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The Times

Floyd County



Insider

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CHECK THESE OUT:

- Students Are Winners • A8
- Postmaster Retires • A2
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- Three-run Blast • B1
- Notes From A Receipt • B1
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Briefs

Water cleanup more promising

Congressman Hal Rogers is optimistic about the extension of sewer lines in eastern and south-eastern Kentucky now that the US House of Representatives has passed the 1999 Water Resources Development Act. He said last week that the act "virtually ensures" the Corps of Engineers' plan to build sewer lines and wastewater treatment systems throughout the region. The act calls for an additional \$15 million in federal budget authority, some of which will head this way.

Pikeville College to honor two

Kentucky Court of Appeals Judge Sara Combs will receive an honorary Doctor of Laws degree and retired businessman E. Bruce Walters an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters during graduation ceremonies Saturday at Pikeville College. Combs will also give the commencement address to the 140 graduates. Combs, the first woman to serve on the state Supreme Court, serves the 7th Judicial District on the appellate court. She is the widow of former governor Bert T. Combs. Walters, a 1938 Pikeville College graduate, opened Walters Hardware in Pikeville in 1940 and later Bruce Walters Ford. The ceremony begins at 2 p.m. in the college gymnasium.

UK graduates 5,000-plus

Saturday is graduation day at the University of Kentucky. Ceremonies begin at 10 a.m. at

(See Briefs, page three)

Former Auxier PTO president indicted, along with 3 others

by Pam Shingler
Editor

Yavonda Lazar, former president of the Parent-Teacher Association at Auxier Elementary School, was indicted this week on sex-related charges involving minors. Three others were indicted on charges related to the circumstance in which Lazar was involved.

Lazar, 29, was accused last summer of sex crimes involving underage youth at a party at Jenny Wiley State Resort Park after the elementary school's last graduation. The school was closed at the end of the 1997-98 school year.

A Floyd County Grand Jury returned indictments Wednesday against Lazar, whose current address is listed as Thelma in Johnson County; Lola McCoy, 35, of Second Avenue in Auxier; Paul

Rowe, 37, of Ward Avenue in Auxier, and Debbie Rowe, 35, also of Ward Avenue in Auxier.

For incidents that allegedly took place on June 8, 1998, Lazar was indicted on 11 counts. They include

- three counts of first-degree sexual abuse by subjecting unnamed minors to sexual contact through use of forcible compulsion, a Class D felony;

- four counts of first-degree unlawful transaction with a minor by knowingly inducing minors to engage in illegal sexual activity, a Class B felony; and

- four counts of third-degree unlawful transaction with a minor by procuring alcoholic beverages for minors, a Class A misdemeanor.

McCoy was indicted on eight counts. They include four counts of criminal facilitation, which is a

(See Indicted, page two)



Retiring postmaster Pam Elkins displays one of the two cakes baked in honor of her years of service to the community of Dwale. Story inside. (photo by Willie Elliott)



The Prestonsburg Fire and Rescue members were on hand on North Arnold Avenue yesterday to respond to a downed power line that posed a potential threat to the community. The area was roped off until the line was repaired. (photos by Willie Elliott)

Broken power line causes three hour outage throughout P'burg

by Willie Elliott
Staff Writer

It is not often that any group can have a workshop on some aspect of its work one day and be called to use some of the information from the workshop the next, but that is exactly what happened to the Prestonsburg Fire and Rescue Department this week.

Bill Massey, from the Kentucky Association of Electrical

Cooperatives of Louisville; Ralph Leslie, serviceman for Big Sandy RECC; and Dan Hitchcock, public relations representative from Big Sandy RECC, gave an update on electrical safety for members of the Prestonsburg and David fire departments on Wednesday evening.

On Thursday, the Prestonsburg Fire Department put that information to use in a real-life situation.

Wednesday, in a session regarding the flow of current, Massey

explained how a bird could sit on a wire and not be bothered by the current. He said something must make a ground for the current because electricity is always trying to get to the ground.

Massey used different items to ground the electricity. One of those was a tree branch. When the branch created a ground, the fire began to come from the wire and set the limb

(See Outage, page two)

Family seeks judgment from city and insurance company

by Pam Shingler
Editor

The tragic death of a child last August has led to a formal complaint, filed in Floyd Circuit Court, against the City of Prestonsburg and the California Casualty Insurance Co.

Prestonsburg firefighter Timothy D. Blackburn and his wife Tami are claiming that the city's negligence resulted in the death of their young son, Adam Patrick Blackburn.

The six-year-old child, who was also the grandson of long-time Prestonsburg Fire Chief Tom Blackburn, was crushed when he was pinned between a van and a fire truck at the fire department's North Lake Drive station on August 29.

In making the negligence charge,

Attorney William Johnson of Pikeville said the child should not have been able to get into an unlocked 1984 Chevrolet van, which he did.

The child apparently got out of the van and it began to roll, because, according to the complaint, it was parked in a "grossly negligent manner" which allowed it to "roll freely and independently" and to fatally injure the child.

The complaint claims the city and the fire department failed to "provide reasonable or adequate safeguards against the potential hazards to minor children on the premises."

The attorney, in the complaint, ties in the fire department's proximity to Prestonsburg Elementary School and the alleged potential for

school children to wander onto the city property and gain access to unlocked vehicles.

Using the van as a case in point, the complaint says it was "left unguarded, unlocked, unscotched, and unattended near the public road and public elementary school." Johnson added Wednesday that he thinks this is particularly dangerous because children are attracted to the red fire trucks and related vehicles.

The complaint insists the city was negligent for allegedly permitting children "to play on, about, around, or in the vicinity of the equipment; Failing to warn children, especially Adam Patrick Blackburn, of the dangers involved in playing upon or in the vicinity of

(See Judgment, page six)

Allen Central student charged

Times Staff Report

An Allen Central High School student was arrested by Kentucky State Police Wednesday on a terroristic threatening charge.

The incident followed the discovery of six .38 caliber bullets on the floor of a stall in a boys' restroom at the school in Eastern.

The 14-year-old juvenile was not charged in connection with the bullets, the KSP report said.

ACHS Principal Patricia Maynard called KSP Post 9 in Pikeville shortly after 9 a.m. to report the finding of the bullets.

Troopers Rick Conn and Mike

Thorpe worked with school officials and officers of the Floyd County Sheriff's Department to conduct a search of the school.

According to the KSP report, they searched students' lockers, purses, backpacks and outer garments. No other ammunition and no weapons were found.

It was during the search that the student allegedly made threats toward police officers and minority groups, the report said. Terroristic threatening is a Class A misdemeanor that, for an adult, can carry a 12-month jail sentence.

The student was taken to Floyd District Court, charged and released to his parents, according to Interim School Superintendent Woody Carter.

Maynard said, in a prepared statement, that "all necessary actions are being taken by the school concerning the student's behavior."

She said, "You can be assured that all threats, jokingly made or otherwise, will not be taken lightly, and all precautions will be taken to ensure student safety."

Trooper Conn said the confiscated bullets have been forwarded to the KSP forensic lab for fingerprint analysis.

Wife of official wants court to decide on status

by Pam Shingler
Editor

The Floyd County Sheriff's wife wants to get paid for her work and she's seeking help from the court system to do so.

Pamela Blackburn has petitioned Floyd County Circuit Court to review — and reverse — a judgment of the county's Ethics Commission that her employment in her husband's office violates the nepotism section of the local Ethics Code.

She is also asking that she be given back pay for the time she has assisted Sheriff John K. Blackburn since he took office on

January 1.

When the sheriff first brought the issue of his wife's employment before the Ethics Commission in January, Pam Blackburn agreed to work without pay until the matter was resolved, with the understanding that if her employment was approved she would be paid for time worked.

Pam Blackburn's case floats in the gray, murky area that shrouds matters of ethics.

She was hired as a deputy by former sheriff — now judge-executive — Paul Hunt Thompson last November. Her husband was

(See Status, page two)



Art works

Prestonsburg High School students put finishing touches on one of the scenes that will greet visitors as they enter Jenny Wiley Theatre this summer. The students worked most of the week on the mural. The artists are, from left, Brooke Stinnett, Jay Skeens, Ashley Derossett and James Keathley. (photo by Willie Elliott)

Postmaster retires after 47 years

by Willie Elliott
Staff Writer

In many small communities, the post office is the heart of the community. The postmaster then becomes a fixture in the lives of the people in the community.

The citizens of Dwale (ZIP code 41621) will tell you that has been the case with Pamela M. Elkins who has served the community for the past 27 years as the postmaster for the local office.

Elkins has been at the newer post office, located near US 23, for the past 18 years. Up until that time, the post office was located in a business farther away from the main highway exit. The post office then was operated from her husband's business, Elkins Grocery.

Through the years the post office has been operated out of such businesses as Dwale Coal Company Store, J. P. Lavens Lumber Company office, Willie Clifton Store, and, at one time, a trailer.

Elkins worked for 20 years as an assistant at the Dwale Post Office, making some 47 years of service to the people of Dwale.

Last Friday, friends, post office patrons, and postal employees from other post offices celebrated Elkins' retirement and reminisced about events and changes that have occurred in Dwale during Elkins' tenure.

"Pam was always encouraging young people to work hard and realize their dreams," said Rita Davis Stumbo, who lives next door to the post office and helped plan the cele-

bration.

"Pam was always helping people fill out bills, money orders and just helping any way that she could," added Donna Branham.

Gary Mitchell, who is the pastor of the church that Elkins attends, described her as "a Godly Christian

woman."

Elkins, kiddingly, said, "If I live to be 100, I won't have all the time to do all the things I want to do." Echoing what Rev. Mitchell said about her, Elkins said, "I plan to take one day at a time and give my services to the Lord."

She said she plans to visit nursing homes and people in the hospital, and, if there was still time, she will do volunteer work.

She said she also would spend more time with her husband Ralph, her children, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



Rita Davis Stumbo presents a gift to Elkins as other postmasters and an auditor look on. From left, Charlene Nelson, Betsy Layne; Edith Risner, Prestonsburg; Diane Ousley, postal auditor; Susan Wallen, Allen; and Rhonda Meade, McDowell. (photo by Willie Elliott)

Indicted

(Continued from page one)

Class D felony. She is accused of acting with knowledge of Lazar's alleged crimes and aiding Lazar in committing unlawful transactions with a minor.

She is further accused of four counts of third-degree unlawful transaction with a minor by knowingly giving or procuring alcoholic beverages for a minor.

Paul and Debbie Rowe were each indicted on five counts of third-degree unlawful transaction with a minor by knowingly giving or procuring alcoholic beverages for minors.

The adults, along with others, allegedly rented a cabin at the park for a graduation party which was

attended by nine children. The sex-related charges were reported last summer to have involved a 14-year-old and a 15-year-old.

The Grand Jury also indicted three other persons on unrelated charges.

Robert Wendell Bishop, 40, of Teaberry was accused of operating a motor vehicle — in this case an all-terrain vehicle — while under the influence of alcohol on January 25 of this year. He has reportedly been convicted of the same offense within the last five years.

Bishop was also charged with two counts of fleeing or evading a police officer in the first-degree,

one on the ATV and the other on foot. On the ATV, he is accused of attempting to flee Kentucky State Police Trooper John McMahan. He apparently attempted to flee KSP Trooper Ronald Peppi on foot.

Both fleeing charges are Class D felonies and the DUI is a Class A misdemeanor.

Tony W. Harris, 23, of Hurley was indicted on three counts, all relating to an alleged January 18 incident on the property of Orville Tackett.

He is charged with theft by unlawful taking by taking a 27" television, two VCRs, and two tool boxes with tools. Accompanying the theft charge is one for burglary

in the third-degree for unlawfully entering and burglarizing Tackett's storage building and one for burglary in the second-degree by unlawfully entering and burglarizing Tackett's dwelling.

All three charges against Harris are Class D felonies.

Roger L. Johnson, 25, of Varney was indicted on one count of operating a motor vehicle while his license was revoked or suspended for driving under the influence, a Class D felony. According to information on the indictment, he had three prior convictions within the past five years.

Outage

(Continued from page one)

afire.

The firefighters learned the lesson well. Around 8:45 a.m. Thursday, they were called to North Arnold Avenue in Prestonsburg because a tree limb had grounded the line and knocked out a transformer.

The limbs on the tree had rubbed an open space on the line, causing it to break, Fire Chief Tom Blackburn said.

The broken line posed a hazard to passersby.

"The tree is wet, the sap is rising, and the tree could energize. You could get electrocuted by it ... You could get into trouble easy," he added.

Assistant Chief Mike Wells said the fire department was "taking all

the precautions" and had secured the area until the power company repaired the line.

