Dredging unlikely at Dunedin Pass Series: suncoast digest

[TAMPA Edition]

St. Petersburg Times - St. Petersburg, Fla.

Author: LINDA HARPER Date: Jan 26, 1988

Start Page: 3.B

Section: METRO AND STATE

Text Word Count: 1369

Document Text

CLEARWATER - The dredging of Dunedin Pass may have been killed Monday. The staff of the state Department of Environmental Regulation (DER) refused to recommend dredging the pass. A letter being drafted by the DER staff in Tallahassee on Monday told Pinellas County officials that they'll have to submit new information to support the dredging project if they want to pursue it. The staff agreed with dredging opponents that the pass is closing naturally.

Employee blamed for theft at brokerage

NEW PORT RICHEY - The owner of Argus Securities, a New Port Richey discount brokerage, said Monday that a bookkeeper with the firm stole an undisclosed amount of money and fled the area. Bert S. Beckoff, the owner, said the theft was discovered during a recent annual audit by an independent accounting firm. "Our auditors found minor discrepancies, but it's all covered

by insurance and no clients' money was taken," said Beckoff in an interview in the firm's office at 7249 U.S. 19 in New Port Richey. "Very little money was taken." Beckoff said he has no idea where the woman, whom he would not name, has gone. And he would not comment on what agencies might be investigating the case. Telephone call carries surprise price tag

When Alfred Maruggi was told by a caller that he'd won a free dinner for the price of a toll call to Tampa, he thought the deal was too good to be true. It was. The call cost \$8.95 plus long-distance charges. Maruggi is one of at least 300 people who have complained to Mur Corp. of Largo about solicitations made by Mur employees. A spokesman for General Telephone of Florida (GTE) said Mur has been told to change its message. The president of Mur Corp., Mark Fabian, said Monday that Maruggi must not have understood the caller. He said telephone solicitors for his company tell people the call will cost money. GTE requires companies using 976 numbers to inform potential customers of the charges involved.

Two arrested following violent argument

ZEPHYRHILLS - Two Zephyrhills residents were arrested Sunday after an argument that escalated into violence and ended with the man stabbed and the woman nearly strangled, sheriff's records said. William Stanley Trent, 43, of 2324-A N 16th St. was charged with simple battery and booked into the East Pasco Detention Center on \$500 bail. Fanny Mae Trent, 42, of the same address was charged with aggravated battery and was booked into the West Pasco Detention Center on \$5,000 bail. It was not clear from a deputy's report how the two are related. According to the report, Fanny Trent admitted to stabbing William Trent with a knife in his left leg, and he admitted to punching her in the face and choking her with his hands. The order of events was not clear from the report.

Candidate says he's motivated by duty

MADEIRA BEACH - Miller Newton, 49, once the guiding hand behind the Straight drug treatment program and an unsuccessful candidate for Congress, is aiming at a new public job - mayor of Madeira Beach. Mayor J. Kenneth Jacobsen called reporters Monday to announce that he won't seek re-election after eight years as mayor and four additional years as a commissioner. Instead, Jacobsen announced that Newton will run in the March 8 election. "The main reason I'm doing it is a sense of civic duty," Newton said. A native of Tampa, Newton is an ordained Methodist minister and a former associate professor of education at the University of South Florida. He was appointed by Gov. Reubin Askew as Clerk of the Circuit Court in Pasco County in 1973 but left in 1976 to run for the U.S. House. He joined the Straight program in 1980 and rose to national clinical director before he resigned in 1983. Comment sought on widening U.S. 41 DADE CITY - The state Department of Transportation (DOT) has scheduled public sessions today and Wednesday so residents can comment on plans to widen U.S. 41 from Hillsborough to Hernando and State Road

700. DOT engineers and planners will meet with residents at 4 p.m. today in the McKethan Auditorium at the Hernando County Fairgrounds. On Wednesday, officials will hold another session at 4 p.m. in the Lutz Community Center at U.S. 41 and First Avenue NW in Lutz. Amnesia victim is identified

TAMPA - Tampa General Hospital officials sought help Monday in identifying a man whom they said suffers from a kind of amnesia. They got plenty. Soon after the man's picture was shown on television Monday evening, he was identified by several callers as Mark Sellers, a Hillsborough County resident, a hospital spokeswoman said. Few other details about the man were being released, at the request of his family. Even after he was told his name, Sellers' memory had not returned Monday night, said hospital spokeswoman Cindy Mays. Sellers, 25, walked into a fire station near Ybor Square on the night of Jan. 16. He had four cents, some cigarettes and no identification. He was suffering from soreness and a bump on the back of his head. Before Sellers was identified, police said he did not fit the description of any missing person and was not wanted locally for any crime. Police: Man stabs ex-wife, drinks cleaner

TAMPA - A man stabbed his ex-wife with a six-inch butcher knife and later swallowed a caustic drain cleaner early Sunday morning, according to the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office. Carlos C. Angulo, 49, who arrived last week on a visit from Toa Alta Heights, Puerto Rico, got angry with his ex-wife, Zaida L. Oliveras, 37, after learning that she had been dating other men, said Lt. James Kelley. The couple has been divorced for about four months. Both Angulo and Oliveras, wounded several times in the back and abdomen, are listed in serious condition at University Community Hospital.

Jury denies money for injured officer

CLEARWATER - A former police officer who was injured by blank wadding fired from a shotgun during a training exercise in 1980 left a Pinellas County courtroom empty-handed Monday. A jury deliberated four hours before announcing that no one should have to pay for the incident. Joseph J. Ahearn, who in 1980 was a 57-year-old sergeant for the Belleair Bluffs Police Department, did not deliberately expose himself to danger during the training exercise at Belleair's City Hall, the jury found, nor was Largo or Belleair negligent. Ahearn's attorney, A. Dallas Albritton, said he asked jurors to award \$500,000 to Ahearn and his wife, Julia, who live in Largo. Attorneys for the cities of Belleair and Largo said Ahearn was to blame because he rushed toward Robert Hastings, then a Largo police officer, and pointed a .38-caliber pistol at Hastings' face. Hastings instinctively fired the shotgun in defense, they argued. Albritton said Ahearn will appeal. Pier marketplace deal is sealed

