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SHELBY VALLEY PENALIZED

briefs

One killed in Magoffin explosion

ROYALTON — An explosion in Royalton, in Magoffin County, on Thursday night sent out toxic fumes which overwhelmed firemen and members of the sheriff's department which responded to the call. Thinking that the explosion and resulting vapors could be explained by a meth lab explosion, the department called in the Kentucky State Police Meth Lab Response Team. The team was able to rule out that the site contained a meth lab but the explosion did prove tragic for Gary Thomas Wilkie, 59, of Royalton. Wilkie was fatally wounded in the fire which occurred at his residence. The investigation, being handled by Det. Dwayne Price, has so far only revealed that the explosion was initiated by Wilkie, but no other details have been released.

Mother to be sentenced in abuse case

PRESTONSBURG — A Floyd County woman who pleaded guilty last month to 14 counts of criminal abuse is scheduled for formal sentencing tomorrow in circuit court.

Georgia Hall, 35, of Galveston, is expected to receive a suspended sentence according to an agreed order in the case. Hall, originally charged with 16 counts of first-degree criminal abuse, agreed to a plea offer from the commonwealth that recommended the dismissal of two charges against her and concurrent five-year sentences for the other 14 charges. Those sentences, the commonwealth agreed, will be suspended and Hall will be placed under supervised probation for five years. She was arrested in February 2002 at McDowell ARH Hospital, a few hours after the arrest of her husband, Ansel Hall, who was charged with 13 counts of criminal abuse and one count of wanton endangerment. The indictments against the couple alleged that Ansel Hall tortured his adopted son by using a horse whip to strike the child on the legs, calf, back, stomach, hip

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(See ABUSE, page three)



Circuit Judge John David Caudill swore in Prestonsburg city council members Monday. From left to right are Kay Ross, Donna Wells and Diana Kaye Fish.

New council takes oath

PRESTONSBURG — New year, new opportunities, new ideas. That's what city council members say is up and coming with their 2005 agenda. Circuit Judge John David Caudill, gowned and smiling, swore in the Prestonsburg's new city council Monday night. Former council members William Kelly Moore, Donna Wells and Danny Hamilton held their hands up in allegiance alongside new members Diana Fish, Phillip Chaffins, Gormon Collins Jr. and Kay Ross. Returning member Harry Adams was not present.

"I'm really excited," said Donna Wells. "It's a new year, we have new ideas, and you have more women on the council and that's exciting." The new members replace former council members Jimmy Joe Derossett, Hansel Cooley, Robert Allen and C.E. "Shag" Branham, who did not seek reelection in November. "I'm looking forward to this next year, we've got some real good council members who will do for our city the best job possible," Moore said. After taking their oath, council members sat down to briefly discuss the need to designate meeting times and various committees. Mayor Jerry Fannin requested that members turn

in their committee selections by Jan. 12. Two Prestonsburg residents will work with council members on the bid processing committee, Fannin said, later adding that doing so would increase communication in the community and stop the "hearsay" about city administration. Fannin and the newly elected members say that the city council will work together to "improve" the city this term. Chaffins, a 53-year resident of Prestonsburg who ran for city council because "things weren't going the way" he thought they should with

Thornsberry seeks dismissal

PRESTONSBURG — Floyd Circuit court will consider a motion this week to dismiss the case against Rodney Thornsberry, a West Virginia inmate serving time in federal prison for cocaine trafficking. Thornsberry, 48, a former Bypro resident who is currently incarcerated at the Beckley Federal Corrections Institution in Beaver, W.Va., was

Burke pleads guilty to drugstore heist

PRESTONSBURG — Brian Burke, 32, of Prestonsburg, was arraigned in circuit court Tuesday for his part in a burglary of Med Zone Pharmacy on Route 3 near Highlands Regional Medical Center on July 27. Burke had been indicted for the crime in November but failed to show up for arraignment. He was brought in over the holiday weekend after he was arrested by

Seven inmates get GED

PRESTONSBURG — The overcrowding in prisons across the country has lessened the focus on rehabilitation and turned more attention to warehousing. The Floyd County Detention Center has also been overcrowded of late, but that hasn't stopped the facility from offering its GED program. This week saw seven inmates

obtain their GEDs with the help of teacher Erica Ash, of the David School. Jailer Roger Webb got the seven inmates together for a photo. He spoke to many of the inmates and congratulated them on their efforts. "When you're out there looking for work, this diploma will be a good thing to have," Webb said.



Floyd County Jailer Roger Webb, fourth from right, posed with seven inmates who completed the GED program at the jail. Guards were also happy to pose with the inmates who participated in the program.

Legislature opens with unfinished business

FRANKFORT — The 2005 General Assembly opened Tuesday with unfinished business in the form of an unpassed budget and an unfilled Senate seat. Gov. Ernie Fletcher would add

taxes to the list of leftovers. He wants legislators to enact changes in the tax code that he believes will entice more business activity and add some dollars to the General Fund. And Sen. David Boswell, D-Owensboro, wants his colleagues to finally deal with the matter of

casino gambling. One proposal would have an up-or-down vote in the legislature or, alternatively, a constitutional amendment where the voters get to decide. It will be only the third time the legislature has convened in a regular session in an odd-numbered year. Voters approved the

extra 30-day sessions in a constitutional amendment in 2000. The session must end by March 30. The first four working days are set aside for organizational matters, such as selecting presiding officers and making committee assignments. In the House, three Democratic leader-

2 DAY FORECAST Today Showers High: 63 • Low: 53 Thursday Showers High: 56 • Low: 28 For up-to-the-minute forecasts, see floydcountytimes.com

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Odds & Ends

■ **BROWNSVILLE, Texas** — Some Texans are hoping to turn a rare snowfall into some cold cash.

A 23-year-old Brownsville man has put a three-pound snowball he collected during an unprecedented Rio Grande Valley Christmas snowfall on the eBay auction block.

Brownsville received 1.5 inches of snow Christmas Eve and Christmas morning, its first measurable snow since Feb. 14, 1895, according to the National Weather Service.

"It's an amazing historical event," seller Oscar J. Garza said. "They've been selling so much stuff on eBay I thought I'd get a good laugh and if I make a little money out of it, oh well."

Garza's ball of snow was going for \$20.50 early Tuesday — plus a \$20 shipping charge — with bidding ending on Saturday. Seventeen people had placed bids so far.

Garza isn't the only one trying to cash in on the wintry wonderland. Another seller

was asking \$250,000 for a bowl of Christmas snow from Corpus Christi, sold "as is" without warranty. There were no takers as of early Tuesday.

■ **MIAMI** — Residents could be forgiven for doing a double-take when an alligator weighing more than 400 pounds was yanked out of a downtown creek — so big it had to be hoisted out by a fire truck.

The 12-foot alligator was discovered in Wagner Creek, about 16 miles from the Everglades, in the shadow of two major hospital complexes and around the corner from a veterans' medical center, a court house, a county jail and government office buildings.

It was "about the last place you'd expect to see an alligator of any size," said trapper Todd Hardwick. Alligators are much more common in suburban canals and lakes.

Hardwick and others wrapped a rope around the middle of the gator Monday and attached the other end to a

ladder fire truck, which hoisted the reptile out of the water.

Then Hardwick and two wildlife officers sat on the gator while an assistant secured its jaws shut with duct tape. "He used the entire roll," Hardwick said.

The alligator likely swam downtown years ago, when it was smaller, and lived in the canal system draining the Miami Civic Center, emerging only to snatch raccoons and opossums from the bank, Hardwick said.

Because of its size, Hardwick said he will try to find a farm, zoo or other facility to keep it. Otherwise, the gator will be destroyed. "He's a big, beautiful, proud animal and I respect that," Hardwick said.

■ **ATTLEBORO, Mass.** — Terri and Mike Gavel now know timing is everything.

For the second straight year, the parents are the winners of the first baby contest at Sturdy Memorial Hospital.

Their daughter Kelsey was born 9:37 p.m. on New Year's Day. A year ago, big sister Rory Ann was born at 12:16 a.m. Jan. 2, 2004.

"I'm still shocked that it actually happened the second year in a row — no planning, no nothing," said mom Terri Gavel, 30. "It's a little unreal right now, still."

As winners of the contest, Terri and Mike Gavel, 36, receive a variety of donated gifts.

Both girls arrived before their due dates. Rory Ann arrived six days early, while Kelsey was a day early.

"It's something that we'll be able to tell our kids when they're older and they understand," Terri Gavel said. "It's going to be neat for them."

■ **LOGAN, Utah** — The fight over a woman's desire to run a colon cleansing service out of her home has gotten down and dirty.

Colette Yates says she has invested two years and roughly \$40,000 on her home business, which focuses on removing waste from the large intestine by injecting water into the colon, where it loosens and softens waste.

But while colon hydrotherapy is a licensed procedure in other states, it is considered only a homeopathic method in Utah.

The Providence Planning Commission recently recommended denial of Yates' request for a permit. Commissioners said they wanted to avoid setting a precedent of allowing medically oriented businesses in residential neighborhoods.

Yates said last week that commissioners are wary because they're not familiar with the procedure, though she provided them with detailed videos and literature. But commissioners ques-

tioned Yates on how she would safely monitor the water pressure and how she would dispose of waste.

"I haven't heard anything negative about it — and I've been asking — but I think it belongs in a chiropractic office," said Commissioner Kristina Lamborn, who voted to recommend denying the permit. "I feel very strongly about that."

■ **CHICAGO** — The Eastern tiger salamander inched closer to the title of state amphibian, while slow and steady was the apparent winning strategy for the painted turtle in the state's reptile race.

More than 75,000 votes were cast since the finalists for official state recognition were announced in August, Lt. Gov. Pat Quinn said Saturday. The vote ended at midnight Friday.

"While the candidates may live in the muck, they didn't sling any mud in this election. Not one of them went negative," Quinn said.

The Eastern tiger salamander received 51 percent of the vote in the amphibian category, garnering about 8,600 more votes than the gray tree frog, which earned 28 percent of the vote, and the American toad, which got 21 percent.

"The toad and the frog kind of split up the vote and allowed the salamander to slip in," Quinn noted.

The reptile race was tighter — about 4,800 votes separated the painted turtle, which got 45 percent of the vote, from the garter snake, which received 32 percent of the vote. The Eastern box turtle plodded along in third place with 23 percent.

Quinn said he expects quick action by the state Legislature to consider adopting the Eastern tiger salamander as the official state

amphibian and the painted turtle as the official state reptile. If adopted, they will join a list of 17 other state symbols, from state tree — the white oak — to state fossil, the Tully monster.

"Historically, they've approved the people's choice in the past," Quinn said.

■ **ALBION, Ind.** — Republican Diann Bortner and Democrat Bonnie Summe were once notorious office swappers. Those days have now ended.

Bortner and Summe traded treasurer and clerk jobs in Noble County every eight years to skirt a state law on term limits. But Summe, 73, retired last year after 33 1/2 years in government.

Summe and Bortner, who now takes over as treasurer after eight years as clerk, were elected for years with and without opponents.

Because state law limits treasurers and clerks to eight years of continuous tenure in each elected position, they informally arranged to switch offices every eight years.

From 1981 to 1988, Bortner served as Noble County clerk, Summe served as county treasurer. For the next two terms, Bortner served as treasurer while Summe served as clerk. In 1996, they swapped again.

Although Summe and Bortner aren't really friends and are from different political parties, they said their office-swapping arrangement just sort of worked out.

"It's a compliment that the people think enough of you to re-elect you," Bortner said.

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 5, the fifth day of 2005. There are 360 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Jan. 5, 1925, Nellie T. Ross succeeded her late husband as governor of Wyoming, becoming the first female governor in U.S. history.

On this date:

■ In 1589, Catherine de Medici of France died at age 69.

■ In 1781, a British naval expedition led by Benedict Arnold burned Richmond, Va.

■ In 1895, French Captain Alfred Dreyfus, convicted of treason, was publicly stripped of his rank. (He was ultimately vindicated.)

■ In 1896, an Austrian newspaper ("Wiener Presse") reported the discovery by German physicist Wilhelm Roentgen of a type of radiation that came to be known as "X-rays."

■ In 1933, the 30th president of the United States, Calvin Coolidge, died in Northampton, Mass., at age 60.

■ In 1949, in his State of the Union address, President Truman labeled his administration the "Fair Deal."

■ In 1970, Joseph A. Yablonski, an unsuccessful candidate for the presidency of the United Mine Workers of America, was found murdered

with his wife and daughter at their Clarksville, Pa., home. UMWA President Anthony Boyle and three others were convicted of the killings.

■ In 1975, "The Wiz," a musical version of L. Frank Baum's "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz" featuring an all-black cast, opened on Broadway.

■ In 1994, Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill, former speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, died in Boston at age 81.

■ In 1998, Sonny Bono, the 1960s pop star-turned-politician, was killed when he struck a tree while skiing in South Lake Tahoe, Calif.; he was 62.

Ten years ago: President Clinton received Republican congressional leaders at the White House, declaring that "we can do a lot of business together" on reforming the way government works.

Five years ago: Touching off angry protests by Cuban-Americans in Miami, the U.S. government decided to send 6-year-old Elian Gonzalez back to Cuba. (After a legal battle, and the seizure of Elian from the home of his U.S. relatives, the boy was returned to Cuba in June.) Democratic presidential candidates Al Gore and Bill Bradley engaged in a feisty debate in Durham, N.H.

One year ago: Foreigners arriving at U.S. airports were

photographed and had their fingerprints scanned in the start of a government effort to keep terrorists out of the country. NASA released a 3-D, black-and-white panoramic picture of the bleak surface of Mars snapped by the newly landed rover, Spirit. China confirmed its first SARS case since an outbreak was contained in July 2003. After 14 years of denials, Pete Rose publicly admitted that he'd bet on baseball while manager of the Cincinnati Reds. Baseball pitcher Tug McGraw died near Nashville, Tenn., at age 59.

Today's Birthdays: Former Vice President Walter F. Mondale is 77. Actor Robert Duvall is 74. Football Hall-of-Fame coach Chuck Noll is 73. King Juan Carlos of Spain is 67. Talk show host Charlie Rose is 63. Actress-director Diane Keaton is 59. R&B musician George "Funky" Brown (Kool and the Gang) is 56. Rock musician Chris Stein (Blondie) is 55. Actor Clancy Brown is 46. Singer Iris Dement is 44. Rock musician Kate Schellenbach (Luscious Jackson) is 39. Actress Heather Paige Kent is 36. Rock singer Marilyn Manson is 36.

Thought for Today: "In aging, one becomes more foolish and more wise." — Francois, Duc de La Rochefoucauld, French author (1613-1680).

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Former board member pleads guilty to DUI

by TOM DOTY
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Glenna Slone, 42, of Hueysville, who just completed her term on the Floyd County school board last week, pleaded guilty to one charge of driving under the influence in district court Tuesday.

Slone was arrested for DUI on New Year's Eve after she consented to a breathalyzer test conducted at a checkpoint that was set up in Hueysville.

The arrest followed Slone's last appearance at a Board of Education meeting held at South Floyd High school last week, where she was honored by Supt. Dr. Paul Fanning and lauded for her achievements, which included retaining the services of substance abuse counselors for stu-

dents that will be paid for by Operation UNITE.

Slone also mentioned at the meeting that she favored drug testing for school employees. At the meeting, she implored members of the board to volunteer for such testing, saying, "After all, if we aren't going to do it, why would we expect others to?"

At the checkpoint Slone failed a coordination test and also scored a 0.14 on a breathalyzer exam. Kentucky law considers a driver impaired when he or she has a blood-alcohol level of 0.08.

Slone pleaded guilty to the offenses and received a fine of \$200 and was ordered to pay court costs in the amount of \$470. She surrendered her driver's license as well but can reapply for one in 90 days after she completes an alcohol and drug education program.

Abuse

and both arms; for causing trauma to the child's chest with a cattle prod; and for striking the boy's legs and hips with a wooden paddle. The abuse allegedly occurred between July 2001 and January 2002.

In the plea agreement order, the commonwealth says that Georgia

Hall was not "primarily involved in direct physical abuse of the victim but permitted the abuse to happen at the hands of the codefendant" in the case.

"This defendant's testimony is helpful towards the goal of ascertaining the truth and making sure

that the primary abuser is appropriately punished and to see that justice is done," Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Wayne Taylor wrote in the agreement.

Circuit Judge Danny P. Caudill is scheduled to carryout the sentencing tomorrow at 1 p.m.

Continued from p1

GED

Webb's aim is to give the inmates a better chance at success than they had going into the jail and the program appears to be doing the job as far as giving confidence to inmates as they re-enter society.

The guards at the facility were also proud of the work done by the inmates and several were happy to pose with them to celebrate their achievements. One prisoner felt awkward about appearing in a

photo in their uniform but was persuaded by a guard who offered, "Let them all see how you used this time right. There are people out there who didn't think you could do it."

Webb noted that the program at the jail is sponsored by a grant from the David School. The cost of the testing is paid for by the prisoners themselves out of funds generated by the in-house com-

missary that they run.

"They deserve most of the credit," Webb said.

Continued from p1

Guilty

felony offender.

The persistent felon had to do with an earlier conviction for criminal mischief that involved breaking into the Wilson Equipment Company in 1998. That act saw Burke get a five-year sentence.

The videotape of the crime was reviewed by authorities who could only make out Burke, who they said did not wear a complete face mask like his accomplices. He was spotted on the tape by Lt. Greg Clark, of the Floyd County Sheriff's Department, who had worked the scene of a single-car accident involving Burke three hours after the burglary.

Prestonsburg Police responded to the Highlands Regional Medical Center and found a fair amount of prescription drugs in Burke's car while he was seeking treatment for his accident.

No other arrests have been made in the case, although authorities say that there were definitely three men caught on the store's videotape surveillance system.

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Continued from p1

Session

To pass anything related to a budget or taxes, both chambers must approve the bills by a three-fifths margin — 60 of 100 votes in the House and 23 of 38 in the Senate.

Disagreements between Fletcher and his Republican allies who run the Senate and the majority House Democrats torpedoed budget and tax action in 2004. While both sides have been talking about a renewed spirit of bipartisanship in recent weeks, it will likely be tested once negotiations over specific spending and tax matters begins.

Ordinarily, the first order of business would be to swear in all the House members and the one-half of the Senate elected in 2004. But the outcome of the 37th District seat in the Senate is still in doubt, and that could provide a bit of drama when the gavel falls at noon EST.

While Republican Dana Seum Stephenson received more votes in unofficial returns from the Jefferson County district, a judge ruled that she did not live in the district for the required six years before the election. Democrat Virginia Woodward successfully challenged in court and the State Board of Elections certified her the winner. Woodward

took the oath of office over the weekend, but Senate President David Williams said no one will be seated from that district until the Senate considers the matter.

Senate Republican floor leader Dan Kelly of Springfield declined early Tuesday to say whether senators would even be sworn in before the committee is selected to consider the election contest.

Woodward walked into the Senate chamber shortly before the session began and took the seat that did not have a nameplate. Meanwhile, Stephenson sat in the front row of the upstairs gallery.

Other items on the agenda could range from making the Pioneer Playhouse in Danville the official outdoor theater capital of Kentucky to an income tax checkoff for breast cancer research.

And, as with anytime the General Assembly is in session, various groups will gather to petition for a redress of grievances. First up for 2005 are some of the state's corrections officers, who will gather to ask that the new prison in Elliott County not be turned over to a private contractor for operation, as the Fletcher administration has pondered.

Council

Continued from p1

previous administrations, said the city should find better ways to improve the sewer system.

Currently, Prestonsburg is in the second phase of a \$250,000 grant-funded project to remodel

the Senior Citizens Center. The city will also be working with funding issues for projects at Stonecrest and the Mountain Arts Center, where a new school of music has been proposed.

Motion

Continued from p1

arrested in March 2003, the result of an undercover state police investigation into drug trafficking in southern Floyd County.

That four-month investigation also led to the arrests of Thornsberry's brother, Harold Glenn Thornsberry, of Wheelwright, and Vernon Slone, 47, of Bevinville, who each were indicted in U.S. District Court for similar drug trafficking charges. The Commonwealth's Attorney's office charged the men, collectively, with 13 counts of cocaine trafficking in December 2003.

Charges against Thornsberry came about after a confidential informant purchased cocaine from him on three separate in March 2003. The transactions were audio

and video recorded, documents say. He pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court to three counts of cocaine distribution and has been in federal custody since that time.

Pikeville public advocate Jim Adkins filed a motion to dismiss the case against Thornsberry last month, arguing that the commonwealth's superseding indictment against Thornsberry could be prohibited by a state statute that forbids "unfair or oppressive prosecution" or by the double jeopardy clause of the U.S. and state constitutions.

Thornsberry is currently serving time on charges that resulted from the same investigation, Adkins argues.

The hearing is scheduled for 1 p.m. on Friday.

In Loving Memory Jessica Nicole Newsome

July 21, 1983-December 17, 2004



Our true friend, Jessica As friends we have shared happy times and sad ones too.

The saddest day for us was when we lost you.

The day our hearts broke not wanting to believe, You were so young and full of life

How could you be gone?

We wondered, why did your time come so soon; God does have a plan and he knew what was best for you.

God will hold your hand and lead you to a better place;

Knowing you're safe with him gives us peace in his mercy and grace.

Now that you're gone our hearts feel so heavy, Tears fill our eyes at the thoughts of so many memories.

The times we talked, laughed, and enjoyed each other, Time will never erase these cherished memories.

When our lives on earth come to an end, We pray our friendships will be renewed in Heaven again.

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In the upper right photo is a black eight-year-old chihuahua, a housebroken female who is extremely friendly, despite suffering from fleas at the moment. The lower left picture is of two of a litter of six-week-old kittens, who are now eating soft food on their own.



The Floyd County Animal Shelter is located at Sally Stephens Branch in west Prestonsburg. The shelter is open from 10:00 to 5:00 Monday through Friday and 10:00 to 3:00 Saturdays, and can be reached by phone at (606) 886-3189.

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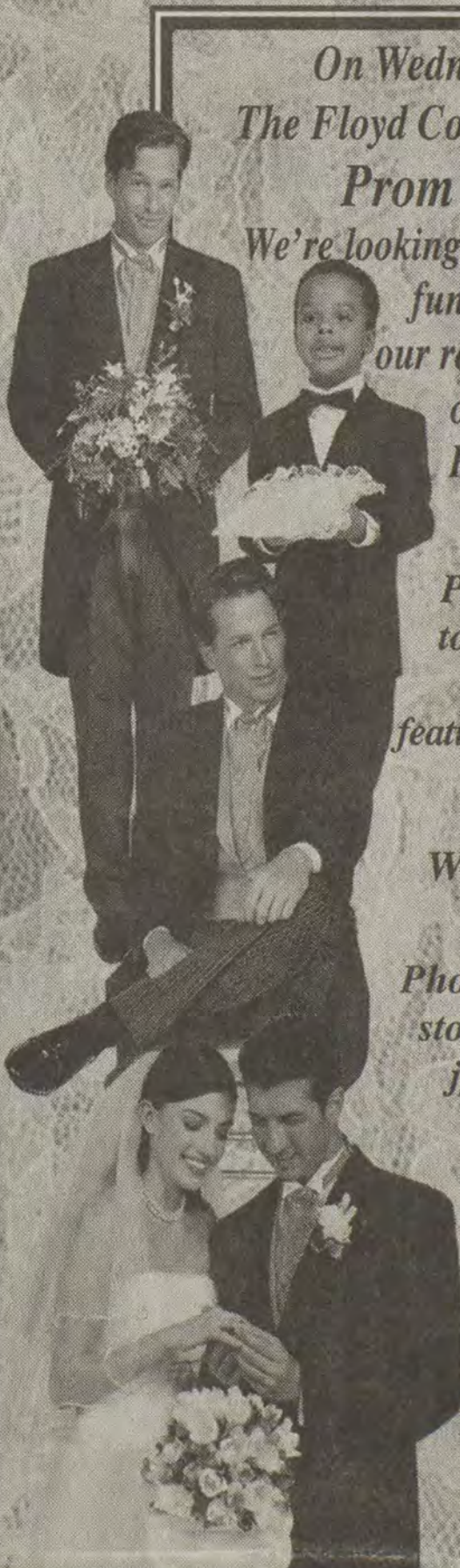
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Viewpoint

Amendment 1

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people to peaceably assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

Worth Repeating ...

"If you want to make enemies, try to change something."

—Woodrow Wilson

Guest View

Pay now or pay later

Kentucky and Indiana didn't respond quickly enough to what has now emerged as an epidemic of methamphetamine addiction in many of the poorest and most isolated rural communities in both states.

Some people refer to meth, or crank, as "the poor man's cocaine."

It's highly addictive, includes several ingredients that can be purchased at any drug store, and has been known to cause brain damage in frequent users.

Playing catch-up in containing the epidemic is not only taxing local police, prosecutors and jailers but also overwhelming child protective authorities, who must take custody of meth addicts' children, and rehab centers, which are badly underfunded and oversubscribed, according to The Courier-Journal's series "Meth: A Rising Blight."

The states, however, can and must do much more, said many who were interviewed.

One state that offers a useful example is Oklahoma, which started to succeed in fighting the war on meth once its lawmakers adopted legislation to track and limit over-the-counter drugstore sales of cold and allergy medicines containing pseudoephedrine, a key ingredient for making meth.

The law requires those purchasing targeted medicines to sign a log and be limited in how much they're allowed to buy at

any one time.

On that score, Indiana is ahead of Kentucky.

Hoosier legislators set up the Indiana Methamphetamine Abuse Task Force last spring, and that group has recommended legislation that the General Assembly is expected to consider, starting next month. No such bills have yet been filed in Kentucky for consideration by the 2005 session of its General Assembly.

Kentucky does spend about \$25 million annually to treat addicts, and, according to a University of Kentucky survey, that effort is paying off.

Treatment is estimated to have saved about \$100 million that otherwise would have been spent to prosecute and incarcerate those individuals.

Moreover, 60 percent of addicts in the UK survey who were treated in publicly funded programs reported staying off illegal drugs.

The good news is that more people are taking the meth crisis seriously. Indictments of those who make and sell meth in Kentucky are way up.

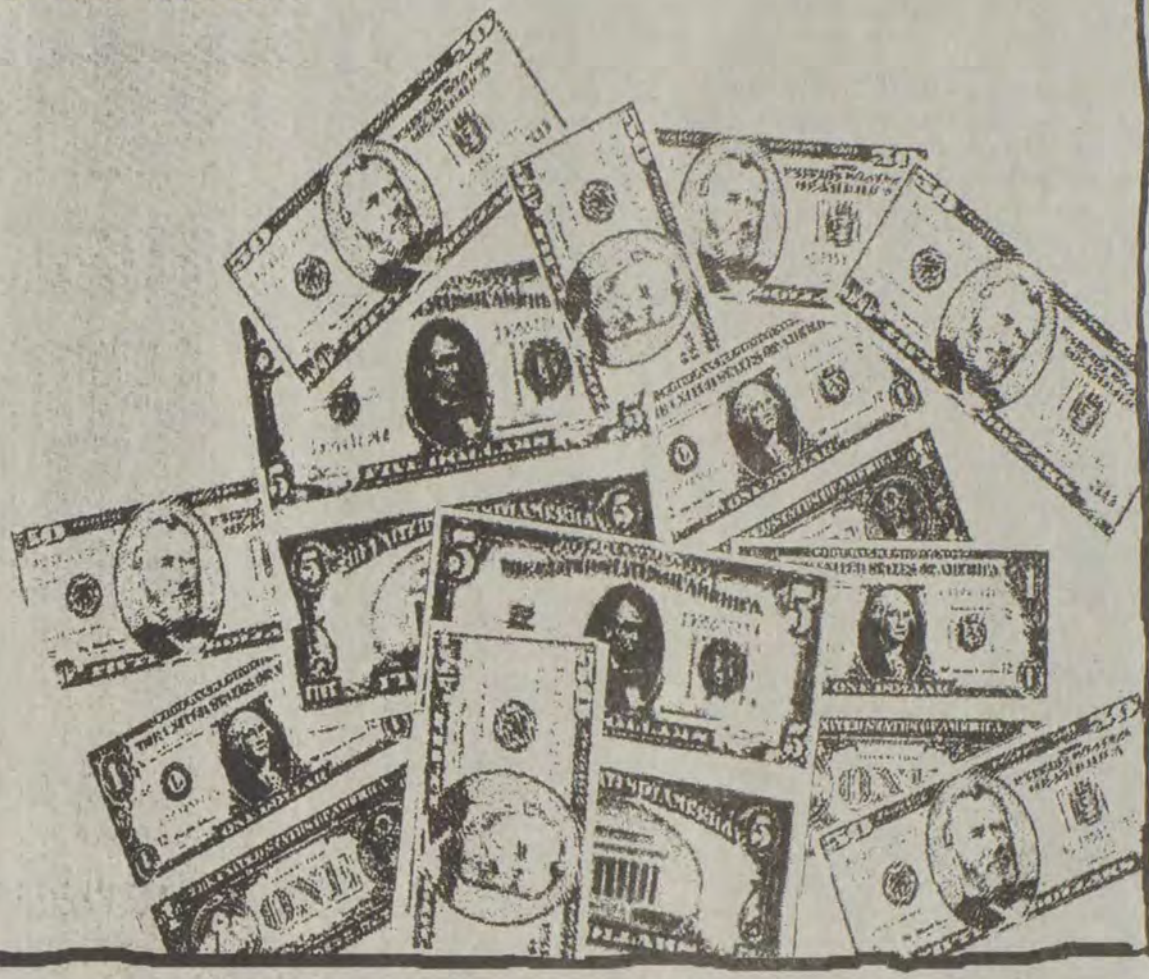
The bad news is that neither Kentucky nor Indiana legislators have plans for generating the money necessary to get the whole job done.