The broken line caused a three-hour power outage in downtown Prestonsburg, from the red light on North Lake Drive, near Lee's Restaurant, to South Lake Drive, near The Market Place, while employees of American Electric Power company worked to restore the power.

The Justice Center was closed for the day, but the courthouse, which was not affected by the outage, remained open.

During the workshop on electricity Wednesday, Massey explained other hazards involving the flow of electricity, including the removal of a meter from a wall.

Massey said that simply pulling the meter from the wall will not cut off the current. He said this information is important for firefighters to know because they could go into a house thinking the current was off when it was not.

Massey suggested that firefighters and rescue workers do some advanced planning for businesses in the area they serve. For example, he asked them if they know where the power cut off is for Highlands Regional Medical Center. He said that should something happen at the center, this advanced knowledge could save valuable time.

(Managing Editor Janice Shepherd contributed to this article.)

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Four to compete for Music Festival Queen

Four Floyd County high school seniors will compete for the title of 1999 Music Festival Queen, Tuesday evening, May 11, at the Mountain Arts Center.

The coronation is the highlight of the annual Floyd County Fine Arts Festival, which will begin at 7 p.m., Tuesday.

Representing their high schools will be:

- Jessica Lee Branham, Allen

Central. She is the daughter of Troy and Juanita Branham of Eastern.

• Amanda Clark, Betsy Layne High School. Clark is the daughter of Darrell and Kathy Clark of Betsy Layne.

• Christy Allison, Prestonsburg High School. She is the daughter of Clark and Phyllis Allison of Prestonsburg.

• Jo Pack, South Floyd. Pack is the daughter of Johnny and Peggy

Pack of Drift.

Junior High and Senior High All County bands will perform during the festival. Students in the instrumental groups were chosen by audition early in April and will rehearse Monday and Tuesday for Tuesday night's performance.

Regina Cooley will be the guest conductor of the Junior High group. The Senior High group will be under the direction of Wayne

Bishop.

A collection of artwork created by Floyd County High School students will be on display during the festival and for the entire month of May.

A concert from choral groups, along with artwork representing elementary schools, will be held in the fall at the Mountain Arts Center. Both events will be free and open to the public.

Judgement

the dangerous instrumentality; Failing to take reasonable steps to keep children, especially Adam Patrick Blackburn, from getting on the equipment which was under the Defendant's control; (and) Failing to take reasonable steps to make the equipment safe."

As a result of the child's death, the complaint says the Blackburns have "been deprived of the love, affection, companionship, services and earnings" of their deceased son.

In asking for redress for the parents, the complaint requests that the judgment consider the "mental and physical pain, suffering and inconvenience endured by the Decedent prior to his death; funeral expenses incurred by the estate of the

Decedent; medical expenses; destruction of the Decedent's power to earn money; and punitive damages."

The damages, according to the complaint, include "loss of consortium consisting of loss of love, affection, services, assistance, aid, society and companionship."

California Casualty Insurance Company is included in the complaint because the Blackburns had an insurance policy at the time with the company. They claim that the city vehicle involved in the accident was underinsured and that their underinsured motorists coverage

should compensate them for this accident.

Johnson, the Blackburns' attorney, said Wednesday.

"We have been investigating this accident for quite some time." He said the defendants now have to file an

answer to the complaint and then the "discovery" — or fact-finding — phase of the legal process will begin.

Briefs

Memorial Coliseum, with Dr. Louis Sullivan, former US Secretary of Health and Human Services, as the guest speaker. Sullivan is president of the Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta. UK has 5,633 candidates for degrees, including 3,613 for bachelor's degrees, 1,395 for master's degrees, 370 for professional degrees, and 255 for doctoral degrees.

Father, daughter die in Pike wreck

James Hopkins, 34, and his 12-year-old daughter, Irene Nicole Hopkins, were both killed yesterday morning on US 23 in Pikeville when their 1996 Ford Escort crossed into the path of and collided with a 1991 Chevrolet S-10, driven by Richard May of Shelbiana. The victims were thrown from their vehicle, according to a report from Pikeville City Police. Seatbelts were not in use in either vehicle, police said. Sgt. Richard Harris was assisted by Capt. Randy Ferrell, Officer Gordon Carter and Pikeville Fire/EMS.

Public meetings

• Public hearing on road aid and local government economic assis-

"We feel there may be some information that may not have come out," he said, but he refused to elaborate.

City Attorney Paul Burchett and Prestonsburg Mayor Jerry Fannin said they could not comment on the complaint. They did, however, say that the city has a long-standing policy that prohibits unauthorized persons from being allowed into city work areas, including the fire department.

tance, today, 9 a.m., Fiscal Courtroom, Courthouse
 • Floyd County Fiscal Court, special meeting, today, 10 a.m., Fiscal Courtroom, Courthouse
 • Floyd County Properties Corp., today, 10:30 a.m., Fiscal Courtroom, Courthouse
 • Prestonsburg City Council, Monday, 6 p.m., City Hall
 • 911 Executive Board, Thursday, 6 p.m., old tourism building

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 —Benjamin Disraeli

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<p>CINEMA 2</p> <p>A SEXY AND TWISTED LAUGH-RIT! IDLE HANDS</p> <p>Mon.-Sun. 7:10, 9:10; Fri. 4:10 Sat.-Sun. 2:10, 4:10</p>	<p>CINEMA 7</p> <p>ENTRAPMENT</p> <p>Mon.-Sun. 7:05, 9:20; Fri. 4:20 Sat.-Sun. 2:05, 4:20</p>
<p>CINEMA 3</p> <p>DON'T MISS THIS KISS! NEVER BEEN KISSED</p> <p>Mon.-Sun. 7:10, 9:10; Fri. 4:20 Sat.-Sun. 2:10, 4:20</p>	<p>CINEMA 8</p> <p>THE MUMMY</p> <p>Mon.-Sun. 7:00, 9:30; Fri. 4:30 Sat.-Sun. 2:00, 4:30</p>
<p>CINEMA 4</p> <p>LEAD REVEALS THE MATRIX</p> <p>Mon.-Sun. 7:00, 9:30; Fri. 4:30 Sat.-Sun. 2:00, 4:30</p>	<p>CINEMA 9</p> <p>LIFE</p> <p>Mon.-Sun. 7:10, 9:20; Fri. 4:20 Sat.-Sun. 2:10, 4:20</p>
<p>CINEMA 5</p> <p>10 THINGS I HATE ABOUT YOU</p> <p>Mon.-Sun. 7:15, 9:15; Fri.-Sat.-Sun. 4:15</p>	<p>CINEMA 10</p> <p>Twin Dragons</p> <p>Mon.-Sun. 7:00; Sat.-Sun. 2:00</p>

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The committee will review all publications of The Floyd County Times and tell us what you like—and what you don't. We're seeking Floyd County Times readers who have an ear for their communities' needs and will relay that information to us. The committee will meet once a month. Meeting date and time will depend on the schedule of the members. If you're interested, fill out the form below and mail to: The Floyd County Times, P.O. Box 390, Prestonsburg, KY 41653.

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—First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution—

Viewpoint

QUOTE OF THE WEEK...
 Most of the important things in the world have been accomplished by people who have kept on trying when there seemed to be no help at all.
 —Dale Carnegie

Friday, May 7, 1999 A4

Editorial

Some better paths are chosen

A government-sponsored study indicates that alcohol is involved in two of every five traffic deaths. In the early 1980s, it was three of every five. Another study indicates that movies and television programs continue to be saturated with images of people engaging in substance abuse, including the abuse of alcohol.

Could it be that people watch movies and television without aping every form of pathologic behavior they observe?

Certainly, the two studies are subject to interpretation. If they truly reflect a drop in drunken driving, the cause is subject to speculation. But one thing is clear even from casual observation. Whether or not there's a lot of drinking on the screen, drunkenness, to a large extent, has been deglamorized in mainstream society.

Time was when a cocktail party was an opportunity to throw a few back. Now some people order a cola or a white wine and carry it around, sipping, until the napkin it came with is tattered and crumpled.

Time was when a jolly inebriate was the symbol of good times, good fellowship, a good host. Now the fellow guests tend to get nervous and embarrassed at the first sign of impairment. The hostess wonders if she will be sued if Fred runs over someone's doghouse on the way out of the neighborhood.

Winos are no longer comic figures. They are accurately recognized as part of the substance-abusing homeless. Old clips of Dean Martin, joking about double images and hangovers, seem dated.

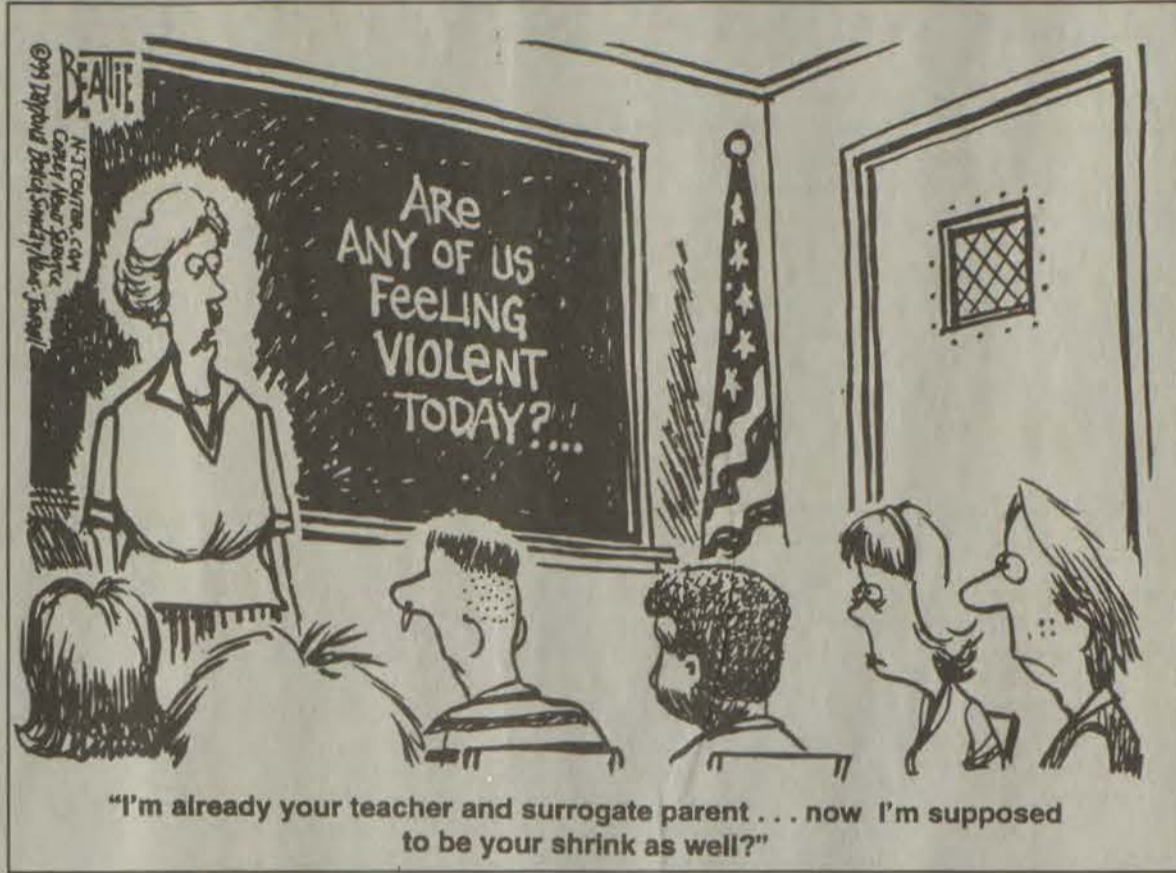
There are exceptions. Binge drinking, which teenagers and college students of an earlier generation considered unmanly, as in "that poor slob can't hold his liquor," now seems to be treated as both manly and womanly in those groups.

But in some other groups, the culture seems to have shifted in the direction of more healthful drinking.

This is gratifying for a number of reasons. Perhaps too much fretting over the role-modeling of televised drinkers is a waste of time. People were enjoying and abusing alcohol long before the first cathode tube burped to life. They would continue to enjoy it, and sometimes to abuse it, even if a Y2K problem or a runaway virus darkened every screen in the land forever.

But it also means that people can change. It means that lives are being saved. It means that other cultural changes may be possible — the further deglamorization of smoking, for instance — without resorting to police-state tactics.

It means that tougher penalties for drunken driving and better enforcement have had the desired impact of getting people to look at their behavior, and not only look at it but change it when advisable. — *Omaha, Nebraska, World-Herald*



Letters to the Editor

OBSERVE INTERNATIONAL MIGRATORY BIRD DAY

Editor:
 In the month of May, hundreds of thousands of migratory birds take wing, returning to their breeding grounds, passing through the Southeast. This month, you may catch a glimpse of warblers, shorebirds and thrushes, to name but a few.

