

UNION COUNTY TIMES

USPS 648-200 — LAKE BUTLER, FLORIDA

THURSDAY, FEB. 13, 2014

101ST YEAR — 42ND ISSUE — 75 CENTS

etc.

Five to compete tonight for Miss U-Co High

The five contestants for tonight's Miss U-Co High competition recently rehearsed their opening number to Beyoncé's "Run the World (Girls)." They are Kaitlyn Taylor Holmes, Lethia Johnson, Alexa Rae Park, Kelsie Lynn Smith and Savannah Woodall.

The pageant begins at 7 p.m. at the UCHS auditorium. Admission is \$5.

The reigning Miss U-Co High is Holly Tucker.

Attention UCHS students

Valentine's Day deliveries to Union County High School will be accepted in the Media Center from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Signs will be posted directing you to the east entrance of the Media Center. Students will receive their items during 7th period.

Please note the following:

- No latex balloons; only Mylar or metallic are acceptable.
- Balloons or glass containers are not allowed on buses.
- Candy or food items must be sealed from the manufacturer.
- All deliveries must have the student's first and last name along with grade level.
- Students leaving school early may pick up items upon signing out with attendance.
- Delivered items must be picked up by person stated on card.
- Items not picked up on tomorrow will be delivered on Tuesday, Feb. 18, since Monday is a school holiday.

Should you have any questions, please contact Linda Norcross at 386-496-4194.

LB Rotary Valentine's Hawaiian Luau, Feb. 14

The Lake Butler Rotary Club is hosting a Valentine's Hawaiian Luau on Feb. 14, from 6 to 10:30 p.m., at the Lake Butler Community Center, featuring a dinner, disc jockey and silent and live auctions.

For tickets call Joyce Crawford at 352-745-6240 or ask any Rotarian.

Daddy-Daughter Date Night at FBC, Feb. 15

First Baptist Church is hosting a Daddy-Daughter Date Night on Feb. 15 at the Little Rainbow Learning Center. Reservations required. Call 386-496-3704.

Valentine youth dinner at FCC, Feb. 15

The youth group at First Christian Church is hosting a fundraising Valentine's banquet on Feb. 15. For tickets and info call 386-496-3956.

Special social media presentation, Feb. 19

First Christian Church is hosting an eye-opening presentation titled, "Social Media: The Good, The Bad, The Ugly," on Feb. 19, 6:30 to 8 p.m., starting with a free dinner. For more info call 386-496-3956.

Bingo in WS, Feb. 21

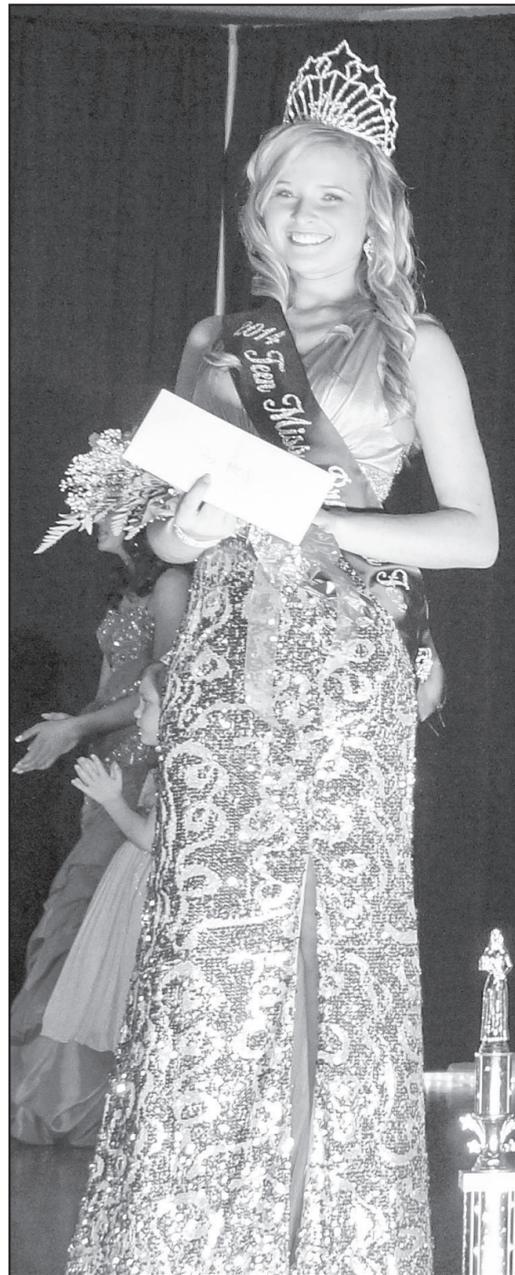
The Worthington Springs Senior Citizens Activity Program is hosting bingo on Feb. 21, 6 to 9 p.m. Dinners available for \$6; raffle for \$1.



Sweethearts serve up lunch for a cause

The Lake Butler Woman's Club hosted their annual Valentine's Luncheon on Feb. 11 to benefit the American Cancer Society and the American Heart Association. The women raised \$900 to be split between the two charities and earmarked for Union County. Lake Butler Rotary Club members and many others joined them for the meal that home-cooked by LBWC members for 90 appetites present.

LBWC members present were (seated, l-r) Lonita McGill, Marjorie Driggers, Joan Gartman and Pauline Courson; (standing, l-r) President Ann Hendricks, Sally Keller, Harriett Maines, Carrie Ford, Dale Tillis, Bobbie Jo Morgan, Patsy Elixson, Margaret Reeves, Martha Powell, Sylvia Carter, Christy Hendricks, Betty Emerick and Kellie Hendricks Connell.



Four crowned at Bradford Fest pageant

BY MARK J. CRAWFORD
Telegraph Editor

Twelve contestants, four titleholders crowned, but they were all winners.

In its fourth year, the Miss Bradford Fest Pageant continued raising money for Santa Fe College scholarships while recognizing some of the areas brightest girls and young women.

Among them was Kelsey Harrison, the new Miss Bradford Fest. She is the daughter of Richard and Tammy Harrison of Lake Butler. She was sponsored by her grandparents and Royal Homes.

The 18-year-old is enrolled at Florida Gateway Community College where she is preparing for a career in the medical field. She has won scholarships for academics and community service. She is active at Tabernacle Baptist Church and volunteers working with exceptional education students. She is known for founding the Celebrations of Ability Prom and wants a career providing pediatric care to kids with disabilities.

Harrison was crowned queen in last year's Strawberry Pageant. She won the talent award in her category in Saturday's

pageant for singing "Giddy on Up" by Laura Bell Bundy, and she took the evening gown award as well.

The Teen Miss title went to Ashley Harris, a 13-year-old in eighth grade at Lake Butler Middle School. A 4.0 GPA student, she is president of her FFA chapter, co-captain of the volleyball team, and secretary of the BETA Club. She is also a 4-H volunteer and science fair award winner. She enjoys hunting, reading and caring for her animals.

During the talent competition, Ashley recited "God Made a Farmer" by Paul Harvey.

She is the daughter of David and Donna Harris, and was sponsored by Latain Peterson of The Shoppes at Thompson Street.

Ashley was also a People's Choice Award winner along with fellow contestant Caitlain Morgan.

The Junior Miss crown went to Jaelyn Jackson, the 12-year-old daughter of Britt and Jejetta Jackson.

A former Junior Miss Bradford Fest and Petite Miss Strawberry Princess, she has been in pageants since she was 4 months old. She loves to sing and perform, and has been in commercials

and print advertisements. She is in the sixth grade at Cornerstone Academy, a charter school in Gainesville, where she is winning academic awards, and she enjoys volunteering at charity events.

Jaelyn won the most photogenic award in her category. She was sponsored by Community State Bank.

Finally, Lily Barksdale was crowned Little Miss Bradford Fest. She is 4 and in prekindergarten. She is the daughter of Matthew and Brandyn Barksdale, who sponsored her along with her brother and grandparents. She takes tap and ballet at the Starke Academy of Dance, and she's a member of the Clever Clovers 4-H club and her church children's choir.

Each of the four age categories participated in the Western wear and party dress/evening gown competitions. In addition, the Teen and Miss contestants competed in talent and were asked to respond to a question chosen at random on stage. Miss contestants also met with judges for an interview.

Pageant founders Brenda Thornton and Lisa Tatum received special

Miss Bradford Fest Kelsey Harrison (left) and Teen Miss Ashley Harris. Photos by Brenda Thornton.

See PAGEANT, 4A

FDLE releases report on Pritchett slayings

No new findings, but closes another chapter on heinous crimes

BY VINCENT ALEX BROWN
Times Editor

The full report on the Pritchett slayings that occurred this past August from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement was finally released last week to the Union County Sheriff's Office. As anticipated, there were no new findings—just a detailed account of the community's worst crime ever.

After hundreds of interviews, law enforcement officials still have no motive for why Hubert Allen Jr. shot his employer and friend Marvin Pritchett, 80, of Pritchett Trucking and three co-workers at both the company and Pritchett's Rolling Oaks Farm.

These men, whom he also called friends, were the victims of a planned assault that Allen carried out on the morning of Aug. 24, killing three of them and then committing suicide in his own driveway. Only one survived.

Hundreds of family and friends came out within the week to pay respects to the slain: Marvin H. Pritchett, Rolando Isaac Gonzalez-Delgado and David Morley Griffis. The one survivor, Lewis "Buddy" Mabrey Jr., came home from the hospital and was able to attend the memorial services of his fellow co-workers and friends whom he worked alongside each day, as did Allen.

"Nothing yet on a motive," the late Sheriff Jerry Whitehead said at the time, which still holds true. "We've talked to a number of people, in different places, and nothing stuck out about (Allen) being angry or any hatred or ill plans."

On Dec. 18, Whitehead passed away suddenly at the age of 60, never having the opportunity to see the report on his most baffling case ever while in office. Pritchett was Whitehead's uncle by marriage. Pritchett's wife, Margaret, is the sister of Vivian Crews Whitehead—Whitehead's mother who passed away just nine days before the slayings due to a sudden illness.

See FDLE, 2A

etc.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

In the Jan. 30 issue...

We left out the name of CSM Kenneth North, who was shown on the right-hand side of a photo of the JROTC cadets being recognized by the Union County School Board for winning a regional competition. We apologize for the omission.

In the Feb. 6 issue...

In response to certain claims made in the article on Dynamic Health Centers opening a new clinic in Lake Butler, we offer the following statements from two other clinics in town:

Lake Butler Family & Pediatric Clinic also accepts Medicare and Medicaid. The Family & Pediatric Clinic, which has been serving Union County residents for over 15 years, provides primary care for all ages, as well as weight loss services, physicals and well exams. It is currently accepting new patients with same day appointments available. The Family & Pediatric Clinic will be adding podiatry, psychiatry, and possibly orthopedics within the coming months. Medicare, Medicaid, BCBS, AvMed, United Healthcare, and most other major insurances are accepted, as well as sliding scale private pay.

The Family & Pediatric Clinic is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and can be reached at 386-496-1922.

The Bradford and Union County Health Departments/ New River Community Health Centers have an OB practitioner and a GYN practitioner on staff. OB delivers babies. GYN deals with women's health. We have a .80 FTE GYN ARNP on staff that only treats women's health. We offer OB services through OB/GYN of Gainesville. Their staff is here at both facilities weekly, and has both OB and GYN capability.

The Union County Health Dept./New River Community Health Center is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and can be reached at 386-496-3211.

Roberts Insurance was recently named Business of the Year by the North Florida Regional Chamber of Commerce, not "Small Business of the Year" as stated in a subhead.

"We usually have a large and small business of the year but Roberts Insurance and Lake Area Physical Therapy are almost the same size as far as number of employees and locations that they serve. So we just had 2 businesses of the year for 2013," said Pam Whittle, president and CEO.

Special thanks to her for clarifying this.

The figure we quoted EMS Director Chris Drum saying he spent on personnel training was incorrectly stated as \$277,000, when it was actually \$77,000. We apologize for the error.

FDLE

Continued from 1A

Regarding motive, even Mabrey was at a loss. "He does not know why this occurred," said Lt. Lyn Williams who personally interviewed Mabrey at the hospital the day he was shot.

No one has ever come forward, either, saying anything about suspicious behavior.

Others who saw Allen even up to the time he committed these heinous crimes say everything seemed OK with him, despite the 300 or so rumors swirling around, Jerry said, as people tried to come up with a reason for his actions.

In spite of rumors, investigators had no indication that Allen had a problem with his employer. He retired nine days before the shootings and Pritchett Trucking knew of no difficulties, Whitehead said.

It's a baffling case, Whitehead agreed, but Allen's note led

Whitehead to emphatically state, "What he did was cold, calculated, premeditated murder."

That is underscored by what Griffis said that tragic Saturday morning.

"Hubert shot me," Griffis told Deputy John Henry "John-John" Whitehead IV when he arrived on the scene. John-John asked Griffis if the shooting was intentional or accidental, to which he replied, "No, he shot me on purpose. I don't know why."

In spite of numerous surgeries, Griffis died the following Tuesday morning.

Former Interim Sheriff Garry Seay, who was chief investigator at the time, wrote in his report that Mabrey was meeting with Allen to allegedly retrieve a phone from Allen that belonged to Pritchett, when Allen shot him and then drove back to Lake Butler.

Williams relayed that Allen told Mabrey at the scene, "I'm tired of you tell (sic) Pritchett all these lies," before waving a

shotgun toward Mabrey a couple of times before shooting him.

Mabrey instinctively threw up his left arm, which took most of the blast and apparently saved his life.

Finally, investigators determined that a suicide note, filling three quarters of a page, that Allen left at his home—which was owned by Pritchett and built for Allen—was written over time, possibly in two or three different segments, though it was not dated.

Before taking his own life, John-John was told by employees at the Fast Track Food Store that Allen told people outside the store that he had murdered several people and for them to call 911.

