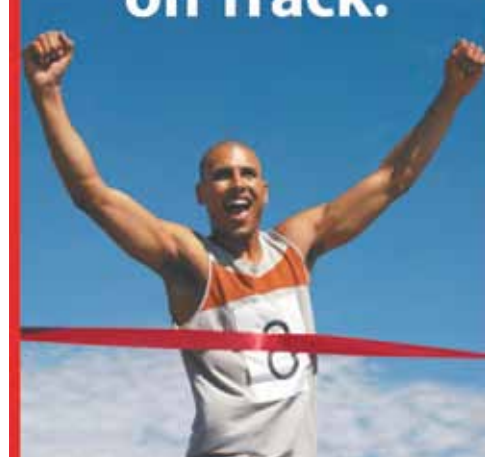




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PEDC Honors Bayfront Health Dade City

*Hospital Now Offers
More Service Lines*

Story by **Joe Potter**

Bayfront Health Dade City can now be considered a top choice among consumers when they are making healthcare decisions, Shauna McKinnon, CEO, said Monday.

Her remarks came just days after the 120-bed acute care hospital received a Special Recognition Industry Award from the Pasco Economic Development Council.

The award was presented in the Large Business category.

BHDC, located at 13100 Fort King Road, was also recently recognized as Large Business of the Year by the Greater Dade City Area Chamber of Commerce, McKinnon said.

This is the first time that BHDC was nominated for and received a countywide award.

"We were very pleasantly surprised when we received the award," McKinnon said, adding, "It was very nice to be recognized for all the growth that we have been able to achieve over the past year."

PEDC • Continued on Page 3A

CRA Budget Gets Preliminary OK

Measure Includes \$50K For Chamber, Merchants Group

by **Joe Potter**

The Community Redevelopment Agency board approved a budget of \$334,920 for the agency for the fiscal year 2016-17, which begins in less than 10 days.

Following the Sept. 14 hearing during which no one from the public provided any input to the board, the

measure passed 4-1.

Dade City Commissioners sit as the board of the CRA and board member Nicole Deese Newlon cast the dissenting vote.

Prior to the vote, Newlon wanted clarification regarding whether the proposed budget already included \$50,000 approved in July for the Greater Dade City Chamber

of Commerce and the Dade City Merchants Association.

The two agencies each receive \$25,000 per year from the CRA for services they provide to help boost the amount of money that is spent at businesses within the agency's boundaries.

CRA • Continued on Page 6A

Hundreds 'Swing' With Country King

Annual John Anderson Concert Raises Thousands For Charities

by **Keri McAlpine**



Ron Oakley helps Gordon Hyde auction off one of four guitars signed by John Anderson. The final guitar got the highest bid at \$1,900.

Photo by **Greg First**

After playing several introductory tunes and displaying his banjo skills, local country icon John Anderson stopped to say a few words to the 500 people who attended a charity benefit concert last week.

"It's great to be down here again in Dade City," he said into the microphone, his voice booming off the walls as he briefly let go of his guitar. "My name is John Anderson and I'm from Apopka, Fla."

Cheers filled the room as Anderson and his band led into "A Small Farm in Kentucky."

Folks found room along the edges of the tables to dance and fiddle player Joe Spivey really brought them to their feet when he played his solo rendition of "Orange Blossom Special."

This year's fourth annual John Anderson

Anderson • Continued on Page 5A

Book Shack Begins New Chapter

Longtime Owner Turns Shop Over To Granddaughter

Story and photo by **Keri McAlpine**

For 37 years, Jo Kassabaum has owned and operated The Book Shack – a quiet used bookstore nestled near downtown Dade City. But after a "wonderful" time owning the store, Jo has decided to start a new chapter in her life.

Her grandson's wife, Kristy Kassabaum, is now the proud owner of the store, and has grand plans to bring it into modern times. A middle school language arts teacher, Kristy has had her eye on The Book Shack since she first walked into it nearly 17 years ago.



Kristy Kassabaum, left, will be taking over the Book Shack as its new owner at the end of the month. Jo Kassabaum, right, has owned the Book Shack for 37 years in Dade City.