ST. PETERSBURG - After months of negotiations, Tampa businessman Phil Alessi, a construction contractor and the city have agreed that a festival marketplace will be built at The Pier for \$485,000. The deadline for agreeing on the budget for Alessi's Festival Marketplace was 5 p.m. Monday. At the deadline, Deputy City Manager Rick Mussett said all parties were in agreement, and a letter of confirmation was on its way to City Hall. Alessi said he expects to open in late April or May. Mullet catch nets grand theft charge

TAMPA - Hillsborough prosecutors charged two St. Petersburg men with grand theft Monday for gill-netting in a breeding ground in upper Tampa Bay. Florida Marine Patrol officers caught the two men, Paul Carter and Emmra Fleming, with 1,357 pounds of mullet on Dec. 3. Carter, a licensed commercial fisherman, originally was charged with gill-netting in an area that is closed to commercial fishing. Fleming, who is not licensed, was charged with fishing without a commercial license. Both charges are misdemeanors. State officials later sold the confiscated fish for \$742. After finding out how valuable the catch was, Hillsborough prosecutors decided to charge the men with grand theft for taking the fish illegally from public waters. Grand theft is theft of something worth more than \$300. - Compiled from staff reports by LINDA HARPER

Credit: Compiled from Staff Reports

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http://pqasb.pqarchiver.com/tampabay/access/51254234.html?FMT... Dredging unlikely at Dunedin Pass Series: suncoast digest - Newspap...

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On the edge // Seawalls have just enough danger to allow St. Petersburg runners a way to train without monotony Series: running

[CITY Edition]

St. Petersburg Times - St. Petersburg, Fla. Author: MERRITT ASHMORE

Date: Feb 14, 1988

Start Page:

Section: CITY TIMES AND INDEPENDENT

Text Word Count: 661

Document Text

ST. PETERSBURG - Long-distance running can get downright monotonous. Occasional changes of scene, distance and pace are prerequisites for runners hoping to avoid burnout.

Some St. Petersburg runners have chosen a hazardous and unusual way to make their long runs less tedious. They cautiously run along narrow concrete paths that cap the city's seawalls.

George Stovall has run along the St. Petersburg waterfront for more than 20 years, and he remains enthusiastic about running long distances. Stovall; his wife, Jane; and her brother, Dan Harvey Jr., are among a dedicated cadre of runners who choose to stay in shape by dashing along the top of seawalls.

"I'd been running in St. Petersburg for so long I had to find a different way of doing it," said George StovalI,

43, who is a chiropractic physician. "Seawall running helps my concentration and focus. On those days when running isn't so much fun - when I feel like I weigh 300 pounds or I'm tired - I concentrate on carefully running the seawall, and I feel better."

Seawall tops are about a foot wide, and they are perched about half that distance above adjoining sidewalks and lawns. The water side of a seawall means trouble for runners, because there can be more than a 5-foot drop to the flats at low tide. More menacing are sharp, barnacle-covered shells that cling to seawalls and emerge out of Tampa Bay's shoreline mud.

The prospect of a fall resulting in cuts does not deter St. Petersburg's seawall set. Steve Burns, a friend of the Stovalls and a dedicated waterfront runner, fell off a seawall during a training run.

"All you really risk are a few lacerations and a twisted ankle if you fall in," said Burns, 34, a St. Petersburg resident who ran along the walls when he was a child chasing crabs. "I fell in once, because I lost my concentration. You break your focus and you'll go down; I guarantee it."

The fall did not deter Burns. Many of the 20 miles he runs every week are logged on the seawalls.

George and Jane Stovall have managed to avoid injury while running along the seawalls at the Vinoy basin, North Shore Park, and Coffee Pot Bayou. Jane runs about an hour a day and bikes 75 miles every week. George divides his training times between running and canoe racing.

"If somebody asked me if I exercise, I'd probably say no," Jane said. "I run a lot because I like to stay in good shape. I just run on the seawall for amusement."

The Stovalls also enhance their physical condition by riding bikes in parking garages downtown.

George enjoys devising unusual races, such as a running event in a parking garage and one through the dirt alleys of the Old Northeast. But the race he would most like to see would be held on the St. Petersburg waterfront - on top of the seawall. Notes

The Rotary Club of St. Petersburg is off to an impressive start in preparing for its first Wheels and Heels Biathlon, scheduled for Feb.20 at Fort DeSoto Park. Race director Gray Gibbs is hoping that more than 300 people will enter the event, which will consist of a 5-kilometer (3.1-mile) run, a 25K (15.5-mile) bike race, and a second 5K run.

The Columbia Restaurant, Paradyne Corp., Edward White Hospital and Barnett Bank are among the sponsors for the biathlon. Race proceeds will benefit the St. Petersburg YMCA, St. Angelus House, and Straight, Inc.

Entry fee for the Wheels and Heels race is \$12. Registration forms are available at area sports equipment stores, and at the Rotary Club of St. Petersburg, 21 Sixth St. N. There will be no race-day registration. For more information, call 822-3277.

[Illustration]

BLACK AND WHITE PHOTO, Joe Walles, (2); Caption: Jane Stovall leads George Stovall, Steve Burns and Dan Harvey in a slightly risky run along a seawall near the Vinoy Basin; runners along seawall shot from water

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Man charged in Town 'N Country clerk's murder

St. Petersburg Times - St. Petersburg, Fla.

Author: JOHN BURR Date: Mar 24, 1988

Start Page:

Section: TAMPA
Text Word Count: 641

Document Text

TAMPA - For the second time in as many days, Hillsborough sheriff's detectives Wednesday charged a suspect in the murder of a convenience store clerk.

Miguel , 19, the son of two prominent Republican Party organizers in the Hispanic community, was charged with the Feb. 19 murder of a store clerk and attempted murder of a customer at Texaco food mart in Town 'N Country. He was being held Wednesday in the county jail without bail.

In the unrelated murder of a Shell Oil convenience store clerk on March 14, detectives on Tuesday arrested a 22-year-old man, the second suspect charged in that

is the son of Israel and Isis who were charged in 1982 for improper voter registration. A jury convicted Mrs. who were the misdemeanor

conviction was later overturned by an appeals court. Her husband, Israel, was acquitted by a jury. Mrs. grant against and lost to Democrat Elvin Martinez for a Tampa seat in the state Legislature in 1982.

father, Israel, said Wednesday he didn't believe his son had been involved in the murder. But he said Miguel had taken ``all kinds`` of illegal drugs since he was 12, and that the family had spent considerable time and money trying to keep him off drugs.

