



Francis will be missed

— Page B1

briefs

Info for parents of Floyd students

During the first three days of enrollment, a parent may choose which school their child will attend without completing an appeal form, for attendance purposes. After the first three days, an appeal form must be completed by the parent and returned to the principal. Parents will be responsible for transporting their child to and from the chosen school.

If the appeal involves a transportation issue, an appeal form must be completed. Please be advised that transportation will not be provided outside a school's attendance boundary.

New school start, stop times

Allen Central High School, Betsy Layne High School, J.D. Adams Middle School, Opportunities Unlimited, Prestonsburg High School, South Floyd High School, South Floyd Middle School — School day begins at 8:30 a.m., ends at 3:30 p.m.

Allen Central Middle School, Allen Elementary, Betsy Layne Elementary, Clark Elementary, J.M. Stumbo Elementary, J.A.

(See **SCHOOL**, page two)

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2 DAY FORECAST

Today
Partly sunny
 High: 90 • Low: 74

Tomorrow
Partly sunny
 High: 90 • Low: 72

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Wednesday, August

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SWEPT AWAY



An aerial view of Tinker Fork, left, shows the wide-spread damage raging floodwaters caused to anything in their path. Bridges, buildings and roads all gave way under the tides, causing millions of dollars in damages and resulting in disaster declarations by County Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson and Gov. Paul Patton.

photo by Allen Bolling



Furniture and household items lining Donald Tackett's front lawn at his home on Mud Creek stood as a stark reminder of the destructive powers of Friday evening's flash floods. Floyd County PVA Connie Hancock visited Tackett on Monday to take an initial assessment of the damages in hopes of providing tax relief.

photo by Sheldon Compton

Hundreds of homes ravaged by flood

News of disaster brings aid

by SHELTON COMPTON
STAFF WRITER

Deadly flash floods took Eastern Kentucky by surprise Friday night, as five inches of rain fell in less than six hours, leaving portions of the southern end of the county, most notably in the Mud Creek area, without water or electricity, and some residents trapped in their homes, covered in water and mud.

Floyd County Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson signed an order declaring a state of emergency at 12:07 a.m. Saturday morning.

Following that lead, Gov. Paul Patton signed an executive order on Monday declaring a state of emergency and authorized the state to respond to a wide range of assistance requests from local governments dealing with the aftermath of Friday's flooding, stating that he hoped the declaration would help to provide relief for those who were impacted.

Thompson said during a press conference Monday afternoon that 49 county roads had been affected, some of them, such as in Red Morg Branch on Mud Creek, have become nothing more than piled mud, dirt and rock as rushing water tore away the pavement and carried it downstream.

(See **FLOOD**, page three)



photo by Mary Musick

These volunteers from the Kentucky Baptist Disaster Relief Team visited the Akers residence yesterday to remove carpet saturated by flood waters. Other Kentucky Baptist volunteers are currently working in homes throughout the McDowell and Mud Creek areas. Pictured are volunteers O.A. Collins (sweeping) and Carl Leech.

Homeowners, PVA take toll of damages

by SHELTON COMPTON
STAFF WRITER

The flood waters are gone. The creeks have returned to a slow and natural rhythm and the rain clouds have moved on.

But tragedy, worry and despair still remain for families affected by a flooding storm which struck Floyd County unexpectedly Friday night.

Residents along Mud Creek, in places like Branham's Creek and Tinker Fork, were haunted by the sounds of rushing waters as they sat, defeated and tired, on their front porches, staring blankly at the contents of their homes displayed on their front

lawns. Beds, chests and kitchen tables along with other items all placed on plastic mats, sunk deep in the mud left by the floods, were carried from homes while families worked without sleep to remove destroyed flooring and paneling swelled with water Monday afternoon.

Floyd County Property Valuation Administrator Connie J. Hancock was there with them, asking questions, taking names.

Hancock, along with staff member Debbie McKinney and Morgan County PVA

(See **DAMAGES**, page two)

PHS student dies in wreck

by SHELTON COMPTON
STAFF WRITER

Funeral services were conducted on the Prestonsburg High School football field at 2 p.m. Monday afternoon for PHS student Joshua S. Francis, 16, of Middle Creek Road.

Hundreds of students, teachers and friends crowded the ceremony to mourn the passing of one of their young student athletes Monday after an accident Saturday at East Point left a dark spot on a Prestonsburg class just

(See **WRECK**, page two)



photo by Sheldon Compton

Teammates and fellow students tried to keep their composure as they bid farewell to Joshua S. Francis. The 16-year-old Prestonsburg football player was killed in a wreck Saturday.

W'wright clerk wins battle with utility

by SHELTON COMPTON
STAFF WRITER

Disputes within local city governments occur fairly often, comparatively. The debate about what to do with various city issues will, from time to time, take a heated route. These are known facts and accepted details of a job that elected citizens take without pay and as a service to the cities in which they live.

However, it is not so common for a city employee to fall under such scrutiny as to find himself or herself the center of a legal hearing that, at the request of legal counsel, is held openly so that the citizens of that city

(See **CLERK**, page five)

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Clerk

may hear and deliberate among themselves the legitimate charges.

But that was the case during a 7 p.m. special hearing held at Wheelwright on Monday night.

The Wheelwright Utilities Commission met Monday and came to order by explaining to the citizens in attendance that a disciplinary hearing was to be held that evening concerning a city employee. Then, at the prompting of utility chairman James Branham, the commission prepared to go into closed session to discuss the charges against the employee.

The commission would not retire, however, as Prestonsburg attorney Ned Pillersdorf spoke up from the front row, requesting the hearing concerning his client, Audrey Yates, be held openly and at the convenience of the public.

Wheelwright city attorney, Tim Parker, urged Branham and the other commission members to accept Pillersdorf's request and began the hearing by asking that Branham read the charges against Yates on behalf of the commission.

According to that reading, the commission claimed that Yates, a longtime clerk for the city of Wheelwright, brought a tape recorder into a closed meeting in January or February earlier this year and also charged that she failed to advertise a meeting on July 17 that resulted in the meeting being canceled for lack of a quorum.

After reading the two charges against Yates, Branham then approached Yates about the alleged tape recorder incident.

"Yes, I had a tape recorder during the meeting," said Yates. "But it was on top of my purse. It wasn't concealed."

Branham, apparently not pleased with the statement, stated he remembered the incident differently, at which time Parker interceded and explained that the commissioners themselves were the witnesses to the supposed event.

"As I understand it," Parker said, addressing Yates. "When the recorder was noticed you were asked to turn it off and you did. Is that right?"

Yates explained that she did turn the recorder off and then further explained that then-utility chairman Lowell Dean Parker took the tape from the recorder and destroyed it in front of her and the other members.

After these initial questions, Pillersdorf, on Yates' behalf, questioned Branham.

"Do you think you have a right to go into a secretive session without it being recorded?" Pillersdorf asked, admitting he couldn't see the legal problem with the incident as long as one person knew the recording was taking place.

Discussion moved then to the missed meeting notice, but only briefly before Pillersdorf requested to issue more questions to Branham.

"Miss Yates first learned of some check cashing around the time these charges were brought against her," Pillersdorf asked Branham. "Have you withdrawn any money that is the property of Wheelwright Utilities?"

Branham returned that he had cashed three checks, for which

he had receipts.

Pillersdorf finished by stating that Yates had complained to Wheelwright Mayor Marlee Sammons about the check cashing and also asked Branham if the complaints had come during the same time the charges against his client were brought up.

Branham said the charges were not initiated during the same time period mentioned and when Pillersdorf said he had no more questions, the commission then went into closed session, along with Parker, to discuss the findings of the hearing.

After approximately 30 minutes, the commission returned to take no action against Yates, but detailed certain aspects of their decision.

"The city clerk knew the meetings weren't supposed to be taped," said Parker. "But we're not inclined to take any action."

Parker went on to explain that, although the commission would hope Yates would make an effort to better advise members in the future, especially new members, of all meetings, including regular meetings, they would not take action against her.

As Branham called for a missed meeting, Pillersdorf interrupted with a final question.

"I take it from your comments the allegations against my client have been dismissed?" asked Pillersdorf.

Parker assured him this was the case and the commission adjourned without further comment.

"We're just glad to have this settled and behind us," Parker said afterward. "Now we can get

on with the business of the city."

Pillersdorf remained disturbed by the hearing, particularly given its timing.

"It is outrageous that during a flood emergency this commission held a meeting over the most trivial reasons imaginable," Pillersdorf said Tuesday.

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photo by Sheldon Compton

God's Appalachian Partnership (GAP) assisted the owner of this home on Mud Creek Monday afternoon by shoveling mud left behind by weekend flood waters. Mud Creek was one of the hardest hit areas in the county resulting in power outages and lost water services as well as extensive

KY 8th grade NAEP data shows progress

Results from the 2000 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) mathematics assessment show that 8th graders performance improved significantly from the 1996 results, the Kentucky Department of Education announced recently.

Eighth-graders' performance moved from an average scale

score of 267 to 272—a gain of five points, compared with gains of one point in the southeast and three points in the nation.