Seay added in his report that Allen also told them he was going to kill himself.

Allen then went to his home around the corner, parked his pickup truck in the driveway, honked the horn, opened the driver's side door and shot himself, leaving a mystery that may never be solved as many seek a motive, trying to bring closure to this nightmare.

Perhaps the report gets those in the community one step closer to that, but one step only.

"It's got to be one of the worst tragedies that this county's ever witnessed," said Captain Doug York who received the report, which included a recounting of events, autopsies, a toxicology report on Allen, logs from officers and medical personnel, witness reports, crime scene evidence,

photos, a 911 recording on CD and more.

The bus crash that York, and that Jerry referred to at the time, happened on Jan. 26, 2006, when seven children from the same family died in their car while stopped behind a Union County school bus. It burst into flames after a tractor-trailer slammed into them on S.R. 121. Nine children on the school bus were injured.

The citizens of Union County are hoping and praying for a better decade, and at least a better year.

Shortly after that tragic weekend in August, Jerry shared some perspective from his father, the late John Whitehead, who was the former sheriff for over three decades: Bad things happen to good people and you have to just pick yourself up. Jerry said you grieve, but you pick yourself up.

"There are a lot of people upset about it," Jerry said, "but we'll get through it. The whole community will."

LEGALS

UCT Legals 2/13/14

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case #63-2012-CA-0135

JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Plaintiff

vs

WILLIAM E. WOODINGTON, etal, Defendants

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Final Judgment of Mortgage dated February 3, 2014, Nunc Pro Tunc August 28, 2013 and entered in Case No. 63-2012-CA-0135 of the Circuit Court of the Eighth Judicial Circuit in and for Union County, Florida wherein JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION is the Plaintiff and WILLIAM EDWARD WOODINGTON A/K/A WILLIAM E. WOODINGTON; PAMELA H. WOODINGTON; SUNTRUST BANK; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE; are the Defendants, The Clerk of the Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at front door of the Union County Courthouse at 11:00 a.m. on the 10th day of April, 2014, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

A PARCEL OF LAND CONTAINING A TOTAL AREA OF 10.0 ACRES, LYING, BEING AND SITUATE IN THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF NORTHEAST 1/4, AND IN THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF NORTHEAST 1/4, SECTION 18, TOWNSHIP 6 SOUTH, RANGE 19 EAST, UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA. MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCE AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID NORTHWEST 1/4 OF NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 18 FOR THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THE HERINAFTER DESCRIBED PARCEL OF LAND: THENCE RUN NORTH 02 DEGREES 30 MINUTES 19 SECONDS WEST, ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SAID NORTHWEST 1/4 OF NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 18, A DISTANCE OF 613.34 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 53 MINUTES 38 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 609.06 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH 04 DEGREES 28 MINUTES 05 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 583.46 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 53 MINUTES 38 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 630.14 FEET TO THE INTERSECTION WITH THE WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF COUNTY ROAD NUMBERS S-238-A; THENCE RUN SOUTH 00 DEGREES 43 MINUTES 13 SEC-

ONDS WEST, ALONG SAID WEST RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF COUNTY ROAD NUMBER S-238-A, A DISTANCE OF 60.00 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH 89 DEGREES 53 MINUTES 38 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 1255.82 FEET TO THE INTERSECTION WITH THE WEST LINE OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 18; THENCE RUN NORTH 02 DEGREES 30 MINUTES 19 SECONDS WEST, ALONG SAID WEST LINE OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 18, A DISTANCE OF 28.99 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. A/K/A 10516 SW 66TH DRIVE, LAKE BUTLER, FL 32054

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale.

WITNESS my hand and official seal in the State and County aforesaid this 5th day of February, 2014.

Kellie Hendricks Connell Clerk of Court

Crystal Norman Deputy Clerk

Ronald R. Wolfe & Associates, P.L.

PO Box 25018

Tampa, Florida 33622-5018

2/13 2tchg 2/20-UCT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case #63-2013-CA-0016

HSBC BANK USA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR ACE SECURITIES CORP. HOME EQUITY LOAN TRUST, SERIES 2005-SD2, ASSET-BACKED PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATES, Plaintiff

vs

BRUCE E. DICKSON; THE UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF BRUCE E. DICKSON; RETHA A DICKSON; THE UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF RETHA A DICKSON; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HERINAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; TENANT #1, TENANT #2, TENANT #3, AND TENANT #4 THE NAMES BEING FICTITIOUS TO ACCOUNT FOR PARTIES IN POSSESSION

Defendants

RE-NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

Notice is hereby given that the following described property:

A PORTION OF THE NW 1/4 OF THE SW 1/4 OF SECTION 18, TOWNSHIP SOUTH, RANGE 21 EAST, UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCE AT THE NE CORNER OF THE NW 1/4 OF THE SW 1/4 OF SECTION 18, TOWNSHIP 5 SOUTH, RANGE 21 EAST, UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND RUN SOUTH 03 DEGREES 55 MINUTES 20 SECONDS EAST, A DISTANCE OF 551.88 FEET TO THE POINT OF THE BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE SOUTH 03 DEGREES 55 MINUTES 20 SECONDS EAST, A DISTANCE OF 313.50 FEET TO THE NORTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY OF FORMER ACL RR; THENCE RUN SOUTH 59 DEGREES 09 MINUTES 30 SECONDS WEST, ALONG THE NORTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF FORMER ACL RR, A DISTANCE OF 265.23 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 02 DEGREES 53 MINUTES 33 SECONDS WEST, A DISTANCE OF 437.76 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 87 DEGREES 06 MINUTES 27 SECONDS EAST, A DISTANCE OF 228.67 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

TOGETHER WITH A MOBILE HOME LOCATED THEREON AS A PERMANENT FIXTURE AND APPURTENANCE THERETO, DESCRIBED AS 1996 MOBILE HOME VIN NUMBER GAFL34A23774SH21 WITH TITLE NUMBER 0073881446 AND VIN NUMBER GAFL34B23774SH21 WITH TITLE NUMBER 73881445. A/K/A 12845 NE STATE ROAD 121

RAIFORD, FL 32083-2467 A/K/A HIGHWAY 121 RAIFORD

Shall be sold by the Clerk of the this Court, at public sale, pursuant to the Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale in the above styled action dated February 3, 2014, at the Union County Courthouse in Lake Butler, Florida, at 10:00 A.M. on April 27, 2014, to the best and highest bidder for cash. Any person claiming an interest in any surplus from the sale, other than the property owner as of the date of the notice of lis pendens, must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

WITNESS my hand and official seal in the State and County aforesaid this 5th day of February 2014.

Kellie Hendricks Connell Clerk of Court

Crystal Norman Deputy Clerk

Albertelli Law Attorney for Plaintiff

PO Box 23028

Tampa, FL 33623

(813) 221-4743

(813) 221-9171 Facsimile

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2/13 2tchg 2/20-UCT

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York talks with Jennifer Whitehead after her husband, Brad, was sworn in as sheriff on Jan. 17.

Garry Seay retires from UCSO And Doug York returns

BY VINCENT ALEX BROWN
Times Editor

Garry Seay retired from the Union County Sheriff's Office after serving both Sheriff Jerry Whitehead and Jerry's father, Sheriff John H. Whitehead, for decades. Seay will now serve as a bailiff at the Union County Courthouse.

By appointment of Gov. Rick Scott, Major Garry Seay served as interim sheriff from this past Dec. 18, after Jerry passed away suddenly at the age of 60 from cardiac arrest following a brief illness, till Jan. 17, when Brad Whitehead was sworn in as sheriff after his appointment by the governor.



Whitehead

With Seay leaving, Whitehead asked Doug York to return to the sheriff's office to serve as captain overseeing investigations and operations.

"Doug was a loyal, dedicated employee who worked for my father for seven years," Whitehead said, serving the sheriff's office and the citizens of Union County.

York, who started on Jan. 29, spent the last two years as executive director of the West Virginia Public Port Authority, answering directly to Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin. There he oversaw the security detail, economic development and marketing, among other things.

Before that he served with the UCSO as director for the Office of Emergency Management, and oversaw operations.

He came there from a four-year stint as chief of law enforcement for the Florida Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

That was after he served nearly 11 years as captain of professional standards for the State Fire Marshal's Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations, where Whitehead also worked for a few years.

York studied public administration at Barry University and briefly attended the University of North Florida.

He has received awards from the U.S. Army, U.S. Treasury Dept. and State of Florida.



UCHS Science Olympiad Team wins at regional finals

Will compete at state contest in March

BY RENAE ALLEN
Science Teacher, UCHS

The Union County High School Science Olympiad Team competed in the regional finals at Florida Gateway College on Saturday, Feb. 1. Fourteen students competed in teams of two in a variety of science evaluations.

Here are the results:

- 1. **Anatomy & Physiology** – 1st Place – Rafael Sanchez-Guterrez and Lethia Johnson
- 2. **Astronomy** – 1st Place – Saulius

Mazeiko and Michael Riggs

- 3. **Bungee Drop** – 1st Place - Waylon Griffis and Ridge Smith
- 4. **Chemistry Lab** – 1st Place – Ben Riggs and Lethia Johnson

- 5. **Circuit Lab** – 1st Place – Lethia Johnson and Waylon Griffis

- 6. **Compound Machines** – 1st Place – Saulius Mazeiko and Rafael Sanchez-Guterrez

- 7. **Designer Genes** – 1st Place – Lethia Johnson and Holly Tucker

- 8. **Disease Detectives** – 1st Place- Saulius Mazeiko and Crysta Fairfield

- 9. **Dynamic Planet** – 1st Place - Michael Riggs and Madison Worth

- 10. **Elastic Launched Glider** – 1st Place – Kyle Taylor and Robbie Parrish

- 11. **Entomology** – 1st Place – Claire Sivyver and Holly Tucker

- 12. **Experimental Design** – 1st Place – Madison Worth and Kamil Mazal

- 13. **Geologic Mapping** – 1st Place – Holly Tucker and Ridge Smith

- 14. **Mission Possible** – 1st Place – Michael and Ben Riggs and Ridge Smith

- 15. **Rocks and Minerals** – 1st Place – Claire Sivyver and Crysta Fairfield

- 16. **Scrambler** – only entry medalled – Kyle Taylor and Robbie Parrish

- 17. **Water Quality** – 1st Place – Crysta Fairfield and Kamil Mazal

- 18. **Write It/Do It** – 1st Place – Waylon Griffis and Madison Worth

Overall placements were as follows:

3rd Place – Bradford High

2nd Place – Dixie County High

1st Place – UCHS, which will compete at the state contest at the University of Central Florida on March 14-15.

Science teacher Renae Allen received a plaque for "Outstanding Coach."

To learn more about the program, visit www.floridascienceolympiad.org.

Amanda Blanton wins spelling bee at LBMS

Advances to regional bee in Jacksonville tomorrow

The Union County/Lake Butler Middle School Spelling Bee was held on Thursday, Jan. 23, at the LBMS Media Center. Here are the classroom winners who participated in the school bee:

5th grade: Katie Caren, Andrew Courson, Jocelyn Gibson, Brian Kish, Hannah Mason, Elaine Odom, Hannah Perron, Ciera Stitt and Iris Thomas.

6th grade: Jacob Finley, Kendahl Green, John Knagge, Karah Oden, Derrick Searcy and

Tate Worrell.

7th grade: Connor Beighley, Ethan Crawford, April Dukes, Nomie McMinn, Hanna Nelson and Christian Rainey.

8th grade: Amanda Blanton, Caden Cox, Brianna Griffis, Dawson Johns, Jenna Kilgore, Jasmine Madison, Kaylee Molchan and Jonathan Williams.

The Florida Times-Union sponsors the bee and the winner advances to the regional bee in Jacksonville on Feb. 15. Eighth-grader Amanda Blanton won the bee by correctly spelling "guineas."

Principal David Campbell welcomed everyone. Guidance Counselor Bob Peeling was the pronouncer.

The judges were Media Specialist Sherry Barnett, Assistant Principal Carolyn Parrish and Reading Coach Crystal Swilley.



Peeling and Blanton



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Mitch Andrews named interim EMS director

County to hire someone within 60 days

BY VINCENT ALEX BROWN
Times Editor

At a special Thursday morning meeting of the Union County Board of County Commissioners on Feb. 6, Mitch Andrews was named interim EMS director to fill the position vacated by Chris Drum.

"This came up quick, and I wanted to clarify: I'm not leaving for any one situation or any issue that's going on," Drum told the commissioners. "It was just something presented to me professionally that would benefit

my family a great deal; I'd have more time with them in my county, and closer to them. And it would just be a professional move that I could not pass up."

Drum and his family live in LaCrosse.

"I know it kind of happened quick—and it did," Drum added.

He recommended Andrews, who currently serves as assistant EMS director and fire chief. The board agreed, saying Andrews would serve in that role for 60 days while the county looks for a new director, which may end up being Andrews, according to Commissioner Wayne Smith.

"Chris, I can't tell you enough," said Commission Chairman Jimmy Tallman, "how much we've appreciated the job that you've done; we really appreciate it."

"And I want you to understand that—Mitch, I know you've done a great job, too—but you have all of my blessings of the commission. Anytime you can do something to serve your family, then, absolutely, family first, always."

"But we hate to lose you," added

Commissioner Karen Cossey.

"Yeah, we don't want to lose you. It's a bad day; it's a bad day," Tallman agreed.

Andrews will be paid at the same level that Drum was, though when asked by Tallman how many years it took to get to his currently salary, Drum responded, "I'm actually making less than when I came here," and added, "Mitch is the lowest-paid fulltime guy we have."

And he vouched for Andrews, adding, "If he's not chosen—which personally and professionally would be a mistake—if he's not chosen, I would suggest that he gets adjusted to a wage that does not make him my lowest paid fulltime guy."