The larger truth here is that we can either pay now or, if this scourge isn't brought under control, pay even more later.

— The Courier-Journal, Louisville

ADDITIONAL PRESIDENTS THAT CAN AID IN THE TSUNAMI RELIEF EFFORT:

2040 GARY NEWS SERVICE
GARY MARKSTEIN



Capitol Ideas

Campaign finance task force could result in new proposals

by JOE BIESK
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — Some sweeping proposals to alter Kentucky's campaign finance laws could be in the works soon.

The Kentucky Registry of Election Finance has formed an advisory task force to study the state's campaign finance laws and make recommendations for improvements that would need legislative action.

While task forces are not uncommon in Frankfort, this one is expected to represent many of the Capital city's political powerbrokers.

That could mean its recommendations would have some added clout if its proposals get before the legislature, Secretary of State Trey Grayson said in a telephone interview. The task force's lineup could also help eliminate some of the politics from the process, he said.

"If we can come up with recommendations, I would think that the General Assembly would give it a lot of weight," said Grayson, who will sit on the committee.

The panel is expected to have repre-

sentatives from the House and Senate, the judiciary, the governor's office, the attorney general's office and the Democratic and Republican parties, registry chairman John Rogers said. County clerks, lobbyists and campaign treasurers are also supposed to be represented, Rogers said.

"We want folks that interact with campaign finance from all different angles," Rogers said.

Still, suggestions or proposals from the panel aren't expected to be ready for the 2005 General Assembly; its first meeting is scheduled for Jan. 26. But legislative proposals "realistically" could be prepared for 2006, Rogers said.

Requiring more political candidates to file their financial reports electronically is likely to be a topic for discussion, Rogers said. Other potential areas include independent expenditures by advocate groups and possible changes to contribution limits, he said.

"Nothing is off limits," he said.

"Everything is acceptable to look at," Grayson said there should be more "transparency" in the state's campaign finance disclosures including mandator-

ily, he said. There should also be a transition away from public financing, Grayson said.

Richard Beliles, state chairman of the advocacy group Common Cause, said he was hoping the panel addresses a 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruling in January that has "wreaked havoc" on the state's campaign finance laws.

The ruling struck down part of the state's law that included loans as campaign contributions and limited them to \$50,000 per election. Among other things, the court also struck down the prohibition of cash contributions to gubernatorial slates and of accepting contributions after an election.

Beliles, who will be a panelist and is a registry member, said having a wide range of participants could be a "pragmatic approach" to changing state law.

It's a chance for lawmakers and others to "try to come together to see where we can ameliorate some of the holes that have been blown in our election laws," Beliles said.

Joe Biesk is a statehouse reporter for The Associated Press.

Letters

Jr. Pro answers needs

While a lot of parents give their children and their children's friends support with their extracurricular activities, many are uncertain on how they can best get involved. With the time stressors in every family's life, it can get difficult to know how best to direct your energies.

I've been searching for some of the most concise information for you as parents and grandparents to read through and get ideas for keeping your kids clean in play and in sports.

It's not hard to find your niche in your community. Kids need you to be involved in their extracurricular lives by:

- Coaching
- Chaperoning

- Reading to children
- Driving or transporting
- Camp counseling
- Teaching (e.g., dance or art)
- Mentoring
- Assisting students with homework
- Assisting with school-based activities

- Assisting at special events
- Starting a youth league
- Taking your child to a game
- Playing catch

Believe it or not, all of these activities can curb early drug use by your child and your friends' children.

I am very thankful for the opportunity to have volunteered with the Martin Jr. Pro Basketball League for 19 consecutive years. The league has served the youth of our community for nearly 30 years now.

The need for community coalitions enlarges every day as we face the waste of our youth lives to the drug abuse of

today.

You may ask what are community coalitions? They are localized partnerships between parents, teachers, youth, law enforcement, the faith community, health providers, elected officials, and other citizens concerned about the effects of alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs.

By connecting multiple sectors of the community in a strategy that promotes coordination and collaboration, coalitions are reducing substance abuse and drug-related violence.

Special thanks to Martin Jr. Pro Basketball League President Johnny Mayo and League Director Patsy Gearheart for there many years of volunteer service.

Martin Jr. Pro games are played in the Denzil "Hoss" Halbert Gym Friday nights and Saturday mornings.

Renee D. Thornberry
Martin

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.

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Health Extra

Cancer research yields clues to why hair turns gray

by RANDOLPH E. SCHMID
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — No doubt many researchers have gotten gray hair trying to find ways to defeat cancer. Now a team of scientists says gray hair itself may yield clues to fighting that deadly disease.

It turns out that melanoma, the most dangerous type of skin cancer, involves melanocytes, the cells that help color hair and skin.

So researchers at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston decided to investigate what happens when these cells become depleted, allowing hair to go gray.

"Preventing the graying of hair is not our goal," said senior researcher Dr. David E. Fisher. "What we really want is to come up with treatments for melanoma."

The scalp contains a reservoir of adult stem cells that provide a continuous supply of these color-making cells, they found. But as the body ages, these cells become depleted and sometimes begin to develop in the wrong part of the hair follicle.

The research, published online Thursday by the journal *Science*, originally focused on mice. But the team also studied human scalp tissue at various ages and found a similar pattern of cell depletion.

It was known that the pigment was not well transferred into gray hair, but the actual mechanism had not been understood, Emi K. Nishimura, a co-author of the paper, said in a telephone interview.

She said a gene called Bcl 2 is essential to maintain melanocytes. The researchers found that when they raised mice lacking this gene the animals went gray quickly and dramatically shortly after birth.

Fisher suggested that people who get gray prematurely may have a mutation of this gene.

The question they now want to answer is why the melanocyte cells begin dying off as the body ages.

These cells are generally good at surviving, being able to live through ultraviolet radiation — at the beach, for example — that would kill many other cells. That can be good when people go out in the sun, because the melanocytes produce pigment that protects the skin.

Unfortunately, they retain that ability to survive when they become cancerous, Fisher said.

So, he said, the researchers wondered if they could find a back door to killing the cells by studying how they die naturally, and that's what led to their research on graying.

By understanding how genes like Bcl 2 protect the cells, what pathways they act on, Fisher said, the scientists can look for ways to block that action with a drug.

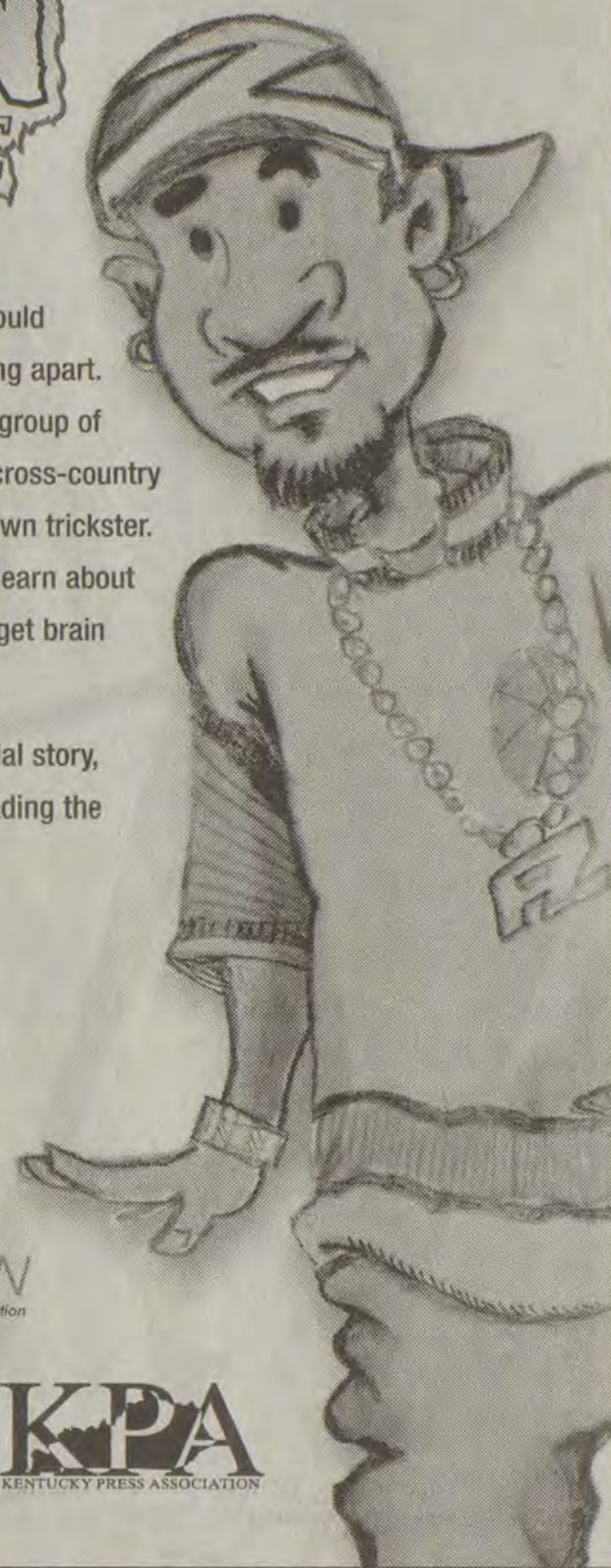
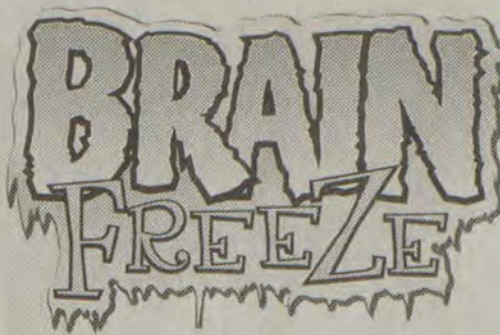
"We have a number of ideas ... the work is moving," Fisher said. "I cannot say that we have drugs in our hands, but we have targets."

The American Cancer Society expects about 55,100 people to be diagnosed this year with melanoma, the most serious form of skin cancer, with an estimated 7,910 deaths.

Melanoma can be cured when it is detected and treated early, but if the lesion penetrates deeply into the skin it is often fatal. Sun exposure is a major risk factor in the disease, which has been increasing in the past few decades.

The research was supported by the National Institutes of Health, the Charles A. King Trust of Fleet National Bank and The Medical Foundation.

This rapper put the "man" in "mansion"



Rap star FreeZee's huge home could replace a local school that's falling apart.

But to win FreeZee's mansion, a group of Kentucky kids has to conquer a cross-country scavenger hunt — and an unknown trickster. Along the way, the students will learn about U.S. roots and rights. But if they get brain freeze — it's game over!

Read *Brain Freeze*, a 10-part serial story, and play along each week by reading the clue — in rap, of course!

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Obituaries

Dorsie Wright Johnson

Dorsie Wright Johnson, 73, of Wheelwright, died Wednesday, December 29, 2004, at the U.K. Medical Center, in Lexington.

Born June 17, 1931, at Lackey, she was the daughter of the late Thomas and Sylvania Johnson Wright. She was a homemaker and a member of the Joppa Old Regular Baptist Church, at Melvin.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Estill Johnson.

Survivors include five sons: Danny Johnson (Pat) of Goodlettsville, Tennessee; Estill Johnson Jr., of Hazard; Paul Johnson, Ricky Johnson (Kathy) and David Johnson (Sheila), all of Wheelwright; seven daughters: Ruby Hutchinson of Prestonsburg; Julia "Faye" Smith of Hindman; Irene Harmon (Mike), of Vandalia, Ohio; Phyllis Boyd (Ronnie) of Wheelwright; Brenda Clements (Lee) of Daytona Beach, Florida; Debbie Sparkman (Vernon) of Topmost; and Marian Riley (Donny) of Martin; two sisters: Pearl Bentley of Langley and Jessie Lee Bentley of Mentone, Indiana; 30 grandchildren and 32 great-grandchildren.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by a brother, Billy Wright; nine sisters: Rosie McCall, Gracie Gilliam, Annie Wright, Gracie Sheffett, Mildred Burke, Nina Wright, Millie Avalos, Geneva Holbrook, and Lillie Isaac of Maine; one grandchild, Phillip Johnson; and one great-grandchild, Adam Blackburn.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday, January 2, at 1 p.m., at the Joppa Old Regular Baptist Church, at Melvin, with Old Regular Baptist ministers officiating.

Burial was in the Johnson Family Cemetery, (Golf Course Hollow), at Wheelwright, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation was at the church. *(Paid obituary)*

Donnie Ray Nelson

Donnie Ray Nelson, 46, of Prestonsburg, died Sunday, January 2, 2005, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg.

Born March 27, 1958, in Prestonsburg, he was the son of the late Walter and Roberta Adams Nelson. He was an auto body mechanic for Pyramid Body Shop.

Survivors include a son, Don Craig Nelson of Prestonsburg; a daughter, Rhea Salisbury of Prestonsburg; a sister, Diane Music of Prestonsburg; and five grandchildren: Autumn, Tyler, Emmy, Dalton, and Mason.

Funeral services will be conducted Wednesday, January 5, at noon, at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Martin, with Jimmy Brown officiating.

Burial will be in the Nelson Family Cemetery, (Richardson Branch), Prestonsburg, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation is at the funeral home. *(Paid obituary)*

Clara Bradley Parker

Clara Bradley Parker, 69, of Prestonsburg, died Sunday, January 2, 2005, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, Prestonsburg.

Born December 25, 1935, in Martin, she was the daughter of the late Joe and Pearl Stephens Bradley. She was a retired teacher for Floyd County Schools, and a member of the Community Methodist Church, Prestonsburg.

Survivors include three sons: Christopher Parker of Annandale, Virginia, and Timothy Parker and Michael Parker, both of Prestonsburg; four brothers: Clifford Bradley of Lima, Ohio, Billy Joe Bradley of Bellefontaine, Ohio, Francis Coy Bradley of College Corner, Ohio, and Bobby Bradley of Langley; and four sisters: Ruth Moore of Auxier Heights, and Wanda Louise Howard, Bonnie Jean Bradley, and Shirley Haws, all of Prestonsburg; a special friend: Jennifer Martin of McDowell; two grandchildren: Jordan Hall and Celeste Hall; and a aunt, Betty Riley of Richmond, Indiana.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one daughter, Melissa Ann Parker; three brothers: Clyde Bradley, Gorman Bradley, and Harlen Bradley; and two sisters: Susie Bradley and Zada Ratliff.

Funeral services will be conducted Wednesday, January 5, at 11 a.m., at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Steve Pescosolido officiating.

Burial will be in the Gethsemane Gardens, in Prestonsburg, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation is at the funeral home. *(Paid obituary)*

James Isaac Stephens

James Isaac Stephens, 81, of Prestonsburg, died Saturday, January 1, 2005, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, Prestonsburg.

Born December 27, 1923, in Floyd County, he was the son of the late Greeley and Clara Goble Stephenson. He was a disabled construction worker for Harris Bros., and a member of the Brandy Keg Freewill Baptist Church, Prestonsburg.

Survivors include two brothers: Deward (Loretta) Stephens and John Stephenson, both of Prestonsburg; two sisters: Pauline Wallen and Bernice Branham, both of Prestonsburg; a sister-in-law, Anna Mae Stephens of West Virginia; four nieces: Brenda Burchett, Deborah Ousley, Mary Beth Hurst, and Sherylann Andres; five nephews: John Branham Jr., Richard Branham, Larry Stephens, Gregory Stephens, and Forrest G. Stephens.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers: Forrest Clinton Stephens, and Greeley Stephenson Jr., and one sister, Naomi Vanhorn.

Funeral services were conducted Monday, January 3, at 1 p.m., at the Brandy Keg Freewill Baptist Church, in Prestonsburg, with Rev. Kenneth Daniels and Roger Music officiating.

Burial was in the Gethsemane Gardens, in Prestonsburg, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Martin.

Visitation was at the funeral home. *(Paid obituary)*

James Roy Lackey

James Roy Lackey, 57, of Bevinsville, died Saturday, January 1, 2005, at the VA Medical Center in Huntington, West Virginia.

Born October 30, 1947, in Melvin, he was the son of the late Hansford "Hank" and Alma Elkins Lackey. He was a disabled coal miner, a U.S. Army veteran (Sargent E-5); and a member of the Wheelwright Freewill Baptist Church, at Bypro.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara Spears Lackey.

Other survivors include a son, James Kelly Lackey of Mt. Sterling; two daughters: Rita Jo Farley of Mousie, and Christy "Chrissy" Branham of Melvin; a brother, Alfred Lackey of Howe, Indiana; three sisters: Freda Mae Watts of Mineral City, Ohio, Evelyn Chimel of Maryland, and Helen Jean Riggs of West Virginia; six grandchildren: Elizabeth Laken, Tylan, Courtney, Ryan, Emylee, and Kendell; and a step-granddaughter, Stephanie.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers: William Harold Hall, and Paul Eddie Lackey; and four sisters: Nancy Carol Lackey, Dorothy Jackson, Hattie Mae Boggs, and Ida Lee Patton.

Funeral services will be conducted Thursday, January 6, at 1 p.m., at the Wheelwright Freewill Baptist Church, in Bypro, with Louis Ferrari officiating.

Burial will be in the Matthew Tackett Cemetery, at Melvin, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Martin.

Visitation is at the church. *(Paid obituary)*



Anthony Taylor Chance Tackett

Anthony Taylor Chance Tackett, 3-month-old infant son of Anthony Craig and Rosetta Rowena Brewer Tackett, died Saturday, January 1, 2005, at his residence.

He was born September 23, 2004, in Lexington.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by two brothers: Zachery Ryan Estill Johnson of Kite, and Austin Craig Tackett of Beaver; one sister, Gabrielle Rose Johnson of Beaver; his maternal grandparents: Brian and Helen Conn; his maternal great-grandmother, Sharon Thacker; his paternal grandparents: Jerry and Debbie Tackett; and his paternal great-grandparents, Rebecca Tackett and Ruth Light.

He was preceded in death by his maternal great-grandparents: Lawrence Brewer, Nellie Conn Click, and Wayne Conn; and his paternal great-grandparents, Willie Tackett and Ted Light.

Funeral services for Anthony Taylor Chance Tackett will be held Wednesday, January 5, at 11 a.m., in the Hall Funeral Home, in Martin, with Larry Tackett and Jim Smith officiating.

Burial will follow in the Hall Cemetery, in Teaberry, under the professional care of the Hall Funeral Home.

Visitation is at the funeral home. *(Paid obituary)*

Kenneth Hall

Kenneth (Cracker) Hall, 56, of Teaberry, died Friday, December 31, 2004, at his residence.

Born August 20, 1948, in Floyd County, he was the son Hillard Hall of Harold, and the late Christine Flannery Hall. He was a disabled coal miner, and a member of the UMWA.

He is survived by his wife, Peggy Hamilton Hall.

Other survivors include his step-mother, Erlene Hall of Harold; four daughters: Teresa Adkins of Pikeville, Angela Paige of Beaver, Christal Tackett of Craynor, and Amanda Tackett of Teaberry; five sisters: Anna Lois Hall and Villa May Thacker, both of Pikeville, Rita Kaye Vance of Indiana, and Alma Adkins and Judy Stevens, both of Harold; five grandchildren: Landon, Austin, Brandon, Payton, and Kambra.

In addition to his mother, he was preceded in death by one brother, Charles Hall; and two grandchildren: Dylan and Dallas.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, January 4, at 11 a.m., at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with ministers of the Old Regular Baptist Church officiating.

Burial was in the Davidson Memorial Gardens, at Ivel, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation was at the funeral home. *(Paid obituary)*

Fannie Viola Price Curry

Fannie Viola Price Curry, 75, of Melvin, died Saturday, January 1, 2005, at the Pikeville Medical Center.

Born September 28, 1929, in Auxier, she was the daughter of the late John and Gladah Music Price. She was a homemaker.

She is survived by her husband, Ellis Curry.

Other survivors include one son, John Drew Curry of Hi Hat; two daughters: Janie Curry of Eastern, and Dena

Sparkman of Pikeville; three grandchildren: Shawn Ellis Curry, Kathleen Curry, and Jacob Duran Sparkman.

Funeral services were conducted Monday, January 3, at 1 p.m., at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Bobby Isaac officiating.

Burial was in the Curry Family Cemetery, at Bypro, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation was at the funeral home. *(Paid obituary)*

Card of Thanks

The family of Harry A. Martin would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to all those friends, neighbors, and loved ones, who helped to comfort us during our time of sorrow. Thanks to all those who sent flowers, food, or just spoke a kind word. We would like to send a special thanks to Clergymen Ted Shannon, Richard Ginn, and Floyd Price for their comforting words, the Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control, and the Hall Funeral Home for their caring and professional service. All your thoughts and prayers will never be forgotten.

THE FAMILY OF HARRY A. MARTIN

Card of Thanks

The family of Louise Slone would like to express a sincere appreciation to all the relatives, friends, and neighbors, who helped to comfort us during our time of loss. We would like to thank all those who sent food, flowers, and words of comfort expressed. A special thanks to Clergymen Ricky Smith and Randal Short, for their comforting words, the Mousie Baptist Church for all the kindness shown to our family, the Sheriff's Department for their traffic control, and the Hall Funeral Home for their kind and efficient service.

THE FAMILY OF LOUISE SLONE

Card of Thanks

The family of John C. Daniels would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation to all those who helped in any way during the loss of our loved one. We appreciate all the food, flowers, prayers, and all the acts of kindness shown to our family. A special thanks to Clergyman Sam Crawford for his comforting words, the Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control, and the Hall Funeral Home of Martin, for their kind, professional and courteous service.

THE FAMILY OF JOHN C. DANIELS

Card of Thanks

The family of Lloyd Brown would like to acknowledge with heartfelt appreciation, all those who helped in any way during the recent loss of our loved one. Thank you all so much for the food, flowers, prayers, and all the acts of kindness shown to our family. We especially want to thank Clergymen Don Fraley Jr., and Ted Shannon, for their comforting words, the Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control, and the Hall Funeral Home for providing dignified and courteous service.

THE FAMILY OF LLOYD BROWN

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A CHILD IS HELPLESS. YOU ARE NOT.

Fletcher unveils initiative to combat substance abuse

by ROGER ALFORD
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PIKEVILLE — Gov. Ernie Fletcher unveiled a \$9.5 million initiative on Monday to help pay for the construction and operation of 10 recovery centers across the state for drug addicts, especially those who are homeless.

"We are engaging in a new strategy to overcome drug abuse in Kentucky with the establishment of housing recovery centers," Fletcher said in Pikeville, one of five stops he made on Monday to discuss the plan.

Fletcher said he expects two of the recovery centers, part of a program he calls Recovery Kentucky, to be located in eastern Kentucky, where police are combating "an epidemic" of prescription drug abuse.

Three state agencies joined forces to fund the project.

The Kentucky Housing Corp. will provide \$2.5 million for construction and operational expenses. The Governor's Office for Local Development will put up \$4 million in federal funds through the Community Development Block Grant program. And the Department of Corrections will contribute \$3 million.

The proposed recovery centers are modeled after The HOPE Center in Lexington and The Healing Place in Louisville, both of which provide shelter and safe places for addicts to recover.

Grants for operating the centers will be awarded to communities and organizations on a competitive basis, so no decisions have been made yet on where they will be located.

Each of the proposed new centers would treat either all men or all women. The goal is to provide a recovery center in each of the state's six congressional districts.

The proposed treatment centers are a good start toward addressing the drug problem, said Dr. John P. Scanlon, medical director of the Pikeville Medical Center's detoxification unit, Fountain of Hope.

"There's a tremendous need for residential treatment centers in eastern Kentucky," he said. "If you were to put 1,000 residential treatment beds in southeastern Kentucky, it would not be enough."

The governor said the recovery centers could save taxpayers millions of dollars in emergency room visits and jail costs.

"Housing recovery centers can be a major component of

the state's solution to tackling the drug epidemic," said Sylvia Lovely, interim director of the Office of Drug Control Policy. "These centers will help women and men recover from addiction, find permanent housing if needed, and help them gain control of their lives so they can be productive citizens of their communities."

Fletcher said he believes the program would help reduce jail populations. Of the 6,000 state prisoners in county jails, he said 60 to 70 percent were convicted of a drug-related crime.

"Many of our fellow Kentuckians are in trouble," Fletcher said. "Drug abuse destroys families and careers. It impacts jails, classrooms, health care, and our economy. In fact, studies indicate that drug addiction is one of the leading causes of homelessness in our state."

State pushing plan to turn coal mine into Disney-like historical attraction

by ROGER ALFORD
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LYNCH — Three decades after the historic coal mine in this Appalachian town played out and shut down, state officials are hoping to revive old Portal 31 as a Disney-like tourist attraction with animatronic miners and underground tours.

"The trend in tourism is this experiential travel," said George Ward, commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Parks. "We'll show tourists the evolution of coal mining, from the picks and shovels and donkeys in early mining to the high-tech equipment used today."

Under the plan, the state would take ownership of Portal 31 as well as a coal museum and an inn in nearby Benham, and pick up the costs to make them inviting for tourists.

That would happen a soon as state lawmakers adopt a budget that would cover the operating expenses of the properties, which would be managed and promoted as part of Kingdom Come State Park in Cumberland.

The plan is seen as a last economic hope for a central Appalachian town that never recovered from the shutdown of a mine. At its peak, some 3,000 people worked in Portal 31, and it was the linchpin of a bustling town of 10,000 people from 30 different countries. Today, it's

home to a graying population of about 1,000.

Bruce Ayers, president of Southeast Community College and head of a committee that oversees the Portal 31 project, said the components of an authentic tourist destination are already in place — most of the houses, stores, schools and churches built by coal companies in Lynch and nearby Benham and Cumberland are still standing.

Old men who still live in the towns are happy to tell visitors stories about what life was like when every able-bodied man in Lynch had a good-paying job in Portal 31. Women share what it was like to stay at home worrying while husbands and sons toiled so far underground.

Bob Lunsford, a retired miner who worked about 42 years in and around Portal 31, tells visitors how, in 1917, the U.S. Steel Coal and Coke Co. bought 40,000 acres and formed Lynch, which was named in honor of the company's first president, Thomas Lynch. He tells them that over a 40-year span, more than 1 million tons of coal per year passed through Portal 31, and that Lynch's tippie — the place coal is loaded onto rail cars — was the largest in the world when it was built in the early 1920s.

Benham, hit just as hard as Lynch by the mine closings, has turned an old company school into an inn, and a former store into

a coal mining museum to try to capitalize on tourism. Those, too, would go into the state park system, under the plan Ward is touting.

Some 30,000 people a year visit the coal museum, and Lunsford expects just as many to plunk down \$5 each to tour the coal mine after historical exhibits are built inside.

Lexington mining engineer Steven Gardner said visitors will be able to view the history of mining from the early 1900s when ponies were used to pull coal out of the portals to the modern conveyors used today. The tour will last about 30 minutes.

Gardner was responsible for ensuring that the mine poses no risk to tourists. That meant limiting tours to only the sturdiest half-mile section of the mine, installing a super-strength wire mesh across the ceilings to keep rocks from falling and drilling double the number of 4-foot-long bolts into the overhead rock to hold them in place. Tunnel walls have been covered with a sealant to permanently bind the coal and rock in place. Contractors also sealed off unused mine tunnels to keep methane gases out.

The final safety measure will be an enclosed rail car that tourists will ride through the mine. The metal in the roof of that car, Gardner said, will be strong enough to withstand any rock fall. Southeast Community College

has spent \$750,000 to strengthen the walls inside the mine. An additional \$1.2 million in federal and state funds have been set aside to develop the underground exhibits. Gov. Ernie Fletcher is recommending an additional \$500,000 appropriation to spruce up the inn in Benham.

Ayers said animatronic exhibits in Portal 31 would allow a fictional miner, his son, and his grandson to tell tourists about the evolution of mining. Ayers said the exhibits will be so realistic that visitors might think they're seeing coal being mined.

"We felt for a long time that this was something the state needed to be involved with," Ayers said. "We think the state has much of an obligation to tell the story of mining as it does to tell the story of horse racing."

Ayers said the state has resources to market and preserve the tourist sites that the local communities don't.

"We have something here that is well preserved and is emblematic of the mining camps that once existed throughout Appalachia," he said. "This is our last best chance to preserve our history and to preserve our culture."

