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briefs

Bond lowered for accused store clerk

by JOYAL FRAZIER
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Bond was reduced Friday for a former store clerk accused of using a customer's credit card number to get cash and other items.

Christina Lewis, 26, is charged with 12 counts of forgery and 12 counts of theft by deception after she allegedly stole a credit card number of Robert Legg and used it to receive cash, gas and other miscellaneous items.

Lewis was a clerk at Action Mart, where she had easy access to customers' credit card information. She allegedly wrote down his number and punched it in manually at the BP store on University Drive.

On Friday, Lewis appeared in court to ask that her bond be lowered.

Judge Danny P. Caudill ruled that her bond be reduced to \$20,000 surety because the charges against her were nonviolent crimes. He also gave consideration to her because she was living in Tennessee when the indictment was handed down and she voluntarily came back to Kentucky to face charges.

Lewis is scheduled to be back in court August 4.

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Sports

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2 DAY FORECAST

Today
Mostly sunny
High: 87 • Low: 60

Tomorrow
Mostly sunny
High: 87 • Low: 61

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

Mayor asks AG to probe social services

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Following a request made Friday by Mayor Jerry Fanning, the state Attorney General's Office is assisting the Prestonsburg Police Department in an investigation against the Floyd County office of the Cabinet for Families and Children.

Sgt. Detective Brian Hall began an investigation Friday into the Floyd County social services department when Richard and Kimberly Hardy, an Auxier couple who claim they have been routinely mistreated by the office, filed a complaint against social worker Chris Newsome with the county attorney.

Hall said he contacted the Attorney General's Office for assistance when asked

to do so by Mayor Fanning, noting that "other complaints of the same nature" have been brought out by various community members.

"We have an ongoing investigation against the social workers right now," Fanning said. "We're investigating some complaints made by other people and checking into allegations made against the Floyd County office ... You know, we're a

small town, but it's a big-time situation going on. We want to make sure that everything is handled right and done right in the investigation."

Fanning said the police department has been "looking into" complaints made "a little while ago" and some that have surfaced more recently. He would not com

(See PROBE, page three)



Sam Goodman was completely surprised when he entered City Hall and found that a sendoff party had been staged for him. Goodman leaves for training Saturday before shipping off to Kosovo this summer.

photo by Tom Doty

City gives sendoff to officer headed to Kosovo

by TOM DOTY
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Patrolman Sam Goodman, of the Prestonsburg Police Department, will be serving in Kosovo this summer after being called to duty by the National Guard.

On Friday, Goodman was surprised by a party in his honor that saw the young officer speechless as tributes to him were paid by the Prestonsburg

Police Department and Mayor Jerry Fanning, who presented him with a key to the city.

"You're going very far away to help us all and we appreciate it," Fanning told Goodman while giving him the key.

Police Chief Mike Ormerod then gave Goodman a Yellow Ribbon sticker which will match the ones that the department is putting on all of its patrol cars. They will stay on the units until Goodman is safely back from the

Balkans.

Patricia Goodman, Sam Goodman's wife, was on hand and said, "I'm in the military, too, so I can relate. I guess I'm lucky because a lot of spouses don't have that experience and it sure helps. He will be going for two months of training and finishing at Camp Aterbury before shipping off."

The Goodmans have two chil-

(See OFFICER, page three)

Knott man gets five years for imprisonment

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A Knott County man charged with rape who pleaded guilty in March to first-degree unlawful imprisonment will spend five years in prison, following a sentencing hearing Friday in Circuit Court.

Judge Danny P. Caudill declined attempts by Prestonsburg attorney Ned Pillersdorf to seek probation for Decoy resident John Brian Smith during the hearing, sentencing the man to five years of "hard labor."

Pillersdorf, who represented Smith during a trial that ended in a hung jury in 2002, was rehired by Smith this year after he fired his former attorney, Stephen Owen, who was present in March during Smith's latest trial. That trial ended two days after it started with Smith entering a guilty plea to the first-degree unlawful imprisonment charge.

Pillersdorf, who would not comment as to why Smith fired Owen, asked Judge Caudill to allow the testimony of Knott County Sheriff Ray Bolen, who came forward as a character witness for Smith.

Bolen, 58, who testified Friday that he's known Smith since the 1980s, asked that the court grant him leniency because "he's never had any problems," a statement Bolen



photo by Joyal Frazier

Knott County resident John Brian Smith exerted a somber appearance during his sentencing Friday.

said resonated with numerous people in their Knott County community.

Commonwealth's Attorney Brent Turner asked for the maximum sentence from the court. He combated Bolen's testimony by referring to previous testimony he had given during Smith's first trial. At that time, Turner said, Bolen testified that Smith's grandfather was "one of his best friends" and that his family continues to be "big supporters" of the sheriff.

Pillersdorf rebutted by explicating Smith's work history, noting that his current boss "has every intention of rehiring" Smith when he gets out of jail.

(See SENTENCE, page three)

Lancer woman pleads guilty to selling drugs from home

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A Floyd County woman entered a guilty plea this week to charges of drug trafficking near school grounds.

Penny Branham, 53, of the Lancer section of Prestonsburg, pleaded guilty Friday in two separate cases against her in which she is facing three counts of drug trafficking near a school and one count of tampering with physical evidence.

Branham was indicted for drug trafficking after she sold \$25 in marijuana to an informant with the Floyd County Drug Task Force on March 4, 2003. That indictment was followed in April by three additional charges after authorities found drugs and paraphernalia in her home, located approximately 200 yards from Adams Middle school, when they served a search warrant on the previous charge.

According to Commonwealth's Attorney Brent

Turner, Branham told the informant during the March 4 transaction, that she had just sold a half-pound of marijuana that day and that she was out Valium and Xanax because they "went like hot cakes."

When officers came to serve the arrest warrant in April, Turner said, Branham excused herself to the restroom, where she doused a load of marijuana down the toilet. Officers skimmed marijuana

(See GUILTY, page three)



photo by Tom Doty

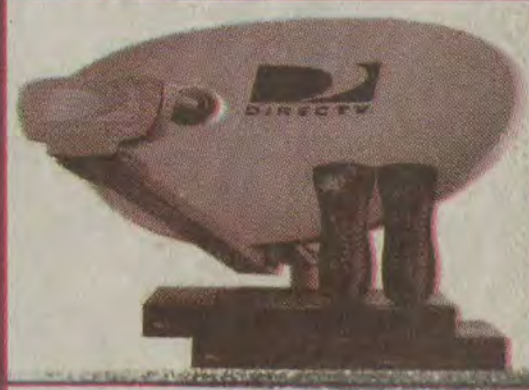
Woody Hamilton, 31, of Pikeville was taken into custody Wednesday in front of the Probation and Parole Office of South Central Avenue by Prestonsburg Police Officer Tren Combs. The charges included possession of drug paraphernalia and marijuana.

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Odds and Ends

■ **WHITEFISH BAY, Wis.** — Burglars beware: a bathroom break on the job can get you busted.

That's how Otha Smith got caught.

Dewey Coulson went to the bathroom in the middle of the night, only to find an intruder using the toilet.

"When I turned the corner ... I saw the light was on, and I thought someone had just left it on so I opened the door, and there was this guy sitting on the toilet," said Coulson, 19. "So I said, 'What are you doing in my house?' And he said, 'I just had to use the bathroom.'"

Coulson ran upstairs to get his stepfather, and when they returned they saw the man trying to leave.

"He was walking really slowly, and then he saw us, and he started running toward these doors and he grabbed the handle and my stepdad and I closed on him," Coulson said.

He and stepfather Dave End wrestled with the man to subdue him until police arrived.

Coulson's mother, Cathy End, said the intruder likely wasn't in the house long before heading to the bathroom.

"There was some money out of my wallet, but that's as far as he got, I guess, before nature took over. The toilet part just blows my mind," she said.

Smith, 42, who police said apparently entered through an unlocked door, was charged Wednesday with burglary to an occupied residence, a felony.

Because of two prior bur-

glary convictions, he could face 21 years in prison if convicted.

■ **ANCHORAGE, Alaska** — Crime is so rare in the tiny Alaska Native community of Deering that police say the theft of two fossilized mastodon tusks shouldn't be a behemoth case.

But the 131 residents in this tight-knit community have been tight-lipped about the robbery, stymieing investigators.

"It's only a limited number of people who could do it, and even a smaller number who would do it within the community," said Sgt. Karl Erickson of the Alaska State Troopers in Kotzebue.

Fossil hunting is a popular pastime in Deering, a village of mostly Inupiat Eskimos on the Seward Peninsula at the mouth of the Inmachuk River.

Locals hunt for the bones and tusks of mastodon, giant elephant-like beasts that roamed the earth millions of years ago.

"You can find stuff every year," said resident Jim Moto. "But if it doesn't flood, you don't find anything at all."

Tusks in good condition can fetch \$100 per pound or more, Moto said.

Last month, Deering resident Gilbert Barr noticed that two tusks, valued at \$30,000, were missing from a warehouse he shared with the local grocery.

Police say there were no signs of forced entry or evidence at the warehouse, Erickson said.

"Until new evidence comes up with other potential suspects, we don't have any other

avenues," he said. "There must be people who knew what took place but are afraid to come forward. That is a problem with a small community."

■ **AMES, Iowa** — Mushroom maven Lois Tiffany thinks its fabulous to have a fungus named in her honor.

"It's always interesting to find something that is new to science and that nobody has observed before," Tiffany said Wednesday after Iowa State University announced a new truffle would be named after the distinguished professor emeritus.

Tiffany has taught ecology, evolution and organismal biology at ISU and says she's "thoroughly enjoyed the research work."

First collected in late summer of 1998, the new fungus — now named *Mattitrolomyces tiffanyae* — has been found in several oak woods areas in Story County.

Rosanne Healy, a biologist at the ISU Department of Genetics, Development and Cell Biology, discovered the new species during a survey of Iowa's truffles, the university said.

Healy said the fungus is distantly related to the very expensive truffles of southern Europe, but "because so few have been found so far, we haven't done any testing on whether this is edible."

Healy described the fungus as white, roundish and smooth with colorless spores.

■ **GASTON, N.C.** — How much is that doggie in the window?

Putting his pooches on public display could cost bail bondsman Clint Baucom \$25.

The City Council passed an ordinance Tuesday banning dogs in store windows, except in the case of pet shops. Violators are subject to a \$25 fine.

Baucom keeps his dogs "Bubba," a German shepherd-rottweiler mix, and "Jake," a blind Doberman-German shepherd mix, in two display windows of his storefront office downtown.

"We're not targeting that business. We're targeting a problem that that business brought to light," Assistant City Attorney Melissa Magee said.

Merchants and property

owners want to portray a positive image, which the big dogs in a shop window don't fit, said Councilman Jeff Horne.

"They're unsightly and it's probably not good for the dogs," said Arnold Walker, who owns a nearby pharmacy.

Baucom says his dogs give his office a sense of protection, and he's able to better care for them at the store given his round-the-clock business hours.

Today In History

The Associated Press

Today is Sunday, May 9, the 130th day of 2004. There are 236 days left in the year. This is Mother's Day.

Today's Highlight in History:

Two hundred and fifty years ago, on May 9, 1754, a cartoon in Benjamin Franklin's *Pennsylvania Gazette* showed a snake cut into sections, each part representing an American colony; the caption read, "Join or die."

On this date:

■ In 1502, Christopher Columbus left Cadiz, Spain, on his fourth and final trip to the Western Hemisphere.

■ In 1913, the 17th amendment to the Constitution, providing for the election of U.S. senators by popular vote rather than selection by state legislatures, was ratified.

■ In 1926, Americans Richard Byrd and Floyd Bennett became the first men to fly over the North Pole.

■ In 1936, Italy annexed Ethiopia.

■ In 1945, U.S. officials announced that a midnight

entertainment curfew was being lifted immediately.

■ In 1960, the Food and Drug Administration approved a pill as safe for birth control use. (The pill, Enovid, was made by G.D. Searle and Company of Chicago.)

■ In 1961, Federal Communications Commission chairman Newton N. Minow condemned television programming as a "vast wasteland" in a speech to the National Association of Broadcasters.

■ In 1974, the House Judiciary Committee opened hearings on whether to recommend the impeachment of President Nixon.

■ In 1978, the bullet-riddled body of former Italian prime minister Aldo Moro, who'd been abducted by the Red Brigades, was found in an automobile in the center of Rome.

■ In 1980, 35 motorists were killed when a Liberian freighter rammmed the Sunshine Skyway Bridge over Tampa Bay, Fla., causing a 1,400-foot section to collapse.

Ten years ago:

South Africa's newly elected parliament chose Nelson

Mandela to be the country's first black president. Mandela promised a South Africa for "all its people, black and white."

Five years ago:

A chartered bus carrying members of a casino club on a Mother's Day gambling excursion flipped off a highway in New Orleans, killing 22 people. Furious Chinese demonstrators hurled rocks and debris into the U.S. Embassy in a second day of protests against NATO's bombing of the Chinese Embassy in Yugoslavia.

One year ago:

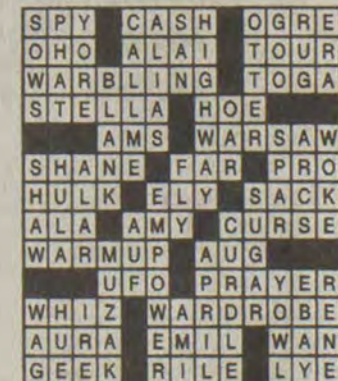
The United States and its allies asked the UN Security Council to give its stamp of approval to their occupation of Iraq. The Republican-led House approved 222-203 a \$550 billion tax cut package. Louisiana Democrat Russell B. Long, who greatly influenced tax laws during nearly four decades in the Senate, died at 84. In Cleveland, a camouflage-clad gunman fired hundreds of rounds as he roamed the halls of Case Western Reserve University's business school, killing one person; suspect Biswanath Halder later pleaded innocent.

Today's Birthdays:

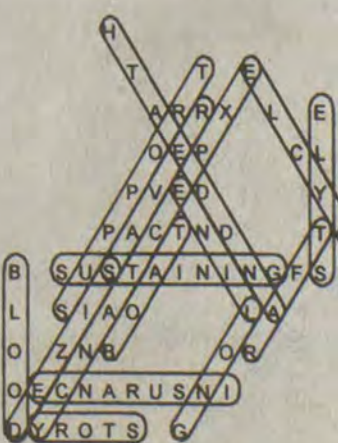
CBS News correspondent Mike Wallace is 86. Actor-writer Alan Bennett is 70. Actor Albert Finney is 68. Actress-turned-politician Glenda Jackson is 68. Musician Sonny Curtis (Buddy Holly and the Crickets) is 67. Producer-director James L. Brooks is 64. Singer Tommy Roe is 62. Singer-musician Richie Furay (Buffalo Springfield and Poco) is 60. Actress Candice Bergen is 58. Singer Clint Holmes is 58. Actor Anthony Higgins is 57. Singer Billy Joel is 55. Rock singer-musician Tom Petersson (Cheap Trick) is 54. Actress Alley Mills is 53. Actor John Corbett is 43. Singer Dave Gahan (Depeche Mode) is 42. Rapper Ghostface Killah is 34. Singer Tamia is 29. Rock musician Dan Regan (Reel Big Fish) is 27. Actress Rosario Dawson is 25.

Thought for Today:

"A mother never realizes that her children are no longer children." — Holbrook Jackson, British critic and historian (1874-1948).



LIFE —



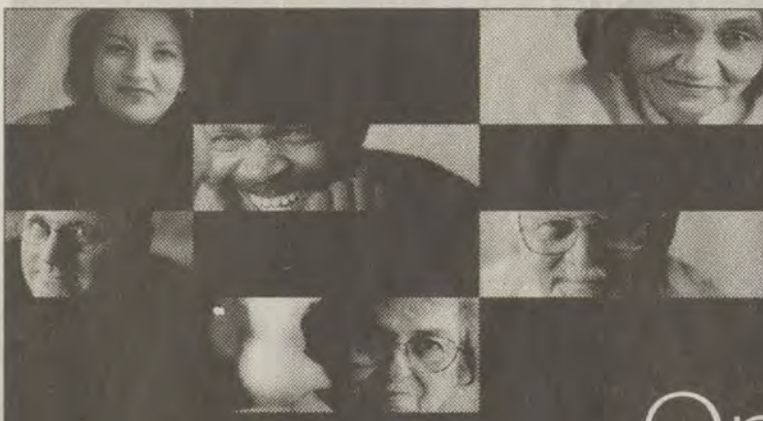
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Stumbo asks for cooperation in putting budget impasse before court

by TOM DOTY
STAFF WRITER

FRANKFORT — Attorney General Greg Stumbo tried, on Friday, to gather support for using the courts to get a budget approved for the state.

Stumbo sent letters to Gov. Ernie Fletcher, legislative leaders and state constitutional officers in an attempt to gather support for court intervention in solving the budget crisis. Stumbo's contention is that until the General Assembly passes a budget, there will be damaging confusion perpetuated throughout all offices which are publicly funded.

The current budget problems are not new to Frankfort. A similar budget crisis that involved

Gov. Paul Patton in 2002 was taken to Franklin Circuit Court, but the point became moot when the General Assembly approved a budget before the court could rule. The issue then was whether the governor could impose an executive spending plan in the face of a deadlocked legislature.

The key issue in 2002, which was never decided, involved a conflict between the executive and legislative branches of state government, namely which one could exercise power and approve spending for necessary services in the absence of an approved budget being the main point of contention. Franklin Circuit Court expressed dissatisfaction with never getting to make a determination in this matter and Stumbo seems deter-

mined to give the courts another shot at the thorny issue.

The thrust of the letter is that all arms of the government should unite long enough to turn the issue back over to the courts. A declaration of rights could then be sought from what Stumbo termed "a court of competent jurisdiction," and the court could then decide what the respective rights and duties of each branch of the government is.

Stumbo also reiterated the need for action and closed by urging the governing bodies to join him in this course of action amicably and asked that every group return a decision to him by Tuesday.

The letter, which went out Friday afternoon, will generate much discussion over the issue but a consensus on the ideas expressed by Stumbo probably won't begin to seep out until Monday.

Governor Fletcher's communications director, Doug Hogan, said, "At this point we just received it. We have our legal consultants looking at it but we don't have a consensus at this point."

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Governor Fletcher's communications director, Doug Hogan, said, "At this point we just received it. We have our legal consultants looking at it but we don't have a consensus at this point."

Guilty

from the surface of the water and collected it as evidence for the tampering with evidence charge, Turner said.

On that day, officers also found various items of paraphernalia in the home, 29 Xanax pills, a bag of marijuana in a camper parked on her residence, and \$1,000 in small bills stuffed between mattresses on her bed.

Branham, who could have received a total of up to 20 years for the charges against her, accepted a plea from the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office last month in which she is to serve one year behind bars. Her sentence includes three years suspended after the service of one year on each count, the remainder probated and supervised for two years.

After Branham pleaded guilty to the charges, Susan Gibson, Branham's attorney, asked the court to grant that her client be released until sentencing, a request overruled by Circuit Judge Danny P. Caudill.

Branham was taken into custody following the hearing. She is scheduled to be sentenced June 4.

Ky., W.Va. investigate Tug black-water spill

Times Staff Report

FRANKFORT — A blackwater spill discovered on the Tug Fork River last week has led to a joint investigation by West Virginia and Kentucky officials.

The spill was first spotted last week and was reported to the Kentucky Department of Natural Resources, which dispatched a helicopter to investigate.

The spill was easily spotted and the resulting investigation has determined that the blackwater, most likely the result of a discharge from coal mining-related activities, came from near the town of Welch, W.Va.

The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection and the DNR are jointly looking into the matter.

The increased frequency of such spills prompted the secretary of the Kentucky Environmental and Protection Cabinet, Lajuna S. Wilcher, to form a "Blackwater Task Force."

"This administration is committed to locating the source of blackwater spills and to taking the appropriate enforcement action," Wilcher said. "I know with the assistance of West Virginia authorities we will discover who is releasing the discharge and hold them accountable."

Probe

ment as to the number of complaints made, nor the extent of the allegations purported in those complaints.

Fannin requested that "anybody saying they have been done wrong" by social services contact the Prestonsburg Police Department immediately.

Vicky Glass, director of communications with the Attorney General's Office, said the Attorney General's Office will begin evaluating the case this week.

Richard and Kimberly Hardy, who have lost custody of their seven children since the social services department began investigating their home in 1998, filed a complaint with the county attorney's office Thursday against social worker

Chris Newsome, who they said lied in order to have them removed from the building during a scheduled visit of their youngest son.

The alleged incident occurred just one day following an order handed down by Judge Julie Paxton in Floyd Family Court, in which she requested the couple stop taping visitation sessions and interludes with social workers.

The couple used a digital tape recorder to record themselves before, during and after a scheduled visitation session of their youngest child, the only child with whom they are now allowed to have contact.

Though no harassing statements are made on the tape during the initial conversation

between the Hardys and Newsome, the social worker returned with two Prestonsburg Police Officers, called to assist in the removal of the Hardys because Newsome claimed Richard Hardy had threatened him during the visit.

According to County Attorney Keith Bartley, interviews with Newsome regarding the alleged incident will be postponed until his attorney, Craig Davis, returns from an out-of-town visit.

Mike Jennings, a spokesman for the Cabinet for Families and Children, refused to comment on the matter Friday. He had not yet received information pertaining to the attorney general's assistance in the case.

Officer

dren. Daughter Abby is 9 and son Dylan will be 1 year old May 17. Patricia Goodman said that Friday's event was only the first party for Sam Goodman today.

