he has nothing to lose." The commission answered, assuring her the letter would go into file should he ever seek a medical release.

LOTTERY

MIAMI Here are the winning numbers selected Friday in the Florida Lottery:

Cash 3
5-4-9

Play 4
8-8-3-0

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THE WEATHER

EXTENDED OUTLOOK

SUNDAY Pty cldy 75-93	MONDAY Pty cldy 75-95	TUESDAY Pty cldy 75-95	WEDNESDAY Pty cldy 75-94	THURSDAY Pty cldy 75-93

NATIONAL TEMPS

City	H	L	Prc	ONS
Amesbury	64	59	27	cr
Anchorage	73	54	—	cdy
Atlanta	76	73	—	cdy
Atlantic City	76	73	—	cdy
Austin	86	75	—	cdy
Baltimore	84	73	—	cdy
Boston	75	68	—	cdy
Brownsville	76	79	—	cdy
Buffalo	76	67	—	cdy
Burlington, Vt.	76	65	—	rn
Butte	76	68	—	rn
Casper	84	77	—	cdy
Charleston, S.C.	85	73	1.25	cdy
Charleston, W. Va.	85	73	—	cdy
Charlotte, N.C.	85	73	—	cdy
Chattanooga	88	85	—	cdy
Chicago	81	66	—	cdy
Cincinnati	80	76	—	cdy
Cleveland	81	68	—	cdy
Columbus, O.	77	63	—	rn
Dallas Ft. Worth	87	78	—	cdy
Denver	92	61	—	cdy
Des Moines	87	73	—	rn
Detroit	79	76	—	cdy
Honolulu	87	74	—	cdy
Houston	86	78	—	cdy
Indianapolis	91	75	—	cdy
Kansas City	92	73	—	rn
Las Vegas	105	79	—	cdy
Little Rock	86	74	—	cdy
Los Angeles	85	68	—	cdy
Memphis	92	76	—	cdy
Minneapolis	74	79	—	cdy
Mpls St. Paul	79	67	—	cdy
Nashville	92	78	—	cdy
New Orleans	92	76	—	cdy
New York City	88	73	—	cdy
Oklahoma City	97	74	—	cdy
Omaha	88	74	—	rn
Philadelphia	88	78	—	cdy
Pittsburgh	86	73	—	cdy
Pittsburgh	86	73	—	cdy
Portland, Me.	70	65	—	rn
Sacramento	91	87	—	cdy
St. Louis	85	81	—	cdy
St. Louis City	85	80	—	cdy
San Antonio	101	79	—	cdy
Shreveport	97	72	—	cdy
Washington, D.C.	88	77	1.40	cdy

STATISTICS

☐ Sunset 8:16 p.m.
☐ Sunrise 6:30 a.m.

The Ultra Violet Index (UVI) rating for Orlando is 10. Better wear hat and sunscreen.
The UVI exposure levels are rated by the Environmental Protection Agency as follows:

0.1-2 minimal
3-4 low
5-6 moderate
7, 8, 9 high
10- very high

BOATING

St. Augustine to Jupiter Inlet — Today: Wind variable 5 to 10 knots except onshore near the coast during the afternoon. Seas 2 feet. Bay and inland waters a light chop. Tonight: Wind south to southwest 5 to 10 knots. Seas 2 feet or less. Bay and inland waters smooth.

Daytona Beach: Waves are 1 to 2 feet and smooth. Current is running to the north with a water temperature of 81 degrees.

New Smyrna Beach: Waves are 1 to 1 1/2 feet and glassy. Current is running to the north with a water temperature of 80 degrees.

POLICE BRIEFS

Drug arrests

Members of the Sanford police Special Investigative Unit (SIU) conducted an undercover operation Thursday in the Geneva Gardens area of Sanford. As a result, Clifton Mulkey, 19, of 118 Coevilla Apartments was placed under arrest. He has been charged with sale/delivery of a controlled substance, (crack cocaine).

SIU officers also located Demetrius Presley, 23, of 1114 E. 11th Street, Sanford, at his residence Thursday. According to the arrest report, on June 26, he reportedly was identified as being involved in a drug activity with an undercover officer at 10th Street and Bay Avenue. He has now been charged with sale/delivery of a controlled substance, (crack cocaine).

Members of the Sanford police GUAD-Squad, responding to a complaint call regarding possible drug activities Thursday, arrested Demetrice Turner, 19, of 5 Cowan Moughton Terrace in Sanford. He was located on Avocado Avenue and charged with possession of cannabis, (3.8 grams), with intent to sell.

Traffic stop

Jeffrey Boston, 37, 678 Boston Alley, Oviedo, was arrested by Oviedo police Thursday. An officer driving on CR-419 reported seeing a Buick pull out of Boston Alley at what appeared to be a high rate of speed, and gave chase. After reportedly eluding the officer briefly, the Buick was again located on CR-419 and stopped. Boston was subsequently arrested on charges of possession of crack cocaine, resisting without violence, resisting with violence, battery on a law enforcement officer, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Retail thefts

Daniel Michael Graffius, 21, of 2437 Lake Avenue, Sanford, was arrested by Sanford police at a store in the Seminole Towne Center Thursday. Officers said he attempted to take two ties valued at \$35 from the store without paying. He was charged with retail theft.

Valelia Lydia Smart, 34, 1801-F Landing Drive, was arrested by Sanford police at a retail store in the 3800 block of S. Orlando Drive Thursday. Officers said she attempted to remove \$63.40 in property from the store without paying. She was charged with retail theft.

Trespassing

Sanford police arrested two men Thursday, both reportedly seen loitering at a closed store in the 1100 block of W. 13th Street. Police said both persons had been issued warnings against trespassing on previous occasions. Damien Bryant, 22, of 1305 W. 11th Street, and Tarvin S. Kennon, 18, of 1604 W. 17th Street, were each charged with trespassing after warning.

Domestic

Charles Williams, 20, 201 Scott Drive in Sanford, was arrested by Sanford police at his residence Thursday as the result of a reported altercation with a female. He was charged with battery, domestic violence.

Stolen/recovered vehicles

A 1983 Toyota was reported stolen Thursday from the parking lot of Balpointe Apartments, 401 W. Seminole Blvd. in Sanford. The vehicle was later located submerged in a body of water in Volusia County.