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Cinema Two • PG HELD OVER LEMONY SNICKETS Mon.-Sun. 7:15, 9:25; Fri. (4:25), 7:15-9:25; Sat.-Sun. (2:15-4:25), 7:15, 9:25	Cinema Seven • PG-13 HELD OVER MEET THE FOCKERS Mon.-Sun. 6:45-9:15; Fri. (4:15), 6:45-9:15; Sat.-Sun. (1:30-4:15)
Cinema Three • R HELD OVER DARKNESS 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 • PG-13 OPENS FRI. 1/7 WHITE NOISE Mon.-Sun. 7:15-9:30; Fri. (4:30), 7:15-9:30; Sat.-Sun. (2:15-4:30), 7:15-9:30
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Cinema Five • PG-13 HELD OVER NATIONAL TREASURE Mon.-Sun. 6:45-9:10; Fri. (4:00), 6:45-9:10; Sat.-Sun. (1:30-4:00), 6:45-9:10	Cinema Ten HELD OVER CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS PG Mon.-Sun. 7:15 only; Fri.-Sat.-Sun. (4:25), 7:15 BLADE TRINITY R Mon.-Sun. 9:15 only; Sat.-Sun. (2:15), 9:15

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Five Generations



Pictured are five generations of a Floyd County family. Sitting in his great-great grandmother's lap is 9-month old Nicklaus Anthony Meade. Great-great grandmother is Cecelia Hamilton. Standing, from left, are Nicklaus' great-grandmother, Pluma Branham, his grandfather, Tony Branham, and his mother, Andrea Branham Meade. Nicklaus' father is Robert Meade. This family photo was made this past December when the family got together for a Christmas celebration.

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Community Calendar

Calendar items will be printed as space permits

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

Old Christmas Sunday, January 9

Old Christmas will be celebrated Sunday, January 9, at the Samuel May House, 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. The public is invited. Sponsored by the Friends of the Samuel May House.

Prestonsburg High School Class of 1994 reunion

Prestonsburg High School Class of 1994 reunion being planned for February. Please contact Patricia Garrison at 606-874-6004, Cory Reitz at 859-338-6956 or John Stout at 859-433-3610.

East Point Masonic Lodge

Will hold a regular meeting on January 8, at 7 p.m. District Deputy Grand Master Eddie Overstreet will visit. The Fellow Craft Degree will be conferred. All Master Masons welcome.

D.A.V. Chap. 18

The Big Sandy Chapter 18, Disabled American Veterans, of Auxier, is looking for honorably discharged veterans to join the Chapter, which meets at the

Auxier Fire Dept., on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month, at 6 p.m. Those interested may bring their DD214 and join the Chapter and receive a D.A.V. ball cap.

Floyd County Democratic Women's Club

Meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 6 p.m., at Brenda's Restaurant, in McDowell. All invited to attend.

Auxier Lifetime Learning Center

•GED classes - Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Later times may be arranged - call office to make arrangements.

•Craft/Sewing Club - Mondays, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

•Creative Sewing - Mondays, 6-8 p.m.; Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

For more information about these activities and class fees, call 886-0709.

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.

PARENTS!

Are you in need of child care services? If so, contact the Big Sandy Area Community Action Program, Inc. The office is partnering with Eastern Kentucky Child Care Coalition. For more information on how we can help you, call Cheryl Endicott at 886-1280, or toll free at 888-872-7227.

Also, if your child is currently enrolled in a child care program, find out if your provider is a member of the STARS for KIDS NOW voluntary program for exceeding licensing standards.

And, learn about how you can stay home with your own children and still earn an income by caring for other children. Find out more by calling Cheryl Endicott at 886-1280, or 888-872-7227 (toll free).

Floyd County Extension Homemaker Club Meetings

****Jan. 5 - Nimble Thimble Quilt Guild** will meet from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Extension office. Lesson will include a slide show and hands-on demonstration on Color Coordination. Please bring: small swatches of varying colors of solid fabric, paper and fabric scissors, and a glue stick. Any interested quilters are invited to join. For more information, contact Theresa Scott at 886-2668.

Allen: 1st Monday, 11 a.m.,

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at Christ United Methodist Church.

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

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

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

Newbee (Beginner) Quilt Group: 4th Thursday, 6 p.m., Extension Office, Prestonsburg.

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

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

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 7 p.m. For more info., call Dana Caudill at 886-0265.

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

•**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 eligi-

ble for grant money to assist in your daily living. For an application or more information, call 886-4326.

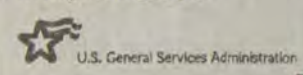
•**A.S.K. (Adoption Support for Kentucky)** - Support group for all adoptive parents (public, private, international, and kinship care), foster parents and all others interested in adoption. To meet the 2nd Thursday of each month, at Pizza Hut, in Prestonsburg. For more information, contact Nelva Skaggs, adoptive parent liaison, at Blueboy@foothills.net.

•**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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To reserve your space today in our Special Edition Prom & Bridal Expo 2005 to be published Wednesday, February 2 Contact Advertising at 606-886-8506!

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BUSINESS / PROFESSIONS



From left to right, Dawn Reed, Pam Ray, Traci Hopson and Shelly Prater were among the staff of Dr. Fred E. Meece's office that attended a symposium on gum disease in St. Louis, MO.

Local dental office staff study gum disease in St. Louis

The staff of Fred E. Meece, DMD recently attended a symposium in St. Louis, Missouri. The symposium dealt with the prevalence of gum disease in the general population.

Experts have estimated that 86 percent of the general population have some form of gum disease. Gum disease has been linked to low birthweight babies, stroke, heart disease,

uncontrolled diabetes, respiratory infections, and reduction in bone mass. For further information, visit <http://www.perio.org/healthy/bodiesngums.html>.

Getting your credit report is easy and will soon be free

(NUE) - Obtaining a copy of your credit report is easy and, thanks to Uncle Sam, it soon will be free.

That's welcome news since it's a good idea, especially before applying for a loan or other credit, to know where you stand by checking your credit report (which details how well you pay your loans, bills and credit card purchases).

Under legislation passed by Congress in December 2003 and new Federal Trade Commission rules, consumers can request a free copy of their credit report every 12 months.

Once you obtain your credit report, visit yourcreditcounts.com for tips on how to read and understand it - and on how to improve your credit standing, if necessary.

This Web site, sponsored by leading financial services company HSBC - North America, provides new tools and other valuable information about borrowing, saving and credit management.

The three major national credit bureaus - Equifax, Experian and TransUnion - are establishing a centralized source for accepting consumer requests for the

free reports. That source will include a dedicated Web site, a toll-free telephone number and a postal address.

The free credit report program rolls out across the country beginning Dec. 1, 2004, when consumers in 13 Western states can start requesting their reports. Residents of 12 Midwestern states will become eligible on March 1, 2005; 11 Southern states on June 1, 2005; and the remaining 14 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and all U.S. territories on Sept. 1, 2005.

It's a good idea to time a request for your credit report well before you apply for a major loan, advises HSBC. Check your credit at least three to six months before applying for a home mortgage; for an auto loan, check your credit and line up financing with your bank or credit union before you start shopping. This will allow you sufficient time to review the report and correct any errors you find.

For details on ways to eliminate any inaccuracies appearing on your credit report, visit yourcreditcounts.com.

In Memory of
Kelly Ann Vance Hamilton
April 3, 1972-January 2, 1995



*We can't believe its been 10 years since you went away.
We still cry tears for you every day.
The easiest part was getting to know you.
The hardest part is being away from you.
The best part will be when we're together again.*

Sadly missed and forever loved by Mom, Dad, Beth, Whitney, Homer, Jill, Dillon, J.C., Toby, Amanda and Ethan.

Department of Revenue sets 2005-2006 homestead exemption

FRANKFORT - The maximum homestead exemption on real estate owned by qualified persons has been set at \$29,400 for the 2005 and 2006 tax periods. The 2005-2006 exemption reflects a \$1,400 increase over the 2003-2004 exemption of \$28,000.

The amount of the homestead exemption is adjusted every two years in accordance with KRS 132.810 to compensate for changes in the purchasing power of the dollar. The exemption provides state and local property tax savings of approximately \$113 million for more than 375,000 elderly or disabled Kentuckians during the 2005 tax year. Property owners who do not qualify for

the exemption will absorb this amount through the compensating property tax rate process.

To qualify for the homestead exemption, a person must be at least 65 years old during the tax period or have been classified as totally disabled by any public or private retirement system. The property must also be owned, occupied and maintained by the taxpayer as a personal resi-

dence on the January 1 assessment date. Disabled persons less than 65 years of age must make an application on an annual basis.

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January 8, 2005 - 7:00 p.m.

Directions: Turn up Spurlock off 114, above Mountain Arts Center at Prestonsburg onto 122. Go approximately 3 1/2 miles to steel bridge sitting on the right. Cross the bridge, go 1/4 mile up Conley Fork, turn right up Pitts Hollow. Take left fork to the church. Watch for signs at the steel bridge.

Refreshments served afterwards.

For more info, contact: Curt Howard

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3-bedroom, 2-bath home, situated on a large flat lot. Lots of updates. \$134,900. M-11885

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3-bedroom, 1-bath home, located in Lancer Bottom. City water and sewage, fenced lot, excellent neighborhood, move-in condition. \$75,000. O-11780

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DRIFT - Nice lot for house or trailer. \$22,500. O-11146
DRIFT - 1/2 acre level lot. Commercial or residential. \$90,000. O-11144

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New Beginnings

This "Special Section" will be published in **The Floyd County Times** January 12, 2005 edition.

Tabloid in size, and will feature information and helpful hints from the Beginning of Preparing for a Newborn, to things needed as your child reaches the toddler stages.

A complete guide to "New Beginnings" from choosing the Physician, place of birth, and the latest in items every parent needs for their "New Beginning" with their newborn.

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Lady Bears win fourth straight

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE – Four players reached double figures and sophomore guard Jessica Lovell was an assist away from a double-double in Pikeville's 76-53 win over Milligan College on Monday.

The win was the fourth in a row for the Lady Bears and their sixth in seven outings. Pikeville will take a 9-6 worksheet into tomorrow night's matchup with U.Va.-Wise. The teams meet in Pikeville at 7 p.m.

Senior forward Selena Williams led all scorers with 21 points, thanks to an amazing shooting night. She missed only one of her seven field goal attempts, was perfect in three three-point tries, and was 6-of-8 from the line.

In addition, the Johnson Central High School product had five points and a pair of blocked shots.

Sophomore guard Ashley Wireman, another graduate of Johnson Central, had a dozen points in the game and led the team with six rebounds. Pikeville won the rebounding battle 43-27.

Lovell and Tonya Amburgey followed with 10 points each. Lovell also had nine assists, five steals and four rebounds in a solid outing. Amburgey added four assists.

Heather Dillon and Julie Yates each had six points apiece for the Lady Bears.

Milligan (5-8) got 13 points each from Kari Stout and Kacie Letterman. Leah Seevers added 10 for the Lady Buffs, who shot 44 percent after recess to get their final percentage to 34.5 percent.

Nationally-ranked

Bears pound UVa-Wise

TIMES STAFF REPORT

WISE, Va. – Parker Gemmill scored a game-high 18 points for UVa-Wise, but No. 18 Pikeville College easily handled the host team Monday night with a decisive 94-64 non-conference victory over its regional rival at Greear Gymnasium.

Walter Harris and Daniel Price scored 17 and 15 points, respectively to lead the Bears to their seventh consecutive win and a 12-1 overall season record.

Pikeville jumped out to a 7-0 lead and never faltered. The Bears outrebounded Virginia-Wise 36-27. Visiting Pikeville led 47-27 at halftime.

With the loss, UVa-Wise slipped to 2-13. The campaign has already featured many lows for the UVa-Wise men.

Pikeville led the contest the entire way. The Bears hit 63 percent of their shots from the field, while UVa-Wise converted only 37 percent. Turnovers also proved to be costly for the Cavaliers as they gave the ball over to the Bears 11 times. Pikeville scored 11 points from those miscues. Jerrell Jones flipped in 13 points for the Bears. Chris Carroll added nine points, five rebounds and three assists.

Redshirt freshman Jarred Soles was the only other UVa-Wise player to reach double figures in scoring. He hit for 11 points on four of 13 shooting. Blake Mellinger and Justin Sorenson scored nine points each for the homestanding Cavaliers. Sorenson led UVa-Wise with five rebounds.

Betsy Layne trio named all-tourney

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

GRAYSON – Betsy Layne senior center Kristal Daniels posted three double-doubles in last week's Queen of the Bluegrass tournament at East Carter High School. For her collective efforts, Daniels was rewarded as she earned all-tournament recognition.

Betsy Layne seniors Kim Clark and Kristen Smith joined Daniels as all-tournament selections. The Ladycats finished fifth in highly-competitive



Kristal Daniels

tournament that featured teams from six different regions.

In a slim loss to Highlands, Daniels scored 23 points and pulled down 19 rebounds. Against Covington Holmes, Daniels scored 14 points and pulled down 13 rebounds. In a win over Madison Central in her team's final game of the East Carter tournament, Daniels had 15 points and 16 rebounds. In 11 games, Daniels has pulled down 108 rebounds.



Kristen Smith

Layne backcourt and also helped the Ladycats to two wins in three games as part of the Queen of the Bluegrass tournament. Smith, a second-year starter, leads Betsy Layne in free throw percentage. In 10 games, Smith has connected on 70 of 98 free throw attempts.

Ranked as the 15th Region's top player, Clark shook off a slow start in the East Carter tourney and ended the tournament with an 18-point performance in a win over Madison Central.



Kim Clark

P'Burg Little League Signups

Page B3



Shelby Valley receives penalties

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON – Kentucky High School Athletic Association Commissioner Brigid DeVries has announced that a participant on the Shelby Valley boys' basketball team will be suspended a total of

six games for violation of the Association's Sportsmanship Bylaw (Bylaw 11).

The ruling comes following an incident in which a player, senior Seth Kiser, went into the stands during a 74-68 overtime loss on Dec. 27 to Ripley, Ohio in the Paintsville Tiger Hoops

Classic.

By NFHS playing rules, personnel that leave the bench area to participate in a fight are charged with a flagrant foul (disqualification). In addition per KHSAA Bylaws, schools and school representatives are subject to other penalties contained in

Bylaw 33 including, but not limited to, a fine when a player or players leave the bench.

A rule change by the NFHS, effective for the 2004-05 season and discussed at required KHSAA basketball rules clinics attended by coaches and officials, emphasized that beginning in the

2004-05 season that bench personnel will be charged with a flagrant foul (disqualification) if they leave the confines of the bench when a fight may break out.

In addition, the boys' basketball team has been placed on probation for the remainder of the 2004-05 season.

Thompson, Prestonsburg teammates grappling to glory



Above: Prestonsburg wrestlers Steven Thompson (right) and Adam Layne faced off during a recent practice session. Thompson, wrestling in the Bourbon County Invitational, took first-place honors in the 145-pound weight class.

Inset: Eighth-grader Chris Bostic, before he attends his first class as a high school student-athlete, will already have several years of amateur wrestling experience behind him.

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG – Prestonsburg High School senior Steven Thompson ranks as one of the state's top wrestlers in the 145-pound weight class. Thompson, who entered the current season ranked second in the state in the 145 class, is joined on the Prestonsburg wrestling team by a strong group of younger grapplers, including Adams Middle School eighth-grader Chris Bostic and freshman Adam Layne.

On Saturday, Dec. 18, the Prestonsburg wrestling team traveled to Bourbon County, in the heart of Central Kentucky. In the Bourbon County Invitational, Thompson, a state qualifier each of the last two years, proved his high pre-season billing as he outlasted the competition in the 145-pound weight class and placed first, winning the pre-holiday event.

Bostic, wrestling in the 103-pound class, and Layne, grappling

in the 215-pound class, each finished sixth. Bostic is another returnee to the Prestonsburg wrestling team. He returns with experienced gained from previous seasons. Layne is a newcomer, who has already taken up and found success on the mats.

Prestonsburg traveled to Grundy, Va. Dec. 27-28 for the Agie Skeens Memorial Tournament. Home to one of the most tradition-rich high school wrestling programs in the East, Grundy High annually hosts the memorial wrestling tournament. The Agie Skeens event attracts grapplers from several states from throughout the country and annually serves as a test and measuring stick for future championship wrestlers.

In the Agie Skeens Memorial, Prestonsburg placed 23rd in a 40-team field. Thompson, grappling in the 145-pound class, had a bye in the first round of the Grundy tournament, dominated his competition all the way until the champi-

onship match. Thompson battled and finished second overall to a wrestler from host Grundy. The Grundy wrestler is currently ranked first in the state of Virginia.

Bostic and Layne also competed in the Grundy tournament.

The Prestonsburg wrestling team will return to action this weekend, wrestling on the road in Wayne County at the Card Classic. The tradition-rich Wayne County High wrestling program hosts the annual Card Classic. On Saturday, Jan. 15, Prestonsburg will host its first home meet of the season. The week after, Prestonsburg grapplers will travel to Huntington, W.Va. for the WSAZ Invitational Wrestling Tournament.

The Prestonsburg High wrestling program has produced one state champion. In 2003, Nick Chaffin took top honors in the 119-pound class. Each and every current Blackcat wrestler is aspiring to climb to the top and grab the same top honor in his weight class.

P'burg girls turn out Lady Knights

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG – Prestonsburg is above the .500 mark. The Lady Blackcats handled the visiting Piarist School Lady Knights Monday evening in the first 58th District matchup of the 2004-05 season between the two teams. It was also the first game of the new year for both squads and Prestonsburg got the new year started on a winning note, beating Piarist 57-46 in a game that actually wasn't nearly as close as the final 11-point margin would indicate.

Senior Molly Burchett led Prestonsburg in scoring with a game-high 15 points. Amber Whitaker added 10 points for the winning team.

Prestonsburg (7-6) greeted the visiting Piarist team with a flurry of scoring. The host Lady Blackcats set the tone of the game early on, outscoring the visiting team 24-4. Prestonsburg led 41-10 at halftime. All Lady Blackcats got plenty of action in the blowout win. Against a much younger Prestonsburg players, Piarist (0-4) made up for some of the scoring in the second half.

Prestonsburg entered Monday evening's game after a break that featured a time of rest that dated back to Dec. 23. Prestonsburg finished 2-2 and finished third at Johnson Central in the Country Music Highway Holiday Classic. The Lady Blackcats had not seen any regular-season action since the Johnson Central

(See P'BURG, page two)



photo by Jamie Howell
Prestonsburg senior Chanel Music defended in the first half against visiting Piarist.

Ladycats roll over Madison Central

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

GRAYSON – Betsy Layne wrapped up play in the Queen of the Bluegrass tournament Thursday with a convincing 70-34 win over Madison Central. The Ladycats won their second straight game in the tournament and looked impressive in doing so. Betsy Layne connected on 29 of 39 free throw attempts and hit 19 field goals. Senior guard Kristen Smith led Betsy Layne in scoring with a game-high 20 points. Another senior guard, Kim Clark, hit for 18 points, while making good on Betsy Layne's only three-point field goal.

Senior center Kristal Daniels added 15 points and 16 rebounds for the Ladycats.

Betsy Layne jumped on Madison Central early. The Ladycats led 21-2 at the end of the first quarter and took a 42-13 advantage into the half. After intermission, Betsy Layne picked right back up where it had left off, outscoring Madison Central 17-8.

Smith did most of her scoring for Betsy Layne from the charity stripe, where she made good on 14 of 18 attempts.

Breann Akers and Candice Meade, Betsy Layne's starting forwards, added six points apiece. Kaitlin Lawson and Shellie Hamilton tossed in two points each and Brittany Mitchell scored in the fourth quarter when she connected on one of two free throw attempts.

Ashley Wiseman scored 10 points

(See LADYCATS, page two)

Ladycats

and led Madison Central in the scoring department. Libby Letcher flipped in eight points

for the Lady Indians. Betsy Layne will return to action Thursday night, playing

on the road at Shelby Valley. Tip-off for the Betsy Layne-Shelby Valley game is set for 7:30 p.m.

Continued from p1

P'burg

Stephanie Williams led Piarist in scoring with a game-high 20 points. Piarist hadn't played a basketball game since Dec. 11. The Lady Knights lost three games in December in the Three Rivers Conference and hadn't played since a loss to Buckhorn.

Prestonsburg will be back in action Saturday on the road at Wolfe County. Tip-off for the Prestonsburg-Wolfe County game, a rematch of a contest held earlier in the season, a contest in which Prestonsburg came out victorious, is slated for 7:30 p.m. Piarist is due to host June

Buchanan Thursday at 5 p.m. in a boys-girls doubleheader. **PRESTONSBURG (57)** - Burchett 15, Slone 5, Whitaker 10, Hicks 8, Key 2, Collins 5, Keathley 8, Hughes 2, DeRossett 2. **PIARIST (46)** - Williams 20, Conn 2, Tackett 9, Reed 8, Carty 3, Denison 4.

Continued from p1

Following major surgery, Kentucky's Thomas rounds into shape as Southeastern Conference play begins

by MURRAY EVANS ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON - It's not uncommon for coaches to tell players they're dogging it, simply as a form of motivation. But Sheray Thomas took it personally.

As the Kentucky forward began preparing for this basketball season, Thomas could tell something wasn't quite right. His energy level simply wasn't as high as usual, and he knew that, despite what his coaches said, he was working hard in practice.

Doctors gave Thomas a scary diagnosis: a tumor was growing inside his abdomen. Relief washed over him when tests showed the tumor was benign and could be removed.

"It kind of scared me, but in a way, I was relieved that they found out what it was," Thomas said Tuesday, talking at length about the health scare that threatened to end his sophomore season before it started.

Seventy-three days after a six-hour operation, Thomas returned to the lineup and now contributes off the bench for the eighth-ranked Wildcats (9-1), who will begin Southeastern Conference play Wednesday at home against South Carolina (8-3).

"He just gives us such an inspirational lift from the way he's worked hard in coming back," junior guard Patrick

Sparks said. Thomas saw limited action for Kentucky last season, averaging 1.7 points and 1.1 rebounds in 23 games.

When he returned to start a new semester, he knew something was sapping his energy.

"Just from shooting ... not even stretching, sometimes I just felt like I wasn't ready to go," Thomas said. "I'd get up there and be dead tired for no reason."

Doctors discovered the tumor in September. When Thomas underwent surgery on Oct. 6, the process was as secretive as possible for a player in one of college basketball's premier programs. Neither Thomas' family nor Kentucky officials spoke about why Thomas had the surgery.

Kentucky coach Tubby Smith said in October that coaches were considering red-shirting Thomas this season, noting that he had lost significant weight off his 6-7, 230-pound frame.

But Smith kept noticing how hard Thomas - who resumed full-speed practices in early December - was working to return to the team.

Smith decided Thomas was ready Dec. 18, when the Wildcats visited Louisville. Less than a minute after entering the game, Thomas took a pass from Patrick Sparks and drove the lane, drawing a blocking foul after a collision.

Thomas' minutes gradually increased in the Wildcats' next two games. He's scored seven points in 17 minutes of action.

"Sheray is full-tilt right now," Smith said. "He'll give you what he can. His stamina, he's still working on putting some muscles and bulk back on, but otherwise he's back at full speed."

Thomas, Smith and the rest of the Wildcats expect their intensity level to rise now that Kentucky is entering conference play. Kentucky beat South Carolina three times last season, but needed a defensive stop at the end to preserve a one-point win over the Gamecocks last season at Rupp Arena.

Two of South Carolina's three losses have been to ranked teams, No. 2 Kansas and No. 16 Pittsburgh. South Carolina coach Dave Odom said he scheduled those games for a reason after seeing his team's SEC schedule.

"When Kentucky is the first SEC game and it is away, you want to make sure that that isn't the first time" facing an opponent of that caliber, Odom said. "I thought it was appropriate that we schedule some national games and place them on our schedule so it gave us a chance to experience some adversity on the road."

South Carolina is 1-17 against Kentucky in Lexington, winning only in 1997.



photos by Jamie Howell
Prestonsburg Lady Blackcat Kelly Key (14) looked to pass over the Piarist defense. Prestonsburg hosted and beat Piarist Monday night in a 58th District girls' basketball game.



Piarist head coach Andrea Preston talked to her team during a timeout.

Boggs, Sandberg elected to Hall of Fame

by RONALD BLUM ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK - Wade Boggs was overwhelmingly elected to the Hall of Fame in his first year of eligibility Tuesday, and Ryne Sandberg made it with just six votes to spare on his third try.



Wade Boggs

Boggs, a five-time American League batting champion for the Boston Red Sox, was selected by 474 of the record 516 voters who are 10-year members of the Baseball Writers' Association of America.

The 91.86 percent of ballots he received was the 19th-highest percentage in Hall history, and he became the 41st player elected on his first chance.

Sandberg, the 1984 National League MVP for the Chicago Cubs, was picked by 393 voters. He appeared on 76.2 percent of ballots, just above the 75 percent cutoff (387). Sandberg received 49.2 percent of votes in 2003 and got 61.1 percent last year, falling 71 votes short.

Reliever Bruce Sutter, appearing on the ballot for the 12th time, received 344 votes (66.7 percent), up from 301 last year but 43 shy of what was needed this time. He was followed by Jim Rice (307), Rich Gossage (285) and Andre Dawson (270).

Willie McGee, also on the ballot for the first time, received 26 votes, exactly at the 5 percent cutoff to avoid being dropped in future years. Darryl Strawberry, another first-time eligible, got six votes.

Pete Rose, ineligible for the ballot because of his lifetime ban from baseball, received nine write-in votes, six fewer than last year and his lowest total. Rose, who admitted last year that he bet on the Cincinnati Reds while managing them in the late 1980s, has been written in on 239 of 6,687 ballots (3.6 percent) over 14 years.

He must be reinstated by late November to appear on the ballot in 2006, the final year he would be eligible.

Boggs, known for his array of pre- and postgame rituals,

was a 12-time All-Star during an 18-year career, finishing with 3,010 hits.

He won batting titles in 1983 and from 1985-88, becoming the first player to win the AL batting championship in four straight years since Rod Carew from 1972-75. Boggs, who hit .300 or higher 15 times, finished with a .328 career average and was the only player in the 20th century with seven straight 200-hit seasons. He also became the first player to get 200 hits and 100 walks in four consecutive seasons.

A two-time Gold Glove winner at third base, Boggs played for the Red Sox from 1982-92, then spent five seasons with the New York Yankees, helping the team win the 1996 World Series and riding a police horse around Yankee Stadium after the final victory.

His final two seasons were with his hometown Tampa Bay Devil Rays.

On Aug. 7, 1999, Boggs became the 23rd member of the 3,000-hit club, connecting off Cleveland's Chris Haney to become the first player to get No. 3,000 with a home run. After circling the bases, Boggs kissed home plate.

Sandberg was a nine-time Gold Glove second baseman and a 10-time All-Star. He hit 277 homers, the most by a second baseman at the time of his retirement, and led the NL with 40 in 1990. His .989 fielding percentage is the highest at the position.

Boggs and Sandberg will increase the Hall of Fame's membership to 260, of which 102 were selected by the BBWAA. Induction ceremonies are July 31 in Cooperstown.

Results of voting by the Veterans Committee will be released March 2. Gil Hodges, Tony Oliva and Ron Santo were among the 25 candidates on that ballot.

Among the players eligible for the first time on next year's BWAA ballot are Orel Hershiser, Will Clark and Dwight Gooden.

NFL PLAYOFFS

SATURDAY, JAN. 8

St. Louis at Seattle, 4:30 p.m. (ABC)
N.Y. Jets at San Diego, 8 p.m. (ABC)

SUNDAY, JAN. 9

Denver at Indianapolis, 1 p.m. (CBS)
Minnesota at Green Bay, 4:30 p.m. (FOX)

Divisional Playoffs

SATURDAY, JAN. 15

San Diego, N.Y. Jets or Denver at Pittsburgh, 4:30 p.m. (CBS)
Green Bay, Seattle or St. Louis at Atlanta, 8 p.m. (FOX)

SUNDAY, JAN. 16

Seattle, St. Louis or Minnesota at Philadelphia, 1 p.m. (FOX)
Indianapolis, N.Y. Jets or San Diego at New England, 4:30 p.m. (CBS)

Conference Championships Sunday, Jan. 23
NFC Championship Game, 3 p.m. (FOX)
AFC Championship Game, 6:30 p.m. (CBS)

SUNDAY, FEB. 6

Super Bowl Jacksonville, Fla.
AFC vs. NFC, 6:30 p.m. (FOX)

Pro Bowl

SUNDAY, FEB. 13

At Honolulu
AFC vs. NFC, 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

THIS PAST SUNDAY'S GAMES

Tennessee 24, Detroit 19
Baltimore 30, Miami 23
Green Bay 31, Chicago 14
St. Louis 32, N.Y. Jets 29, OT
Cleveland 22, Houston 14
Washington 21, Minnesota 18
Pittsburgh 29, Buffalo 24
New Orleans 21, Carolina 18
New England 21, San Francisco 7
Cincinnati 38, Philadelphia 10
Seattle 28, Atlanta 26
Arizona 12, Tampa Bay 7
San Diego 24, Kansas City 17
Denver 33, Indianapolis 14
Jacksonville 13, Oakland 6
N.Y. Giants 28, Dallas 24

Churchill Downs doubles purse for Kentucky Derby

by BRUCE SCHREINER ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOUISVILLE - Churchill Downs doubled the size of the Kentucky Derby's purse on Tuesday, increasing the total prize for the first leg of horse racing's Triple Crown to \$2 million.

The winner's share of the May 7 race will account for 62 percent of the guaranteed purse, or at least \$1.24 million. The purse for the Derby has been \$1 million guaranteed since 1996.

"We just felt it was time to increase it to \$2 million and show our commitment to what the Derby really is - not only tradition but the purse level," track president Steve Sexton said.

Aristides, who won the first Derby in 1875, took home \$2,850.

