



# Teen sentenced to life in prison for murders

Mark Alvarez was convicted of killing Elizabeth Johnson and Curtis Tenney

BY MEGAN V. WINSLOW  
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**OKEECHOBEE** — If others helped him kill Curtis Wayne Tenney and Elizabeth Ann Johnson, Mark Anthony Alvarez did not name them Friday, even when a judge sentenced him to life in prison.

Instead, as he did throughout the trial, Alvarez sat silently slouched in his chair when the couple's family members addressed him from the witness stand, rage in their eyes.

"You think you're going to live a life sentence?" Pamela Tenney said, glaring at Alvarez through tears. "I live a life sentence every day. Every day I live with this. My son's not here and why? Because of you. Because of what you chose to do. And how dare you. You're like a cockroach. You infested our

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Rebecca Johnson, left, hugs Pamela Tenney on Friday at the Okeechobee County Courthouse after hearing a jury convict Okeechobee resident Mark Anthony Alvarez, 18, of murdering their children. Elizabeth Ann Johnson, 19, and Curtis Wayne Tenney, 18, were shot and killed Jan. 8, 2006. Alvarez was later sentenced to life in prison for the killings.

# FDA has bitter pill for vitamin companies

The Food and Drug Administration is forcing manufacturers to test ingredients

BY KEVIN FREKING  
The Associated Press

**WASHINGTON** — For the first time, manufacturers of vitamins, herbal pills and other dietary supplements will have to test all of their products' ingredients, the Food and Drug Administration announced Friday.

The agency is phasing in the new rule, which is designed to address concerns that existing federal regulations allowed supplements onto the market that were contaminated or didn't contain the dietary ingredients claimed on the label.

Last year, the agency found some supplements contained undeclared active ingredients used in prescription drugs for erectile dysfunction. In the past, regulators found supplements that didn't contain the levels of Vitamin C or Vitamin A that were claimed.

Most companies already test their raw ingredients once they come into the plant, said Steve Mister, president and CEO for the Council for Responsible Nutrition, a trade association representing about 65 manufacturers.

"This raises the bar so that all have to comply," Mister said.

The new rule goes into effect Aug. 24 and will have a three-year phase-in that gives smaller manufacturers more time to comply. However, even the largest of the manufacturers won't have to comply until June 2008.

## THE RULE

- The rule applies to all domestic and foreign companies that manufacture, package and label supplements for sale in the U.S.

- It requires them to analyze the identity, purity and strength of all the ingredients that go into their products before they are distributed.

- If, upon inspection, the FDA finds that supplements do not contain the ingredients they claim to contain, the agency would consider the products adulterated or misbranded.

- In minor cases, the agency could ask the manufacturer to remove the ingredient or revise its label.

- In more serious cases, it could seize the product, file a lawsuit or even seek criminal charges.

# Charleston honors fallen firefighters



The son of a fallen Charleston, S.C., firefighter, is carried into the North Charleston Coliseum by a Lancaster firefighter Friday in North Charleston, S.C.



Story and photos by  
The Associated Press

An honor guard stands in front of a row of nine caskets during a memorial service for the nine firefighters killed in a blaze at a furniture store on Monday.

MORE PHOTOS, A4

Nine caskets lined the front of a coliseum Friday as thousands of firefighters from across the nation, their hats in their hands, honored nine colleagues killed in a furniture store blaze.

With an orchestra playing Bach's Air, uniformed escorts walked the men's wives, siblings and children to their seats in a long procession of red carnations, tears and hugs.

The fire Monday night created the single largest loss of firefighters' lives since the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

# JUST ADD WATER

Carrell stars in 'Evan Almighty'



Steve Carrell's Noah-like character is about to take theaters by storm.

STORY, E1

# NO MATTER HOW YOU SLICE IT

The rising cost of cheese is driving pizza prices up. How much higher?



STORY, D2

# Estefans will be at luxury hotel's Vero Beach opening

BY NADIA GERGIS  
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**VERO BEACH** — The Treasure Coast's newest luxury hotel Costa d'Este will have the name of a South Florida celebrity couple attached to it when it opens January in Vero Beach.

International singer Gloria Estefan and her producer husband, Emilio Estefan, will be present at their beachside hotel when it opens this winter during the height of the season in Indian River County.

"We fell in love with the old-world Florida ambience, beautiful beaches and warm people," said Gloria Estefan, who co-owns Costa d'Este with her husband. "We discovered Vero Beach when we were looking for a vacation home that was close to Miami but gave us a different feel than what we were used to."

The resort will have 94 guestrooms including four suites, a spa, state-of-the-art in-room entertainment, oversized bathrooms with organic round showers and wireless Internet access in all public and private areas. The hotel's design is modeled after urban sophisticated architecture.

Benchmark Hospitality International, which manages 30 hotels, conference centers and condominium resorts nationwide and in Japan, will manage the property.

"We hope to increase the awareness of Vero Beach by highlighting the many wonderful things that made us fall in love with it," Estefan said. "We want the rest of the world to realize what a gem this place is."

The Estefans purchased the five-story hotel situated on 2.4 acres for \$12.5 million in July 2004, just months before it sustained millions of dollars in damages from hurricanes Frances and Jeanne.

In addition to luxury amenities such as a spa, the Costa d'Este will house a signature restaurant called the Oriente. The 85-seat eatery will feature Cuban cuisine with Spanish, Latin, and Creole influences. The house signature will be Tapas, which means little plates, or appetizers.

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**On the Web:**  
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Get your daily dose of celebrity gossip with Liz Smith. **A2**

