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Weather
SUNNY
High: 84
Low: 70

2A



Baseball,
Softball District
finals set

Page 1B



Eggs, bunnies
and cotton
candy

Page 6A

Briefly

Memorial donation
Members of the Indian Mound Homeowners' Association are donating \$3,500 to the Deputy Hugh Thomas Jr. Memorial Fund. Deputy Thomas was killed in the line of duty March 28, 1989. A brief ceremony will take place at the Seminole County Sheriff's Office Friday, April 28 at 9 a.m.

The Deputy Hugh Thomas Jr. Memorial Fund helps with law enforcement academys scholarships for those interested in law enforcement careers, and also promotes safety and crime prevention among children.

Dedication postponed
The park dedication in the Roseland Park Community, originally scheduled for this morning (Thursday, April 27) has been postponed. No new date has been determined.

Today is ...

Thursday, April 27, 2000
Today is the 118th day of 2000 and the 30th day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1521, Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan was killed in the Philippines.
• On this day in 1899, the first tuberculosis hospital operated by the federal government opened at Fort Stanton, N.M.
• On this day in 1964, the nations of Tanganyika and Zanzibar merged, forming a single republic that would be named Tanzania within the year.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS:
Edward Gibbon (1737-1794), historian; Mary Wollstonecraft (1759-1797), writer-feminist; Samuel F.B. Morse (1791-1872), inventor; Ulysses S. Grant (1822-1885), U.S. president; Rogers Hornsby (1896-1963), baseball great; Jack Klugman (1922-), actor, is 78; Corsetta Scott King (1927-), civil-rights leader, is 73; Anouk Aimée (1932-), actress, is 68; August Wilson (1945-), playwright, is 55.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1963, Nolan Ryan of the Houston Astros struck out a batter for the 3,509th time in his professional career, setting the all-time strikeout record.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "The winds and waves are always on the side of the ablest navigators."

Edward Gibbon

TODAY'S MOON: Day after last quarter (April 26).

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Kuhn resigns from Main Street

Beginning May 1, Walt Padgett will take reigns of organization

By BILL KERNE
Staff Writer

SANFORD — Sanford Main Street will have a new executive director next month.

Linda Kuhn is stepping down after two years as executive director, to be replaced by Walt Padgett, a Sanford businessman who has long been active in the community. He will begin the job May 1.

Main Street is also relocating to a new office on May 1. The Main Street office and Visitor Center will be located at 209-B West First Street. It will be open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Kuhn, who submitted her resignation to the Board of Directors on April 4, said that she wants to spend more time with her family.

"I've worked all of my life since I was 18 years old," Kuhn said. "I have a daughter who just got married and is building a house. I have another daugh-

ter who is also buying a house. I just want to take some time to be a mommy and a wife for a while."

In addition, Kuhn said she is considering seeking a political office, although she declined to elaborate on which office she may run for. She does not live in the District 3 of Sanford, which will hold a

special election for the City Commission on June 27.

"I just think it's time for me to move on and take my career in a different direction," Kuhn said.

Kuhn's husband Robert is one of seven historic district residents involved in a lawsuit against the city of Sanford in an attempt to gain an injunction against a November development order approved by the City Commission which allowed a downtown soup kitchen operated by Seminole Volunteer Enterprise to open despite a lack of parking spaces.

See Kuhn, Page 2A

Running for Special Olympics



Herald photos by TONY VERNON
Top: A group of Sanford police officers, including Capt. Mike McCoy (second from left), participate in the Law Enforcement Torch Run Wednesday. More than 40 law enforcement officers from seven different agencies throughout Seminole County participated in the run to support the Special Olympics. Through the sale of T-shirts, \$5,000 were raised for the Special Olympics. The run started at the Marland-Seminole County border along U.S. Highway 17-92. The runners proceeded north along U.S. 17-92 to 4th Street in Sanford, where the traditional barbecue was held. On Friday, the Special Olympic Games begin in Kissimmee. Right: Lake Mary Police Chief Richard Berry (far right) carries the torch during the run.



First-year teacher travels to Spain with state contingent

By BILL KERNE
Staff Writer

SANFORD — Her first year as a teacher is winding down, and Laura Ohl of Sanford Middle School is preparing for a trip to Spain for the Florida Department of Education.

Ohl is among 58 Florida teachers who have been awarded scholarships for summer in-service institutes in Spain and France. The scholarships cover the cost of lodging, meals, and institute-related excursions during a three-week period in July.

She will be part of a group of 20 Spanish teachers in Central Florida with scholarships to

Spain, and the only one from Seminole County.

To qualify, Ohl wrote an essay in Spanish about how the three-week trip would benefit herself and the students. In addition, Ohl will give a workshop this fall semester for Spanish teachers regarding new teaching skills she learns during the trip.

Ohl was able to list her top three choices where she would like to go during the tour. She chose either Santiago de Compostela, located

in the Northeast portion of Spain, the University of Salamanca, or the University of Murcia.

"All I know is that I'm going

to Spain," Ohl said. "I'm excited."

There will be six hours of classes per day during the week on topics such as the methodology of teaching a foreign language. However, Ohl is also planning to have fun.

"I definitely plan to take advantage of the opportunity to see theater performances, travel around Spain and see the sites," Ohl said.

This is Ohl's first trip to Spain. However, she did spend seven weeks in Mexico during her sophomore year in college.

"Right now, I'm just using what I learned in school and in Mexico," Ohl said. "This will make me more well-rounded."

Ohl is in her first year of teaching, after graduating from



ON

See Teacher, Page 7A

There's no pomp in this circumstance

Thieves steal caps and gowns needed for area graduations

By BILL KERNE
Staff Writer

SANFORD — Investigators are searching for whoever stole more than \$141,000 worth of caps and gowns intended for graduating seniors across Central Florida over the weekend.

