



# Seminole Herald

THURSDAY  
March 2, 2000  
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**Weather**  
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Sunny:  
High: 83  
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2A



**Bears, Patriots,  
Rams win  
SAC Baseball  
Openers**

1B



**Inclusion Day  
activities help  
raise awareness**

4A

## Briefly

### 'Macbeth' makes return to stage

'Macbeth' show returns. Shakespearian Theater has returned to Casselberry — Club Juana style.

Nude women performed portions of Macbeth Wednesday night at Club Juana in a revised version of Femmes Fatale, a theatrical performance which enables the adult club to skirt Seminole County ban on nudity.

Seminole County voters approved the ban in November 1998. As a result, dancers are required to wear pasties and panties.

Wednesday's production included the "witches scene" from Macbeth as well as several other skits, each including nudity.

Officers with Seminole's vice squad were at the club videotaping the performance, but no arrests were made. Club owner Mike Pinter has said the show would be staged four nights per week, Wednesday through Saturday, as long as it drew a crowd.

Prosecutors and agents today will discuss whether any charges will be filed.

Following the club's first production of Femmes Fatale in May 1999, three women and Pinter pleaded no contest to violating a Casselberry ordinance that bars nudity in businesses that sell alcohol. The performers were fined \$100, and Pinter \$500.

However, Circuit Judge OH Eaton has ruled in a related civil case that the production was legitimate theater and that it was legal.

## Today is ...

Thursday, March 2, 2000  
Today is the 62nd day of 2000  
and the 72nd day of winter.

**TODAY'S HISTORY:** On this day in 1836, Texas declared itself to be an independent republic.

On this day in 1964, the filming of "A Hard Day's Night," starring the Beatles, began.

On this day in 1963, Sony, Philips and Polygram introduced the compact disc.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS:** Sam Houston (1793-1863), Texas statesman; Sholom Aleichem (1859-1916), writer; Kurt Weill (1900-1950), composer; Moe Berg (1902-1972), baseball player-intelligence operative; Theodore Geisel (Dr. Seuss, 1904-1991), author; Tom Wolfe (1931-), writer, is 69; Mikhail Gorbachev (1931-), Russian statesman, is 69; John Irving (1942-), novelist, is 58; Lou Reed (1943-), songwriter, is 57.

**TODAY'S SPORTS:** On this day in 1927, Babe Ruth signed a \$70,000 contract with the New York Yankees.

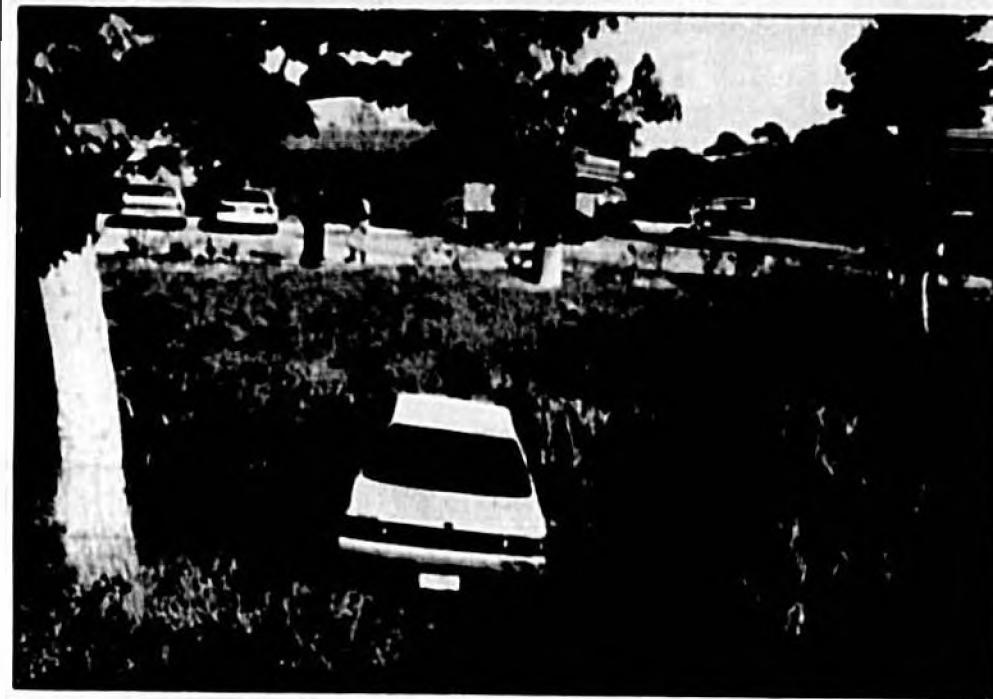
**TODAY'S QUOTE:** "I'm not confused. I'm just well mixed." Robert Frost

