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— Page B1

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briefs

Coal co. sued for failing to pay fines

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The federal agency in charge of mine safety sued a Kentucky coal operator Friday for failing to pay more than \$1 million in fines.

It is the second such suit the Mine Safety and Health Administration has filed this month. In both cases, the federal agency asked the court to require that bonds be posted to ensure mine operators pay any future fines levied against them.

The latest suit was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky against Harold Simpson, owner of Simpson Mining Company Inc. and Motivation Enterprise Corp. Simpson could not be reached for comment Friday.

Earlier this month, the agency sued Kentucky mine operator Stanley Osborne in the same court. Osborne accumulated more than \$200,000 in safety fines since the 1980s, according to the suit.

Simpson, whose fines also date back to the 1980s, owes the government more than any other mine operator, according to MSHA lawyer Edward Clair.

More mine operators can expect to be sued if they don't pay up, Clair warned.

"There will be others," he said. "At this point, I

(See **SUIT**, page eleven)

2 DAY FORECAST

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ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



Mary "Tootsie" Akers, who started as a nurse at McDowell ARH in 1969, shows Teresa Hall an old-fashioned aspirin tin. The piece was one of many on display for the hospital's 50th anniversary Friday.

ARH marks 50 years



Master of Ceremonies Chas Gayheart oversaw the placement of a time capsule at McDowell ARH Friday. The capsule is slated to be reopened in 2056.

by **SHELDON COMPTON**
STAFF WRITER

McDOWELL — McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital changes lives. Just ask Mary "Tootsie" Akers.

"This hospital is what made me want to become a nurse," Akers said Friday, after taking part in the hospital's 50th anniversary celebration.

Akers, along with other past employees, current hospital staff, administrators and local officials, took part in a ceremony to honor the hospital's half-century mark in providing health care to the region. Part of that ceremony included filling a time capsule to be placed within a wall of the hospital. Hospital officials plan to reopen

the capsule 50 years from now.

Akers stood in line patiently while items such as newspapers and current medicines were placed in the capsule and then tugged the shoulders of her authentic nursing uniform and made her way to the front of the room before about 50 onlookers who gathered for the celebration.

"This is a paycheck stub from when I first started working here in 1969," she said, raising the yellowed paper into the air before dropping it in the capsule. "This is to remind future generations that it's not what you make, but what you do for people."

Those attending the celebration were also taken back in time with a historical exhibit that featured antique and collectible hospital items and equipment, along with coal mining memorabilia.

McDowell ARH first opened its doors on Feb. 27, 1956, as the McDowell Miners Memorial Hospital, part of the United Mine Workers of America's Miner Memorial Hospital system.

In the summer of 1963, the Board of National Missions of the United Presbyterian Church formed the independent corpora-

(See **ARH**, page eleven)

State compiling records on methadone clinic deaths

by **SHELDON COMPTON**
STAFF WRITER

FRANKFORT — Less than a year has passed since the family of Leslie Countian Jason Caldwell was awarded \$2.8 million in a wrongful death suit following the 21-year-old's death while being treated at a Perry County methadone clinic.

Today, the efforts following the results of that trial to track mortality and morbidity rates at the state's 11 methadone clinics continues.

Mac Bell, an administrator with the State Narcotics Authority in Frankfort, says that work on developing an instrument that would collect data on clients is in the final stages of approval.

"We're in the process of setting up a data collection system," Bell said. "The program will be entering data on all clients on their entry and track them 12 months after they're discharged."

Bell said data, which will be collected with a Palm Pilot and then sent to the University of Kentucky to be compiled, will

consist of statistics for outcome studies and indicators on deaths in the clinic itself and what might be the cause of death, whether it was from treatment or other means. This data will be acquired through a set of 25 to 50 questions posed to the client and entered into the Palm Pilot. The interview process would take roughly 15 minutes, according to Bell.

"We've met about six times, with the next meeting set for this coming month," Bell said. "We're

(See **CLINICS**, page eleven)

Teacher plans to plead guilty, attorney says

by **TOM DOTY**
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Several motions that were scheduled to be heard Friday in circuit court involving the case of a John M. Stumbo Elementary teacher accused of selling drugs were canceled Friday when Tackett's attorney Doug Adams indicated that his client plans to enter a guilty plea.

Judge John D. Caudill ordered that Tackett return to court Tuesday, one day before her scheduled trial, to enter the plea. At this point in the process, Tackett will not be able to take advantage of pretrial recommendations from the prosecution and will be throwing herself on the mercy of the court.

Tackett stands accused of two counts of drug traf-

ficking after being videotaped arranging two drug buys. The investigation of Tackett was a joint effort by officers from HIDTA and Kentucky State Police and allegedly caught Tackett arranging a drug sale from in front of the lobby on the school grounds.

Tackett had a conference with her lawyer and Commonwealth's Attorney Brent Turner before appearing before the judge. When she returned to the courtroom, she was in tears.

Tackett will remain free under her original bond until her appearance on Tuesday. Once a plea of guilt is accepted by the court for a felony offense, the defendant is taken into custody and the delay will give Tackett time to make arrangements before entering her "blind plea" on Tuesday.



John M. Stumbo Elementary School teacher Stephanie Tackett appeared distraught after conferring with her attorney and prosecutors on her impending trial for two counts of drug trafficking.

Man gets 7 years for fleeing police

by **TOM DOTY**
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A Floyd County man was sentenced Friday to seven years in prison, following his conviction by a jury last January on charges of fleeing police and assaulting an officer.

Billy Shepherd nonchalantly accepted his penance Friday, six weeks after sitting in circuit courtroom B and saying, "We rolled the dice and crapped out," after a jury found him guilty of the charges following one day of testimony.

The chase stemmed from a Dec. 24, 2004, incident in which Shepherd was chased through the city of Martin by then-Martin Police Officer Steve Montgomery, who now works for the Prestonsburg Police Department.

Montgomery offered the most compelling testimony in the case and recounted for the jury how Shepherd incurred the charges by taking off at a high rate of speed when Montgomery attempted to flag him down for driving without rear lights. Shepherd incurred more charges by fleeing the officer and later fleeing up a hill on foot when he wrecked his vehicle.

Montgomery followed him up the hill and caught up with Shepherd, only to be knocked back down the hill when Shepherd turned and pounced on him. Montgomery noted that it was when Shepherd turned around to leap that he confirmed his identity and realized they had met several years earlier.

Shepherd received five

(See **CHASES**, page eleven)

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Regional Obituaries

FLOYD COUNTY

■ Teresa Ann Sword Abbe, 39, of Harold, died Saturday, February 18, at Pikeville Health Care Center. She is survived by her husband, Jeffery Abbe. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, February 22, under the direction of Lucas & Hall Funeral Home.

■ Winston "Sonny" Ford, 71, of Prestonsburg, died Saturday, February 18, 2006, at the University of Kentucky Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Carolyn Leslie Wright Ford. Funeral services were held Wednesday, February 22, under the direction of Carter Funeral Home.

■ Willis Hicks, 98, of Hippo, died Thursday, February 23, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Carrie Hale Hicks. Funeral services will be held Sunday, February 26, at 11 a.m., under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Foster Johnson, 67, of Teaberry, died Sunday, February 19, at Pikeville Medical Center, Pikeville. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, February 22, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Mary Lou Salisbury Kingsley, 61, of Toler Creek, a

native of Floyd County, died Tuesday, February 21, at her home. She is survived by her husband, Perry Kingsley.

■ Forrest D. Lewis, 63, of Prestonsburg, died Wednesday, February 22, at his home. Funeral services were held Saturday, February 25, under direction of Hall Funeral Home of Martin.

■ Barry Douglas Mosley, 47, of Melvin, died Saturday, February 18, at Hazard Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, February 22, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ LaDonna Rose May Patton, 48, of Martin, died Friday, February 17, at Pikeville Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Robert Roy Patton. Funeral services were held Sunday, February 19, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Geraldine Scott Rench, 67, of Sherwood, Michigan, formerly of Garrett, died Monday, February 20, at Central Baptist Hospital, Lexington. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, February 25, under the direction of Richard Henry Funeral Home, Battle Creek, Michigan.

■ Betty Geneva Rollins, 88, of Prestonsburg, died Tuesday,

February 21, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Friday, February 24, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Charles Douglas Stratton, 62, of Ivel, died Wednesday, February 15, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Mary Alice Vanderpool Stratton. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, February 18, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Vida Collins Stumbo, 101, died Saturday, February 18, at the McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital. Funeral services were held Tuesday, February 21, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Belle V. Sturgill, died Friday, February 17, at Riverview Health Care Center, in Prestonsburg. Following cremation, a grave site memorial service will be held April 30. Arrangements, under the direction of Carter Funeral Home.

■ Lillian F. Sturgill, 84, of Harold, died Thursday, February 16, in Highlands Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, February 19, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Mary Jane (Diddle) Thornsberry, 91, of Bypro, a native of Floyd County, died Monday, February 20, at Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital, in Ashland.

■ Ralph (Hack) Thornsberry, 71, of Prestonsburg, died Monday, February 20, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Thursday, February 23, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Eula Tudell Webb, 84, of Allen, died Sunday, February 12, at her home. She is survived by her husband, John D. Webb. Funeral services were held Wednesday, February 15, under direction of Lucas & Hall Funeral Home.

LAWRENCE COUNTY

■ Opal Hale, 92, of Ashland, a native of Louisa, died Sunday, February 19, at Woodlawn Oaks Nursing Home, in Ashland. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, February 21, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

KNOTT COUNTY

■ Rosetta Hall, 89, of Topmost, died Sunday, February 19, at her residence. Funeral ser-

VICES were conducted Wednesday, February 22, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

PIKE COUNTY

■ Roger Lee Blackburn, 58, of East Shelbiana, died Saturday, February 18, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Louise Blackburn. Funeral services were held Wednesday, February 22, under direction of Thacker Funeral Home.

■ Nadine Mathias Charles, 75, of Ashcamp, a Floyd County native, died Tuesday, February 21, at Mountain View Health Care Center, Elkhorn City. Funeral services were held Friday, February 24, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ James Charles, 52, of Meta, died Thursday, January 19, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Monday, January 23, under the direction of Community Funeral Home.

■ Gregory Charles Clevinger, 46, of Daytona Beach, Florida, formerly of Pikeville, died Sunday, February 19, in Florida. Funeral services were held Friday, February 23 under the direction of Thacker Memorial Funeral Home.

■ Glen Radford Grizzle, 75, of Mouthcard, died Sunday, February 19, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Wednesday, February 22, under direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ George Wheeler Hess, 63, of Raccoon, died Saturday, February 18, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Tuesday, February 21, under direction of Thacker Memorial Funeral Home.

■ Ruth Mossie Hobson, 82, of Collins Highway, Pikeville, died Sunday, February 19, at the home of her son. Funeral services were held Wednesday, February 22, under the direction of Roberts Funeral Home.

■ Donald Edward Lucas, 75, of Elkhorn City, died Monday, Feb. 20, at Cornerstone Hospital, Huntington, W.Va. Funeral services were held Thursday, February 23, under direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ Mariebell Marshall, 44,

died Saturday, February 18, at Pikeville Medical Center. Arrangements, under the direction of Thacker Memorial Funeral Home.