Mike Myers, 47, told investigators that he and his wife, Jacqueline, discovered the theft on Saturday when they returned to their warehouse at 4316 W. State

Road 46 after attending a graduation ceremony at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach.

A 15-foot white, metal cargo trailer containing the caps and gowns had been hitched to a truck parked behind a chain-link fence. Thieves cut through a lock, hitched the trailer to their own truck and drove off with the trailer, according to a police report.

The trailer, which had Mike Myers & Associates printed on the side, contained almost 2,000 gowns, 500 hoods and about 3,000 medallions, the report said.

The items were to be shipped to several Central Florida high schools in Orange and Volusia counties.

See Theft, Page 2A

Clean-up project



Herald photo by TONY VERNON
Dan Hunter edges along the sidewalk in the 13th Street Business District as part of a community service project. The city of Sanford is beginning a clean-up project in the area in hopes that private businesses and residents will join the effort.

Life Style

Patient should see doctor about vein removal

DEAR DR. GOTTL: After a vasectomy, I developed what my doctor diagnosed as a varicose vein in my penis. It's constantly uncomfortable and makes intercourse painful. Should I have my vasectomy reversed?

DEAR READER: A swollen penile vein would be an extremely rare consequence of vasectomy, because the operation is carried out in the scrotum and does not ordinarily affect the penile veins. Therefore, I doubt that reversal of your vasectomy — in itself, a technically challenging procedure — would solve your problem. I suggest that you be examined by a urologist, who could advise you whether the vein should be removed, thereby returning you to a more normal state.



Dr. Peter H.
Gott

DEAR DR. GOTTL: Why do my joints crack when I move, exercise, walk or bend down? My friends tease me about getting old, but I'm only 31. What could be causing this?

DEAR READER: Joints are held in place by supporting tissue, primarily tendons and ligaments. In some people, either because of injury or genetic inheritance, some joints may be too lax. This can cause cracking or popping during movement as the bones of the joints move excessively. As we age, supporting structures tend to stretch and weaken; hence, joint cracking is a normal part of growing older. Painless joint popping is a common occurrence in people of any age, does not necessarily reflect disease and usually does not require treatment. You can

reassure your friends that you are 1. in good health; 2. getting older; and 3. so are they.

DEAR DR. GOTTL: Because of a heart irregularity, I take the anticoagulant Coumadin. I also have asthma for which my doctor recently prescribed Accolate. Now I notice blood in my urine and extensive bruising in my skin. Is this related to the medicines?

DEAR READER: Quite possibly. Accolate is a new medication, available in pill form, for the prevention of asthma. Ordinarily, it is quite safe. Reported side effects include headache and gastrointestinal upset. However, when given to patients taking Coumadin, Accolate can accentuate the anticoagulant effects of the drug, leading to dangerous hemorrhage. In my opinion, you should

have an immediate blood test, called a pro-thrombin time, to check your degree of anticoagulation. If, as I suspect, you are over-medicated, your physician should either discontinue your Accolate or re-adjust your daily dose of Coumadin. Don't delay in seeking medical attention. Your bloody urine and bruising could indicate that you are sitting on a time bomb. To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Consumer Tips on Medicine." Other readers who would like a copy should send \$2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10166. Be sure to mention the title.

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Rollins College accepting applications for student Upward Bound program

WINTER PARK — The Rollins College Upward Bound program is now accepting applications for participation from students in the eighth and ninth grade. Applicants will be considered for enrollment immediately upon receipt of the completed application.

There is no cost for participation, and participants are involved with the program from the time of initial selection until they enroll in a post-secondary education program.

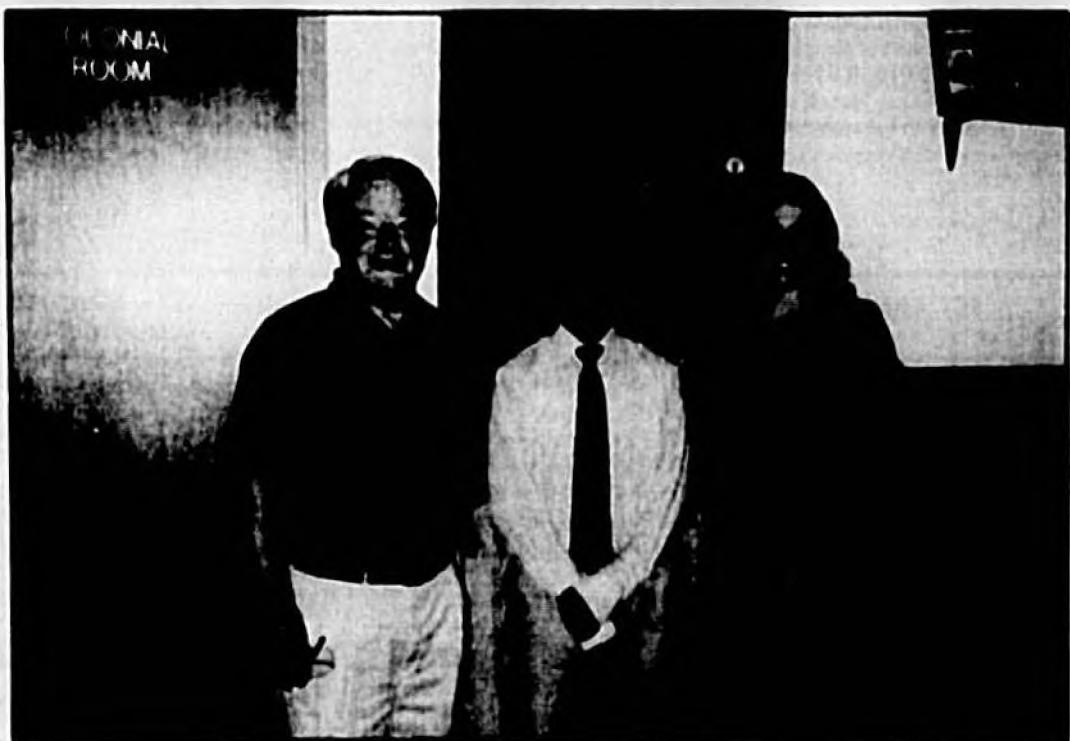
Upward Bound is for students in Orange and Seminole counties whose family income is limited and whose parents do not hold a bachelor's degree.

