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briefs

Two charged with growing marijuana

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A citizen complaint given to the Kentucky State Police led to the arrest this week of two Prestonsburg residents who were allegedly cultivating marijuana. KSP trooper Shawn Little arrested Gwendolyn A. Crace, 18, of Weddington Lane, and Trevor L. Harris, 20, of Cow Creek Road, citing them with felony counts cultivating marijuana. According to their arrest citations, filed by Little in Floyd District Court on Thursday, the same day of their arrest, the couple was picked up at the Crace residence, where Little, acting on a civil complaint, found 21 marijuana plants and "numerous" items of drug paraphernalia. They both pleaded not guilty during their arraignments Thursday in District court, where Judge James R. Allen placed them both under a \$5,000 partially secured bond. Both Crace and Harris posted that bond following their arraignments. They are scheduled to appear in court for preliminary hearings on March 24. Little could not be reached for comment Friday.

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2 DAY FORECAST

Today
Clouds and wind
High: 50 • Low: 22

Tomorrow
Mostly sunny
High: 42 • Low: 23

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

Gunman kills self, 2 others in rampage

by ROGER ALFORD
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PIPPA PASSES — A gunman opened fire in a rural Knott County home Friday morning killing two people and critically injuring three before turning the gun on himself, state police said. Police said they found the sus-

pected gunman, 40-year-old Mark W. Pledger of Knott County, dead in the small community of Raven about a half mile from where the shootings took place. Knott County Coroner Jeff Blair said Pledger's body was found in a small stream near his single-wide mobile home on an

eastern Kentucky hillside. Five children survived the melee by hiding under a bed. Another woman in the home also was not shot. Kentucky State Police Trooper Tim Kilburn said the shooting is believed to have resulted from a domestic quarrel. He said Pledger was the live-in boyfriend of one

of the people killed, 34-year-old Harlene Harwood. Neighbors said Harwood had become fearful of Pledger and had sought refuge at the nearby home of Raymond Hall about a week before the shootings, which police said occurred about 3 a.m. EST. Hall, 47, a disabled coal

miner, was shot to death. His wife, Brenda Hall, and his daughter-in-law, Dorothy Hall, were injured, as was Harwood's daughter, 15-year-old Heather Harwood. Police said Dorothy Hall, Brenda Hall and Heather

(See RAMPAGE, page three)



Judge Eric D. Hall carefully explained the procedures of the "drug court" program to an assembly of concerned citizens during a public forum Thursday at the old Floyd County Courthouse.

Drug court seeking support from business

by TOM DOTY
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — The "drug court" program has come to Floyd County and supporters hope it will prove to be a progressive measure. The program aims to try and help cure addicts rather than incarcerate them. The program is already running in Lexington and

has a success rate of just under 50 percent. This could be very good news for drug offenders who need a stern hand to guide them to recovery, as it is an aggressive program which will require drug users to submit to an intense schedule of counseling, work or school and, during the first phase, a thrice-weekly drug screening. An open forum concerning the

program was held Thursday night in the fiscal courtroom of the old Floyd County Courthouse. The forum was an opportunity for county residents to learn more about the program and attendance was high. The audience was composed of all levels of local law enforcement, civic leaders and concerned citizens.

(See DRUG COURT, page three)

Two sentenced for drug violations

by TOM DOTY
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — The stiff sentence handed down to a drug dealer in Floyd County Circuit court last month continues to reap rewards for the office of the commonwealth's attorney.

Johnny Owens and Bobby Owens, no relation, were the latest dealers to fall on their swords in court by taking a blind plea, rather than face a Floyd County jury like the one which gave Jesse Compton eight years behind bars. Bobby Owens was scheduled to begin his trial on the day of the

verdict but chose to enter a blind plea only hours after the Compton decision. Friday in circuit court, both men got stiffer sentences than they would have if they had taken the pleas originally offered by the

(See SENTENCES, page three)

Woman's home ransacked by thieves twice

\$500 reward offered for return of doll

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

WEEKSBURY — An elderly Weeksbury resident whose home was cleaned out twice by burglars in January has offered a \$500 reward for an antique Japanese geisha doll that she received as a wedding present nearly 46 years ago. Sue Tackett, 64, says she's still compiling a list of items that were stolen from her home on Jan. 6 and Jan. 9,

while she was vacationing in Florida and visiting her brother-in-law in a Huntington, W.Va., hospital. "They did not leave me a fork, they did not leave me a set of dishes. They took my robe, my winter coat," she said, detailing a list of numerous antiques, tools and other items taken from her home. "Of all the things they took out of the house, if they'd just give me that doll back — they can have my TV, the tools, everything, but that doll is very special to me. There ain't no amount of money on this earth that you could put on it. It was the only thing I had that came from my brother." Tackett said her brother, John Edward, who died with

(See THEFTS, page three)

Competency hearing for murder suspect to be held next month

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A hearing to determine whether a murder suspect is competent to stand trial is scheduled to be held next month, according to an order filed Friday in Floyd Circuit court. Judge John David Caudill signed the order, along with another sealed document, on Thursday, requiring a competency hearing to be held April 29 for Dwayne Earl Bishop, accused of brutally murdering his wife, Caroline Ann Bishop, in 2000. Since the onset of the

pending case against him, Bishop has repeatedly accused his attorneys and local authorities of willingly corrupting his case, which has led to the withdrawal of several attorneys who have represented him during this time. His accusations have also prompted officials to look into his competency for the trial. In order to ease tensions between Bishop and his attorney, Judge Caudill, reacting to the outcome of Bishop's last competency hearing, requested the appointment of

(See BISHOP, page three)

Interviews begin this week for local health initiative

Times Staff Report

Those interested in receiving improved health services in Floyd County will have the opportunity to participate in the Healthy Floyd County 2010 initiative, a project geared to create and promote a

healthier community and a safe environment. Our Lady of the Way Hospital is partnering with several Big Sandy area organizations to gather information relating to health, economy, natural resources, safety and public services in the county, accord-

ing to a press release issued Friday by the Big Sandy Area Development District. Surveyors from the Floyd County Health Department and the Big Sandy ADD will hit the streets beginning March 22, conducting face-to-face interviews with 1,000 randomly selected residents in

every zip code in the county. Those interviews, which should take 20 to 30 minutes to complete, will continue until April 16. Surveys will also be mailed to randomly selected participants, according to the

(See HEALTH, page three)

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Odds and Ends

■ **SAN CLEMENTE, Calif.** — There will be no teaching of new tricks at this dog park: it's for older canines only.

The San Clemente Dog Park for older dogs opened Wednesday, across the street from a frenetic canine playground for younger, more active pooches.

For some 3,000 licensed dogs in the city, the park is the only city property that doesn't require a leash. But the older dogs don't seem too interested in any untethered running and roughhousing.

Fifteen-year-old Taz — that's 105 in dog years — is a mixed breed whose hip was broken in 10 places in a car accident about five years ago. She's been to the main dog park, but she stayed out of the fray.

"She can't see very well and she can't hear very well," Taz's owner Bill Thomas said. He said she probably won't be any more active in the senior park, but at least she won't have to worry about being knocked over by a rambunctious Rottweiler.

"Dogs are like kids. They like to roughhouse, but ask an 80-year-old if he likes to roughhouse. He may want to, but it's not the same anymore," said Gregg Lipanovich, who launched the campaign for senior canines.

■ **BISMARCK, N.D.** — North Dakota lottery officials had to send new stickers to merchants to cover up an embarrassing glitch — a toll-free number on the new lottery's ticket terminals that directed callers to a phone-sex

line. The number is for retailers who have lottery questions, and is not intended for public use. Those who called it got a recording that gave them a second number to call, which advertised "live, one-on-one fantasy talk."

Liz Brocker, a spokeswoman for Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem, said the number erroneously listed an 800 prefix when the correct prefix is 877. Stickers bearing the correct number were distributed Thursday, she said.

North Dakota is joining the Powerball lottery: Tickets go on sale next Thursday.

■ **MONTGOMERY, Ala.** — Alabama is in a fight over whether to name an official state whiskey, one that has its origins in Alabama's rich his-

tory of bootlegging.

The Legislature overwhelmingly passed a resolution declaring Conecuh Ridge Fine Alabama Whiskey as the "official state spirit," but Gov. Bob Riley vetoed the resolution Thursday.

"I'm so disappointed," said Kenny May, founder of Conecuh Ridge.

But the dispute is not over. The House of Representatives voted 54-7 Thursday to override the governor's veto. If the

Senate does the same thing in the next few weeks, Conecuh Ridge will still become the "official state spirit."

May said he considers his whiskey "a source of pride for Alabama."

But the governor said Alabama "should not set a precedent of endorsing a commercially sold product."

The sponsor of the resolution, Democratic Rep. Alan Boothe said the Republican governor was picking a fight

over a minor issue that would hurt him later.

"I'm dumbfounded he'd veto an insignificant resolution and draw the ill will of people who overrode his veto," Boothe said.

May's whiskey is a product of his family tree. His late father, Clyde May, made moonshine in the woods. Kenny May knows exactly how it was done.

"I used to help him make it," May said.

Today In History

The Associated Press

Today is Sunday, March 21, the 81st day of 2004. There are 285 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

Two hundred years ago, on March 21, 1804, the French civil code, or the "Code Napoleon" as it was later called, was adopted.

On this date:

■ In 1685, composer Johann Sebastian Bach was born in Eisenach, Germany.

■ In 1790, Thomas Jefferson reported to President Washington in New York as the new secretary of state.

■ In 1806, Mexican statesman Benito Juarez was born in Oaxaca.

■ In 1871, journalist Henry M. Stanley began his famous expedition to Africa to locate the missing Scottish missionary David Livingstone.

■ In 1944, Charles Chaplin went on trial in Los Angeles, accused of transporting former protegee Joan Barry across state lines for immoral purposes. (Chaplin was acquitted, but later lost a paternity suit despite tests

showing he wasn't the father of Barry's child.)

■ In 1945, during World War II, Allied bombers began four days of raids over Germany.

■ In 1960, some 70 people were killed in Sharpeville, South Africa, when police fired on demonstrators.

■ In 1963, the Alcatraz federal prison island in San Francisco Bay was emptied of its last inmates at the order of Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy.

■ In 1965, more than 3,000 civil rights demonstrators led by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. began their march in Alabama from Selma to Montgomery.

■ In 1979, the Egyptian Parliament unanimously approved a peace treaty with Israel.

Ten years ago:

"Schindler's List" won best picture at the 66th Academy Awards; Holly Hunter was named best actress for "The Piano" while Tom Hanks was named best actor for "Philadelphia." Actor Macdonald Carey died in Beverly Hills, Calif., at age 81.

Five years ago:

Israel's Supreme Court rejected a final effort to have American teenager Samuel Sheinbein returned to the United States to face murder charges (Under a plea agreement with Israeli prosecutors, Sheinbein was later sentenced to 24 years in prison for the murder of Alfred Tello Jr.) At the Academy Awards, "Shakespeare in Love" won seven Oscars, including best picture and best actress for Gwyneth Paltrow; Roberto Benigni won best actor for "Life is Beautiful," while Steven Spielberg won best director for "Saving Private Ryan."

One year ago:

The United States launched a ferocious, around-the-clock aerial assault on military targets in Baghdad and other cities. The House approved a \$2.2 trillion budget embracing President Bush's tax-cutting plan.

Today's Birthdays:

Violinist-conductor Joseph Silverstein is 72. Actor Al Freeman Jr. is 70. Actress Kathleen Widdoes is 65. Singer Solomon Burke is 64. Actor Timothy Dalton is 60. Actress Marie-Christine Barrault is 60. Singer-musician Rose Stone (Sly and the Family Stone) is 59. Singer Eddie Money is 55. Rock singer-musician Roger Hodgson (Supertramp) is 54. Rock musician Conrad Lozano (Los Lobos) is 53. Rhythm and blues singer Russell Thompkins Jr. (The Stylistics) is 53. Actress Sabrina LeBeauf is 46. Actor Gary Oldman is 46. Actor Matthew Broderick is 42. Comedian Rosie O'Donnell is 42. Rock musician Jonas "Joker" Berggren (Ace of Base) is 37. Rock M-C Maxim (Prodigy) is 37. Rock musician Andrew Copeland (Sister Hazel) is 36. "Hip-hop DJ" DJ Premier (Gang Starr) is 35.

Thought for Today:

"The heaviest baggage for a traveler is an empty purse."
— German proverb.

School of Osteopathic Medicine receives grant for 'D.O.s on the GO'

PIKEVILLE — Pikeville College School of Osteopathic Medicine (PC SOM) has received a \$5,000 grant from the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky as part of the foundation's discretionary grants program. The grant will provide support for an ambitious new project, "D.O.s on the GO," which was designed to take healthcare screening and education to local communities throughout Eastern Kentucky.

D.O.s on the GO held the first free health fair in the Phelps community March 6. Future events are planned for communities in the Big Sandy region, which covers Pike, Johnson, Floyd, Martin and Magoffin counties.

Health fair screenings include general health checks such as height, weight, body

mass index, blood pressure, pulse, respirations, heart and lung sounds, lung function, eye and ear exams and blood glucose. Information is also provided on a variety of health-related subjects, such as heart disease, diabetes, smoking cessation, mental health and diet and exercise. Another highlight of the health fairs will be demonstrations of osteopathic manipulative treatment by medical students.

The School of Osteopathic medicine was among 22 non-profit organizations that received discretionary grants from the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky. The foundation was created in 2001 to address the unmet health care needs of Kentuckians. Funding consideration was given to those projects whose goals fit

with at least one of the foundation's focus areas of fitness and nutrition for children and families, youth smoking prevention, youth substance abuse prevention, access to health care for low-income, the uninsured and rural populations and to increase access to integrated mental health services.

The grantmaking strategy of the foundation seeks to address the unmet health care needs of the people of Kentucky through strategic initiatives designed to improve health status and access to care with influencing public policy as a key component for fostering permanent change.

For more information about D.O.s on the GO, contact the Pikeville College Public Affairs office at (606) 218-5270.

PMH's Special Care Nursery/NICU holding 15-year reunion celebration

PIKEVILLE — Pikeville Methodist Hospital's special care nursery/neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) will host the 15-year anniversary and neonatal reunion celebration on Saturday, April 3, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Pikeville College Gym.

The theme of the event is "You've Got a Friend in Me." All NICU graduates and their families and friends are invited to attend.

The NICU at Pikeville Methodist Hospital is celebrating 15 years of service to sick newborns and their families from the Big Sandy Region. Pikeville Methodist Hospital's NICU is the only such service in this region. Since opening on March 1, 1989, the Special Care Nursery has taken care of over 3,000 newborns with problems at birth, which has enabled many families to receive quality care for their newborns without having to travel to distant hospitals and healthcare centers. The NICU has a fully-dedicated, regional neonatal transport service and hosts the only Neonatal Developmental Follow-Up clinic in the state based outside a university center. The highly

trained and experienced staff of the NICU nurses, therapists, and social workers, provides state-of-the-art care for sick newborns and comfort for the families.

"We organize this event every five to ten years to show our appreciation to the families we serve and to see the smiles on the faces of patients we have cared for," states Brenda Chapman, assistant director of Women's Services. "It is such a joy to know that we can offer support to sick babies in our area and at the same time keep the family together close to home."

Attendees of the celebration will be welcomed with refreshments and several activities including a rock climbing wall, an air inflatable space walk and dancing. "It is wonderful to be able to host this event and provide a fun atmosphere where people can come together, have fun and celebrate life," added PMH neonatologist Dr. Ruth Shepherd.

Those who wish to attend should RSVP by calling the NICU at (606) 218-3509 to reserve a party prize bag for their graduate.



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Fiscal court takes no action on county liquor ordinance

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A proposed ordinance detailing regulations for the sale of alcoholic beverages in Floyd County was tabled during a fiscal court meeting Friday, after two members voted against it.

Magistrates Jackie Owens and James Alan Williams voted against the ordinance, which would expand "alcohol by the drink" sales, currently only allowed in Prestonsburg, into the surrounding county.

Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson said that he requested the draft of an ordinance detailing restrictions on alcoholic beverage sale after inquiries were made by a business to bring into

the county a motel that would sell alcohol by the drink.

That ordinance, cited as the "distilled spirits" control regulation, outlines specific regulations for the sale and restriction in sale of alcoholic beverages, licenses and application procedures required, and penalties that may be enforced upon businesses that don't adhere to those regulations.

The county currently does not have such an ordinance, Thompson said following the meeting.

During the meeting, Williams said that such an ordinance, which contains the same laws that pertain to the sale of alcoholic beverages within the city of prestonsburg, would be bad for the community.

Expanding "liquor by the

drink sales" to the county, he said, would promote drinking and driving.

Owens voted against the ordinance because he said he hadn't read it prior to the meeting.

During an interview following the meeting Friday, Owens said he would consider voting to accept the ordinance at a later date, after he has the opportunity to view the regulations proposed.

In other news, the fiscal court also discussed the possible sale of the East Kentucky Utility gas company, which services the Right Beaver area, a suggestion proposed by Owens because the company could not meet a \$20,000 bond requirement last month.

Owens said the county was left with a \$750,000 bill from the

company, formerly operated by Johnny Allen, now deceased, back in the 1980s when old gas lines caused a major gas leak.

"I don't want to get stuck with another \$5,000 or \$6,000 debt," Owens said following the meeting. "The county can't afford it. If they can't pay their bond payment, then what else can we do?"

The Fiscal Court also:

■ Passed resolutions to accept the budgets for the Floyd County jail and Emergency Management.

■ Held the second reading of an ordinance to create a cemetery board for the county, which will work to obtain grants to preserve and conserve older nonprofit cemeteries. They also passed a resolution to create the cemetery board.

■ Held the second reading of an ordinance to amend the 2003-2004 fiscal budget to increase the receipts of the federal grants fund by \$70,000 to include receipts from Kentucky Tech.

■ Passed a resolution in support of the Martin Flood Control Project, currently undertaken by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which discussed details of the project during the meeting.

■ Authorized budget transfers totaling \$54,000 for various expenses.

■ Hired an assistant, Brian Hunter, for the judge-executive and three deputy jailers for the Floyd County Detention Center and three seasonal workers.

■ Passed a resolution to pay Magistrate James Alan Williams \$1,546 for the annual training incentive plan.

■ Authorized payment of the following debts: \$206,878.24 to Mountain Enterprises; \$3,000 for the Auxier Sewage Project (funds obtained through a Community Development Block Grant); \$422,000 to the city of

Prestonsburg for the Mountaintop Economic Development Project; \$12,217 to the Dept. of Corrections for medical expenses for inmates; \$1,825 to the Transportation Cabinet for the Middle Creek Battlefield Project.

■ Adopted two roads at Toler Creek and Sandy Clark Branch into the county system.

■ Passed a resolution to review requests to extend the Lucy Hall Cemetery Road in McDowell, extend the Newsome Road at Kinney Branch in Grethel, adopt Spurlock Fork at Dana, and adopt Hayes Cemetery Road at Turkey Creek.

Following the fiscal court meeting, members reconvened as the Floyd County Development Authority, to authorize reimbursement of \$31,561 to the Fiscal Court, for attorney's fees paid in the New York lawsuit against R & S Truck Body Company, that was pending in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court.

Thompson said the funds would be placed into the county's severance tax account.

Thefts

cancer three years ago, gave her the doll as a wedding gift in 1958. He had obtained the doll, she said, when he was stationed at an air force base in Japan.

"She was the most beautiful thing you had ever seen," Tackett said, noting that the porcelain doll, which was kept in a glass case, was always well cared for by the family.

The first burglary of Tackett's home occurred Jan. 6 while the elderly resident was visiting family in Florida, according to Kentucky State Police Trooper Cornett, who is currently investigating the incident in coordination with officers from the Floyd County Sheriff's Department.

After investigating the scene, Cornett and Tackett's sister, Luetta Johnson, locked the residence, which was burglarized again four days later by the same individuals.

Tackett said she came home

early from the Florida trip to visit her brother-in-law, Clarence Johnson, in a Huntington Hospital, where he was undergoing surgery on a cancerous lung. When Johnson was released from the hospital four days later, Tackett said, she drove him and her sister to their neighboring residence, only to find out that her home had been ransacked again by burglars.

According to Tackett, the burglars took nearly every valuable item she owned, including several Home Interior pictures off the wall, three drawers of silverware and three totes of antique glassware, which included a 14-inch antique Waterford crystal vase valued at approximately \$300.

Items that were not stolen, Tackett said, were destroyed in the home, which a crew spent a week-and-a-half cleaning following the burglary.

Shortly after the burglary,

Tackett, whose husband died last year, suffered with a three-week bout of Bell's palsy, a condition caused by stress that has side effects similar to a stroke.