What you won't see are the many challenges that migratory birds face on their annual journey. So many, in fact, that the second Saturday in May is set aside each year as International Migratory Bird Day, to focus attention on this beautiful and fragile resource.

For the vast majority of people, birds represent their sole everyday contact with wildlife. Birds connect all of us, from city dwellers to suburbanites to rural farmers with the natural world. Migratory birds are an excellent indicator of the overall health of an ecosystem. When bird species are declining, we should be concerned. Habitat that benefits birds—parks, greenways and wetlands—also contribute to the quality of the human environment.

Migratory birds provide significant economic benefits. An estimated 63 million Americans participate in birdwatching, generating more than \$20 billion annually. In fact, birdwatching is one of the fastest growing recreational activities in the United States, outpacing golf and rivaling gardening in terms of numbers of participants.

Birdwatchers spend an average of \$100 million in each state, directly supporting more than 200,000 jobs and generating \$1 billion in State and Federal taxes.

The southeastern United States is of critical importance to bird conservation. We not only provide essential, year-round habitat for a large number of species, we also host migrating flocks. More than

300 species of birds regularly visit or live in the Southeast Region. This is close to half of all bird species found in North America, north of Mexico.

The vast majority are nongame, migratory species. The Southeast supports 60 percent of all migratory bird species—"neotropical migrants"—that breed in North America and migrate to and from the tropics during winter.

Many bird species are in decline due to habitat loss, collision with man-made objects and predation from domestic animals. To survive, they must cross boundaries of eco-system, states, and nations, so protecting them must be a cooperative effort.

On May 8, take a few minutes to think what this country would be like without the incredible beauty and the rich biodiversity that birds provide.

- Go birdwatching—where you live or work, or at your local or state parks, national wildlife refuges and wildlife management areas.

- Provide habitat for birds when landscaping your yard by using native (especially fruit-bearing) plants.

- If you are a coffee drinker, consider buying shade-grown coffee that provides more habitat for migratory birds so they survive to return and breed in our region. You can get more information on this from the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center at their web site: <http://www.si.edu/smbc/coffee/criteria.html>.

- Consider keeping your house cats indoors. Together we can help protect migratory birds for future generations to enjoy.
 Sam D. Hamilton
 Southeast Regional Director
 US Fish and Wildlife Service
 Atlanta, Georgia

THANKS TO PARENTS

Editor:
 We, the faculty and staff of Prestonsburg High School, appreciate and thank the parents for a job well done during Teacher Appreciation Week. They treated us to a luncheon with food prepared by the parents of our students.

We also extend our thanks to Lynn Neeley and Brown Food Service. The food was delicious.

Coy Samons, Principal
 PHS Faculty & Staff

WRITER RESPONDS TO 'LETTER OF ATTACK'

Editor:
 Last week I shook my head in dismay as I read the latest letter of attack by the renowned character-assassin and your ex-officio editor, Lloyd "Blue" Goble. I must respond. All of the quotes in this letter are from Mr. Goble's past letters published by your paper.

Years ago he regularly took to task the local school board and politicians. Months ago, he inexplicably turned on Christians and "churches." He bitterly described the local churches as having "nearly demonic" preachers, controlled by "coal barons" and "politicians."

Church meetings, according to Mr. Goble, included the regular interaction and bargaining between the church members and the political powers, whereby the churches delivered votes, and politicians rewarded them by taking care of speeding tickets and delivering blacktop. His allegations were so silly that they were unworthy of a written response.

But this past week he turned his wrath upon our kids, and this is the lowest blow he has ever thrown. He wrote last week in the context of the Littleton, Colorado, murders, and implied that those killings were the fault of athletes who had routinely harassed the students who became the killers. (He neglected to mention they also wanted to kill all of the black students and, in fact, shot everyone they could, irrespective of their status).

Then showing all of the thoughtfulness and responsibility usually displayed only in a drive-by shooting, he switched the focus from the murders in Colorado to the Prestonsburg High School students. He bitterly attacked unnamed kids there as the "beautiful people" and the "power elite," as well as the entire football team.

It is clear to me that he was implying that our kids may find that some people (possibly including Lloyd Blue Goble?) believe our kids are due the same treat-

(See Letters, page five)

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor are welcomed by The Floyd County Times. In accordance with our editorial page policy, all letters must include the signature, address and telephone number of the author.

The Times reserves the right to reject or edit any letter deemed slanderous, libelous or otherwise objectionable. Letters should be no longer than two type-written pages, and may be edited for length or clarity.

Opinions expressed in letters and other voices are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the newspaper. Send letters to: The Editor, The Floyd County Times, P.O. Box 391, Prestonsburg, Ky. 41653.

PostScript

by Pam Shingler
 Editor



Callbacks

I have never liked telephones, at least not since I was a teen-ager, back when kids were not allowed to hang out on the streets and hoot and holler until the wee hours.

I once had a night-owl boss who would call his minions at all hours, including midnight or 1 a.m. or later. (He did not come into the office until 10 or 11 in the morning, but he would check to make sure that we were there at 8.)

Sometimes the calls began, "Pam, I've got a great idea I want to run by you." And, sometimes, they started with my name, a pause, and something like, "I'm really disappointed ... This is intolerable ... What were you thinking?"

I grew to loathe the sound of the phone. The very first ping! of the ringer sent chills up my spine and moaning into my mouth. I taught myself back then to ignore the ringing. At first, after letting a phone ring out, I would scurry to dial my friends to make sure they hadn't just called. Then, answering machines came into being to solve that problem.

I've pretty much recuperated from that. That boss long ago went out of my life and I moved from that place. Despite the answering machine, I generally answer the phone when I'm home.

What I hate about phones now is when I'm trying to reach someone and have to sit through a jumble of pre-recorded messages, straining to make sure I understand the instructions.

Monday morning was a frustrating case in point. Having received the money for my totaled car ("moderate" damage from the wreck almost two months ago) and having located a decent replacement, I began the process of purchase.

Of course, if you've ever bought a car, you understand the juggling act that involves securing insurance for a car that you don't yet own and that you can't own until you prove you have insurance.

I began by calling the number listed on my policy for my insurance agent. Turns out the number is somewhere in cyberspace — a centralized data collector located in Omaha or Dallas or Des Moines who takes information for agents in the rest of the country. Instead of my calling the agent directly, I call her and tell her everything and then she calls him and tells him what I have told her.

Later, after he reads the e-mail message from the data collector, he calls me to get the additional facts I didn't know when I talked with her.

I then called the bank, but there are no people there yet. Rather, I listen to a recording telling me that no one is in and what the hours are at every branch. When I do get through, I talk to two different persons before I contact the one I want, even though I asked for her by name.

This done, I call the person I'm buying the car from and get the answering machine. After the message plays, telling me to leave my own

(See PostScript, page five)

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GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ME

by Paul Prather
Contributing Writer

MY ONLY SON TURNS 16

This is a milestone time in the life of my family. My son — my and Renee's only child — turns 16 this week.

One evening last week John and his mom ordered his senior class ring.

Wednesday I'll haul him to the courthouse to take the written test for his driver's permit.

For the next few months I suppose I'll get the privilege of trying to teach him to handle a car. (I'm debating whether to talk my physician into prescribing me a vat of Valium.)

Our little boy is nearly grown up and nearly gone from home. Once they start driving solo, they never really come back.

What amazes me is how fast his adolescence has arrived.

Recently I happened across one of my old journals.

As it turned out the journal covered, among other things, the nervous days when Renee and I were just discovering she was pregnant.

At the time it appeared we couldn't have gotten her with child at a worse time. I was scared.

We had just moved to Lexington, where I was pursuing a master's degree in English at the University of Kentucky.

We initially thought (wrongly as it turned out) that our health insurance had lapsed because Renee, whose previous employer had provided us coverage, had changed jobs.

I was working as an uninsured, part-time teaching assistant at UK.

My gross salary was \$470 a month, out of which the university deducted my tuition and taxes. Renee earned about the same.

We lived in a cramped apartment.

I was sure I would have to quit

school, give up my dream of becoming a writer and go to work at some job I hated to pay the forthcoming hospital bills and buy diapers and formula.

My journal reflects my innermost thoughts during those days, put down on paper for no one's eyes but my own, handwritten in sloppy, unedited drafts.

I knew I should be disheartened. Yet here's what I wrote from my UK office on Monday, Oct. 11, 1982:

"There are no words to describe the feeling. Euphoria? Ecstasy? What do you say? Renee called to tell me that the doctor says she's pregnant. She said, 'Hello, Daddy.'"

"Daddy, Me! God, how can I be coherent? I am trying to remain cool, unaffected, but I feel like someone set off fireworks in my brain.

"My child is already beginning its life. It is growing in her belly. I am going to be a father. And I have to sit here in this office and try to grade papers or read Shelley? I have to go to class at 1 o'clock? I want to do cartwheels down the hall, ride the elevator down, get in the car and go to (Renee's workplace) and hug her.

"Daddy, Can I wait 7 or 7 1/2 months for this child to be born? I want to hold it, to kiss it, to feel its skin, to rock it, to talk to it, to teach it to read and to pray and to walk. I want to feel its baby hair and look into its baby eyes. I've got to do something.

"Maybe I'll skip out and go to the mall and buy it a toy today.

"My son, or my daughter."

I did cut class that afternoon. I bought a teddy bear.

Now, suddenly, somehow, that little fetus — so tiny the day I wrote those words that he could hide in Renee's abdomen without stretching her skin — is 6-foot-1 and itching to drive a car and flirting with girls.

He's talking about where he wants to go to college.

Today, my feelings about fatherhood are no simpler than they were in 1982. Love is a complex emotion.

I'm still frightened. The thought of a 16-year-old behind the wheel of a car gives me the night sweats.

I'm sad that he'll soon be leaving us to forge his own way.

Yet I'm excited, too, for the possibilities and awakenings that await him.

I'm thankful for his good nature, his common sense and his health.

And I remain amazed at the wonder of it, that Renee and I could create a living, breathing human being as fine as John.

There are still days when I want to do cartwheels in celebration.

Advisory group meets for 911

by Willie Elliott
Staff Writer

On Wednesday night, members of the 911 Advisory Council learned how far along the work on verification of roads has progressed, the status of the law enforcement channel and the status of pagers being repaired.

Bill Dotson, Floyd County 911 Coordinator, said 30 of the 300 roads had been canvassed and addresses verified. Dotson said they chose the little roads first to let the workers get accustomed to doing the work.

He said once the verification is completed on a road, he can put the information into the computer and all needed information will come up when an address on that road is accessed.

The work on the verification started two weeks ago and he said there is about another month of work left.

Dotson said MapSync would bring the conversion product next week. At that time Dotson said he will begin to edit the maps and get maps current on the roads already verified.

Dotson said the equipment for the law enforcement channel has all

come in except two or three connectors. According to Dotson, the county can install and start using the system as soon as the frequencies are assigned.

Chairman Jim Caldwell was disturbed by the status of pagers. He said he was afraid that some volunteers were without pagers, but at the same time he said the system could not afford to buy any new pagers. He wanted to know if the repair turnaround time could be shortened.

The board is adopting an Incident Inquiry Form that will be available to all departments. The purpose of the form is to let different agencies request information concerning 911 calls and operations. Agencies would be allowed to review tapes of calls to get this information.

Caldwell said that it was important that all ambulance personnel be at the next meeting on June 2. Sam Lowe, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) inspector for this region, is to be at the meeting to answer questions concerning the proper procedures for responding to emergency calls.

The meeting was attended by representatives from Allen, Mud Creek and Cow Creek fire departments; the Sheriff's Department; Kentucky State Police; Respond, Lifeline, and Transtar ambulance companies; Floyd Co. Rescue; P.R. Long from Appalachian Wireless; Gary Dotson of Prestonsburg 911; and newly-appointed Deputy County Judge-Executive Brett Davis.

Status

(Continued from page one)

elected in November to replace Thompson.

The Blackburns — and Thompson — contend that since she was hired by the former sheriff, her employment does not violate the Ethics Code, which was passed by the Fiscal Court last year. In short, her husband did not hire her.

The Ethics Commission, chaired by Attorney John Rosenberg, has said that, according to state law, all sheriff's department employees were automatically terminated at the end of the previous sheriff's term, December 31.

The commission contends that newly-elected Sheriff Blackburn subsequently had to hire a new staff — even if he simply assumed the previous staff.

John K. Blackburn cited

instances in other counties where elected officials have fired employees who were hired by their predecessors and were, consequently, sued by the former employees. He has said that if he terminates his wife's employment or that of any other of the previous sheriff's employees, he risks being sued.