■ Thurman W. "Punch" May, 82, of Pinsonfork, died Friday, February 17, at the home of his daughter in Panama City, Fla. Funeral services were held Friday, February 24, under direction of Hatfield Funeral Chapel.

■ Alene May, 65, of Pinsonfork, died Friday, February 17, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, Marvin May Sr. Funeral services were conducted Monday, February 20, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Rita Sue May, 39, of Pinsonfork, died Friday, February 17, at her residence. Funeral services were held Monday, February 20, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Ollie Mullins, 63, of Lick Fork, Beehide, died Thursday, February 16, at the Johnson City Medical Center. Funeral services were held Monday, February 20, under the direction of Hall and Jones Funeral Home.

■ Imogene Mullins, 73, of Anderson Fork, Virgie, died Sunday, February 19, at her home. Funeral services were held Wednesday, February 22, under the direction of Roberts Funeral Home.

■ Goldie Osborne Little Murphy, 96, a Pike County native, died Monday, February 13, at Woodhaven, Mich. Funeral services were held Friday, February 17, in the Little Ida Church in Ecorse, Mich. with burial following in the Michigan Memorial Park in Huron, Mich.

■ Essie Pugh, 83, of Elkhorn City, died Thursday, February 16, at Mountain View Health Care Center. Funeral services were held Sunday, February 19, under the direction of Justice Funeral Home.

■ Sally Roberts, 79, of Virgie, died Wednesday, February 15, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Saturday, February 18, under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

■ Troy Patrick Robinson, 67, of Virgie, died Monday, February 13, at Pikeville Medical Center. Arrangements, under direction of

Thacker Memorial Funeral Home.

■ Ted Robinson, 53, of Pikeville, died Tuesday, February 21, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Margie Robinson. Funeral services were held Saturday, February 25, under the direction of Thacker Memorial Funeral Home.

■ Virgil (Pud) Slone, 71, of Pikeville, formerly of Lorain, Ohio, died Saturday, February 18, in the Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, February 21, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

(See REGIONAL, page three)

"In Loving Memory"

Ronald "Tom" Dillion

February 24, 1972 -
March 22, 2005



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I didn't get a chance to say
all the things I wanted to
say.

I still cry to this day.
I love you so much,
I only wish I could feel your
touch.

Why won't the sorrow
disappear?
Why can't I stop shedding
these tears?

Today is your birthday; even
though you are not here,
you will always be in our
hearts.

We miss you more each day.
We love you, Tom.

We will never forget.

Love, Your Family

Obituaries

Audrey Laferty Cline

Audrey Laferty Cline, 75, of McCormick Road, Mt. Sterling, died Thursday, February 23, 2006, at her residence.

Born May 30, 1930, in South Williamson, she was the daughter of the late William Thomas Laferty and Oma Lee Martin Laferty. She was a homemaker, and a member of the Camargo Church of Christ.

She is survived by her husband, James Colonel Cline.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by one daughter, Leoma Milligan of Mt. Sterling; five grandchildren: Stacie Lynn Cline, Jonathan Ray Cline, Jimmy Lewis Cline, and Jason and Larissa Milligan; one great-grandchild, Justice Tyler Milligan; five sisters: Monica Harris of Ohio, and Madgalene Harris of Michigan, Sue Hunter of Texas, Mildred Darby of Ohio, and Wanda Ousley of Prestonsburg; two brothers:

Clinton Laferty of Paintsville, and Donnie Laferty of Michigan.

She was preceded in death by one son, James R. Cline; two daughters: Paulette and Sandra Faye Cline; two brothers: Colonel Ray and William Thomas Laferty, Jr.

Funeral services were conducted at 10 a.m., Saturday, February 25, at the Herald & Stewart Home for Funerals, with Rev. John Brown officiating.

Burial was in the Machpelah Cemetery, under the direction of Herald & Stewart Home for Funerals, Mt. Sterling.

Visitation was at the funeral home.

Contributions, are suggested to St. Claire Hospice.

Active pallbearers: Jason and Larry Milligan, and Jonathan and Jimmy Cline.

Honorary pallbearers: Walter and Homer Rice, and Fred Teasley.

(Paid obituary)

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Technology may not offer quick fixes to coal mine dangers

by VICKI SMITH
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. — Dennis O'Dell once believed U.S. coal mines were the world's safest. Now he's not so sure.

Lately, he's seen an Australian device that can track miners underground and another that can send them messages. He's read about Canadian potash miners who survived a fire inside an airtight chamber packed with food, water and oxygen.

U.S. companies use the world's most sophisticated equipment to dig coal, but O'Dell, health and safety administrator for the United Mine Workers of America, now wonders if the same can be said of the gear used to keep the miners themselves safe.

Since the Jan. 2 explosion that trapped and eventually killed 12 men at International Coal Group's Sago mine, miners, politicians and regulators have been heavily focused on technology.

The federal Mine Safety and Health Administration has received more than 50 proposals from manufacturers seeing new applications for their products and has teamed with coal companies to test some of them. Lawmakers are also eager to act, pushing bills to require tracking and messaging systems not yet widely used in America.

Technology alone, however, won't make a coal mine safer. Industry experts and coal companies say a comprehensive

approach is required, with a dual focus on preventing accidents, then training and equipping miners to survive them.

A tracking device could help rescuers find a trapped miner faster. A one-way communication system could send a message that an escape path is clear. A safety chamber could provide refuge from deadly gases.

But anyone looking for a "silver bullet" solution is going to be disappointed, says Thomas Hoffman, spokesman for Pittsburgh-based Consol Energy, which owns 16 underground coal mines and is the biggest coal producer east of the Mississippi.

Some mines are small and shallow like Sago, where the crew was trapped 200 feet below ground, while others are 10 times that depth. Hoffman suggests legislators and regulators offer a menu of safety devices that can be tailored to each kind of operation.

Consol and St. Louis-based Peabody Energy, which will test communication tools for MSHA, say they're willing to spend not only on prevention, but also on proven technology. Both companies already use Australia's Personal Emergency Device, a one-way text-messaging system, at several U.S. mines.

But current technology has its limitations.

The PED system relies on cables and hardware that could be destroyed in an explosion, and offers no way to confirm that a message was received, says Gene Kitts, a senior vice

president for International Coal Group.

"We firmly believe the goal of providing power and signal from the surface is achievable, perhaps within months," he says, "but significant testing and research needs to be done."

Rescue chambers that work in a potash mine might not work for coal mines, where there is an ample, long-lasting supply of fuel in the coal seams, plus the threat of secondary explosions.

And the Tracker IV Tagging System, used to locate miners underground, also relies on power and data lines that could inadvertently create a new hazard, then be destroyed in a blast.

Bruce Watzman, vice president for safety of the National Mining Association, says technology is an integral part of mine safety but something that takes time to perfect.

"What we would like to see, ultimately, is the day when we have uninterrupted, ground-penetrating, two-way technology," says Watzman, whose Washington, D.C.-based lobbying group represents more than 325 companies in the mining industry.

Historically, though, Watzman says manufacturers have had little incentive to modernize existing equipment or develop new devices for the industry, which has only 640 underground mines in the United States.

The National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health will soon announce a communications-research partnership

with the UMW, the NMA, the Bituminous Coal Operators Association and MSHA to determine the industry's expectations and develop uniform testing standards.

"We want to spend money and fix problems," says Jeff Kohler, associate director for mining and construction for NIOSH in Pittsburgh. "Someone can come out with a communication system, but if the industry is not convinced it's going to work, it won't invest in it. ... The purpose of the partnership is to find out what's really going to do the job."

NIOSH has worked with South Africa, China and emerging countries like Vietnam to make their mines safer, but Kohler says it's clear the United States might be able to learn from Australia. Some mines there have adopted Polish technology, pumping inert gases into a fire to smother the blaze

and prevent a secondary explosion.

The PED and tracking systems are also widely used, and fatality rates have fallen. Most companies in New South Wales use a combination of tools, including extra air packs, lifelines in escapeways and rescue chambers.

But Australia, the world's No. 3 coal producer, regulates mining at the state level only, and it's unclear whether the recent improvements can be sustained.

After Sago, West Virginia passed a law requiring companies to store extra air packs underground. But Kohler worries design variations between models could slow miners down in a dark, poisoned environment. Rather than design a bigger air pack with longer capacity, Kohler suggests manufacturers develop a cartridge that could be inserted into devices

already in use.

Kitts, with ICG, says lawmakers have good intentions but may end up requiring "burdensome and costly installation of unproven technology that doesn't do anything to make coal miners safer."

"There is considerable risk that the coal industry will be forced into fixing the problem twice," he says.

Larry Grayson, chairman of an NMA commission investigating safety technology, plans to review every fatal fire and explosion in a U.S. coal mine in the last 20 years to see what, if anything, might have saved lives.

What miners really need, he says, is a comprehensive system with scenario-based training and multiple options for survival.

"We need to look at details," he says, "so we don't come up with fixes we think are fixes that really aren't."

Group pushing to ban smoking in Pike County courthouse

The Associated Press

PIKEVILLE — A state-funded Pike County student group said it has collected 4,000 signatures asking the county to ban smoking in the courthouse and adjacent justice center.

The group, Pike County Youth Leadership Council, wants to make Pikeville the third city in Kentucky to enact a smoking ban.

"Our members feel passionately about this issue," said Colby Khoshreza, president of the Pike County Youth Leadership Council, which includes students from both Pikeville Independent and Pike County schools.

The group hopes to organize a march of at least 250 supporters to the courthouse on March 6 to present the petition to Pike Fiscal Court. The 4,000 signatures should send "a strong, strong message to fiscal court" in an election year, Khoshreza said.

Three Kentucky cities have smoking bans — Lexington, Louisville and Georgetown. In January, Daviess County banned smoking in all public buildings open to children under 18.

Also, two groups are lobbying the Oldham County Fiscal Court for a ban that would include restaurants. The University of Kentucky and Western Kentucky University also ban smoking in the dorms.

The proposed smoking ban is not the first in Eastern Kentucky. Prestonsburg City Council recently passed a smoking ban in its municipal building. But a Letcher County proposal that would have banned smoking in public buildings failed.

Jan Beauchamp, tobacco program coordinator with the Kentucky Department of Public Health, said about 20 communities in the state are considering smoking bans.

The proposed ordinance in Pikeville would ban smoking in

all indoor areas of both government buildings, including the jail and keep smokers at least 15 feet from the building outside, Khoshreza said.

Violations would carry a fine of up to \$50, he said.

Khoshreza said students had met some courthouse officials, but didn't get an enthusiastic welcome.

"Their reaction was not negative, but it was pretty much nonexistent," he said. "I don't know the reason for that, unless it's an election year."

Pike County Jailer Rodney Scott, a nonsmoker, said he did not know how the proposal would fair in fiscal court.

"I know a lot of jails in the state have been made smoke-free," Scott said.

Khoshreza said if the smoking ban is put in place, the group may push to expand it to a public ban that would include restaurants and bars.

"This is a first step," Khoshreza said.

Regional

■ Peggy J. Ratliff Smith, 70, of Sunbury, Ohio, formerly of Elkhorn City, died Sunday, February 12, at her home. She is survived by her husband, James R. "J.R." Smith. Funeral services were held Wednesday, February 15, under the direction of Devore-Snyder Funeral Home.