"We'll take care of that when the time comes," responded Smith.

"Which will be 60 days," Drum reminded Smith, "so that's why we kind of need to plan it now."

Drum, whose last day is Friday, Feb. 14, will serve as the emergency medicine coordinator at UF Health Shands in Gainesville.

It is perhaps a bittersweet move for all.

In other, related business, Drum got approval from the board to pursue a grant to remount Rescue 4 for \$85,000. It is a backup unit that currently has about 181,000 miles on it. Fixing it means it will be available when another unit is being repaired, and it can also be rotated with the other three units.

Drum will submit a \$85,000 grant by February 28 for either a 90/10 rural grant requiring the county to pay 10 percent or \$8,500, though the county may alternatively be awarded a 75/25 matching grant which would require 20 percent or \$21,250.

A remount is the process of removing the mounted box or modular unit from an old truck chassis and placing or "remounting" it on to a new one. At the same time the unit itself is refurbished, which can be as basic as just a new paint job to a complete restoration of any and all components, including electrical systems, mechanical systems (heating and A/C), lighting and communication/technology components.

The next, regular meeting of the commission is on Presidents' Day, Monday, February 17, at the new time of 6 p.m.—one hour earlier than usual in order to keep the nighttime meetings from running so late.

Information on meetings (agendas, minutes, recordings) and the county's budget and annual audit can be found at their official website at www.unioncounty-fl.gov.

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FBLA hosts talent show to benefit Autism Speaks

BY KRYSTAL GUNTER
Business Education, UCHS

Congratulations to Union County High School junior Alexa Rae Park for being the overall winner of the "Spectrum of Talent" show hosted by the school's chapter of Future Business Leaders of America.

FBLA members worked hard to prepare for the big night, which was Tuesday, Feb. 4. Ten UCHS participated, who competed for the \$100 overall grand prize. Talents ranged from dancing and singing to playing instruments and baton twirling.

The show turned out to be a huge success. With the help of contestants, admission, and other generous donations, the chapter raised \$610. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to their charity, Autism Speaks.

The FBLA members and adviser, Krystal Gunter, thank everyone who supported the event.

"We were fortunate to have 10 talented contestants, a great turnout to watch the talent show and such generous community members who share the passion for this organization," said Gunter when asked about the results of the talent show.

With the help of the school and community, the chapter raised money to donate to such an inspiring charity that is very near and dear to its members.

Learn more about Autism Speaks by visiting www.autismspeaks.org.



TOP: Savannah Woodall, junior.



TOP CENTER: Mihn Coa, foreign exchange student from Vietnam.



TOP RIGHT: Alexa Park, junior and overall winner of the show.



RIGHT: Coral Leffew, senior.



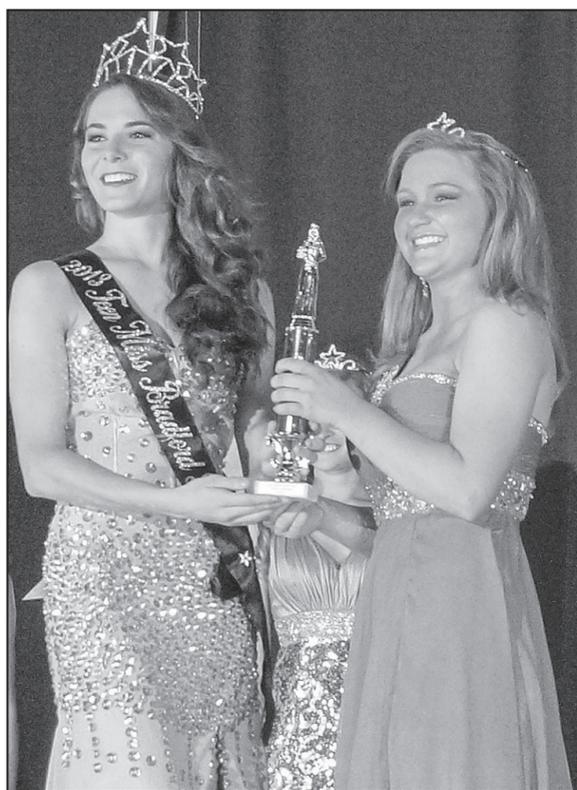
FAR RIGHT: Chase Wilkerson and Brooke Lamb, juniors.



First Christian Church hosted the region's Bible Bowl Round Robin on Feb. 8. They competed against teams from Central and North Florida, including First Baptist Church whose beginner team members, seated at left, are Luke Stirrat and his brother Noah and Jonathan Nazworth (in the middle). At far end is FCC's team: Cole Anderson-Davis and Meagan Beatty. FCC's team won first place for the first time.



Lake Butler Volunteer Firefighter Jack Eck was named "Firefighter of the Year" for 2013 and won "Best Chili" for 2014 during the fire department's annual chili cook-off on Jan. 11. With him is Union County Supervisor of Elections Debbie Osborne who judged six chili entries.



PAGEANT

Continued from 1A

recognition during the show. Jenna Hewett served as emcee, and she was helped out by past winners, including 2013 Miss Bradford Fest Farrah Duhart. Entertainment included performances by Summer Joy Atteberry and Alexa Rae Park, the 2013 Junior and Teen Miss winners, and John McMillan, who performed "Unchained Melody" as well as a song from his upcoming gospel album. Sunshine Scaff, the 2011 Miss

Bradford Fest, was a role model for contestants as well as their choreographer.

In addition to Santa Fe College, Bradford Fest organizers also teamed up with Altrusa of Starke in putting on this year's pageant. Santa Fe College Andrews Center Director Cheryl Canova, in thanking all of the volunteers, said thousands of dollars have been raised for scholarships over the years. Forty-eight scholarship students from Bradford County are currently enrolled at Santa Fe, she said.

A scholarship is among the prizes awarded with the Miss

Bradford Fest title.

Other awards included most photogenic for Kenslee Phillips in the Little Miss category, Bethany Bryan in the Teen Miss category and Maegan Robinson in the Miss category. The Director's Award also went to Robinson.

Ronda McCormick won the talent award in the Teen Miss category for her twirling routine.

Other contestants included Muskaan and Simran Patel, and Daisy Pyle.

2013 Teen Miss Alexa Rae Park and talent award winner Ronda McCormick. Both have been Strawberry Princess. Photo by Brenda Thornton.

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NEWS FROM BRADFORD COUNTY, UNION COUNTY AND THE LAKE REGION

Bradford couple born to be together

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Staff Writer

You think of “mama” or “dada” as babies’ first words, but what about “I do?”

OK, those weren’t really the first words out of the mouths of Barbara and Eugene Johns of Starke, but it does seem as if they were meant to be together as they were born one day apart at Bradford Hospital.

This Valentine’s Day arrives shortly after the couple celebrated their 37th anniversary, which was in December. They met each other at Bradford High School, but were together much earlier than that.

“Actually, I tell people I picked him out in the nursery,” Barbara said.

Barbara was born on Dec. 26, while Eugene arrived on Dec. 27, though it wasn’t actually a full day that separated their births. Barbara said it was something like eight hours.

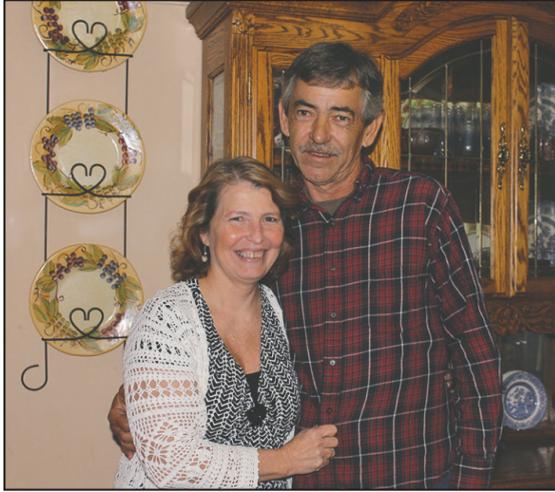
Regardless, she was born first, and Eugene teases her about being older than him.

“It’s neat when you’re 18,” Barbara said. “It’s not so cool when you’re 50.”

As if being born less than a day apart at the same hospital wasn’t interesting enough, Barbara and Eugene each have a twin sibling. Barbara’s twin is a brother named John, while Eugene’s twin is a sister named Betty.

Barbara and Eugene joke that maybe everything concerning their births isn’t what it seems.

“If you saw a picture of all of us,” Barbara said, referring to her, Eugene and their respective twins, “I’m the oddball out. My twin looks more like (Eugene) and his sister. We make a joke that we were switched at birth. His mother had too many



ABOVE: Barbara and Eugene Johns were born one day apart and have spent the last 37 years together in marriage. LEFT: Barbara and Eugene are pictured at their December 1976 wedding.

children, so they just gave the other twin to my mom.”

Eugene, who is one of eight siblings, said that just may have happened.

“It was after Christmas,” he said. “I mean, (hospital staff) may have been partying still or had a bad hangover.”

All joking aside, Barbara and

Eugene seem to have experienced true love. You’ve heard of love at first sight. Well, the two didn’t know each other long before they began dating.

“It wasn’t long,” Eugene said. “It was probably about a month or two.”

Barbara and her family moved to Tampa when she was in the

second grade, but they returned when she was a sophomore.

“I met Eugene almost immediately when we moved back, within a few months of moving back,” Barbara said, adding, “He was so cute.”

They met each other at a convenience store on U.S. 301 across from Bradford High School. Eugene had been riding in a car with his brother, while Barbara was actually in a vehicle with a cousin of Eugene’s. That cousin prompted the meeting between the two.

“I was talking about (Eugene) and how cute he was,” Barbara said. “(His cousin) dared me to go over and introduce myself.”

Eugene said, “I was sort of surprised. I had never been approached that way.”

For their first date, Eugene was able to borrow his brother’s car. He and Barbara went to dinner, then to the drive-in theater that was in Starke at that time.

“It seemed like the drive-in was something you did just about every weekend, or you rode up and down 301,” Barbara said.

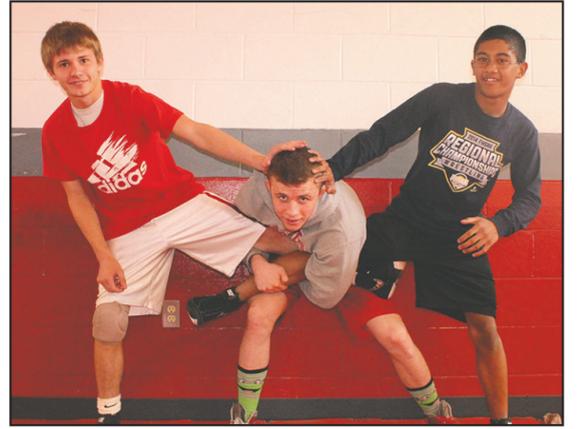
Eugene said, “Yeah, that was the main thing to do—ride up and down 301,” with Barbara adding, “That was a date. Back then, you didn’t do a whole lot.”

They date for only about a year before they got married. Barbara said she knew immediately that Eugene was the man for her.

“It was a connection as soon as we met,” she said. “We were like together non-stop. He would walk out to my house because he didn’t have a vehicle. I lived out on 301. He’d walk out there at night and walk back.”

Every now and then, Eugene would get to borrow a sibling’s

See **JOHNS, 4B**



Bradford High School wrestlers (l-r) J.T. Griffis, Jarraid Forsyth and Shayne Kahakua-Lodivero enjoy a light moment before practicing in preparation for this weekend’s state tournament.

3 from BHS wrestle way to state finals

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Staff Writer

Bradford High School wrestler Jarraid Forsyth won the Region 1-1A championship in his weight class and will be joined by two of his teammates at the state finals, which will take place

this weekend, Feb. 14-15, at the Lakeland Center.

Forsyth, a senior who is undefeated this season, will be making his third straight appearance in the state finals

See **WRESTLE, 10B**

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FINS, FUR & TAILS

Graham facility to host Florida Challenge

Starting Thursday, Feb. 27, and running through Sunday, March 2, the Bradford Sportsmen's Farm will run its annual "Florida Challenge" sporting clays event at its shooting range in Graham. Prize money ranging from \$25,000 to \$30,000 will be issued to the winners of the event. Approximately 300 shotgunners from across the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico will participate.

Along with the participants, family members and avid followers will also be staying in our local hotels and camping facilities. It will be one of the larger competition sporting clay events in the United States.

The owners of the Sportsmen's Farm, Pat and Patsy Welch and Al and Linda Stefanelli, have really worked hard to make it one of the premier sporting clay organizations in the United States. As a matter of fact, it has ranked among the top 10 in the United States for the last three years in throwing National Sporting Clay Association competition targets.

If you are shy about pitting your shooting skills against some of the best competition shooters, there will be a lot of vendors and displays available at the event. Some really beautiful shotguns will be displayed and sold. A gunsmith will also be available if you have any necessary firearm modifications. Food vendors will also be available.

Not all local shotgunners are shy about participating in large competitions. Dwayne Hardee, Ashley Moore, Gary Wise, Chad Welch, Claude Hardee and Edwin Johns can all shoot well in the big competitions, according to Pat Welch. Welch did not mention himself, but he has been known to win a few competitions.

With its sporting clay competitions, the Sportsmen's Farm backs numerous charitable organizations that include the Will Courtney Foundation, the Starke Rotary Club, the Starke Kiwanis Club, the Rock Volleyball Program, Wolfson's Children Hospital and the 4-H Club of America.

The facility also provides classes for basic pistol shooting and for concealed carry. Additionally, on a weekday basis, the facility is available to members for shooting practice.

The Bradford Sportsmen's Farm is located off of Highway 18 in Graham, approximately 3 miles east of the 301-18 intersection. In Graham, you will turn right at the designated sign and continue until you reach the facility.

