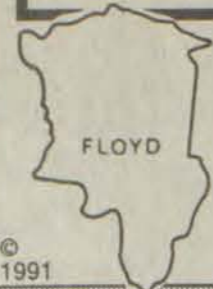


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The Floyd County Times

Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653

Speaking of and for Floyd County

USPS-2027-0000
Volume LXIV, No. 29 35¢

Conley rules :

Dues for union okayed

by Susan Allen
Staff Writer

Floyd County Circuit Judge Hollie Conley ruled last month that the Floyd County Board of Education must begin withholding Teamster union dues for classified employees.

Summary judgment in the lawsuit filed by Teamster representative Jerry Vincent was entered March 12 by Judge Conley and ordered the board to grant the union the same right as other organizations that have union membership dues deducted. According to Judge Conley's order, the board was to immediately begin deducting the dues.

Vincent filed suit against the board on May 28, 1987, asking that the board withhold union dues for 242 classified employees seeking to be members of the union.

Vincent's suit contended the board withheld membership dues for other union organizations and, therefore, it must honor their employees request.

School board superintendent Ron Hager, in a March 29 memo, directed assistant superintendent of finance Russell Frazier to immediately begin making arrangements to collect and remit Teamster union dues to conform with the court's judgment.

Hager asked Frazier to get an updated list of employees requesting the dues deduction.

Frazier could not be reached Thursday to determine the number of employees who would have dues deducted from their payroll checks.

Teamster activity in the Floyd County system has been low key, but a Teamster representative met with classified employees last fall and promised that the union would be more active in Floyd County this year.



Winds of destruction

Karen Mosley and daughter Jessica stand near a roof which was ripped from her mobile home by heavy winds that roared through the county Tuesday evening. (photo by Janice Shepherd)

Garrett family survives scare :

Clean-up begins; storm costs grow

By Janice Shepherd
Staff Writer

Floyd Countians weathered a storm Tuesday evening that sent winds whirling through the county at 45-50 miles per hour.

The storm apparently hit Magoffin County first, said Area 9 DES Director David Chaffins, then Floyd, Johnson, and into Lawrence County. In Johnson County, preliminary damage estimates were \$500,000; Greenup reported \$600,000 damage; Lawrence County tallied \$2 million in damage from the storm. Estimates in Floyd are being compiled, Chaffins said.

Clean-up operations began before the last drop of rain fell. County road crews and volunteer firefighters immediately went into action to clear debris from blocked roadways, said Floyd County Judge Executive John M. Stumbo. Where roads were completely blocked, road crews had cleared the rubble by dark.

Stumbo estimated that three-fourths of the county was without electricity after the high winds swept through the area. Electric company employees worked around the clock to repair power outages that in some areas lasted almost 24 hours. David Robinson and Ralph Leslie II, line repairmen, said they pulled a regular shift Tuesday and, when the storm hit, they immediately returned to work. They were still at work late Wednesday evening.

Hardest hit were the Middle Creek, David, Right and Left Beaver, and Mud Creek areas where roofs were blown off homes and outbuildings were destroyed. In a trailer park at Stone Coal of Garrett, the roof was torn off a mobile home rented by Karen and Jeff Mosley.

Mrs. Mosley was in her yard with her daughters, 16-month-old Jessica and 5-year-old Tabitha, when she

saw the black cloud approaching. The wind became stronger and she told her children to go inside while she grabbed their toys. The sand struck her eyes, temporarily blinding her, so she turned her head away from the wind. Suddenly she heard the sound of tin buckling. As she turned, she saw the roof of her home fly off and wrap itself around an electrical pole at the rear of her trailer. Sparks flew and immediately ran inside to her children.

"I ran in the front door and couldn't see my children," she said. "There was stuff everywhere."

She began screaming for her children when her landlord, Ralph O'Quinn, located Jessica, who was encircled by debris and seated near

the back door of the trailer.

"There was a ring around her. She wasn't touched. She was just sitting in the middle (of the ring). She wasn't crying," said Mrs. Mosley. Her daughter Tabitha had run across to a neighbor's home and was also unharmed.

Still in a state of shock Mrs. Mosley said as she gazed at the wreckage of her home, "it was like a miracle," because her daughter was uninjured.

Mrs. Mosley said she felt as if she were starting over. The family rented the home through the assistance of HUD and now is beginning the paperwork again, she said.

Also in Garrett, a tree, in a vacant

(See Storm, page two)

Pike board threatens to sue if Ellis doesn't okay payments

The Pike County Board of Education threatened Tuesday to sue the architect for Pike County Central High School unless he certified payments to contractors on the project.

James Ellis, the architect, had refused to sign off for the payments unless construction manager Sam Martin Jr. had signed the documents also. Pike Superintendent Larry Burke

threatened to file legal action against Ellis if he failed to do so by Thursday.