"It has broken everybody's heart. We are a very religious family," said of his son's drug use. "The boy grew up in the church. But once they get started with drugs, it's all over."

Miguel has attended the Straight Inc. drug treatment center in St. Petersburg, said. The teen-ager dropped out of Jefferson High School in his senior year and moved out of the family home on Spruce Street about six weeks ago.

Detectives and Sheriff Walter Heinrich would not say how they tied to the murder of 44-year-old clerk Rita Waldron and the attempted murder of customer Raymond Berta, 29. A jail affidavit stated there was probable cause to tie to the crime in a written and oral statement he gave to investigators Wednesday.

Heinrich said the investigation is still open. An accomplice in the murder, who apparently was in a car nearby while the shooting was taking place, is being sought, he said.

Around 9 p.m., a man entered the Texaco store armed with a handgun. He was confronted by Berta. Berta was shot twice and seriously injured. The gunman then walked over to the store counter and shot Waldron once in the head, killing her. No money was stolen in the robbery attempt.

was arrested for a string of armed robberies after he was chased by Pinellas County sheriff's deputies into Hillsborough County on March 11. At the time, was a robbery suspect wanted by Pinellas authorities. He crashed a stolen car at 9:30 p.m. near Hillsborough Avenue and Memorial Highway.

When he was arrested, was carrying a gun that is the same caliber of the gun that killed Waldron, said Capt. Gary Terry. Laboratory tests are still being conducted to determine if it is the murder weapon, he said.

"He was a suspect (in the murder) at the time, so we knew who he was," Terry said. "We were already working on him."

Investigators gradually built their case against , eventually charging him with a dozen armed robberies from Jan. 28 to March 8, Terry said. Nine of the robberies were in Hillsborough County, two in Pinellas County and one in Pinellas

Park.
Witness identification, and laboratory work on evidence conducted by the FBI in Washington were key elements in tying to the shooting, he said.
Heinrich declined to say if a witness had placed at the Texaco store when Waldron and Berta were shot. Terry declined to say if his alleged robbery spree was drug related.
'Illustration]
BLACK AND WHITE PHOTO; Caption: MIGUEL
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http://pqasb.pqarchiver.com/tampabay/access/51284706.html?FMT... Man charged in Town 'N Country clerk's murder - Newspaper Archive...

Martinez to create task force on drugs

[CITY Edition]

St. Petersburg Times - St. Petersburg, Fla Author: LUCY MORGAN

Date: Jun 23, 1988 Start Page: 1.B

Section: METRO AND STATE

Text Word Count: 758

Document Text

TALLAHASSEE - Gov. Bob Martinez is appointing a state drug ``czar`` and a 15-member task force to fight a war that everyone is losing - the battle against illegal drugs.

At a press conference Wednesday, Martinez announced he will appoint a \$70,000-a-year policy adviser who will report directly to him and serve as chairman of a new task force that will recommend action by the end of this year.

The Drug Policy Task Force is not merely another "study" group, Martinez insisted, but a group of state and federal officials who will make suggestions for coordinating state and federal efforts to fight illegal drugs.

Martinez said he has no particular person in mind for the adviser's job, but wants someone with a strong law enforcement background and the ability to deal with various agencies struggling to cope with drug problems.

Federal officials have refused to appoint the federal equivalent of a state policy adviser, questioning the need to vest the power in a single office. But Martinez said he believes federal authorities need a similar person to coordinate their efforts

He said the adviser will enhance the state's ability to communicate with Washington and coordinate drug fighting efforts.

Among suggestions the task force may consider is increased use of the military to catch smugglers and the possibility of a death penalty for drug kingpins. Martinez also suggested the possibility of a new state law enabling law enforcement authorities to monitor large cash transactions such as boat and automobile purchases.

The governor's announcement came a day after he returned from meetings with Vice President George Bush and other federal officials in Washington, where Martinez sought more federal help in dealing with illegal drugs.

Recent federal cutbacks in Coast Guard patrols and other programs are among the items Martinez wants the task force to consider.

Noting that Florida's location makes it particularly vulnerable to drug smuggling, Martinez said he wants to get more help from the U.S. armed forces and National Guard troops from Florida and other states.

Law enforcement officials see the governor's plan as a possible way of consolidating badly fragmented efforts in the battle against drugs.

That battle often involves those who would lock up drug users and those who favor rehabilitation.

Inside law enforcement, another battle rages as state, federal and local enforcement agencies jealously guard their own turf in an effort to get credit for drug busts and major drug investigations. It's a fight filled with big egos and the need to generate favorable publicity and bigger budgets.

By selecting task force members from all sectors of the anti-drug effort, Martinez hopes to eliminate some of the infighting and focus on a consolidated plan of action.

Martinez said he is leaving it up to the task force to make recommendations, but he did offer a few suggestions:

Find ways to create a drug-free environment for Florida schools, work places, prisons, highways and public

http://pqasb.pqarchiver.com/tampabay/access/51332944.html?FMT... Martinez to create task force on drugs - Newspaper Archives | tampab...

transportation systems. Some states have established ``safety zones`` around schools, using citizens advisory groups and others to help police the areas. In prisons, education and treatment programs can be used.

Enact stronger drug laws. Martinez suggested extending the state's death penalty to major drug dealers and changing laws to help detect the laundering of drug money. Those laws might include a reporting system for large cash transactions in real estate, boat and auto purchases and suspension of business licenses for those convicted of drug crimes. Other laws might terminate student loans and grants or state subsidized housing for those convicted in drug cases.

Increase border detection of illegal drugs. The task force should evaluate the roles played by state and federal agencies and determine whether the Florida National Guard and U.S. military should take a more prominent role.

The 15-member panel includes: Tampa Public Safety Director Robert Smith; Mel Sembler, a St. Petersburg shopping center developer who is chairman of Straight Inc., a drug treatment program; Education Commissioner Betty Castor; Alachua County Sheriff L.J. "Lu" Hindery; Greg Coler, secretary of the state Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services; Thomas Cash, agent in charge of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration in Miami; Florida Department of Law Enforcement Commissioner Tim Moore; Statewide Prosecutor Pete Antonacci; State Attorney Joseph D'Alessandro of Fort Myers; Department of Community Affairs Secretary Thomas Pelham; Shirley Coletti, president of Florida Informed Parents; Dr. Dorsey Miller, coordinator of migrant education for the Broward County schools; Department of Corrections Secretary Richard Dugger; Col. Bobby Burkett, director of the Florida Highway Patrol; and Maj. Gen. Robert Ensslin, head of the Florida National Guard.