"We're having a party for Dylan tonight so Sam can be there," Patricia Goodman said.

The party and honors came as a complete surprise to Sam Goodman, who remarked, "I thought I'd get a handshake or something, but this is overwhelming."

When asked how he would get through the inevitable downtime while in Kosovo, Goodman replied, "People like this will get me through. When you're gone a long time, the letters get more important and everyone has

promised to write and send e-mails. To know people are thinking about you and care about what happens to you makes all the difference."

Goodman will be rejoining his unit tomorrow. They are the 206th Combat Engineers, composed of several county men and a few from Central Kentucky, mainly Lexington.

The unit will be heading to Kosovo in late June. That region of the Balkans has seen a lot of activity of late. The United Nations has had peacekeeping forces there since 1999, when NATO bombing finally forced Serbian troops to withdraw from their campaign of terror against the ethnic Albanian majority.

W'wright man charged with growing marijuana

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

WHEELWRIGHT — A Floyd County man was arrested this week on charges of marijuana cultivation, according to documents filed Friday in district court.

Jimmy Farmer, 49, of

Wheelwright, was arrested by Wheelwright Police officer Randy Johnson, who charged him with felonious cultivation of marijuana.

Johnson alleges that Farmer had six marijuana plants growing in cans on his porch.

Farmer is scheduled for arraignment June 14.

Sentencing hearing delayed due to Nyquil

by JOYAL FRAZIER
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Disruptions in court Friday caused a sentencing to be rescheduled for the second time, after the defendant, Amanda Guess, was acting in manner Judge Danny P. Caudill felt inappropriate for his courtroom.

After the docket was called and she was recorded as being present, Guess left the courthouse for several minutes. When she returned she was acting differently and court workers suspected she might under the influence of some intoxicant.

Guess was confronted and held while tested for alcohol, which came out negative. She then reentered the courtroom and began coughing loudly before going back out once again.

When Judge Caudill finally called her to be sentenced, he gave her a warning and asked why she was acting that way in his court.

After talking with her attorney, Ned Pillersdorf, he told Judge Caudill that his client was suffering from bronchitis and

had taken Nyquil for her illness, which had made her feel "light-headed." Judge Caudill then ruled that her sentencing be postponed until May 21, and told Guess that she would be tested for drugs and alcohol randomly.

This is the second time that her sentencing has been reset. Because of an outstanding warrant that had been issued for her in Floyd District Court and a warrant in Magoffin County, both related to other charges, her first sentencing date was reset. She was scheduled to be sentenced for three counts of theft and two counts of receiving stolen property.

Judge Caudill asked the defendant if Jonathan Guess, who was also scheduled to be sentenced today, was her husband. She told the judge that the two are currently separated, but Guess was joined in court by her "sister-in-law."

Caudill issued a bench warrant for Jonathan Guess for his failure to appear in court. Apparently he had phoned and said that he was having car trouble and would be late for court, but never did show up.

Sentence

Continued from p1

When prompted by Judge Caudill, Smith made no comment on his own behalf. He stood, arms crossed and twitching his fingers, as Judge Caudill said that he would not grant Pillersdorf's request for probation.

Smith, who would have faced 25 years on both charges if he was found guilty during the March trial, had been accused of raping a 17-year-old female senior at Allen Central High School on New Year's Eve, 2001, after following her home from the Speedway gas station in Martin.

"We were seeking the maximum sentence and that's what we got," said Turner. "We couldn't be any happier."

Turner said the victim in the case was "relieved just to have it over with," adding that it's a "comfort" to know that Smith will be behind bars.

The March trial ended a day before the victim was expected to testify in the case.



Barry Metcalf, Republican candidate for U.S. Senate, was in Floyd County Thursday visiting with Willard Kinzer to discuss the issues of his platform.

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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

Talk is cheap; action needed

The Speaker of the House, Jody Richards, said some "baby steps" had been taken toward solving the state budget standoff in Frankfort. Gov. Ernie Fletcher said it had been important to "re-establish a dialogue."

So it looked as if some progress had been made at this week's meeting between legislative and executive leaders. But behind the scenes, the best that could be said was that the antagonists were talking, for almost two hours.

The usual cynics will dismiss this latest failure to come up with a budget solution as just more partisan politics. But that's only partly true.

Yes, Gov. Fletcher and Senate President David Williams' Republican Caucus do have political reasons for wanting a "tax modernization" that's really not worthy of the name. Their party's basic appeal to voters is "no new taxes." Even if it means shortchanging basic services and sabotaging the historic momentum Kentucky achieved in education over the past 15 years, they're determined to stick with that line.

Mr. Richards and his House Democrats are different. They want to spend more, in order to improve public education; help underpaid teachers; protect the poor, sick and elderly; fully staff social services; finance burgeoning prisons in sum, to make government credible. But they don't have the guts to raise the money necessary to do it. They fear that the Republicans led by that great hegemonic partisan, U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell will drive them from their last party redoubt. They know Sen. McConnell is massing his troops for the final battle, under the "no new taxes" banner, and they're scared to death.

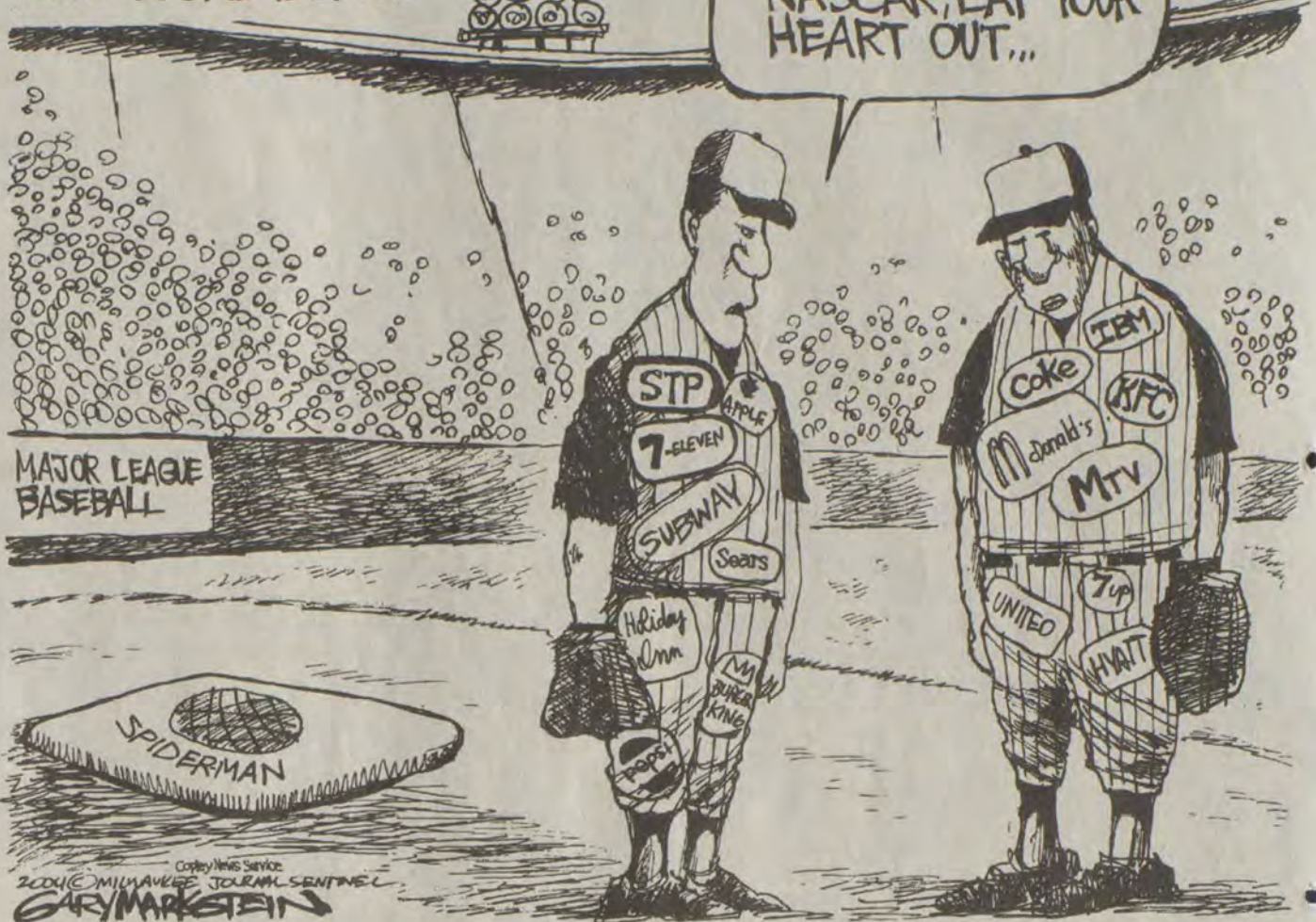
Both sides have partisan motives. But what's at stake here is real. If Gov. Fletcher wins, he forces through a budget bill that, far from "modernizing" the tax system, ensures its inadequacy by refusing to put sales taxes on more services and adding a "trigger" mechanism that severely limits income tax revenue growth then Kentucky's public sector faces many more years of mediocrity, or worse.

If the House Democrats win, then the looming state revenue crises may force a real revenue-raising tax change that truly modernizes the system. And those crises are coming. They're already here in higher education, with students and their families hit by massive tuition hikes made necessary by state cut-backs. They're on the horizon in Medicaid, and those money problems will arrive in the hundreds of millions. None of this year's budget plans not Gov. Fletcher's, not the Senate's, not the House's dealt with that prospect.

New revenue reports, due out in a few days, will show improvement, but not nearly enough. The March gain was 16 percent, year over year. April was not that good, but not bad either. Still, nothing in the new numbers will obscure the need for more tax revenue now, and for even more soon. That's not politics. It's fact.

— The Courier-Journal, Louisville

WHY THE SPIDER-MAN ADS WERE A BAD IDEA ...



— Jim Davidson

Do your children have a 'drug' problem?

The other day while reading an article in our local paper I got a good chuckle. It was reported that some organization had conducted a study and determined that children viewing violence on television produced more aggression when they became adults.

I chuckled with the thought that I could have told them that and saved them all that time and money. Sometimes all we need is just some good ol' common sense and we will be a lot better off. Unfortunately, in some circles common sense seems to be in short supply.

If you will tune me in and not judge what I'm saying, I have some common sense thoughts to share with you that could make a difference in the lives of some very special people. To me, and probably to you as well, some of the most important people in our country are less than 18 years of age. I'm talking about our nation's youth, because they are our future and they face more challenges today than those of us in the older generation ever thought about.

My heart is deeply touched when I hear or read about some young person committing suicide. We have had a couple of these here in our community the past few months. A teacher who attended one of the funerals told me it was obvious that some of the students who also attended had never been to a funeral or taught how to show respect for the family of the student who had committed suicide. She said some of the girls were giggling, talking and up running around and even pulled flowers off the casket for souvenirs. The answer here, of course, is that these young people had never been taught how to have respect for the feelings of others and how to behave.

If you agree that situations like this and others in different venues really constitute a very sad state of affairs, and you are also concerned about where we are heading, what should be done about it? Is it the school's responsibility to teach respect for the feelings of others and how to properly behave at all public gatherings, or should parents be the ones to do this?

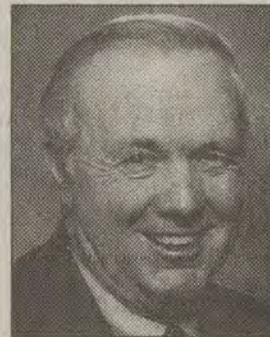
We know from a common sense standpoint that it really falls to the parents, because our schools can't teach everything; there are just not enough hours in the day. They can help and they should, so maybe all of us working together can do something.

While we are on the subject of young people and their behavior, if you have children or grandchildren, please allow me to pose this question. Do your children or grandchildren have a "drug" problem?

Before you get defensive, let me tell you what I have in mind. While all of our children are grown, my wife and I both hope our grandchildren have a "drug" problem when presented in the following way. A reader sent me something the other day titled, "This is what was known as the "Good Ol' Days."

It begins, "I, my siblings and friends had a 'drug' problem when we were youngsters. We were 'drug' to church on Sunday morning. We were 'drug' to church for weddings and funerals. We were 'drug' to family reunions, no matter the weather. "We were 'drug' to school when we said we didn't feel good. We were 'drug' by our ears when disrespectful to adults and teachers. We were also 'drug' to the woodshed when we disobeyed our parents.

(See DAVIDSON, page six)



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PUBLISHER David Bowyer publisher@floydcountytimes.com	ext. 18	MANAGING EDITOR Ralph B. Davis web@floydcountytimes.com	ext. 17
FEATURES EDITOR Kathy J. Prater features@floydcountytimes.com	ext. 26	ADVERTISING MANAGER Kim Frasure advertising@floydcountytimes.com	ext. 12
SPORTS EDITOR Steve LeMaster sports@floydcountytimes.com	ext. 16	CLASSIFIED MANAGER Pauline Branham	ext. 19
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beyond the beltway

For president — with luck, the least worst

by DONALD KAUL

It's becoming obvious that President Bush has a secret hero whom he not only admires, but also tries to copy — a Frenchman, no less. It's Marshal Ferdinand Foch, the Supreme Commander of Allied forces during World War I.

It was Foch, you'll remember, who at the pivotal Second Battle of the Marne in 1918, is said to have said: "My center is giving way, my right is pushed back, situation excellent. I attack."

Doesn't that remind you of President Top Gun?

He hasn't exactly been riding a winning streak lately. The brave armies he sent to Iraq, having vanquished the evil Saddam, are enduring the death of a thousand cuts. His "coalition of the willing" is melting like a snow cone in the sun. The Weapons of Mass Destruction he promised us have proved to be ephemeral, at best. Hardly a day passes without the publication of a new book that makes Mr. Bush and his people look like The Gang That Couldn't Shoot

Straight.

With all that going against him, you'd think he'd be hiding in a in a duck blind with Vice President Dick Cheney. Not Our Glorious Leader; he's made of sterner stuff. Cornered, he attacks — John Kerry, mainly.

So what, you might say? All politicians attack their opponents. True enough, but what makes this particularly interesting is that President Bush and his handlers are attacking Sen. Kerry's military record.

That's not mere political courage, that's outright gall.

I mean, with a military record like President Bush's (he was in the Air National Guard during the Vietnam War and went MIA — Missing In Alabama — during part of his service) you would imagine he'd think twice before attacking a decorated veteran.

Not at all. He apparently subscribes to the theory that if you say something often enough and loudly enough, people will believe it.

Mr. Bush seldom stoops to make a direct attack himself, but he has sent his minions out to stoop for him. Bush surrogates have accused Kerry of exaggerating the wounds that won him three Purple Hearts, of faking his anti-war gesture of throwing away his medals

and of being soft on Jane Fonda. Perhaps worst of all, Dick Cheney has questioned Kerry's judgment.

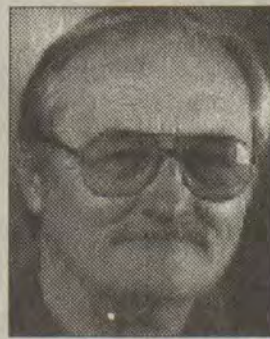
Dick Cheney! This from the man who, more than any other, thrust the Iraq War on the president and continues to insist that there are Weapons of Mass Destruction out there somewhere. Having Dick Cheney question your judgment is like being called weird by Michael Jackson.

I'll let you in on a secret. I don't really care — not about any of it. I don't care that President Bush swerved to avoid the draft 30 years ago. Even less do I care that John Kerry was a military hero. I don't think any of it rises to the level of serious political discussion.

I'm more interested in what they've done lately and from my point of view, neither has done enough. Kerry has been a moderately good if unexciting senator and is proving to be a less-than-scintillating presidential candidate. Mr. Bush has been a fact-adverse president who has blundered us into a seemingly endless war. (If what we're fighting is a "war on terror" how will we know when to celebrate VT Day?) He flat-out scares me. Do you want to be bored or terrified? You choose.

A more interesting question is why

(See BELTWAY, page six)



Faith Extra

Minister's Moment: Move toward the signal

by DR. GEORGE LOVE
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Our family was driving home from vacation a few months back and while making our way through several states, we picked up a radio station broadcasting a basketball game. The game was a good one and we listened patiently, a nice way to pass the time on a lengthy drive.

Except for one complication. As the game wound down, with the outcome still in doubt, the voices of the play-by-play announcers began to fade away into the night. We tried everything. We pushed the seek button all over the AM and FM dials, trying to find another station that was carrying the game. No luck. We attempted the tried-and-true method of turn-

ing the radio off and on many times and calling out to it, "Come on!" Again, no luck. We tried the somewhat more subtle approach of turning the volume down and then back up again suddenly, as though we might surprise the station back into the broadcast range. Nothing.

Simply put, we tried everything, with the exception of the one thing that would have

worked. The only thing that would have brought the radio station in again would have been to have turned the vehicle around and headed back towards the source of the signal.

In the midst of all these contortions, I was reminded of an old saying describing our relationship to God: If God seems far away, who moved? Undoubtedly, there are times

when God seems to be fading from the range of wherever we happen to find ourselves in our daily lives. Like our family on our road trip, we often try a number of ways of drawing God back in, many of them meeting with the same success as our attempts involving turning the volume up and down.

Quite often, the fundamental problem we face in our spiritual lives is the same

problem we had with the radio station. We are going in a direction which draws us farther away from God, rather than closer to God. If we find ourselves in a difficult time in our spiritual journey, a time where God seems to be less and less of a factor in our lives, it is important that we examine our lives and seek out the ways in which our actions, our thoughts and our choices are drawing us away from, rather than towards, God.

At that moment, we can begin the process of turning ourselves around and reorienting our lives toward the One who loves us, cares for us and longs to guide us all along our life's journey.

Catholic bishops get confrontational about abortion this election season

by RICHARD N. OSTLING
AP RELIGION WRITER

From John Kerry to the governors of Indiana and New Jersey, Roman Catholic politicians are being challenged by bishops in a new and tougher way this election season over their stance on abortion.

Some bishops have taken the radical step of declaring that officials who support abortion

rights shouldn't receive Holy Communion, and one has even said he'd personally refuse Kerry at the altar.

Critics think such tactics are fraught with risks. The hierarchy could be seen as partisan, or morally suspect in the wake of the clergy sex abuse crisis. A backlash could even hurt the anti-abortion cause, or boost Kerry.

Historian John McGreevy,

author of "Catholicism and American Freedom," says the church is on "new ground. The bishops have to figure out what they want to do, and Kerry needs to figure how to respond."

It's quite a change from the Catholic pride during the 1960 campaign of John F. Kennedy, the only Catholic president and the last church member even in position to win the White House.

Since the Supreme Court legalized abortion in 1973, the only Catholic on a major party ticket has been Geraldine Ferraro in 1984. Cardinal John O'Connor criticized Ferraro for her abortion stance, while then-New York Gov. Mario Cuomo defended Catholic politicians' choices — anticipating the debate of 2004.

This latest confrontation has been building for several years.

In 1998, a declaration from the U.S. bishops' conference said it's a "grave contradiction" for politicians to claim to be "credible Catholics" yet disagree with the church on a fundamental matter like "direct attacks on innocent human life." But that left open exactly what the church should do about it.

Then, last year, a Vatican doctrinal decree directed at Catholic politicians said a well-formed conscience forbids support for any law that contradicts "fundamental" morality, with abortion listed first among relevant issues. A second Vatican statement said it's "gravely immoral" not to oppose legalization of same-sex unions — another matter on which Kerry and the hierarchy disagree.

Bishop William Weigand of Sacramento, Calif., then upped the ante, saying then-Gov. Gray Davis should renounce support for abortion rights or have the "integrity" to "abstain from receiving Holy Communion."

The Vatican's Cardinal Francis Arinze, Archbishop Alfred Hughes of New Orleans and Archbishop John Myers of Newark, N.J., have since said the same without naming names, as has Kerry's own archbishop, Sean O'Malley of Boston.

But such statements effectively let individuals decide whether to receive Communion, and O'Malley has specifically said he wouldn't refuse the sacrament to Kerry.

St. Louis Archbishop Raymond Burke, however, said just before the Missouri primary that he would not serve Communion if Kerry came to him at the altar.

"Catholic bishops have the right to deny John Kerry Communion," McGreevy acknowledges, but it's a "terrible mistake" to do so because Catholic politicians face such complex decisions.

The Rev. Thomas Reese of America magazine says Communion bans could make abortion seem a matter of Catholic doctrine rather than general human rights. And author-columnist Peter Steinfels warns that a hard line could make American Catholics imitate Europeans' "nonchalant anticlericalism, that just brushes off church teachings in public affairs."

Without raising the Communion issue, other bishops

have denounced pro-choice Catholic politicians, either in general or by name (Indiana Gov. Joe Kernan, New Jersey Gov. James McGreevey). And Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle's bishop asked him to remove mention of Catholic membership in campaign literature.

Democrats and liberals note that George W. Bush's policies violate bishops' pronouncements on many matters. But Catholicism's aversion to abortion is more absolute and the issues more clear-cut than with foreign or economic policies.

To a conservative like Deal Hudson, editor of Crisis magazine and a Bush campaign adviser, it would be "disastrous" if Kerry, "with such aggressive pro-abortion policies," becomes the world's most prominent Catholic politician. He thinks bishops should stress their non-partisanship, but denounce Kerry's abortion dissent in letters read from every pulpit in the land.