Ellis signed the claims Thursday, his attorney Phil Damron said.

The same problems have occurred on the Left Beaver High School project in Floyd County. Ellis has maintained Martin must also certify work performed on the construction sites.

Martin wastewater project gets go-ahead in property issue

Martin City Council members learned last Wednesday night at their council meeting that the city had won its suit to condemn property owned by Josephine Crisp Hayes.

The property is the site of a proposed sewage treatment plant. With the help of the Big Sandy ADD, Martin was awarded a grant to help

construct the facility.

In other business, council members accepted two buildings from CSX Railroad. The buildings will be moved and relocated near Martin's Fire Department.

Council members John Maddox and E.P. Grigsby Sr. were absent from the meeting.

Trashed cannisters are harmless, officials say

Two military cannisters found in an open dump near County Line Liquors Tuesday morning created a furor before the contents were determined to be harmless.

Area 9 Disaster and Emergency Services Director David Chaffins said the DES could not respond to the incident because it dealt with the military and his office contacted the Division of Waste Management. The cannisters contained Q-A 40 (a solvent), which can only be sold to the

federal government, Chaffins said.

A check with the manufacturing company revealed that the cannisters contained a solvent used by the military to clean floors, etc., said Charley Pearl, information officer with the Division of Waste Management.

Pearl said the 27-lb. containers of powdered disinfectant could be flushed down sewer lines, and were biodegradable.

The manufacturer has asked that the containers be returned.

Latta accused of conflict :

Group disputes new school plan

by Susan Allen
Staff Writer

Citizens for a New Prestonsburg High School opposed an alternate plan for a new school and accused the school board attorney of conflict of interest at Tuesday's board meeting.

John Sammons, speaking on behalf of the citizens group, accused attorney Cliff Latta of conflict of interest because he had represented board member Eddie Billips in a lawsuit against the board; he is an attorney for the First Commonwealth Bank; and that his wife, Ann Latta, is mayor of Prestonsburg.

Sammons made those statements in response to an alternative plan for

a new Prestonsburg High School in the city limits offered by Billips made at last month's Prestonsburg City Council meeting.

Sammons said the bank owned several parcels of land that would have to be acquired under Billips' proposal. He did not explain why Latta's relationship to the mayor would cause a conflict of interest.

Latta strongly denied the accusation.

"I've been practicing law for 37 years and this is the first time I've been accused of conflict of interest," Latta said. "If the board should address this issue and feels I am in a conflict, I will happily step down.

"I assume the bank would receive

the fair market value of the property just the same as anyone else," Latta said. "And, I don't know what my wife has to do with this. As board attorney, I will advise and direct the board toward what's best for this board. If they ask my personal opinion, I'll give them that too."

Sammons blasted Billips for his actions at the city council meeting and said his actions were neither approved nor endorsed by the board of education.

"We don't understand his justification," Sammons said referring to Billips. "The alternate site is totally unacceptable to our committee. The tract we have on Middle Creek is a rare find."

Derek Hicks, also representing the group, said Billips' plan would cost \$3.4 million to develop the site, opposed to \$1.1 million projected for developing the Middle Creek site.

The report submitted by Hicks showed property acquisition cost at \$1.2 million; site improvement at \$400,000; driving piling at \$825,000; and relocating at Kentucky Power Company sub-station at \$1 million.

Hicks said engineer Gary Ousley, with Alchemy Engineering and Eugene Prater with F.E.E., had made the comparisons between the two sites and Marshall Davidson, master commissioner, had researched the land acquisition costs.

Tim Sizemore also questioned

Billips and asked that he answer his questions.

Billips responded to the group with drawings of three different proposals to incorporate a new high school and grade school on the existing site of Prestonsburg High School.

Billips said the savings to the school system by renovating the existing school into a new grade school could result in possibly three schools for the price of one.

He said the first option could be built for \$2.4 million less than the Middle Creek site.

"I'm not going to turn this into a debate," Billips said. "I had these

(See School, page two)



Option offered

Board member Eddie Billips explained drawings of an alternate site for a new Prestonsburg High School at Tuesday's board meeting. (photo by Susan Allen)

KSP detective joins executive session :

Facilities, supplies, personnel highlight April board agenda

by Susan Allen
Staff Writer

Tuesday's meeting of the Floyd County Board of Education got off to an unusual start when board chairman Ray "Shag" Campbell called for an immediate closed session to discuss personnel after the meeting was called to order.

After roll call, Campbell called for the executive session and Kentucky State Police Detective Lee Weddington was invited in to join the discussions behind closed doors.

Board members came out about 30 minutes later and offered no details about what was discussed. No action was taken concerning the discussion in the closed session.