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Times staffers win awards

[CITY Edition]

St. Petersburg Times - St. Petersburg, Fla.

Date: Jun 28, 1988 Start Page:

8.B

Section: METRO AND STATE

Text Word Count: 214

Document Text

JACKSONVILLE - St. Petersburg Times Staff Writer David Finkel won first place in feature writing in an annual journalism contest sponsored by the Florida Society of Newspaper Editors.

Finkel placed first for a series of stories about a teen-age boy involved in drug abuse and his family's decision to put him in a treatment program called Straight Inc. Finkel, 32, has been a Times reporter for six years. In 1986, he won a writing award from the American Society of Newspaper Editors.

Several other members of the Times staff also won awards, announced Saturday during the state newspaper editors' annual convention. Times staff members collected the most awards - seven - of any Florida newspaper. The other winners were:

Staff Writers Diane Mason and Stephen Nohlgren, who finished second in depth reporting for a series about Medigap insurance.

Chief Editorial Writer Martin Dyckman, who finished second in editorials.

Photographer Ricardo Ferro, who finished second in color news photography, for a series of photos of a man being rescued from a burning automobile.

Staff Artist Scott Hiestand, who finished third in non-photo illustration for a graphic explaining the construction of the Florida Suncoast Dome.

Page 1 Designer Ron Reason, who finished third in front-page design.

Newsfeatures Designer Rick Holter, who finished third in page design.

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Gibbs graduates place in national tournament Series: GOOD FOR YOU

[CITY Edition]

St. Petersburg Times - St. Petersburg, Fla.

Author:

SONYA DODDS Jul 12, 1988

Date:

4

Start Page:

Section: CITY TIMES

Text Word Count: 314

Document Text

Christine Hall, a recent graduate of Gibbs High School, placed third out of 170 students in the humorous interpretation category of the National Forensic League's national tournament in Nashville two weeks ago. Miss Hall, who will be attending De Paul University this fall, performed all of the characters in a 10-minute excerpt of Dan Goggin's Nunsense.

Another Gibbs graduate, Tracy Barchie, placed 14th nationally in the tournament's prose reading competition.

John and Charlotte Jeffer of St. Petersburg celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at a dinner with family and friends. They were married June 25, 1938, and came here in 1959 from Fairlawn, N.J. The couple also had an anniversary gathering in Midland Park, N.J.

William G. and Mildred Martin of St. Petersburg celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. Married June 29, 1928, they came here 31 years ago from Cincinnati. He was involved in sales and was a manager for Electrolux Corp., retiring after 60 years service. The couple has four children, 13 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Belding McCurdy of Treasure Island was honored by the University of Missouri-Rolla at the school's 115th annual commencement. McCurdy, a member of the then-Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy Class of 1938, celebrated the 50th reunion of the class and took part in graduation ceremonies.

Stephanie Buck of St. Petersburg has been awarded a National Merit Scholarship. Her scholarship is sponsored by Aetna Life & Casualty Foundation Inc. She plans to attend the California Institute of Technology.

Nancy Counts Gerber, formerly of St. Petersburg, has received a fellowship in biochemistry for the 1988-1989 school year at the University of Illinois.

Soroptimist International of St. Petersburg has presented several community service organizations with funds, including the Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranch, Straight Inc., the Family Service Centers for the Sexual Assault Family Emergency (S.A.F.E.) Program.

[Illustration]

BLACK AND WHITE PHOTO, (2); Caption: John and Charlotte Jeffer; William G. and Mildred Martin

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Drug task force holds first meeting

[CITY Edition]

St. Petersburg Times - St. Petersburg, Fla.

Author: LUCY MORGAN Date: Jul 29, 1988

Start Page: 2.B

Section: TAMPA BAY AND STATE

Text Word Count: 703

Document Text

TALLAHASSEE - If Florida can't keep drugs outside of prisons guarded by walls and guns, how can the state hope to solve a growing drug problem?

That was one of the questions facing members of a new task force appointed by Gov. Bob Martinez as they gathered in the state Capitol for the first time Thursday.

The new task force, under the direction of Major Doug Hughes, who is on leave from the Metro-Dade Police Department, is supposed to come up with suggestions for solving the drug problem by year's end. Martinez will take those suggestions to the 1989 Legislature if new laws are needed.

The task force may even ask legislative leaders to create special committees in each house to seek the necessary balance between the needs of law enforcement agencies, educators, businessowners,

drug abuse treatment programs and prisons when it comes to developing new laws and spending state money.

But first, task force members may find some difficulty reaching that balance among themselves. They include state, local and federal law enforcement officers; the head of a parents group; the leader of Straight, a St. Petersburg drug abuse foundation; prison officials; and educators - all looking at the drug problem from a different perspective.

"Everyday we have lives being threatened and neighborhoods under siege because of drug trafficking," Martinez told the group as they began work. "Even our prisons aren't drug free. And if we can't keep them drug free, you can imagine what it's like elsewhere."

One of the answers may be to invite more federal assistance since 70 percent of the drugs that flow into the United States enters through Florida, Martinez noted.

"We're a pipeline that floods the other states," he added. "What happens in Florida has an impact in North Dakota."

Florida has added 9,300 new prison beds in the past two years and will seize 50 tons of cocaine this year, but still the problem grows.

"The news is not good," said Thomas V. Cash, agent in charge of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration in Florida. "We get about 250 pounds of cocaine on any business day. I wish I could tell you this is a sign of progress, but it is not lessening."

The federal courts, like many state courts, are overloaded - a problem Cash attributes, in part, to the increasing number of state drug cases that are brought to federal court because Florida's own judicial system makes it difficult to successfully prosecute drug cases.

The problems spill over into a prison system that must house the inmates sentenced in a state where some estimate that 80 percent of reported crimes are drug related.

Florida's prisons are filling up with hard core criminals who are increasingly difficult to keep under guard, noted David Brierton, deputy secretary of the State Department of Corrections. Prisons must release inmates to keep the overall population below a federally mandated cap, but that means that those who remain behind bars are increasingly the more violent, difficult to handle inmate.

