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846-5933

FOR RENT

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omestic Services now hiring for part-time day-time surs. Flexible scheduling for cleaning homes in Bryan Station area. Need phone and own transportation eterences required. Call 690-6882.

easing agent needed for small apartment complex prop resume by 1300 Walton Drive, C.Sta.

ow Hiring!! Barracuda Bar. Must be TABC certified. or more information call 268-0997, Mon.-Fri., noon-

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Reading this will bring you an extra \$140/month CASH. In a gentle, easy way. CASH. In a gentle, easy way. You lie back in a soft chair, get a pin-prick & you're free to read, study, talk or dream. 60-minutes & you're up and away, cash in hand, smiling. The Plasma Center. 4223-Wellborn Rd. 846-8855. 700-University Dr. E. 268-6050.

ances. If interested please send resume with references or D.W. Presley, P.O.Box 242, Madisonville, Texas, 77864 or call Daylyn at (409)395-3533.

Lynntech, Inc. Part time Office Runner. 20-30 hours per week. Must have dependable transportation and clean driving record. Applicant needs to be able to lift at least 50 pounds. Send resume and hours available to Lynntech, Inc. 7610 Eastmark Drive, Suite 105, College Station, Texas 77840. EOE (caldwell@myriad.net).

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VIP Research is seeking individuals 18 years and older with recurrent genital nerpes for a research study of an investigational oral medication. A current herpes outbreak is not necessary Up to \$400 will be paid to qualified rolunteers who enroll and complete this study.

FEVER BLISTER/ **COLD SORE**

VIP Research is seeking individuals 18 years and older with history of recurrent fever blister/cold sores for a research study with an investigational oral medication. Individuals that qualify and complete the study will receive up to \$400 for their participation. AN ACTIVE FEVER BLISTER IS NOT REQUIRED TO QUALIFY FOR THIS STUDY. PLEASE CALL FOR MORE NFORMATION.

For more information, call:

VIP Research, Inc. 776-1417

PROFITABLE NUMBER!

845-0569

THE BATTALION Classified Advertising

4 SPORTS

Inflated salaries, egos start early in baseball

few weeks ago, I A spoke to an acquaintance of mine, who was concerned about her son. Jamie, and his fledgling baseball career. Jamie had played organized baseball in a church league for the past few vears and his baseball skills were improving rapidly enough that he was ahead of many of his teammates

in terms of ability. This came as no surprise to me, as Jamie had always been an intelligent lad who enjoyed and even studied the game of baseball for most of his nine years. My friend's dilemma was how she should handle her son's success on the diamond.

Jamie was nearing the age when the obviously talented players were being encouraged to leave the church league, which is centered around participation and inspiring self-confidence. Instead, all the adept youngsters would be moved to the more challenging Little League, including Jamie, where he was more likely to hone his burgeoning skills, albeit at the risk of his losing his feelings of athletic superiority.

My friend was warned by peers that if Jamie didn't make the "jump" soon, he would miss his window of opportunity and fall so far behind the Little League kids that he would never have the chance to realize every kid's dream, of playing in the Big Leagues.

Does anyone else see the beginnings of a problem here?

Jamie was being asked to forsake the fun he was having in a lower-key, fun-oriented league, to join a more stressful, competitive league whose sometimes win-at-all-costs mentality has been known to foster poor sportsmanship and values

among its players.
Sounds like just another symptom of the competition-

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CHAMBER

CONCERTS

1997

in. It's just a shame that it should come so early, and at the expense of such innocent and impressionable young athletes. From an early age, parents and coaches

MATT MITCHELL alike spot the talented kids and, faster than Junior journalism major you can say signing bonus, shove the

players into more and more competitive leagues.

Summer leagues like Connie Mack and American Legion force-feed a steady diet of baseball and heady self-importance to players who would otherwise be acclimating themselves to the responsibilities and pleasures of being ordinary teenagers, without the ego-trips provided by aluminum bats and hyperbolic

As it is, the game is tainted by hulking, undisciplined hitters, who now rely more on the weight room than batting cages to boost numbers."

All this might be more palatable if the brand of baseball we watch was that much improved because of this early rush to stardom. As it is, the game is tainted by hulking, undisciplined hitters, who now rely more on the weight room than batting cages to boost numbers.