With few exceptions, he complains, "pro-abortion Democrats have had a free ride from the hierarchy for 30 years."

Other militants want abortion rights supporters barred from campaigning at Catholic institutions. In 2000, Bishop James Timlin of Scranton, Pa., disinvited Al Gore from a hospital and thereafter the candidate was barely seen in Catholic venues.

But Reese says that's difficult with Catholic colleges, which are mostly controlled by religious orders, not bishops, and favor open forums. Reese says the strongest protests erupt when Catholic campuses give honorary degrees to Catholics who support abortion rights.

A special panel of the U.S. hierarchy, led by Cardinal Theodore McCarrick — who isn't comfortable denying Communion — is sorting through what sanctions to impose on politicians. But it's not clear that action will come before Election Day.

Preschool programs cut as enrollment increases

The Associated Press

LOUISVILLE — Some preschoolers will miss dental screenings or access to other social services because funding for the state's preschool program is not keeping up with rising enrollment.

The state Board of Education is lowering its per-pupil funding by nearly \$190 for typical students, and by as much as \$358 for students with disabilities.

"It's the victim of the budget and it's a victim of its own success," state Board of Education chairwoman Helen Mountjoy said of the program. "Unfortunately, there's a limited pot of money available for it."

The state cut would decrease per-child spending to \$1,982,

down from \$2,170 in 2003 and \$2,505 in 2001. For the disabled, funding would decrease from \$4,123 last year to \$3,765.

Gov. Ernie Fletcher ordered that the preschool program be cut by \$1.5 million statewide to help balance the current budget.

Celestine Chandler, who has two children in the preschool program at Detrick-McFerran Preparatory Academy in Jefferson County, credits the program with helping her 3-year-old begin to read and spell, and her 4-year-old to improve his speech and learn social skills.

"They have really worked with him tremendously," she said of her 4-year-old boy. "He's

(See PRESCHOOL, page six)

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Sunday, May 9, 2004

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Regional Obituaries

Floyd County

David Akers, 43, of Harold, died Sunday, May 2, at his residence. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, May 5, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Dusty Bailey, 94, of Melvin, died Thursday, April 22, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, April 24, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Ollie Reffett Baldrige, 78, of Blue River, died Thursday, May 6, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Monroe Baldrige. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, May 8, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Dave Cooley, 87, of Wayland, died Saturday, April 24, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Monday, April 26, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Freddie Daniels, 53, of Garrett, died Thursday, April 22, at Central Baptist Hospital, Lexington. Funeral services were conducted Monday, April 26, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Minnie Lee Caudill Howard, 89, of Langley, died Sunday, April 25, at Our Lady of the Way Hospital, Martin. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, April 28, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Roxie Ratliff Hale Justice, 87, of Banner, died Friday, April 30, at the Highlands Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, May 2, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Mary Reba Jackson Price, of Prestonsburg, died Sunday, May 2, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, Dr. Floyd Price. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, May 5, under the direction of Carter Funeral Home.

Kayla Brooke Tackett, 15, of Minnie, daughter of Michael and Kristi Hall Tackett, died Saturday, May 1, following an

automobile accident on Route 680, at Hall Branch in McDowell. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, May 5, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Perry Ward, 73, of Hi Hat, died Tuesday, April 20, at Appalachian Regional Hospital, McDowell. Funeral services were conducted Friday, April 23, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Donald Bill Whitaker, 70, of Prestonsburg, died Sunday, May 2, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. He is survived by his wife, Joan Goble Whitaker. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, May 4, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Martin County

Fannie Moore Bowen, 90, of Hode, died Saturday, April 24, at her residence. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, April 27, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

Arvil Maynard, 80, of Louisa, a native of Martin County, died Saturday, April 24, at Three Rivers Medical Center, Louisa. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, April 27, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

Jesse Lee Perry, 55, of Beauty, died Saturday, April 24, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Yvonne Fannin Perry. Funeral services were conducted Monday, April 26, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

James J. Waller, 79, of Bonita Springs, Florida, formerly of Hode, died Monday, April 19, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Ruth Waller. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, April 21, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

Adaline Webb, 90, of Inez, died Sunday, April 18, at Martin County Health Care Center, in Inez. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, April 22, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

Magoffin County

Lola Blair, 53, of Shelbyville, Tennessee, a Magoffin County native, formerly of Leander, died Tuesday, April 20, at her home. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, April 24, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

Johnson County

Henry E. Burchett, 71, of Jeffersonton, a Johnson County native, died Thursday, April 22, at Norton Suburban Hospital in Louisville. Funeral services were conducted Monday, April 26, under the direction of Paintsville Funeral Home.

Herbert Harris, 87, of Paintsville, died Tuesday, April 20, at Paul B. Hall Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Friday, April 23, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

Marie Hayes William King, 88, of Sitka, died Friday, April 30, at Salyersville Health Care Center. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, May 2, under the direction of Paintsville Funeral Home.

Elmer Lemaster, 63, of Nippa, died Thursday, April 22, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Frankie Conley. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, April 25, under the direction of Paintsville Funeral Home.

Ann Onstott, 89, of Rochester, a native of Paintsville, died Wednesday, April 21, at Life Care Center, Rochester. A private memorial service was held Friday, April 23, under the direction of Zimmerman Brothers Funeral Home.

Anna McKenzie Ramey, 86, of Flat Gap, died Monday, April 26, at the Salyersville Health

Care. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, April 28, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

Lawrence County

Willis Cordle, 77, of Berlin Heights, Ohio, a native of Blaine, died Saturday, May 1, at Firelands Medical Center, Sandusky, Ohio. He is survived by his wife, Louise Thompson Cordle. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, May 4, under the direction of Hinman-Tanner Funeral Home.

Ronald Eugene Daniel, 46, of Springfield, Illinois, formerly of Louisa, died Friday, April 30, at his residence. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, May 5, under the direction of Wilson Funeral Home.

Carol Karr, 57, of Circleville, Ohio, a native of Lowmansville, died Sunday, April 25, at Mt. Carmel Medical Center, in Columbus, Ohio. She is survived by her husband, Albert Karr. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, April 29, under the direction of Wellman Funeral Home.

Jimmie G. Parson, 60, of Franklinville, North Carolina, formerly of Louisa, died Sunday, May 2, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Virginia Parson. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, May 5, under the direction of Pugh Funeral Home, Randleman.

Doris Jean Jobe Workman, 70, of Louisa, died Saturday, April 24, at her residence. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, April 27, under the direction of Wilson Funeral Home.

Knott County

Beulah Mae Engle, 40, of Dwarf, died Saturday, May 1, at Hazard Appalachian Regional Medical Center. Funeral services

were conducted Wednesday, May 5, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Dinah H. Gayheart, 80, of Hindman, died Friday, April 23, at Knott County Nursing Home, Hindman. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, April 25, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Jimmy Darrell Hays, 39, of Hindman, died Sunday, April 25, at his home. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, April 29, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Donald Gene Little, of Romulus, Michigan, formerly of Topmost, died Wednesday, April 14. Uht Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Rhoda Everage Noble, 76, of Emmalena, died Wednesday, April 21, at Central Baptist Hospital, Lexington. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, April 24, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

Magoffin County

Quinnie Cool Stalker, 89, of Salyersville, died Saturday, May 1, at Paul B. Hall Medical Center, Paintsville. Funeral services were conducted Monday, May 3, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

Junie Honaker McFarland, 88, of Salyersville, died Friday, April 30, at Paul B. Hall Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Monday, May 3, under the direction of Salyersville Funeral Home.

Franklin Lee Carr, 48, of Salyersville, died Sunday, May 2, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Devella Jane Crace Carr. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, May 5, under the direction of

Salyersville Funeral Home.

Nancy Wireman Hale, 64, of Gunlock, died Monday, May 3, at her residence. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, May 5, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

Emma Jean Risner Roark, 81, of Kingston, Ohio, formerly of Magoffin County, died Wednesday, April 28, in Adena Hospital, Chillicothe, Ohio. She is survived by her husband, Clyde Roark. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, May 1, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

Mark Anthony Arnett, 45, of Salyersville, died Saturday, May 1. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, May 5, under the direction of Salyersville Funeral Home.

Martin County

Essie Kazee, 73, of Lovely, died Friday, April 30, at Kindred Hospital in Louisville. She is survived by her husband, Elmer Kazee. Funeral services were conducted Monday, May 3, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

William Jennings Perry Jr., 49, of Kermit, West Virginia, died Monday, April 26, at Williamson Memorial Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Samantha Gauze Perry. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, April 29, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

Pike County

Lewis Ed Clark, 59, of Pikeville, died Thursday, April 29, at Greenbrier Health Care, Wheelersburg, Ohio. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, May 2, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Preschool

not even the same kid."

While funding lags, enrollment in the program has steadily increased.

Enrollment has jumped more than 25 percent in the past 10 years, to 19,027 children this year. Last year more than half of Kentucky's school districts saw their preschool enrollment increase, adding 1,400 children to the program.

The enrollment increase combined with the per-pupil spending cut means less funding.

"We're getting less now than what we got 10 years ago," said Aubrey Nehring, director of Audubon Area Community Services Head Start, which contracts with 16 counties in western Kentucky to provide preschool to 1,300 eligible children.

Nehring said Audubon may be forced to stop providing physical, dental and eye exams for the state-funded preschoolers, even though their class-

mates funded by the federal Head Start program will still receive them. Students whose preschool is funded by Head Start come from poorer families than students in the state preschool program.

"It's going to be really difficult to say to one family, 'Because you're state-funded you can't get these services,' and others who are federally funded, 'You can,'" said Nehring, who also is president of the Kentucky Head Start Association.

James Stevens, superintendent of Hopkins County schools, which contracts with Audubon, said his district likely will not be able to find the \$82,000 to \$100,000 needed to make up for the shortfall in state funding for his preschool students.

"It's very disheartening," Stevens said. "It's going to reduce the amount of services that they provide to a lot of these students."

Davidson

"These 'drugs' are still in our veins; and I believe they very much affect our behavior in what we do, say and think. They are stronger than cocaine, crack or heroin, and if today's kids had this kind of 'drug' problem, perhaps America could be a better place."

If you will take a moment and ponder what this article is saying, I believe you will agree that there is a real and timely message here. When it comes to human nature, we know it has not changed, for as long as there have been human beings on this planet.

When it also comes to rearing children, it is really a matter of who is in charge. If allowed to, children will stay home from church, weddings, funerals and family reunions and be disrespectful to parents, teachers and other adults.

At this point I'm not talking

about doing research or taking a survey, I'm just pointing out some common-sense things that all responsible adults can do to influence children to grow up to be good, honest, decent and law abiding citizens of the greatest nation in the world.

More and more people are beginning to realize that we have a problem and we are beginning to work on it. I just want to encourage you to care enough about our young people to "drag" them to places they need to go to have a better understanding of right and wrong and to teach them things that will help them later in life. That's the way to keep them off "real" drugs.

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

Beltway

mentioned club. Two presidents before him, another Yale Law School graduate.

I think it's time we gave another school a chance.

Continued from 4

Donald Kaul recently retired as Washington columnist for the "Des Moines Register." He has covered the foolishness in our nation's capital for 29 years, winning a number of modestly coveted awards along the way. His e-mail address is donald.kaul2@verizon.net.

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Mom

9-8-1934—5-9-2002

Well, mom, it has been two years now that the good Lord called you home to be one of his angels, and so you wouldn't have to live in any more pain and suffering here on earth. All of your family and friends still miss you and talk about you, and how kind-hearted and sweet you were and how much you were loved and still are. I just wish I could hug you and kiss you one more time, and tell you, how much we all love you and miss you so much, Mom.

Written by your daughter, Beverly Setser
Still missed and loved by your family and friends

Card of Thanks

The family of Ronnie B. Sword would like to thank all our dearly beloved family and friends who's love and support helped us through the pain and loss. Words can't express our thanks for the prayers, food, money, flowers, and phone calls. Your kindness will never be forgotten. Special thanks to Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, and the Floyd County Sheriff's Department. Very special thanks to all the truck drivers out there who supported Ronnie's family in time of need, and assisted in the funeral. Special thanks to Pikeville Methodist Hospital and nurses on 8A and 8B floor, and also to all the housekeepers at the hospital. Very, very special thanks to my pastor, Brother Belmont Johnson of the Boldman Freewill Baptist Church, who visited my husband in the hospital and at our home every week, and for the prayers he said each time he was there. And also to the "witnesses" who came and had service, singing and prayers at our home. And to the ladies of the church who brought in food.

I would like to say thanks to everyone who came to the funeral, and to all who sent flowers.

I would like to say thanks to all the men who work at Miller's Bro's for the flowers and money, and for all that you did for us.

And very special thanks to Barbara and Bob Miller. Special thanks to all of my neighbors, and friends on Orchard Branch Road of Banner, who helped and supported me and my son in time of our needs.

I would like to say I am sorry if I have missed to say thanks to anyone.

He was loved by his family and friends; he will be sadly missed.

THE FAMILY OF RONNIE B. SWORD
BARBARA, LESTER, MELINDA, MARLENE
RONNIE JOE SWORD

NBC drops proposed reality show that angered Appalachians

by ROGER ALFORD
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PIKEVILLE — NBC has scuttled a proposed rural-to-riches reality show that would have followed an Appalachian family's adjustments to a ritzy lifestyle in Beverly Hills, a network spokeswoman said Friday. Plans for the program tentatively titled "The High Life" had caused an outcry among resi-

dents of Appalachia, who saw it as an affront to the region. NBC spokeswoman Shannon Jacobs cited "creative reasons," not the protests, as the reason the show wasn't pursued. "I'm glad NBC quickly came to its senses and decided this ill-conceived concept wasn't going to become a part of 'Must See TV,'" said U.S. Rep. Harold Rogers, one of the people who had protested to NBC. "Let's

hope all the other networks are paying attention and get the message loud and clear." After months of Appalachian outrage over CBS' planned "Beverly Hillbillies" reality series, NBC managed to cast and begin shooting a similar show without attracting widespread attention. NBC confirmed earlier this week that a pilot episode had already been produced of the

show tentatively titled, "The High Life." The proposed show angered residents of Appalachia, who were concerned NBC was trying to perpetuate the hillbilly stereotype created by shows like "The Beverly Hillbillies." "It is not uncommon for us to hear from elected officials who have thoughts or concerns regarding our programming," Jacobs said Friday. "We welcome and appreciate the feed-

back. We do, however, have a process in place from which we make all decisions regarding what programs ultimately air on NBC. The program in question was a pilot that NBC didn't pursue for creative reasons." Ewell Balltrip, former director of the Kentucky Appalachian Commission, said it appears NBC tried to keep plans for its reality show secret until the last minute so that people wouldn't be able to object.

Political leaders, including members of Congress from Kentucky to Texas, had urged CBS to reconsider its hillbilly idea. And coal miners from Kentucky and West Virginia protested last May outside a shareholders' meeting at the New York headquarters of CBS's parent company, Viacom. Rogers was among the political leaders opposing such shows.

"Almost as soon as reports started circulating about NBC's interest in airing this show, I think it became pretty clear that the American people weren't going to stand for this type of hurtful and divisive programming," Rogers said. "It is incomprehensible that anyone would think it's acceptable to propel negative and erroneous stereotypes about the people of Appalachia."

He said an outcry across the region kept CBS' "The Real Beverly Hillbillies" from ever getting off the ground, and he's stunned another network had moved forward with an almost identical show aimed at ridiculing mountain people. "No one would dare propose creating a program focusing on stereotypes about African Americans, Muslims, or Jews," Rogers said. "Why then would it be OK to bash those of us living in rural America?"

The decision to quash the reality show was seen as a victory in the mountain region. "I feel good that NBC came to its senses on this," said Dee Davis, director of the Center for Rural Strategies, a Kentucky organization that fights against rural stereotypes. "Networks shouldn't be mocking people just because they come from a rural area. Maybe this is a sign that the tide is turning, and that the broadcasters are taking what rural America says more seriously."

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Some in Letcher County oppose law banning junk cars from front yards

by ROGER ALFORD
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WHITESBURG — A proposal to ban residents from keeping junk cars on their lawns may have sputtered out in one Eastern Kentucky county. Opponents have raised such a ruckus that Letcher County leaders appear to be backing away from the measure, which also would require people to cut noxious weeds like poison ivy and thistles from their

yards. Judge-Executive Carroll Smith said Friday the proposed ordinance has stalled midway through the legislative process and will likely not make it into law. "People feel like government shouldn't tell them what they can do on their own property," Smith said. "But when my junk is causing rats and snakes and dangerous conditions for my neighbors' kids, then I'm outside my rights." Letcher County Solid

Waste Director John Cleveland proposed the ordinance as a means to make the heavily wooded mountain community safer for neighbors and more attractive to tourists visiting Pine Mountain Trail State Park. "We're trying to clean this place up and make it more presentable so that we can generate more tourism," Cleveland said. "If I came into Letcher County and there were junk cars everywhere, trash everywhere, why would

I want to come back?" Whitesburg resident Curtis Craft said the proposed ordinance has the potential to create a hardship not only for the auto salvage yard where he works but also for the elderly and disabled. Some people aren't physically able to clean up their lawns and can't afford to pay someone else to do it, he said. "They're walking all over people doing this," he said. Craft said people should have a right to keep junk cars at their homes if they choose to.

"You don't want somebody to come into your place and tell you what you can do," he said. "We pay our taxes." Magistrate Wayne Fleming said many people who don't keep junk cars on their lawns have voiced opposition to the ordinance. "They're just so darned independent that they don't want anyone telling them what they can do on their property," Fleming said. "No matter where you go, you will find people with junk cars. The way they see it, it's their property and it's their car, and nobody should tell them they can't have it."

Smith said magistrates have softened the ordinance in attempts to make it more palatable. Modifications require noxious weeds to be cut only if they're within 50 feet of a neighbor's lawn and require the removal of junk cars only if they're within 1,000 feet of a public right of way. That's still more stringent than some are willing to accept. Craft said he and others would be angry if elected leaders approved the ordinance. "They wouldn't get re-elected," Craft said. "I guarantee that."

OLW participates in Cover the Uninsured Week

MARTIN — Our Lady of the Way Hospital will participate in Cover the Uninsured Week, May 10-16, the nation's largest coordinated effort to promote the goal of affordable health coverage for all Americans. There are nearly 44 million Americans living without health care coverage — including 8.5 million children. Eight out of 10 uninsured Americans are in working families. In 2002, the number of people without health care coverage increased by more than 2 million, the largest one-year increase in a decade.

ing adult ■ Over 20 percent of the uninsured are African American, 32.4 percent Latino, and 18.7 percent Asian, while only 10.7 percent are Caucasian ■ No matter their race or age or employment status, the uninsured are part of every community throughout our nation. They are our neighbors, our co-workers, our relatives, and our friends. The consequences of being uninsured are significant. In 2002, more than 40 percent of uninsured adults postponed seeking medical care. Moreover, uninsured children are more likely than insured children not to receive treatment for common childhood illnesses. The American Hospital

Association, the Catholic Health Association of the United States and the Federation of American Hospitals are working with The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and more than 800 national and local organizations, as well as thousands of Americans in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, to build an awareness about the uninsured. Presidents Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter are honorary co-chairs, and the effort is endorsed by nine former U.S. Surgeon Generals and U.S. Secretaries of Health and Human Services of both parties. Our Lady of the Way Hospital will host and promote various activities throughout the week about the uninsured — a critical issue that affects all Americans. For more information, contact Neva Francis at 606-285-5181, ext. 6000.

Cover The Uninsured Week MAY 10-16 2004

To get a clearer picture of who the uninsured are, consider these facts: ■ Eight out of 10 of the uninsured are in working families ■ More than 8 million children are uninsured, and the vast majority resides in a household headed by a work-

Accused shoplifter sentenced for drugs

by JOYAL FRAZIER
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A Prestonsburg woman was sentenced to five years in jail for charges related to a drug find made during a routine shoplifting investigation. Sabrina Chaffins, 32, was sentenced Friday in Floyd District Court. She had previously pleaded guilty to six counts of first-degree

possession of an illegal drug, which is a felony charge, and one count of second-degree possession, which is a misdemeanor. Chaffins was arrested at Walmart in Prestonsburg after she was allegedly caught shoplifting by Prestonsburg police officer Danny Martin. While being searched by police, a pill bottle was found with a large assortment of pills, including Oxycontin, methadone, Percocet and Viagra, as well as

cocaine. Chaffins also had illegal medication on her person and made a comment to the arresting officer that some of it was her "personal stash." The drugs that were confiscated from Chaffins had a street value of about \$7,000. And although Chaffins was originally questioned for shoplifting, she had a significant amount of cash with her. Prosecutors offered Chaffins five years on each felony count and twelve months on the misdemeanor charge. Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Wayne Taylor said, "After a while you see enough (cases) every day where you think nothing will surprise you, and then you get a case like this." Judge Danny P. Caudill accepted the guilty plea and told Chaffins, "You are certainly in need of correctional rehabilitation."

Caudill sentenced Chaffins to five years on each felony count, running concurrent with each other, and 12 months for the misdemeanor charge, running concurrent with the five year sentence.

American Heart Association
www.americanheart.org

Bea Tackett to coordinate St. Jude Miracle Mile Walk

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital announced today that Bea Tackett has agreed to be the coordinator of the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital's Miracle Mile Fitness Walk in Melvin, on May 15, 2004.