It is a federally funded college prep program, providing assistance in career and college exploration, financial aid and scholarship information, academic monitoring and course advisement, information about college entrance exams, goal-setting and decision making, study skills development and college visits.

Participants attend 25 Saturday tutorial sessions between September and May and will take part in a six-week summer residential component on the Rollins Campus in June.

For a program application or additional information, phone 407-646-2282.

Oratorical winners



The Optimist Club of Sanford announced the winners of the 30th annual Optimist Oratorical Contest held last month in the Sanford Church of Christ. The boy's winner is Harry Madhengopal and the girl's winner is Brooke Hall. The winners are pictured with Bob Howe, essay contest chair. Winners received certificates and medals. Both winners are students at Seminole High School.

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E.C. Reems Women's International Ministries prepares to impact Orlando

By Marva Hawkins
Herald Correspondent

One of America's most prestigious women's ministries is coming to Orlando Thursday, May 25 through Sunday, May 28.

Founded in 1969 by Dr. Ernestine Cleveland Reems, the first conference had 175 women in attendance. Today, the E.C. Reems Women's International Ministries ministers to the spiritual, social, emotional and financial needs of more than 10,000 Christian women across the U.S., the Caribbean and parts of Europe.

The 11th annual National

Women's Conference, with the theme "Faith 2000: Families achieving Millennium Excellence," will meet at the Walt Disney World Dolphin Hotel. The conference will offer more than 25 intensive workshops, three highly spirited and inspirational general assembly sessions, two refreshing morning worship services, and a breakfast with E.C. Reems.

In addition to Reems, some of the dynamic speakers include Bishop Claudette Copeland, San Antonio, Texas; Dr. Millicent Thompson-Hunter, Philadelphia; Pastor Pamela Hines, Milwaukee, Minn.; Dr. Cynthia James, Oakland, Calif.; Dr. Jona Locke, Detroit; and Dr. Jacqueline McCullough, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Judy McAllister of Los Angeles will lead a youth forum tailored especially for children ages 6 through 17. Entitled "GANG — God's Anointed New Generation," the forum will include praise dancers and local choirs.

This conference will bring women into a higher level of self-awareness and spiritual, personal and professional development, and help women better prepare to meet the demands of the 21st century. The goal is to instruct, motivate and challenge women to reach their maximum potential in Christ.

For reservations, call 407-934-4000. For information, call 1-800-524-5806.

The deadline for reservations is May 1.

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Life Style

Patients' privacy disappears in receptionist's open door

DEAR ABBY: My aunt broke her foot and can't drive, so I have been providing her with taxi service for the last three weeks.

I took her to see a new doctor about shortness of breath. His office was in a lovely new building, and I marveled at the paintings and expensive furniture in his waiting room. I thought about how successful he was, and that engendered confidence in his ability to treat my aunt.

However, when she hubbubbed into the receptionist's office, the door was left open, and everyone in the waiting room could hear the answers to all the personal questions. Nothing was secret from the captive audience. She tried talking softly, but the receptionist repeated her answers loudly enough that we could all hear them.

Abby, medical information is supposed to be confidential. Had one of the patients demanded that kind of information from the receptionist, she probably would have refused to answer. Because it was for medical records, my aunt felt compelled to answer the questions she was asked. It not only embarrassed her, it also put her in a vulnerable position for identity theft.

Shouldn't medical office personnel be more careful to guard the confidential information of the patients?

NETTED NIECE IN NEWARK, N.J.

DEAR NETTED NIECE: You care should be taken in keeping medical information confidential, and the receptionist was out of line. Your aunt should have smiled sweetly and said, "That information is confidential. I'll answer your questions when you close the door." Then, when she saw the doctor, she should have reported her complaint, which probably would have been a favor for all the patients.

Since your aunt did not report this lapse of confidentiality procedure by the receptionist, you should speak to the doctor and advise him or her of what you witnessed. It is the doctor's responsibility to ensure that employees observe protocol to protect patients' rights.

DEAR ABBY: The following little story appeared in our church bulletin last year, and I thought you might enjoy it. If you think it's worth sharing with your readers, please feel free to do so.

ANITA G., WICHITA, KAN.
DEAR ANITA: Your story illustrates what's really important in life. It's well worth space in this column. Read on.

HOW RICH ARE WE?

One day a father and his rich family took his son on a trip to the country with the firm purpose of showing him how poor people can be. They spent a day and a night at the farm of a very poor family. When they returned from their trip, the father asked his son, "How was the trip?"

"Very good, Dad!"

"Did you see how poor people can be?" the father asked.

"Yeah!"

"And what did you learn?"

The son replied: "I saw that we have a dog at home, and they have four. We have a pool that reaches to the middle of the garden; they have a creek that has no end. We have imported lamps in the garden; they have the stars. Our patio reaches to the front yard; they have a whole horizon."

When the little boy finished speaking, his father was speechless. His son added, "Thanks, Dad, for showing me how poor we are."

** * *

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Kindergarten registration begins May 2

Kindergarten registration for the school year 2000-2001 will be held the first week of May. Dates and times for registration are listed below. Students who attend Evans Elementary next school year may register at Seminole, Carrollton, Lawton or Rainbow on their regular kindergarten registration day.