Book Shack • Continued on Page 7A

INSIDE: Pg. 3A - Trilby/Lacoochee Cleanup Was Successful
Pg. 6A - Jim Browne Dealership Earns Award

Pg. 7A - San Antonio Millage Rate May Increase
Pg. 1B - Pirates Will Face Another Heavy-Hitter

Pg. 1B - Colts Beat Pirates 41-21
Pg. 1B - Joey Ivie Ready For Vols

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Dade City Arrests

Felon Faces Drug And Firearm Charges

Christopher E. Branham, 33, of 37127 Nicole Ave., Zephyrhills, was arrested by Dade City police on Sept. 4 on charges of possession of methamphetamine, possession of paraphernalia and possession of a firearm by a felon. Branham was found sleeping in his 2007 Ford at 5:18 a.m. at Circle K, 11715 U.S. 301, after a store employee called the police. The car was on, and he had reportedly been in it for several hours. Officers observed Branham slouched over the center console and not moving. They opened the doors, causing Branham to wake up. He told officers he did not need medical attention. Branham was asked to step out of the vehicle while a search of the car was conducted. A search of his person revealed a small bag containing what



field-tested positive as crystal methamphetamine in his right front pocket. A Ruger Nano 9 mm handgun in a zipper bag was located between Branham's feet. A computer search revealed he was a convicted felon for narcotics related charges. Several syringes were also located in the vehicle, which field-tested positive for methamphetamine. Branham was arrested and taken to the Pasco County Jail.

Cheyenne Hiracheta, 29, of 37321 Carter Ave., was arrested by Dade City police on Sept. 10 on charges of a charge of felon in possession of a firearm and on an active Pasco County warrant for failure to appear – petit theft. Contact was made with Hiracheta during a suspicious incident call. A computer check revealed the active warrant. Upon confirmation, she was taken to the Pasco County Jail.



Austin Clenith Henson, 19, of 13223 Waterford Castle Drive, was arrested by Dade City police on Sept. 8 on a charge of retail theft. Henson was at Walmart, 12650 U.S. 301, when loss prevention personnel observed him removing a watch from the jewelry section. He immediately went to the restroom and then walked out of the restroom wearing the watch with all tags removed. Henson then passed all points of sale without paying for the watch. Post Miranda, Henson admitted to stealing the watch, valued at \$32.92, claiming he needed it for his job. He was taken to the Pasco County Jail.

Michael Arlan Jones Jr., 33, of 14002 Morgan St., was arrested by Dade City police on Sept. 12 on an active Pasco County warrant for violation of probation – driving while license suspended or revoked with knowledge. Contact was made with Jones while he was walking down the road at the intersection of Morgan Street and Fergu-



son Avenue. After the warrant was confirmed, he was taken to the Pasco County Jail.

Rickey Allen Dees, 54, of 37840 Daughtery Road, Zephyrhills, was arrested by Dade City police on Sept. 6 on a charge of failure to appear – trespass. Contact was made with Dees on Church Avenue in reference to a panhandling call. A computer check revealed the active Pasco County warrant. Upon confirmation of the warrant, Dees was taken to the Pasco County Jail.



Zachary Castle, 22, of Trilby, was arrested by Dade City police on Sept. 11 on a charge of possession of marijuana, less than 20 grams. Contact was made with Castle during a traffic stop for having no tag light on a trailer being towed. The officer smelled a strong odor of unburned marijuana coming from the driver's side of the vehicle. All occupants exited the vehicle, and a search of the vehicle revealed a Swisher Sweet cigar bag hidden under the steering column. The bag contained what field-tested positive as marijuana. Castle, the driver and owner of the vehicle, was released with a notice to appear.

Ruby Sanchez Diaz, 51, of 37008 Patchoosa Ave., was arrested by Dade City police on Sept. 7 on a charge of retail petit theft. Diaz was at Walmart, 12650 U.S. 301 when she was observed taking a pair of pants from the men's department, removing the tags and then attempting to return them. Diaz exited the store with the pants without paying after a sales associate was unable to complete the return transaction. Diaz later admitted to these actions and provided a written statement. She was released with a notice to appear.

The information provided in the Dade City Police report is taken from public record. All parties are considered innocent until proven guilty.

