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Volume 76, Issue 44 • 75 Cents

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- Page B1

briefs

Tampering charges dropped

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Charges were dismissed Monday against a Floyd County woman accused of harassing a witness in a sexual abuse case.

District Judge James R. Allen conditionally dismissed the charge against Anita Burke, 41, of Martin, during a pretrial conference in the case Monday.

She was ordered to have no contact with the complaining witness in the case, Janet Owens, of Green Acres, who alleged that Burke threatened her in order to persuade her to drop charges against Larry Owens.

Larry Owens, 49, also of Martin, was charged earlier this year with sexually abusing a minor female. His case was transferred to the grand jury in January after a closed hearing in district court.

Clarification

The Christopher Lawson named in Sunday's story concerning his appearance in court last week is not the same person as Kristofer Lawson, son of Sharon Lawson, of Stephen's Branch.

2 DAY FORECAST

Today
 Rain
High: 58 • Low: 39

Thursday
 Mostly sunny
High: 63 • Low: 39

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

inside

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Council OKs first step of HRMC annexation

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — With three members voting no, the Prestonsburg City Council passed an ordinance Monday attempting to annex Highlands Regional Medical Center and the Consolidated Health Systems properties on Route 321.

Three council members, Don Willis, an HRMC employee, Danny Hamilton, whose wife is an employee, and Kay Ross, each voted no to the annexation attempt. The vote came after a comment by attorney Jimmy Webb, who said there may be "ethical concerns" because of Willis' and Hamilton's affiliation with the hospital.

Willis, who was turned down when he asked that the council postpone the second reading of the ordinance until representatives from the hospital made their comments, said the city is "singling out" the hospital to obtain more taxes. "It's not fair to single out the hospital," Willis said after the meeting. "We're talking about 400-some employees

and, if I'm not mistaken, I believe 34 of those employees live in Prestonsburg."

Kathy Rubado, director of public relations at the hospital who gave a presentation at the meeting, confirmed yesterday that 34 hospital employees live within city limits.

During the meeting, Willis

(See VOTE, page three)



HRMC Public Relations Director Kathy Rubado argued against the annexation prior to Monday evening's vote.

photo by Mary Music



photo by Tom Doty

Commonwealth's Attorney Brent Turner gave a presentation Monday to the Floyd County Chamber of Commerce, detailing the extent of the drug problem, as well as local efforts to combat it.

Prosecutor discusses local drug problem with Chamber

by TOM DOTY
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — The Floyd County Chamber of Commerce met on Monday and was treated to a bird's eye view on area drug trafficking prosecutions by the invited speaker, Commonwealth's Attorney Brent Turner.

Turner gave Chamber members an overview of his office's take on

drug crimes, which included the use of pie charts culled from a statistical analysis that Turner created which details the efforts made by his office and law enforcement to stem the tide of illegal drug activity in Floyd County since he took office in 2000.

Turner noted that voters complained about drugs in the region and that he made it his mandate upon election to listen to the voters. He explained that the problem

was that no one was doing drug buys to effect arrests.

Turner said that Kentucky State Police responded first and was soon followed by the Floyd County Fiscal Court, which funded a task force for the area. Operation UNITE has since taken over the task of arresting drug traffickers and the numbers show no signs of decreasing in 2005.

(See DRUGS, page three)

County gets grant to clean Buckingham

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

SOMERSET — Floyd County received \$125,000 in PRIDE "super grant" funding to clean up an illegal dump that has been an eyesore in Left Beaver for more

than half a century. The announcement came during a press conference Monday at the Center for Rural Development in Somerset. In all, 13 super grants were awarded to various communities in the state, totaling \$1,523,358.

"These funds are an investment

in a better quality of life for the entire community," U.S. Rep. Hal Rogers said. "When we clean up our environment, we make our communities healthier. We make our natural resources more enjoyable for ourselves and more attrac-

(See GRANT, page three)

Search turns up cocaine

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

LITTLE MUD — The Floyd County Sheriff's Department confiscated \$1,500 worth of cocaine at a Honaker residence Monday.

On Tuesday afternoon, Sheriff John K.

(See COCAINE, page three)

Floyd County Sheriff John K. Blackburn and Deputy Jeremy Shepherd displayed 12 grams of cocaine found at a Honaker home this week.



photo by Mary Music

Firing suit against mayor begins

by TOM DOTY
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A wrongful discharge lawsuit brought against Prestonsburg Mayor Jerry Fannin by a former executive director of the Mountain Arts Center began its trial phase Monday, with both ousted director Pat Bradley and Fannin taking the stand during the first two days of trial.

Bradley contends that she was fired by Mayor Fannin because of an alleged inappropriate relationship with an employee, but testified that at no time did she have such a

relationship.

Bradley went on to note that the employee was only put to work full time after he was approved by two other managers who approved of his work. She confessed to forming a friendship but denied any allegations of a sexual relationship.

She did admit to sharing one kiss with the employee in the parking lot of Reno's Restaurant in Pikeville, but that the relationship went no further during her tenure at the MAC.

When questioned about

(See LAWSUIT, page three)

KHSAA disciplines PHS grid program

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

LEXINGTON — On Tuesday, the Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA) released a summary of recent rulings handed down by Commissioner Brigid DeVries. For use of an ineligible player in the sport of football, Prestonsburg High School was fined \$1,000 and will be forced to forfeit games in which the ineligible player participated.

The number of games is pending. The list is to be forwarded to the Association. The ineligible player was ruled to have participated in games during the 2003 season.

Prestonsburg head coach John DeRossett now looks to put the incident behind his football team, a top-10 program in Class 2A each of the past six seasons.

"The football program fol-

(See PHS, page seven)



Allen Central High School sophomores Brittney Waugh, left, and Tiffany Owens will head to Bowling Green Friday to defend their crown in the state Science Olympiad. Last year the duo won the tower building event and they head back this year seeking another championship. Waugh is the daughter of Chris and Angie Waugh, of Allen. Owens is the daughter of Joe and Teresa Owens, of Garrett.

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Odds & Ends

■ **TOKYO** — Loud music apparently came between two neighbors in Japan — almost continuously for more than two years.

Miyoko Kawahara was arrested and charged Monday on suspicion of inflicting injury by blasting loud dance music almost 24 hours a day on a portable stereo she pointed at her neighbor's house.

Kawahara, 58, was pumping up the volume since 2002.

Police launched their investigation after doctors diagnosed the 64-year-old neighbor as having insomnia and headaches attributed to the noise, a Nara prefecture police spokesman said.

Police haven't pinpointed a motive, but the spokesman said the two women had spats over minor issues he declined to

identify.

Under Japanese law, those convicted of inflicting injury on another person face up to 10 years in prison and a fine.

■ **RALEIGH, N.C.** — Harley-Davidson enthusiast Richard Woodworth has an unusual piece of art in his back yard, and it's causing him quite a headache with the city of Raleigh.

It's the gnarled metal of a wrecked motorcycle hanging in a tree.

In February, a city inspector walked on Woodworth's wooded property and decided the dangling metal fell under Raleigh's code definition of a nuisance motor vehicle. But even though Woodworth lives a mile outside the city limits and has posted no-trespassing signs, he falls

under some city code enforcement.

For Woodworth, that meant receiving a city inspections letter telling him to pay a \$100 administrative inspection fee and demanding that he remove the bicycle.

Woodworth was among several residents last week who asked council members to rescind such fees.

For now, Woodworth is considering whether to put up a fence around his art or remove the bike's motor so it's no longer considered a motor vehicle.

"Just because it looks funny doesn't mean we ought to be telling people how to run their lives and what they ought to do on their own property," Regan said. "Just because it's hanging doesn't mean it's going to fall."

■ **VIENNA, Austria** — Sigmund Freud was an excellent high school student, earning top grades in all subjects except — you guessed it — natural sciences, records show.

On Monday, the Vienna high school that Freud graduated from in 1873 handed the Austrian State Archives a book containing files on Freud's and other students' grades.

Freud took his high school exams in July 1873 along with

eight other students. He was one of two given the evaluation "excellent" in the category "ready for university."

His only lower grade, "commendable," was in natural sciences.

Freud, who later became the founder of psychotherapy, received high marks in German and for good behavior. He also did well in religion, Latin, Greek, physics, math, history and geography, and propaedeu-

tics — a subject preparing students for more advanced studies.

The book will be stored along with hundreds of thousands of other files kept at the archive's building on the outskirts of Vienna. The school has since been renamed the Sigmund Freud Gymnasium.

"This is what could be described as an 'archive-tro-

(See **ODDS**, page twelve)

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, April 13, the 103rd day of 2005. There are 262 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On April 13, 1970, Apollo 13, four-fifths of the way to the moon, was crippled when a tank containing liquid oxygen burst. (The astronauts managed to return safely.)

On this date:

■ In 1598, King Henry IV of France endorsed the Edict of Nantes, which granted rights to the Protestant Huguenots. (The edict was abrogated in 1685 by King Louis XIV, who declared France entirely Catholic again.)

■ In 1742, Handel's "Messiah" was first performed publicly, in Dublin, Ireland.

■ In 1743, the third president of the United States, Thomas Jefferson, was born.

■ In 1870, the Metropolitan Museum of Art was founded in New York.

■ In 1943, President Roosevelt dedicated the Jefferson Memorial.

■ In 1958, Van Cliburn became the first American to win the Tchaikovsky International Piano Contest in Moscow.

■ In 1964, Sidney Poitier became the first black performer in a leading role to win an Academy Award, for "Lilies of the Field."

■ In 1965, 16-year-old Lawrence Wallace Bradford Jr. was appointed by New York Republican Jacob Javits to be the

first black page of the U.S. Senate.

■ In 1986, Pope John Paul II visited a Rome synagogue in the first recorded papal visit of its kind.

■ In 1992, the Great Chicago Flood took place as the city's century-old tunnel system and adjacent basements filled with water from the Chicago River.

Ten years ago: A federal appeals court opened the way for Shannon Faulkner to become the first woman to take part in military training at The Citadel. Bob Dornan became the seventh GOP presidential contender.

Five years ago: President Clinton, during a question-and-answer session with newspaper editors, heatedly said, "I'm not ashamed" about being impeached and "I'm not interested" in being pardoned for any alleged crimes in the Monica Lewinsky scandal and Whitewater investigation.

One year ago: Conceding a couple of "tough weeks in Iraq," President Bush signaled he was ready to put more American troops on the front lines and use decisive force if necessary to restore order despite "gut-wrenching" televised images of fallen Americans. Barry Bonds hit his 661st homer, passing Willie Mays to take sole possession of third place on baseball's career list. Swimmer Michael Phelps won the 2003 Sullivan Award as the nation's top amateur athlete.

Today's Birthdays: Movie director Stanley Donen is 81. Actor Don Adams is 79. Former

Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell,

R-Colo., is 72. Actor Lyle Waggoner is 70. Actor Edward Fox is 68. Playwright Lanford Wilson is 68. Actor Paul Sorvino is 66. Movie and TV composer Bill Conti is 63. Rock musician Jack Casady is 61. Actor Tony Dow is 60. Singer Al Green is 59. Actor Ron Perlman is 55. Actor William Sadler is 55. Singer Peabo Bryson is 54. Rock musician Max Weinberg is 54. Bluegrass singer-musician Sam Bush is 53. Rock musician Jimmy Destri (Blondie) is 51. Singer-musician Louis Johnson (The Brothers Johnson) is 50. Comedian Gary Kroeger is 48. Actress Sandra Santiago is 48. Rock musician Joey Mazzola (Sponge) is 44. Chess grandmaster Garry Kasparov is 42. Actress Page Hannah is 41. Rock musician Lisa Umberger is 40. Reggae singer Capleton is 38. Actor Rick Schroder is 35. Singer Lou Bega is 30. Actress Courtney Peldon is 24.

Thought for Today: "Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter." — Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826).

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Floyd County recieved a "super grant" totaling \$125,000 to clean up an illegal dump at Buckingham Mountain. Pictured are Congressman Hal Rogers, Deputy Judge-Executive Brett Davis, Floyd County PRIDE Coordinator Lon May and Richard Thomas, executive director of PRIDE.

Grant

ative to tourists. Ultimately, cleaning up the environment will lead to a better future for our children. I commend the local officials who pursued this funding to improve Floyd County."

The Floyd County Fiscal Court, working with the Floyd County PRIDE Committee, will use the money to clean up the Buckingham Mountaintop dump, located on a hillside that drains into Left Beaver Creek. The illegal dump, which has been active for more than 50 years, is filled with several hundred tons of household garbage, vehicles and appliances.

The PRIDE spring cleanup is currently underway and will continue until April 23.

PRIDE Coordinator Lon May said yesterday that an illegal dump at Town Branch, which is full of tires, will also be cleaned up. Community and individual involvement in this year's cleanup is "looking good," he said.

Several individuals, he said, have signed up to clean roadways in their communities and several

Drugs

The presentation, scheduled for 20 minutes of the allotted hour-long meeting, wound up going through to the meeting's end as members began peppering Turner with questions about drug crimes.

Turner was called upon to explain the difference between drugs with similar sounding names, such as meth and methadone, as well as questions about where the problem is leading. Turner pulled no punches.

"We can arrest and prosecute offenders till the cows come home, but the real problem to kick is the demand for drugs," Turner said.

Turner said that curing addicts is the best long-term solution and applauded efforts like Drug Court, which Turner said "desperately needs funding."

Chamber members in attendance were taken with the notion of the Drug Court program and discussed inviting Judge Eric Hall, who oversees it in Floyd County, to attend a future meeting.

In other news: The Chamber welcomed a new member, Kentucky Mountain Bride.

They also heard an announcement from the Carl D. Perkins Job Corps Center which asked that they identify where

Vote

suggested that the council take a vote of residents living in Branham Village.

"If the residents don't want to pay for it, why should the hospital pay it?" he said before unsuccessfully requesting a motion to table the matter.

Ross and Hamilton both refused to comment on their vote after the meeting.

Prior to the vote, Rubado, accompanied by CEO Bud Warman and Jack Blackwell, chief financial officer, argued against the annexation. Her main topics of concern centered around water, gas, sewage and police services provided to the hospital.

Rubado said the hospital was built outside of city limits in order to provide services to both Floyd and Johnson counties. Rebutting Mayor Fannin's claims that the hospital is receiving city services without paying for them, Rubado argued that the hospital only receives sewer services from the city and that annexation would require "around the clock" police protec-

tion which would increase city costs.

"We believe the medical center is being singled out to increase the city's tax base," Rubado said, "and it's illegal." (Webb later challenged that statement, saying it was not illegal for the city to do so.)

Rubado described the hospital as a "good corporation" that has donated \$165,000 over the past three years to city organizations.

"There are some people seated in this room that have come to me for support and we never turned you down," she said. "There are some people in this room that called and asked us to help with their medical bills, and we never turned them down."

She pointed out that the hospital, a nonprofit organization, could not be taxed and that the employees would bear the brunt on their pay stubs.

Fannin argued that the hospital could "offset" the payroll tax with savings the hospital receives from city supplied water services after the annexation takes place.

Cocaine

Blackburn said his department was processing an arrest warrant for Delores Ann Kidd, 50, charged with cocaine possession and trafficking.

Sgt. Gary Tackett and Deputy Jeremy Shepherd found the cocaine while executing a search warrant relating to a Tennessee burglary.

Also assisting were Detectives Chris King and Randy Mitchell from the Hancock County Sheriff's Department in Tennessee, which requested assistance from Floyd County in a burglary investigation.

Shepherd said yesterday that Kidd is accused of burglarizing her boyfriend's home in Hancock

County while the man was attending his son's wedding.

During the search, officers also confiscated a computer and a telephone, items reportedly stolen from the Tennessee home.

Shepherd said officers found the 12 grams of cocaine while searching for guns which were also reportedly stolen.

The weapons were not recovered, he said.

The cocaine will be sent to the state crime lab for analysis.

Continued from p1

we don't grow out," Fannin said, later pointing out his opinion that "everybody should pay their own part" instead of requiring city residents to bear the brunt in taxes for people who live outside the city limits. People outside city limits who receive city services, he said, should "pay their part, too."

Rubado, who presented a petition with 500 signatures, vowed to fight the annexation.

"Our position remains firm," she said yesterday. "We will challenge this legally. We don't feel that the city council is fully informed of the facts and it's unfortunate because it will lead to a long, expensive legal challenge. Annexation is not good for the city or the hospital."

The hospital is currently preparing an "immediate" legal challenge, she said.

The city must hold two readings of another ordinance before the annexation becomes official.

Lawsuit

whether she had been intimate with a staff person in front of others at the MAC, she replied, "I am not a high school kid with raging hormones."

Fannin was called to the stand Tuesday. A line of questioning about allegations that the Mayor used a city credit card inappropriately were stricken from the record by Judge John Caudill who cited the information as immaterial to the proceedings.

Fannin was also questioned about reasons for firing Bradley which included allega-

Continued from p1

tions that she used city funds to buy alcohol and that she didn't book shows properly. Fannin cited some instances but admitted that he had no documentation on hand to prove the charges.

The defense is scheduled to begin calling its witnesses today.

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Continued from p1

volunteers may be needed so that students at the Center can pitch in for community events.

The Jobs Corps also announced that it is planning to celebrate its 40th anniversary on June 3 with an expo in downtown Prestonsburg. Activities for the expo will be announced

shortly and it will include demonstrations by students of the skills taught at the center.

The Chamber announced that it will have its annual awards banquet on May 3 and that a golf tournament has been scheduled for July 7, with more details to follow.