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## Index

|                      |       |
|----------------------|-------|
| Classified . . . . . | 4B-BB |
| Comics . . . . .     | 7B    |
| Crossword . . . . .  | BB    |
| Dear Abby . . . . .  | 7A    |
| Horoscope . . . . .  | 7B    |
| Life Style . . . . . | BB    |
| Obituaries . . . . . | 3A    |
| Police Log . . . . . | 3A    |
| Sports . . . . .     | 1B-4B |

## In the ditch



A Lake Mary police officer talks with Ramel Shaen Steele of Orange City after Steele drove her car into a ditch at the 7-11 store at the corner of Lake Mary Boulevard and Rinehart Road. Steele told officers she accidentally put the vehicle in reverse and drove into the retention pond. There were no injuries in the incident, and officers did not file any charges.

Herald photo by Tommy Vincent

## Seminole students rank second in college enrollment

### Students also among the most prepared for college work

By Bill Kerns  
Staff Writer

**SANFORD** — Seminole County public schools have the second highest percentage of high school graduates who are enrolled in college, according to a report released by the state.

In addition, Seminole County

public schools ranked seventh out of 75 school districts in the state with 68.6 percent of graduates passing all three areas of a state test to determine readiness for postsecondary education.

Students who enter public colleges or universities must pass entry-level college placement tests in reading, writing and math.

The Readiness for Postsecondary Education 1998-99 Report, released by Florida Education Commissioner Tom Gallagher shows a statewide increase in the proportion of high school graduates who passed entry-level college place-

ment tests.

In the 1998-99 school year, 61.5 percent of prior year public high school graduates who entered a public university or community college were considered "ready" for college in all three subject areas, a 4.6 percent increase in the proportion of students ready the previous school year.

"There's good news for everyone in this report," Gallagher said. "But, the best news is the improvement in passing rates among minority students."

The proportion of white stu-

See Students, Page 7A

## Beware: 'Long arm of the claw' invades area seafood restaurants

By Nick Pfeiffer  
Staff writer

**SANFORD** — This Friday and Saturday, March 3 and 4, and again on a weekend later this month, local law enforcement officers, Sheriff's deputies and police officers, will be involved in a project called Cops & Lobsters at Red Lobster restaurants.

The project got underway at 600 locations statewide at the beginning of this week and lasts through April 30. Locally, these two weekends have been specifically marked out for involvement at the Red Lobster Restaurant, 20 Towne Center

Bld. in Sanford.

Ben Hartner with the Seminole County sheriff's department is coordinating the law enforcement participation in the event. Specific names of the officers were not immediately available.

Cops & Lobsters is a fund raiser for Special Olympics. Police and deputies around the state, who have taken an oath to "serve" and protect, will be assisting Red Lobster servers during lunch and the dinner hour. Donations, in the form of tips will go to the Special Olympics and the Law Enforcement Torch Run, which is also part of the fundraising

campaign for the Olympics.

Last year, thousands of officers participated in the event and raised a record-breaking \$1.1 million. Florida raised the most money of any state in the nation for the fifth year in a row by obtaining over \$117,000 during 1999.

Red Lobster's relationship with Special Olympics began in 1987 when the company was a premier sponsor of the International Special Olympic Games in South Bend, Indiana. In addition, the Red Lobster's support of people with mental retardation includes a hiring initiative providing hundreds of

See Restaurants, Page 7A

## Politicians must appeal to new voters — kids

### Kids Voting USA offers Seminole County students chance to vote for president

By Michelle Jeria  
Managing Editor

**SANFORD** — Voting isn't just for adults anymore.

Through the Kids Voting USA program, Seminole County children will have the opportunity to go to the polls with their parents and vote during November. In fact, organizers hope the program will encourage more adults to vote during the upcoming election.

"Looking at recent voter turnout rates, we know we need to do something about it,"

Seminole County educator Jane Palmer said. "If kids come

home and say 'Mommy, I can vote,' they may drag their parents to the precinct rather than the other way around."

Palmer, who works with K-12 social studies curriculum and instruction, is spearheading the Kids Voting USA program in Seminole County. Along with numerous volunteers, she will make sure every child in the county will have the opportunity to fill out a ballot in November.

The concept for Kids Voting USA began in 1987 when three Arizona businessmen went to Costa Rica on a fishing trip and discovered the country's voting rate was about 80 percent. For more than 40 years, children in the Central American country have discussed election issues in the classroom and voted alongside their parents on election day.

