

Sanford Herald

Serving Sanford, Lake Mary and Seminole County since 1908

86th Year, No. 252 - Sanford, Florida

NEWS DIGEST

INSIDE

Meet your neighbors

The first of three "Our Town" special sections will introduce you to some of your neighbors in Winter Springs and Longwood. Next week, Sanford residents will be profiled, followed by neighbors in Lake Mary.

Sports

Irish like heat

SANFORD — The Republic of Ireland soccer team is thankful for the heat and humidity as it prepares for the upcoming World Cup. See Page 1B.

People

Longwood in the news

Shay Keogel joins correspondents from Lake Mary and Sanford to let you in on what is happening in the Longwood area. See Page 5B

BRIEFS

Flag disposal ceremony

SANFORD — The American Legion, Campbell-Lossing Post 53, will hold its annual Flag Disposal Ceremony on Monday, June 13, 8 p.m. at the post home, 2874 S. Sanford Ave., Sanford. The public is invited to attend.

Anyone having unserviceable flags which they wish to have properly disposed of may drop them off at the legion between 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. today and Monday. For more information, call 322-1652.

Basketball camp

LAKE MARY — The Lake Mary Parks and Recreation Department is launching a series of week-long basketball camps beginning Monday. The camps will continue running each week through August. Open to residents as well as non-residents ages grades 5 through 10, the cost is \$80 per week.

Classes run from 8 a.m. until noon, at the two new basketball courts at the Lake Mary Sports complex off Rantoul Lane.

Each participant receives a free T-shirt. Recreation Supervisor Terry Diederich says there are still some openings for the basketball camps. For additional information, phone Diederich at 324-3097.

Home buying seminar

LAKE MARY — A free seminar will be held Tuesday evening, at Timacuan Country Club, 550 Timacuan Blvd., Lake Mary. The subject is buying a home: reasons to buy, how to buy, and how to qualify.

The seminar is open to the public, and refreshments will be served. Registration is at 7 p.m., and the program is from 7:30 until 8:30 p.m.

For additional information, phone Ron Mesplay at 328-8162, Elsie Spivey at 332-6398, or Watson Realty at 323-3200.

Motorist shot in face

ALTAMONTE SPRINGS — Police say a Casselberry man was shot by another driver early Saturday morning as both traveled off the eastbound exit of State Road 400 at State Road 436 in Altamonte Springs.

Mike McRae, 22, sustained a gunshot wound to the face and was transported to Orlando Regional Hospital, Orlando. Altamonte Springs Police said the other motorist, Ivan Rivera, 24, Melbourne, fled the area and later notified the Orange County Sheriff's Office to report his involvement.

Rivera has been charged with aggravated battery. McRae is in critical condition. The investigation is continuing.

From staff reports

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Summer shower pattern here



Partly cloudy with scattered afternoon and evening showers and thunderstorms. High in the lower 90s. Wind southeast 10 mph. Chance of rain 40 percent.

For more weather, see Page 2A

Fighting the fear

Scared residents attack neighborhood drugs, crime

By KELLEY MITCHELL
Herald Staff Writer

SANFORD — They say they've had enough. Residents of the Sanford Housing Authority said they are tired of living in fear for their children's lives and tired of the reputation that residents are the cause of the ills of the City of Sanford.

"The majority of the residents of the Sanford

Housing Authority are law abiding citizens," said Phyllis Richardson, executive director of the Sanford Housing Authority. "It is the minority that is causing the problems."

In a standing room only meeting of the Westside Community Association last week, the resident council of the authority came to the organization to ask for support and assistance in ridding the community of drugs, crime and fear.

See Residents, Page 2A

I fear for my children's lives when they go outside to play. My husband was threatened by a man with a gun in front of my apartment.

-Geneva Mitchell, resident

6th Annual Central Florida Soap Box Derby



Herald Photos by Roger Harnack

Racers in the Soap Box Derby defied speed as they careened down the track Saturday.

Racers fly like the wind

By SHARI BRODIE
and ROGER HARNACK
Herald Staff Writers

SANFORD — It was right down to the wire for nearly 50 soap box derby racers who braved the heat and humidity Saturday to compete in the Central Florida Soap Box Derby qualifying competition. The second biggest competition of the day was which would come first—the end of the derby or the beginning of the rain.

Clouds loomed on the northern horizon, which is what the racers faced as they came down the hill in the final heats. But the derby was the big winner, as the

See Derby, Page 5A



Kristin Gegenheimer comes to a stop at the end of the track.

Way Back When: An affair to remember

Editor's note: The late Julian Stenstrom wrote over 200 Way Back When columns for the Herald. After his death last month, his widow, Louise, discovered several new columns he had completed, including the following one.

By JULIAN STENSTROM
Herald Columnist

Part 1 of two parts

The yarn that begins today is true. Only some names have been changed. It's a story you will like, but it will be more interesting to a whole bunch of you old timers who remember it. One day the Herald received a big fat envelope and in it was this tale. So, at the outset, let me tell you we did not write it although you'll find some of our remarks and explanations

See Stenstrom, Page 8A



Anton Daryl Meyers File Photo

Priest testifies in murder trial

By SANDRA ELLIOTT
Herald Staff Writer

SANFORD — When an Episcopal priest asked Anton Daryl Meyers about a 1991 newspaper story linking him to a missing girl, he thought the response was strange and jotted it down. Friday, the clergyman told a Seminole County jury he thought the remarks meant, "he (Meyers) thought it was done, it was over. They can't get me."

Meyers is on trial for first degree murder in the disappearance of 14-year old Kathy Engels who vanished May 25, 1987.

Father James Spencer, assistant rector of the All Saints Episcopal Church, testified Friday he asked Meyers about the story during a parish picnic after seeing him with a young girl. Meyers began attending the church services and participating in church activities in late 1990 but never formally joined the church through baptism or confirmation.

Spencer said he saw Meyers talking with a 17-year old female parishioner in April, 1991 and appeared to be asking her to take a ride on his motorcycle.

A day earlier, the priest read a story linking Meyers to the missing teen from Lake Mary.

"I was kind of concerned at that point," the priest said. Spencer, who also served as a youth minister, noted Meyers was about 30 or 31 years old at the time and the girl was still in high school or just about to graduate.

"If I saw any adult with a high school kid that didn't have a direct relationship," Spencer remarked, "I'd be concerned."

Asked if he was the Anton Meyers referred to in the newspaper story, the priest said Meyers became upset.

"No, that's done," Meyers told the priest. "The statute of limitations has run out. I've spent a lot of time in the law library. I'm not going to

See Murder, Page 8A