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<p>2004 Ford Explorer XLT pkg., automatic, 4x4, CD player, pwr. windows, pwr. locks. 3rd Row Seat!</p>	<p>2004 Toyota Camry LE pkg., pwr. windows, pwr. locks, keyless remote, low miles. Like New!</p>	<p>2003 Mitsubishi Diamante LS pkg., 4-door, leather, CD player, alloy wheels, low miles. Local Trade!</p>
<p>2004 Ford Explorer XLT pkg., automatic, 4x4, CD player, pwr. windows, pwr. locks. 3rd Row Seat!</p>	<p>2000 Mitsubishi Montero Sport: LS pkg., 4-dr., auto., pwr. windows & locks, alloy wheels. 4x4!</p>	<p>2003 Mitsubishi Eclipse GT, V-6, automatic, alloy wheels, CD, loaded. Convertible!</p>

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Viewpoint

Amendment 1

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Worth Repeating ...

"Speak out in acts; the time for words has passed, and only deeds will suffice."

— John Greenleaf Whittier

Guest View

The taste of pork

Some platters of D.C.-fed pork are easy targets for bad reviews. To attack others can make the critics look bad.

It might be well for taxpayer watchdogs such as Citizens Against Government Waste to consider that before firing unnuanced rhetorical bazooka blasts at Congress and at federal spending that they don't seem to fully understand.

The Washington-based group has released its annual "Pig Book," listing nearly 14,000 examples of fiscal 2005 projects that meet its definition of pork-barrel spending.

Without them, the group says, a projected \$427 billion deficit would be \$27.3 billion smaller. Since 1991, a press release declares, it has found \$212 billion in spending it thinks the taxpayers ought not have been stuck with.

President Tom Schatz said "members of Congress are engaging in the worst form of blatant self-interest — larding the budget with pork for home districts and states."

But let's take a good look at how the pigs are identified. It's important to do that even when one is generally unhappy, as this editorial page has been, with the blatant flouting of fiscal discipline on Capitol Hill.

Citizens Against Government Waste lists a project in the Pig Book if it meets any one of seven criteria:

- The item was requested by the Senate or the House, but not both.
- It was not specifically authorized earlier in the budget process.
- It didn't have to compete with other projects for aid.
- The president didn't ask for it.
- It greatly exceeds either the president's budget request or the funding it got the previous year.
- It didn't face a congressional hearing.
- It serves only a local or special interest.

The criteria make some useful points but miss others. And they leave the audience at the edge of the federal feed troughs, since the Pig Book targets only about 1 percent of a \$2.5 trillion budget.

Apparently, the organization doesn't see any pork in the vast bulk sausage of government spending — not deep within entitlements nor in dubious items that a president and Congress mutually championed.

Citizens Against Government Waste's prime target is "earmarking," by which lawmakers and congressional leaders write specific projects on their constituents' wish lists into those massive budget bills.

Earmarks thus often escape scrutiny by the public and even the full Congress. They can override judgments by federal agencies or congressional committees. Clearly, this kind of fiscal game-playing should be carefully scrutinized.

That scrutiny would reveal bad apples: It's a no-brainer to denounce a \$72,750 award to the Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation (named for the father of baseball "iron man" Cal Ripken Jr.) to help build a teeny replica of the Baltimore Orioles' ballpark so kids can imagine playing in the majors.

But it's much harder — and, we believe, should be impossible — to say that a combined \$4 million in earmarks for Nebraska and Iowa to fight the scourge of methamphetamine is pork. Or that there's no good purpose to federal aid to highways, the environment, housing, agriculture, education, etc.

The scrutiny should distinguish among bad deals that should be denied, "nice to haves" that should take a back seat to basic human needs in tight fiscal times and vital government aid for worthy local projects.

The fact that lawmakers resort to earmarks so routinely certainly demonstrates — again — that the federal budget process is broken.

But by indiscriminately denouncing projects with varying levels of justification, the watchdogs risk barking so shrilly that the satisfied customers will plug their ears.

— Omaha World-Herald



Capitol Ideas

Center finds quality of life improving, still lagging

by MARK R. CHELLGREN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — The quality of life in Kentucky was better in 2001 than it was in 1990, yet remains well behind most of the rest of the nation.

At least that's the conclusion drawn from an index created by the Kentucky Long-Term Policy Research Center to compare Kentucky to itself and the other states.

There are a host of surveys that compare the states on a variety of individual topics, from crime rates to educational attainment and poverty to environmental quality. The center combined results from 26 areas to create its own index.

Created by the General Assembly in 1992, the center acts as something of a think tank for the legislative branch. "To bring a broader context to the decision-making process," as it says in the center's description of its mission.

Each week, it seems, another study is released that looks at individual topics. "What we were trying to do is say, 'Where does Kentucky stand overall?'" said Michael Childress, executive director of the center.

Near the back of the line, was the answer.

In 1990, Kentucky ranked 46th among the 50 states. Eleven years later,

it had risen to 40th.

The topics were grouped into five broad categories — communities, education, economy, environment and government. The individual topics covered some obvious items and some not so obvious.

Home ownership rates, teen birth rates, smoking and charitable contributions were among the topics considered in community ratings. High school and college attainment along with ACT scores and 8th grade math results comprised the education segment.

Per capita income, poverty levels, patents, Internet access and business creations were among the topics that made up the section on the economy.

Air and water quality and toxic releases were considered in the environment segment.

Voter participation rates, the number of residents served per 100 state and local government employees and the number of women in the state legislature were the three items that went into the government section.

Childress said the topic of women in the General Assembly was chosen to try to reflect the level of diversity and inclusiveness. Coincidentally, that is a figure where Kentucky consistently ranks among the lowest in the nation.

The baseline year of 1990 was picked

because data were easily available and it was a watershed time with the passage of the Education Reform Act.

While individual items within the five groups were weighted differently, each of the five groups was given equal consideration in the overall index.

The index is contained within the center's "Visioning Kentucky's Future: Measures and Milestones 2004" publication.

Childress said the center is working on a revision of the index that will add five or six new topics to broaden the scope of the examination, including obesity, the arts, worker productivity and transportation infrastructure.

"These things need to be included and we'll see what difference it makes," Childress said.

Some things don't change.

The underlying message, as it has been for so many years and in so many studies, is that the state's historically woeful education is the determining factor in whether Kentucky moves forward or stays stagnant while the rest of the nation and the world rush onward.

"Education really is the tap root," Childress said.

Mark R. Chellgren is the Frankfort correspondent for The Associated Press.

Letters

Welcome home

I would like to take a moment to say a big "Welcome home, Nick," to my cousin John Nicholas Ratliff. He has

spent two tours in Iraq for the USMC.

I would like to say a special thank you for being the man you are and defending your country, your family and your life while serving you time in the military. The world would be a much better place if we had more men like you.

I'm very glad to know you're home

and safe. God bless the work you have done and any other missions you set out for in life. You are my cousin by blood, my brother in heart and soul. I love you Nick.

Michelle Ratliff
Lexington

Parkinson's disease can affect anyone

Hello. My name is Wendy Schindler. I am 30 years old and I have been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease.

A couple of years ago I noticed a slight but steady tremor in my right hand. After several months, I decided to see a neurologist. I told him what was going on with my hand and he determined that perhaps nerve damage might have occurred and that the tremors were something that I would have to endure, but

that there were no serious, long-term concerns.

Throughout the next year, the shaking became a little worse. In order to keep others from noticing, I would hold on to something or cross my arms. Within a few months, the tremors started into my left hand and they were getting harder to hide. Within the

last two years, the tremors, though still somewhat controllable, have spread throughout my body.

Last September while at work, I nearly dropped a pan of rolls I had just taken out of the oven with my right hand. My first reaction was to try to

(See LETTERS, page five)

Letter Guidelines

Letters to the Editor are welcomed by The Floyd County Times.

In accordance with our editorial page policy, all letters must include the signature, address and telephone number of the author.

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

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

The Times

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City, Mountain Comp partner on recovery center

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — City council members are backing a plan to bring a drug recovery center to property on Stonecrest.

The council voted Monday to authorize filing a 2005 grant application for the facility, which is being proposed by Mountain Comprehensive Care.

"We're guardedly optimistic," said Scott Walker, director of Substance Abuse Services at MCC, yesterday.

Walker, who presented the application at the city council meeting Monday, says MCC is also working to obtain additional funding for the project.

First Commonwealth Bank has already submitted a \$500,000 loan request to the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati for the construction of the facility, Walker said, and MCC is also requesting funding from the Kentucky Housing Authority, which could provide

Section 8 long-term housing vouchers (program based) for single occupancy apartments at the facility. MCC may also attempt to gain funding from the Department of Corrections, he said.

The proposal is in compliance with the Governor's "Recovery Kentucky" initiative. Applications for funding are already filed and revisions are being made to some of them, Walker said.

The governor's initiative aims to bring a maximum of 10 drug treatment or recovery facilities across the state, two in each congressional district. Walker said Pathways Inc., a sister organization to MCC, has also proposed constructing a men's facility near Morehead.

Walker said funding award announcements are expected between June 1 through June 15 and that another round of applications will go through in September. It is possible, he said, that federal changes to housing laws may prevent MCC

from continuing with the project.

If, however, funding is provided, Walker said he expects a groundbreaking in August and for the facility to be completed within 12 months, tentatively.

The city has donated land, "between five and six acres" on the Stonecrest mountaintop, to MCC for the facility, Mayor Jerry Fannin announced at the meeting. The land lies outside of the subdivision at Stonecrest. Walker said MCC has a 7-to-10-year plan of what they "envision" for the program, which is aimed to benefit women in the area.

"Our intent, besides providing 12 to 15 new jobs initially, is to provide a true economic impact on the city, the county and the region," he said.

Walker, pointing out that the Layne House Substance Abuse Center in Prestonsburg is currently treating 13 women and has a waiting list for 96, says the facility will house at least 60 women during its first year of

operation and could treat up to 100 after that.

"This is a long-term recovery program," he said. "Treatment facilities teach people how to change. Recovery programs immerse them in a new lifestyle. I guess you could say that treatment is like taking them swimming and with recovery, you throw them in the pool. It may be a bad analogy, but you understand what I'm saying."

Walker explained that the recovery center would "complement" already existing treatment centers like the Layne House. Residents completing the program but still needing assistance could transfer to the long-term recovery center for up to two years, he said, by using program-based vouchers from the Floyd County Housing Authority.

The application backed by council members requests a \$900,000 (\$300,000 a year for three years) Community Development Block Grant from the State Department of Local

Government.

During the meeting, council members also:

■ Gave final approval, by a 5-3 vote, to Ordinance 5-2005, accepting the city's attempt to annex Highlands Regional Medical Center and the Consolidated Health Systems properties.

■ Unanimously approved Ordinance 6-2005, adopting a personnel and pay classification plan for city employees.

■ Unanimously approved Ordinance 7-2005, granting an electric franchise to Kentucky Power Company, doing business as American Electric Power.

■ Passed a motion approving recommendations from the traffic committee to enforce two-hour parking regulations on Court Street and to stripe one side of street on Riverside to Brock McVey for parking.

■ Donna Wells reported on behalf of the finance committee that Archer Park accepted a \$18,500 bid from Hi Tech

Construction to refinish the floor of the skating rink. The bid comes with a five-year warranty, Fannin said. Gorman Collins asked if they could continue to leave bids open. Fannin and Moore said bids have been open to "private parties," but did not explain what those bids were for.

■ Collins said the golf committee is interviewing eight people for the head pro position at Stonecrest. The personnel committee, he said, would present three recommendations.

■ Held first reading of ordinance 8-2005, updating the code of ordinance procedures for the city.

■ Passed a motion to donate \$2,000 to the Floyd County Rescue Squad for its annual fundraising fishing tournament. Tim Cooley said the Rescue Squad is working to improve its alliance with city offices. "We have a massive rescue operation here when you get people together to help people," he said.

Woman claims mining forced her out of home, into tool shed

by ROGER ALFORD
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MARTIN — A woman who says she had to live in a tool shed for nearly two years because mining activity drove her out of her mobile home goes to court next month in her lawsuit against a coal company.

Beatrice Turner, 65, said she had no choice but to move out because mining turned her lawn into a bog and filled her home with mold that made her sick.

"Oh, mercy. Many nights I've cried all night long over this," said Turner, the widow of a United Baptist minister. "I couldn't treat a dog or a cat the way I've been treated."

In a trial set to begin May 9, Turner will seek an unspecified amount of damages from the Koch Victory division of C. Reiss Coal Co. of Richlands, Va. Her attorney estimates the cost of repairing the mobile home and property at more than \$66,000.

Martin Osborne, a Prestonsburg attorney representing the coal company, said in a legal brief that Turner didn't live on the property at the time the mining was done. Instead, Osborne said she and her late husband bought the property after it was mined and excavated a spot for the mobile home, and thereby caused the damage.

Osborne said in the court

documents that C. Reiss Coal owes Turner nothing, and filed a counterclaim, asking that she be ordered to reimburse the company its expenses in repairing damage to the land caused by Turner. Osborne didn't return phone calls Tuesday. A receptionist said he was out of the office and unavailable for comment.

The Kentucky Division of Mine Reclamation and Enforcement had ordered the coal company to make repairs on the property in early 2003 after a landslide occurred above Turner's home. Osborne said the company made the necessary repairs.

Turner said their repair work allowed water to accumulate beneath the mobile

home, which led to the growth of mold inside.

Dr. Terry Wright, in a statement that's now part of the case file, said Turner developed respiratory problems because of the mold and had to be hospitalized. Wright advised her to move out.

Turner decided the tool shed was her best option. She took all her late husband's tools and moved them into her bedroom. Then she moved her bedroom furniture, air conditioner, heater and breathing machine into the 8-by-12-foot shed.

"I didn't want to do this," she said. "This was my last resort."

The first winter, before Turner installed insulation and paneling, nights were

cold, she said.

"Many nights, I slept with a hooded jacket on," she said.

Now, Turner said her biggest concern is about another slide that has begun to form on the hillside above her mobile home.

Turner wants Koch Victory to come back and make repairs. However, state regulators say the company has met all its obligations in reclaiming the property and no longer holds the company responsible.

Amanda Moore, an attorney for Appalachian Citizens

Law Center in Prestonsburg, said the state may have released Koch Victory from its obligations too soon.

"Ms. Turner has spent two years suffering because of problems brought on by the coal company and the state," Moore said.

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Letters

steady the pan with my left hand so the rolls wouldn't fall off of the pan. As a result, I suffered second-degree burns on my left hand.

I went to see my family doctor. She noticed the shaking in my hands and I told her what the neurologist had said. She sent me to see a neurologist in Lexington.

I will never forget that first appointment with Dr. Blake. He started the exam by asking me to perform several motor skills tests. He timed me as I performed various functions such as walking down a hall in his office and getting out of a chair. He left the room and returned with a pink box. It was a trial prescription for something called, Mirapex. I feared what he was about to suggest. Between my last appointment with my family doctor and this day, the word "Parkinson's" had come up a time or two. Then Dr. Blake said it:

"Wendy, my concern is that what you have is Parkinson's disease."

Upon hearing that, my heart fell to the floor. He said that he wanted a complete blood sample on me as well as a brain scan with and without dye in order to rule out tumors. I was to have the results of these tests sent to him and I was scheduled to see him again in six weeks.

I was by this time convinced that I had Parkinson's disease. I started to get depressed. I tried to find a support group in this area. The closest I could find was in Lexington. I began to feel lonely and more depressed. It seemed that nobody cared or knew anything about this disease.

I had to quit work. The disease is causing me to lose my balance. I fell five times between October and January. I am learning to focus more on my balance so that I don't fall, but I never thought I would have to consider something like that. I would lose my grasp on things and drop them. I cried often, uncontrollably at times.

I had all of the testing complete and went back to Lexington six weeks later. It was confirmed that there were

no tumors. The blood work came back okay, which confirmed that I had Parkinson's disease. This depressed me even more.

I didn't know how I was going to get through this. I did not and still do not want to be a burden on my family. I have two small girls and I want to be able to see and help them get ready for their proms. I also want to be there for them when they get married. That's why I am trying to raise awareness to this disease.

Every time someone finds out that I have Parkinson's disease, they always say, "I thought that was an old person's disease." This is not an

old person's disease. Parkinson's disease knows no age or race. It can affect anyone.

My concern now is to raise awareness, so that some other person, young or old, who might be dealing with tremors or some other symptom of this disease might understand that it is not just something to endure. There are medications that can help control the symptoms.

There could come a cure in my lifetime. Maybe not. That's why we need as much financial support as we can obtain. In any case, every person needs to become familiar with Parkinson's disease.

April is Parkinson's

Awareness month. Please wear a silver ribbon to show support for Parkinson's patients and raise the awareness that this disease could come into anyone's life.

Donations for research may be made to Parkinson's Disease Foundation, (800) 457-6676.

"Pennies for Parkinson's" is going on through the month of April. You can make donations at any Family Bank location.

Please attend our very first support group meeting April 16, 6 p.m., at First Baptist Church in Pikeville. For more information, call (606) 478-2486 and ask for Wendy.

Wendy Schindler
Betsy Layne

Continued from p4

FLOYD COUNTY SHERIFF DEPARTMENT
JOHN K. BLACKBURN, SHERIFF
P.O. BOX 152
PRESTONSBURG, KY 41653
PHONE 886-6171/6711
TOLL FREE 1-800-834-5430
FAX # (606) 886-7973
TAX DEPARTMENT (606) 886-8965

TAXPAYER'S NOTICE

We are currently collecting 2004 Unmined Coal and Gas and Oil Taxes. The collection schedule is as follows:

2% Discount	4/1-30/05
Face Amount	5/1-31/05
5% Penalty	6/1-30/05
21% Penalty	Thereafter

The 2004 Omitted Unmined Coal Taxes, schedule is as follows:

Face Amount	4/1-5/31/05
21% Penalty	Thereafter

Please be sure to bring or mail your tax bill when making payment. The tax bill is needed to give you faster service. When paying by mail, please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope if you want a receipt. If you have any questions concerning your taxes, you may call my office at 886-8965.