Though no arrests have been made in the two-month investigation, Sgt. Gary Tackett with the Floyd County Sheriff's Department said Friday that he expects to make arrests soon.

Witness statements, Tackett said, have helped the sheriff's department narrow the investigation down to two suspects, who allegedly parked their truck at a neighboring church during the burglary.

During the interview, Sgt. Tackett said that he has received statements from two individuals who stopped to talk to the burglars as they carried items out from the Weeksbury residence.

Those witnesses, he said, claim that the burglars, two males, were parked in a

Pentecostal church parking lot that night, and carried items from Sue Tackett's trailer to their truck as traffic passed by and people stopped to talk to them.

"That's brave, ain't it?" Sgt. Tackett asked.

According to him, the sheriff's department has located or knows the location of several items, including the doll, which they hope to recover in a combined effort with the KSP. Several other items have already been sold, he said.

Sue Tackett said her insurance company, Accordia in Pikeville, has denied her claim for payment on the items stolen from her home because details in the police reports were sketchy and because she didn't have receipts for many of the antique items that were stolen.

"It doesn't matter where I'm at, I'm still not happy," she said.

■ Continued from p1

Drug Court

■ Continued from p1

District Judge Eric Hall led the meeting and clearly outlined the goals of the program. He started things off by quickly establishing that drug court would be unique. This will be marked by its teamwork nature which will level all of the roles of court personnel.

"We will be acting as a team," Hall said. "Majority rules in drug court, so as a judge you have to give up what you're used to to get the job done."

This teamwork approach will mean that prosecutors, case-workers, judges and defense attorneys will all work in concert and any adversarial roles will be tabled, Hall said.

The process will have several hurdles for drug addicts who get remanded to the court. First, they will not be eligible if they are violent offenders. An extensive background check will also be done and will feature interstate communications to determine the extent of criminal activity for each entrant. The first level of the program will also feature residential treatment which will be heavily monitored and last up to 37 days.

The courts have united for the program and all five of Floyd County's judges are on board. Public advocate Harolyn Howard and Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Wayne Taylor have also committed to the project, while Sue

Yates has signed on as Treatment Coordinator and Sue Blackburn will be the case specialist for the program. Assistant County Attorney Stacy Marshall is also on board and related to the audience that everyone involved in the program went through an intense training program that required a year of their time.

The program is federally funded but none of the legal staff will be getting any extra pay from the program. It is clear by this example that they all are committed to trying to heal addicts over jailing them. Though this is good news there is still a component of the venture that must be decided by the community.

Since work and continuing education are a part of the effort, there will need to be support from the business community, Hall said, as well as a commitment from local businesses to employ people in the program.

Judge Hall was clear on the benefits of hiring participants in the program. "How many bosses get to have the confidence that comes from three drug tests a week?" he asked those assembled.

The need for the program was summed up by Harolyn Howard, who cut to the heart of the issue by simply saying, "Putting people in prison is not working. We must treat it [drug addiction] as an illness."

Rampage

Harwood were in critical condition at St. Mary's Hospital in Huntington, W.Va., where they were being treated for gunshot wounds.

Neighbors said Raymond and Brenda Hall were always ready to help anyone in the community, and that providing refuge to a battered woman would be natural for them.

"Any time anybody ever went up there for anything, they would bend over backwards to help," said Kathleen Miller, the couple's niece. "They were kind, wonderful people. They didn't deserve this."

Miller, whose mother was in the home at the time of the shootings but not injured, said most people who lived in the neighborhood knew Pledger and Harwood had a rocky relationship.

"He put a gun to her head and threatened to kill her," Miller said. "He threatened to kill his own children, threatened to kill his own mother and father. He was into drugs badly. He was a

bad drunk. He was mentally unstable."

Miller and others who tended to the survivors said Brenda Hall had ushered the children, who ranged in age from 3 to 10 years old, under a bed, then stood between Pledger and them.

"She took the bullets for the kids," said Mary McKinney of Wayland, Dorothy Hall's mother and grandmother of four of the surviving children. "She saved my grandkids."

Pledger's 10-year-old daughter was one of the children under the bed.

McKinney said Dorothy Hall called her to let her know about the shootings. She immediately went to the home.

"It looked like a slaughter house," she said. "There was blood all over the place."

Miller said she had to wash blood off the surviving children.

Friends and neighbors who gathered in the small community said they realized that Pledger, who operated a towing and construction business, and

Harwood were having relationship problems, but they said they never could have imagined such a tragedy resulting from those problems.

Becky Jent, who described herself as a friend of Pledger and Harwood, said Pledger would often make threats toward people.

"But nobody took him serious," she said. "No one thought he would carry them out."

Jent said she attended a party at Pledger's home on Thursday night at which she saw him snorting cocaine and drinking tequila.

Jent said Pledger was talking about killing Harwood during the party.

"He grabbed a 12 gauge shotgun and shot the screen out of the TV," she said. "Then, he picked up the phone to call Harlene, put the receiver down and shot the phone."

Jent said Pledger and Harwood had been together for about 13 years. She said they moved to eastern Kentucky from

North Carolina.

"She was a good woman," Jent said. "She didn't deserve this. All she wanted was for him to stop drinking and to give up his guns, and she would have come back home. He wasn't willing to."

Jent said one of the last statements she heard Pledger make was to wonder aloud "if my daughter will come see me when I'm behind bars for killing her mother."

"If I thought for two-seconds that he would have done this, I would have stopped him," she said. "Nobody took him seriously."

Blair said after the shootings Pledger took Harwood, who was still alive at the time, put her in his pickup truck, and drove toward his residence on Kentucky 899. Blair said Pledger ran into a ditch, then abandoned the vehicle.

Blair said Pledger walked up a small road, stopped in the stream near his home, and committed suicide. Neighbors said he was found with an assault rifle and a handgun.

■ Continued from p1

Bishop

public advocate Robert D. Ganstine, who works with the public defender's office in Morehead.

Ganstine asked the court to be removed from the case in January, citing personnel changes at his Morehead office and saying that "irreconcilable conflicts have arisen in the case that seriously impairs" his ability to represent Bishop.

Similar motions have been filed as a result of Bishop's accusations by attorneys who have represented him since his

initial arrest three years ago.

He filed suit in U.S. District Court against Caudill, the Pikeville Public Advocacy office, and the commonwealth's attorney's office on Dec. 9, alleging corruption in the ongoing case against him from these individuals. In the letter, Bishop alleged that a "corrupted circle" including Caudill, his attorneys, the Commonwealth's Attorney's office, and "the law," have worked together to hinder the investigation into his wife's murder.

■ Continued from p1

During an interview Friday, Commonwealth's Attorney Brent Turner said such actions taken by Bishop, who also claimed the court denied him the right to a speedy trial, have contributed to the delay in the upcoming trial.

"We're eager to get the case resolved," Turner said. "If this indicates that the case will be moved in that direction, then we're glad to see it set for a competency hearing."

The Floyd County Sheriff's Department will transport Bishop from the Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex to the courthouse for the hearing next month.

Health

■ Continued from p1

press release.

The information collected by the surveyors, who will be carrying photo identification cards, will be confidential and the information compiled will be used for improving services to county residents.

The project is sponsored through a grant from the Catholic Health Initiative Mission and Ministry Fund.

For more information, call Neva Francis, director of the Community Outreach Program at Our Lady of the Way Hospital, at (606) 285-5181.

Sentences

commonwealth.

Johnny Owens receive five years and must serve 18 months before parole which is six months more served than the original plea offer. Bobby Owens got the same sentence and will do the additional six months.

Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Wayne Taylor was quick to applaud the sentences which, he said, "Reflect a common goal for the courts and a clear message from the the jurors

who presided over the Compton case."

Court was also the setting for a probation agreement that was accepted in the case of Nona Nelson.

Nelson received a special favor from Judge Danny Caudill earlier when she was prompted to move out of her boyfriend's house or risk violating her probation because he was a convicted felon.

■ Continued from p1

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expression

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

— Felix Frankfurter

GuestView

Remodeling set a bad image

Gov. Ernie Fletcher's renovation of his suite of offices is hardly the stuff of extravagant spending, with a total bill of \$25,341.57 for the likes of carpet, paint, a new mirror, new locks and a new doorway.

But in spending this money, Fletcher lost an opportunity to rally state employees around him and solidify public support in a time of austere spending and shared sacrifice.

The spending was detailed recently by The Kentucky Post's Frankfort Bureau Chief Amanda York, who'd seen the new look and wondered about the price tag.

Her curiosity was also piqued by a new "secret" door that leads from the governor's office to a room used for press conferences, a door created so Fletcher could save time walking through the hallway, his staff said. That door, hidden behind a curtain used as a backdrop, previously existed but had been plastered over, so restoring it was a return to historical integrity, the staff said.

State officials still can't say how much Fletcher's timesaving passageway cost to create. But they did tally up the other renovations to date in the governor's office.

Like we said, it's hardly earth-shattering stuff. The old carpet was by several accounts pretty shabby, and replacing it with carpet of a flame-red hue cost \$12,525.08 for Fletcher's main office and \$3,083.32 for first lady Glenna Fletcher's office (the price included a few ceiling tiles). For Suite 107, a conference room, the cost to lay carpet was \$619.73. Other costs include hanging a mirror in the first lady's office (\$150) and \$3,532.55 to paint two other rooms and create a new door between those rooms.

In a \$14.9 billion budget, the bills aren't even a ripple.

But in a time when elementary schools are closing, community colleges have to padlock new buildings, single moms are told to quit school or their jobs and collect welfare because their day-care credits are being jerked away, when trials are delayed because the state can't afford to process evidence in a timely manner, when state agencies are forming plans to furlough workers to save money, the governor's renovation bills carry a shading of "I'm gonna take care of myself first."

In times of crisis, even small decisions weigh heavily on people's minds. After all, credibility and morale are built with small stones.

Read the secrets of great leaders throughout history, and you'll find that when times seemed the darkest, whether it was during war, on exploratory expeditions or on cattle drives that settled the West, the leaders were in the trenches missing meals and getting rained on with the rank and file. So when the rank and file were called on for even greater sacrifice, they leaped to follow their leader.

(See VIEW, page seven)

2004 MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL
GARY MARKSTEIN
Copy/News Service



— Jim Davidson

The 'best' is yet to come

Have you ever put your foot in your mouth? You are probably saying, "Is the Pope Catholic?" Of course we all have at some time or another.

One of the worst cases I can ever remember happened many years ago during a family reunion. This was not too long after Viola and I had married. Everybody was out in the back yard around the picnic tables and there was mounds of good food — I mean, fried chicken, ham, dumplings, mashed potatoes, potato salad, baked beans, slaw, all kinds of vegetables, homemade bread and about a dozen different kinds of desserts.

It was not long after we started eating and I was bragging on Viola that I made the comment that she was the best cook I had ever known. All of a sudden it got quiet and I looked around and there looking at me was my mother and my grandmother, who were not only great cooks, but they had fed me most of my life.

I tried to explain that I meant Viola cooked "fancy dishes" but it was too late. The longer I talked, the deeper the hole got. I guess this is where that old

saying came from, "The best way to learn anything is the hard way."

To be sure I learned a valuable lesson that day and since then I've done my best to think before I speak. I have still made many mistakes, but I can't remember many that were as egregious as that one. The human mind is a wonderful tool that God has given us and this is what came to mind when I was preparing to write this column.

A few weeks ago I received an article in the mail from a person in Colorado titled, "Keep your fork." After reading the article it was obvious this person considered me to be a friend but the only identification was the name "Frankton, Colo. 80116" and a Denver postmark. It was not signed and my column does not run in this community so I am at a loss at who to thank for it.

The article "Keep your fork" contains a story that I had heard many years ago, but nevertheless is well worth reading and thinking about again. By way of introduction, you no doubt have been to a family reunion, church social, wedding party or even a dinner party at someone's home and as the table was being cleared, the hostess or server

leaned over and said, "Keep your fork." This is just another way of saying, the best is still to come.

This brief introduction is the backdrop for a young lady who was dying of cancer and had only a few days to live. When her pastor came by and was discussing her final arrangements she told him that she had a special request. She wanted her casket to be open and a fork placed in her right hand.

When the pastor asked her the reason for this final request she said, "My grandmother once told me this story about 'Keep your fork' and ever since hearing it, I've tried to pass it along. It is a message of hope and encouragement for others who will also someday die.

"When people see me lying there in the casket with a fork in my hand, I want them to wonder, 'What's with the fork?' Then I want you to tell them, 'Keep your fork ... the best is yet to come.'"

The pastor's eyes welled up with tears of joy as he hugged the young woman goodbye. He knew this would be one of the last times he would see her before her death, but he also knew the young woman had a better grasp of heaven than he did. She had a better

(See DAVIDSON, page seven)



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—beyond the beltway

Martha's lesson: Don't talk to the FBI

by DONALD KAUL

Here is the lesson to be learned from the fall of Martha Stewart:

Don't ever, under any circumstances, answer questions put to you by the FBI or any other federal agent unless you have a competent criminal lawyer at your side. And it would be better if it were a very good criminal lawyer.

There are other lessons to be drawn from the fate of poor Martha, but that's the main one.

You see, there is a section in the federal code, referred to as 1001 by legal eagles, that makes it a crime to lie to a federal agent. The agent doesn't have to put you under oath. If you tell him or her a lie, you're guilty.

The federal officer doesn't even have to tape the conversation. All he or she has to do is produce handwritten notes that indicate that you made false statements. So, if you mispeak or the agent mishears or there is an ambiguity that the agent chooses to interpret in an unfortunate (for you) direction, you're on the hook. There's also the possibility that you might be tempted to shade the

truth a bit when an IRS agent is quizzing you about that business deduction you took for the trip to Vegas.

My advice to you is: Don't do it. To be on the safe side, when confronted by a federal agent, don't say anything at all unless your lawyer says you have to.

It's a shame things have come to this. It used to be that people felt it their duty as citizens to cooperate with federal authorities. That was before Law 1001.

We now live in an era of Incredible Shrinking Civil Rights. You have to protect yourself at all times.

Let's look more closely at the case of Poor Martha the Match Girl. What did she do? She was convicted of lying about the reason she sold her shares in a biotechnology company two years ago. She said she sold them because they had fallen to the price at which she and her broker had agreed to sell.

The government argued (and the jury believed) that she sold because her broker passed on some inside information that the stock was going to plunge in the next couple of days.

I know what you're going to say — "insider trading." True, it has that smell about it, but the government did not charge her with insider trading, only with lying about it.

I hate that. It seems to me that con-

victing someone of lying about a crime that the government isn't willing to prove happened is unfair.

Add to that the fact that Ms. Stewart saved all of \$45,000 on the stock transaction and has seen her fortune decrease by hundreds of millions because of the trial, and the penalty does not seem to fit the crime.

I think the reason the government has spent millions pursuing this two-bit case is because Ms. Stewart is famous and the case makes it look as though the Justice Department is doing a bang-up job running down crooks in high places. Also, the lifestyle lady — a political contributor to Democrats rather than Republicans, incidentally — irritated prosecutors with her haughty, arrogant attitude. (It's always a bad idea to make prosecutors mad.)

Then too, her high-priced attorney, Robert Morvillo, lost a series of strategic gambles that left his client virtually defenseless. After the government had spent six weeks making the case against Stewart, Morvillo called only one witness in her defense and questioned him for 20 minutes.

His chief argument was that Stewart and her broker were too smart to pull a dumb stunt like this. As one juror said

(See BELTWAY, page seven)



Faith Extra

Minister's Moment: Did Satan really know?

by PASTOR STEVE PESCOSOLIDO

COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Did Satan really know what Jesus' death and resurrection would do to his position? In the movie, "The Passion of the Christ", director Mel Gibson portrays Satan speaking to Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. It appears that Satan is trying to talk Jesus out of going to the cross. Satan acknowledges the heavy load Jesus is bearing.

Although there is no record in the Bible, I don't mind Satan being portrayed as talking to Jesus in the Garden. Satan may very well have been there. But did this evil power try to talk Jesus out of the cross? Or would he want Jesus to go to the cross?

Where am I coming from on this? In Luke's gospel, it is recorded in chapter 22, verse 3 (NKJV) that "Satan entered Judas". The context of this statement is the coming Passover and the deliberations of the chief priests and scribes

on how they could kill Jesus.

If Satan took over Judas for the purpose of betraying Jesus to the Jewish authorities, then we conclude that Satan wanted Jesus to die also. However, if Jesus died as an innocent man, He would complete one human life lived without sin. This was the required offering to allow God to forgive anyone who came to Him for mercy. If Jesus completed the sin offering, anyone who believed in Him could be forgiven and could enter heaven.

Why would Satan want to

be party to the sin offering that would destroy his own position of authority? Why would Satan want to help bring about this sin offering of the Lamb of God upon the cross?

In Satan's eyes, an imperative reason for Jesus' death would be to get rid of the Son of God from the earth. Then Satan could have full authority again. This is the kill the son, take the vineyard mentality (Luke 20:9-16)

I don't think Satan knew what would happen if Jesus died sinlessly. God does not

always tell His secrets or His plans. You may remember Haman, the evil Hebrew persecutor in the book of Ester. Haman had plans to have all the Hebrews killed, particularly Mordecai. At the time of Mordecai's scheduled execution, it is revealed that the queen (Ester) was a Hebrew and that she also should be killed. The king did not take kindly to this and had Haman executed and the Hebrews set free. God seems to have a secret plan for the salvation of His obedient people.

I think Satan gasped the greatest gasp ever gasped when he found out what the cross of Jesus had really done. It broke the power of death and made eternal life available to anyone who asked.

I don't mind Mel's depiction of this scene in the Garden. Conversation of what exactly is Biblical and what was Mel Gibson is very fruitful. And what a movie. Jesus has been number one at the box office now for three weeks. May He continue to be glorified!

Christian radio, public broadcasters battle for radio signals as listeners complain

by DAVID DISHNEAU
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FREDERICK, Md. — One morning last month, WJTM-FM began the day with its usual fare of Christian preaching and prayer. But that afternoon, the programming changed to something that some longtime listeners find offensive — National Public Radio.

WJTM, a station reaching 1.2 million potential listeners on the northwestern outskirts of Baltimore and Washington, had been taken over by WYPR-FM, a Baltimore-based NPR affiliate. The change, which has been challenged by two congressmen and dozens of listeners, reflects a battle being waged nationwide for ears at the lower end of the radio dial.

NPR affiliates and religious broadcasters, some of whom believe the public radio promotes a liberal agenda, are competitors for the relatively small number of noncommercial FM frequencies between 88.1 and 91.9 megahertz. College radio stations, the other sizable group of not-for-profit broadcasters, typically lack funds to fight aggressively for licenses.

Religious broadcasters have won some battles. In Lake Charles, La., the Christian broadcasting company American Family Radio knocked two NPR affiliates off the local airwaves in 2001 by obtaining a full-power license that overpowered the low-bud-

get NPR translator stations.

"As the media markets have grown, the competition for those frequencies has increased and those licenses represented by space on the broadcast dial are becoming more and more valuable," said the Rev. Frank Wright, president of the National Religious Broadcasters, a 1,700-member association in Manassas, Va.

NPR spokeswoman Jenny Lawhorn said the competition has prompted initiatives by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and its supporters to help public broadcasters acquire frequencies and expand their offerings. She denied the liberal-bias charge.

Religious broadcasters have led in station numbers since a 1990s growth spurt, with more than 1,800 AM and FM outlets compared with 772 mostly FM National Public Radio stations, according to Arbitron and NPR.

NPR affiliates have become more aggressive bidders for licenses since 2001, when the federally funded Corporation for Public Broadcasting helped establish an organization to broker and finance station acquisitions.

That organization, Denver-based Public Radio Capital, helped negotiate the \$5-million deal that created WYPR two years ago. It also was the intermediary in WYPR's agreement to buy WJTM from Joy Public Broadcasting Corp., a Wisconsin-based owner of sta-

tions devoted to Christian programming, for \$1.2 million.

Joy sold WJTM "to solidify some of the financial condition of the rest of the corporation," said Thomas Bush, a Joy board member. The deal is awaiting Federal Communication Commission approval, but the purchase agreement has allowed WYPR to assume operations before the sale is completed.

The transaction has stirred protests because it replaces Frederick County's only locally based Christian station with programming that duplicates some material already heard in the area on three other NPR stations originating in Washington and West Virginia. Popular programs including "Morning Edition," "All Things Considered" and "Car Talk," can now be heard on four stations in Frederick, a city of 53,000 about 45 miles from both Baltimore and the nation's capital.

"I don't think we need another NPR station because people can get it," said Rep. Roscoe G. Bartlett, R-Md. He and Rep. Frank Wolf, R-Va., whose district is within WJTM's 40-mile range, have asked the FCC to meet with local listeners to discuss the ownership change.