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is internationally recognized for its pioneering work in finding cures and saving children with cancer and other catastrophic diseases. Founded by the late entertainer, Danny Thomas, and based in Memphis, Tennessee, St. Jude freely shares its discoveries with scientific and medical communities around the world. No family ever pays for treatment not covered by insurance, and families without insurance are never asked to pay. St. Jude is financially supported by ALSAC, its fund-raising organization. In 1962, when the hospital opened, acute lymphocytic leukemia, the most common form of childhood leukemia, was only survived by five percent of our patients, the current cure rate is now 80 percent. For more information, please visit www.stjude.org.

In KY, 477 children and their families have gone to St. Jude Hospital and received total medical care for a catastrophic illness. Thousands of others have benefitted from the research findings that have developed better and more successful treatment methods.

We sincerely appreciate the concern that Bea Tackett has for our work, and we hope the citizens of Melvin will support the Walk-A-Thon on 05/15/04, to help provide the funds needed to preserve the world's greatest asset... "its children."

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Community Calendar

Calendar items will be printed as space permits

Editor's note: To announce your community event, you may hand-deliver your item to The Floyd County Times office, located at 263 S. Central Avenue, Prestonsburg; or mail to: The Floyd County Times, P.O. Box 390, Prestonsburg, KY 41653; or fax to 606-886-3603; or email to: features@floyd-countytimes.com. Information will not be taken over the telephone. All items will be placed on a first-come, first-serve basis as space permits

'HAWAIIAN LUAU WEEK'

The Prestonsburg Health Care Center will host "Hawaiian Luau" week, May 9-14. On Sunday, May 9, a Mother's Day Luncheon will be held at 12:15 p.m.; on Monday, a Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon will be held at 12 p.m.; on Tuesday, a "50s Day" event will be held w/special music at 2 p.m.; on Wednesday, "Old Fashion Day," with a quilt show at 2 p.m.; on Thursday, "Hawaiian Day," with watermelon at 2 p.m.; and on Friday, "Cook Out Day," with meal at 12 p.m. The community is welcome to visit any day and participate in activities.

NEED A PROM DRESS?

Lovely prom gowns, latest styles, available to anyone with a need simply by calling Mrs. Earlene Nelson at 886-

3726 or 889-9286. No strings attached - just looking to share God's blessings.

HALL FAMILY REUNION

The 2nd Annual Hall Family Reunion will be held Saturday, June 5, at 10 a.m., at Archer Park. Everyone with connections to the Hall or related families invited to attend. A business meeting will be held same day, at 7 p.m., at the Microtel Inn. For more info., or to share an idea for the event, contact Ona Hall-Scalf at: onascaf@charter.net, or telephone 606-528-0835; or contact Annette Chateau at: mopspops@bell-south.net, or telephone 901-837-0988.

TEEN BIBLE STUDY

GROUP

A teenage Christian study group meets the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month at 7 p.m., at the Burton Pentecostal Church, in Upper Burton, near Wheelwright. All interested teens cordially invited and encouraged to attend.

HRMC COMMUNITY CALENDAR

■ May 15 - Child Birth Classes, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Meeting Place A & B.

■ May 20 - Laryngectomy Support Group, 5-7 p.m., Meeting Place B.

■ May 21 - AARP, 6-7 p.m., Meeting Place A & B.

■ May 26 & 27 - Senior Advantage, AARP "55 Alive," 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Meeting Place A & B.

■ May 27 - Alzheimer's Support Group, 6-7 p.m., Johnson County Library.

■ May 27 - Diabetic Support Group, 4-7 p.m., Meeting Place A & B.

■ May 27 - Living Well with Diabetes Support Group, "What is the Diabetic Diet?," 5-6 p.m., Meeting Rooms A & B

AUXIER LIFETIME LEARNING CTR.

Kids Sewing Camp - June 7-11, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Learn to sew, make own purse and other fun things. For kids over 8 years. Small fee will include sewing supplies and daily snack. For more info., call 886-0709.

MARTIN HOMECOMING

Events to begin Friday, May 28, with registration in Halbert Gym at 6 p.m. On Saturday, May 29, breakfast at Martin Senior Citizens Center. Welcome Home Ceremonies to begin at 1 p.m., followed by afternoon activities. Homecoming Dance at 8 p.m., in gym - theme: "Aloha." Commemorative shirts and caps on sale Monday, May 3, at Martin Post Office. Martin merchants may contact Homecoming Committee members for purple and gold decorations for their stores. Decorating will begin on Sunday, May 23. Make plans now to celebrate the "Purple Flash" with us!

STEPHENS-SLONE REUNION

Relatives of the late Samuel and Rebecca (Castle) Stephens, Samuel and Mary (Sammons) Stephens, and Carew and Callie (Brown) Slone will host a reunion that will be held at the Morsches Park Pavilion in Columbia City, Indiana, on Saturday, July 10, at 12 p.m. Register by July 3 by calling (260) 839-4206 or (260) 691-2830, after 4 p.m.

JUBILEE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

■ May 16-19 - Rev. George McGregor, missionary from Africa, 7 p.m. each night. Singing, preaching, powerful testimony. All welcome.

■ The Jubilee Christian Assembly of God Church is located at 1978 S. Mayo Trail, Pikeville.

A CHILD NEEDS YOU

There is a child who needs you! We are seeking dedicated individuals who are married or single to serve as full-time or part-time foster parents for Kentucky's children. Our program serves the Pike, Floyd, Johnson, Martin, and Magoffin counties. If interested, call PCWA Big Sandy Treatment Foster Care at (606) 886-7008 or 1-800-677-2720.

BIG SANDY SENIOR GAMES

The Big Sandy ADD is currently taking applications for the 19th annual Big Sandy Senior Games event, which will take place at the Dewey Lake Down Stream area on Friday, May 21, 2004. Games include bowling (held May 14, at the Mark III in Pikeville) billiards, mile walk, football toss, softball toss, horseshoes, and bingo, among others. Medals will be awarded for first, second, and third-place finishes in all events. The event is open to all residents, 55 or older, in Floyd, Johnson, Magoffin, Martin, and Pike counties. Call 1-200-737-2723 for more information.

BLHS CLASS OF '94

The Betsy Layne High School Class of 1994 will hold their 10-year class reunion on July 24, 2004. Call 478-3253 or 587-1028 for more information.

MAYTOWN HOMECOMING 2004

Homecoming event will be held Memorial weekend, May 28-31, at the Maytown Lifetime Learning Center. Registration will be held Friday, May 28, from 3-6 p.m. A traditional Gospel Sing will be held at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 29 - Registration and full day of

scheduled events. Sunday, May 30 - Church services. Those wishing to participate in the gospel sing event may email: coachf@mikrotec.com. Those wishing to donate items to the auction may price and mail items to: Ruth Martin, P.O. Box 186, Eastern, KY, 41622. Those who wish to share in the breakfast, noon and evening meals should send \$20 each to: Betty Frasure, P.O. Box 17, Langley, KY 41645; those who wish to skip the breakfast meal should send \$15. Those who wish to visit only and not share in meals are welcome to do so.

PHS CLASS OF '69

The Prestonsburg High School Class of 1969 will hold a reunion on Saturday, September 4, 2004 (Labor Day weekend), at the May Lodge, Jenny Wiley State Park. Pre-dinner meeting will be held from 5-6 p.m.; Dinner will be at 6 p.m., in Lodge dining room; Reunion meeting following dinner, from 8 p.m. until midnight in Lodge conference rooms. For more info., contact Ken & Jan at 886-8328, or Mike at 886-0252.

FREE BODY RECALL CLASSES

Free Body Recall Exercise Classes will be held Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at 9:30, at the Presbyterian Church in Prestonsburg. Classes are held Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, at 11 a.m. at the old R & S Building. Classes are offered by the Floyd County Health Department. Call the health department, 886-2788, for more information.

'EARN WHILE YOU LEARN'

The Big Sandy Area C.A.P. office is taking applications for its "Senior Training Program." You must be 55 or older to apply. In Floyd, call 886-2929; Johnson, call 789-6515; Magoffin, call 349-2217; Pike, call 432-2775; and in Lawrence, call 638-4067.

'LOOKING FOR A SUPPORT GROUP?'

■ Alzheimer's Association Care-giver Support Group - Meets on the second Tuesday of each month at the First Presbyterian Church (near Jerry's Restaurant), at 7 p.m. For more info., call Dana Caudill at 886-0265.

■ Alzheimer's Association, Eastern KY Regional Office - 24-hour Helpline, call 1-800-272-3900 for emotional support, local resources, and other information.

■ Fibromyalgia Support Group - Meets first Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m., at the Betsy Layne Senior Citizens Building, on the Pike-Floyd Hollow Road (just above the Betsy Layne Fire Dept.). For more info., call Sharon at 478-5224, or Phyllis at 874-2769.

■ MS Support Group - Meets third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Seton Complex, Martin. Offers group support for MS patients and their caregivers.

■ Overeater's Anonymous (O.A.) - Meets each Monday, at 3:30 p.m., at the St. Martha Catholic Church, Water Gap Road. For more info., call 886-2513.

■ Community Weight Loss Support Group - To meet Thursday's at 6:30 p.m., at the Martin Community Center, beginning Feb. 5. For more info., call 377-6658. Those who have had gastric bypass surgery most especially welcome to attend. Meetings being offered as support to anyone needing extra support in dealing with weight loss.

■ Domestic Violence Hotline - 24-hour Crisis Line manned by Certified Domestic Violence counselors. Call 886-6025, or 1-800-649-6605. Remember, "Love Doesn't Have to Hurt."

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Color of home jerseys addressed at Rules Committee Meeting

TIMES STAFF REPORT

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. — The color of home jerseys was one of the major topics discussed during the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Basketball Rules Committee meeting April 17-19 in Indianapolis.

Home jerseys of high school basketball teams that are not white will be a thing of past beginning in 2007.

Effective with the 2007-08 high school basketball season, home jerseys are to be white, while visiting jerseys will remain a dark color. Rule 3-4-6 previously stated that light-colored home jerseys should be worn. However, as teams have taken greater liberties with this regulation, confusion has surfaced as home jerseys have begun to resemble visiting jerseys.

"In more recent times, teams and schools have been more creative with light colors," said Mary Struckhoff,

NFHS assistant director and staff liaison to the Basketball Rules Committee. "Traditionally, home uniforms were white, and we want to get back to that."

Another rule addressed during the meeting involves penalties for players who leave the bench during a conflict on the court. Rule 10-4-4 formerly labeled a conflict as a fight only if there were punches involved, whereas the rule now will include any situation in which a fight may occur. Therefore, any person who

leaves the bench for a fight or potential fight will be subject to ejection from the game.

"We expanded the parameters to not only include a fight situation, but also when a fight may break out," Struckhoff said. "Coaches must ensure that players and all personnel stay at the bench when any kind of volatile situation takes place on the court."

Other changes made by the committee:

■ Rule 10-3-7d involves purposely obstructing an opponent's vision by waving or placing one's hands near the eyes. While in the past only the person with the ball could be treated in such a manner, this change prohibits any player from purposely obstructing another player's vision, whether or not he or she has the ball.

■ Rule 4-29 extends the kicking rule

(See **MEETING**, page two)

58TH DISTRICT BASEBALL

photo by Jamie Howell

Betsy Layne senior Jordan Kidd pitched strong Thursday against Prestonsburg, earning a win over the Blackcats. Kidd helped his cause at the plate by hitting a home run.



BOBCATS HANDLE P'BURG IN SIX INNINGS

by **STEVE LeMASTER**
SPORTS EDITOR

ALLEN — Betsy Layne Coach Duran Newsome, after watching his team suffer back-to-back losses by two runs or less, witnessed a win Thursday night. The Bobcats, playing on their home field at Stumbo Park, hosted and beat visiting Prestonsburg 13-3 in six innings, gaining an all-important 58th District/Floyd County Conference win. Betsy Layne dropped games to East Ridge and Sheldon Clark earlier in the week.

In the win over Prestonsburg, Brandon Kidd was a perfect four-of-four at the plate for the Bobcats. Derek Case and Jordan Kidd each went three-for-four at the plate, pacing the Betsy Layne offensive attack.

Jordan Kidd went the distance on the mound for the Bobcats. He

helped himself by smacking both a home run and a double.

Every player in the Betsy Layne batting order had at least one base hit.

Ed Osborne and Brandon Campbell each reached base and scored for Prestonsburg in the opening inning. The Blackcats led 2-1 at the end of the first inning, but soon started playing from behind.

The loss was disappointing to the Prestonsburg faithful, but it's something the Blackcat baseball team must put behind it.

"We didn't play well at all," said Prestonsburg assistant Kimber McGuire. "After hitting the ball real well against Paintsville earlier in the week, we came out against Betsy Layne and just didn't hit well."

Prestonsburg eighth-grader Josh

(See **BOBCATS**, page two)



photo by Jamie Howell

Betsy Layne sophomore Brandon Kidd tried to shield his eyes from the sun. Kidd had four hits in the win over Prestonsburg.

Big Blue Caravan resumes rolling Monday

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — The University of Kentucky Athletics' "Big Blue Caravan," sponsored by Cooper Tires, continues the 2004 tour this week.

The tour will make a stop in Prestonsburg at StoneCrest Golf Course Thursday. The Caravan also visited StoneCrest last year.

The caravan kicked off in Union on May 3 and tours seven communities, winding up on June 14 at Prospect.

UK men's basketball coach Tubby Smith, football coach Rich Brooks, women's basketball coach Mickie DeMoss, and athletics director Mitch Barnhart are among the UK coaches, administrators, and student-athletes who are scheduled to participate in the various tour stops.

More Big Blue Caravan: Additional stops in the 2004 Cooper Tires Big Blue Caravan include:

- Ashland — Fri., May 14, Bellefonte Country Club
 - Paducah — Thurs., May 20, Country Club of Paducah
 - Owensboro — Fri., May 21, Owensboro Country Club
 - Prospect — Wed., June 14, Hunting Creek Country Club
- Openings are available at each

(See **RESUMES**, page two)

Slone pitches South Floyd past Magoffin Co.

TIMES STAFF REPORT

SALYERSVILLE — Justin Slone took the mound for South Floyd Thursday night when the Raiders went on the road and traveled to Magoffin County to take on the Hornets in a 58th District-57th District baseball tilt. Slone allowed just two hits and his teammates helped with some offense. South Floyd managed nine hits and beat the host Hornets 6-2.

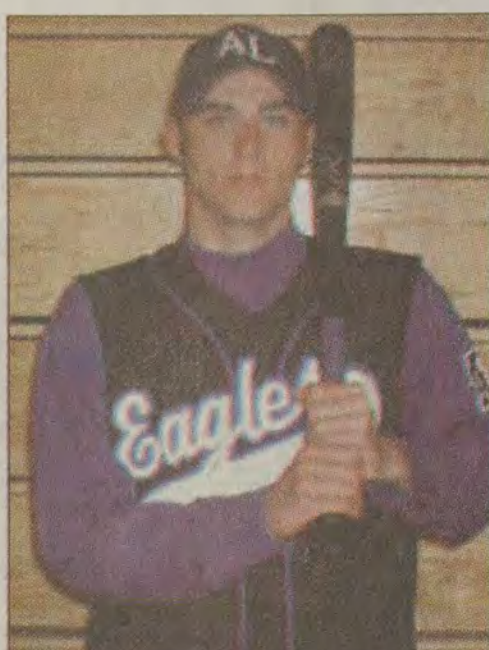
South Floyd, coached by Barry Hall, grabbed an early lead, scoring three runs in the top half of the opening inning. Magoffin County scored both of its runs in the bottom half of the first inning. Both Hornet runs came off South Floyd errors.

The Raider defense settled down after the first inning. The South Floyd offense also kept pace after the initial stanza.

South Floyd added three more runs in the top half of the fourth inning.

Slone and Jon Mullins each had two hits for the Raiders. Ryan Johnson, T.J. Hall, Shannon Hall, Andrew Lafferty and Kevin Wright each had one hit for South Floyd.

AT THE NEXT LEVEL... Former Allen Central High School student-athlete Neil Allen is a redshirt freshman at Alice Lloyd College. Allen, who starred in basketball and baseball at Allen Central, is a member of the ALC baseball team. Allen is expected to contend for playing time at Alice Lloyd next season.



ALC holds women's basketball/softball banquet

by **STEVE LeMASTER**
SPORTS EDITOR

PIPPA PASSES — Awards have been handed out to several female athletes who attend a small college in Knott County.

The Alice Lloyd College women's basketball and softball banquets were held on Thursday, April 29. Floyd County native Tim Rice coached both teams and

made presentations of certificates to all participants. Rice presented plaques to the individual award recipients. Basketball award winners were Kristina Thompson-Most Improved; Tabatha Sprouse-Hustle Award; Devon Reynolds-Playmaker Award; Jessica Justice-Sixth Player Award; Amy Jackson-Sacrifice Award; Belicia Mullins-3-Point Field Goal Award (also named Academic All

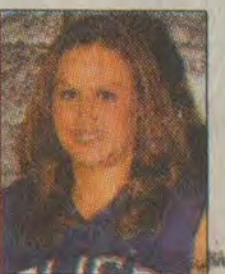
Conference); and Bridget Smith-Defensive Award.

Senior forward Erica Webb won the Rebounding Award and was recognized for making the AAC Academic All Conference Team. Senior forward Delores Jenkins was presented with the Offensive Player Award. Jenkins finished the year as the sixth lead-

(See **ALC** page two)



Reynolds



Thompson

Smarty Jones, Funny Cide and Seabiscuit spur interest in sport of kings

by RON TODT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHILADELPHIA — In the past year, the sport of kings has hit the trifecta.

A year ago, Funny Cide became the first gelding to win the Kentucky Derby since 1929 and went on to win the

Preakness, becoming a contender for the first Triple Crown sweep in a quarter-century.

Meanwhile, a book and movie brought the tale of Depression-era underdog Seabiscuit to a new generation.

And now, Pennsylvania-bred Smarty Jones is the first undefeated Derby winner since

Seattle Slew in 1977.

The three are "a happy confluence of events" that has brought horse racing to the forefront for people who otherwise wouldn't consider themselves racing fans, said Eric Wing, spokesman for the National Thoroughbred Racing Association.

The higher visibility couldn't come at a better time for an industry competing not only with other sports but with the spread of other forms of gambling — lotteries, casinos and American Indian gaming — and with new technology that could siphon away money.

Excitement has been created in five of the last seven years when one horse has won the Kentucky Derby and Preakness, going into the Belmont Stakes with a chance for the Triple Crown.

"If you knew a pitcher was going to take a perfect game into the ninth inning, chances are you'd tune in that game," Wing said. "That's how people perceive a Belmont Stakes when

there's a Triple Crown on the line. It will instantly mean about four ratings points and create a nice spillover effect for the rest of the year."

Or even the following year. About 17 million people watched the Kentucky Derby last Saturday, a 16 percent increase over last year, which "probably speaks well to the Funny Cide/Seabiscuit effect," Wing said.

Tony DeMarco, service bureau director of Maryland-based Thoroughbred Racing Associations, gives partial credit to beefed-up industry and track marketing programs over the past five years, "but it certainly helps when you have the horses out there that are making headlines."

"We're doing pretty well on big days," said DeMarco, whose group represents 43 racing associations and 41 tracks. But "some tracks in this country do have to brace themselves for the days when they don't have these marquee events."

Officials in Pennsylvania, Maryland and New Jersey are lobbying for slot machines at racetracks after seeing horses, jockeys and bettors depart for richer purses in Delaware and West Virginia, both of which have slots.

In racing, success is measured not by attendance at the track — some don't even count heads and 85 percent of wagering is done offsite — but by betting handle, the total amount of money bet; the purse money won by the victors; and horse prices at auction. All three have been mostly trending up in the last few years, Wing said.

The handle has gone up every year since 1993, even with the spread of state lotteries and American Indian casinos, Wing said. Last year, the total amount wagered on thoroughbred racing in the United States

was \$15.2 billion, an increase of 0.08 percent, according to Jockey Club figures.

Gross purses grew for nine consecutive years and then dropped 1.7 percent last year. An NTRA task force is investigating why.

Finally, sales prices at auctions increased yearly from 1992 to 2000 and then dipped in the next two years, probably due to the bear market. But it rebounded last year, which NTRA officials attribute not only to the recovering stock market but to the Funny Cide

(See HORSE page five)

Meeting

from the original stipulation that a kick was intentional only if it occurred at the knee or below. Now, the rule has been altered to include the entire leg.

Rules 1-5-2 and 1-13-2 were altered to reflect what has already become common practice. These changes permit the lane space marks and neutral zone to be the same color as the lane lines and end lines. Additionally, the coaching box line is no longer required to contrast with the boundary lines.

A change to be reflected in

the next edition (2005-07) of the NFHS Basketball Officials Manual was also made at the meeting. In a three-person officiating crew, the foul-calling official will go tableside after calling a foul to aid in better communication with coaches and the scorer's table.

According to the 2002-03 High School Athletics Participation Survey conducted by the NFHS, 540,874 boys participated in basketball in 17,333 high schools, while 457,165 girls participated in 17,028 high schools.

Continued from p1

Kentucky wins out over Georgia Tech for Morris

by ED TAYLOR
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

University of Kentucky head basketball coach Tubby Smith must be smiling a lot after prospect Randolph Morris announced he will shun his home state and the Georgia Tech Yellowjackets and sign with UK to play basketball this year.

The signing of Morris, who some predicted was a sure signee for the Yellowjackets, puts Kentucky in the top echelon

of recruiting classes in the nation and no doubt the best class Coach Smith has brought to UK since he became head coach eight seasons ago.