Parents need to bring the following to Kindergarten Registration:

- Proof of birth (must be 5 on or before Sept. 1)
- Proof of residency
- Florida Immunization Record (HRS 640 form)
- Physical within past 12 months
- Child's Social Security card

Note: Parents can get the immuniza-

tion record and physical forms from their pediatrician or the County Health Department.

Kindergarten Registration Dates and Times

| School | Date | Time |
|--------------|------|------------------------|
| Altamonte | 5/2 | 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. |
| | 5/3 | 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. |
| Bear Lake | 5/3 | 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. |
| Carrollton | 5/3 | 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. |
| Cassiberry | 5/2 | 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. |
| Eastbrook | 5/2 | 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. |
| Eng. Estates | 5/3 | 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. |
| | | 2:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. |
| Forrest City | 5/2 | 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. |
| Geneva | 5/4 | 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. |

Note: Parents can get the immuniza-

Goldsboro 5/2 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
5/4 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Hamilton 5/2 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Heathrow 5/2 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Highlands 5/1 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Idyllwilde 5/2 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Keith 5/2 7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Lake Mary 5/3 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Lake Orienta 5/4 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Lawton 5/2 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Longwood 5/2 7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Midway 5/2 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Partin 5/3 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Pine Crest 5/2 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Rainbow 5/2 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Red Bug 5/4 6:30 a.m. to 9 a.m.
4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Sabal Point 5/3 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Spring Lake 5/3 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Stenstrom 5/4 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Sterline Park 5/2 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
5/3 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Webiva 5/2 12 p.m. to 7 p.m.
5/5 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Wicklow 5/2 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
4 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Wilson 5/3 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
W. Springs 5/2 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Woodlands 5/4 7 a.m. to 10 a.m.
4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

SCC hosts spring concert

The Seminole Community College Symphonic Band will present its 28th annual Spring Concert, Sunday, April 30, beginning at 4 p.m., in the SCC Fine Arts Concert Hall. The event is free and open to the public. Conducted by Dr.

William Hinkle, the concert will feature tenor Curtis Rayam, and trombonist Michael Butrico with a series of music by some of the outstanding symphonic composers.

For information phone 407-328-2039.

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Applications are now being accepted. Hurry, because the application deadline is May 6, 2000 and classes will start June 6, 2000 at Seminole Community College and June 6, 2000 at Mid-Florida Tech.

To get an application or for more information about the program, leave a message at the Technology Office.

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Helping out



Herald photo by Nick Stiles
Gretchen Hobby, Barbara Walls and Gretchen Walker sort through all kinds of items for the Habitat for Humanity Thrift Store located in Sanford Plaza.

Too many UCF grads for one event

University will host two days of graduation ceremonies

By Nick Platteau
Staff writer

For the first time in its history, the University of Central Florida commencements will have to take two days. Officials say there are simply too many students to hold the event on just one day as in the past.

At last count, 3,377 students were scheduled to graduate next month. There will be two ceremonies on Friday, May 5, and three on Saturday, May 6, all to be held in the UCF arena.

Friday will have 978 graduates from the College of Arts and Sciences. The 9:30 a.m. graduation will feature the chief of naval research for the Office of Naval Research, Rear Admiral Paul Gaffney. The second event, at 1:30 p.m. will be for the college of Engineering and Computer Science. An estimated 319 graduates will hear from Lotfi Zadeh, the father of "fuzzy logic," who will receive an honorary doctorate of science from UCF.

Saturday at 8 a.m., it's commencement for the College of Health and Public Affairs. Approximately 834 graduates will hear from Lincoln College (Missouri) President David Henson.

At 11:30 a.m., commencement begins for the College of Business Administration with

community advocate and environmental consultant Joanie Scharn as featured speaker.

The final event will be at 3 p.m., when 593 students will graduate from the College of Education. Featured speaker will be Walt Disney World Resort President Al Weiss.

According to UCF News Bureau spokesman Jerry Klein, with that many graduates, the university expects possibly seven to eight thousand people, graduates and their families, to attend the functions.

He said of the 3,377 graduates this year, 517 are listed as residents of Seminole County. An additional 242 are from Volusia County and 355 from Brevard.

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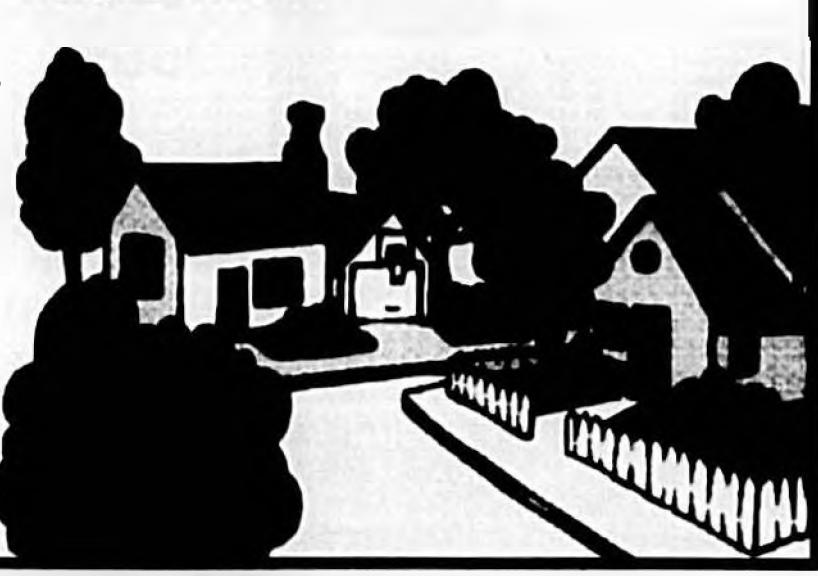
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Tara Morris creates a small mess while making cotton candy during the Lake Mary Easter celebration. Herald photo by Nick Sifakis



Easter fun

The City of Lake Mary recently held an Easter celebration and egg hunt.

