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briefs

Violence information offered

by JARRID DEATON
STAFF WRITER

WARCO — The Floyd County Housing Authority in Warco will be displaying a domestic violence resource station until the end of May.

The station will offer free information on domestic violence topics. Some of the information that will be available includes safety planning, marital rape, effects on children, dating violence, as well as information and brochures regarding domestic violence and shelter services in the area.

The station is part of a Kentucky Domestic Violence Association project to promote awareness about domestic violence in the state. The Floyd County Housing Authority was chosen along with 31 additional sites to host a station.

"We know that one in four American women report that they have been physically abused by a husband or a boyfriend at some point in their lives," said Judy Webb, director of the Big Sandy Family Abuse Center in Prestonsburg.

The material will be available during the Floyd County Housing Authority's regular hours. The station will be moved to another site at the end of May.

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College & Business

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3 DAY FORECAST

Today

 Cloudy, then sun
 High: 42 • Low: 24

Tomorrow

 Rain/snow showers
 High: 39 • Low: 12

For up-to-the-minute forecasts, see floydcountytimes.com

Wilkins gets 7½ years for sodomy

by LORETTA BLACKBURN
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A man who pleaded guilty to three counts of sodomy on Dec. 20 said he was "sorry" before being sentenced to seven-and-a-half years on Friday.

When asked if he or his attorney, Jeff Lovely, wanted to give a statement before sentencing, William Henry Wilkins, 54, told Judge Danny P. Caudill that he was "sorry for what happened."

Wilkins, who Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Wayne Taylor said was living in a veteran's clinic in Perry County at the time of his indictment, plead guilty to three counts of second-

degree sodomy, and two counts of unlawful transaction with a minor, all class C felonies. The charges were amended from class B felonies in exchange for a plea.

As previously reported, Wilkins admitted to sodomizing two boys, who were 13 and 14 years old at the time, between the months of June and August in 2000. Taylor and Commonwealth's Attorney Brent Turner said that Wilkins had lured the two boys into a relationship with gifts and then used the relationship to sexually abuse them.

"Wilkins' conviction is in large part due to the boys' courage to come forward," Taylor said.

(See **SODOMY**, page three)



William Henry Wilkins, 54, was sentenced to seven-and-a-half years on Friday, in Floyd County Circuit court, where he said he was "sorry" for events that resulted in the charges of three counts of sodomy and two counts of unlawful transaction with a minor.

photo by Loretta Blackburn

More flooding possible

by SHELDON COMPTON
STAFF WRITER

Eastern Kentucky residents hardly had time to sit and consider what had happened to them after flooding rains this past weekend swept through before talk turned to another storm-front moving into the area and flash flood warnings canvassed Eastern Kentucky once again.

Reports from the National Weather Service in Jackson Friday afternoon verified that a strong storm system was moving into the Ohio Valley at that time which would lead to heavy rains and quick rises for area creeks and streams.

The projected reports from the weather service maintained that through today and on into Thursday, the storm system could produce 1-to-2 inches of rain, followed by colder air and a chance of light snow as the storm

(See **MORE?**, page three)



photo by Sheldon Compton

Several cubic yards of flood-soaked debris were removed from streets throughout Maytown by about a dozen reservists and a five-man county cleanup crew Friday morning, while others helped issue cleaning kits to town residents from the local fire department.

Natl. Guard pitches in on cleanup

by SHELDON COMPTON
STAFF WRITER

MAYTOWN — Through a light drizzle, members of the National Guard and county cleanup crew descended on Maytown Friday morning to begin the long task of removing piles of debris residents had placed outside their damaged and affected homes.

Floyd Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson and District 2 Magistrate Jackie Edford Owens joined a little over a dozen National Guard members to deal with the several cubic yards of garbage, destroyed

furniture and appliances. "There would be more here to help, but a lot have been sent to Lexington," Thompson said, referring to the National Guard members on hand Friday.

According to one member, approximately 30 National Guard reservists were dispatched to the Lexington area following ice storms that struck the area last weekend. The move left only a certain number behind to lend a hand Friday.

But regardless of the number, Owens said the 12 or 13 who showed up and offered equipment to assist in cleanup efforts made a big difference.

"We've been going at this since Saturday with just five guys on my crew," Owens said. "You look over there now at 10 guys tackling this and see how fast it goes."

Both Thompson and Owens said an estimate as to how much debris would finally be removed from Maytown would be difficult to figure.

"We're looking at several cubic yards of debris," Owens said. "And there's just big piles of debris at a lot of these houses."

Bob Hall, a Front Street resident, watched from his porch as refrigerators, dis-

(See **CLEANUP**, page three)

Escapee charged for missing handcuffs

by LORETTA BLACKBURN
STAFF WRITER

MARTIN — An Eastern man was arrested on five charges, including theft for taking a Martin City Police Officer's handcuffs when he climbed out the window of a police cruiser to escape.

According to court documents, Bill David Barnett, 24, was arrested on Feb. 11, by A.I. Conn, of MPD, after he allegedly was fighting in a public place while intoxicated. Conn added criminal mischief charges, when Barnett allegedly kicked the window of the police car, and third-degree escape charges to the disorderly conduct and public intoxication, as well as theft by unlawful taking for handcuffs, valued at \$75, which were taken by Barnett when he fled.

According to Martin City Clerk Pam Justice, the officer had left the window slightly ajar to allow the handcuffed Barnett to smoke, while he went into Our Lady of the Way Hospital to check on the other man involved in the incident, Stephen Wright, 42, of Bucks Branch. Wright was the driver of the vehicle and was seeking medical attention.

Justice said that Barnett pushed the window down and climbed out of the cruiser to escape, while handcuffed. Barnett turned himself in on Feb. 18, after being on the lam for a week, but did not return the stolen merchandise.

"The handcuffs are still missing," said Justice.

As previously reported, Wright was charged with operating a motor vehicle under the influence of

(See **ESCAPE**, page three)

Williams pours cold water on gaming proposal

by CHARLES WOLFE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — Legislation to give Kentucky's racetracks a franchise for electronic slot machines, for which they are offering the state \$400 million, faces long odds in the Kentucky Senate, its top leader said Friday.

Senate President David Williams indicated he personally would stack the odds, as he threatened last year when the first bill to let the state's eight tracks operate "video lottery terminals" — video slots — was pending in the House. The 2002 bill cleared a committee but went no farther.

This year, the tracks are offering the cash-strapped state government \$400 million through advance tax payments. Proponents estimate the state could make \$200 million per year from slot machine revenues.

The tracks are pushing two bills — one to legalize video slots, which a House committee approved Thursday night, and one to appropriate the bulk of the \$400 million. The House appropriations committee opened hearings on the bill Friday afternoon.

A draft of that legislation would spread the money over some influential

(See **GAMBLING**, page three)

Proposed division of racetracks' money

- Proposed division of some of the \$400 million that racetracks are offering to pay for exclusive rights to operate "video slots":
- Senior citizens' prescription drug program — \$25 million
- Restored Medicaid funding — \$70 million
- Teachers' salaries — \$52 million
- Department of Corrections, education of inmates — \$5 million
- Local fire departments — \$5 million
- Local law enforcement — \$5 million
- Kentucky State Police — \$8 million
- Local governments for environmental cleanup — \$5 million
- Higher education — \$25 million
- Department of Fish and Wildlife — \$5 mil-

lion

- State's budget reserve — \$45 million
- Debt service on bonds — \$14,084,000 for bonds totaling \$154,260,000
- Bond projects:
- Complete Lexington Center/Rupp Arena renovation.
- Complete state golf courses at Dale Hollow, Pennyridge, Grayson, Yatesville, Mineral Mound and Kincaid Lake state parks.
- Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center expansion.
- Purchase Area Regional Industrial Park.
- Warren County Regional Industrial Park.
- Rural water expansion projects.

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■ **CADILLAC, Mich.** — A driver who came dangerously close to rear-ending a police car led officers on a high-speed chase - right into a jail parking lot, authorities said.

Authorities said the driver explained he thought he'd wind up in jail anyway.

Michigan State Police said the chase began when the driver nearly struck the rear of a police car. When police tried to pull him over, the motorist refused.

The man eventually came to a stop in the parking lot of the Wexford County Jail. As he was being arrested, the man told officers he figured he was going to jail anyway.

Troopers say the 54-year-old driver was expected to be charged with third-degree fleeing and eluding. The felony carries a sentence of up to five years in prison.

■ **TRAVERSE CITY, Mich.**

— A 19-year-old man was ticketed by sheriff's deputies for watching television.

The problem was, Aaron M. Cobbs III was driving at the same time.

Sheriff's deputies said they noticed Cobbs was watching a 6-inch television screen mounted on the dashboard of his car. It is against the law to watch television while driving.

"Talk about asking for an accident," Capt. Tom Emerson of the Grand Traverse County Sheriff's Department said. "Some people can't even drive without an obstruction."

Cobbs was arrested after the deputies learned he was driving with a suspended license. He faces a fine of up to \$100 plus and may have to pay up to \$100 in court costs.

■ **JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.**

— In its zeal to save money, a Republican-led House committee inadvertently cut Missouri's budget director out of next year's budget.

The oversight was caught and funding for her position was restored Thursday.

Earlier this week, the General Administration Appropriations Committee cut more than 40 positions in the Office of Administration - a move estimated to save more than \$4 million.

Included in the cuts was a position for a "deputy state department director." Committee chairman Brad Roark said that sounded like a middle-level manager.

It turned out to be the position held by budget director Linda Luebbing.

"That's what I call shooting the messenger," Democratic Gov. Bob Holden said.

■ **BELVIDERE, N.J.** — A man who tried to profit from a bank teller's mistake could learn the hard way: It doesn't pay to be dishonest.

Charles A. Delvecchio Jr., 36, who received \$2,600 from a bank teller when he cashed a check for about \$26, has been charged with theft.

Prosecutors said the error was

made when Delvecchio went to a Fleet Bank branch April 3, and he left without reporting the mistake.

Bank officials contacted Delvecchio when they discovered the error, but they said he refused to return the money. He was arrested the next day and the money was recovered, authorities said.

Delvecchio was indicted this week by a Warren County grand jury, and faces up to five years in state prison if convicted.

Bill seeks to exempt absentee ballot requests from open records law

by **BRUCE SCHREINER**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — A House committee Thursday approved an anti-vote buying bill that would conceal the names of people requesting absentee ballots.

Witnesses said use of absentee ballots for vote buying has become rampant in some coun-

ties. The bill, now headed to the full House, would exempt absentee ballot requests from the Kentucky Open Records Act. The lid on public scrutiny would be lifted once all ballots were returned to the county clerk.

The intent is to keep vote buyers from approaching people who cast absentee ballots.

Requests for ballots include a voter's name and address. Scott White, an assistant deputy attorney general, told the Elections and Constitutional Amendments Committee that the requests can become a "shopping list" for the unscrupulous.

Richard Beliles, chairman of Common Cause Kentucky, said absentee balloting has been on the rise. In some rural counties, as many as 14 percent of registered voters are seeking absentee ballots, he said.

Beliles said a thriving market exists in those counties to sway absentee voters with cash, liquor or illegal drugs. Tainted ballots could tip the balance in close elections, he said.

"Right now in Kentucky, we have a Republican vote, a Democrat vote and a float vote, and that's the people who are wanting to be bought," Beliles said in an interview. "The best way they can do it is with the absentee ballot. It's a real distortion of the election process."

County clerks, who issue the absentee ballots, also support the bill.

The Kentucky Press Association is not fighting the proposed open records exemption, KPA executive director David Thompson said. "We don't know of any situation where a newspaper has requested the names of the people who requested an absentee ballot," Thompson said in an interview.

The media still would be able to find out how many people requested absentee ballots prior to an election and would have access to the requests after the election, Thompson said.

The bill also would require an attorney general's review whenever absentee balloting

(See **BALLOT**, page three)

Second group opts not to sponsor grant application for Appalshop

The Associated Press

WHITESBURG — City officials in Whitesburg followed the lead of Letcher County officials and opted not to sponsor a grant application for Appalshop, a local arts and media organization.

City council members said they objected to a clause that would make Whitesburg taxpayers responsible for cost overruns. They tabled the organization's request.

"We can't just jump into this," Councilman Jimmy Bates said.

The Letcher County Fiscal Court refused the organization's request to sponsor the grant application last week after Magistrate Wayne Fleming complained about remarks he attributed to Bill Andy Farley, a volunteer disc jockey at WMMT-FM, Appalshop's radio station. Fleming, a Vietnam veteran, claims Farley told listeners that America has killed more innocent people than any other country in the world.

Farley said he didn't make the statement.

The grant, if approved,

would allow Appalshop to do a \$300,000 renovation to a building in downtown Whitesburg. The building would be used as an exhibition hall where the public could view the organization's film documentaries and listen to old radio programs.

Greg Howard, vice chairman of Appalshop, said the organization filed the application without a local government sponsor, even though such a sponsor is required. Howard said he hopes to be able to amend the application after getting one of the governmental bodies to sign on.

Howard declined to com-

ment on what Farley "did or didn't say," but WMMT station manager Cheryl Marshall said the station has taken no action against Farley and plans none.

"There hasn't been any because WMMT takes the stance that we do not approve or disapprove of anything a D.J. does, really," Marshall said. "We just stand behind the right of freedom of expression."

Farley said he did nothing wrong.

"I feel like we're doing ourselves a great disservice in this country if we limit the free exchange of ideas on American foreign policy," he said.

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Sunday, Feb. 23, the 54th day of 2003. There are 311 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 23, 1945, during World War II, U.S. Marines on Iwo Jima captured Mount Suribachi, where they raised the American flag.

On this date:

■ In 1822, Boston was granted a charter to incorporate as a city.

■ In 1836, the siege of the Alamo began in San Antonio, Texas.

■ In 1847, U.S. troops under Gen. Zachary Taylor defeated Mexican General Santa Anna at the Battle of Buena Vista in Mexico.

■ In 1848, the sixth president of the United States, John Quincy Adams, died of a stroke at age 80.

■ In 1861, President-elect Lincoln arrived secretly in Washington to take office, an assassination plot having been foiled in Baltimore.

■ In 1870, Mississippi was readmitted to the Union.

■ In 1942, the first shelling of the U.S. mainland during World War II occurred as a Japanese submarine fired on an oil refinery in Ellwood, Calif.

■ In 1954, the first mass inoculation of children against polio with the Salk vaccine began in Pittsburgh.

■ In 1981, an attempted coup began in Spain as 200 members of the Civil Guard invaded the Parliament, taking lawmakers hostage. (However, the attempt collapsed 18 hours later.)

■ In 1997, scientists in Scotland announced they had succeeded in cloning an adult mammal, producing a lamb named "Dolly." (Dolly, however, was put down this Feb. 14 after a life marred by premature

aging and disease.)

Ten years ago:

President Clinton won United Nations support for a plan to airdrop relief supplies to starving Bosnians during an Oval Office meeting with Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali.

Five years ago:

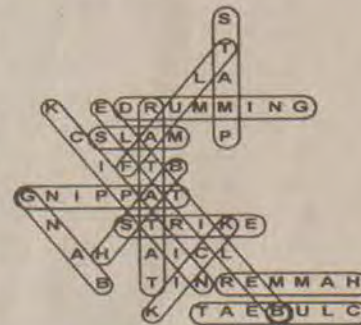
Forty-two people were killed, some 26,000 homes and businesses damaged or destroyed, by tornadoes in central Florida. President Clinton gave cautious approval to a U.N. agreement reached by Secretary-General Kofi Annan with Saddam Hussein for monitoring suspected weapons sites in Iraq.

One year ago:

Colombian presidential candidate Ingrid Betancourt was kidnapped by a rebel group, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia. (Her whereabouts

(See **HISTORY**, page five)

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by **Stan Stumbo & Vancel Thacker**
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If you want to know who is at your front door, install a wide-angled viewer, or peephole. Begin by marking the viewer's position on the door, preferably centered in the door stile near eye level. Bore the hole with a hole saw. Prevent splintering the outside door veneer by occasionally stopping the drill and checking the other side of the door for the moment that the pilot bit first appears. Then, finish boring the hole from the outside. Install the viewer by screwing the viewer body clockwise into the prism cover. For metal or fiberglass doors, modify the exterior prism cover by trimming off the plastic spikes. Glue the cover to the door with a bead of silicone caulk.

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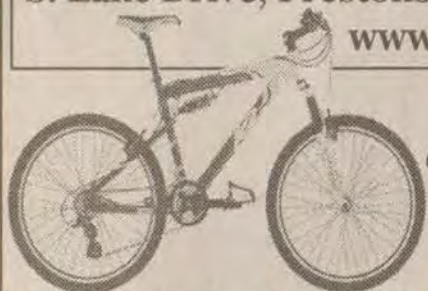
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Property dispute lands man in jail

by SHELDON COMPTON
STAFF WRITER

TURNER BRANCH — Nyra Miller says when she agreed to sell her land and home to her cousin, Quentin Henry Scott, she never expected her ex-husband to be arrested as a result.

But that's what Miller says happened, and court records say the same.

According to court records, Miller's ex-husband, James Dingus, was arrested Jan. 19 after removing a "No Trespassing" sign from the property she had agreed to sell Scott last year.

Miller says she told Dingus to take down the sign after several failed attempts to remove Scott from the property after he became erratic about making payments to own the land and

14-foot-by-70-foot singlewide trailer that rests on the roughly 10 acres of land.

According to the arrest warrant, signed by trial commissioner Jack Hyden, Dingus was arrested for theft for taking the sign and also third-degree criminal trespassing when he "knowingly remained unlawfully upon premises."

"I've done everything the courts have told me to do to get him off the land," said Miller. "I gave him a 30-day notice and then got an eviction notice, and can't get him out."

Miller, who lives with her three children, ages 13, 7 and 2, in a townhouse apartment complex at Minnie, says the original agreement was that Scott and his

girlfriend Ellen Dobbs would pay her monthly installments of \$261.58 toward the total cost of the land and home, which was \$39,500.

A written agreement, signed

by Miller, Scott and Dobbs, stipulates that the property and land were to be paid in full by October 2002, but Miller says that payments from Scott become less and less regular.

According to Miller, Scott paid from the time of the agreement in May until October, but then stopped, still short of the

(See **JAIL**, page six)



photo by Kenneth Tackett

Flanked by National Guardsmen, Floyd Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson and magistrate Jackie Owens discussed where to begin with cleanup efforts in Maytown Friday morning.

Cleanup

Continued from p1

carded and raggedly torn strips of soaked carpeting, lamps and other furniture and garbage was loaded into dump trucks and then shipped from the town to the Garth landfill.

"It got up about eight inches inside my house," Hall said Friday, pointing out a 4-foot-high stack of discarded carpeting in the middle of his front yard. "I've been here about seven years and I was here the last time this happened and it wasn't much different than before."

County workers and members of the National Guard began their day unloading cleanup kits at the Martin Community Center where American Red Cross director Peggy Bach said about 96 local residents had come seeking help.

At just after noon Friday, about 20 local flood victims waited quietly in the center's small front office. Some sat in

chairs and held their sleeping children, while others stood silently and waited to be called for donations.

"We've had about 96 people who have come in here today and asked for help," Bach said while helping one of the many residents fill appropriate lists for calculated losses. "Most of them need just about everything."

Red Cross community disaster director George Betz, who was found calling up the next flood victim at the far end of the center's gymnasium, said that although many needs have been made clear, the center could only manage cleanup kits as of yesterday.

"We have people on the way to offer more help," Betz said, handing the next victim in line two boxes of cleaning supplies, "but we're just trying to be flexible right now and meet these people's immediate needs."



photo by Loretta Blackburn

Dr. Harry Mills is teaching a free 12-week course offered through NAMI's Family to Family Program at PCC, where those who have loved ones who suffer from a mental disability can learn how to better care for themselves as well as their loved ones.

12-week workshop helps families of ill

by LORETTA BLACKBURN
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — While many around us suffer from mental illness, those who love someone afflicted by a disability can endure as much turmoil unless equipped with the knowledge to stand up to the challenge.

The emotional and often physical effects of coping with a loved one's disability can be overwhelming, but education such as that offered by the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill can help alleviate the stress.

The director for the Kentucky division of NAMI, Dr. Harry Mills, is offering insight into this often tiresome task through a course offered by Family to Family Education Program, at Prestonsburg Community College. Although the course met for the first of 12 weeks on Tuesday, there is room available for five more participants.

A scientific study performed

by the Maryland School of Medicine showed that the course offers a greater understanding of mental illness, helping people to cope better, worry less and feel empowered to advocate for better services for their loved one. Family members who have taken the course describe the impact as "life changing".

The course is free and is taught on Tuesdays at the Johnson Building, in room 153 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. To register for the course, contact NAMI at 888-999-6264 or log on at www.nami.org.

Janie Beverley, disabilities service coordinator, at Prestonsburg Community College, said that this is the first time this program, which is taught in 44 states, has been offered to Eastern Kentucky.

Beverley also commented that Dr. Mills, a 20-plus year theologian, is working with local pastors with the intention to better educate them on how to recognize and deal with disabilities.

Escape

Continued from p1

drugs, possession of an open alcoholic beverage container, criminal trespassing, reckless driving, no registration plates, carrying a concealed deadly weapon, disorderly conduct, leaving the scene of an accident or "hit and run", possession of

controlled substance and criminal mischief. He was being held on a \$10,000 cash bond, however it was amended on Feb. 14 to a surety bond.

