

CLEMENS HOPEFUL
YANKEES HURLER EYES RETURN
FOLLOWING ELBOW INJURY **SPORTS/2B**



HOOPS SUCCESS

WHEATFIELD NATIVE WALKED ONTO
UB TEAM, EARNS SCHOLARSHIP **SPORTS/1B**



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NIAGARA GAZETTE

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2007

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LOTS OF TOURISTS

Labor Day leads to record-breaking number of visitors at the falls.
LOCAL, 3A

3 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW TODAY

1 Niagara Falls mayoral hopeful Norton Douglas is vowing to continue his fight to get back on the ballot.
LOCAL, 3A

2 A report says aging baby boomers in upstate New York will likely place a concentrated demand for services in cities and older suburbs already facing financial challenges.
STATE, 8A

3 Mattel Inc. will announce today the recall of a third batch of Chinese-made toys because they may contain excessive amounts of lead paint.
NEWS FLASH, 7A

WHERE TO TURN

STATE LOTTERIES
Please see page 3A

AREA OBITUARIES
Please see pages 4-5A

WEATHER
Please see page 2A



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DEADLY WHEATFIELD CRASH LEAVES FAMILY SHATTERED



JAMES NEISS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

RESCUE EFFORT: Firefighters, Mercy Flight and ambulance workers rush an auto accident victim to an awaiting helicopter for transport to the hospital from the parking lot of the St. Johnsburg Fire Company on Niagara Falls Boulevard. Randall and Roseanne Burgio of Wheatfield were killed in the accident while their daughters Ashley and Jillian were taken to ECMC with serious injuries.

Parents are killed, daughters undergo surgery at ECMC

BY DAN MINER
minerd@gnewspringer.com

A husband and wife from Wheatfield were killed Tuesday afternoon in a three-vehicle crash on Niagara Falls Boulevard between Ward Road and Maple Drive.

Randall Burgio, 55, a Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority officer, and Roseanne Burgio, 49, who lived on David Drive, were pronounced dead after their black Toyota RAV4, driving toward Niagara Falls, collided with a tractor-trailer traveling in the opposite direction. The RAV4 then spun around and was hit by a City of Lockport garbage truck, according to the New York State Police. The initial collision happened when either the RAV4 or the tractor-trailer crossed the double yellow line and struck the other, but



AT THE SCENE: State police investigators and a volunteer firefighter examine the scene of a fatal accident on Niagara Falls Boulevard just north of Maple Drive.

police are not yet clear on the details. "There's not a lot of roads that size with that many

vehicles which don't have a center median," said Sgt. Kevin Anger of the New York State Police. "Traffic is only inches from each other and if one vehicle moves a few inches over the line, that's what happens."

The daughters of the Burgios, Ashley, 22, and Jillian, 17, were also in the vehicle and sustained injuries, according to Anger. Ashley was still in surgery on Tuesday night at 10 p.m., while Jillian was out of surgery and was being transferred to the hospital's intensive care unit in critical condition.

Utica resident James Nessler, 17, who was driving the tractor-trailer, and City

SEE **CRASH** ON PAGE 3A

Use of animal traps sparks SPCA's ire

ANIMAL SAFETY: Two cats found caught in leg traps in recent weeks.

BY PAUL LANE
lanep@gnewspringer.com

Niagara County SPCA officials are concerned after having seen two cats caught in leg traps over the past couple weeks.

After having not seen a trapped cat in several years, two have been brought to the SPCA's attention of late — one

"This could very well have been a small child. There's got to be small children playing in these areas."

— SPCA Executive Director Al Chille

Aug. 23 on Woodland Drive in the Town of Niagara, and the other Tuesday morning in a ditch on Callan Drive in the Town of Lewiston.

Both cats were found the same way, with a rounded, metal trap clamped over one leg; the traps on each of the cats looked identical. The fact that the traps were used —

combined with the residential locations in which the cats were found — has SPCA Executive Director Al Chille upset.

"This could very well have been a small child," he said. "There's got to be small children playing in these areas."

Depending on circumstances, trapping may be allowed in residential areas to

control "nuisance wildlife" such as squirrels, said Gordon Batcheller, a wildlife biologist with the Department of Environmental Conservation in Albany. Since these traps have no names on them, though, they are illegal; the law requires traps to have the trapper's name and address on them.

"I'm not saying in this circumstance that the traps were set with wisdom," he said. "There theoretically could be a situation where it could be legal."

SEE **TRAPS** ON PAGE 8A

COUNTY COURT

'Chase' is on in slaying

COURTS: Jamaican gang member charged in November shooting death of Orlando McClain.

BY RICK PFEIFFER
pfeifferr@gnewspringer.com

LOCKPORT — Clyde "Chase" Anderson wasn't sure why he was being brought to Niagara County Court on Tuesday afternoon.

When his lawyer told him what was going on, he scowled and shook his head.

Anderson became the first person charged in the home invasion slaying of Orlando McClain. He was arraigned on a grand jury indictment charging him with two counts of second-degree murder, four counts of first-degree burglary and a single charge of second-degree criminal possession of a weapon.

The murder charges come just two days before Anderson was due to be released from Niagara County Jail, where he was serving a year for a drug possession conviction.

Over objects from his court-appointed defense lawyer, Judge Peter Broderick ordered Anderson held in lieu of \$150,000 bail.

SEE **SLAYING** ON PAGE 5A

ELECTION 2007

Debates for city seats tonight

POLITICS: Democratic candidates for mayor, council will meet the public at NFHS.

BY RICK FORGIONE
forgioner@gnewspringer.com

Residents undecided about who to support for Niagara Falls mayor and City Council this year can gain a better perspective during a candidates debate tonight at Niagara Falls High School's Performing Arts Center.

Mayoral hopefuls Paul Dyster and Lewis "Babe" Rotella will field questions regarding city issues beginning at 7 p.m. That debate will be followed at 8:15 p.m. with a forum between council candidates Robert Anderson Jr., Nicholas Ligamari and Steve Fournier Jr.

All five candidates invited tonight are running in the Democratic primary on Sept. 18. Republican candidates Candra Thomason,

SEE **DEBATES** ON PAGE 5A

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