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Trilby/Lacoochee Cleanup Was Successful



Shown are some of the more than 30 community members and supporters who helped clean up the Trilby and Lacoochee area last week.

Story and photo **Richard K. Riley**

Several volunteers participated in a Coastal Cleanup of the Trilby and Lacoochee area on Sept. 17. The cleanup was held from 8-11 a.m. Volunteers were asked to provide a minimum of one hour and most stayed longer. They stayed off county roads and other major roadways. The boat launch and rural areas along the Withlacoochee River couldn't be cleaned up this year because the river was running eight feet above normal, and was only a foot below flood stage. The high parking lot at the end of Coit Road in Lacoochee was not safe to clean up either as it was under six inches of water. The dumpster located at The

Christian Edge was filled in 2 1/2 hours with debris collected from both communities. Most of the trash was fast-food containers, Styrofoam, beer and wine bottles. One school desk (plastic and metal), half of a toilet (the top half), and a full couch also went into the dumpster. Almost no aluminum cans were found this year. Trash can always be found on the side of Old Trilby Road, Pine Products Road and Bower Road but they are so much easier to clean up. A wider swath could be cleaned because there was less trash present. A significant change has been made in the quality of area roadsides in the past 13 years.

PEDC • Continued from Page 1A

McKinnon said she believes the addition the hospital has made in the number of its employee physicians network was a contributing factor in receiving the award from PEDC. BHDC has 330 employees including 15 physicians who provide primary care and surgical specialties. Previously, BHDC had been viewed as a hospital that provided services to primarily the Dade City area, McKinnon said. That has changed, she added.

“We have expanded our footprint beyond Dade City to Zephyrhills and Wesley Chapel.”She added she believes the PEDC award has provided BHDC with more creditability regarding the services that are provided at the facility. “It will make consumers aware that Bayfront Health Dade City has partnered with various providers and offers services comparable to those offered by other hospitals in Pasco County,” McKinnon said.

Correction

The St. Leo Town Commission will hold a public hearing and final adoption

of its fiscal year 2016-17 budget on Monday at 7 p.m. The Sept. 15 edition of the Dade City News reported incorrect information regarding this hearing.

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East Pasco Events

- Sept. 23-25 – Inter-Tribal Native American Holiday Powwow** – Native crafts, demonstrations, singing, storytelling, native foods, and dancing competition will be featured. Cost is \$5 per person. Held at the Dade Battlefield Historic State Park, located at 7200 County Road 603 in Bushnell, from 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Call (352) 793-4781 for information.

Sept. 24 – Reach In Reach Out – Held at Agnes Lamb Park in Dade City, across from the Edwinola. This free event for youth starts at 6 p.m. and will feature live music, free food and prizes. A youth “explosion” hosted by Calvary Assembly of God in Dade City and the Dade City Youth Council. Call Lucy Avila at (352) 424-4972 for information.

Sept. 24 – Sew New Monthly Sewing Workshop – Free and general public is invited to come, learn and sew. Must bring your own sewing machine, supplies and extension cord. Since we work through the lunch hour, bring something for you to eat or share with the group. Held from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Holy Name Monastery, 12138 Wichers Road in St. Leo. Call Pasco County Co-op Extension at (352) 518-0156 for information.

Sept. 27 – Free Cancer Screening – September is National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month and Bayfront Health Medical Group will be offering free PSA testing and prostate exams to men 40+ from 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m. at 13933 17th St., Suite 201 in Dade City. A simple blood test could save your life. Call (352) 437-4505 to make an appointment and meet urologist, Dr. David Lustig.
- Sept. 28 – Wild Woods Foraging Class** – Join us for a wild foods foraging class from 9-11:30 a.m. We will collect native plants, prepare dishes and then sample our cooking. The cost is \$3 per vehicle for park entrance, \$2 per bicyclist or walk-in or annual park pass, plus a \$5 per person activity fee. Children 12 and under are free. The class will be held at the Dade Battlefield Historic State Park, located at 7200 County Road 603 in Bushnell. Call (352) 793-4781 for information.