Barnett was arraigned on Monday, at which time a partially-secured \$7,500 bond was set.

Gambling

Continued from p1

groups — senior citizens, schoolteachers, sportsmen, local governments, police, firefighters and the universities, among others.

Part of the money also would be used to pay for bonds to generate even more money — \$154 million — for construction projects ranging from renovation of Rupp Arena to a pair of huge industrial parks to a half dozen state golf courses.

But Senate President David Williams said the bill could not be passed by a simple majority of the 38-member Senate. He said it would require a constitutional majority — 23 votes — under the General Assembly's rules for revenue-raising bills.

"If the bill comes to the Senate, it will be my ruling that that bill ... was intended to raise revenue and that it will take 23 votes to pass," Williams said in a news conference.

He said he had yet to see evidence of even 20 votes for such a proposal. He also noted it would take 20 votes to have the bill "discharged," or forcibly released, from a committee — a sign that he would have the bill assigned to a committee that would keep it bottled up.

Williams, R-Burkesville, said it would be foolish to base any part of the state budget on presumed income from gambling, which he said becomes less stable as it proliferates.

Kentucky would be counting on "transient" gamblers passing through the state or making day trips, Williams said.

Williams also raised a familiar moral objection — compulsive gambling.

"I have no moral compunction against gambling. I go to

More?

Continued from p1

moves out Saturday.

This potential rainfall, when combined with soil already saturated from last weekend's rainfall, could lead to more flooding, the weather service said.

The flood watch covers 33 counties, including Floyd.

According to the weather service, the rains will come from another in a series of potent, low pressure systems that will move from Eastern Texas, up the Ohio River Valley and into the Central Appalachians.

Weather reports indicate that as the storm moves closer to Eastern Kentucky, it will tap into the Gulf of Mexico to make possible the additional 1-to-2 inches of expected rainfall.

The conditions of ground already soaked by 4 inches of rainfall resulting in regional flooding last weekend is a concern, officials say, and could have a heavy hand in more flooding by tomorrow.

An extended, seven-day forecast reveals that even if residents manage through a second flood in as many weeks, snow could coat the area soon afterwards, resulting in a possible 1-to-2 inches of accumulation.

Flood cleanup reschedules meeting

by JARRID DEATON
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — The Floyd County Fiscal Court held a meeting on Friday at 8:30 a.m. instead of its usual starting time of 10. According to Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson, the meeting was re-scheduled for an earlier start due to a flood

cleanup operation in Maytown.

"The National Guard are going to be moving from Martin to Maytown and some of us need to be there," Thompson said.

After explaining why the meeting was re-scheduled for an earlier starting time, the court proceeded with the agenda. The court voted that Thompson's salary be set at a bi-weekly payment of \$2,802.33. The salary of Jailer Roger Webb is also \$2,802.33 bi-weekly.

According to Thompson, the salaries are set by the state and have to be accepted.

"If it wasn't mandatory, I wouldn't take it," Thompson said.

Payments were authorized to Citizens National Bank in the amount of \$570,983.43 for the Floyd County Kentucky Public Properties Corporation General Obligation Public Project Series. Payment was also authorized in the amount of \$5,000 to Laurel Construction for water line extension for the Spurlock Creek

Water Supply Project.

The court also passed a motion to issue a check in the amount of \$4,000 to Sheriff John K. Blackburn for security at the Otter Creek Correctional Center.

Payment for bills and claims were also authorized by the court. A total of \$315,992.74 was authorized to be paid by the court. The Kentucky State Treasurer will receive \$23,394. Waste Management will receive \$116,000, and Mountain enterprises will receive \$23,577.93.

The next scheduled meeting of the fiscal court is March 21.

Sodomy

Continued from p1

Wilkins was sentenced to seven-and-a-half years of "hard labor" and was ordered to complete an intensive program for sex offenders, which means that his name will be added to the sex offender's registry and he will be monitored for three years upon his release.

Ballot

Continued from p2

totaled at least 5 percent of a county's vote. At the request of the State Board of Elections, the attorney general's office could audit up to eight counties. The agency now conducts post-election audits in five counties chosen at random.

The committee stripped one part of the bill that would have allowed vote fraud cases to be tried in Franklin County Circuit Court instead of in the county where the fraud allegedly occurred.

Thompson said he had not detected an unusual number of bills this legislative session that seek to chip away at the open-records law. A handful of bills dealing with expunging court records concern KPA, but they have made little headway, he said.

The House last week passed a bill that would exempt military discharge papers from the Open Records Law.

(The legislation is House Bill 426).

BEST OF THE BEST

Checkout who was nominated as Floyd Counties Best of the Best

Coming
Wed. February 26

expression

Freedom of the press is not an end in itself but a means to the end of [achieving] a free society.
— Felix Frankfurter

Guest View

A liberty-squelching sequel?

When Osama bin Laden's henchmen ended their evil mission on 9/11, they toppled more than Manhattan's towers. They also demolished the American assumption that freedom and security can coexist. The White House has made much of the ensuing uncertainty, trimming freedom's sails in the name of national safety. And if Attorney General John Ashcroft has his way, U.S. civil liberties may soon be snipped still further. His rumored Domestic Security Enhancement Act of 2003 bespeaks despotism, not democracy. Congress must resist it.

Lawmakers haven't had the chance to object to this bill yet. In fact, they aren't even supposed to know about it. Nobody is. The plan was apparently cobbled in secret, and only recently leaked from Ashcroft's office onto the World Wide Web. Though Justice Department officials deny any such measure exists, the text available at www.publicintegrity.org — the Web site of a partisan public-service journalism group — reads exactly like an Ashcroft-crafted sequel to the liberty-lobbing Patriot Act of 2001.

"Patriot Act II" offers everything an aspiring autocrat might wish for: It would expand government's spying power and curb judicial checks — permitting 15-day wiretaps without court approval in a "time of emergency." It would expand law-enforcers' power to secretly arrest and indefinitely detain anyone thought to be linked to a suspected terror group. It would tighten the Freedom of Information Act to keep the public from discovering whom the government has arrested and why.

Most troubling, perhaps, is a provision that would strip American citizenship from anyone who supports political groups of which the executive branch disapproves. That could mean expatriation for any citizen who makes a contribution to a charity that the Justice Department decides is subversive — even if the gift was otherwise legal and made in good faith.

Just how such harassment would keep America safe is hard to see. The Justice Department — which disavows the plan despite evidence that drafts were sent to Vice President Dick Cheney and House Speaker Dennis Hastert — apparently isn't ready to make the case.

Actually, it's heartening that Ashcroft's office is so reluctant to claim ownership of this hodgepodge. It could mean that even the attorney general feels abashed about such shameless bashing of civil liberties.

Secrecy and suppression, after all, have never been known as the building blocks of U.S. democracy. They're not commonly used to shore up that American invention called freedom. They are the tools of McCarthyites, of men who see no difference between liberty and license — of people willing to undermine the foundation of freedom to fight an unseen enemy.

It takes real nerve to defend such sabotage. So perhaps Ashcroft will forever deny that the Domestic Security Enhancement Act of 2003 is his handiwork. Perhaps the legal experts lamenting the damage this draft would do will never witness its appearance on Capitol Hill. Maybe "Patriot Act II" will become another urban legend — a horror that arose from the mists of the Internet, not the depths of Ashcroftian minds. What a strange and pleasant happenstance that would be.

— The Minneapolis Star Tribune



— Jim Davidson

The power of words

There is an old saying that goes, "Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words can never hurt me." While I don't know if you have ever heard this or not, I'm here to tell you that it's one of the biggest lies that has ever been told.

In my own personal experience, I have seen the power of inspiring words lift a very despondent person to overcome all manner of obstacles and I've also seen the power of malicious and mean-spirited words tear another person down and make them feel worthless, as a human being.

Like you, I love the English language and do my best to express myself in a clear and convincing manner. Here is what Leo Rosten, a noted authority on our language has to say about words, "They sing. They hurt. They teach. They sanctify. They were man's first, immeasurable feat of magic. They liberated us from ignorance and our barbarous past."

There is no doubt about it, words are very powerful and we should be very careful how we use them, especially in relation to the worth and dignity of other people. This is even more important as it relates to members of our own family and others we have the power to influence. For some reason, our nation's school teachers just came to mind here.

To illustrate what I mean, I'd like to tell you about an interesting experiment that has the potential to make a real difference in the lives of those unfortunate people who spend all or most of their time in a negative environment. This experiment began as follows: one time some research scientists took a large glass tank and filled it with water. In this tank they placed a large fish and a good number of small minnows. Hopefully you can see this in your mind. What do you think happened? If you said the fish ate the minnows, give yourself an "A".

For several days the scientists kept adding more minnows to the tank and the big fish had a good thing going, because he just kept on eating them.

Then one day the scientists placed a glass partition between the two, with the big fish on one side and the minnows on the other. If you have spent a good deal of your time in a "negative" environment, here's the part of this experiment that may be of some benefit to you.

As the big fish got hungry and would start for a minnow, the glass partition was there to stop him. In essence this partition was saying, "No, you can't," and this experience was repeated literally hundreds of times. Each time the fish went for a minnow, the partition was there to say, "No, you can't."

Finally, after several more days the scientists removed the glass partition. At this point, what do you think happened? Here is the correct answer. The fish was so conditioned that as minnows swam all around him, he would not even make an attempt to go after them, and in a few weeks he literally starved to death!

In a tank where a banquet was being served, a fish starved to death because he had been preconditioned by a clear glass partition that said, "No, you can't."

(See DAVIDSON, page five)



— beyond the beltway

Bring our astronauts home — for keeps

by DONALD KAUL

The tragic loss of the Space Shuttle Columbia and its magnificent crew has not changed my mind about our manned space program one iota. I'm still against it.

Yes, I know, the disaster has produced a gushing of public support for the program and our president (who sounds more like Churchill every day) said:

"Mankind is led into the darkness beyond our world by the inspiration of discovery and the longing to understand. Our journey into space will go on."

Very inspiring, but very silly. Mankind has a great many longings, many of which you can get you in jail for satisfying. It's not enough to say that, well, it's kind of a cool thing and people want to do it.

You are free to think that space travel is, in some mystical, cosmic way, Humankind's destiny, but I've got news for you.

You can't get there from here. Not with the technology available to us now or on the drawing boards or even in the physics labs of our better universities. Space, you see, is very large and our rockets — though they seem fast to us — are very slow. At the speed we can travel now or in the foreseeable future, it would take forever to get anywhere really interesting.

The Space Shuttle is nothing more than a glorified delivery truck whose main purpose is to take equipment and supplies to the Space Station, whose main purpose is to be up there and get supplied. Nothing much else is happening. "Space flight" is sold on the basis of

its scientific worth. The global communications network, the ability to better track storms, those neat little machines that let you know exactly where you are, the ability to spy on our enemies, the wonderful and revealing pictures we now have of our solar system — all have been attributed in whole or in part to our space program.

Which is true to a point — space research spawned all of those things — but that had nothing to do with manned space flight. The science we're getting from that we could have gotten, for the most part, better and cheaper with robotic flights. We did send a crew up to fix the Hubble Telescope and that was terrific. But, basically, that was it. That and Velcro.

The space program was conceived in the context of a competition with the Soviet Union at a time when the Cold War was at its most frigid. President John Kennedy committed us to putting a man on the moon before the Russians could and, by God, we did it and we were proud.

In retrospect, however, one has to wonder how big a deal it was. In terms of space, the moon is no more than our front porch. And we haven't really gone beyond that.

There was talk of mounting a mission to Mars 10 or 12 years ago, but when the (under-) estimated price came in at \$500 billion, Congress recoiled in horror. In any case, it would take six

months to fly to Mars (which can be likened to our front yard) then six months to fly back and what do you do while you're there that can't be done better by robot?

The risks involved in that excursion would be enormous and the truth is, we don't have much stomach for risk these days. We do not live in the age of Ferdinand Magellan who lost all but 18 of his crew of 270 when he became the first man to circle the earth in the 16th century. (Or he would have been the first had he himself not been killed — and eaten — in the Philippines.) In this sometimes more civilized age (you have to ignore the wars) we lose a space vehicle and the entire nation goes into mourning.

Which is entirely becoming. The crew of the Challenger was a marvelous group of people — brilliant, dedicated and courageous. It is well we mourn their loss.

But space travel, for all their sacrifice, remains a Buck Rogers pipe dream. What we have now is a dangerous, expensive, largely useless exercise in hubris. It's time to get real.

Donald Kaul recently retired as Washington columnist for the "Des Moines Register." He has covered the foolishness in our nation's capital for 29 years, winning a number of modestly coveted awards along the way. For more information, email: donaldkaul@aol.com.



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Minister's Moment: All things new

by PASTOR CHARLES HEATER JR.
LITTLE PAINT FIRST CHURCH OF GOD

My wife, Debbie, and I just spent some time in Houston, Texas, for the birth of our fourth

grandchild. He is a beautiful little boy to go along with our other beautiful grandchildren, two boys and a girl.

As I reflected on that event later in the evening, I remembered what Jesus told Nicodemus in the third chapter

of John's Gospel, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again." (NIV)

I began to ask the question once again: What does it mean to be born again? What is the New Birth?

First of all, I thought of the newness. When something is new that means it is unused.

That's why I like a new year, a new month, a new week, even a new day. They all speak of newness.

In the New Birth we have a new beginning. Just as our little grandson had his earthly birth on Jan. 22, we can have a new beginning spiritually as we invite Jesus into our hearts and ask Him for the forgiveness of

our sins. No matter what our past life has been, we can have a new beginning in Christ Jesus.

Something else the New Birth denotes is a new belonging. When our children talk of their children they say, "This is our son or our daughter." These children are a part of their family. Once we are Born Again we now belong to God's Family. As Bill Gather said, "I'm so glad I'm a part of the Family of God. As a Christian, God is now my Father. I now belong to something eternal — God's Glorious Church."

Not only does the New Birth speak of a new beginning and a new belonging, it also speaks of a new becoming. I am born again in order to become something I have not been before. Our little

grandson is cute and cuddly. However, it would be unnatural for him to stay in his present condition. He was born to become a man. A full grown, fully functioning man. Thus, we are born again to become full grown, fully functioning Christians.

May I ask you a personal question, Have you been born again? Have you experienced the New Birth? In doing so we gain a new beginning, a new belonging, and a new becoming.

II Corthians 5:17. "Therefore, if any one is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! (NIV)"

I wish I had time to tell you more about my grandchildren. I even have pictures!

Davidson

Continued from p4

Here's the moral or principle of this story that has the potential to change our lives for the better. If we aren't using the wonderful talents and abilities that God has given us, it could be that at some time in our lives we were pre-conditioned by someone who literally kept saying, "No, you can't." If we hear those words often enough, like the fish, pretty soon we will begin to believe them. This will result in lower

self-esteem and a lack of self-confidence, which affects everything we do.

Remember, as it relates to inspiring others, "words are powerful" and we need to be very careful how we use them.

Jim Davidson is a motivational speaker and syndicated columnist. You may contact him at 2 Bentley Drive, Conway, AR 72034.

History

Continued from p2

remain unknown.) Penn State pole vaulter Kevin Dare died after landing on his head during the Big 10 indoor championships in Minneapolis.

Today's Birthdays:

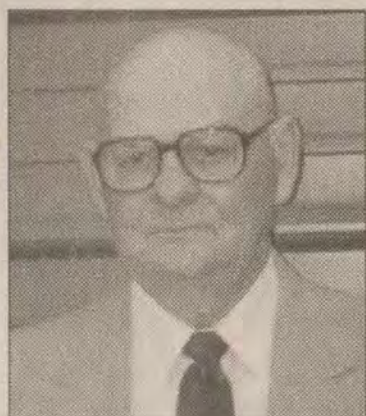
Songwriter Bob Willis is 69. Actor Peter Fonda is 63. Singer-musician Johnny Winter is 59.

South African activist Allan Boesak is 58. Country-rock musician Rusty Young is 57. Actress Patricia Richardson is 52. Rock musician Brad Whitford (Aerosmith) is 51. Singer Howard Jones is 48. Rock musician Michael Wilton (Queensryche) is 41. Actress Kristin Davis is 38. Tennis player Helena Sukova is 38. Actor Marc Price is 35. Rock musician Jeff Beres (Sister Hazel) is 32. Country singer Steve Holy is 31. Rock musician Lasse Johansson (The Cardigans) is 30. Actress Dakota Fanning is 9.

Thought for Today:

"Loving a child doesn't mean giving in to all his whims; to love him is to bring out the best in him, to teach him to love what is difficult." — Nadia Boulanger, French composer and teacher (1887-1979).

Crisp receives doctorate in religious philosophy



Dr. Richard Crisp

He, however, began taking summer courses through the Moody Bible Institute, Free Will Baptist College, Prairie Bible Institute and Bob Jones University. He ultimately received enough credit hours to graduate from the Free Will Baptist Bible College, of Moore, Okla.

Afterward, he began studies in his home with the Bethany Bible College, of Dothan, Ala., in 1989. In June 1992, he received his associate's degree in biblical studies. In June of 1994, he received his bachelor of theology degree, followed in June 1996 by receipt of a master's degree in religious education. In June 1998, Dr. Crisp received his first doctoral degree in biblical studies.

Dr. Richard Crisp, of Banner, recently became a doctor of philosophy in religion (Bible). Dr. Crisp was awarded this doctoral degree, his second, on Dec. 26.

Having never completed even the eighth grade in school as a child, Dr. Crisp is notably proud of this life achievement. "I'm 72 years old, and I love to preach and teach God's holy written word," he said.

Dr. Crisp reports that he was "saved by the grace of God in January 1966. In 1968, I was called by God to preach His holy word. Being of limited education, I thought this was an impossible calling."

Dr. Crisp says he owes his achievements to hard work and an undying faith in God, as well as the support of his wife, Bonnie. "Bonnie is just the sweetest person you could ever meet," he said. "She was surprised by the college when they sent her a 'Putting Spouse Through' certificate in recognition of her support during the years I studied. She sacrificed her time with me, prayed for me

and encouraged me. She's a good wife."

Dr. Crisp plans to continue his work preaching and studying God's word.

Jenny Wiley Theatre Presents a Good Friday presentation of Cotton Patch Gospel

PRESTONSBURG - Jenny Wiley Theatre, in association with Darin Blackburn Productions, will perform a Good Friday event at the Mountain Arts Center in Prestonsburg. The theatre will be presenting the spirited, upbeat musical, Cotton Patch Gospel, a hand-clapping, toe-tapping adaptation of the Gospel of Matthew and John, complete with a bluegrass band.

Placing the story in twentieth century Gainesville, Ga., Cotton Patch Gospel brilliantly translates the story into the southern vernacular, bringing Jerusalem a little closer to home. From his humble birth in rural Georgia to his Good Friday lunch and Easter Sunday victory, the story of Mary Davidson's son, Jesus, is presented musically with zest and uninhibited joy.

The music and lyrics are by the late Harry Chapin, well known for such hits as "Cat's in the Hat" and "World" and the play is based on the book by Clarence Jordan. The Associated Press said Cotton Patch Gospel is "A Winner! A Remarkable Musical." Don Mantooth, pastor

of the First Baptist Church, in Morehead, said "Cotton Patch Gospel is truly a gift. You can't miss the message in this musical."

The performance will be held at 8 p.m. Friday, April 18. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors over 55 and \$8 for students under 21 and are available beginning Feb. 26 by calling the Mountain Arts Center Box Office at 1-888-MAC-ARTS. Group discounts are available for groups of 15 or more by calling 1-877-CALL-JWT or email groups@jwteatre.com.

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Floyd County

James (Red) Adkins, 82, of Prestonsburg, died Thursday, February 20, at the Highlands Regional Medical Center, Prestonsburg. He is survived by his wife, Gertrude Ratliff Adkins. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, Feb. 22, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Maxine Bays Allen, 79, of Garrett, died Wednesday, February 19, at the Highlands Regional Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Hollie Allen. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, Feb. 20, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Harold D. Bates, 64, of Chicago, Illinois, formerly of Floyd County, died Friday, February 14, at the Illinois Masonic Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Mildred L.

Obituaries

Sara Stapleton

Sara Stapleton, 90, of Rogersville, Alabama, formerly of Pleasant Lake, Michigan, passed away Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2003, at Athens Convalescent Care Home.

She was born on November 9, 1912, in Floyd County, the daughter of John H. and Jenny Hyden. Sara had lived in the area for the past eight years, living with her son. She attended Young's Chapel in Waterloo, Alabama, and enjoyed quilting and crocheting.

Survivors include one son, Carson Stapleton of Rogersville, Alabama; a daughter, Naomi Ruth Spooner of Angier, North Carolina; 11 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren; and a special friend, Darwin Boyer of Pleasant Lake, Michigan.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Hudson R. Stapleton; one son, Loran K. Hyden; one daughter, Gladys DePlanche; three sisters, and one brother.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday, February 22, at 1 p.m., from the Caskey-Mitchell Funeral Home, Stockbridge, Michigan, with Brother Paul Holloway officiating.

Burial was in the Pleasant Grove Cemetery.

Visitation was at the funeral home.

Expressions of sympathy can be made to the American Heart Association. (Paid obituary)

Hess Bates. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, Feb. 22, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

James Wesley Blackburn, 68, of Prestonsburg, died Friday, Feb. 14, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital, following an extended illness. He is survived by his wife, Frankie (Webb) Blackburn. Funeral services were conducted Monday, Feb. 17, under the direction of Burke Funeral Home.