Back in the United States, the businessmen created a similar

See Voting, Page 7A

## Preparing for Opening Day



Herald photo by Tommy Vincent  
Sanford Parks and Recreation employee Billy Reines hoses the first base area at the Sanford Memorial Stadium in preparation for this weekend's opening ceremonies for Little League Baseball.





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# Inclusion Day 2000

## An awareness of special gifts and special people

### Inclusion Day: A splendid time to be aware and to care

By Russ White  
Staff Writer

The boy doesn't know who his real mother is. "I want to meet her," he says. "I want her to see what she did to me."

He was a fetal alcohol syndrome birth, lovingly adopted a few months later.

His IQ is 60. When he was 26 years old, he won a gold medal for swimming in the Special Olympics. Proudly, he wore the medal

for the next three weeks.

He's a kind and loving young man. Many of his neighbors call out to him when he rides by on his bicycle. Out of the neighborhood, he experiences pain. People have thrown rocks at him, knocking him off his bike.

Doctors say that a pregnant woman would have to consume enormous quantities of alcohol to produce a child like this. Sadly, there are many such births.

Education is needed — and that's

why you might want to attend the Inclusion Day activities Saturday, March 4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the Wal-Mart parking lot at Seminole Center in Sanford.

The purpose of Inclusion Day is to enable everyone to be more aware of the gifts and talents of those in the disabled community and also realizing their wants and needs.

Inclusion Day has been organized by the Seminole County Disability Advisory Council and by county staff.

Activities include Special Olympics demonstrations and a wheelchair baseball game. There will be coloring competitions and prizes. Clowns and balloons.

The Disability Council was formed a year and a half ago and serves as an advisory board to the county commissioners. Tony Tizzi, a longtime activist for the disabled, helped form the council and was its first chairman. Tizzi was born with cerebral palsy.

Disabled persons give society more than they receive from it. Disabled workers have proven to be extremely loyal employees. It is difficult, of course, for them to not only be hired but to find transportation to and from their work.

The Daytona Beach transport story this week is an example of the transportation problems of disabled persons. At present, the beach busses have room for only one disabled person in a wheelchair.

Disabled persons give society more

"Hopefully, in time there will be two wheelchair places. Frequency, disabled persons travel together."

A number of area merchants have agreed to participate in the Inclusion Day activities. Some like Wal-Mart, Publix, Pet Supply, Fantastic Sam's, Office Depot, Eckerd's and Radio Shack have donated prizes.

Members of the Disability Advisory Council will be there to greet visitors and answer questions. Come by and say hello. Be included.

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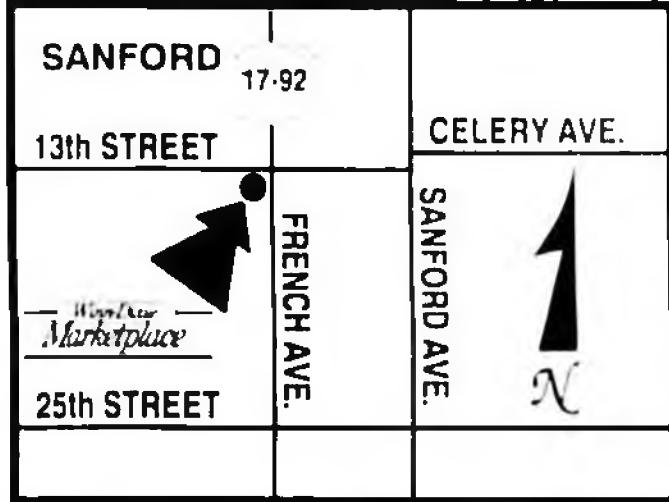
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#### Lions Club donates to DARE



Sanford Lakeside Lions Club President David Hall presents a \$100 check to Sanford Police Department DARE officer Claudia Webber. The donation will be used to defray the cost of supplies the police department uses for its 5th grade Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program at Pine Crest, Goldboro, Wicklow and Hamilton elementary schools.

#### Check point nets 18 arrests, 50 tickets

From 12:45 a.m. until 4:30 a.m. Saturday, the Seminole County Sheriff's Office, along with the Florida Highway Patrol, the Sanford Police Department, the Seminole County Sheriff's Office, and the Sanford Board of Education conducted a traffic enforcement operation on the Seminole Expressway between 18th Avenue and 20th Street in Sanford.

The operation resulted in 18 arrests and at least 50 citations.

Local Police of the Brookwood

in the county.

- Speeding
- Impaired driving
- Ignition interlock devices
- Failure to wear a seat belt
- Unlawful property

The community liaison

officer, a member of the Brookwood

#### ANNOUNCEMENT

The Seminole County Supervisor of Elections announced that the pre-count/floor counting equipment is now in service for the Presidential Preference Primary Election to be held on March 14, 2000, will be held at the Office of the Supervisor of Elections at 116 W. Magnolia Street, Sanford. There is no fee to the public and the public

The Supervisor of Elections Office is located at 116 W. First Street, Sanford. There is no fee to the public and the public

For additional information contact the County Board of Supervisors of Elections at 407-325-7700.