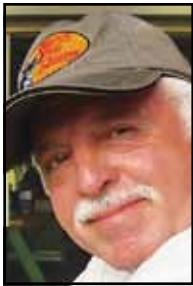
Sept. 30 – Cox Elementary 90th Anniversary – Rodney B. Cox Elementary School will have a celebration to honor 90 years of education in Pasco County at 9 a.m., in front of the school followed by light refreshments for guests in the school cafeteria. The public is invited. A second celebration is scheduled for January 2017. The school is located at 37615 Martin Luther King Blvd. Call Mary Jordan Anstead at (352) 524-5105 for information.

Oct. 1 – Growing and Cooking With Your Own Herbs – Come to this seminar and learn all about cooking with herbs and spices. Also, learn about growing these herbs in your own garden. Held from 9-11:30 a.m. at the Clayton Hall Pasco County Extension Office, 36702 S.R. 52. Call the UF/IFAS Extension Office at (352) 518-0156 for information.

Oct. 1 – Dade City Cruise-In – Held from 1:30-5:30 p.m. Cars of many makes and models cruise into Historic Downtown Dade City every first Saturday of the month. Shop, dine and enjoy the cars. Call the Dade City Chamber at (352) 567-3769 for information.

For more events visit
www.pasconewspublications.com

Commentary



First Things First

Greg First

Bucs Put All Their Eggs In One Basket

A year ago when the controversial Jameis Winston, an FSU graduate, took the field in his new NFL Tampa Bay Buccaneer uniform under head coach Lovie Smith, he was seen blowing kisses to the crowd. The proud Winston and the Buc’s came up short at that game to the Tennessee Titans by a score of 42 – 14. He was an embarrassment to his team and the dwindling number of fans that paid good money to see what the number one draft pick could bring to the table. They ended the 2015 season with 6 wins and 10 losses.

So now fast forward to 2016. To me the preseason games don’t mean a whole lot except to try out some of the things that you have been working on. There is a big difference playing against each other versus playing real teams. Those teams also want to try out what they have been practicing during training camp and winning is not the ultimate goal. Now that the regular season has begun the win/loss column takes on a whole new meaning.

The beginning of every season is exciting and most teams hope to give it their best shot. The Buc’s are no different. They started the year with

a brand new head coach Dirk Koetter. He was not new to the team. He was the offensive coordinator. The Buc’s finished in last place in the NFC South for the 2015 season. After winning the first game of the regular season this year against the Atlanta Falcons 31 -24 the chants started that the Buc’s were number one. That is not the case.

Week 2 turned out to be a disaster as Heisman winner Winston was responsible for 5 turnovers. The commentators for the game were still trying to praise him saying that he stayed in there and fought to the end. I am still wondering why they didn’t take him out after a second half comeback didn’t happen. It did happen quite a bit during his college days at Florida State and at last week’s game against the Falcons. The guys on TV also said that Buc’s management has put the total weight of the team on Winston’s shoulders.

I am not a Jameis Winston fan. I will give him credit that he played a good game in college but when you look at the whole person he gets a failing grade. His off the field antics cancelled out anything good that might have happened on the field. He is not the type of role model that I would want my kids looking up to. When the Buc’s got Winston in the draft they said he would be a good fit to Buccaneer football. I guess they got the guy that they wanted.

The NFL turned their back on Tim Tebow because they didn’t like him praying and giving the glory to God. Now Colin Kapernik is being high fived by many saying this is a free country and he doesn’t have to stand during the National Anthem if he doesn’t want to.

First • Continued on Page 7A

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Dade City News

Anderson • Continued from Page 1A

Benefit Concert, hosted by the Dade City Kiwanis Foundation, brought Anderson from his current home in Tennessee to his home state of Florida to perform Sept. 15. He often returns to Dade City to go hunting with life-long friends, and to perform for this benefit concert.

Organizer Ron Oakley said the amount of money raised has not been totaled yet, but he estimated that event raised anywhere from \$65,000 to \$70,000. Last year's event raised about \$60,000.

All proceeds from the benefit concert are to be evenly distributed between eight East Pasco charities: Bayfront Health Dade City Scholarship Fund, Dade City Kiwanis Foundation, Florida Hospital Zephyrhills Heart Institute, Sunrise of Pasco County, The Thomas Promise Foundation, Lewis Abraham Boys and Girls Club of Lacoochee, Humane Society of Pasco County and Restored Hope.