Sheriff John K. Blackburn, Floyd County

You're invited to an Open House

Our Lady of the Way Hospital's
Betsy Layne Clinic

(Unicourt Complex — Stanville)

Wednesday, April 20, 2005 — 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Also, come meet

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OLW recognizes good citizenship

MARTIN — When you ask young children what they like to do on spring break, the common answers are sleep, visit the beach or just "hang out." Rarely do you find work as one of the things they want to do, but it was exactly what Mary Ann Zeller, Mallory Zeller, Brittany Jacobs and Charlotte Jacobs chose to do.

No, they did not work to earn money, but rather to perform a good deed for their community. They spent their spring break in Martin with their grandparents, Eugene and Lou Ann Hutchinson, who are neighbors of Our Lady of the Way Hospital. Unsolicited, the young girls swept Our Lady of the Way Hospital Mountain View Clinic's parking lot.

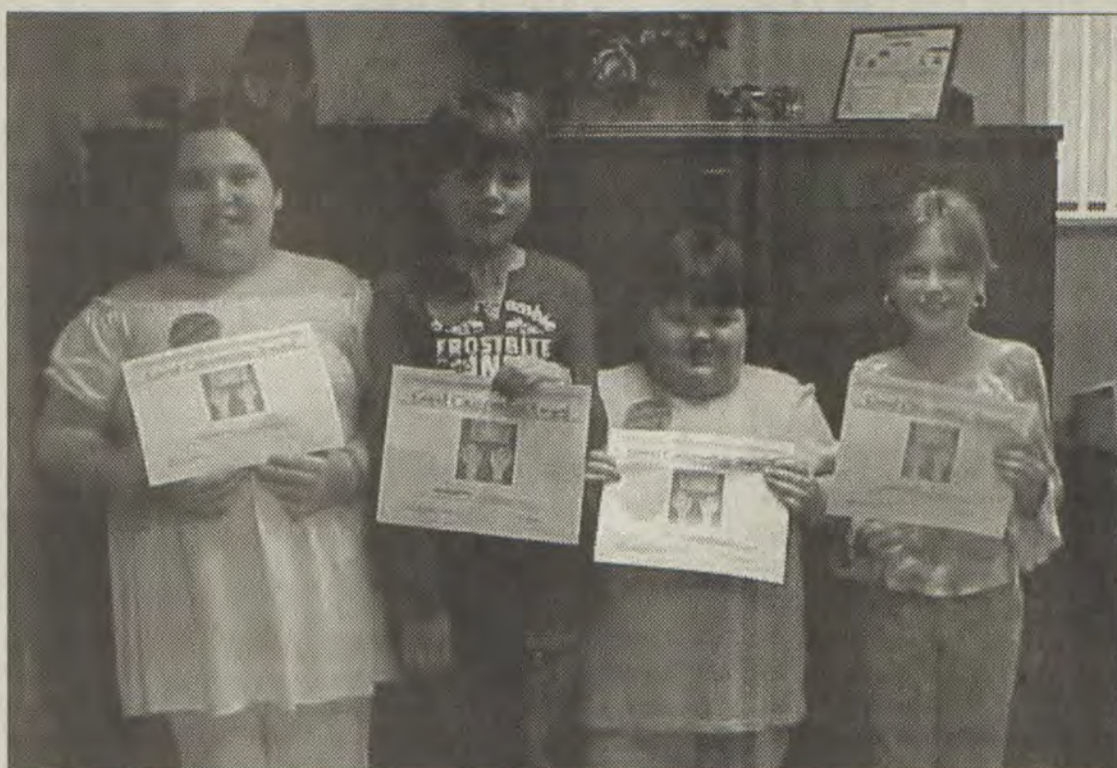
Also, as if sweeping the parking lot were not enough, the young ladies were also entrepreneurs, selling lemonade to those who passed by. Then they insisted on donating the money to Our Lady of the Way Hospital's Tsunami Victims Fund.

Their good citizenship did not go unnoticed. Billie Turner, Our Lady of the Way

Hospital's vice president of clinical operations, gave each a small gift and a "Good Citizenship Award."

"It was very touching to see the young girls sweeping the parking lot," said Turner. "It was even more touching when

they wanted to donate the money they had made selling lemonade to the hospital's Tsunami Victims Fund."



Mary Ann Zeller, Mallory Zeller, Brittany Jacobs and Charlotte Jacobs received good citizen awards from Our Lady of the Way Hospital after performing good deeds for the community. While the girls spent spring break visiting their grandparents, who live near the hospital, they voluntarily swept OLW's Mountain View Clinic parking lot, then donated the proceeds of their lemonade stand to the hospital's Tsunami Victims Fund.

PHS

lowed the eligibility guidelines as does every other program at Prestonsburg High School," DeRossett said in a statement issued Tuesday afternoon. "These guidelines were based upon information we were provided to determine athletic eligibility. The rules were ambiguous and, unlike as previously alleged by other news reports, we did not intentionally play any ineligible player."

Prestonsburg finished 7-5 during the 2003 season.

In his statement, DeRossett, now the all-time winningest football coach in PHS history, went on to accept the penalties handed down and vowed not to allow his football program to go through another similar situation. The

investigation into the alleged ineligible player cast a black cloud over the Blackcat football program for much of the 2004 season.

"Indeed, much of the responsibility for determining eligibility is done outside of the football program," DeRossett added. "In any case, we have amended our procedures so this situation will not occur again."

"The previously reported allegations, which were untrue, in fact arose when we refused to cheat. Certain parents then made unfounded accusations that I believed to be pretty vindictive. Our program has always been based on integrity and will continue to do so in the future. I want to

thank our supporters for their understanding and continued support through this situation."

In all, eight schools were disciplined. Prestonsburg was one of two football teams to receive penalties. State power Fort Thomas Highlands, the reigning Class 3A champion, was reprimanded for the use of an ineligible player during its 2004 state championship season. Ironically, the Highlands player in question did not play in December 2004 when the Bluebirds captured the Class 3A title.

The Cordia girls' basketball program, through violation of Bylaw 11 (Practice of Sportsmanship) was placed on probation through the 2005-06

season and fined \$500. The Cordia student-athlete in violation will have to sit out the first varsity contest in 2005-06. In addition, Cordia's head coach was suspended for first two regular season contests.

Per the KHSAA Due Process Procedure, rulings by the Commissioner may be appealed. However, DeRossett and Prestonsburg High officials said they feel it best to accept the ruling and move on and past the incident.

Continued from p1

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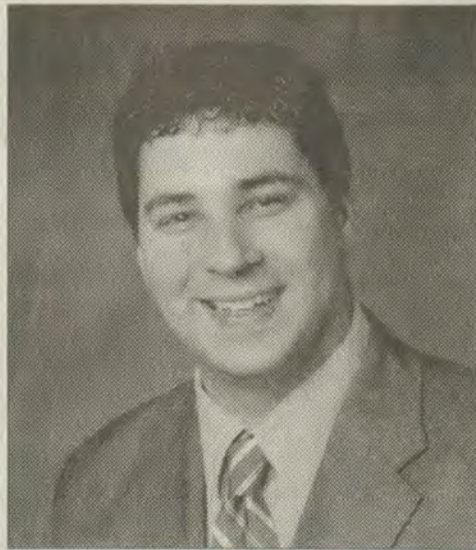
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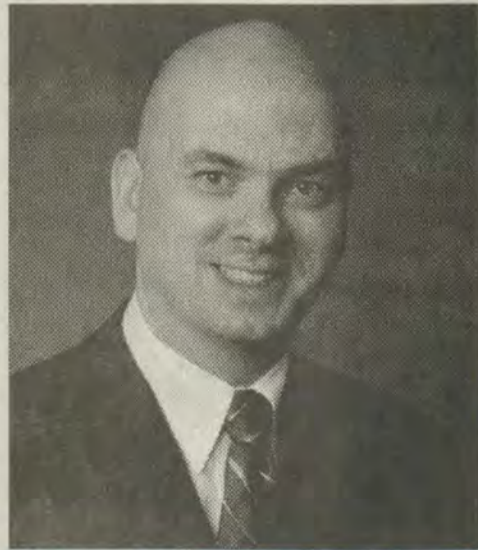
Cinema One • PG-13 HELD OVER MISS CONGENIALITY 2 Mon.-Sun. 7:00-9:20; Fri. (4:20), 7:00-9:20; Sat.-Sun. (2:00-4:20), 7:00-9:20	Cinema Six • PG-13 HELD OVER GUESS WHO Mon.-Sun. 7:15-9:25; Fri. (4:25), 7:15-9:25; Sat.-Sun. (2:15-4:25), 7:15-9:25
Cinema Two • R HELD OVER SIN CITY Mon.-Sun. 6:45-9:15; Fri. (4:15), 6:45-9:15; Sat.-Sun. (1:30-4:15), 6:45-9:15	Cinema Seven • PG-13 HELD OVER FEVER PITCH Mon.-Sun. 7:00-9:20; Fri. (4:20), 7:00-9:20; Sat.-Sun. (2:00-4:20), 7:00-9:20
Cinema Three • PG HELD OVER THE PACIFIER Mon.-Sun. 7:15-9:25; Fri. (4:25), 7:15-9:25; Sat.-Sun. (2:15-4:25), 7:15-9:25	Cinema Eight • R OPENS FRI. 4/15/05 THE AMITYVILLE HORROR Mon.-Sun. 7:15-9:25; Fri. (4:25), 7:15-9:25; Sat.-Sun. (2:15-4:25), 7:15-9:25
Cinema Four • PG-13 HELD OVER THE RING 2 Mon.-Sun. 6:50-9:20; Fri. (4:20), 6:50-9:20; Sat.-Sun. (1:50-4:20), 6:50-9:20	Cinema Nine • PG-13 HELD OVER SAHARA Mon.-Sun. 6:50-9:20; Fri. (4:20), 6:50-9:20; Sat.-Sun. (1:50-4:20), 6:50-9:20
Cinema Five • PG-13 HELD OVER BEAUTY SHOP Mon.-Sun. 7:05-9:15; Fri. (4:15), 7:05-9:15; Sat.-Sun. (2:05-4:15), 7:05-9:15	Cinema Ten • PG HELD OVER ROBOTS Mon.-Sun. 7:00-9:10; Fri. (4:10), 7:00-9:10; Sat.-Sun. (2:00-4:10), 7:00-9:10

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Dr. Jeff Potter

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16 oz. btl. HomeBest Alcohol or Peroxide 25¢	 Foodland Tomato Sauce 15 oz. can 25¢	 Foodland Pork & Beans 15 oz. can 25¢

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

Shelton-McSurley reunion

A meeting will be held Saturday, April 16th, at the home of Eddie Shelton. Everyone interested is urged to attend the meeting. For more information, contact Pat Shelton at 859-421-8755. The reunion will be held Saturday, June 11th, at Minnie Ball Park, beginning at 9 a.m.

A Day in the Park Scheduled, April 16

The Big Sandy Family Caregiver Program and the Johnson County Grandparent Support Group announce "A Day in the Park" for grandparents and their grandchildren. This event is free and will be held April 16, at the Paintsville Recreation Center, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. There will be games for all ages, food and door prizes. All grandparents and grandchildren are welcome to attend. For more information, contact Melissa King at 1-800-737-2723.

Pam Shingler to address Jenny Wiley 3528, AARP

Pam Shingler, fund-raising director and producer at WMMT-FM public community radio and a part of Appalshop, in Whitesburg, will be the guest speaker at Jenny Wiley Chapter No. 3528, AARP, at the meeting to be held Friday, April 15, at the Presbyterian Church, Prestonsburg. The installation of officers will also be conducted at this time. All members and friends are encouraged to attend.

PHS Class of '84

The Prestonsburg High School Class of 1984 is seeking members of the class for a 20/21st year reunion, scheduled to be held this coming July. If you are, or if you know of, a former classmate, please email to: phs_class_of_1984@yahoo.com, or call 606-638-3941.

Show some PRIDE!!

The PRIDE spring clean-up will take place April 9-23 in the City of Prestonsburg. The city will pick up one dump truck load of trash per household. Additional loads will be picked up according to the city's regular pick-up fee. Pick-ups called in during this time only will be on the PRIDE clean-up list. City residents may arrange a clean-up, or volunteer their services, by calling 886-2335. The Floyd County PRIDE, Inc. is participating in this year's PRIDE clean-up from April 9-23. Volunteers are needed. Supplies will be made available. To volunteer your organization or business, call 886-0498 to register.

Spring Piano Recital

Students of David Leslie will present their annual Spring Recital on April 24, at 5:30 p.m., at the First Presbyterian Church of Pikeville. A reception will follow. The public is cordially invited to attend. For more information, call 432-0633.

Reunion

First Four Mile Reunion of Knott County will be held on Saturday, May 28, at 10 a.m., at the Corps Recreation area, Jenny Wiley State Park, Shelter #2. Bring covered dish, table service, pictures, etc. All welcome to attend.

BLHS High School Reunion

Classes of the 1930's, 1940's, 1950's and 1960's. To be held Saturday, June 25. For info., call Joe Hinchman at 874-2821 or Marvin Williamson at 478-3310.

BLHS Class of 1955

Reunion to be held on Friday, June 24 and Saturday, June 25. For information, call Marvin Williamson at 478-3310 or Gene Davis at 874-2873.

Senior Expo

Sponsored by HRMC and area agencies. To be held May 4, at the Jenny Wiley State Park's Stumbo Convention Center. For those age 55 and older. Broad range of topics including Preventing Exploitation, Nutrition, Aging and Gardening Tips. For more info., contact Melissa Vance, Dir. of Comm. Dev. at HRMC, at 886-7468.

HRMC Comm. Calendar - April

•April 23 - Healthy Living with Diabetes, Meeting Place A & B, Highlands Medical Office Bldg., 9-11:30 a.m. For more information, call 886-7424.

Attention: BLHS Class of '85

It's been 20 years! Reunion is being planned. If you are a classmate, or if you know of a classmate's whereabouts, please email addresses to Debbie Hall Parsons or Gwen Cecil at: dochallparsons@charter.net.

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.

Age 55 or older?

If so, and you are also unemployed, and would like to make money while being trained in skills that will help you gain employment, or become re-employed, contact Bill Little, Senior Community Service Employment Program, Big Sandy Area Development District, at 886-2374. "Area Employers are Looking for Dependable Workers like YOU!"

External Diploma Program

Kentucky residents age 25 and older can earn a high school diploma by demonstrating skills learned on the job or in raising a family. Flexible scheduling is provided and confidentiality maintained. Classes are held at the Carl D. Perkins Rehabilitation Center, in Thelma, Mon. thru Fri., with evening classes on Thursday,

from 4:30-8:30. Contact Andy Jones at 800-443-2187, ext. 186, or Linda Bell, at ext. 160 to make an appointment.

Floyd County Extension Homemaker Club Meetings

Allen: 1st Monday, 11 a.m., at Christ United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

Cliffside/Prestonsburg: 3rd Wednesday, 12:30 p.m., at Cliffside Community Room.

David: 1st Monday, 1 p.m., at St. Vincent's Mission.

Martin: 1st Tuesday, 6 p.m., Martin Church of Christ.

Evening Quilt Group: 4th Thursday, 6 p.m., Extension Office.

Maytown: 3rd Thursday, 6 p.m., Maytown First Baptist Church.

Nimble Thimble Quilt Guild: 1st/3rd Wednesdays, 10 a.m., Extension Office.

Prestonsburg: 2nd Tuesday, 1:30 p.m., Extension Office.

South Prestonsburg: 3rd Tuesday, 7 p.m., Home of members (call 886-2668 for info.)

"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 6 p.m. For more info., call Dana Caudill at 886-0265, or Jane Bond at FCHD.

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

ation.

•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.

•US TOO! Prostate Cancer Survivors Support Group - For all men with prostate cancer and their families. Group meets the 3rd Thursday of each month, at 6 p.m., at the Ramada Inn, Paintsville.

•Community Weight Loss Support Group - Meets Thursday's at 6:30 p.m., at the Martin Community Center. 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."

•Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children - Free, confidential assistance for unplanned pregnancy concerns. Talk with someone who cares about you and your baby. Call 1-800-928-5242.

•Disabled? - You may be eligible for grant money to assist in your daily living. For an application or more information, call 886-4326.

•A.S.K. (Adoption Support for Kentucky) - Support group for all adoptive parents (public, pri-

vate, international, and kinship care), foster parents and all others interested in adoption. To be held the first Monday of each month, at the Department for Community Based Services office, 1009 North Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, from 6-8 p.m. Childcare will not be provided. For more information, contact Dedra Slone, adoptive parent liaison, at 432-4110 or 422-7927, or email to: doslone@eastky.net.

•PARENTS! - Contact the Big Sandy Area Community Action Program, Inc. to find out about child care services in your area, the STARS for KIDS NOW licensing standards program, and how you can earn an income by staying home with your own children while caring for the children of others. Find out more by calling Cheryl Endicott at 886-1280, or 888-872-7227 (toll free).

•East Kentucky S.T.A.R.S. Homeschoolers - Will hold monthly meetings at the Paintsville Recreation Center. For more information, call Trudy at 889-9333, or 297-5147. Everyone welcome.

•Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Each Wednesday, from 7-8 p.m., in the Atrium Conference Room, 2nd floor, May Tower, Pikeville Methodist Hospital. For more info., contact Chris Cook at 606-433-1119 or christophercook@hotmail.com.

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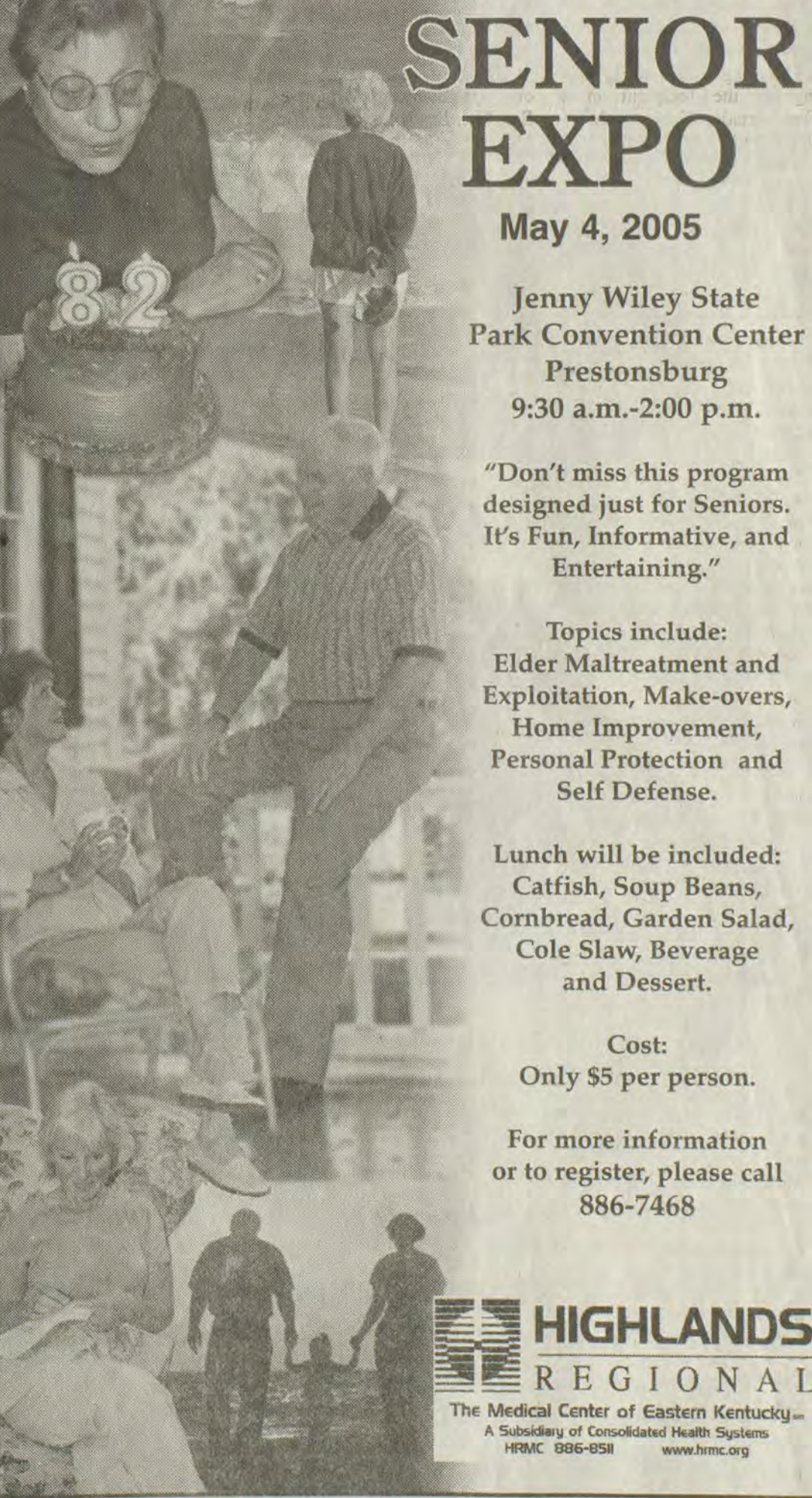
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BSCTC students receive awards during honors night

PAINTSVILLE — The Mayo Auditorium was the site of the 2005 Big Sandy Community and Technical College Honors' Night celebration. Students, accompanied by family and friends, gathered for 2004-2005 Outstanding Achievement Honors.

President's list honorees were recognized for academic excellence for full-time students who have earned an overall semester grade-point average of 4.0. Dean's list

honorees were recognized for academic excellence for full-time students who have earned an overall semester grade-point average of 3.5 or higher in courses numbered 100 or above.

Members of Who's Who in American and Junior Colleges were also honored. Each fall, BSCTC submits a list of academically outstanding students for recognition by Who's Who in American and Junior Colleges, which recognizes

the academic excellence of sophomore-status students.

Students belonging to Phi Theta Kappa also received recognition. Phi Theta Kappa is an honor society of two-year community and junior colleges. Phi Theta Kappa members must have completed 12 credit hours, be currently enrolled and have achieved a 3.5 grade point average.

National Technical Honor Society members were also honored. Students who are members of this group have exhibited outstanding achievement in a technical field.

The speaker for the evening was Lula Bowling, director of the Morehead State University at

Prestonsburg. In an speech entitled, "To be or not to be ..." she challenged the students to be the best they could be, to not settle for less than they can achieve and to strive for excellence always.

Dr. George D. Edwards, BSCTC president, along with Dr. Nancy Johnson, BSCTC provost, congratulated the students and presented each honoree with certificates of achievement and excellence.

Vocalist Louanna Calhoun, a member of the BSCTC student body and the Big Sandy Singers, provided entertainment. Calhoun sang a rendition of "I Hope You Dance."

A reception followed the ceremony in the auditorium lobby.



photo by Ralph B. Davit
Charles Hammond, left, of Bull Creek, was the winner of a four-wheel all-terrain vehicle, given away by Foodland of Prestonsburg. He is shown receiving his prize from Foodland manager JR Curtis.

Wagner-Justice named chief district engineer for Highway District 10

JACKSON — Governor Ernie Fletcher and acting Transportation Cabinet Secretary Bill Nighbert announced last week the appointment of Linda Wagner-Justice as chief district engineer for the Department of Highways District 10.

Secretary Nighbert and Highway Commissioner Marc Williams were in Jackson Wednesday morning to make the announcement of Wagner-Justice's appointment.

"Linda has been acting in this position for several months, and she has certainly proved herself worthy of this appointment," Secretary Nighbert said. "Her experience and background, coupled with her familiarity with the area, all combine to make her an excellent choice for this position. We congratulate her and wish her well, and we have every confidence in her ability."

Wagner-Justice is a graduate of the University of Kentucky, having earned a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering as the recipient of a Transportation Cabinet scholarship. She began her career with Transportation in June 1986 with the District 12 office in Pikeville, and worked in bridge maintenance, as a resident engineer and as manager of the Traffic Branch in that office.

In March 1998, Wagner-Justice was appointed chief district engineer for District 12, becoming the first female chief district engineer in Kentucky history. In September 2002, she was appointed deputy executive director for construction and operations in the State Highway Engineer's Office in Frankfort.

Wagner-Justice returned to Eastern Kentucky last May as acting chief district engineer for District 10. She served as assistant chief district engineer for District 10 when Sam Beverage was appointed chief district engineer for Districts 10 and 11. When Beverage was promoted to state highway engineer in December, Wagner-Justice took over the chief district engineer's position in District 10 on an acting basis.

A native of Holden, W.Va., and a graduate of Johnson Central High School in Paintsville, Wagner-Justice lives in Betsy Layne with her husband, Charles, and their daughter, Elon, 10.

District 10 of the Department of Highways comprises Breathitt, Estill, Lee, Magoffin, Menifee, Morgan, Owsley, Perry, Powell and Wolfe counties. The district headquarters is in Jackson, and it has facilities in each of the 10 counties included within the district.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids will be received by Prestonsburg City's Utilities Commission for a New (2005) Chevrolet Colorado Extended Cab 4WD Pickup Truck. Bids will be received at the Commission's office, located at 2560 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653, until 3:00 p.m. (local time) on April 25, 2005, and then at such office, publicly opened and read aloud. Bids received after the deadline will be returned to the bidder unopened.

The minimum specifications for these trucks are as follows:

- New 2005 Chevrolet Colorado Extended Cab 125.9" WB 4WD Pickup Model Code is CT15653
- 3.5L DOHC, 5-cylinder, MFI Gasoline Engine
- 4-Speed Automatic, Electronically Controlled Transmission
- Air Conditioning
- Exterior Color: White

The Commission reserves the right to waive any informality or to reject any and all bids. Bids shall not be withdrawn within 30 days after the opening of the bids. Bids shall be in sealed envelopes bearing the bidder's identification, labeled in the lower left-hand corner: "Bid for New (2005) Chevrolet Colorado 4WD Pickup Truck — Extended Cab," and addressed as follows:

Mr. David M. Ellis,
Superintendent
Prestonsburg City's Utilities Commission
2560 South Lake Drive
Prestonsburg, KY 41653

The bid shall be awarded to the supplier with the lowest and/or best bid.

Turner E. Campbell,
Chief Financial Officer

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids will be received by Prestonsburg City's Utilities Commission for a total of three (3) New (2005) Chevrolet Colorado 4WD Pickup Trucks. Bids will be received at the Commission's office, located at 2560 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653, until 3:00 p.m. (local time) on April 25, 2005, and then at such office, publicly opened and read aloud. Bids received after the deadline will be returned to the bidder unopened.

The minimum specifications for these trucks are as follows:

- New 2005 Chevrolet Colorado Regular Cab 111.2" WB 4WD Pickup Model Code is CT15403
- 3.5L DOHC, 5-cylinder, MFI Gasoline Engine
- 4-Speed Automatic, Electronically Controlled Transmission
- Air Conditioning
- Exterior Color: White

The Commission reserves the right to waive any informality or to reject any and all bids. Bids shall not be withdrawn within 30 days after the opening of the bids. Bids shall be in sealed envelopes bearing the bidder's identification, labeled in the lower left-hand corner: "Bid for New (2005) Chevrolet Colorado 4WD Pickup Truck — Regular Cab," and addressed as follows:

Mr. David M. Ellis,
Superintendent
Prestonsburg City's Utilities Commission
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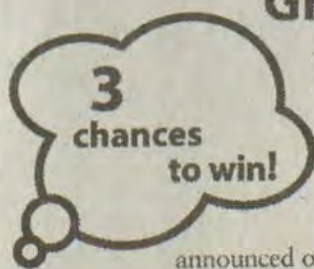
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Pictured is the cast of BSCTC's production of "The Butler Did It." (sitting, from left) Tereshia Keene, Jayme Sparks, Rebecca Heaberlin, Samantha Creech (standing) Joshua Stephens, Caleb Gulick, Philip Maynard, David Keene, and Tabatha Rogers.

BSCTC Community Theater Troupe presents first production

PRESTONSBURG — Big Sandy Community and Technical College (BSCTC) student and community Theater Troupe, will present its first production titled "The Butler Did It!" in Gearheart Auditorium, formerly Pike Auditorium, on Friday and Saturday, April 22 and 23, at 7 p.m. each evening.

"The Butler Did It," written by Tim Kelly and directed by instructor Laura Ford Hall, is a spoof of the typical English mystery play, with thinly veiled references to familiar characters in both American and English detective novels to add to the fun.

The setting for the play is a spooky, isolated mansion on an island off the coast of California. Miss Maple, a well-known society hostess, has invited seven writers of detective novels to the mansion for one of her famed "imaginative" weekend parties. Each writer is to assume the identity of one of his or her own fictional characters for the weekend.

The writers, expecting a weekend "game" of Miss Maple's contrived clues leading the "mystery" they must solve, are dumbfounded when a real murder ends their charade.

"The Butler Did It" is a mystery spoof that has everything... the ultimate mix of characters, a secret passageway, glimpses of a shadowy figure, an ominous warning on the radio, mistaken identities, and more!

The cast of the play includes BSCTC students and community members from Pike, Floyd and Johnson counties. The cast includes Jayme Sparks as Miss Maple; Caleb Gulick as Chandler Marlowe; Samantha Creech as Haversham; Rebecca Heaberlin as Rita Eyelesbarrow; Wes Ray as Louie Fan; Joshua Stephens as Father White; David Keene as Rick Carlyle; Tabatha Rogers as Laura Carlyle; Philip Maynard as Peter Flimsey; and Tereshia Keene as Charity Hayes.

"This is a play you won't

want to miss!" said Hall. "I am so proud of the cast and their abilities. They bring the characters to life while adding humor and mystery to the plot. This production is good for all ages from children to seniors, and everyone is welcome."

The play will be performed twice, on Friday, April 22, and Saturday, April 23, at 7 p.m. each evening, in the newly renovated Gearheart Auditorium, in the Pike Building on the Prestonsburg Campus. Admission is free and free tickets will be available at the door. Seating is first come, first serve. The doors will open for seating at 6:30 p.m.

For more information, call hall at (606) 886-3863 ext. 67227.

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Revenue receipt shows March growth

The Associated Press

FRANKFORT — Kentucky's General Fund took in about \$589.2 million last month, an increase of about 11 percent compared with the previous March.

State Budget Director Brad Cowgill attributed the growth in receipts to a strong economy.

"The sales and use and individual income taxes are closely related to economic activity," Cowgill said in a statement. "And their strong growth indicates a

strong Kentucky economy."

Overall, the revenue into the state's General Fund for the fiscal year that ends June 30 has so far increased by about 8.3 percent compared with the first nine months of the last fiscal year.

Receipts to the General Fund must grow by 2.6 percent for the remaining three months of the fiscal year to meet expectations.

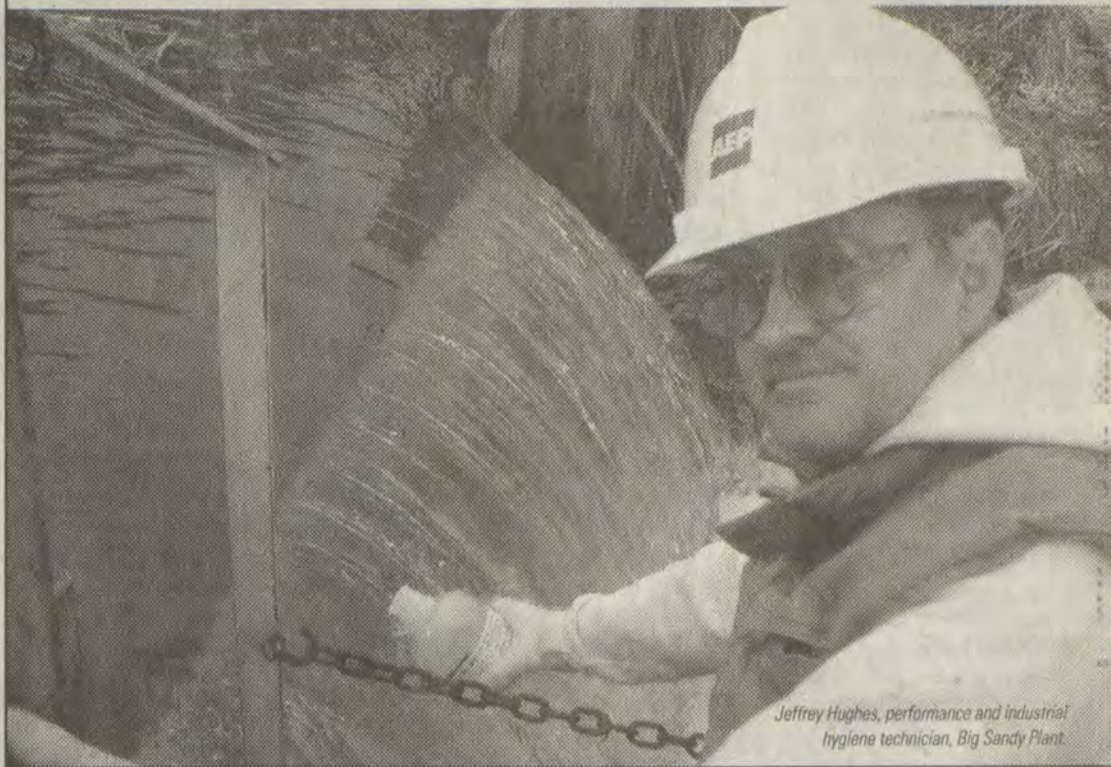
Money from the sales and use tax, one of the two largest sources of money for the state, grew by 8.2 percent in March.

Individual income tax, the other big source of money for the state, saw receipts increase by 24 percent for the month. That was attributed to "strong withholding payments" and reduced refunds compared with last year, according to the statement.

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Jeffrey Hughes, performance and industrial hygiene technician, Big Sandy Plant.

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Odds

phy," Gerhard Artl, an archives official, said while leafing through the book's yellowing pages.

■ **MONTGOMERY, Ala.** — Most Alabama legislators will take a day off with pay Wednesday — some to play golf, some to catch up on their regular jobs and some just to cool off for a day in the midst of a contentious session.

During a session, the House and Senate normally meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays and hold committee meetings on Wednesdays. Speaker Seth Hammett said that, at the request of the Democratic and Republican caucuses, no House committee meetings will be held Wednesday.

He said it's not unusual to give members a day off during a session so the Democratic and Republican caucuses can hold activities. Ten meeting days remain in the 30-day session.