Morris will give the Cats an immediate middle man next season even though Kentucky will return two seven-footers who did little in helping the Cats last season. The transfer of Bernard Cote from Kentucky opened the way for Kentucky to offer Morris a scholarship. Morris will make the third McDonald All-American to ink with

Kentucky this season and the first in the last two seasons. Rajon Rondo and Joe Crawford signed earlier with the Cats. Both are McDonald All-Americans.

Many thought Morris would opt for the pros but he wanted to give college a try for at least one season. Morris averaged 23 points and 16 rebounds per game last year for Landmark Christian. The 6-10 big man was just what the Cats needed and hopefully he will stick around for four full seasons.

REDS NEED SOME QUALITY...?

When the major league baseball season opened the Reds were getting one quality start after another from their starting rotation. But since the blown nine run lead last week at Milwaukee, the Reds have not gotten much from their starters and it has been the bullpen that has kept them from being buried in the cellar. Well, that and the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Reds manager Dave Miley inserted Ken Griffey, Jr. in the fifth spot in the line up last Thursday night and Junior responded with three hits including his fourth home run of the season. But, guess what, Junior was not happy batting fifth.

Until Wednesday, good sports everyone and be good sports! Hey, email me at edtaylor1@tcom.net.

Miss Fortunate wins Churchill Downs feature race

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOUISVILLE — Miss Fortunate caught Tempus Fugit in the final sixteenth and held on for a 3 3/4-length win in the \$56,700 feature race for fillies and mares, 3 years old and up, Wednesday at Churchill Downs.

Miss Fortunate, ridden by Cornelio Velasquez, covered the 1 1/16 miles in 1:44.84 and paid \$7.40, \$4 and \$3.20. Tempus

Fugit returned \$8 and \$5, while Joyful Ballad finished another three-quarters of a length back in third and paid \$3.80.

Owned by Glen Hill Farm, Miss Fortunate earned \$35,505 for her first win in two starts this year and increased her career total to \$146,535. The 4-year-old daughter of Deputy Minister improved her career mark to four wins in 11 starts.

photo by Jamie Howell

Prestonsburg eighth-grade pitcher Josh Rodebaugh eyed a batter during Thursday's game against Betsy Layne.

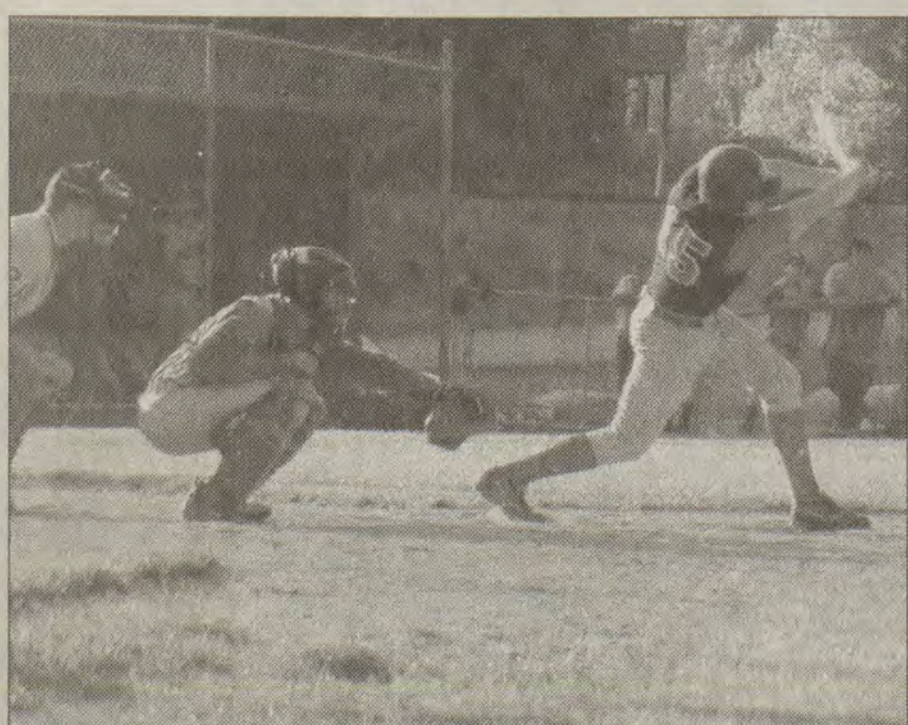


photo by Jamie Howell

Jarred McGuire took a big cut at a Jordan Kidd pitch. McGuire, a senior, ranks as one of the top hitters in Floyd County.

ALC

ing scorer in the country with a 21.9 ppg average. She scored 724 points during the season and was named to the First Team All Conference Team. She was second in the conference in field goal percentage at 52 percent and third in the conference in free throw percentage at 83 percent. She was also named to the AAC Academic All Conference Team.

The fast pitch softball team completed its second season of competition. Award winners were Kim Tackett-Most RBI's; Tasha Rice-Best Batting Average; Sarah Meyer-Pitching Award; Natasha Stratton-Most Stolen Bases; Misty Wells-Defensive Player Award; Devon Reynolds-Best All Around Award; Megan Nicholson-Most Improved; Tiffany Turner-Hustle Award; and Amanda Robinette-Teammate of the Year Award.

ALICE LLOYD COLLEGE TENNIS BANQUET
The ALC tennis team met

Resumes

Continued from p1

location. The complete lunch, golf, and dinner package costs \$125 per person. Or, fans may come to the dinner only for \$20 each (\$10 for children age 10 and under). There is a limited number of golfers who may participate, so fans are encouraged to make their reservations as soon as possible. Applications are available on-line at ukathletics.com. For more information, contact Lori Armstrong at 859/257-5526.

Thursday, April 29 for its end of the season banquet. The team was coached by Kenneth Johnson. The team played a limited schedule. This was the first time in many years that ALC fielded a tennis team. Johnson was pleased with the effort that team members put forth and he is very excited about improving and building the program.

Tug Valley Bass club holds Dewey Lake tourney

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PRESTONSBURG — On Sunday, May 2, the Tug Valley Bass Anglers fishing club held its third tournament of the 2004 season on Dewey Lake. Twenty boats competed in the tournament.

Dewey Lake is basically a highland type reservoir, which all the lakes in this area are at this time. Because of extensive surface mining up stream from the lake there is a substantial amount of sediment run off and therefore a lot of the areas up river are shallow and flat because the sediment is filling it in. The large flat backwater areas offer great areas for spawning fish.

"We had our eye on the weather all week watching the cold front they were predicting for Sunday to see if it was in fact going to come," said club mem-

ber Kevin Runyon. "There was a tournament scheduled so absolutely it was going to hit. We just hoped it wasn't going to affect the fishing to much. Cold fronts are hard on the fish this time of year, more so than any other time."

As the tournament launched at 6:30 a.m. it began to rain and continued all day. Around noon, the wind started to pick up and the temperature started to drop. The air temperature dropped about 20 degrees by the end of the day.

The water ranged from clear to lightly stained in the lower to middle part of the lake and was stained up in the river. The water temperature was from 68 to 71 degrees depending on what part of the lake you were fishing.

The fishing for this tournament was average for this lake. The cold front seemed to cause the fish to get a little sluggish and not as active as they had been but they still bit pretty good. The fish seemed to be in spawn to early postspawn mode. Some fish acted as if they were on the nest and others seemed to be just roaming as if they had completed their spawn.

The spawn pattern was to fish shallow. The fish were caught on everything from spinnerbaits, crankbaits to all types of soft plastic baits.

The top finishers are as follows.

- Brandon Staten — 4 bass, 10.53 lbs.
- Name withheld — 4 bass, 8.21 lbs.
- Kevin Runyon — 3 bass, 6.97 lbs.
- Mike Hackworth — 1 bass, 4.46 lbs.
- Doug Green — 2 bass, 3.76 lbs.
- Brad May — 2 bass, 3.62 lbs.
- David Conley — 1 bass, 2.93 lbs.
- Tim Robinson — 1 bass, 2.5 lbs.
- Brian Compton — 1 bass, 2.00 lbs.
- Mark Compton — 1 bass, 1.87 lbs.

For more information about the Tug Valley Bass Anglers, go online to www.se-tel.com/~tug-valleyanglers

Group wants to promote impact of state's horse industry

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON — A group of powerful farm owners and horse breeders is forming an organization to promote awareness of the horse racing industry's impact on the state's economy.

Former Gov. Brereton Jones will head the new group, called the Kentucky Equine Education Alliance.

The alliance plans to have a presence at the state capitol to push for tax reform for the state's horse farmers and incentives for breeders. Legalized casino gambling in Kentucky would also be a focus.

"What we discovered was when the tracks kept going out and trying to get slots and changing the law that the horse industry has no political clout and is not very well-received in Frankfort," said alliance

spokesman Jim Squires, owner of Two Bucks Farm in Versailles and breeder of 2001 Kentucky Derby winner Monarchos.

Other prominent horsemen affiliated with the group are Breeders' Cup founder John R. Gaines, Robert Clay of Three Chimneys and Bill Farish of Lane's End.

State Sen. Damon Thayer, R-Georgetown, co-chair of the subcommittee on horse farming, said the formation of a breeders' group is long overdue.

"I found it very difficult to advance some of the horse industry issues I've advocated for because most members of the legislature think that horse racing and horse farming is a rich man's game," Thayer said.

Information from: The Courier-Journal, <http://www.courier-journal.com>

Baseball reverses course: Spider-Man ads on bases don't fly

by RONALD BLUM
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Even before he got on base, Spider-Man was picked off.

A day after announcing a novel promotion to put advertisements on bases next month, Major League Baseball called a balk on itself Thursday and eliminated that part of its marketing deal for "Spider-Man 2."

"It isn't worth, frankly, having a debate about," commissioner Bud Selig said. "I'm a traditionalist. The problem in sports marketing, particularly in baseball, is you're always walking a very sensitive line. Nobody loves tradition and

history as much as I do."

Under the original plan, red-and-yellow ads were to appear on bases — but not home plate — during games from June 11-13. The plan began to crumble Wednesday night when the New York Yankees said they would only allow the ads on bases during batting practice — and only for one game that weekend.

"The bases were an extremely small part of this program," said Bob DuPuy, baseball's chief operating officer. "However, we understand that a segment of our fans was uncomfortable with this particular component and we do not want to detract from the fan's experience in any way."

While the logos will not be put on bases in big league games, it's still not certain whether they will appear during warmups.

"I thought it was good to pull it," Yankees outfielder Bernie Williams said. "For so many years, we've just had uniforms and bases with no logo. It doesn't surprise me, baseball being the conservative sport that it's always been. It's so slow to change."

A baseball official said the original deal was worth \$3.6 million, including merchandise. A film industry official said baseball will receive \$2.5 million.

The ads were to appear as part of a deal involving Major League Baseball Properties, Marvel

Studios and Sony Inc., the parent of Columbia Pictures, which is releasing the movie on June 30. The promotion will go on with giveaways and other ads at ballparks that weekend.

"We listened to the fans," said Geoffrey Ammer, president of worldwide marketing for the Columbia TriStar Motion Picture Group. "We never saw this coming, the reaction the fans had. It became a flashpoint — the reaction was overwhelming."

Ammer said his group approached baseball about pulling the bases promotion.

"We don't want to do anything that takes away from a fan's enjoyment of the game," he said. "Some people thought it was a great idea, but others saw it as sacrilegious."

Many baseball purists denounced the plan. Having watched jockeys earn the right to have ads on their uniforms for the Kentucky Derby, some thought it was a step too far in the increasing commercialization of sports.

"I think they made a good decision to change their minds," former commissioner Peter Ueberroth said. "I don't think it makes any sense at all. It's a clutter."

Teams will have the option of having ads on their on-deck circles during games, according to Jacqueline Parkes, baseball's senior vice president for marketing and advertising.

Baseball's Hall of Fame said it could find no records of ads ever appearing on bases during games.

"At the end of the day, as we said yesterday, it was the smallest element, not that important to us," Parkes said. "While it was something originally they wanted, it is not worth risking or damaging the fans' experience."

Baseball officials were surprised by the reaction, which included several front-page stories in Wednesday's newspapers.

"It just shows the strength of major league baseball and the

place people put it," Parkes said.

Minnesota Twins outfielder Torii Hunter — nicknamed "Spider-Man" for his acrobatic catches — was disappointed by the reversal.

"It's for kids, and kids love it," he said. "It would have been cool to see the Spider-Man logo for those three days. Kids could have worn their Spider-Man gear to the stadium."

Oakland outfielder Billy McMillon liked the decision.

"I just wonder where this leads to. Will it be the Bad News Bears with Chico's Bail Bonds on the back of our uniforms?" he said. "I understand revenue, but I didn't think it would invade baseball. I never thought it would come to this. They're wise not to put it on our uniforms."

AP Sports Writers Tim Korte in Seattle and Janie McCauley in Oakland, Calif., contributed to this report

Willard Speedway holds Bomber Blast

TIMES STAFF REPORT

WILLARD — The Bomber Blast at the tri-state's fastest quarter mile, Willard Speedway, was held on Saturday, May 1. The race was 30 laps of intense competition, featuring many tal-

ented drivers from around the area.

Jeremie Bretz (14), of Maysville, claimed the victory by moving from third position to first by the fourth lap of the race. Then, he never allowed the frequently successful Conard

Newman (27), of Frankfort, Ohio, to take the lead. That is, except for one pass on the 11th lap where Newman hardly had time to catch his breath before Bretz passed him and maintained the edge, with Newman on his bumper to the finish line.

Third and fourth place finishers were two track champions from the 2003 season. Eric Steagall (2), who was the 2003 Super Bomber Track Champion, and Wayne Lawson (L1), who was the '03 Road Hog Track Champion, both from Olive Hill. These two drivers added this good showing to their history of success at Willard Speedway. Fifth place went to Brian Pennington (15), who ran strong after moving from ninth to fifth by the 22nd lap in the race. Heat races were won by Bill Adkins (11X) and James McDaniel (248).

Winner in the Late Model feature this week, and he also won a heat race, was Richard Smith (00) of Portsmouth, Ohio. Smith stayed in the number one position throughout the thirty lap race. Terry Hicks (64), Willard, stayed back in fourth position most of the race, but made his move on the 27th lap to finish second. The third place finisher was Ronnie Whitt (W4) of Grayson, who moved from seventh to third by the fifth lap and kept this spot during most of the action. Tom Hall (6H) of Grayson finished fourth, and Mike Estep (33) came in fifth.

A rain shower delayed racing and the extra moisture made for a greasy, slick track through the heat races. However, by feature race time the track had a lot of

(See WILLARD, page four)

National Sports Museum to feature NASCAR

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

NASCAR will fire its engines at the National Sports Museum, a one-of-a-kind museum billed as "the Smithsonian of Sports." Scheduled to open in 2006 in lower Manhattan, the National Sports Museum brings together more than 30 North American sports halls of fame, museums and organizations to celebrate athletic achievement and the place of sport in American culture.

The Museum will be more than educational; it promises a thrilling experience visitors aren't likely to forget.

Through the latest interactive technology, visitors will be immersed in the sights, sounds and smells of sport. They'll be transported to the locker room during halftime at the Super Bowl or to pit road at the Daytona 500, according to museum designer Terry Healy of Gallagher & Associates, the firm that designed the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland and the Spy Museum in Washington.

Museum visitors will be able to test whether they have what it takes to be a high-performing athlete, Healy said. For example, they will be technologically "placed" on the tennis court, hockey rink or racetrack to compete against the greats.

A "360-degree immersion theater" will show a film that honors icons of sports and documents the place of sport in American culture, Healy added.

Other exhibits will examine the role of sports in the community — including rivalries, family participation, diversity and inclusion, and what inspires and motivates athletes and fans.

The National Sports Museum will be located in the former Standard Oil building — one of the world's most famous addresses in the early 20th century. The landmark building's arched windows overlook Battery Park — one of New York's earliest sporting grounds — and have direct sight lines to the Statue of Liberty.

Generating foot traffic shouldn't be a problem: approximately five million people visit the Statue of Liberty each year and a similar crowd is expected to tour the 9-11 Memorial also

under construction just blocks away.

The Museum has the support of sports entities including the Hockey Hall of Fame, the NCAA Hall of Champions, The National Track & Field Hall of Fame, the World Golf Hall of Fame, the National Soccer Hall of Fame, Madison Square Garden, and NASCAR.

"This is going to be an impressive facility that is educational, inspirational and a lot of fun," said Roger VanDerSnick of NASCAR. "We're honored to be part of it."

The National Sports Museum is the vision of Philip Schwalb, a successful entertainment executive who realized that many people weren't aware of or couldn't afford to travel to the 30 halls of fame in North America. Schwalb envisioned a "best of" hub in New York.

After the 9-11 attacks, locating the museum on the strip of Broadway known as the "Canyon of Heroes" for its famed ticker-tape parades became a no-brainer.

"There is no better place in the world to celebrate heroes," Schwalb said.

Three Cup crew chiefs fined for Talladega violations

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — NASCAR Nextel Cup Series crew chiefs Ted Brown, Mike Ford and Terry Wooten were fined for rules violations that occurred during the race weekend of the April 25 event at Talladega Superspeedway, NASCAR officials announced today.

Brown, crew chief of the No. 89 Dodge for driver Morgan Shepherd, was fined \$2,000 for violating Section 12-4-A (Actions detrimental to stock car racing), Section 9-4-A (Crew

chief assumes responsibility for the actions of his team members) and Section 20-17.1A (3) (During race conditions, any crew member who steps into the car servicing area must wear a helmet) of the NASCAR Nextel Cup Series Rule Book when crew member Scott Cianci entered the car servicing area without a helmet during the race.

Ford, crew chief of the No. 88 Ford for driver Dale Jarrett, was fined \$1,000 for violating Section 12-4-A (Actions detrimental to stock car racing) and Section 12-4-Q (Any determination by NASCAR Officials that parts and/or equipment used in the Event do not conform to NASCAR rules) of the NASCAR Nextel Cup Series Rule Book for an unapproved underpan.

Wooten, crew chief of the No. 00 Chevrolet for driver Kenny Wallace, also was fined \$1,000 for violating Section 12-4-A (Actions detrimental to stock car racing) and Section 12-4-Q (Any determination by NASCAR Officials that parts and/or equipment used in the Event do not conform to NASCAR rules) of the NASCAR Nextel Cup Series Rule Book for an unapproved underpan.

Both underpan violations were found by NASCAR officials during pre-qualifying inspection.

increase over last year's 6.4. It ties the 1996 rating for the second-highest rating since 1994's 7.5. The 2001 Derby had an 8.1.

Saturday's telecast peaked with a 10.8 rating from 6-6:30 p.m., the time the race was run. It was a 27 percent increase from last year's 8.5 when Funny

the rating is the percentage of homes with TVs, whether they are in use.

Kentucky Derby draws second-biggest audience since 1992

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Seventeen million people watched Smarty Jones win the Kentucky Derby on Saturday, May 1, the second-biggest audience since 19 million tuned into the 1992 Derby.

Eighteen million people watched Monarchos win the Derby in 2001.

NBC's coverage drew a 7.4 national rating, a 16 percent

Bowling Green chasing minor-league baseball

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOWLING GREEN — Civic officials are optimistic that a minor-league baseball team will be playing in Bowling Green in 2005. But an executive from one of the leagues the city is courting says the effort has a long way to go.

"There are an awful lot of things that still need to happen," said Alan Stein, a member of the South Atlantic League's executive committee.

Stein is also the president and CEO of the league's Lexington Legends, a Single-A affiliate of the Houston Astros. He has made several trips to Bowling Green to advise the citizens' group leading the local campaign.

The group — Play Ball '05 — is racing a June 1 deadline to acquire 2,000 five-year commitments for season tickets. As of Wednesday, the campaign had 1,500, said Rick Kelley, a Bowling Green restaurateur who's heading the group.

"We feel like we're in pretty good shape," Kelley said.

The 2,000 pledges are necessary before the city can file an application with the South Atlantic League for a team, Stein said.

Kelley said they're also proof that the city is serious.

"We're not just doing this on a whim and saying, 'If we build it, they will come,'" he said. "We're trying to prove ahead of time that the public will support it."

But Stein said getting ticket commitments is only the first of many steps. Any league the city approaches would have to approve its application, then it would have to find a team willing to relocate.

"It takes a long time for those processes to go through," Stein said.

Bowling Green's pursuit of a minor-league team has been in the works for months in conjunction with a downtown revitalization.

City, county and Western Kentucky University officials have outlined a plan that would have the team playing on campus for one season before moving into a 4,000-seat downtown stadium in 2006.

The team would compensate the school by paying for renova-

tions to Denes Field, which would be necessary to bring the venue up to minor-league standards. The upgrades would include about 2,000 additional seats and new dugouts, said Western Kentucky athletics director Wood Selig. The Hilltoppers would also get to play selected home games in the new stadium.

"It's a terrific opportunity," Selig said.

Selig and Western Kentucky president Gary Ransdell have shelved concerns about competition from the new team.

"Let's face it: Right now, we're the only game in town," Selig said. "But we feel like this is high tide and it raises all the boats. We stand a chance to benefit just as much as minor-league baseball will from our support."

Kelley said the projected price tag of the new stadium, the Denes Field renovations and other peripheral costs is about \$20 million.

Mayor Sandy Jones said officials are still working on the project's financial feasibility.

"The big concern is coming up with a way to pay for this that would not be a burden to taxpayers," said Jones, the mayor since 2001. "But the mere possibility of bringing a team here merits more study."

Kelley said the city is considering two or three teams from the South Atlantic League or the Midwest League. He would not specify the teams.

Stein dismissed the notion that the Legends are being considered.

"There will always be a team in Lexington," Stein said.