The meeting continued with a public comment session following approval of last month's meeting minutes.

Eight persons signed up to address the board, with much of the comments centering on the condition of school facilities.

Debra Hayes, president of Floyd County Parents for Better Schools, asked the board for a response to questions made at last month's meeting, specifically bathroom conditions in the schools.

Hayes asked last month that all schools have bathroom doors installed because some students had developed intestinal problems because they did not feel comfortable using bathrooms with no doors.

Superintendent Ron Hager called forward Frankie Francis, director of buildings and grounds, to give the report.

Francis said he assumed Hayes was referring specifically to Betsy Layne Elementary since she is from that area.

Hayes replied her organization had asked for bathroom doors in all schools in the county.

Francis said doors had been installed at Betsy Layne Elementary twice and each time the doors "were torn off." He said he planned to replace those doors this summer.

Francis recommended that bathrooms be monitored more closely

(See Board, page five)



Happy homecoming

Floyd County Times staffer Tess Whitmer was welcomed home Wednesday at the Charleston, West Virginia airport after serving more than six months in Saudi Arabia as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserves. Welcoming Tess home were co-workers Kim Frasure and Jeff Sammons, left, and her brother Arron (with flag). (Photo by Scott Perry)



On the home front

Her first day home from Operation Desert Storm, 1Lt Tess Whitmer stopped by at Prestonsburg Elementary School to talk to Kelly Duncan's second grade class (pictured) and Glessie Stumbo's fourth grade class to share some of her experiences in the desert. Here she shows the children what some of the currency from the middle east looks like. (photo by Charlotte McFall)

Kentucky's drinking water: Protected and safe

Recent information that certain species of fish in the Ohio River are contaminated with PCBs and chlorodance has some Kentuckians apprehensive about the safety of their drinking water.

They needn't be. Water from public and semi-public drinking water suppliers in Kentucky is protected and treated before it reaches users.

Water treatment begins shortly after water is withdrawn from its surface or groundwater source and is moved to storage areas.

For surface water, copper sulfate may be added to control algae growth. The water is strained to remove debris. Next, a chemical such as alum is added to coagulate particles. The water then moves slowly through sedimentation basins while solid particles sink to the bottom. Then water flows through beds of gravel and sand for final filtering.

Chlorine or other disinfectants are added as a final treatment to kill bacteria. The treated water is tested for purity to ensure that it does not contain any quantities of pollutants

in excess of the state's maximum contaminant levels before it goes to reservoirs or holding tanks. In some cases, it goes directly into the water system.

Kentucky statute requires all water treatment plants and water distribution systems to be supervised by competent, certified operators. In order to be sure these operators are always aware of the most recent information and skills affecting their performance, state regulations require additional training every two years.

There's more to a glass of drinking water than meets the eye. A lot of technology, a lot of equipment, a lot of people help move water from its source to its final destination at a water tap.

Federal and state agencies, including the Kentucky Division of Water and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, work to protect water quality at each step, from source to tap. Congress has enacted a series of laws intended to protect water, namely:

The Clean Water Act, which sets water quality standards for all significant bodies of surface water, requires sewage treatment, and limits the amount of industrial effluents that can be discharged into the nation's

surface waters;

The Resources Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), under which the EPA has developed "cradle to grave" regulations governing the generation, storage, transport, treatment, and disposal of hazardous wastes. RCRA gives the EPA the power to protect all sources of groundwater from contamination by hazardous waste. This law also prohibits pollution of surface water and air by hazardous waste sites;

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, better known as "Superfund," which is used to clean up existing hazardous waste sites that pose a threat to water or other resources;

The Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act and the Toxic Substances Control Act, which give EPA the power to regulate pesticides and toxic substances that may have an adverse effect on the environment, including groundwater and other sources of drinking water; and

The Safe Drinking Water Act, which has allowed for the setting of maximum contaminant levels of many pollutants. A total of 60 contaminants must now meet EPA standards. The state Division of Water is responsible for enforcing these standards.

Driving costs average 37.3 cents per mile

Motorists will pay an average \$647 more to own and operate a new car in 1991, a 13 percent increase from the previous year, AAA Blue Grass/Kentucky reports.

According to AAA, ownership and operating costs for a new car driven 15,000 miles will be \$5,601 in 1991, or an average 37.3 cents per mile.

Driving costs increased 7.8 percent last year and 12.1 percent in 1989.

AAA's driving costs are based on a composite national average for operating three domestically built passenger cars—a subcompact Ford Escort LX, a mid-size Ford Taurus and a full-size Chevrolet Caprice.

Factors influencing the total are:

- * Depreciation accelerated \$262 to an average \$2,504.

