SEARCY DENNEY SCAROLA BARNHART & SHIPLEY

OF COUNSEL

A quarterly report to clients and attorneys.

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NUMBER 3

Hospital Disposes Of Evidence After Baby's Death

Kendyll Bliss on Jan. 8, 1999, three weeks before her passing.

On Feb. 1, 1999, Ryan and Kim Bliss took their nine-month-old daughter, Kendyll, to the office of their pediatrician, Dr. A. Kendyll had been suffering with a high fever, vomiting, and diarrhea over the weekend. The physical examination was conducted by the nurse practitioner, Nurse A. Nurse A diagnosed gastroenteritis and recommended a bananas, rice, apples, and toast (BRAT) diet. The next day, Mr. and Mrs. Bliss called Dr. A's office because Kendyll had developed a cough. They returned to Dr. A's office on Feb. 4, 1999, when her symptoms did not improve. Dr. A ordered blood to be drawn, and the lab work showed Kendyll was dehydrated. Dr. A admitted Kendyll to the defendant hospital for overnight IV hydration.

When Mr. and Mrs. Bliss brought their infant daughter to the hospital, the nurses had an extraordinarily difficult time placing the IV. After several attempts, Dr. A was called to place a jugular IV at 10:15 p.m.

At 10:48 p.m., while the nurse was changing the IV bag, the Blisses noticed the nurse squeezing the contents of the bag. Shortly thereafter, Kendyll was in her mother's arms when she began to choke and turn blue. A resuscitation team was called, which was led by emergency physician Dr. B. Little Kendyll was pronounced dead at 12:55 a.m. The records indicated a final diagnosis of pneumonia with a secondary diagnosis of dehydration, gastroenteritis, and cardiac arrest. The hospital record did not include a death summary in the chart.

The Blisses were completely devastated by Kendyll's death. She was admitted to the hospital with a very minor medical condition. In spite of the sudden and uncertain nature of Kendyll's death at such a young age, the hospital decided not to take the steps necessary to perform a proper autopsy. Immediately after her death, the hospital disposed of all the medical equipment and supplies that would have constituted evidence to the medical examiner. Mr. Bliss, who is a police detective, was shocked to find that his daughter's hospital room was completely cleaned shortly after her death. When the Blisses did request an autopsy, some of the ***Continued on page ten.***

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NOTE: The accounts of recent trials, verdicts and settlements contained in this newsletter are intended to illustrate the experience of the firm in a variety of litigation areas. Each case is unique, and the results in one case do not necessarily indicate the quality or value of any other case.

Omitting clients' names and/or defendants' names are the result of requests for anonymity.

Hotel Fails to Warn Family About Ocean's Deadly Undertow

On June 7, 1999, Keith and Jackie Oglesby, along with their daughter, Jennifer Shriver, and son-in-law, Todd Shriver, visited Hutchinson Island, Fla. They lived in Greenville, N.C. and thought a vacation in Florida would be just what they needed. Since Mrs. Oglesby worked for a hotel corporation, a room at the resort was arranged for them.

The family arrived at the resort around 2:00 p.m. and had lunch. At around 4:30 p.m., Mr. Oglesby and Mr. Shriver decided to go for a swim in the ocean. The ocean is located off the private beach, which was owned and maintained by the defendants. They walked through the pool area at the resort, across the wooden walkway, and onto the beach.

Keith Oglesby with his dog, Chief.

Mr. Oglesby and Mr. Shriver swam for approximately 20 minutes, not realizing they were in an undertow or rip current. Mr. Shriver was finally able to break free from the current using every ounce of strength he had, but Mr. Oglesby was unable to break free. When Mr. Shriver got to the beach, he stopped an employee, who then called 911. They found Mr. Oglesby floating in the surf in front of the resort and began CPR. The emergency crew arrived, but despite their attempts, Mr. Oglesby was pronounced dead. He left his wife, daughter, son-in-law, and son, Matthew.

The defendants in this case owned, operated, maintained, and controlled the operation of two resorts, as well as the adjoining walkways, pool areas, and private beach. The defendants were aware of the dangerous surf conditions, including undertows and rip currents. There was a sign posted by the towel hut in the resort #1 area, which is directly north of resort #2, where the Oglesbys stayed. The sign at resort #1 warned guests about the dangerous conditions, including rip currents. Unfortunately, the guests at resort #2, where the Oglesbys stayed, did not have any kind of warning signs posted.

The case was referred to John Shipley from Robert Sellars of Sellars, Marion & Bachi, P.A., in West Palm Beach. Although the law on these types of cases is not favorable for plaintiffs, Mr. Shipley successfully argued that the defendants in this case undertook the duty to warn their guests and patrons of the hidden dangerous conditions. Once they undertook that duty, they had to perform the duty non-negligently. He argued they failed in that duty to Mr. Oglesby by not warning guests at resort #2. Mr. Oglesby's death was directly attributable to the defendant's failure to warn.