ABOVE: Lisa Silker shows off her Easter bonnet made from newspapers.

MIDDLE: Jonathan Maszy is overjoyed in the Grab The Bucks game.

LOW: Lake Mary children take off at the start of the city's Easter egg hunt.



Looking for eggs

The Sanford Recreation Department recently held an Easter egg hunt for the community.

ABOVE: Alecia Ellington and Dakota Allen "peep" for some hidden Easter eggs.

LEFT: Justin Cope gets a good big hug from the Easter Bunny.

BOTTOM: Justin Cope finds the special crystal Easter egg and shows it off to his friends.



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Lap by Lap

Lap by Lap is written by Media General News Service and produced by Media General Syndication Services

Hamilton hopes to solve speed problem

Bobby Hamilton, one of the few Winston Cup drivers willing to tell it like it is and let the chips fall where they may, hasn't had great success recently on the NASCAR tour.

So during his "week off" last week, instead of heading over to Myrtle Beach for some R&R, he and car owner Larry McGuire spent the week testing from coast to coast — first, at California Speedway just outside Los Angeles, then at Pocono, just outside New York City.

And if Hamilton's California testing is any indication, this should be another record-breaking week on the stock-car tour.

While NASCAR officials are studying the results of last Monday's speed cutting tests at Talladega, tests that showed it might not be that difficult to cut as much as 15 mph worth of aerodynamics out of the bodies, Hamilton says that a race with bigger cars and more horsepower could be a barn-burner at Daytona and Talladega.

He, like so many other drivers, is frustrated by restrictor-plate racing.

"If that track race at Daytona had had all Winston Cup drivers, I guarantee you [that] you'd have seen the darnedest race you'd ever seen since NASCAR was invented," Hamilton said.

Hamilton said that if NASCAR could simply take the cars from Martinsville and to Talladega — and give them engines with another 100 horsepower or so — the racing would be very good and drivers wouldn't be complaining about the game they must play at Daytona and Talladega in which no one dares "lift" for fear of losing the draft.

"If you'd brought Mark

Martin's Martinsville car to Talladega, with one of these restrictor-plate engines, it would probably run about 172 mph, I know so," Hamilton said. "Then they could start testing bigger plates on it until they got the right speed."

But not everyone is so eager to change things at the tour's two biggest tracks. Even though car owner Jack Roush was one of the men involved in the special Talladega test, both Jeff Burton and Franklin Strickland, his crew chief, aren't so sure that NASCAR really needs to change anything.

"Oh, if you brought a Martinsville car to Talladega, you'd run 218, 220 mph unrestricted," Strickland said. "There wouldn't be enough drag penalty for what you'd have in the corners."

"I have no idea what they're trying to accomplish, and I actually get frustrated about it. I think it may be great to get the cars slowed down enough to where you can take the plate off them. But then I turn around and consider the Daytona 500 and now where we did a good job of getting the pieces separated, and all I heard was it was the worst Daytona 500 ever. I thought it was a great Daytona 500."

Of course, Strickland and Burton got the restrictor-plate problem worked out, nearly winning at Daytona and Talladega. And they shouldn't be expected to be thrilled about any major aerodynamics changes for next season's Daytona 500.

Hamilton, on the other hand, said that NASCAR is right to look at adding drag as the key issue at Talladega and Daytona.

"Just think about the kind of races those IROC cars put on. You see them get hit and launched sideways, and yet they can hold on to 'em because they've got a bunch of downforce," Hamilton said.

"NASCAR should make a big grill opening on these cars, put those rubber 'flicks' on the fenders like we did the trucks, put those 'flicks' on the A-posts, too [at the edge of the windshield], and widen the front fenders from 69 inches to 76 inches, all to increase drag."

"Now that would imbalance the car. But you could simply go to the back of the car and add spoiler to balance it. That would get it slow enough, maybe down to 170 or 172 mph, that you could start opening the plate holes back up. Now 188 mph may be the magic number; it's what they want [NASCAR], and it's what we want, too."

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

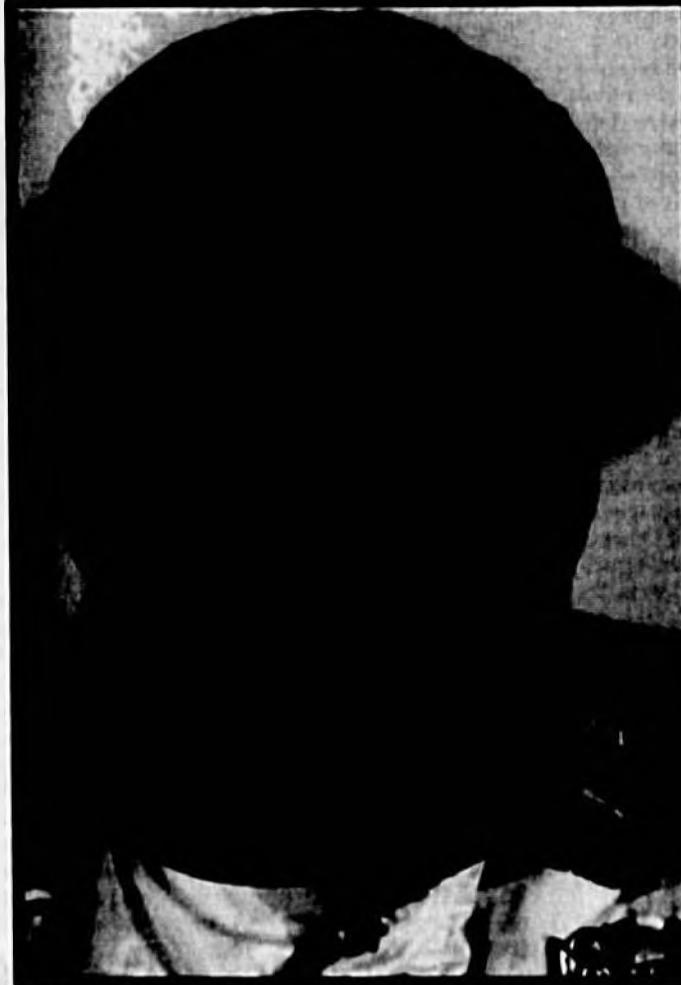


Photo by Mike Mulhern
Bobby Labonte is in good position to win the Winston Cup title.