County Attorney Keith Bartley issued an opinion in favor of Pam Blackburn's employment, but the Ethics Commission sought an opinion from the state attorney general's office.

Last month, with no AG opinion in hand, the commission issued its decision that Pam Blackburn's employment is an Ethics Code violation.

She has, however, continued to work without pay.

Her attorney, Dan Rowland, said Wednesday that the petition before the court is the next step in his client's quest to maintain her job. "The ethics ordinance says we can appeal a decision to the circuit court," Rowland said, indicating that the petition, filed April 29, is part of that appeal.

Rosenberg said yesterday that he plans to ask the Fiscal Court for assistance in obtaining legal representation for the Ethics Commission in the court dispute. The Ethics Code, he said, includes a provision for the commission to have legal assistance if the county attorney has a conflict, which he apparently does, since he has already offered an opposing opinion.

Rosenberg said the commission has 20 days from the time the petition was filed to make a response.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Calendar items will be printed as space permits

110, 75, or 35 miles. Call 886-8604.

South Floyd Middle PTO/Site-based meeting

The South Floyd Middle School PTO/Site-based meeting will be held Thursday, May 13 at 6 p.m. The meeting is open to the public.

MultiSports May schedule

Pro-Fitness Century Plus (75, 35, or 110 mile options) will be held Sunday, May 30, at 7 p.m.

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Newsome reunion

The 16th Newsome-Newsom reunion will be held Saturday, May 29, at Fishtrap Lake Shelter No. 1. Bring covered dish.

Leisure Ride

A Leisure Ride will be held on May 30. Optional ride lengths are

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Happy Mother's Day OMA REYNOLDS

"The Cup of Life"



*She never had an easy life
'Cause times back then were tough
But growing up in East Kentucky
'Taught my mother to be tough
With my dad she raised ten kids
When most would have given up
But she didn't seem to stumble
Though she drank from an empty cup*

*We never saw the deep rich waters
In fact we just got by
But with her love it didn't matter
She held our heads up high
So with little between her and
the world
To make her kids corrupt
As long as she could pray
She didn't mind that empty cup*

*She nursed us through all sickness
Fill the fever was all gone
Then she'd thank the Lord and ask him
To please keep us safe and strong
When times got hard and money low
With no thought of giving up
She'd ask the Lord for guidance
While she drank from an empty cup
And now she sits with folded hands
And smiles like a little girl
I think the Lord just chose to free her
mind
from the wicked world
Someday she'll sit at the table with God
Adorned with medals he bestowed
She'll be drinking from a saucer
'Cause her cup has overflowed.*

Written by her son
With love, Vernon Reynolds

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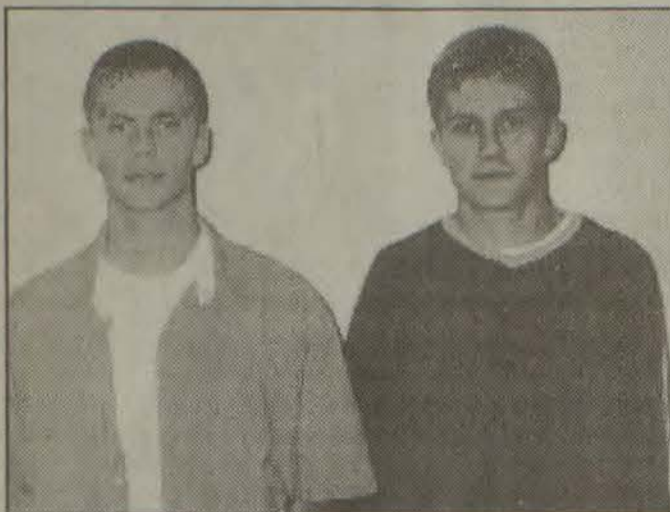
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AC students are winners

We are all born mad. Some remain so. —Samuel Beckett



Leslie Slone, left, and Dustin Little recently had their artwork recognized during an art competition at the Art Company.

Two Allen Central High School art students were chosen as winners in recent competition.

Only five prizes were awarded and two of them were received by Allen Central students. Winston and Newton easels were given to the school for each student who placed first. Art work from schools in Eastern and Central Kentucky was entered. The show was displayed in Lexington during the month of January at The Art Company and the winners were announced at its completion.

Leslie Slone won with his painting, a self-portrait. He is the son of Jackie and Lisa Slone of Lackey. Also winning, was Dustin Little of Langley. He is the son of Kenny and Glennis Little.

Both students are juniors and members of the Advanced Art Class at Allen Central. Their work was submitted by their art instructor, Caralita O'Quinn.

Free Skin Cancer Screening offered at Leonard Lawson Cancer Care Center

It's probably not on your calendar, but it should be. May is National Melanoma/Skin Cancer Detection and Prevention Month. To recognize the risks of this disease, Pikeville Methodist Hospital's Leonard Lawson Cancer Care Center is conducting its third annual free skin cancer screening. The screening will be held Saturday, May 8, from 7:30 am until 1 pm at the Leonard Lawson Cancer Care Center.

The screenings are part of a national campaign to encourage early detection and teach prevention of skin cancer, the most common form of cancer in this country. Last year, 63 people were seen during the free screening at the Leonard

Lawson Cancer Care Center and 15 of those were referred for further testing.

According to Ronald Hall, M.D., dermatologist participating in the free screening, the key to the successful treatment of most types of cancer is early detection and treatment. "With melanoma, early detection is easy because the signs are right there visible on the surface of the skin."

Call 437-3500 between the hours of 11 am and 2:30 pm, to schedule a free skin cancer screening.

Screenings take only 10 minutes and could save your life. Appointments will be made on a first come, first served basis.

Melanoma, an increasingly common, fast spreading skin cancer will strike about 44,200 Americans this

year and 7,300 people are expected to die of the disease. Since the 1930s, the incidence of melanoma has increased 1900%. One person dies of melanoma every hour.

Everyone is at risk for skin cancer. In fact this year, melanoma, a fast spreading skin cancer, will strike about 44,000 Americans and kill more than 7,000. Don't be part of that number. On May 8th from 7:30 am until 1 pm, a free skin cancer screening will be held at Pikeville Methodist Hospital's Leonard Lawson Cancer Care Center. To schedule an appointment, call 437-3500, ext.3280 beginning on May 3rd between 11 am and 2:30 pm. Remember, skin cancer can be cured if detected and treated early. The free skin cancer screening is brought to you by Pikeville Methodist

Obits

(Continued from page seven)

Oma McIntosh, 79, of Mallie, died Sunday, May 2. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, May 4, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

Elizabeth (Lizzie) Jane Meade, 80, of Dema, died Friday, April 30. Funeral services were conducted Monday, May 3, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

Ida Campbell Pigg, 73, of Hindman, died April 29. Funeral services were conducted Monday, May 3, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

Chalmer Slone, 75, of Dema, died April 26. He is survived by his wife, Mary Ellen Jacobs Slone. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, April 29, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

Judy Lee Sparkman, 29, of Mousie, died April 28. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, May 1, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

Bertha Slone Whitaker, 88, of Lotts Creek Rd., died Thursday, April 29. She is survived by her husband, James Keller Whitaker. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Maggard Brothers Funeral Home, Hazard, and Letcher Funeral Home, Whitesburg.

National Nursing Home Week

Riverview Manor Nursing Home will observe National Nursing Home Week, May 9-15 with a week of activities.

Sunday, May 9, is open house at 2 p.m. with singing by the Evangelistics.

Monday, May 10, A balloon lift-off will be held at 11 a.m. Magician Terry Frances will present a show at 1:30.

A volunteer luncheon will be held Tuesday at noon. Riverview Manor

Olympics will be at 2 p.m.

On Wednesday, May 12, residents and visitors can participate in a Horse Shoe Tournament at 10:30 and an old-fashion ice cream social at 1:30.

All day Thursday, May 13, "Nifty Fifties Day" with a Hula Hoop Contest at 2 p.m.

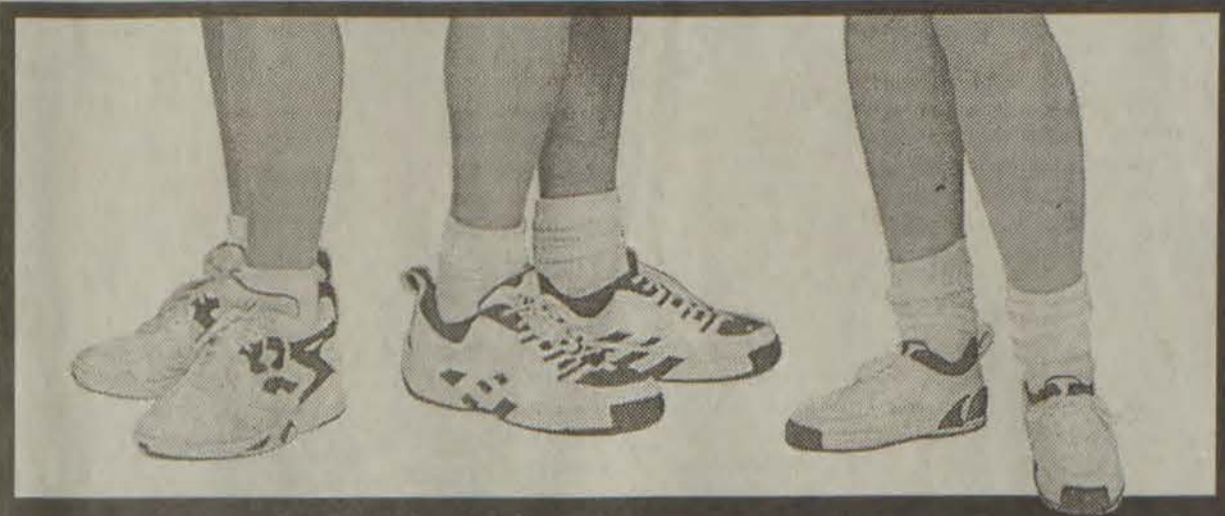
Friday, May 14, is "Employees Appreciation Day." An old-fashioned Pig Roast will be held.

Saturday, May 15, concludes the activities.

A resident and family picnic will be held at noon. Music will be provided by Mountain Harmony.



Ersel "with a heart full of love" Huff recently celebrated his 76th birthday, and a week earlier he recorded 46 years in the Old Regular Baptist Church. He is shown with Linda Elliott who shares the same birthday with Huff. He calls Elliott "my little short pretty sister." (photo by Willie Elliott)



This time, PUT YOUR FOOT DOWN.

The American Cancer Society's Relay For Life is Friday & Saturday, May 14 & 15, from 7 p.m.-7 a.m., at Prestonsburg Community College Walking Track



Sponsored by:
The Floyd County Times
Highlands Regional
Q-95

This time, take action. Join the hundreds of people in this community who will walk together to help raise money to fight cancer.

This all-night event is both fun and inspirational, but most importantly, it raises money to help prevent and cure cancer and to support those battling this life-threatening disease.

Cancer survivors are invited to join us to begin the relay at 7:00 p.m.

You can honor a friend or loved one who is a victim or survivor of cancer, during the Luminary Ceremony at 10 p.m., where candles will outline the track to symbolize our continuing battle against this dreaded disease.

For Luminary Information, Call 886-7703 or 886-8409



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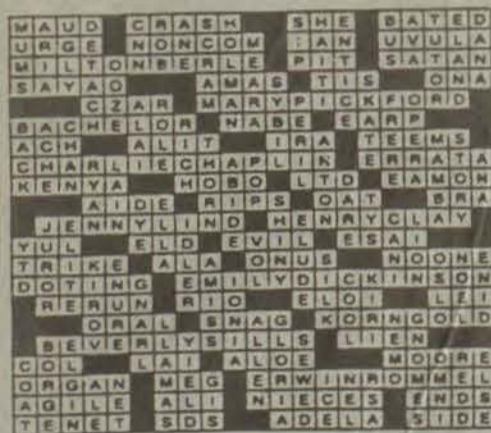
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Sports



Inside

Holler Monkeys,
Cobras Win

The Floyd County Times • Friday, May 7, 1999

Jenkins inks with Pikeville College...



FORMER MOREHEAD STATE EAGLE Thomas Jenkins signed a letter-of-intent to play basketball at Pikeville College next year. Jenkins became the third signee for new head coach Randy McCoy. (photo by Ed Taylor)

Jenkins leaves Morehead State for the Pikeville College Bears

Former 15th Region player of the Year gets OK on red shirt season

by Ed Taylor
Sports Editor

Citing the desire to return closer to home to play college basketball, former Morehead State University Eagle Thomas Jenkins inked a letter of intent with Pikeville College Wednesday morning in the Hall of Fame room at the school.

