



IN BUSINESS

HOW TOUGH IS IT?

Our iPhone Test Says ...

Go ahead and let it bake in the sun on the dashboard of your car for five hours. Smear it in Cuban sandwich juice. Just don't try to take a photo of Shamu. **DETAILS, Page 1**

GAME SHOW PIONEER MERV GRIFFIN DIES AT 82

DETAILS, This Section, Page 3



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THE TAMPA TRIBUNE

and The Tampa Times

IN METRO

I-275 BRIDGE COULD BE RAIL SYSTEM 'LINCHPIN'



As mass-transit dreams edge closer to reality, the Howard Frankland is in the spotlight.

All talk of improving mass transit in the Bay area points to a single line — Interstate 275 between the downtowns of Tampa and St. Petersburg.

"In terms of transit connections, I do believe that is the linchpin," says Lucie Ayer, executive director of the Hillsborough County Metropolitan Planning Organization.

As mass-transit pipe dreams move toward drawing boards, answers are coming to a growing list of questions about the link. An engineering firm will issue a report next year to help the new Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority make a decision on light rail.

Q How would the rail line cross Tampa Bay?

A Planners have identified three options: retrofit one of the bridge's two spans, build a bridge alongside the north-south spans, build a bridge between the spans.

Q When would it happen?

A Work could start in 10 years. It could last five years.

Q How much would it cost?

A In today's dollars, based on a formula of \$300 per square foot, a new single-track, 3-mile bridge would cost about \$72 million.



News Channel 8 photo by PETER MASA

Forming a mass-transit system is not as simple as building a rail line in the middle of the Howard Frankland. To read about potential hurdles for the project, see Metro, Page 1.

IN SPORTS



Stewart Capitalizes On Gordon's 'Stupid' Move To Win At The Glen

Jeff Gordon had his 10th road course victory in his sights when he spun out with two laps to go, handing Tony Stewart his third win in four races. **DETAILS, Page 1**

TIGER TAMES RIVALS FOR 13th MAJOR

DETAILS, Page 1

YOUR WEEK AHEAD

BACK-TO-SCHOOL COUNTDOWN IS ON

It's the time of year when attention turns to all things back-to-school.

• Summer vacation is a wrap this week as students in Hillsborough and Pasco counties return to class Aug. 20. And then there's football ...

• Who are the best high school football teams in Hillsborough County? On Wednesday, the Tribune will begin its countdown of the top 10 teams. Look for No. 1 on Aug. 24.

• Textbook companies are increasingly offering online books and CDs. Reporter Marilyn Brown explores the shift from the old to the new in Sunday's Tribune.

• If you're looking to spend a couple of eve-



nings out, Clay Aiken and Chris Isaak are in the Bay area Friday. Comedian Kathy Griffin, above, comes to Ruth Eckerd Hall on Saturday. If you stay in Friday, clear the breakables from the family room because the kids will need room to dance when "High School Musical 2" airs on the Disney Channel.

IN BAYLIFE

DON'T GO TO SCHOOL! (UNTIL YOU SEE THIS LIST)

DETAILS, Page 1



IN THIS SECTION

IMPLANTABLE LUNG CLOSER TO REALITY

DETAILS, Page 4



TODAY'S HIGH 93

TODAY'S LOW 71

Crank up the air conditioner for another week of heat and humidity. The best chance of rain is in today's forecast, with storms 50 percent likely.

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COMICS BayLife, Pages 7, 8 **OBITUARIES** Metro, Page 7
EDITORIALS This Section, Page 8 **PUZZLES** BayLife, Pages 2, 7, 8 & Classified
LOTTERY This Section, Page 2 **TELEVISION** BayLife, Page 4
MOVIE TIMES BayLife, Page 5 **WEATHER** Metro, Page 8