■ Deborah Thacker, 33, of Phyllis, died Tuesday, February 21, at the University of Kentucky Medical Center, Lexington. She is survived by her husband, Steve Thacker. Funeral services were held Saturday, February 25, under the direction of Community Funeral Home.

■ Mary Lou Thompson, 72, of Hurricane, died Thursday, February 16, at her home. She is survived by her husband, Dan Thompson. Funeral services were held Saturday, February 18, under the direction of Thacker Memorial Funeral Home.

■ Hubert W. Ritchie, 81, of Upper Chloe Road, Pikeville, died Wednesday, February 22, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Nancy (Gay) Ritchie. Funeral services were held Saturday, February 25, under the direction of Thacker Memorial Funeral Home.

■ Maxine Sykes, 84, of Elkhorn City, died Wednesday, February 22, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Saturday, February 25, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

JOHNSON COUNTY

■ Betty Jo Browning, 73, of Paintsville, died Thursday, February 16, in Paintsville. Graveside services were held Saturday, February 18, at Highland Memorial Park, under the direction of the Phelps & Son Funeral Home.

■ John Alvin Burton, 68, of Flat Gap, died Wednesday, February 15, at St. Mary's Hospital, in Huntington, West Virginia. He is survived by his wife, Aleene Short Burton. Funeral services were held Sunday, February 19, under the direction of the Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ James Alan Harris, 59, of West Van Lear, died Wednesday, February 22, at the V.A. Medical Center, in Huntington, West Virginia. He is survived by his

wife, Pearl Fannin Harris. Funeral services were held Saturday, February 25, under the direction of the Phelps & Son Funeral Home.

■ Thomas Hazlette Jr., 75, of Paintsville, died Sunday, February 19, at Mountain Manor Nursing Home of Paintsville. He is survived by his wife, Mabel Pelphrey Hazlette. Funeral services were held Wednesday, February 22, under the direction of the Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Eldanna Annie Lyons, 92, of Tutor Key, died Friday, February 10, at the Pikeville Health Care Center, in Pikeville. Funeral services were held Monday, February 13, under the direction of the Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Mae Preston, 80, of Tutor Key, died Monday, February 20, at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center, in Paintsville. Funeral services were held Wednesday, February 22, under the direction of the Preston Funeral Home.

■ Elder Willard Curtis Ramey Sr., 59, of Paintsville, died Tuesday, February 7, at the U.K. Medical Center in Lexington. He is survived by his wife, Ellen Marie Butcher Ramey. Funeral services were held Saturday, February 11, under the direction of the Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Anna Oakley Baldwin Reed, 95, of Oil Springs, died

Friday, February 17, at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were held Monday, February 20, under the direction of the Paintsville Funeral Home.

■ Bonnie Jean Blanton Sexton, 52, of Jacksonville, Florida, formerly of Flat Gap, died Monday, February 20, at the Hadlow Hospice Center in Jacksonville. She is survived by her husband, Dan Sexton. Funeral services were held Thursday, February 23, under the direction of Paintsville Funeral Home.

■ Larry E. Wells, 63, of Murphy, North Carolina, a native of Johnson County, died Friday, February 17, in Warren, Ohio. He is survived by his wife, Ellen Daugherty Wells. Funeral services were held Tuesday, February 21, under the direction of the Preston Funeral Home.

■ Gladys Blair Williams, 92, of Rochester, Indiana, a Johnson County native, died Sunday, February 19, at her residence. Funeral services were held Thursday, February 23, under the direction of the Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Jean Marion Williams, died Saturday, February 12, at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center, in Paintsville. Memorial services were held Sunday, February 19, at First Baptist Church, Paintsville.

'Right to work', prevailing wage out of House budget

by JOE BIESK
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — Two of Gov. Ernie Fletcher's top legislative priorities — opening union shops to nonunion workers and repealing the state's prevailing wage law — likely won't be in the House budget plan, Speaker Jody Richards said Friday.

Democrat and Republican House leaders were planning to work on a state spending plan over the weekend. A final ver-

sion was predicted to clear the House late next week.

However, a lack of support by both Democrats and Republicans in the House has likely stalled the two labor issues, Richards, D-Bowling Green, said.

"From what I can tell from our members, there's not much support certainly in the majority party and an unenthusiastic support in the minority party with several of the members telling us

(See BUDGET, page twelve)

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expression

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

— Felix Frankfurter

Guest view

State should embrace lab

Kentuckians should welcome the scientifically ambitious, politically smart and economically promising push being mounted to get a major federal lab located in Somerset.

They will want, first and foremost, to assure themselves about safety, since the proposed National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility's purpose would be to study highly dangerous infectious agents, capable of passing between animals and humans, for which no vaccines or therapies exist.

But such assurance should come readily. Similar national research facilities elsewhere have already compiled long, excellent track records of internal safety and external security, and the national homeland security authorities overseeing creation of this new lab are, obviously, even more security-minded than ever before.

In fact, considering the expertise, experience and resources involved, this laboratory would almost certainly end up posing far fewer hazards to Kentuckians than the mining and illegal drug trade that constitute so much of today's mountain economy.

It would also yield far more rewards — and far more significant ones — as also attested by the experiences at other labs. And not just because of the large payrolls the lab and its supporting services produce.

The facility would bring to Kentucky a large, resident cadre of pioneering scientific researchers, a steady stream of visiting ones, and all the social, economic and entrepreneurial benefits that such concentrations of intellectually creative people generate.

Further, it would institutionalize the revolutionary precedent being set by the bistate consortium that's been assembled to make the bid.

The normally competing states of Tennessee and Kentucky are working together, and the rival universities of Tennessee, Kentucky and Louisville are pooling their expertise in agricultural, veterinary and health sciences to support the venture, and all of it is being done in cooperation with the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee.

In a state accustomed to interminable fighting over which school can beat out another to offer introductory engineering classes, this example of the necessity for big, boundary-breaking thinking — this demonstration of the potential for innovative, expansive partnerships — should reshape higher education thinking from top to bottom.

The big question is whether even this impressive Kentucky-Tennessee consortium will prove scientifically competitive enough when pitted against the likely proposals from research powerhouses in other states.

If it does, it certainly will be politically competitive, thanks to the timely alignment of the two states' political stars.

In the House, Rep. Hal Rogers (in whose district the lab would be) is now the leading overseer of homeland security spending and has masterminded the bid. In the Senate, Tennessee's Bill Frist and Kentucky's Mitch McConnell hold the top two leadership posts.

Much work and scrutiny remain, but based on what's now known, Kentuckians should embrace both this project and the high ambition behind it.

The Courier-Journal, Louisville



Rich Lowry Column

Biology's revenge

The surest way to get attention in American society is to become a crisis. Boys are now on their way to achieving this dubious but indispensable distinction with the recent cover of Newsweek, "The Boy Crisis."

It is to be hoped that the crisis establishes a simple truth that is astonishing anyone ever forgot — boys and girls are different. Or as Newsweek puts it, "Boys are biologically, developmentally and psychologically different from girls — and teachers need to learn how to bring out the best in every one."

For years feminists have wanted to believe that, given the right socialization, boys would give up their stubborn fascination with earth-moving equipment. As someone once said, "You can have your own opinion, but you can't have your facts." Similarly, you can have your opinion about what gender should be, but you can't have your own brain chemistry. Newsweek notes how in the womb, the brain of a male fetus

is bathed with testosterone.

As any parent knows, that makes him different from a girl. If pedagogy systematically ignores those differences, it will be a disaster. Newsweek recounts the indices: Boys are twice as likely to be diagnosed with learning disabilities than girls in elementary school; the number of boys professing a dislike of school has risen 71 percent from 1980 to 2001; men constitute 44 percent of undergraduates on college campuses, down from 58 percent 30 years ago.

If school overemphasizes sitting quietly and language skills; if recess is eliminated; if discipline is eroded; if the books feature consciousness-raising instead of action-packed narrative — then boys will be bored, disaffected and disruptive. Classrooms have to be made more boy-friendly — with more discipline, more competition and more activity — so that boys are no longer treated, as one expert put it to Newsweek, "like defective girls."

A reason for this latest crisis is that just as girls had begun to pull even with boys in the 1990s, feminists hyped a

crisis over girls doing poorly in school that caused an overreaction harmful to boys. One of the chief culprits was scholar Carol Gilligan, who is given space in Newsweek to address the boy crisis. She writes disapprovingly, "For some, the trouble boys are having with schools becomes grounds for reinstating traditional codes of manhood, including a return to the patriarchal family." It is clear, however, that patriarchy is exactly what many boys need.

One of the most reliable predictors of whether a boy will succeed or fail in high school, Newsweek reports, "rests on a single question: Does he have a man in his life to look up to?" It continues: "An increasing number of boys — now a startling 40 percent — are being raised without biological dads. Psychologists say that grandfathers and uncles can help, but emphasize that an adolescent boy without a father figure is like an explorer without a map."

What we have witnessed recently — with more evidence of the differences between men and women, and the importance of the old-fashioned two-parent family — is biology's revenge. If we deny what is deep-down in our nature, people get hurt — in this case, the rambunctious boys missing out on the great adventure that is learning.

□□□

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.



beyond the beltway

Hunting alone

by DONALD KAUL
MINUTEMAN MEDIA

I do not believe in telling jokes at the expense of Vice President Dick Cheney, or Deadeye Dick as we like to call him. For example:

"There is bad news and good news about Vice President Cheney."

"Oh? What's the bad news?"

"He shot someone while quail hunting."

"That's terrible. What's the good news?"

"It was a lawyer."

That not really a Dick Cheney joke anyway; it's a lawyer joke and I don't do lawyer jokes either (I have my standards). I might have made a Dick Cheney joke had it not turned out that the lawyer's wounds were more serious than originally reported. That took some of the fun out of it. And, in any case, the incident itself is so replete with irony that it hardly needs the heavy hand of a jokester.

The shooting victim was Harry Whittington, a 78-year-old Texas lawyer who was appointed chairman of the Texas Funeral Service Commission in 1999 by the then-governor of Texas — George W. Bush, the very same George W. Bush who later made Dick Cheney the vice president of the United States.

I can't exactly point out where the joke is in all of that but it's in there somewhere, trust me. Or don't. Perhaps humor like that is an acquired taste, like Danish cartoons.

Before we go further, however, let me point out something about those early

reports. They weren't that early. It was 14 hours after the shooting that word of the incident was first released to the press, and then not by the Vice President or his staff but by Katherine Armstrong, an owner of the south Texas ranch on which the shooting occurred.

In short, the handling of the incident was a typical Cheney operation, based on the premise that the public has no right to know anything about anything. Fortunately for posterity, Ms. Armstrong talked a lot.

What happened, she said, was that Mr. Whittington, for reasons

of his own, broke away briefly from the line of quail hunters stalking the mighty birds. Then, when he came back to the line: "He did not announce — which would be protocol — "Hey, it's me, I'm coming up," she told the New York Times.

"So when a bird flushed and the vice president swung in to shoot it, Harry was where the bird was." The result was a spray of pellets taken by Whittington in the face, neck, shoulder and ribcage. And heart.

So once again, the vice president is involved in a shooting incident that turns out to be the shootee's fault, just like Iraq.

I suppose Whittington should consider himself lucky that the vice-president's office didn't say that Cheney had classified information indicating that Mr. Whittington carried a concealed weapon of mass destruction. (It's beginning to look as though, in Mr. Cheney's hands, a small-bore shotgun is a weapon of mass

destruction.)