Outdoors outlook

So we continue to march toward spring with precipitation that has been better than the average over the past decade. Should we get another summer like last year, we could see the Keystone lakes look better than they have for quite a few years.

Already, fishermen are talking about how Orange Lake looks. Apparently, a boat can already go from Lochloosa to Orange by way of Cross Creek, and fishermen are in hopes that Orange Lake will return to its once legendary status as the bass capital of North Florida.

Within the next month, buck deer will begin to shed their antlers. Hunting for shed antlers is a great family activity and allows avid hunters to evaluate their property for next year's prospects.

Some people actually build shed traps to help add to their collection of deer antlers. A few posts and some field fence are all that are needed. The post can be set in a Z or semicircle formation and covered with field fence. Once the structure is set, corn is distributed at the bottom of the fence. As the bucks subsequently bend forward for the corn, their antlers will likely entangle with the fence wire. Even a loose entanglement



Pat Welch displays one of his sporting clays trophies.

will hasten the shed at this time of the year.

The local fishing reports on the crappie bite indicate that it is on one day and off the next. Consistent reports of the crappie spawn can be found only in lakes from Gainesville southward. Newnans and Lochloosa have produced the better crappie catches in our local area. Crescent Lake, which is south of Palatka, has also been consistently productive.

The only indication of the bass

spawn seems to come from the consistent 72-degree spring runs that dump into Lake George and the St. Johns east of Ocala.

Notwithstanding that report, Len Andrews is now at Kingsley Lake. Len comes from Virginia each year to sight fish the bedding females on Kingsley Lake.

With the exception of Randy Harris' reports, the inshore west coast reports are also inconsistent. Harris apparently has been landing quite a few over-slot-sized reds and nice trout as

well around Steinhatchee, and the accompanying photo of Joey Tyson confirms it.

Tight lines and safe hunting until next week.

If you have a story, idea or photo to share, please contact Mickey Agner via email at mka@maoutdoors.com, or by phone at 904-964-1488. Photos may also be submitted in person at the Bradford County Telegraph, Union County Times or Lake Region Monitor.



Joey Tyson is proof that Randy Harris can put you on the inshore fish around Steinhatchee.

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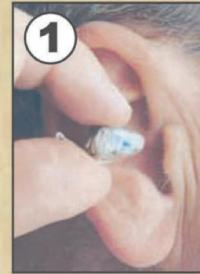
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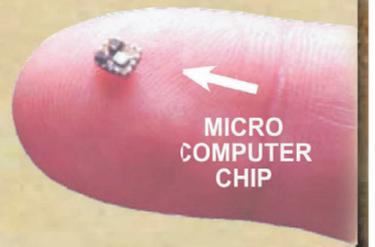
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LEGALS

NOTICE
The New River Community Health Center Board of Directors will meet February 19, 2014 at the Union County Library, located at 250 SE 5th Ave, Lake Butler, FL 32054 from 12:30 - 1:30 pm.

Architect Drivas helped build Starke's cityscape

BY JAMES WILLIAMS
Special to the Telegraph-Times-Monitor

Starke architect Spyros Drivas was born in Sparta, Greece, but was raised in Athens. As a young man he attended the Athens Polytechnic Academy, normally an unusually fine place to study the foundations of Western architecture.

The period during which Drivas studied, however, was problematic. A military junta had overthrown the democratically elected Greek Parliament in 1967. It was the Cold War era, and the American CIA may have been involved. A leftist government administrator was assassinated; the government tried to call it a drunk-driving incident. (Reference the 1969 Academy Award winning film "Z.") Greeks began to revolt against what was in reality a military dictatorship.

Drivas left Greece to study architecture at the University of Florida in Gainesville in 1968. Only a few years after he left, a tank would crash through the gates of the Polytechnic, confronting student demonstrators. Blood was shed; lives were lost.

Safely in Gainesville, Drivas finished his bachelor's degree in 1972 and his master's the following year. He married Bradford County's Lavon Collins

in 1976, and worked for a while in private-sector architectural companies in Tampa.

Over the following almost 40 years, Drivas designed and built buildings all over Central and North Florida. Around 1978, he left South Florida to become college architect for what was then called Florida Community College at Jacksonville. At the same time, he and Lavon moved back to Bradford County, and he began the daily commute.

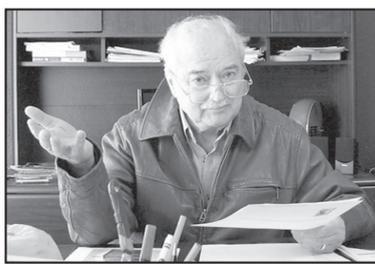
Working from his home office, in 1982, for example, he was hired to remodel Jacksonville's old Engineer's Building, a former Cadillac showroom at the corner of State State and Main streets.

In 1986, Drivas was appointed school architect for the Duval County Board of Education, providing designs, schematic drawings and site plans for such schools as Mandarin High and Oceanway and North Shore middle schools. By now, Drivas was taking on \$25 and \$30 million projects.

From 1986 to 2002, he was director of facilities, planning and university architect at the University of North Florida.

During that period, Drivas was also given contracts by the Bradford School Board and served as its managing architect from 1986 until 1992. He designed a new library for

Starke-based architect Spyros Drivas continues to be a major influence on Starke's cityscape and its historic architecture.



Bradford High School, renovated the auditorium and added a music suite. He put the entrance to the school at what had been the side of the campus, to that parking and the entrance were in the same area.

At Lawtey Community School, he said, he "put the library at the center of the school where it belonged," and renovated the school cafeteria. He added two additions to Bradford middle school: a computer lab and the family center. He added kindergarten additions at Starke and Southside elementary schools.

But Drivas is important to Starke's off-campus architectural landscape as well. He designed the new public library and had input into the design and construction of schools and churches around the county, including projects that never got built when clients ran out of money.

Two of Drivas' most important jobs were not designing new buildings for Starke or the county; it was saving and preserving existing buildings that play roles in Bradford's history. One of those is called the Rosenberg or the Jones-Rosenberg Building. The other is the Call Street building that housed the old Mitchell's Drug store and, in the 1940s, the post office. It now houses Prevatt's Restaurant and various offices upstairs.

The Jones-Rosenberg Building rests at the corner of Thompson and Call streets, next to the railroad tracks. Its connection to Starke pioneer Dewitt C. Jones is unclear, and perhaps misguided. Former Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home director Steve Futch said he has no information to indicate that Jones built or ever owned

the building, though he couldn't refute that possibility. Futch said he knew Jones owned a one-story brick building right next door to the Rosenberg Building and used that building as a hardware store. Fire insurance maps at UF's Smathers Library show a wooden-frame building until at least 1885. By the next 1901 map, the building was brick.

In the 1940s and the World War II era, the building was the keystone of Sam Rosenberg's variety and second-hand furniture store. The Rosenberg Building allegedly housed a bordello at one time and was most certainly a bar, catering to Camp Blanding soldiers.

In 1991, Drivas was hired to do a \$600,000 renovation to shore up the building and add 2,000 square feet of floor space. The effort would also save a building in Starke's business district—a district listed in the U.S. National Registry of Historic Places.

When Drivas first entered the abandoned Rosenberg Building, the wooden floor was largely gone. Digging not very deeply with the toe of his shoe, he discovered that the interior six-, four- and two-brick pilasters and the exterior walls in the two-story brick building rested only on North Florida sand and soil.

The worst problem, though, was the fact that over the years, the building had settled, brought on by its proximity to the railroad. Drivas could almost see the building wobble and shake every time a train went by, as they did many times a day less than 100 feet away.

He began by shoring up the foundation. He pumped an epoxy cement under the pilasters and the rest of the building; when the bonding gel mixed with Florida sand, it formed a kind of cement. In the building's façade, he inserted a steel plate

underneath the second floor windows and vertical mullions, and another under the windows in the first floor.

Santa Fe College wanted to expand the building at the back, and install an elevator to make the second floor accessible to all. Drivas had the bricks at the back carefully removed, and reused them to restore the Call Street façade. Along the sides and at the back of the building he would use new brick when necessary, matching the originals as closely as possible.

He restored the entire building as closely to the exact original as he could; including the Chicago-style windows in the façade and the decorative, corbelled brickwork on the building's parapet.

"For the amount of money spent to restore that building, you could have torn it down and built another one," he said. "but in such cases, you aren't restoring a building. You are preserving history." Starke businessman and philanthropist Guy Andrews financed the reconstruction for the college.

The interior of the building was gutted. Unfortunately, a collection of military insignia and World War II-era murals

could not be preserved. Drivas and others took before and after photos during demolition and reconstruction.

Today, Santa Fe College uses the building for classes; a variety of college and community events are held in its first-floor auditorium. On the second floor is the Eugene L. Matthews Bradford County Museum, which collects and stores the county's history.

Drivas has definite opinions about local architecture.

"Much of Starke architecture is Cracker vernacular," he said. This is not a term of insult. It is a commonly used Florida architectural term to suggest that Starke's earliest buildings weren't designed by architects, but were constructed according to plans drawn up by owners and building contractors.

In some cases along Call Street, the 1800s-era buildings may have been constructed by the same contractor, using a similar design from one building to the next. Many of the bricks in Starke's historic Call Street district may have come from

See DRIVAS, 10B



One of Drivas' major projects: remodeling and preserving the Rosenberg Building, now housing the Santa Fe College Cultural Center and Bradford County Historical Museum. Bricks were moved from the back of the building to reconstruct the original façade. Metal plates were inserted to shore up windows on the first and second floors.

Starke Rotary Beast Feast is March 22

The Rotary Club of Starke's seventh annual Beast Feast will be held Saturday, March 22, at 6 p.m. at the Bradford Sportsmen's Farm in Graham.

There will a live band, raffle and auction items up for bid, plus cash drawings using the event tickets.

Tickets are \$50 each and can be purchased from any Rotarian or at the Bradford County Telegraph.

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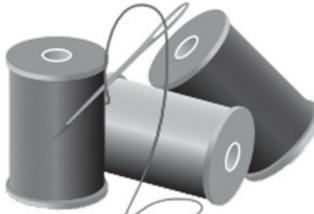
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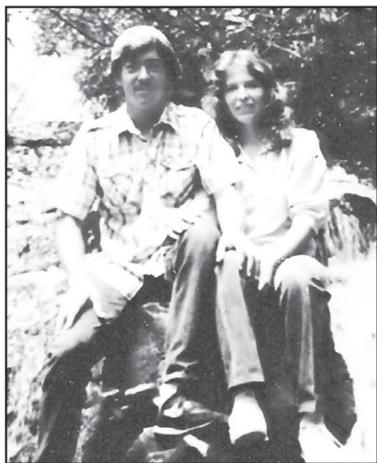


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Eugene and Barbara Johns are pictured on a vacation to the mountains in 1984. Traveling more is something they'd like to do in retirement. "Just get in the car and just travel the United States," Eugene said. "We haven't seen it."

JOHNS

Continued from 1B

car, but that usually involved him washing it to earn that privilege. Otherwise, he made that walk from Starke to Barbara's house, which was on the other side of where Ceremonial Fireworks is.

"That was a good walk," Eugene said, laughing.

The couple got married in 1976. They still had no car, though Eugene was able to borrow his brother's car that day.

There was no trip afterward, though.

"Our honeymoon consisted of the Pizza Hut," Eugene said, with Barbara adding, "Our matron of honor and best man went with us."

They rented an apartment above a house in Starke. Eugene was within walking distance of his job with the city of Starke, but he actually got picked up by his co-workers at 3:30 a.m. He rode on the back of a garbage truck.

"I lasted probably six months to a year at that job," he said. "Actually, it wasn't a bad job. All I did was stand on the back of the truck and hook the cable to the back of the Dumpster. That's all I did. That was my main job."

However, at that point in his life, it wasn't necessarily a job he wanted.

"It was the thought of being 17 and on the back of a garbage truck," Eugene said.

Eugene said he probably made \$79-\$89 per week. It was tough, especially since Barbara had yet to finish high school and was expecting their first child.

At first, it was hard for them to make their money last until Eugene got paid again, but Eugene said it didn't take long for them to adjust their spending habits.

"After a few months of that, you learn to save," he said. "If you don't earn much, you try to stretch it out. We did pretty good."

Barbara said, "I think the first few years were so much trial and error," but she added that being young and having those early struggles helped them in the long run.

"I think getting married so early made us a little more

independent and a lot more practical in life," she said.

Aside from learning how to live within their means, the young couple was faced with their first child, Brian, being born with health issues. He was born without a soft spot on his head.

"He had to go in at 3 months and have five bones removed from the top of his head," Barbara said. "We were only married at that time four or five months."

"That was probably the toughest time in our whole lives, our first year of marriage."

No matter what trials life has thrown at them, Barbara and Eugene have made it work. They successfully raised three children—Brian, Lisa and Justin—and have five grandchildren they love spending time with.

"They wouldn't be here if we hadn't met and gotten together," Barbara said.

With a mischievous gleam in his eye, Eugene asked Barbara, "You sure?"

"I'm sure," she replied.

Eugene said if he hadn't have met Barbara, he'd probably be living in a little trailer out in the woods.

"I don't know if I could take care of myself," he said. "I'd be in trouble if I had to."

Barbara was quick to say, "No, you wouldn't." In fact, she talked of how helpful Eugene has been throughout their marriage—especially when Barbara went to college while the couple's three children were still at home.

"He's washing dishes, cooking supper and taking care of the children," Barbara said, adding, "I couldn't have done it without him."

Barbara said Eugene has continued to be helpful around the house, though he downplays that, saying, "I've learned pretty good how to load the dishwasher and then unload it."

Barbara said the only thing Eugene doesn't do is laundry. He said that was his next mission, to learn how to do that. After a few seconds of thought, though, Eugene said, "I might skip that one. I might bleach the wrong things."