Mr. Oglesby was a postmaster in Greenville. On July 6, 2000, President Bill Clinton signed into law (HR 2952) renaming the Orchard Park Station post office to the Keith D. Oglesby Station. This honor was due in part, to the insistence of fellow postal employees, who respected and admired Mr. Oglesby so much, and wanted to honor his memory.

The case was resolved for a confidential amount with the defendants shortly before trial. ■

Man Falls to Death Due to Negligent Construction

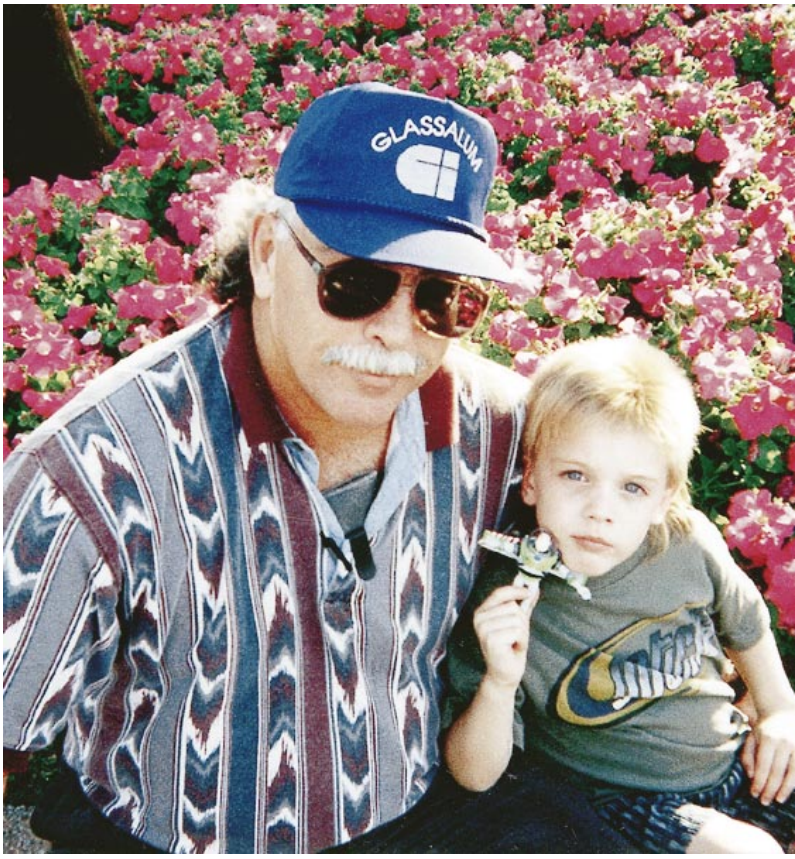
On July 15, 1998, Jeorge Allan Clements ("Allan"), went to a construction site in Miami Beach, Fla. The site was a luxury high-rise condominium being built by general contractor John Moriarity and Associates of Florida, Inc. Mr. Clements was a foreman for R.C. Aluminum, installing windows on the construction project. At approximately 8:15 a.m. that morning, Mr. Clements and his crew were installing a window frame on the 14th floor, which did not seem to fit. Similar to what he had done on job sites in the past, Mr. Clements went to the floor above to assist the crew with the placement of the frame.

The project had a safety rail system around the exposed edges, which was supposed to meet the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requirements. OSHA requirements for unprotected sides, edges, wall openings, and walking surfaces more than six feet above the ground require "protection from falling by guardrail systems, safety net systems or personal fall arrest systems."

Instead of screwing in the bolt, a worker hammered it in, fracturing the metal and causing the bolt to lose its strength and hardness.

While on the 15th floor, Mr. Clements leaned over the safety rail, but unexpectedly, one of the bolts to the rail broke. Mr. Clements tragically fell to his death. He was 46-years-old, and is survived by his wife, Amy, and his 7-year-old son, Austin.

Mrs. Clements retained attorneys Harry Shevin and Sean Domnick, along with co-counsel Paul Lopez, of the law firm of Tripp Scott in Ft. Lauderdale. A lawsuit was originally filed against John Moriarity, Inc.,



Allan Clements and son, Austin, in 1996.

as well as the companies that sold the bolts used to secure the safety rail. It was learned through investigation and discovery that Commercial Forming installed the safety rail system. Under the law, John Moriarity, Inc. has what is known as 'horizontal immunity' and could not be found liable for workers' compensation claims. However, the subcontractors, like Commercial Forming and R. C. Aluminum are considered 'vertical', and are liable for any kind of claims and compensation.