Jenkins becomes the third recruit for new head coach Randy McCoy, who has been at the head post for only a month. McCoy lauded the landing for the former Allen Central standout.

"Thomas is a young man that will be a big piece of the basketball puzzle we are trying to put together," said Coach McCoy. "He has had an opportunity to play at the Division I level."

Coach McCoy said although Jenkins had made the choice to return home, he hopes that being part of the rebuilding program at Pikeville College was part of that decision.

"I hope the thing that helped Thomas make that decision to come to Pikeville College was to help get our basketball program to the point to where we can compete against teams in our state, as well as on the national level in the NAIA," he said.

Jenkins was voted Player of the Year in the 15th Region in his

senior year by the Kentucky Association of Basketball Coaches (KABC). As a freshman, he helped lead the Rebels to the quarterfinals of the 1993 state tournament. He averaged 24



"The closeness of the college here, getting out to see him play and getting home at a decent hour means a lot to me," Steve Jenkins said.

points per game for Allen Central and pulled down almost 11 rebounds per game. He scored 2,303 points in his four-year career at Allen Central.

Jenkins signed with Morehead State in coach Kyle Macy's first year at the helm of the Eagles. He started the first part of his freshman season where he averaged

just over three points per game.

Last season, Jenkins played six games before illness shortened his sophomore season. Appealing to the NCAA, Jenkins was granted a medical red shirt and still has three years of eligibility left.

"The red shirt is final," said Jenkins. "I will have three years left to play here at Pikeville College."

Coach McCoy said the information Morehead received from the NCAA (medical red shirt) will be forwarded to the NAIA National Headquarters, "but we feel it will be okay."

Jenkins told the gathered media that his decision was made so he could be closer to his parents and that friends could come to Pikeville and watch him play.

"My situation at Morehead was rough at first," explained Jenkins, "being a freshman. I got to play a lot as a freshman. I got to play in a lot of big places, but I felt this was my best opportunity to see if I could come back and play."

Jenkins said he knows what he had to do to get ready for the upcoming season.

"As soon as I get out of my finals this week (at Morehead), I will come home and have some wisdom teeth cut out. I will be off a week, then I will be over here

(See Jenkins, page two)

Coleman's three-run blast powers Lady Blackcats

Hyden collects two hits in 16-0 victory

by Ed Taylor
Sports Editor

Brooke Coleman blasted a three-run homerun and freshman Megan Hyden collected two hits to lead the Prestonsburg Lady Blackcats to a 16-0 rout of the Lady Hawks of Pike Central Tuesday in high school softball.

Brandi Slone picked up the win for Prestonsburg in the three-inning game, called because of the mercy rule. Although the game lasted but three innings, Slone was credited with a no-hitter allowing only four base runners for the Lady Hawks. She walked one, hit two and one reached on an error.

Coleman's homerun cleared the left centerfield fence at Pike Central and came in the first inning. Coleman, who was elevated in the Prestonsburg batting order, made the move look good as she drilled a pitch over the fence, scoring Angela Howell and Shelly Greathouse ahead of her. Howell drew a walk to start the game, and Greathouse singled up the middle.

Prestonsburg sent 14 batters to the plate in the first inning scoring nine runs to take a 9-0 lead. The only two hits were from Coleman and Greathouse, Chapman, who started for Pike Central, walked six batters in the inning. The Lady

Hawks committed three errors.

Pike Central loaded the bases against Slone in their half of the first but failed to dent the plate. She struck out two batters in the inning while hitting one.

Prestonsburg went out in order in the top of the second even though Slone started the frame with a base hit. She was called out because she left the bag too early.

Slone was throwing heat when she went to the mound in the bottom of the second. She fanned the three batters she faced in the inning.

In the Prestonsburg third, they punched home seven runs to take the 16-0 lead. Hyden, who batted twice in the inning and singled both times, started the rally with a lead-off single. A one-out walk to Greathouse put runners at first and second. Both runners scampered home when Coleman's fly ball to right was dropped. Amelia Conley and Kimi Nunnery collected back-to-back singles and Margaret Damron had a two-run base hit as Prestonsburg rolled away from the Lady Hawks. Two runs were scored on Hyden's second hit of the inning.

Slone struck out seven batters while walking just one. She hit two batsmen but did not allow a base hit.

Prestonsburg committed one error in the contest and collected

eight hits.

The Lady Blackcats will host Sheldon Clark Monday at Archer Park.

Prestonsburg JV rolls past Pike Central behind Hyden

by Ed Taylor
Sports Editor

The Prestonsburg Lady Blackcats Junior Varsity softball team pounded out 22 hits en route to a 22-4 win over the Pike Central Lady Hawks JV squad this past Tuesday.

Megan Hyden, a freshman, collected three hits, including a three-run inside-the-park home run. Brooke Coleman, Amelia Conley, Sarah Goble, and Stacey Goble each had two hits. Angela Howell, Margaret Damron and Crissy Newsome had one hit each.

Prestonsburg batted around twice in the first inning sending 23 batters to the plate in the first inning and scoring 19 runs. Hyden, who had all three of her hits in the first inning, doubled in her first at bat.

Sarah Goble had a first inning two-bagger and Stacey Goble tripled in her first at bat.

With runners at second and third, Hyden laced a gapper to the outfield and circled the bases for a clean inside-the-park homer. Sarah Goble tripled in her second at bat and Stacey Goble had a double. Her third time to the plate in the first, Hyden had a single.

Stacey Goble was the winning pitcher for Prestonsburg. She allowed two runs in the first inning and two in the third to the Lady Hawks. She had five strike outs and scattered three hits.

Pikeville survives Betsy Layne scare

by Ed Taylor
Sports Editor

Defending 15th Region girls' softball champion Pikeville, found the Betsy Layne Lady Cats a little charged up and had to hold off the Lady Cats in subduing them 9-6 this past Monday at the Allen Park.

The Pikeville girls' team did their damage in the second inning when they scored five times against freshman Kim Tackett. After the shaky second, Tackett got stronger and displayed why she is one of the bright pitching prospects in the region this year. Tackett struck out seven batters in allowing nine runs on eight hits.

Phillips was the winning pitcher for the Lady Panthers. She allowed six runs on 10 hits and struck out six.

Tackett had little trouble with Pikeville in the first inning, striking out the first two batters before issuing a walk to Kimberlain, But Betsy Layne catcher, Denise Jones, tossed out Kimberlain in a steal attempt at second base to end the inning.

Likewise, Phillips had little trouble with Betsy Layne in their half of the first inning, striking out two batters in a three-up, three-down situation.

In the top of the second, Pikeville scored five times on three walks and two hits as Tackett had a rough time from

(See Pikeville, page two)



Another award

Prestonsburg Athletic Director Ron Hampton presented John Ortega with a trophy after being named the winner of the James Allen Player of the Year Award in basketball. The award is sponsored by Q95 radio (photo by Ed Taylor)

ED TAYLOR
times sports editor



Notes from the back of a long receipt

Ever been driving a long the highway, have a thought and wish you had something to write it down before you lose it. Someone will tell me something, and it seems that the important things are told when I have nothing to write on.

Well, while traveling in my trusty Bronco (and I use that cautiously - over 200,000 miles now), I was trying to remember some things and had to reach over in my seat and pick up a receipt to scribble some notes on. But this is not the first time I have had to take this route.

Well, anyway, this is Thursday, the day the power went off at the paper, I had to go home and use my computer at the house to get my sports finished.

Let's see, what was it I was going to write. Oh, yeah, here it is on the receipt.

• Youth league coaches. I would be very glad to put your game results in the sports section if you will see that I get a copy of your scorebook. Make a copy, get it to me and in the sports section it will go.

I appreciate Mike and the Allen Astros Little League team. Mike makes

(See Sports, page two)



Wins relays

This Prestonsburg foursome found time to rest after winning the women's 800-meter relay at Allen Central Tuesday evening. (photo by Ed Taylor)

Jenkins

(Continued from page one)

every day." Jenkins said he has remained in a conditioning program, despite not having played much in the past year. With his sickness, he dropped from 215 to 193, but feels the weight loss is a plus for him. "I feel a lot more smoother on the floor since I lost the weight," he said. "The weight loss sort of helped me. I bounced back from it real fast. Conditioning wise, I am fine. I just want to come here and do the best I can." Coach McCoy cited the fact that both Jenkins and Craig Ratliff will have to retain the edge on their game after being absent from the game. "Thomas and Craig both are

going to fit into our program very quick," said the Pikeville College mentor. "Simply because of their athletic ability." "Thomas and I have talked and he is going to have to spend a lot of time in the gym. Sitting out, you get behind. He will have to get back in the gym and get the edge back on his game. Both Thomas and Craig will do what they have to do to get the edge back." Coach McCoy said both players will be impact players next season for the Bears. "I don't think there is any question that Thomas and Craig will play major parts in our team next season," said McCoy. McCoy said the illness that Jenkins suffered that sidelined him

for most of last season was not a concern to him. "No, I think Thomas just got run down. It happens. You get sick and you just can't get rid of it," McCoy said. "He made a smart decision to red shirt last year when he got sick." Both of Jenkins' parents are pleased with the decision that was made. "The closeness of the college here, getting out to see him play and getting home at a decent hour means a lot to me," Steve Jenkins said. "He is where I want him to be," Mary Jenkins said. "I can get to him, and I am tickled to death with his decision." Jenkins had made an oral com-

mitment to play at Campbellsville next season but, when Coach McCoy was named the new head coach for the Bears, Jenkins knew he wanted to play there. "When I heard that Coach McCoy was the new coach, I knew that was where I wanted to play," Jenkins said. "I had committed to Campbellsville. I thought my mom and dad always wanted me home. My dad went through some illness not too long ago, and I love to be around my dad." Jenkins said he is looking forward to returning to his roots and Pikeville College. "I just wanted to come back home and just be happy. I think this is the place for me to be happy," he said.

Sports

(Continued from page one)

sure I get a copy of his scorebook. Clinis Hall, out of the Bambino League, gives me a call and reports his games. Now, Clinis doesn't like to report the losses, but at least he does call. Rick Hughes and Bobby Shepherd from the Prestonsburg Little League and Senior League have been great in turning in scores (win or lose). So it says here, "make mention of youth baseball score sheets!" All right, get those score sheets in to me. The kids get the recognition and it will be an incentive to motivate other kids to really play hard. Oh, by the way, I need first and last names. There are a lot of James, Johns, Jims and etc. out there. Says here, from someone close to the source, that Todd Tackett is staying at UK and will play for the Wildcats next season. It's about time that some good news comes out of Lexington. Todd is a great person and I am happy that, as of right now, he is staying with UK. Now, there is another item.

Can't read my writing or scribbling. Yes, here it is. Cincinnati cannot beat the Braves. Wonder why I wrote that down? Why, why, why? Well, I'll think of it later. **ARE CATS WEARY OF PLAYING TEMPLE?** Ever notice how other Universities jump at the chance to put down the UK basketball program. And they love to use the media to do so. Seems that Temple University and coach John Chaney are miffed because UK refused to play them in the revival of the old Sugar Bowl basketball series in New Orleans. Now all the negative things said about the refusal is only to cast doubt in the eyes of future recruits. Kentucky plays one of the toughest schedules in the country, so Associate Media Director Brooks Downing said. I got to know Brooks when he was with the KHSAA and took care of the media during the state tournaments. I find he is not an arrogant

person and is very cooperative. But one thing about him, he will not try to hide anything. He is an honest media relations person. Now, The Temple Owls are hollering over UK being "afraid" of playing them. Instead, looks like the Cats will play Missouri. Until Wednesday, good sports everyone and be good sports! Take the kids to Sunday School and church this Sunday. I hope you have a great weekend.



Dashing to victory
Prestonsburg's Crystal Slone crossed the finish line in winning the women's 100-meter dash this past Tuesday in a county track meet at Allen Central. Slone is one of the top runners in the region as well as the state (photo by Ed Taylor)

Pikeville

(Continued from page one)

the mound. Hall, Harris and Boyd had RBI singles in the inning for Pikeville. Betsy Layne scored twice in the bottom half of the second inning to make it a 5-2 game. Jones opened the inning with a booming double and scored on Kristi Newsome's RBI single. Newsome came around to score on Bentley's base hit. Amanda Robinette had a single in the inning and stole second, but was left stranded when Heather Hamilton fanned to end the inning. A one-out single by Narra in the Pikeville third set up the sixth run for the Lady Panthers. Narra scored on Trimble's base hit for a 6-2 game. Betsy Layne struck for three runs in the bottom of the third for a 6-5 affair. Devon Reynolds ignited the rally with a lead-off single and Mendy Robinette followed with a double to score Reynolds. Robinette came around to the

plate when Newsome collected her second hit of the game. Newsome stole second and third and came home on Tackett's safety. The only inning that Pikeville did not score in was the fourth. But Betsy Layne could not get anything going in the inning as well, and they went out one, two, three. Pikeville added a run in the fifth inning on a lead-off single by Narra and Hall's base hit. In the Betsy Layne fifth, Robinette collected her second hit of the game and scored on Bentley's double for a 7-6 game. Pikeville dented the plate twice in the top of the sixth on a lead-off single by Phillips, Johnson's double and Potter's two-run single with two out. Betsy Layne put two runners on base in the bottom of the six but failed to move them around. Betsy Layne drops to 12-7 on the season. The Lady Cats face Shelby Valley at home Monday evening.