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# Lapstop

Lapstop is written by Media General News Service and produced by Media General Syndicated Services

## Gordon, Loomis get acquainted

ROCKINGHAM, N.C.

Robbie Loomis knew it wouldn't be easy when he became Jeff Gordon's crew chief, and he was right. But Loomis and Gordon had their moments on Sunday, and Loomis continues to learn about his most amazing driver.

"Man, what a day," Loomis said as rain gently fell on the track moments after the BurnoutKermashoff. "We had that tire off, a loose wheel on the right rear. We knew we were looking this deal, so we're counting our blessings because we could have come out of here 10th. Just didn't get the lug tight."

That forced Gordon to make an uncheduled pit stop and fall two laps down. He not only recovered, but also made it back to the lead, eventually finishing 10th.

"I knew if it went green, we had a good enough car that we'd be OK," Loomis said. "There at the end we just lost the handle, lost our grip off the corner."

"We've got some stuff to work on, but I believe we'll be OK."

Like other Chevy crew chiefs, Loomis says that not only does Pontiac have a considerable edge, but Ford does also, so NASCAR should review its aerodynamics rules.

NASCAR officials spent Monday at Rockingham's wind tunnel testing Bobby Labonte's Pontiac, which won here Sunday. Dale Jarrett's Chevrolet and Dale Jarrett's Ford. NASCAR's Mike Helton says he could make a rules change this week for Las Vegas, but adds he'll be very cautious in what he decides.

Earnhardt was closing fast on Labonte at the finish, and Gordon didn't look bad, leading for the first time this season. What should that tell NASCAR?

"This is a racetrack where downforce works," Earnhardt conceded. "But if you have a car that's handling, you can overcome some of that."

And Labonte and he worried that Earnhardt would catch him down the stretch.

"Yes, I thought he could," Labonte said. "He had done it before [in long runs]. I knew his philosophy was to take care of his tires and be better in the long run. There, you take the curve, and you go as fast as you can, and I'll catch you in a little bit." And that's what happened. So that last time I thought he was going to catch me again.

"Jimmy [Makar, Labonte's crew chief] said, 'You've got 5½ seconds on him.' And it wasn't 10 laps later and it was down to 3½. It wasn't 10 more laps and it was 2½."

"But either I had something left, or time ran out," Makar said. "We'd talked about how strong Earnhardt was the previous two races. We knew he had a very, very fast race car at the end of it, and both times he would just get to us at the end of a run. So we knew going into that last segment that we were going to have to get a lead and make him run us back down. And we wanted a lead that was going to be enough where he didn't have enough time to run us down before the end of the race."

"There was one segment in the race when we were leading and all of a sudden Earnhardt came up to us. He was like a tenth-and-a-half a lap faster than us, and I had no idea where he had come from. Then somebody noticed he was running the top line, and that he'd changed his line. He found a good place on the track. That sort of set the stage. We knew he had found something for late in the run, and we were going to have to counter with something of our own."

So tires, GM men said, meant more than downforce Sunday.

"This is a racetrack that's tire management, and that's why they're taking the cars to the wind tunnel to look at them," Loomis said. "You can't have anything about the bodies from looking at them at a racetrack like this. You have to do a lot of things with the chassis. This is a tire-management track, so you can't say much about aero here. Plus, those teams [Labonte's and Ward Burton's] are real good at tracks like this."

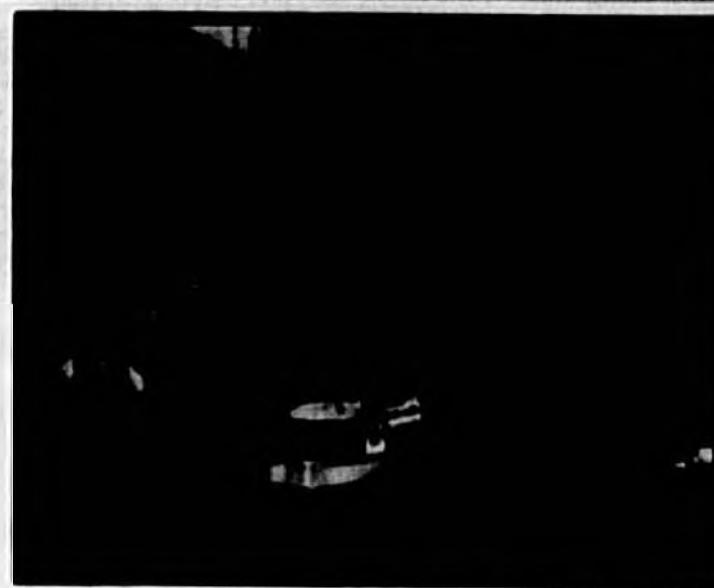
"A racetrack like this is hard to get a good read on. I think we'll be able to tell you a lot more after the Las Vegas race."