Lawmakers make about \$60 a day while in session. A day's pay for the 138 members of the House and Senate costs about \$8,300, according to the Legislative Fiscal Office.

The break comes at a time when the Legislature appears to be deadlocked in a dispute over budgets to fund education and general state services. The dispute has slowed down action in the House and Senate.

"We need a day to cool off," House Republican leader Rep. Mike Hubbard said.

■ **STORY, Ind.** — The competition was fierce and foolish, but a man who accidentally sawed through a live electrical wire and topped that by wrecking his truck only hours after buying it earned the honorary title "Village Idiot."

Mark Carmichael's blunders won him the good-natured award that's been handed out for years in the tiny Brown County town of Story. The winner is whoever gets the most votes from regulars at the Story Inn's saloon.

Carmichael, the inn's maintenance man, won in part for an incident in which he cut through a live wire while using a circular saw to replace the inn's galvanized steel roof. But he also damaged his just-purchased 1998 Dodge truck — the day after he got it.

His foolishness earned the 27-year-old a \$100 bar tab.

Rick Hofstetter, who owns the inn about 40 miles south of Indianapolis, said the competition for this year's award was fierce.

For example, two Story Inn regulars were nominated for knocking themselves unconscious while opening their car doors. Another was nominated for burning down his front porch after not fully extinguishing a cigarette in a full ashtray.

Bartender Evan McMahon was nominated for opening an \$80 bottle of Chalk Hill Chardonnay to make a \$6.50 wine spritzer for a bar patron.

Not to be outdone, Story Inn housekeeper Kathy Newhall earned her nomination for using French truffle oil from the kitchen, which costs \$50 for a 3-ounce bottle, to quiet a squeaky toilet seat.

■ **MADISON, Wis.** — Around 50 people gave new

meaning to the term runaway bride when they donned matrimonial regalia and ran through town, sometimes stopping traffic.

Everyone from pretend priests to brides and grooms of both genders took part in the first-ever Running of the Brides on Saturday.

Liz Zelandais found the run difficult, and not just because of the champagne she drank.

"Pulling a train is one thing," she said, tugging the \$2 thrift store gown over her tennis shoes. "But having to run with a train is unbelievable."

The run was put on by the Madison branch of the Hash House Harriers, an internationally known "drinking group with a running problem."

"This way we can have the party without a pre-nup or divorce," said Zelandais, who organized the event. "It's sort of a no-fault wedding experience."

The hashers have previously held pirate-themed runs, and all members — male and female — don red dresses for an annual evening run. Even on their relatively "normal" weekly Saturday afternoon runs they always stop for beers and run maze-like courses.

"It's very important to revert to infantile behavior for one day a week if you're forced to be an adult for the other six," said veteran hasher Marc Brand, who wore a veil and tutu. "It's therapeutic."

■ **SALT LAKE CITY** — A 21-year-old fast-food employee has been sentenced to probation and six months in jail for double-swiping the credit cards of customers who irritated him.

Travis Dominguez pleaded guilty to one count of credit card fraud, a third-degree felony. He was accused of doubled-swiping cards at the Taco Bell where he worked, putting in different amounts on the second swipe between \$20 and \$30.

Third District Judge Glenn Iwasaki ordered a psychological evaluation and \$142.22 restitution, and barred Dominguez from employment involving financial transactions.

Dominguez faced five felony counts of unlawful use of a credit card and single misdemeanor counts of theft and obstruction of justice — and allegedly called police pretending to be a Taco Bell executive claiming to have solved the case.

■ **AKRON, Ohio** — For Bob Webb, dirt is about as good as gold.

The northeast Ohio man built a business, Wessco Inc., selling his special blend of dirt to major league, minor league and collegiate baseball teams around the county. The company's clay is used on pitcher's mounds and batter's boxes.

Wessco's patented clay mix

is called Klawog. The product is gummy, requiring less water, and it molds to itself well, so pitchers can manipulate it to their liking every time.

Webb got into the business 13 years ago. He was selling bricks for a home-construction company when he got a call from a friend who worked for a distributor of sports-grounds maintenance materials looking for pitcher's mound clay.

In a week, Webb and his business partner, David Derr, experimented with different types of clay and finally developed the formula for Klawog.

"We shipped up about 50 pounds of it," he said. "Two days later, he called back and said, 'I need four and a half tons of it — yesterday.' I asked him, 'Who in their right mind wants this stuff?' It turned out it was the Cleveland Indians."

Continued from p2



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P'bug basketball banquet set

The Prestonsburg High School boys' basketball program will hold its annual banquet on Sunday, April 24 at the Wilkinson-Stumbo Convention Center.

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Bobcats slip past Shelby Valley

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

ALLEN – Betsy Layne began the new baseball season with a pair of back-to-back wins. The Bobcats then lost two of their next three games before getting back on the winning track Monday evening. Playing on its homefield, Betsy Layne turned away visiting Shelby Valley. The Bobcats

came from behind to beat Valley in the final inning.

Betsy Layne, the defending 58th District champion, has enjoyed moderate success under first-year head coach Frank Martin. A former assistant coach on the Betsy Layne baseball staff, Martin has communicated well with players and has the Bobcats eyeing a repeat run at a second straight 58th District title.

Following last week's win over

Allen Central, Betsy Layne is 1-0 in the 58th District.

Betsy Layne rallied behind starting pitcher Steven Conn, especially defensively. Thanks to the late-inning rally and the stellar defense behind him, Conn recorded his first win.

Betsy Layne got a run in the opening inning when leadoff hitter Brandon Thacker reached base and eventually came around and scored.

Shelby Valley got one run back in the second inning when Cade Riddle scored. The Wildcats produced all of their runs in the second, third and fourth innings. Valley came across with three runs in the third inning and two more in the fourth frame.

Betsy Layne scored two runs in both the fifth and seventh innings. Thacker scored three times for the Bobcats. Shawn Hamilton scored a pair of runs.

After the fourth inning, Shelby Valley didn't do much in the way of even threatening to score. The Wildcats, for the most part, struggled to find offense in each of the last three innings.

Betsy Layne was scheduled to host Magoffin County yesterday evening. The Bobcats have a game slated for Thursday on the road at Sheldon Clark. First-pitch for the Betsy Layne-Sheldon Clark game is set for 6 p.m.

Rebels go 2-1 in All 'A' Classic

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PIKEVILLE – After doubling up Phelps 12-6 in the opening round of the 15th Region All "A" Classic, Allen Central got a 13-8 win Friday over Shelby Valley. On Saturday, however, things went south for the Rebels. Tournament host Pikeville caught fired and beat the Rebels 12-2.

Allen Central (8-2) plated eight runs in an offensive-heavy fourth inning.

"Shelby Valley threw a good lefty against us," Allen Central Coach Ken Johnson noted. "He had some good stuff, but being early in the season he fell apart in the fourth inning and we took advantage of it, scoring eight runs. We never looked back from there."

Costly mistakes nearly caught up with the Rebels. "We made too many mistakes in this game as well," Johnson added. "We hit the ball pretty good, but if we expect to have a successful season, then we must cut down on our mistakes."

Ryan Hammonds started the game and pitched four quality innings for the Rebels, giving up only two earned runs on just three hits. Hammonds recorded the win for Allen Central. But he wasn't alone.

Justin Jacobs and Scott Little provided some solid relief for the Rebels, allowing Allen Central to head off any late Shelby Valley scoring threats.

Pikeville scored one run early to take a 1-0 lead, but Allen Central answered in the bottom half of the first inning, scoring two runs to take a 2-1 lead.

The Rebels contained Pikeville until the third inning when the Panthers took a 4-2 lead and from there, cruised to the win.

In the game against Pikeville, Allen Central junior Tyler Turner took the mound. A Pikeville hit caught Turner on the wrist and ultimately affected his pitching effort.

"We had our shining moments when we looked as if they would pull back, but we made a few baserunning mistakes you can't make against a team like Pikeville," Johnson added.

"Then Tyler got hit on the wrist by a hit back up the middle, and he just wasn't himself anymore. Pikeville took great advantage as well stacking up 15 hits mostly coming in the fifth and sixth inning.

"Pikeville is playing solid baseball right now. They are top 10 in the state in my opinion. Right now they are playing their best baseball, and we are still young in the season. I told my kids that we are only going to get better. Give us by the end of the season and we will put together a full package against these guys and give them a run for their money."

Turner took the loss for the Rebels.

One of the offensive highlights came for Allen Central in the bottom portion of the first inning when Jacobs and Hammonds connected on back-to-back doubles.

Allen Central was due back in action yesterday at home against visiting Letcher. The Rebels were scheduled to host Letcher in a doubleheader.



photos by Steve LeMaster

On Tuesday, Allen Central senior girls' basketball standout Becky Thomas, joined by family, friends, coaches and other supporters, made her college choice officially known, signing with Alice Lloyd College. David Adams (pictured above) is on his way to a second season at the helm of Lady Eagle basketball program.



Former Wildcats joining Hayes, Carrier for ACHS stop

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

EASTERN – University of Kentucky seniors are headed back to Allen Central High School for a second straight year as part of the annual barnstorming tour that takes Wildcat basketball seniors across much of the state. The UK Seniors Barnstorming Tour will make a stop Friday at Allen Central High School. Kentucky seniors Josh Carrier and Chuck Hayes are set for a first-ever visit to Floyd County and Allen Central High School. Earlier this week, Mona Dingus of WMDJ in Martin confirmed three other players for the upcoming ACHS stop. Former UK basketball players Antwan Barbour and Anthony Epps and one-time Wildcat quarterback Trey Barclay are also now confirmed to join Hayes and Carrier.

The barnstorming tour is being sponsored as a joint effort of the Allen Central High School Rebel Band and the Junior R.O.T.C. program. Tip-off on Friday night is set for 7 p.m. with pre-game festivities slated for 5:30 p.m.

Pre-game festivities will include the UK Wildcat mascot, face and hair painting for the young Wildcat fans, raffles, dance team performances and music from the ACHS Rebel and Stage Band.

The Kentucky barnstorming team will play the winner of an independent basketball tournament.

Lady Blackcats blast Sheldon Clark

by JAMIE HOWELL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

INEZ – After struggling to score runs early in the season, the Prestonsburg Lady Blackcat found some offense in a big way on Monday evening by putting 23 runs on the board in a 23-10 mercy rule win over the Sheldon Clark Lady Cardinals.

Prestonsburg got on the board in the top half of the first inning. Alicia Mayfield reached base on a walk, followed by a walk to Darcey Hicks. Michelle Lackey reached on an error and Mayfield came around to score the first run for Prestonsburg. Brittany Zimmerman reached on a throwing error and both Hicks and Lackey crossed the plate to give the Lady Blackcats an early 3-0 lead.

Sheldon Clark plated two runs in the bottom of the first to cut the lead to 3-2 after one inning but Prestonsburg added five more runs in the second inning.

Senior Kelly Key opened the inning with a base hit and Meaghan Slone followed with

(See BLACKCATS, page two)



Betsy Layne senior center Kristal Daniels signed with Alice Lloyd College during a signing ceremony held Monday morning. Daniels joins former teammate Whitney Lykens as a member of the ALC women's basketball team.

P'burg reels off six straight wins

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG – In late-March, the Prestonsburg High School baseball team had its share of struggles. But April has been much better to the Blackcats. Last week, Prestonsburg, coached by Bob Shepherd, played five games in over five days. All five outings, including a doubleheader against Phelps, results in Blackcat wins.

On Thursday, Prestonsburg beat Jenkins 10-2 in a game that due to darkness was called after five innings. The Blackcats returned to the field Friday, hosting rival South Floyd. Prestonsburg grabbed the all-important district win, beating the Raiders 6-2.

South Floyd went ahead 1-0 in the top half

of the first inning when Justin Slone, who reached base following a single, scored. The lead for South Floyd proved to be very short-lived. Prestonsburg exploded for five runs in the bottom half of the first inning and never looked back. Brandon Campbell, Bobby Hughes, Nick McGuire, Corey Tincher and Josh Rodebaugh – the first five hitters in the Prestonsburg batting order – all reached base and scored in the first inning. Campbell scored twice. His first-inning effort included a double in his second plate appearance.

South Floyd got one run apiece in each of the second and third innings, but couldn't overcome Prestonsburg's five-run first inning.

Rodebaugh pitched and recorded the win for the Blackcats. He helped his cause with a

(See P'BURG, page two)

P'burg

pair of singles and a double. Brenton Hamilton added a single and a double.

Prestonsburg 6, Belfry 3: The Prestonsburg-Belfry rivalry goes deeper than the grid-iron. The two rivals hooked up Wednesday evening in Pike County. Host Belfry put Prestonsburg away in order in the top half of the first inning and scored a run in its half of the opening frame. After being held scoreless in the first inning, Prestonsburg came alive, scoring two runs in the second inning as first baseman

Josh Rodebaugh and pitcher Brenton Hamilton each singled and scored.

Prestonsburg led 2-1 at the end of the second inning. The game was deadlocked at 3-3 in the seventh inning when each of Prestonsburg's top three batters reached base and scored. Brandon Campbell and Bobby Hughes each singled and Nick McGuire drew a walk. All three scored with Campbell coming around to touch home plate following a Belfry balk.

Hamilton reached base four times for the Blackcats. he fin-

ished with two singles, a double and a base on balls. Rodebaugh added a couple of singles.

Belfry added a single run in both the fifth and sixth innings. Chris Varney singled and came around to score in the fifth and Aaron Chapman singled and eventually scored in the sixth.

The win was Prestonsburg's sixth straight. The Blackcats have bounced back nicely following a 1-3 start.

Prestonsburg was due back in action yesterday evening, playing out on the road in Pike County against Shelby Valley.

Continued from p1

Blackcats

a walk. Back to back base hits by Hicks and Mayfield would score two runners and Prestonsburg was off and running.

Meaghan Slone took the mound for Prestonsburg and was in control for most of the night with the exception of the third inning when Sheldon Clark scored five times.

The Lady Blackcats led 8-4 after two innings and would never really be threatened again. In the third inning, Prestonsburg put the game out of reach by scoring 10 times in

the inning to take a 18-4 lead into the bottom of the third inning.

Sheldon Clark pitching would allow five Lady Blackcats to reach base on walks in the deciding third inning.

Sheldon Clark cut the lead to 18-9 after three innings, but the Lady Cards would get no closer as Prestonsburg tacked on five more runs over the next two at bats to take the win 23-10 in a five inning game

Brittany Collins finished the game one-of-five from the plate

and also scored two runs for the winners while Mayfield and Pam Slone combined to finish two-of-five for Prestonsburg. Darcy Hicks had two hits in four at bats for Prestonsburg.

Elizabeth Chaffin and Brittany Zimmerman each collected a base hit for the winners. Kelly Key and Meaghan Slone tacked on the remaining two hits for the Lady Blackcats.

In junior varsity action, Prestonsburg claimed the win outscoring Sheldon Clark 20-5 in four innings.

Continued from p1

FOCUS ON AREA 3 SPECIAL OLYMPICS



photos by Jamie Howell

Floyd County Special Olympics and Prestonsburg High School played host Saturday to the Area 3 Games. Delegations from Floyd and surrounding counties took part in this year's Area 3 Games.



The Betsy Layne High School football team competed over the weekend in a weightlifting meet held at the Prestonsburg National Guard Armory.



Above: Betsy Layne senior Kim Clark connected on the only home run of Friday's game against South Floyd. The visiting Lady Raiders struggled to catch up with Betsy Layne.



Betsy Layne beats South Floyd, Paintsville

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

BETSY LAYNE - The Betsy Layne High School softball team has now won three of its last four games. The Ladycats have won back to back games. On Friday, Betsy Layne hosted and defeated Floyd County rival South Floyd soundly, winning 16-6 in just four innings. On Monday, in a much closer contest, Betsy Layne hung on to beat Paintsville 9-8.

On Thursday night, Betsy Layne suffered its second loss of the season, falling to Magoffin County. The Lady Hornets held on late, winning 8-7.

In the win over South Floyd, Betsy Layne never scored fewer than three runs in a single inning. The Ladycats plated

three runs in the first inning, four in the second, three in the third and sixth in the fourth and what proved to be the final inning.

On a day when she signed to play both basketball and softball at nearby Pikeville College, Betsy Layne senior Kim Clark didn't disappoint on the diamond. Clark, the cleanup hitter in the Ladycat batting order, finished with a triple, a home run and a double. She hit her home run in the second inning.

Breann Akers pitched the Ladycats to the victory. Tab Tackett took the loss for the Lady Raiders.

Betsy Layne never trailed. South Floyd, did, however, produce a big inning, scoring five of its six runs in the second inning.

Betsy Layne 9, Paintsville 8: The Ladycats hit the road

Monday night and traveled to Paintsville. Host Paintsville scored all eight of its runs in the first three innings and was never heard from again. After leading 6-1 at the end of the second inning, Paintsville suffered some self-destruction.

Betsy Layne scored three runs in both the third and fourth innings. In the seventh inning, Kaitlin Lawson reached base on a walk and Kendra Case got her start on the basepaths following a single. Both players came around to score. Case scored the game-winning run.

Sarah Cyrus reached base for Paintsville in the bottom half of the seventh inning, but was left stranded.

Kim Clark led the Betsy Layne offensive effort with a pair of triples.

Megan Tackett recorded the win for the Ladycats.