Anthony Brandon, president and general manager of Your Public Radio Corp., WYPR's owner, noted that several Christian radio stations originating elsewhere also can be

heard in Frederick. "This is not about us trying to displace Christian broadcasting," he said.

Brandon said the acquisition is in the public interest because WYPR is the area's only NPR station featuring an all-Maryland local news report. He called it "unrealistic" for lawmakers to interfere in the transaction, part of WYPR's plan for building a statewide public broadcasting network.

That's an unsettling prospect for Boni Buchanan of Boonsboro, who enjoyed WJTM's Christian programming and finds some public radio material offensive. Recently on an NPR station, she said, "they were talking about rock 'n' roll and people climbing into the back seat of the car and... I had to turn it off. I don't want to hear that."

And while most NPR stations feature a mix of public

affairs, news and music programs, some material broadcast on the afternoon of WJTM's changeover probably fell into the category of material that some former WJTM listeners would rather tune out.

An FCC spokeswoman said that when considering license applications, her agency historically has not held meetings like the one the congressmen are suggesting.

Wright, of the National Religious Broadcasters, said he is nonetheless encouraged by the FCC's renewed emphasis on ensuring that broadcasters operate in the public interest.

To him, the takeover of WJTM raises a question: "How is it in the public interest to have duplication of services and have another group that is not being served? Radio stations are going to find an increasingly inquisitive FCC along those lines."

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND SCHOOL

Checkout Wednesday & Friday LIFESTYLES for weekly school updates and schedules.



Kentucky Getaways State offers several 'journeys of faith'

It's been said that "Heaven must be a Kentucky kind of place." Tour the state and you'll find that the pioneer minister attributed with this saying certainly had inspiration. From the amazing architecture of churches old and new, to religious sites that give testament to communities founded on faith, those who travel in Kentucky are moved to many points by divine direction.

■ The Great Revival

What's been called "the most important religious gathering in all of American history" — The Great Revival of 1801 — took place at the Cane Ridge Meetinghouse off KY 537 in Bourbon County. Led by ministers who delivered expressive messages of faith from wagon beds and tree stumps, the week-long camp meeting revival inspired tens of thousands. This significant event also led to the formation of the Christian Church and Church of Christ denominations.

Thousands of modern-day Christians still visit the Cane Ridge Shrine — often regarded the most famous "frontier church" in America — to learn about, celebrate and gain inspiration from this religious heritage. The restored meeting house, also the largest one-room structure in the country, is com-

plete with a museum of church and pioneer history and is open for free tours, April through October, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday, 1 to 5 p.m. For more information or to make reservations for group

events, call 859-987-5350.

■ Chapels of Divine Design

From gothic to contempo-

(See GETAWAYS, page six)

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Regional Obituaries

Floyd County

Burnis Akers, 82, of Banner, died Thursday, March 11, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Grace Ditty Akers. Funeral services were conducted Monday, March 15, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Donna Faye Hall Allen, 60, of Hunter, died Wednesday, March 17, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, James D. "Demp" Allen. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, March 20, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Burnette Newsome Burge, 63, of Prestonsburg, died Thursday, March 18, at the Pikeville Methodist Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, March 20, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Opal Campbell, 88, of Garrett, died Saturday, March 13, at her residence, following an extended illness. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, March 16, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Girlie Chaffins, 81, of Garrett,

died Saturday, March 13, in the McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, March 16, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Ida Burchett Click, 89, of Banner, died Monday, March 15, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, Prestonsburg. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, March 18, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Archie Hall, 80, of Kenosha, Wisconsin, a native of Ligon, died Friday, March 12, at United Hospital Systems, in Kenosha. He is survived by his wife, Maudie Tackett Hall. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, March 12, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Lou Ann Samons Hall, 60, of Allen, died Wednesday, March 17, at Our Lady Bellefonte Hospital, in Ashland. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, March 20, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Charles Lee Keathley, 42, of Emma, died Saturday, March 13, in Prestonsburg. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, March 17, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Elmer Lafferty, 67, of Dwale, died Tuesday, March 16, at the Pikeville Methodist Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Doris Lafferty. Funeral services were conducted Friday, March 19, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Genvieve (Blankenship) Walker Litteral, 77, of Prestonsburg, died Tuesday, March 16, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, following an extended illness. Funeral services were conducted Friday, March 19, under the direction of Burke Funeral Home.

David Harmon Little, 76, of Melvin, died Sunday, March 14, at the McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, March 17, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Marie F. Martin, 82, of Eastern, died Thursday, March 11, at the Carmel Manor Nursing Home, in Ft. Thomas. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, March 14, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Alonzo Patton, 80, of McDowell, died Monday, March 15, at the McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Mary Ann Shepherd Patton. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, March 17, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Oliver Ratliff, 87, of Redlands, California, formerly of Floyd County, died Thursday, March 4, at Mission Commons Retirement Center in Redlands. He was cremated by Emerson Bartlett Memorial Chapel. His ashes will be scattered at sea. Memorial services for Oliver and his wife, Maude, will be held at Christ United Methodist Church at Allen, at 2 p.m., March 27.

Amos Polk Saunders, 87, a native of Prestonsburg, died at Rockmill Nursing Home on Wednesday, March 17. He is survived by his wife, Geraldine. Services were Saturday, March 20, at 11 a.m., under direction of Halterman-Fiett & Dyer Funeral Home.

Ricky Dean (Redeye) Slone, 44, of Hi Hat, died Tuesday, March 16, at the U.K. Medical Center, in

Lexington. He is survived by his wife, Vicky Ousley Slone. Funeral services were conducted Friday, March 19, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Knott County

Floretta Clayton, 77, of Redfox, died Friday, March 12, at the Whitesburg ARH. Funeral services were conducted Monday, March 15, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

Jellen "Joe" Meade, 50, of London, a Knott County native, died Saturday, March 13. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, March 17, under the direction of Click Funeral Home.

Monnie Wallen Stott, 90, of Williamsburg, formerly of Knott County, died Thursday, March 11, at the Williamsburg Nursing Home. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, March 17, under the direction of Croley Funeral Home.

Magoffin County

Willard Allen, 84, a resident of Salyersville, died Sunday, March 14, at the Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Carrie Burton Allen. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, March 17, under the direction of Salyersville Funeral Home.

James Fred Rice, 60, a Magoffin County native, died Friday, March 12, at Paul B. Hall Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Dianna L. Rice. Funeral services were conducted Monday, March 15, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

Pike County

Freddie Allen II, 25, of Turkey Creek, died Saturday, March 13, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Rachel Allen. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, March 17, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

William Wayne Blanton, 84, of Belfry, died Friday, March 12, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Kathern Maynard Blanton. Funeral services were conducted Monday, March 15, under the direction of Hatfield Funeral Home.

Nola Carter, 92, of Phyllis, died Friday, March 12, in Pike County. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, March 16, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

Nannette Davis, 54, of McCarr, died Thursday, March 11. Funeral services were conducted Monday, March 15, under the direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

Elbert Eugene "Hambone" Hamilton, 76, of Elwood, died Monday, March 15, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Betty Jo Osborne Hamilton. Funeral services were conducted Friday, March 19, under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

James Howard Hatfield, 65, of Belfry, died Sunday, March 14, in the South Williamson Appalachian Regional Hospital emergency room. He is survived by his wife, Ann Smith Hatfield. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, March 17, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

James "Jim" Hopkins, 91, of Virgie, died Monday, March 15, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, March 18, under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

Isa Belcher Huston, 83, of Dorton, died Sunday, March 14, at Parkview Manor Nursing & Rehab Center, Robinson Creek. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, March 18, under the direction of Lucas & Hall Funeral Home.

Carolyn Stamper Johnson, 56, of Pikeville, died Thursday, March 11, at her home. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, March 14, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Coolidge Johnson, 79, of Virgie, died Tuesday, March 16, at St. Joseph Hospital, Lexington. Arrangements are under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

Willie G. "Patch O" Johnson, 75, of Long Fork, died Friday,

March 12, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Virgie Johnson. Funeral services were conducted Monday, March 15, under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

Thelma Naomi Maynard, 82, of Canada, died Thursday, March 11, at her home. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, March 14, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

Johnny Dean Mounts, 57, of Pikeville, died Tuesday, March 16, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Betsy Jo Venters Mounts. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, March 18, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Delmer Newsome, 69, a Pikeville native, died Tuesday, March 2, in Albion, Michigan. Funeral services were conducted Friday, March 5, under the direction of J. Kevin Tidd Funeral Home.

Laura Mounts Norman, 63, of Freebun, died Friday, March 12, at her home. Funeral services were conducted Monday, March 15, under the direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

Draxie R. Owens, 88, of Indian Creek, died Monday, March 8, at her home. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, March 11, under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

Mark Allen Robinett, 38, of Phelps, died Sunday, March 14, at Good Shepherd Community Nursing Home, Phelps. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, March 16, under the direction of Thacker Memorial Funeral Home.

Andrew Jackson Rose, 55, of McAndrews, died Saturday, March 13, at the South Williamson Appalachian Regional Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Brenda Carol Rose. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, March 16, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

Elizabeth "Betty Jo" Huffman Sloan, 82, a Pikeville native, died Saturday, March 13, at the Firwood Healthcare Facility, Chicago. A memorial service will be held Sunday, March 21, at 11 a.m., under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Earl Larue Slone, 70, of Milford, Ohio, formerly of Hardy, died Friday, March 12, in Milford. Graveside services were conducted Monday, March 15, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

Hester Smith, 86, of McAndrews, died Thursday, March 11, in the South Williamson Appalachian Regional Hospital Skilled Nursing Facility. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, March 14, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

Viola Ball Sparks, 75, of Carlisle, a Pike County native, died Thursday, March 11, at her home. Funeral services were conducted Monday, March 15, under the direction of Mathers-Gaunce Funeral Home.

Irene Spears, 74, of Pikeville, died Thursday, March 11, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. She is survived by her husband, Ray Vene Spears. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, March 14, under the direction of Lucas & Hall Funeral Home.

Thomas Daniel Syck, 78, of Pikeville, died Sunday, March 14, at Pikeville Health Care Center. He is survived by his wife, Sarah Katherine May Syck. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, March 16, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Anna Hamlin White, 82, of Pikeville, died Monday, March 15, at Riverview Health Care Center, Prestonsburg. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, March 20, under the direction of Lucas & Hall Funeral Home.

Jeff Wright Jr., 78, of Ashcamp, formerly of Beehive Creek, died Thursday, March 11, at Whitesburg Appalachian Regional Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Zella Craft Wright. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, March 14, under the direction of Lucas & Hall Funeral Home.

Getaways

Continued from 5

rary, or historic to modern, Kentucky's places of worship demonstrate architectural designs of divine inspiration. Among the state's biggest and smallest places of worship are two northern Kentucky locations that boast spiritual superlatives.

The Monte Casino Chapel on the campus of Thomas More College in Crestview Hills vies for the title of "smallest chapel in the world." With interior dimensions of only six by nine feet, the chapel was moved from the site of a former Benedictine monastery (www.thomasmore.edu or 859-341-5800).

If the Pope ever visits Kentucky, the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption in Covington is his official headquarters, one of only 34 U.S. churches with such a designation. The Basilica, which recently underwent \$5.2 million worth of renovations, is a French-Gothic replica of Notre Dame in Paris. It features a staggering 82 stained glass windows, including the largest hand-blown stained-glass church window in the world (859-431-2060). Tour information for the Basilica and Monte Casino can also be found online at www.staynky.com or by calling 1-800-STAY-NKY.

Another Kentucky church is setting records in size, in fact this Louisville congregation is noted among the largest churches in America. The Southeast Christian Church (SCC), a \$78 million dollar church complex, is reportedly tenth in size in the U.S. according to the Megachurch Research Center, that ranking supported by its 9150-seat, 294,100-square-foot worship center, often described as resembling a college basketball arena. Incredibly, the congregation, which started with about 50 people just over 40 years ago, now claims to have 22,000 members plus 5000 regular attendees, and up to 17,000 weekend visitors at their three services. The activities center at SCC is 50,000 square feet with amenities at their gym, including "16 basketball courts and a Cybex health club," which is free to church goers. Its weekly newspaper has a circulation of 15,000 and a readership of 36,000; the weekly radio broadcast spans three continents (www.southeastchristian.org).

The history of American Catholicism finds many ties to Bardstown, and now a three-day itinerary designed to highlight this heritage offers visitors a spirit-filled tour of the town's most historic and acclaimed religious landmarks. Among the many Bardstown locations included in "The Pilgrim's Religious Guide" is the Basilica St. Joseph's Proto-Cathedral. When the cornerstone was laid in 1816, this became the first Catholic cathedral west of the Alleghenies. A tour includes a collection of 17th-century European painting and altar adornments (502-549-4122).

Attend vespers in the lay balcony at the Abbey of Gethsemani, the largest and oldest order of Cistercian Monks in the U.S. Founded in 1848, the Trappist monastery located just south of Bardstown was home to noted religious writer, Thomas Merton. Today the abbey numbers at more than sixty-five members. Ever wonder where your holiday fruitcake comes from? It might be Gethsemani; the monastery is known worldwide for its delicious fruitcakes, cheeses and bourbon fudge, available throughout the county and by mail order. For more details or to inquire about retreats, call 502-549-4122 or visit www.monks.org.

For a copy of "The Pilgrim's Religious Guide," or to inquire about other Bardstown sites with religious significance, contact the Bardstown/Nelson County Tourist and Convention Commission at 800-638-4877 or visit online at www.visitbardstown.com.

Gone, But Not Forgotten

You won't meet any Shakers at either of the Commonwealth's two Shaker communities—the sect's Kentucky numbers died out in the 20th century, but you can learn more about this fascinating community of faith by visiting Pleasant Hill in Harrodsburg or the Shaker Museum in South Union. Just off U.S. 68 in Mercer

County you'll find the largest and most completely restored Shaker community in the United States. Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill authentically demonstrates the 19th century lifestyle of Shakers, a religious sect known for their elegantly simple furniture and craftsmanship, enthusiastic worship and their preference of segregation of the sexes, (ironically, the village is now a popular destination for honeymooners).

Pleasant Hill was recently awarded national preservation honors and is included on a new National Register Travel Itinerary. Among its 2,700 acres of preserved rural landscape are thirty original buildings, several of which serve as accommodations for overnight guests and group retreats. Don't miss the hearty, homemade meals served in the Shaker Village Trustee Inn, as well as daily tours, regularly scheduled special events and other activities such as shopping, horseback riding and a riverboat excursion offered on the scenic Kentucky River.

For details on events and specials or to make reservations, contact Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill at 800-734-5611 or www.shakervillage.org.

The Shaker Museum at South Union is the site of the last western Shaker community. Preserving the contributions of the South Union Shakers to Kentucky's heritage, the 1824 Centre House, located just west of Bowling Green, showcases the fine craftsmanship of this inventive communal group. Also on site is Shaker Tavern (1869), formerly a passenger station for the L&N Railroad that now welcomes guests as a converted Bed & Breakfast. The well-restored buildings are on the National Register of Historic Places (800-811-8379 or www.logantele.com/~shakemus/).

Spirited Singing

At the roots of religion in Kentucky you'll find gospel music — an expression of faith shaped with a "Kentucky sound" by early settlers in the 1700s. From those soulful beginnings to contemporary figures of modern gospel music, including Kentucky natives Steven Curtis Chapman and Larnelle Harris, gospel music remains an inspirational focus of events and exhibits throughout the state.

Among gospel music events held annually in Kentucky are such spirited sing-a-longs as the Renfro Valley Gospel Music Celebration, October 21-23, 2004. The entertainment center, noted as the Country Music Capital of Kentucky, tunes into its soulful side with performances by top gospel acts (www.renfrovalley.com). Nearby, at the Kentucky Music Hall of Fame and Museum, learn about the history of music in Kentucky, from its early gospel influences to the development of native sounds like bluegrass, folk, country and blues. Exhibits showcase the significant contributions of Kentucky performers, songwriters and other music professionals (www.kentuckymusic-museum.com).

What began as a Christian reply and alternative to the Woodstock festival in 1969, Icthus now stands as America's first and longest-running Christian music festival. Held annually on approximately 110 acres just outside of Wilmore in central Kentucky, the youth-oriented festival draws thousands each year for contemporary Christian music concerts, motivating speakers and uplifting worship services. For details on individual and group registration for the 35th Anniversary Icthus Festival (April 22-25, 2004), visit www.ichthus.org or call 859-858-3001.

For more information and a free copy of the 2004 Kentucky Great Getaway Guide, call 800-225-TRIP (8747) or visit www.kentuckytourism.com online.

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www.trustforlife.org

Obituaries

Russell Harman

Russell Harman, 92, died Thursday, March 18, 2004.

He was born June 18, 1911, in Floyd County, one of four children of Pres Taulbee Harman and Bessie Harman.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Geneva Clark Harman of Sarasota, Florida, as well as his daughters, Roslyn Dial (John) of Mexico, Missouri, E. Ann Harman of Archer Florida; and son Bill Harman (Carol) of Lexington.

He was a school teacher, business man, community leader and inspiration to many. He began his business career as a secretary with Mallory Coal Company, and rose to become president of Princess Coal Company, headquartered in Huntington, West Virginia, which operated coal mines in Floyd County, and several locations in West Virginia.

He chaired and served on many national coal association boards.

He was elected to the Floyd County Hall of Fame the first year it was organized. He retired from Princess Coal in 1968.

Funeral arrangements are being handled by Toale Brothers Funeral Home in Sarasota, Florida, and the Herald-Stewart Funeral Home in Mt. Sterling, Kentucky.

Funeral services will be conducted Tuesday, March 23, 10 a.m., at Herald-Stewart Funeral Home, in Mount Sterling, with burial in Machpelah Cemetery.

Visitation will be held Monday, from 7-8 p.m., at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to First United Methodist Church, Mt. Sterling, Kentucky 40353.

(Paid obituary)

What are you doing this weekend?

Sitting at home, watching TV, playing video games, hanging with your friends? Some of the guys you know will go hiking, camping, caving, rock climbing and learning leadership skills. They are Boy Scouts. Boy Scouts help develop tomorrow's leaders... are you one of them? You can be.

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<<http://www.lpscouting.net/>>



*"Make a difference,
be the difference, be a scout!"*

Kentucky Division of Water programs help prevent flood damage losses

FRANKFORT - Kentucky is now in the midst of the flood season that typically occurs from November through May. In March 1997, 101 Kentucky counties suffered more than \$200 million in flood damages. But floods may occur at any time, as many people remember

from their experiences during 1989. By the end of February that year, floods had impacted 67 central and eastern Kentucky counties. Then in June and July, 12 eastern Kentucky counties received flood damage, and again in October of that same year, 11

eastern Kentucky counties were flooded.

Because Kentuckians suffer millions of dollars in losses from flood damage virtually every year, the Floodplain Management Section of the Kentucky Division of Water (DOW) continues year-round prevention efforts.

Since property owners cannot buy flood insurance unless their community participates in the National Flood Insurance Program, Floodplain

Management personnel urge community leaders to join the program.

Floodplain Management personnel visit communities to educate and inform people about the adoption and updating of floodplain management ordinances to meet federal criteria.

The floodplain construction permitting program is a vital element in reducing flood losses. Buildings constructed in floodplains are not only subject

to flood damage, they may hamper the free flow of high water during flood conditions and force floodwaters into unwanted areas.

Aggressive education programs and technical assistance by DOW personnel have resulted in an increase in the number of floodplain construction permit applications in recent years. As people and communities have learned how to avoid placing inappropriate structures in floodplains,

they have been able to avoid flood damage as well as prevent causing flood damage to others.

For more information on flood damage protection and other flood-related programs of the Division of Water, see this Web site: <http://www.water.ky.gov/floods/> or contact the Floodplain Management Section, Division of Water at 14 Reilly Road, Frankfort KY 40601 or call (502) 564-3410.

Davidson

Continued from 4

grasp of what heaven would be like than many people twice her age, with twice as much experience and knowledge. She knew that something better was coming.

At the funeral people were walking by the young woman's casket and they saw the pretty dress she was wearing and the fork that was placed in her right hand. Over and over the pastor heard the question, "What's with the fork?" And over and over he smiled.

During the message, the pastor told the people of the conversation he had with the young woman shortly before she died. He also told them about the fork and what it symbolized to her. He told them that he could not stop thinking about the fork and that they probably would not be able to stop thinking about it either.

In my case, this pastor was right. Since writing this column, many times when I reach down for my fork it reminds me that the best is yet to come. Friends are very rare jewel, indeed. They make you smile and encourage you to succeed. They lend an ear, they share a word of praise, and they always want to open their hearts to us.