A red \$400 flat-bed trailer was reported stolen Thursday from the 800 block of Escambia Drive in Sanford.

Sanford police reports

Four computer games valued at \$140 were reported stolen from a residence in the 1800 block of Hartwell Avenue in Sanford.

An estimated \$900 in jewelry was reportedly stolen from a residence Thursday in the 300 block of Haddon Parkway in Sanford.

Merchandise valued at \$11,200 was reportedly found to have been stolen between Jan. 4 and July 1, from a store at the Seminole Towne Center. The theft was not reported until Thursday.

A wallet with cash and contents valued at \$300 was reported stolen Thursday from a 1981 Nissan parked near the Seminole County Courthouse on N. Park Avenue in Sanford.

A cellular phone and other items valued at \$500 were reported stolen Thursday from a residence in the 2500 block of Hartwell Avenue in Sanford.



Rescue operation

An unidentified man was airlifted to Orlando Regional Medical Center on Friday evening after he was run over by his own car. According to witnesses to the accident, the man was backing out of a driveway at the corner of 8th Street and Mulberry when he fell from the open door of the car and was run over.

Herald Photo by Russell Arroyo

Notice of public hearing

The Seminole County Local Planning Agency/Planning and Zoning Commission will conduct a public hearing on July 24, 1996 at 6 p.m. This hearing, originally advertised for July 10, 1996, was continued due to the threat of Hurricane Bertha. The public hearing will be held in the County Services Building, 1101 E. First Street, Sanford, Florida, Room 1028 (Board Chambers). If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the Seminole County Current Planning Division at (407) 321-1150, ext. 7433.

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State Farm wins, more rates go up

By BILL BERGSTROM
Associated Press Writer

TALLAHASSEE — Policyholders may not consider it much of a victory, but State Farm won a battle Friday to raise property insurance rates for thousands more residential and commercial clients.

As part of the deal with Insurance Commissioner Bill Nelson, the state's largest insurer agreed to keep more than 15,000 South Florida business policies that it had wanted to dump.

"Staggering. The rates keep going up," said Cathy Liberto, a State Farm customer who has watched her premiums more than double even though her Dade County home was undamaged by Hurricane Andrew.

Nelson earlier revoked State Farm homeowners insurance increases averaging 13.8 percent. Friday, he accepted a hearing officer's order saying the company should get the increase.

Florida homeowners, in the midst of a June-November hurricane season, have been hit with a steady stream of rate increases as insurers try to recoup from \$16 billion in insured losses that rocked the industry after Andrew hit South Florida in August 1992.

Allstate, the state's third-largest insurer, is currently waiting for Nelson to rule on a requested 41 percent increase.

Nelson was out of town Friday and couldn't be reached for comment, but Department of Insurance spokesman Don Price said a decision on the Allstate request will come in the next few weeks.

"I don't think he'll approve a 41 percent increase," Price said.

But Sean Mooney, an economist with an industry trade group, the Insurance Information Institute in New York, said with Florida's risk of hurricanes, "You can expect a difficult market."

Homeowners premiums statewide have jumped an average of 74 percent since Andrew joined the industry. With those increases in place, rates may stabilize at a 3-4 percent a year rise, Mooney said. Most Florida customers won't lose coverage, he added, because of a moratorium imposed by state lawmakers that limits the number of policies a company can drop.

"If you are newly moving to Florida you will probably not get insurance with a company of your choice. If you are moving from the Midwest, your rates are going to be substantially higher," Mooney said.

State Farm's average premium for a \$100,000 masonry home in the Miami area was \$474 a year with a \$250 deductible before Hurricane Andrew. After the increase approved Friday it will be \$665 with a \$500 deductible, company spokeswoman Lynn Frish said.

That's just an average, said Liberto, who has watched her homeowners premiums jump from \$450 a year in 1991 to nearly \$900 now.

After the increase, she said, "I'll be well over \$1,000."

"One more hurricane in this area and they're not going to want to write any policies," Liberto said. "They'll be blanketly cancelling coverage. For how many years they made outrageous profits?"

Good friends, warm weather, it's time for a picnic



Members of the First United Methodist Church in Sanford held a picnic in Centennial Park, Park Avenue and Fourth Street, recently. The event was coordinated by Carol Reid, Michelle Baker and Jean Morris. Enjoying the hamburgers, right, are Michelle Baker and her daughters Vicki and Kaitlyn.

Herald Photo by Herman Schroeder

Visitor

Continued from Page 1A

her cousins Jim and Bea Morris. Fewel is no stranger to adventure, which Webster describes as "doing something with danger or unknown risk". She has lived in Saudi Arabia and encountered different cultures by traveling in Holland, where her maternal grandparents live, plus France, England, Switzerland, Germany, Australia, Korea, Indonesia, Japan, Thailand and The Philippines. Fewel applies much of her adventurous ways of daily living to the experiences she has learned from these countries.

Having driven her motorcycle for several months, she was familiar with her machine and knew how far she could push it and herself.

Fewel described her arduous journey, and what kept her going.

"Once you get over the initial pain of sitting up for such long periods of time, the fumes of

the cars and trucks passing you, and the boredom, then a second phase kicks in your mind and you reach a certain kind of 'high' that allows you to go further than you ever expected".

She explained that she could easily travel 400 miles a day, at speeds averaging from 60-80 miles per hour.

Fewel is majoring in English. After her next semester, she will be attending The University of California at Santa Cruz, where she will receive her teaching degree. She plans to teach in high school and her dream is to go back to Thailand and teach English.

Fewel, 22, left Sanford this past week for her return trip by motorcycle to California and classes. She has given herself six weeks for the journey.

She roared out of Sanford on her motorcycle, her white helmet with flowers on it strapped beneath her chin, her four duffel bags securely fastened, heading for the next adventure.

Sanford commission agenda

By NICK PFENPAUF
Herald Staff Writer

SANFORD - A relatively short Sanford City Commission meeting is scheduled for Monday evening. It will be highly important however, as this is the annual meeting at which the city sets the official millage rate for the next fiscal year and makes budget considerations.