Mercy, mercy, Reds mercy Yankees, 13-2

Ousley tosses no-hitter; Michael collects three hits, four RBI's

by Ed Taylor
Sports Editor

Skyle Ousley struck out nine batters, gave up two runs and tossed a no-hitter as the Prestonsburg Reds mercied the Prestonsburg Yankees 13-2 at Archer Park in Little League baseball. Michael Stevens carried the big bat for the Reds, collecting three hits and driving in four runs. He had a triple in the first inning. Steven Jones had two hits and two runs batted in for the winning Reds. Hatfield had two doubles in the contest. The Reds scored six runs in the first inning against Yankee starter Nick McGuire. McGuire walked the first five batters he faced in the opening frame. Stevens then tripled home three runners and scored himself before McGuire retired the side

Ousley walked two Yankee runners in the second inning, but the Yanks could come up with a big hit. In the Reds' second, four runners scored for a 10-0 game. Stevens singled home one run and two runners came home on Jones' two-run single. The Yankees got their two runs in the third inning when Tommy Johnson and McGuire walked and scored on two bases-loaded walks to Jeremy Hammonds and Justin Ferrell. The Reds dented the plate for two runs in the third inning and one in the fourth for the mercy game. Hatfield doubled in a run in the inning. Matthew Scoggins had a base hit and scored a run. Three consecutive base hits by Stevens, Jones and Zack Ousley gave the Reds their final run in the fourth inning.

A Golfer's Personality Quiz

Please check one

My idea of a good time would be:

- A. Taking out the trash;
- B. Working at the office on weekends;
- C. Admiring a 250-yard drive on the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail.

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- A. Clean out the garage;
- B. Wash the dog;
- C. Head for Alabama to play one of the seven sites on the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail.

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- A. Discuss Greco-Roman architecture;
- B. Attend an interpretive dance weekend;
- C. Take on the 414-yard, par four "Assassin" at Oxmoor Valley.

I would feel better about myself if I:

- A. Lost 20 pounds;
- B. Learned a foreign language;
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Holler Monkeys, Cobras post soccer victories

by Ed Taylor
Sports Editor

The Floyd County Holler Monkeys, coached by Gloria Mullins, defeated the Pike County Revolution, 3-2. Eplin Little scored all three goals for the Holler Monkeys. Little scored one goal off the other team's goal kick.

Andrew Burchett was excellent at the goal tending. The Holler Monkeys got good defense from Molly Burchett and Heath Chaffins.

In another game, the Holler Monkeys experienced their first tie of the season against the OLM Barracudas. The two teams played to a 1-1 tie at Prestonsburg. Nick Chaffins scored the lone goal for the Holler Monkeys. Megan Patton and Alex Hieronymus did an excellent job of shutting down the Barracudas' defense.

The Floyd County Cobras trav-

eled to Hindman and was matched against the Hazard Electrolytes. It was the Cobras returning home with an impressive 6-1 win over Hazard.

Nick Francis led the way with five goals for the Cobras. Charlie Beatty scored one. Forward Roger Collins had several assists.

The Hazard team had some hot shots at the Cobra net, but Matt Francis did an excellent job of defending the goal. Bryce and Brooks Warman, new members of the Cobras, along with Brian Lazar and Jeremy Shepherd, played excellent defense helping to hold Hazard to one goal. Todd Volk, Brandon Powers and Danielle Tourigny contributed in controlling the match for the Cobras.

Recently, the Cobras dropped a 3-2 thriller to the Pike County Romans here at Prestonsburg. Nick Francis and Kory Caudill scored the two Cobra goals.



Clearing the bar

Prestonsburg's Robbie Holbrook cleared the high jump bar at 5' 8" last Tuesday at Allen Central during a meet involving the Rebel, Prestonsburg and South Floyd. (photo by Ed Taylor)

Ortega continues to reap awards

by Ed Taylor
Sports Editor

One of the Mr. Nice Guys of the local sports world has to be John Ortega of Prestonsburg High School. What a senior year it has been for the talented multi-sport star.

Recently he was informed by the National Football Foundation and Hall of Fame Inc. (Central/Eastern Kentucky Chapter) that he is the recipient

of a \$500 scholarship from the organization.

"He is the first player to get it outside of the central Kentucky area," said Prestonsburg coach John Derossett.

Ortega will receive the award at a banquet on June 17 at the Springs Inn in Lexington.

Ortega has been a standout at the local high school the past four years in football, basketball and baseball.

McGuire and Fitch power Yankees past Mets, 12-5

by Ed Taylor
Sports Editor

Nick McGuire was perfect from the plate and Dusti Fitch collected two hits and drove in three runs to help lead the Prestonsburg Yankees to a 12-5 win over the Prestonsburg Mets in Little League baseball Monday at Archer Park.

McGuire had two doubles and two singles in the outing and one RBI.

Andrew Shepherd collected two hits and Jeremy Hammond drove in two runs. He tripled home two runs in the fourth inning.

Shepherd picked up the win for the Yankees in going the distance. Shepherd struck out seven batters and walked five.

Chris Bentley started for the Mets and suffered the setback. He worked the first three innings before giving way to Brooks Herrick in the fourth inning. Bentley was charged with nine of the Yankee runs. Herrick allowed three runs in the fifth inning.

The Mets grabbed a 2-0 lead in the top of the second inning. Joe Gilliam led off the inning with a walk and Josh Hicks worked Shepherd for a walk. Both runners scored on Matthew Clouse's two-run double. Clouse came on to score on an error in left field.

The Yankees added two runs of

their own in the bottom of the second inning on one-out walks to Tommy Johnson and Jeremy Prater. Johnson came on to score on Patrick Henderson's RBI single. Prater scored on McGuire's second hit of the game, run producing single that made it a 3-2 game.

The Mets went in front 4-2 with a single run in the third inning.

Bentley walked and scored on an error. Josh Hicks had a base hit in the inning.

In the Yankee third, Larry Vance and Justin Ferrell walked and both runners scampered home on Dustin Fitch's two run triple. Fitch then stole home and that gave the Yankees a 5-4 lead.

The Mets tied the game at 5 with a single run in the top of the fourth. Welch walked and scored on a wild pitch. But the Yankees came back and added four runs in their half of the fourth for a 8-5 game.

Hammond had a two-run triple and Fitch singled home a run, his third RBI of the game.

In the fifth, the Yankees made it 12-5 with three more runs on a double by McGuire and an RBI triple from Ferrell.

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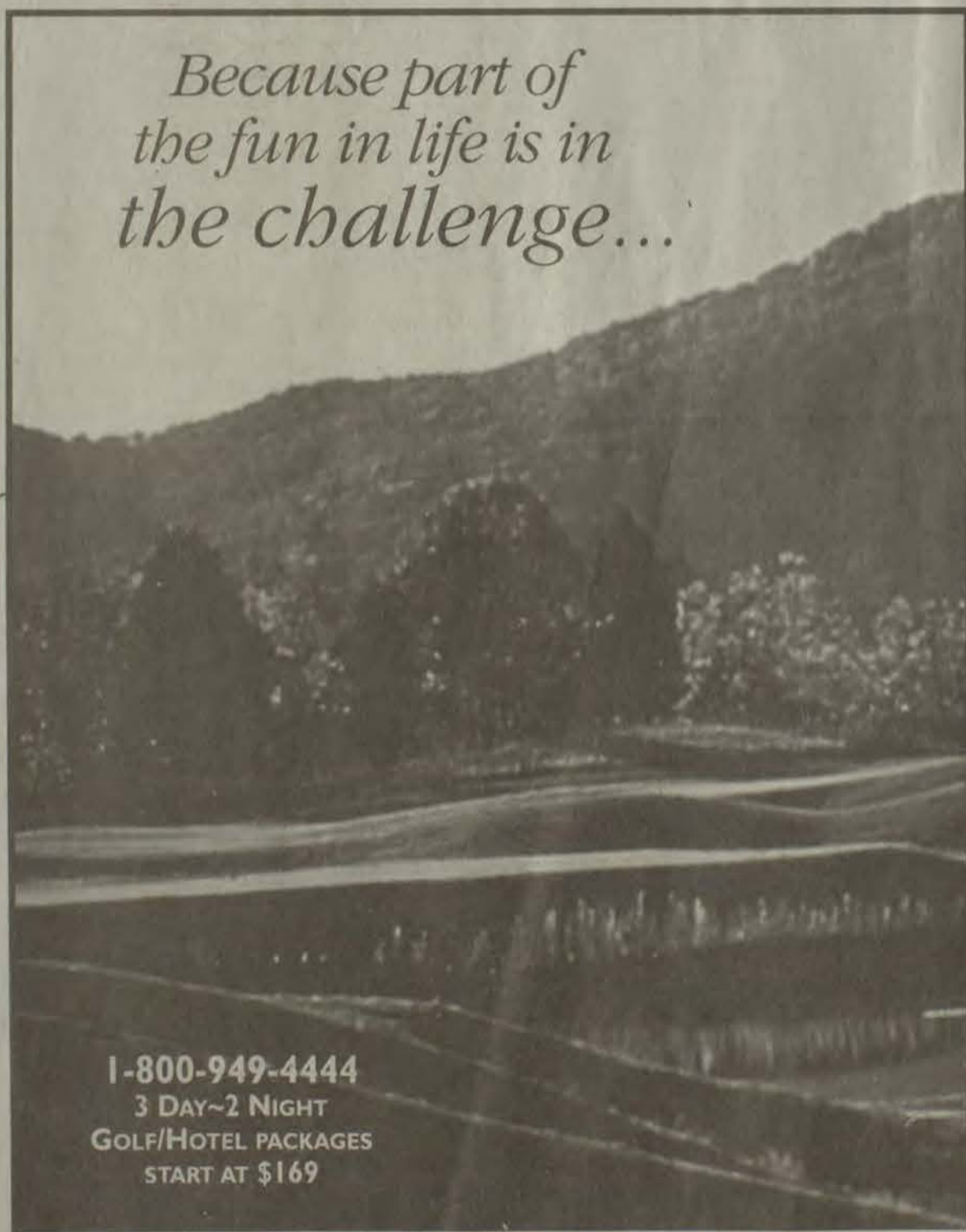
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Senior Sports Scene...

Wednesday, May 26th edition of the Floyd County Times

Senior Sports Scene, by Times Sports Editor Ed Taylor, will take a look at the past sports seasons that involved this year's graduating seniors from the four county high schools. Ed has covered sports the past 11 years for the Floyd County Times and most of this year's seniors were only in the second grade then.

The contribution of the bands, cheerleaders, dance teams, golf, volleyball, football, basketball, baseball, track & field and cross-country, during those seasons will be analyzed.

This will be the perfect time for families to honor and recognize their young adult for their achievements and their contributions to Floyd County's sports scene.

PHOTO

John Doe
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NASCAR this week

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1999 POINTS STANDINGS

WINSTON CUP	BUSCH	TRUCK
1. Jeff Burton, 1,544	Dale Earnhardt Jr., 1,416	Stacy Compton, 835
2. Dale Jarrett, 1,489	Matt Kenseth, 1,321	Ron Hornaday, 820
3. Bobby Labonte, 1,390	Elton Sawyer, 1,273	Jack Sprague, 763
4. Jeff Gordon, 1,344	Jason Keller, 1,159	Kevin Cywinski, 700
5. Mark Martin, 1,339	Mike McLaughlin, 1,154	Mike Wallace, 693
6. Tony Stewart, 1,247	Jeff Green, 1,150	Rick Carelli, 684
7. Rusty Wallace, 1,217	Casey Atwood, 1,063	Andy Houston, 659
8. Terry Labonte, 1,217	Todd Bodine, 1,057	Jimmy Hensley, 657
9. Ward Burton, 1,196	Terry Labonte, 1,036	Greg Biffle, 655
10. Mike Skinner, 1,193	Jeff Purvis, 1,032	Randy Toisma, 640

TOP TEN

■ Weekly rankings by NASCAR This Week writer Monte Dutton. Last week's ranking is in parentheses.