By Rea McLeroy
Lap by Lap

In the beginning, he talked about consistency and concentrated on the opening race. When he took the lead in the standings, he pointed to the lengthy schedule and the fact that it was too early to count on anything. Now that he's slipped to second, Labonte is staying true to form.

He's not counting on a championship until a trophy is in his hands.

It's too early to tell whether 2000 is the year for Labonte to win the Winston Cup title, but he's certainly on track to be the man to beat. Only nine races into the season, he and crew chief Jimmy Makar have given fans a glimpse of their game plan: Run consistently, avoid problems and stay focused.

No problem.

From his opening public appearance in January, Labonte refused to predict a championship run. It didn't matter. Everyone else was clamoring to proclaim him the favorite.

He finished sixth in the Daytona 500 and won the second race of the year. Second in points, Labonte cautiously discussed his potential. After seven full seasons of Winston Cup competition, was he ready for the pressure? Did he have the team to beat?

"You're playing the game to win, but even if you don't win you still learn something," he said at the time. "We learned a lot last year, learned a lot the year before and are learning something every week [we] go to the race track. [There's] not going to be any guarantees we're going to win anything, but it definitely gives us some insight."

Labonte finished fifth at Las Vegas and took the points lead. Again, the questions came:

BOBBY LABONTE'S START

Bobby Labonte's finishes in the first nine Winston Cup points races

| Race (Track) | Finish |
|--|--------|
| Daytona 500 (Daytona, Fla.) | 6th |
| Dura-Lube/Kmart 400 (Rockingham, N.C.) | 1st |
| CarsDirect.com 400 (Las Vegas) | 5th |
| Cracker Barrel 500 (Atlanta) | 2nd |
| Mall.com 400 (Darlington, S.C.) | 13th |
| Food City 500 (Bristol, Tenn.) | 6th |
| DIRECTV 500 (Fort Worth, Texas) | 3rd |
| Goody's 500 (Martinsville, Va.) | 12th |
| DieHard 500 (Talladega, Ala.) | 21st |

in it for the Long Haul

Bobby Labonte refuses to get excited about his hot start

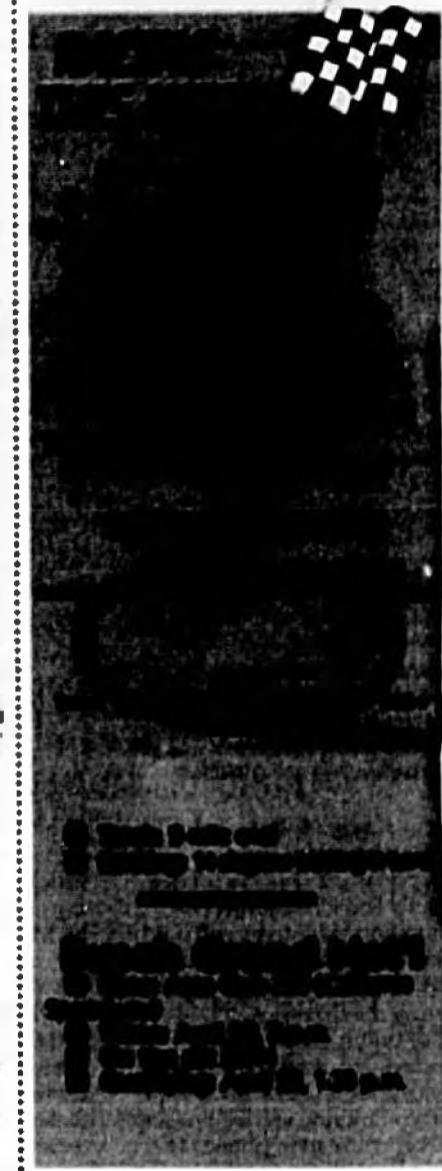
The pole at the California Speedway's first race in 1997. Can you name him?

See answer below

Just the Stats

NASCAR POINTS LEADERS

| | | | |
|---------------------|-------|---------------------|-------|
| 1. Mark Martin | 1,370 | 1. Jeff Green | 1,373 |
| 2. Bobby Labonte | 1,346 | 2. Todd Bodine | 1,342 |
| 3. Ward Burton | 1,303 | 3. Randy LaJoie | 1,300 |
| 4. Dale Jarrett | 1,271 | 4. Matt Kenseth | 1,190 |
| 5. Jeff Gordon | 1,256 | 5. Ron Hornaday | 1,135 |
| 6. Dale Jarrett | 1,167 | 6. David Green | 1,108 |
| 7. Jeff Gordon | 1,149 | 7. Kevin Harvick | 1,080 |
| 8. Rusty Wallace | 1,139 | 8. Eldon Severn | 974 |
| 9. Jeremy Mayfield | 1,138 | 9. Kevin Harvick | 973 |
| 10. Terry Labonte | 1,118 | 10. Jason Keller | 955 |
| 11. Dale Jarrett | 1,088 | 11. Mike Skinner | 916 |
| 12. Bill Elliott | 1,051 | 12. Mark Martin | 909 |
| 13. Tony Stewart | 1,039 | 13. Michael Waltrip | 905 |
| 14. Mike Skinner | 1,041 | 14. Jeff Burton | 905 |
| 15. Sterling Marlin | 989 | 15. Tony Stewart | 879 |
| 16. Chee Yip | 975 | 16. Casey Atwood | 841 |
| 17. Ken Schrader | 946 | 17. Jay Foster | 837 |
| 18. Jeff Burton | 940 | 18. Dale Truhlar | 839 |
| 19. Brett Bodine | 931 | 19. Michael Jordon | 830 |
| 20. Jeremy Mayfield | 929 | 20. Mark Coker | 791 |