Track and Field Meet at Pikeville High School

Tuesday, April 5
Female Team Scores

Place	School	Points
1.	Leslie County	164
2.	Pikeville	135
3.	Allen Central	75
4.	Prestonsburg	63
5.	Jackson City	17

Male Team Scores

Place	School	Points
1.	Pikeville	228
2.	Prestonsburg	124
3.	Jackson City	43
3.	Allen Central	43
5.	Sheldon Clark	24
6.	Shelby Valley	7
7.	Leslie County	4

Track and Field Meet at Pikeville High School
Thursday, April 7
Female Team Scores

Place	School	Points
1.	Pikeville	157
2.	Mount Mission	106
3.	Allen Central	98
4.	Prestonsburg	67
5.	Shelby Valley	29

Male Team Scores

Place	School	Points
1.	Pikeville	228
2.	Prestonsburg	131
3.	Mount Mission	95
4.	Shelby Valley	30
5.	Allen Central	11

ACHS track and field back on track

TIMES STAFF REPORT

EASTERN - Allen Central High track and field coach Kevin Slone is expecting some good things from the athletes he has out this spring. The ACHS track and field team recently made a return trip to competition. On Tuesday, April 5, Slone took his team into competition at Pikeville High School. The Rebel track and field coach came out of the meet confident in his team's ability.

ACHS male track and field athletes include David Slone, Charles Robinson, Mike Case, Ryan Collins, Josh Lawson, Adam Reffett and Keith Duncan. On the girls' side, Kim Biliter, Mara Biliter, Yumekia Hunter, Elisabeth Mosely, Brenda Lewis and Lyndsey Frasure make up the team.

"The meet April 5 was the first meet for us in two years actually," Slone acknowledged.

"I have a young team both boys and girls. I only have one senior and that's discuss thrower, Lyndsey Frasure. We did really good with few numbers. Our girls won some events. Both of our 4 x 100

meter relay teams are very good. We need to work on our handoffs more."

As coach, Slone will look for different athletes to step up and provide leadership. Track is a team sport, too.

"Our 4x100 girls relay team consisting of Kim Biliter, Mara Biliter, Yumekia Hunter and Elisabeth Mosely is really fast," Slone added. "Elisabeth also long jumped really far - somewhere around 15' 7" inches. Overall, I'm very happy with the way we performed. Our kids gave their all. I think by the end of the year both our relays, discuss, long jump, and shot put will be tough to beat."

The ACHS boys 4x100 relay team consists of Case, Collins, Robinson and David Slone.

The Rebel track and field team also includes some athletes who throw shot put and discus.

Although off to somewhat of a slow start, the ACHS coach also voices confidence in his throwers.

"They are young and inexperienced but I'm going to take them to as many meets as I can and get them ready for regionals."

Kentucky Football Notebook: Wildcats have first scrimmage

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — Both the offensive and defensive units had positives to take out of the Kentucky football team's first scrimmage of spring practice Saturday afternoon at Commonwealth Stadium.

There were six offensive series during the one-hour scrimmage, and the offense drove the ball inside the defense's 25-yard line on five of the six possessions. However, the defense stiffened near the goal line and did not allow any touchdowns, forcing four field goal attempts while stopping the offense once on a goal-line stand.

"The defense did some good

things (near the goal line)," Coach Rich Brooks said. "They gave up some third-down conversions, but you have to credit the offense for doing the job on third down."

Led by sophomore quarterback Andre' Woodson, the first-team offense had two possessions. The first ended with a 35-yard field goal by senior Taylor Begley. The next drive achieved a first-and-goal situation from the defense's four-yard line. An incomplete pass and a three-yard run moved the ball to the one, but then the defense turned away a pair of running plays and held on downs at the one.

Woodson showed good patience during the scrimmage.

He did a good job completing short passes and finding secondary receivers for gains. He completed 8-of-11 passes for 53 yards, with sophomore tailback Rafael Little catching four balls for 21 yards. Little also gained 38 yards on 10 rushing attempts.

"Andre' did some good things. I like the way he's throwing the ball," Brooks said. "Rafael Little is doing a good job as well."

The second-team offense, guided by redshirt freshman Joe Brown, had three possessions against the second-team defense. Two of the drives ended in field goal attempts, one of which was successful. Brown hit 5-of-9 passes for 28 yards, finding five different receivers,

and added 15 rushing yards on scrambles. Junior tailback Terrell Bankhead gained 30 yards on just four carries, including a 27-yard run that was the longest gain of the day.

Junior quarterbacks David Hamilton and Rocco Maragas split one possession with the third-team offense against the third-team defense. They maneuvered the ball to the nine-yard-line, where Begley capitalized with a 27-yard field goal. Hamilton completed both of his passing attempts for 12 yards and Maragas hit 2-of-4 for 20 yards. Running for both the second and third teams, senior tailback Andrew Hopewell rushed seven times for 39 yards.

All totaled, Begley made

three of his four field goal attempts, with his only miss coming after a juggled hold. There also was one session with the punt team. Junior Kris Kessler, a transfer from Central Florida, punted three times for a 38.3-yard average.

Spring practice will be completed with the Blue/White Spring Game on Sat. Apr. 23 at 1 p.m.

Die-hard UK football fans will get the chance to audition for a series of commercials which will air state-wide throughout this summer. The spots will highlight the passion UK football fans have for their Wildcats.

UK Athletics and its advertising agent, Cornett Advertising, will hold the auditions on

Saturday, April 23 at 10 a.m. at Commonwealth Stadium, prior to the Blue/White Spring Game which begins at 1 p.m.

The auditions will be in the form of interviews and will be taped and reviewed by a panel of judges. Fans that most impress the judges with their enthusiasm and dedication to the UK football team will be called back in May to film the actual commercials.

UK Athletics wants fans to demonstrate their exuberance and excitement for their team. Fans interested in auditioning on Apr. 23 should enter Gate 1 at Commonwealth Stadium and should dress as they normally do for a UK football game.

TENNIS

Clark and Gustafsson ranked No. 29 in doubles

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LOUISVILLE — The University of Louisville's Jeremy Clark and Jakob Gustafsson are No. 29 in the in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association's doubles rankings released on April 5.

Clark, a junior from Stanville, and Gustafsson, a junior from Hollviken, Sweden jumped five spots from their previous No. 34 standing to reach their highest doubles team ranking. Clark and

Gustafsson have a 16-7 record as the Cards' No. 1 doubles team.

During his junior and senior tennis seasons at Prestonsburg High School, Clark made a name for himself as one of the state's top prep tennis players.

"This team has the potential to be very good," said U of L head coach Rex Ecarma. "They still have a chance to make the NCAA doubles tournament, but they will have to win out the rest of their matches to do so. They are already one of the

top four doubles teams in the region and for them which is a great accomplishment in itself."

U of L (19-8) will close out the regular season at home against Northern Illinois on Friday at 1 p.m. at the Bass-Rudd Tennis Center. The Cards look to extend their 40-match home win streak. The University of Louisville will host the 2005 Conference USA Men's Tennis Tournament April 21-24 at the Bass-Rudd Tennis Center.



The Alice Lloyd College softball team is scheduled to host Kentucky State today.

Castle one of two Union soccer signees

by STEVE LeMASTER SPORTS EDITOR

BARBOURVILLE — A Floyd County soccer player who has worked his way up through the area soccer leagues is headed to the next level.

The Union College men's soccer team has added two in-state players for the 2005 season, Bulldog head coach Tyler Brock announced recently. One of the two players hails from Floyd County.

Corey Castle is a forward/midfielder from Harold, while Taylor Lamblin is a right outside back from Danville.

"We're excited about adding Corey and Taylor to our program. They will add a lot to the team," Brock said.

Castle played for Pikeville High School and for Football Club of Kentucky, an experienced club team. A versatile talented player, Castle can play in the midfield and at forward.

"I feel that Corey bringing with him a love for the game that will definitely help the program," said Union College Coach Tyler Brock. "He has



Corey Castle, Harold, recently signed to play soccer at Union College

good touch on the ball and that is very important at this level of the game. Corey could play a few different positions such as a forward or an outside midfielder."

Lamblin was a member of Storm 87, a club team in Jessamine County, and also played for Danville High

School. He was selected as an Olympic Development Program Alternate for Kentucky last year.

Union finished the 2004 season with a 4-15 overall record. The Bulldogs compiled a 1-7 worksheet in the Appalachian Athletic Conference.

ALC golf team finishes fifth in Berea tourney

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIPPA PASSES — The Alice Lloyd College golf team played in a seven-team tournament on Friday and Saturday at Berea. The ALC team finished fifth in the tournament. On Thursday, the Eagle golf team will travel to Berea again for another

match.

The ALC women's fast pitch softball team played a doubleheader at UVA-Wise on Friday. Pitcher Brandi Smith had a no-hitter going into the last inning of the first game; however, the Lady Cavaliers got a run in their last at bat for a 1-0 win. She also pitched well in the second

game, losing 3-0.

On Tuesday, the ALC softball team was scheduled to host Eastern Kentucky rival Pikeville College. Today, Alice Lloyd is slated to host Kentucky State in a doubleheader. A softball doubleheader between the two schools was rained out earlier this season. ALC is scheduled to host

Fields signs with Pikeville College

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE — For his newest signee, Bill Watson returned to a community that has been very good to the women's basketball program at Pikeville College.

Through the years, Phelps High School has sent players such as Allyson Preece, a member of the PC Hall of Fame, along with Courtney Mercer, Erika Fannin and Marsha Maynard, to name a few, to the Lady Bears.

The newest member of this group is Sasha Fields.

A 6-2 senior, Fields finished her season with 346 points and 329 rebounds for the Lady Hornets while shooting 47.8 percent from the floor. In addition, she blocked 89 shots and had 42 steals. For her efforts, she was an honorable mention all-state selection.

As a junior, she finished with 275 points and 239 rebounds en route to being named to the All-County team, as well as being an all-tournament selection in both the 15th Region and 60th district tournaments.

For her career, Fields finished with 1,020 points, 853

rebounds, 273 blocked shots, 140 steals and 68 blocked shots.

"Her numbers are sensational and she has shown improvement throughout her career," said Watson, preparing for his ninth season as head coach of the Lady Bears. "For a player of her size to still be developing at this stage in her career is nothing unusual, but it's a good sign for us on our level."

"We think she can play and will be able to help us out. We're excited about adding her to our roster and welcome her to the Lady Bear family."

ALC baseball team plays seven games in one week

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIPPA PASSES — The Alice Lloyd College baseball team played seven games last week. On Monday, they traveled to Wise, Va. to take on the UVA-Wise Cavaliers. The visiting Eagles lost the first game 5-0, and dropped the second game, 3-0. Jessie Smith pitched very well in the loss in the second game.

On Tuesday, the Eagles hosted the Union College Bulldogs in another double-

header. Jason Smith pitched well in a 3-2 loss in the first game. The Eagles lost another tough one, 7-5 in the second game.

The Eagles traveled to Athens, Tennessee on Saturday for a three game weekend series with Tennessee Wesleyan College. Wesleyan is a nationally-ranked team with six current players who have already been drafted by major league teams. In the first game of the Saturday doubleheader, Jonathan Saylor pitched very

well and Matt Frazier hit a two-run home run; however, the Eagles fell 4-2. In the second game, Wesleyan won 14-3. The Eagles lost the final game of the series on Sunday afternoon, 11-4. Josh Todd had three hits and the Eagles had eleven hits in the game.

The Eagles will also host West Virginia Tech today. Alice Lloyd will travel to Milligan College (Tenn.) this weekend.

Alice Lloyd is coached by Scott Cornett.



The Allen volleyball team is off to the best start in Floyd County. Allen (6-1) is ranked first in Floyd County. This year's county tournament will be held at John M. Stumbo May 9-13.

Pictured, front row: Latisha Thompson, Alyshia Collins, Crystal Reed, Jennifer Skeens (Coach), Tiffany Reed and Cassandra Burchett. Second row: Laken Lowe, Chasity Prater, Natasha Skeens, Samantha Williams, Tiffany Schall, Savannah Reno and Sasha McKinney. Third row: Whitney Lewis, Erica Meade, Kristy Hyden, Kelli Burchell, Micaya Canterbury, Caitlynn Burchett and Shayna Newhouse. Not pictured: Brianna Lewis and Keith Coleman (Coach).

Urban renewal sweeps through Florida

by RALPH D. RUSSO
ASSOCIATED PRESS

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Urban Meyer surveys his squad of Gators as they sprint past, snapping at those who lag behind.

It's the final practice of the spring for Florida and its new coach. Traditionally, the Gators have had a light workout the day before the Orange and Blue scrimmage in "The Swamp."

Not this time. "Another day of work, men," Meyer calls out. "Another day. Another day. Another day."

Nearly three hours later, the Gators are done.

Welcome to Urban Renewal at the University of Florida, where optimism abounds, the coach is adored and the buzz words are



Urban Meyer
"What's the difference between Florida and Bowling Green? Inside the walls, nothing,"

honesty and accountability.

Meyer has risen through the ranks of college coaching with head-spinning speed. After two seasons at Bowling Green and two more at Utah, the 40-year-old with the innovative offense and contagious intensity is already being called the next great college coach.

"It's very humbling and, if you know me, it's extremely uncomfortable," he said.

Leading Utah to a 12-0 season and a berth in the Bowl Championship Series made Meyer the most wanted coach in the country last year.

Florida was first to come calling in search of a replacement for Ron Zook. In three seasons under Zook, Gainesville

had become a grumpy place. The Gators, once mighty under Steve Spurrier, were often mediocre for his successor.

"What we went through the last three years was not good," athletic director Jeremy Foley said. "A lot of negativity. A lot of divisiveness. It wasn't fun for anybody."

Foley fiddled with the idea of bringing back Spurrier, but the coach decided he wasn't interested in trying to rekindle past glory. Foley then went after Meyer.

Meyer had all but made up his mind to take the Florida job when Notre Dame made its pitch for the former Irish assistant.

He had his pick from two of college football's most prestigious programs.

"I'm Irish Catholic so I love Notre Dame," Meyer said. "I love that place. I always will. That was more than a tug."

But the Florida job was just too good.

"The best academics. The best facilities. The best stadium. The best location," Meyer said.

Just hiring Meyer helped improve the mood in

Gainesville. And with every move he's made, the players, many of whom groused when Zook was let go, and fans have become more devout followers.

"We heard him talk and the confidence that he had and the enthusiasm that he had, we just looked at each other like, 'OK this is going to work,'" linebacker Brandon Siler said.

Meyer has done small things such as bringing the bleachers back to the practice field, so fans could sit and watch the spring workouts. Zook had removed the metal stands.

He's done big things such as creating a leadership committee to make players accountable to each other. The committee of 14 players, chosen by the team, will make decisions ranging from what's served for dinner to the type of punishment doled out to rule-breakers.

"The key word in this whole thing is ownership," Meyer said. "If they think it's a dictatorship, there's much more resistance."

Meyer has been brutally honest when speaking to the media about his players. Early this spring, he said the team wasn't

tough. He said defensive tackle Ray McDonald, a two-year starter, didn't always play hard. He called quarterback Chris Leak a poor leader, because while Leak was a model student-athlete he didn't do enough to make sure his teammates were the same.

Meyer doesn't call it criticism. "I say it's honest evaluation," he said.

And the players don't seem to mind.

"Some coaches might hold back because they're scared they might hurt your feelings," safety Jarvis Herring said. "He'll tell you what's on his mind. I love that."

Meyer has reached out to former Gators greats, many of whom grew disenchanted with the program during Zook's tenure. Neal Anderson, Alex Brown, Danny Wuerffel, Chris Doering and Jack Youngblood were among the dozen or so former Florida players at the Orange and Blue game on Saturday — along with a record 58,500 fans.

"There's a tradition here that's as good as any in the

country, especially in the last 15 years," Meyer said. "Those guys need to come back."

Meyer even called Spurrier, "just out of respect."

Meyer's even trying to get the students more involved, visiting the fraternity and sorority houses and encouraging everyone on campus to learn the fight song.

Ultimately, though Meyer will be judged on wins and losses.

Foley says he wants Florida to be "in the hunt" for championships again, like it was in the 1990s under Spurrier.

It's a huge jump up the college football food chain for Meyer, from Utah of the Mountain West to one of the flagship programs of the Southeastern Conference.

The spotlight will be brighter than he's ever faced, the potential distractions more plentiful.

His plan for success, however, is unchanged.

"What's the difference between Florida and Bowling Green? Inside the walls, nothing," he said. "Outside the walls, everything. So how much time do I spend outside the walls? Not a whole lot."

Smith scores three touchdowns In U of L scrimmage

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

LOUISVILLE — The University of Louisville football team finished its sixth practice of the spring with an 150-play scrimmage on Saturday morning at the Papa John's football complex.

After going through five periods of individual drills, the number one offense went against the number one defense and the second units squared off against each other.

In last Monday's first scrimmage, the defense held the

upper hand for the first part of the scrimmage, but this time the offense looked better from the beginning. Sophomore quarterback Brian Brohm showed he's stepping into form by going 21-of-33 for 247 yards and a touchdown. After starting off 6-for-13, Brohm finished 15-for-20 with a 45-yard touchdown pass to Montrell Jones.

The game showed promise at times with Michael Bush, Kolby Smith and George Stripling. Bush carried 17 times for 62 yards, including a

two-yard run on the opening series. Smith logged 12 carries for 70 yards and a game-high three touchdowns, scoring on runs of 4, 39 and 1. Stripling, a talented red-shirt freshman, had a game-high 21 carries for 87, including a 25-yard scoring burst.

The receiving corps was led by Jones, who caught six passes for 128 yards and Jimmy Riley's five receptions for 105 yards. Mario Urrutia had another solid scrimmage with five receptions for 87 yards and Broderick Clark added five for 61.