Prior to the regular meeting, a work session is scheduled beginning at 5 p.m., in the city manager's conference room. As of late this past week, the following items were listed on the work session agenda:

- Report on code enforcement. The report was distributed to the commissioners in June, with time allowed for review and study.
- Discussion - Consideration of draft of lot mowing ordinance.
- Discussion - Requested airport lease
- Discussion - Renovation and lighting for the Municipal

Stadium.

- Discussion - Replacements of street signs in the historic district.
- Discussion - Board appointments/re-appointments.
- Discussion - Regular agenda items and other items.
- City Manager's report

The regular Sanford City Commission meeting is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m., in the commission chambers of Sanford City Hall. As of late this past week, the following items were listed on the agenda:

- Ordinance 3300 - 2nd reading - Amend city code re: vacancies in the classified service.
- Ordinance 3301 - 1st reading - November 5, 1996 charter referendum.
- Ordinance 3302 - 1st reading - Annex a portion of property between Sanford Avenue and By-Way, and between North Way and By-Way. Jessica W. Covington, owner, Rose Hill subdivision.
- Budget and millage - (a)

Acknowledge the rolled-back rate (6.5415) for notification to the Property Appraiser as required by statute. (b) Establish a proposed millage rate (6.8759), tentative. May be changed at subsequent public hearing and final consideration. (c) Tentative proposed budget for 1996/97 (may be changed). (d) Set tentative budget hearing on the proposed budget for 7 p.m., September 16, 1996.

• Board appointments/re-appointments - Board of Adjustment and Nuisance Abatement Board.

• Consideration - Approval of change order for contract regarding Sanford Avenue road improvements.

• Information - Invoices paid during the previous period.

• Additional items from the commissioners, mayor, city manager, city attorney and floor.

• Adjournment.
The Sanford City Hall is located at 300 N. Park Avenue in Sanford.

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IN BRIEF

Abortion drug approval recommended

GAITHERSBURG, Md. - The drug RU-486 works safely and well enough to become American women's first approved alternative to surgical abortion, scientific advisers told the government.

Friday's recommendation puts the French abortion drug, taken by 200,000 European women since 1988, a step closer to U.S. doctors' offices. But it came with warnings, and one condition.

Women should understand that RU-486 can be painful, cause bleeding and must be used carefully - requiring three separate doctor exams, scientific advisers to the Food and Drug Administration warned.

"The term 'safe' should not be misinterpreted as free of adverse events, and serious adverse events," said Dr. Diana Pettiti of Kaiser Permanente Medical Care Program in Pasadena, Calif.

Still, the advisers voted 6-0 with two abstentions that RU-486's benefits outweigh its risks - a recommendation that the FDA approve the drug.

The FDA is not bound by advisory panel decisions but usually follows them. FDA Commissioner David Kessler said he hoped to make a decision on RU-486 within two months, but would not say which way he is leaning.

Meanwhile, if final analysis of a study on 2,100 American women, not yet complete, turns out different from the French data on which the scientific advisers based their decision Friday, the panelists get a chance to review the research again.

Election

Continued from Page 1A

Reporters and onlookers crowded Division of Election offices in Tallahassee as the noon deadline approached Friday.

Last to complete his paperwork was Democrat Ted Doran, a Daytona Beach attorney who switched his candidacy from the 28th House District to the 27th.

There Doran will face Democrat Jimmy Charles in the September Democratic primary, and the winner will confront incumbent Rep. Evelyn Lynn, R-Ormond Beach, in November.

Minutes after Doran handed over his papers, the clocked ticked down to noon. "It's over," Division Director David Rancourt said.

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Sports

B

IN BRIEF

LOCALLY

Elton to perform in Sanford

SANFORD — One of the top Elvis portrayers in the world, Lake Mary's own Jack Elton, will be on stage Monday, August 5th at Sanford Memorial Stadium to do his Elvis show along with "Let It Be", as nationally known group from Miami who portray the Beatles.

Elton, who portrayed Elvis in the 1993 Presidential Inauguration, will do a show based on Elvis Presley's 1970 Las Vegas performance. A 20-piece orchestra will also be on the stage.

The show will begin at 8 p.m. with dinner (a \$5 donation). Music will start at 7 p.m.

A donation of \$15 is being asked, with children under 12 admitted free.

The show is being presented by the City of Sanford and American Legion Youth Athletics with proceeds going to help get lights for Sanford Memorial Stadium and for the American Legion baseball teams.

Tickets can be obtained at the Downtown Recreation Center in Sanford City Hall. For more information call 330-5697.

Women's open gym

SANFORD — Open Gym is held for both high school and college women on Sunday evenings at Seminole Community College and on Monday and Wednesday at Lake Howell High School. The gyms open at 7:15 p.m.

For more information, call Ken Patrick at (407) 328-2092 or 328-2090.

Shaq has baby girl

ORLANDO — On Thursday Shaquille O'Neal signed a 7-year contract worth an estimated \$121 million to play for the Los Angeles Lakers. Then he returned to Orlando to witness the birth of his daughter.

O'Neal's fiancée, Arnetta, gave birth to a healthy baby girl shortly after midnight Friday at Florida Hospital South. The baby was named Tahara. A hospital spokeswoman was unable to provide additional details.

Hospital officials quickly learned the difficulty of concealing O'Neal's identity. Witnesses said the center was being approached in hallways for autographs.

ELSEWHERE

Martin wins pole

LONG POND, Pa. — Daytona Beach resident Mark Martin was easily the fastest qualifier today in the rain-delayed finish to time trials for the Miller 500 at Pocono Raceway.

Martin, driving a Ford Thunderbird, turned a lap of 168.410 mph, earning his second pole position of the season and the 30th of his Winston Cup career.

"I really believe there was some more there and I just didn't get it," Martin said after his run on the 2 1/4-mile tri-oval.

Morgan Shepherd made it an all-Ford front row for Sunday's race with a lap of 167.442. He was followed by the Chevrolet Monte Carlo of Bobby Labonte at 167.479, the Ford of Geoff Bodine at 166.957 and the Pontiac Grand Prix of Ward Burton at 166.945 and Johnny Benson Jr. at 166.741.

Benson's lap was the fastest of five completed Friday before rain cut short the opening round of qualifying.