- * Average cost of gas and oil is 6.6 cents per mile in 1990, an increase of

- * \$180 annually.
- * Finance charges—assuming 20 percent down at 12 percent interest over four years—increased \$128 to \$766.

- * Total insurance costs increased \$51 to \$708.

- * Taxes, license and registration costs rose \$12 on average to \$168.

- * The average cost of maintenance is 2.2 cents per mile, up .1 cent.

- * Tire costs average .9 cents per mile.

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The Rite Aid Liquor Ad

that ran Wednesday April 10, 1991, displays items and prices which are available at

Rite Aid Pharmacy

500 W. Mt. Parkway
 Prestonsburg, Ky.

Task force to meet

The Floyd County Litter Task Force will meet Monday, April 15, at 6:30 p.m. at the Jenny Wiley Lodge, upstairs, to organize and plan programs that will promote clean up in Floyd County.

"We're inviting the Floyd County Chamber of Commerce and other organizations that are interested in cleaning up the county. We need ideas and input," said Charlotte McFall, with the Litter Task Force.

School—

(Continued from page one)

drawings prepared on my own actions and I paid for them. These are my own opinions.

"These designs can be changed, but this is all for the same cost dollar-wise," Billips said. "With these savings, there's your Betsy Layne Grade School."

Billips said he would be happy to stay after the meeting to explain any of the plans to Sammons, Hicks or Sizemore. However, no one approached Billips after the meeting.

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Kirk quits race

Raymond Kirk, an Eastern Kentucky attorney, withdrew Wednesday from the race for judge in the 24th Judicial Circuit, which includes Johnson, Martin and Lawrence counties.

Kirk was sued in February by Stephen "Nick" Frazier the incumbent judge for the 24th Judicial District, and his opponent in the race. Frazier claimed Kirk had not lived in any of the district's counties for the required two years.

After Kirk withdrew from the race, he endorsed Frazier for second term.

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Storm—

(Continued from page one)

lot adjoining the property of Ed Everidge, landed on two pickups, a stepside van, and two cars. His neighbor Kermit Conley had just left one of the autos when the tree fell. Another neighbor, Rosemary Hackworth said she saw black clouds approaching with white inside. She reported seeing the tree picked up and twisted.

A state of emergency was declared Tuesday at the request of Frankfort in order to be eligible for emergency assistance funding, Stumbo said.

The County Judge's office is currently compiling a list of damage reports and anyone with wind damage should call the office at 886-9193.

"Federal people will look at the (damage) figure. If there's any help, we will get it," he said.

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April 16	Garrett
April 17	Allen
April 18	City
April 19	Harold
April 22-26	Main Office

12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

Refreshments will be served and prizes will be given away.

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Your County Clerk's Office Will Be **CLOSED** On **SATURDAY, APRIL 13th** Due To Frankfort Updating The Computer System.

We Apologize For Any Inconvenience This May Cause You!!!

If You Have Any Questions Please Call **886-3816**.....

Carla Robinson Boyd
 your County Clerk



Lack of privacy

Conditions of bathrooms in schools in Floyd County have become a frequent topic at school board meetings. This girls high school bathroom at McDowell, where Tuesday's meeting was held, offers only one stall door for four toilets. School officials said at Tuesday's meeting that doors on student bathrooms should be replaced this summer. (photo by Susan Allen)

Ten free shade trees from Arbor Day foundation

Ten free shade trees will be given to each person who joins The National Arbor Day Foundation during April 1991.

The free trees are part of the non-profit Foundation's Trees for America campaign.

The ten shade trees are Red Oak, Weeping Willow, Sugar Maple, Green Ash, Thornless Honeylocust, Pin Oak, River Birch, Tuliptree, Silver Maple, and Red Maple.

"These trees were selected to provide shade and beauty, and a variety of forms, leaf shapes, and fall colors," John Rosenow, the Foundation's executive director, said.

The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting in April or May with enclosed planting instructions. The six to twelve inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge.

To become a member of the Foundation and to receive the free trees, send a \$10 membership contribution to SHADE TREES, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410, by April 30, 1991.



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On the road to success

Ron Hooker, general manager of World Wide Equipment, receives from Billie Jean Osborne the first 32 reserved tickets purchased for the Kentucky Opry's first public concert scheduled May 18 during the Festival of FACES events. Doors will open at the Prestonsburg Fieldhouse at 6 p.m. where tickets may be purchased for \$12, reserved seating, and \$10, general seating. Tickets cost less, \$10 for reserved seating and \$7 for general seating, if purchased in advanced from any high school student in the county. Gum Branch Heartbreakers, Kentucky Opry and Goose Creek Symphony will perform. Dwight Yokam is sending an autographed guitar to give away during the performance. He is also contributing a prize to the boy and girl who sells the most tickets.