Remember to always be there for your friends because you never know when it may be their time to "Keep the fork." Cherish the time you have and the memories you

share ... being friends with someone is not an opportunity but a sweet responsibility.

Send this to everyone you consider to be a FRIEND, even if it means sending it back to the person who sent it to you. AND ... ALWAYS keep your fork!

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

Beltway

Continued from 4

later, "How could we tell anything about how smart either of them was if they never took the stand?"

Ultimately, I suppose, Ms. Stewart's downfall was precipitated by petty greed, arrogance and deceitfulness, not attractive attributes.

But I still feel sorry for her. She's getting worse than she deserves.

Donald Kaul (donald.kaul2@verizon.net) 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.

Evening with Poets to be held in Hazard April 29

Hazard Community and Technical College will hold its annual "Evening with Poets" on Thursday, April 29 at 6:30 p.m. in the Stephens Library, located in the J. Marvin Jolly Classroom Center on the Hazard Campus of HCTC.

The evening will consist of the unveiling of the first-ever on-line version of Kudzu, the college's literary magazine. Selected individuals will read their works published in Kudzu.

Jim Webb will be the Master of Ceremonies for the event. Webb, a noted poet, playwright and sworper, is the author of Buzzsaws in the Rain.

Author Wendell Berry will

speak. Berry has written more than 60 books. He is nationally celebrated, internationally renowned, and a past fellow of both the Guggenheim Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation. T. S. Eliot Award, the Aiken Taylor Award for Poetry, and the John Hay Award of the Orion Society and most recently the winner of a Kentucky Star, the award given by the Lexington Downtown Corporation to honor Kentuckians in the arts. Besides Berry's interest in writing, he is a farmer.

For more information, contact Scott Lucero at 487 3200.

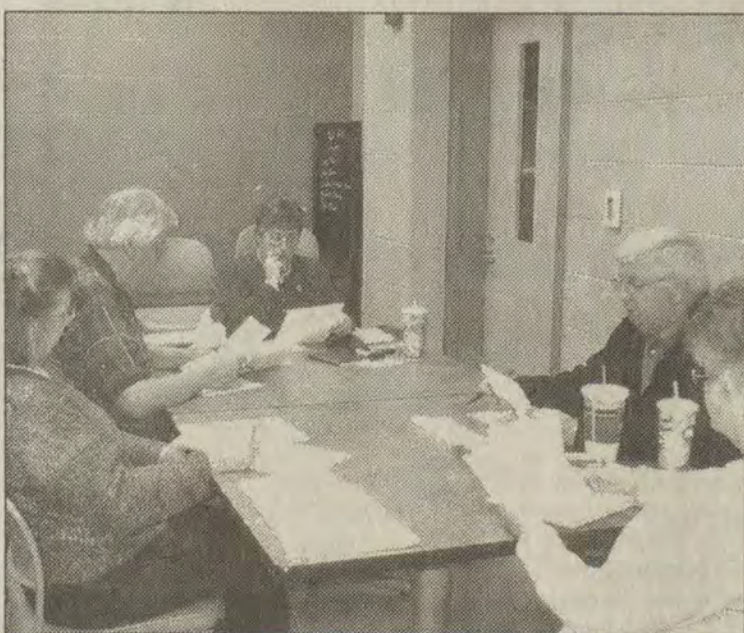


photo by Kathy J. Prater

T-GIFT prepares to present third computer award

Founding members of T-GIFT (Technology Gift Incentive Foundation Team) peruse recent applications from local students hoping to be awarded a new computer system to aid them in their university studies. T-GIFT is preparing to award its third computer gift this April 23 in an awards ceremony dinner that will be held at the Mountain Arts Center, at 6 p.m. Noted Kentucky storyteller, Loyal Jones, will serve as guest speaker. If you, or your organization, would like to help support T-GIFT by attending this awards dinner, you may contact any of the above members, or write to: T-GIFT, P.O. Box 1802, Prestonsburg, KY 41653, by April 10. Tickets for the dinner are \$20/person, or \$150 for a 6-seat corporate table. Entree items will include a choice of prime rib or turkey. The T-GIFT founding members pictured above, clockwise, are: Kathleen Weigand, Gary Mitchell, Joyce Mitchell, Delora Kraus and David Kraus.

Kentucky chamber endorses Fletcher tax plan

by CHARLES WOLFE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — The state's largest business organization endorsed Gov. Ernie Fletcher's tax plan Friday.

Whether the plan would be put to a vote in the 2004 General Assembly was uncertain as the Democratic House and Republican Senate escalated a war of words. Fletcher said he might call the legislature back into session "until we get something done."

Fletcher has been courting business support for his plan, and he got some from the 7,000-member Kentucky Chamber of

Commerce. Its governing board voted to endorse Fletcher's "tax modernization," provided "clarifications" were incorporated in the legislation.

"The language was very expansive," Chaz Lavelle, the chamber's chairman, said in a telephone interview.

One change the chamber said it wanted was addition of a specification that the state would not try to collect an income tax from companies that have only sales employees in the state. The chamber said that would violate federal law. "Numerous other states have engaged in unproductive litigation and had their statutes ruled unconstitutional," Lavelle said.

Fletcher, who says Kentucky's tax system scares away business and people with wealth, wants to roll back business taxes and reduce personal income taxes.

He would make up the money with higher taxes on tobacco products and alcoholic beverages and a tax on satellite television service, among other things. Fletcher says the plan would be "revenue neutral" for perhaps two years, in keeping with his campaign promise not to propose a net tax increase.

His plan was not released until last week. The details are

in a proposed House substitute bill that technically has not been introduced, though the House appropriations committee opened hearings this week.

Eight days remained in the

legislature's session after Friday. House Speaker Jody Richards said too little time remains. Fletcher said Richards

(See PLAN, page eight)

View

Continued from 4

The governor no doubt was worried about the morale of his staff and the impression dignitaries and other visitors formed when they entered his offices. Perhaps a bigger, bolder statement could have been made if he'd decided to wear the shabbiness as a badge of honor, proclaiming that even he'd do without until the state got back on its feet.

— *The Kentucky Post, Covington*

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Plan

Continued from 7

and other House Democrats were being "obstructive."
Neither chamber's leaders want to be the first to vote on a tax plan, but each has been trying to force the other.
Senate President David Williams on Thursday proposed a parliamentary shortcut that, if agreed to by the House, would put Fletcher's tax legislation directly into the hands of House and Senate conferees.
Williams said the Senate would take an innocuous House bill already pending in the Senate, attach a simple Republican amendment and

send it back to the House for a "nonconcurrency" vote. That would throw the bill into a negotiating conference in which it would be transformed.
One of the Senate's minority Democrats, Sen. Ernesto Scorsone of Lexington, threw a wrench into that plan. Scorsone filed his own amendment, a carbon copy of the Fletcher plan. The move was calculated to put Williams and his colleagues in a box. "Are the Senate Republicans for the governor's plan or not?" Scorsone said in a floor speech.
Asked if the Senate would

take up the bill and its amendments, Majority Leader Dan Kelly said "all options are open."
"We'll take whatever step is necessary to make it happen if they (in the House) are willing to make it happen," Kelly said. Williams said he did not know what would happen.
Fletcher said he thought there were enough votes in the Senate to pass the plan but could not guarantee it. If the House would pass it, "it will be a done deal," Fletcher said in a news conference.
"I would hope that the House

leadership would stop being as obstructive as they've been in the past and start working with us," Fletcher said.
To make his point, Fletcher's staff distributed an e-mail to House Democrats from Tom Martin, communications director in the speaker's office. It said House members should "consider dropping the terms 'tax modernization plan' or 'tax reform' from our vocabulary and call it 'the Republican tax increase' or 'the Governor's tax increase.'"
Martin confirmed the e-mail. He said they were his own thoughts, not a reflection of official policy.
Fletcher said he might call a special legislative session if tax legislation is not enacted now.
"I'm leaving the option up that, if we leave, we may come back very quickly until we get something done, or we're voting down something. At least we get a vote on it," Fletcher said.
When a reporter noted that Fletcher could call a special session but legislators could immediately adjourn, Fletcher replied: "Then we'll call them in again if we need to."

MSU-P'burg moving over spring break

PRESTONSBURG — Students attending classes at Morehead State University at Prestonsburg are gearing up to move most operations to a new location March 29.
When classes begin after spring break, which runs March 22-26, the learning experience will be offered in the new \$6.65 million Postsecondary Education Center, Building 6, of the Big Sandy Community and Technical College, 1 Bert Combs Drive in Prestonsburg.

and directional signs will assist students in locating their classrooms.
For more than 30 years, MSU has offered college courses in the Prestonsburg and Floyd County area. Students may earn a bachelor's degree in a variety of fields including accounting, computer information sciences, elementary and middle grades education, management, nursing, social work and university studies. A master's degree is available in business administration and education as well as graduate-level professional certification programs in education.

MSU's new home will be in 30,000 square feet of the new building. The business office, where students will register for classes and pay bills, is on the first floor, along with the offices of the director, assistant director, support staff and Commonwealth Educational Opportunity Center.
The offices of Dr. David Peterson and Dr. Kitty Hazler, education faculty at the center, are located on the second floor, along with support for the social work degree program and faculty members Dr. Mary Just and Dr. Judith Stafford.

More than 1,200 students are enrolled in classes at the Prestonsburg location this semester.
Additional information is available by calling MSU Prestonsburg at (606) 886-2405 or toll-free at (800) 648-5372.

College expands 'Work and Learn Project' to three more counties

PRESTONSBURG — In an effort to encourage adults to set higher educational goals, Big Sandy Community and Technical College has expanded its Work and Learn project to all five Big Sandy area counties — Floyd, Johnson, Magoffin, Martin and Pike.

attending the Christian Appalachian Project GED classes at the Adult Learning Center in Wheelwright since November. Her immediate goal is to obtain her GED by this summer and to enroll in fall classes at the Prestonsburg Campus of the Big Sandy Community and Technical College.

statewide to all sixteen KCTCS districts.
Also, Jean Rosenberg, Ready To Work coordinator on the Prestonsburg Campus of the Big Sandy Community Technical College, announced the addition of two staff members at the First Stop for Parents Career Development Center located in room J-130 of the Johnson Building.

Focused on Kentucky Temporary Assistance Program parents who need a GED or an educational "brush-up," the Work and Learn Project offers eligible participants the opportunity to receive paid work-study while upgrading their adult basic education skills or obtaining their general equivalency diploma.

For now, Collins will get to work in one aspect of her career goal of social work by choosing a work-study placement at the Floyd County Department for Community Based Services satellite office in Wheelwright. She will begin the real life demands of balancing work, education and family obligations, which includes caring for her 16-month-old son Nathan on Thursday.

Lema Bradley and Bertha Daniels will be coordinating the activities that will screen, place and mentor eligible parents in the Work and Learn Project. They will assist in work-study site placement and serve as liaisons to wider community resources for all area GED centers.

The work-study activity presents the opportunity to experience a placement linked with the parent's long-term employment goals. Locations are flexible enough to permit a placement in either the private, for-profit or non-profit situation. The program is designed to give a parent the opportunity to consider continuing their education to increase their employment choices.

The Work and Learn Project, a collaboration between the Department for Community Based Services' Division of Family Support, The Department for Adult Education and Literacy and the Kentucky Community and Technical College System's Ready To Work program, was piloted July 1, 2003, in Daviess, Hopkins, Johnson, Mason and Pike counties. On Feb. 18, the Work and Learn project was expanded

The BSCTC Ready to Work Coordinators, Billie Jean Cole on the Pikeville Campus, Jean Rosenberg on the Prestonsburg Campus and Shawnann Crider on the Paintsville Campus, will provide oversight for the Work and Learn Project while continuing to serve postsecondary parents' support needs, including a Ready to Work work-study program which provides on- and off-campus work study for more than 50 KTAP and TANF eligible parents enrolled at BSCTC.

Attention: Home Gardeners!

The Floyd County Extension Service and Floyd County Conservation District will join to hold a "Home Garden Information and Seed Give-Away" on Friday, April 9, from 8 a.m. until 11:30 a.m., at the Prestonsburg Senior Citizens Center, located near the entrance to Jenny Wiley State Resort Park. Seeds will be distributed on a "first come-first serve" basis, so plan to come early to pick up your seed packets. Seed quantities are limited. For more information, call 886-2668 or 886-9800.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND SCHOOL

Checkout Wednesday & Friday LIFESTYLES for weekly school updates and schedules.



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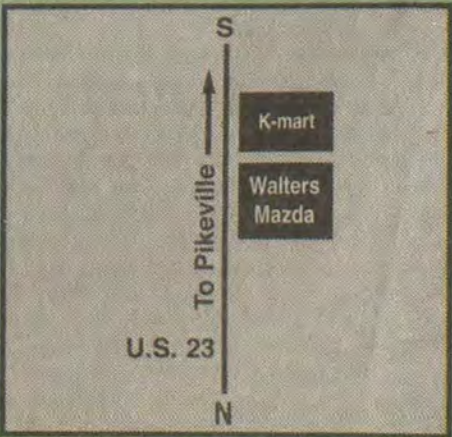
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Regional SPORTS

Sunday, March 21, 2004

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FISHING

Crappie anglers may be missing out by lingering deep

by STEVE VANTRESE
FOR THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PADUCAH — Crappie fishermen perhaps should look to the shallows sooner. Maybe right now.

Some of Kentucky's better crappie fishing may be scattered in the relatively thin waters in the rear section of major lakes before most anglers are there to utilize it, according to Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources research.

Paul Rister, a fisheries biologist for the department, for the second spring in a row is tracking Kentucky Lake crappie that have been implanted with tiny transmitters that reveal their locations electronically. The study on Kentucky's top crappie lake is producing some insight that may help anglers better get together with the popular panfish.

Kentucky Lake and most other major reservoirs in the state have crappie populations made up of two species: white crappie and black crappie. One significant finding of the research is that the black crappie — thought to be the majority species in Kentucky Lake now — tends to move shallow earlier in the spring than has been anticipated by fishermen.

"The black crappie have moved up when the water temperature first moved into the mid-50s in the backs of the bays," Rister said. "The water level has come up

(See CRAPPIE, page two)

OUTDOORS

Grant announced for Kentucky landowners

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

FRANKFORT — Department of the Interior Secretary Gail Norton has announced that \$862,000 will be available to Kentucky landowners this year who want to improve wildlife habitat and help conserve endangered species on private lands in the Commonwealth.

The \$862,000 is Kentucky's portion of \$25.8 million set aside in President Bush's Landowner Incentive Program (LIP) to provide funding in 40 states for various conservation projects on a cost-share basis through state fish and wildlife agencies. LIP projects require at least a 25 percent funding match to qualify for approval.

"We're very fortunate that the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) has committed the matching funds for habitat projects in Kentucky, which means no state dollars have to be spent to get this highly beneficial work completed," said Jon Gasset, wildlife division director for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR).

Landowners who participate in the program will be able to do important and

(See GRANT, page two)

Eagle golfers open spring campaign

Prestonsburg grad in first spring season of college golf

TIMES STAFF REPORT

MOREHEAD — The Morehead State University Eagle golf team is opening its spring season with two

tournaments in six days.

MSU will play host this past to the Eagle Invitational at Silver Springs Shores. The Eagles were joined by Hartford, Murray State, UT-Martin and Youngstown State. The event was scheduled to be played on the Desmond Muirhead designed Country Club of Silver Springs Shores golf course.

Final results of the season-open-

ing tournament were unavailable at press time.

On Monday and Tuesday, the MSU golfers will participate in the Amoco Ultimate/Young Oil Intercollegiate at Silver Lakes Golf Course, a Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail facility in Glencoe, Ala. Jacksonville State is the host school.

(See OPEN, page two)



file photo
Ryan Martin is back on the golf trail, playing for the Morehead State University men's team.

SPRING FOOTBALL



photo by Steve LeMaster

Prestonsburg High assistant coach James DeRossett worked with linemen during a spring practice session Friday evening. The Blackcats finished the 2003 season with a 7-5 record. Prestonsburg will again play a challenging schedule in 2004, including a home date on Sept. 3 against Bell County in the Action Petroleum Bowl. The Blackcats will open the season on the road Aug. 21 against host Pikeville in the Pike County Bowl. Other non-district opponents for Prestonsburg will include Bell County, Lawrence County and Ashland. District opponents for the Blackcats will again include defending Class 2 state champ Belfry, Sheldon Clark, Magoffin County, Shelby Valley, Pike Central and East Ridge.

Reds continue military ticket program

Team to offer military personnel complimentary tickets

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

CINCINNATI — The Cincinnati Reds today announced a continuation of the military ticket program in which they will provide active

military personnel with complimentary tickets throughout the 2004 regular season.

Active military members with proper identification will receive complimentary View Level tickets, subject to availability, on day of game only for games played Monday through Thursday. This program does not include games on Opening Day, April 21, June 30 or August 11.

All ticket acquisitions must be made on the day of the game at the Advance Ticket Windows, located at Crosley Terrace at Great American Ball Park. Groups of 20 or more are requested to call the community relations office 21 business days in advance (513/765-7022).

In addition to the complimentary

(See REDS, page four)

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

MSU releases 2004 football schedule

TIMES STAFF REPORT

MOREHEAD — The Morehead State University Football Eagles, two-time defending Pioneer Football League South Division Champions, will play an 11-game football schedule in 2004 that features six home games and first-ever

trips to Drake and Duquesne.

The Eagles open the season at home on Sept. 4 against Coastal Carolina. Next comes four consecutive games against PFL North Division foes. MSU will travel to Dayton on Sept. 11. Butler returns to the schedule and will provide MSU with its Family Weekend

opponent on Sept. 18. The Eagles will make the long trek to Des Moines, Iowa, to meet Drake on Sept. 25. Valparaiso, who defeated MSU in the 2003 PFL Championship Game last November, will visit Jayne Stadium on Oct. 2.

(See MSU, page two)

GOLF

Perry to become 42nd member of Kentucky Golf Hall of Fame

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LOUISVILLE — The Kentucky Golf Association and the Kentucky Section have announced that PGA Tour star Kenny Perry has been elected as the 42nd member of the Kentucky Golf Hall of Fame. He will be formally inducted at a ceremony at the Holiday Inn University Plaza in Bowling Green on April 29.

Perry, 43, resides in Franklin, and has become one of the world's top golfers (currently ranked 11th by The World Golf Ranking). He has notched seven victories on the PGA Tour since 1991, with three coming last year (Bank of America Colonial Invitational, The Memorial Tournament, and the Greater Milwaukee Open).

Perry, a member of the Western

(See GOLF, page two)

Caravan to visit Prestonsburg, StoneCrest on May 13

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — This May and June, look for the Big Blue Caravan as it rolls through the mountains of Eastern Kentucky, across the fields of the Bluegrass Region, up to Northern Kentucky as far south as Paducah, and west to Owensboro. The Caravan will include some very familiar UK faces as Coach Tubby Smith, Coach Rich Brooks, Coach Mickie DeMoss, Athletics Director Mitch Barnhart and other UK coaches and staff journey across the state to meet loyal Wildcat fans.

The caravan kicks off in Union on May 3 and tours seven communities, winding up on June 14 at Prospect. The Caravan will visit Prestonsburg on May 13 when it heads up Maggie Mountain to StoneCrest Golf Course.

A complete schedule for the Caravan follows.

(See TICKET, page two)

file photo
Allen Central third baseman Tyler Turner applied a tag during last season's championship game of the 15th Region Tournament.



Allen Central baseball to scrimmage Magoffin Co.

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

GARRETT — The Allen Central High baseball team was one of the first in the area to begin practice back in February. Allen Central beat Johnson Central last spring, taking the 15th Region Championship. In his first year as head coach, Craig Kidd has kept Allen Central busy. The Rebels spent most of the past week inter-squad scrimmaging.

The Rebels graduated some strong talent from

the 2003 team, including some accomplished pitchers.

"It seems that our pitching is going to be the most unpredictable part of our team," Kidd admitted. "I feel very good about our defense and aggressiveness and so so about our offense. I think we'll be OK though, we'll surprise some teams. Most people will overlook us because we are so young. But the core of this group (sophomores) has played 300-plus games together over the past

(See BASEBALL, page two)

Manhattan routs Florida

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RALEIGH, N.C. — The little team from the Big Apple was every bit as good as promised.

Led by 26 points from hot-shot guard Luis Flores, 12th-seeded Manhattan beat fifth-

seeded Florida 75-60 in the first round of the NCAA tournament Thursday.

Manhattan (25-5) won its first tournament game since defeating Oklahoma in 1995, and advanced to play fourth-seeded Wake Forest in the East

Rutherford Regional.