Churchill Downs will provide a minimum of \$1.1 million

of the \$2 million purse. To help pay for the higher purse, the track reallocated \$375,000 from purses for other stakes races - including scratching one race the Kentucky Breeders' Cup for 2-year-olds - and raised entry and start fees for the Derby to \$25,000 from \$15,000.

Sexton said the \$2 million guaranteed purse makes the Derby the country's richest race for 3-year-olds, and ranks it among the nation's most lucrative races.

The Breeders' Cup Classic, with a \$4 million guaranteed purse, is the nation's richest race, followed by three races offering \$2 million guaranteed each - the Derby, the Breeders' Cup Turf and Breeders' Cup Distaff.

Churchill Downs also changed its distribution of Derby purse money to include the race's top five finishers. Purse money previously was paid only

to the top four finishers.

Under the new purse, the second-place finisher will receive a 20 percent share, or at least \$400,000; third place will receive 10 percent, or at least \$200,000; fourth place will get 5 percent, or at least \$100,000; and fifth place will get 3 percent, or at least \$60,000.

Several other stakes races will have lower winnings. The Fleur De Lis Handicap purse will drop from \$400,000-added to \$300,000-added. Purses were lowered by \$50,000 apiece for the Early Times Mint Julep, the Ack Ack Handicap and the Chilukki Handicap (formerly the Churchill Downs Distaff).

Sexton said the higher Derby purse won't affect purses for races in the spring and fall meets. The track said its daily purses averaged \$471,283 in 2004 and expects those purses to average around \$480,000 per day this year.

iHigh.com boys basketball poll

1. Trinity (13-1)
2. Jeffersontown (11-1)
3. Pendleton County (8-2)
4. Scott County (9-1)
5. South Laurel (11-1)
6. Bishop Brossart (7-1)
7. Henry Clay (11-1)

8. Bullitt East (9-1)
9. Ballard (10-1)
10. Ohio County (11-1)

Honorable Mention: Lexington Catholic, DeSales, Elizabethtown, PRP, Manual, Dixie Heights, Iroquois, Holmes, Bryan Station, Mason County

Knott Central rolls over Jackson County

TIMES STAFF REPORT

HINDMAN – University of Kentucky-bound Kasi Mullins-Galloway got off to a quick, successful start Monday night, scoring 21 of her game-high 26 points in the first half. Galloway led the host Knott Central Lady Patriots to an 81-38 win over Jackson County, a team that has had a stronghold over much of the Southeast Kentucky girls' basketball world for much of the past dozen or so years.

Knott Central led Jackson County 32-7 at the end of the first quarter and held the visiting Lady Generals to just two points in the second period. Knott Central led 45-9 at halftime and 56-27 at the end of the third quarter.

Belfry 77, Tug Valley

(W.Va.) 49; Shae Deskins tossed in 18 points and three other Belfry Lady Pirates scored in double figures as Belfry beat rival Tug Valley (W.Va.).

Belfry led 18-15 at the end of the first quarter and 35-28 at halftime. The Lady Pirates outscored the West Virginia team 25-10 in the third period.

East Ridge 59, Jenkins 47: East Ridge led by five points at halftime, but blew the game open in the third quarter, outscoring Jenkins 25-7 en route to the victory.

East Carter 46, Raceland 45: In a game played between two 16th Region contenders, East Carter held on against Raceland. Sophomore guard Tawnee Tackett made good on four three-pointers and scored 14 points to lead the visiting

Lady Raiders.

BOYS' BASKETBALL –

Lee Co. 58, June Buchanan 50: Senior forward T.J. Howard tossed in a team-high 20 points to lead Lee County past 14th Region rival June Buchanan.

Freshman Clark Stepp fired in a game-high 31 points to pace June Buchanan.

Morgan Co. 53, Rowan Co.: In an all-important 16th Region meeting, Morgan County edged Rowan County.

Andy Lewis led defending 16th Region champ Morgan County with 19 points. Ralph Hamilton tossed in 14 points for the Cougars and Blake McCowan added 10. Morgan County trailed at the end of each of the first two quarters. The Cougars outscored Rowan County 20-7 in the third period.

Breathitt captures Jenny Wiley tourney title

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG – Floyd County native Brian Hall is one of the state's hottest coaches. Last week, Hall, a graduate of McDowell High School, coached Breathitt County to the Prestonsburg/Jenny Wiley Invitational tournament title. The Bobcats beat Campbell County in the tournament's championship game. On the

season, the Bobcats remain perfect. The win allowed Breathitt County to improve to 11-0.

In the win over Campbell County, Breathitt County's Matt Minix tossed in 12 points and teammates Andrew Sewell and Justin Lamb added 11 apiece.

Senior center Jacob Hundley added eight points for the Bobcats.

Senior guard Brett White led Campbell County (5-5) with a game-high 24 points.

The Camels are coached by Mike Reitz, another Floyd County native. Before coming to Campbell County, Reitz coached at Clark County High School.

To reach the Jenny Wiley Finals, Breathitt County beat Betsy Layne and Greenup County.

Hall is in his second season at the helm of the Breathitt County High School boys' basketball program.

Bears drop one spot to 19th

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE – Taking nearly a month off during the holiday season cost Pikeville College, as the Bears dropped to No. 19 in the NAIA's third rating of Division I teams.

Pikeville, 13-1 after last night's 94-64 win over U.Va.-Wise, moved down in today's poll as the rankings in the lower middle of the poll shifted considerably. Only No. 17 Faulkner (Ala.) held its position in the bottom 12 spots this week.

Beginning today, a weekly poll will be released through March 1.

The Bears played Monday night for the first time since Dec. 13 when they knocked off Knoxville College 71-66. Pikeville played three games in four days after finals week and then had three weeks off.

Pikeville has now won seven straight since its Nov. 27 loss to Brevard (N.C.) College. It had opened the season with six wins in a row.

Concordia (Calif.) remained No. 1 this week, getting nine of the 12 first-place votes as the top seven remained the same. Mountain State (W.Va.) is second, followed by Oklahoma Christian (who got the other three first-place votes),

Lindsey Wilson and Southern Polytechnic (Ga.) round out the top five.

Georgetown is sixth, followed by Oklahoma Baptist. The top 10 is completed by Trevecca Nazarene (Tenn.), LSU-Shreveport and Christian Heritage (Calif.).

Cumberland (Ky.) College, 8-2, is 23rd this week, having moved up one spot.

Pikeville, coached by Randy McCoy, is aiming for a return trip to the post-season and the NAIA National Tournament. The Bears, with just the one loss, had a great first half of the season before the holiday break.

No. 19 Louisville 98, Tennessee St. 64

by BRUCE SCHREINER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOUISVILLE – Louisville spent the past couple of weeks handling teams from the Ohio Valley Conference. Now the No. 19 Cardinals will find out how they stack up in their own league.

Using a 27-4 second-half run, the Cardinals (11-2) pulled away for a 98-64 victory over Tennessee State on Sunday. Junior forward Francisco Garcia matched his career high with 29 points, including eight straight during the decisive spurt that halted a brief Tennessee State comeback.

It was Louisville's fourth straight double-digit win over an OVC opponent. The Cardinals open Conference USA play Wednesday at Houston.

"Obviously, there are four or five teams that we've faced that are as good as our conference and there are others that are not," Louisville coach Rick Pitino said. "Our conference will be big on the glass; that's why I've been harping on that so much."

The Cardinals outrebounded Tennessee State 45-31 and forced 15 turnovers, converting them into 22 points.

"We have to get out on the break," Louisville forward Perrin Johnson said. "We shoot the ball very well from the perimeter. If we do that, shoot the ball well and rebound, we

can play with anybody in the country."

Tennessee State (5-9) pulled within 36-30 early in the second half on a 3-pointer by Bruce Price, one his five baskets behind the arc, and a dunk by Roshawn Bowns.

Showing his versatility, Garcia responded

with 12 points during the Louisville spurt. Garcia scored on a layup and a dunk along with a 3-pointer and five free throws. The dunk was set up when Brad Gianiny threaded the Tennessee State defense with a perfect bounce pass.

"We started off a little slow," Garcia said. "That's when I know I have to be a leader and step up. It's my job to get everybody involved."

Garcia hit 9-of-16 shots from the field, including four 3-pointers, and made all seven of his free throws. Larry O'Bannon added three 3-pointers over Tennessee State's zone as the Cardinals (11-2) hit 12 from behind the arc despite the absence of 3-point specialist Taquan Dean because of back spasms. O'Bannon and freshman Lorenzo Wade each finished with 14 points and Ellis Myles added 13 points and 13 rebounds.

After Tennessee State moved within six points, Johnson answered for Louisville by putting in his own miss and adding a free throw to ignite an initial 14-2 run. Gianiny contributed a 3-pointer.

Garcia then reeled off eight consecutive points during a 13-2 run that made it 63-34.

Pitino said Johnson's play in the absence of the injured Otis George would eventually give the Cardinals more depth inside.

"If there's a silver lining in this cloud that keeps changing direction, it's the development of Perrin Johnson because we need front-court help," Pitino said.

Louisville's biggest first-half lead was 36-16 on a layup by Myles with 3:56 left. Tennessee State answered with nine straight points, including a 3-pointer by Price, to make it 36-25 at halftime.

Price finished with 24 points but missed several minutes during Louisville's long second-half spurt after being carried off the court with an apparent leg injury. Price later returned to the game.

Tennessee State coach Cy Alexander said his team wasn't the same without Price during the crucial stretch.

"I think when he went down, our energy and our confidence shut down and it was only shut down for two or three minutes," Alexander said. "But when you're already down and on the road against a good team, the lead can jump from six points to 20 points and that's what happened."

Eric King added 16 points for Tennessee State.

Juan Palacios had 14 rebounds for Louisville.

Louisville was 35-of-65 from the field (53.8 percent), while Tennessee State was 23-of-62 (37.1 percent.) The Cardinals were 12-of-31 from 3-point range, and Tennessee State hit only eight of 24.

HYPE Conference is next week

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON – The fourth annual KHSAA HYPE Student Leadership Conference, sponsored by First Corbin Financial Corporation and Fifth Third Bank will be held next Wednesday, Jan. 12 at "The Stadium" Entertainment and Conference Complex in Lexington (off Reynolds Road behind Meijer).

Some 300 students and 50 adults are expected to attend and will participate in the one day seminar that will have breakout sessions on teamwork, respect and sportsmanship and a town hall open forum.

Cameron Mills, former University of Kentucky and Paul Dunbar basketball star, will open the conference. Josh Shipp will be the closing speaker. Shipp has performed on stage with Bill Cosby and appeared on Comedy Central.

Additional information is posted on the Association website under the "leadership conference information" link.

Online: www.khsaa.org

Prestonsburg Little League announces signups

PRESTONSBURG – The time for Little Leaguers to take the field is quickly nearing. Locally, Prestonsburg Little League has scheduled signups for the month of January.

Prestonsburg Little League will hold signups at Music-Carter January 11, 13 and 27, 6-8 p.m. each signup date. Signups will also be held from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Adams Middle School on Saturday, Jan. 8 and Saturday, Jan. 25.

Garcia honored as National/C-USA Player of the Week

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

LOUISVILLE – Louisville junior forward Francisco Garcia was named the national player of the week by Dick Vitale on ESPN.com as well as the Conference USA Player of the Week for games ending Jan. 2.

The preseason C-USA Player of the Year, Garcia averaged 27.0 points, 4.7 assists, 4.0 rebounds and 2.7 steals in leading the Cardinals to three victories. He hit a collective 57.4 percent of his field goals, including 11-of-23 three-pointers, and was perfect on 13 free throw attempts. Garcia tallied a career-high 29 points against Morehead State and matched that total later in the week in a victory over Tennessee State.

Garcia became the Cardinals' 54th career 1,000-point scorer against Eastern Kentucky (currently 1,041) and has 53 double-figure scoring games in his three years at U of L. The C-USA leader in free throw percentage (.922), Garcia has been successful with his last 34 straight at the line.

U of L (11-2) opens the Conference USA portion of its schedule Wednesday at Houston.

HEROESPORTZ H.S. BASKETBALL RANKINGS

(As of Sunday, Jan. 2)

14TH REGION BOYS

- Breathitt County
- Hazard
- Perry Central
- Wolfe County
- Letcher
- Knott Central
- Leslie County
- Owsley County
- Lee County
- Powell County

14TH REGION GIRLS

- Perry Central
- Knott Central
- Wolfe County
- Whitesburg
- Leslie County
- Owsley County
- Powell County
- Hazard
- Breathitt County
- Fleming-Neon

15TH REGION BOYS

- Shelby Valley
- Johnson Central
- East Ridge
- Pike Central
- Paintsville
- Betsy Layne
- Prestonsburg
- Belfry
- South Floyd
- Sheldon Clark

15TH REGION GIRLS

- Johnson Central
- Magoffin County
- Betsy Layne
- Belfry
- Pikeville
- Pike Central
- Prestonsburg
- Paintsville
- Allen Central
- Phelps

Online: www.heroesportz.com

WYMT 2004 ALL-MOUNTAIN FOOTBALL TEAM

CLASS A

COACH: Jim Black, Williamsburg
PLAYER: Andy Greer, Williamsburg
QB - Andy Greer, Williamsburg
FB - Robert Shurtleff, Pikeville
RB - Scottie Newell, Somerset
RB - Will Hill, Williamsburg
RB - Teddy Thompson, Harlan
RB - Wes Hall, South Floyd
WR - D.J. Hoskins, Hazard
WR - Tyler Ayers, Williamsburg
WR - Matt Jones, Williamsburg
DL - Jake Anderson, Harlan
DL - Josh Sullivan, Pikeville
LB - Brett Gibson, Pikeville
K - Brian Elkins, Pikeville
OL - Lynn Camp Wildcats
DL - Harlan Green Dragons

CLASS AA

COACH: Philip Haywood, Belfry
PLAYER(S): Doug Howard/David Jones, Belfry
QB - Jacob Hundley, Breathitt Co.
QB - Clint Cashen, Corbin
QB - Trevor Compton, Prestonsburg
RB - Doug Howard, Belfry
RB - David Jones, Belfry
RB - Joe Blackburn, Prestonsburg
RB - Josh Ware, Corbin
WR - Issac Mills, Corbin
WR - Eric Blackwood, Corbin
WR - Kyle Owsley, Prestonsburg
WR - Justin Lamb, Breathitt County
DT - Michael Hackney, Belfry
K/P - Buster Little, Breathitt County

CLASS AAA

COACH: Dudley Hilton, Bell Co.
PLAYER: Shawn Robbins, Bell Co.
QB - Jordan Shepherd, Perry Cent.
QB - James Patterson, Clay County
RB - Lee Renfro, Pulaski Southwestern
TE - Tyler Sexton, Pulaski County
LB - Cody Campbell, Perry Central
DL - Clay County Tigers
OL - Bell County Bobcats

CLASS AAAA

COACH: Jim Matney, Johnson Cent.
PLAYER - Nik Blair, North Laurel
QB - Chris Riley, South Laurel
RB - Ron Blume, Johnson Central
RB - Nik Blair, North Laurel
RB - Ladale Rider, Whitley County
RB - Jake Karr, South Laurel
TE - Chris Cessna, North Laurel
WR - Zack Marcum, South Laurel
WR - Terry Bingham, South Laurel
K - Matt Strojjan, South Laurel
OL - South Laurel Cardinals
DL - North Laurel Jaguars

BluegrassPreps.com Boys' Basketball Rankings

- Jeffersontown
- Trinity
- Ballard
- Pendleton County
- Scott County
- Pleasure Ridge Park
- Henry Clay
- South Laurel
- Bullitt East
- Bishop Brossart
- DeSales
- DuPont Manual
- Maie
- Bryan Station
- Henderson County
- Paul Dunbar
- Iroquois
- Lexington Catholic
- University Heights
- John Hardin

Girls' Basketball Rankings

- Lexington Catholic
- Christian Academy-Louisville
- Scott County
- Rockcastle County
- Clinton County
- Sacred Heart
- Christiana County
- Elizabethtown
- Henderson County
- Covington Holy Cross
- Assumption
- South Laurel
- Ohio County
- Paris
- Woodford County
- Tates Creek
- Mercer County
- Mercy
- Bullitt East
- Boone County

H.S. BASKETBALL SCOREBOARD

Monday's games

BOYS

Anderson Co. 55 Taylor Co. 45
Boone Co. 62, Campbell Co. 52
Cawood 64, Cumberland 36
Dixie Heights 58, Highlands 47
Holmes 78, Simon Kenton 51
Lloyd Memorial 62, Newport 61
Morgan Co. 53, Rowan Co. 52
Newport Central Catholic
South Laurel 65, Russell Co. 33
St. Patrick 54, West Union, Ohio 43
Webster Co. 57, Lyon Co. 41

GIRLS

Bellevue 54, Villa Madonna 42
Belfry 77, Tug Valley (W.Va.) 49
Boyd Co. 49 Lawrence Co. 46
Clay Co. 61 Owsley Co. 46
Cordia 70, Jackson City 40
Davies Co. 2, Union Co. 0 FORFEIT
Dawson Springs 57, Providence 19
East Carter 46, Raceland 35
East Ridge 59, Jenkins 47
Fleming Co. 50 Clark Co. 41
Fleming-Neon 58 Red Bird 41
Knott Co. Cent. 81 Jackson Co. 38
Lee Co. 58 June Buchanan 50
Leslie Co. 63 Breathitt Co. 57
Muhlenberg N. 83, Whitesville Trinity 57
Murray 61, Hickman Co. 35
Paris 45, Murray 32
Powell Co. 39 Estill Co. 38
Prestonsburg 57, Piarist 46
Rockcastle Co. 80, McCreary Cent. 32
Shelby Valley 57 Sheldon Clark 43
West Carter 77, Morgan Co. 35

iHigh.com girls basketball poll

- Lexington Catholic (13-0)
- Rockcastle County (11-1)
- Louisville Christian (8-1)
- Scott County (10-1)
- Sacred Heart (9-2)
- Boone County (12-0)
- Elizabethtown (9-2)
- Christiana County (8-0)
- Woodford County (12-1)
- Clinton County (9-2)
- Honorable Mention: Mercer County, Ballard, Henderson County, Central Hardin, Bates Creek, Covington Holy Cross, Paris, Shelby County, South Laurel, Ohio County.

Kentucky 85, St. Francis 73

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON – Jennifer Humphrey returned from an illness to lead the Kentucky Wildcats with 17 points and six rebounds in a 85-73 win over St. Francis on Sunday in Memorial Coliseum.

Humphrey went 6-of-11 from the field, 5-of-9 from the free throw line and pulled down a team-high tying six rebounds along with two assists and two

steals. Senior Sara Potts made 2-of-4 three-pointers and cashed in on all six of her free-throw attempts to follow with 16 points.

Sophomore Angela Phillips scored a season-high 15 points on 4-of-5 shooting from the floor, including a 3-for-4 mark from beyond the arc. Phillips also registered a season high 4-of-4 free-throws to complement a team-high six assists.

Kentucky is off to its best

start in six years with a 10-4 record.

The Wildcats shot 52.0 percent (26-of-50) from the floor, including 8-of-11 from the three-point line, marking the fifth time in six games that the Cats have shot over 50 percent from the floor.

The Red Flash (3-7) shot 46.8 percent (30-of-64) from the field but committed 15 turnovers, resulting in 24 UK points.

No. 19 Louisville 78, E. Kentucky 63

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOUISVILLE — Rick Pitino was far from impressed by his Louisville team's 15-point win over Eastern Kentucky.

"We did not know how to play with a lead," Pitino said. "You've got to give credit to Eastern Kentucky for hanging in there."

Francisco Garcia scored 23 points and went over 1,000 for his career Thursday night to lead No. 19 Louisville to a 78-63 victory.

Garcia reached the milestone when he made a 3-pointer with 3:58 left in the first half during an 18-4 run that turned a 30-21 advantage into a 48-25 halftime lead for Louisville (10-2).

Michael Haney scored 22 points and also reached the 1,000-point mark for Eastern Kentucky (8-3).

Garcia hit back-to-back 3-pointers and scored eight of his

15 first-half points during the final six minutes as the Cardinals scored 13 unanswered points during their big run.

"He's a great player," Pitino said. "He carries our basketball team from an emotional standpoint and from an attitude standpoint. He's just a great young man."

The Colonels outscored the Cardinals 17-4 to open the second half and narrowed the margin to 52-42 with 13:39 remaining. Zach Ingles scored seven of his 17 points during the spurt and capped it with a 3-pointer and a jumper in the lane.

But Louisville pushed the lead to 18 three times in the second half and the Colonels could get no closer than the final margin.

Louisville held Matt Witt, Eastern Kentucky's leading scorer, to just seven points — seven below his average. "We played very hard and

unfortunately, they play just as hard every single night," Eastern Kentucky coach Travis Ford said.

Garcia missed just two field goals on seven attempts in the first half as the Cardinals shot 52 percent from the field (13-of-25) and forced 14 turnovers. The Cardinals scored 17 points off those miscues.

Juan Palacios added 15 points for Louisville, which was 6-of-14 from behind the arc.

Louisville shot 46 percent from the field and forced 24 turnovers.

"When you turn it over 24 times against a great team like Louisville, you're in for a long night," said Ford, who played for Pitino at Kentucky a decade ago.

The Colonels held a 35-24 rebounding edge over Louisville.

"It was just a lack of blocking out," Pitino said. "We work on it and harp on it. But old habits are very tough to break."

Men's Basketball: AP Top 25

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' men's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Jan. 2, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and last week's ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. Illinois (62)	14-0	1,787	1
2. Kansas (10)	9-0	1,724	2
3. North Carolina	12-1	1,614	4
4. Wake Forest	12-1	1,539	5
5. Duke	9-0	1,492	6
6. Syracuse	13-1	1,380	7
7. Oklahoma St.	9-1	1,368	3
8. Kentucky	9-1	1,317	8
9. Georgia Tech	9-2	1,173	9
10. Connecticut	8-1	1,058	11
11. Gonzaga	10-2	1,014	12
12. Washington	12-1	934	13
13. Arizona	11-2	865	14
14. Iowa	12-1	845	16
15. Texas	10-2	819	15
16. Pittsburgh	10-1	727	10
17. Louisville	11-2	694	19
18. Mississippi St.	12-2	538	21
19. Alabama	11-2	378	18
20. Michigan St.	8-2	339	23
21. West Virginia	10-0	310	—
22. Maryland	8-2	309	24
23. Cincinnati	11-1	216	22
24. George Washington	8-2	198	20
25. Boston College	11-0	156	—

Others receiving votes: Marquette 154, Wisconsin 150, N.C. State 115, Virginia 51, Oklahoma 35, Arkansas 30, Wichita St. 25, Oregon 16, Notre Dame 13, Bucknell 4, Miami 3, Old Dominion 3, W. Kentucky 3, Hofstra 2, UTEP 2.

George Mason 76, Morehead St. 65

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MOREHEAD — Lamar Butler scored 27 of his career-high 36 points in the first half as George Mason beat Morehead State 76-65 Thursday night.

The Patriots (6-4) used a Butler jumper to build a 37-18 advantage with 4:50 remaining in the first half. George Mason led at the break 42-28.

Trailing 50-32 early in the second half, Morehead State (6-5) chipped away at the George Mason lead but could get no closer than seven.

Butler finished the night 12-of-20 from the field, including 6-of-12 from 3-point range, and 6-of-7 from the free throw line.

Tony Skinn added 13 points for the Patriots. Will Thomas had 10 rebounds.

Quinton Smith scored 21 points to lead the Eagles. Josh Reed finished with 16, while Chad McKnight and Jonathan True scored 10 each.

George Mason outrebounded Morehead State 42-31, which included 17-10 on the offensive boards.

Louisville coach admits he needs to mend relations

by BRUCE SCHREINER ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOUISVILLE — Louisville football coach Bobby Petrino apologized Monday for his dalliance with LSU just days after signing a new contract with the Cardinals, and said he needs to mend his relationship with the school's athletic director and its fans.

Petrino met with LSU officials on Dec. 26, less than a week after Louisville nearly doubled his salary to \$1 million a year. The Cardinals finished 11-1 this season and led the nation in points and yards per game.

Speculation about Petrino's future came as the seventh-ranked Cardinals prepared for the Liberty Bowl, which they won 44-40 against 10th-ranked Boise State on New Year's Eve.

"I'd like to apologize for the uproar that I caused for the fans and the administration last week," Petrino said Monday at the school's football complex. "It was certainly not my intent."

Petrino said he is committed to Louisville, echoing statements he made when he signed his contract last month.

"This is where I want to be," he said.

Petrino's new contract, like the old one, runs through the 2010 season. Petrino will earn a \$1 million bonus if he stays through the 2007 season.

Petrino announced Saturday he was no longer a candidate for the LSU job. Les Miles, the coach at Oklahoma State, was hired Monday by the Tigers to replace Nick Saban, who left for the Miami Dolphins.

Louisville athletic director Tom Jurich, who hired Petrino two years ago, said Sunday he would honor the coach's contract, but expressed disappointment with the timing of Petrino's meeting with LSU officials and said it was up to Petrino to smooth things over with fans.

"My toughest job now, I think, is to repair my relationship with Tom Jurich and the fans, and I'm committed to doing that," Petrino said.

It was the second year that

Petrino has angered Louisville fans by talking with officials from another school. In his first season at Louisville, Petrino met secretly with officials from Auburn, where he formerly was offensive coordinator.

University trustee Bill Stone predicted that Petrino would be successful.

"The fans of this community are very forgiving," Stone said. "They care so much, that's why they were so hurt."

Petrino said he followed proper protocol in meeting with LSU officials, but admitted "the timing was awful." Jurich, who gave LSU permission to talk to Petrino, said Sunday he asked the Tigers to wait until after the Liberty Bowl to meet with the coach.

"I felt like I owed that opportunity to myself, and that it was something that I should do," Petrino said. "Obviously if I had it to do over again, I probably would have just said no."

Louisville will join the Big East next season and compete for the league's automatic berth in the lucrative Bowl Championship Series.

No. 7 Louisville 44, No. 10 Boise St. 40

by TERESA M. WALKER ASSOCIATED PRESS

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — In the highest scoring Liberty Bowl ever, it was a defensive play by Louisville that ended Boise State's 22-game winning streak.

Louisville safety Kerry Rhodes intercepted a pass in the end zone as time expired to preserve No. 7 Louisville's 44-40 victory over 10th-ranked Boise State on Friday.

"It's a great way to end it," Louisville coach Bobby Petrino said. "A national audience, two teams that were supposed to score over 84 points. I think we hit it right on the top."

Now Louisville will enter the Big East Conference in grand style after handing Boise State its first loss since September 2003 in a game that was the most important in school history for both programs.

"This was big for us," Boise State receiver Chris Carr said. "We don't see ourselves as a non-BCS school or a little school. We see ourselves on the same level as any school we play."

"We wanted to come out here and prove to everybody that we're not a team in the WAC that's not very good, and we just beat up on little teams."

Eric Shelton scored on the go-ahead touchdown on a 1-yard run with 6:48 left. Stefan LeFors threw two touchdowns and ran for a third as the Cardinals (11-1), who have never finished ranked higher than 13th, matched a school record for victories in a season.

The Cardinals won their third Liberty Bowl in their final appearance as a Conference USA team.

The Broncos (11-1) had one last chance to win after Art Carmody's 19-yard field goal with 1:10 left put Louisville up four.

Quarterback Jared Zabransky

drove the Broncos to the Louisville 30 before his final pass into the end zone as time expired was intercepted by Rhodes. He more than atoned for his missed interception opportunity in a 41-38 loss on Oct. 14 to then-No. 3 Miami.

"God blessed me to put me in position to make the play, and I made the play," Rhodes said.

The win was a welcome end to a week in which the Cardinals were forced to deal with the news that Petrino had interviewed with LSU about its open coaching job. They certainly didn't seem distracted against the Broncos.

Petrino kept referring to the Cardinals as "we," and asked if that would remain the same, he had a short answer. "We certainly hope so," Petrino said.

LeFors said the Cardinals had no problems focusing on the task at hand with all the rumors about Petrino's future.

"We wanted to play the game between the lines and let all that other talk, just put it in the back of your minds and not even worry about it," LeFors said.

Everyone expected a high-scoring game in a bowl pairing the nation's top two offenses, and the teams didn't disappoint as they swapped the lead five times. The 84 combined points topped the 80 points by Colorado and Alabama in 1969 and was one of a handful of records set.

Louisville won only for the second time in seven bowls despite a season-high four turnovers. The Cardinals rolled up 564 yards, topping 500 yards for the ninth time this season.

LeFors was 18-of-26 for 193 yards and ran 12 times for 76 yards. The Cardinals rushed for 329 yards against a defense that had been the nation's fourth-best against the run.

"He, particularly running the football, killed us," Boise State

coach Dan Hawkins said of LeFors. "That doesn't mean he didn't make some throws because he obviously did. But I think where he made some big plays, huge plays, was running the football. On key downs and in key situations, he really sparked them."

This was the biggest game in school history for Boise State, a program that moved up to Division I-A in 1996. The Broncos, who played their first three bowls on their home field known for its blue turf, thought they could keep up with an offense that had trailed only Louisville for most yards and points.

But the Broncos, who lost 12 starters from their 2003 squad, finished with 284 yards offense, well below their 511.6-yard average.

The teams still rewrote the Liberty Bowl record book.

They combined for the most points in the first quarter with 24, and their 52 points were the most for the first half.