Jeff Neubauer hired as Eastern Kentucky coach

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RICHMOND — Jeff Neubauer, an assistant at West Virginia the past three seasons, was named Monday as the basketball coach at Eastern Kentucky.

Neubauer, 34, replaces Travis Ford, who left the team for Massachusetts last month.

Ford guided the Colonels to a 61-80 record and their first NCAA tournament berth in 26 years this past season.

West Virginia reached the Elite Eight, losing to Louisville in the Albuquerque Regional Final.

Neubauer, a 1993 La Salle graduate, also was an assistant coach at The Citadel for three

seasons and at Richmond for five seasons. He was on the Richmond staff in 1998, when the 15th-seeded Spiders upset second-seeded South Carolina in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

Eastern Kentucky gave Neubauer a four-year contract with an annual salary of \$150,000.

Architect pitches new arena at U of L officials

by CHRIS DUNCAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOUISVILLE — An architect pitched a \$162 million arena plan on Monday to a task force of University of Louisville and local officials who are seeking alternatives to outdated Freedom Hall.

The proposed 21,000-seat arena would be built at the Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center on the site of archaic Cardinal Stadium, the former home of the Louisville football and baseball teams. The new facility would increase available seating at men's basketball games by more than 2,000 and include 2,000 club seats, 60 suites and a 3,000-space parking garage.

The new arena was the last of four options laid out in an audio-visual presentation by Fred Krenson, an architect with Atlanta-based Rosser International. The other three were expansion plans for Freedom Hall, one of which would boost the seating capacity for basketball games to 30,000.

The Louisville men's basketball team is a part-time tenant at state-owned Freedom Hall, which seats 18,865 for basketball games and hosts about 230 events per year, from concerts to rodeos to tractor pulls. U of L would have exclusive scheduling rights in the new arena, which would open at least 30 dates at the 50-year-old Freedom Hall nearby.

Task force members seemed to lean toward a new arena.

"It's one of maybe a couple of options, but it may make the most sense in the long term," said Junior Bridgeman, a U of L trustee and a former Louisville basketball player.

"There are so many uses for the old Freedom Hall," said Louisville Athletics Director Tom Jurich. "The new Freedom Hall would take a lot of pressure off. There is so much business to go around."

The task force was appointed late last year by U of L President James Ramsey to explore how the school's athletics facilities match up with those in the Big East. All Louisville athletics programs will join the new league within the next year.

Officially called the Big East Facilities Task Force, the group will meet again on Friday to discuss the arena options further.

"When you look at the facilities those schools have, we're definitely in the lower rung," Bridgeman said.

The arena would be the centerpiece of a "Louisville Sports Corridor," a sweeping expansion that also includes additions to Papa John's Cardinal Stadium, a 94,000-square-foot indoor practice facility for the football team and a new baseball stadium that will be christened on Friday.

The city has tried and failed three times to lure an NBA franchise and tied to each attempt plans for an arena in

downtown Louisville. Jurich has always preferred an on-campus venue, while Mayor Jerry Abramson would rather see the Cardinals become the anchor tenant at a downtown arena.

"He believes that downtown is the best location," Abramson spokesman Chad Carlton said. "If the university makes the determination that a new arena is the right approach, we would be hopeful that U of L and the other players would look at all the options and make a decision on which is the best one."

Carlton said the task force's meeting on Monday might prompt Abramson to restart discussions about an arena.

"If the committee makes a recommendation that an arena is the right way, then that may move the debate onto the front burner," Carlton said. "Ultimately, Dr. Ramsey and the board of trustees would hopefully make a decision that would consider the good for both U of L and the community."

Rep. Larry Clark, D-Louisville, said building an arena closer to Freedom Hall makes more sense.

"If we build it at the fairgrounds, we'll be able to maintain it at a lesser cost," Clark said. "We can also coordinate all the events, instead of competing with the downtown arena, where we would have two different people competing for the same dollar. It would be a great advantage for us."

Eagle golfers finish sixth at Wofford Invitational

TIMES STAFF REPORT

MOREHEAD — The Morehead State University Eagle Golf Team finished sixth in the rain-shortened Wofford Invitational played April 8-9 at the Carolina Country Club in Spartanburg, S.C.

The Eagles shot 302-298 600 and finished 15 shots behind tournament champion Mercer.

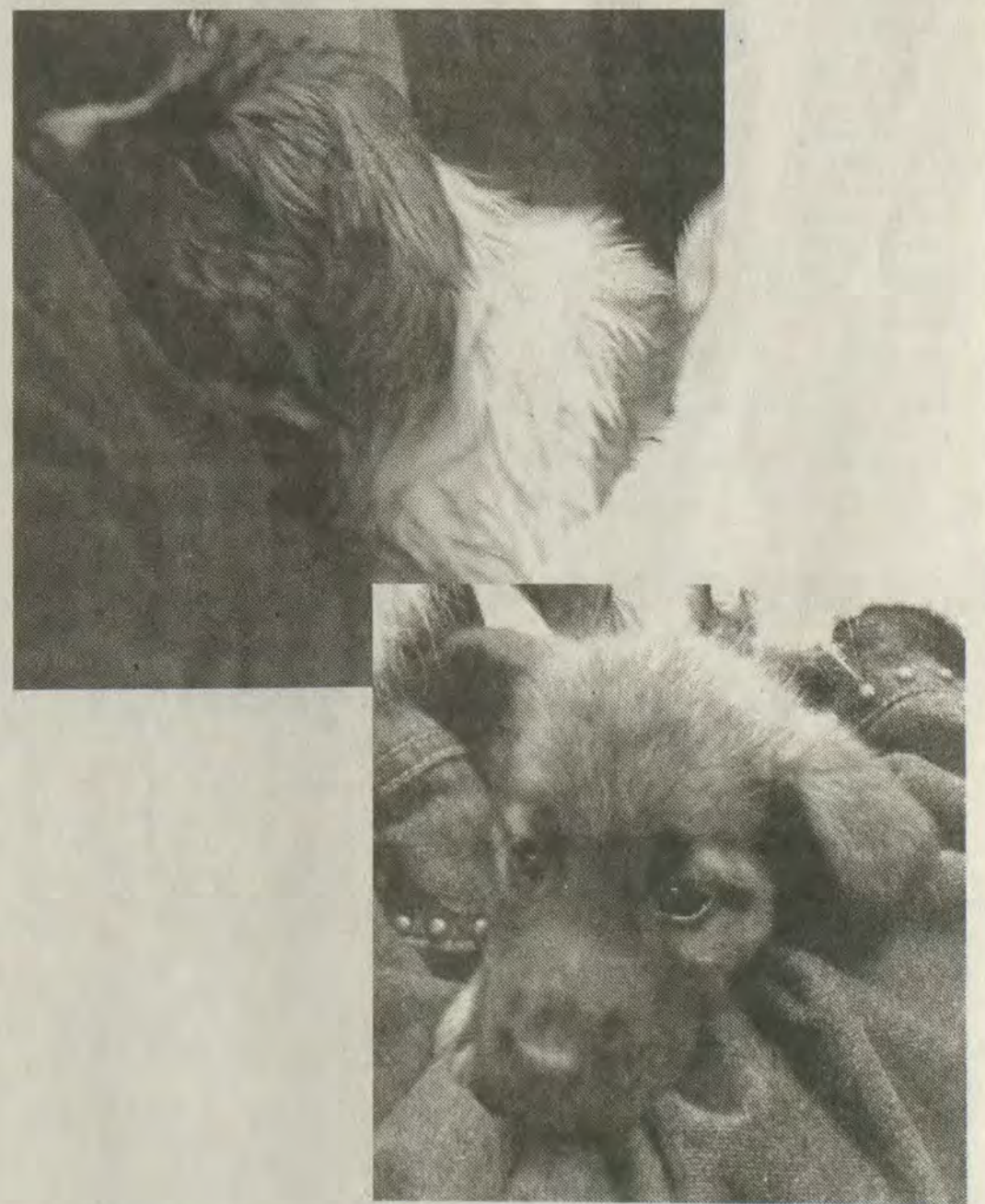
Casey Wade shot a one-over par 145 and tied for fifth among the 60 golfers. Lee Chaney (151) tied for 22nd. Floyd County native Ryan Martin tied for 27th (152) and

Matt Gann and Kyle Litter (157) tied for 40th.

At press time, the MSU golf team was finish regular-season play in the University of Wyoming/Cleveland Golf Cowboy Classic being played at Talking Stick Golf Club in Scottsdale, Ariz.

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HORSE RACING

For now, a trainer – not a horse – is the Kentucky Derby favorite

by RICHARD ROSENBLATT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Kentucky Derby is less than a month away, and there's still no clear-cut favorite. That is, unless you prefer a trainer instead of a thoroughbred.

Nick Zito has been an imposing presence on this year's road to the Derby with five 3-year-olds in contention. Two of them, High Fly and Sun King, could end up as favorites in the \$2 million Derby, but right now it's Zito who's the early choice to show up in the winner's circle at Churchill Downs on May 7.

Florida Derby winner High Fly or Tampa Bay Derby winner Sun King easily could give Zito his third Derby victory and first since Go for Gin in 1994. But he also trains rising stars Noble Causeway, runner-up in the Florida Derby; Bellamy Road, Yankees boss George Steinbrenner's colt; and Andromeda's Hero.

The morning after becoming the first trainer in 30 years to run 1-2 in the Florida Derby, Zito showed up at his barn, bags packed and ready to head to Kentucky. His winter was a rousing success, perhaps his best ever.

"It's unbelievable," Zito said. "I was talking to my son, Alex ... and he said, 'Dad, you realize everything went unbelievable?' I said, 'Yeah, everything fell into place.'"

Zito showed up for the Gulfstream Park meet with Sun King and a lot of hope. Two of his budding colts, Noble Causeway and Andromeda's Hero, won their first races in Florida; High Fly and Bellamy Road were sent to him after their owners fired the original

trainers.

"We came to Florida with a maiden, Noble Causeway," Zito said. "We were lucky to inherit these two great horses. And Andromeda's Hero, he was a maiden, too, until he won at Calder. It's just one of those years. No question. It's been a great winter."

Take Noble Causeway. In his stakes debut, the colt ran a huge race to finish behind High Fly in the Florida Derby. After the race, jockey Edgar Prado said: "You'll hear from him in the future. Nick has done a super job with him."

A racing Hall of Fame nominee this year, Zito is reluctant to discuss what it'll be like to send out so many starters in the race every horseman wants to win. He knows how quickly fortunes can change, especially as the Derby draws closer.

Several top contenders have been knocked off the Derby trail for one reason or another, including unbeaten Declan's Moon, the 2-year-old male champion, and trainer Bob Baffert's Roman Ruler. A few more, Afleet Alex and Rockport Harbor, are battling health problems but were still scheduled to run in the Arkansas Derby at Oaklawn Park on April 16 in their final prep.

Last year, Zito had three Derby hopefuls in Birdstone, Eurosilver and The Cliff's Edge. By Derby day, however, Eurosilver was a no show (health problems), Birdstone ran despite a minor ailment and finished eighth and The Cliff's Edge was a disappointing fifth after losing a shoe on the muddy track.

Only Hall of Fame trainer D. Wayne Lukas has started five

horses in one Derby. He did it in 1996, and won with Grindstone, Prince of Thieves finished third, Editor's Note was sixth, Victory Speech 10th and Honour and Glory 18th.

Lukas said Zito has done a terrific job managing his horses – picking the right race at the right time – but warns: "It's April now."

"There's no place to hide.

There are no more Tampa Bays or allowance races at Gulfstream," Lukas said from Churchill Downs. "It's time to step up. Bless his heart, I hope he gets all of them there. I'm pulling for him. But it's tough just to get one there. If he gets five shots, fine. When I look across the paddock, they're just horses to me. I don't care who brings them over there."

The 57-year-old Zito has five healthy horses for five different owners. High Fly and Noble Causeway will train up to the Derby. Bellamy Road won Saturday's Wood Memorial by 17 1/2 lengths at Aqueduct, while Sun King is set for the Blue Grass on April 16 and Andromeda's Hero will go in either the Arkansas Derby or the Lexington Stakes on April 23.

"Everybody likes to have good horses," fellow New York trainer Pat Kelly said. "Nick, the Triple Crown, the Derby, that's his thing. And he attracts clients that are trying to do that."

Even Churchill Downs odds-maker Mike Battaglia says the only way to have a strong favorite at this point is to "lump Nick Zito's contenders together."

The Derby field is limited to 20 starters, and if more are entered, the final determination would be based on graded-stakes earnings. Bellamy Road,

High Fly and Sun King are fine and Noble Causeway looks solid, but Andromeda's Hero needs to boost his earnings.

"It's amazing what the Derby does, everybody wants to run in it," Zito said. "If you take a step back, you'll see that maybe most horses that are worried about this or that probably don't even belong. But that's the way the Derby is ... it's a fabric of America and we're all guilty of it. And that's what makes the business go around."

Hall of Fame trainer Shug McGaughey has seen three of Zito's contenders up close. His Derby hopeful, Gotham Stakes winner Survivalist, was beaten by 5 3/4 lengths by Sun King in an allowance race at Gulfstream on Feb. 26.

"We just caught a bear cat in Sun King," McGaughey said. "It was an off-the-screen kind of race."

As for High Fly, McGaughey says, "He ran a mile early in the winter and was really impressive. ... And his last two races, he kind of laid right up there and kind of won as he pleased." On Bellamy Road: "He was very impressive in Florida," referring to the colt's 15 3/4-length romp in an allowance race last month.

Lukas has sent out a record 41 Derby starters – he's won the race four times – while Zito is tied for fourth with 14. When it comes to the Derby, though, winning is all that matters.

"I always say when you go to a horse sale, nobody says 'I'm gonna win this or that race,' they always say, 'I'm gonna win the Kentucky Derby,'" Zito said. "They never say, 'I'm gonna win the Arc de Triomphe.'"

Sis City wins Ashland Stakes in impressive fashion

by MURRAY EVANS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

3/4 mile.

"Plan A was to go to the lead," Prado said. "Plan B was to sit just off the lead. Even though my filly was pulling, she settled down and rated nicely. She finished full of run even though this track has been a bit tiring."

LEXINGTON – Two straight dominating performances have sent Sis City to near the top of the class of 3-year-old fillies.

Sis City raced to a 10 1/2-length win Saturday in the Grade I Ashland Stakes at Keeneland, stamping herself as the early favorite for the May 6 Kentucky Oaks.

Ridden by Edgar Prado, Sis City recorded her third straight win and her second in a row by double digits. In her previous start, the daughter of Slew City Slew, out of Smart Sis, won by 16 lengths in the Grade II Davona Dale Stakes at Gulfstream Park.

The Ashland win came against more impressive company, though. The six-horse field included four of the top six 3-year-old fillies in terms of graded-stakes earnings.

Sis City's margin of victory was the second largest in the race's 68-year history, behind only Myrtlewood's 12-length win in the first Ashland Stakes in 1936.

"She wasn't supposed to win like this, but we'll take it," said Sis City's trainer, Richard Dutrow.

Dutrow began training Sis City after she was claimed for \$50,000 last August. She's won four of six starts since and hasn't finished lower than fourth. And that was in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies behind Sweet Catomine, considered to be far and away the nation's top 3-year-old female horse.

"I love everything about her," Dutrow said of Sis City. "I love the owners, the groom, the hotwalker – I love everything about this horse. We just got so lucky we can't even believe this is happening to us."

Sis City – owned in part by New York Yankees manager Joe Torre – had been a front-runner in her four previous career wins, but she settled in behind long-shot Amazing Buy for the first

After Sis City took the lead, she steadily pulled away and wasn't challenged. Runway Model, a Grade II winner at Keeneland last October, finished second, three lengths in front of Memorette.

Dutrow "has a really nice horse," said Runway Model's trainer, Bernard Flint. "I'm going to go home, I'm going to get my game plan together and I'm going to attack from a different angle" in the Kentucky Oaks.

Summerly, Letgomyecho and Amazing Buy rounded out the field. Summerly had won three straight races, while Letgomyecho was undefeated in three starts.

"It's obviously a disappointing race today," said Summerly's trainer, Steve Asmussen, who trained Sis City before that horse was claimed. "But we still have a very good filly and we'll try to regroup and get on our feet."

Sis City, who went off as the 8-5 favorite, covered the 1 1-16th miles in 1:46.35 on a fast track. She paid \$5.20, \$3.20 and \$3.

Runway Model paid \$3.60 and \$3, while Memorette paid \$3.80.

"I don't know how they're going to beat her in the future," Dutrow said of Sis City. "She's got so much speed and now she can settle. All we have to do is keep her happy and healthy."

Sharp Lisa, the only previous Grade I winner in the field, was scratched Saturday morning. Trainer Doug O'Neill said Sharp Lisa "evidently kicked the wall" in her stall, resulting in a bruised left hind foot.

Keeneland drew a crowd of 30,110 on Saturday, the second-highest attendance in track history. The track drew 31,028 fans last April 17 to watch the Lexington Stakes.

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FLOYD COUNTY YOUTH SOCCER

Floyd County Youth Soccer begins new season

TIMES STAFF REPORT

ALLEN – Floyd County Youth Soccer kicked off its spring season on Saturday, April 2, on a day not fit for outdoor activities. The games were played on fields covered with standing water, with intermittent rain and temperatures in the low 40's, but the horrible conditions didn't deter the locals. Five of the six Floyd County teams played at the Floyd County fields located at Christ United Methodist Church at Allen, and all were

victorious.

The U10 Supersonics started the day, taking on the Belfry Rampage. The Supersonics were the better team by a score of 4-0. The U14 Untied took the field against the Belfry Kixx and came out on top by a score of 5-1.