Mr. Shevin and Mr. Domnick obtained a court order to obtain the broken bolt from police custody, and hired an expert in analyzing and testing metals. The expert analysis and visual inspection revealed that the bolt was improperly installed. Instead of properly screwing in the bolt, a worker for Commercial Forming hammered it in, fracturing the integrity of the metal and causing the bolt to lose its strength and hardness. Through this reckless act, Commercial Forming set up a death trap, which resulted in the death of Mr. Clements.

Commercial Forming initially claimed that an unknown person had removed the safety rail, and reinstalled it improperly. ***Continued on page five.***

The Meeting Corner: Research Associates

Marcia Dodson

Marcia Yarnell Dodson was born and raised in Westchester County, N.Y. She received her B.A. in psychology in an accelerated program at Cornell University in 1974. Ms. Dodson stayed on at Cornell Law School, earning her J.D. in 1977. She continued her post-graduate legal education at McGill University's Comparative Law Institute in Montreal, specializing in comparative medical law. Admitted to the New York Bar in 1978, she commuted between law firms in Montreal and Manhattan, working on major patent infringement litigation.

Ms. Dodson joined Searcy Denney Scarola Barnhart & Shipley as a law clerk in 1989. In her continuing commitment to children, she has served on the boards of Children's Newspapers - Kidzette, Children's Place and Connor's Nursery, North Palm Beach Elementary School and the Northern Palm Beach County Gifted Education Center.

In 1995, the firm honored Ms. Dodson's request for a leave of absence to allow her the opportunity to co-write a children's advice book with two of her three sons. After the book's publication and highly successful national book tour, which resulted in the sale of 130,000 books, she is back at the firm. ■

Jennifer Faerber

Jennifer Faerber was born in Philadelphia, Pa., and was raised in Plantation, Fla. Her love of traveling is evident by the location of the colleges she selected to attend. Ms. Faerber attended the University of Colorado at Boulder and majored in business administration, with an emphasis in marketing. She then moved back to South Florida and attended Nova Southeastern University School of Law. Ms. Faerber transferred to Pepperdine University School of Law in Malibu, Calif. While at Pepperdine, she clerked for Justice Joyce Kennard of the California Supreme Court in San Francisco. She graduated cum laude from the law school in 1997.

Moving back to Florida, and passing the Florida Bar, Ms. Faerber began working as an assistant state attorney for the Broward County State Attorney's Office in 1997. She prosecuted more than 40 misdemeanor and 20 felony cases to a jury. In January 2001, she joined the law firm of Searcy Denney Scarola Barnhart & Shipley.

Ms. Faerber is a member of the Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers and the Palm Beach County Bar Association. ■

Debbie Block

Debbie Block was born and raised in Baltimore, Md. She graduated from Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pa., in 1986. In 1990, Ms. Block returned to Baltimore and received her law degree from the University of Maryland School of Law. She spent seven years working at a boutique defense firm in Maryland, defending manufacturers in products liability cases.

In November 1997, Ms. Block became a member of the Florida Bar. She joined the litigation department of Jones, Foster, Johnston & Stubbs in West Palm Beach, and mainly litigated the defense of products liability cases. She also handled some Employment Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) litigation, as well as commercial litigation with an emphasis on appeals. After two years of juggling a hefty litigation schedule and being the mother of three children, Carly, Molly and Issy, Ms. Block wanted to focus more on writing. In October 2001, she joined the firm of Searcy Denney Scarola Barnhart & Shipley.

Ms. Block serves on the Florida Bar's Rules of Civil Procedure Committee and the Palm Beach County Bar Association's Professionalism Committee. Ms. Block, her husband, Steve, and children reside in Boca Raton. ■

Shannon Baer

Shannon Baer was born in Gettysburg, Pa., and was raised in Ormond Beach, Fla. In 1992, she received a B.A. in English and American Literature from New College in Sarasota. She was the recipient of a New College Foundation Scholarship. After working two years as a legal assistant, Ms. Baer attended law school at Florida State University, where she graduated magna cum laude in December 1996.

Following graduation from law school, Ms. Baer worked as an associate at Hill, Adams, Hall & Schieffelin, P.A. in Orlando, defending hospitals in medical malpractice cases. In 1999, Ms. Baer joined the West Palm Beach office of Foley & Lardner where she defended HMOs in medical malpractice and benefits litigation. In 2001, she joined the Ft. Lauderdale firm of Bunnell, Woulfe, Kirschbaum, McIntyre & Gregoire, P.A., where she defended professional liability claims on behalf of lawyers, accountants, brokers, architects and engineers, as well as handling commercial litigation matters.

Ms. Baer is a member of the Broward County Bar Association. She resides in Deerfield Beach with her fiancé, David Dudgeon, an associate with the Boca Raton firm of Petosa & Fernandez. ■

View showing 15th floor from where Mr. Clements fell.