**Mike McElroy has covered NASCAR for 26 years for the Winston-Salem Journal.**

## Pit Falls

Crew members navigate through of pit road

By Rea McElroy  
Lapstop



Crew workers for Dale Earnhardt keep their focus despite the dangers on pit road.

**H**e never considered he might get hit. Not until it happened. Now, Michael Ehrhart has the thought in the back of his mind. Although the jack man remains focused when working on Mark Martin's car, things are different these days.

"Everything is so routine, and it just goes along and goes along," he said. "You're just doing a pit stop, and it's something you do. Then you get hit, and it's something you do, and you can get run over. Now I'm more aware of things around me."

It's surprising how many crew members know how he feels. Since rear tire changer Michael Riedl, who worked for Bill Elliott, died after being hit by Ricky Rudd while changing a tire on Elliott's car on pit road at Atlanta in November 1990, no crew member has been killed in a pit-road accident, but several have been hit. They try to put it out of their minds.

They avoid images of the accidents, focusing on the basics.

"You think about five lug nuts off, five lug nuts on," said Shane Parrot, a tire changer for Ken Schrader. "That's all you do, that's all you look at."

Still, he can't escape thinking what else is happening on pit road. That never leaves the thoughts of a man who has been hit.

During the Daytona races, two crew members were hit during pit stops. Last weekend, another suffered burns on his face during a fire in his pit. He was treated at the track, then sent home to meet with his personal physician. Perhaps it's a sign of the times that many crew members take the potential of being hit in stride — some even have developed ways to make the chance of being injured when hit less likely.

As pit times drop to the 15-second range, teams are struggling with safety issues. NASCAR officials encourage safety measures, but they don't require pit crews to wear helmets and fire suits. With the recent rash of injuries, teams are wondering if NASCAR should make changes. The issues are mounting.

Should the right rear tire be left in the pit box during a stop? How does the driver handle when to brake for the pit stall in the split-second world of competitive racing?

As they cruise down pit road, drivers must decide when to hit the brakes and slam into their stalls. The speeds vary, as do the stalls. NASCAR officials say they recommend a 25-foot-by-17-foot box.

But at what point do safety concerns start costing drivers track position?

It's all a learning process.

Mark Martin was devastated when he hit Ehrhart during the Bud Shootout on Feb. 11. The driver retired from the race immediately and went to sit with Ehrhart in the infield care center.

Ehrhart was the calmer of the two. But then, he didn't have to sit helplessly while his 3,400-pound stock car rolled into a moving human.

Ehrhart ran in front of the car, heading to the right

side with his jack in anticipation of Martin's stop. Martin clipped him, and Ehrhart rolled across the hood.

"I was pretty sure I was going to make it," the jackman said. "I knew it was going to be close, but I didn't think I was going to get hit. Then I look at the pictures, and it wasn't even close. In my mind, I felt like I had the car cleared."

That was two weeks ago. He suffered only minor injuries to his right leg and has returned to work. But his perspective has changed.

"You're more aware of your surroundings," he said. "You get in the zone."

If he's like others, he'll soon just be in the zone. Parrot has been hit countless times — "you don't keep track of that stuff" — but continues to change tires. In his nine years of pit crew work, he's developed a system for absorbing a hit.

"I've ended up on a couple of fenders, but that's it," he said. "The perfect example is Mark Martin's guy. If you're going to get hit — get hit in the air. Whenever I see something close coming, I always jump, just get off your feet. That's the important thing."

And pay attention, even though sometimes that's not enough. Parrot was changing Jerry Nadeau's tire last year when he saw Dale Earnhardt hit a tire on pit road. Parrot tucked into a ball, then felt the impact of the tire. He slammed into the toolbox on the other side of the wall.

"I don't ever remember doing the stop," he said. "That's what I fear the most. That's why I think that rear tire shouldn't be out there. I was sure for a week and a half. Aw, that hurt."

The right rear tire has become a hot topic in the garage. Currently, teams have the option of leaving it in the box during a stop. Tony Stewart's front tire changer, Michael Lingerfelt, suffered a broken femur when he tried to pick up a rear tire that had rolled in front of Stewart's car during the Daytona 500. He's out for the season.