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All others will cost \$1.00 each. Free Balloons! Free Candy! Super sales on Super Saturday at Big Lots Only!

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Sports

By Ed Taylor, Sports Editor

The Floyd County Times

Friday, April 12, 1991 A 8

Homers twice:

Gearheart's slam "slams" Rebels in 'mercy' game

Adam Gearheart scattered six hits in a route-going performance in posting a 15-5 "mercy" win over the Allen Central Rebels in high school baseball action at the Allen Park Wednesday night. It was the fourth win for Betsy Layne this young season. Gearheart struck out five batters while issuing three walks. The hard throwing right hander plunked two batters in giving up the five runs. Three of the runs were earned.

Darren Gearheart carried the big bat for the Bobcats as the Betsy Layne catcher slammed two home runs in collecting seven RBIs in the game. Gearheart hit a three-run shot in the first inning and, two innings later, drove one out of the park with the bases loaded for a grand slam homer.

Stevie Robinson suffered the setback for Allen Central. Robinson fanned two Bobcat batters and walked three. He yielded 10 runs on seven hits. Jason Martin came on in relief in the third inning.

Betsy Layne scored all the runs they needed in the bottom of the first inning when they scored six times. The Bobcats, who just returned from Cocoa Beach, Florida, playing in a tournament in the Sunshine State, took advantage of what they learned in the south and put on their hitting shoes. Keith Hall led off the Bobcat inning with a base hit back up the middle. Chris Potter walked and Adam Gearheart singled to send Hall home with the first run. Darren Gearheart sent a 2-2 pitch high over the fence in left field for a three-run shot.

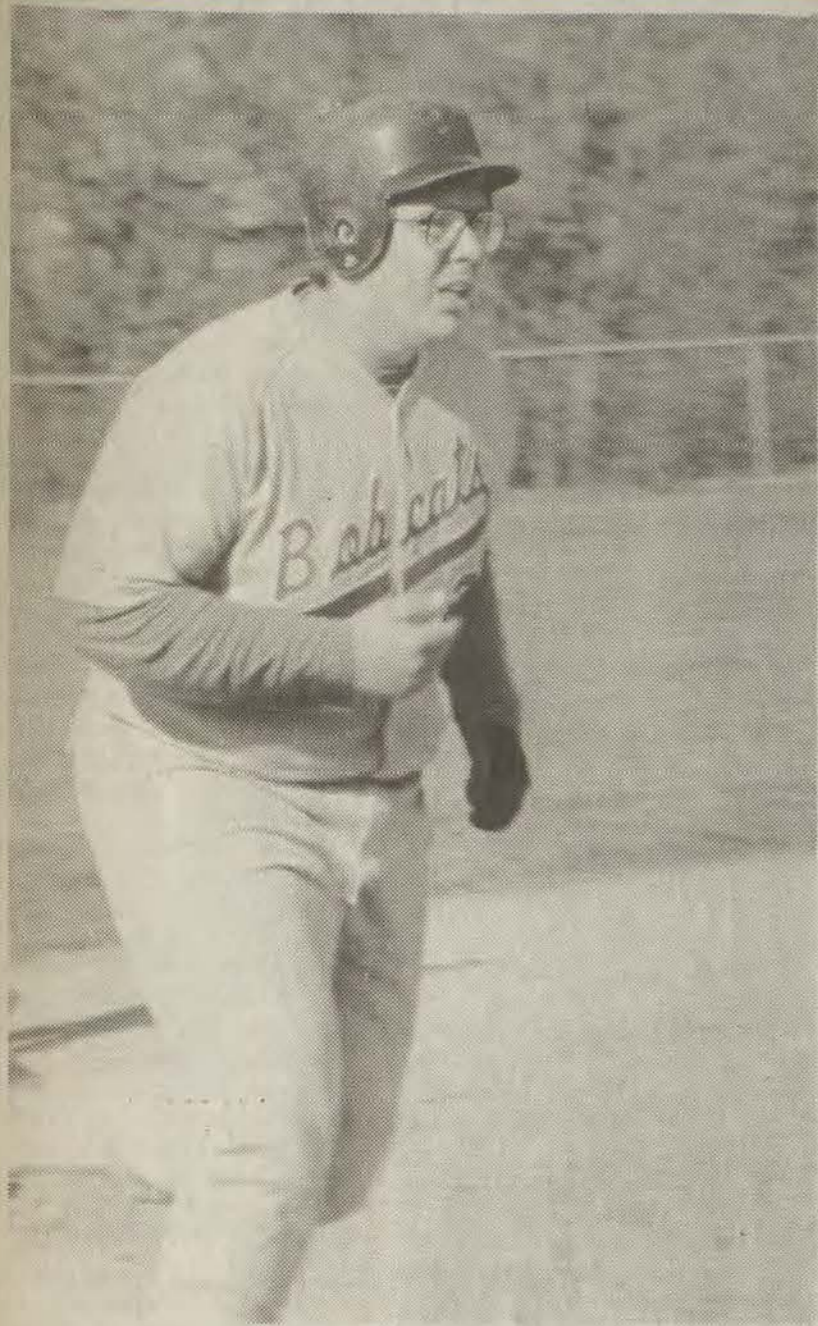
Chris Newsome kept the Bobcat rally alive when Rebel shortstop Stewart Hall misplayed a grounder off of the bat of Newsome. Barry Clark singled, putting runners on first and second. After Todd Akers went out deep to left field Derrick Newsome grounded sharply to second, moving both runners up. Barry Collins then delivered a solid two run single scoring Newsome and Clark.