I don't think Mr. Cheney should allow this unfortunate accident to dim his enthusiasm for bird hunting, however. It's important for important people to get outdoors and relax. I think he should continue to go on hunting trips whenever possible.

I understand Antonin Scalia has weekends available.

Things have not been going well in the House of Bush recently — his agenda isn't doing well in Congress, investigations keep turning up embarrassing facts, foreign elections are being won by people who hate us — but there have been some happy developments too.

For instance, the National Guard Association of the United States unveiled a life-size bronze bust of the young Lt. George Bush, memorializing his time in the Texas Air National Guard during the Vietnam War. One can only hope that someday it will grace the George W. Bush Presidential Library.

It's an important monument because it's almost the only record we have of Mr. Bush's Guard service, during which he went Missing In Alabama for a year and finally just stopped going to meetings.

Maybe this year on Veterans' Day he'll lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Deserter.

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Don Kaul is a two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning Washington correspondent who, by his own account, is right more than he's wrong. Email him at donald.kaul2@verizon.net.

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TV Listings

SUNDAY MORNING/AFTERNOON		FEBRUARY 26, 2006																	
Time	Channel	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	12:00	12:30	1:00	1:30	2:00	2:30	3:00	3:30	4:00	4:30		
9:00	TBS	*** Starship Troopers	*** The Specialist	*** Total Recall	*** Demolition Man	*** The Last Boy Scout													
9:30	NBC	(6:00) XX Olympic Winter Games	Meet the Press	Home Show	Marshall Magazine	Arena Football: Regional Coverage - Colorado Crush at Philadelphia Soul or San Jose	XX Olympic Winter Games												
10:00	PBS	Barney & Friends	Teletubbies	Dragon Tales	Zoboomafo	It's a Big Big World	Arthur	European Journal	Comment on Kentucky	Foreign Exchng	Tony Brown's Journal	One to One	Kentucky Health	MotorWeek	The Desert Speaks	Kentucky Afield	Kentucky Life		
10:30	ABC	The Daily Walk: Lewis Memorial Baptist	In Touch: God's Purpose in the Storm	Paid Program	Paid Program	NBA Basketball: Cleveland Cavaliers at Detroit Pistons (Live)	Paid Program	Paid Program	NBA Basketball: Cleveland Cavaliers at Detroit Pistons (Live)	PGA Golf: WGC Accenture Match Play Championship - Final Round (Live)									
11:00	WGN	Feed the Children	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	The Beverly Hillsbillies	The Beverly Hillsbillies	America's Funniest Home Videos	America's Funniest Home Videos	*** "Coming to America"	*** "Three Amigos"								
11:30	CBS	Time of Preise	Baptist Church	Century 21 Home Tours	Gateway Gospel	College Basketball: Michigan State at Indiana (Live)	College Basketball: Michigan State at Indiana (Live)	College Basketball: Villanova at Connecticut (Live)	College Basketball: Villanova at Connecticut (Live)	College Basketball: Villanova at Connecticut (Live)	College Basketball: Villanova at Connecticut (Live)	College Basketball: Villanova at Connecticut (Live)	College Basketball: Villanova at Connecticut (Live)	College Basketball: Villanova at Connecticut (Live)	College Basketball: Villanova at Connecticut (Live)	College Basketball: Villanova at Connecticut (Live)	College Basketball: Villanova at Connecticut (Live)		
12:00	FOX	Fox News Sunday With Chris Wallace	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	*** "The Cutting Edge"	*** "The Cutting Edge"	My Wife and Kids	That 70s Show	Raceline	NASCAR Racing: Nextel Cup - Auto Club 500								
12:30	CBS	CBS News Sunday Morning	Face Nation	Venture	Koepfel Dir.	College Basketball: Michigan State at Indiana (Live)	College Basketball: Michigan State at Indiana (Live)	College Basketball: Villanova at Connecticut (Live)	College Basketball: Villanova at Connecticut (Live)	College Basketball: Villanova at Connecticut (Live)	College Basketball: Villanova at Connecticut (Live)	College Basketball: Villanova at Connecticut (Live)	College Basketball: Villanova at Connecticut (Live)	College Basketball: Villanova at Connecticut (Live)	College Basketball: Villanova at Connecticut (Live)	College Basketball: Villanova at Connecticut (Live)	College Basketball: Villanova at Connecticut (Live)		
1:00	ESPN	SportsCenter	Outside Lines	Reporters	SportsCenter	Live	PBA Bowling: Geico Classic (Live)	Bull Riding	Kickboxing	Track and Field: U.S. Indoor Champ.									
1:30	DSC	The Ultimate Guide "Ants"	Nile: Crocodiles and Kings	Nile: Crocodiles and Kings	Noah's Ark: The True Story	MythBusters	MythBusters "Jet Pack"	Extreme Engineering	Colosseum: Gladiator Story										
2:00	TNT	(8:00) *** "In the Line of Fire"	*** "U.S. Marshals"	*** "Stripes"	*** "The Firm"	*** "The Firm"	*** "The Firm"	*** "The Firm"	*** "The Firm"										
2:30	A&E	Breakfast With the Arts	24 "Day 2: 9:00 - 10:00PM"	24 "Day 2: 10:00 - 11:00PM"	Biography: Stephen King	*** "The Shining"	*** "The Shining"	*** "The Shining"	*** "The Shining"										
3:00	TNN	3 Stoggles	3 Stoggles	Horsepower	Horsepower	Horsepower	MuscleCar	Xtreme 4x4	Trucks!	King of Vegas	*** "The Firm"	*** "The Firm"	*** "The Firm"	*** "The Firm"	*** "The Firm"	*** "The Firm"	*** "The Firm"		
3:30	NICK	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Oddparents	Oddparents	The X's	Danny Phant.	Danny Phant.	Catscratch	Nicktoons TV	Nicktoons TV	Nicktoons TV	Nicktoons TV	Nicktoons TV	Nicktoons TV	Nicktoons TV	Nicktoons TV		
4:00	USA	*** "Johnny English"	*** "Johnny English"	*** "Johnny English"	*** "Johnny English"	*** "Johnny English"	*** "Johnny English"	*** "Johnny English"	*** "Johnny English"	*** "Johnny English"	*** "Johnny English"	*** "Johnny English"	*** "Johnny English"	*** "Johnny English"	*** "Johnny English"	*** "Johnny English"	*** "Johnny English"	*** "Johnny English"	
4:30	FAM	Mighty Morphin Power Rangers	Power Rangers Mystic Force	Get Ed	Super Robot	Full House	Full House	Full House	Full House	*** "Batman"	*** "Batman"	*** "Batman"	*** "Batman"	*** "Batman"	*** "Batman"	*** "Batman"	*** "Batman"	*** "Batman"	
5:00	LIFE	Paid Program	Paid Program	Will & Grace	Will & Grace	*** "Maternal Instincts"	*** "Maternal Instincts"	*** "Blood on Her Hands"	*** "Blood on Her Hands"	*** "Blood on Her Hands"	*** "Blood on Her Hands"	*** "Blood on Her Hands"	*** "Blood on Her Hands"	*** "Blood on Her Hands"	*** "Blood on Her Hands"	*** "Blood on Her Hands"	*** "Blood on Her Hands"	*** "Blood on Her Hands"	
5:30	ESPN2	Fishing: 2006 CITGO Bassmaster Classic	PGA Golf: WGC Accenture Match Play Championship - Final Round (Live)	Women's College Basketball: Nebraska at Oklahoma (Live)	Women's College Basketball: Nebraska at Oklahoma (Live)	Women's College Basketball: Nebraska at Oklahoma (Live)	Women's College Basketball: Nebraska at Oklahoma (Live)	Women's College Basketball: Nebraska at Oklahoma (Live)	Women's College Basketball: Nebraska at Oklahoma (Live)	Women's College Basketball: Nebraska at Oklahoma (Live)	Women's College Basketball: Nebraska at Oklahoma (Live)	Women's College Basketball: Nebraska at Oklahoma (Live)	Women's College Basketball: Nebraska at Oklahoma (Live)	Women's College Basketball: Nebraska at Oklahoma (Live)	Women's College Basketball: Nebraska at Oklahoma (Live)	Women's College Basketball: Nebraska at Oklahoma (Live)	Women's College Basketball: Nebraska at Oklahoma (Live)	Women's College Basketball: Nebraska at Oklahoma (Live)	
6:00	AMC	(8:00) *** "Colors"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"
6:30	HGTV	Before Aft	Dream House	New Spaces	Landscape	Landscape	Garden-Yard	Curb Appeal	Outer Spaces	I Want That!	Kitchen	Home to Go	Designing	Design-Dime	Weekend	Designers	Cash in Attic		
7:00	SCIFI	*** "Critters 3"	*** "Critters 3"	*** "Critters 3"	*** "Critters 3"	*** "Critters 3"	*** "Critters 3"	*** "Critters 3"	*** "Critters 3"	*** "Critters 3"	*** "Critters 3"	*** "Critters 3"	*** "Critters 3"	*** "Critters 3"	*** "Critters 3"	*** "Critters 3"	*** "Critters 3"	*** "Critters 3"	*** "Critters 3"
7:30	HIST	Modern Marvels	Strike Zone	Hunting	Outdoors	Academy	Hunting With	GunTec TV	Cowboys	Bowhunting	Hunt Adv	Hunting TV	Fish TV	Match Fish	Hawaii	Photo	Outdoor	Fishing	
8:00	TOC	Strike Zone	Hunting	Outdoors	Academy	Hunting With	GunTec TV	Cowboys	Bowhunting	Hunt Adv	Hunting TV	Fish TV	Match Fish	Hawaii	Photo	Outdoor	Fishing		
8:30	HBO	(8:30) *** "Chasing Liberty"	*** "Chasing Liberty"	*** "Chasing Liberty"	*** "Chasing Liberty"	*** "Chasing Liberty"	*** "Chasing Liberty"	*** "Chasing Liberty"	*** "Chasing Liberty"	*** "Chasing Liberty"	*** "Chasing Liberty"	*** "Chasing Liberty"	*** "Chasing Liberty"	*** "Chasing Liberty"	*** "Chasing Liberty"	*** "Chasing Liberty"	*** "Chasing Liberty"	*** "Chasing Liberty"	*** "Chasing Liberty"
9:00	HBO2	(8:00) *** "Contact"	*** "Contact"	*** "Contact"	*** "Contact"	*** "Contact"	*** "Contact"	*** "Contact"	*** "Contact"	*** "Contact"	*** "Contact"	*** "Contact"	*** "Contact"	*** "Contact"	*** "Contact"	*** "Contact"	*** "Contact"	*** "Contact"	*** "Contact"
9:30	HBO3	(8:00) *** "The Diary of Anne Frank"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"	*** "LA Confidential"
10:00	MAX	(8:00) *** "The Day After Tomorrow"	*** "Soul Food"	*** "Soul Food"	*** "Soul Food"	*** "Soul Food"	*** "Soul Food"	*** "Soul Food"	*** "Soul Food"	*** "Soul Food"	*** "Soul Food"	*** "Soul Food"	*** "Soul Food"	*** "Soul Food"	*** "Soul Food"	*** "Soul Food"	*** "Soul Food"	*** "Soul Food"	*** "Soul Food"
10:30	DISN	Doodlebops	Charlie & Lola	The Wiggles	Lilo & Stitch	W.I.T.C.H.	The Buzz on Maggie	American Drgn	Emperor New	*** "Buffalo Dreams"	Suite Life of Zack & Cody	That's So Rave	Lizzie McGuire	Even Stevens	Barbershop 2: Back				
11:00	SHOW	*** "Hard Promises"	*** "Hard Promises"	*** "Hard Promises"	*** "Hard Promises"	*** "Hard Promises"	*** "Hard Promises"	*** "Hard Promises"	*** "Hard Promises"	*** "Hard Promises"	*** "Hard Promises"	*** "Hard Promises"	*** "Hard Promises"	*** "Hard Promises"	*** "Hard Promises"	*** "Hard Promises"	*** "Hard Promises"	*** "Hard Promises"	*** "Hard Promises"
11:30	TMC	*** "Terminal Countdown"	*** "Dolores Claiborne"	*** "Dolores Claiborne"	*** "Dolores Claiborne"	*** "Dolores Claiborne"	*** "Dolores Claiborne"	*** "Dolores Claiborne"	*** "Dolores Claiborne"	*** "Dolores Claiborne"	*** "Dolores Claiborne"	*** "Dolores Claiborne"	*** "Dolores Claiborne"	*** "Dolores Claiborne"	*** "Dolores Claiborne"	*** "Dolores Claiborne"	*** "Dolores Claiborne"	*** "Dolores Claiborne"	*** "Dolores Claiborne"