Some crew chiefs and team owners say it's ridiculous to allow that tire to continue laying on pit road.

"Some people leave it out there to stop you," Robin Pemberton, Rusty Wallace's crew chief, said.

"It's a gentleman's agreement to bring the tire back. Some people just don't abide by that."

Winston Cup Series Director Gary Nelson says that NASCAR is careful to "never make a rule we can't enforce." He feels the tire rule would be difficult to enforce because there would be issues concerning how and when the tire was removed. So it's back into the team's hands.

In the ever-changing world of Winston Cup racing, crew members have little time to dwell on one subject. Soon, their thoughts will turn to other issues. After all, working among speeding cars is just part of a crew member's everyday life.

**Rea McElroy covers NASCAR for the Richmond Times-Dispatch.**

## PIT STOP

This driver came from the seventh position to win the inaugural Winston Cup race at Las Vegas. Can you name him?

See answer below

## Just the Stats

### 2000 POINTS LEADERS

| 1. Dale Jarrett      | 340 | 1. Matt Kenseth     | 318 |
|----------------------|-----|---------------------|-----|
| 2. Bobby Labonte     | 315 | 2. Kenny Wallace    | 300 |
| 3. Ward Burton       | 310 | 3. Jason Leffler    | 282 |
| 4. Mark Martin       | 307 | 4. Jay Sauter       | 281 |
| 5. Rusty Wallace     | 295 | 5. Ricky Rudd       | 278 |
| 6. Jeremy Mayfield   | 276 | 6. Mike Dillon      | 256 |
| 7. Dale Earnhardt    | 275 | 7. Ron Hornaday     | 249 |
| 8. Ricky Rudd        | 272 | 8. Hermie Sadler    | 234 |
| 9. Kyle Petty        | 270 | 9. Mark Martin Jr.  | 229 |
| 10. Ken Schrader     | 262 | 10. Phil Parsons    | 218 |
| 11. Bill Elliott     | 250 | 11. Jeff Green      | 216 |
| 12. Terry Labonte    | 250 | 12. Jason Leffler   | 209 |
| 13. Jeremy Mayfield  | 250 | 13. Todd Bodine     | 203 |
| 14. Jeff Burton      | 247 | 14. Mike McLaughlin | 203 |
| 15. Dale Jarrett Jr. | 230 | 15. Eric Soderstrom | 200 |
| 16. John Andretti    | 224 | 16. Mike Green      | 194 |
| 17. Motor Speed      | 220 | 17. Tony Stewart    | 193 |
| 18. Kenny Irwin      | 218 | 18. David Green     | 190 |
| 19. Sterling Marlin  | 214 | 19. Robbie Hamilton | 190 |
| 20. Steve Park       | 212 | 20. Jimmie Johnson  | 170 |

## RACING THIS WEEK

### CarsDirect.com 400

- Where: Las Vegas Motor Speedway (Las Vegas)
- When: March 5, 9:30 p.m.
- On the air: ABC
- Qualifying: March 3, 5:10 p.m.
- Distance: 267 laps, 400.5 miles
- Track: qualifying round: Oct. 1; race: 168.254 mph, Feb. 27, 1998
- Track record: Matt Kenseth, 146.530, March 1, 1998
- 1999 champion: Jeff Burton

### Las Vegas Motor Speedway

- Track: 1.5-mile oval
- Banking: 10 degrees banking in turns

### Buick Grand National

- Race: Sam's Town 300 (Las Vegas Motor Speedway)
- When: March 4, 4 p.m.
- On the air: ESPN2

**Who's Hot:** Bobby Labonte. Labonte won last weekend's race after finishing sixth in the season opener. It's early, but this Pontiac driver is already second in points.

**Who's Not:** Mike Bliss. This rookie crashed in practice for the Daytona 500, then finished 33rd. At Rockingham, he was one of four drivers who didn't qualify.

### On the Record

"My hat's off to Pontiac and Chevrolet. They pulled a pretty good scheme on everybody, didn't they?"