Mary Burchfield, 58, of Glo, died Tuesday, Feb. 18, at the Highlands Regional Medical Center, Prestonsburg. Funeral services were conducted Friday, Feb. 21, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Dixie Click Campbell, formerly of Auxier, died Wednesday February 12, at the Walnut Creek Nursing Center in Dayton, Ohio. Funeral services were held Sunday, Feb. 16, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Annis Mae Deskins, 71, of Shiloh, Ohio, native of Glo, died Saturday, Feb. 15, at the home of her son, in Shiloh, following a lengthy illness. Funeral services were held Wednesday, Feb. 20, under the direction of Eastman Funeral Home, Greenwich, Ohio.

Sarah Elizabeth Spradlin Goble, 89, of Prestonsburg, died Sunday, Feb. 16, at the Highlands Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, Feb. 20, under the direction of Carter Funeral Home.

Mary Elizabeth Burchett Goble, 90, of Prestonsburg, died Friday, Feb. 14, at her residence. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, Feb. 18, under the direction of Carter Funeral Home.

Lurlie Reed Howard, 80, of Winchester, formerly of Lackey, died Friday, Feb. 14, at Clark Regional Hospital, Winchester. Funeral services were conducted Monday, Feb. 17, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Jeannie Denise Hughes, 25, of Hueysville, died Saturday, Feb. 15, in the St. Joseph Hospital, in Lexington. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, Feb. 18, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Patricia Ann Lawson, 47, of Drift, died Monday, Feb. 17, at the

Central Baptist Hospital, Lexington. She is survived by her husband, Gregory Lee Lawson. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, Feb. 20, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Florence Lewis, 86, of Harold, died Sunday, Feb. 16, at the Highlands Regional Medical Center, Prestonsburg. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, Feb. 20, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Josephine Dickerson Meadows, 91, of Prestonsburg, died Wednesday, Feb. 19, at the Highlands Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, Feb. 22, under the direction of Carter Funeral Home.

Donald Parsons, 67, native of Floyd County, died Saturday, Feb. 15, at Mountain Manor Nursing Home. Funeral services were conducted Monday, Feb. 17, under the direction of Paintsville Funeral Home.

James Brent Reed, 42, of Cincinnati, Ohio, formerly of Floyd County, died Saturday, Feb. 15, in the Hospice Care Center of Cincinnati. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, Feb. 18, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Hattie Marie Staggs, 54, of Lackey, died Friday, Feb. 14, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, Feb. 18, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Glenna Mae Stumbo, 69, of McDowell, died Monday, Feb. 17, at the McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Friday, Feb. 21, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Amos Vaughn, 79, of Dwale, died Sunday, Feb. 16, at the Highland Regional Medical Center in Prestonsburg. He is survived by his wife, Pauline (Bradley) Vaughn. Funeral services were held Wednesday, Feb. 19, under direction of Burke Funeral Home.

Johnson County

George Michael Baker, 51, of Staffordsville, died Monday, Feb. 17, at Highland Regional Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Zondra Vanhoose Baker. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, Feb. 20, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

Ernest Chandler, 71, died Friday, Feb. 14, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Phyllis Chandler. Funeral services were conducted Monday, Feb. 17, under the direction of Preston Funeral Chapel.

Thelma Boyd Conley, 92, native of Johnson County, died Monday, Feb. 10, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Orville Conley. Arrangements were under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

Nora Evel Franklin, 78, died Tuesday, Jan. 28, at Paul B. Hall Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Friday, Jan. 31, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Chapel.

Marietta Fairchild Goble, 92, of Staffordsville, died Sunday, Feb. 16, at Mountain Manor Nursing Home. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, Feb. 19, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

Getrude Daniels Hayes, 84, native of Stambaugh, died Monday, Feb. 10. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, Feb. 13, under the direction of Wilson Funeral Home.

Cecil Horn, 85, of Williamsport, died Monday, Feb. 10, at Martin County Health Care Facility at Inez. Funeral services were conducted Friday, Feb. 14, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

Elder Virgil Howard, 85, of Clintwood, Virginia, formerly of Tutor Key, died Thursday, Feb. 13, in Clintwood. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, Feb. 16, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

Elder Virgil Howard, 85, died Thursday, Feb. 13. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, Feb. 16, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

Sylvia Patrick Kelly, 79, died Thursday, Feb. 13, at Paul B. Hall Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Kenny Kelly. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, Feb. 16, under the direction of Paintsville Funeral Home.

Robbie Carroll Lemaster, 23, died Saturday, February 15. He is survived by his wife, Brandy Lynn Ramey Lemaster. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, Feb. 18, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

Tara Susanne Daniel Maxie, 28, died Tuesday, Feb. 11, at Highland Regional Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Daniel E. Maxie. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, Feb. 16, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

Arnold Mollette, 90, of Offutt, died Tuesday, Feb. 11, at J.J. Jordan Geriatric Center, Louisa. Funeral services were conducted Friday, Feb. 14, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

William Hayes Perkins, 52, of Wabash, Illinois, formerly of Van Lear, died Monday, Feb. 17. He is survived by his wife, Dottie Perkins. Funeral services were conducted Friday, Feb. 21, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

Lawrence County

Gertrude Daniels Hayes, 84, of Louisa, died Monday, Feb. 10, at her home. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, Feb. 13, under the direction of Wilson Funeral Home.

James R. Marcum, 41, of Louisa, died Tuesday, Feb. 11, at U. of L. Hospital in Louisville. Funeral services were conducted Friday, Feb. 14, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

Martin County

James Roland Johnson, 72, of Inez, died Tuesday, Feb. 11, at home. He is survived by his wife, Irene Johnson. Funeral services were conducted Friday, February 14, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

Ethel Jude, 57, of Pilgrim, died Monday, February 17, at her residence. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, Feb. 20, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

Arnold Mollette, 90, a Martin County native, died Tuesday, Feb. 11, at J.J. Jordan Geriatric Center in Louisa. Funeral services were conducted Friday, Feb. 14, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

Barbara Porter, 61, of Inez, died Wednesday, Feb. 23, at her residence. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, Feb. 15, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

Randall Ratliff, 50, of Grove City, Ohio, formerly of Inez, died Wednesday, Feb. 12, at Grove City. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, Feb. 15, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

Ruby Ellen Kirk Stepp, 79, of Nashville, Tennessee, a Martin

County native, died at her home on Friday, Feb. 14. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, Feb. 18, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

Knott County

Herman Combs, 72, of Franklin, Ohio, formerly of Knott County, died Monday, Feb. 10, at Kettering Memorial Hospital, Kettering, Ohio. He is survived by his wife, Beatrice Napier Combs. Funeral services were conducted Friday, Feb. 14, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

Janice Amburgey Haywood Francis, 86, of Pine Top, died Saturday, Feb. 15, at Appalachian Regional Medical Center, Hazard. Funeral services were conducted Monday, Feb. 17, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Floyd W. Mullins, 59, of Fisty, died Saturday, Feb. 15, at U.K. Medical Center, Lexington. He is survived by his wife, Norma Lee Gross Embry Roberts Mullins. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, Feb. 18, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Hindman.

Allen Owens, 68, of Emmalena, died Monday, Feb. 10, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Sandra Owens. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, Feb. 13, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

Estill "Bub" Perkins III, 35, and his stepson, Marcus Ray Messer, 9, of Carrie, died in a fire at their residence, on Thursday, Feb. 13. They are survived by Christine Hollifield Perkins, wife and mother. Joint funeral services were conducted Sunday, Feb. 16, under direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

Magoffin County

Clova Mann, 78, of Salyersville, died Monday, Feb. 17, at Salyersville Health Care Center. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, Feb. 20, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

Elden Montgomery, 65, native of Magoffin County, died Thursday, Feb. 13, at King's Daughters' Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Vivian Carol Howard Montgomery. Arrangements are under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

Jail

total payment.

Miller claims she gave Scott a 30-day notice and then went to court in November for an eviction notice, but Scott remains on the land, and is now responsible for jailing her ex-husband for theft by unlawful taking and criminal trespassing.

For Miller, the turn of events has been hard to accept.

"I live in Minnie with three children," Miller said. "I'm having to pay those payments and he shouldn't be living there and not having to pay."

To thicken the plot, Scott swore an affidavit on Feb. 6, complaining of harrassment from both Dingus and Miller.

"James has been coming by my home stopping in the road and waving at me and my fami-

ly, smiling and laughing to us," Scott swore in his affidavit. "He has no business anywhere near my home. His wife, Nyra, has been pulling into my driveway and doing the same such things."

Miller claims Scott "forged" the written contract to reflect that final payment was due in November instead of October and said as much during a deposition late last week.

Dingus is to appear in court to answer to charges brought against him in the affidavit this month.

"I left everything in my name and now I owe almost \$200 on an electric bill," Miller claimed. "That's the worst part, that I trusted him because he was family."

Continued from p3

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Regional SPORTS

Sunday, February 23, 2003

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The Prestonsburg High School football team will hold its banquet today beginning at 4 p.m. at the Mountain Arts Center.

Inside

- Derby prospects • B2
- NASCAR News • B4
- College News • C1
- Sunday Classifieds • C8

TIMES Email: sports@floydcountytimes.com

Castle impresses in UK debut

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

LEXINGTON — Johnson Central graduate Heath Castle showed poise and control on the mound during his first trip out for the University of Kentucky baseball team. In his first start with the Bat

Cats, Castle performed very well. The Kentucky starter, against Maryland, went three-plus innings, giving up one earned run on four hits in his debut with the Bat Cats in a win over the Terps.

The University of Kentucky baseball team (1-1, 0-0 SEC) scored three times in the bottom of the sixth, two crossing the

plate on a Mike Breyman single, to break open a 2-1 ballgame as they went on to their first victory of the 2003 season against Maryland on Friday, February 14.

UK got on the board first in the bottom half of the first inning on a RBI single by Caleb Stewart. The Cats wasted a golden opportunity in the inning, howev-

er, as they grounded into a double play with the bases loaded. Kentucky loaded the bases in each of the first two innings, but managed only one run.

Maryland tied the game at 1-1 in the top of the fourth when Kyle George and Bobby Ryan each singled to start the inning. George came around to score on a

Daryl Whitmer sacrifice fly to right. Kentucky moved back ahead in its half of the fifth inning on a groundout by Stewart that scored Spencer Graeter from third.

UK reliever James Rodriguez (1-0)

(See CASTLE, page two)

COMMENTARY

A 'colorful' Sweet Sixteen

by BILLY REED
TIMES COLUMNIST

One of the best sports movies ever made, "Hoosiers," was based on tiny Milan High's improbable run to the 1953 Indiana State High School tournament championship. It was about Small Town, U.S.A., and what basketball can mean to a community, a region, and a state.



Of course, it just as well could have been about Inez, Breckinridge Training,

Carr Creek, Brewers, Cuba, or any of the other small rural schools that once captured the Kentucky Boy's State High School tournament, which will be held for the 86th time from March 19-22 in Rupp Arena.

A few years ago, when the Indiana State High School

(See REED, page two)

OUTDOORS

Floyd NWTF has monthly meeting

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

MARTIN — After announcing Shellie Hayes as the recipient of its annual scholarship at its monthly meeting on Thursday, Feb. 6, the Floyd County National Wild Turkey Federation group introduced Captain Ken Amburgey of the Department of Fish and Wildlife as a special guest.

"We were privileged to have

(See NWTF, page two)



photo by Steve LeMaster

Allen guard Austin Ward (23) eyed a first quarter layup Thursday evening against Betsy Layne.

Floyd grade school tourney underway

County events shine spotlight on young talent

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PRESTONSBURG — The Floyd County Grade School C-Team Tournament got underway Thursday night at Adams Middle School in front

of many, many basketball fans from throughout the rain-soaked county. The A-Team Tournament began Friday. Friday night's A-Team games and contests played through this Monday night will be recapped in Wednesday's edition.

Summaries of C-Team tournament games from Thursday night follow.

Betsy Layne 31, Allen 12

In the opening game of the C-Team tournament Thursday night, Betsy

(See GRADE, page three)



photo by Jamie Howell

Adams Coach Robert Allen and players looked on during warmups.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Lady Rebels blow by Piarist

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

MARTIN — Four Allen Central players combined for 58 points, with sophomore Megan Harris scoring a game-high 20 points, as the host Lady Rebels scored an 86-25 win over visiting Piarist.

Allen Central improved to 15-8 on the season. Piarist, still winless, fell to 0-19.

Amber Scott and Becky Thomas each had 14 points for Allen Central. Jessica Isaac scored 10. In all, 11 different Allen Central players scored in the game.

The Lady Rebels built up a 30-4 lead by the end of the first quarter and held a 55-12 advantage at half-time.

The Lady Rebel defense held Piarist scoreless in the third period, outscoring their visitors 21-0 in the quarter.



Harris



Isaac

SCOREBOARD

PIARIST (25) — Bentley 4, Williams 8, Lykins 1, Tackett 4, Pate 2, Preston 5, Dennison 1.

ALLEN CENTRAL (86) — Scott 14, Turner 9, Caudill 2, Harris 20, Thomas 14, Isaac 10, M. Blitter 1, Mills 5, Hunter 3, Thacker 5, K. Blitter 3.

RECORDS — Piarist 0-19, Allen Central 15-8.

Lady Tigers spread South Floyd thin

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

HI HAT — Points were hard to come by for the South Floyd girls Thursday night in a home game at Raider Arena against Paintsville.

The host Lady Raiders could put no more than nine points on the scoreboard in a single quarter Monday night. Visiting Paintsville outscored South Floyd in every quarter, holding the Lady Raiders to an average of just over five points per period in a 43-21 victory.

Paintsville led 5-2 at the end of the first period, and had its best quarter of the game in the second stanza, outscoring South Floyd 15-

(See TIGERS, page two)

Mercer three pushes Pikeville past No. 9 CU



Mercer



Gallion

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE — Senior Courtney Mercer tossed in a three-point basket with two seconds remaining to give No. 19 Pikeville College a 56-55 win over No. 9 Campbellsville on Thursday night.

The decision brings both teams to 4-3 in the rugged Mid-South Conference.

For the Lady Bears, the win was the 22nd on the season, establishing

a new school record. Pikeville won 21 during the 1997-98 season, the only other time they played in the NAIA women's national tournament.

"That's a nice benchmark for this team, and particularly these three seniors," said Coach Bill Watson. "These young ladies have worked hard since the first day and it's paying off for them."

"Campbellsville is a terrific team, and I have all the respect in the world

for Donna Wise. She's an NAIA hall of famer and it is well deserved."

Mercer's three was the first to fall in the second half for Pikeville in seven tries. The three will help mask a second frame in which Pikeville made a mere 6-of-28 (21.4 percent).

All-American Whitney Lee sank a free throw with 16 seconds left to give the Lady Tigers a 54-50 lead.

(See PIKEVILLE, page two)

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Bears top Campbellsville

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE — No. 14 Pikeville College jumped out to a 20-point lead nine minutes into Thursday night's game and cruised home with an 80-65 win over Campbellsville University and head coach Keith Adkins, a graduate of Paintsville High School.

"We did the things we needed to do to get a win," said Coach Randy McCoy. "Campbellsville is not a bad team, and the fact that they haven't won is a testimony to the talent

in this league. Now we have to get ready to play Lambuth on Saturday."

Pikeville (22-6, 4-2 in the Mid-South Conference) scored the first nine points, getting five from senior Jason Robinson. A three by Robinson with 14:21 left got the lead to double figures for the first time (14-3).

Four straight by Tiger senior Alberto Jempierre cut the lead to 14-7 before the Bears went on a 15-2 run, highlighted early by dunks

(See BEARS, page two)



photo by Steve LeMaster

Allen center Nick Yonts (pictured in green uniform) tried to hold off Betsy Layne's Cody Mchay during an offensive set for the Eagles.

Reed

Athletic Association foolishly decided to do away with the all-comers format to go to a class system, it guaranteed that another Milan will never happen in the Hoosier state.

Thank heavens, Kentucky has maintained the traditional format. In March, David still has a shot to slam-dunk Goliath.

Unfortunately, however, consolidation has robbed the commonwealth of some of its most colorful and legendary schools. In their places are all those consolidated schools named Whatever County Central.

Whatever happened to imagination in this state? Has it gone the way of the cool license plate?

So looking at the state rankings, I decided to pick a dream "Sweet Sixteen" based on the

quality of the current team and how colorful its name is.

Anybody with "Central" or a direction (North, South, East, and West) in its name is automatically ineligible. Here's the region-by-region breakdown:

■ **FIRST** - Heath made five trips to the State Tournament between 1923-1933, but hasn't been since. The school's nickname should be Bears, which headline writers could contract to B'ars.

■ **SECOND** - My sentimental pick is Dawson Springs, home of my old friend Jim Ausenbaugh, but it's tough to pick against Hopkinsville, which leads the state in scoring (84.3 per game) and margin of victory (22.3).

■ **THIRD** - Apollo, alma mater of Rex Chapman, meets

my requirements.

■ **FOURTH** - I wonder whatever happened to Bobby Parrish, who led the old Bowling Green High Street to the 1958 tournament? With High Street gone, I'll take Bowling Green.

■ **FIFTH** - Adair County, runner-up to Hazard in the 1955 State Tourney, has the state's leading scorer in Kevin Bridgewater (36.6 points per game).

■ **SIXTH** - Pleasure Ridge Park is ranked No. 1 in the state, but I'm pulling for my longtime friend Lloyd "Pinky" Gardner, the longtime Fairdale coach.

■ **SEVENTH** - My daughters, both Ballard graduates, would stop speaking to me if I didn't pick the Bruins.

■ **EIGHTH** - Scott County, the 1998 champ and 1999 runner-up, looks as if it'll be back in Rupp.

■ **NINTH** - Michael Schmidt of St. Henry leads the state with a .732 field-goal percentage.

■ **TENTH** - Since I was

born in Mount Sterling, I've got to pull for Montgomery County, even though Mason County looks awfully tough and Bourbon County has the state's top rebounder in Craig

Williams.

■ **ELEVENTH** - Another homer pick: Henry Clay, my alma mater, over Lexington Catholic.

■ **TWELFTH** - Wayne

County at least doesn't have a direction in its name. Burgin, who made its only State Tourney appearance in 1938, is

(See REED, page three)

Continued from p1

Track tentatively schedules 22 weekends of racing

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

COEBURN, Va. - The owners of Lonesome Pine International Raceway, a track located off Route 58 in Coeburn, Va., named Morris Copley to the position of general manager and track promoter late last year.

Copley, from Allen, has leased the track from the Kinzer family.

Things look good for the upcoming race season.

New season passes are now

on sale. For a limited time, grandstand season passes are on sale for only \$100.

The track plans to offer 22 weekends of racing this season. Also, LPIR will be running Hoosier Tires for the 2003 season

New for 2003 at LPIR

■ 22 Weekends of Racing (tentative schedule now posted online)

■ Legends cars return

■ \$10 Adult grandstand tickets

■ Kid's Race Car Rides before the races (on select nights)

■ Season grandstand passes for \$100 (on sale now through March 31)

■ Non-license pit entry for \$30

■ Haulers will be allowed in the pits

■ Enduros return

■ Demo Derby Night - July 3

■ Season Pit Passes for \$300 (with NASCAR License)

■ Double Kwik 2 Kwik Pole Awards

■ Late Models and Limiteds (cash awards)

■ UARA Tour Nights

■ The Allison Legacy Series on April 26th

Other Lonesome Pine International Raceway information may be found online at www.lonesomepineraceway.com

RANKINGS

Lady Eagles ranked 10th, according to iHigh poll

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

LEXINGTON - Johnson Central, with one of the best records in all of the state when it comes to high school girls' basketball teams, ranked No. 10 in the state in this week's iHigh poll. Sacred Heart was rated first, followed by Lexington Catholic and Clinton County for the top three.

Perry Central, Johnson Central's opponent in last year's Sweet Sixteen, currently ranks sixth in the poll. Johnson Central is the only 15th Region team in the poll.

The iHigh girls' basketball poll follows.

1. Sacred Heart (24-1);
2. Lexington Catholic (18-4);
3. Clinton County (25-1);
4. Shelby County (21-1);
5. Christian County (20-3);
6. Perry County Central (19-2);
7. Mercer County (20-4);
8. Henderson County (17-4);
9. Muhlenberg North (17-5);
10. Johnson Central (20-1);
11. Jackson County (20-6);
12. Henry Clay (17-5);
13. Lou. Christian (18-5);
14. Ohio County (21-3);
15. Woodford County (21-5);
16. Elizabethtown (15-6);
17. Hopkins Co. Central (16-5);
18. Manual (14-5);
19. Newport Central Catholic (18-7);
20. Louisville Holy Cross (19-6);
21. West Carter (18-6);
22. East Carter (17-6);
23. Rockcastle County (21-4);
24. Central Hardin (18-4);
25. Boyd County (18-4).

Tigers

Continued from p1

7 to lead 20-9 at halftime.

Paintsville Coach Mark Baldwin saw two of his players reach double figures in the game, with Stephanie Hall scoring a game-high 11 points. Chelsie Jarrell scored 10 for Paintsville.

Brandy Anderson led South Floyd in its dismal effort, scoring five points. Ashley Johnson and Tabitha Trammell each had four points for the Lady Raiders. Paintsville improved to 8-14 with the win. South Floyd fell to 5-16.