Who's Hot: Mark Martin. The veteran has seven Top 10 and four Top 5 finishes in the first nine races and has taken over the points lead.

Who's Not: Brett Bodine. Currently 38th in points, Bodine has missed three races and is still looking for his first Top 10 finish.

On the Record

"We need a boost right now, and that boost would be getting back into Victory Lane."

— Dale Jarrett

Pit Stop answer: Joe Nemecek

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Herald Sports



Tuesday, April 27, 2000 1B

Ford revs up for Central Florida Race for the Cure

Special to the Herald

DAYTONA BEACH - Participating local Ford dealers will be hosting a pasta party at DAYTONA USA (located at Daytona International Speedway, International Speedway Boulevard) for the 500 runners, walkers and Race for the Cure supporters on Friday, April 28 at 7:30 p.m.

The event will raise money for the Central Florida Race for the Cure of which 75% will stay in the Central Florida area to fund Breast Cancer education, screening and treatment.

Great pasta, NASCAR history, free game room and a Pit Crew Challenge are all part of this event. Participating local Ford Dealers will be sending teams from their Service Departments to compete in the Pit Crew Challenge. The competition last year was intense and this year should be even better!

In addition, Dealers are making a donation for each new Ford sold during the month of April.

Partygoers can also pose next to Dale Jarrett's #88 Ford Taurus, winner of this year's Daytona 500.

Call (904) 788-8369 for Ticket information.

CLASSIC CARS AT ORLANDO

BITHLO - This Friday night the Classic Cars will be making their first appearance of the year at Orlando Speedworld.

Also on the schedule will be heats and features in Super Late Models, Late Models, Modified, Mini-Stock, Super Stock, and Strictly Stock.

Gates open a 6 p.m. and racing begins at 8 p.m. every Friday night at the track located 17 miles east of Orlando between Orlando and Titusville on Highway 50 at the 520 Cocoa Cutoff.

CORVETTE CLUB OF ORLANDO AT NEW SMYRNA SPEEDWAY

SAMSULA - This Saturday night the Corvette Club of Orlando will make an appearance at New Smyrna Speedway.

Also being offered is spectator races where fans run what they drove, along with regular heat and feature races in the regular PASCAR classes of Super Late Models, Late Models, Mini-Stocks, Sportman, Modifieds, Super Stock and Strictly Stock.

Pit gates open at 4 p.m. with grandstand gates opening at 6 p.m. and racing beginning at 7 p.m. every Saturday night.

The track located 10 miles south of Daytona Beach at the corner of Highway 44 and SR-415, between I-4 and SR-415. See Racing, Page 2B

Lions, Lubrano eliminate Bulldogs

By Tony DeGennaro
HERALD CORRESPONDENT

ALTAMONTE SPRINGS - That was vintage Paul Lubrano.

Behind Lubrano's three-hit,

nine-strikeout effort, the Oviedo Lions eliminated the DeLand Bulldogs, 7-1, in the semifinals

of the 6A District 3 baseball

tournament being played at Lake Brantley High School.

DeLand ends its season 18-11.

As a junior last year, Lubrano

was one of the most effective

high school pitchers in Central

Florida for the Oviedo Lions. He

was 10-1 on the year, compiling

five shutouts and 10 complete

games with a 1.06 earned run

average. In 72 1/3 innings

pitched, he struck out 70 and

walked just 33.

This year, even though he was

6-1 going into Wednesday's game

against DeLand - with one

shutout, four complete games, a

1.70 earned run average, and 55

strikeouts and just 12 walks in

49 1/3 innings pitched, the consensus has been that Lubrano hasn't pitched quite as well this season.