Steele breaks record

LONG POND, Pa. — Tim Steele set an ARCA Bando-Mar-Hyde Supercar Series record for wins Saturday, leading the final 31 laps to capture the Pepsi 400k at Pocono Raceway.

It was the ninth superspeedway win for the Cooperville, Mich., driver, breaking a tie with Jeff Purvis, Jimmy Horton and the late Grant Adcox. Three wins have come at Pocono.

Steele, who now has earned seven of his 14 career victories this season, led four times for a total of 59 of the 100 laps on Pocono's 2.5-mile tri-oval. His Ford beat the Thunderbird of runner-up Ron Barfield to the finish line by 2.895 seconds, or about 8 car-lengths.

Ed Berrier finished third, followed by Blaise Alexander and Mark Thompson.

Steele now leads Bobby Bowsher, a two-time ARCA champion, by 840 points.

BEST BETS ON TV

- AUTO RACING**
 □ 1:05 p.m. — TBS, NASCAR Winston Cup, Pocono, (L)
 □ 11 p.m. — SUN, Hooters Cup Series
- BASEBALL**
 □ 2 p.m. — WGN, Cubs at Cardinals, (L)
 □ 8 p.m. — ESPN, Rockies vs. Padres, (L)
- HORSE RACING**
 □ 4 p.m. — ESPN, Caesars Palace Turf Challenge, (L)
- OLYMPICS**
 □ noon, 7 p.m., 12:30 a.m. — WESH 2, (L)
- TENNIS**
 □ 3:30 p.m. — SUN, Legg Mason Classic, (L)

Good to the last out

Post 318, Post 53 advance with one run wins

By DEAN SMITH
Herald Sports Editor

SANFORD — Port St. Lucie Post 318 remained undefeated and Sanford Campbell-Looming Post 53 stayed alive on an afternoon of two excellently played games in the American Legion Baseball B Eastern Area Tournament Friday at Alumni Field in the Seminole High School Baseball Complex at Seminole High School.

Good pitching by a trio of pitchers and super defensive plays allowed Post 318 to edge Post 53 4-3 to remain undefeated and earn a spot in Saturday's championship round.

Post 53 then got a super pitching performance from Andrew Diemer and J.R. Nobles singled in the game's only run with two out in the bottom

AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL B EASTERN AREA TOURNAMENT AT ALUMNI FIELD SEMINOLE HIGH SCHOOL FRIDAY WINNER'S BRACKET FINALS POST 318, POST 53	
Port St. Lucie Post 318	002 100 0 - 4 0 3
Sanford Post 53	000 000 0 - 1 0 3
Outlangus, Slevin (4), Snider (7) and Seiver, Diemer and Diemer, WP - Cantrell, Save - none, 2B - Post 40, Poole, Post 53, Benton, 3B - none, HR - none, Records - Post 318 2	
LOSER'S BRACKET FINALS POST 53, POST 40	
Ft. Pierce Post 40	000 000 0 - 0 0 1
Sanford Post 53	000 000 0 - 1 0 1
Cantrell, Maypole (7) and Poole, Diemer and Silva, WP - Diemer, LP - Cantrell, Save - none, 2B - Post 40, Poole, Post 53, Benton, 3B - none, HR - none, Records - Post 40 12, Post 53 2	

Post 40 squad.

Sanford Post 53 and Port St. Lucie Post 318 were to have met for the tournament championship on Saturday, with Sanford needing two wins over Post 318 to advance to the State Tournament in DeLand. Port St. Lucie only needed one win to advance to state. A full wrap up will appear in Tuesday's *Sanford Herald*.

POST 318 4, POST 53 3

Sanford Post 53 got off to a fast start with two runs in the bottom of the first inning, but could not maintain the momentum as Port St. Lucie Post 318 came back to win the finals of the Winner's Bracket.

Jon Outlangus, David Slevin and Ryan Snider combined on a six-hitter and each pitched out of jams, with a lot of help from their

See Legion, Page 2B

Post 40 outlasts Post 112

From Staff Reports

SANFORD — Matt Page and Tim Maypole combined on a four-hitter and Clint Cantrell reached base four times as Ft. Pierce Post 40 stayed alive in the American Legion Baseball B Eastern Area Tournament with a 9-3 victory over Goldenrod Post 112 at Seminole High School's Alumni Field Friday morning.

The win by Post 40 earned them a spot opposite Sanford Post 53 in the Loser's Bracket Final (see above story) later Friday afternoon.

Post 112, made up of players from Oviedo High School, took a 1-0 lead in the top of the first inning as Kenny Starling led off the contest with a double, moved to third on a wild pitch and scored one out later as Justin Holmes reached on an error.

Post 40 broke through in the second inning to take the lead for good.

Cantrell led off with his first of three hits and moved to second as Steve Poole reached on a fielder's choice. Albert Ware then force Cantrell at third, but the runners got to move up a base as Ryan Strickland grounded out. Poole and Ware then scored as Matt Page reached on an error.

Post 40 tacked a pair of runs onto the lead in the fourth inning as Cantrell singled, Poole walked and Ware singled to load the bases. After an out, Page lifted a sacrifice fly to center to score Cantrell and Poole scored on a single by Luis Cruz.

Justin Payne singled an later scored Post 40's fifth run in the fifth inning.

Post 112 closed to within 5-3 in the bottom of the sixth inning as, with two out and no one on base, Starling singled, moved to second on a wild pitch and scored on a single by Paul Lubrano. Lubrano then came around on an error, a wild pitch and a passed ball.

See Post 40, Page 2B

AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL B EASTERN AREA TOURNAMENT AT ALUMNI FIELD SEMINOLE HIGH SCHOOL POST 40, POST 112	
Ft. Pierce Post 40	000 210 4 - 9 0 3
Goldenrod Post 112	000 000 0 - 3 0 3
Page, Maypole (7) and Poole, Holmes, Griffin (6) and Alvarez, WP - Page, LP - Holmes, Save - none, 2B - Post 112, Starling, 3B - none, HR - none, Records - Post 40 11, Post 112 3	

THE BEST NEVER RESTS



The Tire City sponsored girls' softball team that was the only undefeated recreation team, adult or youth, in the Sanford City League's this spring did not let the championship go to their heads as they put on a car wash last weekend to raise money so they can play in some tournaments and another league this fall.