"It makes a difference as you collect large groups of people who are seriously dangerous to everyone," said Brierton. In addition the state must meet certain guidelines as it handles prisoners.

"When these people are out in the community pillaging and raping, everyone wants them put away," Brierton explained. "Then when they come to us, they become victims overnight."

Generally, task force members agreed that early intervention programs are needed to educate children so they don't become drug users in the first place. But the state must also deal with innocent victims like the `cocaine babies` born to addicted mothers in ever increasing numbers. At one hospital in Miami eight new cocaine babies are born each week. Medical care for each baby costs \$2,000 a day.

Task force members also agreed that the problem won't be solved overnight, but several of them appear optimistic about the future.

"I'm excited about the prospects," said Mel Sembler, chairman of Straight Inc. in St. Petersburg. "We couldn't seem to get anyone to focus on the problem. We could see it stealing our children, our communities and our country."

The task force will meet again in August.

[Illustration]

BLACK AND WHITE PHOTO; Caption: Maj. Doug Hughes

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Abstract (Document Summary)

TALLAHASSEE - If Florida can't keep drugs outside of prisons guarded by walls and guns, how can the state hope to solve a growing drug problem?

The new task force, under the direction of Major Doug Hughes, who is on leave from the Metro-Dade Police Department, is supposed to come up with suggestions for solving the drug problem by year's end. [Bob] Martinez will take those suggestions to the 1989 Legislature if new laws are needed.

But first, task force members may find some difficulty reaching that balance among themselves. They include state, local and federal law enforcement officers; the head of a parents group; the leader of Straight, a St. Petersburg drug abuse foundation; prison officials; and educators - all looking at the drug problem from a different perspective.

Task force on drugs faces a problem with no solution Series: FLORIDA

[CITY Edition]

St. Petersburg Times - St. Petersburg, Fla. Author: LUCY MORGAN

Date: Jul 31, 1988

Start Page: 8.D

Section: PERSPECTIVE

Text Word Count: 965

Document Text

TALLAHASSEE - Nobody said solving Florida's drug problem would be easy.

Just how difficult it will be to find an answer was obvious last week as members of a newly appointed drug policy task force appointed by Gob. Bob Martinez began work.

The problem is enormous. Even determining what the problem is proved thorny as task force members discussed whether to include alcohol abuse as a target of their recommendations.

Although everyone agrees that alcohol abuse is a problem, many task force members see it as a separate issue because alcohol can be legally consumed by adults. Drugs are illegal for all.

If you doubt that Florida's drug problem is worse than anyone else's, consider:

At least 70 percent of all the drugs distributed across this nation enter the United States through Florida. But this state gets only 3 percent of the money spent to curb the flow of drugs.

Bargain basement prices abound in Florida. In New Orleans it costs between \$20,000 and \$30,000 for a kilo (2.2 pounds) of cocaine. A kilo purchased in Dallas will cost between \$27,000 and \$35,000. Go to Europe and the cost gets to be \$40,000 to \$50,000. In Miami, the cost is between \$8,000 and \$12,000. In Haiti the same kilo of cocaine sells for about \$2,000 - thus the impetus to import it.

At least 50 percent of the manpower at any Florida law enforcement agency is devoted to dealing with crimes or problems that stem from drugs and 60 percent of the caseload assigned to prosecutors is drug related.

In 1980, 9 percent of those seeking treatment for alcohol and drug abuse in Florida suffered from an addiction to cocaine. In 1988 that number has risen to 63 percent.

Maj. Doug Hughes, the Metro-Dade police officer who is heading the new task force, says Florida will find a solution to the problem `because we have to.``

That's true, but finding the solution won't be easy.

happy for crumbs.

Everyone agrees that we need to educate children born this year so they aren't seeking drug abuse counseling and breaking into our houses in the year 2001. But we also have to deal with the here and now.

Tim Moore, director of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, is among those law enforcement officers who have come to believe that locking people up is not the only answer, but Moore has other, more immediate, concerns.

"The rapes and murders that are happening today need to be solved," Moore told his fellow task force members. "These are real problems that need to be addressed today. Less than 6 percent is spent on the entire criminal justice system out of a \$22-billion budget. We're not setting the agenda, we're reacting to someone else's agenda and being

Every day the FDLE turns down 80 percent of the requests it gets for law enforcement assistance - not from Tampa, Jacksonville, Miami and other big cities, but from the small departments that are increasingly faced with serious drug-related crimes that have spread from the cities into even the smallest towns.

Drug treatment programs, prisons, the courts, every segment of the system is overburdened and in need of immediate help. That's one of the real concerns facing the state when it comes to dealing with drugs.

It is primarily a question of dollars. When there is only so much money to spend, those programs that would keep us out of trouble in the year 2001 become less and less likely, and that alone assures us that the problem will only get worse.

The governor's new task force must balance those concerns and come out with answers that please all sides of the effort.

The answer, in the final analysis, is finding a way to encourage Americans to end a long-time love affair with drugs. It was Mel Sembler, the St. Petersburg shopping center developer who is chairman of the board at Straight Inc., who noted the need to look at drugs differently.

A few years ago we talked about ``drug abuse,`` being a problem, Sembler noted. Now those of us who have seen the problem grow worse and worse are talking about ``drug use`` and realizing that any use of illegal drugs can be a problem.

One of the problems facing this group will be finding a way to get attention in a world that seems glutted with drug stories.

Noting the presence of only one reporter who stayed around to listen after the governor finished speaking to the task force, Maj. Hughes wondered how the group is going to attract the attention it needs to deal with the problem.

``If I was caught with a pound of cocaine in my car, that would get attention,`` Hughes joked.

"Test every 16-year-old for drugs before we issue a drivers license and you'll get attention," suggested Sembler. "We aren't merely talking about redistributing money. We're going to have to make some tough decisions."

There's another concern in all of this, too. It was the FDLE's Tim Moore who noted it.

"I'm concerned that the FDLE and the rest of the state is so preoccupied with the drug problem that we're missing what may become tomorrow's problem," Moore speculated.

It's a real fear, but today's problem is so far reaching, it is difficult for all of us to imagine one that is worse.