Kentucky 4th graders' performance—which improved by five points between 1992 and 1996—did not improve significantly in 2000, moving from an average scale score of 220 to

(See NAEP, page six)

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Preliminary hearing held for escapee

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

A Floyd County resident who placed local authorities "on the run" last week and now faces charges of second-degree escape, a class D felony, was in court Monday afternoon for a preliminary hearing.

A grand jury will now consider whether to indict Shawn Flannery, 20, Prestonsburg, an inmate of the Floyd County Detention Center who attempted an escape on July 30.

At the time of his escape, Flannery was on probation for charges he faced in Magoffin County.

According to court records, Flannery pleaded guilty to an amended charge of third-degree burglary on January 22. He was also found guilty on that day for two counts of theft by unlawful taking for allegedly

selling an all-terrain vehicle owned by Appeals Court Judge David Barber.

In each of the three charges pending against him in Magoffin County courts, Flannery was sentenced to three years probation.

Floyd County Bailiff Elmo Allen testified on Monday that on the day of his attempted escape, Flannery failed a drug test which was stipulated by his probation. Allen said he was then ordered to take Flannery to the Floyd County Detention

Center. "I took him downstairs and we were still inside the garage when I reached into my truck to get the handcuffs," said Allen. "They opened the garage door and he ran."

The search for Flannery culminated in about an hour with officers from the Department Probation and Parole in Prestonsburg, the Floyd County Sheriff's Department, Prestonsburg City Police Department and several bailiffs searching the city limits on foot and in cars.

He was found and seized while running along Riverside


Drive. Flannery, who was indicted by a Floyd County grand jury on May 8 for two counts of theft by unlawful taking, was arrested on January 18 and April 4 by Constable Homer Neeley. Those arrests followed the two separate alleged thefts of the same all-terrain vehicle from the residence of Steve Potter.

After referring the case to be heard by the grand jury on Monday, Judge Eric Hall agreed to lower Flannery's \$10,000 cash bond to \$5,000.


Flannery's next court date is scheduled for October 10.

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Welcome
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Urologist
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Prestonsburg native, Dr. Brett Akers, received his medical degree from Des Moines (Iowa) University College of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery.

He completed his Urology Residency at Michigan State University -- Garden City Hospital Campus, serving as Chief Resident for two years.

He was a recipient of the Berger/Caney Cottage Medical Scholarship. Dr. Akers is a member of the American Osteopathic Association and the American College of Surgeons.

Dr. Akers resides in Pikeville with his wife Debbie, who is a physical therapist at Pikeville Methodist Hospital.

His office is located in the Grace Call Building
1098 South Mayo Trail • Suite 104
Call for an appointment (606) 437-9550
Accepting New Patients



photo by Kathy J. Prater
Mitchell Tolle, a Kentucky artist who grew up in a poverty-stricken area of Lewis County and now operates an art gallery in Berea that is frequented by visitors from all over the world, delivered a motivational speech to Floyd County educators on Monday evening.

County educators prepare for a new year

Times Staff Report

The Floyd County School System convened officially as a body for the first time the 2001-2002 school year with a "Back to School Celebration" held at the Mountain Arts Center on Monday.

The celebration began with a benefits fair that was held in the arts center lobby for the benefit of school system employees. Representatives from various agencies were on hand to answer questions and provide written materials to school employees concerning employee benefit packages. Refreshments were also provided courtesy of Prestonsburg Community College and Morehead State University-Prestonsburg.

A brief introductory message was given by the Superintendent of Floyd County Schools, Dr. Paul Fanning, in which he recognized that though many students are anticipating the beginning of a new school season with excitement, still others were facing some "challenging moments" — in reference to the severe flooding that occurred over the weekend in some areas of the county.

Flooding has been so severe that in many schools, the first day of school will be postponed

until Monday, August 13, for these students. Other students will return to school Thursday, as originally scheduled.

Fanning then introduced Floyd County Board of Education Chairman Johnnie Ross. Ross echoed Dr. Fanning's statements in regard to current challenges and delivered a motivational speech to attending educators that they can make a difference in the life of a child. He commended educators for the tireless work they do and for the energy they invest in the county's "7,100 students."

Following Ross, Mitchell Tolle, renowned Kentucky artist and motivational speaker, was introduced. Tolle spoke of the impact that teachers had on his growth and development during his early years of elementary school and reminded the educators of the impact and influence, either positive or negative, that they each, individually, could inject into a child's life.

The author was available for comment afterwards in a book-signing session in the lobby.

The "Back to School Celebration" continued the following day with professional development programs for both classified and certified personnel of the school system.

Tree-identification guide book available from the National Arbor Day Foundation

"What Tree Is That?," a pocket guide for identifying trees, is available from The National Arbor Day Foundation.

The 72-page guide will help you identify 135 different trees found in the eastern and central U.S.

Well-known trees are included: oaks, maples, spruces, and pines. Also species such as horsechestnut and mockernut hickory, sassafras and shadbush, persimmon and pawpaw and

(See TREE, page seven)

Albuterol products available for those with breathing disabilities

The In Home Rx Program makes available breathing medications and Nebulizers to patients who may have asthma, emphysema or Copd at no cost to the recipient, if they qualify.

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gram. No deposit is required and you never have to wait in line at the pharmacy.

If you are an Oxygen user at home, or have several problems with breathing, call for more information to see if you qualify.

Call, 1-800-344-5764 for more information on the details of this program.

NAEP

Continued from p5

221. "These scores reflect some of the changes brought about by the Commonwealth Accountability Testing System (CATS) in 1998," said Kentucky Education Commissioner Gene Wilhoit. "In 1996, 4th graders made significant gains in mathematics. Moving the CATS mathematics assessment to 5th grade, decreased mathematics training opportunities for 4th grade teachers. The discontinuation of the mathematics portfolio network also may have contributed to the flat scores in 4th grade."

"There is some very good news in 8th grade, however. The number of Kentucky students performing at the proficient level increased by five percent, while those in the southeast increased by two per-

cent, and those in the nation by three percent. And, even though the percentage of 8th graders who performed at or above proficient (21 percent) was smaller than the national percentage (26 percent), Kentucky's percentage was significantly higher than it was in 1996. The percentage of students moving from below basic, to at and above basic, and from proficient to advanced, also showed significant increases."

NAEP mathematics assessments were given to samples of 8th-graders in 40 states in 2000. The NAEP is generally considered to be the only test given in the U.S. that provides valid results that can be compared from state to state.

More information may be found on NAEP's web site at <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard>.

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Damron renews push for "tax holiday" on back-to-school purchases

FRANKFORT — Families shopping for school supplies aren't receiving a tax break that would have been available this week if lawmakers had passed a bill establishing a "sales tax holiday" proposed during the General Assembly's 2001 legislative session.

But there's hope an annual "sales tax holiday" that waives Kentucky's 6 percent sales tax on back-to-school purchases could be in place by this time next year.

Rep. Bob Damron, D-Nicholasville, has renewed his push to lower the cost of back-to-school items in Kentucky

by pre-filing another "sales tax holiday" bill for lawmakers to consider during the General Assembly's 2002 session.

"People shopping right now for school supplies are paying six percent more than they would have if the Legislature had passed my bill earlier this year," said Damron, who sponsored "tax holiday" legislation along with 53 cosponsors in the 2001 legislative session. "My goal is to make this the last year families have this tax burden when they're preparing for the start of a new school year."

Damron's new legislation, BR 189, would exempt clothing, books, backpacks and other school supplies from the state's six percent sales tax each year during the first week of August, a time when many family budgets are strained by back-to-school costs.

The legislation also would remove the sales tax from computer purchases during the annual tax holiday. That should help the state close the "digital divide" and get more computers into Kentucky households, Damron said.

"If we're serious about trying to get a computer into every child's home, this would be a great first step," Damron said. "A tax holiday that lowers the cost of a computer by \$50 would help put computer

purchases within reach of many middle- and lower-income families throughout the state."

Well over half of Kentucky households don't have a home computer, placing Kentucky in the bottom 20 percent of the nation.

But a tax holiday that includes computers could help change that. According to a survey by the Consumer Electronics Association, 27 percent of families with household incomes of less than \$25,000 would be more likely to buy a home computer if they did not have to pay sales tax. In addition, almost half of all households who do not own a computer, but plan to buy one in the next year, say that a sales tax holiday would improve the likelihood of such a purchase.


Retailers would also benefit from the tax holiday. When South Carolina implemented a sales tax holiday on back-to-school purchases last year, retailers saw their business jump by \$200 million over the course of their three-day break from the state sales tax.

But the biggest winners from a sales tax holiday in Kentucky would be consumers. They'd save an estimated \$4.5 to \$6 million each year during a one-week sales tax holiday on back-to-school items.

"This idea has worked in other states," Damron said. "Every parent who has some shopping to do to get their kids ready for school would benefit if we targeted this tax relief to them at the time of year they need it most."

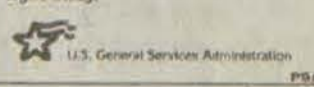
Damron represents Kentucky's 39th House District in Jessamine and Fayette counties.

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Patton elected to national leadership position

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Gov. Paul Patton was elected by his fellow governors today as the 2001-02 vice chair of the National Governors Association at its annual meeting. Gov. John Engler of Michigan was elected chair.

Patton is one of only three Kentucky governors to have been selected to assume a leadership position in the organization. He will follow Gov. Engler as the 2002-03 chair.