In the above photo, team members (from left) Jennifer Sellers, Steph Froeman (on truck), Whitney Bishop, Kristin Weaver, assistant coach Margaret Clevenger and Amy Platt put the finishing touches on a Ford pick-up.

At left (from left), assistant coach Margaret Clevenger and head coach Lucy Sellers (kneeling) present trophy and plaque to Tire City owners John Sellers and Bruce Sellers.

Herald Photos by Sherri Lynn Hill

Downtown goes long to oust Bucks from NABF

By DEAN SMITH
Herald Sports Editor

LONGWOOD — Seminole County teams saw their runs in the National Amateur Baseball Federation (NABF) District Tournament come to an abrupt end Friday night as the Lake Howell Bucks joined the host T.O. Lee Bullets (Lyman) and Lake Mary Mudcats on the Lyman High School sidelines.

The Bucks appeared headed to a victory as it took a 2-0 lead in the top of the first inning and still held a 2-1 lead after four innings.

But Downtown Orlando (Boone), which eliminated the Bullets 3-1 Thursday night, woke up its dormant offense in the fifth inning against the Bucks' Jeff Monaco.

Monaco carried a three-hitter into the fifth inning but he seemed to wilt and

NATIONAL AMATEUR BASEBALL FEDERATION DISTRICT TOURNAMENT AT LYMAN HIGH SCHOOL DOWNTOWN 11, BUCKS 3	
Downtown Orlando	000 100 2 - 11 10 3
Lake Howell Bucks	000 001 0 - 3 0 3
Boone, Trappner (4), T. Ewasha (7) and Kurtz, Monaco, Brana (3) and Taylor, WP - Trappner, LP - Monaco, Save - none, 2B - Downtown, Pope, T. Ewasha; Bucks, DePierro 3B - Bucks, Maybin HR - Downtown, Kurtz, 6, Ford.	

run out of gas on the hot evening. Downtown exploded for eight runs on six hits in the inning, capped by a long two-run home run by Steve Ford, and went on to pound the Bucks 11-3.

Downtown then went on to dispose of Winter Park, which ousted West Orange in an earlier game Friday evening, by the score of 10-7 to win the championship on Saturday.

See NABF, Page 2B

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STATS & STANDINGS

BASEBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE STANDINGS

Table showing National League Standings for All Times EDT, Central Division, and West Division. Columns include team name, wins, losses, percentage, and games behind.

FRIDAY'S GAMES

- List of baseball games for Friday, July 31, including matchups like Montreal vs New York and Cincinnati vs Pittsburgh.

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Joby Gorman pitched a beautiful game, but one bad inning hurt him as Port St. Lucie Post 318 came-from-behind to edge Sanford Post 53 4-3

In the Winner's Bracket finals of the American Legion Baseball B Eastern Area Tournament Friday afternoon at Seminole High School.

Legion

Continued from Page 1B

defensive mates, to preserve the victory. Paulo Silva led off the bottom of the first inning for Post 53 by reaching on an error. Ned Raines then walked and both moved up a base on a balk. Nobles then singled sharply to center to score Silva, but Raines was cut down at the plate on a throw by Chad Cowart.

Post 40

Continued from Page 1B

But Post 40 quickly dampened Post 112's hopes for a comeback as it plated four runs in the top of the seventh inning. Cruz led off the inning with a walk, stole second, went to third on a wild pitch and scored on a single by Maypole. Payne drew a walk and Tim Crowover put down a sacrifice bunt that was thrown away at third for a four-base error that allowed all three runners to score.

NABF

Continued from Page 1B

The Bucks took the lead in the bottom of the first inning as J.J. DePierro reached on an error, went to third on a single by Jesse Geim and scored on a grounder by Neal Maybin. Geim moved to second on the play and scored when the Downtown shortstop booted Donald Taylor's ground ball.

BOWL AMERICA-SANFORD RESULTS

- METAL ESSENCE SCRATCH TRIOS: Series (four games) — Al Stilmac, 871; Don Caniglia, 846; Nancy Johnson, 804; Alison Johnson, 743. Game — Nick Newman, 259; James Griggs, 257; Alison Johnson, 222; Nancy Johnson, 215.

DISNEY SPORTS GETS NASCAR TRUCK RACE

LAKE BUENA VISTA — The NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series announced Thursday it's going to Disney to open its third season. The racing series begins Jan. 19 at the Walt Disney World Speedway near Orlando. It will join other events recently secured by Walt Disney World Sports, including spring training for the Atlanta Braves, national headquarters for the Amateur Athletic Union and new home of the Harlem Globetrotters.

DIEHARD 500 MAY MOVE TO OCTOBER

TALLADEGA, Ala. — They say NASCAR is one of the hottest sports going. But apparently it's not quite hot enough to beat the July heat because the folks at Talladega Superspeedway want to move the DieHard 500 to October.

Associated Press

"This is something we've thought about for years and years," track spokesman Jim Freeman said. "We've had fans and drivers tell us over the years, 'It's too damn hot. When are you going to move the race?'" He said a 1994 survey of fans who said they would not attend the July race showed heat was the top factor. But the move isn't a done deal because race sponsor Sears is concerned that TV ratings might drop for a fall race.

People

Couple wed 70 years, Pilots win national award

Picking up roots and moving to a strange new area can be a traumatic experience for any age.

But last year, Constance and Hildred C. Johnson, ages 88 and 91, did just that. The couple moved from their home in Terre Haute, Ind. to Mayfair Villas in Sanford to be near their only child and her husband, Donna and Donald Dimoa who make their home in Timacuan.

According to Donna, her parents have adjusted well to the late-life move. She said, "I insisted they move down here." As an only child, she felt she could help care for her parents if they were closer.

Another milestone in this charming couple's life is that just this week, they observed



SENIOR EDITOR

DORIS DIETRICH

their 70th wedding anniversary on July 17 and celebrated Constance's 88th birthday on the same day.

The Johnsons were married July 17, 1926 in Bowling Green, Ohio. They both grew up in Terre Haute and during their life together, they have lived in Chicago, South Bend, Ind. and Terre Haute, among other cities.