— Jeremy Mayfield

Pit Stop answer: Mark Martin

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# COMICS

Seminole Herald, Sanford, Florida-Thursday, March 2, 2000-7B

FRANK AND ERNEST



by Bob Thaves

CRANKSHAFT



by Berlitz & Ayers

ROBOT MAN



by Jim Meddick

BOONDOCKS



by Aaron McGruder

BLONDIE



by Chic Young

PEANUTS



by Charles M. Schulz

## Peanuts Classics

FOXTROT



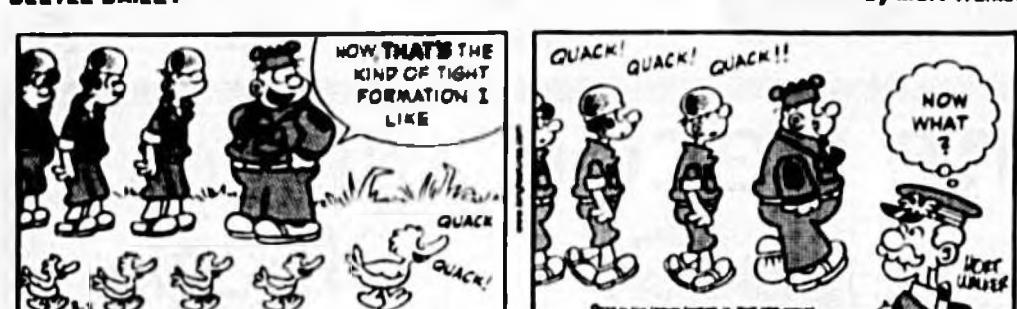
By Bill Amend

THE BORN LOSER



by Art Sansom

BEETLE BAILEY



by Mort Walker

ARLO & JANIS



by Jimmy Johnson

GARFIELD



by Jim Davis

## HOROSCOPES

Your Birthday  
Friday, March 3, 2000

Seeking new experiences or acquiring knowledge from sources of authority will serve you well in the year ahead. You'll find new avenues for those experiences large.

**PIRATES** (Feb. 20-March 20) The judgments you make will be dependent on your deductive reasoning powers and your intuitive perceptions, allowing you to evaluate situations quite accurately today. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that'll govern you in the year ahead. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions by mailing \$2 to Astro-Graph, c/o the newspaper, P.O. Box 1754, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10163. Be sure to state your Zodiac sign.

**ABERS** (March 21-April 19) This is an excellent day for meeting new people or contacts who could end up being very important to you. It'll encourage you to go to places other than familiar haunts.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)

Changes are afoot; you're going to be

glad you didn't give up on your desire to be healthy yesterday, because events could take a surprising turn in your favor today.

**GRIMM** (May 21-June 20) Some constructive information may cross your path today that could fit in neatly with plans you've already formulated. It'll make the going far easier for you.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)

Something advantageous may develop for you today that will be worthy of further investigation on your part. It may come about through a person with whom you're rather friendly.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) An individual who has been rather resolute in pursuing a cause you've been espousing might be swayed into your corner today. This change of heart will help you immensely.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Any ingenious ideas you can develop today will help you chalk up points with authority figures at work. Put on your thinking cap and allow an impressive concept to emerge.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Unstructured social happenings that aren't prearranged may turn out to be the most fun today. Keep your options flexible.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 22)

This is an excellent day for planning something enjoyable or different for your family or friends to do at your house today. Cook up a great new recipe and invite in a few pals.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Dec. 23-Dec. 22)

As a Sagittarius, you're a rather fast thinker, but try to put your thoughts to more productive uses something quite good will come of them.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 23-Jan. 19)

What you might gain today through a profitable endeavor could be brought about by a strange chain of events. Keep your options open and let come what may.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Your peers will advise that you take at the head of the pack today and could encourage you to take the initiative. Don't be timid about accepting the post.

## Win at Bridge

### The poor instruction of the past

By Philip Alder

Several of my students have come back to bridge after 20 or 30 years in the business world. They remember all the old rubrics, such as "cover an honor with an honor," not knowing that they were poorly taught back then. The right rule is "cover the last of touching honors and only then if it might gain your side a trick."

To highlight this, imagine J-10 in the dummy opposite A-10 in hand, with East and West having honor-third and honor-fourth. If declarer calls for the jack and East covers with the queen or king, declarer will win the ace, then lead back toward

dummy's 10, collecting two tricks. But if East plays low under the jack, declarer will be restricted to one trick, unless he can later engineer an endplay.

What is the key to cover-or-not-to-cover trick in this deal?

Many桥手 would rather three no-trump, earned about the singleton hand. However, that shortage makes it harder to establish partner's suit, which is a minus for no-trump. And three no-trump should fail.

Against four hearts, West led the club queen. As East was marked with the ace, declarer didn't cover with dummy's king. West switched to the spade jack. After winning with dummy's queen, declarer ran the heart nine to West's king. Back came the spade five but South drew trumps and claimed, losing one heart, one diamond and one club. East missed his chance.

Although a nine isn't an honor, if East had covered this card with his heart jack,

West would have won two trump tricks, and the contract would have failed.



Philip Alder  
Bridge

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## Doctor Gott

### Tick paralysis is scary and serious

DEAR DR. GOTTL: My 8-year-old daughter was recently hospitalized for a frightening disease. She first experienced a tingling of her extremities.