"As vice chair of the National Governors Association, I will have the opportunity to move Kentucky to the national forefront on many issues that are important to the citizens of this state," said Patton.

Patton's primary responsibility as vice chair will be to lead the NGA Center for Best Practices. The center helps governors and key members of their staff to develop and

implement innovative solutions to governance and policy challenges in their respective states. The center is an information source on state innovations and best practices in education, energy, the environment, health, social services, technology, trade, transportation, and workforce development. The NGA Center also helps governors and their staffs learn about emerging issues and to develop cutting-edge solutions to stay ahead of problems.

Patton will also co-chair the NGA's Post-Secondary Education Initiative with Gov. Jane Swift of Massachusetts. This is a three chair initiative designed to help states develop a seamless K-16 education system that develops individuals with skills to be effective in the new economy.

Calendar

Vet rep available
A Veterans Benefit Field Representative for the Kentucky Department for Veterans Affairs

has an office on the third floor of the Floyd County Courthouse. He is there to assist veterans and their dependents in filing for state and federal benefits. This service is free and is provided by the commonwealth. Contact him at 606/886-7920. If there is no answer, leave a message and he will return your call.

Group sets meeting
The Ups of Down Syndrome support group now has a permanent meeting place and time. The group will meet the first Sunday of every month from 2-4 p.m., at the Pikeville YMCA, beside Pikeville Independent School. Call 606/377-6142 or 478-5099 for more information.

Housing assistance in Wayland area
HOMES Inc. has opened an office in the Wayland Community Center to assist low income persons in the Right and Left Beaver areas with housing needs. Nelson Hopkins is in the office on Wednesdays from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. to help persons who need repairs on their existing homes or with securing new housing. Area persons may call 358-9473 on Wednesdays to speak with Hopkins or leave a message on other days. Or they may call the HOMES Inc. headquarters in Neon, toll-free, at 1-877-271-1791, ext. 10.

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Continued from p8

Earn while you learn
The Big Sandy Area Community Action Agency is taking applications for the senior training program. For information, call Tammy Jervis, 606/886-2929. The program's primary goal is to create employment for those 55 and over. SCSEP helps prepare older workers to compete for jobs by providing minimal training and placing eligible applicants into permanent employment. Training sites are expected to develop the participant's skill and hire or release them.

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photo by Sheldon Compton

A large culvert swept up in Friday night's torrent lay warped and wedged beneath a small bridge on Tinker Fork of Mud Creek Monday afternoon while efforts were made to raise a fallen utility pole nearby.

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A Tinker Fork residential bridge lay in a crumbled mass Monday, one of an estimated 149 such spans which were either destroyed or damaged countywide during weekend flash floods which dumped approximately five inches of water in a little under six hours.

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I have an idea that, like many ideas, will never see the light of day because it makes too much sense. It's about the reinvention of the NCAA, which has become an autocratic, monolithic, insensitive,

ponderous, and incomprehensible bureaucracy.

The final straw, I suppose, was the cold-hearted way the NCAA handled the case involving University of Louisville basketball player Muhammed Lasege. Justice was not served. He had earned the right to a second chance and the benefit of the doubt. Yet the NCAA told the world that its adherence to its rules, however unfair and murky they may be, was more important than compassion and common sense.

So I would urge the nation's university presidents to nuke the organization as it now exists and start over.

My model organization would be run by a commissioner who would have as much, if not more, power than David Stern, Paul Tagliabue, or Bud Selig. His cabinet would include assistant commissioners in charge of Divisions I, I-AA, II, and III. There also would be cabinet members in charge of racial and gender equity. And it would include a designated "devil's advocate" to make the case on behalf of student-athletes such as Lasege.

The new commissioner's first priority would be to understand that the interests of Division I and Division III are as different as the interests of, say, America and Switzerland. Each division would have a separate convention to establish its rules, goals, values, and priorities.

Second, the new commissioner would be charged with streamlining and simplifying the rules book. As it is now, it's ponderous and complicated to the point of being beyond comprehension by people of average intelligence.

Some programs innocently violate the rules because they're too obtuse, or because they change annually.

Finally, the new commissioner would be charged with emphasizing amateurism and academics. He would support changes that would encourage schools to recruit players who have a serious interest in getting a degree instead of getting to the NBA or the NFL. He would work with the pro leagues to establish legitimate developmental leagues for good players who have no interest in academics.

So who would be the ideal NCAA commissioner? He, or she, must be someone who loves college athletics, who has a sincere interest in preserving the concept of amateurism, who knows how to negotiate and delegate and bring factions together, and who has enormous credibility with minorities.

My candidate? Bill Clinton. Once you stop laughing, please don't start making jokes about the idea of Clinton being exposed, so to speak, with female college athletes. Right now the former President is in a sort of limbo, looking for some-

(See REED, page two)

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BLACKCAT

Forever

PHS grid team faces challenge of moving on after loss of Francis

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

He was the type of player a coach only dreams of having the opportunity to work with, to coach, to spend time with on a daily basis.

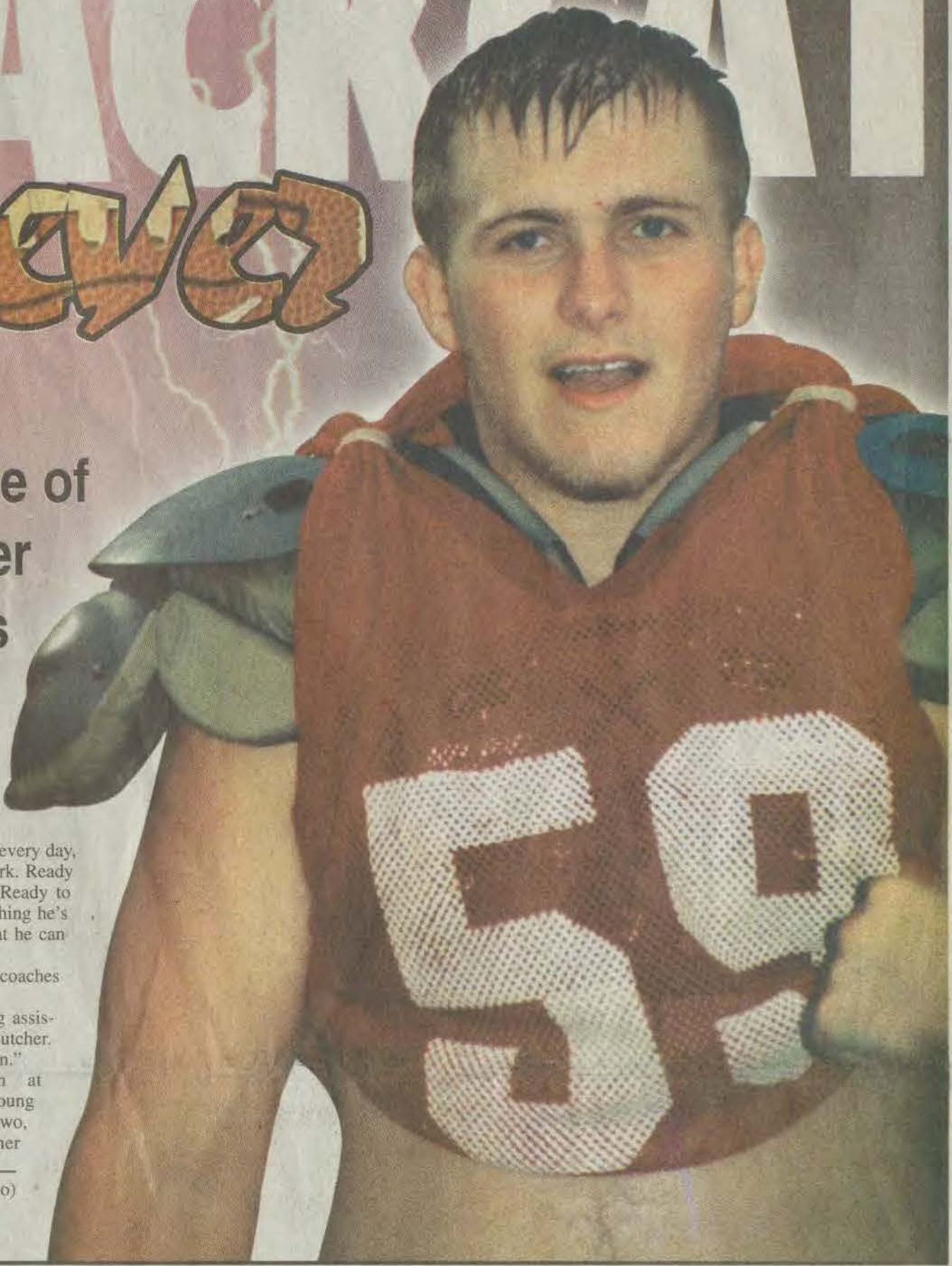
The type of player who comes to practice every day, puts his hard hat on, and goes straight to work. Ready to learn. Ready to succeed. Ready to win. Ready to become a champion. Ready to give it everything he's got and more. Ready to be the very best that he can possibly be.

Josh Francis was the type of athlete most coaches dream about.