Hildred was employed as a machinist by the Caterpillar Co. and retired as a tool and die maker from the FMC Corp. of Minneapolis, Minn.

Constance has always been a homemaker and Donna said her hobby was sewing and needlework. The Johnsons attend Markham Woods Presbyterian Church in Lake Mary.

Donna said her father built two of the family homes with his own hands including, plumbing, electrical, hardwood floors and basements. "He enjoyed fishing in his younger years," she said.

Now that the Johnsons are in Florida, Hildred spends most of his time in his garden. "Dad has a fabulous garden," Donna said. "He works in his garden everyday," she said and added that he has an abundance of cucumbers. The Johnsons also enjoy their dooryard citrus, a treat they never knew in the north country.

Although Constance is quite active, her health is not as good as Hildred's. "He still drives and is very alert," Donna said. He reads the daily newspapers and keeps up with the news on television, she continued. Her father grew up on a farm and does most of the work around the house, Donna added.

In celebration of their 70th anniversary and Constance's birthday, the couple were honored at brunch last Sunday at Timacuan Country Club and on July 17 at a dinner at the club.

The Johnsons have three grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Welcome to the community, Constance and Hildred, and happy birthday and happy anniversary.



Constance and Hildred C. Johnson

Pilots attend annual convention

Three members of the Pilot Club of Sanford, joined more than 1,500 Pilot members from all over the world at the Pilot International/Pilot International Foundation Annual Meeting and Convention, held in Nashville, Tenn., June 29-July 3. Marian Rethwill served on the convention registration committee;

Ruth Gaines served on the convention election committee and Doris Stein served as Sanford delegate to the convention.

To commemorate the organization's founding in 1921, those attending took part in a roaring 20s banquet featuring guest speakers Susan Haskell and Roger Haskell, traumatic brain injury advocates and special presentations. The convention provided participants with many networking

opportunities through business meetings and workshops. Guest speakers included Joan Wuterich on learning disabilities.

Many clubs were recognized with awards for their achievements in community service, membership recruitment. The Sanford club received third place in the Mabel Breen Memorial Award for its contributions to the brain-related disorders. **See Dietrich, Page 5B**



SODA Pops Competition Teams show off awards after national contest at Disney World.



Pilot International convention (left photo, from left: Ruth Gaines, Marian Rethwill, Joanne Horton, 1996-97 PI president, and Doris Stein. In right photo, Joan Wuterich (left), 1995-96 PI president and Foundation Board of Trustees chairman, presents Pilot past president Ruth Gaines with the Mabel Breen Memorial Award, third place certificate.



Merthie honored for 50 years serving community

Family, friends, current and former students gathered on Friday, July 12 at the Sanford Civic Center to "thank you" to Mrs. Lillie Bell Merthie, mother, grandmother, teacher and mentor. Commissioner Robert Thomas, Jr., was master of ceremonies. Mrs. Merthie, a devoted Christian servant, was honored for her patience, dedication, love and concern for children for 50 years.

Musical moments and gospel selections were rendered by



SANFORD

MARVA HAWKINS

Solo of dedication, "I Won't Complain," was sung by Mary L. DeBose. The dynamic voice of recording artist Vernon Jones continued the spirit of thanksgiving as he sang, "In Due Season." Yes, Mrs. Merthie, this was the season for your students and the community to honor you for your 50 years of untiring work in early childhood education. You have taught human dignity, physical and spiritual education and strong bonds. You are a chosen vessel, a very special Christian lady.

Prayer of thanksgiving was given by the Rev. Leonard Wilson. Welcome and occasion was offered by former student, Terry McKinney, Jr.; and the dinner prayer was given by Ronald Washington.

Highlighting the musical tributes were the Big Birds of Merthie Day Care, 25 little voices of summer school and day care students, under the direction of Marilyn Merthie Martin; Daryl Merthie directed the children in special praise songs of tribute to their teacher, "Yes There is Hope."

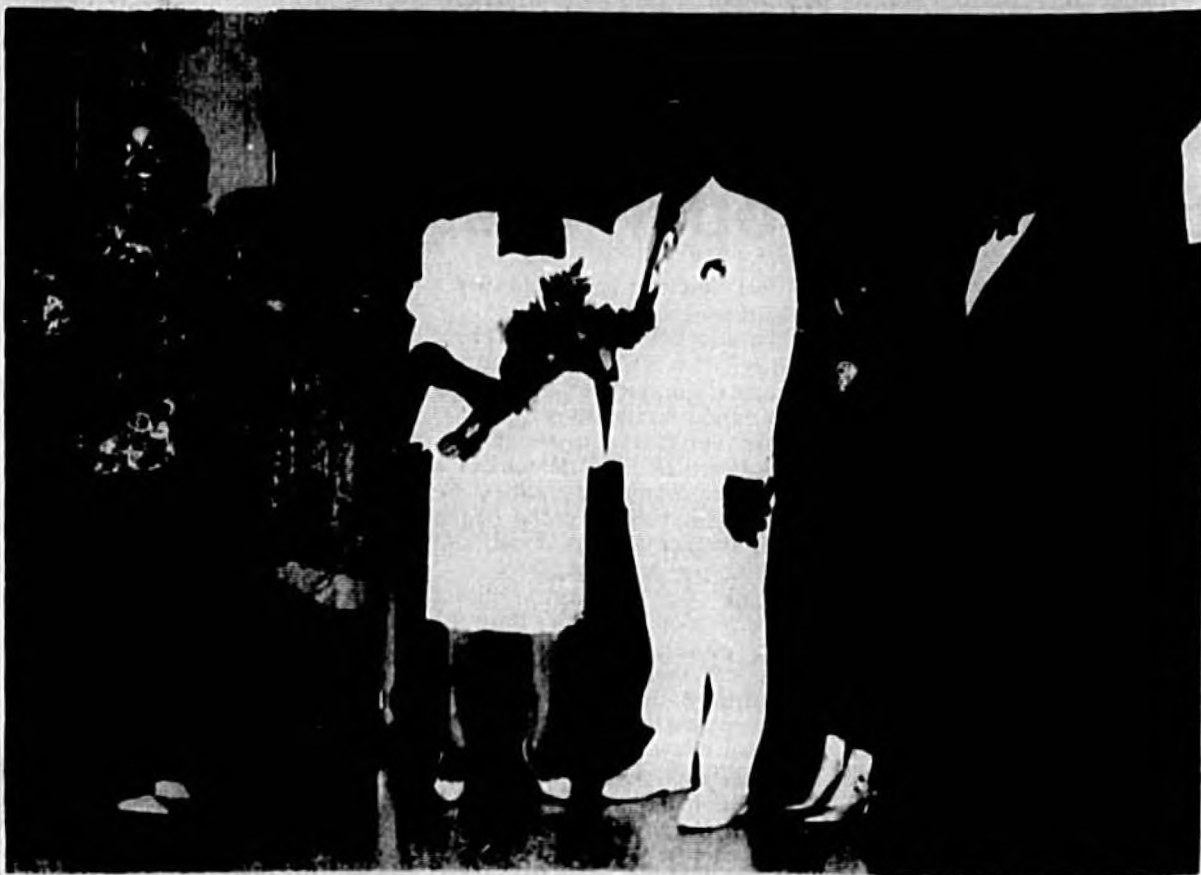
Expressions of love and thanks flowed throughout the evening, including tributes from former students Henry Sweet, Mildred People Bookhart, and Tommie Wilson, III of Arlsona.