The Gators (20-11), ranked first in the country in December, failed to make it out of the first weekend of the tourney for the fourth straight time since they made the national finals in 2000.

Peter Mulligan added 17 points for the Jaspers, and Dave Holmes had 12 points and 12 rebounds.

Anthony Roberson led Florida with 22 points.

Wake Forest 79, Virginia Commonwealth 78

RALEIGH, N.C. — Chris Paul had 22 points and seven assists, and Justin Gray added 15 points for Wake Forest.

Jamaal Levy had 10 points and 10 rebounds for the Demon Deacons (20-9), who advanced to the second round for the third straight year. Domonic Jones had 22 points and seven assists for Virginia Commonwealth (23-8).

Saint Joseph's 82, Liberty 63

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Jameer Nelson scored 22 of his season-high 33 points in the first half, leading top-seeded Saint Joseph's to an easy first-round victory over Liberty.

The Hawks (28-1), coming off an 87-67 loss to Xavier in the Atlantic 10 Conference quarterfinals, advanced to play eighth-seeded Texas Tech in the East Rutherford Regional.

Delonte West added 18

points and nine rebounds for Saint Joseph's. David Dees led the Flames (18-15) with 22 points.

Texas Tech 76, Charlotte 73

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Andre Emmett scored 20 points to help Texas Tech beat Charlotte in Red Raiders coach Bob Knight's first game in Buffalo since his 2000 finale with Indiana.

Jarrius Jackson added 17 points for Texas Tech (23-10).

Curtis Withers led Charlotte (21-9) with 17 points and nine rebounds.

Phoenix Regional

Syracuse 80, BYU 75

DENVER — Gerry McNamara hit nine 3-pointers and had 43 points for defending national champion Syracuse.

Syracuse (22-7) shot 53 percent and got 20 points from Hakim Warrick, but couldn't

(See **ROUTS**, page three)

Open

The six Eagle golfers who have qualified to make the first trip of the season are Prestonsburg native Ryan Martin (Fr.), Matt Gann (Fr., Pineville), Austin Hansford (So., Somerset), Kyle Litter (So., Chillicothe, Ohio), Brian May (Fr., Frankfort) and Casey Wade (So., Jamestown).

Martin participated with the MSU golf team in the fall, his first campaign of college golf.

Wade led MSU golfers in fall scoring average. He averaged 72.2 strokes per round and had

an eight-under par 64 in the first round of the Sonic-Chattanooga Intercollegiate. Litter was close behind with a 72.7 stroke average, and Martin averaged 73.9 strokes per round.

Martin, in his first season of college golf, also gave the MSU team a sizable boost.

In addition to hosting the Eagle Invitational at Silver Springs Shores, MSU will also host the Greg Palmer Eagle Classic at Eagle Trace Golf Course in Morehead, April 12-13.

Continued from p1

PRO BASKETBALL

Kentucky Reach pro team announces tryouts

Added tryout date could be slated for area

TIMES STAFF REPORT

ELIZABETHTOWN — Make your dream of playing professional basketball a reality. Kentucky Reach, an inaugural member of the World Basketball Association, Inc. (WBA), will be conducting tryouts for per-

spective players to formulate its 2004 roster. The WBA is the first professional basketball league to teach, develop and expose players to the NBA, NBDL, ABA, CBA and international scouts. The structure of the league is unique in that it focuses on teaching and entertaining while at the same time involving youth organizations and local communities. The WBA is in its inaugural season with teams in seven states including Rome (Ga.),

Chattanooga (Tenn.), Tunica (Miss.), Elizabethtown, Macon (Ga.), Peachtree City (Ga.), Raleigh (N.C.) and Jackson (Miss.).

Each WBA team will include a 10-man roster and a three-month playing season from April to June beginning this year. An upcoming tryout has been scheduled for Tuesday from 6:30-9:30 pm at Severns Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethtown. Early registration fees are \$70 (\$85 the day of the camp). For registration info, please e-mail Nate McCurry at Nate@kentuckyreach.com or contact Robby Speer at 270/403-4679.

A tryout date is being planned for here in Eastern Kentucky. Gyms in Floyd, Pike and Johnson counties are being looked at as possible host sites.

On Monday, March 29, from 7-10 p.m. there will be a tryout at the Kentucky Basketball Academy in Lexington. The contact person for that tryout is Chad Tate 859/314-2423.

Another tryout has been scheduled for Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon at First Baptist Church in London.

MSU

Continued from p1

MSU's three PFL South Division games are scheduled for consecutive Saturdays in October. The Eagles travel to Austin Peay on Oct. 9 and to Davidson on Oct. 16. Jacksonville will be MSU's Homecoming 2004 opponent on Oct. 23.

The Eagles, coached by Matt Ballard, will end the regular season with three non-conference games. The Eagles will play host to St. Francis (Pa.) on Oct. 30. Charleston (W.Va.)

will visit on Nov. 6. And, MSU will travel to Pittsburgh, Pa., to meet Duquesne on Nov. 13.

The PFL Championship Game will be played on Nov. 20 and will be hosted by the South Division winner.

Prestonsburg native John Gilliam serves as the MSU defensive coordinator. Josh Slone, a 2001 graduate of Prestonsburg High School, is now a member of the MSU grid team.

Continued from p1

Crappie

some at the same time, and it became a little warmer back there than in the rest of the lake.

"The white crappie remain out on deeper flats along any kind of creek channels around, scattered or suspended around stumps or brush piles," he said. "But the blacks went up to into shallow flats — and the fishermen who were out there at the same time tended to be back working around the deeper ledges."

In other words, a large class of fish running off and leaving the angling pressure.

"People who want to catch crappie might should be moving up shallower sooner than they think," Rister said. "Our tracking shows the fish are up there. Whether they'll bite remains to be seen, but the fish are back in the backs of bays before people are fishing for them there."

Rister defined the shallow realm of early-migrant crappie as "eight feet and less."

He said, "The fish are scattering on shallow flats, not necessarily up in the bushes in the back ends of bays but maybe around silted-in channels or brush. They might be well off the bank in five or six feet or water, but some of them may be getting up in two or three feet of water, too."

Rister said anglers on Kentucky Lake — and likely other reservoirs across the state — appear to be missing some opportunities by fishing too deep into the early spring period when black crappie already have made their move. Fishermen's transitions from deep to shallow as they adapt to the coming spawning season may be too gradual.

"When the conditions get right, black crappie seem to make their move just within a couple of days," Rister said.

Rister said scattered black crappie across shallow flats might make a case for a style of fishing that's not practiced often in Kentucky.

"I've talks to folks in some other states where fishermen do shallow trolling for black crappie when they move up," he said. "Some of these troll at a pretty fast speed, keeping jigs within a foot or two of the surface and covering a lot of water. That may be what our fishermen need to do to find black crappie scattered on the shallow flats."

Black and white crappie are both distributed across Kentucky in major lakes and rivers. White crappie traditionally have been more common in most locations, but blacks may be making

inroads. On Kentucky Lake specifically, black crappie apparently have surpassed whites, the change thought to be the result of gradual clearing water conditions that favor the black species.

Although sometimes confused by fishermen, the crappie species have characteristics that set them apart. Black crappie tend to have black spots irregularly spaced on their sides whereas whites tend to have dark vertical bars for markings. Black crappie have seven or more short spines at the front of the dorsal (top) fin, while white crappie have six or fewer spines at the front of the dorsal.

To see results and maps of the Kentucky Lake crappie research, check the KDFWR Web site at www.kdfr.state.ky.us, click on "Fishing," then "Kentucky Lake crappie study."

Baseball

Continued from p1

three years."

Allen Central will face its first pre-season opposition Saturday when Magoffin County pays a visit to Floyd County to play the Rebels.

The game will be most likely be played at either Garrett or Archer Park.

During the upcoming season, Allen Central will play home games at Stumbo Park in Allen, sharing the field with Betsy Layne. Kidd recently laid sod on the infield at the Allen field. Allen Central will host its first home game on Wednesday, March 31 when it entertains

Sheldon Clark.

The schedule Kidd has set for his team is a challenging one. However, his team will go at everything with a first-class approach.

"I want to take our program up in status several levels this year," added Kidd. "I know this comes from winning. But I've been trying to create an atmosphere of eliteness that AC has never known. That's why I've spent so much money on uniforms, chartering buses, new grass, scoreboard and everything as first-class as possible. That's why I've been telling everyone we want to

Grant

Continued from p1

sometimes critical work for wildlife and habitat without having to pay out of their own pocket. Using grant monies and matching funds from RMEF, the KDFWR will be able to provide the financial assistance and technical guidance from biologists to landowners to make improvements on their properties, and ultimately benefit all types of wildlife species in Kentucky. Landowners simply invest their time and follow a plan designed specifically to meet their needs, and the needs of species both plant and animal, on their property.

This program is aimed at not only recovering lost habitat and improving existing wildlife populations, but also at preventing and protecting at-risk species from becoming imperiled and being listed as threatened or endangered. It takes advantage of the proven success of public-private partnerships to conserve habitat and wildlife by giving those willing to do the work the financial ability and knowledge necessary to join together in a common goal.

Similar programs have affected change on thousands of acres in Kentucky in recent years, and this reauthorization of funds affirms a

strong commitment from the federal government to continue making wildlife conservation a high priority. Kentucky has received a total of \$2.3 million in the first two years of LIP, placing the Bluegrass State first in the southeastern United States, and seventh overall in state funding appropriations through this program.

The President's 2005 budget includes \$507.3 million for the Interior Department's cooperative conservation programs, more than a 43 percent increase for these programs since 2001. The Cooperative Conservation Initiative has been increased 25 percent, and during its first year in 2003, funded 256 projects in more than 40 states and Puerto Rico.

Landowners interested in taking advantage of the Landowner Incentive Program in Kentucky should contact the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources to get in touch with a private land's biologist. He or she can familiarize you with numerous opportunities to improve habitat on your farm, and will help devise a management plan that incorporates best management practices for farming and wildlife alike.

Call toll-free 1-800-858-1549 weekdays 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Eastern and find out more how you can become a partner for wildlife, and help preserve Kentucky's natural resources at virtually no cost beyond your time.

The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR) manages, regulates, enforces and promotes responsible use of all fish and wildlife species, their habitats, public wildlife areas and waterways for the benefit of those resources and for public enjoyment. KDFWR, an agency of the Commerce Cabinet, has an economic impact to the state of \$4.8 billion annually. For more information on KDFWR, visit our web site at fw.ky.gov.

Ticket

Continued from p1

2004 BIG BLUE CARAVAN
May 3
Union,
Triple Crown Country Club

May 12
Lexington,
University Club of Kentucky

May 13
Prestonsburg,
StoneCrest Golf Course

May 14
Ashland,
Bellefonte Country Club

May 20
Paducah,
Country Club of Paducah

May 21
Owensboro,
Owensboro Country Club

June 14
Prospect,
Hunting Creek Country Club

Golf

Continued from p1

Kentucky University Athletics Hall of Fame, turned professional in 1982, with his first PGA Tour victory coming in 1991 at The Memorial Tournament.

In 1995, Perry helped to design, fund, and build Country Creek Golf Course in Franklin, Kentucky, a public course with a moderate fee structure and player friendly design. He resides in Franklin with his wife Sandye, daughters Lesslye and Lindsey, and son Justin.

Dr. Paul Brian Hall, Paintsville, was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1996.

The Kentucky Golf Hall of Fame was established in 1984 as a joint effort by the Kentucky Golf Association and the Kentucky Section PGA to honor individuals in Kentucky with significant achievements and accomplishments in various areas of golf. The Kentucky Golf Hall of Fame's membership includes individuals with remarkable records as players, club professionals, golf course superintendents, educators, and golf administrators.

More information can be found at www.kygolf.org.

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Catholic Campaign for Human Development 1-800-942-2541

NFL wide receivers on the move

by BARRY WILNER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

David Boston is ready for a new start in Miami. Keyshawn Johnson is about to get his in Dallas.

Wide receivers are on the move in the NFL. On Thursday, Boston passed his physical and officially joined the Dolphins. Meanwhile, Johnson's trade from the Buccaneers to the Cowboys was nearly completed, with Joey Galloway going to Tampa Bay.

Boston made the Pro Bowl after the 2001 season, in which he caught 98 passes for 1,598

yards with Arizona. He has had his share of problems off the field since.

He pleaded no contest to drunken driving charges in 2002 when police said he tested positive for marijuana and cocaine. Boston missed eight games that season because of a knee injury and a positive drug test.

Then, Boston signed a seven-year, \$47 million contract with the Chargers, but had a rough season in San Diego. He missed one game because of a heel injury, and was suspended for another for conduct detrimental to the team after he got into a shouting match with the team's

strength coach.

"That is in the past," he said. "I'm not even thinking about it. I'm thinking about working out and getting better and starting my way toward a championship."

He'll team with Chris Chambers and could form Miami's best receiving duo in years.

"Coming here where guys are excited about winning a Super Bowl, it all feels good," Boston said.

Johnson, deactivated by the Bucs in midseason, agreed weeks ago to a four-year, \$20 million contract with a \$4 million bonus to play for Dallas and Bill Parcells, his coach for three seasons with the New York Jets. But it's contingent on Tampa Bay and Galloway agreeing on a contract.

That hasn't happened, although it appeared very close Thursday. Galloway was offered a one-year contract by Tampa Bay that could be worth \$2.6 million with incentives. If he accepts, the deal will go through.

If not, Johnson almost certainly will be released by April 1, when he's owed a \$1 million bonus.

"We've told Tampa that we'll tell them (Friday)," said Galloway's agent, Leigh Steinberg. "Things look very promising."

Elsewhere:

■ Tampa retooled its backfield by signing running backs Jamel White and Brandon Bennett, who also returns kicks.

Bennett was with Cincinnati, where he rushed for 1,127 yards and five touchdowns in five seasons, while catching 90 passes for 756 yards and one TD.

White, a veteran of four NFL seasons, finished second on the Browns with 46 receptions for 303 yards and one TD last season. He also rushed for 266 yards and one TD.

■ The free-spending Redskins added cornerbacks Ralph Brown and Walt Harris, although both figure to be backups behind Shawn Springs and

Fred Smoot.

Brown left the Giants and agreed to a two-year, \$1.4 million contract. He's coming off a dislocated shoulder.

Harris agreed to a three-year deal with contingencies that hinge on his recovery from a recent knee injury. He was a starter for the past two years with the Colts, who cut him last month in a salary cap move. He previously played six seasons with Chicago.

■ Tight end Eric Johnson resigned with San Francisco, getting a three-year, \$4.5 million deal. He missed last season after breaking his collarbone in an exhibition game. A seventh-round draft pick in 2001 out of Yale, he had 76 catches for 683 yards and three touchdowns in his first two seasons.

■ Veteran placekicker Mike Hollis was waived with a failed physical by the Giants.

Hollis, who signed a five-year, \$4 million contract a year ago, never kicked for the Giants in a regular-season game. He hurt his back in training camp and spent last season on injured reserve.

The Giants also claimed safety Jack Brewer on waivers from Minnesota.

■ Arizona agreed to terms on a two-year contract with return specialist/wide receiver Karl Williams, who has played all eight of his NFL seasons with the Buccaneers.

Williams holds several Tampa Bay records, including most punt return yards in a game, 116 against Chicago in 1997.

■ WR Frisman Jackson and defensive lineman Michael Myers were re-signed by the Browns. Jackson was sidelined much of last season with a broken foot, but played in the final seven games on special teams and as a backup receiver.

Myers played in seven games, including one start against Baltimore in which he had eight tackles and two sacks.

■ Defensive lineman Chris Hoke re-signed with Pittsburgh, getting a two-year deal.



photo submitted

The South Floyd Middle School Cheerleaders ended the recent basketball season by finishing runner-up in Floyd County.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Three Lady Cats named to 15th Region all-tourney team

TIMES STAFF REPORT

BUCKLEYS CREEK — Three different Betsy Layne Lady Cats were named to the 15th Region All-Tournament Team. Pike County Central freshman Haley Ratliff, after leading her team to the regional championship, was named the tournament's most valuable player.

Seniors Tabetha Witt and Whitney Lykens, and junior Kristal Daniels were the Betsy

Layne players to make the squad.

Joining Ratliff from Pike Central were Paige Lowe, Kayla Lowe and Mishay Weddington.

Regional tournament runner-up Belfry placed three players on the team as Anna Bevins, Vicki Hall and Lyndsey Mahon were each named to the squad.

Savannah Howard and Calloray Howard were selected from Magoffin County. Pikeville's Shawna Howard also made the all-tourney team.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Kentucky State fires coach

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — Kentucky State fired football coach Donald Smith on Wednesday, one month after suspending him for an unspecified reason.

The school released a statement after 9 p.m. EST saying "it is in the best interest of the University to terminate the employment of Donald Smith, head football coach."

The statement referred questions to attorney William Johnson, the school's lawyer.

Johnson was vague on why the action was taken.

"There were matters that were looked at, but none I'm in the position to talk about," Johnson said in a phone interview. "There can be many, many reasons why people are terminated. I don't think, at this time, the university wants to get into that."

Johnson said the firing ended a process that began when the school suspended Smith on Feb. 17. The school didn't specify the reason then either, saying only that "information was brought to our attention which required immediate action."

Kentucky State interim president Bill Turner said at the time that a committee would be

appointed to review the situation and make a recommendation.

Kentucky State interim director of public relations Akiia Robertson said Wednesday night that the recommendation to fire Smith was made by the committee on Wednesday afternoon.

Johnson said Turner made the final decision to fire Smith.

Smith just completed his third season at Kentucky State. The Thorobreds finished 7-4, their first winning season in six years.

Smith coached at Lexington Lafayette High School before taking the Kentucky State post.

NCAA Division II Kentucky State plays in the Southern Intercollegiate Athletics Conference.

Routs

Continued from p2

breathe easy against 12th-seeded BYU until McNamara hit three free throws in the final 16 seconds.

The Orangemen, the fifth seed in the Phoenix Regional, advanced to face fourth-seeded Maryland in the second round.

Rafael Araujo had 24 points and 12 rebounds for BYU (21-9).

Maryland 86, UTEP 83

DENVER — Chris McCray scored 19 points, including two free throws with 13.6 seconds left, and Maryland held off Texas-El Paso.

John Gilchrist added 18 points, and Jamar Smith had 14 for the Terrapins (20-11), coming

off an overtime win against Duke in the ACC title game. John Tofi had 16 points for UTEP (24-8).

Stanford 71, Texas-San Antonio 45

SEATTLE — Josh Childress scored six of his 26 points during a key 12-0 burst midway through the second half and reserve Matt Haryasz added 10 points for Stanford.

Stanford (30-1), the No. 1 seed in the Phoenix Regional, won its first-round NCAA game for the 10th straight year and will play eighth-seeded Alabama in the second round.

Things went much smoother than Stanford's last visit to Seattle, a 75-62 loss to the Washington Huskies almost two weeks ago — the only blemish on an otherwise perfect season.

LeRoy Hurd led Texas-San Antonio (19-14) with 18 points.

Alabama 65, Southern Illinois 64

SEATTLE — Antoine Pettway hit a 6-foot runner with 5 seconds left to lift Alabama past Southern Illinois.

Southern Illinois' Darren Brooks, the Missouri Valley Conference player of the year, missed a long jumper at the buzzer.

Earnest Shelton scored 18 points for Alabama (18-12). Brooks led Southern Illinois (25-5) with 25 points.

BOYS' BASKETBALL

Warren Central 83, Apollo 59

by MURRAY EVANS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON — Warren Central scored the first 17 points and went on to beat Apollo of Owensboro 83-59 on Thursday night in the final first-round game of the Boys Sweet 16 basketball tournament at Rupp Arena.

Warren Central (26-7) will take an 18-game winning streak into a Friday quarterfinal game against Perry County Central (25-5), which defeated Morgan County in another first-round game.

Apollo (22-10) beat Warren Central 81-56 on Dec. 20, but Warren Central wasted no time in establishing its dominance in the rematch, jumping to a 17-0 lead.

Apollo, the 3rd Region champion, missed its first nine shots and the Eagles committed five turnovers before scoring their first points with 2:37 left in the first quarter.

Ryan Anderson scored 11 of his 16 points in the first quarter for the Dragons, going 3-of-4 from 3-point range in the process. The last one put Warren Central, the 4th Region winner, ahead 26-9 at the end of the quarter.

Apollo came no closer than 13 points the rest of the way. Warren Central's lead peaked at 32 points in the fourth quarter.

Warren Central shot 54.8 percent from the field in the first half — going 6-of-13 from 3-point range — and 60.7 percent for the game.