Of course, if Eugene did make such a mistake, history

indicates there would be no ensuing argument. That's one thing Barbara and Eugene have avoided.

"We've been together a long time, and I can't say we've really had a fight," Barbara said. "We talk it out and show respect."

Eugene can't help but inject a little humor into the conversation, saying, "She tells me what to do, and I do it."

"That's not true," Barbara said, laughing.

Though they've been married 37 years, some things never change. Barbara tells Eugene every morning she loves him, while Eugene kisses her goodbye every time he leaves the house, no matter how short his trip may be.

Still, Eugene's not what you would describe as "mushy," Barbara said, but that's OK.

"I like him the way he is," she said, readily admitting, "I'm probably not a romantic, either."

What best describes them is "practical," Barbara said. That's why Valentine's Day isn't necessarily a big deal—it comes shortly after Christmas, their anniversary and both of their birthdays.

The day is not forgotten, though.

"He always makes sure I have something," Barbara said. "He knows I like plants, so he'll bring home a plant. I always get a card."

Eugene will sometimes give Barbara candy or a cute, Valentine's-related item, such as a plush animal that says, "I love you."

"I try to change it up," Eugene said. "I try to remember what I got (the previous) year, if I can. If I can't, it's the luck of the draw."

On Valentine's Day, Barbara will prepare Eugene his favorite meal.

"He likes beans and rice, fried chicken and biscuits," Barbara said.

More important than any gifts is the fact they are together.

"My thing is he's always with me on Valentine's Day," Barbara said. "We eat a good meal. We just enjoy each other's company."

They've been in each other's company as husband and wife for 37 years, though Eugene said, "It doesn't feel like we've been married that long. It really doesn't. Time flies pretty fast."

"It's gone fast," Barbara agreed. "I'll tell you what, I wouldn't change it for anything. My life has been wonderful, being married to him and raising our kids together."

Perhaps it would have been futile for Barbara to attempt to change things, even if she wanted to. She and Eugene may very well have met and had the same outcome if they weren't born a day apart at the old Bradford Hospital, but then again, that certainly could have been viewed as an indicator of what was to come.

"It definitely was meant to be," Barbara said. "I couldn't imagine being with anybody else."

SOCIALS



Brian Wynn and Sabrina Wood

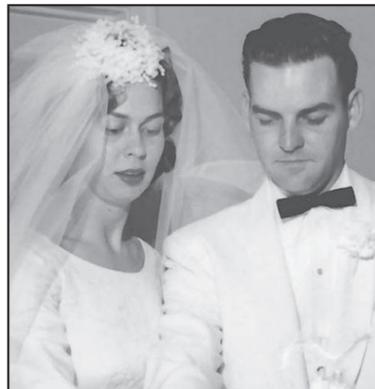
Wood, Wynn to wed March 1

Sabrina Wood of Starke and Brian Wynn of Keystone Heights announce their engagement.

Sabrina is the daughter of Wayne and Cathy Wood of Starke. She is a 2009 graduate from Bradford High School, and a 2013 graduate of Santa Fe College in Nursing. She is employed by North Florida Regional Medical Center.

Brian is the son of Jim and Yvette Wynn of Keystone Heights. He is a 2005 graduate of Keystone Heights High School and is employed by the Florida Department of Corrections.

The wedding will be March 1, 2014 at Reynolds Chapel at Camp Blanding and reception at Cooper Hall at Camp Blanding. Invitations have been sent.



Wallace and Linda Hutcherson Wise: pictured today (above) and during their 1964 wedding (left).

Linda, Wallace Wise celebrate 50 years

The children and grandchildren of Wallace and Linda Hutcherson Wise announce the 50th anniversary of their parents on Friday, February 14, 2014. Wallace is a retired ammunition inspector from the Florida National Guard and the U.S. Department of Defense. Wallace served in six different states, as well as, in two foreign counties. Linda is retired from the City of Starke where she worked every job in the Clerk's office including being elected as the first female City Clerk.

Wallace and Linda will be celebrating this milestone by taking a family trip to Disney World.

www.StarkeJournal.com



Louie Belle Parks

Parks celebrates 108th birthday

Louie Belle Parks celebrated her 108th birthday at Windsor Manor on Feb. 1, 2014. Parks turned 108 on Jan. 31 and was born in 1906. Helping her celebrate were her son and daughter-in-law, Bill and Claudia Parks of Blairsville, Ga.



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CRIME

Undercover buy operation leads to 6 arrests

Starke police arrested six suspected drug dealers early Saturday morning after a series of controlled buys by their Street Crimes Unit in the past several weeks. According to Capt. Barry Warren, SPD executed the warrants for the arrests Saturday, starting around 4:10 a.m. to give the officers an element of surprise in the arrests.

Charles Jackson Jr., 54, of Starke faces the most charges after the operation as he was selling drugs out of his home on Old Lawtey Road. According to the arrest report, when officers arrived early Saturday morning and didn't get a response at the door, they breached the residence and found Jackson in a hallway. Jackson apparently tried to flush some of the drugs down the toilet before the officers breached the door, although several pieces of crack cocaine were located in the bathroom.

Also found in the home were several containers with various amounts of crack cocaine and cocaine, marijuana, a metal grinder containing marijuana, various drug paraphernalia items, Oxycodone pills, approximately \$2,000 in cash in various places

in the house and a Rohm .22 revolver and ammunition.

Jackson is facing four charges of possession of cocaine, three charges of selling cocaine-within 1,000 feet of a school or child care facility, two charges of public order crimes-nuisance structure used for drug activity, a charge each for possession of marijuana and possession of drug equipment, two charges for possession of a weapon by a convicted felon and a charge of destroying evidence. Total bond for the charges amounted to \$745,000.

Also arrested Saturday morning on warrants were:

Carlos Antwan Doyle, 27, of Starke for selling marijuana-within 1,000 feet of a place of worship and for possession of marijuana. Bond was set at \$20,000.

Jonnie S. Martin, 60, of Starke for possession of cocaine and for selling cocaine. Bond was set at \$50,000.

Curtis Andrew McCloud, 34, of Jacksonville for possession of cocaine and for selling cocaine. Bond was set at \$30,000.

Paul Andrew McCloud, 45, of Starke for possession of cocaine and for selling cocaine. Bond was set at \$50,000.

Raymond Pernell Tyson, 54, of Starke for selling cocaine and for possession of cocaine. Bond was set at \$50,000.

Recent arrests in Bradford, Clay or Union

The following individuals were arrested recently by local law enforcement officers in Bradford, Union or Clay (Keystone Heights area) counties:

Bradford

James Lee Aldridge, 29, of Starke was arrested Feb. 9 by Starke police on an out-of-county warrant from Clay. Bond was set at \$352.

Herbert L. Kelly, 37, of Williston was arrested Feb. 7 by Bradford deputies for violation of a no-contact order based on a pre-trial release condition for a domestic violence case.

Amos Daniel Lamoree, 37, of Starke was arrested Feb. 5 by Starke police for probation violation.

Frankie Carlile, 40, of Starke was arrested Feb. 9 by Starke police on an out-of-county warrant from Columbia for worthless checks. Bond was set at \$500.

Shauntell Leshea Carter, 26, of Starke was arrested Feb. 5 by Starke police for two charges of probation violation. Bond was set at \$10,000.

Alphonso Junior Covington, 53, of Starke was arrested Feb. 9 by Bradford deputies for probation violation.

Debra Lynn Dixon, 54, of Green Cove Springs was arrested Feb. 8 by Bradford deputies for two charges of possession of prescription drugs without a prescription, possession of cocaine, possession of marijuana and possession of drug equipment. According to the arrest report, Dixon was pulled over on U.S. 301 for a defective headlight. The deputy observed a glass pipe in the console while asking for her license and registration. When she was asked to step out of the vehicle, the deputy also observed her trying to conceal a pill bottle in her purse. A further search of the vehicle and the purse revealed the drugs and drug equipment, and Dixon was arrested. Bond was set at \$13,000.

Raymond Anthony Foster, 20, of Wake Forest, N.C., was arrested Feb. 7 by Starke police for possession of marijuana after he was stopped on U.S. 301 for a defective head light. Bond was set at \$1,000.

Robert Joseph Gacioch, 26, of Starke was arrested Feb. 6 by Starke police for probation violation.

Edward Allen Grover, 46, of Lawtey was arrested Feb. 4 by Bradford deputies for probation violation. Bond was set at \$1,000.

James David Petrie, 40, of Starke was arrested Feb. 10 by Bradford deputies for burglary and two charges of larceny. According to the arrest report, a homeowner on S.R. 100 called to report someone had stolen a 46" flat-screen TV, a tablet, a Play Station, a .410 shotgun, a .22-caliber rifle and various food items from his home. When the deputy arrived, the homeowner told him he had walked out to S.R. 100 after finding his home robbed and saw a man standing on the road near Southeast 21st Avenue. He watched him for several minutes before a red vehicle stopped in front of him. The homeowner told the deputy the man went into the woods several times to load a blue bin and a flat-screen TV in the vehicle. The homeowner also

said he had seen the vehicle before and knew where the vehicle owner lived. With that information, the deputy was able to locate Petrie and recover some of the stolen items and arrest him. Bond was set at \$30,000 for the charges.

James Lee Rensel, 23, of Micanopy was arrested Feb. 7 by Bradford deputies for possession of marijuana and for possession of drug equipment after being pulled over on U.S. 301 north of Lawtey for a defective tail light. Bond was set at \$11,000.

Morris Stephens, 32, of Jacksonville was arrested Feb. 10 by Bradford deputies for driving while license suspended or revoked.

Jeremy Quinton West, 34, of Starke was arrested Feb. 9 by Bradford deputies for two charges of contempt of court, obstructing justice and trespassing. According to the arrest report, the charges stem from West violating a restraining order. Bond was set at \$200,000.

Pier Tisa Williams, 42, of Starke was arrested Feb. 9 by Bradford deputies for driving under the influence and for four charges of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon without intent to kill. According to the arrest report, Williams was arguing with her fiancé outside their home as four people walked by the residence. Williams accused the four of being on her property, words were exchanged and she then got in a car to go after the victims. The victims told the deputy that Williams couldn't get to them the first time she passed due to a parked car, so she drove around the block before accelerating the car and swerving at the four walkers. The victims ran to another residence, but Williams pulled up and got a metal pipe from behind the seat and attempted to strike them. Law enforcement arrived and arrested Williams. Bond was set at \$22,000.

Felicia Stache Williams, 35, of Starke was arrested Feb. 5 by Starke police on a warrant for selling cocaine within 1,000 feet of a place of worship or a school, and for possession of cocaine with intent to sell, manufacture, and deliver. Bond was set at \$40,000.

Christina Hall, 35, of Keystone Heights was arrested Feb. 5 by Clay deputies for non-support.

Justin Kever, 22, of Keystone

Heights was arrested Feb. 7 by Clay deputies for grand theft.

Craig Lindsey, 24, of Keystone Heights was arrested Feb. 4 by Clay deputies for aggravated battery.

Jeremy James Manning, 35, of Starke was arrested Feb. 10 by Putnam deputies for contempt of court.

Mary Nelson, 57, of Starke was arrested Feb. 5 by Clay deputies for petit theft from a merchant.

Willie Dave Houston, 53, of Lake Butler was arrested Feb. 1 by Union deputies for driving while license suspended or revoked-habitual offender.

Tony Albritton, 52, of Raiford was arrested Feb. 1 by Union deputies for possession of drug equipment found on him in the vehicle during a traffic stop.

Patrick Wayne Sanders, 35, of Lake Butler was arrested Feb. 5 by Union deputies for possession of drug equipment, possession of marijuana, battery and resisting an officer. During a traffic stop, the marijuana and drug equipment were found on Sanders by the deputy. According to the arrest report, when the deputy found a metal pipe on Sanders during a pat-down search, the suspect spun around in an aggressive manor and started yelling at the deputy. He was detained and handcuffed by the deputy and arrested. He was later charged additionally with probation violation, being on active felony probation as a high risk sexual offender.

A 15-year-old from Lake Butler was arrested Feb. 7 by Union deputies for disturbing the peace at UCHS alternative school.

Mary Liane Fritz, 24, of Lake Butler was arrested Feb. 4 by Union deputies for driving while license suspended or revoked and for trespassing. According to the arrest report, Fritz was at the Kangaroo store in Lake Butler, where there is an active trespass warning on her. Deputies were called, and when they arrived, Fritz, who was yelling and threatening store employees, went outside and got in a vehicle and started it up. She was then arrested and transported to jail.

Marquis Tyrone Rollins, 24, of Lake Butler was arrested Feb. 3 by Union deputies for contempt of court, violating a domestic violence injunction.

Robert Stoutamire, 21, of Lake Butler was arrested Feb. 2 by Union deputies for robbery, larceny, a public order crime of wearing a mask or hood while committing a crime and criminal mischief-property damage. As reported in the Union County Times last week, Stoutamire entered the Fast Track store in Lake Butler on Feb. 2 and snatched the cash register out of the store and fled on foot. Deputies were able to identify Stoutamire eventually with the assistance of several store employees, and they located him the same evening in Lake Butler and arrested him. Bond was set at \$70,000.



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Bradford High receiver Dinkins signs to play at UAB

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Staff Writer

Bradford High School senior Kenny Dinkins admitted he wasn't sure if his dream of playing football beyond high school would come true, but he did his part, working hard to try to accomplish just that.