Man Falls to Death Due to Negligent Construction

Continued from page three.

However, after being pressed, Commercial Forming could not identify the aforementioned person. Furthermore, Commercial Forming claimed that Mr. Clements was negligent for failing to wear an individual safety harness. However, under OSHA regulations, the safety rail is an alternative to an individual harness. In fact, the safety inspector on the job admitted in his deposition that he would not wear an individual harness if there were a safety rail.

After the evidence was developed against Commercial Forming, a demand was made of $1 million of the insurance policy limits. Commercial Forming agreed to tender its insurance policy limits, with 50 percent of the net proceeds of the settlement being used to fund an annuity that will provide for Mr. Clements' son's future financial needs. Mrs. Clements also received a $100,000 death benefit from workers compensation.

On July 15, 2001, *The Miami Herald* published an In Memoriam written by Mrs. Clement to her husband. In it she wrote, *"I love you with all my heart and reconfirm here, in this most public manner, the promise I made to you the day we laid you to rest by your Dad: I will do my best to raise our son, Austin, to be like you, Allan, because you are now, always have been, and forever will be, my hero."* ■

Man Dies After Emergency Personnels' Errors

On June 26, 2000, Bradley Towse was 23-years-old. He had a history of prescription medication abuse, but had made a recent decision to quit. To ease his withdrawals and assist his efforts at cessation, Mr. Towse visited his doctor who prescribed methadone. The doctor told him to take 10-12 pills as a starting dose.

That evening, Mr. Towse attended a pool tournament with his stepfather. As the night wore on, Mr. Towse became more and more lethargic. An ambulance was called. The paramedics administered narcan, a methadone antagonist that immediately reversed Mr. Towse's symptoms. He was taken to the defendant Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center's emergency room for evaluation and treatment.

An emergency physician and nurse, both of whom testified they had no knowledge or experience treating methadone overdose, attended him. Fortunately, Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center subscribes to Micromedex, a well-known drug information computer database program. The hospital's emergency room policy and procedure manual, in a section called Suspected Drug Overdose, directs physicians and nurses to the Micromedex program. Both the emergency room physician and nurse knew of Micromedex, but were not familiar with the hospital's policy. Neither referred to Micromedex for information about methadone overdose despite its ready availability in the emergency room. This turned out to be very unfortunate, since Micromedex advises that patients suspected of methadone overdose, should be admitted to ICU for intense observation. Neither the doctor nor the nurse knew methadone is a very powerful, long lasting medication that can cause life-threatening symptoms for two full days.

The hospital's overdose policy also referred physicians to Poison Control, providing a toll-free, 24-hour phone number. Since the doctor and nurse were unfamiliar with the policy, they did not know that professional advice regarding a methadone overdose was only a phone call away. Surprisingly, the hospital's own expert headed South Florida's Poison Control Center. When asked during deposition what advice he would offer under similar circumstances, he stated that admission and close observation were mandated.

Instead of recommending ICU admission and administering narcan, Mr. Towse was discharged four hours after arriving at the emergency room. His mother took him home and put him to bed next to her. Several hours later, she awoke to find him dead. An autopsy revealed that Mr. Towse's death resulted from methadone overdose. All experts, including the emergency room physician admitted that Mr. Towse's death was preventable.

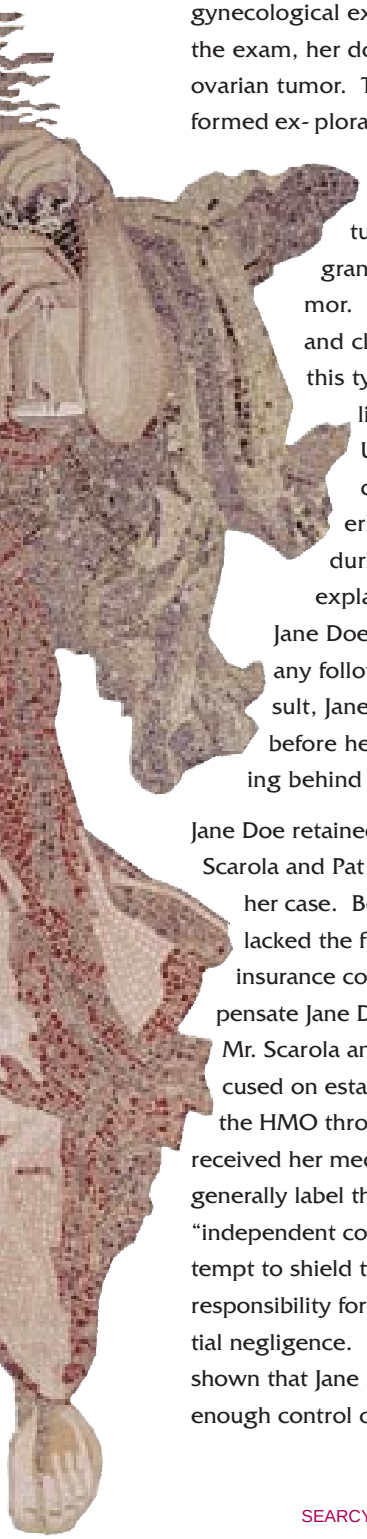
Mr. Towse's mother retained attorney Cal Warriner to handle her case. Mr. Warriner elicited testimony from the emergency room physician that she was negligent and her negligence caused Mr. Towse's death. She said Mr. Towse should have never been sent home and should have been admitted. The doctor testified that she did call the hospital pharmacist to inquire about methadone, but was given an inadequate response to her inquiry. She further stated that she was not told of several important nursing observations documented by the attending nurse.

