

LOCAL TIED FOR FIRST



Stockton native Ricky Barnes, Lucas Glover lead U.S. Open at 7 under; Tiger Woods tied for eighth place. Please see Sports, Page 9.

LEARNING TO WALK AGAIN

Physical therapist at Lodi Memorial Hospital shows off machine that helps patients relearn how to walk. Please see Panorama, Page 6.

THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE

Occasional Google Alerts give reporters a look at life in another Galt — this one in Missouri. Please see Page 3.

90 YEARS OF A&W ROOT BEER

Mom and daughter from Missouri get free weekend in Lodi

By Ross Farrow
NEWS-SENTINEL STAFF WRITER

The closest that April Anderson had been to Lodi was San Juan Capistrano and San Diego. But the Springfield, Mo., resident spent the weekend in Lodi after winning a contest sponsored by A&W Root Beer in connection with the restaurant's 90th birthday bash on Lodi Avenue.

"I hadn't heard of Lodi," Anderson said. "I've been told there is a song about Lodi."

She brought her mother, Peggy, for a VIP tour of everything Lodi. They were joined by local winners Lucy and Scott Molinari, who own Minerva's Fine Furnishings on Oak Street.

"I think it's a wonderful place. It kind of reminds me of where we're from," April Anderson said. "There is lots to see and do, and it's close to lots of other places. They have so much to offer."

After Lodi Chamber of Commerce President/CEO Pat Patrick picked up the visitors from Missouri on Thursday, the Andersons were treated to a spa treatment at Wine & Roses before heading to the Farmers Market and dinner at Lodi Beer Co.

"I really liked the Downtown, the Farmers Market," said April Anderson, who enjoyed talking to the farmers peddling their crops. "We got a real feel for the city there."

The Andersons also enjoyed seeing the A&W plaque, marking the site of the original A&W site on Pine Street, a half-block from the Lodi Arch. The three wineries they saw represented a new experience to them.

"I didn't realize how much work went into it," April Anderson said.

And chocolate pasta? Yep, they have it in Clements, but not in Springfield, Mo.

The Andersons were also impressed with the Gold Rush-era buildings they saw, and how green and lush it is in Lodi.

Please see A&W Root Beer, Page 8



Ray Recinos, left, and Ed Batt admire a classic car during the A&W Root Beer 90th anniversary celebration on Saturday.



A&W 90th Birthday VIP winners April Anderson and her mother, Peggy Anderson, from Springfield, Mo., are greeted at Sacramento International Airport by the Root Beer Bear. The Andersons were treated to a VIP tour of the Lodi area as part of the anniversary festivities.

A full weekend in Lodi

Here's how mother and daughter Peggy and April Anderson, of Springfield, Mo., and Lodi merchants Lucy and Scott Molinari spent their whirlwind weekend in Lodi:

• **Thursday:** Fly to Sacramento; spa treatment at Wine & Roses, Farmers Market in Downtown Lodi, dinner at Lodi Beer Co.

• **Friday:** Breakfast at Wine & Roses, tours of Woodbridge and Van Ruiten wineries and Chocoholics in Clements, lunch at Phillips Farms and Michael-David Winery, private tour of the Lodi Wine & Visitors Center, boat tour of the Mokelumne River from Lodi Lake and a Lodi Baseball Club game at Torry Zupo Field. They threw out the ceremonial first pitch at the game.

• **Saturday:** Tours of Micke Grove Zoo and the San Joaquin County Historical Museum, box lunch at Micke Grove Park, a tour of the World of Wonders Science Museum and the big A&W birthday bash, featuring a live band, 200 classic cars and cake for 5,000 people.

• **Sunday:** Breakfast at Wine & Roses, late-morning flight home.

— Source: Peter Knight, A&W Root Beer.

Crisis forces deep cuts in state schools

Districts are laying off thousands with state schools already near rock bottom in U.S.

By Terence Chea
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

RICHMOND — California's historic budget crisis threatens to devastate a public education system that was once considered a national model but now ranks near the bottom in school funding and academic achievement.

Deep budget cuts are forcing California school districts to lay off thousands of teachers, expand class sizes, close schools, eliminate bus service, cancel summer school programs, and possibly shorten the academic year.

Without a strong economic recovery, which few experts predict, the reduced school funding could last for years, shortchanging millions of students, driving away residents and businesses, and darkening California's economic future.

"California used to lead the nation in education," U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan said during a recent visit to San Francisco. "Honestly, I think Cal-

Lodi man helps win Army National Guard contest

Joseph De Anda Sr., a member of the California National Guard unit based in Lodi, shows his compass



By Ross Farrow
NEWS-SENTINEL STAFF WRITER

GALT — A Lodi Army National Guard member who grew up in Lodi is part of a seven-man artillery team named the "Top Gun of the Battalion" in a competition against a Southern California team.

Private 1st Class Joseph De Anda Sr., 46, re-

"Freedom Defenders for Excellence" coin a two for "excellence in performance."

As a National Guardsman, De Anda served one weekend a month on guard duty and two weeks of training during the year. It was during the two-week training period this month that he competed against the rival team.

De Anda's duty was to be "powder monkey" where he handed his teammates fuses