"Josh was a great kid," said Prestonsburg assistant football coach/assistant principal Jerry Butcher. "He was so coachable, just a great young man."

Butcher, also the wrestling coach at Prestonsburg High School, mentored the young Blackcat in both wrestling and football. The two, Butcher and Francis, along with another

(See FRANCIS, page two)



4 beats 2 in Class AA scrimmage at MSU



Josh Francis (59) went for a block against a Perry County Central player last season.

Prestonsburg 27, Corbin 26

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

No. 2 met No. 4 Friday night at Morehead State University in a Class AA battle. The Prestonsburg Blackcats, ranked fourth in Class AA in preseason rankings, and the always-tough Corbin

Redhounds, ranked number two in preseason predictions squared off in a battle on the Morehead turf, with the Blackcats coming away with a 27-26 win.

Prestonsburg's win over the Redhounds came without the serves of leading rusher Matt Slone, who is still nursing an injury suffered earlier in the summer at a passing tournament at Morehead. Slone, however, is expected to return to action very soon.

Prestonsburg Coach John DeRossett

noted a couple of big plays that Corbin scored on as a big boost to the Redhounds 26-point scoring effort. The coach went on to confide that in a typical situation, a scouting report would have prevented such scores.

Quarterback Joey Willis and fullback Mikeal Fannin, both juniors, teamed with senior Chris Spriggs and a host of others to account for a balanced offensive attack.

(See PRESTONSBURG, page two)

Hammonds, Prater lead AC past visiting Eagles

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

The Lexington Christian Academy Eagles (1-1) came to Eastern Saturday to pay a visit to the host Allen Central Rebels (2-8) and new head coach Robert Mayton.

It was the first scrimmage of the pre-season for both teams.

A Lexington Christian squad with assistant coaches Pookie Jones and Donte Key, both former UK football players, found things harsh on the road as they fell 24-0. Each of Allen Central's scores came on back-to-back runs by junior running backs Dustin Hammonds and James Prater.

For Prater, it's kind of like picking up where he left off last season. For Hammonds, he will be running the ball more this season, instead of catching it as he had in previous campaigns.

The Allen Central defense had several stars as a strong defensive front mixed with a formidable group of linebackers

(See AC, page two)



Jeff Gordon is having his way on the NASCAR Winston Cup Series.

Dodge conspiracy fizzles with Gordon's win

by JOHN CLAYTON
CNHI MEDIA COLUMNIST

So much for the great Brickyard conspiracy of 2001. The popular plot line for this year's Brickyard 400 was that Dodge would finally break through and make the car manufacturer's first appearance in a Winston Cup Victory Lane in 24 years.

In fairness to Dodge, that was about the same time that

(See DODGE, page two)

Kentucky Sportsline

UK begins quest this week

by TOM LEACH
TIMES COLUMNIST

If you think "standard deviation" is a form of dress for Generation X'ers or if you think "quartile ranking" is something only an employee at Microsoft would need to know, then you're not up to speed on how college football's national championship is decided nowadays.

Such terms generate chuckles among college football fans and media and the effectiveness of this formula remains questionable until we've seen how a few seasons play out. Whether the BCS is the answer or not, you can count me among those who prefer the bowl system to a playoff.

Until I followed Kentucky

to the 1993 Peach Bowl, my feelings were ambivalent. Now, though, I'm convinced a tournament is one of those ideas that sounds wonderful in theory but would be disappointing in practice.

Let's start with some pragmatic reasons.

Running from a week before Christmas through January 4, the bowl season

fills a nice programming void around the holidays for TV networks. If you start a playoff tournament in early December, then you're going to find college football going head-to-head with the NFL. (I doubt the pros would

give up that long-running policy of playing on Saturdays after Thanksgiving).

And you can forget about that often-suggested idea of incorporating the bowls into a playoff system. Assuming

(See UK, page two)



➤ Lee Corso



photo courtesy of DeWitt Photography

Hi Hat's Tai England won a silver medal in the kata event. England is a student at the Family Academy of Martial Arts in Prestonsburg.

Francis

Blackcat wrestler, spent some time this summer at a wrestling camp at Virginia Tech. Francis was an accomplished wrestler last season and was one of the top grapplers in the region.

He also played tennis for Prestonsburg.

The last football action for Francis came on Friday when he helped lead Prestonsburg to a thrilling 27-26 win over 2A rival Corbin.

"He played a great game against Corbin," said Prestonsburg football coach John DeRossett. "He gave us a great effort."

Francis spent a great deal of the Corbin game protecting friend and quarterback Joey Willis.

He spent a great deal of his football and athletic career playing, practicing and going to battle with the friends he grew up with.

After earning a starting position last season then falling to an injury, Francis was well on his way to making the 2002 season a breakthrough year of sorts.

He will be sadly missed by all.

As I entered Hall Funeral Home Sunday night I was greeted by several PHS coaches, all mournful of the young athlete's death. When I encountered a somber Coach DeRossett, I was greeted with a 'thumbs-up'. With that gesture, I somehow knew that the Prestonsburg football team could and would rise above in its direst time. And, I believe Josh would have wanted it that way.

"It's a rough time," said a visibly distraught DeRossett, late Sunday night.

The Prestonsburg football team returned to work and conducted their first practice after Francis' death last night. The Prestonsburg coaching staff faces the grueling task of getting the Blackcat football team back on track and focused after a tragic event that has left a city shaken, along with an entire high school football team.

If anyone can rebound from such a loss, one has to think Prestonsburg can and will. The

Prestonsburg coaches, players, parents and fans form to make a very strong family.

A family as in ONE. Prestonsburg opens the 2001 season on the road Friday, August 17 at Sheldon Clark

against the Cardinals.

MEDIA DAY

Media Day activities will be held at Prestonsburg High School this afternoon.

Prestonsburg

Corbin (11-3) is the defending Region II champ. The Redhounds have 13 seniors returning this season. Led by running back Stephen Cook (6-2, 190), who rushed for 1,300 yards last season, and senior quarterback B.J. Foley (6-1, 190), who threw for 1,300 yards last season, Corbin is expected to give top-ranked Bardstown a run for their regional money.

Prestonsburg will be back in preseason action on Friday when they travel to Lexington to take on the Bryan Station High School Defenders. The Class AAAA Defenders compete in Region IV District 7 with Henry Clay, Lafayette, Paul Dunbar, Scott County, Tates Creek and Woodford County. Bryan Station is expected to challenge Henry Clay this season for a district title.

Clay County, George Rogers

Clark, Madison Central, North Laurel, Pulaski County, Southwestern, South Laurel and Whitley County make up District 8. Whitley County is the only Class AAAA team on Prestonsburg's 2001 schedule. All four KHSAA football classes, and one team from Ohio make up the 2001 campaign.

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UK

there's a 16-team tournament, most fans aren't going to have the money to travel to three different neutral sites to follow old State U. on its run to the title game, meaning you'd eventually have to go with a format like the NFL or other lower divisions in college use—making one of

the participants the host team. Proponents say let's decide the championship on the field, so the best team prevails.

Like we see in the NCAA basketball tournament, right? Guess again.

Was Villanova really the best team in college basketball in

1985? No, the Wildcats played the one perfect game it would take to upset a Georgetown that had proven itself better than Nova during the rest of the season. And would you have taken N.C. State or Houston in a series in 1983?

Don't get me wrong—I love the way college basketball's title is decided. But that doesn't mean it's the best way for the football schools to go.

Obviously, football is not a sport that lends itself to playing that many games in such a short span of time. And if you had only eight or 16 "power" schools lining up to play in the basketball tournament every year, I don't think fans would find it nearly as appealing as they do know. Undoubtedly, the surprising success of teams like Valparaiso last season is as important to the success of the NCAA basketball tournament as the Final Four and there's no way you can incorporate that kind of small school charm into

a football playoff with so many fewer participants.

There are also emotional reasons for keeping the bowl system in place.

From my experience, I don't think round-by-round progression through a playoff tournament could match the special kind of "big event" atmosphere that bowls generate for players, coaches and fans.

I don't always agree with ESPN analyst Lee Corso, but I've long advocated what the method he suggests for deciding the national champion. Develop a plan for identifying the top two teams after the bowl season ends and let them meet in a one-game playoff for the title (perhaps on the Saturday before the Super Bowl). Rarely has the debate on college football's national champion included more than two schools.

AC

and stout secondary to pitch the shutout performance.

"I'm proud of the way the kids played," said Allen Central head coach Robert Mayton. "We were able to play everybody and look at a lot of people at different positions."

The Rebels hit the road Saturday for a scrimmage game at Trimble County. The Wildcats went 5-6 last season, making the Class A playoffs.

Dodge

Chrysler got out of motorsports — not that it would have mattered much. Remember the K-Car? I can't imagine it winning too many races unless maybe the other competitors were on foot.

Dodge came back to Winston Cup this year with Ray Evernham, the former chief of Jeff Gordon's Rainbow Warriors, as the head honcho for the Dodge program. Upon its return, Dodge lured away NASCAR's most popular driver, Bill Elliott, hooked Sterling Marlin and reclaimed Petty Enterprises as Chrysler territory.