PAINTSVILLE (43) - Hall 11, Haney 3, Reynolds 6, Music 2, Moore 6, Jarrell 10, Chafin 2.

SOUTH FLOYD (21) - Skeans 2, Hopkins 1, Anderson 5, Ousley 2, Johnson 4, Hall 1, Trammell 4, Tackett 2.

RECORDS - Paintsville 8-14, South Floyd 5-16.

- Steve LeMaster

Pikeville

Continued from p1

Pikeville responded with a three by Caitlyn Ryan. It didn't fall but she was fouled and sank all three free throws with 10 seconds remaining.

Junior Allyson Baker made a free throw with nine seconds remaining to make it 55-53, setting the stage for Mercer's heroics.

Pikeville opened with solid play inside as senior Teccoa Gallion scored six points early, and when Amanda Collins had a layup with 14:16 left the lead was 11-5.

Mercer got in on the act with a jumper and a three-pointer on consecutive trips, pushing the lead to its zenith, 26-17, with 6:44 remaining. At the half, the edge

was 30-24.

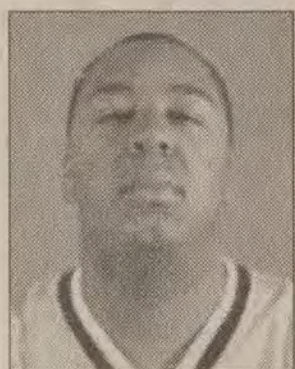
But Campbellsville opened the second half with a 17-6 run, and when Crystal Judd had back-to-back layups with 12:15 remaining, the Lady Tigers led 41-36.

The lead remained in the two-to-five-point range until the closing seconds.

Gallion had 18 points and nine rebounds to lead the Lady Bears, thanks to 6-of-6 shooting from the line. Mercer followed with 11.

Campbellsville was paced by Lee, who finished with 11 points and nine rebounds. Kelli Stamper and Tiffany Roaden came off the bench for nine points each. Baker had five points and six assists.

Bears



Knox



Adkins

by Robinson and senior Charles Sanders and ended by a pair of three-point baskets by junior Greg Davis, making the count 29-9 with 10:48 remaining.

Campbellsville (8-17, 0-6) battled back, and when junior Dax Groome scored on a layup with 3:13 the lead was back to single figures (36-27). Pikeville led 40-29 at the half.

Pikeville led 55-41 after Jason Robinson had a layup with 12:46 left when the Tigers scored eight straight thanks to back-to-back three-pointers by Jeremy Taylor and Groome, cutting it to 55-49 with 10:50 left.

The Bears responded with eight straight, opened by four by senior Michael Thomas to get the lead back to 14 (63-49). The Bears led by 18 twice late

before settling for the 15-point decision.

Robinson led the Bears with 21 points, hitting 9-of-14 from the floor. Junior Teon Knox followed with 19, and both added nine rebounds as the Bears won the rebounding battle 38-34.

Thomas came off the bench to contribute 12, while junior Kevin Gaines dropped 10 assists compared to a mere two turnovers in 25 minutes of play.

Campbellsville had four players in double figures, paced by 21 for freshman Jeremy Taylor. The Campbellsville native hit 5-of-9 from the arc.

Hagen Williams had 12 for the Tigers, while Groome had 11 and six rebounds. That figure was matched by Curtis Pender, who added 10 points.

Continued from p1

BASEBALL

Local youth baseball team moving forward

SALYERSVILLE - A local Magoffin County traveling baseball team, the Kentucky Rattlers, held its organizational meeting in December at the Dairy Queen in Salyersville and since then has . This 11-year-old-and-under team will be made up of Magoffin County youths who are willing to work and practice hard, perform community services, and travel to various tournaments throughout the year, primarily in the South.

"Playing in these national tournaments will expose our young ballplayers to some of the best talent in the country and also to college and pro scouts," Manager Roger Duty stated during the team's initial meeting.

Since the formation and announcement of the team, interest from various area businesses has been overwhelming. Most of the Rattlers games will be played on the road, therefore the team will require sponsors and will be conducting

fundraising events in the near future. The Rattlers will continue mailing letters to businesses seeking donations and sponsorships, but any help from businesses or individuals will be greatly appreciated. Donations are still needed for the team

Become a donor or a sponsor and help the Rattlers get off to a flying start. If interested in lending a hand or sponsoring a team, contact Roger Duty or Terry Marshall, or visit the Rattlers website at www.geocities.com/kentuckyrattlers. The team's website include a roster of players and coaches, along with upcoming games.

Upcoming tournaments the team hopes to attend include Myrtle Beach Qualifier (Myrtle Beach, S.C.) in March, the Tennessee Heat Spring Tournament (Knoxville, Tenn.) in April, and the Mountain State Classic (Beckley, W.Va.) in June.

All rostered players and/or coaches may not be available for all games or tournaments.

NWTF

Continued from p1

Captain Ken Amburgey with the Dept. of Fish and Wildlife come to our meeting and give a special report on CWD in white-tail deer. According to Ken our Kentucky deer herd is healthy and doing well at

this time," said Floyd County NWTF spokesman Paul Robinson. "If anyone has something of importance to our Chapter or the community we would like to hear from you. Come to our meetings and have your say while enjoying

good company and refreshments."

The club is currently making plans for its annual Wild Turkey Super Fund Membership Banquet. The next meeting of the Floyd County National Wild Turkey Federation will be held March 6 at 7 p.m. at the Martin City Hall.

This years Super Fund Banquet will be held at the Wilkinson-Stumbo Convention Center on Saturday May 31.

Castle

Continued from p1

pitched out of a two-on, no-out jam in the sixth as he retired Justin Maxwell on a fly ball to right, struck Daryl Whitmer out looking and induced Anthony Buffone into a fly out to center. Rodriguez went on to pick up his first victory of the season, going three-and-a-third innings and giving up just one earned run, on three hits. From there, the UK offense took over.



Castle and the rest of the University of Kentucky baseball team (2-1, 0-0 SEC) is in Charleston, S.C. participating in

the Charleston Crab House Challenge presented by Trademark Properties, hosted by the this weekend. Boston College and Richmond join the host school and the Bat Cats to make up the field.

UK comes off a weekend last weekend that saw them travel to DeLand, Fla., and win the Amtrak Invitational, hosted by Stetson University.

After falling to the then No. 18 ranked Hatters, the Cats rebounded with wins over Maryland and George Washington to take the tournament.

by RICHARD ROSENBLATT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sky Mesa is training seriously again. Toccet is on his way back, and several new colts have emerged as serious contenders for the Kentucky Derby.

Over a busy weekend for Derby prospects, Badge of Silver may have been the most impressive.

In winning the Risen Star Stakes at the Fair Grounds by 10 lengths Sunday, the 3-year-old bay colt improved to 3-for-3 with a combined margin of victory of 21 1/2 lengths.

Watch out for Lion Tamer, too. The Todd Pletcher-trained colt took the Hutcheson Stakes at Gulfstream Park on Saturday for his third straight win in four career starts. Indy Dancer, another of Pletcher's Derby contenders, was seventh in the Risen Star and dropped off this week's list.

Sky Mesa drilled at Gulfstream on Tuesday, the unbeaten colt's first workout over a real racetrack since wrenching an ankle just before the Breeders' Cup races in October. He's been working out at Palm Beach Downs training track.

Also, Toccet returned to training last week after being sidelined for several weeks with sore ankles. He last raced Dec. 21, but he's been given a clean bill of health.

Trainer John Scanlan said a 3-furlong workout is planned at Laurel in Baltimore by the end of the weekend.

"Things are going well," Scanlan said.

And then there's Trust N Luck, who won Saturday's Fountain of Youth Stakes at Gulfstream, the first Grade 1 race for 3-year-olds.

The prospects:

1. Sky Mesa - (John Ward, trainer; Edgar Prado, jockey) - Worked 5 furlongs in handy 1:00.40 under Prado, aboard for first-time since colt's last race, a win in the Lane's End Breeders Futurity at Keeneland on Oct. 5 ... Ward still noncommittal

HORSE RACING

Top 10 Derby prospects

about 3-year-old debut ... Possibilities include Swale Stakes (March 15), or Tampa Bay Derby or Gotham Stakes (both March 16). Derby future wager odds: 12-1.

2. Kafwain - (Bob Baffert, trainer; Victor Espinoza, jockey) - Worked 5 furlongs Sunday in 59.60, the best time of 109 morning works at that distance at Santa Anita ... Baffert says he's leaning toward entering The Thoroughbred Corp.-owned colt in Louisiana Derby on March 9 ... Derby future wager odds: 12-1.

3. Badge of Silver (Ronny Werner, trainer; Robby Albarado, jockey): Pulled away in stretch for big win in 1 1-16-mile Risen Star for third straight victory ... Jumps into prospects list for first time ... Next start, Louisiana Derby ... Derby future wager odds: 11-1.

4. Lion Tamer (Todd Pletcher, trainer; John Velazquez, jockey): Winner of three in a row after a second to Zavata in first career start ... Pulled away in final eighth to take 7-furlong Hutcheson by six lengths ... Seems to be getting stronger ... Among next race possibilities are Louisiana Derby, Florida Derby (March 15), Gotham Stakes ... Derby future wager odds: 20-1.

5. Toccet (John Scanlan, trainer; Jorge Chavez, jockey) - Returned to training last week ... Scanlan hopes to have colt ready for Private Terms at Laurel (March 29) ... Started eight times as 2-year-old, with six wins, including two Grade 1s: Champagne and Hollywood Futurity ... Only knock is inactivity - he last raced Dec. 21 ... Derby future wager odds: 12-1.

6. Ministers Wild Cat (Neil Drysdale, trainer; Kent Desormeaux, jockey) - Won Golden State Mile on Feb. 9 for second win in two career starts ... Next start uncertain ... Derby future wager odds: 25-1.

7. Empire Maker (Bobby Frankel, trainer; Jerry Bailey, jockey) - Drilled 5 furlongs in 1:00.80 at Santa Anita on Wednesday, his first work since

finishing second to Man Among Men in Sham Stakes on Feb. 7 ... Next start, Florida Derby ... Derby future wager odds: 13-1.

8. Domestic Dispute - (Baffert, trainer; David Flores, jockey) - Breezed 5 furlongs in 1:01 at Santa Anita on Monday ... Won Santa Catalina on Jan. 18 in 3-year-old debut ... Next start, San Felipe on March 16 ... Derby future wager odds: 20-1.

9. Trust N Luck (Ralph Ziadie, trainer; Cornelio Velasquez, jockey) - Gate-to-wire winner in Fountain of Youth in 3-year-old debut ... Loves the lead, pulled away by 5 1/4 lengths for fifth win in nine starts ... Ziadie looking at first Derby trip ... Next start, Florida Derby ... Derby future wager odds: 19-1.

10. Region of Merit (Christophe Clement, trainer; Eibar Coa, jockey) - Owned by once-dominant Calumet Farm, which produced eight Derby winners but none since Forward Pass in 1968 ... Won going away in allowance over 1 mile, 70 yards Saturday at Gulfstream ... Winner in three of four starts ... Next start uncertain ... Derby future wager odds: 2-1 (mutuel field).

Others to keep in mind: Composure, Man Among Men, Midway Cat.

DERBY DAY AHEAD....

Thunder Ridge allows Derby, other wagers to be placed

PRESTONSBURG - Thunder Ridge offers off-track betting with two facilities in two Eastern Kentucky cities, giving residents in eastern and southeastern Kentucky the opportunity to bet on the Kentucky Derby and other races. The Prestonsburg facility also offers live harness racing (in addition to simulcasts) and dirt track racing, which begins in April.

Each May, staffs at both the Prestonsburg and Hazard locations brace for Derby Day. Visit Thunder Ridge Raceway online at www.thunderridge.com.

Grade

- A LOOK AT SPORTS -

Continued from p1

Layne, after holding just a 4-2 lead at the end of one quarter, put Allen away in the three quarters that followed. Betsy Layne outscoored Allen 14-2 in the fourth period alone.

Jimmy Meade led Betsy Layne in scoring with a game-high 11 points. Adam Howell scored seven and Cody Mchay and Tyler Kidd each finished with four. Casey Castle scored three and Shane Case added two.

Guard Kenny Mullins led Allen in scoring with seven points. All seven of Mullins' tallies came in the second half.

Austin Ward and Bryant Tibbs each scored two pieces for the Eagles. Alex Griffith rounded out the Allen scoring with a free throw in the second quarter.

Allen Central 34, MCA 17

Allen Central Middle School, a team which many view as the C-Team tournament favorite, led Mountain Christian Academy 22-9 at halftime, and eased out for a 34-17 victory, doubling up the Falcons.

Blake Meade led Allen Central with 14 points, while teammate Josh Prater chipped in 10. Logan Crowder scored four in the ACMS win.

Hunter Crowder, Justin Jackson and Christian Francis all scored two points each.

Michael Burchett led MCA with a team-high 10 points. Tyler Hall and Tyler Newman finished with two each.

The Rebels outscoored MCA 10-3 in a pivotal third quarter.

John M. Stumbo 30, Wesley 9

Stumbo got 10 points from Ricky Newsome and six apiece from three other players in a 30-9 win over Wesley Christian.

Casey Tackett, Nathan Martin and Dakota Hall each had six points for the Mustangs. Jordan Hall rounded out the scoring for Stumbo with two points.

Stumbo led 14-3 at halftime, after taking a 6-0 cushion into the second period of play.

Newsome keyed a 12-2 third quarter for the Mustangs, scoring eight points on four field goals.

Zak Key led the Stumbo attack with five points. Cameron Tinscher and J.D. Adams each had two points.

Adams 32, Osborne 18

The Adams Middle School C-Team employed its trademark pressure defense against Osborne Thursday night in the C-Team tournament. Adams jumped out to a 14-1 lead after the first quarter, and led 20-5 at halftime.

Osborne scored the first three points of the second half to cut the lead to 20-8 but then Adams went on a 10-0 run to lead 30-8 before finally winning by a score of 32-18.

Adams Coach Robert Allen was pleased with his team's effort again, particularly on defense.

"Our kids really work hard on defense and our defense has been our ticket to success all year," Allen said.

Jody Tackett led the very balanced Adams scoring attack with nine points; Seth Setser added eight, Austin Gearheart netted seven, and Allen Craynon had four.

Chris Schoolcraft and Matt Sword each scored two points to round out the scoring for Adams.

Tackett and Gearheart each had a three-point field-goal in their points totals.

Morgan Mullins led Osborne in scoring with four points. Brandon Tackett, Desmond Watts and Doug Matthews each had three points for the Eagles.

Tommy Hall and Walter Hall scored two each, and Jordan Moore connected on one of two fourth quarter free throw attempts for one to give Osborne eight points in the game.

The Adams C-Team improved to 20-4 and will face John M. Stumbo Monday in the semifinals.

Mullins out for the year at Allen Central?

by ED TAYLOR
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I can remember her when she was just running around the Martin Elementary gymnasium and shooting baskets when no one else was on the floor. I still remember, then Allen Central coach, Bonita Compton telling me that one day Terri Mullins was going to be a very good basketball player. Coach Compton said that because of her size she would not be a dominating player, but she had the heart to become a very, very good player.



Terri Mullins had become just that for the Lady Rebels, playing the point and dishing off the ball. Mullins is one of the reasons the Lady Rebels are 14-7 on the year and pulled a big upset of Betsy Layne three weeks ago.

"Terri's floor game was critical in our 20 point win over Betsy Layne," said the Allen Central girls mentor. "She has been having a great year for us."

Mullins may have to sit out the rest of the season after breaking an arm against South Floyd last week. "We are keeping our fingers crossed and hope for a speedy recovery while preparing for the possibility that she is out for the rest of the year," said Coach Halbert.

The absence of Mullins in the Allen Central lineup was evident when the Lady Rebels traveled to Betsy Layne for a rematch. The result: a six point win for the Lady Cats and a conference championship. Betsy Layne also played without their leading scorer in Whitney Lykens.

"She is out with four broken fingers and both players are a key to

our respective teams," said Coach Halbert. "Their health could have a major role in deciding a winner in both the 58th District and 15th Region."

Mullins was averaging just over five assists a game along with her nine points per game. For her size she was pulling in almost three boards a game to go with her average of three steals per contest.

"It is a shame because Terri had a great summer for us," said Coach Halbert.

Coach Halbert said that Amber Scott, a senior, will move to the point guard slot, replacing Mullins. "She is a little rusty playing there although she did play the point at June Buchanan," Coach Halbert said. "She is capable of playing both the point and the two-guard."

Scott, who played the past three seasons at June Buchanan, is having a stellar senior year averaging nearly 14 points per game along with her four rebounds per outing. Scott is also averaging nearly four assists per game.

Coach Halbert said more will be asked of her "super-sops" in the absence of Mullins. "Both Becky Thomas and Megan Harris will be asked to shoulder more of the load as well as we try to regroup without Terri before tourney time," said the Allen Central coach. Mullins participated in the Blue Chip activities in Las Vegas, Nev., this past summer where she was named a Blue Chip All-Star. Coach Halbert said Mullins was taking the injury in stride.

"It appears that I have a new 'mini-me' in practice because she is right by my side coaching and encouraging her teammates," said

Halbert.

Mullins is a three-sport player at Allen Central competing in basketball, softball and track. Coach Halbert said that because of being born with a dislocated hip and spending two years in a full-length body cast, it is a miracle that she can run at all. "She is truly a testimony to the great work the people at the Shiner's Hospital in Lexington do," she said. "The very fact that she is playing at all is a miracle in itself. I am thankful to the good Lord that this setback is minor and that she will be back next year."

Thomas is in the top twenty in both field goal percentage and rebounding. She is shooting 62 percent from the floor while averaging nearly 14 points per game and 11 rebounds per contest. Harris is carrying an 11-point per game average and hauling in nearly six boards per game. Coach Halbert calls Tiffany Turner the teams "defensive specialist" who is averaging five points and five rebounds per game.

Jessica Isaac and Tabatha Caudil are the key reserves off the pines for Allen Central. "We will ask them to step up their game as well," said Coach Halbert.

Allen Central has but three regular season games to play before the district tournaments begin March 3. The Lady Rebels will face Pike Central, Sheldon Clark and Phelps. As the two seed in the 58th District tournament, they will square off against South Floyd in a first round game.

I have followed all the Mullins girls' basketball careers over the years and Terri has been one of my favorites. I wish her the best and a very speedy recovery. I know if she is not on the floor, she will be in the gym cheering her teammates on.

Until Wednesday, good sports everyone and be good sports!

AUTO RACING

Speedway under scrutiny with NASCAR in Rockingham

by JENNA FRYER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ROCKINGHAM, N.C. — What was long a whisper in NASCAR circles is now a shout: North Carolina Speedway is in danger of losing one of its Winston Cup races.

Since NASCAR chairman Bill France Jr. said last month that the sanctioning body wants to change its schedule in 2004, the tiny 1.017-mile high-banked oval known as "The Rock" has been on the endangered species list.

Unable to sell out a race since expanding to 60,113

seats in 1999, the track is a prime target for France to swipe a date and move a Winston Cup race into a larger market.

Speedway general manager Chris Browning won't think about that possibility as the track prepares to host Sunday's Subway 400. But once the racing weekend is over, Browning knows Rockingham's fate could be decided.

The track's other event is in November.

"I'd expect that after the weekend, (realignment) will start to become more of an issue," he said.

NASCAR normally begins

the sanctioning process in early summer.

But Browning expects talks to begin within the next month or so as International Speedway Corp., a France-family owned company that controls Rockingham, decides what to do.

North Carolina Speedway is right in the middle of a crowded racing market, and NASCAR wants to reach other parts of the country. Darlington Raceway in South Carolina and Lowe's Motor Speedway in Charlotte are short drives from Rockingham and combine to host five Winston Cup races.

So even though there's nothing really wrong with Rockingham, NASCAR knows it could do better by filling seats in a larger market. Those likely to benefit if Rockingham loses a race: new ISC-owned tracks in Fontana, Calif., Kansas City and suburban Chicago.

With sagging ticket sales and a limited hotel and restaurant base, Browning knows Rockingham is in trouble.

"From a facility standpoint, we're right up there with anyone except those brand new tracks," Browning said. "The things that are really impacting us in this decision are things that are beyond our control."

"We're not in a major market, and you can't pick the track up and take it to one. We're in a saturated market, which is frustrating for both us and our competition. And then there's our dates."

Weather is always a factor for Rockingham's races. It's never really warm, and rain can be a problem (some is expected this weekend).

Still, competitors generally like Rockingham because of the emphasis it puts on a driver's skill. A gritty surface chews up tires, putting handling at a premium.

As the second race on the schedule, after the Daytona 500, Rockingham is generally considered a key test for teams.

"What you do at Rockingham is solely based on what you and your team can do with your race car, not what drafting line you're in or how the car behind you is going to affect your next move," Winston Cup champion Tony Stewart said.

"That's a rack where you don't really worry about what everybody else's car is doing. You worry about what your car is doing. You're racing the race track."

PROFILE

Stewart happy following top-10 finish at Daytona

by MIKE HARRIS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tony Stewart was never happier to be seventh.

The defending Winston Cup champion always seems to have problems at the Daytona 500, so a respectable finish was a victory in itself.