Patricia Merthie Martin presented a plaque on behalf of the staff; Maxine Merthie Brown,

former students and the New Life Word Center Mass Choir.



Lillie Belle Merthie observes street named after her, Merthie Drive, while Oscar Merthie Jr. and Sanford City Commissioner Robert Thomas look on.



Participating in Merthie's honor program are (from left): Lutricia Graham, Alzarda Washington, Lillie Belle Merthie, Oscar Merthie Jr., Ora Butler Brown and city Commissioner Robert Thomas.

Chicago, honored her mother on behalf of her father, Oscar Merthie, Jr. and the family, Alzada Richardson Washington, one of the sponsors, presented a plaque from Wilson-Eichelberger Mortuary.

The Foundation for Early Education Chairperson presented Mrs. Merthie with a beautiful gift of memories. As a special honor, City Commissioner Robert Thomas read a

resolution from Mayor Betty Smith and the Sanford City Commission declaring the naming of Persimmon Avenue from 18th Street to 19th Street as Merthie Drive. The street-naming ceremony was held Saturday, July 13, 10:00 a.m.

Mrs. Merthie shared words of thanks for the honor given her. Tears flowed as she gave praises to the Master above; she said the Lord will bless when you make

"our life a ministry for him. She says "train children in the way they should go and remember you always need the Lord."

As a special dedication, New Life Word Center Mass Choir, where her son, Minister Ronald Merthie is pastor, sang the well-known selection "Order My Steps in Your Word". Pastor Merthie gave honor to his

See Hawkins, Page 5B

Table with 10 columns: Channel, Time, Program Name, Description, and other details. Includes programs like 'The Best Years of Our Lives', 'The Untouchables', and 'The Godfather'.

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The 60th District Religious Conference leaders and missionaries.

Hawkins

Continued from Page 4B
mother and father from the children and grandchildren and gave closing remarks. Mr. and Mrs. Merthie shared the honor. Fifty years ago they had a dream and it became a reality.

Rt. Rev. Mark A. Peachey, Senior Bishop, was held July 8-14, at the Triumph Church of the New Age, Sanford. Prince Grady Roberson is the host Shepherd.

Sellers, Susie M. Washington, Missionaries Betty Smith, Martha Smith Peachey, Regina Williams, Mary Jordan; Deacons Herman Gibson, Troy Pearson, Fredrick Williams, Walter Peachey, Henry Brown; Sister Ruth Jordan. Attendees came from Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Texas, Georgia, and Florida.

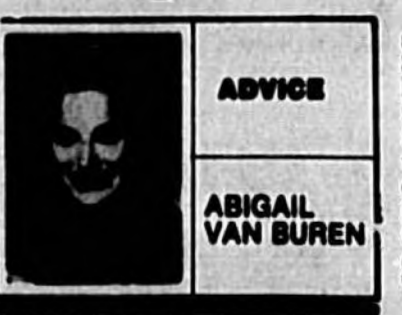


Woman's club members honored for service

When the Sanford Women's Club recessed for the summer, President DeLore DeLore Lash (left), for the month, and Vivian Buck (center) and Viola Frank, for services during the year.

'Fat lady sings' explained

DEAR ABBY: I presume that you, and most of your readers who are more than 40 years old, have heard the expression, "It's not over until the fat lady sings."



ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

seven miles to the synagogue on Saturday, so he had a room of his house made into a chapel. He would invite some of the neighbors and his friends from the Met for services. I was in my teens at the time. You can imagine what it was like hearing the hymns sung with Jan; Roberta Peters, Robert Merrill and others in the little congregation. The house practically shook.

Was the fat lady they were referring to Kate Smith?

DEAR OLD-TIMER: No, it wasn't Kate Smith. A reader asked me that question in 1987. The research was quite interesting. One resource attributed that expression to Dick Motta, coach of the Washington Bullets basketball team, and later coach of the Dallas Mavericks. He was reported to have said it during the 1977-78 basketball playoffs, and he meant, "We may be behind, but we haven't lost the series until all the games have been played." Another source credits Dan Cook, a San Antonio sportscaster, who said it was a takeoff on Yogi Berra's line, "The game isn't over 'til it's over." Mr. Cook said this story is recorded in the Library of Congress.

me about it, and his letter is so interesting I'm printing it again in its entirety: DEAR ABBY: I'm sure you meant no offense when you used that expression, "It's not over until the fat lady sings."