Boise State kicker Tyler Jones had a record 48-yard field goal on the Broncos' first drive, and Broncos linebacker Andy Avalos had a 92-yard interception return off LeFors in the first quarter that bested the 79-yarder by Michael Jordan of Tulane in 1998.

Boise State led as much as 34-21 early in the third quarter after scoring 24 straight points.

The Cardinals settled down when LeFors drove them on an 81-play drive in eight plays, which he capped with a 14-yard TD toss to J.R. Russell. LeFors then gave Louisville the lead back at 35-34 when he ran in from a yard out with 2:17 left in the third.

Boise State last led at 40-35 when Jon Helmandollar plunged in from 2 yards with 10:51 left.

The Liberty Bowl is sponsored by AutoZone.

GATOR BOWL: No. 17 Florida State 30, West Virginia 18

by JOHN RABY ASSOCIATED PRESS

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Nice recovery, Chris Rix.

Coach Bobby Bowden stuck with his struggling quarterback and Rix eventually sparked No. 17 Florida State with two long second-half touchdown drives Saturday, beating West Virginia 30-18 in the Gator Bowl.

"Chris played kind of like his career has gone," Bowden said. "That's what's been missing all year. We finally got it, but now the season is over."

For Rix, the inconsistent performance provided a fitting end in his final game. At least it didn't end with a loss as the Seminoles (9-3) overcame mistake after mistake to avoid an unprecedented third straight bowl setback.

Bowden, facing his former school for the first time since the 1982 Gator Bowl, moved within one bowl win of Joe Paterno's NCAA record of 19 at Penn State.

Rix fumbled three times and threw two interceptions, one of which led to a touchdown. So at

halftime, Bowden thought about replacing Rix.

"It wouldn't have taken much more," the coach said.

Rix eventually settled down, completing five straight passes during a 90-yard drive late in the third quarter, capped by his 14-yard TD pass to Craprons Thorpe. Thorpe leaped for the ball over Dee McCann in the right corner of the end zone for a 23-15 lead.

It was only Rix's third TD pass of the season.

"We were good throwing today when we had to," said Florida State offensive coordinator Jeff Bowden.

Rix also led an 80-yard scoring drive in the fourth, capped by James Coleman's 1-yard run. Rix finished 16-of-31 for 157 yards.

"Statistically, I didn't have the game I wanted," Rix said. "But the biggest thing is that we won."

Leon Washington carried Florida State much of the day, finishing with 195 yards rushing.

Quarterback Rasheed Marshall and West Virginia's platoon of running backs shredded the nation's top run defense for 238 yards. Kay-Jay Harris

carried 25 times for 134 yards and scored twice.

But the Mountaineers (8-4) failed to find the end zone three times after advancing inside the 20-yard line.

"We prepared well. The focus was good. The effort was good. We just made some mistakes," said West Virginia coach Rich Rodriguez. "You make mistakes against good teams, especially like Florida State, it's going to cost you the game. It's as simple as that."

Marshall said he hurt his ribs earlier in the week in practice, took a day off and wasn't sure he was going to play Saturday.

"It hurt, man," Marshall said. "I took some pain medicine. It helped for the first three quarters, but then it started wearing off and I felt it."

West Virginia has lost 11 of its last 12 bowl games and is 0-5 in the Gator.

West Virginia, the only unranked team playing in a New Year's Day bowl, continued special teams miscues that were costly in losses to Boston College and Pittsburgh to end the regular season.

In the first half, two kickers missed extra point, Brad Cooper booted a kickoff out of bounds,

and the Mountaineers later faked a 27-yard field goal attempt, but couldn't convert the first-down run.

"We weren't real confident on kicking field goals after we missed a couple of extra points," Rodriguez said.

Backup Andy Good practiced his kicks feverishly before the start of the third quarter, and it paid off. He made field goals of 44 and 34 yards to cut the deficit to 23-18 early in the fourth period.

The game featured the pre-season favorites of the Big East and Atlantic Coast Conference who couldn't secure BCS berths.

The Seminoles needed only six plays to score a season-high 10 points in the first quarter.

Washington went 69 yards down the right sideline on the game's second play for the longest TD run in Gator Bowl history. He had 135 yards by halftime and had only 12 carries for the game, or else he might have challenged the Gator Bowl record of 216 yards by Syracuse's Floyd Little against Tennessee in 1966.

West Virginia's Adam Jones fumbled the ensuing kickoff and Gerard Ross recovered at the Mountaineers 17, leading to one of three Xavier Beitia field goals.

It was a start similar to last year's Gator Bowl, when Maryland scored 10 early points, led 24-0 at halftime and beat West Virginia 41-7.

This time, West Virginia fought back.

Harris scored on a 36-yard screen pass on the Mountaineers' first offensive series. McCann intercepted Rix later in the quarter and Marshall threw a 40-yard pass to Chris Henry to the 1. Harris took it in for a 12-10 lead.

After the game, Henry, a junior who set a school record with 12 TD catches this season, said he intends to enter next spring's NFL draft.

Florida State's Lorenzo Booker had 101 yards rushing on 20 carries. The Seminoles were penalized 17 times for 174 yards, both Gator Bowl records.

The Gator Bowl is sponsored by Toyota.



Rasheed Marshall

SUGAR BOWL:

Auburn 16, Virginia Tech 13

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW ORLEANS — Jason Campbell threw a touchdown pass, John Vaughn kicked three short field goals and No. 3 Auburn completed a perfect season with a 16-13 win over ninth-ranked Virginia Tech in the Sugar Bowl.

The Tigers (13-0) had a cou-

ple of second-half turnovers that prevented them from blowing the game open as they tried to sway the voters to split No. 1 again. The odd team out in a troika of 12-0 teams, Auburn settled for a spot in the Sugar Bowl against the Hokies, while USC and Oklahoma were tapped for Tuesday night's Orange Bowl — the Bowl

Championship Series title game.

The winner of the Orange Bowl is assured of being voted No. 1 in the coaches' poll. But the AP rankings aren't tied to the BCS.

Last season, USC was voted No. 1 by the AP after winning the Rose Bowl, while LSU won the BCS title by beating Oklahoma in the Sugar Bowl.

Caudill, Destroyers begin training camp

TIMES STAFF REPORT

COLUMBUS — The Columbus Destroyers, under the direction of first-year Head Coach/General Manager Chris Spielman, opened their 2005 training camp on Tuesday at the Columbus FieldHouse, the official training facility of the Destroyers. All players currently under contract with the club reported for training camp on Sunday as Columbus begins preparations for their second season in the Arena Football League.

Among the reporting players was Floyd County native Jeremy Caudill. A former Parade All-American who starred at Prestonsburg High School, and later, the University of Kentucky, Caudill played last season for the Lexington Horsemen of the National Indoor Football League and in the process helped the Horsemen to the NIFL title. Caudill, who is vying for a spot

on the Columbus roster, played along the defensive line for the Horseman.

The Destroyers took the field for the first time in full pads Tuesday morning and then returned for another session in the afternoon.

Training camp will conclude on Jan. 22, and features a controlled practice with the Grand Rapids Rampage in Grand Rapids on Monday. AFL teams are permitted to bring 37 players into camp. Rosters must be cut to 24 by Monday, Jan. 24.

Twenty-six newcomers are in training camp to compete for roster spots with 11 returnees. Among the familiar faces are 2004 team MVP and AFL All-Ironman selection wide receiver/defensive back Sedrick Robinson, the team's leading receiver from 2004 in wide receiver/linebacker Cornelius White and defensive specialist JoJo Polk, the Destroyers' all-time leading tackler.

Leading the way for the newcomers is a group of key free agent additions including defensive specialist Donvetis Franklin, who has finished among the AFL's leading tacklers the past three seasons, offensive specialist Damien Groce, and three former Buckeyes in offensive specialist Bobby Olive, defensive specialist Bobby Britton and quarterback Scott McMullen.

The Columbus Destroyers open the 2005 season on Friday, Jan. 28 when the club hosts the expansion Nashville Kats at Nationwide Arena. Kickoff is slated for 7 p.m. Season tickets are available now starting as low as \$99 for eight regular season games plus one home play-off game. Individual game tickets go on sale Saturday. For a season schedule and further information on reserving season tickets visit www.ColumbusDestroyers.com or call 614/246-HITS.

Bengals 38, Eagles 10

by DAN GELSTON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHILADELPHIA — Donovan McNabb and Brian Westbrook need to ditch the sneakers and team jackets, and Terrell Owens might want to start testing that injured ankle.

The Philadelphia Eagles are a losing team without their starters.

With McNabb, Westbrook and several other regulars sitting out, the Eagles' backups again were dominated in a 38-10 loss to the Cincinnati Bengals on Sunday.

"We'll get ourselves back ready for the playoffs," Eagles coach Andy Reid said.

The Eagles may have a 13-3 record, a No. 1 seed and the home-field advantage throughout the NFC playoffs, but they finished the season with a two-game losing streak. Only the 1967 Green Bay Packers won the Super Bowl after losing the final two regular-season games.

But Philadelphia rested most of its regulars in the last two games in an effort to stay healthy, scared after likely losing Owens for the rest of the season to an ankle injury.

The Eagles insisted they'll be ready for the playoffs — even with a nearly four-week break for some of the starters like Westbrook and Jevon Kearse, who both sat out the last two games.

"We'll be all right. We're a veteran ballclub," defensive tackle Corey Simon said.

Maybe, but getting outscored 58-17 in the last two games to two teams that both finished 8-8 (St. Louis) hardly seems like an encouraging sign for a team that has lost three straight NFC title

games. The Eagles will play either Jan. 15 or 16.

McNabb, Westbrook, Kearse, free safety Brian Dawkins and cornerback Lito Sheppard were among the starters held out of the lineup. The Eagles played their starters briefly in last Monday's loss to St. Louis.

With Philly's scrubs — like quarterbacks Koy Detmer and Jeff Blake, and running backs Reno Mahe and Eric McCoo — playing, the Bengals took advantage.

Rudi Johnson ran for three touchdowns and Jon Kitna threw for another, helping the Bengals win their second straight game to finish 8-8 for the second year in a row. Johnson also ran for 99 yards to finish with 1,453, breaking Corey Dillon's team record of 1,435 set in 2000.

"The difference between this year and last year was we had our sights set much higher this year, and we fell short," Johnson said. "We just finished stronger this year down the stretch than we did last year."

The Eagles had five turnovers in their worst performance since a 38-0 loss to Seattle in the 1998 season opener.

Blake and Detmer combined for four of Philadelphia's five turnovers and the Eagles had seven penalties for 50 yards.

"You can't do that and expect to come out on the winning end," Detmer said.

Two of the Eagles' turnovers came on consecutive plays in the third quarter and led to Cincinnati touchdowns. First, Blake replaced Detmer in the period and promptly had his first pass intercepted and

returned for a touchdown by Robert Geathers.

Then, Rod Hood fumbled the kickoff leading to Johnson's 6-yard touchdown run three plays later for a 31-3 lead.

Cincinnati coach Marvin Lewis had no problems with Reid resting his starters.

"When you have home-field wrapped up, you've earned the right by what you did in the regular season," he said. "I hope this is an educational game for us and an experience for us."

Kitna, making his third straight start since Carson Palmer injured his knee, was 16-of-27 for 160 yards.

Johnson also had a 5-yard TD run in the first quarter and a 3-yard run in the fourth.

The Eagles got only a field goal by David Akers in the first half, and Blake threw a 3-yard TD pass to Freddie Mitchell late in the fourth for Philadelphia's touchdown.

Mitchell was one of the few regulars to play most of the game. The Eagles proved the last two weeks they'll need all of their available starters healthy and in the lineup if they want to make a deep run in the playoffs.

"I expect them to come out and get right back on it and play or I wouldn't have gone in this direction," Reid said.

Notes: Akers hit a 46-yard field goal, breaking the NFL record for most field goals of 40 yards or more in a season with 17. ... The Eagles honored Reggie White with a pregame video tribute, and wore his No. 92 on their helmets. ... Eagles LB Mark Simoneau strained his ankle, and tight end L.J. Smith left with lower back pain. ... The Eagles finished 7-1 at home.

UK coaches hit the road on recruiting trail

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — The University of Kentucky coaching staff is back on the road this week as recruiting resumes. Signing day is February 2.

The Wildcat players are in their final week of winter break before classes resume on Jan. 12.

Kentucky assistant coach Paul Dunn has resigned his post in order to take a coaching position at another university. (Dunn's new school is in the process of formalizing his hire and has not made an official announcement.)

Dunn has been UK's offensive line coach and run game coordinator the last two seasons. Under Dunn's guidance, tackle Antonio Hall was a first-team All-Southeastern Conference selection in 2003 and true freshman tackle Aaron Miller was named to the SEC All-Freshman Team in 2004.

"Paul did a great job for us and I'm sorry to see him go," Coach Rich Brooks said. "We wish him well."

Brooks has begun the search for a new assistant coach and there is no timetable for the replacement.

Former Wildcat tight end Chase Harp has returned to the University of Kentucky as a graduate assistant coach. Coach Rich Brooks has announced. Harp will work with the UK offensive staff and assist Steve Ortmyer in coaching the tight ends and

special teams.

"It's great to get a coach with Kentucky connections who was a key performer on a successful 7-5 team his senior year," Brooks said. "As the son of a coach) He has coaching in his blood and I'm sure he'll do an outstanding job assisting Coach Ortmyer with the tight ends and special teams."

Harp played at UK from 1998-2002 and was a tight end for most of his career. He played in 32 games as a Wildcat. He caught 45 passes for 483 yards and five touchdowns. Known for his determination and aggressive play, he developed into a good blocker and strong special-teams performer.

Harp graduated from UK with a degree in kinesiology. In the 2004 season, he worked in the football office at Syracuse as an administrative graduate assistant. Syracuse tied for the Big East Conference championship and advanced to the Champs Sports Bowl in Orlando, Fla.

"I'm excited, as I've been looking for this opportunity," Harp said. "There's not a better place to coach than the state and school where my heart is."

A native Kentuckian, Harp was an all-state quarterback and safety at Danville High School. Playing for his father, Coach Sam Harp, the Admirals won a state championship and two regional titles during his time there.



Paul Dunn

Fletcher to overhaul athletics panel

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — Gov. Ernie Fletcher is overhauling the state board that licensed the Mike Tyson fight in Louisville last summer.

The Kentucky Athletic Commission, which regulates boxing and wrestling, will be replaced with a new panel called the Kentucky Boxing and Wrestling Authority, Fletcher said at a news conference.

The new panel is supposed to have a "more focused vision on establishing a regulatory environment necessary to attract world-class professional boxing and wrestling events to Kentucky," Fletcher said in a news release.

Fletcher also announced he was creating a new Kentucky Sports Authority, charged with bringing "major national and international sporting events, conventions and franchises," to Kentucky, according to the release.

After the Kentucky Athletic Commission licensed Tyson, Fletcher criticized the action, saying, "This wasn't vetted extensively as I think it should have been."

Commission Chairman Michael Cunningham and member Paula McLellan said Monday that administration officials told them that plans to overhaul the panel would be made public Tuesday. They said they were told all members would be replaced.

"I just hope they appoint some people who know boxing instead of just putting do-gooders and big shots on the commission," said Cunningham, a boxing referee and judge for 30 years.

Cunningham and McLellan said they were not told the names of new commissioners. After Cunningham renewed

Tyson's license in June for a bout with Danny Williams in Freedom Hall, Fletcher said he was disappointed it had occurred without a public hearing.

During the summer, Fletcher refused to say whether he would have tried to block the fight if he had been promptly informed. "Certainly I would hope that Mr. Tyson has rehabilitated himself," Fletcher said. "And I wish him the very best. But when it comes to promoting Kentucky and the things I want to promote, it's not something that I would have spent an effort in promoting."

Fletcher also had said that he was concerned that the commission routinely waived a 5 percent state tax on revenue from cable-television contracts for boxing and wrestling events.

Tyson's fight generated controversy because the former heavyweight champion served time in prison for a rape conviction and bit off part of boxer Evander Holyfield's ear during a bout. During the July 30 fight in Louisville, Williams surprised most of the 17,000 people in attendance by knocking out Tyson in the fourth round.

The Kentucky Athletic Commission is a seven-member board that regulates professional boxing and wrestling. It licenses boxers, wrestlers, referees, managers and promoters. The new authority would have five members.

Meanwhile, the Kentucky Sports Authority would have 15 members, including Lt. Gov. Steve Pence, former University of Tennessee basketball coach Wade Houston and LPGA tour player Myra VanHoose Blackwelder.

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

BOWL ROUNDUP

Wednesday, Dec. 29
Houston Bowl
At Charlotte, N.C.
Payout: \$1.1 million
Colorado 33, Texas-El Paso 28
Alamo Bowl
At San Antonio
Payout: \$1.55 million
Ohio State 33, Oklahoma State 7

Thursday, Dec. 30
Continental Tire Bowl
At Charlotte, N.C.
Payout: \$750,000
Boston College 37, North Carolina 24
Emerald Bowl
At San Francisco
Payout: \$750,000
Navy 34, New Mexico 19
Holiday Bowl
At San Diego
Payout: \$2 million
Texas Tech 45, California 31
Silicon Valley Classic
At San Jose, Calif.
Payout: \$750,000
Northern Illinois 34, Troy 21

Friday, Dec. 31
Music City Bowl
At Nashville, Tenn.
Payout: \$780,000
Minnesota 20, Alabama 16
Sun Bowl
At El Paso, Texas
Payout: \$1.5 million
Arizona State 27, Purdue 23
Liberty Bowl
At Memphis, Tenn.
Payout: \$1.35 million
Louisville 44, Boise State 40
Peach Bowl
At Atlanta
Payout: \$2.2 million
Miami 27, Florida 10

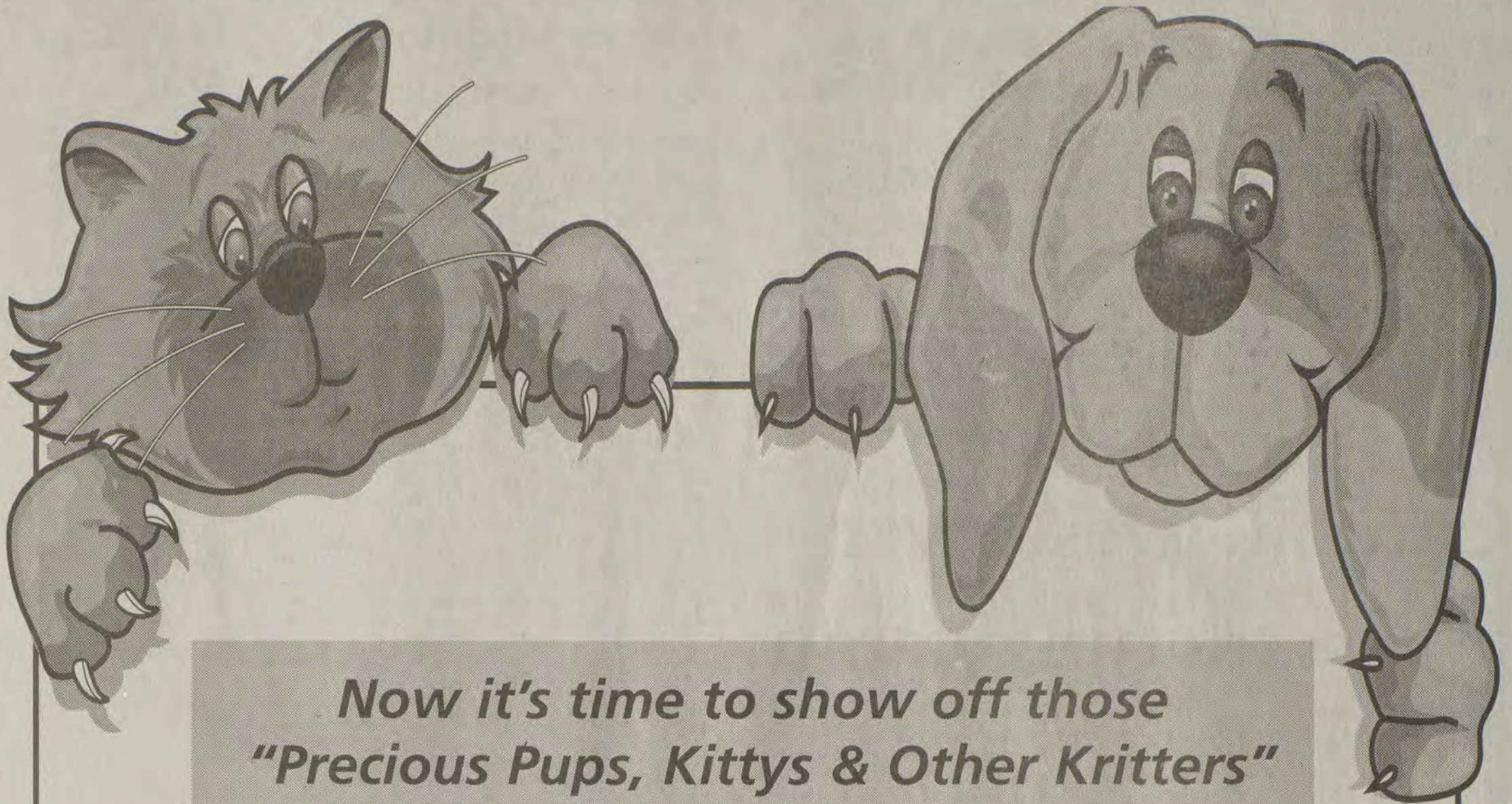
Saturday, Jan. 1
Cotton Bowl
At Dallas
Payout: \$3 million
Tennessee 38, Texas A&M 7
Outback Bowl
At Tampa, Fla.
Payout: \$2.75 million
Georgia 24, Wisconsin 21
Gator Bowl
At Jacksonville, Fla.
Payout: \$1.6 million
Florida State 30, West Virginia 18
Capital One Bowl
At Orlando, Fla.
Payout: \$5.187 million
Iowa 30, LSU 25
Rose Bowl
At Pasadena, Calif.
Payout: \$14.5 million
Texas 38, Michigan 37
Fiesta Bowl
At Tempe, Ariz.
Payout: \$11-14 million
Utah 35, Pittsburgh 7

Monday, Jan. 3
Sugar Bowl
At New Orleans
Payout: \$11-14 million
Auburn 16, Virginia Tech 13
Tuesday, Jan. 4
Orange Bowl
At Miami
Payout: \$11-14 million
Southern Cal vs. Oklahoma

Saturday, Jan. 15
Gridiron Classic
At The Villages, Fla.
North vs. South, 11 a.m. (ESPN2)
East-West Shrine Classic
At San Francisco
East vs. West, 2 p.m. (ESPN)

Saturday, Jan. 22
Hula Bowl
At Maui, Hawaii
Aina vs. Kai 7, 7 p.m. (ESPN2)

Saturday, Jan. 29
Senior Bowl
At Mobile, Ala.
North vs. South, 4 p.m. (ESPN2)



Now it's time to show off those
"Precious Pups, Kittys & Other Kritters"
in The Times' Special Edition

Animal House

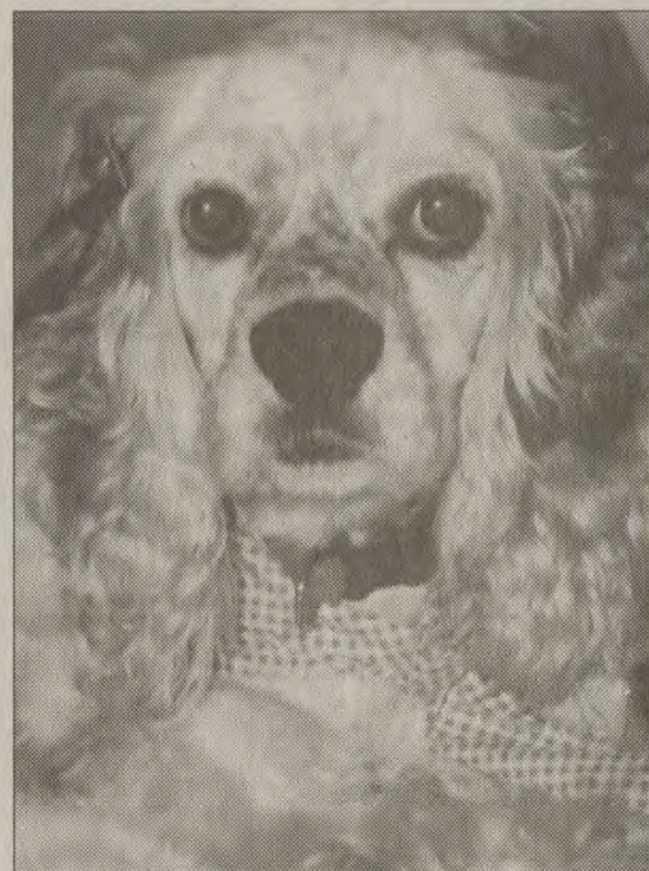
Jan 19, 2005

Most people are known to treat their pets like a member of the family.

So, on Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2005, The Floyd County Times will publish a "Special" edition featuring those beloved additions to your family!

This special addition will be a complete guide to keep Fluffy or Fido happy and healthy. Information includes nutrition, fitness, and the latest in pet supplies, toys, and grooming.

Deadline for entries: Wed., Jan. 12, 2005



Penelope
Age: 2 Years Old
Parents: Erica and Shannon
Betsy Layne, KY

Animal House

Payment of \$10 and photo are enclosed with the following information:

Pet's full name: _____

Pet's age: _____

Parents, grandparents or guardian name _____

Address (required) _____

Daytime telephone number (required) _____



Exp. ____/____

Signature _____

Make checks payable to The Floyd County Times

Lifestyles

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

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YESTERDAYS

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

INSIDESTUFF

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POISON OAK

Down a slippery slope

Despite threats of bodily harm from both parents if I was ever caught even near the river, sometimes I still went there.

It was just after one of those times, when the backwater had been several feet deep in the schoolhouse bottom,

that a bunch of us decided that since there was an ample amount of good-size planks left in the debris scattered along the creek banks, it might be a good time to build our cabin. Over the years, we

probably started the cabin project at least half a dozen times. Naturally, since it would have required a bit of skill with saw, hammer and nail, plus a commitment of more than a couple of hours, it never got built.

Anyway, about half a dozen of us started pulling pieces of scrap lumber of all description from the banks of Muddy Branch and dragging it to higher ground. During this process, however, one of us noticed that the closer to the river we got, the better the pickings. Near the Greentown culvert, where the creek runs beneath the railroad tracks and Route 581, we even found a couple of planks about four feet long that appeared to never have been used for anything else. I suppose we just figured that if building material of this quality could be obtained from a measly little creek bank, it'd be untelling what

(See OAK, page three)



Clyde Pack

Alice Lloyd College receives grant from Sullivan Foundation

Alice Lloyd College was recently awarded a grant of \$23,500 from the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Foundation to be used for financial aid. Students with financial need who have demonstrated a commitment to service above self and to the community are eligible. Additionally, the Foundation had made a grant of \$6500 to the

Algernon Sydney Sullivan Endowment at Alice Lloyd College. This endowment was established in 1998 to provide support in perpetuity for Sullivan Scholars at Alice Lloyd College.

The Algernon Sydney Sullivan Foundation, now located in Oxford, Mississippi, was chartered in New York State in 1934. Its purpose is to

promote service to others and service to the broader community, values exemplified by Algernon and Mary Mildred Sullivan, the parents of the organization's founder.

In addition to providing support for financial aid to small private colleges located primarily in the Appalachian region, the Sullivan

Foundation also collaborates with 53 southeastern colleges and universities in presenting awards in memory of Algernon and Mary Mildred Sullivan. These awards recognize exceptional qualities of service and are presented each year to a graduating senior and to a non-student member of the college community.



photos by Kathy J. Prater

Clients are invited to settle in for a few moments of relaxation in the soothing atmosphere of the spa's lounge, where they may enjoy a beverage, music, or some recreational reading.

KIM'S KORNER

Looking forward — not back

Wow! It is amazing how fast time seems to fly by. And what's even more amazing is to reflect over the past twelve months at the changes that have taken place.

Yes, 2004 was quite the year! "Out with the old and in with the new" is one statement this ol gal is gonna grab hold to!

2004 was so full of life's little lessons. And, some of those lessons being "not so little" but rather, packed with a sting as well as heartbreaking revelation.

There were people who were in my life that turned out totally different than what I had thought they were for many years. People you count on and consider to be your friend, people you think you know and then "BAM!" — you get thrown one of those nasty curve balls, and it hits you smack in the center of your gut, taking your breath so badly, leaving you speechless and in total shock and bewilderment.

Yes, the first three months of 2004 wer not good ones for me!

January began with my church family of six years splitting up and going different ways. And talk about being thrown for a loop — it, to this day, has me still feeling as though I'm still on that roller coaster of ups and downs. Trying to make sense of it all, trying to comprehend and still trying to let it go and move on. But it's hard, really hard!

Then, February came and ended with feelings of such hurt, and astonishment, that it took months to grasp,

(See KORNER, page three)

New year, new beginnings, new you!

by KATHY J. PRATER
FEATURES EDITOR

Well, ladies, it's a new year - time for a new you! And the "Just For You Day Spa," located in the Coleman Building, Paintsville, is just the place to get started. From the very moment you enter the spa, you can feel your body relax and say "ahh."

Owner Anita Runyon, who is also a licensed electrologist, and her friendly staff offer a multitude of services that will rejuvenate your weary, winter ravaged body.