The turning point may have

been the fourth inning of

Oviedo's game with state-ranked

Venice last Tuesday when Lubrano, who struggled through

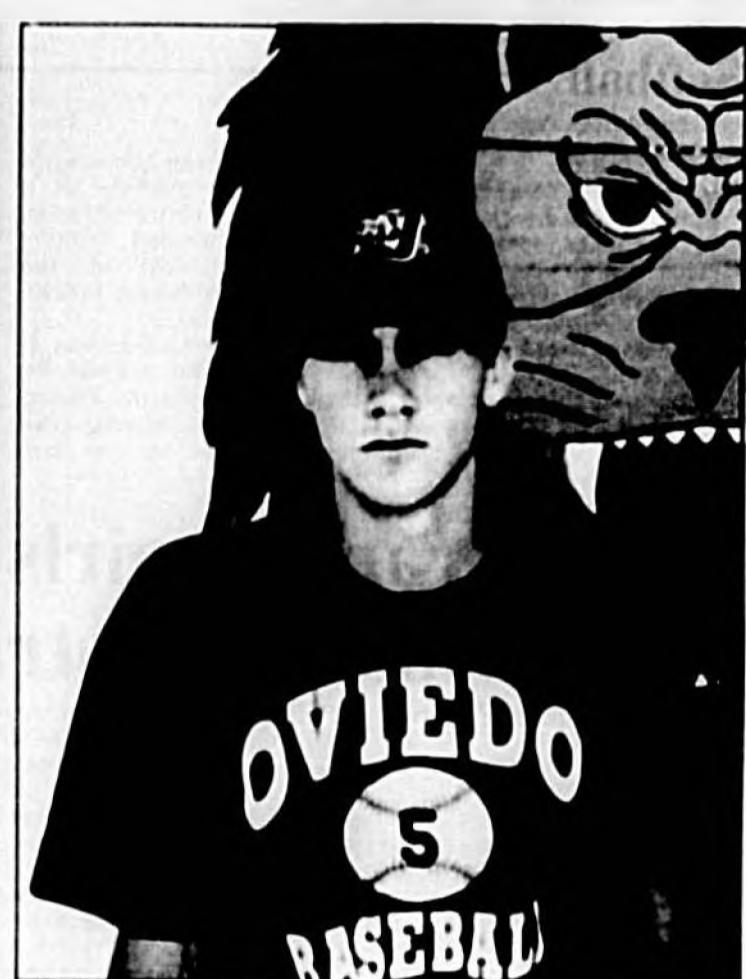
the first 3 2/3 innings, suddenly

got untracked and pitched a hit-

See Lions, Page 2B



It was a big night for lefthanded pitchers in the semifinals of the Class 6A-District 3 Baseball Tournament at Lake Brantley High School Wednesday as Lake Mary's Adam Sanabria (left) combined



with Ryan Tretton on a five-hitter as the Rams ousted the host Patriots, 5-2, and Oviedo's Paul Lubrano (right) hurled a three-hitter as the Lions eliminated DeLand, 7-1, to advance to Friday's finals.

FILE PHOTOS

Sanabria, Rams oust Lake Brantley

By David Quinones
HERALD CORRESPONDENT

ALTAMONTE SPRINGS - And the rubber

match goes on...

In the regular season, Lake Mary and Lake Brantley had traded home rallies in the bottom of the seventh inning to get walk-off wins in which the visiting teams had dominated the game setting up what amounted to a "winner-take-all" match in the Class 6A-District 3 Baseball Tournament semifinals at Lake Brantley High School on Wednesday night.

Both teams had their seasons on the line with the winner of this big game advancing to the District finals and earning a guaranteed berth in next week's regionals, while the loser would hang up their jerseys for the season.

The game started like the regular season games with the visiting team, Lake Brantley, which was seeded No. 3 and therefore the

visitor against No. 2 Lake Mary despite playing on its home field, taking a quick lead.

But unlike the regular season, the home team, Lake Mary, did not keep the fans in suspense until the end, exploding for four runs in the bottom of the third inning and cruising to a 5-2 victory behind the pitching of junior lefthander Adam Sanabria and senior Ryan Tretton.

Kevin Melillo started things off for the Patriots in the top of the first inning when he singled to right center. Melillo was moved to second on Bryan Smith's ground out to first and would steal third before scoring on a Ricky Weeks single to right field, giving Lake Brantley the early lead 1-0.

The Rams tried to answer quickly, but could not manage to score a run, despite leaving a combined five base runners on base in the first two innings alone.

"Leaving all those base runners on scared me but we were finally able to come around

on their pitcher," said Rams coach Allen Tuttle.

In the bottom of the third inning Lake Mary batted around and gained a lead that they would never lose.

Eric Schmook walked to start things off and stole second base. Chad Legate, reached first when the Lake Brantley catcher overthrew first base on a routine play allowing Schmook to advance to third. Ryan Bono followed with a single into right center scoring Schmook to tie the game at 1-1.

Matt Main would walk to load the bases and designated hitter Tim Brown put the Rams ahead to stay when he smashed a line drive to right field scoring Legate and Bono to make the score 3-1.

Lake Mary tacked on another run when Main scored on a Tucker Pearce bunt making the score 4-1.

That was all the runs Lake Mary would see Rams, Page 2B

Rivers receives Red Auerbach Trophy as 1999-2000 IBM Coach of the Year

Special to the Herald

NEW YORK - Orlando's Glenn "Doc" Rivers Wednesday was named winner of the Red Auerbach Trophy as the IBM Coach of the Year for the 1999-2000 season. During a season that many thought would be a time of rebuilding, Rivers directed the Magic to a 41-41 record and Orlando came within one game of making the playoffs. That was despite the Magic making 37 player transactions, including trades involving four of the five starters from the previous year's team.

Rivers, who is only the fifth coach to be given the award after his first season, received 60 votes from the 121-member panel. Phil Jackson of the Los Angeles Lakers was a close second with 53 votes.

With no acknowledged superstar, Rivers built a squad that relied on the classic concept of team play for success. Rivers regularly played all 12 men that the bench eventually earned the



Glenn "Doc" Rivers showed that he did his homework as a player and TV analyst as he took that knowledge and turned his first coaching job ever into being honored as the NBA 1999-2000 IBM Coach of the Year for his work with the Orlando Magic this season.

SAC fills spots for district softball finales

By Dean Smith
SPORTS EDITOR

ALTAMONTE SPRINGS - Lake Mary survived a huge scare, while Oviedo and Lake Howell pulled off upsets in district softball semifinal play on Wednesday.

The top-seeded Rams, ranked No. 8 in the Class 6A State Polls, scored a run in the bottom of the sixth inning to break a 4-4 tie and eliminated DeLand, 5-4, in the 6A-District 3 Tournament at Lake Brantley High School.

In the other 6A-3 semifinal, No. 3 seeded Oviedo scored three runs in the top of the first inning and No. 2 seeded Winter Springs could never recover as the Lions advanced to the finals with a 6-2 victory over the Bears.

At Seminole High School, No. 3 Lake Howell scored all of its runs in the first two innings and held

See Softball, Page 2B