In his first four years, Stewart failed to finish better than 17th in the 500 and wound up last in 2002 because of a blown engine. He came back to win the title, despite the disheartening start, but his performance Sunday was a lot easier to take.

Stewart still wasn't thrilled, but at least he didn't wind up driving a rental car back to North Carolina to be alone with his thoughts, as he did a year ago.

"It's our best Daytona 500 finish, so I'm excited about that," Stewart said. "But we ran in the top three all day and led at one time. We had a better car than a seventh-place car."

"We were up there where we wanted to be. We just wanted to wait until a little closer to the end to get racey."

Unfortunately for Stewart, the end came during the second rain delay and after just 2721/2 miles.

Stewart still is pleased he isn't 43rd in the point standings as he was last year going into the Subway 400 at North Carolina Motor Speedway.

Even if he had finished last again on Sunday, though, Stewart said last year's championship has changed his attitude about individual races, even the Daytona 500.

"I try not to put any more emphasis on any one race than any of the others," he said.

For many of NASCAR's top drivers, a victory in the Daytona 500 is their proudest achievement.

Seven-time Winston Cup champion Dale Earnhardt and three-time series champ Darrell

Waltrip both agonized over the hole in their racing resume until they won the big one — Earnhardt in his 20th try and Waltrip in his 17th.

"If I don't win it, it's not going to put me on suicide watch," Stewart said, grinning. "There are a lot of races I haven't won, yet. There are still a lot of races I want to win."

"If I don't win all the races that are on my list, it doesn't mean that I'm going to say I had an unsuccessful career. I think I've got to focus on the ones that I did win and I'm pretty secure in feeling that if it all ended right now, I'm pretty happy with the way my career has been."

After his soul-searching ride home last February, Stewart got his season back in gear by finishing fourth in Rockingham, fifth the next week in Atlanta, then winning in Darlington. So, a seventh-place finish in the season opener isn't going to be too hard to overcome.

And now that Daytona is behind him, the next question is if Stewart will be able to stay in control of his temper for the rest of the 36-race schedule.

He won his first Winston Cup title despite some on- and off-track scrapes that sent him

to anger management counseling and made him the first champion ever to finish the season on probation.

Crew chief Greg Zipadelli helped Stewart get through the tough times last year and kept the Joe Gibbs Racing No. 14 team together.

"I think we all learned a lot last year," Zipadelli said. "We're all a year older, we've won a championship together and we've seen you can come from bad times."

"I'd prefer a nice quiet year that doesn't have any more outside stuff to deal with, but we know, whatever happens, we can deal with it."

Stewart, too, would like a year in which he can focus on racing and eliminate the problems of 2002, when he failed to finish six races.

"It was no one thing, so we can't say, 'Well, we'll just build better engines' or 'We'll get better parts' or 'I'll stay out of wrecks.' You know during a long season you're going to have some problems," he said.

"Maybe we can avoid having that many, though. It's a whole new season and anything can happen."

Even seeing Tony Stewart finish in the top 10 in the Daytona 500.

Reed

Continued from p2

a sentimental choice.

THIRTEENTH — Cawood's Blake Hubbs is the state's seventh leading scorer (26.8) and Evarts' Chris Wilson is right behind him (26.3).

Maybe they'll meet for an old-fashioned mountain shootout.

FOURTEENTH — Is Brent Perkins, an outstanding all-around player, good enough to lead Cordia to its first State Tourney appearance?

FIFTEENTH — Betsy Layne's Brandon Hall is one of

the state's leading

rebouncers, but I've got to pull for Paintsville in honor of my old colleagues Larry VanHoose and Rick Bailey.

SIXTEENTH — Rose Hill and O.J. Mayo, the wondrous eighth-grader, would be a big hit in Rupp, but Raceland, formerly home to a race track, leads the state in defense, allowing only 45.6 points per game.

To contact Billy Reed send e-mails to BReedII@aol.com

HIGH SCHOOL RANKINGS

AP High School Prep Polls

LOUISVILLE — The top teams in the Kentucky Associated Press high school basketball polls, with first-place votes, records, total points and previous rankings:

BOYS

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs
1. Mason Co.	(3)	23-2	63	2
2. Lou. PRP	(1)	19-3	52	1
3. Apollo	(1)	21-2	43	3
4. Lex. Catholic	(1)	17-7	42	4
5. Hopkinsville	(1)	23-2	41	5
6. Lou. Eastern		18-7	23	6
7. Elizabethtown		20-2	22	7
8. Highlands		20-2	19	8
9. St. Henry		21-4	15	9
(tie) North Hardin		17-6	15	-

OTHERS RECEIVING VOTES: Lou. Ballard 13, Dixie Heights 12, Muhlenberg North 11, Wayne Co. 10, South Laurel 9, Rose Hill Christian 8, Rockcastle Co. 8, North Laurel 7, Lou. Iroquois 6, Knox Central 6, Lou. St. Xavier 5, Lex. Henry Clay 3, Perry Co. Central 3, Warren Central 2, Daviess Co. 2.

GIRLS

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs
1. Lou. Sacred Heart	(8)	24-1	80	1
2. Clinton Co.		24-1	68	2
3. Lex. Catholic		18-4	53	3
4. Christian Co.		20-3	44	5
5. Shelby Co.		21-1	40	4
6. Jackson Co.		20-6	29	6
7. Henderson Co.		17-4	20	7
8. Mercer Co.		20-4	15	8
9. Johnson Central		20-1	9	9
(tie) Muhlenberg N.		17-5	9	-

OTHERS RECEIVING VOTES: Elizabethtown 7, Lou. duPont Manual 7, Rockcastle Co. 7, Newport Central Catholic 5, West Carter 5, Woodford Co. 5, East Carter 5, Ohio Co. 5, Lex. Henry Clay 5, Boyd Co. 5, Lou. Mercy 4, Russell Co. 4, Lou. Assumption 3, Perry Co. Central 2, Hopkins Co. Central 2, Lou. Christian Academy 1, Bell Co. 1.

Note: These polls were released on Monday, Feb. 17. New polls will be released tomorrow afternoon.

Major Leagues: Arbitration increases slow

by RONALD BLUM
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — The slow-down in baseball's free-agent market spilled over to the 72 players in salary arbitration.

The average salary increase for the players in arbitration was 92 percent, according to a study by The Associated Press. That's down from a 130 percent rise last year and is the lowest hike since 1996, when salaries for players in arbitration rose 73 percent.

Still, the average salary of the 72 rose from \$1,433,537 to

\$2,758,542, a record, just over the \$2,717,661 average last year.

But the number of players getting multiyear contracts dwindled and two players in arbitration even saw their salaries go down — something that hadn't happened in seven years.

"There is no question this reflects all of the things that have been talked about over the last six-to-nine months," Bob DuPuy, baseball's chief operating officer, said Thursday. He listed the causes as "the individual club economics, the quality of the players in the system and concerns about the base-

ball economy and the overall economy."

Only five players received multiyear deals, down from 17 last year and 27 in 2001. Those were the fewest multiyear deals since 1995, when just four players in arbitration got them following the end of the 232-day strike.

Two players even settled for paycuts, with Philadelphia pitcher Terry Adams taking a \$100,000 cut to \$2.9 million and Atlanta catcher Henry Blanco going from \$1,512,500 to \$1.3 million. Those were the first cuts for arbitration players since 1996, when

Baltimore reliever Alan Mills accepted a decrease from \$600,000 to \$540,000.

"We saw about six-to-eight teams that have removed on the average of \$10 million to \$20 million apiece from the market," said agent Scott Boras, who cited Baltimore, Cleveland, Colorado, Kansas City, Milwaukee and Tampa Bay as among the teams that lowered payroll. "You had \$120 million less in the marketplace."

Boras predicted some of those teams would re-examine their priorities at the end of this season, because "the success opportunities of those clubs is going to be limited."

Just four players got deals guaranteeing them \$10 million or more: Minnesota outfielder Torii Hunter (\$32 million over four years), Cincinnati pitcher Danny Graves

(\$17.25 million for three years), Atlanta pitcher Greg Maddux (\$14.75 million for one year) and Chicago White Sox reliever Billy Koch (\$10,625,000 for two years).

Eight players in arbitration were guaranteed \$10 million or more in each of the previous two years.

Many more arbitration-eligible players than in recent years agreed to contracts before the Jan. 15 filing date. Many were threatened with release unless they agreed to deals before the Dec. 20 deadline for teams to offer 2003 contracts.

"The thing you heard constantly is, 'We're not making any decisions until after Dec. 20,'" Boras said. "That's something I've never heard before in the marketplace. I heard a great deal of clubs knowing what players were going to be non-tendered well ahead of the non-tender date."

Just seven players among the 72

went to arbitration hearings, with the rest settling, and teams went 5-2, their seventh straight winning record. Owners are 259-194 since arbitration began in 1974 and are 32-15 in the last four years, winning 62 percent of cases since the commissioner's office started an arbitration support program for the team. Before that, teams won 56 percent of cases.

Forty players in arbitration doubled their salaries, including 27 who tripled, 17 who quadrupled, nine who quintupled and six who had six-fold hikes. Two players had eight-fold increases, with Minnesota outfielder Jacques Jones getting a 1,036 percent rise from \$312,500 to a \$3.55 million average in a two-year contract.

Anaheim pitcher Jarrod Washburn had the second-steepest raise, a 1,007 percent hike from \$350,000 to \$3,875,000.



photo by Jamie Howell

Wesley's Andrew Padgett (5) headed up the court, while teammate Zak Key (32) reached for the ball for an inbounds that followed in Thursday's game against John M. Stumbo.

CINCINNATI REDS

Griffey doesn't want to talk about workouts, trade

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SARASOTA, Fla. — Ken Griffey Jr. doesn't want to talk about how he almost got traded in the offseason.

The often-injured Cincinnati Reds outfielder won't talk about how he spent the last few months working out with a personal trainer to strengthen his legs so he can avoid injury.

He wasn't in the mood to talk about much of anything when he reported to the camp along with close friend Barry Larkin before the Reds held their first full-squad workout. Position players had physicals on Wednesday, followed by practice.

Griffey was in the headlines often in the offseason, when the Reds tried to trade him after three disappointing seasons with his hometown team. Phil Nevin invoked a no-trade clause and blocked a deal that would have sent Griffey to San Diego in December.

Griffey was in a defensive mood when reporters asked about it. He was willing to talk about his family, but not his team or its attempt to trade him.

"Things happen, and things didn't happen," Griffey said. "That's the end of it. It was over in December and two months later, you guys bring it up again?"

Asked if he was glad to be in training camp, Griffey said only, "I'm here."

Griffey has to stay healthy if the Reds are to contend in the NL Central. He's been hurt all three seasons with Cincinnati, sidelined by torn hamstrings and a torn tendon in his knee.

Griffey, once considered the best player in the game, has hit only 70 homers in three seasons with the Reds. He has also bristled at all the attention he's received from hometown fans.

He got defensive when asked if he's motivated to show fans that he still can perform at a top level.

"I'm the one who has to look in the mirror, not them," he said. "They say, 'Everything looks so easy, he doesn't work at it.' Now it's, 'He's got to work at it,' like I sit home all offseason doing nothing."

Griffey, 33, joined teammates Adam Dunn, Danny Graves and Larkin for workout sessions with a personal trainer in Orlando during the offseason. Trainer Dave Oliver said Griffey's workouts were different from what he'd done in the past.

"I don't think he ever did anything this structured," Oliver said. "From the time he started until the time he left, he made significant progress."

"He really worked the legs hard. He did a real good job. He was very open to everything we did. Some of it was new for him."

Griffey didn't want to discuss it.

"Some people are good at self-promoting, some people don't want to self-promote," he said. "So, I couldn't care less. To each his own. You get caught up in a situation where that's what people want to hear, and that ain't me, so I take some shots I don't deserve."

Manager Bob Boone tried to talk Nevin into accepting the trade last December. Griffey was noncommittal when asked his feelings about it, saying he hadn't talked to Boone about it.

Asked if he planned to talk to the manager about it, Griffey replied, "For what?"

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Knott County branch of HCC survives flooding

When Ron Daley, director of the Knott County Branch of Hazard Community College, visited his campus at 1 a.m. on Sunday, Feb. 17, he thought they had escaped flooding. But two hours later, flooding hit, leaving a huge mess behind.

The staff at the Knott County Branch of Hazard Community College provided extraordinary clean-up after Saturday's (Feb. 15) early morning flooding. Their work permitted the Knott Branch students to attend classes Feb. 18 in a clean

and safe environment. The three feet of flood waters left about one inch of mud in the basement which houses two classrooms (one is the biology lab) and a student lounge. Additionally, the Branch had about two inches of mud on the sidewalk.

The employees could not begin the clean-up until the waters drained early Monday. So, while it was a holiday, Ron Daley, joined by Roger Hicks of M&O and Larry Parke, faculty member and business liaison, assisted by two students contracted to

work, Mark Poff and Matt Daley, shoveled and hosed out the mud. They were joined by Bob Hammonds, Executive Assistant to the President and Tim Glotzbach,

(See **KNOTT**, page three)

COLLEGE NEWS

UK campus preview set for Hazard campus

Hazard Community College students can participate in UK Campus Preview Day on Monday, March 3. This is for students who are considering transferring to UK. The day-long event will begin in the UK Student Center with an Information Fair, including representatives from Financial Aid, Admissions, Student Support Services, Housing, Student and Temporary Employee Placement, Experiential Education, and Student Activities.

Students will be able to visit academic colleges to learn about the majors offered in that college. Students who wish to submit transcripts in advance can find out which of their courses fill university requirements.

Complimentary continental breakfast and lunch will be provided.

For more information and to register, contact Helen F. Brunty at Hazard Community College at 436-5721, ext. 236 or 800-2467521, ext. 236.

Student Leadership Institute

Hazard Community College is starting a new Student Leadership Institute and is looking for applicants from among those graduating from high school this spring.

Individuals selected for the Institute will benefit in many ways, including be awarded full tuition scholarship, full payment for residence hall and meals, books, and travel to program events; be awarded a paid internship during the summer of 2004 which may count toward college credit; participate in a community service project which will result in college credit; informative and interesting workshop; field trips; connection to cultural heritage; and have a mentor.

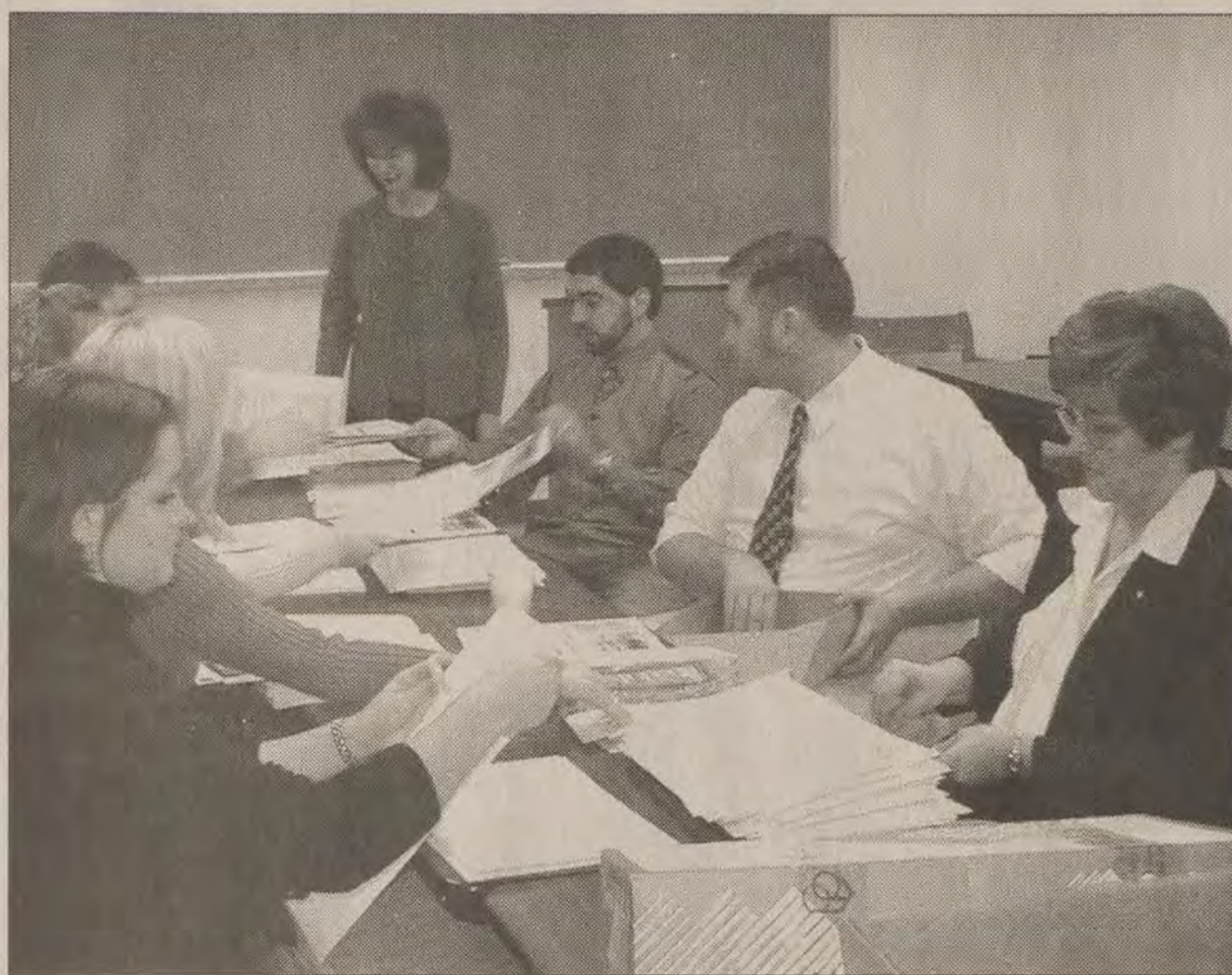
"All of this is designed to promote the leadership of our students," noted Steve Jones, director of the Student Leadership Institute. "We have developed a program which is sure to promote the personal growth of our young people. We know that this area needs future leaders and we're going to start with a select group, giving them lots of attention," Jones said.

The deadline to apply is April 5. An Open House will be held in Hazard on Friday, March 7 at 6:30 p.m. at the First Federal Center, room 123B. An Open House in Jackson is set for Friday, Feb. 28, in the Multi-Purpose room adjacent to the gymnasium, at the Lees College Campus of HCC. Students will reside in the dormitory at Lees while enrolled in this Institute and Hazard Community College.

"We are very excited about offering this Student

(See **LEADER**, page three)

— ARTISAN CENTER SURVEYS —



The ALC marketing management class busily prepares the Artisan Center surveys.

ALC CLASS ASSISTS LOCAL ORGANIZATION

Thanks to the Alice Lloyd College Marketing Management and Regional Economics classes, regional artisans should expect any day to open their mailbox and see a packet from the Kentucky Appalachian Artisan Center. The organization, based in Hindman, Kentucky, serves as an artisan support and marketing center with the goal of "preserving our heritage by serv-

ing our artisans." They assist writers, storytellers, musicians, craftsmen and others carrying on traditional art forms.

During the fall semester, the Alice Lloyd College Business Department agreed to design and implement a

(See **ASSISTS**, page three)

Wells establishes endowed scholarship



From left to right, Bob Bays, chair, Big Sandy Educational Foundation, Charles Wells, and Dr. George Edwards, president, Prestonsburg Community College.

Charles Wells, retired owner of Hardware Charlie in Paintsville, presented the Big Sandy Educational Foundation, Inc., with a check for an endowed scholarship. Scholarships provide funds for students all over eastern Kentucky to go to college and prepare for jobs in Kentucky's workforce. The many students who are helped by scholarships like one established by

(See **WELLS**, page three)

The Big Sandy CEO Roundtable meets in support of education funding



Dr. George Edwards, PCC president and CEO for the Big Sandy Community and Technical College District, seated far end of table, speaks to the CEO Roundtable.

The Big Sandy CEO Roundtable met February 18th, in the Gearheart Conference Room of the new student center at Prestonsburg Community College. After a tasty dinner served by Nellie Baldwin in the new PCC Grill, the group moved to the conference room for the meeting. An informative program on Small Business Administration financial planning was presented by Thomas Jones from East KY Corp. of Perry County.

Following the presentation, Dr. George D. Edwards spoke to the group about funding for education. "Now is the time to continue the momentum and preserve the status of education in

(See **CEO**, page three)

PIKEVILLE

Medical Lab certificates available through HCC

Beginning in the fall 2003 semester, Hazard Community College will offer two new medical laboratory certificates: Physicians Office Laboratory and Phlebotomy for the Health Care Worker. Employment opportunities may be found in physician offices, clinics, or hospital laboratories.

The following are courses offered in the fall 2003 semester: PHB 151 - Course discusses fundamental techniques in proper venipuncture and capillary collection. Included is a study of medical ethics, laboratory terminology, anatomy and physiology of the circulatory system, communication and record keeping, specimen processing, laboratory safety, isolation procedures and special collection.

■ **PHB 152** - This course introduces the student to clinical practice in the phlebotomy department of the laboratory. The student will begin to develop performance skills in routine venipuncture and capillary collection procedures. This course utilizes and depends upon external institutions to insure adequate clinical education and training. The instructor will provide a prescribed schedule of clinical rotations in the phlebotomy area for the student.