Floyd County's two U12 teams played host to the U12 teams from Breathitt County. The Floyd County Tide rolled over its opponent 10-0, while the Galaxy topped the Breathitt Countians by a score of 11-0. The final game of the day saw

the U19 Warriors engage in a tough, physical contest with the Belfry Blaze, and the Warriors left the field with the 4-2 win.

On Saturday, the weather was markedly different, much to the relief of players, coaches and spectators. The day was beautiful for the U10 Dragons' first game of the season. The Dragons took on a U10 team from Breathitt County, and both teams left the field happy with a 1-1 tie.

Floyd County's two U12 teams squared off against each other just before noon, in a game that pitted the Tide, a team com-

posed mostly of girls, against the Galaxy, a team of almost all boys. The Tide prevailed by a score of 6-0. The U14 Untied traveled to Whitesburg to take on the Hornets, and won handily, blanking the team from Letcher County.

There are over 150 players registered to play soccer in Floyd County during the spring season, many of whom are in the U6 and U8 age groups. The U6 and U8 teams do not travel, and play against each other on Thursday evenings at the Christ UMC fields.



The Floyd County U10 Dragons and the Breathitt County U10 team recently battled to a 1-1 tie.



Taylor Moak of the U14 Untied contested a player from the Belfry Kixx for possession of the soccer ball. The United successfully opened their season with a 5-1 win.



Warriors forward Ethan Filowiat displayed his athletic ability as he volleyed the ball toward the Belfry goal. The Warriors were victorious by a score of 4-2.



Fullback Tori Hunt of the U12 Tide cleared the ball away from her goal, against the offensive rush of U12 Galaxy forward Josh Clifton, during Saturday's game between the two Floyd County teams.

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POISON OAK

Remembering the mustard sandwich

If there's one thing at which I consider myself "pretty good at," it's food. They say experience is the best teacher, and eating is one thing I'm experienced in doing.



Clyde Pack

lunches from home when they planned a long-distance car trip. Remember, 40 or 50 miles could take half a day...or better. Remember also, when picnic tables were set up in shady areas along the highway?

Anyway, packing a lunch of fried chicken and potato salad was as much a part of planning for the trip, as was putting gas in the car and checking the tires, especially the spare.

Families could pull over whenever they got hungry and eat what had been smelling so good since they left home. Sometimes, especially if there were young children in the car, a family might drive up to 10 or 12 miles before the driver would be forced to give in, find a table, and have a nice lunch...three hours before noon.

It hasn't been that long ago, when the best hamburger in Paintsville came from Raymond Brugh's pool room, but if you wanted a plate lunch, you had to go to one of the two or three sit-down-and-eat restaurants in town, maybe Tommie's or Tive and Edna's.

Now, the yellow pages of our local phone book lists a zillion restaurants, mostly of the fast-food persuasion. And they're not just in town. They're all over the county.

But when I was a youngster growing up in Muddy Branch, it certainly wasn't like that. As a matter of fact, when I left home and went off to college, good eating places were a rarity in Richmond.

(See OAK, page three)

YESTERDAYS

(Items taken from The Floyd County Times, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 and 60 years ago.) page C2

INSIDESTUFF

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Big Sandy Singers perform for Fine Arts Extension Program ceremony

The Big Sandy Singers, a student performance group from Big Sandy Community and Technical College, entertained as part of the Fine Arts Extension Program Ceremony in Pikeville on Tues., March 29 at the Pike County Extension Agency. The group sang "Love Can Build a Bridge" at the end of the ceremony.

ny to commemorate the installation of the first Fine Arts Extension Program in the nation. Pikeville was chosen for the pilot program that will work to network music and visual artists and bring arts to Eastern Kentucky. Pictured

(See SINGERS, page three)



Floyd County 4-H Teen Council: Special kids helping out at special event



This Special Olympian enjoyed visiting "Olympic Village," set up underneath the stands at Josh Francis Field, following his event participation. Olympic Village was the idea of the Floyd County 4-H Teen Council which manned several game booths, offered face painting, and gave away souvenirs during the day of events.

Floyd County Special Olympics 2005

by Kathy J. Prater
FEATURES EDITOR

The weather couldn't have been more perfect, nor could those in attendance have been more enthusiastic for the Special Olympics event held Saturday morning, April 9, at Josh Francis Field, Prestonsburg.

Founded in 1968, by Eunice Kennedy Shriver, Special Olympics is an international organization that changes lives by promoting understanding, acceptance and inclusion between people with and without intellectual disabilities. For more than 1.4 million children and adults with intellectual disabilities, in more than

150 countries, Special Olympics provides a way in which they can realize their potential, develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage and experience friendship and joy in ways that mere words cannot express. Now in its third year in Floyd County, participation in the games is growing with each new season.

As the Special Olympics Athlete Oath was read over loudspeaker Saturday morning by area coordinator Ed Senig who repeated the words, "Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt," the symbolic running of the Olympic torch was conducted on field as tears welled in the eyes of onlookers. Underneath a clear blue sky, with a calming breeze softly blowing, Special Olympians of

(See OLYMPICS, page three)



Cindy Hackworth (leaning on table), Floyd County 4-H Advisory Council officer, directed the 4-H Teen Council in the operation of their Olympic Village project.

CRITTER CORNER

Thunderstorm Phobia

Part II

By Dr. Carol Combs-Morris, DVM

Last week I discussed thunderstorms and the anxiety they can cause in our pets, especially dogs. So is there anything we can do to help these animals?

There are some standard approaches that human and animal behaviorists use for treating any type of fear or phobia. (Remember that the definition of phobia is an intense and debilitating fear that is out of proportion to the actual threat present). Three of the most common methods used for dealing with fear are avoidance, desensitization, and counterconditioning.

Avoidance works great in some situations. I am afraid of heights, so I don't do

much of anything that involves being very far above the ground. Unfortunately, that's not so easy in the case of thunderstorms. As I mentioned last week, storms produce not only thunder and lightning, but wind, changes in air pressure, ozone production, and static electric charges. If you have a basement or interior room with no windows, it may actually help reduce a pet's fearful reaction by making the effects of the storm less intense. It's as close to avoidance as you are likely to get.

Desensitization is the process of reducing a fearful response to something by slowly increasing exposure to whatever causes

(See CRITTER, page three)



This is "Morgan," a nine year old Springer Spaniel that belongs to Dari and Tom McLaughlin, of Pennsylvania. The McLaughlins write: "Even at 9, Morgan is still as excited at life as she was when she was a puppy. Her favorite outing is going to the Flea Market with "Mom and Dad" on Saturday and Sunday mornings. We look for antiques - she looks for any food that people may have dropped and for the regular vendors who say hello and often give her doggie treats."

Kim Frasure

KIM'S KORNER

The changing 'Times'

As you guys are reading this week's column, I have just one day left as Advertising Manager of the Floyd County Times. And the roller coaster of emotions are most definitely mounting!

I am very excited to begin my new position and venture, and yet extremely sad to say good-bye to those I've worked alongside these past three years. To the advertisers I have worked with over the years, I want you to know how very much I appreciate each of you.

To my co-worker's, I will miss each of you so much! To "My Girls" aka (Ad Staff) Jamie, Erica, Kimi and Jessica, you are the true meaning of the word TEAMWORK! I am so very proud of you, and have been blessed beyond words to have had the opportunity to watch you grow these past few years.

You will never know how much you mean to me. I wish total success for the Times, and pray I will get to continue to submit my column each week. Until then, May God's Blessings be

(See KORNER, page three)




Bearly Cute

The Alpha Beta Epsilon Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at Hazard Community and Technical College is collected new and "bearly" used stuffed animals during March. Here they are shown with some of the 100 stuffed animals collected. Shown above, from left, are students Frances Everage, Kendra Francis, and Cynthia Osborne. The stuffed animals were donated to the Women's Crisis Shelter, Hazard Nursing Home, and Children's Ward at Hazard Appalachian Regional Hospital on March 25.

New reference librarian named at Lees

A new reference librarian the library plans to do a major review of books and materials. Also student services improvements are being implemented. Computer upgrades have been made through the assistance of the IT department and James King.


Cathy Branson

Cathy Branson has recently assumed the position of Reference Librarian at Lees. Cathy came to the Lees Campus in 1991 as a Library Assistant. She received her undergraduate degree from Morehead State University and her Library and Information Technology certification from Lexington Community College. She is currently enrolled in the Library Information Science Master's program at the University of Kentucky.

The next few months promise to be busy ones for the library. Collection development will be a priority and

The library hopes to expand its program offerings and continue with its archival work. Cathy notes, "The Lees College Campus Library has some unique items within its collection. Digitizing, conservation and preservation will help ensure that these items will be available in the future."

Ms. Branson succeeds Robert Hilton, who retired. She and husband, Hershel, live in Jackson with their 16-year-old son Seth.

Pageants



Congratulations, Emily!

Emily Grace Evans was recently crowned "Wee Miss East KY" and "Miss Photogenic" in a pageant held locally. Emily Grace is the 12-month old daughter of Bradley and Susan Evans, of Grethel. To claim her title, Emily competed against 70 other contestants from around the region. Emily enjoys watching "Dora the Explorer" and playing with family and friends.

Gurney Norman to Offer Fiction Workshops at HCTC

Gurney Norman will offer workshops for fiction writers as part of the 9th annual Hazard Community and Technical College Spring Writers Conference, on Friday, April 22 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in



Rick Bentley

the First Federal Center on the Hazard Campus.

Norman is the author of the short story collection entitled Kinfolks and of the novel Divine Right's Trip. He has also edited several anthologies and collections, most recently (with Danny Miller and Sharon Hatfield) a collection of essays about Appalachian Literature called An American Vein: Critical Readings in Appalachian Literature.

Tim Dunn, professor of English and co-contributor to An American Vein, explains says, "It's exciting to spend time with Gurney again. His popularity and his contributions to the world of letters as a teacher and writer are beyond compare. This workshop is a golden opportunity for anyone interested in writing."

Norman's workshops are always very popular, as he brings an enthusiasm to the work of other writers, whether they have some experience and success or they are just starting out. Norman says he especially likes the Hazard workshops as it gives him the opportunity to hear "the stories and the voices of my home place." He grew up in Perry County in the '40s and the '50s and returned to Hazard to work on the newspaper in the 1960s.

"I think this is a very exciting time for writers of the region as well as for the scholars who are treating the region's culture with respect and appreciation," says Norman. "It's a wonderful time to be writing in and about these mountains."

"It's part of a big, big week here in the mountains," continues Jenny Browning, "Gurney will be here for the conference, Frank X Walker will be here for Evening with Poets and we're hosting our second annual Writers Retreat on April 23 from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. here. And it's all free!"

There is no charge for the workshops, and no pre-registration necessary. If you have questions about the retreat in Hindman you may contact Jenny Browning at the Hindman Artisan Center, the phone number here is 606-785-9855 and her e-mail is enny.browning@kctcs.edu. Anyone with questions about Hazard Community & Technical College's Spring Writers Workshop or Evening With Poets can contact Scott Lucero at 606 487 3200 or email at Scott.Lucero@kctcs.edu.

Weddings Engagements



Engagement Announcement

Mr. and Mrs. John de La Fosse, of Bluffton, South Carolina, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Malissa (Molly) Thompson de La Fosse, of Durham, North Carolina, to Robertson Callaway Albright II, also of Durham.

Molly is the daughter of the late Malissa (Missy) Francis de La Fosse and the granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Fred G. Francis, formerly of Prestonsburg. She is a graduate of Meredith College, in Raleigh, North Carolina. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in French. Following a year of study in Montpellier, France, she taught at the L'Universite Catholique de l'ouest, in Angers, France. She currently is a French teacher with Durham Public Schools. Rob is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Alan Albright, of Gastonia, North Carolina. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism and Mass Communication from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He currently works in the Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, with the Council for Entrepreneurial Development.

A June 18th wedding is planned at University Presbyterian Church, in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.



Burk-Fields

Pauletta Burk, of Prestonsburg, and Johnny and Mary Fields, of Grapevine, are pleased to announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their children, Amanda Renee Burk and Joshua James Fields. Amanda is the maternal granddaughter of Arlene Blair, of Paintsville, and the late Ross Blair. She is the paternal granddaughter of Douglas Burk, of Prestonsburg, and the late Martha Burk. Joshua is the maternal grandson of Nellie Stanley, of Grapevine, and the late Sam Stanley. He is the paternal grandson of Helen Faye Fields, also of Grapevine, and the late James Fields. The couple will wed in a ceremony that will be held on Saturday, April 16, 2005, at half past two o'clock in the afternoon, at the Landmark Christian Church, in Prestonsburg.

Pam Shingler to address Jenny Wiley AARP

Pam Shingler, with Appalshop, in Whitesburg, will be the guest speaker at the meeting of Jenny Wiley Chapter No. 3528 AARP, to be held Friday, April 15, in the First Presbyterian Church, Prestonsburg.

The installation of new officers will also be conducted at this time.

Officers to be installed include James E. Goble, president; Irene Hester, vice-president; Elizabeth Castle, treasurer, and Marie Goble, secretary.

The meeting begins at 6 p.m., and all members and guests are encouraged to attend.



Pam Shingler

Pam Shingler is fund-raising director and producer at WMMT-FM, public community radio and a part of Appalshop, in Whitesburg. She is a former editor of the Floyd County Times and Appalachian News-Express and has done public relations and development work at the Eastern Kentucky Science Center, Prestonsburg Community College and The David School, as well as organizations in other states.

Let us show off your family pet!

Our pet photos file needs replenishing, and we know that you have lots of precious pics to share with us, so, please, send them along! And while you're at it, help Dr. Carol get her creative thoughts jumpstarted by sending along a few questions about "pet things you've always wanted to know but have been afraid to ask"!

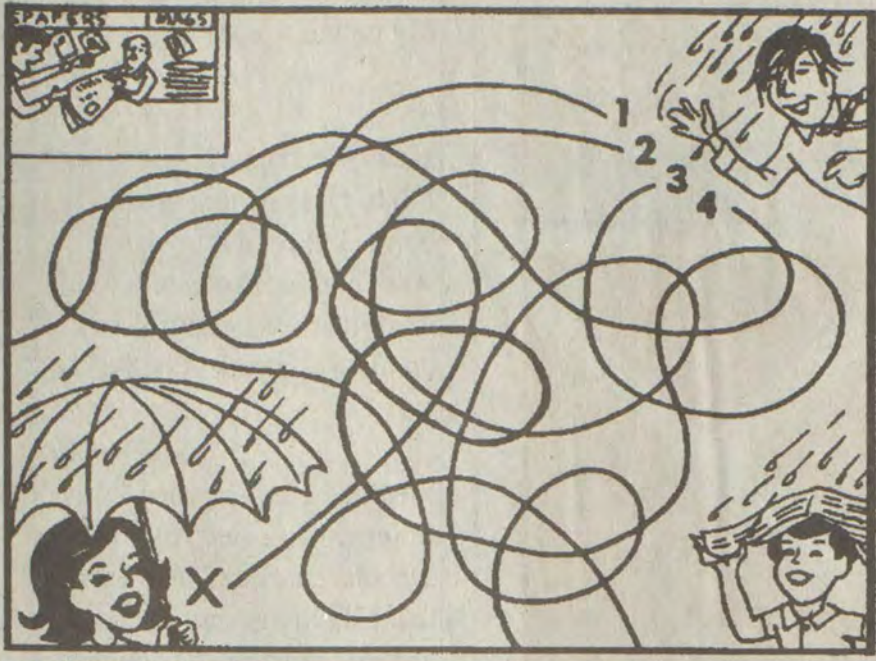
You can send both pictures and questions to: Kathy Prater at the Floyd County Times, P.O. Box 390, Prestonsburg, KY 41653, or you may e-mail to:

features@floydcountytimes.com.

Send questions only to Dr. Carol at: 1768 KY Rt. 7, Estill, KY 41666, or e-mail to: carolcac@tusa.net.

We will be waiting to hear from you!

COLORING PAGE



RAIN, DEAR! Hold that umbrella, I'll be there in a jiffy. Maybe. Which route—1, 2, 3 or 4—reaches X?

MAKES CENTS! "If they stop making pennies," said the miser, "I will have to pinch CLIKENS." Rearrange cap letters for a seven-letter word that makes sense.

The word is NICKELS.

THINK BIG! While amounts may seem formidable in the exercise at right, they require but simple addition. Object is to fill blanks so that the total of each row across, down and diagonally is 195.

12 30 33 39 42 45 69 96

Missing number in first vertical row obviously is 96. Further clue: Either 42 or 39 belongs in top right corner.

row: 54,30,33,78; bottom: 24,69,63,39.

Across, top row: 21,45,87,42; second row: 96,51,12,36; next

Junior Whirl

by Hal Kaufman

P	I	T	C	H	E	T
L	U	H	O	K	U	A
A	N	M	I	O	G	B
Y	E	R	P	T	A	A
R	T	A	U	S	T	L
S	A	F	E	N	I	L

LET'S PLAY BALL WORD-FINDER

SOME 15 baseball terms listed below may be spelled out in the word-finder diagram at left.

To find them, start at a word's initial letter, move horizontally, vertically or diagonally (backward or forward) to adjacent letters. Outline each word as you find it. Word list:

- | | | |
|------|--------|-------|
| play | ball | safe |
| out | ump | base |
| bat | hit | run |
| line | tag | pitch |
| farm | strike | homer |

See how quickly you can find all the words.

Time limit: Two minutes.

"Play" and "ball" obviously are already outlined.

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