With a shrinking strike zone, protecting these free-swingers, pitchers often fail to learn the subtleties of their craft and settle

nique, then watch as surgeries and torn rotator cuffs rob them

Monday • June 9, 1997

of their careers. Today's fans decry the Major League's inflated salaries, but it's obvious that they are apropos of the status that is bestowed upon today's coddled diamond darlings. Prep players are often offered more money to forego higher education to begin their careers in Class A Flyswat

est of teams who are willing to throw gobs of money at them. Just last week, the Houston Astros selected Rice slugger Lance Berkman with the 16th overall pick in the Major League draft, after which Berkman promptly stated his

estimated value. "I think last year's pick in the same slot got just over \$900,000," Berkman said. "So I would assume the number would be around anywhere

from \$1 million to \$1.2 million." Not bad for one really good 56-game season and some help from the common element aluminum. You have to think Class A Kissimmee got a real bargain if, and this is no foregone conclusion, the cash-strapped Astros can sign him.

The best player in the draft, Florida State outfielder J.D. Drew was passed over by Detroit with the first pick because he was reportedly going to break the bank in Tigertown. So much for "just happy to be here."

I told my friend, as well as Jamie, just to have fun and let the rest take care of itself. After all, if today's Major Leaguers are who we're asking our kids to emulate and one day imitate, I'd just as soon as Jamie develop his other talents. Signing bonuses

Relative unknown wins French Open

most people had never heard of Gustavo Kuerten. Guess what? The 20-year Brazilian nicknamed

"Guga" is a Grand Slam champion. 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 Sunday to win the French Open and become the lowest ranked player (No. 66) to capture a Grand Slam title.

The victory capped one of the most improbable tournaments in Grand Slam history, with a player coming out of nowhere to beat three former French Open champions en route to his first tourlevel victory of any kind. QUIAND GAR

Kuerten is the first Brazilian man to win a Grand Slam, and only the third unseeded player to win the French Open, following Marcel Bernard in 1946 Mats Wilander in 1982.

Kuerten had never advanced past a quarterfinal in any tour-level event and was playing only the 49th match of his career. Three weeks ago, he was playing - and winning — a small-time satellite tournament in Curitiba, Brazil. Yet, Kuerten sailed through a

field decimated by upsets, beating former champions Thomas Muster (1995), Yevgeny Kafelnikov (1996) and Bruguera (1993, 1994) along the way. Kuerten's victory followed Saturday's surprise in the

women's final, where No. 9 Iva Majoli stunned Martina Hingis in straight sets to become the lowest seeded Grand Slam champion of the Open era. Urged on by his grandmother, Olga, and other family and friends, pumped up by chants of "Gu-Ga!

Gu-Ga!" Kuerten played a virtually

flawless match, seemingly oblivi-

ous to the grandeur of the occa-

sion, grinning throughout. "I did every shot perfectly," he said. "Today was my best match of the tournament. I didn't think, Wow, it's a final and I have to

The match lasted 1 hour, 50 minutes, the fastest final since 1980 when Mats Wilander beat Germains in

Kuerten bowed deeply to sixtime French Open champion Bjorn Borg, who presented him with the trophy. He also embraced Guillermo Vilas, winner in 1977, before holding up the cup and

"It was the first time I really believed that I had won, Kuerten said.

tory to his father, who died while umpiring a tenwhen Kuerten was 8 years old.

really loved and I miss him a lot," Kuerten said. "This trophy and

An hour after the match, a samba band struck up Brazilian rhythms inside the Roland Garros complex, with fans chanting, "Gu-Ga! Gu-Ga!" Kuerten emerged on a balcony with his coach, Larri Passos. He struggled to pop open

spraying the bubbly over his fans. 'I never won a title — that's why I don't know how to open

Hailing from the seaside town of Florianopolis in the southern Brazilian state of Santa Caterina, Kuerten is a scrawny 6-foot-3 surfing enthusiast who looks as if he could have walked straight off

Dressed from head to toe in the colors of Brazil, he wore a blue and yellow shirt, blue shorts, yellow socks, blue shoes and a checkered bandana. The only white in his outfit was a small stripe down

City. Even if these would-be mil-

lionaires elect for the college game, it usually only takes one solid season to attract the inter-

win.' I just play like I practice. I was pretty relaxed."

He dedicated the vic-

"He was the person I

this tournament goes to him, and I'm sure he's really happy right now.

a bottle of champagne before

champagne," he said.

the beach.

the side of his shorts.