Allen Central scored once in their half of the second on doubles by Phillip Ritchie and B. J. Aldrich. Aldrich's drive was off the top of the fence in centerfield.

The Rebels made it 6-3 with two more in the top part of the third inning. Gearheart hit Stewart Hall with a pitch and Stevie Robinson doubled to centerfield. Robbie Sexton walked to load the bases for the Rebels. However, a quick move by Gearheart caught Sexton leaning the wrong way and he was picked off first. Frank Martin then tripled to center scoring Hall and Robinson.

Betsy Layne came back with seven big ones in the bottom of the inning on Darren Gearheart's second home run. Todd Akers singled sharply to center and Newsome walked. Hall walked to load the bases. Potter drew a bases loaded walk to force home Akers. Adam Gearheart singled home Newsome leaving the bases jammed with Bobcats. Darren Gearheart stepped to the plate and with one swing cleared the bases with his home run.

(See Gearheart, page ten)



Big day at the plate!

Betsy Layne catcher Darren Gearheart had a big day at the old ball park Wednesday afternoon. Gearheart hit a three-run first inning home run and then cranked out a grand slam in the third to help Betsy Layne to a 15-5 win over Allen Central. (Photo by Ed Taylor)



Good contact!

Chuck Laferty of Allen Central made contact on this swing, but the Rebels fell victim to the Betsy Layne Bobcats in a 15-5 mercy rule loss to drop their record to 1-4. (Photo by Ed Taylor)

Jenkins slips past W-wright as Trojan rally falls short, 6-4

"We're just not a good hitting team," said Wheelwright head baseball coach Meredith Slone as his team dropped a 6-4 decision to the Cavaliers of Jenkins Wednesday at Jenkins.

"Hitting the baseball is something we don't do well," said Slone of his young Trojan team. "Not yet anyway."

Wheelwright, who trailed 6-0 going into the top of the seventh inning, almost made a come back thanks in part to some wildness on the part of Jenkins starting pitcher Matt Bright. Bright walked four straight Trojans to force in one run and lose his shutout. Mike Justice, Kevin Johnson, Charles Johnson walked to load the bases. The first run scored for Wheelwright when Jody Dawson walked to force home Justice. Mickey Johnson sent two runners home with a two run single. After Layne Bailey popped out to the catcher, Jimmy Helton singled to score Dawson. The rally ended when Chad Allen went out on a ball hit to centerfield.

Jenkins scored three times in the third inning. All three runs were unearned as the Trojans committed two errors. Andy Maggen walked and David Anderson scored him with a base hit after Maggen stole second

base. Two runs crossed home plate on errors at second and shortstop.

Jenkins made it 6-0 with three in the fifth. Anderson singled to lead off the inning. Will Figger reached on an error by the shortstop. Both runners scored when Dale Walker's ground ball was misplayed by the Trojan second baseman. Walker later scored on another Trojan error.