Leck "Mike" Puckett, the spa's licensed massage therapist, offers upper body, full body, deep tissue, Swedish and hot stone massages that will relieve you of all your stresses and leave you feeling refreshed and invigorated.

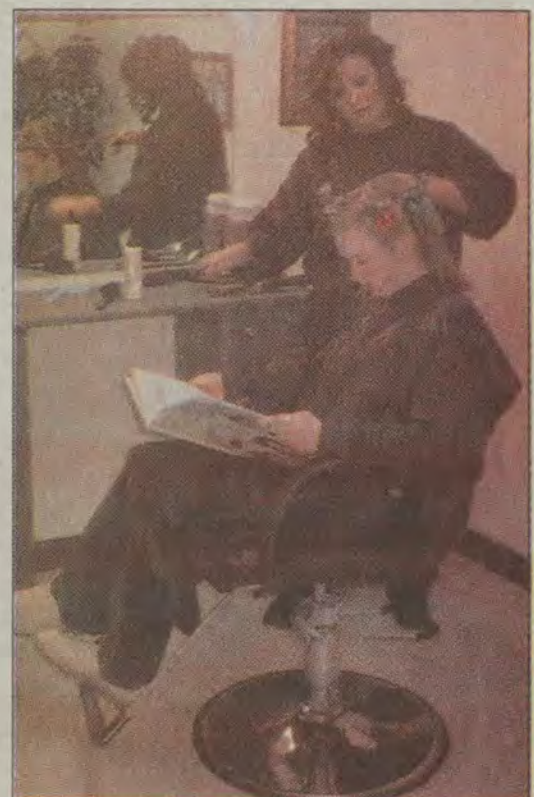
Ashleigh Dotson, Nancy Pelphrey, and Wanda Salyer, cosmetologists and spa technicians, can not only give you the latest hairstyle in the spa's beauty salon, they can also work you over from head to toe beginning with a variety of facial services including your choice of a special spa facial, a milk and honey facial, Dermanew facial, or a paramedical peel.

From there, enjoy a professional manicure (spa, basic, or French), pedicure, body mud treatment, body polishing, or maybe even a body wrap if you're looking to shed a quick pound or two.

Complete electrolysis services are also available, as well as waxing services and tanning services. You can even leave with a professional makeup application - party ready and feeling like a new woman, or man, as Runyon is quick to inform that many men seek the services of the Just For You Day Spa, as well as women. "Men, especially, love the scalp and body massages that we offer," she said, "as well as the manicures and pedicures."

"We offer a variety of packages and plans," Runyon continued. "A client can come in for an hour or two, half a day, or for a complete eight hours. What better way for a mom, a career woman, or anyone, really, to get away from it all and do something just for themselves? Most moms won't spend the money to take care of themselves, but they deserve to. A day with us is a great way

(See NEW YOU, page three)



Cosmetologist and spa technician, Ashleigh Dotson, creates a party-perfect style for this young client.

CRITTER CORNER

The Calling

by Dr. Carol Combs-Morris, DVM

You know, realizing that you have a "calling" is not all it's cracked up to be. It sounds so noble in theory, but in reality it is a gigantic pain in the butt. Maybe that's why you have to be called into it. If it was any fun, people would be knocking one another down to work with abused children, scavenge supplies for food pantries, or enter the ministry. They would also be fighting for jobs in animal shelters and rescue organizations.

Having a calling is far different than being a fanatic about something. Fanatics generally enjoy what they do. The basketball fanatic is excited to get up early in the morning to drive to Lexington for a big UK game. If this same person also has a calling to work with children, he frequently finds himself dragging out of bed on Saturday mornings to coach a rag-tag



This is "Jake" and his family. Jake, a Golden Retriever, is the proud father of Maxi, Mini (now deceased) and DeBaka. Cissy, the little mama, is somewhat camera shy. This happy family lives with Todd and Vylinda Howard at Hippo.

(See CRITTER, page three)

School Calendar

Adams Middle School Youth Services Center

■ If you would be interested in volunteering at AMS, contact the Youth Services Center to schedule a time for Volunteer Orientation.

■ Adams Middle School Youth Services Center is open each weekday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The center offers services to all families regardless of income. For more information about any of the activities or services of the center, please contact the center at 886-1297. Center Coordinator - Michelle Keathley.

Allen Central Middle School

Turn in Food City receipts and General Mills box tops to home room teachers!

■ The ACMS Youth Service Center is open each day from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., or later by appointment. For more information about the center, call LaDonna Patton, coordinator, or Marilyn Bailey, assistant, at 358-0134.

Allen Elementary and Family Resource Youth Service Center

■ Call Allen Elementary Youth Service Center at 874-0621 to schedule your child's Hepatitis B vaccination, immunizations, and WIC appointments.

Betsy Layne Elementary

■ The Betsy Layne Elementary Family Resource Youth Service Center is located in the 500 building of the campus. The goal of the FRYSC is to meet the needs of all children and their families who reside in the community or neighborhood by the school in which the center is located. For further information, please contact the center at 478-5550 or 478-9751, ext. 310.

■ Brian H. Akers, Center Coordinator; Charlotte Rogers, Program Assistant II; Debra Hayes, School Nurse.

Clark Elementary

■ A nurse from the Floyd County Health Dept. is in the center weekly and sees WIC patients, does well-child exams (birth-18 years), and gives immunizations. Currently scheduling exams for students who will be in the 6th grade in the next school year. Call for an appointment - 886-0815.

■ The Clark Elementary Family Resource Center provides services for all families regardless of income. We are located in the Clark Elementary School building and can be reached by calling 886-0815.

Duff Elementary

**School is collecting Food City receipts again this year!

Receipts must be dated Sept. 12, 2004 - March 12, 2005.**

■ Floyd County Health Dept. is at the school each Tuesday. Services include 6th grade school entry physical; kindergarten, Head Start and well-child physicals (age birth to 18 years); T.B. skin test; T.D. boosters; and WIC services. Please call 358-9878 for appointment if you are in need of any of these services.

■ The J.A. Duff Elementary Family Resource Center provides services for all families regardless of income. We are located in the tan metal building at the rear of the school. Contact persons are Judy Handshoe, coordinator, and Ruby Bailey, assistant.

May Valley Elementary

■ Parent Lending Library is available to parents for video check-outs. A variety of topics are available.

■ Floyd County Health Dept. nurse at school every Wednesday. Services include Head Start physicals, kindergarten physicals, 6th grade physicals, well-child physicals, immunizations, TB skin test, WIC program, blood pressure checks, and more. Must call the FRC at 285-0321 for an appointment.

McDowell Elementary and

Family Resource Center

■ Floyd County Health Department Nurse Joy Moore, is at the center each Monday to administer immunizations, T.B. skin tests, well-child exams, WIC, prenatal and post-partum services, and school physicals. Call 377-2678 for an appointment.

Prestonsburg Elementary and Family Resource Center

■ Please collect Food City receipts! School goal is \$500,000 in receipts. Anyone in the community may mail receipts, in care of PES, to 236 North Lake Drive, or drop them off at the school office.

■ The Family Resource Center is open weekdays 8 a.m.-4 p.m., and later by appointment. Office provides services for all families, regardless of income.

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

■ Call 886-7088 for additional information regarding the Prestonsburg Elementary Family Resource Center or its programs.

South Floyd Youth Services Center

**School is participating in the "Apples for Students" program. Please turn in your Food City receipts to office or send with a student. Thanks!

■ Committee sign-ups may

be done through the Youth Services Center office.

■ Walking track open to public.

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

■ Anyone interested in Adult Ed may contact the center for information.

■ All new students and visitors, stop by the Center, located on the South Floyd campus, Room 232, and see Mable Hall.

■ For more information call 452-9600 or 9607 and ask for Mable Hall, ext. 243, or Keith Smallwood, ext. 242.

Stumbo Elementary/Mud Creek Family Resource Center

■ FRC monthly Advisory Council meetings will be held the first Wednesday of each month, at 4 p.m. Call for more info.

■ Lost & Found located in Family Resource Center.

■ Resource Center hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Parents and community members are welcome to visit. For questions, call 587-2233 - ask for Tristan Parsons, Center Coordinator, or Anita Tackett, Assistant.

W.D. Osborne "Rainbow Junction" Family Resource Center

■ "Lost & Found" is located

in the FRC. If items not picked up within 2 weeks, they become the property of the resource center.

■ Rainbow Junction Family Resource Center is located in the W. D. Osborne Elementary School. Hours of operation - 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, or later by appointment. Call 452-4553 and ask for Cissy or Karen. Parents/community members free to visit any time.

Wesley Christian School

■ Wesley Christian Daycare and Infant/Toddler Care accepts infants and toddlers up to 2 years and Preschool age 2-4. Daycare hours: 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday.

■ For additional information, call 874-8328. Summer office hours: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Floyd County Adult Ed Class Schedule

■ BSCTC, Prestonsburg campus: Mon., Wed., Fri. - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Tue., Thur. - 11:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Contact: Jason Cassell - 886-3863, ext. 67219. Room m207 (second floor, Library).

■ Auxier Lifelong Learning Center: Tue., Thur. - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Contact: Lucille Fuchs - 886-0709.

■ Martin Extended Educa-

(See SCHOOL, page three)

YESTERDAYS

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

Ten Years Ago

January 4 and 6, 1995

Floyd County's Solid Waste Commission agreed, Tuesday, to purchase a tract of land at Garth to locate a transfer station which is currently the site of Rumpke's offices and the county garage. In an unanimous vote, solid waste commissioners agreed to pay Industrial Rentals and/or industrial Properties \$91,800 for the seven-acre tract of land...With the deadline for passing a state mandated code of ethics come and gone, all five cities and the county have their ethics code intact. Wheelwright passed its code and published a summary of its contents, last Friday, two days before the deadline to establish a code, making it the last city in the county to do so...A couple injured in an automobile accident, Monday night, at Ivel were apparently having a domestic dispute inside the vehicle prior to the wreck. Crickett Knight of Stanville was operating a vehicle, when her boyfriend, Randy Wallen, reportedly grabbed the steering wheel and caused Knight to lose control of the vehicle, state police trooper John Hunt said Tuesday...It may be an off year in the legislative game, but this week could provide considerable insight into who will be the winners, and losers, when the state's General Assembly gathers into regular session in 1996. One probable winner will be Greg Stumbo, D-Prestonsburg, whose role as House Majority Leader isn't likely to change when the smoke clears from organizational meetings this week in Frankfort...The Floyd County Sheriff's Department is seeking information concerning an apparent drive-by shooting, Monday night, at Garrett. Sheriff's detective Jim Rederick said, Tuesday, that Mary Hopson, 29, of Angola, Indiana, was shot once in the shoulder after she got out of her vehicle on KY 80 at the top of Garrett hill...A 60-year-old Floyd County man received minor injuries after the vehicle he was driving was struck by a train, Friday morning, at Garrett. Willard Scott of Garrett was attempting to drive his pickup truck across a railroad crossing when the rear of his vehicle was struck by a train...Two Floyd County juveniles were arrested, Friday, in connection with the theft of lottery tickets from Woody's Carryout at Salt Lick last Thursday. A 14-year-old and 16-year-old were charged by sheriff's detective Jim Rederick after the two were reportedly apprehended after allegedly cashing in stolen lottery tickets. The teens allegedly took \$1,400 in lottery tickets...Floyd Countians will have to dig a little deeper into their pockets when mailing a letter, as the U.S. Postal Services raised the price of stamps three cents. The 10 percent increase, which took effect on Monday, January 2, brings the cost of a stamp to 32 cents...A fire early Thursday morning, caused extensive damage to the Strand Theater in Prestonsburg. Within a few hours of the fire, Paul Spencer, gen-

eral manager for Absher Enterprises, which owns the theater, had contractors on the scene to assess the damage and begin repairs to the theater...Former Floyd County deputy judge-executive Jimmy Stumbo entered not guilty pleas, Wednesday, to charges of drug trafficking and theft of county monies. Stumbo appeared before Floyd Circuit Judge John David Caudill, Wednesday afternoon, for arraignment on charges of theft by unlawful taking, and two counts of second degree trafficking in a controlled substance...A floating museum in the guise of a paddle-wheeled steamboat; fisherman reeling in enough bass from the Big Sandy to compete in a fishing tournament; and canoe trips down a cleaner, deeper Big Sandy, were visionary projects conceived during a meeting, Wednesday, to promote tourism in Prestonsburg...Lee County native Pat Spicer is ready to begin dispensing cheer and advice to Floyd Countians who have growing pains. Tuesday, Spicer became the new agricultural agent for Floyd County, which has been without an agricultural agent for three and a half years...Prestonsburg Mayor Jerry Fannin summarized, Friday, his administration's first year in a five-minute speech that mirrored council's quiet approach to the city's business over the past 12 months...In an effort to become more like its name, the Kentuckians for the Commonwealth (KFTC) will be moving its administrative offices from Prestonsburg to a more centralized location. The move, which is expected to begin sometime this month, will take offices from Prestonsburg, where it has been since the organization was founded in 1981, to London...in a hearing, Thursday, Federal Judge Joseph Hood declined to grant a temporary injunction, blocking the ouster of Breathitt County Judge Executive Nim Henson...There died: Cleo Hale, 87, of Morehead, Wednesday, December 28, at St. Claire Medical Center; Eva Horner, 91, of Wellston, Ohio, formerly of Floyd County, December 30, in Jackson, Ohio; Elmer Fields, 67, of Isom, Thursday, December 29, at Whitesburg Appalachian Regional Medical Center; Erna Kuhn Combs, 76, of Mousie, Tuesday, December 27, at Highlands Regional Medical Center; William R. Mayo, 96, of Midland, Michigan, a Floyd County native, Tuesday, December 27, at the MidMichigan Regional Medical Center; Martha Francis Newsome, 78, of Grethel, Saturday, December 31, at her residence; Joy Lee Ousley, 46, of Martin, Sunday, January 1, at Hazard Appalachian Regional Medical Center; Donald Leon Adkins, 46, of South Gate, Michigan, formerly of Pikeville, Thursday, December 22, at his residence; Hazel Marie Langley, 79, of Columbus, Ohio, formerly of Robinson Creek and Price, Friday, December 30, at Riverside Methodist Hospital, Columbus; Bennie Hamilton, 64, of New London, Ohio, Thursday, December 29, at Samaritan Hospital in Ashland, Ohio; Jacqueline "Jackie" Lafferty, 66, of Prestonsburg, Friday, December 30, at her residence;

Charles Edward Dotson, 62, of Johnson City, Tennessee, formerly of Floyd County, Saturday, December 31, at the V.A. Hospital in Johnson City; Larry D. Salisbury, 48, of Ypsilanti, Michigan, Thursday, December 29, at Beyer Hospital; Plear Mae Mathews, 81, of Ligon, Saturday, December 31, at McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital; Rebel Conley, 81, of Garrett, Saturday, December 31, at Highlands Regional Medical Center; Ada Ellen Wilson, 89, of Martin, Thursday, December 29, at the Life Care Center of Morehead; Gale Reed Dedmon, 64, of Chattanooga, Tennessee, Thursday, December 29, at her residence; Hazel Wallen, 73, of Allen, Wednesday, January 4, at Our Lady of the Way Hospital in Martin; Nellie Lucille Jones Cobb, 76, of Richmond, Thursday, January 5, at her home; Andrew "Andy" Gross, 76, of Prestonsburg, Sunday, January 1, at Highlands Regional Medical Center; Kelly Ann Vance Hamilton, 22, of McDowell, Monday, January 2, at McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital.

Twenty Years Ago

January 2, 1985

Prestonsburg used car dealer Jack Hyden was sworn in as Floyd County District Court trial commissioner following the resignation of Thomas D. Lafferty Sr...Rumors of a "riot" at the Carl D. Perkins Job Corps Center resulted in the arrest of nine students after the entire Prestonsburg police force and several fire department members showed up at the scene...Everett Akers is among five eastern Kentucky residents who have asked a federal judge to stop the state from issuing stripmine permits in cases involving disputes over broadform deeds...The Floyd County Fiscal Court played scrooge before Christmas, by voting on December 20, to lay off more than half of the county's road workers...There died: Nancy May, 63, of Langley, Tuesday, December 25, at Highlands Regional Medical Center; Becky Hall, 90, of Teaberry, December 26, at her home; Joe Carroll, 69, of Grethel, December 28, in Jackson; Nettie Hall, 62, of Dema, Sunday, at Our Lady of the Way Hospital, Martin; Winnie Conley Merritt, 86, of Abbott Creek, December 27, at Riverview Manor Nursing Home; Nannie Stratton, 90, of Ivel, Monday, at Highlands Regional Medical Center; Beulah Hayes Martin, 86, December 28, at her daughter's home; Mabel Hopson, 66, of Prestonsburg, December 30, at Highlands Regional Medical Center; Pollie Banks, 77, of Weeksbury, December 21, at McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital; Former Prestonsburg Mayor William O. Goebel Jr., Saturday, at Highlands Regional Medical Center; Abraham Lincoln Smiley, 45, December 21, at his mother's home; Hent Newman, 70, of Hi Hat, December 16, at his home.

Thirty Years Ago

January 1, 1975

Some 14,000 residents of Floyd and Johnson counties narrowly escaped loss of gas service for an indefinite period of time, when two pre-dawn explosions, Tuesday, damaged natural gas cooling units at strikebound Kentucky West Virginia Gas Company's Dwale compressor station, near Allen...Two coal train wrecks on successive nights, last week, in this county, caused an estimated \$250,000 damage...Recent events have convinced County Judge Henry Stumbo that establishing an effective solid waste disposal program in the county will be one of the most difficult to be undertaken at the county level...Roy Ousley discovered the molar tooth of a mast-odon, an extinct elephant that inhabited much of North America till about 12,000 years ago, protruding from a clay bank on the Spurlock Fork of Middle Creek recently...Bill T. Gunnells, 71, of Eastern, died Saturday, December 21, at Highlands Regional Medical Center (HRMC); Booten Hamilton, 77, native of Craynor, December 17, at Sturgis, Mich.; Mrs. Della McKinney, 77, of Printer, Dec. 24, at McDowell ARH; Sally Branham Blair, 54, of Water Gap, Dec. 25, at HRMC; Hack Moore, 68, of Wayland, Dec. 22, at McDowell ARH; Green Gearheart, 80, of Hueysville, Dec. 19, here; William Triplett, 77, formerly of Wayland, Dec. 26, at Willard, O.; William Levy Rice, 82, of Hunter, last Thursday, here; Viola Cox Branham, 82, of Wayland, Dec. 23, at HRMC; Henry Harrison Layne, 84, of Betsy Layne, Dec. 18, at Our Lady of the Way Hospital, Martin; Mrs. Cynthia Allen, 94, of Langley, Dec. 27, here; Daniel Lee Childers, 27, of Wheelwright, Dec. 20, at HRMC; Mary Slone, 81, of Minnie, Dec. 25, at Mansfield, O.; Henry Ratliff, 43, formerly of Langley, Dec. 25, at McDowell ARH; Mary Margaret Middleton, 76, of Wayland, Dec. 20 at HRMC; Bertha P. Weatherford, 63, of Prestonsburg, Saturday, here; Blanche McCoy Ferrell, 79, of Calf Creek, Dec. 20, at HRMC; Daisy Blackburn Gray, 89, of Prestonsburg, Dec. 17, at HRMC; Eugene Martin, 52, of Eastern, Friday, at Lexington; Mrs. Lizzie Cox Howell, 80, of Price, Monday, here; Mrs. Pina M. Stone, 60, of Hi Hat, Sunday, at the Methodist Hospital, Pikeville.

Forty Years Ago

December 31, 1964

Applications for occupancy of the new low-rent public housing units at Martin are being received at the office in Martin of R. R. Allen, executive director of the Martin Municipal Housing Commission, in advance of their completion, which is

(See YESTERDAYS, page three)

Yesterdays

Continued from p2

scheduled for early February...In contrast to the tons of foodstuffs, and clothing sent to destitute Whitesburg area families as a result of a recent CBS television program, families in the Weeksbury area of this county, also featured in the broadcast, received only minor assistance, it was learned this week...First meeting of faculty members of Kentucky's new community college system will be held January 6-8, in Lexington...Owners of semi-permanent and permanent camps in the Dewey Lake area have been seeking a modification of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers order, directing that such campsites be moved from the area by January 4...Floyd County officials, members of their families and staff members, enjoyed a buffet dinner, Tuesday night, December 15, in

the circuit courtroom of the new courthouse...The Martin Purple Flash ended the first half of the 1974-75 basketball season with the best record of any of the 15th Region's 31 teams. The team has an 18-1 won-lost record...There died: Mrs. Cleo Rogers, 78, December 23, at Greensburg, Ky.; William Harry Gregory, 49, Sunday, at his home at Dinwood.

Fifty Years Ago

December 30, 1954

A large-scale-drive for funds to carry on the fight against infantile paralysis will begin in Floyd County, as elsewhere over the nation, on New Year's day, and

this 1955 March of Dimes could be the last big drive for funds if the Salk vaccine, given extensive tests this year proves to be as effective in preventing polio as expected...Injuries suffered, last Wednesday afternoon, when he was struck by an automobile on the Left Beaver Creek highway at Printer, resulted, Monday, in the death at C.&O. Hospital, Huntington, W.Va., of 65-year-old Talmadge Robinson, of Printer...Although no fatalities were reported on Floyd County highways, at least two persons were seriously hurt over the Christmas holidays. They were Allen Bentley, of Lackey, and Creed Prater, of Hueysville, both of whom are patients in Lexington hospitals...“I had an awful

alive,” said “Uncle” Wilse Crum, 80, after fire destroyed his home at West Prestonsburg on Christmas Eve...Born: to Mr. and Mrs. Silas Derosssett, of Water Gap, twin girls, Dec. 23, at the Paintsville Hospital...There died: Mrs. Polly Jane Case, 79, Monday, at her home at Drift; Malone (May) England, 71, formerly of this county, last Tuesday, at Ft. Wayne, Ind.; Sammy M. Hunter, 80, of Lancer, Monday, at St. Mary's Hospital in Huntington, W.Va.; Alonzo Napier, 59, of Garrett, Monday, at the Beaver Valley Hospital, Martin; Richard Hicks, 48, of Garrett, Christmas Day at Prestonsburg General Hospital; Mrs. Delsie Warrens, 29, of Wakema, O., formerly of this county, Monday, at Beaver Valley Hospital, Martin.

Korner

let alone get over. Probably because the first two weeks of March followed suit and people in my life that I had considered loyal, trusting, and true blessings turned out to be the total opposite and the punch that lesson packs can most definitely take you down. The prayers that were put forth then still continue today. Respectful requests to not become bitter, or hard-hearted, after having to deal with such hurt, have been too numerous to count. I've said so many times that God puts people in our lives for a reason and

a season. We have lessons to learn that's for sure. Sometimes, lessons we'd rather not have to endure. But then, how could we grow? Yes, 2004 was rough. And I, for one, am glad it's behind us. I'm looking forward to the New Year, New Beginnings, and meeting the people God has in store for my life in this season. This has me excited and ready for a whole new year! I brought 2005 in - in Prayer! Prayer for restoration, and healing for all those who've

been hurt. Healing of minds, bodies and souls. Relationships restored. Faith restored. A year of true peace, love and joy. A year in which people treat one another in the way He intends us to do. I prayed for forgiveness and a forgiving heart. Not just for myself but for all, for His Light to shine on in the darkness, and bring forth His Will. Yes, this is the day the Lord has made - let us rejoice and be glad in it! Til Next Week... May God Truly Bless You All!

Continued from p1

School

tion Service Center: Tue., Thur. - 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Contact: Vanessa Tackett - 285-5111. Wayland EESC: Mon., Wed. - 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Contact: Penny Fell - 452-4324. McDowell: Tue., 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. For more information

about Adult Education class schedules, contact the David School at 886-8374. All classes and materials free of charge.

Continued from p2

Oak

might have washed up along the river. “Only one way to find out,” one of us said. As we descended the bank just below the Thealka crossing, the forbidden Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy, as brown as a biscuit and still slightly out of its banks, sure enough appeared to have deposited an unending supply of good stuff. The thought briefly ran through my mind that our cabin would look like a mansion. Only problem was, the high water had also left about a five-inch thick layer of mud along the

shore, and as both feet went out from under me, my bottom began an uncontrolled slide toward the fast-moving stream. I was completely helpless. There was absolutely nothing to grab onto. In the instant it took to process the dire straits in which I found myself, I knew I was a goner. I would drown for sure. I must have been a comical figure as I slid quickly toward my doom, because all my fellow lumber gatherers started laughing. Down, down I went. The slide must have been over in

mere seconds, but it seemed forever before both my feet hit the water...and a solid object that I later learned was a crosstie from the railroad tracks, which had lodged against some big rocks. So there I sat. Although I then realized that I wasn't going to drown, I also knew that there was no way I could negotiate back up the slick river bank...even if I could gain footing enough to turn around. But, I suppose a body can do a lot of things if he has to...and gets mad enough. The cheers and jeers of my cohorts, who

apparently had failed to understand that I could have been killed if that crosstie hadn't stopped my slide, prompted me to somehow scramble on all fours back up the bank. Guess I was reminded of the helpless feeling I experienced at the river some 50 years ago, when 2005 suddenly jumped out at me, so soon after 2004 had done likewise. Talk about an uncontrollable slide! But when it comes to the slippery slope of time, there're no crossties waiting.

Continued from p1

Critter

bunch of ten-year olds with two left feet and no depth perception. Yes, he would have more fun spending those two hours at the orthodontist, but he still loves and believes in what he does, and he hopes that it will make a difference. Being called to work with animals is both a privilege and a path that leads through the very bowels of Hell. Those who accepted the call all wish they could go back to that time when they just “loved animals,” and could enjoy them without all the baggage they carry now. They had a choice, of course; to glimpse all the bad things and turn away, saying, “I'm not strong enough,” or “I can't change anything.” There would have been nothing wrong with them if they did; to continue as responsible pet owners, providing loving homes, and even

influencing other people with their kindness. But they didn't, or couldn't, turn away, and they got pulled deeper into the “humane issues.” They learned about the pet overpopulation problem and became rabid spay/neuter advocates. Their license plate, bumper stickers and most of their clothing is emblazoned with slogans urging you to get your pet fixed. They are available at the drop of a hat to do talks on the subject for the local elementary school or Rotary Club. They began to take notice of homeless animals; they started to carry leashes, crates and cans of pet food with them in the car. Pretty soon they were common sights crawling over guard rails and through ditch lines; no one bothered to stop to see if they were having car trouble; it was

assumed they were after a stray. The vets and animal shelters in three counties know them well. They became the people who were called with any sort of animal problem. They put their necks on the chopping block and called the Sheriff's office (and the County Judge, and the County Attorney, and the State Police) to report abuse when others did not want to get involved. When all else failed, sometimes they resorted to buying, or even stealing, animals to get them out of horrific circumstances. They have seen dogs so thin they could barely stand, cats with half their fur burned away, gunshots, stab wounds, traumatic amputations. They have looked into the eyes of one too many cute puppy as it was euthanized because there were no more good homes to be found.

And they recognized it as a kindness, because they have seen the things that are worse than death. They themselves have contracted lice, ringworm and mange. They have been in the emergency room more than once with bites and scratches. They are on Tagamet, Prozac and blood pressure medication. Sometimes they are short-tempered and unreasonable, and sometimes they burst into tears for no apparent reason. They have family and former friends who avoid them like the plague, and they have the faithful ones who stand by them and try to understand. They fear for their own sanity, but they continue the work because the statistics are no longer numbers, but faces, and the eyes are always on them. They are called.

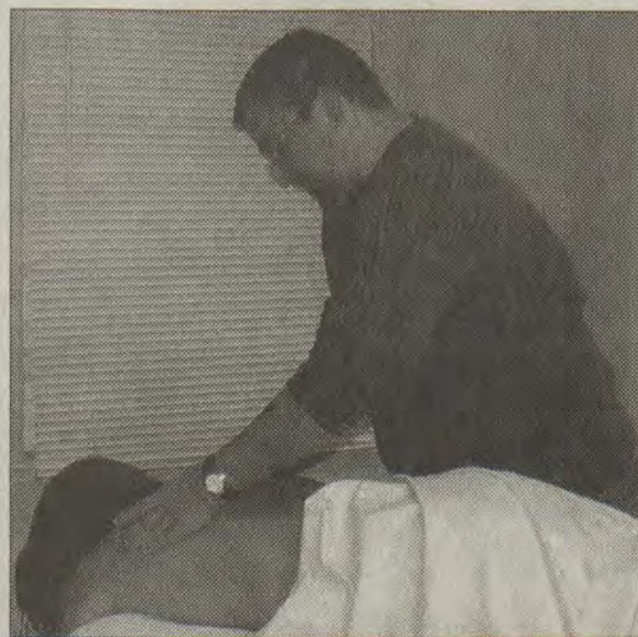
Continued from p1

New You

to reward yourself, or to give a gift that will really be appreciated.” Spa services may be purchased separately for as little as \$20 or in packages ranging in price from \$85 to \$275. And don't forget to ask about the special “Girl's Night Out” package where the ladies can get together for an entire evening of catered spa services and refreshments. Talk about shedding the day's stresses and tensions! There's even a special “Just For Men” stress-relief massage and scalp massage package that would make a great gift for that hard-working bone-weary man in your life. Christmas is past, the new year is just beginning and Valentine's Day is just around the corner. Why not treat yourself, or someone special, to a day catered to their desires? Call the Just

For You Day Spa today at (606) 788-0054. For more information about the Just For You Day Spa, you may visit the following website:

www.justforyoudayspa.net/firms.com. Other staff not previously mentioned include: Pam Fraley, cosmetologist, and Brian Hitchcock.