Mr. Warriner enlisted the assistance of Chris Searcy to try the case. As trial approached, ongoing negotiations and the family's desire to gain closure, resulted in resolution of the case for an undisclosed sum. The family hoped to send a message to the hospital through this litigation, ensuring that no other son, daughter, father, or loved one would suffer a fate as unnecessary and tragic as did Mr. Towse. ■

Decisions...Decisions...Decisions...

HMO Held Liable for Doctor's Negligence

In November 1996, 25-year-old Jane Doe chose a doctor from her employer's HMO plan for her annual gynecological examination. During the exam, her doctor detected an ovarian tumor. The doctor performed ex- ploratory surgery, which indicated a rare, dangerous ovarian tumor, called a granulose theca cell tumor. If properly treated and closely monitored, this type of tumor is unlikely to cause death. Unfortunately, her doctor did not properly treat the tumor during surgery, did not explain the diagnosis to Jane Doe and did not provide any follow-up care. As a result, Jane Doe is likely to die before her 35th birthday, leaving behind a husband and son.



Jane Doe retained attorneys Jack Scarola and Pat Quinlan to handle her case. Because the doctor lacked the financial resources or insurance coverage to fully compensate Jane Doe for her losses, Mr. Scarola and Mr. Quinlan focused on establishing liability of the HMO through which Jane Doe received her medical care. HMOs generally label their plan doctors as "independent contractors" in an attempt to shield themselves from any responsibility for the doctors' potential negligence. However, it was shown that Jane Doe's HMO retained enough control over the doctor's practice of medicine that the jury could decide whether the doctor was a true "independent contractor." More importantly, Mr. Scarola and Mr. Quinlan showed the presiding judge that the HMO was liable for the doctor's negligence, as a matter of law, pursuant to the Florida Statute that permits HMOs to operate within the state. Mr. Scarola and Mr. Quinlan argued that the Statute, which speaks repeatedly of an HMO's obligation to ensure "the delivery of quality healthcare, creates a non-delegable duty to provide quality care to plan members." In a precedent setting decision, the Court agreed.

The firm's attorneys have championed for years the effort to hold HMOs accountable for their doctors' negligence.

Mr. Scarola, Mr. Quinlan and the firm's attorneys have championed for years the effort to hold HMOs accountable for their doctors' negligence. The Florida decision, holding an HMO liable for malpractice under the theory of non-delegable statutory duty, appears to be the first such ruling in the state. The case was resolved as to all defendants shortly after this landmark legal ruling. As the Doe family faces the uncertainties of Jane's medical prognosis, they will at least have the limited comfort of financial security. ■

Accolades...

John Shipley Elected to Inn of Court LIV

On Aug. 12, John Shipley was elected as a member of the Craig S. Barnard American Inn of Court LIV. The local Inn of Court is made up of approximately 100 lawyers, judges, and law students, all with the purpose of fostering and promoting the ethical and professional practice of law. Members are also asked to help promote excellence in legal advocacy and to preserve and transmit ethical values from one generation of legal professionals to the next. Membership into the Inn is very selective.

The formation of the West Palm Beach American Inn of Court LIV began in 1988. Florida Supreme Court Judge Harry Lee Anstead and United States District Court Judge Daniel T. K. Hurley were founding members. Craig S. Barnard was also a founding member, nationally recognized for his work defending death row prisoners. After his untimely death at the age of 39, the West Palm Beach American Inn of Court LIV, became known as the Craig S. Barnard American Inn of Court LIV. ■

Man Dies Because of Doctors' Lack of Urgency

Mr. Doe was 46-years old, and had been a patient of Dr. A, a family practitioner for some time. Dr. A knew a great deal about Mr. Doe's health problems. Mr. Doe was a smoker, obese and had complained of arm and shoulder pain in the past. An EKG was performed, but the results were never communicated to Mr. Doe.