Three Dragons besides Anderson scored at least 15 points: Matt Maresca (23),

Brock Whitney (17) and Lonnell DeWalt (15, with 14 rebounds and five assists). DeWalt has signed to play football at Kentucky and also plans to walk on to Kentucky's basketball team.

Richard Long had 26 points to lead Apollo, and Travis Johnson added 15 points.

Perry County Central 66, Morgan County 45

by MURRAY EVANS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON — Perry County Central won its first Boys Sweet 16 basketball game on Thursday night, beating Morgan County 66-45 in a first-round game at Rupp Arena.

Perry County Central (25-5) had lost in the first round of the Sweet 16 on three previous occasions, the last in 2000. The Commodores, who won the 14th Region crown, will face either Apollo or Warren Central in the quarterfinals Friday.

Morgan County, making its first Sweet 16 appearance after winning its first 16th Region title, had a 20-game winning streak snapped. The Cougars (28-5) hadn't lost since Jan. 5, when they dropped a double-overtime decision to Rowan

County.

The teams swapped the lead five times in the first half. Morgan County led 24-20 with 3:35 left in the half, but Perry County Central scored the final 11 points of the half to take a 31-24 lead.

Morgan County managed only two third-quarter field goals as Perry County Central built its lead to 45-29. The Cougars came no closer than 11 points in the fourth quarter.

Daniel Combs scored 15 points to lead Perry County Central, and Chris Chaney added 12 points and 10 rebounds. The Commodores outbounded Morgan County 43-24.

Davin Barnett came off the bench to score 16 points for Morgan County, which committed 23 turnovers, 11 more than Perry County Central.

photo by Steve LeMaster

Prestonsburg sophomore Dave Shafer looked over a pass during a drill Friday as part of spring football practice.

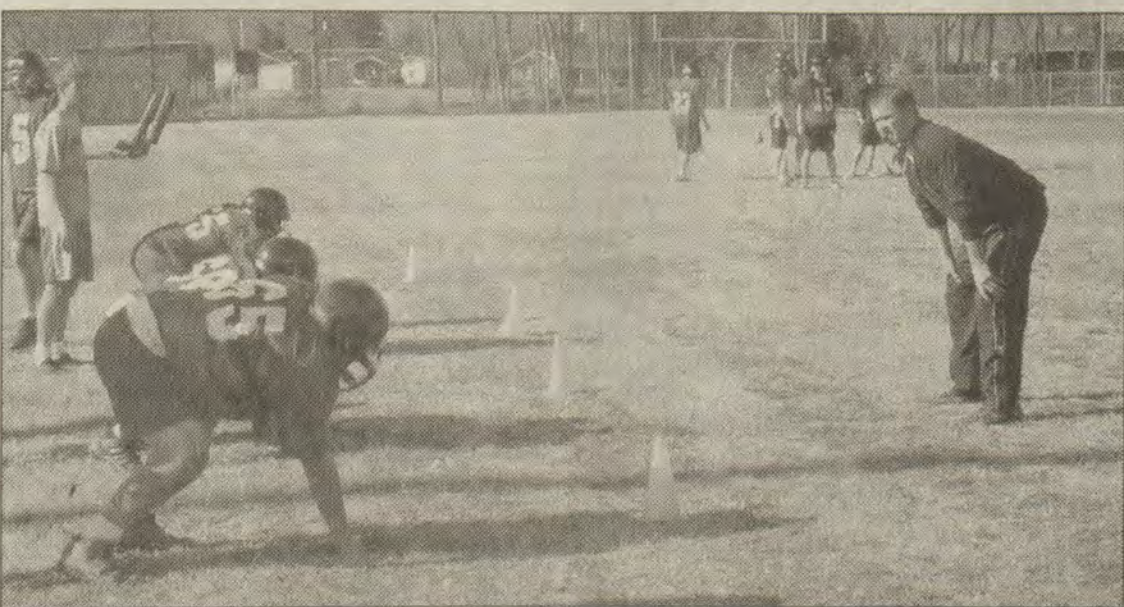


photo by Steve LeMaster

A wide variety of position players were present Friday when the Prestonsburg High grid team resumed spring drills.

Floyd Special Olympics to meet

Floyd County Special Olympics will hold its next meeting on Thursday at the Floyd County Public Library in Prestonsburg. The meeting will run from 6-8 p.m.

file photo

The Allen Central High baseball team celebrated following last season's championship game win over Johnson Central in the 15th Region Tournament.



Pair of Aussie prospects making nice progress with Mets

by BEN WALKER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PORT ST. LUCIE, Fla. — When pitcher P.J. Bevis got into a jam last season, catcher Justin Huber found exactly the right words to settle him down on the mound.

"I might throw in a 'no worries, mate,'" Huber said.

Hardly the kind of talk usually heard on the hill. Made perfect sense for these New York Mets prospects from Australia, though.

Roommates at Double-A Binghamton last year, Bevis and Huber are hoping to play for their country this summer in the Olympics. They've already caught the eyes — and ears — of teammates in spring training.

"I'm picking up their lingo," said first baseman-catcher Jason Phillips, who once played winter ball in Australia.

Huber said: "He's our clubhouse translator."

Still, there are plenty of phrases that only the Aussies can understand.

"In one game, I saw a man taking a catch and I told P.J. that it was quite a Capper," Huber said.

Translation: An outfielder jumped high to make a grab, the same way former Australian Rules football star Warwick Capper used to do it when he played for the Brisbane Bears and Sydney Swans.

Bevis and Huber frequently mix in cricket and rugby terms, and leave the kangaroo and koala references to others. They admit they get quite a few strange looks from hitters and umpires when they start chatting back-and-forth on the field.

"And lots of Crocodile Hunter jokes," Bevis said.

Former All-Star Dave Nilsson and reliever Graeme Lloyd remain among the best-known major leaguers from Australia. Lots of young players are popping up from Down Under.

Tampa Bay pitcher Damian Moss is among about a dozen Australians in camps this spring, and there are dozens more in the minors.

While turn-of-the-century player Mighty Joe Quinn is considered the first Australian to make the majors, shortstop Craig Shipley got a lot of atten-

tion when he made his debut in 1986 with the Los Angeles Dodgers.

"That was a really big deal. He was the only one. People wanted to see him," former Dodgers manager Tom Lasorda said.

Lasorda guided the U.S. team to the 2000 gold medal at the Sydney Olympics and liked the quality of ball and athletes he saw there. He predicts that within a few years there were will 10-12 top big leaguers from Australia.

In the meantime, Bevis and Huber continue to work their way up.

Bevis, a 23-year-old righty from Brisbane, struck out 100 in 71 innings at Binghamton. He could start the season at Triple-A Norfolk.

Huber, a 21-year-old from Melbourne, is a .282 hitter with 36 homers and 196 RBIs in 280 games over three seasons. He's likely to open this year at Binghamton.

They've seen limited action in big league exhibitions this spring. Huber is 2-for-4 at the plate and Bevis pitched one scoreless inning against Florida — fittingly, Huber caught Bevis' outing.

They're hoping to play more in big league exhibitions this spring. Huber is 2-for-4 at the plate and Bevis pitched one scoreless inning against Florida — fittingly, Huber caught Bevis' outing.

"It'd mean an awful lot for us to win a medal. We've never won one," Huber said. "I'd like to be a part of it."

Bevis said a winning Australian team would help give more exposure to baseball in a country where youth programs are flourishing.

"It would really help the sport," he said.

The Mets are expected to allow the two players to take part in tryouts and, if they make the team, travel to Greece.

Huber began playing baseball when he was about 6 after being handed a flier at a shopping mall. With few highlights from the majors on television and no high school team, he said it took a while before he really figured out how to play.

"Even when I was in my mid-teens, I didn't really know about

baseball," he said. "There are so many things to learn."

Bevis figured out how to throw with a baseball motion, though it's not the classic delivery in his country. No, he said, he's never tried that the running, overhand cricket style, just to see how it works.

Huber, however, feels a tug from that other sport when he goes home in the offseason.

"We might strap on a bit of cricket, just for fun," he said.

Mason County 66, Louisville Trinity 59, 3OT

by MURRAY EVANS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON — Defending champion Mason County outlasted Louisville Trinity 66-53 in triple overtime Friday in the longest game in two decades at the Boys Sweet 16.

Mason County (32-2) overcame Trinity's slowdown tactics, rallied from a six-point deficit in the final 33 seconds of regulation and survived three potential game-winning possessions for the Shamrocks.

Chris Lofton had 29 points and 11 rebounds for 10th Region champion Mason County, which will move on to Saturday's semifinals.

Trinity (19-13) successfully slowed the pace of the game and led by as many as nine midway through the third quarter. Zach Berry hit two free throws with 40.5 seconds left to extend the Shamrocks' lead to 44-38.

Mason County's Casey Pfeffer swished a 3-pointer with

33 seconds left. Lofton's steal with 22 seconds left led to his 22-foot 3-pointer, which tied the game with 2.8 seconds left. Lofton was 1-for-8 from 3-point range before that shot.

A 60-foot desperation shot by Trinity's Kyle Saxton at the buzzer was on line but short.

Trinity, the 7th Region champion, held for the last shot in the first overtime, but Saxton, who led the Shamrocks with 17

points, missed a 5-foot runner in the lane at the buzzer.

The Shamrocks also had the ball last in the second overtime, but started running their final play too late and didn't get a shot off before the buzzer.

Mason County scored the first five points of the third overtime, and Trinity came no closer than four points after that. Lofton capped the win with a dunk at the buzzer.

Jarrod Litzinger added 17 points and eight rebounds for the Royals, who used only six players. Blake Nix had 13 points and eight rebounds for Trinity, which used only seven players.

The game was the longest in the state tournament since Lexington Henry Clay beat Carlisle County 35-33 in triple overtime in the 1983 championship. The longest game in tournament history came in 1928, when Ashland beat Carr Creek 13-11 in four overtimes.

Valley bench press meet scheduled for April 3

TIMES STAFF REPORT

ROBINSON CREEK — Shelby Valley High will host a bench-press meet on Saturday, April 3. The cost of the meet is \$10 per lifter. Teams are invited to participate in the meet. Trophies will be given for first-place finishers in each weight class. Team trophies will also be given for first-, second-, and third-place finishers. Bench press will be the only lift.

Teams already committed to the event are Pikeville, Betsy Layne and Grundy, Va.

Scott County 52, Caverna 37

Scott County downed Caverna to advance to the state tournament semifinals. Scott County led 30-21 at halftime. The Cardinals led 44-30 with 2:16 left to play and went on to win by 15.

A wrapup of the boys' state basketball tournament will appear in Wednesday's edition.

Reds

Continued from p1

ticket program, on May 7 vs. the San Francisco Giants the Reds will host Disabled American Veterans Day. Pre-game ceremonies will include a first pitch, color guard presentation and a baseball card featuring Austin Kearns that will be given to the first 20,000 fans in attendance.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

A quick look at what happened in the first round of the NCAA tournament

by JIM O'CONNELL
ASSOCIATED PRESS

A look at some of the interesting things that happened Thursday in the first round of the NCAA tournament:

WHAT UPSET?

Manhattan's 75-60 victory over Florida shouldn't have been that big a surprise, at least according to recent history. Over the last three years at least one of the No. 5 seeds lost, and for the second time in two years the Gators fit the bill. Last year, 12th-seeded Butler beat Mississippi State. In 2002, three No. 5s went down, Miami to Missouri, Marquette to Tulsa and the Gators to Creighton. In 2001, No. 12 seeds Gonzaga and Utah State beat Virginia and Ohio State, respectively. And the committee says there's not much difference between being seeded fourth and fifth.

NEAR UPSETS

Two of the No. 4 seeds — both from the Atlantic Coast Conference — were given an early scare. Maryland, with four sophomore starters, beat Texas-El Paso 86-83, and Wake Forest, led by freshman Chris Paul, defeated Virginia Commonwealth 79-78.

WINNING COACH

Bob Knight moved into fourth place on the coaches' all-time NCAA victory list with Texas Tech's 76-73 win over Charlotte. It was Knight's 43rd tournament victory — all but this one were with Indiana — breaking a tie with Louisville's Denny Crum and Arizona's Lute Olson.

LOSING IGUODALAS

The Iguodala brothers had a rough first round. Senior Frank Iguodala had four points and six rebounds in Dayton's 76-69 double-overtime loss to DePaul. Sophomore Andre Iguodala had 19 points in Arizona's 80-76 loss to Seton Hall.

SCORING STAR

Syracuse's Gerry McNamara had 43 points in the Orangemen's 80-75 victory over Brigham Young. He had 28 in the first half, four off his career high for a game. The sophomore went 9-for-13 from 3-point range. Combine that with last year's championship game when he went 6-for-10 from beyond the arc, he is 15-for-23 from 3-point range in his last two NCAA tournament games. The NCAA record for 3s in a game is 11 by Jeff Fryer of Loyola Marymount against Michigan in 1990. McNamara is tied with four others for third place on the list.

OTHER STARS

Jameer Nelson had 33 points in 30 minutes and Saint Joseph's beat Liberty 82-63. ... Luis Flores

had 26 points and Manhattan beat Florida 75-60. ... Freshman Chris Paul had 22 points, including four free throws over the final 11 seconds, and seven assists for Wake Forest in a 79-78 victory over Virginia Commonwealth. ... Josh Childress had 26 points and nine rebounds for Stanford in its 71-45 victory over Texas-San Antonio. ... Kelly Whitney had 24 points and 14 rebounds for Seton Hall in an 80-76 victory over Arizona. ... Drake Deiner played 47 minutes and had 28 points for DePaul in a 76-69 double-overtime win over Dayton.

CAREER GAME

Darryl Dora had 12 points, 10 rebounds and six assists for Texas Tech in the 76-73 win over Charlotte. The 6-foot-9 freshman entered the game with averages of 2.9 points, 2.4 rebounds and 0.7 assists.

OPPOSITES MEET

Something had to give in the North Carolina-Air Force matchup. The Tar Heels entered the game fourth in scoring at 83.1 points per game, while Air Force led the nation in defense, allowing 50.4. North Carolina prevailed 63-52.

LONGHORN RALLY

Texas outscored Princeton 44-24 in the second half of its 66-49 victory. The Longhorns shot 60 percent in the second half.

NEVADA RUN

Nevada closed its 72-66 victory over Michigan State with a 16-3 run over the final 6:53. It was the Wolf Pack's first win in three NCAA tournament games. They also made the tournament in 1984 and 1985.

BUDDIES MEET

DePaul's 76-69 victory over Dayton in double overtime sends Blue Demons coach Dave Leitao into a second-round matchup against Connecticut. Huskies

coach Jim Calhoun coached Leitao at Northeastern and hired him as an assistant at both Northeastern and Connecticut.

ANOTHER SCARE

Maryland went right down to the wire to beat Texas-El Paso 86-83 and it was the second straight year that happened. In last season's tournament, the Terrapins, playing for the first time as defending national champions, needed a desperation 3-pointer at the buzzer by Drew Nicholas to beat North Carolina-Wilmington 75-73.

HEALTHY RETURNS

Connecticut center Emeka Okafor missed the first two games of the Big East tournament because of back spasms but he had 15 points and 14 rebounds — his nation-leading 21st double-double — in the Huskies' 70-53 win over Vermont. ... Duke guard Chris Duhon injured his ribs in the Atlantic Coast Conference

championship game and it was a game-time decision for him to play in the first round. He started but was 0-for-2 from the field and did not score in 16 minutes in the Blue Devils' 96-61 victory over Alabama State.

CHAMPIONS MATCHUP

First-round wins by Maryland and Syracuse set up Saturday's second-round game in Denver between the last two national champions.

SPEAKING HONESTLY

"I know America's going to look at it as an upset, but behind closed doors we don't. We know we can play with any team on any night," Manhattan forward Dave Holmes said of the Jaspers' win over fifth-seeded Florida.

"Gerry was just in another world today. I don't think you'll see the likes of that kind of game too many times ever," Syracuse coach Jim Boeheim said of his sophomore guard.

BLES volleyball team improves to 3-0

TIMES STAFF REPORT

GRETHEL — The Betsy Layne Elementary volleyball team improved its record to 3-0 Thursday night with a double-header sweep of the Lady Mustangs of John M. Stumbo Elementary.

The Lady Cats swept the Lady Mustangs in two straight sets, winning the first match 21-7, 21-8. Betsy Layne took the second match, winning two of three from Stumbo. Betsy Layne took the deciding frame by defeating the Lady

Mustangs 15-6.

Betsy Layne was again led by Jordan Jarrell, Stacey Lawson, Mercedes Neeley, Melissa Slone, LeDeanna Kidd, Amanda Hollyfield and Ashley Tackett. Other A-team members that participated for Betsy Layne were Danielle Adkins, Tashea Spears and Tara Case.

The Lady Cat volleyball team will return to action on Tuesday on the road at Allen.

Betsy Layne is coached by Jim Roberts. Roberts also serves as the school's athletic director.

HORSE RACING

Baffert decides next starts for Derby hopefuls

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ARCADIA, Calif. — Louisiana Derby winner Wimbledon will make his next start on the road to the Kentucky Derby in the \$750,000 Santa Anita Derby on April 3.

Trainer Bob Baffert will ship his other 3-year-old hopeful, Preachinatthebar, to Keeneland for the \$750,000 Blue Grass Stakes on April 10.

Wimbledon worked four fur-

longs in 48 seconds Wednesday at Santa Anita. "He went very nice," Baffert said.

By sending Wimbledon and Preachinatthebar to different races, Baffert will be able to use Javier Santiago on both horses. The jockey eventually will have to choose a horse for the Kentucky Derby.

Baffert hasn't announced plans for 3-year-old Odds On, who finished sixth in last week's San Felipe Stakes, won by Preachinatthebar.

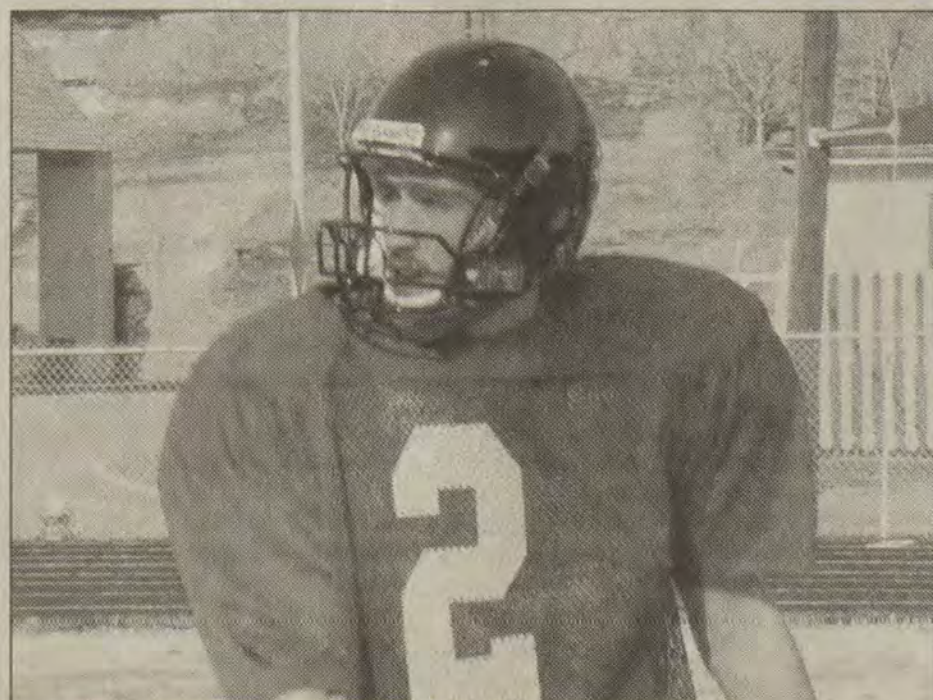


photo by Steve LeMaster

Prestonsburg junior Trevor Compton watched a pass Friday evening during spring football drills. Compton, who will return for his senior season for the Blackcats, just finished up a successful basketball season.

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FLOYD COUNTY Lifestyles



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- Diabuddies Corner • page 6B
- More Meet Appalachia • page 6B

TODAY'S FREEBIE

Look in your paper today and every day for a value worth more than the cost of the paper. **PAGE A3**

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SPECIAL COLUMN

This Town, That World

Editor's Note: For years, Floyd County Times founder and former publisher Norman Allen wrote a weekly column that looked at Floyd County through his eyes. His columns are being reprinted due to request.

YEA, MARTIN!

No wonder the March hare was mad. Yesterday, with the sun shining, the only thing lacking was clear waters. Today, with the rain coming down, we looked for clear skies. And now, this afternoon, we're back where we started—ears perked up, almost, but not quite able to hear the lap of water against the side of the old boat. As of the moment, I'm wondering if it will be snowing tomorrow.

