

# NEWS HERALD



**BUSINESS**  
Airport grant aims to lure new carrier  
**5C**



**LOCAL**  
Bay Haven students think outside the box  
**1B**  
50 cents



WEDNESDAY October 24, 2007

**▶ WEATHER FORECAST**  
Complete details on 6C

<b>Today</b>	<b>Thursday</b>
Partly sunny	Partly sunny
<b>HIGH 67</b> <b>LOW 53</b>	<b>HIGH 72</b> <b>LOW 60</b>

**▶ AT A GLANCE**

**LOCAL & STATE, 1B**

**Francis accuses Meadows of 'abuse'**

"Girls Gone Wild" founder Joe Francis' lawyer accused State Attorney Steve Meadows of acting on a "disgust" of Francis to purposely poison the jury pool.

**NATION & WORLD, 6A**



The Associated Press

**Discovery on way to space station**

Seven astronauts embarked Tuesday on a 14-day mission to the International Space Station.

**SPORTS, 1C**

**Marlins show little mercy in opener**

Arnold showed East Gadsden little mercy in the District 2-4A volleyball tournament opener, defeating the hapless Jaguars 25-11, 25-5, 25-8 Tuesday.

**BUSINESS, 5C**

**Buffalo Wild Wings coming to Pier Park**

Known for its sports bar atmosphere and chicken wings, Buffalo Wild Wings is scheduled to open at Pier Park in February.

**▶ YOUNG ARTIST**

Today's artwork is by Katherine Delaney, a student at Merriam-Cherry Street Elementary School.



**▶ INSIDE**

Ask Amy	10B	Lottery	2A
Business	5C	Movies	12B
Classified	1-10E	Nation & World	4-10A
Comics	10-11B	Out & About	9-12B
Crossword	11B	Sports	1-4C
Deaths	2B	Viewpoints	8-9A
Local & State	1-8B	Weather	6C

**▶ SITE SEEING**

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Terry Barner / The News Herald file photo

A tributary of the Apalachicola River flows near Apalachicola. Georgia water management efforts could decrease the amount of water released from Lake Lanier, which eventually empties into the Apalachicola Bay via the Apalachicola River.

## Georgia water restrictions could trickle down

By **Jeremy Morrison**  
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Water management decisions by states to the north might have a trickle down effect for Florida.

With much of the South suffering through an extreme drought, Georgia officials are pleading with federal authorities to decrease the amount of water released from Lake Lanier. The 38,000-acre lake supplies more than 3 million people with water in the Atlanta area and is estimated now to have less than a 90-day supply.

Such a move could make for trouble downstream. Water released from Lake Lanier flows downstate at a rate of 5,000 cubic feet per second (CFS) and eventually empties into the Apalachicola Bay via the Apalachicola River. En route, the flow is used by numerous communities, two power plants and three endangered species.

"This is a complicated problem; this is a complicated river system," said Tom McKenzie, Southeast spokesman for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. "You're mixing rocket science and biology."

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is in talks with the FWS to determine how much, if at all,

the flow might be dropped.

"There are a lot of interests that depend on that water," said Rob Holland, an Atlanta spokesman for the Army Corps. "All of them would be ill-served if we didn't re-examine our operation."

The three biggest roadblocks to dropping the rate of flow are the fat three-ridge mussel, purple bankclimber mussel and gulf sturgeon, a fish. All three are endangered species and carry a federal mandate that the water release rate be maintained.

Ted Hoehn, a biologist with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, said many of the mussels will die if the water is decreased. As the water recedes, he said, the mussels will be left in isolated pools.

"They get stranded and die," Hoehn said.

The danger to the sturgeon is more delayed but equally as consequential. If the flow is too low next spring, the sturgeon will not be able to make it to their spawning grounds in the Chattahoochee River, which combines with the Flint River on the Florida-Georgia state line and empties into the Apalachicola River.

**River basin**



Ross Nowling / The News Herald

See WATER 2A

## Police ask for help in homicide

By **Andy Meinen**  
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**PANAMA CITY**

Panama City police aren't just having a hard time figuring out who killed J. Edward Bennett; they are struggling to find out who he was.

Bennett, 58, was found beaten to death Monday morning in an office at the Days Inn Bayside on Beach Drive.

Details of Bennett's life are crucial to the investigation, said Capt. Dan Bates with the Panama City Police Department.



**J. Edward Bennett's body was found Monday morning.**

**On the Web**

See video of police investigating the homicide at Days Inn Bayside at [news.herald.com](http://news.herald.com)

See POLICE 2A

## Military leaders: War on terror will last decades

By **Ed Offley**  
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**BAY POINT**

The United States is fighting a "long war" against transnational terrorists that will last decades and should prepare for a conflict with nations possessing modern military forces, two senior military officers warned Tuesday.

Appearing before the 12th annual Expeditionary Warfare Conference at Bay Point Marriott Resort, the admiral commanding U.S. Fleet Forces Command and the Marine Corps commandant provided somber assessments of the next two decades.

Their back-to-back messages to an audience of about 600 defense industry executives and military officers essentially

were the same: The Pentagon must remain on a wartime footing against radical Islamic terrorists even if the fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan somehow comes to an end in the next few years.

"This long war is going to be going on for quite a while until moderates regain control of their religion," said Marine Commandant Gen. James T. Conway.

For the Marine Corps, the challenge today is to win congressional funding for a number of advanced combat systems that will be entering service within the next two to five years, Conway said.

"A lot of our programs costing a lot of money are coming at the same time," he said in reference to the MV-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft, the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter, the Expeditionary Fighting

See WAR 2A

## Local sailor slain

The News Herald

The U.S. Department of Defense on Tuesday identified one of two female sailors shot to death early Monday in the barracks of an American military base in Bahrain as a Bay County resident.

Seaman Anamarie Sannicolas Camacho, 20, of Panama City, and Seaman Genesia Matril Gresham, 19, of Lithonia, Ga., were shot about 5 a.m. Monday at the U.S. Naval Support Activity-Bahrain. Their injuries were non-combat related, a DoD news release said.



**Seaman Anamarie Sannicolas Camacho was shot to death early Monday.**

No relatives of Camacho could be located in Bay County on Tuesday. The Saipan Tribune, located in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in the North Pacific, reported Tuesday that Camacho's mother lives there.

The circumstances surrounding the incident are under investigation, the DoD news release said.

Bahrain, a tiny island nation on the Persian Gulf, is a U.S. ally and home to the U.S. Navy's 5th Fleet, which is responsible for an area of about 2.5 million square miles of water including the Persian Gulf, Arabian Sea, Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Gulf of Oman and parts of the Indian Ocean.

About 3,600 personnel work on the U.S. Naval Support Activity-Bahrain, located just outside Bahrain's capital, Manama. The base supports U.S. naval ships in the region.