Best Bets

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26
8 a.m.
NBC

XX Olympic Winter Games
For hockey fans, the best is saved for last at the XX Olympic Winter Games as the men's gold medal final is staged live from Turin, Italy. Organizers and ratings-addicted NBC execs were hoping for a reprise from four years ago when Canada beat the United States for its first Olympic championship in 50 years, but that was unlikely. Although Canada was the pick of many going in, the U.S. squad wasn't nearly as highly regarded.

3:30 p.m.
FOX

NASCAR Racing
Greg Biffle got off to a scorching start in last season's Nextel Cup circuit, recording five of a series-high six wins in the first 15 races, including the title he defends today at California Speedway in Fontana. With powerful Roush Racing backing his efforts, Biffle is primed for a similar start to 2006, a year that many think will end in a Cup championship for the No. 16 Ford team. Biffle finished just 35 points behind champion Tony Stewart last year.

7 p.m.
NBC

XX Olympic Winter Games
The unprecedented 418 hours of coverage NBC Universal dedicated to the Winter Games is nearly complete, the last four of which come tonight at the Closing Ceremony in Turin, Italy, putting a bow on the 16 days of competition. Some 2,500 athletes from 85 nations will parade into the Olympic Stadium for a high-tech spectacle with a uniquely Italian flair. At this writing, NBC had not made known its Closing Ceremony team of announcers.

8 p.m.
FOX

The Simpsons
After Bart accidentally destroys Groundskeeper Willie's house, the Simpsons take him in, but his manners prove to be far inferior to his landscaping skills. Lisa makes a bet with Bart and appoints herself Willie's Henry Higgins, teaching him how to act like a gentleman. Homer is distraught after ripping his favorite pants and finding out they've been discontinued in the new episode "My Fair Lady."

8 p.m. check local listings
PBS

Nature
What lives in the Himalayas and rarely is seen by human eyes? No, we're not talking about a yeti. It's the snow leopard, a challenging subject for filmmakers because of its elusive nature and the brutal conditions of its habitat. It took three years of work and waiting to capture this mysterious animal on film and learn its secrets, which are revealed in "Silent Roar: Searching for the Snow Leopard."

8 p.m.
WB

Charmed
Piper (Holly Marie Combs) puts together an engagement party for Paige and Henry (Rose McGowan, Ivan Sergei), but they are starting to have second thoughts about the wedding. Phoebe (Alyssa Milano) is being followed by a strange man (guest star Victor Webster) who turns out to be Cupid. Christy (Marne Patterson) is kidnapped by a demon who's hoping to get the Charmed Ones' attention in the new episode "Engaged and Confused."

8:30 p.m.
FOX

The War at Home
Jamie Luner ("Melrose Place") guest stars as Jodi, an old college friend of Vicky's (Anita Barone). Newly sober, she's working on No. 9 of the 12 steps: making amends to those she's harmed. Dave (Michael Rapaport) is afraid she'll spill the beans on sleeping with him back in the day, but she has a bigger shocker to confess. The boys (Kyle Sullivan, Dean Collins) try to sneak a peek at a naked woman in the new episode "Three's Company."

9 p.m.
CBS

Movie: The Bourne Identity
Jason Bourne (Matt Damon) isn't having a good day: He's been shot, lost his memory and has mysterious assassins trying to kill him. Picked up by a fisherman, Bourne attempts to work through his memory loss. He feels like a mild-mannered man, but weapons knowledge, martial arts and multitudes of passports keep cropping up. Franka Potente costars in this 2002 thriller as the innocent woman who winds up dodging bullets with Bourne.

9 p.m.
TLC

David Blaine: Frozen in Time
Someone should tell David Blaine that "chill out" is just an expression. The outrageous illusionist takes the term literally in this 2000 special, which finds him spending 72 hours inside a gigantic block of ice. It's hard to practice such a stunt, but he tried, spending long periods in a tank of ice. And yes, he lived to tell the tale — and do some more over-the-top stunts.

10:45 p.m.
AMC

Movie: Play Misty for Me
A disc jockey (Clint Eastwood) becomes the target of a stalker (Jessica Walter) in this 1971 thriller, the first film Eastwood directed. Walter

(See BEST, page six)

SUNDAY EVENING		FEBRUARY 26, 2006															
Time	Channel	5:00	5:30	6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	12:00	12:30
5:00	TBS	(4:00) *** "The Last Boy Scout"	*** "Cradle 2 the Grave"	*** "Swordfish"	*** "Swordfish"	*** "Swordfish"	*** "Swordfish"	*** "Swordfish"	*** "Swordfish"	*** "Swordfish"	*** "Swordfish"	*** "Swordfish"	*** "Swordfish"	*** "Swordfish"	*** "Swordfish"	*** "Swordfish"	*** "Swordfish"
5:30	NBC	(4:00) XX Olympic Winter Games	News	NBC Nightly News	XX Olympic Winter Games: Closing Ceremony (TV) (In Stereo)	News	XX Olympic Winter Games: Closing Ceremony (TV) (In Stereo)	News	XX Olympic Winter Games: Closing Ceremony (TV) (In Stereo)	News	XX Olympic Winter Games: Closing Ceremony (TV) (In Stereo)	News	XX Olympic Winter Games: Closing Ceremony (TV) (In Stereo)	News	XX Olympic Winter Games: Closing Ceremony (TV) (In Stereo)	News	XX Olympic Winter Games: Closing Ceremony (TV) (In Stereo)
6:00	PBS	The This Old House Hour	New Yankee Workshop	Victory Garden	Keeping Up Appearances	Summer Wine	As Time Goes By	Being Served	Masterpiece Theatre "Bleak House"	This Is America	Bookclub at KET	Religion-Ethics	Land of the Dragon				
6:30	ABC	(2:30) PGA Golf: WGC Accenture Match Play Championship - Final Round (Live)	News	America's Funniest Home Videos	America's Funniest Home Videos	America's Funniest Home Videos	America's Funniest Home Videos	America's Funniest Home Videos	America's Funniest Home Videos	America's Funniest Home Videos	America's Funniest Home Videos	America's Funniest Home Videos	America's Funniest Home Videos	America's Funniest Home Videos	America's Funniest Home Videos	America's Funniest Home Videos	America's Funniest Home Videos
7:00	WGN	HomeTeam Orlando	America's Funniest Home Videos	Maximum Exposure	24 "Day 2: 2:00 - 3:00AM"	24 "Day 2: 3:00 - 4:00AM"	WGN News at Nine	Instant Replay	Sex and the City	Becker	Maximum Exposure						
7:30	CBS	(4:00) College Basketball: Florida at Alabama (Live)	News	CBS Evening News	60 Minutes	Cold Case "Dog Day Afternoons"	*** "The Bourne Identity"	News	The Parkers	The Parkers	The Parkers	The Parkers	The Parkers	The Parkers	The Parkers	The Parkers	The Parkers
8:00	FOX	(3:30) NASCAR Racing: Nextel Cup - Auto Club 500 (In Stereo Live)	The Simpsons	The War at Home	Family Guy	American Dad	News	Seinfeld "The Chaperon"	Seinfeld	Sex and the City	Sex and the City	Sex and the City	Sex and the City	Sex and the City	Sex and the City	Sex and the City	Sex and the City
8:30	CBS	(4:00) College Basketball	News	CBS News	60 Minutes	Cold Case	*** "The Bourne Identity"	News	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.
9:00	ESPN	Track	Fishing: 2006 CITGO Bassmaster Classic	SportsCenter	NBA Basketball: Boston Celtics at Los Angeles Lakers	Knight School	SportsCenter	Live	Gamenight								
9:30	DSC	Colosseum: True Story	JFK: Beyond the Magic Bullet	*** "Grizzly Man"	*** "Grizzly Man"	*** "Grizzly Man"	*** "Grizzly Man"	*** "Grizzly Man"	*** "Grizzly Man"	*** "Grizzly Man"	*** "Grizzly Man"	*** "Grizzly Man"	*** "Grizzly Man"	*** "Grizzly Man"	*** "Grizzly Man"	*** "Grizzly Man"	*** "Grizzly Man"
10:00	TNT	(3:30) *** "The Fifth Element"	*** "Armageddon"	*** "Spider-Man"	*** "Spider-Man"	*** "Spider-Man"	*** "Spider-Man"	*** "Spider-Man"	*** "Spider-Man"	*** "Spider-Man"	*** "Spider-Man"	*** "Spider-Man"	*** "Spider-Man"	*** "Spider-Man"	*** "Spider-Man"	*** "Spider-Man"	*** "Spider-Man"
10:30	A&E	Sell House	Flip This House	24 (In Stereo)	24 "Day 2: Midnight - 1:00AM"	*** "Lake Placid"	*** "Lake Placid"	*** "Lake Placid"	*** "Lake Placid"	*** "Lake Placid"	*** "Lake Placid"	*** "Lake Placid"	*** "Lake Placid"	*** "Lake Placid"	*** "Lake Placid"	*** "Lake Placid"	*** "Lake Placid"
11:00	TNN	*** "Clear and Present Danger"	*** "Clear and Present Danger"	*** "Clear and Present Danger"	*** "Clear and Present Danger"	*** "Clear and Present Danger"	*** "Clear and Present Danger"	*** "Clear and Present Danger"	*** "Clear and Present Danger"	*** "Clear and Present Danger"	*** "Clear and Present Danger"	*** "Clear and Present Danger"	*** "Clear and Present Danger"	*** "Clear and Present Danger"	*** "Clear and Present Danger"	*** "Clear and Present Danger"	*** "Clear and Present Danger"
11:30	NICK	Nicktoons TV	Nicktoons TV	Green	Ned's School Unfabulous	Zoey 101	Romeo!	Full House	Fresh Prince	Hi-Jinks	Roseanne	Roseanne	Cosby Show	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince
12:00	USA	(4:00) *** "The Hulk"	*** "The Hulk"	*** "The Hulk"	*** "The Hulk"	*** "The Hulk"	*** "The Hulk"	*** "The Hulk"	*** "The Hulk"	*** "The Hulk"	*** "The Hulk"	*** "The Hulk"	*** "The Hulk"	*** "The Hulk"	*** "The Hulk"	*** "The Hulk"	*** "The Hulk"
12:30	FAM	Adventures of Pluto Nash	*** "Robin Hood: Men in Tights"	*** "The Waterboy"	*** "The Waterboy"	*** "The Waterboy"	*** "The Waterboy"	*** "The Waterboy"	*** "The Waterboy"	*** "The Waterboy"	*** "The Waterboy"	*** "The Waterboy"	*** "The Waterboy"	*** "The Waterboy"	*** "The Waterboy"	*** "The Waterboy"	*** "The Waterboy"
1:00	LIFE	"Love Thy Neighbor"	*** "The Babysitter's Seduction"	*** "The Perfect Wife"	*** "The Perfect Wife"	*** "The Perfect Wife"	*** "The Perfect Wife"	*** "The Perfect Wife"	*** "The Perfect Wife"	*** "The Perfect Wife"	*** "The Perfect Wife"	*** "The Perfect Wife"	*** "The Perfect Wife"	*** "The Perfect Wife"	*** "The Perfect Wife"	*** "The Perfect Wife"	*** "The Perfect Wife"
1:30	ESPN2	Women's College Basketball	Auto Racing	NHRA 2day	NHRA Drag Racing: Checker Schuck's Krugen Nationals	World Series of Poker Tournament of Champions	World Series of Poker Tournament of Champions	World Series of Poker Tournament of Champions	World Series of Poker Tournament of Champions	World Series of Poker Tournament of Champions	World Series of Poker Tournament of Champions	World Series of Poker Tournament of Champions	World Series of Poker Tournament of Champions	World Series of Poker Tournament of Champions	World Series of Poker Tournament of Champions	World Series of Poker Tournament of Champions	World Series of Poker Tournament of Champions
2:00	AMC	Cailli-Marshal	*** "Two Mules for Sister Sara"	*** "For a Few Dollars More"	*** "For a Few Dollars More"	*** "For a Few Dollars More"	*** "For a Few Dollars More"	*** "For a Few Dollars More"	*** "For a Few Dollars More"	*** "For a Few Dollars More"	*** "For a Few Dollars More"	*** "For a Few Dollars More"	*** "For a Few Dollars More"	*** "For a Few Dollars More"	*** "For a Few Dollars More"	*** "For a Few Dollars More"	*** "For a Few Dollars More"
2:30	HGTV	Living on the Edge II	Offbeat Amer. Renovation	Rezoned	House	Designed-Sell	Designed-Sell	I Want That!	Rezoned	If Walls Could	Extreme	Buy Me	Kitchen	Designed-Sell	Designed-Sell	Designed-Sell	Designed-Sell