"We've had four of them [benefits] and

this has been the best as far as money raised,” Oakley said confidently. “It was really great. I can’t imagine it went as well as it did, but it did.”

An auction of 11 items before Anderson's performance brought in \$22,850, which was about \$5,000 more than last year's auction proceeds.

The final auction item boasted a dinner for eight at Oakley's home (food and cocktails provided) and brought in \$6,200, as two dinners ended up being sold to the highest bidders.

The auction was called by Gordon Hyde, assisted by two men in the crowd who scanned the audience for bidders, throwing up their turquoise colored napkins to alert Hyde of a bidder.

“I see a hand way in the back. Sir, are you bidding? Because I’ve sold farms that way,” Hyde joked to a potential bidder. He screamed whenever the bidding came to a lull, reminding the crowd, “It’s only money! And it’s for a good cause!”

Other big ticket items included a Green



Jim Browne Dealership Earns Award

Fiat Chrysler Rates Dade City Car Dealer Among Best

Story and photo by **Keri McAlpine**

Jim Browne Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram of Dade City is leading the pack of 2,800 Chrysler dealerships nationwide in excellence. The local dealership was one of four in the state that received the Fiat Chrysler Automobiles Customer First Award for Excellence. Of those four in Florida, Jim Browne was the only dealership on the Gulf Coast.

“These dealerships will be able to proudly differentiate themselves as elite stores,” said Al Gardner, Head of Network Development for FCA-North America.

This is the inaugural year that the manufacturer has handed out the award, and dealership owner Jim Browne said he was “very pleased” when he heard the news about a month ago.

“We’ve built an organization on doing the fundamentals the right way and doing things the right way for all of our customers,” Browne said. “So it wasn’t a stretch for us. It wasn’t something extraordinary we had to go through.”

The dealership has 36 employees. “The group here worked hard to achieve the basic five core elements that we needed” to earn the award, Browne said. The five core pillars of excellence determined by the award are facility, customer process, performance, employee survey and training certification.

Since the award will go on to be presented to deserving dealerships annually, Browne expects to retain the honor at his dealership at 12020 U.S. 301.

“At the end of the day, we’re a member of a relatively small community – when you do things right people know about it and when you do things wrong people know about it,” he said.

“We intend to do the fundamentals the right way”.



Jim Browne Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram of Dade City’s owner Jim Browne, left, and general manager Dale Allison hold the dealership’s first Fiat Chrysler Automobiles Customer First Award for Excellence. The local dealership was one of four dealerships in the state to earn the inaugural award.

CRA • Continued from Page 1A

Newlon also asked if the \$10,000 that the Merchants Association was seeking to pay for Christmas decorations later this year was included in the budget.

City Manager Billy Poe told her the funds for those agencies were indeed included in the proposed budget, which takes effect Oct. 1.

Newlon also cast the lone dissenting vote during the July meeting in which the CRA board approved payment to the two nonprofit agencies. She said at that time that the city’s CRA plan did not contain any specific reference permitting the chamber or the merchants’ association to receive money.

Since being elected in April, Newlon has questioned

how the city is using CRA funds, arguing that they should be used to alleviate slum and blighted conditions within the district.

City Attorney Karla S. Owens drafted agreements for both agencies for the July meeting and told board members the agreements specifically spelled out what services the chamber and the merchants association were supposed to provide. Owens added that she was confident that the agreements were legally defensible.

Dade City is in the process of rewriting its CRA plan.

To date, Dade City’s CRA 1 is generally bounded by Bougainvillea Avenue to the south; 15th Street to the

west; Lock Street to the north; and Sumer Lake Road to the east.

CRA District 2 is generally bounded by Coleman Avenue to the south; Ninth Street to the west; Howard Avenue to the north; and Sixth Street to the east.

Increased property taxes that result from improvements made within the two districts go into Dade City’s CRA fund. The money is used to pay for projects that help increase the value of other properties within the CRA district.

A second public hearing on the CRA budget and final adoption is scheduled for Monday at 5:30 p.m., at city hall.