Ask any parent who has been confronted with the monster that a child on drugs can become. Ask anyone who has seen a loved one die in the name of drugs. Look at a generation of our youth floundering around, ambitionless or misdirected, and the problem is here and now and getting worse.

Don't expect the answers to get easier.

Lucy Morgan is chief of the Tallahassee bureau of the St. Petersburg Times.

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Discarded food feeds the hungry

[CITY Edition]

St. Petersburg Times - St. Petersburg, Fla.
Author: MARIE TESSIER
Date: Nov 28, 1988

Start Page: 1.1.1.1

Section: CLEARWATER TIMES; CITY TIMES; LARGO-SEMINOLE TIMES; NORTH PINELLAS TIMES

Text Word Count: 899

Document Text

CLEARWATER - Al Nelli and Jim Gencur back up an old brown van to the produce stand and start hauling heavy boxes of green grapes, wilted lettuce and battered red tomatoes into the back.

The boxes, bags and crates of cabbages, wax beans, scallions and other produce they're taking away from Bob & Daughter's produce stand could be fresher and more colorful, like the goods out front.

But the no-cost price tag could not be more palatable.

With a first stop at the produce stand, Nelli and Gencur set out on a Monday morning roundup of slightly unsightly giveaway food for the St. Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen in Clearwater.

Every day at the shelter, about 200 people line up for a square meal. Almost all of the food they eat is collected on daily trips like Nelli's and Gencur's, trips when volunteers almost literally catch food on its way from the grocery store shelf to the back-alley dumpster.

"It's more convenient for these stores to just pitch food out than to put it in a box and have us pick it up," Gencur says, pulling more than a bushel of bruised and dented apples out of a barrel behind a grocery store in St. Petersburg. "They're not losing money on the stuff they give us. It's stuff they can't sell."

"It's not that the stores don't want to help, but they've got to get rid of this stuff before an inspector shows up," Nelli adds. "If you've got some bad tomatoes, it doesn't take long before they start leaking out the bottom and attracting burgs."

It's these turning tomatoes that are waste for the grocer but breakfast for the hungry, says soup kitchen director Bob Thue

"If you've got a tomato that's half-bad, well, it's half-good to us," Thue says with a laugh, pointing out crates of avocados and a walk-in refrigerator full of wilted but redeemable food. "A commercial place can't afford to pay someone to salvage this stuff, but our volunteers don't get paid," he says.

The St. Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen is one of several Pinellas groups collecting food to give to people who cannot afford to shop in the stores. Religious Community Services, Crossroads Cathedral of St. Petersburg and Straight Inc. all collect food.

While pickings are generally slim, the St. Vincent de Paul kitchen does better with donations and volunteers around Thanksgiving and the religious holidays, Thue says.

"There's some kind of spirit that prevails around the holidays that somehow transforms hungry people and street people," Thue says. "We just wish it could last, because these people are here 365 days a year."

Back on the giveaway circuit, Nelli and Gencur will stop at two bakeries, five grocery stores and two other produce stands in a search for food before they return to Clearwater in midafternoon.

Their take at Bob & Daughter's, a stand on Lakeview Road near Clearwater, is heavier than usual, they say. Produce proprietor Bob Henschen says a table grape wholesaler gave him 10 boxes for the soup kitchen during his early morning run to the Tampa produce market.

After Bob & Daughter's, the volunteers pull into the Entenmanns of Florida outlet store on U.S. 19 S and schedule an

http://pqasb.pqarchiver.com/tampabay/access/51430251.html?FMT... Discarded food feeds the hungry - Newspaper Archives | tampabay.c..

afternoon pickup of food. While they are there, another agency calls for the slightly stale but still tasty desserts. Too late, manager Kay Happe says, the day's cakes have been promised to someone else. Nelli and Gencur exchange a relieved glance.

They stop in at an Albertsons store, taking a brown box full of graying lunch meat and nearly dated sausages from a back room as customers wheel their carts amid fresh and uniform packages out front.

The produce manager already threw away the morning's leftovers, a worker says, and the bakery does not have any leftovers, says another.

"The meat can turn on us awfully fast, so we mark it down, then sell it to the soup kitchen before it's no good at all," store director Richard Stevens says. "We like to help out in any way we can."

Stevens may like to be helpful, but managers of other stores are less cooperative, Gencur says. Some say it is company policy to return stale food to a warehouse. But others find ways to circumvent policy and help the soup kitchens out, he says.

"Some of these people would rather not do it," Gencur says. "With most places, it's first come, first served, or the stuff'll hit the garbage can."

Gencur assures that the food, dumpster-bound or not, is plenty good, though not pretty enough for marketing strategists. The spotless St. Vincent de Paul kitchen and the food being served are regularly inspected by the health department.

"Everybody wants their food absolutely fresh, so we take what's a day or two old," he says. "You can't feed people garbage, but what's garbage to one is a feast for another."

"Every once in a while, you'll see a whole family in line waiting to get something to eat because they're in hard times," Nelli says between stops. "Whatever you've done, whatever time you've put in that month ... when you see that, you know it's worth it."

[Illustration]

COLOR PHOTO, Jose Font; St. Vincent de Paul Society: 88; Caption: Al Nelli, a volunteer with the St. Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen, picks up table grapes from Bob & Daughter's produce stand.

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Gulfport resident named to national temple board

[CITY Edition]

St. Petersburg Times - St. Petersburg, Fla.

Date:

Dec 24, 1988

Start Page: Section:

RELIGION

Text Word Count: 163

Document Text

NEW YORK - Jack J. Jenkins of Gulfport, a board member at Temple Beth-El (Reform) of St. Petersburg, has been named to the executive board of the National Federation of Temple Brotherhoods.

The 40,000-member federation, founded in 1923, is a service arm of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (Reform) and the sponsor of the Jewish Chautauqua Society.

Jenkins is a member of the B'nai B'rith International Council and a past vice president of its board of governors.

He is also a member of the Anti-Defamation League's regional advisory council.

He served previously as a board member and Brotherhood president at synagogues in Washington, D.C., and Alexandria, Va.

Rabbi Berman joins Straight board

SEMINOLE - Rabbi Stuart L. Berman of Congregation Beth Chai (Conservative) in Seminole has been named to a one-year term on the community advisory board of Straight Inc., a drug-abuse treatment program in St. Petersburg.

Berman recently received a National Award of Appreciation from the Jewish War Veterans of America.