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. (1) Jeff Burton | Just won't let up |
| 2. (4) Jeff Gordon | Silencing the critics |
| 3. (5) Bobby Labonte | Also third at California |
| 4. (2) Dale Jarrett | But still no wins |
| 5. (3) Mark Martin | Engine failed him |
| 6. (7) Tony Stewart | Getting better every week |
| 7. (6) Rusty Wallace | Just so-so at Fontana |
| 8. (8) Dale Earnhardt | Thought he'd do better |
| 9. (-) Ward Burton | Just missed top-five |
| 10. (-) Terry Labonte | Slipped into top-10 |

1999 WINSTON CUP SCHEDULE

Date	Track	Location
May 15	Richmond International Raceway	Richmond, Va.
May 22	Charlotte Motor Speedway (all-star race)	Concord, N.C.
May 30	Charlotte Motor Speedway	Concord, N.C.
June 6	Dover Downs International Speedway	Dover, Del.
June 13	Michigan Speedway	Brooklyn, Mich.
June 20	Pocono Raceway	Long Pond, Pa.
June 27	Sears Point Raceway	Sonoma, Calif.
July 3	Daytona International Speedway	Daytona Beach, Fla.
July 11	New Hampshire International Speedway	Loudon, N.H.
July 25	Pocono Raceway	Long Pond, Pa.
Aug. 7	Indianapolis Motor Speedway	Speedway, Ind.
Aug. 15	Watkins Glen International	Watkins Glen, N.Y.
Aug. 22	Michigan Speedway	Brooklyn, Mich.
Aug. 28	Bristol Motor Speedway	Bristol, Tenn.
Sept. 5	Darlington Raceway	Darlington, S.C.
Sept. 11	Richmond International Raceway	Richmond, Va.
Sept. 19	New Hampshire International Speedway	Loudon, N.H.
Sept. 26	Dover Downs International Speedway	Dover, Del.
Oct. 3	Martinsville Speedway	Martinsville, Va.

FROM LAST WEEK

WINSTON CUP SERIES

Jeff Gordon was dominant in the California 500, winning his third race of the season. Gordon led 151 out of 250 laps and won by nearly five seconds over point-leader Jeff Burton.

The victory was Chevrolet's fifth of the season to four for Ford and one for Pontiac.

Rookie Tony Stewart achieved a career best for the second week in a row, finishing fourth behind Gordon, Burton and Pontiac teammate Bobby Labonte.

BUSCH GRAND NATIONAL

Matt Kenseth managed to steal a win in the Auto Club 300, taking advantage of a Dale Earnhardt Jr. spin.

Earnhardt had charged back toward the front until a Todd Bodine spin caused a caution flag to wave with two laps to go. Earnhardt had to settle for third behind Kenseth and Jeff Burton, but the third-generation driver managed to maintain his point lead.

Would Earnhardt have been able to pass Kenseth? "It's one thing to catch 'em," he said. "It's another to pass 'em."

FEUD OF THE WEEK

Buckshot Jones & Hut Stricklin vs. NASCAR

At California, NASCAR elected not to have qualifying Saturday morning, which meant that these two drivers, both with teams that are attempting to run the full schedule, never had a chance to make the California 500 starting field.

NASCAR This Week's Monte Dutton gives his opinion:

"An incident similar to this happened at Texas in 1997, when qualifying was canceled on Saturday despite good weather. NASCAR decided practice was more important than giving these guys a chance, despite the fact they traveled all the way across the country. One wonders what the decision would have been had they had sponsors with more clout."

FROM THE ARCHIVES

■ The late Nell Bonnett won the last race at the old Richmond Fairgrounds. Following that early-season race in 1988, Richard Petty climbed aboard a bulldozer and ripped up part of the old track's asphalt surface. The old track was replaced by a .75-mile, D-shaped layout designed by Charles Moneypermy, who also engineered the tracks at Daytona, Talladega and Michigan.

Leffler early favorite for McDonald's Busch team

By Monte Dutton
NASCAR This Week

FONTANA, Calif. — Who will be the driver next year when the new McDonald's team begins participation in the Busch Grand National series?

The early favorite in garage-area gossip is Jason Leffler, the United States Auto Club champion who seems on the verge of securing either a CART or an Indy Racing League ride. One of the current CART standouts, Greg

BUSCH GRAND NATIONAL

Coming up: Grand National 200

Where: New Hampshire International Speedway, Loudon, 1.058-mile track, 200 laps, 211.6 miles

When: Saturday, May 8

Defending champion: Buckshot Jones

Track qualifying record:

Joe Bessey, Chevrolet, 127.701 mph, May 8, 1998

Race record: Chad Little, Ford, 104.972 mph, May 13, 1995

Notable: No one has won twice in 12 races at Loudon. ... Randy LaJoie and Mike McLaughlin are among the former winners. ... Tommy Ellis won the first BGN race here in 1990. ... Since 1993,

only one race a year has been held here.

CRAFTSMAN TRUCK SERIES

Coming up: Memphis 200

Where: Memphis (Millington, Tenn.) Motorsports Park, .75-mile track, 200 laps, 150 miles

When: Saturday, May 8

Defending champion: Ron

Hornaday

Qualifying record: Greg Biffle, Ford, 119.792 mph, Sept. 12, 1998

Race record: Ron Hornaday, Chevrolet, 84.204 mph, Sept. 13, 1998

Notable: This is only the SuperTrucks' second visit to Memphis. ... Chevys finished 1-2 last year, with Jay Sauter following Hornaday.

PROFILE

Ernie Irvan



John Clark/NASCAR This Week

Ernie Irvan recently ran his 300th career race.

By Monte Dutton
NASCAR This Week

Ernie Irvan's story is one of stock car racing's most compelling. He arrived in the Charlotte area with virtually nothing in the early 1980s and rose to the top of the sport. Then, on Aug. 20, 1994, he was critically injured in a Michigan practice crash. After sitting out more than a year, Irvan came back to win two races in 1996 and one in '97.

Irvan won the 1991 Daytona 500, but lists as his career highlight a sixth-place finish at North Wilkesboro in the first race back from the injuries that almost killed him.

HOMETOWN: Born and raised in Salinas, Calif., lives in Concord, N.C.

AGE: 40

WIFE: Kim

CHILDREN: Jordan Leah (5), Jared Lawrence (1)

CAR: No. 36 Pontiac Grand Prix, principal owner Nelson Bowers

FIRSTS: Start (Sept. 13, 1987, at Richmond), pole (April 6, 1990, at Bristol), win (Aug. 25, 1990, at Bristol)

CAREER STATISTICS: 302 starts, 22 poles, 15 wins, 68 top-five finishes, 119 top-10s, more than \$11 million in career earnings.

HOW DID IT FEEL TO RUN YOUR 300th CAREER RACE RECENTLY (AT MARTINSVILLE)?

"I was watching RPM 2Nite (on ESPN2) the other night and talking to Mark Martin, and they said he was getting ready to make his 400th start, and I said, 'Oh yeah? I wonder how many I've started?' You run so many, you don't even think about it. The press keeps track of all that stuff. It's nice to be able to say, 'Hey, I've done that.' Obviously I've lost a lot of races. That's how I really picture it."

WHEN YOU GOT STARTED, DID YOU ENVISION BEING AT THE POINT YOU ARE NOW? "No, not at all. I was living a dream, and I still am. ... It doesn't matter if you believe in yourself. It matters if somebody else believes in you."

HOW DID YOU COME TO DRIVE FOR ROBERT YATES (1993-97)? "One of the things Ford really wanted to have happen was a rivalry with Dale Earnhardt and a Ford. They had had that with Davey Allison. The biggest deal I had to overcome about switching rides was that I wouldn't be there just to replace Davey Allison. Nobody could replace Davey Allison. That was something I was very nervous about. Davey and I had had our bad times and had had our good times. I felt if I did the switch, I wasn't there to replace him."

Who's Hot... Who's Not

■ **HOT:** Jeff Burton, 11th or better in nine of 10 races.

■ **NOT:** Johnny Benson, last at California, no top-10s.

Trackside Trivia

1. What father-and-son combination finished 1-2 in the Daytona 500?
2. Where did Richard Petty's first road-course victory occur?
3. What company sponsored Bobby Isaac's championship-winning Dodge?

ANSWERS

1. Bobby and Davey Allison in 1988.
2. Bridgemanpton, N.Y., in 1963.
3. K&K Insurance.

Fan Tips

■ Scott Huler spent a week with Winston Cup driver Kenny Wallace and his 1998 team and wrote a book titled "A Little Bit Sideways" about it. The book is available in softcover from MBI Publishing Co. of Osceola, Wis., and can be purchased for \$14.95 by calling (800) 826-6600, or through the Internet at www.motorbooks.com

AROUND THE GARAGE

(the France family) and Speedway Motorsports Inc. (Bruton Smith) for (NASCAR) world domination.

A Houston incursion might be seen as an invasion of Smith's turf, seeing as how the Charlotte tycoon built the speed palace north of Fort Worth and that track draws heavily from Houston and other parts of Texas. Smith has repeatedly sought a second date at his Texas track. ISC's Houston interest might explain why it has not been granted.

commitment with Bill Elliott at the Winston Cup level for one more year.

ANOTHER TEXAS TRACK? Where is NASCAR going next? Houston. Mark it down.

Lesla Kennedy, daughter of William C. France, was part of a delegation that cased the joint (the nation's fifth largest market) recently. Apparently, Texas will be the latest skirmish in the cold war between International Speedway Corp.

Moore, is also thought to be interested in joining the Cal Wells-owned team that will probably become a Winston Cup regular in 2001. But how can one of open-wheel racing's rising stars possibly ponder a year of Busch Grand National racing on the way to Winston Cup? At the very least, the switch promises a severe pay cut.

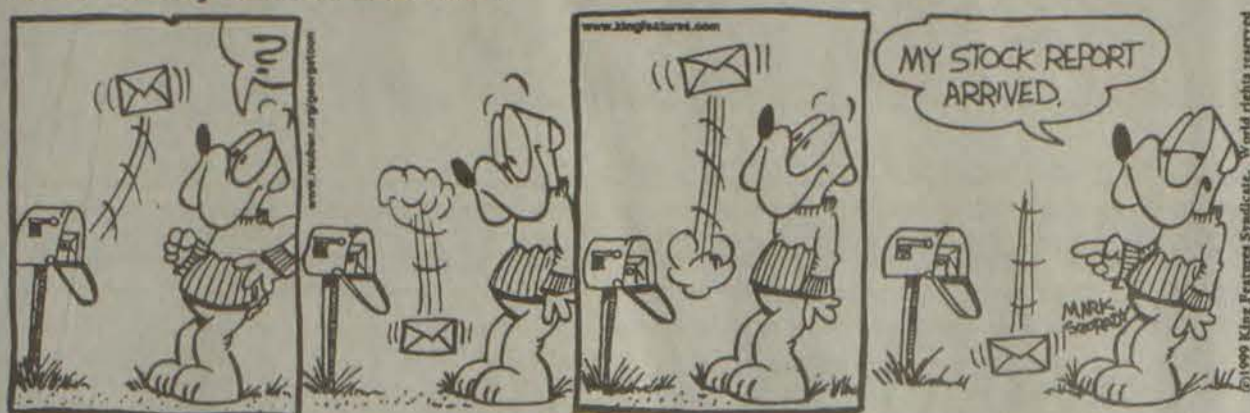
Another reported possibility is Robby Gordon, who formerly drove for Wells' CART team. McDonald's will honor its

CREW OF THE WEEK

■ A late-race Rainbow Warriors pit stop cemented the advantage, and on Sunday at California Speedway, that was more than enough to end Jeff Gordon's slump and make the California 500 his third victory of the season.

The Friday Comics

GEORGE by MARK SZORADY



R.F.D. by MIKE MARLAND



MAMA'S BOYZ by JERRY CRAFT



THE SPATS by JEFF PICKERING



OUT ON A LIMB by GARY KOPERVAS



BUTCH AND DOUGIE by ALEX HOWELL



FLASH GORDON

DALE ARDEN

DR. HANS ZARKOV

STRANDED ON A HOSTILE ALIEN PLANET.

EVERY DAY A STRUGGLE JUST TO SURVIVE.

THEIR ONLY HOPE...

...TO STAY ALIVE LONG ENOUGH TO FIND A WAY HOME.

MR. SMEER, THERE'S A LISA McVICKY HERE TO SEE YOU.

TELL HER I'VE LEFT FOR THE DAY, GRACIE.

I'M AFRAID SHE'S BEING RATHER... PERSISTENT.

MR. SMEER, I KNOW MY INTERVIEW WAS FOR TWO O'CLOCK, BUT THERE WERE EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES.

MY CAR HAD A FLAT TIRE, MY CELL PHONE WENT DEAD...