SOME STAYED AT HOME

Phone calls were answered this afternoon at the two hospitals in Martin, at the drugstore, and the police station. Not everybody there has gone to the state tournament. But we hope nobody will try to have us print the names of all who went. Might be easier to list those who didn't go.

ANOTHER KIND OF SPORT

Basketball is a wonderful sport, but comes now a bit of news that spoils things a bit for us. This report tells of a 12-year-old boy who told his teacher that the roll he had in his pocket was won, betting on basketball games, and that there was more of the same at home.

We don't blame basketball for gambling reaching down toward the cradle. Youngsters are being conditioned to the vice, these days.

It is unlikely that the boy won as much money as he boasted of having, from other boys his age: he probably laid his bet with an older man. Youngsters see their elders placing wagers on almost every sport; they waste their lunch money on pinball machines, and they see schools, and even church-folk, sometimes selling "chances" on articles of value.

The most encouraging thing we find about this situation is the concern expressed for these children by a few Christian teachers who have not become so calloused, biased and downright cynical that they are willing to accept things as they are, and pass the whole matter off with a boys-will-be-boys attitude.

(See **WORLD**, page six)



The local Christian Band, GRACE, whose been performing in Floyd County for about 10 years, currently released a new CD, Run to the Light. Pictured from left to right are band members: Wetzell Queen (Drums, Vocalist), Nana Fannin (Vocalist), Denise Porter (Keyboards, Vocalist), and Randy Porter (Bass, Acoustic, and Lead Guitar).

Meet Appalachia

"GRACE"

by MARY MUSIC
 Staff Writer

GRACE

Members: Randy Porter, Denise Porter, Wetzell Queen, Nana Fannin

Life quote: "God's ministry. God's way"

Contact Information: P.O. Box 232, Allen, KY. 41601
 (606) 874-9917 or drporter@eastky.net

About 'Meet Appalachia'

The people portrayed in this section are people I've met as I walk along the road of my life. They were on a street, in a store or restaurant. They were recommended by a friend, or the friend of a friend, as the old trend goes. All of them see life as they see it. I am only here to tell their stories as I see them. These are their hopes and challenges. These are their dreams and accomplishments. These are what they allow them to be.

— MARY MUSIC

If you were to ask them, they probably couldn't tell you exactly what they had been arguing about. They were very angry, so reasons really didn't matter. All that mattered is that painful things were said and done and one of them, the wife, decided she was through with it, all of it, and she was ready to let it go. Their promises, their marriage, their tomorrows meant nothing to her anymore.

She was tired and crying, so she left, vowing never to allow her heart to love him again.

He watched through a window as her car passed the curb, still angry, but afraid because he knew it was different this time.

And it was different—very different, in fact, because on that particular day, when the tears became too painful to cry, the woman turned on her stereo where she heard a song that changed her life, and his, and every waking moment since.

Later, she e-mailed the

(See **GRACE**, page six)



PHOTO by MARY MUSIC

Denise Porter and Wetzell Queen, members of the Christian Band, GRACE, sang together during a Thursday night practice session in the Porter home in Allen.



Photo by MARY MUSIC

GRACE, during a recent practice session in the Porter home in Allen. Pictured from left to right are: Denise Porter, Nana Fannin, and Randy Porter.

MOVIES FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

'Evil Dead Trap' — 1990, Rated R

A love triangle goes seriously wrong in this dark horror flick from the creator of the acclaimed anime film "Akira." The story begins by dropping in on two very different women who also happen to be best friends.

Emi is an outgoing television reporter with several boyfriends and a new assignment to follow the



Tom Doty
 Staff Writer

story of a serial killer who has taken to disemboweling prostitutes at a factory reconstruction site.

Aki is her opposite. Her job, as a film projectionist, keeps her all alone in a dark room

which is perfect for her as she is socially awkward and has been spending her off time with a religious sect when she isn't busy murdering the prostitutes that her friend is covering.

Things get icy between these two when they get involved with a childlike man named Kurahashi. This guy's a bit of a nut himself. He is married to a woman who plays with toys that belong to their imaginary son. He is also socially challenged and tends to settle most of his disputes by savagely kicking anyone who asks him a polite question.

Things get bad in a hurry here as these three get involved. None of these characters are particularly likable but credit goes to the actress who plays Aki for coming close to garnering audience sympathy.

The final half hour of the film features a knockdown battle between the leads which gets real messy as boxcutters, knives and ice picks are used to put this triangle out of its misery. A dark ending follows and it doesn't answer all of the questions, but it sure satisfies as these three lowlifes take themselves out of the gene pool permanently. It's a great finale and it puts the ending of "Fatal Attraction" to shame.

This is a sequel in name only to "Evil Dead." That film was just as dark but featured a traditional plot where a news crew got wiped out, 1980s-style, by a pair of conjoined twins who go on a rampage after they are separated. This one, though, is even darker.

The characters are believably

(See **LAGOON**, page six)

Chicken Soup For The Soul: Just dropping by.



One reason I love Hawai'i is that she's like nowhere else on earth. We're a little out of the way, and some of us don't always bother to keep up with the latest trends. But the people here are friendly and open.

There's one example of the Aloha Spirit I bet you haven't heard much about. When you're out and about in the islands and you feel the call of nature, you needn't scramble for the nearest public facility. If you know someone in the neighborhood, they usually won't mind if you drop in for just a moment.

Which brings me to a sultry day

in paradise a few years ago (all right, a few decades). I was a young guy starting out, working at the Royal Hawaiian Hotel as a security officer. One day I was assigned to be security detail to a couple of visiting guests and their girlfriends. I was a big, beefy guy with a perennial smile, and my charges didn't really know what to make of me. The feeling was mutual.

Well, that day I drove them around in the hotel's Cadillac for some island sightseeing. Halfway to Lanikai Beach, one of the girlfriends had a sudden, urgent need to use the bathroom.

I remembered an old Army buddy, Gerry, who lived nearby. I hadn't seen him in years, but in true local fashion, I swung by his house for a pit stop. He was glad to see me and gracious to my charges. As they went inside, Gerry and I stayed outside and "talked story."

As the four re-emerged, one of Gerry's boys came barreling up to us and interrupted, saying, "Daddy, Daddy, that's John Lennon and George Harrison!"

Gerry said, "So?" Like other islanders of a certain generation, he wasn't exactly up on trends.

We all said our alohas and maha-

los and drove off to continue the afternoon's adventure.

That brings me to another way Hawai'i is different.

In sites throughout the world there are plaques commemorating important and historic events. Just because we don't have assorted plaques stating "George Washington Slept Here" doesn't mean we don't have items of cultural interest. We have ancient temples and palaces of kings and queens.

And, on the Island of O'ahu, in a little room in my friend's house,

(See **SOUP** page six)

DIABUDDIES CORNER

Diabuddies Corner
Tip of the Week (from www.diabetes.org)

There are 18.2 million people in the United States, or 6.3% of the population, who have diabetes. While an estimated 13 million have been diagnosed, unfortunately, 5.2 million people (or nearly one-third) are unaware that they have the disease.

Recipe of the week (from www.equal.com)

Pulled Pork Barbeque-6 Servings

Ingredients:
1 whole pork tenderloin, about 1 pound, all fat trimmed
1 teaspoon chili powder
1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
Vegetable cooking spray
1/2 cup finely chopped onion
1-1/2 teaspoons minced garlic
1 can (14.5 ounces) crushed tomatoes,
undrained
1 tablespoon cider vinegar
1 tablespoon prepared mustard
1 to 2 teaspoons chili powder
1/4 teaspoon maple extract
1/4 teaspoon liquid smoke
1/3 cup Equal® Spoonful*
Salt and pepper to taste
6 multigrain hamburger buns, split and toasted * May substitute 8 packets Equal sweetener

Preparation:
Rub pork with 1 teaspoon chili powder and garlic powder; place in baking pan. Bake in preheated 425° F oven 30 to 40 minutes or until pork is well browned and juices run clear. Let stand 10 to 15 minutes. Cut into 2 to 3-inch slices; shred slices into bite-size

pieces with a fork.
Spray medium saucepan with cooking spray. Cook and stir onion and garlic about 5 minutes or until tender. Add tomatoes, vinegar, mustard, chili powder, maple extract, and liquid smoke to saucepan. Heat to boiling; reduce heat.
Simmer, uncovered, 10 to 15 minutes or until medium-thick sauce consistency. Stir in Equal®. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Stir pork into sauce. Cook 2 to 3 minutes or until hot. Spoon mixture into buns.

Calories 252	Food
Exchanges:	
Protein 21g	2-1/2
Lean Meat,	
Carbohydrate 29g	2 Starch
Fat 5g	
Cholesterol 49mg	
Sodium 447mg	
Food Exchanges:	

Please, keep 'em coming!

Our pet photos file needs replenishing, and we know that you have lots of precious pics to share with us, so, please, send them along! And while you're at it, help Dr. Carol get her creative thoughts jumpstarted by sending along a few questions about "pet things you've always wanted to know but have been afraid to ask"! You can send both pictures and questions to: Kathy Prater at the Floyd County Times, P.O. Box 390, Prestonsburg, KY 41653, or you may e-mail to: features@floyd-countytimes.com. You may also send questions only to Dr. Carol at: 1768 KY Rt. 7, Estill, KY 41666, or e-mail to: carolb-cac@tusa.net. We'll be waiting to hear from you!

Announcements



Top seller gets a big "High Five" from Home Interiors

Austin Tuttle, the son of Stacy and Anthony Tuttle, of Martin, and a Headstart student at May Valley Elementary, recently received a \$50 cash prize from Melinda Moore, Unit Director of Home Interior and Gifts in Martin, for being the top seller in a fund raising project for the school's Headstart program. Children who participated in the fundraising project raised a total of \$605 which will be used to purchase graduation gifts for their class. Austin, who sold over \$300 worth of candles, also received a balloon bouquet and a certificate recognizing "a job well done." Parent volunteers are currently working to obtain more funds for this year's graduating class.

Appalachian Star Search contest set

"We know there's a lot of hidden talent in this area and we want it to be discovered." Those are the words of Cindi Osborne who is working with a group of students at Hazard Community and Technical College to hold Appalachian Star Search on Saturday, May 1 at 7 p.m. in the First Federal Center, Room 123, at the Hazard Campus. Two student organizations, Phi Theta Kappa and Student Government Association, are

organizing the event. The contest will have seven categories: comic act of all ages; best singer, ages 1-12; best female singer, age 13 and older; best male singer age 13 and older; best group or ensemble; instrumental category (all ages); and non-singing category, (all ages) which can include magic acts or dance.

An application and \$5 entry fee must be submitted by Wednesday, April 21. Prizes will be awarded in each category and a grand prize will be donated by Kemper Furniture. Applications can be obtained by email HCTC-STARSEARCH@hotmail.com, or calling Helen at 800-246-7521, ext. 73077.

Tickets will be sold to the public at the door for \$3.

"We expect to find some great talent as the result of this show and I hope the public will attend to see these gifted folks on stage," Ms. Osborne said.

World

Heard the one about the fellow expressing the theory that a brunette is easier to get along with than a blonde? A husband of some years was there to challenge him.

"I wouldn't know about that," the doubter said. "My wife has been both shades, and I've never been able to see any difference."

leads his people, he might ponder long and hard the matter of "seventy times seven" forgiving.

The Negro has suffered indignities and brutalities that are hard to forget, and as hard to forgive, we should think. But as the Rev. Martin Luther King

Without that spirit, this racial conflict will last longer than those who are its principals, and, after a while, even the principles may be forgotten, or completely lost in bitter strife.

Continued from p5

Lagoon

Continued from p5

desperate and they come off as scary with or without the added

supernatural elements. The ghost type stuff here involves a demonic boy who represents the abortions both females had. He is back to remind them that their casual indiscretions carry a heavy pricetag. There is a solid message here about having to put pay to the past, but this film can also be enjoyed for some good scares in the "Evil Dead" vein.

Best Line: "Now with the power of Shinki I will ask the fox what it wants."

Soup

Continued from p5

there is a toilet seat mounted on the wall, bearing the inscription, "The Beatles Sat Here."

Aloha.

Be a part of Chicken Soup's 10th Anniversary. Look for our 10th Anniversary Edition, "Chicken Soup for the Soul: Living Your Dreams." Visit www.chickensoup.com for more details.

Grace

band who wrote that song, thanking them for helping her see how badly she needed to turn that car around. In that e-mail, she told the band how that song, the one that created a defining moment in their lives, helped the two build a stronger marriage. They are now happier than they ever were, and have devoted themselves to God, whose love taught them how to love.

Randy Porter had tears in his eyes when he told that story during a recent interview, but he, or any member of his band, refuses to take credit for the song that changed the lives of those two people. In fact, they say, it has nothing to do with them at all.

"It has nothing to do with us," said vocalist Nana Fannin, who joined the band about two years ago. "We're just willing to let God use us. He has a plan for all of us."

Meet Grace, a local Christian band whose powerful voice has echoed through these mountains for nearly 10 years.

Though members of the group have come and gone, their message continues to grow in churches, fundraisers and functions throughout the county, as it does in the hearts of those who hear the words of the melodies they create.

The band's name is an acronym for "God's Riches At Christ's Expense," a phrase Randy and his wife, Denise, who started the band those years ago, picked up during a sermon at a local church.

Since that time, Grace has released 9 cassette tapes and 6 CD's full of heartfelt music, much of which was authored by group members, family, and friends.

Their latest CD, "Run to the Light," based on a theme song written by J.P Conley, is a combination of upbeat original works like "He is Love," and "Be Patient my Child," along with old Christian classics like "Beulah Land" and "Down to the River."

Their message is one of deliverance, and it's one they hold extremely close to their hearts, close enough to impassion their performances and strengthen their relationship with each other.

"It's our ministry, something God laid on our hearts to do," said Wetzal Queen, drummer. "We believe in what we're singing."

And that, he says, is what makes a difference in their music.

Wetzal, who highlights as a radiologist at McDowell ARH, came to the band 8 years ago, when he met Randy and Denise during a concert in Ashland, where he, ironically, was scheduled to perform with a different band.

He asked to sit in on one of their practice sessions, and they agreed. He's been chugging right along with them ever since, and says he's loving every minute of it. He authored the song "Get Behind Me, Satan," modeled after Luke 4:8.

Nana joined GRACE shortly after her father, former Floyd County Baliff, Elmo B. Allen, passed away three years ago.

Nana and her husband, Timothy, who both compose gospel songs for the group, told Nana's father that she was expecting a child shortly before he passed away. Nana miscarried one month after her father's death and two years passed before she became pregnant again. GRACE changed her life not long after that.

"I prayed for two years," Nana said. "I knew that God wanted me to do something other than just attend church. I asked God to show me what it was. I knew he had a plan for my life. He has a plan for everyone."

The deaths of her father and her first child devastated Nana, but the pain of death she came to know subsided with the birth of her son, Jason, who is now almost two, and her decision to sing with GRACE, who's last

soprano vocalist quit shortly before Nana met Denise during a church service. Before even knowing who Nana was or hearing her sing, Denise asked her to practice with the group, a request she's now thankful for making.

Out of this experience, Nana wrote "Be Patient My Child," which shares a message that "God has a plan" and that better days are coming to those who are looking in the right direction, a lesson the circuit court clerk knows well enough herself.

The group practices like clockwork every Thursday night and travels, sometimes the entire weekend, to perform, at no charge, at various churches and events throughout the county.

Contrary to what some people might think, working in a Christian band is extremely difficult work, according to Denise, lead vocalist who takes her shoes off before performing in every show.

"We have to love it or we wouldn't do it," Denise said, pointing out that GRACE does not work to earn money or recognition, but works, instead, to plant "seeds" for God.

Juggling work and other responsibilities along with practicing, traveling on weekends for shows, traveling endlessly to record albums does make their lives hectic, she says, but it's all worth it.

"We love our community," Randy said. "We love Floyd County. If we could just minister and make a difference to one person, then we've done what we came to do."

When asked if they consider themselves a success, band members agree to a different tune.

"We're blessed," Nana said, as Denise, Randy, and Wetzal nodded their heads, smiling.

"He could have chosen anybody to give the talent to, but he gave it to us," Denise said. "We are truly blessed. . . . We may not be the best, and we don't profess to be, but we sure do love it."



Wetzal, throwing his heart into the music.

Photo by MARY MUSIC



Denise, left, raises the bar when it comes to singing beautiful music. Also pictured are Soprano vocalist, Nana, and Randy on the guitar.

by MARY MUSIC

The Floyd County Times Classifieds

Classified Rates: for 20 words or less
 Sunday, Wednesday, Friday, only \$12.00
 Sunday, Wednesday, Friday & Shopper \$13.00
 An additional charge of .25 per word for every word over 20
 Classified Manager: Pauline Branham, ext. #19

DEADLINES:

- **Wednesday Paper, Noon Mon.**
- **Friday Paper and Shopper, Wed. 5 p.m.**
- **Sunday Paper, Thurs. 5 p.m.**

CONTACT US AT: (606) 886-8506



SEE US YOURSELF
(606) 886-3603
 2110 S. MAIN

100 - AUTOMOTIVE

- 110 - Agriculture
- 115 - ATVs
- 120 - Boats
- 130 - Cars
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200 - EMPLOYMENT

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400 - MERCHANDISE

- 410 - Animals
- 420 - Appliances
- 440 - Electronics
- 445 - Furniture
- 450 - Lawn & Garden

- 460 - Yard Sale
- 470 - Health & Beauty
- 475 - Household
- 480 - Miscellaneous
- 490 - Recreation
- 495 - Wanted To Buy

500 - REAL ESTATE

- 505 - Business
- 510 - Commercial Property

- 530 - Homes
- 550 - Land/Lots
- 570 - Mobile Homes
- 580 - Miscellaneous
- 590 - Sale or Lease

600 - RENTALS

- 610 - Apartments
- 620 - Storage/Office Space
- 630 - Houses

- 640 - Land/Lots
- 650 - Mobile Homes
- 660 - Miscellaneous
- 670 - Commercial Property
- 690 - Wanted To Rent

700 - SERVICES

- 705 - Construction
- 710 - Educational
- 713 - Child Care

- 715 - Electrician
- 720 - Health & Beauty
- 730 - Lawn & Garden
- 735 - Legal
- 740 - Masonry
- 745 - Miscellaneous
- 750 - Mobile Home Movers
- 755 - Office
- 760 - Plumbing
- 765 - Professionals
- 770 - Repair/Service

- 780 - Timber
- 790 - Travel

800 - NOTICES

- 805 - Announcements
- 810 - Auctions
- 815 - Lost & Found
- 830 - Miscellaneous
- 850 - Personals
- 870 - Services
- 890 - Legals

The FLOYD COUNTY TIMES does not knowingly accept false or misleading advertisements. Ads which request or require advance payment of fees for services or products should be scrutinized carefully.

AUTOMOTIVE

130-Cars

For SALE 2002 Hyundai Sonata. All power with sun roof A/C, Auto Trans. must go \$11,000 or best offer call 606-285-3168

140-4x4s

For Sale 1991 Chevrolet S10 4x4 4.3, V6, 5Speed, A/C, AM/FM stereo 2500 or best offer call after 6pm 606-886-6700

150-Miscellaneous

For Sale 5th Wheel Camper 2004 Dutchman sleeps 8, 27 foot long. For more information call 886-9291

160-Motorcycles

1998 YAMAHA YZ80 New tires, pro-circuit pipe. \$1600. Call 452-9599 for more info.

Looking for a 2000, 1, 2 (Purple only) 883 Harley Sportster, call 606-297-1454 serious callers only leave message

180-Trucks

Heavy Duty 2500 Series Silverado Crew Cab, 6.0, V8 Engine, 5200 miles Super nice Truck asking 30,900 call 886-9291

For Sale Toyota Rav. 4, - low miles excellent condition has been garage kept call 874-2700

EMPLOYMENT

When responding to Employment ads that have reference numbers, please indicate that entire reference number on the outside of your envelope. Reference numbers are used to help us direct your letter to the correct individual.

THE LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER has a morning newspaper route available in the Van Lear area And Allen/Harold to Pike county line. Route takes 3-4 hours daily with an approximate profit potential of \$11,000 monthly. Dependable transportation and ability to be bonded required. Call 1-800-274-7355 (Ext. 3368)

Position Available Office Clerk must be computer literate fax resume to 606-478-5109

Medical Position Available Hospice of Big Sandy, Inc. On Call positions, can be Full Time with every other weekend off, or can be Several RN's sharing the call time. Please call 606-789-3841 for more information. Benefits for the full time position.