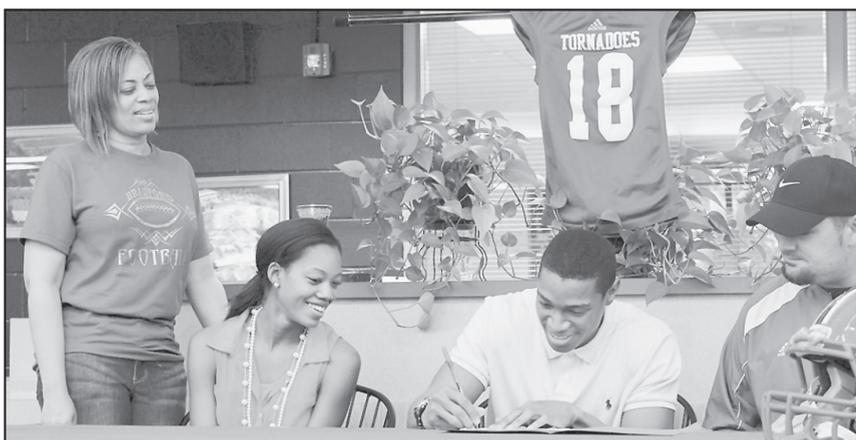
The work paid off as Dinkins signed a letter of intent to play at the University of Alabama at Birmingham on National Signing Day (Feb. 5).

Dinkins, a wide receiver, said, "It's very exciting because not a lot of people get this opportunity to go to the next level."

BHS head coach Steve Reynolds said Dinkins has put forth the effort necessary to get to that level.

"Kenny's work ethic is second to none," Reynolds said. "I don't know if I've coached a harder working player in my time as a coach. He fully understands what type of commitment is involved with a college-level athlete."

"The thing is with Kenny—all



Bradford High School's Kenny Dinkins signs a national letter of intent with the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He is joined by (l-r) his mother, Bridget Holder, sister, Lauryn Hill, and BHS head coach Steve Reynolds.

he needs is an opportunity, and he will fly. He will definitely succeed. He's an exceptional athlete. On top of that, he's a high-quality kid."

Dinkins, who caught 37 passes for 915 yards and nine

touchdowns, gave his verbal commitment to UAB last June. He said he enjoyed meeting offensive coordinator/wide receivers coach Richard Owens, who really seems to care about his players. Plus, Dinkins

enjoyed his visit to the campus.

"They've got a nice campus, nice students," Dinkins said. "I just fell in love with everything over there."

Reynolds said Dinkins is the total package when it comes to

receiver. He has soft hands and catches everything thrown his way, Reynolds said, adding that Dinkins runs the best routes of any receiver he's been around, whether it be in high school or college.

"He's just a tremendous player," Reynolds said. "I can't say enough how good he is."

Dinkins said he's ready to do whatever he needs to do to keep getting better, whether it's working on his speed, his technique coming off the line of scrimmage or improving his

route running.

"I'm going to do it all," he said.

Reynolds said, "The world is his oyster. He can make some great things happen. He can go as far as he's willing to work. So far, he's been willing to work very hard."

Dinkins said he can't imagine what it will feel like to step onto the field for the first time as a UAB player, but he's looking forward to it.

"I'm just ready to play college football," he said.

Edwards, Lillie sign letters of intent

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Staff Writer

Union County High School seniors Daquin "Buddy" Edwards and Phillip Lillie were determined to be the best they could be on the football field, and their efforts have been rewarded as they signed letters of intent on National Signing Day (Feb. 5).

Edwards, who will be going to Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va., said he was confident at a young age that he would get this opportunity.

"When I set my mind to something, I do it," he said. "I had my mind, passion and heart set on this day."

Still, that didn't make the day any less emotional.

"I'm just really, really excited," Edwards said. "It's a blessing. I couldn't do it without people pushing me and the community pushing me. I'm just so thankful to have this day."

Lillie, who will be going to Lenoir-Rhyne College in Hickory, N.C., recalls his first year at Union County High School after moving to the area. He was a sophomore and probably the smallest player on the team, he said.

"The coaches—I don't think they had any faith in me at all," Lillie said. "I took my 10th-grade year, and I used it as motivation to be better than the others. I just stayed in the weight room days and days, and stayed on the

Phillip Lillie puts a Lenoir-Rhyne College visor on his head as his grandmother Dorothy Green and Union County head coach Ronny Pruitt look on.



field. I practiced and ran every morning and just worked my way to be the best."

Now, Lillie knows what's in store for his immediate future.

"It feels great to know what you're doing after high school," he said. "It's real awesome to know you've got a destination."

Edwards said he was also looking at Lenoir-Rhyne, the University of South Florida and Southeastern University. At Liberty, though, he experienced a friendly campus, with strangers going out of their way to talk to him and making him feel like family.

It's a school that offers football, but it also emphasizes faith. That made it a good fit.

"They play football, and they

walk in faith," Edwards said. "Those are the two biggest things and two most important things in my life."

Edwards is planning to play

See SIGNINGS, 11B



Daquin "Buddy" Edwards, seated between mother, Patricia Goodman, and sister, Quaneshia Edwards, places a Liberty University hat on his head.

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OBITUARIES

Marion Adkins

LAWTEY—Marion Lewis Adkins, 46, of Lawtey died Thursday, Feb. 6, 2014 at ET York Haven Hospice in Gainesville. He was born Aug. 2, 1967 in Gainesville to Robert Adkins and Joyce Ann Morrison. He was a heavy equipment operator.

He is survived by: sons, Chris (Mandy) Adkins of Lawtey and Josh Adkins; sisters, Lisa (Archie) Rosier of Lawtey and Denise Griffiths of Starke.

No services have been planned at this time. Archer Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Clinton Bishop

LAKE BUTLER—Clinton Thomas Bishop, 63, of Lake Butler died Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2014 at Haven Hospice Care Center in Lake City after an extended illness. He was born July 19, 1950 in Lake City to the late "T.J." Thomas Jackson Bishop and Geneva Faye Taylor Bishop. He was a farmer for many years before he went to work for the Florida Department of Corrections, where he retired. He was preceded in death by a son, Guy Jackson Bishop.

He is survived by: his wife of 44 years, Linda Gayle Bishop of Lake Butler; children, Ryan Thomas (Angie) Bishop of Alachua, Brandi Dawn (Lance) Williams of Lake Butler, and Travis Troy Bishop of Lake Butler, four grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter; brothers, Kenneth Jackson (Martha) Bishop

of Ellsville, and Clifton Daniel (Kathy) Bishop of Lake City; and sister, Ginny (Larry) Langford of Worthington Springs.

Funeral services were held Feb. 8 in the Archer Memorial Chapel. In lieu of flowers the family asks that you make donations to Community State Bank, 255 S.E. 6th Street, Lake Butler, for help with the funeral expenses. Archer Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.



Elizabeth Bobo

Elizabeth Bobo

STARKE—Elizabeth C. Bobo, age 79, of Starke passed away Saturday, Feb. 1, 2014 in Memphis, Tenn., at her daughter's home with family by her side. Elizabeth was born in Albany, N.Y. on Sept. 9, 1934 to the late Thomas and Mildred

Dwyer. She was raised in Castleton on the Hudson, N.Y. Upon graduating High School she attended nursing school. Elizabeth went on to finish her schooling at Daytona Beach Junior College, earning a Registered Nursing Degree and placement on the Dean's List. Elizabeth dedicated herself to the medical field and even in retirement would teach Certified Nursing Assistant at the Bradford Union Vo-Tech. She enjoyed spending time with her family, friends and attended St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Starke. She had a love for the beach, traveling and spoiling her great-grandchildren.

Elizabeth is survived by: her children, Debbie Forsyth, of Starke, and Yvonne Bobo, of Memphis, Tenn.; her brother, Robert (Helen) Dwyer of Newcomb, N.Y.; her grandchildren, Carrie (Scott) Andrews of Raiford, Kim Forsyth of Starke; and her great grandchildren, Jordan Zoltowski, Gage Jackson, Whitney Smith and McKenzie Andrews.

A memorial service will be held at St. Mark's Episcopal Church on Sunday, Feb. 16, at 3:00 p.m. with a reception to celebrate her life to follow in the Parish Hall. The family requests that in lieu of flowers, contributions be made to St. Mark's Episcopal Church for outreach ministries for kids' summer camp and helping community families with children in need.

PAID OBITUARY

Albert Delgado

LAKE CITY—Albert "Mr. Del" Delgado, 86, of Lake City, passed away on Saturday, Feb. 8, 2014 at the Haven Hospice Suwannee Valley Care Center in Lake City. He was born in Tampa, as the eighth of nine children to the late William Francis Delgado and Josephina Santa Cruz Delgado. Mr. Delgado retired with 27 years of service in the United States Marine Corps at the rank of CW02 and moved his family to Columbia County in 1970. He was known as a real friend to the farmer and loved to serve his customers at Hobo Tractor in Ellsville and retired with 31 years of service. Mr. Delgado is a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Branford Ward and formerly of the Lake Butler Ward. He held numerous callings within his church including his service on the Stake High Counsel for many years as a counselor to the Stake President. He loved working his farm and spending time with his family. Mr. Delgado was preceded in death by two sons, Peter Delgado in 2002 and Daniel Delgado in 2010.

Survivors include: his wife of 64 years, Mrs. Hazel Keene Delgado of Lake City; two sons, Greg (Fran) Delgado and Paul (Gayle) Delgado all of Lake City; one daughter, Lisa Delgado (Spencer) Cleaveland of Melbourne; one brother, Robert Delgado of Odessa; two sisters, Grace (Lawrence) Levy of Tampa, and Col. Alice J. Delgado, USA (Ret) of Interlachen; 15 grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren also survive.

Funeral services will be conducted on Thursday, Feb. 13, at 1:00 PM at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Lake Butler Ward in Lake Butler. Interment will follow with military honors at Oak Grove Cemetery in Union County. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Haven Hospice Suwannee Valley Care Center at 6038 West US Hwy 90, Lake City, FL 32055. Arrangements are under the direction of Guerry Funeral Home, Lake City. Please sign the guestbook at www.guerryfuneralhome.net

PAID OBITUARY

Terry Gibson

LAKE BUTLER—Terry Lynn Gibson, 54, of Lake Butler died at his residence with his family by his side Friday, Feb. 7, 2014. He was born on May 21, 1959 in Starke to the late Henry Gibson and Lillie Swafford Gibson. He was an auto mechanic all his life. He is preceded in death by his brother, Bobby Gibson.

He is survived by: his wife, Ruth Eberle Gibson of Lake Butler; son, Shawn Gibson of Lake Butler; daughter, Terri (Jason) Doughman of Lake Butler; four grandchildren; brothers, Wayne Gibson, PeeWee Gibson of Lake Butler; sisters, Penny Smith of Bell, Belinda (Dale) Ergle of Bell, and Diane (Roger) Cochran of Panama City

Funeral services were held February 10 in the Archer Funeral Home Memorial Chapel with Bro. Randall Griffiths officiating. Burial took place in Crosby Lake Cemetery in Starke. Archer Funeral Home is in charge of all arrangements.

Dean Haynes

MELROSE—Dean Arthur Haynes, 69, of Melrose, passed away Monday, Feb. 3, 2014 at Haven Hospice Roberts Care Center. A native of New York City, Dean resided in Putnam County for 24 years coming from Cape Coral. He was a commissioned aviation officer in the U.S. Navy and was a member of the EAA (Experimental Aircraft Association). Dean worked as a salesman with several oil companies selling to heavy duty and equipment operations. Over the years, he had also owned and operated four car wash businesses in Bradenton, Ocala, Gainesville and Interlachen. Dean was an experimental aircraft enthusiast and enjoyed building and flying the aircraft he designed. He also enjoyed windsurfing. Dean was a member of Keystone Heights United Methodist Church.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Gail Haynes of Melrose; a daughter, Kim (Mark) Rau of Atlantic Beach; two sons, Brad (Lesli) Haynes of Cape Coral and Adam (Debi) Haynes of Melrose; a sister, Carol Jean (Robert) Selden of Roseville, Minn.; four grandchildren, Kelsi Rau, Kendall Rau, Joshua Henderson and Eric (Crystal) Carver; a great-granddaughter, Kirra Carver and two nieces, Megan and Jenny Selden.

Flowers are gratefully accepted or memorial donations may be sent to Haven Hospice Roberts Care Center, 6400 St. Johns Ave., Palatka, FL 32177.

Memorial services celebrating Dean's life will be at 10:00 A.M. Thursday, February 13, at the Keystone Heights United Methodist Church with Dr. Tom Farmer and Dr. Craig Moore officiating.

Memories and condolences may be expressed to the family at Dean Book of Memories Page at www.JohnsonOverturfFunerals.com.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson-Overturf Funeral Home in Palatka.

PAID OBITUARY

Stevie Kennedy

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS—Stevie Earl Kennedy, 55, of Keystone Heights died Saturday, Feb. 8, 2014 unexpectedly at Shands at Starke Hospital. He was born on Dec. 19, 1958 in Jacksonville to the late Earlie and Ruby (Wiggins) Kennedy, and was a painter with W.W. Gay Mechanical.

He is survived by: his wife; children; grandchildren; brothers; and sisters.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Arrangements are by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home of Keystone Heights.

Stella Loyd

LAKE BUTLER—Stella Marie Grissett Loyd, 86, of Lake Butler died Sunday, Feb. 9, 2014 at Baya Pointe Nursing Home in Lake City. She was born Sept. 30, 1927 in Limestone, Texas to the late Thomas Grissett and Lily Mae Grissett. She was a home maker and a Baptist. She was preceded in death by: one son William Gene Pate; three brothers; and three sisters.