On July 14, 1998, Mr. Doe again complained of arm and shoulder pain. Blood work showed that Mr. Doe's triglycerides were 243 and his cholesterol was 260, and had been abnormal for more than a year. Dr. A referred Mr. Doe to Dr. B, a cardiologist, for a stress test. As a result of this test, Dr. B concluded that Mr. Doe suffered from a variety of serious health problems including an enlarged left ventricle and coronary disease. Dr. B knew this was a high-risk scan and immediately communicated the results to Dr. A. Dr. B said Mr. Doe was at a high risk of having multivessel coronary disease. Dr. B also indicated that Mr. Doe did not know these results because the test "was just done today."

A heart catheterization was scheduled for Aug. 17. It was then rescheduled for Aug. 12. Neither doctors acted as though there was an urgency to the patient's well being. In actuality, the condition of Mr. Doe, when Dr. B evaluated him, was a virtual medical emergency.

The Does in February 1998.

On Aug. 9, 1998, Mr. Doe suffered a cardiac/respiratory arrest and died. It was clear that if both Dr. A and Dr. B acted appropriately, Mr. Doe would have received the necessary care in a timely fashion, thus preventing his death.

Mrs. Doe retained attorney Earl Denney to handle the case on her behalf and her two children. During discovery, experts on behalf of the plaintiff felt strongly that the defendant doctors were negligent in the care and treatment of Mr. Doe and that their negligence caused his death.

Shortly before trial, the case settled in the amount of $1.125 million. ■

SDSBS Hosts Fundraiser For Bill McBride

On Aug. 8, the law firm of Searcy Denney Scarola Barnhart & Shipley hosted a cocktail reception fundraiser for gubernatorial candidate Bill McBride (Dem.) at Café Protégé in West Palm Beach. More than 150 people attended the fundraiser in support of Mr. McBride's bid for the governor's office.

Attorney Chris Searcy called Bill McBride "the best hope for Florida's future." During the event, Mr. McBride spoke on the how he plans to improve Florida's failing public education system, stimulate economic growth, and work hard to serve senior citizens in Florida. Guests also viewed a video narrated by McBride's wife, Alex, which highlights his professional and political career. For more information on Bill McBride, please go to www.mcbride2002.com. ■

Bill McBride talks with guests at his fundraiser hosted by SDSBS.

The general election will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 5.
The law firm of
Searcy Denney Scarola Barnhart & Shipley
encourages you to take time to care....

PLEASE VOTE!

Walk for Lawyers

On July 16, employees of Searcy Denney Scarola Barnhart & Shipley, and members of the Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers held a press conference outside the Palm Beach County Courthouse in West Palm Beach. They were responding to a negative rally sponsored by the Palm Beach County Medical Society and the American Medical Association. The doctors were falsely accusing the legal profession for the increase in their medical malpractice insurance rates. The lawyers and members of the legal community were on hand to dispel this false accusation, and squarely lay the blame on the shoulders of insurance companies. During the press conference, families and victims of medical malpractice were also on hand to talk with the media and share their personal stories about medical negligence.

Above: A victim shares her personal story with a local TV reporter. Below: Victims of medical malpractice and members of the legal community walk to the Palm Beach County Courthouse.

In a June 24, 2002 article, *The Wall Street Journal* wrote a three-page article on the subject and assigned liability to the "insurers' missteps." The article sites examples of inappropriate insurance practices in the 1980s, which caused insurers to try to reclaim their losses (as much as $3 billion) by increasing medical malpractice insurance today. The article went on to say how The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists is for the first time conceding that "insurance practices of the past have contributed to the current insurance debacle today." ■

SDSBS Hosts Fundraiser for Georgia Senator

Senator Max Cleland

On Aug. 28, the law firm of Searcy Denney Scarola Barnhart & Shipley hosted a cocktail fundraiser for United States Senator Max Cleland of Georgia. Senator Cleland's upcoming re-election will be important to maintain balance in the U.S. Senate, and safeguard the judicial system. Members of the Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers and the Palm Beach County Bar Association attended the reception, held at Governor's Club in West Palm Beach.

Senator Cleland is a decorated war veteran, having served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. On April 8, 1968, Mr. Cleland lost both his legs and his right arm in a grenade explosion. After returning home from Vietnam, Mr. Cleland ran for the Georgia State Senate in 1970.

He has championed causes on behalf of retired military personnel, and supports legislation that will improve our nation's health care, education and retirement programs. He has recently co-sponsored legislation which will require full public disclosure of stock sales by corporate executives and eliminate the possibility of future scandals such as Enron and WorldCom. ■


Juan Gabr dominates 'Billboard' Latin awar

Couple give to ease grief

Family remembers beloved baby with party to help charities

Bliss family featured in local newspaper.