But the manufacturer has yet to reclaim Victory Lane — and that was what some figured would be changing this weekend at NASCAR's highest profile race of the summer. This supposed conspiracy didn't tug at the heartstrings like the one involving Dale Earnhardt Jr. winning at Daytona in July. But, if successful, it would bring Dodge into the spotlight after the company spent millions to develop race teams for competition in 2001.

In highly technical terms, NASCAR officials gave Dodge an extra 2 inches of "aerodynamic stuff" on the cars' front ends to stop the dreaded "aero-push" that became infamous this week at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. With added "down-force," Dodge was a shoo-in to win this race — a fact offered up loudly by the wronged persons unlucky enough to be driving, working on or backing Fords, Chevys and Pontiacs.

This, of course, is NASCAR custom, NASCAR changes a rule for one manufacturer in the name of equality and fair play



photo courtesy of DeWitt Photography

Morgan Caldwell was the winner of two silver medals at this year's Bluegrass State Games. Caldwell attends The Piarist School in Martin.

Reed

thing to do. He loves college sports, especially when the Arkansas Razorbacks are involved. He has charisma, a quality that has never been attributed to any NCAA leader. And a person who has come close to bringing the Jews and Arabs together in the Middle East surely should be able to resolve the NCAA's thorniest problems.

But something radical must be done. The NCAA needs new leadership and new thinking more than the Pentagon. It's

trying to operate in 2001 with a 1960s mentality. For all concerned, at every level, change is mandatory.

Imagine an NCAA rooted in compassion and common sense. An NCAA where the rules are simplified. Clinton could accomplish that. Crazy? Maybe. But I'd like to hear what you think the NCAA needs to do to become more efficient and fair.

Or whom you think would make a better NCAA commissioner than Bill Clinton.

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The Times

FLOYD COUNTY

Continued from p1

all day was something 2 inches of aerodynamic stuff couldn't fix.

"It took us a couple of laps to get started on the re-starts all day," he said. "If not for that, we might've been able to hold (Gordon) off."

All Gordon did was come from 27th position to win the race — a formidable charge that aerodynamic rule changes could do little about. He said he saw a difference in the Dodges with their improved aerodynamics, but that does not a conspiracy make.

"I saw a difference, sure," he said. "I still believe, though, that you've got to be in the right position, have the right pits. You've got to have the whole package. Putting a couple of inches on the front end doesn't mean you're going to go out and lap the field."

Maybe a smoke screen or another James Bond-type gadget would've been more effective in stopping Gordon and his overpowering Monte Carlo that somehow found its muscle and handling out of traffic and on the Brickyard's long straights.

"Sometimes, things just work in your favor," Gordon said. "And today, for us, they did."

For Dodge and for the hard-luck Marlin, things came close to working out — again. They'll just have to be a little more patient.

Sometimes these conspiracies take a little time to get you to Victory Lane.

And sometimes, like Sunday, it just takes a little more race car.

cnhimedia sports columnist John Clayton can be reached by e-mail at jccolumns@aol.com.

Brickyard 400 Notebook

by HEATHER SCHWARTZ
CNHI NEWS SERVICE

INDIANAPOLIS — James Dean may have lived and died fast, but Johnny Benson just drives fast. Benson drove the Pontiac adorned with Dean's likeness to a third-place finish in Saturday's Brickyard 400 at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. Benson enjoyed having the "American Rebel" along for the ride.

"It was pretty cool being that James Dean was from Fairmount, Ind.," Benson said.

"Valvoline set this deal up, and it has been really neat representing an Indiana hero."

The driver's season has been on the upswing recently, with two top five finishes in a row. Benson says his team has done a lot of testing that may account for the rebound.

"We feel like we're heading in a direction that's going to be good, and the last two weeks have gone that way," Benson said. "Hopefully, we're starting to figure things out, but it's been difficult for not just us but a lot of teams."



photo courtesy of DeWitt Photography
Charles Ruth was a gold medal winner in the sparring event. Ruth is an assistant instructor to Michael Gambill at the Family Academy of Martial Arts.



photo courtesy of DeWitt Photography
Gold, silver, bronze: Laura Absher collected three medals in the recent Bluegrass State Games in Lexington.

LOADS OF LEADERS:

The Brickyard 400 featured 18 lead changes among 12 drivers. The number of different drivers leading laps was one short of the record set in 1994 and 1996. Six of the drivers, including Kevin Harvick, Dale Earnhardt Jr., Ryan Newman, Tony Stewart, Steve Park and Kurt Busch, led the Brickyard 400 for the first time in their careers. Park led the most laps with 39 and finished seventh. Tony Stewart became the only driver to lead the Indianapolis 500 and the Brickyard 400 in the same year.

CRAMMED WITH CAUTIONS:

There were seven caution flags thrown over the yard of bricks. The total is the second highest in race history. The record for cautions is nine, set in 1998. The field ran a total of 28 caution-period laps. It was the second highest total of caution laps run since the field ran 34 in 1998.

PENSKER POWER:

Car owner Roger Penske has found a lot of luck at Indianapolis Motor Speedway. For the second time, Penske cars led laps in both the Indianapolis 500 and Brickyard 400.

Penske owns the car Helio Castroneves drove to victory in the Indy 500 and the car driven by Ryan Newman in the Brickyard. Newman led three laps in the No. 2 ALL-TELL Ford before sliding into the fourth turn wall and finishing 31st.

Despite the team's disappointing finish, Newman says he enjoyed his weekend with Penske at IMS.

"We had a great weekend all together, great practice, great qualifying," Newman said. "I think we had a really great race car at the start of the race."

Newman's brush with the wall might have caused some teams to give up on trying to finish strong. The thought never crossed Newman's mind.

"I just told the guys this is probably going to happen again next year, so let's stay in, get some laps, get some experience," Newman said.

The first time Penske pulled off the double-leader feat was in 1994. Al Unser Jr. won the Indianapolis 500 in a Penske-owned car, while Rusty Wallace led four laps in the 400 before finishing second.

Chip Ganassi also had his cars lead both races this year. Tony Stewart led 13 laps for Ganassi in the Indy 500. Coors Light driver Sterling Marlin led 25 laps in the Brickyard.

HOMETOWN HERO:

Former Indiana resident John Andretti finished the Brickyard 400 in 14th place in front of a full-capacity home crowd. Andretti's best finish at the track was seventh in 1998. The Honey Nut Cheerios driver has struggled in the Petty Dodge this season and is glad to see that change in Indy.

"I'm just happy to see the checkered flag again," Andretti said. "We've made improvements, which is important. It was banging on all eight (cylinders) and had all the fenders on it at the end."

LINING UP: For only the second time this season, all four car manufacturers had one car finish in the top four in a race. Jeff Gordon took first

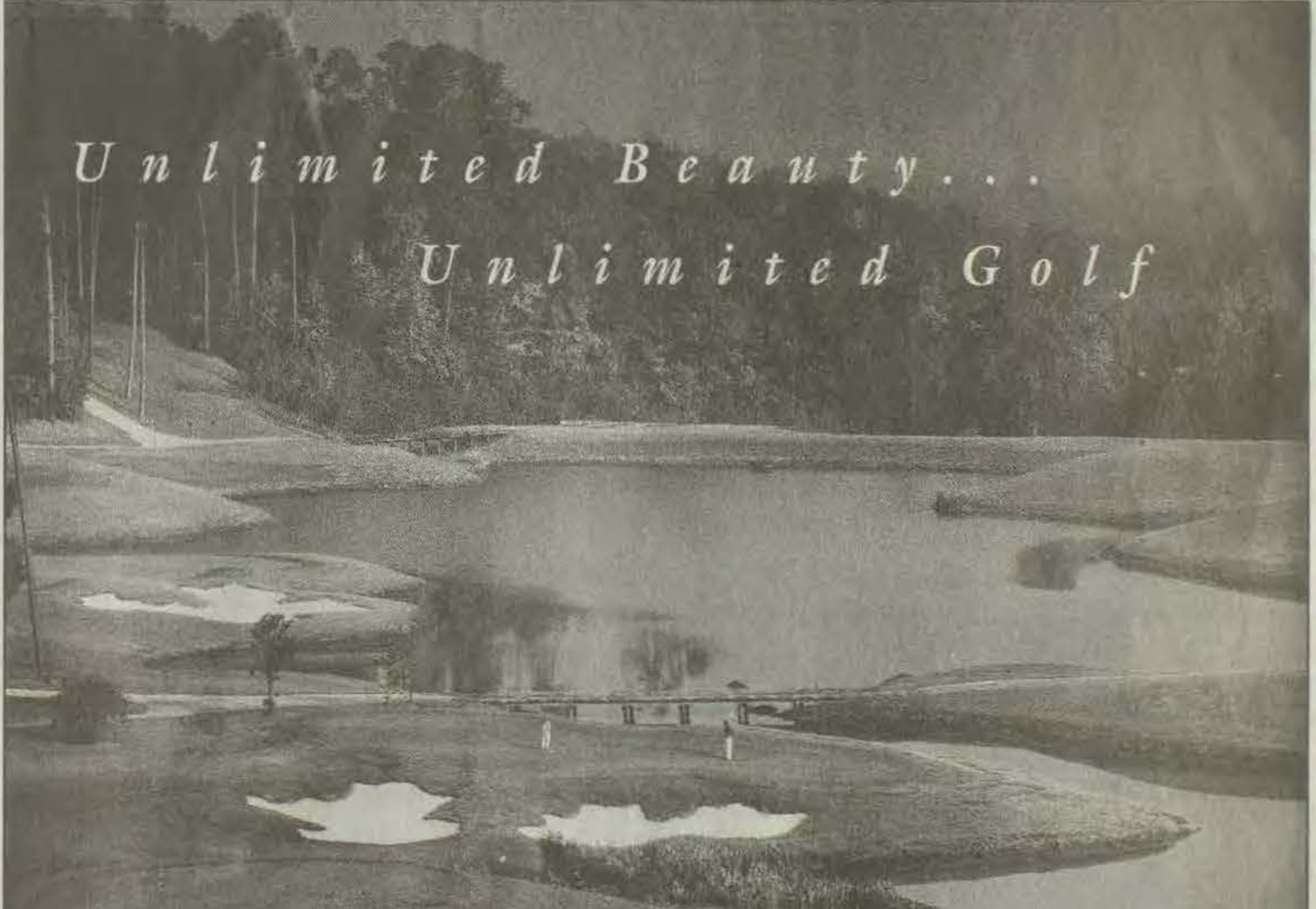
in a Chevrolet. Sterling Marlin was second in a Dodge. Johnny Benson ran third in a Pontiac. Rusty Wallace finished fourth in a Ford. The only other time the four car manufacturers finished 1-2-3-4 was in Las Vegas.