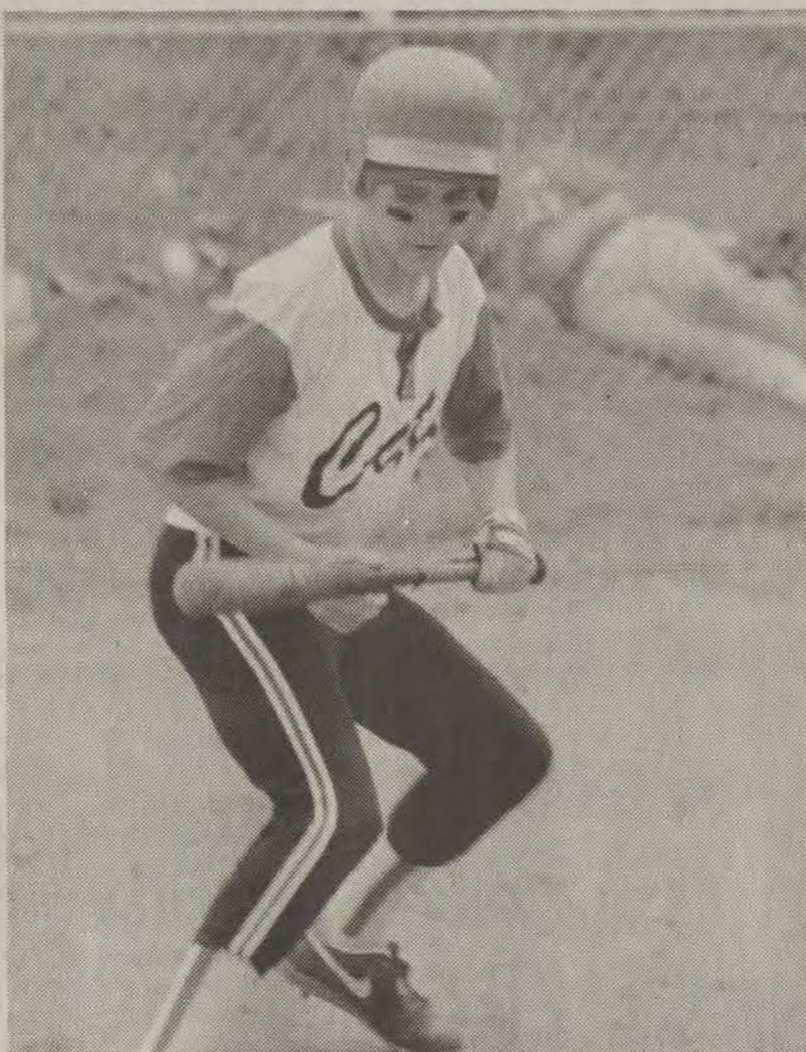
Bright picked up the win for Jenkins. He struck out eight Trojan batters and issued two walks. Bright allowed Wheelwright four hits in the game and all four runs.

Kevin Johnson started for Wheelwright and suffered the setback. Johnson fanned four Cavalier batters while walking just one. Johnson gave up five hits in the innings he worked.

Wheelwright held the Cavaliers scoreless in the first two innings and again in the fourth.

Wheelwright fell to 1-4 overall and will face the Prestonsburg Blackcats in a doubleheader on the road this afternoon. Game time is scheduled for 5 p.m. at Archer Park.

At Jenkins	R H E
Wheelwright	0 0 0 0 0 4 — 4 4 5
Jenkins	0 0 3 0 3 0 X — 6 5 2
WP - Matt Bright LP - Kevin Johnson	



Bunt attempt

Jason Crisp, Prestonsburg, squared to bunt, but pulled back as the ball sailed by. Crisp plays third base for the Blackcats, who traveled to Mullins Wednesday night and swept a twin bill from the Tigers. (Photo by Ed Taylor)

Poston missed no-hitter:

Prestonsburg Blackcats Sweep Mullins 9-0, 15-3

Coach Russell Shepherd and the Prestonsburg Blackcats took to the road Wednesday evening to face the Mullins Tigers in regional high school baseball play at the Bob Amos Park in Pikeville. The Blackcats "doubled their pleasure" with a sweep of the twin bill, 9-0 in the first game and a 15-3 "mercy" win in the second game.

C. D. Poston, who was almost perfect, posted the win in the first game for the Blackcats in their 9-0 victory. Poston fanned four in the game while walking one. Poston gave up one hit in the five innings he worked — a second inning double to Charles Edward. After walking Gillespie leading off the third inning, Poston retired the last nine batters he faced. Poston faced 17 batters, two over the minimum of 15. Poston retired the side in order in the first, fourth and fifth innings.

The Blackcats sent 11 batters to the plate in the first inning, scoring six times to take an early 6-0 lead. Sean Damron, who has been on a hot streak, singled in John Clark and Jason Crisp with the game's first two runs. Crisp had a single and Clark reached on an error.

Damron scored on an RBI single by Jason Storey and Worth McGuire

doubled home Storey. Left fielder Aaron Tucker picked up an RBI on a double to left center to score McGuire. Tucker later scored the sixth run of the inning on a passed ball.

Prestonsburg pushed across two more runs in the top of the second inning. Crisp doubled. Storey drew a one out walk and McGuire's ground ball to short was booted by the shortstop allowing Crisp to score. After Tucker was hit by a pitch to load the bases, McGuire scored on a sacrifice fly to left by Neil Slone.

The Blackcats added their final run in the fifth frame when Ronnie Goodman scored on a base hit by designated hitter Chris Cavins. Goodman had walked and stole second base to set up the run.

Charles took the loss for Mullins. Charles had one strike out in the game and issued five walks. Prestonsburg collected nine hits off of Charles.