Hospital Disposes Of Evidence After Baby's Death

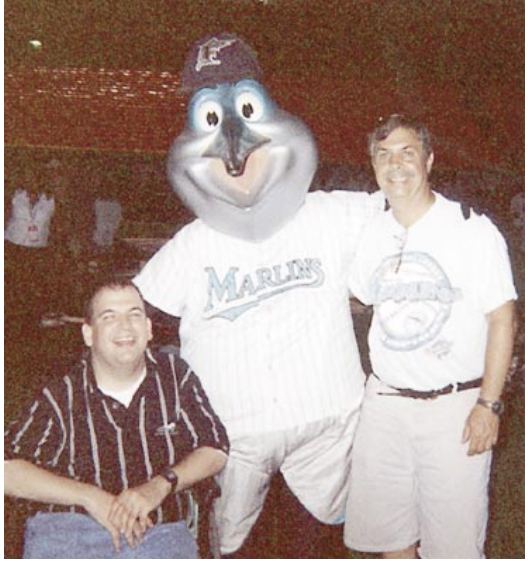
Continued from page one.

medical evidence had been destroyed. Because of the hospital's questionable behavior regarding their daughter's autopsy, the Blisses had an autopsy performed by a medical examiner from another county. The autopsy found that Kendyll had pulmonary edema and congestion, patchy bronchopneumonia, and an accumulation of fluids in the abdomen. The medical examiner's final cause of death was found to be acute bronchopneumonia.

Attorney Gerald Richman of Richman, Greer, Weil, Brumbaugh, Mirabito & Christensen in West Palm Beach referred the case to attorneys Chris Searcy and Bill Norton. Mr. Searcy and Mr. Norton initiated claims against the hospital and the physicians involved in Kendyll's care and treatment. Attorneys Searcy and Norton negotiated with the hospital early on in the litigation process and were able to reach a settlement with the hospital. The case is ongoing against the other defendants: Dr. A., his nurse, the emergency room physician Dr. B., and three hospital nurses.

With the settlement proceeds, the Blisses have funded a college scholarship in Kendyll's name. They also mark her birthday each year, by giving toys, food, clothing and money to the Genesis House, an area shelter for homeless, pregnant women. ■

Taking... *Time to Care*



l. to r. Jeffrey Reynolds, Billy the Marlin, and Bill Seabold enjoy Dinner on the Diamond

Dinner on the Diamond

On June 2, Jeffrey Reynolds and paralegal Bill Seabold attended the Florida Marlin's Dinner on the Diamond at Pro Player Stadium in Miami. Throughout the event, guests met and talked with members of the Florida Marlins and their wives, while enjoying a buffet dinner on the playing field. Guests also participated in a silent auction. The event raised more than $24,000 for the Florida Marlins Community Foundation, and the Daily Bread Food Bank, a collection agency of food for area homeless facilities. ■

Harry Shevin collecting clothes for Dress for Success.

Dress for Success

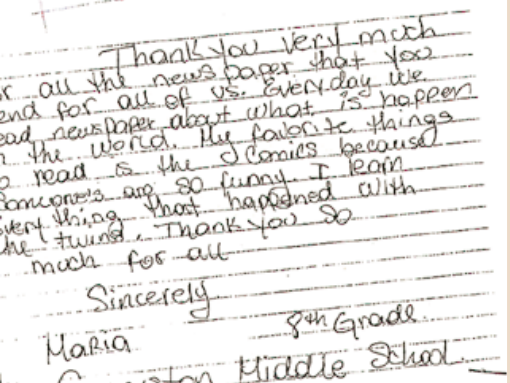
On June 27, the Palm Beach County Trial Lawyers Association in conjunction with SDSBS and other area law firms, collected women's suits for a local non-profit organization. Called Dress For Success, the organization provides used business suits and accessories to low-income women who are seeking employment. Spearheaded by attorney Harry Shevin for SDSBS, employees brought in more than 30 suits, handbags and shoes for the Dress for Success program. Combined with seven other law firms in the area, Dress for Success received more than $6,100 worth of women's clothing. ■