Gen. Freakley named Coca-Cola 600 grand marshal

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

CONCORD, N.C. — In recognition of Memorial Day weekend, Brigadier General Benjamin Freakley has been named grand marshal and United States congressman Richard Burr will serve as the honorary starter for the May 30 Coca-Cola 600 NASCAR Nextel Cup Series race at Lowe's Motor Speedway.

Among his duties as grand marshal, Gen. Freakley will give the command, "gentlemen start your engines," to send the 43 drivers on their way in the longest race on the NASCAR Nextel Cup Series schedule.

Gen. Freakley is the chief of infantry for the United States Army and the commanding general of Fort Benning in Georgia. He has commanded infantry units on a variety of levels and has twice served in combat.

He was a brigade operations officer during Operation Desert Storm in 1991 and served as the Assistant Division Commander

of the 101st Airborne Division during Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003.

A graduate of the United States Military Academy, Gen. Freakley has earned numerous honors and accommodations during his 29-year military career, including two Bronze Stars.

Burr, who represents North Carolina's fifth congressional district, will wave the green flag to start the Coca-Cola 600.

A member of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Burr is uniquely positioned to protect and promote North Carolina's economic and security interests.

After reaching Washington in 1995, Burr's first major legislative achievement was passage of the Food and Drug Administration and Modernization Act of 1997.

Raised in North Carolina, Burr is a graduate of Wake Forest University.

Athens troubles bring speculation about U.S. plans

by TIM DAHLBERG
ASSOCIATED PRESS

The question hasn't come up since President Carter angered the world and his nation's athletes by keeping the U.S. Olympic team home from Moscow. Even now, there are just whispers and speculation, though they grow louder with every bombing and passing day.

Would the United States dare pull out of the Athens Games because of safety concerns?

Unlikely, but not entirely out of the question anymore, either.

"It would mean things have spiraled totally out of control," said Walter Purdy, a director of the Terrorism Research Center outside Washington.

Barely three months from opening ceremonies, U.S. officials say they are committed to going to Greece and remain confident Olympic organizers can protect the 500-plus Americans who will compete in the games.

Others, though, are beginning to wonder if that could change as the Summer Olympics draw closer.

"I think it's going to come down to the wire in making a huge decision whether they send the U.S. to Athens," said Stacy Dragila, who won gold in the pole vault at the 2000 Sydney Games. "It's unfortunate to the athletes because we've worked so hard in training."

The bombings Wednesday in Athens highlighted the dangers that face the Olympics despite a security plan with a price tag over \$1 billion, four times the cost in Sydney. Greek officials have revised the plan dramatically in the last few months to try to ease concerns, and they have called in NATO countries to help.

Athens organizers say all athletes will be protected, and that all countries remain resolute in their intention to come. They point out that former President Bush recently wrote to the president of the organizing committee saying he will be at the games.

Americans have a right to feel more jittery than most. Some experts say the Olympics will be tough for terrorists to resist in a country with strong anti-

American sentiment.

"This Olympics has the potential of enormous symbolic appeal to terrorists," said Bruce Hoffman, a terrorism expert at RAND, a think tank that often does work for the Pentagon.

Hoffman said the latest bombings, a series of timed blasts that caused no injuries, indicated that Greece has not been entirely successful in wiping out its homegrown terrorist groups. Those groups don't kill on a widespread basis, he said, but the fact they are still active is troubling.

"From al-Qaida's point of view it's manna from heaven because you now have another group the Greeks have to be concerned with," Hoffman said. "It increases the attraction for the really more serious terrorists to take advantage of this opportunity."

Top U.S. officials have repeatedly expressed concerns that Greece is moving too slowly in implementing security measures, although they say much progress has been made in recent months. But delays in

construction will make guarding Olympic venues even more difficult.

"It's hard to figure out how you're going to secure something when it's still in the process of being built," Purdy said.

Most security experts say the real threat is not to athletes or Olympic sites. Terrorists could attack a hotel filled with tourists and still achieve the desired effect, Purdy said.

"Nobody remembers that in Atlanta the bombing wasn't at an Olympic venue," Purdy said. "They just remember there was an Olympic bombing."

Still, the U.S. Olympic Committee says no one in the government has mentioned anything about the possibility of not sending a team.

"We're going. We're not going to rob our athletes of the chance they've worked for years to earn," said Bill Martin, acting USOC president.

The International Olympic Committee doesn't seem quite as confident about the success of the games. Last month, the IOC for the first time took out a \$170 million policy to protect against the cancellation of the games because of war, terrorism or earthquakes.

And on Tuesday, a Senate subcommittee heard testimony

before two senators met behind closed doors with terrorism officials and the U.S. Ambassador to Greece.

"We were beginning to hear a lot of concerns about the preparations and whether we should go," said Sen. Gordon Smith, R-Ore.

Some of those concerns came from an unusual source, former Olympic swimmer Mark Spitz. The winner of seven gold medals in 1972 told the BBC last week he could see circumstances that would force the United States to pull out.

"I would say that about six

months ago it was highly unlikely," Spitz said, "but each day as it goes on with current world affairs it becomes more probable than not that ongoing conversations will take place as to how important it is to put athletes in harm's way."

If the United States didn't go it would cause serious damage to the Olympics.

The decision by Carter in 1980 to keep the U.S. team home because the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan was severely criticized in the Olympic move-

(See PLANS page five)

Third-annual Redlegs Run for Home scheduled for August

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

CINCINNATI — The Reds Community Fund today announced it will host its third-annual "Redlegs Run For Home," a 5K run, walk and children's event, Sunday, Aug. 8, beginning at 8 a.m.

The 5K (3.1 mile) course begins on Mehring Way and winds through downtown Cincinnati, culminating inside Great American Ball Park near home plate. In two years, the

race has featured more than 3,500 participants and has generated more than \$50,000 for the Reds Community Fund.

Participants can register for \$20 prior to July 28. Included in the fee are a T-shirt, one View Level ticket voucher for the Reds-Dodgers game on Aug. 10 and a goodie bag. After July 28, participants may continue to register for an entry fee of \$25. Registration is available online through Aug. 4 at www.signmeupsports.com. Registration forms are also available at Fan Accommodations Stations at Great American Ball Park.

The top five overall male and female runners will be recognized prior to the Aug. 10 Reds-Dodgers game at Great American Ball Park. The male and female overall winners will have the opportunity to toss a ceremonial first pitch. Additional prizes include gift baskets, gift certificates and Reds merchandise.

This year, kids ages 5-10 can participate in "Gapper's Kids Fun Run" on the warning track at Great American Ball Park following the conclusion of the 5K event. Registration is \$10 and also includes a T-shirt, one View Level ticket voucher for the Reds-Dodgers game on Aug. 10 and a goodie bag.

For more information about the "Redlegs Run for Home" or the Reds Community Fund, visit www.redscommunityfund.com, or call 513/765-7231.

Reds offer ticket programs for kids

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

CINCINNATI — Players Sean Casey, Jason LaRue and Danny Graves and coach Tom Hume once again are participating in programs in which complimentary tickets will be given away to young Reds fans.

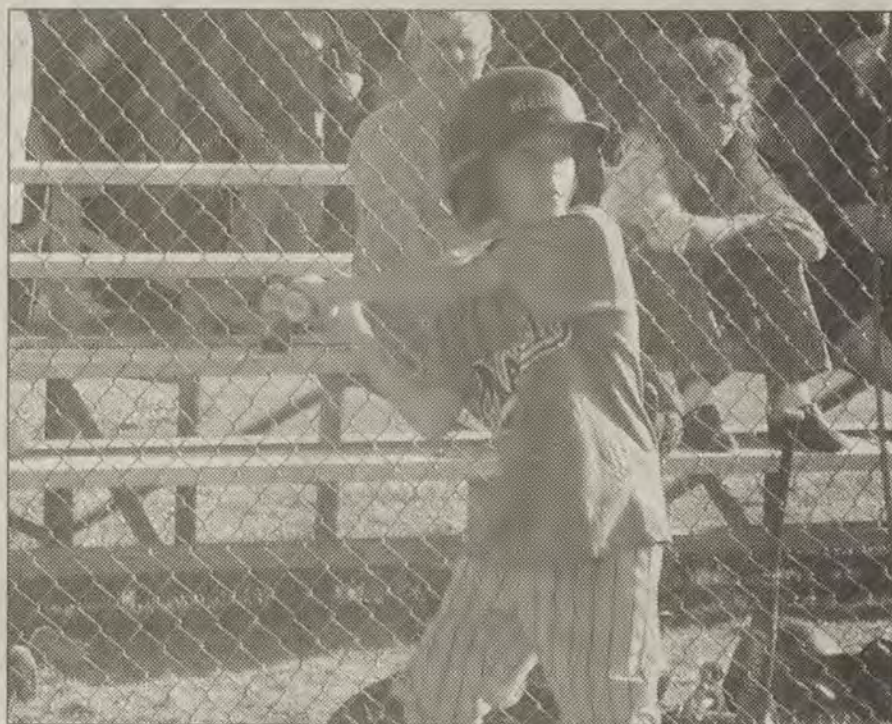
At each Saturday game at Great American Ball Park, Casey will give 24 youths and chaperones the opportunity to enjoy games in center field seats as part of his Casey's Crew program. Non-profit organizations that serve the needs of underprivileged children interested in participating can submit a letter of consideration at least 3 weeks in advance to Cincinnati Reds, Attn: Casey's Crew, 100 Main St., Cincinnati, Ohio 45202.

Also returning in 2004 is a ticket program supported by LaRue and Hume. Their ticket program rewards outstanding 4-H Club members in Hamilton County. For each Saturday game during the season, 20 youths and chaperones will enjoy seats adjacent to the Reds' bullpen.

The Hamilton County 4-H Youth Development office coordinates ticket distribution.

Debuting this season is Graves' Gravy's Train ticket program. At each Sunday home game at GABP, 24 little leaguers and their coaches will take in the big league action in seats adjacent to the Reds' bullpen. Youth baseball programs that serve the needs of underprivileged youth interested in participating can submit a letter of consideration at least 3 weeks in advance to Cincinnati Reds, Attn: Gravy's Train, 100 Main St., Cincinnati, Ohio 45202.

The Marlins are just one of the teams enjoying another season of baseball at Minnie Park. The Marlins play in the Minnie Pee-Wee League. Pictured is Blake Dean.



Brandi Stumbo

Jesse Osborne



Willard

Continued from p3

bite. At the beginning of the Late Model feature second lap, Josh Bocook (A1), a heat race winner of the evening, was so hooked coming into turn one on three wheels, he went airborne rolling twice sideways, then did a nose roll end to end landing on his top. The ambulance and track officials rushed to him and everybody held their breath until they saw Bocook climb out and walk around. Most agreed that it was the most spectacular flip seen at Willard in a while, but everybody was very happy that Bocook was not injured.

In the Modified feature race, Kevin Copher (12) was the winner. Second place went to Todd Robinson (1C), who was followed in third place by Eddie Harmon (87), the fast qualifier who set a 16.243 time. Fourth and fifth place finishers, respectively, were Scottie Matthin (8) and Adam Jordan (13).

Finishers first through fifth in the V6 Stock feature were Glenn Marshall (T4), Brian Maynard (13), Justin Jaynes (5), Boyd Clark (11) and James Johnston (16). The top five finishers in the Four-Cylinder contest were Dennis Meadows (72), claiming his second victory this season, Michael McVey (41), Dales Dehart (06), Albert Swanagan (54) and Jeff Baldwin (20).

A new set of feature races was scheduled for Willard Speedway last night. Results were unavailable at press time.

Bret Daniels



2004 NASCAR Nextel Cup

- Feb. 15 — Daytona 500, Daytona Beach, Fla. (Dale Earnhardt Jr.)
- Feb. 22 — Subway 400, Rockingham, N.C. (Matt Kenseth)
- March 7 — UAW-DaimlerChrysler 400, Las Vegas (Matt Kenseth)
- March 14 — Golden Corral 500, Hampton, Ga. (Dale Earnhardt Jr.)
- March 21 — Carolina Dodge Dealers 400, Darlington, S.C. (Jimmie Johnson)
- March 28 — Food City 500, Bristol, Tenn. (Kurt Busch)
- April 4 — Samsung/RadioShack 500, Fort Worth, Texas (Elliott Sadler)
- April 18 — Advance Auto Parts 500, Martinsville, Va. (Rusty Wallace)
- April 25 — Aaron's 499, Talladega, Ala. (Jeff Gordon)
- May 2 — Auto Club 500, Fontana, Calif. (Jeff Gordon)
- May 15 — Pontiac Performance 400, Richmond, Va.
- May 30 — Coca-Cola 600, Concord, N.C.
- June 6 — MBNA America 400, Dover, Del.
- June 13 — Pocono 500, Long Pond, Pa.
- June 20 — Michigan 400, Brooklyn
- June 27 — Dodge/Save Mart 350, Sonoma, Calif.
- July 3 — Pepsi 400, Daytona Beach, Fla.
- July 11 — Tropicana 400, Joliet, Ill.
- July 25 — New England 300, Loudon, N.H.
- Aug. 1 — Pennsylvania 500, Long Pond
- Aug. 8 — Brickyard 400, Indianapolis
- Aug. 15 — Sirius at The Glen, Watkins Glen, N.Y.
- Aug. 22 — Michigan 400, Brooklyn
- Aug. 28 — Sharpie 500, Bristol, Tenn.
- Sept. 5 — Pop Secret 500, Fontana, Calif.
- Sept. 11 — Chevrolet Monte Carlo 400, Richmond, Va.
- Sept. 19 — Sylvania 300, Loudon, N.H.
- Sept. 26 — MBNA America 400, Dover, Del.
- Oct. 3 — EA Sports 500, Talladega, Ala.
- Oct. 10 — Banquet 400, Kansas City, Kan.
- Oct. 16 — UAW-GM Quality 500, Concord, N.C.
- Oct. 24 — Subway 500, Martinsville, Va.
- Oct. 31 — Bass Pro Shops MBNA 400, Hampton, Ga.
- Nov. 7 — Checker Auto Parts 500, Avondale, Ariz.
- Nov. 14 — Southern 500, Darlington, S.C.
- Nov. 21 — Ford 400, Homestead, Fla.

Driver Standings

1. Dale Earnhardt Jr.	1,453
2. Jimmie Johnson	1,428
3. Jeff Gordon	1,426
4. Matt Kenseth	1,357
5. Kurt Busch	1,316
(tie) Kevin Harvick	1,316
7. Ryan Newman	1,299
8. Tony Stewart	1,284
9. Bobby Labonte	1,265
10. Elliott Sadler	1,250
11. Kasey Kahne	1,209
12. Jamie McMurray	1,200
13. Mark Martin	1,135
14. Rusty Wallace	1,132
15. Sterling Marlin	1,112
16. Jeremy Mayfield	1,106
17. Casey Mears	1,093
18. Dale Jarrett	1,066
19. Robby Gordon	1,033
20. Joe Nemechek	1,014

Unsportsmanlike conduct penalty in wrestling increased

offense) for misconduct at the scorer's table. In Rule 8-1-4, two team points will be deducted when a wrestler, coach or other team personnel is removed from the premises due to a second unsportsmanlike conduct violation.

"The committee believed that the one-point deduction has not been severe enough to deter unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of athletes and coaches," said Dave Carlrud, assistant to executive secretary of the North Dakota High School Activities Association and chair of the NFHS Wrestling Rules Committee. "We are hoping the loss of two team points will reduce the number of incidents

of unsportsmanlike acts." In addition to the nine changes approved by the committee, two rules proposals are undergoing further discussion. With regard to possible changes in the weight classes, information will be sent to state high school associations soon regarding possible reduction in the number of weight classes to 12. Any changes would not be made until the April 2005 meeting of the Wrestling Rules Committee.

Another proposal discussed by the Wrestling Rules Committee was one dealing with body-fat testing and the implementation of a comprehensive weight-management program. The NFHS Board of Directors, which reviews all actions of NFHS rules committees, has asked the Wrestling Rules Committee to reconvene and meet with several members of the NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee to discuss this proposal in more detail. This meeting will be held May 5 in Indianapolis.

Other rules changes approved by the NFHS Wrestling Rules Committee include deleting the unsports-

manlike penalty that has been charged to the head coach if a competitor reports to the mat not properly attired or ready to wrestle.

"The competitor will continue to be charged with a technical violation, an injury time-out and the use of injury time needed to become properly attired," said Jerry Diehl, NFHS assistant director and liaison to the NFHS Wrestling Rules Committee. "The committee, however, felt the additional unsportsmanlike penalty charged to the head coach was too harsh."

Two statistical or scorekeeping changes were approved by the committee. In Rule 6-7-1, if no scoring occurs during the tiebreaker period, the offensive wrestler will be declared the winner and one match point will be added to the offensive wrestler's score. In Rule 9-2-2, when determining the winning team by use of the tiebreaker system, a team point shall be added to the prevailing team. The criterion used to break the tie shall be noted.

"Last year, the committee

voted that all dual meets had to have a team winner; however, there was no mention of how to indicate/record the winning team," Diehl said. "For record-keeping purposes, a team point shall be added to the prevailing team, and the criterion used to break the tie shall be listed."

Three rules in Rule 5 were revised. In 5-1-2, the word "hands" has been added to clarify "supporting points." In 5-1-6, a knee or foot now may be placed (previously read "shall be placed") behind the defensive wrestler's feet. In 5-2-5g, i, when a defensive wrestler is injured or indicates an injury or bleeding occurs after near-fall criteria are met, the match is to be stopped and a three-point near fall awarded. A technical violation was added to the list of offenses for which another point will be awarded.

The final change approved by the rules committee is Rule 3-1-13, which states that when a time-out occurs due to injury or bleeding, the referee should notify the coach/wrestler at the one-minute and 30-second

marks as to the amount of time remaining.

"This procedure is a courtesy to the injured/bleeding wrestler," Diehl said. "This notification in most instances will allow the competitor to know the time remaining and thereby be more efficient in making the decision as to continuing or stopping competition."

In addition to the nine rules changes, three new symbols were added for use by scorekeepers, and a new signal for starting a match has been added to the signal chart. Points of Emphasis approved by the committee for the 2004-05 season are body-fat composition testing, stalling during the tiebreaker and the traditional post-bout coaches handshake.

Wrestling is the sixth-most popular high school sport for boys with 239,845 participants in 9,543 schools, according to the 2002-03 High School Athletics Participation Survey compiled by the NFHS. Almost 4,000 girls are involved in high school wrestling in 805 high schools.

to good tle fanfare

empty gas tank cost him a shot at victory in the Auto Club 500. He still finished fifth.

Instead of an angry outburst about his team's fuel miscalculation costing him a win, or at least another runner-up finish, the smiling Labonte ran alongside Gordon's car on pit road, shaking the winner's hand and patting him on the helmet.

Typical Labonte. "It's interesting because he's the combination of being a really nice guy and being full of competitiveness," said Hoyt Overbakh, the engineer on Labonte's team. "He's got to run well, if he doesn't run well he's not happy."

That's a side of Labonte the racing public rarely sees.

"I couldn't be doing this for a living if I wasn't pretty competitive," said Labonte, the 2000 series champion. "You're racing against the best in the business and there isn't much difference between the guys who run up front and win and the guys who don't."

"But it just isn't my personality to get in people's faces."

Labonte said he sometimes feels for Stewart, the 2002 series champion who can't seem to stay out of the spotlight. The past two races, Stewart has been involved in a series of collisions.

"I've done that before, too; no wrecks for 38 races then all of a sudden you wreck in 10 in a row," Labonte said. "Tony's been Tony for years. We all know that."

Meanwhile, Labonte goes quietly about the business of racing.

He's keenly aware of NASCAR's new championship formula, with the top 10 drivers in the standings and any others within 400 points of the leader after the first 26 races eligible for a 10-race "Chase for the Championship."

"We're pretty confident we'll be in the top 10 in points after 26 races," Labonte said. "We've got a good enough race team to do that."

"Probably, we just need more consistency in our finishes. We keep having a good week and a bad week, a good week and a bad week. We just need to be more consistently in the top five instead of the top 10 — but it's hard to get there."

If Labonte does find that consistency, though, it's a safe bet he'll do it quietly.

Kenny to star lineup

'75 and '76 Cincinnati Reds World Series Champions and Gold Glove second baseman for the Mets will talk about the changes in the game. Flynn will also answer a great UK basketball trivia question.

Irving Thomas, the last player signed by Joe B. Hall at UK and now a scout for the Lakers will give his view on the Cats in the upcoming NBA Draft.

Listeners can now email Rice and Walker at kennyandkenny@sportsshowplus.com. The show airs Sunday night 7-8 on WQHY-FM 95.5 Prestonsburg.

Horse

Continued from p2

story.

"We've had a lot of interest in the past year, probably because of Funny Cide," said Gay Fisher, marketing and communications director of the Kentucky-based Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association, which has about 3,000 members. She is also executive director of the Greatest Game, an industry program aimed at attracting and aiding new investors to thoroughbred ownership.

Funny Cide's owners included a group of high school pals who rented yellow school buses to take them to the Triple Crown races. Smarty Jones' owner and jockey are based at small-time Philadelphia Park.

"People can relate to those guys and their lifestyles more than say ... (thoroughbred owners) who own jets and own oil companies," she said.

Couch, Perkins hang up their spikes

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIPPA PASSES — As the Alice Lloyd College Baseball Club left Johnson City, Tenn. on May 4, everyone on the roster was already preparing for next season, all but two. Jamie Couch and Nicholas Perkins playing careers came to a close with the final out against Virginia Intermont.