TV Listings

Best

Continued from p5
earned a Golden Globe nomination for her portrayal of the disturbed but devoted woman who turns life upside-down for the DJ and his girlfriend (Donna Mills), even becoming the latter's roommate. John Larch ("Dalias") appears as a police officer.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27
8 p.m.
AMC
Movie: An American Werewolf in London

A successful mix of horror and comedy, director John Landis' 1981 scream-and-laugh fest benefits from a skewed sense of humor. David Naughton and Griffin Dunne play American tourists attacked one foggy English night by a vicious beast. While his friend is killed, only to keep popping up in states of increasing physical deterioration, Naughton's character morphs into a werewolf when the moon is full. Jenny Agutter costars.

8 p.m.
DISCOVERY
Monster House

In the series finale, "Farewell House," the crew lets viewers behind the scenes as it creates a home for one of its own: Steve "Tombstone" Sterle. As you might guess from his nickname, Steve has a morbid streak, which is reflected in the entertainment center and the hot tub that his "Monster" buddies create. The barbecue building sequence is also worth seeing.

8 p.m.
NBC

Deal or No Deal

Viewers embraced this game show during its five-night run in December. Now it's back to anchor NBC's new Monday lineup. Contestants choose a briefcase with an undisclosed sum and try to decide whether to accept a big-money offer that's a sure thing, hold out for a bigger offer, or gamble on the case containing an even bigger one. Howie Mandel presides over the action. As it did in December, the show airs over five nights this week only.

8 p.m.
WB

7th Heaven

Rose (Sarah Thompson) remains angry with Simon (David Gallagher) for not telling her he slept with Sandy, so he's worried things will get even worse if she finds out about the girl he almost impregnated. Eric's (Stephen Collins) efforts to help make her angrier. Annie (Catherine Hicks) lets Ruthie (Mackenzie Rosman) play hooky for a day to help her get over Martin. Lucy (Beverly Mitchell) consults a doctor in the new episode "Moving Ahead."

9 p.m.
ABC

The Bachelor: Paris

Will the unscripted show's latest round culminate in the series' most dramatic rose ceremony yet, as it always seems to? Even if that isn't the case, there's bound to be some suspense as emergency-room doctor Travis Stork makes his choice between the two remaining women in this two-hour season finale. And we know the backdrop will be spectacular; this is Paris, after all.

9 p.m.
CBS

Two and a Half Men

Charlie (Charlie Sheen) is trying hard to go along with the healthy lifestyle that Mia (guest star Emmanuelle Vaugier) has imposed but eventually, something's got to give. When she's not looking, he's sneaking beer and cigars in the garage and getting Rose (Melania Lynskey) to bring him burgers. But he can't help but wonder: Is he afraid to anger Mia because she's got him wrapped around her finger, or is he — gasp! — in love?

9 p.m.
NBC

The Apprentice

The Peacock ruffles viewers' feathers with a series of scheduling shakeups, including moving Donald Trump's competition series to Mondays for its new season, with the game show "Deal or No Deal" — a hit in its limited December run — as a lead-in. As usual, Trump puts his would-be apprentices through a series of challenges, firing the poorest performer at the end of each episode until only one is left standing.

9 p.m.
WB

Related

The Sorelli sisters converge on the hospital when Ginnie's (Jennifer Esposito) pregnancy complications get worse, frightening her and Bob (Callum Blue). Jason (Julian Ovenden) also stops by to support Marjee (Lizzy Caplan), and Joel (Kyle Howard) does the same for Rose (Laura Breckenridge). Anne and Danny (Kiele Sanchez, Dan Futterman) reexamine their relationship in the new episode "Here's a Balloon for You."

9:30 p.m.
UPN

Half & Half

Girls, how do you know a guy is getting serious? When he leaves his stuff at your place? When he invites you away for the weekend? How about when he invites you to join him on a reality show? That's what Dee Dee's (Essence Atkins) new boyfriend, an actor, wants her to do in this new episode; now all she has to do is decide whether she can make that kind of commitment. Deciding against commitment are Spencer and Naomi (Chico Benymon, Michelle Williams).

(See BEST, page seven)

TUESDAY EVENING TV schedule for February 28, 2006. Columns include time slots from 5:00 to 12:30. Rows list channels (TBS, NBC, PBS, ABC, WGN, CBS, FOX, CBS, ESPN, DSC, TNT, A&E, TNN, NICK, USA, FAM, LIFE, ESPN2, AMC, HGTV, SCIFI, HIST, TOC, HBO, HBO2, HBO3, MAX, DISN, SHOW, TMC) and program titles like Seinfeld, Friends, Deal or No Deal, etc.

WEDNESDAY EVENING TV schedule for March 1, 2006. Columns include time slots from 5:00 to 12:30. Rows list channels (TBS, NBC, PBS, ABC, WGN, CBS, FOX, CBS, ESPN, DSC, TNT, A&E, TNN, NICK, USA, FAM, LIFE, ESPN2, AMC, HGTV, SCIFI, HIST, TOC, HBO, HBO2, HBO3, MAX, DISN, SHOW, TMC) and program titles like Seinfeld, Friends, Deal or No Deal, etc.

THURSDAY EVENING TV schedule for March 2, 2006. Columns include time slots from 5:00 to 12:30. Rows list channels (TBS, NBC, PBS, ABC, WGN, CBS, FOX, CBS, ESPN, DSC, TNT, A&E, TNN, NICK, USA, FAM, LIFE, ESPN2, AMC, HGTV, SCIFI, HIST, TOC, HBO, HBO2, HBO3, MAX, DISN, SHOW, TMC) and program titles like Seinfeld, Friends, Deal or No Deal, etc.