■ **CLT 101** - This course includes an orientation to the laboratory and management structure, professional organizations, professional ethics, communication, and record keeping. Also included in the

(See **HCC**, page three)

HORIZONS AWARD

District New Horizons Award honorees selected

Margarita Borders-Hampton, Administrative Support Associate II, Prestonsburg Campus, was nominated by staff, students and faculty as the staff member from the Big Sandy District who will be considered for the Staff New Horizons Award.

Margarita lives with her husband, Ron, and their daughter, Autumn Victoria Grace at East Point. She is an alumni of Prestonsburg Community College and Morehead State University and has an Associate in Applied Science in Office

Administration and an Associate in Arts. She has been employed by PCC for more than fifteen years. Her favorite pastime is spending time with her family. She is involved in many school and community activities which keep her busy. Margarita is a valuable asset to the college and the community.

Forrest Joseph Stewardson, an Automotive Technology Associate Professor from the Pikeville Campus, was nominated as the Big Sandy District faculty member who will be considered for

(See **AWARD**, page three)

Fourth women's business symposium to be held Tuesday

PRESTONSBURG — Morehead State University's East Kentucky Small Business Development Center, along with the Floyd County Chamber of Commerce and the University of Kentucky Cooperative

Extension Service, will present the Fourth Annual Big Sandy Women's Business Symposium on Tuesday, Feb. 25, in Prestonsburg.

The symposium, scheduled from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the

Wilkinson-Stumbo Convention Center at Jenny Wiley State Resort Park, will feature a keynote address by Sue McMillin, motivational speaker, who will discuss "Creating Order Out of Chaos." Dr. Mary

Pauline Fox, guest speaker, will talk on "Stress and How to Deal With It." Jill Fraley Hammond, former WYMT-TV news anchor, will serve as emcee.

The day's activities will include exhibits, breakout ses-

sions, a luncheon, networking opportunities and door prizes. Pre-registration is necessary. The registration fee of \$25 must be paid in advance, unless prior arrangements are made.

The symposium, a

Partnership Program with the U.S. Small Business Administration, is sponsored by Kentucky SBDCAAA Real Estate

(See WOMEN, page three)

Medicare AND YOU



Donna R. Morton
Medicare Beneficiary
Outreach Coordinator
AdminStar Federal

Q If I expect to receive money from no-fault or liability insurance and I also have Medicare, which one should pay first?

A No-fault or liability insurance should be the primary payer. If doctors or other providers decide that the services you receive can be paid for by a no-fault or liability insurance company, they should try to get payments from that company before billing Medicare. However, this may take a long time. If the insurance company does not pay the claim within 120 days, your doctor or other provider may bill Medicare. Medicare may make a conditional payment to pay the bill.

Q What is a conditional payment?

A A conditional payment is one that Medicare makes if the insurance company will not pay a claim within 120 days so that you will not have to use your own money to pay the bill. The money that Medicare used for the conditional payment must be repaid to Medicare when a settlement is reached. If Medicare makes a conditional payment and later you get a settlement from an insurance company, Medicare may try to get the conditional payment from you. You are responsible for making sure that Medicare gets repaid.

Q Do I have to repay Medicare for the conditional payment if the settlement is for 'pain and suffering'?

A Regardless of how amounts may be designated in a liability award or settlement, (loss of consortium, special damages, or pain and suffering), Medicare is entitled to reimbursement from the proceeds of the award or settlement for its conditional payments.

Q Who pays if the no-fault or liability insurance does not pay or denies my medical bill?

(See YOU, page three)

- FOOD CITY OF PRESTONSBURG -



'Food for Thought'

John Cantrell, manager Food City of Prestonsburg, recently presented Allen Central Middle School with a digital camera, three dictionaries, and two sets of calculators. The school received the gifts for collecting \$168,000 in Food

City receipts for the 2001-2002 school year. Pictured is Mrs. Halbert's homeroom class, the top classroom for collecting the most receipts. Allen Central Middle Youth Service Center sponsored the Apples for Computers Program.

NEWS & NOTES

AAA says rising gas prices

by MITCH STACY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TAMPA, Fla. — The recent spike in gasoline prices isn't justified and is coming "uncomfortably close" to gouging, a AAA spokesman said Thursday.

The price of a gallon of regular gasoline has risen about 13 cents in less than two weeks to a national aver-

age of \$1.63, and the automobile association's spokesman Geoff Sundstrom said nothing has occurred in the market to warrant it.

He suggested oil companies are looking ahead to what could happen to crude oil prices if the United States invades Iraq.

"What we're trying to do is head off the possibility of wholesalers or retailers charging unfair prices given

the current situation," Sundstrom said. "We're not saying anyone is particularly price-gouging, but we're saying that in this environment the possibility exists for it to occur."

In a statement, the Heathrow-based organization said it is "strongly urging the gasoline industry to show more restraint in the pricing of their products

(See AAA, page three)

COLLEGE NEWS

Deposit feature saves MSU students

Morehead State University (MSU) students who expect a financial aid refund can now receive their refund quicker by choosing automatic deposit, just one more benefit from the school's partnership with U.S. Bank. The refund can be automatically deposited into their U.S. Bank Student Checking Account or Student Savings Account.

"MSU benefits from this as well, because it eliminates the process of printing and mailing checks, saving MSU time and money," said Bill Redwine, director of auxiliary services for MSU. "We're excited about this growing, positive relationship with U.S. Bank, because it makes on-campus life easier for our students and employees. Students don't have to

spend hours waiting in line to pick up their financial aid refund checks. The feedback from students has been extremely positive in regard to this service."

This new feature is one of the many benefits that developed from MSU's growing partnership with U.S. Bank for

(See NEW, page three)

Bankruptcy Filings

The following is a list of bankruptcy cases filed with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky in Lexington from Feb. 14 to 21.

Pikeville Division Chapter 7

Under Chapter 7 bankruptcy, a

court-appointed trustee sells assets and the debtor is discharged of debts.

Billy Gene Newsome and Debbie Lois Newsome, of Pikeville.

David Spencer Colley, of Elkhorn City.

Connie J. Johnson, of Raven.

Jim E. Keen and Sandra K.

Keen, of Flat Gap.

Lillian S. Risner, of Salyersville.

Major L. Coleman and

Marcellina M. Coleman, of Salyersville.

Gregory Lee Whitetree II and

Vicky Ann Whitetree, of Rockhouse.

(See FILINGS, page three)

CHAMBER NOTES

Chamber Business Highlight, Dollar Tree

By Regina Becknell, Executive Director,
Floyd County Chamber of Commerce

The Floyd County Chamber of Commerce is pleased to welcome the Dollar Tree as its newest member. Dollar Tree became a Chamber member this past November. Mr. James VanHoose, manager, extends a cordial invitation to everyone to stop by the store, which is located in the Prestonsburg Shopping Village, adjacent to Big Lots.

The very first "everything for one-dollar" store was opened in 1986 in Dalton, Georgia, but now Dollar Tree Stores are spread throughout the United States. Everything in the store is \$1.00, there is nothing in the store priced over this amount. The variety of merchandise ranges from party goods for all occasions, health and beauty aids, home cleaning supplies, glassware, office supplies and books, food, toys, giftware, stationery, seasonal and more.

The Dollar Tree is open Monday through Saturday 9 am to 9 pm and Sunday 11 am to 6 pm. Call 889-9465 for questions, or stop by today for that last minute item. The Dollar Tree couples quick convenience with great prices.

(See NOTES, page three)

Kentucky's roads among Top 10 in nation

Submitted Story

Frankfort - Kentucky's road system has been ranked 9th among the states by an annual report conducted by the University of North Carolina at Charlotte (Ensuring Our Trust: Performance

of State Highway Systems, 1984-2001). The report compares the cost-effectiveness of state highway and bridge spending.

The nation's highway systems are improving but still vary widely in condition, according to the new report issued yesterday by Prof. David T. Hartgen. "Kentucky's overall rating continues its recent good performance: it's been rated 7th -14th since 1996, and was rated 10th last year," he said.

Hartgen reported that Kentucky's state-owned road system is the 8th largest in the nation with 27,573 miles. Its budget (\$1.39 B) is the 18th largest. "On a per mile basis, Kentucky spends less than most states, about 1/2 the national average, which is good for taxpayers. At the same time,

Kentucky has managed to improve its rural interstates and rural major roads, and reduce its mileage of urban interstate considered to be in poor condition to just 2.2 percent." Kentucky's administrative cost (\$45 m out of \$1.39 B) is 6th lowest in the nation.

However, congestion is increasing (Kentucky's urban interstate conges

(See ROADS, page three)

Institute

Leadership Institute," noted Dr. Jay K. Box, president and CEO of HCC. "When I first came here last July and met with residents in many communities, I often heard folks say this region needed to enhance the leadership skills of our youth. We know we need to start while they are young and that the college should be the provider of the leadership training," Dr. Box

Continued from p1

said, noting the slogan for the program is "growing the region's new leadership for tomorrow."

Those who are high school seniors now can obtain an application for the Institute from Steve Jones by calling him at 436-5721, ext. 8076 or 800-246-7521, ext. 8076 or Steve.Jones@kctcs.edu

Notes

Continued from p2

The Chamber currently serves a wide variety of businesses in Floyd County. If you are interested in learning more about Chamber benefits, call the Chamber office at 886-0364 or go online at www.floydcountykentucky.com. The Chamber is an excellent way to promote your business locally, as well as throughout the region.

The Floyd County Chamber of Commerce works diligently to build business-networking opportunities through our many Chamber events and co-sponsorships. Mark these upcoming dates on your calendar.

CHAMBER CALENDAR

Feb. 20 - Allen Central High School Leadership Tag and Career Options "Business After Hours", 5 to 7 pm at Allen Central

High School (Rita Osborne)

Feb. 25 - Fourth Annual Big Sandy Women's Symposium, 9 to 3 at the Jenny Wiley Wilkinson-Stumbo Convention Center

Feb. 26 - Education Committee Meeting, 3 pm at Floyd Co. Cooperative Extension Office: Chuck Stamper, Chair 886-2668

Feb. 28 - Government/Civic Affairs Committee Meeting, 1:30 pm at Chamber Office (113 South Central Ave.): Mary Begley, Chair 606-432-2593

Mar. 10th - Membership Meeting, 12 noon at Jenny Wiley State Resort Park Lodge.

Call the Chamber for information on any of these upcoming business events.



Employee of the Semester
Glenna Fletcher, right, who works in academics at the Lees College Campus, is honored as the "Employee of the Semester" at Hazard Community College. Dr. Jay K. Box, left, president and CEO of HCC, recognized Ms. Fletcher for her dedication to students and hard work.

New

Continued from p2

the school's EagleCard. The EagleCard allows more than 9,000 students and 1,000-plus faculty and staff to use photocopy machines, student laundry facilities, computer lab printing services, drink and snack machines, and purchase meals, without cash. The EagleCard is the official MSU identification card, and is used as a U.S. Bank ATM card, both on and off campus.

"We expect further growth with MSU," said Joyce Messer, branch manager of U.S. Bank near the MSU campus.

"Hundreds of students opened up a free U.S. Bank Student Checking Account at the beginning of this school year, because it has many perks, including the financial aid refund direct deposit, and free Internet banking."

Located in the foothills of the Daniel Boone National Forest, Morehead State University has more than 9,000 students enrolled in 91 undergraduate degree programs, and 36 graduate-level programs. Kentucky's "University of the Mountains" employs more than 300 full-time faculty.

Knott

Continued from p1

dean of the Kentucky School of Craft. It was cold and everyone got wet.

"I am constantly amazed at the dedication of our college's faculty and staff to do what it takes to serve our students, whether it is giving up meals, time for ourselves and our family, our personal finances, etc. And, in the midst of the clean-up everyone had a pretty good time working together. I just want to thank these people for their efforts and at the same time pat all of you on the back," noted Ron Daley, Knott County Branch director.

"The compliment we like most was the observation by students and faculty that they did not know our facilities were flooded because of the effective clean up. We had fun doing the work and it was a team building exercise. And, it is always nice when faculty and staff work side by side with

students. We look forward to our new facility which should be ready this summer and be occupied in the fall semester. The Opportunity Center is out of flood harm's way," Daley said.

Filings

Continued from p2

- Joey Branham, of Dorton.
- William T. Nichols, of Jeremiah.
- Thomas M. Wright and Laura E. Wright, of Jenkins.
- David Holbrook, of Ermine.
- Della F. Pack, of Prestonsburg.
- Juanita Rose, of Neon.
- Noble D. Bates, of Whitesburg.
- Brenton R. Moore, of Lovely.
- Sherry Justice, of Regina.
- David Minth, of Jenkins.

Chapter 13

- Under Chapter 13 bankruptcy, the debtor arranges to repay debt.
- James E. Slone and Kimberly K. Slone, of Hueysville.
- Hatler D. Kiser and Cheryl J. Kiser, of Jenkins.
- Harold Gene Hall and Tammy Lynn Hall, of Melvin.
- Ralph Fields, of Whitesburg.

AAA

Continued from p2

and stands ready to support government action against companies that unfairly profit from any future national emergency."

The industry has blamed tensions in the Middle East and a strike in Venezuela that has crippled that nation's petroleum industry. Venezuela is one of the largest exporters of crude to the United States.

John Felmy, chief economist at the American Petroleum Institute, which represents the U.S. oil industry, said any suggestion of price gouging is "inappropriate." He said that retail gasoline prices are simply tracking the rising cost of crude oil. The wholesale price of a barrel of light sweet crude was \$36.10 Thursday, up

Wells

Continued from p1

Charles Wells and his wife, Carlos are thankful for the hand-up and the opportunity for a better life for themselves and their families. Accepting the check were Bob Bays, Chair of the BSEF Board and Dr. George Edwards, President of Prestonsburg Community College and CEO for the Big Sandy Community and Technical College District.

If you would like to establish an endowed scholarship, contact Jean Dorton at 606-886-3863 ext. 3350 or email her at jean.dorton@kctcs.edu. You can make a difference in the life of someone by offering a hand-up.

HCC

Continued from p1

course are medical terminology and abbreviations, quality assurance procedures, laboratory safety rules and procedures, specimen processing, laboratory automation, and basic immunology. This course introduces the student to the various laboratory departments.

In order to enroll, simply complete the HCC application process and register for classes. For more information, contact Deborah Campbell at 606-436-5721, extension 553.



Hayes awarded Floyd Co. NWTF scholarship

by STEVE leMASTER SPORTS EDITOR

MARTIN - Allen Central High School senior Shellie Hayes has been selected as the 2003 recipient of the Floyd County NWTF (National Wild Turkey Federation) chapter scholarship.

The Floyd County chapter announced Hayes as the recipient at its regularly monthly meeting on February 6 at Martin City Hall.

"It was a hard choice to make from so many qualified seniors," said chapter spokesman Paul Robinson. "We would like to congratulate miss Hayes and wish her and all other Floyd County high school seniors who'll head off to college in the fall the very best. We appreciate all of the applicants' participation with the scholarship."

In addition to being a stand-out in the classroom, Hayes has also kept up with other extracurricular activities during her high school time, including, but not limited to softball and cheerleading.

CEO

Continued from p1

Kentucky," Edwards said "We must all work together to assure the future of students in our educational

institutions at all levels across Kentucky." The group endorsed a resolution calling for the Governor and state legislators to continue to fund education and to assure the continued quality of the educational process through appropriate funding.

Gary Damron Promotions presents, at the MAC, "An Evening with Gaither Homecoming Artists"

The Martins didn't really intend to make their lives in music. But with prodigious talents for singing given by a gracious God, and the determination of a musical mother intent on seeing her offspring use those gifts to the fullest, their collective destiny was surely forged before they were even born.

The youngsters' roots were firmly and proudly planted in the Southern Gospel tradition, and to this day they still readily pour forth dazzling deliveries of countless classics-deeply reverential and respectful, while still brimming with imagination and innovation. Not surprisingly, a broader range of influences entered their musical mix as The Martins became young adults, and on their seventh and newest Spring Hill release, "Windows," they deliver a collection of 11 songs that is nothing short of stunning.

As always, The Martins surprise and delight at every turn. The infectious acoustic guitars of "Because God's Good" to the down-home Gospel fervor of "Mighty God," and all points in between, are all only small sips out of the deep well of diversity from which the group - Joyce Martin McCollough, Judy Martin Hess, and Jonathan Martin - draw more deeply than ever.

"I think our music combines elements that are both familiar and unexpected," says Joyce. "We attribute that entirely to the Lord, because we don't sit down and plan our albums to be any

particular sound or mix. We just look for songs with lyrics that really speak to us personally and great music that we can seriously sink our teeth into. Our record label is wonderful about turning us loose to make a song our own. Whatever goes down on tape in the studio is just what evolves in that creative process. We never push any song in any one direction. Our sound has just become what it is on its own over the years."

The Martins' lives, as well as their business organization, are closely intertwined in various capacities with the extended family. With a lifestyle that often finds the trio's spouses and children either on the road with them, or at their respective homes in Arkansas and Tennessee awaiting the return of their loved ones for a break in the group's busy touring schedule, Joyce, Jonathan and Judy each have unique but complimentary views of the journey and mission they've undertaken.

"The Martins is very much a ministry - but the word 'ministry', by itself, can sound a little cold, or even cliched," she says. "And it can become that way if you don't work at staying close

to the One who sent you, and accountable to those you're close to. We want to see people reached and their lives changed by the Lord, and we want that to be a passionate experience. We want the audience to know it's us they hear singing, but it's Christ they feel touching them and moving in them. It's a powerful thing, and there's nothing else like it in the world."

Reminiscing about a time when music was a passion, but still a pastime in their lives, Joyce perfectly summarizes the odyssey of The Martins, one of the truly great groups to emerge in Christian music in the '90s.

"When I was a junior in high school, I remember our parents sitting us all down and telling us that God had put it on their hearts to ask us what we wanted to do with our lives," she says. "Was singing and music ministry going to be a hobby or a full-time commitment? There was no pressure or judgment from them - just a straightforward question. I had already mapped out my plans for college, graduate school, and life as a teacher. I'd never for a moment considered music as a career. But as we talked and prayed about it, we all had a

peace with it. Over the years, God has just kept confirming: 'You're on the right track. Keep walking. Keep walking.' So we have. We've felt His hand on us every step of the way, and it's been the time of our lives."

Teddie Leigh Frazier will be the featured "special guest," of the Martins during their March 8 performance at the MAC. Teddie Leigh is a local entertainer who carries the message of God in her heart as well as on her lips.

The Martins, and featured special guest Teddie Leigh Frazier, will appear at the Mountain Arts Center on Saturday, March 8 at 7 pm. Tickets: \$15 in advance/\$17.50 at the door.

Call 886-2623 for tickets or toll free at 1-888-MAC-ARTS.

Roads

Continued from p2

tion is 32nd, at 49.8%). Kentucky still has a relatively high percentage of narrow lanes on major rural roads (14.9%), its fatality rate is still relatively high (37th), and its number of deficient bridges (36th) is still higher than the national averages, Hartgen reported. "So, while progress has been made, Kentucky still has work to do. Kentucky's citizens should be pleased with the progress so far and confident that it will continue...."

In a new analysis, the report also estimates the cost of bringing all states up to current national average conditions, and urges Congress to assist the states in meeting these targets. Kentucky would receive about \$1.06 billion over 6 years in such a program, primarily for bridge repairs and rural lane widening. About \$35 billion would be needed over 6 years to bring all states up to the current US averages, the report found.

The top 10 states, rated by cost-effectiveness of their state highway systems, are:

- 1 - North Dakota; 2 - Wyoming; 3 - South Carolina; 4 - Georgia; 5 - Idaho; 6 - Nevada; 7 - Oregon; 8 - Montana; 9 - Kentucky; 10 - Alabama.

At the bottom: 44 - California; 45 - New York; 46 - Michigan; 47 - Arkansas; 48 - Hawaii; 49 - Massachusetts; 50 - New Jersey.

View the full report "Ensuring our Trust: Performance of State Highway Systems, 2001" at www.geo.earth.uncc.edu/faculty/hartgen.com.

Public Advisory

FRANKFORT - Customers whose electric meter installations (meter base) were damaged in the ice storm need to have the meter installation repaired before power can be restored to their home or business.

The meter base is the square or rectangular box on which the meter itself is mounted. It belongs to the property owner. The meter itself - the circular, glass-enclosed portion that attaches to the meter base - is the property of the utility company.

Customers with damaged

meters or meter installations should take the following steps:

Notify the utility company that the meter base and/or meter is damaged. The utility can then make sure that the line is not energized until repairs are completed.

In the event that only the meter itself is damaged, contact the utility to have it repaired or replaced and your service restored.

Contact an electrician to repair the meter base. The repair work can be done prior to power being restored in an area, thus eliminating any additional delays.

The electrician will obtain the proper meter base from the utility. Some utilities impose no charge for the meter base, but the customer will bear the installation cost.

Have the repairs inspected by a state-certified inspector working for your local government. The electrician should be able to help arrange the inspection.

Notify the utility when the repairs are complete and have been approved. A utility technician will install a new meter and restore the power.

Keep all repair records and contact your property insurer.

Women

Continued from p2

Services, Inc., Coca-Cola Bottling Company, Family Bank, Highlands Regional Medical Center, Morgan-Stanley and Walker Communications, Inc. Special arrangements for the disabled will be made if requested in advance by contacting the MSU EKSBCD, 3455 N. Mayo Trail, Suite #4 in Pikeville.