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New CPT golfers head to Lexington

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

The Celebrity Players' Tour (CPT) brings several new golfers to Lexington for the Central Baptist Hospital Charity Classic

held August 9-12. The tournament starts on Thursday with a two-day Pro-Am and concludes with a two-day celebrity tournament on Saturday and Sunday.

Rick Rhoden captured last year's victory at the Central Baptist Hospital Charity Classic and has won several tournaments this year. Also in contention for the Central Baptist Hospital Charity Classic are several players new to Lexington this year,

they are:

■ Dick Anderson (All Pro Safety, Miami Dolphins)

A 10-year NFL veteran with the Miami Dolphins, he was named to the Pro Bowl three times (1972, '73 and '74). Played in three Super Bowls, winning two of them. The strongest part of his golf game is driving and the weakest is putting. Career Best Round: 65. Successfully ran for Florida Senate and retired in

1981.

■ Al Del Greco (NFL Placekicker, Tennessee Titans)

A veteran of 17 seasons in the NFL, Del Greco ranks seventh on the all-time league scoring list with 1,584 career points. Named to Auburn's Team of the Century. Career Best Round: 65. Board member of the Make-A-Wish Foundation and the Ronald McDonald House.

■ Davey Johnson (L.A. Dodgers) Biographical sketch not available at this time.

■ Wally Joyner (First-baseman, Anaheim Angels)

Also played for San Diego and Atlanta. Career RBI: 1,106. Graduated from Brigham Young University.

■ Brian Kinchen (NFL Tight End, Carolina Panthers)

Completed his 13th season NFL season. Also played for the Baltimore Ravens and Cleveland Browns. One of CPT's longest hitters. Strongest part of his game is length off the tee and weakest part is maintaining consistency. Career Best Round: 67.

■ Gary Mule Deer (Comedian)

He has appeared on over 300 television shows including the Tonight Show and David Letterman, and is a regular performer on the Grand Ole Opry. For the past several years he has been touring with Johnny Mathis in concert in major venues across the country.

■ John O' Hurley (Actor)

O'Hurley is best known for his portrayal of J. Peterman on the Seinfeld show. At the start of the Celebrity Players Tour tournament at Lake Tahoe this year, odds-makers gave O'Hurley 500 to 1 odds of winning. Said O'Hurley, "What really bothered me is that there's only 65 guys in the tournament. Sixty-five to one would have made the point. But they said my caddy and all the volunteers had a better shot of winning than I did."

■ Dan Quinn (NHL center)

Played in the NHL for 14 years with Calgary, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Los Angeles and Ottawa. Won twice on the CPT in 2000. Best Round: 65.

For more information about the Classic, call Jim at 859/258-3251 or Renee, 859/258-3009.



Knausz set to enter senior year

TIMES STAFF REPORT

Fleming-Neon Coach J.J. Wright calls Daniel Knausz 'a base-hitting' fool for good reason.

The Pirates' center-fielder hit .6444 (50-for-82) last season. He also stole 53 bases, scored 45 runs and knocked in 26 runs, while striking out just three times.

Much like the outfield grass, the pitching mound was also very familiar, kind territory for the Pirate as he posted a perfect 5-0 pitching record for Neon. In addition to his achievements on the diamond, the versatile athlete also put together a nice season of 14th Region battles as a

valuable member of the Fleming-Neon Pirate basketball team.

Knausz was chosen as a 2001 Governor's Scholar. Sporting a 4.0 grade-point-average, he is ranked first in his 2002 class.

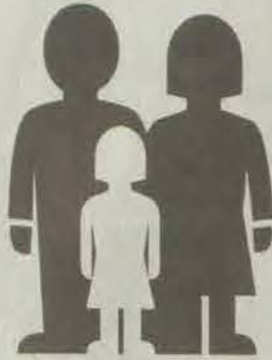
Knausz, a former Betsy Layne Bobcat, was recently selected to Who's Who Among American High School Students for the second consecutive year and is United State Achievement Academy winner in both math and English.

The talented athlete is the son of John and Deloris Knausz of Neon. He is the grandson of Albert and Laurel King of Harold and the late Dan and Marguerite Knausz of Harold.



Garrett Brown (left) and Beta Risner (right) were gold medalists at this year's Bluegrass Summer Games. Both attend the Family Academy of Martial Arts in Prestonsburg where they train under Michael Gambill.

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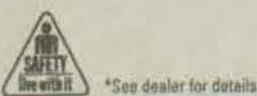
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Credit Mr. Edison

by CLYDE PACK

The phone rang the other night and after a little voice from the kitchen yelled, "Get that. It's not for me," I answered it. But instead of the usual "hello," for some unknown reason, I said "Howdy." As soon as it came out, I realized what I'd done, but of course, it was too late to correct it.

Fortunately, it was a friend on the other end, and he merely answered, "Howdy" back. When I hung up, Wilma, who had heard my slip-of-the-tongue greeting, jumped my case pretty good.

"Boy," she said, "you'd have really been embarrassed if it'd been somebody important."

Not that our friends are not important, but I knew what she meant, and I knew that she was right.

"Howdy" is what Roy Rogers or Tex Ritter would have said to the new school marm at the Saturday matinee when I was a kid. However, it is not an appropriate greeting to use on the telephone in 2001.

But it might have been, had it not been for Thomas A. Edison.

That's right, the same man who gave us the light bulb, the motion picture machine, the phonograph, and dozens of other little things that have made our lives better, also invented the word "hello."

According to an article in The New York Times, when the telephone began to be used on a regular basis, along around the 1870s, there was a bit of confusion, and even more discussion, as to what folks ought to say when they answered it.

There were tons of suggestions, and even Alexander Graham Bell, the guy who is credited with inventing the phone in the first place, suggested we say "ahoy," like they do in the Navy. "Ahoy" didn't catch on, however, and for a long time, people apparently just said whatever came to mind whenever it rang and they picked it up. Like, "Who's there?" or "Whadda ya want?" or something really dumb, like "Howdy."

Then, in 1877, Edison, who was probably on a break from one of his other inventions, suggested that people simply say "hello." For some reason, telephone company operators started using it, and the word soon became a common greeting, even out on the street.

So, according to the Times story, "hello" wasn't even a word before the phone was invented.

"Hallow" was a word which was the call used by fox hunters when they wanted to urge their dogs in the chase. (That was obviously replaced by "Go get 'em Blue" here in eastern Kentucky).

"Hilla," "hillo," and "hal-loa" were all words which were used to hail from a distance. And, the British used "hullo," which was an exclamation of surprise, as in "Hullo, there young lady. Is that a wart on your nose, or what?"

But, there was no "hello."

Anyway, from now on, when the phone rings, I suppose we ought to thank Thomas A. for inventing a way for us to answer it.

McDowell Senior Citizens Center lunch menu - August

■ August 6 - Chicken casserole, yams, peas, bread, pears.

■ August 7 - Hot dog w/ sauce, tater tots, baked beans, pudding.

■ August 8 - Spaghetti w/ sauce, tossed salad, corn, garlic bread, fruit.

(See MENU, page four)

Lifestyles

- Yesterdays • C2
- School Happenings • C2
- Weddings • C3

August 8, 2001

SECTION • C

Features Editor: Kathy J. Prater
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Memories For...

Melodie



A tiny Melodie sits happily in her father's lap. Five days later, Duran Newsome lost his life in a sawmill accident.

by AILEEN HALL

The story of Melodie Renee Newsome goes back a few generations—back to some great grandparents that include Beverly and Bertha Blankenship who lived at Betsy Layne and Joe and Mint Stumbo of McDowell.

Their children, Helen Blankenship and Claude Stumbo fell in love during World War II and married while he was serving in the U.S. Air Force. The war had ended, but he had been a paratrooper, serving in Alaska and Korea. Then he was sent to Japan where, just one month before their first child, Claudette, was born, he was found dead.