TV Listings

FRIDAY EVENING		MARCH 3, 2006															
TV	CH	5:00	5:30	6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	12:00	12:30
23	TBS	Home Improvement	Home Improvement	Seinfeld "The Limo" (In Stereo)	Seinfeld "The Stock Tip" (In Stereo)	Everybody-Raymond	Everybody-Raymond	Friends (In Stereo)	Friends (In Stereo)	*** "Scary Movie 3" (2003, Comedy) (PA) Anna Farris, Anthony Anderson.	*** "Little Nicky" (2000, Comedy) Adam Sandler, Patricia Arquette.					Family Guy (In Stereo)	
3	NBC	News	News	News	NBC Nightly News	Wheel of Fortune (N)	Jeopardy!	Deal or No Deal (N) (In Stereo)	Las Vegas "Coyote Ugly" (N) (In Stereo)	Conviction "Pilot" (Series Premiere) (N) (In Stereo)	News	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (N) (In Stereo)				Late Night	
4	PBS	Clifford the Big Red Dog	Dragon Tales (In Stereo) (E)	Math Basics	Business Rpt.	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)	Comment on Kentucky (N)	McLaughlin Group (N)	Washington Week (N) (In Stereo)	NOW (N) (In Stereo)	News	Nightline	Paid Program				
7	ABC	Judge Judy (In Stereo)	Judge Judy (In Stereo)	News	ABC World News Tonight	Family Feud (In Stereo)	Entertainment Tonight	America's Funniest Home Videos (In Stereo)	*** 1/2 "Cop Land" (1997, Crime Drama) Sylvester Stallone, Harvey Keitel.	In Justice "Victims" (N) (In Stereo)	20/20	News	Nightline	Paid Program			
15	WGN	Moesha "Labels" (In Stereo)	Moesha (In Stereo)	Home Improvement	Home Improvement	America's Funniest Home Videos (In Stereo)	*** 1/2 "Cop Land" (1997, Crime Drama) Sylvester Stallone, Harvey Keitel.	*** 1/2 "Cop Land" (1997, Crime Drama) Sylvester Stallone, Harvey Keitel.	WGN News at Nine (In Stereo)	Sex and the City	Becker "Lucky Day" (In Stereo)	America's Funniest Home Videos (In Stereo)					
10	CBS	News	News	News	CBS Evening News	Legends Suzuki	The King of Queens	Ghost Whisperer "Demon Chik" (N) (In Stereo)	Close to Home "Reasonable Doubts" (N) (In Stereo)	NUMB3RS "Protest" (TV) (N) (In Stereo)	News	Sports OverTime	Late Show-Letterman	Late Late Show			
11	FOX	Maury	Friends (In Stereo)	Everybody-Raymond	Friends (In Stereo)	Everybody-Raymond	Friends (In Stereo)	Everybody-Raymond	News	Sex and the City	The Bernie Mac Show	Malcolm in the Middle	Paid Program				
13	CBS	Dr. Phil (In Stereo)	News	CBS News	News	Hollywood	Ghost Whisperer (In Stereo)	Close to Home (In Stereo)	NUMB3RS "Protest" (N)	News	Late Show-Letterman	Late Late					
46	ESPN	Horn	Interruption	SportsCenter (Live)	NBA	NBA Basketball: Washington Wizards at Philadelphia 76ers. (In Stereo Live)	NBA Basketball: Los Angeles Clippers at Utah Jazz. (In Stereo Live)										SportsCenter
30	DSC	It Takes a Thief	Cash Cab	Cash Cab	The FBI Files	The FBI Files (N)	The FBI Files "Betrayed" (N)	A Haunting	The FBI Files								
31	TNT	Charmed (In Stereo)	Charmed (In Stereo)	Law & Order: Criminal Intent "Probability" (In Stereo)	American Justice	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.
51	A&E	City Confidential	American Justice: Vigilante	Law & Order: Criminal Intent "Probability" (In Stereo)	American Justice	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.
59	TNN	Maximum Exposure	Wildcat Police Videos	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.
53	NICK	SpongeBob	Drake & Josh	All Grown Up	Danny Phant.	SpongeBob	Catscratch	Avatar	The X's (N)	Danny Phant.	Danny Phant.	Full House	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Cosby Show	Roseanne	Roseanne
46	USA	PGA Golf: Ford Championship at Doral - Second Round.	Law & Order: Criminal Intent "Probability" (In Stereo)	Law & Order: Criminal Intent "Probability" (In Stereo)	Law & Order: Criminal Intent "Probability" (In Stereo)	Law & Order: Criminal Intent "Probability" (In Stereo)	Law & Order: Criminal Intent "Probability" (In Stereo)	Law & Order: Criminal Intent "Probability" (In Stereo)	Law & Order: Criminal Intent "Probability" (In Stereo)	Law & Order: Criminal Intent "Probability" (In Stereo)	Law & Order: Criminal Intent "Probability" (In Stereo)	Law & Order: Criminal Intent "Probability" (In Stereo)	Law & Order: Criminal Intent "Probability" (In Stereo)	Law & Order: Criminal Intent "Probability" (In Stereo)	Law & Order: Criminal Intent "Probability" (In Stereo)	Law & Order: Criminal Intent "Probability" (In Stereo)	Law & Order: Criminal Intent "Probability" (In Stereo)
40	FAM	Gilmore Girls (In Stereo)	7th Heaven "Losers" (In Stereo)	Smallville "Spell" (In Stereo)	*** "Two Can Play That Game" (2001) Vivica A. Fox.	Whose Line? Whose Line?	The 700 Club	Home Videos	Home Videos								
24	LIFE	The Nanny	The Nanny	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	*** "Bad Seed" (2000, Suspense) Luke Wilson.	"Fatal Lessons: The Good Teacher" (2004) Erika Eleniak.	Will & Grace	Will & Grace	Will & Grace	Will & Grace	Will & Grace	Will & Grace	Will & Grace	Will & Grace	Will & Grace	Will & Grace
27	ESPN2	2005 World Series of Poker	Best of Horn	College Basketball: CIAA Semifinal - Teams TBA	Boxing: Friday Night Fights. (Live)	Boxing: Friday Night Fights. (Live)	Boxing: Friday Night Fights. (Live)	Boxing: Friday Night Fights. (Live)	Boxing: Friday Night Fights. (Live)	Boxing: Friday Night Fights. (Live)	Boxing: Friday Night Fights. (Live)	Boxing: Friday Night Fights. (Live)	Boxing: Friday Night Fights. (Live)	Boxing: Friday Night Fights. (Live)	Boxing: Friday Night Fights. (Live)	Boxing: Friday Night Fights. (Live)	Boxing: Friday Night Fights. (Live)
72	AMC	*** "True Grit" (1969, Western) John Wayne.	*** "An American Werewolf in London" (1981, Horror) David Naughton, Jenny Agutter.	*** "Carrie" (1976, Horror) Sissy Spacek, Piper Laurie.	*** "Bride of Frankenstein" (1935, Horror) Boris Karloff, Colin Clive.	*** "The Invisible Man Returns" (1940, Science Fiction) Vincent Price.											
66	HGTV	That's Clever	Landscapers	Renovation	Weekend	Curb Appeal	House	Get Color (N)	Design Remix	Double Take	FreeStyle (N)	House	House	Debbie Travis' Facelift	Get Color	Design Remix	
61	SCIFI	The X-Files (In Stereo)	Stargate SG-1 "Chimera" (In Stereo)	John Doe "Mind Games" (N)	Stargate SG-1 "Crusade" (In Stereo)	Stargate Atlantis "Inferno" (In Stereo)	Rome: Engineering an Empire	Roman Vice	Battlestar Galactica (N)	Stargate SG-1 "Crusade" (In Stereo)	Rome: Engineering an Empire	Rome: Engineering an Empire	Rome: Engineering an Empire	Rome: Engineering an Empire	Rome: Engineering an Empire	Rome: Engineering an Empire	Rome: Engineering an Empire
44	HIST	Digging for the Truth	Digging for the Truth	Modern Marvels	Rome: Engineering an Empire	Rome: Engineering an Empire	Rome: Engineering an Empire	Rome: Engineering an Empire	Rome: Engineering an Empire	Rome: Engineering an Empire	Rome: Engineering an Empire	Rome: Engineering an Empire	Rome: Engineering an Empire	Rome: Engineering an Empire	Rome: Engineering an Empire	Rome: Engineering an Empire	Rome: Engineering an Empire
33	TOC	Fishing	Hank Parker	Fail Flight	Pro Hunting	Backland	Am. Archer	Shooting	Guns	Get the Game	Outdoors	Quebec Adv.	Tracks-Africa	Prospecting	Hunt-America	Jim Houston	Brittingham
14	HBO	(4:30) *** "Catwoman" (2004) Halle Berry. PG-13	*** "Vanishing Point" (1997, Drama) Viggo Mortensen, Christine Elise. (In Stereo) NR	*** "Alien vs. Predator" (2004, Science Fiction) Sanaa Lathan. (In Stereo) PG-13	16 Blocks: First Look	Deadwood "Advances, None Miraculous" (In Stereo)	Real Time (In Stereo Live)	Hookers at the Point: 5 Years Later (In Stereo)									
15	HBO2	(4:15) *** "Shining Through" (1992) R	*** "Shark Tale" (2004, Comedy) PG	The Sopranos (In Stereo)	*** "The Door in the Floor" (2004, Drama) Jeff Bridges. R	Epitafios (In Stereo)	*** "The Upside of Anger" (2005) Joan Allen. R										
17	HBO3	(3:30) *** "Major League" (1989) R	*** "Everyday People" (2004, Drama) Jordan Gelber. (In Stereo) NR	*** "Inventing the Abbotts" (1997, Drama) Joaquin Phoenix, Billy Crudup. (In Stereo) R	*** "Harlem Nights" (1989, Comedy-Drama) Eddie Murphy, Richard Pryor. (In Stereo) R	*** "Spider-Man 2" (2004, Action) Tobey Maguire, Kirsten Dunst. (In Stereo) PG-13	Hotel Erotica Cabo (N)	Witches of Brewster									
29	DISN	Emperor New	That's So Raven	Sister, Sister (In Stereo)	Suite Life of Zack & Cody	Phil of the Future	That's So Raven	Phil of the Future	Sister, Sister (In Stereo)	Suite Life of Zack & Cody	That's So Raven	Phil of the Future	Kim Possible				
22	SHOW	(4:05) *** "Mad Dog Time" (1999, Drama) Lili Taylor, Guy Pearce. (In Stereo)	*** "Godsend" (2004, Suspense) Greg Kinnear, Rebecca Romijn-Stamos. (In Stereo) TV	*** "Sleeper" (2004, Comedy) Alexa Vega, Mika Boorem. (In Stereo) TV	*** "Sleeper" (2004, Comedy) Alexa Vega, Mika Boorem. (In Stereo) TV	*** "Sleeper" (2004, Comedy) Alexa Vega, Mika Boorem. (In Stereo) TV	*** "Sleeper" (2004, Comedy) Alexa Vega, Mika Boorem. (In Stereo) TV	*** "Sleeper" (2004, Comedy) Alexa Vega, Mika Boorem. (In Stereo) TV	*** "Sleeper" (2004, Comedy) Alexa Vega, Mika Boorem. (In Stereo) TV	*** "Sleeper" (2004, Comedy) Alexa Vega, Mika Boorem. (In Stereo) TV	*** "Sleeper" (2004, Comedy) Alexa Vega, Mika Boorem. (In Stereo) TV	*** "Sleeper" (2004, Comedy) Alexa Vega, Mika Boorem. (In Stereo) TV	*** "Sleeper" (2004, Comedy) Alexa Vega, Mika Boorem. (In Stereo) TV	*** "Sleeper" (2004, Comedy) Alexa Vega, Mika Boorem. (In Stereo) TV	*** "Sleeper" (2004, Comedy) Alexa Vega, Mika Boorem. (In Stereo) TV	*** "Sleeper" (2004, Comedy) Alexa Vega, Mika Boorem. (In Stereo) TV	*** "Sleeper" (2004, Comedy) Alexa Vega, Mika Boorem. (In Stereo) TV
25	TMC	(4:30) *** "A Slipping-Down Life" (1999, Drama) Lili Taylor, Guy Pearce. (In Stereo)	*** "Girl" (1998, Drama) Dominique Swain, Sean Patrick Flanery. (In Stereo)	*** "Peachy" (2003, Science Fiction) Ben Affleck, Aaron Eckhart. (In Stereo)	*** "Sniper" (1993, Drama) Tom Berenger, Billy Zane. (In Stereo)	*** "Bad Influence" (1990, Suspense) Rob Lowe, James Spader. (In Stereo)											

Best

Continued from p6

10 p.m. check local listings

PBS

Great Performances

In the new episode "Paul McCartney: Chaos and Creation on Abbey Road," the Beatle entertains an audience in the studio where the legendary band did most of its recording. Armed with an assortment of vintage instruments, he takes fans through his song-writing career from his first songs for the Beatles to his newest efforts. Old favorites you can expect to hear include "Lady Madonna" and "Strawberry Fields."

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

8 p.m. check local listings

PBS

Nova

The new two-hour episode "Arctic Passage" remembers two expeditions in search of a Northwestern sea route between Europe and the Pacific. The first hour, "Prisoners of the Ice," is the story of Sir John Franklin and his crew of 129, who set out from England in 1845 and were never heard from again. "Ice Survivors" recounts Roald Amundsen's streamlined — and ultimately successful — mission at the beginning of the 20th century.

8 p.m.

TCM

Movie: The Conversation

Gene Hackman gives one of his best performances as a professional eavesdropper who makes his living invading other people's privacy but guards his own jealously. He's all business about his work until one case — tracking an unfaithful wife — reaches him on an emotional level and leads him into deadly territory. Harrison Ford, Teri Garr, Elizabeth MacRae and Allen Garfield also star in this 1974 drama directed by Francis Ford Coppola.