This was followed by an inability to walk. Forty-eight hours later, she was paralyzed from the neck down. We were frantic.

Medical tests were inconclusive. Then, thanks to an alert nurse who discovered an engorged tick on my daughter's scalp, we found an answer. The tick was removed and within 24 hours, the child was normal again.

The tick was removed and within 24 hours, the child was normal again.

As luck would have it, your question arrived the same week as a copy of the New England Journal of Medicine

Jan. 13, in which an identical case was described in a child living in Georgia.

Tick paralysis, although rare, is a serious disease and doctors should automatically consider it (and perform the necessary examination) in any patient, regardless of age, who presents with a rapidly evolving neurolog-

ical syndrome of progressive paralysis, speech difficulties and a host of other related neurological abnormalities.

Thank you for writing to remind us all of this bizarre but curable condition.

DEAR DR. GOTTL: My daughter, age 12, began menstruating three months ago. Recently, she has begun spotting every few days. How long should we let this go on before putting her on hormones?

DEAR READER: Menarche (the beginning of menstruation) is often marked

by pronounced irregularity. Many young girls bleed frequently; others may experience marked lapses of up to a year. Although your daughter may be exhibiting a normal pattern, I believe that she should be checked by a gynecologist to make sure that no abnormality is present. The physician

will probably adopt a wait-and-see approach for several months, but I think you need confirmation that your daughter's spotting is merely a normal physiological variant.

Although the child may require iron supplements (to counteract the anemia that can result from excessive menstrual bleeding), hormone therapy is rarely necessary in this situation.

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Doctor  
Gottl

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# Life Style

## Beat the winter blahs with sun-dried tomatoes

One of the things that food-lovers (or "foodies," as we call ourselves) love to complain about are the insipid, pinkish, cottony-tasting tomatoes available in supermarkets in winter. But here's the rub: No one has to eat these pale imitations. First, you can float a second mortgage and buy gorgeous, red, vine-ripened tomatoes flown in from afar. Second, you can eat canned tomatoes. And third, sun-dried tomatoes are available year-round.

**Marialisa Calta**



Sun-dried tomatoes originated in southern Italy, where they were preserved in olive oil and spices. Until relatively recently, most of the sun-dried tomatoes sold in the United States were imported from that region and sold at astronomical prices in specialty food stores. Now, however, American tomato producers have learned the knack of drying the tomatoes, and they are available in supermarkets at affordable prices.

Despite their name, they are not dried in the sun, but in dehydrators, and they are packed in oil or in cellophane bags. The ones packed in cellophane bags are much less expensive and can be eaten plain (they make a sweet, chewy snack) or softened. To soften them, pour boiling water over them and let them soak for a minimum of 5 minutes. They make an excellent topping for pizza, and can be added to sandwiches and salads. A small handful of dried tomatoes thrown into a stew will add an amazing amount of flavor.

Here are some recipes that call for dried tomatoes. The first is from Bo Satterwhite, a student at the New England Culinary Institute in Montpelier, Vt. The other two are from an excellent cookbook, "The Sonoma Dried

### Briefs

#### Relay for Life

One of Seminole Community College's Relay for Life teams, the "Unlikely Superhero's" is sponsoring a Poker Run, barbecue and auction, Sunday, March 19, at Uncle Nicks, 2605 Park Dr., Sanford. Registration will be from 9 to 11 a.m. Proceeds are to benefit the American Cancer Society. Relay for Life is a team event to fight cancer. For

additional information, phone Teresa at 407-322-2807.

#### Kiwanis Pancake Day

For the 36th consecutive year, the Sanford Kiwanis will hold the annual Pancake Day at Sanford Civic Center. The event will be Saturday, March 25, with serving from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cost is \$3 per person, for a large pancake meal.

In addition, there will be a merchandise mart, silent auction, bake sale, fresh produce, entertainment, music, door prizes and free balloons for the children.

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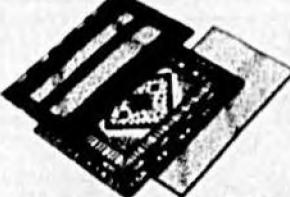
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Paul G. Belcourt for the New England Culinary Institute  
Roast lamb stuffed with goat cheese and sun-dried tomatoes, from a recipe by Bo Satterwhite, a student at the New England Culinary Institute.

1 cup cream  
salt and pepper to taste

Puree in a blender. Return to pan. For thicker soup, cook, uncovered, 5 to 10 minutes longer. For a thinner soup, add more chicken stock. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Yield: 4 servings.

— Recipe from "Sonoma Dried Tomato Cookbook," by Ron, Ruth and Linda Waltenspiel (Timber Crest Farms, 1992)

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