Widowhood was very difficult for the young mother and she was grateful for her parents who loved having her and Claudette with them. They lived near the L. D. Hunter store in Betsy Layne and, though Claudette always missed knowing and having her father, she has wonderful memories of life in her grandparents' home.

She remembers sitting on the porch of the Hunter store with other young people in the evenings and hearing chimes from Calvary Baptist Church that sometimes rang through the valley. Grandpa Blankenship took her fishing in the Big Sandy River where they sat under the big willow trees and shared the experience of catching real fish.

As a majorette with the high school band, she fell in love with Duran Newsome who was a star basketball player. She graduated in 1967 and attended Morehead State University while Duran finished high school. He was offered several college basketball scholarships but gave them all up to marry Claudette, July 6, 1968, and they moved to Marion, Ohio, to begin a life together.

They were happy together but both wanted campus and basketball back in their lives, so they returned to Kentucky where he accepted a scholarship to play basketball at Calvary College near Hyden, Kentucky. In January of 1969, Duran left Calvary to play basketball for Pikeville College, also on a scholarship.

They were expecting their first child in May, and Claudette didn't work for a while before her birth, May 12, 1969. But a month after Melodie was born, she took a job as executive secretary to the president of R. H. Hobbs Co. in Pikeville. Duran's team was doing well and life was good.

On May 7, 1970, five days before Melodie's first birthday, Duran left for his second day on the job at a saw mill at Daniels Creek in Floyd County. He had planned to work two weeks before going to Ypsilanti,

Michigan, where he was offered a job for the summer. "I walked him to the door," she says, "and kissed him goodbye, telling him to be careful at work." He answered with, "I always think positive and never in a negative way."



Melodie Renee Newsome, at age 18.

Claudette was at work and, after returning from lunch, she had a call from her grandmother Blankenship saying she heard Duran was hurt on the job. "I called everywhere," she says, "but everyone was afraid to tell me what they were hearing. Finally I called Brennan Newsome, our friend, and he told me it didn't look good and I should call the hospital in Martin. When I called, a doctor told me Duran was 'dead on arrival.' The whole world stopped turning for me."

"My mother and a nurse she worked with at the

"It took me ten years to work through every emotion you could have," she continued "and no one would ever understand the depression I went through. I broke out in huge, horrible hives for several months after his death, and I know I gave a lot of people reason to lose faith in me. During that rough ten years, I wound up in Florida for a time, remarried and had another child. Chad Tallent. But that marriage didn't last."



Melodie's mother, Claudette, at age 18.

Pikeville Methodist Hospital came to me and drove me to my grandmother's house in Betsy Layne. I remember Tommy Boyd, who had been Duran's high school coach, coming to the house and I could hear him crying when he got out of his car. He and Duran had shared a special friendship."

"I had to go to the funeral home that night, but nothing was real. Sportswriters kept interrupting Johnny Hall as we talked. I could hear people in the background talking about my mother having been a young widow also, and I hated the word widow. My heart was broken. I had no memories of my own father who had died a month before I was born, and now Melodie would have no memories of Duran."

"Even the next day, when I went to find an appropriate 'funeral dress', everything seemed surreal. There was a parade in town and I was so mad at Pikeville. Didn't they know what was happening in my life? But it did seem the bands were marching in slow motion."

"It took me ten years to work through every emotion you could have," she continued "and no one would ever understand the depression I went through. I broke out in huge, horrible hives for several months after his death, and I know I gave a lot of people reason to lose faith in me. During that rough ten years, I wound up in Florida for a

(See MELODIE, page three)

School Happenings

Adams Middle School Youth Services Center

Center is open during the summer for any parent who would like to bring in their child's physical or immunization records. Call the center for more information.

Center is open weekdays, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. or later by appointment. For more information about the center or any of the listed activities, call 886-9812.

Allen Central Middle School and Youth Service Center

Open House - Wednesday, August 8, from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Youth Service Center

Advisory Council meeting - August 13, 6:00 p.m., in center. Meeting open to the public.

Hours are 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., or later by appointment. Call 358-0134 for more information. If your child has lost a coat at school, please check in the Youth Service Center.

Allen Elementary Family Resource Youth Service Center

Service Center Hours: Mon.-Fri., 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Telephone: 874-0621

Call Allen Elementary Youth Service Center at 874-0621 to schedule your child's 6th grade

entry physical, Hepatitis B vaccination, immunizations, and WIC appointment.

G.E.D. classes offered-FREE-each Friday, beginning 8:30 a.m. and lasting through 11:30 a.m. Instructor: Linda Bailey

Clark Elementary

"First Day Welcome" on August 9, from 7:30 - 9:00 a.m., in the Family Resource Center. Join us for coffee and doughnuts and meet your resource center staff.

Volunteer orientation is scheduled for August 21 - 8:30 a.m.

Students currently being enrolled for After School Child Care. After School hours are 3:00 - 5:30 p.m., school days.

FCHD nurse in the center on Thursdays. Please call the center at 886-0815, to schedule an appointment.

MCCC services are available at the center. Call for more information, or to schedule an appointment.

Family Resource Center is currently open. Office hours are Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

For more information about the Family Resource Center or programs sponsored by the center, call 886-0815. We are located in the Clark Elementary School building.

James A. Duff Elementary

Regularly scheduled meetings of the Duff Elementary Site Based Decision Making Council will be held in the school's library from 5-6 p.m. on scheduled meeting dates throughout the school year 2001-2002.

May Valley Elementary

Kindergarten orientation will be held on Wednesday, August 8, at 6 p.m. This orientation session will be geared toward those students already registered for kindergarten for the 2001-2002 school year.

McDowell Family Resource Center

Floyd County Health Department nurse, Joy Moore, is at the center each Monday. Call to schedule your child's school physical. All children entering the sixth grade, kindergarten, or Head Start must have a physical evaluation before school begins. Immunizations and T.B. skin tests may also be given - immunization updates and student physicals are required by law. Call 377-2678 now to schedule appointments.

GED classes, free, Mondays, 8 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Mud Creek Family Resource Center

G.E.D. classes offered free each Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Center is open weekdays 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Prestonsburg Elementary and Family Resource Center

Monthly SBDM Council meeting to be held August 13, at 6 p.m. in the school auditorium.

Center is open weekdays, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

After School Child Care, 3-6 p.m., school days.

South Floyd Youth Services Center

Walking track open to public, except during special event.

Adult education classes available.

The center has a one-stop career station satellite that is available to the community as well as students.

All new students and visitors, please stop by the center and see Mable Hall. The center is located on the South Floyd campus in room 232. For more information call 452-9600 or 9607 and ask for Mable Hall, ext. 243, or

(See **SCHOOL**, page three)

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Our Yesterdays

(Items taken from The Floyd County Times, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 and 60 years ago.)

Ten Years Ago

(August 7, 1991 and August 9, 1991)

The Floyd County Board of Education is reportedly considering a call for a special meeting Thursday to review a host of controversial issues confronting the board. Among topics proposed for discussion are issues concerning purported restrictions on booster clubs at Prestonsburg High School; school activity fund finances at Martin Elementary; and the position of board secretary...A federal judge denied a motion August 1 on behalf of a Floyd County teachers' aide to set aside a settlement in a civil rights case against the Floyd County Board of Education. Judge Joseph Hood ruled Thursday that a settlement on behalf of Karon Robinson would stand as submitted to the court by her attorney, John David Preston of Paintsville...Water samples taken from the area where medical waste was discovered in Dewey Lake on Friday, July 21 have been tested and the results returned on Tuesday, according to David Chaffins, Area 9 Disaster and Emergency Services representative. The results, provided from the Floyd County Health Department, showed no type of contamination, according to Chaffins. The Kentucky State Police are still investigating the incident and further information about the contents of a medical dispenser bottle found on the scene were unavailable...An investigation is underway into the cause of a train derailment Tuesday morning near Allen Elementary School. At approximately 9 a.m. on August 6, a CSX train rounded a curve and two of the cars tipped off the rails and landed on the side embankment. The derailed cars had been ripped from their axles and they spilled a portion of their cargo, which was plastic beads. An engine and two other cars were also derailed in the incident but remained upright...Morgan County native, Jerry Cecil, has announced his intention to seek the Democratic nomination for the 7th District seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. Cecil, 48, finished a distant second to incumbent Congressman Chris Perkins in the 1990 primary...A motorcycle accident on Friday, August 2, near Honaker, resulted in the death of a Floyd County man Tuesday. According to state police reports, Edessel Case Jr. of Honaker was driving his 1974 Honda motorcycle west on Route 2030 when he apparently lost control of the bike on a curve and crossed the center line, striking a 1991 Toyota Corolla driven by Clifton Hughes...While presenting a drug awareness and prevention program to a group of Headstart teachers Wednesday at Adams Middle School, Floyd County Sheriff Paul Hunt Thompson and D.A.R.E. officer Ricky Thomsbury were unaware of the real-life drama unfolding involving the eradication of marijuana in a remote area of the county...The intersection on the east side of Prestonsburg at the entrance to the Jenny Wiley State Park was the site, on Wednesday, August 7, of yet another accident. It was the third accident at that intersection in less than one month. According to Ricky Conn, investigating officer for the Prestonsburg Police Department, David Pratt, driving an '81 Chevy Malibu, was leaving the park heading west on Route 3 and failed to stop at the intersection of Route 1428,