DEAR ABBY: In response to "Call Me William," I wish to quote the following verse that my husband, Bill, was told by his father: "My mother calls me William, My father calls me Will, My sister calls me Willie, And my friends all call me Bill." My husband quoted this verse many times when new acquaintances asked him how he preferred to be addressed. BILL WOLFORD'S WIDOW ALICE, IN DAYTONA BEACH

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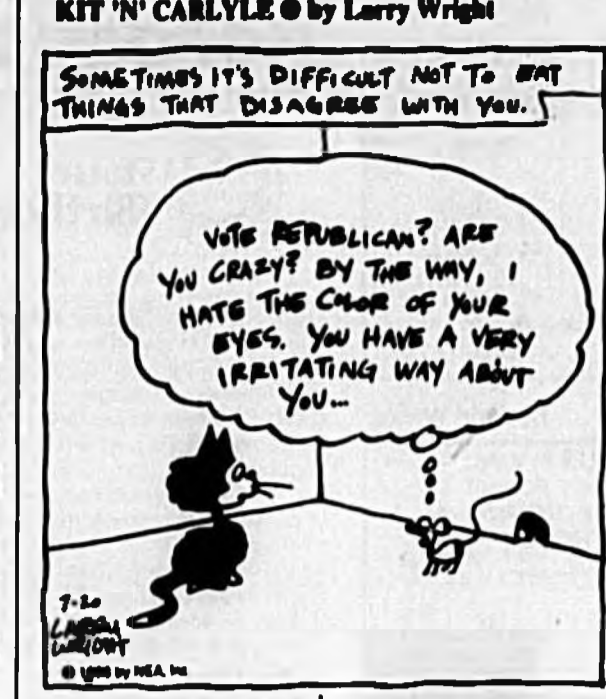
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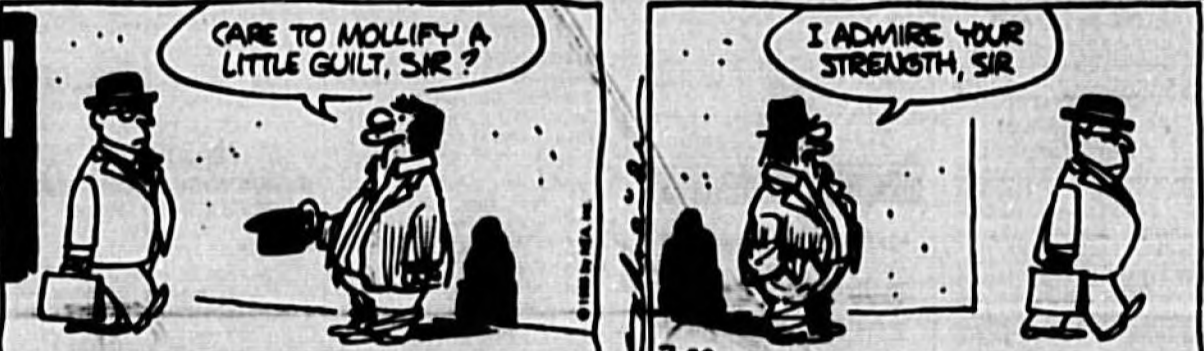
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Your Birthday

Sunday, July 21, 1996

The probability that you will achieve your objectives is strong in the year ahead. Remain focused when confronted with competition or a challenge.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Today, guard against the inclination to worry about things that may never happen.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) A painful lesson you've learned from a past experience could serve as your guideline for success today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) If you encounter opposition today, do not try to overcome it by using more forceful tactics.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Initially, you may be inclined to do things the hard way today.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Pleasurable pursuits should not detract from the time and attention you should devote to more serious matters.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) In your financial affairs today, timing could make or break you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) If you have an open mind, you can always learn something of value from others.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Today, do not buy something if you do not have the cash immediately at your disposal.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You must try not to be incoherent about an arrangement you're trying to put together today.

ACROSS

- 1 Remove (one's hat)
6 - a Wonderful Life
8 Person of action
12 Train track
13 Webster's follower
14 Spicy
15 - time
16 Gun grp.
17 Leaf-cutting ant
18 Made of a cereal grain
20 American buffalo
21 Reedy organ
22 Rep.'s counter-part

DOWN

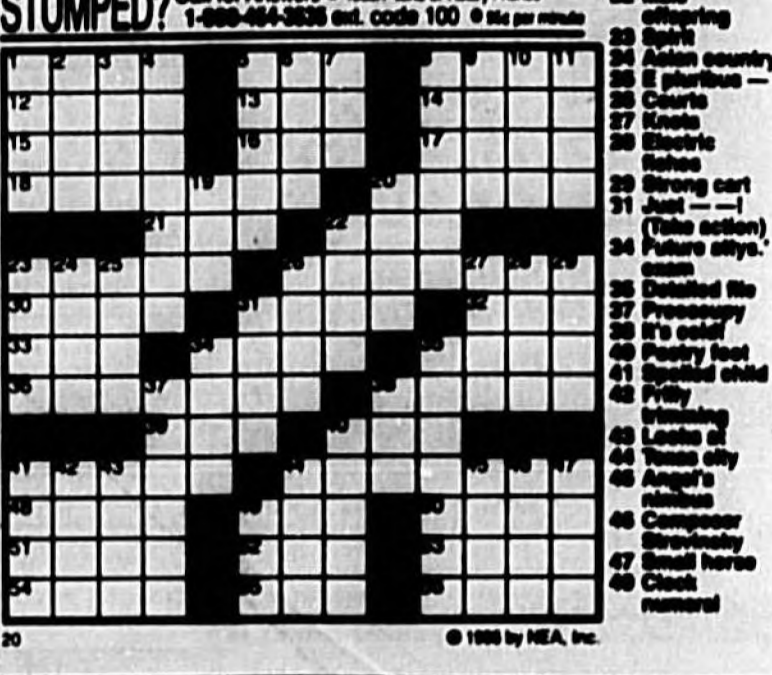
- 1 Stomach
2 Destruction of allegiance
3 Excellent
4 Washed on the water
5 Word with chubs or city
6 Ripped
7 Mrs. in Madrid

Answers to Previous Puzzles



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not to be incoherent about an arrangement you're trying to put together today. Demand the same courtesy from everyone involved.

The third planet

By Phillip Alder



PHILLIP ALDER

Who should win the Emmy for the best actor in a television comedy? My vote goes to John Lithgow for his performance in "Third Rock from the Sun."

However, East wins the second diamond and returns his remaining spade: one down. "I can't make it," the alien would say.

Table with 4 columns: North, East, South, West. Contains card game scores and dealer information.

on Earth most pairs signal attitude, and the spade jack will win the day.

ROBOTMAN

by Jim Meddick