Couch, who is forgoing his final year of eligibility to graduate, started the 2004 season with hopes and expectations of playing a key role on the pitching staff. Things did not turn out as planned for Couch. The tough right handed pitcher pitched sparingly throughout the season for the Eagles. Couch showed his true abilities in his last career start vs conference foe Virginia Intermont College. He threw a three-hit shutout, striking out five in his complete game gem.

"My career as a baseball player is now over," admitted Couch. "The game has been good to me and I have had the time of my life playing this great sport. At one point in my life the game was my life, as my career has come to an end and I have found salvation I have discovered that the game of baseball is only a small part of the big picture of life. The game has taught me many things about leadership, hardwork, and dedication; these things I will treasure for a lifetime. I am so pleased that my discouraging senior season has ended on the brightest note possible, throwing my best career outing against a conference foe. I see the end of my career as the ending of a book that I have been

writing for some years, and the last game as the last and the brightest page of this book. Now it is time to close this book, place it on the shelf and begin my next piece of work, my service for God and my career."

For Nicholas Perkins the realization that there is "no next season" is a weird thought.

"I have been a ball player my entire life," said Perkins. "The fact that I will never again play organized sports makes me feel old more than anything else."

Perkins came to the Alice Lloyd baseball program after only playing two years of high school baseball.

"I came here way behind everyone else," added Perkins. "I had no fundamentals and little experience. In high school I was known more for playing basketball. I never turned into the star baseball player that I wanted to be but I hang up my spikes with no regrets. I worked as hard as I could to get to that level and although I never got their, in trying I learned the game and turned myself into a solid baseball player. This year as a senior I truly felt that I could help the team win games. I did not feel that I took a backseat to anyone on the field. I thank Coach Cornett for the opportunity he gave me to be a collegiate athlete and I thank God for all of his blessings. I love and respect the game of baseball. Now it is time for me to put number 25 on my back as a coach and teach the game and how it should be played to others and along the way hopefully win a lot of games."



Perkins



Couch

Atlanta prep star commits to Kentucky

by KEITH PARSONS ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA — Everything pointed to Kentucky for Randolph Morris — the academics, the chemistry with his fellow recruits and the relationship with coach Tubby Smith.

The Atlanta prep star chose the Wildcats on Thursday night, spurning a scholarship offer from hometown Georgia Tech. At Kentucky, Morris will join Rajon Rondo and Joe Crawford, two of his teammates from the McDonald's All-American game.

"Kentucky, it's not as rigorous as it is at Georgia Tech,"

Morris said. "I get good academics with a support system, and I think I can be successful."

As a senior at Landmark Christian School, Morris averaged 25 points, 16 rebounds and 4.5 blocks. The 7-foot Morris also considered entering the NBA draft, and began his news conference by announcing he was bypassing college.

After a long pause, he smiled, then told the crowd that included his high school teammates and a few Kentucky fans that he was going to the Wildcats.

He heard he "possibly" would be taken in the first round of the draft, and without the safety net of a guaranteed contract that comes with that selection, the decision was between the Wildcats and the Yellow Jackets.

"The NBA was an extremely remote possibility," said Morris' father, Ralph.

The Wildcats only had a scholarship available after reserve forward Bernard Cote was granted a release. Cote, a 6-foot-9 forward from St. Lambert, Quebec, played in 27 games last season and averaged 1.4 points and 0.4 rebounds. He struggled with back problems during much of his Kentucky career.

Another Kentucky recruit, Adam Williams, decided to attend Fork Union Military Academy.

"Coach Smith said something would work out for me," Randolph Morris said. "His long track record and his resume speaks for itself."

Georgia Tech recruited Morris the longest, beginning its contact with him during his ninth-grade year through assistant Willie Reese. Coach Paul Hewitt also got involved, but in the end, that hardly mattered.

"I think we have a better

relationship with coach Smith that we did with coach Reese or coach Hewitt, for that matter," Ralph Morris said. "He's kind of an old school guy, and that really impressed me."

Morris wouldn't commit to more than one year at Kentucky, although he said he planned to eventually get his college degree.

"Who's to say if my stock rises," he said. "I might have to make a decision."

And his father wasn't disappointed in the least with having his son move so far away from home.

"Not at all," the elder Morris said. "I just want him to do what is best for him and makes him happy."

ACMS volleyball team finishes season 13-2

TIMES STAFF REPORT

EASTERN — The Allen Central Middle School B-team volleyball squad lost to Mountain Christian Academy in two straight, finishing the season with a 6-6 record — the best record of any Allen Central 'B' team.

MCA took the B-team match 21-9, 21-9.

The Allen Central Middle A Team romped over MCA in two games, 21-10, 21-14, finishing the season with a 13-2 record, the best in school history.

Allen Central Middle is coached by Larry Maynard, also the Allen Central High volleyball coach.

The Floyd County Conference Volleyball Tournament is scheduled to get underway Monday at Allen Central Middle School.

PEOPLE AGAINST DRUGS

"Come Walk With Us"

Features Editor
 Kathy Prater
 Phone: (606) 886-8506
 Fax: (606) 886-3603

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FLOYD COUNTY Lifestyles



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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

MEET APPALACHIA

MOVIES FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

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.

The showers come, the sun comes, there's leaf and flower, and singing bird—and suddenly it's sprung.

All this rain reminds us that the Spring must be leaking.

The late Alexander Woolcott once remarked, "I do most of my work sitting down—that's where I shine." And when we rise we just stand and glaze.

WE'RE GRATEFUL

This is news! The Wall Street Journal this week published a page advertisement which featured, the Prestonsburg Community College and the community of Prestonsburg.

What makes it news to us is this: Never in our memory has a New York newspaper published anything heretofore about Floyd County without reference to the darker side of the picture. There wasn't a log cabin in sight!

But credit the American Electric Power System, and its affiliates, including the Kentucky Power Company, for this happy turn in the long, long road. They wrote the copy and they shelled out good, hard cash for the ad.

We are not ashamed of the log cabin itself—one of the greatest Americans who ever lived was born in one. We cherish our oddities of mountain dialect, because most of it is straight out of Chaucer, and because it comes so natural to us.

But everybody has got into the act, letting the world know about these matters. So it is particularly refreshing to us to see and read in a metropolitan publication, of the miracles of progress that have been taking place here in the last five years.

A mixture of modern derring do and progress, with the quaintness of our speech and customs, which distinguishes us from the common herd is just about what this doctor would order.

But I ramble. What I started out to write here was an expression of sincere thanks to American Electric, Kentucky Power, and all concerned.

HE'S BACK ON THE JOB

Just get the family cartoonist to show our dog consulting the thermometer before deciding whether he should stay home or come to the office. When the temperature drops around 60, he occupies a desk; above that, he goes on vacation.



Lydia puts the finishing touches on this masterpiece.

photo by Mary Music

Lydia Hackworth, The Cake Lady

Lydia Hackworth

Age: 42
Occupation: Clerk, Floyd County Sheriff's Department
Education: General Education Equivalency Diploma
Life quote: "Live every moment like it's your last. Savor every moment."

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.

by MARY MUSIC
 STAFF WRITER

It was August. A couple was standing in a church taking a vow of matrimony. At any moment, they would arrive at the Holiday Inn, where this woman was standing now. She was in charge of their cake, a privilege she took with extra care. She had worked a good four hours, baking, mixing the icing, layering it, and topping it off a beautiful spring bouquet, complete with callalilies. Oh, yes, they would love this cake.

In the rush to complete the setting for the perfect moment, the dining staff asked that the woman place her cake on a predetermined table next to the kitchen entrance, a request she hesitantly complied with.

It didn't take long for the steam and heat broiling out of that kitchen to destroy that perfect cake.

Standing in a pile of panic, the woman's pulse shivered with

(See LYDIA, page seven)



Lydia, who "savors" every moment of her life, carries this smile with her everywhere she goes.

photo by Mary Music

'Kill Bill, Vol. 1 & 2'

Director Quentin Tarantino (originally from Kentucky) continues his love affair with 1970s grindhouse cinema with this epic take on what could have been a standard revenge melodrama. The cinematic influences here are a smorgasbord of what made the 1970s a great time to go to the drive-in. You get such diverse influences as samurai, kung-fu, giallos (Italian horror) and



Tom Doty
 Staff Writer

spaghetti westerns. The big question is however, does he get the mix right? The answer is a resounding you bet.

The story is deceptively simple. A woman is seeking revenge on the folks who

massacred her wedding party and left her for dead. The bad guys are her old boss Bill and his band of assassins, that she used to belong to, that are called the DIVAS (or Deadly Viper Assassin Squad, which is a tribute to the kung-fu flick "The Five Deadly Venoms"). Turns out she ain't dead, she's just getting warmed up. The character, known simply as "The Bride," comes out of her coma four years later and, after dispatching a gross orderly, she is ready for a roaring rampage of revenge.

In "Volume 1," the audience is treated to some incredible action sequences which, in true Tarantino style, are shown out of sequence. The ending fight sequence, which actually occurs first, is a masterpiece of sword fighting that recalls the 1970s bloodfest "Shogun Assassin." This scene matches that film for arterial sprays — every stab seems to hit a major artery — and ends with the discovery that The Bride, who was pregnant when she got put in the coma, has a 4-year-old daughter who she is unaware of.

"Volume 2" picks up with The Bride in her car and Tarantino breaks the fourth wall here by allowing her to address the audience. She informs the viewers that she is halfway through her list of potential victims and will get around to killing Bill before the end credits.

This time around, the fights are more subdued and personal as The Bride nears the end of her quest. A fight in a trailer, though, packs a lot of energy as The Bride takes on one-eyed Elle Driver in a brawl that could easily have taken place on the Jerry Springer show. This film also features a martial arts training sequence that ranks up there with the kung fu films of Gordon Liu (who also plays the training master).

(See LAGOON, page seven)

Chicken Soup For The Soul: All in a days work



Emergency-room personnel transported him to the cardiac floor. Long hair, unshaven, dirty, dangerously obese and a black motorcycle jacket tossed on the bottom shelf of the stretcher -- an outsider to this sterile world of shining terrazzo floors, efficient uniformed professionals and strict infection-control procedures.

Definitely an untouchable! The nurses at the station looked wide-eyed as this mound of humanity was wheeled by -- each glancing nervously at my friend Bonnie, the head nurse. "Let this one not be mine to admit, bathe and tend to ..." was the pleading, unspoken message

from their inner concern. One of the true marks of a leader, a consummate professional, is to do the unthinkable. To touch the untouchable. To tackle the impossible. Yes, it was Bonnie who said, "I want this patient myself." Highly unusual for a head nurse -- unconventional -- but the stuff out of which human spirits thrive, heal and soar. As she donned her latex gloves and proceeded to bathe this huge, filthy man, her heart almost broke. Where was his family? Who was his mother? What was he like as a little boy?

She hummed quietly as she

worked to ease the fear and embarrassment she knew he must have been feeling. And then on a whim she said: "We don't have time for back rubs much in hospitals these days, but I bet one would really feel good. And it would help you relax your muscles and start to heal. That is what this place is all about -- a place to heal."

All in a day's work. Touching the untouchable.

His thick, scaly, ruddy skin told a story of an abusive lifestyle. Probably lots of addictive behavior, to food, alcohol and drugs. As Bonnie rubbed the taut muscles, she

hummed and prayed. Prayed for the soul of a little boy grown up, rejected by life's rudeness and striving for acceptance in a hard, hostile world.

The finale -- warmed lotion and baby powder. Almost laughable -- such a contrast on this huge, rugged surface. As he rolled over onto his back, tears rolled down his cheek. With amazingly beautiful brown eyes, he smiled and said in a quivering voice, "No one has touched me for years." His chin trembled. "Thank you. I am healing."

In a day when we have increasing

(See SOUP page seven)

Announcements



ACHS teammates win Gold Medals at state competition

Tiffany Owens and Brittany Waugh, freshmen students at Allen Central High School, won the first place award in Tower Building at the State Science Olympiad competition held April 24, in Bowling Green. They were presented with gold medal awards. Tiffany is the daughter of Joe and Teresa Owens, of Garrett. Brittany is the daughter of Chris and Angie Waugh, of Allen. Congratulations, girls!



Learning important at Carousel Preschool

Linda Salisbury, center, owner/director of Linda's Carousel Day Care and Preschool, Martin, recently held a parent/teacher conferences with the parents of the children enrolled in the center. Above, Steve and Peggy Prater, of Prestonsburg, confer with Mrs. Salisbury over their child's progress report.

My Wonderful Mother
By Frances A. Cantrell

My Mother had a little house with flowers all around,
The blooms were oh, so beautiful, they were known all over town.

She had roses of all colors, pink, red, orange and white,
With each and every bloom in spring they were a magnificent sight.

She planted and watered each of them with the very greatest care,
And with each one, a colorful bloom found a special place somewhere.

The tulips, roses, daffodils, each one had a special place,
And the magnificence of the garden put a smile on every face.

She was so happy in those gardens, I remember her beautiful smile,

As she pattered in those flowers and then rested for a while.

The vining roses were every color and hung over the garden wall,
And she still had time to feed each plant till the frost fell in the fall.

In spring, she selected each flower, they were chosen with great care,

And each was nurtured, fed and loved, till they bloomed in her garden there.

Mom got a call from God one day, He said, "I need you now,
My flowers need attention and you can help somehow."

So Mom accepted the challenge, the curiosity was too much,
She discovered the heavenly gardens desperately needed her finishing touch.

Now Mom gardens for the Master where the flowers always bloom,
And every mansion in Heaven has fresh flowers in every room.

She's so happy with the Master, perfecting every rose,
She can take her time, select each one, and watch it as it grows.

Now Mom's a precious flower that grows within our minds,
Her love still blooms within the hearts of her children left behind.

Soup

concern about the appropriateness of touch, Bonnie taught this hurting world to still dare to touch the untouchable through eye contact, a warm handshake, a concerned voice -- or the physical reassurance of warmed lotion and baby powder.

Lagoon

All in all this is a solid tribute to the martial arts films, which packed 1970s drive-ins, and a bit of a nod to the epic westerns that came out of Italy. It's the film equivalent of a fast food meal that in this case goes down like filet mignon.

What makes these films work is that the director's love of the material never gets in the way of his storytelling ability. The movies are also showcases for many of the actors who inspired the film and they deliver the goods.

Tarantino has often been cited for bringing back actors who have fallen off the Hollywood radar and here he does that again by entrusting the main role to David Carradine. He even works in a tribute to Carradine by introducing him in a scene where he plays the flute, a la his character from the 1970s TV hit "Kung Fu".

The Bride is fleshed by Uma Thurman who also starred in "Pulp Fiction."

The supporting cast is a mix of Asian action stars like Sonny Chiba (as Hanzo, a character he played on Japanese television) and Gordon Liu, and rediscovered talent like Daryl Hannah as the one-eyed killer who swings a mean sword. Tarantino may bring these stars back into the limelight, but all of them, thus far, have shown that they still have game (just check out Robert Forster as Pam Grier in "Jackie Brown").

A final tip of the cap has to go to the music in both films which ranges from Nancy Sinatra to Wu Tang Clan and underscores the action perfectly.

The best dialogue comes in Volume one after The Bride surveys the writhing mass of thugs that she has just dispatched in a Tokyo nightclub.

Continued from p1

Diabuddies Corner

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

Some diabetes symptoms include:

Frequent urination, excessive thirst, extreme hunger, unusual weight loss, increased fatigue, irritability, blurry vision, or none at all.

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

Meatballs with Sweet and Sassy Sauce-8 Servings

Ingredients:

- Meatballs:
- 1 pound ground turkey breast
- 1 pound ground sirloin
- 2 eggs, slightly beaten
- 3/4 cup saltine cracker crumbs
- 1/4 cup grated Asiago cheese
- 3 tablespoons minced onion
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper

Sauce:

- 1 cup medium salsa
- 1 can (14-3/4 oz.) reduced-fat and sodium chicken broth
- 1 can (12 oz.) tomato paste
- 1/4 cup Equal® Spoonful*
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice

2 teaspoons Jamaican jerk seasoning

Hot cooked rice or pasta (optional)

*May Substitute 6 packets of Equal sweetener

Preparation:

Preheat oven to 425°F. For Meatballs, combine all ingredients. Shape into 1-1/2-inch diameter meatballs. Place on 15 x 10-inch baking pan. Bake 18 to 20 minutes. Remove pan from oven to wire rack.

Meanwhile, for Sauce, combine all ingredients in large saucepan with cover. Place cooked meatballs in sauce. Heat to simmer over medium heat. Simmer, covered, 20 minutes to blend flavors. Serve over hot cooked rice or pasta, if desired.

Calories: 266

Protein: 28g

Carbohydrate: 16g

Fat: 10g

Cholesterol: 131mg

Sodium: 461 mg

Food Exchanges: 4 Lean Meat, 1 Starch

Lydia

each and every inch of icing that dripped helplessly from the sides of the three tiered scalloped edged masterpiece.

It was destroyed and the wedding party would arrive at any moment.

Meet Lydia Hackworth, full time clerk with the Floyd County Sheriff's Department who has been decorating special occasion cakes for 12 years now. She says that wedding was her biggest cake disaster.

But it didn't turn out all too bad. Her keen sense of intuition prompted her to pack a mixer that day. So she whipped up another batch of icing. The second cake, which took approximately 30 minutes to repair, "turned out prettier than the first one ever thought about being," she said.

That day was a turning point in Lydia's hobby of cake decorating. That was the day she says she started praying over each and every cake that left her kitchen.

"To do a wedding cake, to me, that's the most important day of their lives, and I want it to be as perfect as possible," Lydia said.

She began making special occasion cakes for family and friends when she worked as a cake decorator at Dairy Queen in Prestonsburg. She started out there as a cashier and took a 10 1/2 hour cake decorating course at Pikeville College when the restaurant was looking for a cake decorator.

In perfecting her skill these last 12 years, she's combined the knowledge she's learned from that position, which she kept a few years, with the knowledge she's learned on her own. Her cakes are extraordinarily beautiful and range from every size and theme one could imagine. One cake is tossed with edible glitter. Another rises above a waterfall.

She says she's easily made hundreds of such cakes (which sell for \$50 to \$800) and

remembers nearly every single one of them because of the people she decorates them for. She says her most favorite cake was the 9 layer doozie she made for her son's wedding in 1999. She remembers it so lovingly and well because her son, Lonnie, was extremely nervous the night before the wedding, so she lured him into the kitchen until 2 a.m. that morning baking the cake.

"I felt the love and bond there between me and him doing that wedding cake," Lydia said. "That's what made it so special."

Lydia, who also highlights as a "Katy Friend Singer" with the Katy Friend Freewill Baptist Church in Prestonsburg, says her relationship with God is the most important aspect of her life because he "changed" her, because he gave her strength, and because he "instilled love" in her for all people and things.

Lydia's family—her mother, father, and two brothers,—moved from Campton to Lancer when she was 9 years old when her father, a welder who worked with B & B Engineering, decided to stop traveling back and forth to work.

She says she doesn't know what kind of effect growing up in Appalachia had on her upbringing. She describes herself as an independent, energetic person, who has always stepped out to try new things and tackle new obstacles in her life. When all the other little girls were playing with dolls, Lydia was learning to crochet, or sew, or craft, hobbies she continues till this day.

"I'm so hyper. If anybody knows me, they know I'm constantly busy at something. If I'm not doing something, I'm sitting twiddling my fingers and yapping," she said, laughing.

Lydia dropped out of high school to get married in 1974, and says she went back in the 80's to get her GED, an accomplishment she achieved because she wanted to better herself and "prove" that she could do it.

That's why she's so adventurous today. She's constantly striving to obtain and learn things because she wants to continue to be the strong, independent person she knew as a child.

Lydia's says she and her husband, who recently celebrated their 27th wedding anniversary, were "meant" for each other.

"He's stuck with me whether he likes it or not. I really believe he was meant for me," she said. "My mom was diagnosed with cancer and she died very young—in her 30's. We were married a year in July and she died in August...I needed somebody stronger than I was and it was him."

Several years ago, the strength Lydia so admired in Homer was challenged when he was involved in a helicopter crash.

Lydia had been to the grocery store that morning and had come home to put the groceries away when she got the call that ripped her heart out.

An employee with Branham and Baker at the time, Homer was part of an aerial survey run in a helicopter that ran out of gas midair in Pikeville. He survived, amazingly, and was carried away with a broken back and busted intestines.

He recovered in a year and a half or longer, she says, and now has a rod in his back and pain that still plagues him. He hasn't worked since, but, to her, he is as strong today as he ever was.

The life lesson Lydia learned from the experience is still with her. "It taught me not to take one minute for granted," she said. "It showed me how important the love is for your family and the people around you. They can be taken at any moment."

Lydia and Homer are looking forward to a summer of fishing and camping, hobbies they've enjoyed over the years. She says Homer has unsuccessfully tried to teach her to use artificial bait. "It's live worms, or nothing," she says. And when they camp, the cooking enthusiast packs up

her bread machine.

They have three children, two of which—Jeremy, 15, and Jennifer, 22—remain at home. They are the grandparents of Skylar, 3, and Kaydance, 3 months, the daughters of her oldest son and his wife, Missy.

"Everybody always said you let your grandchildren get away with things you wouldn't let your own children do. Well, it's the truth," Lydia laughed.

As a woman who defeated the challenges of a working mother, Lydia says her only weakness in life is her motherly instinct to protect her children.