striking a 1985 Dodge Aries driven by Darlene Campbell, 36, of Prestonsburg...There died: Elma Nellie McKinney, 53, of Grethel, Sunday, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital; Dicie Watson, 70, of Printer, Friday, at Our Lady of the Way Hospital; Gladys Marie Schmidt, 65, of Sciotoville, Ohio, Friday, at her home; Lawrence Edward Conley, 28, of Lackey, August 2, in the Cabell Huntington Hospital; Finley Boshears, 79, of Halo, Thursday, at the McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital; Grover Watkins, 77, of Middletown, Ohio, Tuesday; Henry (Jim) Hamilton Jr. of McDowell, Sunday, at HRMC; Bersheba (Ber) Dingus Stumbo, 89, of Nicholasville, formerly of Prestonsburg, August 2, at her residence; Lon Irvin Slone, 32, of Blue River, Tuesday, at his residence; Vonda Humble Webb, 60, of Dwaile, dead on arrival Saturday, at Our Lady of the Way Hospital; Mandy McCoy Ray of Wheelwright, during a prayer session at Sunday services, at the Pentecostal Church of God; Neola Burke, 70, of Virgie, Monday, at the Williamson Memorial Hospital; Aggie J. Click, 63, of Martin, Wednesday, at her residence; David Lee Allen, 33, of Garrett, Tuesday, at Garrett, from injuries sustained in an automobile accident; Lizzie Newman Frasure, 87, of Harold, Sunday, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital; James Elzie Keathley, 57, of Galveston, July 31, at the Pikeville Methodist Hospital; Edessel Case Jr., 26, of Honaker, Tuesday, at St. Mary's Hospital in Huntington, West Virginia, from injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident, Friday; Willow Johnson Makarewicz, 55, of Ecorse, Michigan, Tuesday, at the Wyondotte General Hospital in Michigan; Otto (Bruiser) Endicott, 77, of Ypsilanti Township, Michigan, Saturday, at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital; Curtis Tackett, 66, of Harold, Wednesday, in the Pikeville Methodist Hospital.

Twenty Years Ago (August 12, 1981)

For the second year, the Floyd school district will be ending in the black, said Assistant Superintendent Ray Brackett. Brackett warned that state and federal budget cuts would mean difficult times ahead for the district...The Floyd County Board of Education has stated that a new middle school for Prestonsburg is the system's number one priority...The trial of Teaberry coal operator and merchant Sterling Hamilton, 54, and five other defendants on charges of trading in stolen explosives began Monday in U.S. district court in Pikeville...Officers involved in the search for Michael Dwayne Cline of Emma and Elijah Branham Jr. of Prater Creek who disappeared, along with two vehicles, have no new leads regarding the youths' whereabouts. Also missing is Greenberry Tackett from LaGrange prison. Tackett failed to return to prison after being permitted to visit his sister in Floyd County. Tackett had been visiting his sister in Floyd County. He was serving a 20-year sentence for murder...Community pressure may prove the most effective means of controlling live entertainment at the Prestonsburg Drive-In, complainants were advised at a city council meet-

August is Kentucky Breastfeeding Awareness Month

FRANKFORT — The month of August is Kentucky Breastfeeding Awareness Month and public health officials are calling attention to this natural, human right. Special focus will occur during World Breastfeeding Week, August 1-7.

"Most people know that breast feeding is natural," said Dr. Rice Leach, commissioner of the Department for Public Health. "What many people do not know is that in addition to giving

babies milk that is custom made for them, it also protects them against certain infections and it helps develop their mouths, jaws, and teeth."

Gov. Paul Patton, in a proclamation declaring August Breastfeeding Awareness Month, noted the important health benefits of breastfeeding as well as the importance of providing accurate information about breastfeeding.

The theme, "Breastfeeding in the Information Age" highlights the fact that breastfeeding may be simple and natural, but getting accurate information is difficult. The theme was chosen to address both face-to-face ways of sharing and teaching with the new technology ways of learning through the

(See **BREASTFEEDING**, page three)

ing Monday. Citizens were complaining about a series of events, most recently a "wet nightgown" contest, held at the drive-in some Saturdays to entertain the audience between movies...The Jenny Wiley Summer Music Theatre enters its last week of what has been hailed as one of the finest seasons ever...There died: John A. Reatherford, 69, of Paoli, Indiana, formerly of Prestonsburg, at his sister's home; Mildred S. Nelson, 55, of Prestonsburg, at McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital; James Walter Sanders, 51, of Cincinnati, Ohio, formerly of Betsy Layne, at Cincinnati General Hospital; Marson Moore, 97, of Mallie, at Our Lady of the Way Hospital; Zola G. Craft, 77, of Lackey, at Highlands Regional Medical Center; Wilson Crum, 70, of Town Branch, at HRMC; Myrtle B. Hall, 84, of McDowell, at Riverview Manor Nursing Home; Jewel D. Allen, 48, of Martin, at her home; Rex Ramey, 73, of Mousie, at Knott County Health Center; Carl Robinette, 60, of Harold, at the VA Hospital in Lexington; Sarah J. Cole, 82, of Garrison, formerly of Floyd, at Mercy Hospital in Portsmouth; Julius F. Schmidt, 70, of Leitchfield, Michigan, at Bronson Hospital in Kalamazoo, Michigan; Clara G. Warrix, 80, of Prestonsburg, at her home.

Thirty Years Ago (August 12, 1971)

Prospects for an open-air mall in the Court Street business district here may have appreciably dimmed with the appearance last Thursday night of only business houses at the City Council meeting scheduled for consideration of the project...Contract for construction of a two-story, six-classroom grade school building as an addition to the Martin school campus was tentatively awarded at Saturday's meeting of the Floyd County Board of Education to Akers & Akers, Dana contractors, on the firm's low bid of \$220,000...The Floyd County Comprehensive Health Services Program may have been snatched from its deathbed by action of its board of directors here last Friday night. The board by 9-1 vote agreed for an interim committee to be formed along the lines suggested by the health Affairs Office of OEO, and it was indicated in Washington that reorganization and reactivation of the program will be started almost immediately...Born: to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Gary Hall, of Prestonsburg, a daughter, Jayne Elizabeth, July 12; to Mr. and Mrs. Ricky Rector, of Martin, a son, Robert Lee, July 27...There died: Ben Woods, 72, of Bonanza, last Thursday; Raymond Samons, 73, of Arkansas, near Martin, Aug. 3; Emma Weddington Alley, 76, of Prestonsburg, last Wednesday; Henry Jenkins, 43, of Garrett, Saturday; Willie R. Spradlin, 69, of Cliff, Saturday; Shiller King, 80, of Harold, last Thursday; Bessie E. Wells, 81, of Auxier, Aug. 3; Lilly Click Frasure, 84, of Bonanza, Saturday; Orville R. Porter, 63, of Prestonsburg, Friday; Martin V. Shepherd, 84, native of this county, July 30, at Columbus, Ohio.

(See **YESTERDAYS**, page three)

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE

Pursuant to Application Number 858-0165

In accordance with the provisions of KRS 350.055, notice is

hereby given that CZAR Coal Corporation, HC 64 Box 915, DeBoard, KY 41214 has applied for a permit for a surface and auger coal mining and reclamation operation located 1.89 miles Southeast

of Odds in Johnson, Floyd, and Martin Counties. The proposed operation will disturb 326.36 surface acres and will underlie 312.43 acres, and the total area within the permit boundary will be 480.90 acres.

The proposed operation is approximately 1.89 miles Southeast from KY Route 3's junction with County Road #129 and located 1.89 miles Southeast of Daniels Creek. The proposed operation is located on

the Offutt and Lancer U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 minute quadrangle maps. The operation will use the Contour, Area and Auger mining methods of surface mining. The surface area is owned by Beech Fork Processing, Inc.,

Molly Spears Heirs, Pocahontas Development Corporation, and Sally Turner Heirs. The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement's, Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140

South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. This is the final advertisement of this application; all comments, objections or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the director, Division of Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow,

U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. This is the final advertisement of this application; all comments, objections or requests for a permit conference must be received within 30 days of this date.

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★★★ NO EXTRA CHARGE ★★★

CLASSIFIED DISPLAY RATES

\$5.50 Per Column Inch (Wed. and Fri. only)

\$7.90 Per Column Inch (Shopper) \$7.00 (Sunday)

\$110.00 Spot Color.

OUR DEADLINES INCLUDE

Wednesday's Paper: Line Ads, Mon. at 12 noon

Display Ads: Fri. at 2 p.m.

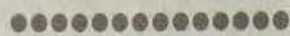
Friday's Paper (Line and Display): Wed. at 5 p.m.

Shopper (Line and Display): Mon. 5 p.m.

Sunday's Paper (Line and Display): Thursday at 5 p.m.

The Floyd County Times reserves the right to change or modify these rates and/or deadlines without prior notice, at their discretion

Real Estate Section is available on Wednesday's and Sunday's Paper



Visa or Master Card accepted

Contact Sandra Bunting, Classified Manager at:

(606) 886-8506

FLOYD COUNTY
The Times