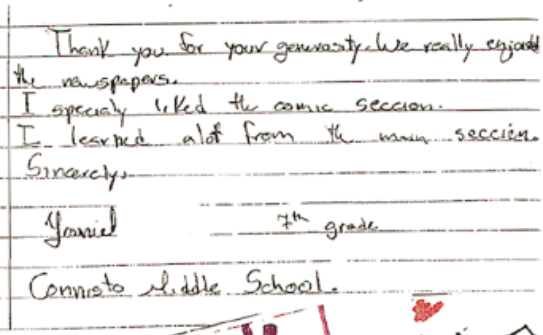
Batter Up Program

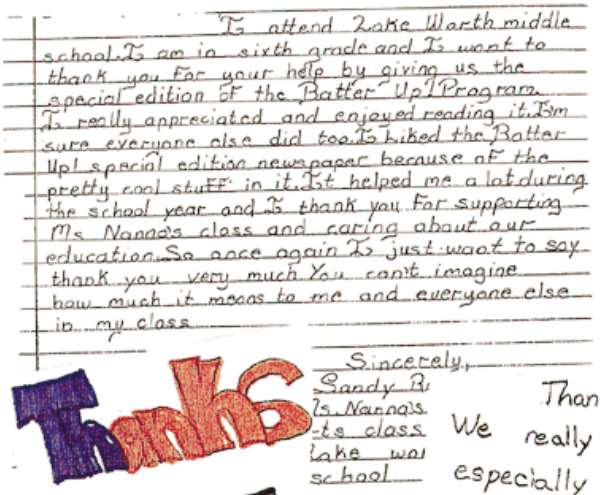
During the months of April and May, SDSBS was the sole sponsor of *The Palm Beach Post's* 2002 Batter Up Program. More than 30,000 children throughout the Palm Beach County School System received the 12-page, educational supplement. Used by teachers in the classroom, the baseball themed supplement was designed to help school children with their reading, writing, and math skills.

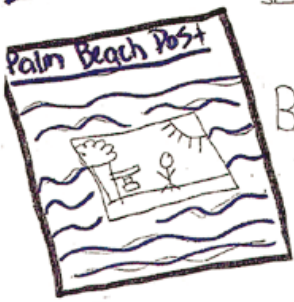
After the program, SDSBS received hundreds of letters from area students and teachers thanking the firm for its support of the program. Batter Up is produced by the Educational Services Department of *The Palm Beach Post* in Palm Beach County. ■

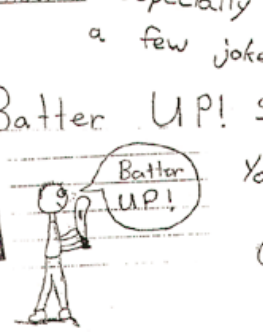
Shown are 'Thank You' letters from teachers and students for the 2002 Batter Up Program.

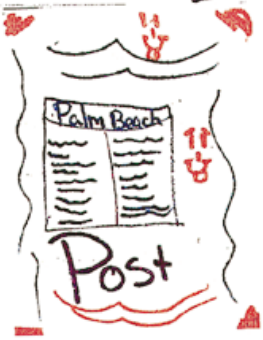


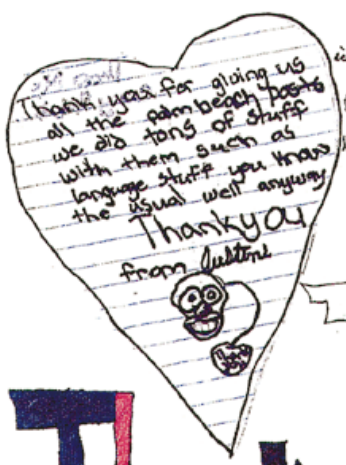


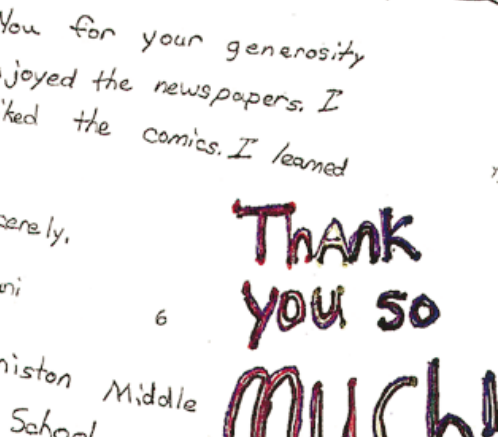


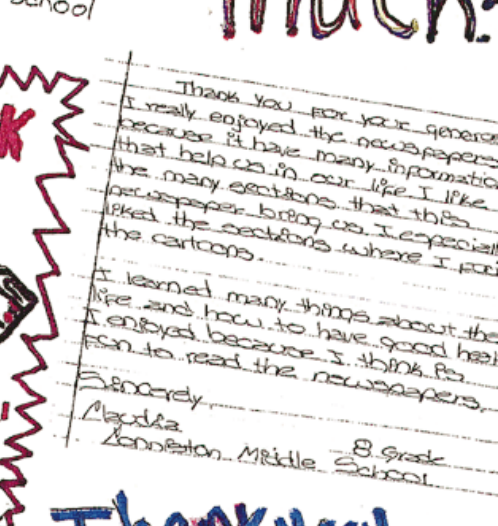












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