Carl D. Perkins Job Corps Center has 2 openings for Utility Worker/Driver CDL License Required Responsible for Maintenance, Housekeeping, Minor Repairs on Center and driving Center Vehicles. Competitive benefits package including Medical, Dental, Sick Leave, Paid Vacation, Tuition Reimbursement, Paid Holidays, and 401-K. Qualified candidates should submit resume to: Human Resources Department Carl D. Perkins Job Corps 478 Meadows Branch Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653

210-Job Listings

AVON Earn your own money. \$10.00 sign up fee. Free gift. Call Jancy at 886-2082

Prestonsburg Health Care Center has an opening for a RN (MDS Coordinator) 7am -3:30 pm. We offer competitive wages and benefits if interested please stop by or send a resume to 147 N Highland Avenue, Prestonsburg Ky. 41653 (Beside Prestonsburg Elementary) 606-886-2378

Citizens National Bank hiring for Part Time Teller Floyd - Pike Skills Needed: Organizational, communications, customer service, problem solving and basic math, Job Duties: Receiving checks, cash verifying amounts, examining checks for endorsements, handling and posting to computer transactions as directed by the customer and within company guidelines; explains promotes and sells products and services to customers according to company policies and guidelines; balancing cash drawer. Apply at any Citizens National Bank location An Equal Employment Opportunity Employer

220-Help Wanted

UNIVERSAL WELL SERVICE, INC. WILL BE TAKING JOB INTERVIEWS MARCH 31, 2004 BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 2:00 P.M. AND 7:00 P.M. INTERESTED PARTIES MUST BE AT LEAST 21 YEARS OF AGE, HAVE A CDL LICENSE (TANKER AND HAZMAT ENDORSEMENTS), AN OUTSTANDING DRIVING RECORD AND BE WILLING TO WORK FLEXIBLE HOURS. INTERVIEWS WILL BE HELD AT THE OFFICE OF UNIVERSAL WELL SERVICE LOCATED ON 5252 RT. 1428 BEHIND THE OLD R/S TRUCK BODY SHOP NEAR THE ALLEN ELEMENTARY GRADE SCHOOL.

330-For Sale

For sale Square Baled hay call 606-662-4635 before 9 am or after 9 pm

FOR SALE Psychoballistics

Silver Bullet Electronic paintball gun with three firing modes- semi, full-auto, and 3 shot burst. Mouse click trigger pull. Black carbon fiber barrel. \$150 firm. Like brand-new. Call 789-8380

RN needed at Prestonsburg Health Care Center. Full time or part time position is available. The position offers flexible hours, competitive wages and benefits if interested please stop by or send a resume to 147 N. Highland Ave. Prestonsburg KY. 41653 (beside Prestonsburg Elementary)

Looking for some one to stay with elderly lady nights, days and weekends. for more information call 606-886-0238 Ext. 319 or 606-358-2102

A Certified Master Plumber is needed, no physical labor involved, no age limit required, just a advice man. 606-889-0684

A Construction Company in Wayland, Ky. is looking for a qualified WBE and MBE subcontractors please call John at 606-676-2328

Insurance Inspectors - PART TIME Regional inspection co. seeks self motivated individuals to conduct property surveys on residential homes & commercial businesses in Prestonsburg & surroundings counties identifying hazards & safety concerns. No selling involved. Dependable car and 35 mm camera required EOE. Send resume to Midwest Technical Inspections KY, mgr, P.O. Box 127, Bloomingdale, ILL. 60108 Fax 630-539-4526, eml; wtamon@mtinspections.com

Auger Operator needed excellent pay and benefits call 606-356-2647 or 606-768-2098

Experienced Dental Assistant needed, send resume to P.O. Box 1271, Prestonsburg, Ky. 41653

Wanted Experience Auto and Tire Technicians. Great benefit package including medical, vacation and holiday pay. send resume to p o box 157 Wittenville, Ky 41274

Manager needed and Possibility to become Partner in Pizza Restaurant Business send Resume to / with Photo to: Floyd County Times P O Box 390 Prestonsburg, Ky. 41653 Attention, P.R.

330-For Sale

For sale Square Baled hay call 606-662-4635 before 9 am or after 9 pm

FOR SALE Psychoballistics Silver Bullet Electronic paintball gun with three firing modes- semi, full-auto, and 3 shot burst. Mouse click trigger pull. Black carbon fiber barrel. \$150 firm. Like brand-new. Call 789-8380

Oil Field Service Company Has Opening For Hard-Working Drivers and Experienced Cement Supervisors in the Allen Office

Must be 21 years of age or older. Must have CDL and good driving record with some mechanical aptitude.

Please apply in person, Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. thru 4:00 p.m.

Located at: Universal Well Service, 5252 Route 1428 in Allen KY Phone 606-874-3487

Classified ads work!

MERCHANDISE

410-Animals

Want to buy, Very young female teacup Chihuahua. Prefer all white in color but will consider solid tan, also Call Kathy at 886-8506 or email to features @floyd county times.com may also call 789-8380

445-Furniture

For Sale Spinnet-Console or Digital Piano small payments, se locally call 800-343-6494

For Sale: Maple Table with 4 Chairs, coffee table, TV, Stereo all for \$250.00 call 606-478-9614

ALMAR FURNITURE

Big selection of living room, bedroom, dining room, refrigerators, stove, washers and much more. 606-874-0097

For Sale: Powder Blue Couch, Love Seat Also Recliner, good conditioner \$100.00 call 606-285-0395

FOR SALE: Queen Anne chair & table. Chair is blue in color, table is cherry finish. Excellent condition. Also, Bow Flex machine. Call 886-8685 if no answer leave message.

ALLEN FURNITURE ALLEN, KY Furniture, used appliances, living / bedroom suits, bunk beds, and lots more! Call 874-9790.

RAY'S BARGAIN CENTER New & Used Furniture & Appliances @ unbelievable prices. Come in today for incredible savings. Shop At The Little Furniture Store & Save!!

#122, McDowell. Call 606-377-0143.

450-Lawn & Garden

Gravely Tractor, with electric starter plow and cultivator call for more information call 606-358-3416

470-Health & Beauty

Hair Stylus needed making \$11.00 per hour with health, vacation and other benefits apply at Cost Cutters inside Super Center in Wal Mart in Pikeville, ask for Stephanie call 606-432-6629

475-Household

For Sale Wrought Iron Day bed and Twin Mattress \$325.00 call 886-2914

480-Merchandise

For Sale Popcorn Machine and electric tread mill, both in very good shape. Call 606-452-2129

475-Household

For Sale Popcorn Machine and electric tread mill, both in very good shape. Call 606-452-2129

480-Merchandise

For Sale Sun dome XL 48 10 minute tanning bed system. contains 48 dual tone 160 wt. tanning bulbs asking \$6000.00 call 606-349-4328

530-Homes

For Sale: Seven room older home located on Riverside Drive in Prestonsburg. Good Condition and well maintained. Priced \$57,500 Call after 5:00 p.m. 874-9595.

REAL ESTATE

510-Comm. Prop.

Commercial Building for Rent or Lease on U.S.23 located in Betsy Layne area. call 606-478-5403

530-Homes

For Sale: Seven room older home located on Riverside Drive in Prestonsburg. Good Condition and well maintained. Priced \$57,500 Call after 5:00 p.m. 874-9595.

570-Mobile Homes

For Rent 2 bed room Trailer 3 miles from Prestonsburg on David Road call 886-3902

For Rent 2 bed Trailer located at Dana on Spurlock fork 250.00 per month call 606-478-9397 or 606-478-4748

ALL drywall, 2004 Dutch with 2 x 6 walls, 5 1/2 roof pitch, ultimate kitchen package, Glass block window, upgrade carpet and many more extras. Set up for viewing. For details call 606-353-6444 or toll free 877-353-6444

For Sale 2003 Clayton 28x60 Great Location in downtown Prestonsburg 3-bed room 2 bath all electric, large kitchen with island sheet rock living room seamless gutters, vaulted roof pitch, crown molding, large out building situated on a 100 x50 lot many extras. call 606-886-8601 asking \$85,000.00

Why rent when you own a 2004 Clayton, 3 BED ROOM double wide for \$369 per month with your good credit? For details call 877-353-6444 or 606-353-6444

FOR SALE 12 X 60 Mobile Home. Underpinning & steps included, needs repairs, excellent for parts or storage. \$1000 OBO. Call after 5:30 874-4604.

FOR SALE OR LEASE: 16000 square. ft. building, more or less w/apt. attached. 2 BED ROOMS, 1 BATH. Separate metal building. 40x50 & 2 + 1/2 acres of land. Large road frontage. Between Allen & WMDJ Call 859-512-6812.

FOR RENT Large 3 bed room House 2 full baths with large Kitchen and large back and front yards, full size basement & Garage for storage call 859-806-2188

House for sale: 9 room house, 2 bath, storage buildings, chain link fence, city utilities, located in Wheelwright for more information call 606-452-2665 or 606-452-4320

2 bed room Duplex with full Garage for rent 550.00 plus 500 deposit 1 year lease required located at Lancer, KY call 886-8781 after 6pm

House for sale in Wheelwright 1801 Main Street, 2 bed room separate drive way, recently renovated bath with new furnace, fenced back yard. Includes extra lot call 859-527-7646

Kay's Wallpaper 205 Depot Road Paintsville, Ky HUNDREDS OF PATTERNS OF WALLPAPER & BORDERS All under \$10.00. Open Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Closed Sunday & Monday. 789-8584.

Morehead State University invites application for the position of Mental Health Counselor at the Carl D. Perkins Comprehensive Rehabilitation Center.

Responsibilities: Provide individual and group counseling, crisis intervention, and serve on a clinical on-call rotation. Provide disability and medication awareness educational programs and orientation to mental health services for incoming students. Participate in behavioral management program and perform other job-related duties. **Qualifications:** Master's degree in Psychology, Social Work, or Professional Counseling. Must be licensed/certified by state of Kentucky, or eligible for licensure/certification. **Special Information:** The Carl D. Perkins Comprehensive Rehabilitation Center is a residential vocational training facility, located in Johnson County, KY. It serves Kentuckians with physical and/or emotional disabilities. Job is based in the Psychology Unit. Successful applicant must reside in Johnson or a nearby county. May require weekend and evening work. To apply on-line visit: <http://www.moreheadstate.edu/prospects/jobapp.html> and attach required materials, or submit letter of application, curriculum vita, official transcripts, copy of licensure/certification and three letters of recommendation by April 7, 2004, to: Office of Human Resources, Attn: M/H Coun. #1019, Morehead State University, HM 101, Morehead, KY 40351.

MSU is an EQAA employer.

Oil Field Service Company Has Opening For Hard-Working Drivers and Experienced Cement Supervisors in the Allen Office

Must be 21 years of age or older. Must have CDL and good driving record with some mechanical aptitude.

Please apply in person, Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. thru 4:00 p.m.

Located at: Universal Well Service, 5252 Route 1428 in Allen KY Phone 606-874-3487

RENTALS

610-Apartments

Extremely nice apartment Near college (University Drive). References, lease & security deposit required. No pets. Call 886-3565.

Extremely nice apartment Near college (University Drive). References, lease & security deposit required. No pets. Call 886-3565.

Now Renting One Bed room Units Elderly, Handicapped & Disabled Available for immediately occupancy. Park Place Apartments in Prestonsburg Rent 1 bed room / \$305 call 606-886-0039

GREETINGS FROM LIGHTHOUSE MANOR, Terry & Sharon Smith. We have apartments for rent that are efficiency apartments, all utilities paid. For more info call 606-886-2797.

FURNISHED 1 BED ROOM APT. Central heat & air. Rent starting at \$350 month, + \$300 deposit. Located near HRMC. 889-9717.

Winchester Apt. has 1 bed room Apt. for Rent, Utilities paid, with washer and dryer provided. No Pets. \$375.00 per month with \$150.00 deposit. call 874-5577

Quick Silver Town House available April 1 New 3 bed room, 2 bath room Duplex for Rent Beautiful hard wood floors and trim No Pets call Tim at 886-3055 or 606-434-6516

To place your ad call 886-8506!

FOR SALE: Ranch-style stone and log home. 2,100 sq. ft. (12-1/2 acres), 4 bdrms., 3 bths, has 2-car garage, basement, fireplace with insert, new heat pump. Barn (6-stall), 2 outside utility bldgs. with apt. over one. Chain-link fence.

THE FLOYD COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY is seeking applications from qualified applicants interested in a part-time position. The position will require good communication, organizational and computer skills to schedule and process housing applications. Individuals having similar experience are preferred. Wages will be based on experience.

Interested applicants should apply at:

WARCO HOUSING DEVELOPMENT 402 John M. Stumbo Drive Langley, KY Telephone: 285-3833

Applications will be accepted all day, Thursday & Friday, March 11 & 12, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Monday, March 15, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

630-Houses

3 bed room house for rent in Prestonsburg 1 mile from Mac Arts \$500.00 per month call 886-0226 after 5 pm

For Sale 3 bed room house 1 bath, living room and large kitchen at Depot road in Auxier call 886-2106

Nice Apt. forced air and heat 1 bed room, kitchen, living room and bath. Velocity bottom Betsy Layne, 250.00 plus deposit 100.00 call 478-9772

ALL TYPES: Remodeling & additions, garages, decks, etc. Also concrete work. Robbie Johnson, Jr., call anytime, 886-8896.

720-Health & Beauty

Need Prom or Wedding Jewelry? Wonderful Quality, unique style, reasonably priced Jewels by Park Lane. Nothing over \$50. call Gail 606-285-3990

NOTICES

Home Bugularized in Weeksbury Japanese Geisha Doll in Glass Case stolen \$500.00 Reward for more information call Sue Tackett at 606-452-4576

FOR SALE: Ranch-style stone and log home. 2,100 sq. ft. (12-1/2 acres), 4 bdrms., 3 bths, has 2-car garage, basement, fireplace with insert, new heat pump. Barn (6-stall), 2 outside utility bldgs. with apt. over one. Chain-link fence.

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Interested applicants should apply at:

HELP THE KIDS IN THE COMMUNITY. We are looking for donations for new & used computers to distribute to the kids community facilities. For pick up call Scott 889-9551 and to deliver call Scott 889-9551.

Rn Day Shift Available 8:30 am-5:pm Hospice of Big Sandy, Inc. Call 606-789-3841 or come in and fill out an application at 1520 Ky. Highway 1428 Hager Hill, Ky. 41222 (psa)

812-Free

FREE PALLETS: Can be picked up behind The Floyd County Times.

900-Legals

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

The following item will be offered at public sale on March 26, 2004, at 11 a.m., to

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

The following item will be offered at public sale on March 26, 2004, at 11 a.m., to

satisfy the unpaid balance of an installment contract signed 09/22/03.

2001 Chev. Cavalier S/N 3762. All items are sold "as is where is." Seller reserves the right to bid and to reject any or all bids. Items are to be paid following the sale, or satisfactory arrangements made with the seller. Announcements at the sale take priority over ad. Purchaser to pay all taxes and transfer fees.

Call Mike Haney for location, 606-886-2321.

FIRST Commonwealth Bank 311 N. Arnold Ave. Prestonsburg, KY 41653

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

The following item will be offered at public sale on March 26, 2004, at 11 a.m., to satisfy the unpaid balance of an installment contract signed 10/27/03.

2000 Nissan Altima GXE S/N 9063. All items are sold "as is where is." Seller reserves the right to bid and to reject any or all bids. Items are to be paid following the sale, or satisfactory arrangements made with the seller. Announcements at the sale take priority over ad. Purchaser to pay all taxes and transfer fees.

Call Mike Haney for location, 606-886-2321.

FIRST Commonwealth Bank 311 N. Arnold Ave. Prestonsburg, KY 41653

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

The following item will be offered at public sale on March 26, 2004, at 11 a.m., to satisfy the unpaid balance of an installment contract signed 05/08/00.

1998 Chevy Malibu S/N 9906

All items are sold "as is where is." Seller reserves the right to bid and to reject any or all bids. Items are to be paid following the sale, or satisfactory arrangements made with the seller. Announcements at the sale take priority over ad. Purchaser to

pay all taxes and transfer fees.

Call Mike Haney for location, 606-886-2321.

FIRST Commonwealth Bank 311 N. Arnold Ave. Prestonsburg, KY 41653

FOR SALE



2000 Kawasaki Vulcan Classic 2,600 miles. Good condition, great bike! Asking \$2,500. Call 606-793-3836

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

General Assignment Reporter

The Floyd County Times is currently accepting applications for general assignment reporters, either full-time or part-time. The ideal candidate will possess strong writing skills, dedication to the principles of journalism, strong people skills and a go-getter attitude. Experience is preferred, but applicants with the right mix of education and ability, will be considered. The ability to work flexible hours is a must. Benefits include a competitive salary, health insurance, vacation, 401k and mileage, for full-time employees.

If you would like to advance or continue your career in the field of journalism, you may submit your résumé and writing samples to

Managing Editor Ralph B. Davis
The Floyd County Times
P.O. Box 390, Prestonsburg, KY 41653
or
via email to web@floydcountytimes.com

Appalachian Regional Healthcare, a not-for-profit system of hospitals, clinics and home health agencies, is accepting resumes for the following opportunities at ARH primary care clinics in the Hazard, KY service area:

Regional Clinic Manager
Hazard Clinic Cluster

This position will be responsible for oversight, direction and overall management of the June Buchanan Clinic in Hindman, KY, the Homeplace Clinic in Ary, KY, and Hazard Family Health Services in Hazard, KY. Major activities will involve finances to include billing, cash receipts and posting; physician relations; compliance; and, staffing for the clinics.

A Bachelor's degree is preferred or a minimum of five (5) years of experience in a health care setting, two of which should be in a supervisory capacity, preferably in a clinic setting. The ability to work and deal effectively with groups, individuals, and physicians and familiarity with physician practice settings are necessary attributes. Experience in rural health is desirable.

R.N. - Clinic Manager
June Buchanan Clinic, Hindman, KY

This Registered Nurse Clinic Manager will manage all aspects of the Clinic including finances, staffing, quality assurance, performance improvement; compliance; will evaluate quality and appropriateness of services provided by the clinic; and, will provide assistance to physicians on routine administrative matters. May function in a clinical RN role as necessary.

Requirements include completion of an approved school of nursing with current unencumbered KY RN licensure or eligibility. Experience in a rural clinic setting is preferred. Must have demonstrated ability to work and deal effectively with groups, individuals and physicians.

Clinic Nurse
Homeplace Clinic, Ary, KY

This position will interpret the plan of medical care, assess patients, devise the patient care plan, provide individualized nursing care and evaluate nursing care.

Requirements include completion of an approved school of nursing with current unencumbered KY RN licensure or eligibility.

ARH offers a highly competitive salary based on education and experience. Benefits include very low cost single or family plan health insurance; paid vacation, sick and holiday leaves; temporary disability benefits; life insurance at group rates, etc. Please send detailed resume with cover letter to: Marilyn Hamblin, System Professional Recruiter, Appalachian Regional Healthcare, PO Box 3086, Lexington, KY 40533, e-mail: mhamblin@arh.org, fax: 859-226-2586, telephone: 800-888-7045, Ext. 532. EOE

ARH
Appalachian Regional Healthcare
The Medical Centers of the Mountains
www.arh.org

Lift-Master The Professional Line
GADCO

Classic Garage Doors
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Sales - Service - Installation
97 Dillon Branch
Ivel, Kentucky 41642-0181
12 Years Experience

Greg Clevinger
Joe B. Justice (606) 478-2648

Management Positions Available

Pikeville, Prestonsburg, Portsmouth, Wise

Minimum 6 months food service experience necessary.
Excellent Benefits / Salary negotiable
Insurance • Paid Vacations

Mail all résumés to:
Reno's Roadhouse
253 University Drive
Prestonsburg, KY 41653
Or Fax to:
(606) 886-0112

RENO'S ROADHOUSE

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Morehead State University invites applications for the position of Mental Health Counselor at the Carl D. Perkins Comprehensive Rehabilitation Center.

Responsibilities: Provide individual and group counseling, crisis intervention and serve on a clinical on-call rotation. Provide disability and medication awareness educational behavioral management program and perform other job-related duties.

Qualifications: Master's degree in Psychology, Social Work or Professional Counseling. Must be licensed/certified by state of Kentucky, or eligible for licensure/certification

Special Information: The Carl D. Perkins Comprehensive Rehabilitation Center is a residential vocational training facility located in Johnson County, KY. It serves Kentuckians with physical and/or emotional disabilities. Job is based in the Psychology Unit.

Successful applicant must reside in Johnson or a nearby county. May require weekend and evening work.

To apply on-line, visit:
<http://www.moreheadstate.edu/prospects/jobapp/html>
and attach required materials or submit letter of application, curriculum vita, official transcripts, copy of license/certification and three letters of recommendation by April 07, 2004, to:
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