Registration details and additional information are available by calling Judy Hankins, training coordinator, at (606) 432-5848, or by e-mail to judhank@yahoo.com.

Award

Continued from p1

the Faculty New Horizon Award.

Forrest and his wife, Patricia Lynn, reside at Harold with their two children, Michael Ross and Samantha Page. Joe attended Morehead State University where he received a B.S. Degree in Industrial Education. He has been employed by Mayo Technical College for eighteen years. His favorite pastime is flying which he pursues as often as possible. He is well known in eastern Kentucky as an exemplary teacher and technician.

The New Horizon Awards represents excellence in teaching and/or leadership. It will be presented to one staff member and one faculty member chosen as system level winners on May 18, 2003. Every system level winner will receive \$1000. District Faculty awardees will receive funding to attend the 25th NISOD International Conference held in Austin, TX, May 25-28, 2003. All 32 District faculty and staff winners

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Donna's Day

Creative family fun

by Donna Erickson

Cream-puff hearts

Do you ever look through a bakery window or gaze at the sumptuous cover shots of gourmet magazines in the grocery checkout and automatically assume that the tempting desserts are probably impossible to prepare? Don't be fooled by the "fancy"!

Turn your kitchen into a pastry shop by following these simple steps for baking cream-



DAVID LAROCHELLE

puff hearts. Prep, bake and cleanup takes less than an hour ... wow! And when it's dessert time, the kids can fill them with fruit, whipped cream or pudding ... yum!

Here's how:

An adult can heat 1 cup water with 1/2 cup butter or margarine to a rolling boil in a saucepan. Stir in 1 cup flour over low heat until the mixture is smooth and forms a ball. Place in a mixing bowl. Help your child crack 4 eggs into the bowl, then beat with an electric mixer. At first the mixture will look like scrambled eggs. Continue beating a few seconds longer until smooth.

Meanwhile, draw 12 3-by-3-inch heart shapes with a pencil on two sheets of parchment paper cut to fit two cookie sheets. Press hard enough as you draw so that you can see the hearts on the reverse side. (If you need a pattern for drawing the hearts, cut out a heart on an index card, or simply use a similar-size cookie cutter.) Turn the papers over and lay on cookie sheets. Drop large spoonfuls of dough onto the center of each heart. Let your kids spread the dough with their fingers to make the shapes. After practice, I discovered that the top "V" of the heart should be extra-wide and low to compensate for the expansion of the dough. The bottom "V" shape of the heart should be narrow and pointed.

Bake in a preheated, 375-degree F oven for 25 minutes or until slightly puffed and golden. Cool.

To serve, slice each heart horizontally. Fill the inside with whipped cream or pudding. Top with fresh, sliced strawberries cut vertically to reveal heart shapes. Drizzle chocolate sauce on top or, for a lighter touch, let your preschooler dust with a strainer filled with confectioner's sugar.



SPICE UP BEANS WITH FLAVOR OF CARIBBEAN

Time was when, for too many, cooked dry beans meant three-bean-salad or baked beans. That's changing, fortunately, as we become aware of the vast variety of beans available, their versatility and low-cost nutrition, and the cuisine of other cultures.

Let's consider nutrition. This complex carbohydrate is the only food listed in both protein and vegetable sections of the USDA Food Pyramid. Beans provide protein, calcium, vitamins, iron and zinc, as well as fiber. They are an excellent alternative to meat or fish.

Buy them dry and go through a long soaking and cooking process, or, more wisely, buy canned cooked beans ready for the saucepan, stockpot or salad bowl. Mash them, season them and you've got a sandwich spread.

Katy Heck, James Beard award-winning chef and founder of the New World Grill in New York City, developed Caribbean One-Pot Stew for Bush's Best of Bush Bros. & Co. And they're letting us pass it along. Dark red kidney beans are combined with sweet potatoes instead of whites, pork, veggies and lots of Caribbean flavoring. It's an excellent family meal, but it's also ideal for a buffet dinner party.

CARIBBEAN ONE-POT STEW

- 1 pound sweet potatoes (about 2 medium)
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 tablespoons minced ginger
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/4 jalapeno, minced
- 2 ribs celery, diced
- 1 green bell pepper, diced
- 1 small onion, diced
- 1 pound pork loin, cut in 1/2-inch pieces
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 3 (16-ounce) cans Bush's Dark Red Kidney beans
- 1 (14-ounce) can diced tomatoes
- 1 (14 1/2-ounce) can chicken broth
- 1 cup chopped pineapple
- 2 scallions, sliced
- 2 tablespoons chopped cilantro

1. Pierce sweet potatoes with fork and microwave on HIGH 5 to 8 minutes, until tender. Set aside. When cool enough to handle, peel and cut into 1/2-inch cubes. OR, boil potatoes till tender but still firm.

(See **BLOCK**, page five)

THE CHOPPING BLOCK

by Philomena Corradeno

Comfort foods

Made fast and healthy

by JoAnna M. Lund

We now have more winter behind us than before us, but it sure seems like a long, long time before we see spring. Here in the Midwest, our

Cabin fever feast

days are still short and cold and will be for several more weeks. We need some comforting soup NOW to see us through.

COZY CABIN VEGETABLE SOUP

- 2 cups water
- 4 cups chopped cabbage
- 1 cup shredded loose-packed frozen potatoes
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 1 (12-fluid-ounce) can evaporat-

- ed fat-free milk
- 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon dried parsley flakes
- 1/8 teaspoon black pepper
- 2 tablespoons chopped real bacon bits
- 1/4 cup grated reduced-fat Parmesan cheese

In a large saucepan, combine water, cabbage, potatoes and onion.

(See **FOODS**, page five)

Dear Diane...

A beautiful fairytale story

DEAR DIANE:

I just want to tell you about one of the greatest guys around. When I met "Jerry," I was 23, going through a divorce, living with my family and sleeping on a couch in the living room.

My self-esteem was almost nil, although I knew I was doing the right thing in getting out of a bad relationship. I was completely honest with Jerry about the divorce and the feelings I was having. I told him that I didn't see myself getting into a serious relationship for some time.

Was I ever wrong about that!

Never has anyone made me feel so good about being myself. As Jerry and I spent time together, a solid relationship grew and blossomed into love.

Although he was very busy attending college and working full time, he's always found time to be with me. He has spent many hours helping me find the person I wanted to be. He always remembers our special days and often surprises me with small things, showing me he cares.

Our relationship has had its beautiful moments and its not-so-great times, but Jerry has taught me that when two people really love each other, they never let go. He has taught me that although love takes work, the benefits are well worth it. He has shown me that it's OK to live, love and trust again.

This coming July, we will be married. It is with pride and joy that I look forward to being his wife.

— A FAIRYTALE PRINCESS
IN FORT WORTH

DEAR PRINCESS:

What a beautiful story. Thank you so much for sharing it with my readers.

When I asked all of you to send in great stories about that special man in your life, I had no idea the response would be so huge.

It is encouraging to see that although I receive many letters from women complaining about the men in their lives, there seem to be an equal number of you out there who have found someone special.

What makes a headache a migraine

DEAR DR. DONOHUE:

How do you tell if you have migraine headaches? What makes them different? I have headaches frequently, but I can still work when I have one. Could these be migraines, and what can I take for them if they are? — Y.R.

ANSWER:

Experts have established a set of criteria that puts a diagnosis of migraine headaches on solid ground.

Here are

some of those

criteria:

Migraines last

anywhere from

four to 72

hours. They

are usually

one-sided

affairs, and the

headache often

has a pulsating

quality. Migraines

make a person want

to retreat to a dark,

quiet room. Noise and

light intensify the

pain. Migraines usually

limit a person from

doing usual chores and

often make work

attendance impossible.

Nausea and vomiting

are frequent companions

of the headache.

Some migraine

sufferers have an aura

before the onset of the

headache. The aura

might be a visual

phenomenon like seeing

shimmering, squiggly

lines or developing a

blind spot in the center

of vision.

Migraine triggers

abound, and they are

helpful in establishing

the nature of a person's



by Paul G. Donohue, M.D.

quality. Migraines make a person want to retreat to a dark, quiet room. Noise and light intensify the pain. Migraines usually limit a person from doing usual chores and often make work attendance impossible. Nausea and vomiting are frequent companions of the headache.

Some migraine sufferers have an aura before the onset of the headache. The aura might be a visual phenomenon like seeing shimmering, squiggly lines or developing a blind spot in the center of vision.

Migraine triggers abound, and they are helpful in establishing the nature of a person's

(See **HEALTH**, page five)

Chicken Soup for the Soul: The visit

Tre' M. Barron

(FROM "CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE VETERAN'S SOUL")

Reprinted by permission of Tre' M. Barron. (c)1998 Tre' M. Barron.

My Dad, Angelo, was in the hospital in Tacoma, Wash. A former Marine and veteran of the Korean War, he was having his third knee-replacement surgery.

A long and very painful operation was going to be made even worse because Dad was going through it alone. There was no one to hold his hand, no familiar soft voices to reas-

sure him. His wife was ill and unable to accompany him or even visit during his weeklong stay. My sisters and brother lived in California, and I lived even farther away, in Indiana. There wasn't even anyone to drive him to the hospital, so he had arrived that morning by cab. The thought of my dad lying there alone was more than I could stand. But what could I do from here?

I picked up the phone and called

information for the Puyallup, Wash., Marine Corps recruiting station, where I joined the Marines 10 years before. I thought that if I could talk to a Marine and explain the situation, maybe one of them would visit my dad.

I called the number. A man answered the phone, and in a very confident voice said:

"United States Marines, Sgt. Van-es. May I help you?"

Feeling just as certain, I replied,

"Sgt. Van-es, you might find this request a little strange, but this is why I am calling" I proceeded to tell him who I was and that my father was also a former Marine and 100 percent disabled from the Korean War. I explained that he was in the hospital, alone, without anyone to visit, and I asked if Sgt. Van-es would please go and see him.

Without hesitation, he answered, "Absolutely."

Then I asked, "If I send flowers to the recruiting station, would you deliver them to my dad when you go to the hospital?"

"Ma'am, I will be happy to take the flowers to your dad. I'll give you my address. You send them, and I will make sure that he receives them," he replied.

The next morning, I sent the flowers to Sgt. Van-es' office just as we had planned. I went to work, and that evening I returned home and phoned my dad to inquire about his surprise visitor.

If you have ever talked with a small child after that child has just seen Santa Clause, you will understand the

(See **SOUP**, page five)

Books: My Love Affair With Jewelry

Elizabeth Taylor: My Love Affair With Jewelry
by Elizabeth Taylor and Ruth A. Peltason, photographs by John Bigelow Taylor
(Simon & Schuster, \$65)
Reviewed by C. Bijoux

The last thing I expected from Elizabeth Taylor was whopping good stories. This narrative, with 125 full-color pages of jewelry and 150 photos of Miss Taylor wearing it, takes us through the merrier and infamous passages in the life of this 20th-century diva.

Miss Taylor describes herself as a walking museum, and argues convincingly that her public exposure of important jewelry provides more of a public benefit than a museum display. The stories of how she acquired each piece presented range from romantic to riotously romantic. How many women find a box containing a large ruby ring in the bottom of their Christmas stocking? Or, after being thrilled to buy imitation diamond chandelier earrings, has a husband who has them reproduced in genuine diamonds?

Men love to give this woman jewelry, and her evident delight shows why. Many of these gifts are shown, such as the staggeringly beautiful 33-carat Asscher-cut Krupp, and La Peregrina, one of the finest pear-shaped pearls in the world. Then there is the Duchess of Windsor's Prince of Wales aigrette (feather) brooch of diamonds, which Miss Taylor herself bought for \$623,000 in 1987 at the famous auction of the duchess's jewelry. Her philosophy: "I'm fortunate to have some very important pieces of jewelry. I don't

believe I own any of the pieces. I believe that I am their custodian, here to enjoy them, to give them the best treatment in the world, to watch after their safety, and to love them. "We enjoy each other. I think it's because each piece has meaning for me, and the memory of a piece of jewelry always brings back a stab of joy and love." Books reviewed in this column are available at your local bookstore. (c) 2003 King Features Synd., Inc.

Ski fit, ski safe



Skiing can be enjoyable and great fun, but not if you are sore or become injured. Before tackling the ski slopes this winter, make sure you are prepared for the stresses that skiing can impose on your body. Modifying your current workout or beginning a new one to prepare for a future skiing adventure can be quite beneficial. Cardiovascular and muscular endurance, flexibility, balance and agility are all important to remember when training for skiing. A great book to help you prepare for your next ski trip is "Ski Flex" by Paul Frediani and Harald Harb (Hatherleigh Press). Specific programs for flexibility and conditioning for skiing are described in great detail.

A very useful section of the book explains what mechanics and muscles are used when completing turns. It also shows why it is so important to make sure those muscles are strong and flexible, and how it can make your skiing more efficient and effective. Another important part of the book explains stretches and warm-ups that can be done once you are on the slopes, both with and without your skis. These exercises are to help prevent injury and to properly warm up your muscles for what's ahead. If you're looking for a great reference on improving your skiing, "Ski Flex" is an excellent addition to your fitness library. Proper safety is often overlooked when skiing. The proper equipment, attire and knowledge of basic skiing skills can help avoid accidents and injuries. The following tips are recommended for a safe ski outing. Consult a ski professional on the proper boots, bindings, skis and poles to use. If you are not sure if your equipment is right for you, ask a professional. Take a lesson from a ski professional to learn the basics of stopping, turning and general etiquette on the slopes. This can help you and other skiers stay safe. Listen to your body. If you are tired, take time to rest. Often injuries and accidents occur when the body is tired and unable to react as quickly as when you are well-rested. Plan for an enjoyable, injury-free ski trip this winter by incorporating ski-specific training into your workout.

A cockroach has 6 legs and 18 knees

- Rats are well-known for gnawing endlessly on anything they can find. Most people don't realize, however, that there's a physiological reason for this behavior. Constant gnawing wears down the rat's teeth; if they were allowed to grow unchecked, the lower teeth would grow into the animal's upper jaw, eventually penetrating the brain and killing the rat.
- An outdated Michigan law stated that it was illegal for a woman to lift her skirt more than 6 inches while walking through a mud puddle.
- To date, the fastest typist recorded managed to type 216 words per minute. The error rate isn't mentioned, however.
- A cockroach has six legs and 18 knees.
- Astronauts can't cry properly in space

Strange BUT TRUE

- there's no gravity, so the tears can't run down their cheeks.
- When Sacramento, Calif., was founded, it was called New Helvetia.
- You think luxury liners are a relatively modern development? Think again. In 250 B.C., the Syracuse, the largest merchant ship of its time, had a library, a gymnasium, spacious suites, heated freshwater baths and stables for 20 horses.
- Diet-Rite Cola was once sold only in the medicine sections of stores.

- In Japanese, "kara" means "empty," hence two well-known words in use in English: "karate" -- "empty hand" and "karaoke" -- "empty voice."
 - A city in Switzerland once had a law banning the practice of slamming car doors.
 - America's first black governor took office as early as 1872; that was when Pinckney Benton Stewart Pinchback became acting governor of Louisiana.
 - Actor/director Orson Welles' father created the World War II mess kit.
- Thought for the Day:** "It is only the superficial qualities that last. Man's deeper nature is soon found out." -- Oscar Wilde

Ports of call: 700-year-old castle welcomes guests

Langley Castle in the Northumbrian region of England, way up there by Scotland, dates back almost 700 years. Edward III was king when the castle was begun in 1350 by Sir Thomas De Lucy, a trusted captain of the king who built the fortress largely to keep out the plundering Scots. Today, the Scots can just wander in for a friendly visit. When you, too, wander in, you might be content with a sumptuous meal in the one of the candlelit stone alcoves at Josephine's, featuring the best of local fare. You might be delighted just to take a turn about the 10-acre grounds or set out for the age-old lands of Northumberland, home to Hadrian's Wall and generations of coal mining. You might be perfectly happy to toast your toes before the open fire, beneath the stained-glass windows and nestled within the comfy cushions of the drawing room while enjoying a drink from the oak-paneled bar. Or, if you're like me, you'll want the whole shebang -- all these, and a night or

two between the 7-foot-thick stone walls of the medieval castle's bedchambers to boot. Each guest room is named for one of the numerous owners throughout the castle's history. You can choose from the Cadwallader Room, the Josephine Room, the Radcliffe Room, the Percy Room, the De Lucy Room, the Greenwich Room and more. There are four-poster beds, recessed window seats, mullioned windows -- everything to put you in the mind of a time long gone. Except for the ensuite bathrooms, showers and occasional spa baths -- those are kind of an anachronism. But who's arguing? One very unusual medieval remnant is ancient latrines. Yes, this place actually had "garderobes," primitive toilets, sort of filling the southwest tower, four on each floor. Langley Castle is named for the Langley Barony, which reaches back to the 12th century, 200 years before the castle was built. The history of its ownership is a turbulent one of forfeiture, inheritance, confiscation, execution and purchase. Owners of note

include the Earls of Derwentwater, to whom the property came in the early 18th century. Both earls were executed for their parts in the Jacobite uprisings of 1715. The castle's current condition is due in great part to Cadwallader John Bates, a former county sheriff who started its restoration in 1882, and his wife, Josephine, who kept the fixes going after his death. Here's a little trivia: Which Shakespearean history play featured the Percy family, who became owners of Langley Castle once Lady Langley married Henry Percy, first Earl of Northumberland? For more information on Langley Castle Hotel, go to www.langleycastle.com or e-mail info@langleycastle.com. (Trivia answer: "Henry IV") Send comments, ideas or tips to portsofcall2001@aol.com, or send letters c/o KFWS, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. (c) 2003 King Features Synd., Inc.

Coupon cutter: Mexican Fiesta



The winter months just beg for some kind of celebration, so why not have a Mexican fiesta on a night of your choosing. Try hosting a make-your-own quesadilla, taco or nacho party, and let your guests decide what type of fillings and toppings they want. Fill bowls with shredded chicken, seasoned ground beef, different varieties of cheese, salsa, sour cream and ranch toppings, in addition to lettuce, tomatoes and onions. You can start with easy appetizers such

as chili-cheese and salsa-cheese dips. To make the chili dip, add a 15-oz. can of chili with beans to 1 pound of cubed, processed American cheese such as Velveeta. Microwave on high for 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. For a salsa dip, substitute 8 oz. of prepared salsa for the chili. Here are this week's coupon savings: Taco Bell offers a 75-cent coupon on any two jars of salsa. Expires March 31. Old El Paso has a 75-cent coupon on any two Taco Shells or Dinner Kits and a 50-cent coupon on any jar of salsa. Expires March 16. Tostitos has a 55-cent coupon on any two of its salsa or cheese dips. It also offers a \$1 coupon with purchase of a 12- or 24-pack Pepsi product and one 12-oz. bag of Tostito Gold tortilla chips. Coupons expire

Feb. 28. Chi-Chi's has a 55-cent coupon on any 15-oz. or larger jar of salsa. Expires March 2. Save 50 cents on any two cans of Hormel chili. Expires March 2. Jose Ole offers a 75-cent coupon on any frozen Mexican food item 10.6 oz. or larger, and a \$1 coupon on any four burritos or chimichangas. Expires April 12. Save \$1 on any two jalapeno Popper frozen snacks. Expires April 30. McCormick has a 35-cent coupon on any two packages of taco seasoning. Expires April 30. Save 50 cents on any two packages of Kraft cheese, any variety. Expires March 31. (c) 2003 King Features Synd., Inc.

This Is a Hammer

Getting the Lawn Ready

I want to get my lawn in top shape this year, but my neighbor tells me spring is too late to start making improvements. He says I should have started last fall. What do you say? Can I get a nice, green lawn this year? -- Edward J., Waycross, Ga.

Spring isn't late at all if you're thinking of rehabilitating your lawn. However, starting a few weeks early is a great way to assess the current state of the grass and put together a plan for developing a healthy lawn this growing season. Your neighbor was right in the

sense that lawn care is a year-round task. Many homeowners will clear thatch and put down seed in the fall, as soon as the weather turns cold. The soil is aerated more thoroughly without thatch cover, and the seeds will sprout and grow more rapidly in early spring. Late February is a perfect time to go out and analyze the dormant grass, its underlying thatch and any potential trouble spots. This is also a good time to take a soil sample and have it analyzed. Why a soil analysis? Because the results will tell you not only what plants will thrive in the type of soil under your lawn, but what type of fertilizer to use -- and how much. Overfertilizing can scorch the grass, and excess fertilizer will run off into lakes and streams, causing all sorts of problems.

Send the sample to your county's U.S. Dept. of Agriculture office for an inexpensive analysis. To locate the nearest office, visit its Web site at www.usda.gov and click on "USDA Offices" in the top menu. In that page, "County Office Locator" is the bottommost selection on the left. You can also call the local USDA office; the number should be listed in the blue government pages of your phone book. Once the weather moves consistently above freezing, go over the entire lawn with a thatch rake and thin out the amount of dead grass and dried leaves between the root system and the soil, paying special attention to areas where grass has "mounded" over thatch. Reseed bare spots by loosening the soil slightly, scattering the grass seed as directed, watering the spot thoroughly, and scattering

straw or dead grass over it to protect the seed. Keep the soil in these areas from completely drying out. Fertilize the lawn in the spring, after the first mowing. (Don't mow the lawn until the grass is more than 2 inches high.) Water the lawn before spreading fertilizer, and don't do this task on windy or rainy days, or much of the product will be washed or blown away. Fertilize a second time in early June. HOME TIP Keep birds away from newly seeded spots by placing foot-high stakes along the boundaries and running string over the spots at random angles. Tie strips of aluminum foil onto the strings in various spots -- as they wave in the breeze, they will frighten the birds.