Mike Puckett, massage therapist, helps a client rid herself of the tensions and stress of the day.



A professional pedicure is just the cure for dry, rough, winter tired feet.

Continued from p1

What you should know about cholesterol and heart health

(NUE) - Despite advances in medicine and technology, coronary heart disease remains the leading cause of death in men and women in the United States. The American Heart Association estimates that more than 500,000 people die from the disease each year. Unfortunately, some people first learn they have the disease only after they've suffered a heart attack.

Though some risk factors of coronary heart disease, like heredity, can't be controlled, lifestyle changes can help minimize others. Besides quitting smoking and maintaining a healthy weight, for example, people can lower their risk of developing the disease by controlling their cholesterol levels. Cholesterol, a waxy, fat-like substance that helps the body digest fat and produce hormones, is naturally present throughout the body. Without it, our bodies wouldn't be able to survive.

Cholesterol comes from two sources - the liver and through foods that contain cholesterol. The liver usually is able to make enough cholesterol to satisfy all of the body's needs. When too much dietary cholesterol from foods such as red meat and eggs is consumed, excess cholesterol is produced. It has a tendency to stick to the walls of the arteries, particularly the coronary arteries, which are the passageways to the heart. These deposits can then

lead to the development of arteriosclerosis, or hardening of the arteries. If left untreated, this can cause coronary arteries to be severely or completely blocked, and ultimately can lead to severe chest pain or heart attack.

It is important to take preventive measures in order to keep your heart healthy. To control your cholesterol, get a cholesterol screening, eat foods low in saturated fat and cholesterol, maintain a healthy weight, exercise regularly and follow all of your doctor's recommendations.

Also, enriching your diet with an antioxidant supplement, like Pycnogenol, can benefit your heart health immensely.

Recent studies show that Pycnogenol, which is made from the bark of the French maritime pine tree, significantly reduces the levels of bad cholesterol in the blood while elevating the amount of good cholesterol.

This supplement also contains an anti-inflammatory agent that protects the blood vessels so that cholesterol doesn't stick to them.

Pycnogenol also can help lower high blood pressure and fight the effects of smoking, stress and other environmental risk factors that can contribute to heart disease.

For more information about heart health and Pycnogenol, visit www.vitaminfactory.com or call (800) 619-1199.

Lifestyle changes key to lowering blood pressure

(NUE) - With few early symptoms, high blood pressure can easily go undetected. When it is not properly controlled, high blood pressure often is a precursor to the No. 1 killer in the United States - heart disease.

The heart must work overtime when the blood vessels become clogged due to a plaque buildup of cholesterol and fat. This is what causes blood pressure to rise.

To stay healthy, you must adopt a healthy lifestyle. The following tips will help you prevent or even lower high blood pressure, also known as hypertension.

■ Maintain a healthy weight. Blood pressure rises as body weight increases. Therefore, obesity can increase your risk of developing high blood pressure. If you are overweight, losing just 10 pounds can make a difference.

■ Reduce salt in your diet. Your body needs salt to function properly. Most Americans, however, consume more salt than they need. You should consume about 1 tablespoon of table salt a day. Also, read nutrition labels on packaged foods to see how much sodium is in one serving.

■ Increase potassium in your diet. Though most Americans eat too much salt, many don't get enough potassium in their diets. Since potassium helps balance the amount of sodium in cell fluids, not consuming enough of this mineral can lead to excess sodium. Eat-

ing foods such as fruits and vegetables is the best way to increase your potassium intake.

■ Limit alcohol consumption. Alcohol has been shown to raise blood pressure by interfering with the flow of blood to and from the heart. It also can harm the liver and brain. If you drink alcoholic beverages, have only a moderate amount.

■ Take a natural antioxidant. A recent study of individuals taking medication to control high blood pressure found that they were able to cut their dosages nearly in half by adding a natural antioxidant alternative. One such antioxidant that has proven effective in lowering high blood pressure is Pycnogenol, which is derived from the bark of the French maritime pine tree.

In a study conducted by researchers at the University of Arizona's College of Public Health, subjects with moderate hypertension showed significant decreases in their systolic blood pressure after taking Pycnogenol.

The most impressive results were found in patients with the highest blood pressure, at around 150 mmHg. (Experts recommend that you maintain a blood pressure lower than 140 mmHg.) The patients using Pycnogenol were able to reduce their blood pressure to 135 mmHg, right on target.

For more information about blood pressure and Pycnogenol, visit www.vitaminfactory.com or call (800) 619-1199.

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210 - Job Listings

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- 495 - Wanted To Buy

500 - REAL ESTATE

- 505 - Business
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- 530 - Homes
- 550 - Land/Lots
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- 580 - Miscellaneous

590 - Sale or Lease

600 - RENTALS

- 610 - Apartments
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- 630 - Houses
- 640 - Land/Lots
- 650 - Mobile Homes
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690 - Wanted To Rent

700 - SERVICES

- 705 - Construction
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- 713 - Child Care
- 715 - Electrician
- 720 - Health & Beauty
- 730 - Lawn & Garden
- 735 - Legal
- 740 - Masonry
- 745 - Miscellaneous

750 - Mobile Home

- Movers
- 755 - Office
- 760 - Plumbing
- 765 - Professionals
- 770 - Repair/Service
- 780 - Timber
- 790 - Travel

800 - NOTICES

- 805 - Announcements
- 810 - Auctions
- 815 - Lost & Found

830 - Miscellaneous

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

AUTOMOTIVE

130-Cars

FOR SALE: '93 Olds Ciera. Runs good, needs grill & bumper. \$800. Call 285-0742.

FOR SALE: 2002 White Monte Carlo LS with Sports Package. 36,900 miles. Excellent condition. Call 606-285-9704.

For Sale 1993 Ford Crown Victoria. 138,000 miles. \$1,200. call 606-874-0467

For sale 1991 Toyota Corolla needs work \$800 firm call 606-886-8339 after 5 pm.

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210-Job Listing

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Our facility is currently recruiting Registered Nurses in the following areas: Medical/Pediatric Critical Care Unit Obstetric Surgical Floor We are also recruiting Licensed Practical Nurses and Certified Nurses Aides for the Medical / Pediatric Department. We offer an excellent benefit package. We are an EOE and We Drug Test. If interested in an exciting new career, call or forward resume to: Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center Human Resources Department 625 James S. Trimble Blvd. Paintsville, KY 41240 (606) 789-3511 Ext 1229

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220-Help Wanted

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All qualified candidates please send resume to:
 KVAT Food Stores
 Attn: Don Clark
 P.O. Box 1158
 Abingdon, VA 24212
 OR
 clarkd@FoodCity.com
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Located behind Wendy's and Pizza Hut in Prestonsburg. All utilities are included and the rent is based upon gross monthly income. Several activities, such as line dancing, crafts, bingo, movies, hair salon and church services. The apartments are furnished with a refrigerator, stove, emergency alarm system, and air conditioner. For more information, please call Highland Terrace at 606-886-1925, or come by the office for an application. Highland Terrace does not discriminate in admission or employment in subsidized housing on account of race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, age, familial status or disability.

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Help Wanted Retail in Management Needed experienced Manager for Dollar Store must have Retail Management experience send resume to Dollar Mart 270 Dog Patch Center, London, Ky. 40741 c/o Atten Bruce

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Must have strong knowledge of heavy duty truck industry, truck inventory, floor planning and sales. Will consider candidate with background in heavy duty truck Parts and Service. Computer skills a PLUS! Minimum of 3 years experience required.

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1, 2, 3, 4 Bedrooms available for extremely low-income people at Highland Heights Apts. in Goble-Roberts Addn., and Cliffside Apts. on Cliff Road, Prestonsburg. Computerized learning centers offer social/educational programs for children and adults. All utilities included at Highland Hgts., utility allowance at Cliffside. Call (606) 886-0608, 886-1927, or 886-1819. TDD: 1-800-648-6056. Highland Heights and Cliffside Apartments do not discriminate in admission or employment in subsidized housing on account of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion and familial status.

FINANCIAL

350-Miscellaneous

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380-Services

CARPENTRY WORK all types. New construction or remodeling. Garages, decks, etc. Concrete work & siding. Free estimates. Call 886-8896.

MERCHANDISE

440-Electronics

\$10! COMPUTERS, Video Games! TVs from \$10! Police Seized! Sony, JVC, Panasonic etc. Info 800-749-8128 xP886

445-Furniture

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

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475-Household

\$7.99! Stereo Speakers Seized property TV, Computers & More! from \$10.00! for more information call 800-366-0307 ext.P620

480-Miscellaneous

FIREWOOD FOR SALE: \$70 PER LOAD. ALL HARDWOOD SPLIT CALL: (606) 358-9616

ANTIQUES FOR SALE: Furniture and dishes also like new leather recliner.1997-2004 Mustang gt - new tires and wheels 606-434-5551

For Sale: 8 ft' refrigerated deli case, \$1000, small pizza oven, \$400, small juice cooler, \$150, washer & dryer, \$150 pair. Call 606-886-2367.

For Sale: 8 ft' deli cooler, \$950 and Gas convection oven, \$450. Call 606-886-2367.

Kay's Wallpaper 205 Depot Road Paintsville, Ky. Hundreds of Patterns of Wallpaper & Borders. All under \$10.00. Open Tues - Fri. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sat.10 a.m to 3 p.m. Closed Sun. & Mon. 606-789-8584.

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550-Land/Lots

LAND FOR SALE LOCATED AT WAYLAND, KY KNOWN AS GLOW HILL. ESTATE OF THE LATE JACK AND MAY RATLIFF. SOME FLAT AND SOME HILLSIDE PROPERTY. APPROX. 14 ACRES PLUS 606-422-9034 ASK FOR BECKY. SERIOUS INQUIRIES ONLY

For Sale 9 acres more or less on Samson fork at Dana, Ky. call 440-967-4088

570-Mobile Homes

Clayton House Trailer 14x80 with 2 1/2 car garage with approximately 1/4 acre land RT 680 McDowell call 502-905-4095 for more information.

3 BR DOUBLEWIDE FOR SALE: 3,000 obo. Call 874-4478. (1/12)

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FOR SALE: 1994 14x70 Fleetwood, 3 BR, 1 BA, outbuildings, and 2 porches. Good condition. Prestonsburg area. Call 606-899-2033

For Sale 3 bed room 2 full bath, Double wide, 3 years old for more information call 606-889-0937 or 606-889-9654.

580-Miscellaneous

FOR SALE: 50 acres of coal in Laurel Fork of Quicksand in Knott County, KY. Call 260-347-0259.

610-Apartments

APT FOR RENT: 1 bedroom apartment for rent. Utilities paid. \$400 per month. Call 886-6061

FOR RENT 2 bedroom apartment on 321 between Highland Hospital & Porter School. Central Heat & Air, dishwasher, washer & dryer hook up. \$375 a month. \$200 Deposit. 789-5973.

FOR RENT: 1 bedroom apartment. Hud Accepted. Furnished. \$275 plus utilities per month. Security deposit required. 3 bedroom partially furnished mobile home. \$300 plus utilities. \$200 security deposit. Call 606-377-6881.

FOR RENT: 1 BR, kitchen furnished. Located at sugarloaf. Call 874-9174 or 874-5175.

FOR RENT Small furnished bachelor apartment just off Mtn. Parkway on old Rt. 114. Call 886-8724.

FOR RENT: 2 BR Duplex, Auxier. New carpet, fenced yard & private drive. \$350 plus utilities and \$200 deposit, 6 month lease required. Call 285-0742.

2 BR DUPLEX 624 A N. Arnold Ave., Prestonsburg. LR dining room, kitchen, full bath, washroom w/ washer/dryer hookups. Large front porch. Kitchen appliances furnished including w/d. Central heat & air. \$550 rent & utilities. Deposit & lease required. Call 606-886-6460.

1 BR APARTMENT in Harold. \$450 per month, utilities paid, references & deposit

required, very nice. Call 437-1997

2 Bed room Apt. with central heat and air on U.S 23 1 mile west of Prestonsburg, No pets call 606-886-9747 or 606-886-9007

FOR RENT: 2 BR apt. Fully furnished, \$100 per week includes utilities. 886-8366.

For rent or lease Town House 2 bed room 2 1/2 bath Kitchen appliances furnished, washer/dryer furnished nice deck \$500.00 per month plus utilities located at Timberline Estates call 606-886-1997

2 bed room 1 1/2 bath Townhouse also 1 bed room furnished or unfurnished located oin Prestonsburg .NO PETS call 606-886 8991

Greetings from Lighthouse Manor, Terry & Sharon Smith. We have apartments for rent that are efficiency apartments, all utilities paid. For more info call 606-886-2797.

Furnished 1 bed room Apt. Central heat & air. Rent starting at \$375. month, + \$300. deposit water included. Located near HRMC. 606-889-9717.

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620-Office Space

For Lease Finished Office Space for lease in prime location near BSCTC, (PCC) and the new Food City -- **2100 sq. ft.** Ground floor location with up to five private offices, conference room, kitchen, bath, parking lot call Today 606-424-2690 or 226-2266

FOR LEASE: Retail or office space. Starting @ \$325 per month Call 886-8366.

630-Houses

For rent: 3 BR 1 Bath house with large yard no pets 3 miles from Prestonsburg 889-9747 or 886-9007

FOR RENT: 3 bedroom house for rent. Hud approved. Call 285-3376.

Office Space for Lease

in the heart of downtown Prestonsburg. Entire first floor of the historic Harkins Law Office building, located on corner of W. Court Street & S. Arnold Avenue. Approximately 2,000 sq. ft.: 5 offices, including 1 with a private entrance, 1 reception/lobby, 1 walk-in safe, 1 storage room, and 2 baths. Contact: **Robert R. Allen (606) 886-6460 or 226-6460.**

Jerry's RESTAURANT
Prestonsburg

HELP WANTED: Waitresses, dish-washers/busboys, cooks. Paid vacation, health insurance available. Uniforms furnished.
No phone calls, please!
Apply in person.

FOR SALE OR RENT: 3,000 sq.ft. brick house in McDowell. Call 859-881-9149 or 377-2026.

HOUSE FOR RENT: Bevinsville No hud. 2-Bedroom. Call 478-9623.

FOR RENT: House available for rent. Could be used for professional or residential use. Great business location for expansion. Call 606-6-195 or 606-434-6516.

HOUSE FOR RENT: 3 bedroom, 2 bath, fireplace. Close to PCC & Hospital. \$550 per month plus deposit & utilities. Call 886-0296 or 889-0355.

FIRE YOUR LANDLORD!!! \$\$\$0 DOWN HOMES! No Rent! Tax Reps & Bankruptcies! No Credit OK! \$0 to low down! For Listings, 1-800-501-1777 Ext. 8351

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640-Land/Lots

For Rent : newly constructed Mobile Home Lots in new Allen, reference required call 606-874-2212

650-Mobile Homes

FOR RENT OR SALE: 3 BR, 2 bath doublewide, spacious living. Call 377-6657. For couples or singles, no kids.

FOR RENT: Trailer for rent 3 miles out of Prestonsburg on David Road. Quiet neighborhood. 886-3902.

FOR RENT: Trailer located between Paintsville and Prestonsburg. Suitable for couple. Call 886-3151 after 5 pm.

FOR RENT: Two bedroom trailer for rent. Call 874-1991.

FOR RENT Mobile home 2 BR, partially furnished, at Martin. Call 874-2000.

FOR RENT
1-bedroom fully furnished with washer & dryer. Located Barnett Drive, between Twin Bridges, Martin, Ky.
\$375.00 per mo. (includes gas, electric, and water).
Call 285-3140

Trailer lot for rent on old U.S. 23 between Prestonsburg and Paintsville call 606-886-9007 or 889 9747

670-Comm. Property

For Rent: Beauty shop equipped with 3 stations, and tanning bed. located 1 mile south of Martin on Route. 122. or would consider remodeling for office space Call 606-285-4826 or 606-285-9112.

FOR SALE: Beauty Shop Equipment for sale. Call 886-2567.

812-Free

FREE PALLETS: can be picked up behind The Floyd County Times.

815-Lost & Found

LOST CAT: Lost Cat 1/1/05 from 6361 Spurlock Rd. Yellow tabby cat named Presley. No collar, poor vision, approximately 10 years old. \$200 reward. Call early morning or night 889-6437. Call daytime 434-2622.

850-Personals

When responding to Personal ads that have reference numbers, please indicate that entire reference

number on the outside of your envelope. Reference numbers are used to help us direct your letter to the correct individual.

SECRET ENCOUNTERS 1-800-442-MEET .69 p/m Ladies Free!! 1-800-201-TALK VISIT - singles.com

START DATING TONIGHT! Have fun meeting eligible singles in your area. Toll Free. 1-800-ROMANCE ext. 9735

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"Come Walk With Us"

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS
IN THE
FLOYD COUNTY TIMES
CIRCULATION DEPT.
ASSEMBLING NEWSPAPERS
Part-time:
Day and night shifts
APPLY AT 263 S. CENTRAL AVE.
No Phone Calls, Please!
E.O.E.

Ring in the New Year with a New Career at:
ARH's REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER HAZARD, KY
The ARH Regional Medical Center, a 308-bed facility of the Appalachian Regional Healthcare system, is accepting applications for the following positions:
• REGISTERED NURSES – CVU; Med/Surg; ICU/CCU & OR
• LPN/SCRUB TECH
• ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR CLINICAL SERVICES
• STAFF MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIST
• MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONISTS
• RESPIRATORY THERAPY TECH
• REGISTERED NURSE – Radiology Department – Part Time
• REFRIGERATION MECHANIC
Requirements include applicable licensure/certification with related experience. ARH offers a highly competitive salary based on education and experience. Benefits include very low cost single or family health insurance coverage; generous paid time off including vacation, sick and holiday leaves; life insurance at group rates; non-contributory retirement plan; tax-sheltered annuity programs, etc.
For additional information on these opportunities, please send resume to, or contact: Human Resources Department, ARH Regional Medical Center, 100 Medical Center Drive, Hazard, KY 41701; telephone: 606-439-6843 or 606-439-6841 or contact: Marilyn Hamblin, ARH System Center, PO Box 8086, Lexington, KY 40533; e-mail: mhamblin@arh.org; fax: 859-226-2586. EOE

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Appalachian Regional Healthcare
The Medical Centers of the Mountains
www.arh.org

PREMIER ELKHORN COAL COMPANY
Myra, KY
is now accepting applications for the following position:
Welder/Pipefitter/Repairman with 3 years prep plant repair experience. Must be able to cut, fit and weld pipe. Requires KY Surface Mine Certification. Must have Welder/Pipefitter Certificate.
Applications will be accepted at:
Kentucky Department for Employment Services
138 College Street
Pikeville, KY 41501
Premier Elkhorn Coal Company
is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

MAINTENANCE DIRECTOR
Salyersville Health Care Center is now accepting applications for a Maintenance Director. This individual should possess extensive knowledge of building maintenance and repair, have excellent organizational skills with the ability to oversee an extensive preventative maintenance schedule and be familiar with commercial equipment, including boilers, washers, dryers, kitchen equipment, HVACs, and other general equipment. Must be motivated to work in a rewarding but challenging environment. If you are interested, in applying, please submit an application to...
Salyersville Health Care Center
571 Parkway Drive
Salyersville, KY 41465
E.O.E./A.A.P.

NEW APARTMENTS
2 bedrooms with walk-in closets, 2 full bathrooms, custom cabinets, large living room and dining room. They are conveniently located on US Highway 23 at Stanville. Call for pricing:
(606) 478-8100
after 5 call 478-5377

CNA's / CMA's
We are currently hiring for open CNA and CMA positions. We offer an excellent benefits package and competitive wages. Call or stop by for a tour and interview to join our caring team.
Salyersville Health Care
571 Parkway Drive
(606) 349-6181
E.O.E./A.A.P.

Occupational Therapist/ Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant
Salyersville Health Care Center, in Salyersville, KY, is seeking a full-time OT or COTA. Our 157-bed facility offers inpatient & outpatient services and we recently started providing Anodyne Therapy! IN-HOUSE position, Monday-Friday hours, caseload variety, excellent benefits, competitive wages & nation-wide growth opportunities. Contact Jennifer Weimer, 800-395-5000 x 8254, Fax: 414-908-8143 or Email: jweimer@extendicare.com EEEOC.

900-Legals

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE
Pursuant to Application

Number 836-5438 Operator Change
In accordance with 405 KAR 8:010, notice is hereby given that The Elk Horn Coal Company, LLC, 544 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653, intends to revise permit number 836-5438, to change the operator. The operator presently approved in the permit is the permittee. The new operator will be Sly Branch Energy, Inc., 6166 KY Rt. 114, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. The operation is located 1.15 mile northwest of Blue Moon, in Floyd County. The operation is approximately 0.4 mile southeast of the junction of KY 2030, and the Gunstock Branch Road, and is located on Gunstock Branch. The operation is located on the McDowell and Harold U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 minute quadrangle maps.

The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Natural Resources' Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. Written comments, or objections, must be filed with the Director of the Division of Mine Permits, No. 2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, KY 40601. All comments, or objections must be received within fifteen (15) days of today's date.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE
Pursuant to Application

Number 836-5327, Renewal
In accordance with KRS 350.055, notice is hereby given that CONSOL of Kentucky Inc., P.O. Box 130, Mousie, Kentucky 41839, has applied for a renewal for an underground coal mining operation, located 4.6 miles northwest of Bosco, in Floyd and Magoffin Counties. The proposed operation will disturb 11.4 surface acres and will underlie 3816.0 acres, and the total area within the permit boundary will be 3827.4 acres.

The proposed operation is approximately 1.8 mile northwest from S.R. 7's junction with S.R. 2029, and located near the head of Raccoon Branch. The latitude is 37°30'50". The longitude is 82°53'40". The proposed operation is located on the David and Handshoe U.S.G.S. 7 1/2-minute quadrangle maps. The surface area is owned by Sylvia Warrix. The operation will underlie land owned by Ellis Shepherd, Lindburg Hale, Artie Shepherd, Russell Shepherd, Elizabeth Howard Heirs, Reggie Shepherd, Opal Hale, Hayes Vanderpool, Silas Howard Heirs, Andy Osborne, Harold Wireman, Virgil Handshoe, Graydon Howard, Jr., Nora Howard, Della

Shepherd, Haley Whitaker, Virgie Shepherd, Carl Shepherd, Delphia and Norman Hale, Randal Risner, Jay Handshoe, Monroe Vanderpool, Robbie Shepherd, Fred Shepherd, Eil Howard, Delphia Hale, Harold Howard, Julia Howard Estate, Berlin Howard, Johnny E. Howard, Curtis Handshoe, Jr., Jack Warrix Estate, Clyde Howard Estate, Buck Patrick Estate, Lois Conley, Tressie Kalibachuk, James Howard, Jr., Ellis Bailey, John Oberst, Ellis Howard Heirs, Ella Allen Heirs, Dottie Hayes, Donald B. Clester, Julie Howard Heirs, Annie Handshoe, Clinton Handshoe, Glen Shepherd, Glen Handshoe, Ellis Shepherd Heirs, Harry Ousley Heirs, Effie Crager, Kenneth Wallace, Clayton Ramey, Ronald Curey, First Commonwealth Bank, Johnny Hoover Heirs, Ollie Jack Howard, Marty Ratliff, Martin L. Vanderpool, Hiram Vanderpool, Jr., James Vanderpool, Ronnie Slone, Deana G. Martin, Bruce Ratliff, Marlin Bolen, Wayne Gearheart, Lawrence Hicks, Gladys Bailey, Leslie Bradley, Cletis Howard, Tilden Shepherd Heirs, Kirk Shepherd, Cora Wireman Heirs, Kermit Handshoe Heirs, Harris Handshoe Heirs, Phoebe L. Bryan, Clayton Handshoe, Delmar Shepherd, Dossie Bailey, and Steve Wright.

The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Natural Resources, Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653-1410. THIS IS THE FINAL ADVERTISEMENT of the application. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Mine Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE

Pursuant to Application Number 836-0308

In accordance with the provisions of KRS 350.055, notice is hereby given that Motts Branch Coal Inc., P.O. Box 2765, 436 Daniels Creek Road, Pikeville, Kentucky 41502, has applied for a permit for a surface coal mining and reclamation operation, affecting 269.6 acres and will underlie an additional 186.9 acres, located 4.5 miles northwest of Hueysville, in Floyd County.

The proposed operation is approximately 1.8 mile northwest from Route 2029's junction with KY Route 7, and located in Plummer Branch and Raccoon Branch of Saltlick Creek.

The proposed operation is located on the David and Handshoe U.S.G.S. 7-1/2 minute quadrangle maps. The operation will use the contour strip, area mining, and high wall/auger

methods of mining. The surface area is owned by Ollie Jack Howell, et al., G.M.O. Forestry Fund 3, LP, Effie Crager, Kenneth Wallace, Patrick Brian Ousley, Lowell Dean Shepherd, Glen Shepherd, Clinton Handshoe, Sylvia Warrix, Billy Tussey, Annie Handshoe, Elsie Wright, Thelma and Lurie Hoover, and Knott Floyd Land Company Inc. The operation will underlie surface area owned by Ollie Jack Howell, et al., G.M.O. Forestry Fund 3, LP, Effie Crager, Kenneth Wallace, Lowell Dean Shepherd, Glen Shepherd, Clinton Handshoe, Sylvia Warrix, Elsie Wright, Thelma and Lurie Hoover, and Knott Floyd Land Company Inc. The operation will affect an area within 100 feet of public road KY 7. The operation will not involve relocation of the public road. KY Route 7 will be closed to traffic during blasting operations.

The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Natural Resources, Division of Mine Reclamation and Enforcement's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

NOTICE OF BOND RELEASE

Permit No. 836-5429 Increment No. 10 In accordance with KRS 350.093, notice is hereby given that Motts Branch Coal, Inc., P.O. Box 2765, 436 Daniels Creek Road, Pikeville, Kentucky 41502, has applied for Phase 1 bond release on permit number 836-5429, Increment No. 10, which was last issued on 10/09/91. The application covers an area of approximately 866.39 acres, located 2.9 miles northeast of Hueysville, in Floyd County.

The permit area is approximately 1.5 mile northwest from Ky. Rte. 2029's junction with KY Rte. 7, and located in Saylers Branch. The latitude is 37°30'45". The longitude is 82°53'06". The bond now in effect for Increment No. 10 is a certificate of deposit and a bond pool type in the amount of \$34,500.00. Approximately sixty (60) percent of the original bond amount in the amount of \$34,500.00 is included in the application for release.

Reclamation work performed includes: backfilling, final grading, and seeding to achieve the approved post mining land use, which was completed in October 2004. Results thus far achieved are; area is stable and the post mining land use has been established.

Written comments, objections, and requests for a public hearing or informal conference must be

filed with the Director, Division of Field Services, #2 Hudson Hollow, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, by February 18, 2005. A public hearing on the application has been scheduled for February 21, 2005, at 9:00 a.m., at the Department for Surface Mining Reclamation's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. The hearing will be cancelled if no request for a hearing or informal conference is received by February 18, 2005.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE

Pursuant to Application Number 836-5461, Amendment No. 2

In accordance with the provisions of KRS 350.070, notice is hereby given that CONSOL of Kentucky Inc., P.O. Box 130, Mousie, Kentucky, 41839, has applied for an amendment for an existing underground coal mining and reclamation operation, located 0.5 mile northeast of Hippo, in Floyd County. The amendment will add an additional 0.0 acres of surface disturbance and an additional 1,609.3 acres of underground acres, making the total area within the permit boundary, 2178.7 acres.

The proposed amendment area is approximately 0.5 mile northwest from State Route 850's junction with Brush Creek County Road, and located north of Hicks Fork of Brush Creek.

The proposed amendment is located on the Martin

U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 minute quadrangle maps. The amendment will use the underground method of mining. The amendment area will underlie lands owned by William E. & Peggy Stephens, Harvey Watson, John Paul & Lou Ellen Pitts, Eva & George Thornsby, John Paul Pitts, Shade Pitts, Floyd & Edna Davis, Jeffrey & Zelma M. Watson, John T. & Anna Lea Thornsby, Kenneth & Phyllis Reffitt, Betty Conn, Dolores Smith, Billy E. & Susan Reffitt, Ina Thornsby, Polly Elizabeth Pitts, Sandra Sue Thacker, Floyd Allen, William P.

Runnels, et al., Madge Allen Casey, Effie Lois Bond, Pamela Frasure, Phil Ray Frasure, Effie Lois Bond, Thomas Sherman Ratliff, Mary Margaret Baldrige, Rondel R. & Priscilla Prater, Danny Ousley, Josephine Ousley, Effie Hughes, Mont Ousley Heirs, Danny Lee Ousley, Virginia Hicks & David Reffitt, AEP Kentucky Coal, LLC, Bobby Matthew & Reta Akers, Alice D. Isaac, Roger & Joyce Slone, Steven Reed, David & Billy Marie Smith, Allen Ratliff Estate, Myrtle, Bertha & Sydney Ratliff, Jack & Mary Ratliff Estate, Henry &

Ellen Ratliff, Billy M. & Dora Allen, and Tamara K. & Mary Christina Hicks, Phyllis Ratliff Lenox, Edward Lee & Sadie Nolen Shepherd, Peachie Pitts, Jeffery & Angie Campbell, Dexter Dale Reffitt and Billy E & Susan Reffitt.