In the nightcap, Aaron Tucker tossed a two hitter as the Blackcats mercied the Tigers 15-3 in the second game. Prestonsburg scored seven times in the third inning to add to a 3-1 lead. Cavins had a double leading

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Salisbury inks letter-of-intent with Eastern Ky. University

Eastern Kentucky University's head basketball coach Mike Pollio beat out the likes of Old Dominion, James Madison, Alabama and Morehead for the services of Johnson Central's 6' 10" standout basketball player, Jody Salisbury. The Golden Eagle signed a National Letter-Of-Intent Wednesday afternoon in the Board of Education conference room, to continue his basketball career at Eastern Kentucky University. Wednesday was the first day that colleges could sign players during the spring signing period.

"We are excited about signing Jody. We feel he is an excellent offensive player as evidenced by his point average and his shooting percentages. He has a great work ethic and a great attitude for the game," said Pollio.

"We are pleased we have signed somebody from the eastern part of the state and we feel, in time, Jody can become an outstanding college player."

"I am happy for Jody," said Johnson Central coach Alvin Ratliff, who has coached the 6' 10" Salisbury the past two seasons. "I thank him for the two good seasons that he has given me. A coach can put a lot of time and effort in coaching and it never gets published. We had a good 21-8 season last year and I am very happy for him.

"College basketball is a different story," continued Ratliff. "More time is required to be put into it. I feel he will develop into a tremendous player."

Salisbury's father, Bud, thinks Eastern is just the place for his basketball son.

"I'm tickled pink that he choose Eastern Kentucky," said the elder Salisbury. "I like Coach Pollio and the program at Eastern Kentucky.

That was one of the factors in deciding to go to Eastern. It is close and we will be able to see him play. I like the type of schedule they will be playing next season."

Eastern Kentucky will be playing in a preseason Thanksgiving tournament at San Juan, Puerto Rico and will also take part in the Syracuse Classic. Louisville is also on the Colonels' schedule this year as are

games with SEC schools Tennessee, Auburn and Mississippi State.

"I feel that Jody has a good shot of some playing time next year," said Jody's father.

"I want to thank everyone for coming to the press conference," Jody told the crowd that included teammates. "I also want to thank my former coaches also for being here. I feel lucky so far. Basketball has taken me places that I have not seen before. I like Coach Pollio and so I have decided to enroll at Eastern Kentucky next season."

Salisbury had just returned from Los Angeles where he took part in the L.A. Gear Pump Classic. A tournament for high school and junior college players who had not yet decided

on a college. It was a tournament to showcase the potential recruits' talents.

Attending the signing was Salisbury's mother, Louise and brother Nathan.

"I am very pleased with his choice of schools," said his mother. "I am very proud of him. He has worked hard to get this far and I am looking forward to him playing at Eastern."

Mrs. Salisbury says that the family will be on the road this coming season, driving to Richmond to see Jody play as well as attending the Johnson Central games where younger brother Nathan will perform.

"I like Eastern Kentucky University," said Salisbury's younger brother. "It is close to where we can go and watch him play. We don't have to drive very far and I can take some friends to attend games also."

Coach Pollio went on to say that this was a "big day for us at Eastern. We want to recruit local players from the Eastern Kentucky area. We are

Eastern Kentucky University and so we should get Eastern Kentucky players.

"This is a great basketball area and Jody is a player we are glad to have as a player and a person."

Pollio said that he and his coaching staff had been watching Salisbury since he was a junior in high school. "We saw him play at Las Vegas, an assignment I drew," said the ECU coach laughing. "We kept our eyes on him as the season progressed."

Pollio said that Eastern Kentucky would have most of last year's team back, a team that led Kentucky by one point with eight minutes to go this past season, and the Colonels should be a good, competitive team next season.

Half of the team at Eastern Kentucky next season will be from Kentucky.

"It is going to be a learning experience for Jody," he explained. "It is a place where he needs to get his feet

wet and get knocked down a few times. We lose our starting center after next season and we expect Jody to step in."

The ECU coach said the biggest transition for any high school player entering college is defense.

"But we don't expect it to be a big problem for Jody," stated Pollio. "He has a great work ethic and his reputation as a hard worker will help him. How quick he picks it up is up to him."

Pollio explained also that while looking at Salisbury he was also talking with his high school coach (Alvin Ratliff) as well as Eddie Ford who organized the Kentucky Junior All-Stars last season. According to Pollio, Ford was very high on Salisbury. Pollio added that he consulted also with Salisbury's Olympic coaches.

Pollio said that Salisbury would be put on a strengthening program at ECU to help build his upper body so that he can lean on some people. "He

(See Salisbury, page twelve)

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