She remembers times that she cried with her daughter, over petty little teenaged problems that mattered only to a thirteen year old girl. She also remembers the day she decided to "leave the job" at work, where it belongs. That day, she says, a bad day at work sent her home with a grumpy attitude toward her family. She didn't like it, so she stopped it, right there.

That's why she says people need to focus more on themselves and their families, rather than trying to combine that beauty in life with their careers or other obligations.

"You learn to adjust. You have to separate your job from your family," she said, about being a working mother. "There have been times I've come home in a bad mood because of something that happened at work....I learned to keep my job at work where it belongs....Seeing people go through everyday trials and troubles, I've learned that no matter how bad it is, somebody out there is going through something much worse. The world needs more love. They need to focus more on themselves and their family values."

That's also why she insists that her cake decorating is still, after all this time, just a hobby.

"When I make it my job, then my hobby becomes my job," the Left Fork of Abbot resident said.



Lydia, at work in her kitchen.

photo by Mary Musick



Making a few adjustments.

photo by Mary Musick

Continued from p6

Sunday Comics

Amber Waves

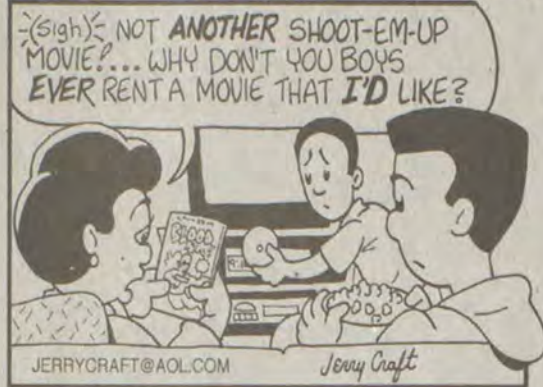
by Dave T. Phipps



MAMA'S BOYZ

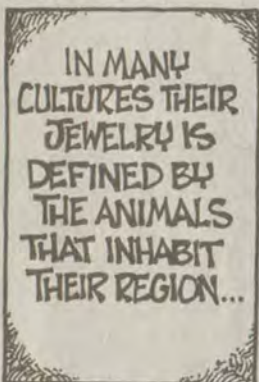
WWW.MAMASBOYZ.COM

JERRY CRAFT



R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



LAFF-A-DAY



MAGIC MAZE • LIFE —

HCZWH TQNKIFCZ WU
RPMJHTECTZEXUSQ
NLJGECARRXZLXET
VTRPNLOEPJHECLE
CAYWVPVEDTRPNYK
LKIGPACTNDECBTC
BZ(SUSTAINING)FSA
LXSIAOWUSRLAPOJ
OMZNLBJIGOREDBA
OECNARUSNIYXWUT
DYROTSSGQPONLKJ

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

- And-death
- Blood
- Boat
- Cycle
- Expectancy
- Insurance
- Line
- Long
- Raft
- Saver
- Sized
- Story
- Style
- Support
- Sustaining

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



FIND AT LEAST 6 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS.
Differences: 1. Fingers are hidden. 2. Slippers are missing. 3. Rug is different. 4. Frame is smaller. 5. Durn is different. 6. Keyhole is different.

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Super Crossword LIFE LINE

- ACROSS**
- 1 Interrogate
 - 5 Took a dip
 - 9 Engineering course
 - 13 Theater collection
 - 17 Government group
 - 18 The Fates, e.g.
 - 19 Akbar's city
 - 20 Madonna role
 - 22 Moral man?
 - 23 Pianist
 - 24 Unwelcome visit?
 - 25 Plot
 - 26 Narcs' org.
 - 27 Roberts or Robertson
 - 28 Took in
 - 31 Dress size
 - 32 Start of a remark by Marguerite Whitley
 - 37 Malamute medic
 - 38 Eaves dropper?
 - 39 "— whiz!"
 - 40 Assumption
 - 43 "Tosca" tenor
 - 45 "Veronica's Closet" item
 - 48 Haggard
 - 52 Surrounded by
 - 53 Cook's cry
 - 54 Wilbur
 - Post's confidant
 - 55 Curly poker?
 - 56 Crony
 - 57 Eisenhower, for one
 - 58 African capital
 - 59 Mansfield or Meadows
 - 61 Author
 - 63 It comes from the heart
 - 64 Weep
 - 65 Middle of remark
 - 71 "Make — double!"
 - 72 Crack up
 - 73 "Evil Ways" group
 - 75 — salad
 - 78 Pennsylvania sect
 - 79 Rock's Tears for —
 - 81 Squash shot
 - 82 Garage supply
 - 83 — in (yield)
 - 84 Beetle
 - 85 1,760 yards
 - 86 Put on hold
 - 89 Vane letters
 - 90 Composer
 - 91 78 Peace
 - 92 Actor
 - 94 Downs a donut
 - 95 Antlered animal
 - 96 End of remark
 - 107 Aphrodite's son
 - 108 Jeeves' master
 - 109 Say please too often?
 - 110 Buddy
 - 111 "The Full —" ('96 film)
 - 113 Guitar kin
 - 114 Author
 - 116 "What — Bob?" ('91 film)
 - 118 Poet
 - 119 Level
 - 120 Mall event
 - 121 Quiet partner?
 - 122 Singer
 - 123 Start a crop
 - 124 Blabbed
 - 125 Conductor
 - Jeffrey
 - stuffing
 - 6 Ire
 - 7 Pitch in
 - 8 Peak
 - 9 Kind of swallow
 - 10 Once more
 - 11 Treat
 - 12 Hot spot?
 - 13 Mo
 - 14 First name in boxing
 - 15 Shinbone
 - 16 Berle
 - 17 Pinkett of "The Nutty Professor"
 - 21 Nautical adverb
 - 27 Favorite
 - 29 Kentucky neighbor
 - 30 Westminster winner
 - 33 Roman
 - 34 Aerialist's fallback
 - 35 Senator
 - 36 Spear-headed
 - 40 Mama's boy?
 - 41 Muscat native
 - 42 Mamer or Lapham
 - 43 Diverse
 - 44 Khan
 - 45 Actress
 - Ekland
 - 46 Broadcast
 - 47 Bustle
 - 49 One of the Marches
 - 50 Finished first
 - 51 Born
 - 53 Perry's secretary
 - 54 Swamp
 - 57 Reggae's — and the
 - 58 Cold sound
 - 59 Pop Art pioneer
 - 60 Blind as —
 - 62 Relief
 - 63 Tickle
 - 64 Gawk
 - 66 Violinist
 - 67 Inexperienced
 - 68 Inedible fruit
 - 69 Sound
 - 70 "— Gay"
 - 74 Facilitate a felony
 - 75 Fare for a fry
 - 76 Hurry
 - 77 Sprite
 - 78 Mr. Lucky's card
 - 79 Gounod opera
 - 80 Drop a brick
 - 84 Juvenal or Swift
 - 85 Certain
 - shark
 - 87 Stratchy
 - 88 Gun the engine
 - 90 Mirror image?
 - 91 Crafty
 - 93 Contemporary
 - 94 Hold out
 - 95 Word with good or bad
 - 96 Clears one's throat
 - 97 Forster's "— With a View"
 - 98 Singer
 - 99 Parts
 - 100 "— Got a Friend" ('71 hit)
 - 101 Cosmetician
 - 102 Everything considered
 - 103 Bare
 - 104 Kapitan's command
 - 105 Armistice
 - 106 Table d'—
 - 112 Flap one's gums
 - 115 — Tome
 - 116 Prone
 - 117 Arthur or Benaderet

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

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The Floyd County Times

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- 650 - Mobile Homes
- 660 - Miscellaneous

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CDL Truck Driver

210-Job Listing

Positions available in the Martin County, Kentucky area. class A , CDL required for on-road drivers, full and part time openings. call 298-0447 or 298-0402 8am to 5am Monday thru Friday

Local Sign Company now hiring.

We are looking for sign Technicians with a CDL Certification. Experience in sign business is preferred but not required. pay will be based on experience. Interview by appointment only. Please call 606-874-6270, ext. 305. to apply, come grow with us...

Drivers needed for Prestonsburg and Paintsville area paying \$8.00 per hour must be able to pass federal background check call 606-886-3906

Local Builder needs 1 interior trim carpenter. Must have references and 5 years experience. Please call 606-899-5955 or 606-432-6113

RN / LPN \$3,000 Sign-on. We are currently hiring for open RN or LPN full time positions. We offer an excellent benefits package and competitive wages. call or stop by for a tour and interview to join our caring team. Salyersville Health Care 571 Park way Drive (606) 349-6181 E.O.E./A.A.P. Surface Mine

Electrician's and Mechanics needed. Call Personnel office at 606-298-0447 or 606-298-0402 Ky. and West Va. locations

Help wanted seeking staff to work with individuals with mental retardation / developmental disabilities, for more information please call 285-9909 for interview

Dental Assistant needed to assist in all aspects of a busy general dental office. Duties include four handed assisting, exposing and developing x-rays, instrument sterilization, room set-up, lab duties, billing and assisting in all aspects of patient care. Applicant needs computer knowledge and minimum of a high school education. Must be self motivated, very outgoing and be able to perform multiple tasks at once. Send resume to Dental Assistant P.O. Box 60 Minnie, Ky. 41651 or Fax, to 606-377-0179 No Call Please

East Ky. Tree and Lawn Service for all of your tree and brush removal call 478-4283 or 874-3772 fully insured

Seeking experienced Underground Mine Surveyors Qualifications as follows up to date Ky. underground Miners card and annual refresher training. Experience in all phases of underground surveying Benefits include Health insurance, Dental insurance, Life insurance, 401 K, and 8 paid Holidays. Send resume to P.O. Box 390 Prestonsburg Ky. 41653

Help Wanted at Water Treatment Plant, Operator Position available. Must be a certified operator. Full and part time positions, call 874-1111 or send resume to: 209 May Village, Allen, Ky. 41601

Wanted Mechanic, Heavy Equipment 5 years experience must have Ky. certification and have own tools, apply in person at Guyan Heavy Equipment located at 1674 Water Gap Road, Prestonsburg, Ky.

Medical Biller needed experience only need apply. Send resume to P.O. Box 3176 Pikeville, Ky. 41502

Full Time Route Sales Day Shift driving 1 ton box van in the big sandy area, Salary plus commission 3 to 400.00 per week possible, honest dependable, and a good driving record send resume to P.O. Box 144, Staffordsville, Ky. 41256

J.K.B. Contractors is looking for General Labors must have car and license, If you don't want to work don't call. Last time Ad 10 people said they would show up only 3 did Starting at 5.50 per hour call 889-0684

The Housing Authority of Prestonsburg has an opening for an Assistant Property Manager. The Assistant Property Manager must have a high school diploma or equivalent plus at least three years office experience including basic computer skills. General requirements include the ability to communicate orally and in writing, organizational skills, the ability to work with confidential information and to work well with the public. Applicants must have a valid KY. Drivers License. This is a full time position with health insurance, retirement and other benefits. Applications will be taken at the Green Acres Office in Prestonsburg from 10:30 am to 3:30 pm each day through May 13, 2004

FOR SALE: Valcan Restaurant Gas Range, 10 burners, 2 ovens stainless steel front, back raiser and shelf. like new, call 358-5306 or 454-8108

DVD PLAYERS FROM \$10.00! Police seized for more information call 800-749-8107 exten. P 620

445-Furniture

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

220-Help Wanted

Help Needed Woman needed to live in with elderly lady, no hard work involved or lifting required call 886-9814 after 6pm.

Home caregiver for Lady, nights or weekend. call 285-9650

100 Workers needed Assemble crafts, and wood items Materials provided. \$480.+ work Free information package. 24 hour call 801-428-4873

Welder and fabricating worker needed with mechanical background. pay will be based on work experience. call 606-874-6441 or 606-478-4219

EMT's or Paramedics Kentucky or National Registered Growing Ambulance Company needing full or part time paramedics currently paying up to \$15.00 per hour 12 - 24 hours shifts available FULL-TIME & PART TIME benefits include 401 K, Health Insurance, Supplemental Insurance for more information call 888-696-4778, or 606-324-3286 or e-mail chuck.williams@mts.ambulance.com or apply in person MTS Ambulance 2431 Green up Avenue Ashland, Ky. 41101

475-Household

For Sale like new Furniture for sale, Full Size bed with mattress, box springs, chest ,nightstand four tables and matching sofa and love seat. Will sell entire lot for \$800.00 will not sell separately. Furniture only used 2 months, owner moving, call 874-1447

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

MERCHANDISE

410-Animals

For Sale Yearling Colts and fillies. Mares that are with colts new and used saddles, excellent horse hay 874-9794 for appointment and details

420-Appliances

FOR SALE: Valcan Restaurant Gas Range, 10 burners, 2 ovens stainless steel front, back raiser and shelf. like new, call 358-5306 or 454-8108

440-Electronics

DVD PLAYERS FROM \$10.00! Police seized for more information call 800-749-8107 exten. P 620

445-Furniture

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

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460-Yard Sale

Huge Yard Sale at Green Acres Community Center on Sat, 8 and Sun 9. we have any thing and every thing call 889-1786 to find out directions to sale

Yard Sale May 7th and 8th on Fitzpatrick Road 2nd house on the right Red Brick with car port

Huge Yard Sale, several families, clothes all sizes, home interior, house whole items Tapes and 33 1/2 records, farm tools, toys and much more on 114 Mt. Parkway at Floyd - Magoffin at gas station rain or shine May 7,8,9, call 886-8481

For Sale: 3/4 karat diamond ring, Asking \$500. Call 874-4981 or 791-2167.

For Sale: 8 ft' refrigerated deli case, \$1000, small pizza oven, \$400, small juice cooler, \$150, washer & dryer, \$150 pair. Call 886-2367.

For Sale Pole Barn 30 x 50 x 10 only \$5,395 includes paint & metal, plans how to build book slider free delivery call 937-789-0309

For Sale 6 x 12 enclosed trailer with ramp door, has side entry and pressure brakes, great condition asking \$2,300 OBO call days 226-0770 nights 889-9077

For Sale Fishing Cabin with 2 lots at Lake Cumberland 14,000 cash or 16,000 land contract call between 3 and 6 pm 358-4350

For Sale: 8 ft' deli cooler, \$950 and Gas convection oven, \$450. Call 886-2367.

480-Miscellaneous

For Sale Ventless gas fire place cherry wood retails at \$1,400 asking \$600.00 call before 6, 886-0100 after 6 call 886-2416

Wolff Tanning Beds-Financing Available Free Delivery and Setup with in 75 miles of London Bulbs Parts Lotions Wholesale prices call 888-554-0058

Wolff tanning beds affordable convenient, tan at home, payments from \$29.00 per month free color catalog call to day 800-781-5173 www .np.e.t.s.tan .com

For Sale 1 Prom Dresses size 20 80.00 each call 886-9305

Airater Septic System, It has 3 compassator Brand New, Installed but never used call 606-297-1454 asking \$1,800. firm...

For Sale Pole Barn 30 x 50 x 10 only \$5,395 includes paint & metal, plans how to build book slider free delivery call 937-789-0309

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For Sale Log Home located on Potts branch of Abbott approx 2,000 sq.ft of living space 3 bed room 2 baths family room, Formal dining room, Laundry room, Appliances in Kitchen, Oak hard wood and ceramic tile floors, Central vacuum system with security system, 3 car carport covered front porch and a wood deck 2 gas log stoves and 1 wood burning stove please, serious inquires only. call after 5pm 606-886-2238 or 606-434-2828

For Sale Pole Barn 30 x 50 x 10 only \$5,395 includes paint & metal, plans how to build book slider free delivery call 937-789-0309

For Sale like new Furniture for sale, Full Size bed with mattress, box springs, chest ,nightstand four tables and matching sofa and love seat. Will sell entire lot for \$800.00 will not sell separately. Furniture only used 2 months, owner moving, call 874-1447

For Sale: 8 ft' deli cooler, \$950 and Gas convection oven, \$450. Call 886-2367.

Kay's Wallpaper 205 Depot Road Paintsville, Ky Hundreds of Patterns of Wallpaper & Borders All under \$10.00. Open Tues - Fri. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sat. 10 a.m to 3 p.m. Closed Sun. & Mon. 789-8584.

REAL ESTATE

510-Comm. Property

For Rent: Beauty shop equipped with 3 stations, and tanning bed. located 1 mile south of Martin on Route. 122. Call 285-4826 or 285-9112.

Commercial Property for Rent or Lease located between Prestonsburg and Allen Rt. 1428 call 874-2421

530-Houses

For Sale well maintained 7 room house located on Riverside Drive in Prestons-burg. priced @ \$ 57,500. no land contract, call after 5 pm, call 874-9595

House for Sale 3 bed room brick 1 1/2 bath near Prestons-burg call 886-2818

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For Sale like new Furniture for sale, Full Size bed with mattress, box springs, chest ,nightstand four tables and matching sofa and love seat. Will sell entire lot for \$800.00 will not sell separately. Furniture only used 2 months, owner moving, call 874-1447

Save Money - Buy Rebuilding! Appalachian Repair Inc. Phone 606-478-9517 Radiators (new cores - Aluminum Radiators with Plastic Tanks) Starters (Domestic, Import and Heavy Duty) Alternator (Domestic, Import and Heavy Duty)

House for Sale Cave Run Lake 2 bed room 1 bath garaged basement, Appliances and Furnished included cal 606-478-9901

For sale 2 bed room Log Cabin, near Cave Run Lake small kitchen and living area with fireplace 1 acre +, good hunting and fishing 20 minutes from M.S.U. \$25,000.00 Call 606-946-2009

Moving out of state sale, home and 2 acres of land for sale, located at 110 Martin Branch. Road, 1/2 mile below Wayland, Ky. safe neighborhood for more information about this wonderful place to live serious callers only call 358-4053

Available Now foreclosed

Townhouse Apartment for rent: 2 Bed room stove, refrigerator, central h/a, w/d hookup, city limits at US 23 & 80. \$450.00 mo. + utilities and \$250 deposit. 1 year lease, no pets. Call 886-7237 or 237-4758.

Furnished 1 bed room Apt. Central heat & air. Rent starting at \$350 month, + \$300 deposit. Located near HRMC. 889-9717.

Apts. for rent in the Prestonsburg area, call 886-8366

Apt for rent 2 bed room has side yard, garage no, HUD and No Pets located at Harold, Fox Bottom, Quite neighborhood available May 15, call 606-886-9158

Dell Wood Town houses has 1 bed room with carpet and hard wood floors \$500. per month call 606-886-0893

630-Houses

Fire Your Landlord!!! \$\$\$\$ DOWN HOMES! No Rent! Tax Reposs & Bankruptcies! No Credit OK! \$0 to low down! For Listings, 800-501-1777 Ext. 8351

NO RENT!!!! \$0 DOWN HOMES! GOVT & BANK REPOS! NO CREDIT OK. \$0 TO LOW DOWN. FOR LISTINGS, CALL 1-800-501-1777 EXT. 9821

For Rent 1 bed room house very clean, small fenced yard in the Prestonsburg area, Security deposit and references required call 886-9460

For rent in Wheelwright 2 bed room 1 bath accept Hud, \$325. per month call 581-1183

For Rent 3 bed room 2 bath, new home, down town Prestonsburg, Zoned Residential or professional. Starting at \$650.00 call 606-297-6135 or 321-480-1791

For Rent 2 bed room House A/C, W/D, FREG, D/W 4 1/2 miles from Mac Arts also Mobile Home lot for rent call 886-2288

For rent house with washer/dryer options, no utilities call 606-226-2266

For Rent 3 bed room 2 bath new home. Down town Prestonsburg, zoned residential or professional, starting at \$650.00 call 606-297-6136 or 321-481-1791

House For Rent 3 bed room 1 1/2 bath, 1 mile from Mac Arts \$550. per month plus security deposit call 606-478-3333 or 478-2423

NEVER PAY RENT foreclosed homes! buy for only 7,900! for listings call 800-749-8106 extension. B 183

640-Land/Lots

Farm for sale Left fork of Abbott Green Meadow Branch call 886-9083

For sale 1.9 Acres behind Porter School Johnson County, 2 or more houses sites, asking 27,000 call 285-9396

Trailer Site For Rent M&D Trailer Court 100.00 per month, plus utilities, Max size 14 wide trailer call 606-285-1888

Trailer lot for rent on old U.S. 23 between Prestonsburg and Paintsville call 886-9007 or 889-9747

Land for sale 4 acres of land and 3 trailers on Rt.114, \$70,000, serious inquires only call 606-478-9993

650-Mobile Homes

For Rent 2 bed room at Harold and 3 bed room on Chole Road in Pike County, call 478-4597

For Rent 2 bed room Total electric call 606-478-9397 or 478-4748

For Rent small furnished trailer suitable for a couple just off Mt. Parkway off 114 call 886-8724

For rent 2 bed room total electrical call 478-9397 or 424-4748

Trailer for rent \$250 per month on Salt Lick, Route 7 call 358-4524

670-Comm. Property

For Rent Newly Remodeled building in New Allen, suitable for Beauty / barber shop or office call 606 874-2212

For Sale or Lease Large Building Great for offices spaces call 478-5403

SERVICES

705-Construction
ALL TYPES: Remodeling & additions, garages, decks, etc. Also concrete work. Robbie Johnson, Jr., call anytime, 886-8896.

NOTICES

812-Free
FREE PALLET: Can be picked up behind The Floyd County Times.

Be an Angel.
Becoming a Kentucky organ & tissue donor. Sign the back of your driver's license or place a Donor Dot on it & tell your family of your wishes.
For information contact: 1-800-523-3436, or www.trustforlife.org
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