The amendment application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Natural Resources, Division of Mine Reclamation and Enforcement's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake

Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

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Kid Scoop.com

This Week: Winter Sun

© 2005 by Vicki Whiting, Editor Jeff Schinkel, Graphics Vol. 21 No. 2

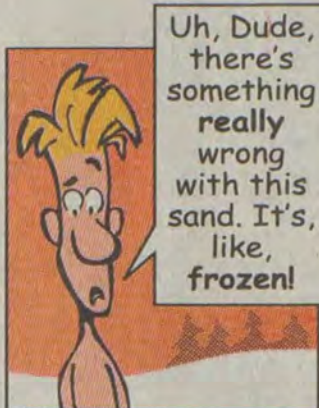
Sunny Question

Why are sunny winter days COLD, while sunny summer days are HOT? Kid Scoop's winter expert Dr. I. Cicle explains it all!



As you can see, it's a sunny winter day here and ...

YEAH! It's a sunny day! Let's hit the waves, Bro!



Uh, Dude, there's something really wrong with this sand. It's, like, frozen!



That's because it isn't sand. It's snow!

SNOW? But it's, like, sunny today. So why isn't the snow, like, melted?



I'm glad you asked! Let's pretend this snowball is Earth.

Earth is, like, WAY bigger, Dude!



The Earth tilts on its axis as it travels around the sun. In the winter, if the part of the Earth where you live is tilted away from the sun, it gets indirect sunlight.



Indirect sunlight doesn't warm up the Earth as much as the direct sunlight we get in the summer.

That is so cool! Now, why is this sand so COLD?

Standards Link: Earth Science: Students know that weather can be observed, measured and described; changes in weather and seasons are affected by the Earth's position.



Experiment Tells All

Try this experiment to understand the difference between indirect and direct sunlight.

Keep track of your work on a separate sheet of paper like the Scientist's Notebook.

Stuff you need:

- 2 metal pie tins or flat pans
- A sunny winter day
- Watch or clock



(Fig. 1) direct sunlight



(Fig. 2) indirect sunlight

What to do:

1. Lay one pan flat on the ground in the direct sunlight. (Fig. 1)
2. Tilt the other pan on its side. Lean it against a rock or a shoe. This pan is being hit with indirect sunlight. (Fig. 2)
3. Wait three minutes.
4. Which pan is warmer?

Standards Link: Investigation: Students will make predictions based on observation; answer meaningful questions and draw conclusions.

SCIENTIST'S NOTEBOOK			
Question	Hypothesis	Observation	Conclusion
Which pan do you think will feel warmer after three minutes in the winter sun?	What do you think the answer to the question is? <input type="checkbox"/> pan in direct sunlight <input type="checkbox"/> pan in indirect sunlight	Which pan was warmer in three minutes? <input type="checkbox"/> pan in direct sunlight <input type="checkbox"/> pan in indirect sunlight	Was your hypothesis correct? What did you learn from this experiment?

Extra! Extra!

Without the Sun ...

Without the sun we wouldn't have newspapers because newsprint is made from trees and trees need the sun to grow. Look through the newspaper for other things that need the sun to exist.

Standards Link: Language Arts/Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Sun Spot Mystery

The sun is covered with spots! Use the spots to solve the mystery questions.

How far is the sun from the Earth?

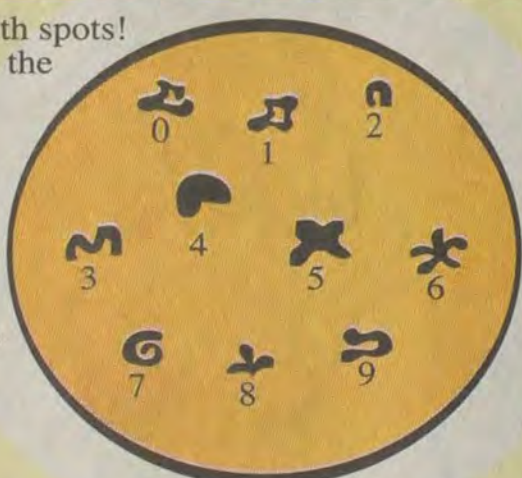
SM million miles (149.6 million km)

How long does it take the sun to make one complete rotation?

EX Earth days

What is the diameter of the sun?

XX miles. (1.4 million km)



WARNING! Never look directly at the sun as this can damage your eyesight!

Standards Link: Earth Science: Students know about the sun, planets and stars.

Double Double Word Search

- SUNLIGHT
- EXPERIMENT
- SUMMER
- MILES
- PAPER
- DIAMETER
- HYPOTHESIS
- METAL
- WINTER
- SAND
- SNOWBALL
- PAN
- AXIS
- SHOE

Find the words in the puzzle, then in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.



Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

BEYOND Kid Scoop

Who cares about the weather?

Why is the weather report important to different people? Why is it important to a farmer, an astronaut or a fireman? Find an article or picture in the newspaper of a person who cares about the weather. Tell why this person cares.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Understand the main idea and supporting details in expository text.

What kind of caps do snowmen wear?

ANSWER: Ice caps.

Weekly Writing Corner

Winter Poems

I love to play in snow. Grab your sled and mittens and off we go.
Oh, I love to have a ball. Other times I stay inside, and watch the snowflakes fall. Winter is always so much fun, but just when you go to play, Out comes the sun!

Rachel, 6th Grade

Snowflakes are falling. Cars are stalling, slipping and sliding, people are falling.

Dariella, 6th Grade

Warm fires
Indoors
Never Alone
Time with family
Eggs for breakfast
Relatives come.

Ashley, 6th Grade

Winter fires,
Cold days,
Dreams, hopes and desires.
Cozy ways fill the air,
Get out of bed if you dare.

Kim, 5th Grade

Sitting in the warmth of the fire while it's snowing outside.

Sipping hot chocolate gently so you don't burn your lips, Wrapped in a cozy blanket falling asleep.

Lindsey, 6th Grade

Falling snow, falling snow, have you ever played in the snow? Snow is fun to play in because you get to build snowmen. You get to throw snowballs and most fun of all, you get to slide down hills.

Katie, 4th Grade

Winds are harsh and cold
Instead of animals playing, they are sleeping.
Nice and warm the animals are in their dens, fat and warm.

The winds blow while the snow stirs, while the animals sleep deep.

Ending of the winter is soon. Ringing awakes the animals, the sun is out and it's spring.

Erik, 3rd Grade

Winter, you are so fun. You make fun for everyone. Skiing, sledding, snowball fights. So much fun we want to stay out all night!

Nick, 6th Grade

Write On!

Winter Poems

Deadline: Jan. 30, 2005
Published: Week of Feb. 27, 2005
Send your story to:

Winter Poems
P.O. Box 390
Prestonsburg, Ky. 41653

Please include your school and grade.

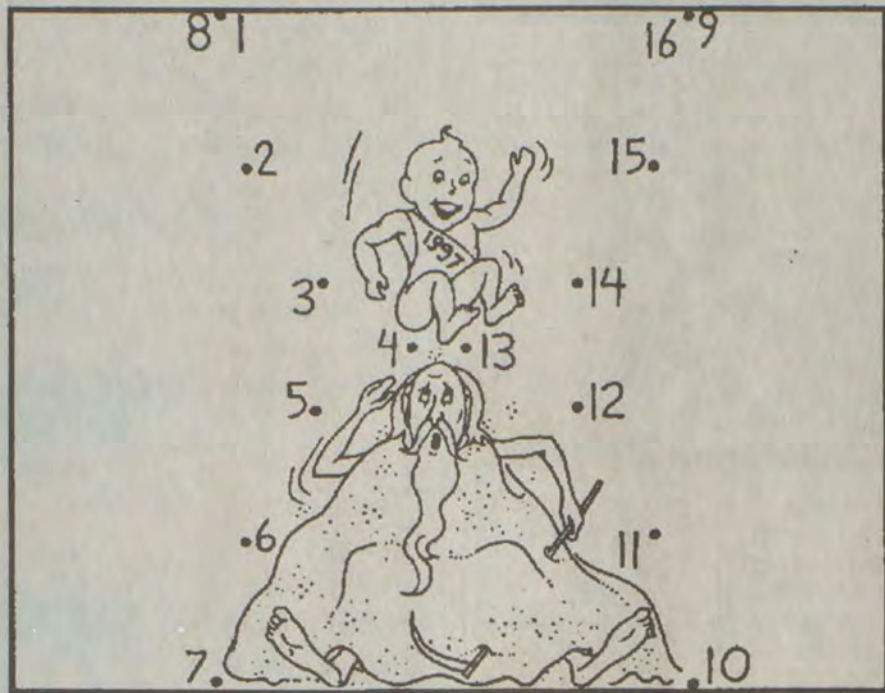
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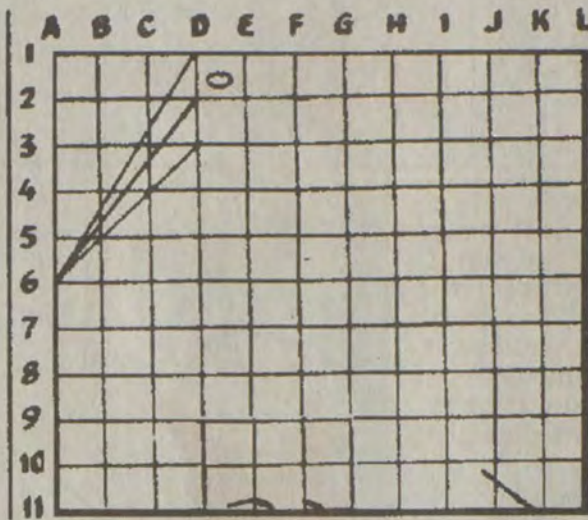
COLORING PAGE



HEADS UP! Hey, new kid in town, is that any way to treat your elder? Connect dots to complete picture.

Junior Whirl

by Hal Kaufman



BACK TO THE DRAWING BOARD

HEY, let's face it, our artist failed to complete this picture.

To finish the outline of his subject, simply supply lines in accord with letter and number coordinates.

Begin at D-3, draw to D-4, to C-7, D-9, F-10, I-10, J-11.

Begin again, this time at D-1, draw to E-1, to E-3, D-6, F-6, I-8, K-11.

Add lines D-7 to F-9, H-9, F-8, H-8, F-7.

Finally, add E-9 to E-11, and also F-10 to F-11.

Use a sharp pencil, try to draw straight lines.

Be sure to draw lines in accord with designated letter and number coordinates.

TAKE A PLANE! See how quickly you can rearrange letters of the five-letter word PLANE to form the name of a: 1. Jury body. 2. Himalayan country. 3. Kind of code. Time: 1 min.

1. Panel. 2. Nepal. 3. Penal.

SEE WHAT! A pair of binoculars may be used for some amusing party fun. Here's how: Stretch a length of ribbon or tape in a straight line across the floor.

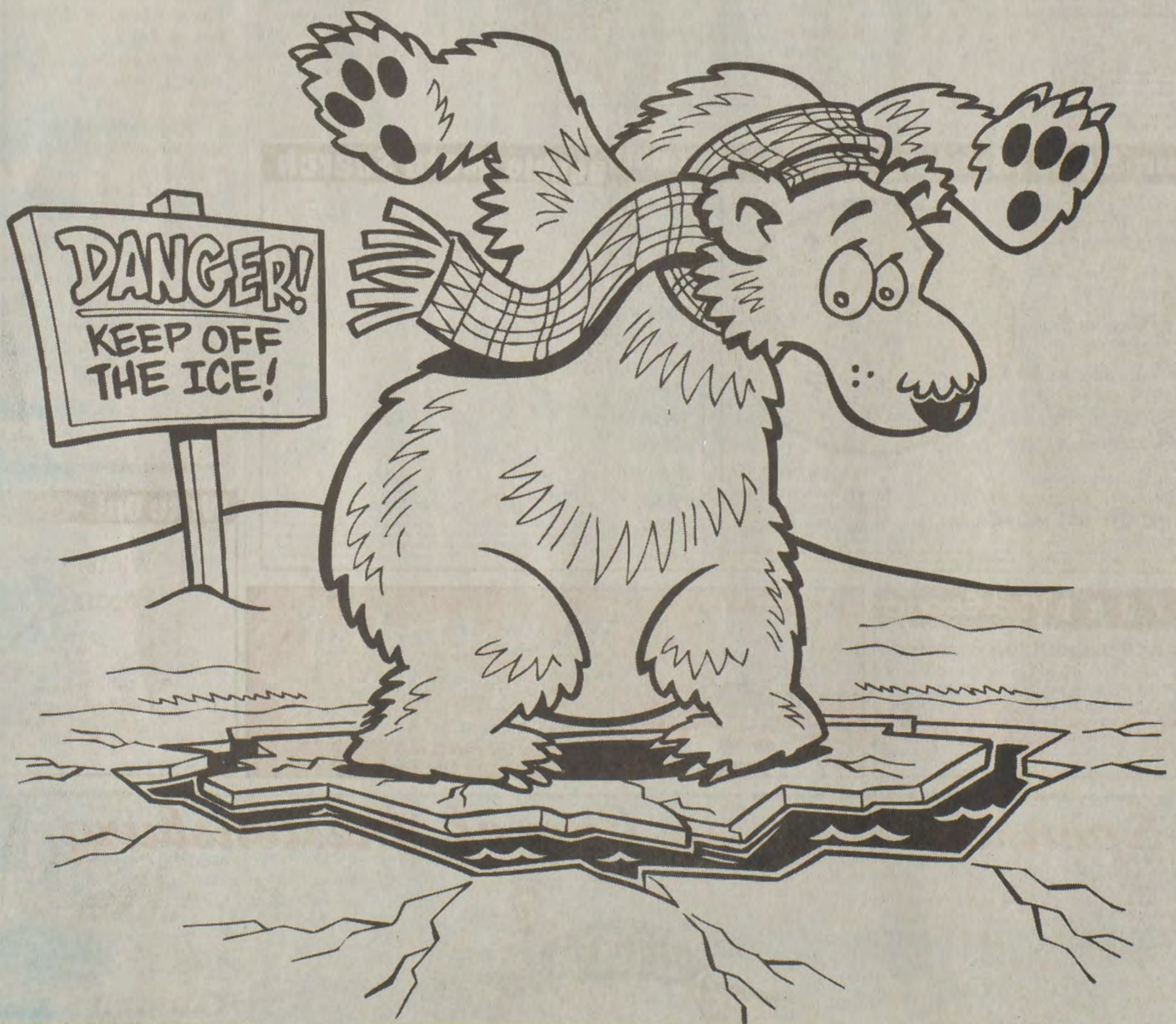
Hand someone a pair of binoculars and invite him or her to stand at one end of the ribbon, peer through large end of the binoculars (the end that makes things smaller), and attempt to walk along the extended line.

View through binoculars makes feet appear so far distant, it is almost impossible to follow line.

See who makes it the longest distance.



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Newspaper reading adventures for little learners!

My Kid Scoop™

Vol. 4 No. 2 © 2005 by Vicki Whiting, Editor Jeff Schinkel, Designer/Illustrator

My name: _____

Learning Buddies: Spell your child's first name, using the lines to write large letters. Use an uppercase letter for the first letter in the name and lowercase letters to spell the rest. Have your child trace the letters with a finger, crayon or pencil.

Look at the pictures in each box. If both objects start with S, color the ☺ green. If they don't, color the ☺ red.

 ☺	 ☺
 ☺	 ☺

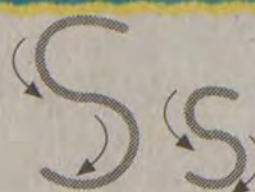


My Rhyme Time

Sally go round the sun,
Sally go round the moon,
Sally go round the chimney pots
On a Saturday afternoon.

My Letters

S is for Sun
s is for sun



Learning Buddies: Read the two phrases aloud. Have your child read with you. Trace the uppercase and lowercase letter S. Say the letter as you trace it.

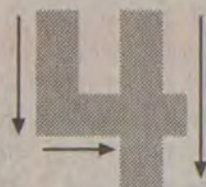
How many pictures can you find on this page that start with the sound that the letter S makes in the word sun?

My Numbers

How many shoes?

How many spoons?

How many sunglasses?



Learning Buddies: Trace and say the number. Read the questions. Touch and count to find the answers.

My Sentence

Learning Buddies: Read the first part of the sentence aloud. Ask your child to think of a way to finish the sentence. Write your child's words in the lines. Read the entire sentence to your child while pointing out that reading is done from left to right. Older children may want to trace all or some of the letters in the sentence.

GO The sun is



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Letter Identification With your child, look through the newspaper to find pictures of things that have the same sound as the letter S in sun.	Math Play Point to the number 4 in the newspaper. Have your child say the number and, if it's large enough, have your child trace the number.	Inside or Outside? Look at pictures or drawings in the newspaper. Ask your child, "Was this picture taken inside or outside?" "How do you know this?"	Small or Smaller? Select pictures of two different small objects in the newspaper. Ask your child which object is smaller. Repeat this activity with tall and taller.	Play with Letters! Place letters cut from the newspaper in an envelope marked Letter Bank. Withdraw letters from the bank and show your child how to create simple words such as sun, sad, sit. Change letters to show how you can change words: sun becomes fun.	Silly Dilly Draw a stick figure of a person on a blank piece of paper. Have your child go through the newspaper and find body parts to cut out and glue in the right places on the stick figure.	What's the Weather? Show your child the weather page. Talk about the symbols and what they mean. Ask your child to point to the symbol that tells what the weather is now. Choose a symbol for tomorrow's weather.



My Kid Scoop comes out once a week, but you can use the newspaper every day to prepare your child for success in school. Each daily activity focuses on a specific learning readiness skill. Step by Step Success 1. Read the activity instruction aloud. 2. Show how to do the activity by doing it yourself first. 3. Ask your child to copy what you do.

Wishing Well®

4	7	4	3	2	5	2	4	5	8	3	4	3
C	E	H	A	C	A	O	E	D	I	S	R	S
5	8	7	3	8	6	7	5	7	4	8	2	6
O	N	N	I	C	K	E	O	R	I	O	N	E
7	3	6	2	8	3	4	5	4	6	5	4	2
G	S	E	F	M	T	S	R	H	P	O	Y	I
6	7	2	6	2	3	4	6	2	8	4	2	3
P	Y	D	R	E	L	O	O	N	E	U	C	O
8	5	6	3	6	2	4	3	8	7	4	5	2
I	P	M	V	I	E	R	E	N	H	H	E	S
4	8	2	3	5	6	7	6	8	6	8	7	3
O	C	O	D	N	S	I	E	R	S	E	G	O
4	2	3	5	3	8	2	4	2	8	7	8	8
M	A	N	S	E	A	R	E	S	S	H	E	D

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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Rational Numbers by Linda Thistle

Using the clues, simple arithmetic, and a little logic, place a single digit (0 to 9) in each empty box in the diagram. To help you get started, one digit has been entered in the diagram.

1	2	3	4
	5	6	
7			8
9		10	11
	12		13
14			15

- ACROSS**
- Three times 13-Down
 - The last digit is the sum of the other digits
 - Four more than 3-Across
 - Ten more than 1-Across
 - One more than 1-Down
 - One-half of 7-Across
 - Eight less than 4-Down
 - One-half of 9-Down
 - One-half of 2-Down
 - The last digit is the sum of the other digits

- ACROSS**
- Digits of 9-Across reversed
 - Consecutive digits rearranged
 - Consecutive digits in ascending order
 - Consecutive digits in ascending order
 - 3-Down minus 1-Down
 - Digits of 5-Across reversed
 - Fifty more than 14-Across
 - 13-Down minus 8-Across
 - Two times 3-Down

- DOWN**
- The last digit is three times the first digit
 - Twenty less than 15

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Rational Numbers answers

4	8	4	4	8
5	6	4	6	3
9	2	5	2	6
1	8	4	1	4
3	9	3	2	3
5	7	4	2	3

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A native of the tropics

Chocolate is derived from the seeds (or beans) of a tropical tree called the **cacao** (kah-KOW). The native origin of the cacao tree is in dispute; it may have originated in the Brazilian Amazon basin, the Orinoco Valley of Venezuela, or Central America.

Food of the gods

The word "cacao" is based on two Mayan words that mean "bitter juice." The word "chocolate" is thought to be from the Mayan word for "sour water." The Latin name for cacao fruit is "*theobroma cacao*," which means "food of the gods."

About the tree

An **evergreen**, the cacao tree is found in **tropical** regions where the climate is warm and wet. They grow within 20 degrees latitude north and south of the equator. A cultivated tree measures up to 25 ft. (7.6 m) high. A tree in the wild can reach heights of up to 60 ft. (18.3 m) or more. The cacao tree does best in shady areas and is often planted under larger trees, like the banana tree. The cacao is a colorful tree with large, shiny leaves that turn from red to green as they mature. The flowers are pink or white and have five petals. Thousands of tiny blossoms grow in clusters on the trunk and older branches. The melon-shaped fruit or pod contains 20 to 40 almond-shaped seeds, which, when dried, can be made into chocolate and cocoa.

World of Wonder

EXPLORING THE REALMS OF HISTORY, SCIENCE, NATURE & TECHNOLOGY

CHOCOLATE

We love it, we crave it, we give it and receive it. Chocolate is one of the most popular treats on the planet.



Cacao flowers growing on a tree trunk

Cacao tree

Good for you, too

Not only does chocolate taste great, but it also has value as a food. Chocolate contains carbohydrates, fats, protein, and vitamins and minerals. Soldiers and athletes sometimes eat chocolate to give them a quick energy boost before engaging in a strenuous activity.

Cacao pods mature at different rates. It takes a pod about five months to grow and ripen. The pods turn from green to yellow or red as they ripen. The timing of the harvest is critical. Only perfectly ripe pods make good chocolate.

A ripened pod is 6 to 10 inches (15.2 to 25.4 cm) long.

The beans must be **fermented** to bring out the chocolate flavor. They are kept under leaves or in covered boxes during fermentation. During this process, the beans turn from **purple** to brown. Then they are set outside to dry in the sun.

Inside a cacao pod

The cacao pods are cut open and the cream-colored beans and hairy pulp are removed. When exposed to air, cacao beans turn purple.

Cacao beans

Did you know?

- On average, Americans eat 10.8 lbs. per person of chocolate a year.
- The U.S. retail chocolate industry is worth about \$13 billion per year.
- The first chocolate box was created by Richard Cadbury in 1868. He decorated the box with a painting of his daughter holding a kitten. (He invented the heart-shaped candy box, too.)
- Chocolate manufacturers use 40% of the world's almonds, 20% of the world's peanuts and 8% of the world's sugar.
- 60% of the world's chocolate is consumed in North America and the European Union.

The top producers

The projected 2002-2003 top five cocoa bean producers by country (in tons):

Côte d'Ivoire	1,300,000
Ghana	475,000
Indonesia	440,000
Nigeria	165,000
Brazil	150,000

Top manufacturers

The top chocolate manufacturers based on 2002 confectionary sales (in billions):

Mars Inc.	\$7.5
Nestlé	\$7.2
Hershey Foods	\$4.5
Cadbury Schweppes	\$4.4
Ferrero	\$3.9

Kinds of chocolate

All chocolate products are made from chocolate liquor. Chocolate varieties are defined by how much chocolate liquor, sugar and milk solids are contained in the product. **Dark chocolate** (or semi-sweet chocolate) contains 15% to 35% chocolate liquor and less than 12% milk solids. **Milk chocolate** is the most common kind of eating chocolate and contains at least 10% chocolate liquor and 12% milk solids. **White chocolate** is a combination of cocoa butter (no liquor), milk, sugar and flavor.

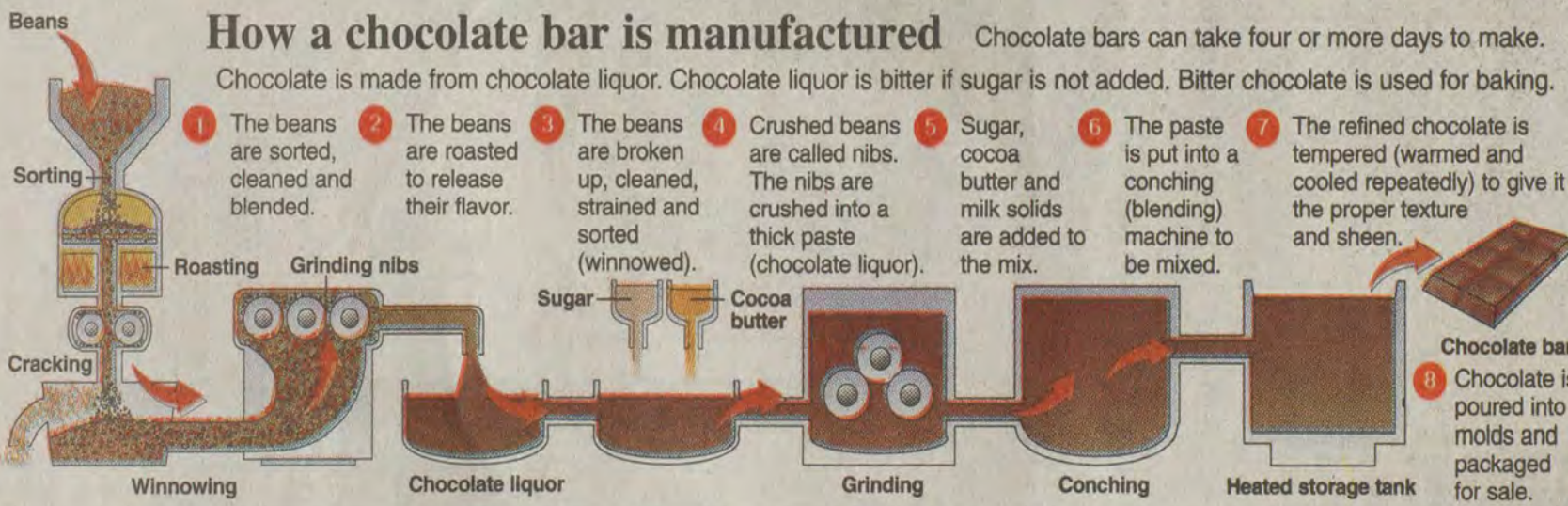
What do you know?

- | | |
|--|--|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 3. Cacao trees grow in this type of region. | 1. The cacao tree is this kind of tree. |
| 5. This man invented the first heart-shaped chocolate box. | 2. Chocolate is derived from this tree. |
| 6. These people of early Central America cultivated cacao beans. | 4. Cacao beans turn this color when first exposed to air. |
| 8. Milk chocolate was invented here. | 6. Most common type of eating chocolate |
| 10. Kind of chocolate | 7. Number of months it takes a cacao pod to ripen. |
| | 9. This kind of chocolate is also called semi-sweet chocolate. |

How a chocolate bar is manufactured

Chocolate bars can take four or more days to make.

Chocolate is made from chocolate liquor. Chocolate liquor is bitter if sugar is not added. Bitter chocolate is used for baking.



A chocolate chronology

<p>250-900 B.C.: The Mayans of Central America cultivate and crush cacao beans to make an unsweetened beverage.</p>	<p>A.D. 1200-1300: The Aztecs of Mexico believe their god Quetzalcoatl stole the cacao tree from paradise and gave it to the people. The elite or noble Aztecs drink "xocoatl," a cacao beverage spiced with hot chili peppers.</p>	<p>1502: Christopher Columbus witnesses cocoa beans being used as currency by the natives in what is now Nicaragua.</p>	<p>1643: Spanish princess Maria Theresa brings chocolate to France. It becomes very popular with Louis XIV and his court. All of Europe follows suit.</p>	<p>1657: In London, a Frenchman opens the first chocolate house.</p>	<p>1674: Solid chocolate is introduced in the form of rolls and cakes.</p>	<p>1861: Richard Cadbury creates the first-known heart-shaped candy box for Valentine's Day.</p>	<p>1875: Milk chocolate is invented in Switzerland.</p>	<p>1897: First-known recipe for chocolate brownies published.</p>
<p>1519: Spanish explorer Hernando Cortez conquers parts of Mexico and is inspired by the Aztecs' use of cocoa beans as currency. He later establishes a cocoa plantation with the idea of growing money.</p>	<p>1528: Cortez introduces cocoa to the Spanish court. Mixed with sugar, it becomes a popular drink for the noble court. Spain keeps this chocolate beverage a secret for about 100 years.</p>	<p>1704: Germany introduces a tax on chocolate.</p>	<p>1730s: The steam engine leads to mechanized cocoa bean grinding and lower chocolate prices.</p>	<p>1747: Frederick III of Prussia bans chocolate.</p>	<p>1910: Canadian Arthur Ganong markets the first nickel chocolate bar.</p>			

ANSWERS
ACROSS
 3. TROPICAL
 5. CADBURY
 6. MAYANS
 8. SWITZERLAND
 10. WHITE
DOWN
 1. EVERGREEN
 2. CACAO
 4. PURPLE
 7. MILK
 9. FIVE
 10. DARK

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October 16, 17, & 18, 2003

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