

RIO GRANDE VALLEY

Former Cowboy visits Brownsville

Novacek warns parents not to pressure children

BY GILBERTO SALINAS
THE BROWNSVILLE HERALD

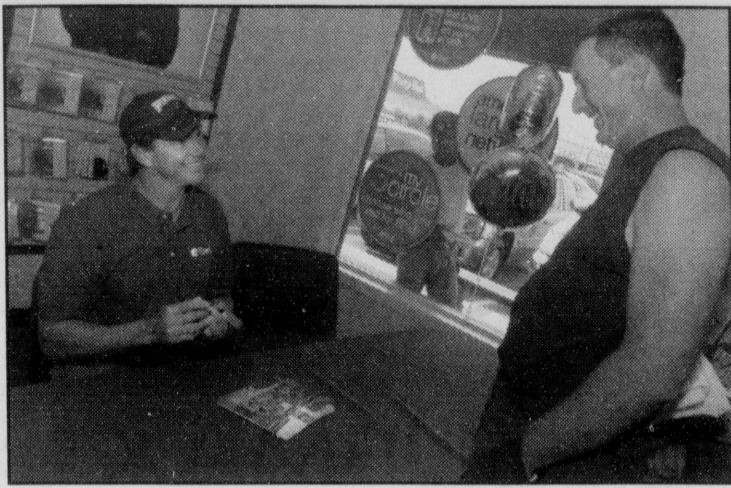
Former Dallas Cowboy All-Pro Jay Novacek cautions parents about pressuring young children into rigid and structured sports.

"I don't like pee-wee football. They don't need that," the three-time Super Bowl winner said. "I think it's neat to have organizations and have them get involved, but children don't need the pressure."

"They need to learn to be puppies first. Let them be kids."

Novacek admits that he grew up around football. His father was a football and track coach in rural Nebraska. Novacek, however, didn't begin playing football until the seventh grade.

"Look at me, it didn't affect me one bit," the five-time Pro Bowl tight end said. "You have to let them get out and be themselves. You have to let them



BRAD DOHERTY/THE BROWNSVILLE HERALD

Former Dallas Cowboys tight end Jay Novacek chats Thursday with Beaumont resident Bruce White before signing a photograph of a touchdown he made during Super Bowl XXX.

play." Novacek was in town to promote the grand opening of the Alltel Wireless, 2200 Boca Chica Blvd., which took over Cellular One in the Rio Grande Valley.

"Since I was a little kid, I wanted to be in the NFL or the NBA," he said. "I knew that's what I wanted to do."

Luckily for the Cowboys,

Novacek took the NFL route.

Novacek started playing for the then-St. Louis Cardinals in 1985 and ended up with the Cowboys in 1990.

Novacek won Super Bowls in 1992, 1993 and 1995, posting a combined 17 catches for 148 yards and two touchdowns in the three title games.

He appeared in five consecutive Pro Bowls until he retired

after the 1995 season.

In his 11-year career, he caught 442 passes for 4,620 yards and 30 touchdowns.

His teammates, which include Troy Aikman, Emmitt Smith and Michael Irvin, dubbed him the "Paycheck" because every pass was sure to be caught and cashed in.

However, Novacek was quick to say that his trips to the Super Bowl and the numbers he posted as a Cowboy are not entirely attributed to his athleticism.

"Lots of players and coaches in the NFL will tell you that so much of the game is mental," he said. "You really have to be on top of things."

"Being strong, fast and athletic is important," he said. "But if you're not mentally tough, then you're not going to make it. About 90 percent of football is mental."

Today, Novacek owns the Upper 84 Ranch just outside of Brady, Nebraska, a 3,600-acre hunting ranch. He is also host of the Jay Novacek Football Camp for teenagers every summer at the University of North Texas in Denton.

gsalinas@brownsvilleherald.com

County's former legal counsel arrested

Charles Wright once again accused of exposing self

BY EMMA PEREZ-TREVIÑO
THE BROWNSVILLE HERALD

Former Cameron County Commissioners Court counsel Charles Douglas Wright was back in South Padre Island's jail on Thursday after he was again accused of exposing himself.

This is the second time in a year the 57-year-old Island resident and practicing attorney was arrested and accused of exposing himself while sunbathing on the beach.

While Wright faced misdemeanor charges on Aug. 13 of public intoxication and disorderly conduct, this time, according to Island public information officer Jason E. Moody, Wright faces a felony charge of indecency with a child.

In a statement issued Thursday, Moody said Wright would be arraigned today before Municipal Court Judge Paul Hemphill.

Moody said police officers were called to the 6600 block of Padre beach at 11 a.m. Officers contacted several witnesses who identified Wright.

Wright currently is on probation and deferred adjudication for striking a traffic sign and fence at the

Island in November 2004. He also had been charged with driving while intoxicated and unlawfully carrying a weapon.

County Court-at-Law No. 3 Judge Daniel T. Robles deferred a finding of guilt in March 2005 for striking the sign and fence pending successful completion of a six-month probationary period. Robles dismissed the DWI and weapons charges.

After Wright was charged with exposing himself in August, District Attorney Armando Villalobos unsuccessfully attempted to have Wright's probation revoked. Robles instead extended Wright's probation by nine months through June 28 this year.

Wright resigned as legal counsel for Commissioners Court on Aug. 23, and public records reflect that he has been practicing law at the Island.

The DA's office plans to return to Robles' court, First Assistant District Attorney Charles Mattingly said Thursday.

Because Wright is on deferred adjudication, meaning that a final conviction has not been returned against him, Mattingly said the DA's office would request that Wright's probation be revoked and that a conviction be entered.

eperez-trevino@brownsvilleherald.com

Police: Man tries to develop film of nude boys

BY SERGIO CHAPA
THE BROWNSVILLE HERALD

Police arrested a 49-year-old man on Wednesday after he allegedly tried to develop nude photographs of the two young boys who he claimed he was trying to "discipline."

Brownsville police arrested Eleasar Villaseñor on a sexual performance by a child charge at 4:19 p.m. Wednesday, according to jail records.

Brownsville Police Sgt. Jimmy

Manrique said that Villaseñor took exposed 35mm film to be developed at the Walgreen's drug store at 770 W. Elizabeth St. at 12:35 p.m. Wednesday.

Manrique said clerks at the store's photo counter called police after they realized the film contained pictures of two nude boys exposing themselves.

Under state law, photo clerks and everyone else in Texas are compelled to report child abuse to authorities.

Police arrested Villaseñor and charged him with sexual performance by a child, a

second-degree felony punishable by from two to 20 years in prison and up to a \$10,000 fine.

The 49-year-old man told police that the 6- and 8-year-old boys were under his care at the time he took the pictures.

Villaseñor claims that he took the photos to "discipline" the boys by threatening to show them to their teachers or friends if they misbehaved.

Regardless of intent, Manrique said taking such images is illegal. Villaseñor remained in custody under a \$50,000 bond.

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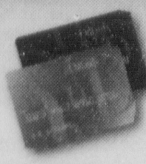
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