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NEW YORK - Jack J. Jenkins of Gulfport, a board member at Temple Beth-El (Reform) of St. Petersburg, has been named to the executive board of the National Federation of Temple Brotherhoods.

Newsmakers

[CITY Edition]

St. Petersburg Times - St. Petersburg, Fla.

Date:

Dec 26, 1988

Start Page:

8 **BUSINESS** Section:

Text Word Count: 2325

Document Text

Paul A. Bilzerian Nobody believed that Paul A. Bilzerian, the corporate raider from the Tampa Bay area, really wanted to buy a major company. He proved everyone wrong in 1988, when he paid \$1.06-billion for the Singer Co. Bilzerian wanted Singer, once famed for its sewing machines, so he could sell off its various defense-electronics operations to the highest bidder. Before the year was out he had done just that, making \$90-million, of which he will keep about half. Bilzerian also seemed interested in smaller game, and bought about 10 percent of the stock of Clearwater's Fortune Financial Group Inc., owner of Fortune Federal Savings and Loan Association. Bilzerian, either bored or too busy, passed off Fortune to his friend, San Diego Chargers owner Alex G. Spanos, who also backed out of the deal. Bilzerian has problems, though - very big ones. Four days before Christmas, the U.S. attorney in New York, Rudolph Guiliani, indicted Bilzerian on 12 counts of tax and securities fraud, conspiracy and

making false statements to the U.S. government. Bilzerian is accused of trying to conceal his ownership of stocks in companies he hoped to take over. If he pleads guilty or is convicted, Bilzerian could find himself mentioned in the same breath as Ivan F. Boesky. Roger B. Broderick Rich in land but poor in cash, high-flying Pinellas Park developer Roger B. Broderick faced a spate of mortgage-foreclosure suits and other claims against his properties this year. Broderick became saddled with debt after he sold his brokerage and construction businesses to join the ranks of Tampa Bay's big players who buy land and develop it themselves. A weak commercial real estate market, strict enforcement of environmental codes and a few key miscalculations forced Broderick to adopt humbler ambitions. He has started unloading turf to raise money, and in October sold his 25 percent interest in Gateway Centre, a large and mostly empty business park off Gandy Boulevard. Meanwhile, those in the real estate business who know Broderick remained confident he can dig out from under his heavy load of debt. Jack Critchfield Veteran Florida Progress Corp. chairman Andrew Hines sent out signals that his heir apparent is Jack Critchfield, a former president of Rollins College, in Winter Park, When Hines installed Critchfield as president of the parent of Florida Power Corp., the state's second-largest utility, the news pleased many securities analysts. As Hines 65th birthday passed, some had fretted that Florida Progress might someday be headed by someone from the large clique of engineers who often rise to the top of utilities. In Critchfield they got a smooth-talking former telephone company president with a doctorate in psychology. Rick Dodge Rick Dodge, the shadow man at St. Petersburg City Hall, came out of the dark for a spell. The assistant city manager played out his carefully laid strategies for finishing the Florida Suncoast Dome, landing a baseball team to play there and - after 32 months of talks - getting the Bay Plaza Cos. to redevelop nine blocks of downtown. Then the Chicago White Sox decided to stay put. While the city's elected officials dueled openly with critics over big spending downtown, Dodge stepped back into the shadows to search for another baseball team. Kenneth Good Developer Kenneth Good lost his bid to buy an Orlando-based real estate company, but he won a big prize with the regional headquarters of USAA, a Texas-based insurance and financial-services giant. USAA announced plans to build 1-million square feet of office space at Good's Tampa Palms development near the University of South Florida, then joined with Good to develop 500 acres just north, in a commercial office park along Interstate 75. While USAA's plans could run into a problem in Tampa Palms, where Good is planning roads that have not been approved or financed, the developer says he is confident of getting the road network he needs to ensure the park's success. Good was not so lucky with his offer to buy Major Realty Corp., which owns about 12 acres of waterfront property in downtown Tampa and more than 700 undeveloped acres near Walt Disney World. Major rejected Good's offer of \$91-million in cash, saying it would pursue other alternative courses of action." Timothy L. Guzzle The lights barely flickered at TECO Energy Inc., parent of Tampa Electric Co., when outsider Timothy L. Guzzle became its president and chief operating officer in February. Guzzle, 52, moved from Pittsburgh- based Allegheny International Inc. to take the job, leaving behind an investigation of Allegheny's president and chairman, who was found to have treated himself and his family lavishly at the expense of the company, which eventually filed for bankruptcy. Guzzle, not implicated in the probe, took over at TECO as the successor to city and corporate leader H.L. Culbreath. Analysts predicted nary a ripple of change at the growing utility or its sister companies, and thus far they have not been disappointed. John Haley John Haley arrived with a bang as the second