She is survived by: her husband, Murray Loyd of Lake Butler; sons, Randy Pate of Lake City, Kirk (Prudence) Pate of Lake Butler, and Tommy Davis of Lake City; daughters, Betty Jones of Lawrenceburg, Tenn., Catherine (Jim) Stanley, Margaret (Bobby) Childers of Lone Oak, Texas, and Rosemary (Johnny) Woods of Lake City; brother, James Grissett of Buffalo, Texas; 13 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Memorial service was on Feb. 11, at Archer Funeral Home Chapel. Archer Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

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Edward Lipscomb

LAKE CITY—Mr. Edward Randall Lipscomb, 70, of Lake City, passed away on Friday, Feb. 7, 2014 at the Lake Shore Medical Center following a sudden illness. He was a lifelong resident of Lake City and son to the late Edward "Bud" Lipscomb and Mildred Messer Lipscomb. Mr. Lipscomb graduated from Columbia High School class of 1961 and served in the Florida National Guard. He retired this year from Gilman Building Products in Lake Butler with 32 years of employment. Mr. Lipscomb enjoyed fishing and spending time with his grandchildren and attending sporting events and family socials. He was preceded in death by one brother, Jim Davis; and one grandson, Taylor John Barrand.

Survivors include: one son, Randall Lipscomb of Lake City; one daughter, Jeanna (Daniel) Barrand of Chiefland; two sisters, Mary Gayle Davis, Snellville, Ga. and Kathryn (Robbie) McEarchern of Dewey Rose, Ga.; former wife and mother of his children, Carolyn Lipscomb of Lake City; two grandchildren, Hunter Barrand, Chiefland and Madison Lipscomb of Lake City.

Funeral services were conducted on Feb. 12 in the Chapel of Guerry Funeral Home with Pastor Ullis Taylor officiating. Interment followed at Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Guerry Funeral Home, Lake City. Please sign the guestbook at www.guerryfuneralhome.net

PAID OBITUARY

Diane McInnis

STARKE—Diane C. McInnis, 74, of Starke, died Feb. 7, 2014 at her residence with family by her side. She was born in Owosso, Mich. on Oct. 14, 1939 to the late David Abraham Carvey and Dorothea Gohr Carvey. She has been a resident of Starke for the past 30 years, where she was a member of the St. Edwards Catholic Church. She and her husband, Dan owned and operated a printing company in Jacksonville.

She is survived by: her husband of 56 years, Daniel "Dan" Lee McInnis, Sr. of Starke; children, Daniel McInnis, Jr. of Jacksonville, Dean Lawrence McInnis of Ft. Lauderdale, and Deanna (Michael) Kuhman of Chiefland; brother, David George (Wynn) Carvey of Sebastian; sisters, Marilyn (Brian) Jueckstock of Talladega, and Sandra (Clarence) Richards of Owosso, Mich.; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

A Mass was held at St. Edwards Catholic Church on Feb. 11 with Father Conrad Cowart as celebrant. Interment followed at Santa Fe Cemetery in Hampton. Arrangements are under the care and direction of Archie Tanner Funeral Services of Starke.

Jayce Eli McSpadden

STARKE—Jayce Eli McSpadden, 8 1/2 months old, died on Friday, Feb. 7, 2014 in Shands at UF in Gainesville. Jayce was born to Cortney Mcspadden and Glenn Griffiths, he was the little brother of Jayden Griffiths. His maternal grandparent is Katrina McSpadden, Paternal grandparents are Paula Hall and Steven Hall, and Great-grandparents are Roger and Irita Richerson.

Graveside funeral service was on February 12 at Williamson-Tyre Cemetery in Lulu, Bro Rick Thompson and Sister Rachel DeLaune officiated.

Archer Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Imogene Smith

PROVIDENCE—Imogene Nettles Smith, 82, of Providence died Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2014 at her home. She was the wife of the late Felton Smith. They had owned Smith and Son Farm Supplies for many years. She was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Archer Funeral Home is in charge of all arrangements.

Rosha Smith

STARKE—Rosha Morgan Smith, 90, of Starke died on Sunday, Feb. 9, 2014 following an extended illness. She was born in Lawtey on Aug. 10, 1923 to the late William H. and Lillie E. (Sapp) Morgan. She owned and operated Rocha's Beauty Shop in Starke since 1956 and was a longtime member of First Baptist Church. She was preceded in death by her husband, Dennis H. Smith; son, James William Smith; brother, Claude A. Morgan; and sisters, Bertie Loper and Dorothy Herndon.

Survivors are: son, Ronald "Ronnie" D. Smith of Chicago, Ill.; daughter, Judy Milam of Tampa; brother, William "Bill" (Mary) Morgan of Crestview; three grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held Thursday, Feb. 13, at 10:00 a.m. in the DeWitt C. Jones Chapel of Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers contributions can be made to: First Baptist Church (General Fund) 163 W. Jefferson St. Starke, or Haven Hospice, 4200 NW 90th Blvd Gainesville, FL 32606. Arrangements are by Jones-Gallagher Funeral Home of Starke.

Marvin Walters

STARKE—Marvin Walters, 49, of Starke, died Thursday, Jan. 30, 2014. He was born in Powder Springs, Ga. on April 15, 1964 to Marvin Walters and Mary Anne Seabolt. He was a painter. He is preceded in death by a brother, Jay Walters; and daughter, Morgan Walters.

He is survived by: his wife of 22 years, Joanne Walter; step daughter, Sherry Hunter; brother, Jeffrey Walters; and sister, Tina Fairchild; and three grandchildren.

No services have been planned at this time. Archer Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.



Anita Yawson

Anita Yawson

MELROSE—In loving memory of Anita "Yvonne" Yawson. Anita was born Sept. 16th 1961 and entered into rest on Saturday, Feb. 1st 2014.

She is survived by: her only son, William "Lucky" Johnson and his better half Cynthia Hooks of Jacksonville; mother, Eva "Marie" Fredrickson of Keystone Heights; sisters, Angelia Huff and husband Paul "Chico" Huff of Melrose, Tina Marie Smith and better half Donnie Bramon of Alabama; nephews, Alexander Johnson, Brandon Smith, Dustin Peck; nieces, Ashley Smith, Candice Smith; and her one and only grandson, Malacha Jackson; and also longtime roommate, Alvin Spiegler.

The Family will be having a "Celebration of Life" Feb. 15, at 4:00 p.m. at the Huff family home, 123 Turkey Oak Dr., in Melrose. The Family is requesting anyone attending to bring a covered side dish. Casual dress is requested. For additional info, contact Angelia or Paul at 352-475-1951/352-572-3892.

PAID OBITUARY

Card of Thanks

We would like to say thank you to all of the people who took out time in their own daily lives to put our benefit together. We know it was a lot of time and work put into it and we sincerely appreciate all you have done! We also want to thank all the people and the community for your support and prayers as it has been already a true blessing in our lives.

*God bless,
Lara-Willie Croft Family*

Card of Thanks

To all the Staff of Lake Butler Hospital For your kindness, compassion and gentle care that was given to me during my recent stay with you. Thanks to all my family and friends for your love and visits. May God bless you all.

*With deep appreciation,
Lovie Lyons*

Card of Thanks

No words can ever begin to express our heartfelt thanks for the love and support you have shown us during the passing of our mother, Frances Mae Thomas. We are deeply grateful and appreciate your kind expression of sympathy. Your thoughtfulness and generosity has brought peace and solace to our family during our time of bereavement. Thank you for keeping us in your thoughts and prayers. Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

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Dr. Anubha Gupta received her family medicine training from Jamaica Hospital Medical Center in New York City and her fellowship training in geriatric medicine from the VA Medical Center in Gainesville. She received her medical degree from Terna Medical College, Navi Mumbai, India. Dr. Gupta will be joining the staff of PALMS MEDICAL GROUP in Starke every Tuesday. She will be seeing pediatric and adult clients for routine health maintenance and sick visits.

Dr. Gupta's husband is attending the University of Florida with a Fellowship in Pediatric Cardiology & Pediatrics ICU.

The joy in the doctors lives is their toddler son. They are making their home in Gainesville, for hopefully a very long time!

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No medals, but Brown places in top 10 at state meet

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Staff Writer

Six weightlifters representing Bradford and Union County high schools competed at the state finals in Kissimmee this past weekend, but none placed high enough in their respective weight classes to earn medals.

The top six lifters in each class earned medals. The area's highest finisher was Union's

Jessica Brown, who placed ninth in the 154 class with a 310-pound total (165 bench press, 145 clean and jerk).

Brown was competing in a tough class that featured Gainesville's Jessica Kinsler, who won her third straight championship with a 440 total.

In all, five from Union competed. Courtney Personette and Kristen Cook each placed

Union County's Jessica Brown prepares for a clean and jerk attempt at the state finals. Photo by Shelley Rodgers.



15th in the 119 and 199 classes, respectively. Kaylee Findley was 16th in the unlimited class, while Kayla Geraghty was 20th in the 169 class. Their totals were as follows: Personette 135 bench, 115 clean and jerk, 250 total; Cook 145-145-290; Findley 195-145-340; and Geraghty 160-125-285.

The winners of those classes were: Kyle Shelley of Navarre in the 119 class, 345 total; Karissa Lacy of Spruce Creek in the 169 class, 390 total; Angelica Greene of Fleming Island in the 199 class, 395 total; and Sabrina Palmares of Clay in the unlimited class, 430 total.

Christin Hopkins was Bradford's lone state qualifier. Like Personette, she competed in the 119 class. Hopkins had a 245 total (110, 135) to place 20th.

Fort White rallies in 2nd half, defeats BHS 60-56

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Staff Writer

Bradford High School led by as many as 11 points and had a seven-point lead at the half, but couldn't hang on to extend its season, losing 60-56 to top seed Fort White in the semifinals of the District 5-4A boys' basketball tournament on Feb. 7 in Starke.

"Too many quick shots," Bradford head coach Adrian Chandler said of the second half. "We had possession control of the ball, but then it was one pass and one shot."

The fourth-seeded Tornadoes (8-16) had a 13-2 run to open the second quarter, sparked by Caleb Jones and Alex Mejias. Mejias scored on a drive to the basket, while Jones made two free throws, followed by a layup on an assist from Shawn Aaron. Mejias then made a 3-pointer to put Bradford up 25-18.

Kearis Ardley scored four consecutive points off of a layup following a turnover and two free throws to put the Tornadoes up by 11.

Bradford lost its lead in the third quarter, but Jones got it back with a 3-pointer to open the fourth quarter. Bradford's Kenny Dinkins later made two free throws to tie the score at 49-all, but Fort White took the lead for good on a 3-pointer by Quirin Porter.

In the final 2:30, the Tornadoes went 1-of-4 from the field and committed three turnovers. Dinkins was intentionally fouled after a steal with 35 seconds left. He made both free throws to pull the Bradford to within three, but the Tornadoes could not get a good look at the basket to possibly tie the game.

Jones, who made a 3-pointer before the final buzzer, scored 21 points for the second straight game to lead Bradford, while Ardley and Mejias each scored 13 points. Dinkins added seven, while Aaron had two.

Fort White (25-2) defeated Santa Fe the following night to win the District 5 championship. Visit StarkeJournal.com to view photos from this game. (Membership required.)

Tornadoes reached semis with 3-point win
Bradford reached the

semifinals of the District 5 tournament by defeating Interlachen 47-44 in a Feb. 4 quarterfinal game.

Jones led the team with 21 points, while Ardley and Tyler Wainwright each had six. Dinkins and Elijah Higginbotham each added five points, while Aaron and Don Jeffers each had two.

Prior to the tournament, the Tornadoes suffered losses to Eastside (47-36), Santa Fe (53-47), Bishop Kenny (71-33) and Palatka (58-40).

Dinkins and Ardley led Bradford in the Eastside game with 12 and eight points, respectively, while Jones and Wainwright each had six. Aaron and Benjamin Nichols each scored two points.

Against Santa Fe, Aaron and Ardley each had 11 points, while Mejias had 10. Wainwright and Jones scored eight and five points, respectively, while Drian Jenkins scored two.

Jones and Mejias scored 13 and 10 points, respectively, against Bishop Kenny. Aaron had four points, while Ardley and Wainwright each had three.

In the regular-season finale against Palatka, Ardley and Dinkins scored nine and eight points, respectively, with Jeffers and Mejias each scoring seven. Nichols and Jones had four and three points, respectively, while Wainwright had two.

Union falls by 7 to Williston

BY DAN HILDEBRAN
Monitor Editor

Williston High School ended Union County's basketball season Feb. 7 with a 47-40 win over the Tigers in a District 7-1A semifinal game in Lake Butler.

Williston coach Steve Faulkner described the foul- and turnover-filled contest as ugly basketball.

"It was ugly," he said. "Good thing we built a 12-point lead. I felt like we just kind of held on. They made a great run on us in the second half, made a bunch of 3s. I wish we would have made a few more free throws. We just gutted that one out."

The Red Devils started the game with a 5-0 run, but Union County fought back, taking an 8-7 lead midway through the first quarter when Geordyn Green sank two free throws after being fouled on a fast break.

Williston opened up a three-point lead by the end of the first quarter and pushed its advantage to 31-20 at the half.

Throughout most of the game, the Red Devils used a full-court press. The Tigers (6-18) routinely broke the press, only to later turn the ball over under their own basket.

Union County coach Rufus

Jefferson said his team could not settle into its half-court game.

"I tried to get the guys to settle down," he said. "It was more like we were out there running track than playing basketball."

Jefferson added that a lack of movement on offense contributed to the team's 13 turnovers.

"We were throwing the basketball around a lot more than we were moving our feet," he said.

Faulkner said the press offset his own team's shortcomings.

"We kept turning it over in the second half, but our press had them turning it over right back," he said.