...AND THEN THERE WAS THIS METEOR THAT HIT

GRACIE, CALL SECURITY.

MEANWHILE, GALAXIES AWAY...

THESE COORDINATES WILL DIRECTLY LINK US TO THE SPACE PORTAL SENT TO EARTH.

HE'S MADE CONTACT!

THEN IT'S TIME WE MADE OUR PRESENCE KNOWN...

NEXT: COUP D'ETAT!

5-2 BY JIM KIRBY

www.nbsen.org/kirby

AS EVENING APPROACHES, WORK WINDS DOWN AT THE LAW FIRM OF LYE, CHEETUM AND STEEL.

YES, SIR!

SEE, I KNEW YOU'D FIND IT HARD TO BELIEVE. THAT'S WHY I BROUGHT IT...

I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S A PIECE OFF THE MIR SPACE STATION OR WHAT, BUT IT TOTALED MY CAR! SOYER!

GRACIE, SECURITY... NOW!

MAGIC MAZE

Country Singers

M S E V A R T C P A R T A N G
I I N T T I L L O N R A O T A
L V L I I L C I I Y T T I W T
L A A L B B D L O N R A H Y L
E R S L H B T W I A C R M I I
P T H I B A O W P N O E I L W
R I S S G S G R A G E L L L I
I L A A A A I G E S I L L I T
C L Y A G C N R A Y N I S T T
C L O W E N S P A R A M T O Y
E H A G G A R O B B D G S H N

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions — forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Haggard	Gatin	Owens	Miller
Parton	Tillis	Cash	Twitty
Robbins	Gayle	Cline	Nelson
Travis	Arnold	Price	

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Door is added. 2. Balloon is added. 3. Girl's sweater is different. 4. Boy is missing. 5. Cake is added. 6. Gift box is different.

Answers to Crossword Puzzle and Magic Maze can be found on page A8

Super Crossword

ACROSS	1 Actress Adams	5 Computer catastrophe	10 Her or pen	13 With breath	18 Press	19 Sarge, e.g.	21 Rocker	22 It's down in the mouth	23 "Mr. Television"	25 Cavity	26 "The Bug" (85 film)	27 Diva Bidu	28 Latin I word	30 "Whether nobler in the mind..."	32 roll	33 Petrograd	36 "America's Sweetheart"	40 Single-minded guy?	44 Local theater	45 Tombstone lewman	46 Exclamation	47 Got off	49 Private pension	51 Abounds (with)	54 "The Little Tramp"	59 Proof-reader's list	61 Neighbor of Uganda	62 Roads scholar?	63 Inc., in England	65 De Valera of Ireland	66 Helper	69 Moves like mad	71 bran	73 Bikini part	74 "The Swedish Nightingale"	77 "The Great Pacificator"	81 Actor Brynner	82 Antiquity, archaically	83 Deprived	85 Actor Morales	86 Toddler's transport	89 car's	91 Responsibility	93 Peter of Hermit's Hermits	97 Excessively fond	99 "The Belle of Amherst"	103 Couch potato's woe	104 Braccio, Brazil	105 "The Time Machine" people	106 Kapea keepsake	107 Articulated suffix	109 Stocking mishap	112 "Die tote Stadt" composer	115 "Bubbles"	119 Mortgage, for one	120 Mil. rank	121 Chou En	122 Burn remedy	123 Boxer Archie	127 Biggs instrument	130 With 55 Down, "Sleepless in Seattle" star	132 "The Desert Fox"	136 Litho	137 Ring legend	138 Sib's kids	139 Pass catchers	140 Belief	141 60's campus org.	142 Writer Pauline Rogers St. Johns	143 French fries, e.g.	5 TV station	6 Pinch	7 Chemical	8 "Beat it!"	9 Basketball coach Net	10 Use a straw	11 Half of Hispaniola	12 Tempt	13 Kramden's vehicle	14 Clark's "Mogambo" ostar	15 Teach on the side	16 Endangered animal	17 Comic Carvey	20 Stiller's partner	24 Slimy stuff	29 Astrologer Laek	31 Ray	34 Game ending?	35 Part	37 Problem for Pauline	38 Brother, to Bizet	39 La Scala production	40 Support	41 Flu symptom	42 Biggers detective	43 Loaded	48 Sticky problem?	50 Author Chekhov	52 Cobra kin	53 Bedtime reading	55 See 130 Across	56 Sprawled	57 Tolerate	58 Weasel word?	60 Literary collection	64 Challenge	67 Salon supply	68 Joys of "Roc"	70 Lustrous	72 Cobb and Hardin	74 One of twelve	75 Top-drawer	76 Gentleman of leisure?	78 Lose one's tail?	79 "How Be Sure?" (67 song)	80 A roaring abbr.	84 Cubic meas.	87 Ballet company	88 Hardan	90 Wrong	92 TV's "Stalkings"	94 European capital	95 Playwright Coward	96 "Idylls of the King" character	98 Knot	100 Ancient Aegean area	101 Self-possessed	102 Soprano Te Kanawa	108 Alpsca relatives	110 Ludden or Funt	111 Singer Estrean	113 Verne captain	114 Folklore figures	115 Comic pianist	116 Illinois city	117 Produce	118 Put in stitches	120 Winter wear	124 Word form for "tail"	125 Funnyman Fox	128 In addition abbr.	129 Ensure	131 "Saving Private Ryan" extras	133 Cola cooler	134 "Blu, D'Orto Di Blu" (58 hit)	135 Preston's loc.
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For further information contact Gregory Adams, Director of Facilities at (606) 874-2049.

The Floyd County Board of Education reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Housing Authority of Martin is accepting proposals

from interested professionals to perform architectural or engineering services for a modernization project funded by a Comprehensive Improvement Assistance Program (CIAP) Grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The amount of the construction is \$79,000 for

building/foundation stabilization/repair. Services are to be provided in accordance with the current HUD handbooks and publications which will be made available by the Housing Authority. You will be required to be registered for practice (licensed) in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. If you are interested please contact Bruce

Coleman, Housing Authority of Martin, PO Box 806, Martin, KY 41653, or call 606-285-3681 by May 10, 1999, for more information and/or documents for proposal preparation. The final date for receiving proposals shall be 2 p.m. local time May 14, 1999, at Housing authority office.

NOTICE OF BOND RELEASE

In accordance with the provisions of KRS 350.093 notice is hereby given that Branham & Baker Coal Company, Inc., 148 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653, has applied for Phase III Bond Release on Permit Number 836-

0069 which was last issued on 10/26/98. The application covers an area of approximately 13 acres located 0.75 miles north of Hippo in Floyd County. The permit area is approximately 0.75 mile South from Rt. 850 junction with Pitts Fork Road and located 0.5 mile south of Pitts Fork. The latitude is 37°31'30". The

longitude is 82°51'06". The bond now in effect for the Increment 7 is \$9,300.00. Approximate remainder of the original bond amount of 33,500.00 is included in this application for release. Reclamation work performed includes: grading and seeding and tree planting.

Written comments, objections, and requests for a public hearing or informal conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Field Services, #2 Hudson Hollow, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, by 6/21/99. A public hearing on the application has been scheduled for 9:00 a.m. 6/22/99 at the Department for

Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. The hearing will be canceled if no requests for a hearing or informal conference is received by 6/21/99.

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- Collectibles
- Musical Instruments
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Border Ads: \$2.00 extra per Wednesday and Friday, \$1.00 per Shopper.
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Visa and MasterCard accepted over telephone or walk-in.
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For a price quote, call
886-8506

Jen at Ext. #14
 or Sandra at Ext. #15

The Floyd County Times

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\$242/mo. **0 Down**
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\$207 A MONTH
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...or 0.9% financing for 36 months and \$750 rebate!

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PRE-OWNED VEHICLES

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'87 Oldsmobile Cutlass	\$1,495
'83 Ford Ranger	\$1,995
'91 Pontiac Grand Prix	\$2,884
'92 Pontiac Grand Am	\$4,632
'95 Ford Escort	\$6,558
'97 Plymouth Breeze	\$6,937
'94 Mercury Cougar	\$7,832
'90 Ford F150 4X4	\$7,955
'95 Geo Tracker	\$8,869
'97 S-10 Pickup 2WD	\$8,995
'94 Dodge Ram 4X4	\$9,144
'94 Toyota Camry	\$9,995
'98 Ford Escort	\$10,995
'96 Pontiac Firebird	\$11,842
'94 Toyota 4X4	\$11,953
'97 Nissan 4X4	\$12,788
'94 Ford Explorer	\$13,412
'97 Ford Aerostar	\$13,611
'98 Ford Taurus	\$13,995
'98 Mercury Sable	\$13,995
'98 Ford Mustang	\$15,995
'95 Jeep Cherokee	\$16,556
'95 Lincoln T-Car	\$17,662
'97 Ford F150 4X4	\$17,844
'98 Ford Windstar	\$17,995
'98 Lincoln T-Car	\$29,995

*Payments based on 60 month lease, 12,000 miles per year with approved credit. Taxes extra. All rebates assigned to dealer.



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'92 Pontiac Firebird Blue, super clean	\$6,995
'94 Mercury Cougar Loaded (local trade)	\$7,995
'96 Buick Century V6, PW, PL, loaded, 31k miles	\$8,995
'96 Chrysler Sebring V6, sunroof, low miles	\$12,995
'91 Chevy Corvette	\$13,995
'95 Ford F-150 XLT 4x4 V8, auto, 2-tone paint, low miles	\$14,995
'97 Mustang GT Green, 5spd, 16,000 miles	\$16,995
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\$428 due at signing

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AM/FM cassette/CD player, power seat, power windows, power locks, power mirrors, rear spoiler, gold package, carpet mats.



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\$429 due at signing

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	WAS	NOW	/MONTH
'93 Ford Taurus 4 Dr. Stk. #4438T	\$5,995	\$4925	\$103/mo
'94 Plymouth Duster Stk. #5778P	\$7,995	\$6,594	\$114/mo
'97 Ford Escort Stk. #5755P	\$10,995	\$8,524	\$134/mo
'97 Nissan Pick Up Stk. #6121P	\$10,995	\$8,946	\$104/mo
'92 Olds Cutlass 4Dr. Stk. #6116T	\$7,995	\$6,970	\$146/mo
'97 Ford Contour 4Dr. Stk. #5740P	\$10,995	\$9,658	\$151/mo
'98 Mercury Tracer 4Dr. Stk. #6158P	\$11,995	\$10,275	\$151/mo
'97 Toyota Tacoma Stk. #6314P	\$10,995	\$9,780	\$153/mo
'96 Toyota Tacoma Stk. #5006P	\$10,995	\$9,974	\$156/mo
'96 Toyota Corolla 4 Dr. Stk. #6224P	\$10,995	\$10,540	\$165/mo
'95 Chevy S-10 Stk. #6025T	\$10,995	\$9,268	\$166/mo
'98 Toyota Tacoma Stk. #6033P	\$11,995	\$11,488	\$169/mo
'95 Mercury Cougar Stk. #6318T	\$10,995	\$9,878	\$177/mo
'98 Toyota Corolla 4 Dr. Stk. #6227P	\$14,995	\$12,641	\$186/mo
'98 Toyota Corolla Stk. #5419P	\$14,995	\$12,641	\$186/mo
'91 Ford Explorer 4 Dr. Stk. #6412T	\$7,995	\$6,775	\$193/mo
'95 Olds Cutlass 2 Dr. Stk. #6475T	\$11,995	\$10,930	\$196/mo
'97 Pontiac Bonneville Stk. #5763P	\$15,995	\$12,774	\$200/mo
'98 Mazda 626 Stk. #6574T	\$15,995	\$13,991	\$206/mo
'95 Toyota Camry 4Dr. Stk. #6068T	\$13,995	\$12,643	\$224/mo
'89 Toyota 4-Runner Stk. #6177T	\$8,995	\$7,917	\$226/mo
'94 Ford Ranger Stk. #6193P	\$13,995	\$13,400	\$233/mo
'96 Toyota Tacoma 4X4 Stk. #6216T	\$15,995	\$14,954	\$235/mo
'97 Ford F-150 Stk. #5753P	\$16,995	\$15,564	\$244/mo
'96 Ford Explorer Stk. #5912P	\$21,995	\$19,242	\$302/mo
'96 Toyota 4-Runner 4 Dr. Stk. #6303T	\$25,995	\$24,429	\$383/mo

*With approved credit. 20% down plus tax, title, and license. '91 & older - 36 months at 16.75% APR, '92 & '93 - 48 months at 11.49% APR, '94 - 60 months at 12.25% APR, '95 - 60 months at 10.75% APR, '96 & '97 - 72 months at 12% APR, '98 - 72 months at 9.75% APR, '99 - 72 months at 9.5% APR.



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