Block

2. Heat olive oil in large stockpot. Add ginger, garlic and jalapeno; sauté until soft, about 2 minutes. Add celery, green pepper and onion; cook until onion is translucent, about 5 minutes. Transfer vegetables to a bowl; keep warm.
3. Season pork with cumin, salt and black pepper. Add pork to stockpot, browning on all sides. When pork is browned, add celery-onion mixture, kidney beans, tomatoes, chicken broth and sweet potatoes; bring to boil. Reduce heat and simmer 25 to 30 minutes, or until pork is tender.
4. Meanwhile, prepare relish: Mix together pineapple, scallions and cilantro. Garnish

stew with relish. Serve with hot sauce, if desired. Makes 8 servings. *** NEW PRODUCT NEWS: French's has debuted a new product for the condiment shelf. It's a light mayonnaise -- GourMayo -- and is available in a plastic squeeze bottle in three low-fat flavors: Wasabi Horseradish, Sun-dried Tomato and Chipotle Chili. ... Heinz is now packaging its ketchup in upside down, easy-squeeze 20-ounce plastic bottles. The wide-capped bottle stores upside down, allowing fast and easy flow over foods. (c) 2003 King Features Synd., Inc.

Foods

Bring mixture to a boil. Lower heat and simmer for 10 minutes. In a covered jar, combine evaporated milk and flour. Shake well to blend. Pour milk mixture into cabbage mixture. Mix well to combine. Stir in parsley flakes, black pepper, bacon bits and Parmesan cheese. Lower heat and continue cooking until mixture

thickens and is heated through, stirring occasionally. Makes 4 (1 1/4-cup) servings. ■ Each serving equals: 169 calories, 1 g fat, 11 g protein, 29 g carb., 328 mg sodium, 3 g fiber; Diabetic Exchanges: 1 Fat-Free Milk, 1 Starch, 1 Vegetable. (c) 2003 King Features Synd., Inc.

Soup

glee I heard in my dad's voice. "I was just waking up when I thought I saw two Marines in their dress-blue uniforms standing at the foot of my bed," he told me excitedly. "I thought I had died and gone to heaven. But they were really there!" I began to laugh, partly at his excitement, but also because he didn't even mention his operation. He felt so honored: Two Marines he had never met took time out to visit an old Marine like him. He told me again and again how sharp they looked and how all the nurses thought he was so important. "But how did you ever get them to do that?" he asked me. "It was easy. We are all Marines, Dad, past and present; it's the bond."

After hanging up with my dad, I called Sgt. Van-es to thank him for visiting my dad. And to thank him for the extra things he did to make it special: wearing his dress-blue uniform, bringing another Marine along -- he even took a digital camera with him. He had pictures taken of the two Marines with my dad right beside his bed. That evening, he e-mailed them to me so I could see for myself that my dad was not alone and that he was going to be OK. As for the flowers, they hardly mattered, but I was glad for the opportunity to express my feelings. The card read: "Daddy, I didn't want just anyone bringing you flowers ... so I sent the World's Finest. Semper Fi."

Health

headaches. Alcohol, caffeine, chocolate, monosodium glutamate, some cheeses, cured meats, too much or too little sleep and overexertion are a few migraine provokers. The treatment for migraine headaches entered a new era with the appearance of triptan drugs. Zomig, Imitrex, Maxalt and Amerge are some brand names. They are prescription drugs, and they work well. Sometimes anti-inflammatory, pain-relieving drugs such as ibuprofen, naproxen and tolfenamic acid can stop a

migraine. The ergot drugs, which had been the only migraine drugs for many years, are still used with success. The newly published headache pamphlet details all headache varieties and their treatments. Readers can obtain a copy by writing: Dr. Donohue -- No. 901W, Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Send a check or money order (no cash) for \$4.50 with the recipient's printed name and address. Please allow four weeks for delivery. (c) 2003 King Features Synd., Inc.

Sunday Comics

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



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WWW.MAMASBOYZ.COM

BY JERRY CRAFT



96-page Mama's Boyz book: Send \$9.95 + \$3 shipping to Jerry Craft, PMB 114, 304 Main Ave, Norwalk, CT 06851

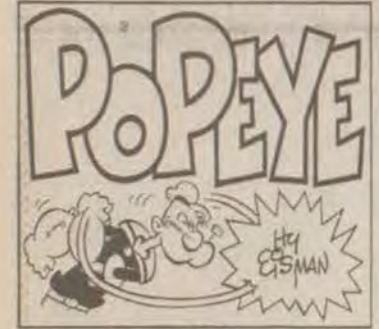


R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



Super Crossword PLACE NAMES



- ACROSS**
- 1 Golf stroke
 - 5 43,560 square feet
 - 9 Live on lettuce
 - 13 Word in a triangle
 - 18 Lotion additive
 - 19 Restaurateur Toots
 - 20 "Teen —" ('80 smash)
 - 22 Chou —
 - 23 Minnesota city
 - 25 Folklore figure
 - 26 Japanese dog
 - 27 Saint Catherine's home
 - 28 Groucho's gaze
 - 30 Shriver of tennis
 - 32 "— Alibi" ('89 film)
 - 33 The planes of Israel
 - 35 James or Place
 - 39 Connecticut city
 - 42 Virginia city
 - 46 Buffalo waterfront
 - 47 Directional suffix
 - 48 Owl's cry
 - 49 — plexus
 - 51 Tumbler
 - 55 "Bonanza" setting
 - 58 Farm vehicle
 - 60 Actress Berry
 - 61 "— Gay"
 - 62 Bellini opera
 - 63 Sausage
 - 66 Gaffer's gadget
 - 67 Tropical tree
 - 69 Mrs. Charlie Chaplin
 - 71 Ewe said it!
 - 72 Stink
 - 73 New York city
 - 75 Kentucky city
 - 78 Dorothy's dog
 - 79 — Aviv
 - 80 Wingding
 - 82 Condescend
 - 83 Yalie
 - 84 "— with Love" ('67 film)
 - 86 Fernando or Lorenzo
 - 88 Guitarist Eddy
 - 91 "Hi, Ho!"
 - 93 Guest
 - 95 — license
 - 96 "Olympia" artist
 - 97 Actress Adoree
 - 98 Oenophile's mecca
 - 100 Lennon's lady
 - 101 Biblical book
 - 103 California city
 - 107 New Jersey city
 - 110 Or — (threat words)
 - 111 Defeat by a knockout
 - 112 Castilian cry
 - 113 Catchall abbr.
 - 115 Landed
 - 118 Cunning
 - 122 Man of rare gifts?
 - 125 "Roots" writer
 - 129 Wisconsin city
 - 131 Photo finish
 - 132 Dolphins' home
 - 133 Fairy tale fiend
 - 134 Marsh bird
 - 135 Selling point
 - 136 High time?
 - 137 Playwright Coward
 - 138 Org. founded in 1844
 - 5 Nile
 - 6 Braided bread
 - 7 Libertine
 - 8 — Stanley Gardner
 - 9 Mr. Hammar-skjold
 - 10 Hotel
 - 11 Self-esteem
 - 12 Work for a while
 - 13 Indeed
 - 14 Calligraphy supply
 - 15 Statesman Root
 - 16 Procrastinator's word
 - 17 Frank book
 - 21 Head
 - 24 Like Magic
 - 29 CSA soldier
 - 31 Damage
 - 34 Sony competitor
 - 36 Western Italian
 - 37 Jogger's gait
 - 38 Shining
 - 40 It falls but never breaks
 - 41 Composer Bartok
 - 42 Small songbird
 - 43 Entreaty
 - 44 Lorre role
 - 45 Grief
 - 47 Vane letters
 - 50 Antilles isle
 - 52 Engine part
 - 53 February forecast
 - 54 Pursue
 - 56 Battle site of 1836
 - 57 Freshwater fish
 - 59 Between three
 - 62 Letters
 - 64 Durban dough
 - 65 Behalf
 - 68 About
 - 70 Black piano key
 - 72 Trickster
 - 73 La —, CA
 - 74 Popeye's favorite shade?
 - 76 Helen Hunt Jackson
 - 77 Hound's handle
 - 78 Side
 - 81 They're out of this world
 - 84 Ryan's daughter
 - 85 Salon solution
 - 87 — League
 - 89 Singer Simone
 - 90 Word form for "environment"
 - 92 Present
 - 94 Harp —
 - 95 Head line?
 - 97 Beat
 - 99 Where kids eat
 - 102 Menlo Park monogram
 - 104 It's in the bag
 - 105 Pipe part
 - 106 A place with buzz?
 - 107 It may give you pause
 - 108 Nom de crime?
 - 109 Gnats and brats
 - 114 First base man?
 - 116 Spinks or Trotsky
 - 117 Desdemona's enemy
 - 119 Novelist O'Flaherty
 - 120 Carmen or Clapton
 - 121 Actress Ward
 - 123 When Seurat sweltered
 - 124 Postal abbr.
 - 126 — tzu
 - 127 Philips of "UH"
 - 128 Chinese principle
 - 130 "Fantasia" frame

MAGIC MAZE • KNOCK KNOCK

QSPLIEBYSVROLIF
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KIFCZWULARPMJHE
CKZEDRUMMINGXUS
QNC SLAMLPJGECZX
VTRIFTBPNLJHECA
GNIPPATYWVTRPNL
KNIGSTRIKEECBZX
WUAHSAICLRPOMLJ
IGEBDTINREMAHB
AYXWUKTTAEBULCS

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF

TERROR! THE SCARY! CREATURE TODAY

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

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

Bang Club Kick Stamp
Bash Drumming Nitpick Strike
Beat Fault Rat-a-tat Tapping
Belittle Hammer Slam

Answers to Crossword Puzzle and Magic Maze can be found on page A2

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24 HOURS

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210-Job Listings

AUXIER/ VAN LEAR AREA & MARTIN/DANA AREA. The Lexington Herald Leader has established early morning newspaper routes available in Auxier/Van Lear area. and Also Martin/Dana area. This routes takes approx. 3.5 hrs. daily. With an income potential of \$1,200 monthly. Dependable transportation and ability to be bonded required. Call 1-800-999-8881 ext. 3439 or 606-432-0030. *(2/28 sh All)

AVON

Make your own money, sign up for \$10. for limited time. Call Jancy at 886-2082.

220-Help Wanted

Pipeline Supervisors, Welders, Operators and Labors wanted: Pipeline Construction Company expanding to this area. Full time employees needed in the above trades, with good wages and health insurance provided. Drug screening Program and E.O.E. Please send resumes to: Arvilla Pipeline Construction Company Inc. P.O. Box 432, St. Marys WV. or fax (304) 665-2662, attention Charles Smith. (304) 665-2652. Serious, experienced applicants only please.*

MANPOWER TEMPORARY SERVICES

is now taking applications for the following positions. **GENERAL OFFICE CLERKS-1** year experience. **DATA ENTRY OPERATOR**-minimum of 6,000 keystrokes. Qualified applicants need to contact Manpower for an appointment. (606) 889-9710

FULL TIME GRILL COOK NEEDED.

Hours are 10 a.m. till 6 p.m. Seven days per week. Two days off weekly. Location: **StoneCrest Grill** at StoneCrest Golf Course, Prestonsburg, KY. Call for an interview: 606-297-2202 ask for Tammy Whittaker.*

DENTAL OFFICE RECEPTIONIST

We are seeking a highly motivated, attentive, flexible and friendly person for the position of receptionist at our dental office. Previous dental/medical office experience, computer skills and excellent communication skills are required. We offer desirable hours and benefits which include medical insurance, paid holidays, paid vacation, individual retirement plan and paid continuing education. If you possess these qualities and are seeking full or part-time employment please forward resume, references, recent photograph and salary requirements to the address below. All responses are kept strictly confidential.

Dental Office Receptionist PO Box 1078 Pikeville, KY 41502

DENTAL HYGIENIST

Immediate opening for dental hygienist, 2-4 days a week. No weekend or late evening hours. Applicant must hold a current Kentucky Dental Hygiene license and have current CPR certification. All responses are kept strictly confidential. Please send resume, recent photograph and salary requirements to:

Dental Hygienist PO Box 1078 Pikeville KY 4

FINANCIAL

380-Services

BECOME DEBT FREE! Cut payments without new loans. It's easy! 1 hr. approval. Call 1-800-517-3406.

MERCHANDISE

410-Animals

HOGS FOR SALE: Red, White & Blacks, theyweighs about 100 lbs. Call 285-5003.

420-Appliances

20 CUBIC FT. CHEST FREEZER G.E. used only 4 months, still under warranty, first \$300, buys it. 874-2581.

445-Furniture

ALMAR FURNITURE Huge selection of new sofa, chairs, dinettes, bedroom suites. Also plenty of used furniture and appliances. Call 874-0097.

ALLEN FURNITURE ALLEN, KY

Furniture, used appliances, living / bedroom suits, bunkbeds, and lots more! Call 874-9790.

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New & Used Furniture & Appliances @ unbelievable prices. Come in today for incredible savings. Shop At The Little Furniture Store & Save!! RT. #122, McDowell. Call 606-377-0143.

FOR SALE: LOVE-SEAT,

recliner, dinette set, table with 4 chairs. Call after 5:00 p.m. 285-5003

480-Miscellaneous

STEEL BUILDINGS- Winter Clearance, Factory Seconds. Repo's. 20x26, 25x34, 35x54 MAKE OFFERS Financing 1-800-222-6335.*

FIREWOOD FOR SALE:

Call 886-8350. (Ben Yates)

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Wolff Tanning Beds Flexible Financing Available Home Delivery FREE Color Catalog Call Today 1-800-939-8267 www.np.etstan.com

ITEMS FOR SALE

1) Jazzy 1120-200 electric Wheelchair, 1) Electric hospital bed with airflow mattress. 1) 3250 Watt Power generator. 1) Singer Quilt Binding Machine, 1) Thompson Upholstery machine. all in great condition. Call 874-2215.*

495-Want to Buy

Want To Buy-40-50 acres or more, 4-5 acres level land with or without house. In Prestonsburg or Paintsville Area. 606-642-3388.*

WANT TO BUY:

Good Electric Treadmill, newer model preferred. 452-2153.

REAL ESTATE

530-Houses

14x26 Cabin: furnished on 2 lots, Cumberland Land, Jabez Ky. \$12,000 call between 3 - 5 p.m. 358-4350.*

House and large parcel of level land

located Rt. 850, Hippo in Floyd County. Perfect for additional house seats \$65,000. Call 886-9846.*

3 BEDROOM HOUSE:

3 BEDROOM, 2 bath, 2 car garage. 2 storage buildings. Right Fork of Bull Creek, Prestonsburg. 874-5819 or 478-5080.*

HOUSE FOR SALE:

IN BETSY LAYNE AREA, 3 bedroom, possible land contract with down payment. Call after 5 p.m. 478-4378.

570-Mobile Homes

1999, MOBILE HOME 14X70, 3 Bedroom, central air and heat. 886-9263.

1996 OAKWOOD 14X76,

2 bedroom, 2 bath, deck, all appliances, must be moved. \$12,000 O.B.O. 606-946-2973.*

1999 Freedom 14x60,

2 Bedroom, furnished, ready to move in. set up on mobile home park. Located at Minnie, Ky \$19,000. 606-377-2032.*

RENTALS

610-Apartments

1 BEDROOM APARTMENT, on South Lake Drive, \$350 month plus utilities, Security deposit required. Days 886-8883 or evenings & weekends, 889-9396.

2 BEDROOM, APARTMENT,

fully furnished, utilities paid. 349-7285 leave message.

1 Bedroom Apartment.

Furnished \$325 month \$250 deposit. Utilities paid. Reference and lease required. 886-3154.*

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Available Immediately 1 & 2 BR apts. Free processing fees **PARK PLACE APARTMENTS** Rt. 114, Prestonsburg Section 8 welcome. Call (606) 886-0039 E.H.O

630-Houses

3 Bedroom House For Rent: 31 Auxier Heights Lane, 886-3552.*

2 BEDROOM IN PRESTONSBURG.

equipped kitchen. No HUD. 886-0825.*

3 BEDROOM HOUSE FOR RENT:

IN DAVID AREA, \$375 month, plus deposit, references required. HUD approved. 606-789-5129.*

VERY NICE 2 BEDROOM HOUSE

near PCC. Kitchen furnished. Lease and reference required. \$500 month, \$300 deposit. 886-3154.*

HOUSE: 4 ROOMS,

kitchen, bath laundry room, nice lot and neighborhood. 3 blocks from downtown, Prestonsburg, HUD approved. \$400 month, 859-498-1085. Available March 1st.*

LAKEVIEW VILLAGE:

A-Frame house, 2 Bedroom, 1 bath, living room, kitchette, \$500 month, Deposit required. 432-2584 or 791-4116.*

HOUSE: 3 BEDROOM,

1 BATH, located on Abbott. \$480 month plus utilities. 886-1054.*

MOBILE HOME LOT FOR RENT:

In Martin Area, \$150 month, 285-9112 or 285-3625.*

650-MOBILE HOMES

3 BEDROOM, 1 BATH, ON COW CREEK, \$375 month plus utilities. References and Security deposit required. Excellent condition. 606-874-2802.

MOBILE HOMES, HOUSES AND APARTMENTS:

2 & 3 Bedroom available. References and Deposits required. No pets. 889-9747 or 886-9007.

FOR RENT: 1 BEDROOM Trailer,

near Clark Elementary, 478-9993.*

2 B.R. 2 BA. Mobile Home,

located at Minnie. Appliances included. \$375 rent, \$375 dep. Also Two, 2 B.R. 1 BA. Mobile Homes, \$350 rent, \$350 dep. 606-478-5173.*

1998 2 BEDROOM MOBILE HOME,

minutes from Prestonsburg, must see to appreciate. \$350 month, \$200 deposit. No pets. 874-9488.*

SERVICES

705-Construction

ALL TYPES: Remodeling & additions, garages, decks, etc. Also concrete work. Robie Johnson, Jr., call anytime, 886-8896.

Notices

812-Free

FREE PALLETS: Can be picked up behind The Floyd County Times.

815-Lost & Found

REWARD OFFERED for 4 Boxer, 1 year females, 3 boy puppies, last seen Feb. 5th on Beach Road at Talcum in Knott County, 251-3574. Owner misses them very much.

875-Public Notices

Attention: Kentucky Medicaid Recipients- Electric Wheelchair at no cost to you! 800-225-4336.*

IF THEY SEE IT, YOU'LL SELL IT

Introducing 'Wheel & Deal,' a new photo classified service of The Floyd County Times. We'll place a photo and description of your car in our new Friday automotive section, Rollin', for only \$10 for two weeks. We're so sure you'll sell your vehicle that if you don't, we'll give you another two weeks, ABSOLUTELY FREE!

(No dealers, please.) Call 886-8506 and ask to speak to Jenny for details. (If you don't have a picture of your car, don't worry. Just bring it buy our office and we'll snap a shot for NO ADDITIONAL COST!

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TRAINEE POSITION

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Floyd County Times

263 S. Central Ave., Prestonsburg

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PUBLIC NOTICE

EDWARD TURNER REFUSE FIRE

KY-03-012

MCDOWELL, FLOYD COUNTY, KENTUCKY

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The United States of America, acting by and through the Department of the Interior, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM), pursuant to Title IV, of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977, 30 U.S.C. 1231 et. seq., proposes to undertake the necessary work to protect the public health and safety from the adverse effects of abandoned coal mining activities in the vicinity of McDowell, Floyd County. Since all the owners of that certain property where entry must be made are unable to give voluntary consent for right of entry or cannot be located, to allow work, and Section 410, 30 U.S.C. 1240, provides for entry by the United States of America, its agents, employees and contractors, notice is hereby given to those persons having a surface or mineral interest in the following described property:

A property depicted on Tax Map 67, as Parcel 17, in the Floyd County public records.

Such entry will begin immediately. The OSM's written findings and supporting reasons regarding its determination to enter the above-described property may be inspected or obtained by contacting the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, 1405 Greenup Avenue, Box 5, Federal Building, Ashland, Kentucky 41101, Attention: John Sefton, Area Office Manger, Appalachian Team.

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<p>50% OFF A SECOND PAIR OF YOUNG MEN'S ARIZONA JEAN CO.® JEANS OR PANTS WHEN YOU BUY THE FIRST AT REGULAR PRICE <small>Not valid with other offers. See store for details.</small></p>	<p>SALE 2/\$14 ENTIRE STOCK OKIE DOKIE® INFANT & TODDLER SHORT SETS <small>Reg. \$22.99 ea.</small></p>
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Sale prices effective through Tuesday, February 25, 2003. Percentages off regular prices or original prices, as shown. Actual Savings may exceed stated percentage off. "Regular" and "Original" prices reflect offering prices which may not have resulted in actual sales. Any event designated as a "sale" excludes Value Right merchandise and items sold everyday with discounts if purchased in multiples of "2 or more". Intermediate mark-downs may have been taken on original-priced merchandise. Clearance items are available while supplies last. Merchandise selection may vary from one JCPenney store to another.

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