The Red Devils extended

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INDEX

- | | | |
|--|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 40 Notices | 51 Lost/Found | 61 Scriptures |
| 41 Auctions | 52 Animals & Pets | 62 Vacation/Travel |
| 42 Motor Vehicles & Accessories | 53A Yard Sales | 63 Love Lines |
| 43 RVs & Campers | 53B Keystone Yard Sales | 64 Business Opportunities |
| 44 Boats & ATVs | 53C Lake Butler Yard Sales | 65 Help Wanted |
| 45 Land for Sale | 54 Produce | 66 Investment Opportunities |
| 46 Real Estate Out of Area | 55 Wanted | 67 Hunting Land for Rent |
| 47 Commercial Property (Rent, Lease, Sale) | 56 Antiques | 68 Carpet Cleaning |
| 48 Homes for Sale | 57 For Sale | 69 Food Supplements |
| 49 Mobile Homes for Sale | 58 Child/Adult Home Care | 70 Money to Lend |
| 50 For Rent | 59 Personal Services | 71 Farm Equipment |
| | 60 Home Improvement | 72 Computers & Accessories |

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DRIVAS

Continued from 3B

Edgewater Brick Yard, located at the time on the outskirts of Starke.

Drivas is not fond of subsequent attempts to cover the buildings, whether in stucco, as was done to the Dover Building in the 1940s, or later with what Drivas called “cheap, fake materials,” in evidence on some Call Street buildings. He would have encouraged owners to restore buildings to their original look, with new primary materials.

He’s also not thrilled with “add-ons” such as later extensions to the current courthouse (which is not his design) when the original building needed extra space.

(Drive by and see the contrast between the light and airy original center building and its two thick, bulky “arms.”)

“It was a beautiful building set back from the road, an authoritative building on a hill. Now it’s just...eh,” he said.

Drivas retired in 2002, but continues to design public buildings out of his Starke office.

He points with some amount of pride to the fact that he has designed buildings for all education levels: the K-12, community college and university systems. He has significant works in at least five North Florida counties, stretching from Duval to Alachua to Putnam.

“So what? You get 10 million in contracts here; over 100 million in that county over there;

50 million over there. After a while, you begin to lose track,” he added. He won’t even try to count the number of residential homes he’s put together, including his own.

He pointed out that the buildings and the design are what last and live far longer than the memories of the money paid to build them.

He points out that Starke has some nice residential and commercial architecture and hopes it will be thoughtfully preserved over the years, with cost being only one of several decisions that may need to be made.

And he hopes all of Starke’s better Call Street historical buildings won’t again be thoughtlessly covered over with stucco—real or fake.

WRESTLE

Continued from 1B

after going 4-0 in the 160-pound class at the Region 1 meet.

“He was there to compete,” Bradford coach Chris Adams said. “He wasn’t going to let anybody take it from him.”

Forsyth advanced past the first round of the tournament by forfeit before pinning Paxon’s Anthony Dukes in 2:54. He then defeated Suwannee’s Shawn Brown 10-7 before defeating West Nassau’s Michael Dudzinski 9-5 in the finals.

Adams said the match against Brown was Forsyth’s toughest of the season. Brown and Forsyth were ranked number one and two in the state, respectively, heading into the meet.

“It proved to him mentally

that he’s a champion at heart,” Adams said, adding that he firmly believes Forsyth will win his class’ state championship.

Also qualifying for state are Bradford sophomores J.T. Griffis, who was third in the 113 class, and Shayne Kahakua-Lodivero, who was fourth in the 106 class.

Griffis, who was one win from qualify for state last year, went 3-1 after a first-round bye. He recorded a 19-10 major decision over Bay’s Chance Layfield before getting pinned in 3:56 by Wakulla’s Larry Smith, who would go on to win the championship.

Griffis bounced back, pinning Yulee’s John Parker in 2:22 before facing Layfield again and recording a 13-0 major decision.

Kahakua-Lodivero, who went 3-2, started out with a 20-5 technical fall over Bay’s

Gabriel Meyer and a 1:10 pin of Suwannee’s Michael Santangelo. Walton’s William Pickren pinned Kahakua-Lodivero in 2:39, but Kahakua-Lodivero bounced back in a big way, pinning Bozeman’s D.J. Hanson in just 41 seconds before an 11-3 loss to Florida High’s Max Metcalf.

Adams said Griffis and Kahakua-Lodivero both look up to Forsyth, but are now creating their own legacies as BHS wrestlers.

“They’ve both come into their own at the right time,” Adams said.

Brandon Funderburk and Blake Addison also competed for Bradford at the Region 1 meet. Funderburk went 1-2 in the 120 class, while Addison went 0-2 in the 132 class. Funderburk’s win came by pinning Suwannee’s Brandon Task in 33 seconds.

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Bradford pitcher Adkins signs with Florida's Indian River

BY CLIFF SMELLEY
Staff Writer

Bradford High School softball pitcher Ashton Adkins signed a letter of intent to play at Fort Pierce's Indian River State College during a Feb. 7 ceremony at the BHS media center.

Adkins hinted at a bit of nervousness, saying she wasn't sure if she was ready to take that next step after high school, but at the same time, she's also looking forward to it. She described the opportunity as "amazing."

"I'm excited to go down there and start a new chapter in my life," she said.

It fulfills a lifelong dream Adkins has had ever since she began playing T-ball.

"I always knew I wanted to

play collegiate softball," she said.

Bradford head coach Daniel Davis said it's a good opportunity for Adkins. He said Indian River has a solid reputation statewide and nationally for its program, which is good at moving players on into four-year schools after two years.

Plus, Davis said the school and Adkins should mesh well.

"It's really a good fit because they're known as a blue-collar, hard-working team," Davis said. "That's exactly what she is—an extremely hard worker who's dedicated to softball and her academics. I think it's the perfect fit for her."

Adkins said she had some offers from four-year colleges,

but most were up north. She said she didn't want to travel that far from home just yet.

"I just wanted to stay closer to home, where I could come back and see my family," she said. "I'm a big family person."

Davis believes Adkins already has the mental makeup to transition to the college game. He said Adkins keeps her focus and doesn't let what happens in a game affect her, whether it's good or bad.

"She's such a stoic, young player as far as her demeanor on the mound," Davis said. "She is always positive, whether she gives up a home run or she just struck out three in a row. You can't tell by looking at her face. She's one who gives her best

Bradford High School senior Ashton Adkins signs her letter of intent to play softball at Indian River State College. She is seated between her parents, Serena and Clay Adkins.



effort every game mentally and physically."

Adkins was a second-team all-state selection last year, going 26-2 with 15 shutouts, 204 strikeouts in 175 innings and an ERA of 1.36.

Davis expects another solid year from Adkins before she

graduates from BHS.

"I've got high expectations for her," Davis said. "She's a great pitcher. She stays in control of games. We're playing a tougher schedule this year, but I know she can handle the teams that we're going to play. She's going to keep us in ball games and give

us an opportunity to play."

When the time comes to step onto the field for the first time as a player at the next level, Adkins said, "I'll probably just be so excited and have to probably calm my nerves down a little."

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SIGNINGS

Continued from 6B

fullback. He also played on the defensive line in high school, but was eager to keep making his mark in the offensive backfield.

"I love running the ball," Edwards said. "I love blocking. I love showing what I'm capable of. I just feel like if I get the chance to get the ball in my hands, I can do something with it."

Union head coach Ronny Pruitt said it was fun to watch someone Edwards' size—6-2, 240—carry the ball and do so successfully. Edwards averaged 6 yards per carry this past season, gaining 808 yards and scoring 12 touchdowns on 132 carries.

"God's blessed him with the physical attributes to be successful at the next level," Pruitt said. "He's taken advantage of it and done what he's needed to do to make his dream come true."

Pruitt said Edwards most likely will not get as many carries as he did at UCHS, but had little doubt that Edwards will excel.

"At the next level, he's going to be a blocker and a pass receiver,"

Pruitt said. "He'll adapt to that very well, carry on and do the same things he did here."

Lillie said Brevard College was also showing interest in him, but not to the extent that Lenoir-Rhyne was. When he took his visit to the Lenoir-Rhyne campus, he knew that's where he needed to be.

"As soon as I went there, I fell in love with the town," Lillie said. "It's so much like Union County. It's a small town, Christian-like and everybody knows everybody. It's great."

As for where Lillie will play at Lenoir-Rhyne, that may be a little up in the air. He's played defensive back, wide receiver and running back at UCHS. Last season, he rushed for 221 yards and seven touchdowns, while on defense he made 42 tackles, recovered one fumble and intercepted one pass.

Pruitt said he has talked to the cornerback, safety and running back coaches at Lenoir-Rhyne. They all want Lillie at their respective positions.

"Phillip is a true utility player," Pruitt said. "He's got the physical size to play all three of those positions. He's one of those I see going in at one position, but

possibly coming out in another. (Lenoir-Rhyne) realized that when they recruited him."

Lillie said his preference is to play safety, but he can see himself being tried at various positions.

That's OK. Lillie just wants the chance to play.

"I just love the game of football," he said.

Pruitt said there's not as much change from high school to college at the defensive back position as there is at running back, so it just may work out that Lillie winds up playing his preferred position.

"He likes contact," Pruitt said. "He's a physical guy. Whether it be safety or corner, he's going to come up and make a play. That's primarily why (Lenoir-Rhyne) got him, because of how physical he is and what he brings to the table."

On stepping onto the field for the first time as a Liberty player, Edwards said, "I'm going to be nervous, but nervous is good for me. If I'm nervous, I'm ready."

Lillie's ready, too.

"It's going to feel good, and it's going to be a show," Lillie said.

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Raiders defeat Keystone in district quarterfinals

Keystone Heights High School's season came to an end Feb. 4 with a 76-37 loss to Santa Fe in the quarterfinals of the District 5-4A boys' basketball tournament at Bradford High School.

D.J. Mayer and Buck Shobris led the Indians (3-19) with nine and eight points, respectively, while Earl Hall had seven points. Micah Brown and Brandon Nicholas each scored four points, while Austin Bass and Travis Wheeler each had three points. Juwan Crum added two points.

Santa Fe would go on to be the district runner-up to Fort White. Prior to the tournament, Keystone closed the regular season with a 34-28 win over Union County on Jan. 31 in Keystone.

The Indians led the Tigers from start to finish and got six points each from three players: Nicholas, Shobris and Wheeler. Kyler Teague had five points, while Hall had three. Bass, Brown, Mayer and Anton Noble each had two points.

Brown and Hall finished with five rebounds each, while Brown also had four steals. Nicholas had four assists.

Union was led by Kyle Mosher's 10 points, while Princeton Alexander added six. Austin Dukes and Parker Hodgson each scored four points, while Larry Collins and Daryl Watkins each scored two.

Alexander and Mosher had nine and eight rebounds, respectively, with Alexander also coming up with four steals.

Bradford Parents Athletic sign-ups are under way

The Bradford Parents Athletic Association is now signing up children for T-ball, baseball and softball. Registration is being held at the Edwards Road facility in Starke on Saturday, Feb. 15, and Saturday, Feb. 22, from 9 a.m. until noon. You may also register online at <http://starkebradfordleague.baberuthonline.com>.

New registrants must provide a copy of their birth certificate. Teams will be drafted on Sunday, Feb. 23.

Late registrations will not be accepted.

Boy Scouts dinner to honor Lennard Register

Lennard Register will be presented with the first-ever Distinguished Citizen Award from Starke at the Boy Scouts of America's American Values Dinner on Thursday, Feb. 27, at the National Guard armory on

Edwards Road in Starke.

Casey Jones will be the event's keynote speaker. Jones was a passenger on US Airways Flight 1549 that crashed into the Hudson River in New York on Jan. 15, 2009.

A social is scheduled for 6:30 p.m., followed by the dinner at 7 p.m.

Register, who was a longtime coach in Bradford County schools, earned the rank of Eagle Scout in 1943 and was the first person in Hamilton County to achieve such a rank.

There is no admission, but those interested in attending are asked to consider a \$150 donation to support Scouting in Bradford County.

Please RSVP by calling Barry Warren at 352-494-3326 or Terry Vaughan at 904-966-6266.

UCHS

Continued from 8B

their lead to 35-23 with 2:45 left in the third quarter. However, momentum appeared to shift to the Tigers after Williston's Earl Brown was called for a technical for hanging onto the rim after a dunk.

Union's Kyle Mosher made one of two free throws after the technical. Austin Dukes followed with a field goal, and Daquin Edwards sank two free throws to close Williston's lead to 37-33 with 6:58 left in the game.

From the beginning of the fourth quarter until the 2:26 mark, neither team scored a field goal. Instead, they traded

fouls, traveling violations and turnovers.

"The game, from midway in the third through midway in the fourth, was extremely ugly on both sides," Faulkner said.

Mosher broke the drought with a 3-pointer, bringing the Tigers to within three. With 2:30 left in the game, Williston led 39-36.

The Red Devils then went on an 8-4 run to close out the game, capitalizing on missed 3-pointers from Union and Tiger fouls, which were made to stop the clock.

Green gave the Tigers their final boost, sinking a 3-point shot with 19.8 seconds left.

Jefferson said the Tigers' shooting percentage of 34

percent was the biggest factor in his team's loss.

"We picked the wrong night to be off," he said. "I think we only shot like 12 for 35. We usually shoot a lot better than that."

Jefferson said part of his team's lack of production rested with key players he had to bench because of foul trouble. Leading scorer Mosher spent much of the game on the bench with four fouls, as did Green. Dairon Alexander also had four fouls, and Dukes fouled out with 5:44 left in the game.

"When you've got your leading scorer sitting on the bench for maybe seven, eight minutes, that takes a toll," Jefferson said.

He also blamed poor passing

for the Tigers' turnovers.

"Out of the 13 turnovers we had, they may have stolen the ball maybe four or five times."

"I am very proud of my guys," he added. "Although we did not shoot very well, I am proud of the hustle."

Prior to the tournament, the Tigers closed the regular season with a 53-47 loss to Columbia County on Feb. 1 in Lake Butler. Edwards and Mosher each scored 11 points, while Princeton Alexander had nine points and nine rebounds. Dukes had seven points, while Parker Hodgson and Daryl Watkins had four and three points, respectively. Dairon Alexander had two points and five assists.

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