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For all members of the Pasco County Branch of the NAACP



The following information is provided pursuant to the By Laws and Voting Manual for Branches of the NAACP:

- Election of a Nominating Committee on September 30, 2016, at a 6:30 general membership meeting.
This committee will nominate candidates for office and for members at large for the Executive Committee.
- Election of a Election Supervisory Committee on October 13, 2016, at the 7:30 general membership meeting.
The election will be held to elect an Election Supervisory Committee consisting of five members to supervise Branch elections.
- Branch Elections will be held on Saturday, November 19, 2016, with polls opening at 11:00 am and closing at 3:00 pm.
This is the Branch elections to elect officers and members at large to serve as members of the Executive Committee for the next Two (2) years.

All activities will take place at the Fellowship Hall of St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church located at 14578 7th Street, Dade City.

Your attendance and participation in the above activities is greatly appreciated.



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San Antonio Millage Rate May Increase

San Antonio property owners may pay slightly more this year under a budget for fiscal year 2016-17 that is scheduled to be adopted Sept. 21 at 7 p.m.

The proposed millage rate is 3.5750,

which is 2.15 percent higher than last year's adopted mill rate of 3.5000.

A public hearing was scheduled to be held at City Hall, 32819 Pennsylvania Ave., prior to adoption of the budget that will be effective Oct. 1.

Book Shack • Continued from Page 1A

"I've always loved it," Kristy said. "Being a language arts teacher, you already have the love for reading, so I always felt like I wanted to spend hours and hours in here when I first got here."

Although Jo is handing over the reigns, she is making her transition gradual and will continue to work in the store until the end of the school year. After that, the two will re-evaluate and look at their options, Kristy said.

With the new store scheduled to open Oct. 1, it would make it 37 years to the day after Jo opened the doors in 1979.

Kristy has been working on setting up the store's new location on Seventh Street downtown, between William's Lunch on Limoge and Kiefer's Fine Jewelers, only four blocks away from it's current home.

She said she hopes the new location will bring in more foot traffic, as well as continue to cater to Jo's already loyal customers. Jo said she has seen three generations of families come into her store since it opened. The new location is smaller, about 1,000 square feet, but it goes along with Kristy's vision of a fresh, but cozy bookstore.

"I can't wait, I'm very excited," Kristy said about owning the business. "It's been a whirlwind for the past month, at least, because that's when everything started falling into place. I think once we open I'll be able to take a sigh of relief over there."

Currently, The Book Shack operates thanks to Jo's decades of memorizing what the store currently has on the shelves and where the books are located. Customers routinely trade in books, so the inventory is constantly changing.

Instead of learning where all of the books are placed, Kristy, 30, has been

working to catalogue the vast quantity of books the store possesses into a computer program.

Neither Kristy or Jo know the exact number of books on the shelves, but they will find out soon, once all of the books are logged. Kristy said she has logged about 3,000 books in the mystery section alone.

The Book Shack will also bring in a line of toys, candles and other merchandise to sell alongside the books.

"I found a candle line that is all book-related scents. There is a scent that is called 'old paperback,'" Kristy said with a smile.

Jo was convinced to open The Book Shack by her sister-in-law who also owned a bookshop in Wisconsin. She herself reads two to three books a week, normally gravitating towards mystery novels or anything with a good story line.

Despite her obvious love and dedication to the store, Jo decided to retire and spend more time with her husband at their home in Weeki Wachee.

"It's been fun. I really liked it," was all Jo could muster out before her eyes started to water. She said she gets sentimental when she starts thinking about her customers.

One of Jo's biggest pieces of advice after working in a bookstore for about half of her life is to only read books you like.

"I am old enough that if I don't like it I don't have to finish it," she explained. "I have to convince people that you don't have time to read every book you want to. If it isn't good put it down. Find a good one."

Visit The Book Shack's Facebook page for information about the move and new store location.

First • Continued from Page 4A

To me this is treason. They are right about one thing. America is a free country and we don't have to watch or attend an NFL game if we don't want to. From what I am seeing and reading

and with the NFL trying to follow the path of others and be politically correct I am sticking to our community football and college football programs. To me that is what football is really all about.

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