president in the 32-year history of the Pinellas County Committee of 100. He boldly said that without a fourfold increase in spending on industrial recruiting, competing counties in Florida would continue ``eating our lunch.`` Haley gave his speech in an appropriate spot: the empty sixth floor of a waterfront office building that was 78 percent vacant. By the end of the year, Haley's employers agreed to dissolve the agency and build a new one with a far broader financial base to market Pinellas to new businesses. Bill Mack and Frank Morsani Tampa Bay Baseball Group leaders Frank Morsani and Bill Mack again tried to buy a major league team they could move to Florida. First came a 42 percent interest in the Minnesota Twins in 1984. They later sold it to Minnesotans, forsaking a profit. This year they bought an option for a controlling interest in the Texas Rangers, but baseball's leaders wouldn't allow them to move the team. And, in the end, Texans with the right of first refusal matched the Morsani-Mack offer. Dubbed "the M&M Boys" by the Dallas media, the duo said the exercise again proved they had the financial wherewithal to play ball. Critics weren't sure what to make of it all. John Mitcham Texan John Mitcham was named savior of Paradyne Corp., a Largo computer-communications company that's been floundering since a massive government-fraud scandal in 1983 and which lost nearly \$70-million between 1985 and 1987. Mitcham, hired from International Business Machines Corp., promised to return Paradyne to profitability. But so far quite the opposite has happened: Paradyne, which had been profitable for several quarters, has lost more than \$40-million in the past six months and sunk into technical default on its lending agreements. Mitcham says the new losses represent short-term measures he has taken to resuscitate the company - such as laying off 10 percent of its workers and phasing out its older computer products. Asked about persistent rumors the company is for sale, he says, "Rubbish, rubbish." G. Dale Murray G. Dale Murray's empire ain't what it used to be. A few years ago it looked as if Murray had turned the nation's most famous boat-maker, Chris-Craft of Bradenton, from a dog into a winner. Building on that, he bought Cheezem Development Corp., a well-known developer of high-rise condominiums. Murray looked as if he were ready to become a major deal-maker, but now it's all coming undone. His attempt to sell a huge but mostly empty condo project in south Miami Beach has stalled. He lost control of Chris-Craft, which soon after filed for protection from creditors in U.S. Bankruptcy Court. Former executives say the blame for Chris-Craft's demise lays with Murray, who is accused of using the company's profits to prop up his ill-conceived real estate ventures. Eugene C. Patterson After 41 years in the newspaper business, straight-talking Georgian Eugene C. Patterson retired and passed control of the Times Publishing Co. to his hand-picked successor, Andrew Barnes, Patterson, for 10 years the chief executive officer of the St. Petersburg Times, said he will travel, write and spend time with his family. He bade farewell to the public, employees and their families Oct. 30, at an open house for the Times' new building in downtown St. Petersburg. Dubbed "the Tank Commander," Patterson came to St. Petersburg by way of Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army, the Atlanta Constitution and the Washington Post. David L. Paul David L. Paul decided this was the year to buy a thrift on Florida's rapidly growing West Coast. The mercurial chairman of Miami's CenTrust Savings Bank, the Southeast's largest, first took aim at ailing Florida Federal Savings Bank in St. Petersburg. CenTrust's \$61-million offer was promptly rebuffed after Paul refused to sign a confidentiality agreement. Then Paul teamed up with Orlando's The First in an attempt to put down a bid on Freedom Savings and Loan Association, which had been taken over by the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corp. in 1987. But regulators rejected the joint bid in favor of Winter Park investor F. Philip Handy. On his third time at bat, Paul made a run at Pioneer Savings Bank in Clearwater, offering \$30-million. But after Pioneer posted massive losses, Paul backed out. In a final act of frustration, Paul filed a lawsuit against the Florida Division of Banking and Finance, charging that state officials gave Handy, a friend of Gov. Bob Martinez, an inside track on the bid for Freedom, Victor Posner Miami Beach multimillionaire Victor Posner was brought low in 1988. First there was his sentence after pleading guilty in 1987 to federal income-tax evasion. A judge who saw no point in jailing the 69-year-old industrialist instead ordered him to donate \$3-million to help the homeless and perform 5,000 hours of volunteer work - on top of paying \$4-million in back taxes. When Posner wasn't doling out food at a Miami soup kitchen, he was fending off attacks from other directions. The Securities and Exchange Commission named him as a defendant in a civil suit as part of the insider-trading investigation that led to the conviction of Ivan Boesky. Less weighty but equally embarrassing, he settled a lawsuit and paid \$40,000 to a couple after their boat and Posner's Cigarette speedboat collided on Biscayne Bay in 1986, and returned 14 Norman Rockwell paintings to Sharon Steel Corp., of which he is chairman, after he was sued by the company's bankruptcy trustee. John W. Sapanski John W. Sapanski came to St. Petersburg in 1988 to fix the biggest problem in the city's business community: the inexorable slide of Florida Federal Savings Bank. Sapanski is tough, according to those who have worked for him, and he has a track record. He was largely responsible for rescuing Dime Savings Bank in New York, a thrift that ran into trouble during the inflationary crunch of the early 1980s. Florida Federal's problems, though, are a world apart from the streets of New York. Bad real estate loans in Texas and Florida have cost the once-proud institution \$178.3-million during the last three years. Sapanski has started cutting costs and says he's optimistic about a turnaround in the real estate market. But there is another potential sources of losses in the student-loan unit, where Florida Federal employees allegedly cooked documents so the thrift could continue collecting funds from the U.S. government. If the past is any measure of the future, Sapanski will have little time for basking in the Florida sun. Mel Sembler In St. Petersburg, Mel Sembler is bes known as a top shopping-center developer. He is also known as the chairman and leading advocate of Straight Inc., the controversial drug-rehabilitation program. In Washington, D.C., though, he carries another set of credentials. There he's known as one of the 10 biggest national fund-raisers for George Bush's presidential election campaign. Sembler was the chairman of the Florida Bush for President finance committee and now is co-chairman of the Presidential Inauguration Committee. No one has yet mentioned Sembler as a candidate for a post in the new administration, although that's how the people who fill the money bags are traditionally rewarded. Wm. Reece Smith Jr. Wm. Reece Smith Jr., the chairman of one of the state's largest law firms, became the first American to be elected president of the International Bar Association. Smith, of the Tampa-based law firm Carlton, Fields, Ward, Emmanuel, Smith & Cutler, took the helm of the international group at a meeting held in September in Buenos Aires. His term lasts two years, ending at a meeting in Nairobi, Kenya. The International Bar is made up of about 120 national bar associations throughout the world

and about 12,000 individual members. The group, formed at the end of World War II, holds regional meetings, workshops on legal topics and conferences for leaders of the International Bar Association in developing nations. Stella Ferguson Thayer Tampa lawyer Stella Ferguson Thayer became the first woman president of the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce, ending a 103-year tradition of men at the helm of the organization. Thayer, managing partner at MacFarlane, Ferguson, Allison & Kelly, accepted the title at a banquet in September; she will serve for one year. Also this fall, Thayer was named the 1988 Executive Woman of the Year by the Network of Executive Women. Thayer is the owner and first woman manager of Tampa Bay Downs, as well as president of the board of trustees of the University of South Florida Foundation. She was also one of the first women to eat lunch in what had been a men-only dining room at the University Club.

[Illustration]

BLACK AND WHITE PHOTO, (18); COLOR PHOTO; Caption: Paul A. Bilzerian; Roger B. Broderick; Jack Critchfield; Rick Dodge; Kenneth Good; Timothy L. Guzzle; John Haley; Bill Mack; Frank Morsani; John Mitcham; G. Dale Murray; Eugene C. Patterson; David L. Paul; Victor Posner; John W.; Caption: Sapanski; Mel Sembler; Wm. Reece Smith Jr.; Stella Ferguson Thayer; Jack Critchfield (ran on cover, p1)