SATURDAY MORNING/AFTERNOON		MARCH 4, 2006															
TV	CH	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	12:00	12:30	1:00	1:30	2:00	2:30	3:00	3:30	4:00	4:30
23	TBS	(8:00) *** "See Spot Run" (2001) (PA) David Arquette.	*** "Boat Trip" (2003, Comedy) Cuba Gooding Jr., Horatio Sanz.	*** "Blast From the Past" (1999, Comedy) Brendan Fraser, Alicia Silverstone.	*** "A Night at the Roxbury" (1998, Comedy) Will Ferrell, Chris Kattan.	*** "Ace Ventura: Pet Detective" (1994) Jim Carrey.											
4	NBC	Tutenstein (In Stereo) (E)	Time Warp	Trading Spaces	Darcy's Wild Life (N)	Flight 29 Down (E)	Endurance (In Stereo)	The Tubby Smith Show	Ron Jirs	Gymnastics: American Cup. (In Stereo Live)							PGA Golf: Ford Championship at Doral - Third Round. (In Stereo Live)
5	PBS	Dragon Tales (In Stereo)	Dragon Tales (In Stereo)	Ciao Italia (In Stereo)	Family Kitchen	Sewing With Nancy Very Easy Vintage Quilts (In Stereo)	Learn to Knit	Joy of Painting	Mixed Media	Workplace-Skills	Workplace-Skills	GED Connection	GED Connection				
7	ABC	Lilo & Stitch "PJ"	Emperor New	The Proud Family (E)	That's So Raven	Exploration	Mountaineer Jammie	Paid Program	Paid Program	NBA Access With Ahmad	Paid Program	*** 1/2 "Cop Land" (1997, Crime Drama) Sylvester Stallone, Harvey Keitel.	*** 1/2 "101 Dalmatians" (1996) Voices of Glenn Close.				
15	WGN	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Happy Days	Home Improvement	The Cosby Show	Moesha "Road Trip" (In Stereo)	MLB Preseason Baseball: Arizona Diamondbacks at Chicago White Sox. (In Stereo Live)					
10	CBS	Saturday Early Show (Joined in Progress) (In Stereo)	Little Bill (In Stereo) (E)	Blue's Clues (In Stereo) (E)	Paid Program	Scholastic Ball Report	College Basketball: Big Ten - Teams TBA. (Live)	College Basketball: Louisville at Connecticut. (Live)	College Basketball: SEC Game - Teams TBA. (Live)	College Basketball: Charlotte at George Washington. (Live)	College Basketball: Louisville at Connecticut. (Live)	College Basketball: SEC Game - Teams TBA. (Live)	College Basketball: SEC Game - Teams TBA. (Live)				
11	FOX	Bratz "Catch a Thief" (N)	Winx Club (In Stereo) (E)	Mutant Turtles	Sonic X (N)	G.I. Joe Sigma 6	Farscape "Family Ties" (In Stereo)	HomeTeam "Washington, D.C." (In Stereo)	College Basketball: Louisville at Connecticut. (Live)	College Basketball: SEC Game - Teams TBA. (Live)	College Basketball: SEC Game - Teams TBA. (Live)	College Basketball: SEC Game - Teams TBA. (Live)	College Basketball: SEC Game - Teams TBA. (Live)				
13	CBS	Decision	Kidz Newz	Go Diego	Backyard	Dora-Explorer	Little Bill (E)	College Basketball: Big Ten - Teams TBA. (Live)	College Basketball: Louisville at Connecticut. (Live)	College Basketball: Louisville at Connecticut. (Live)	College Basketball: Louisville at Connecticut. (Live)	College Basketball: Louisville at Connecticut. (Live)	College Basketball: Louisville at Connecticut. (Live)				
46	ESPN	SportsCenter	SportsCenter (Live)	College GameDay (Live)	College Basketball: West Virginia at Cincinnati. (Live)	College Basketball: West Virginia at Cincinnati. (Live)	College Basketball: West Virginia at Cincinnati. (Live)	College Basketball: West Virginia at Cincinnati. (Live)	College Basketball: West Virginia at Cincinnati. (Live)	College Basketball: West Virginia at Cincinnati. (Live)	College Basketball: West Virginia at Cincinnati. (Live)	College Basketball: West Virginia at Cincinnati. (Live)	College Basketball: West Virginia at Cincinnati. (Live)				
30	DSC	Engineering the Impossible	Extreme Engineering	Extreme Engineering	Extreme Engineering	Extreme Engineering	Extreme Engineering	Extreme Engineering	Extreme Engineering	Extreme Engineering	Extreme Engineering	Extreme Engineering	Extreme Engineering				
31	TNT	"Salem's Lot" (2004, Horror) Rob Lowe, Andre Braugher.	*** "Underworld" (2003) Kate Beckinsale.	*** "Dreamcatcher" (2003, Horror) Morgan Freeman, Thomas Jane.	*** "Underworld" (2003) Kate Beckinsale.												
51	A&E	Ask This Old	Ask This Old	Old House	Airline	Airline	*** "Lean on Me" (1989, Docudrama) Morgan Freeman.	*** "A River Runs Through It" (1992, Drama) Craig Sheffer, Brad Pitt.	*** "Spying" (1999, Comedy) Sally Field, Robert Downey Jr.	*** "Iron Monkey" (1993, Action) Tsang Sze Man.	*** "Most Amazing Videos" (2005) Various.						
59	TNN	3 Stoooges	3 Stoooges	Train Wrecks! (In Stereo)	Trucks!	Trucks!	Horsepower	MuscleCar	Xtreme 4x4	Trucks!	*** "Meet the Fockers" (2004, Comedy) Robert De Niro, Ben Stiller. (In Stereo) PG-13	*** "The Rock" (1996, Adventure) Sean Connery. R					
53	NICK	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Oddparents	Oddparents	The X's	Danny Phant.	Honey Phant.	Catscratch	6teen	Robot	Drake & Josh	Ned's School Unfabulous	Zoey 101	Nicktoons TV	Nicktoons TV	
46	USA	WWE A.M. Raw	Monk "Mr. Monk Takes Manhattan" (In Stereo)	*** "The Adventures of Rocky and Bullwinkle" (2000, Comedy) Rene Russo, Jason Alexander. (In Stereo) TV	*** "The Emperor's Club" (2002, Drama) Kevin Kline, Steven Culp.	*** "K-PAX" (2001, Drama) Kevin Spacey, Jeff Bridges.											
40	FAM	Get Ed	Kong-Series	Rangers	Super Robot	Rangers	W.I.T.C.H. (E)	Full House	Full House	Full House	*** "Karate Kid II" (1986, Action) Ralph Macchio, Noriyuki "Pat" Morita.	*** "Summer Catch" (2001) Sean Connery, Nicolas Cage. (In Stereo) R					
24	LIFE	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	*** "First Do No Harm" (1997, Drama) Meryl Streep.	*** "Losing Isaiah" (1995, Drama) Jessica Lange.	*** "Sylvia" (2003, Biography) Gwyneth Paltrow.	College Basketball: Big South Final - Teams TBA	College Basketball: Atlantic Sun Final - Teams TBA	College Basketball: Louisville at Connecticut. (Live)	College Basketball: SEC Game - Teams TBA. (Live)	College Basketball: SEC Game - Teams TBA. (Live)	College Basketball: SEC Game - Teams TBA. (Live)	
27	ESPN2	Beat	Base Tech	Fishing	BaseCenter	Base Tech	Base Tech	College Basketball: Big South Final - Teams TBA	College Basketball: Atlantic Sun Final - Teams TBA	College Basketball: Atlantic Sun Final - Teams TBA	College Basketball: Atlantic Sun Final - Teams TBA	College Basketball: Atlantic Sun Final - Teams TBA	College Basketball: Atlantic Sun Final - Teams TBA	College Basketball: Atlantic Sun Final - Teams TBA	College Basketball: Atlantic Sun Final - Teams TBA	College Basketball: Atlantic Sun Final - Teams TBA	College Basketball: Atlantic Sun Final - Teams TBA
72	AMC	*** "True Grit" (1969, Western) John Wayne, Glen Campbell.	*** "The Flight of the Phoenix" (1965, Adventure) James Stewart, Richard Attenborough.	*** "Von Ryan's Express" (1965, Drama) Frank Sinatra, Trevor Howard.													
66	HGTV	New Spaces	House Detect	Ground	Dream	Landscape	Garden-Yard	Curb Appeal	Outer Spaces	Decorating	Design Remix	Small Space	Mission	Parents	Designers'	Double Take	reDesign
61	SCIFI	*** "Carnosaur" (1993, Horror) Diane Ladd, Raphael Sbarge.	*** "Carnosaur 2" (1994, Horror) John Savage.	*** "Carnosaur 3: Primal Species" (1996) Scott Valentine.	*** "The Creature" (2001, Horror) Rufus Sewell.												
44	HIST	Wild West Tech	Risk Takers/History Makers	Mail Call "B-2"	Modern Marvels	Battlefield Detectives	Battlefield Detectives	Battlefield Detectives	Battlefield Detectives	Battlefield Detectives	Battlefield Detectives	Battlefield Detectives	Battlefield Detectives				
33	TOC	Pro Team	Hank Parker	Base Camps	Prospecting	Gold Fever	Boater	Off Road	World of Outlaws	Monsters of Destruction	Paintball	Inside RC	Four Wheeler	Hot Rod TV			
14	HBO	*** "50 First Dates" (2004, Romance-Comedy) Adam Sandler, Drew Barrymore. (In Stereo) PG-13	*** "Rudy" (1993, Drama) Sean Astin, Ned Beatty. (In Stereo) PG	*** "Titanic" (1997, Drama) Leonardo DiCaprio, Kate Winslet. (In Stereo) PG-13	*** "Making Big Love" (1997) PG	*** "Secret Window" (1997) PG											
15	HBO2	*** "Fathers Day" (1997, Comedy) Robin Williams. PG-13	*** "Shark Tale" (2004, Comedy) PG	*** "The Shape of Things" (2003) R	Sopranos	*** "Selena" (1997, Biography) Jennifer Lopez. PG	Midnight										
17	HBO3	Don't Tell Mom	*** "Head in the Clouds" (2004, Drama) Charize Theron, Penelope Cruz. (In Stereo) R	*** "City by the Sea" (2002, Drama) Robert De Niro, Frances McDormand. (In Stereo) R	*** "She-Devil" (1989, Comedy) Meryl Streep, Roseanne Barr. (In Stereo) PG-13	*** "Soapdish" (1991, Comedy) Sally Field, Robert Downey Jr.											
28	MAX	(8:30) *** "Surviving Christmas" (2004) PG-13	*** "Critters 4" (1992, Science Fiction) Don Oppen, Paul Whitth														

TV Listings

Best

Continued from p7
and three boys who had been partying with her are implicated. She allegedly had consensual sex with all three but lost it when one of them wanted another turn. That's the one who agrees to testify against the others, but he goes missing shortly after being released. Michael Boatman, Barry Bostwick and Susan Saint James guest star in the new episode "Gone."

10:30 p.m.

AMC

Movie: In the Heat of the Night

This Oscar-winning film from 1967 stars Rod Taylor as a small-town sheriff in Mississippi who confronts his racial prejudice when a black police officer (Sidney Poitier) from Philadelphia becomes his partner in a murder investigation. Taylor won an Oscar and a Golden Globe for best actor.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1

7:30 p.m.

CINEMAX

Movie: GoodFellas

Nicholas Pileggi's book about Henry Hill, an ex-mobster now in the Witness Protection Program, formed the basis for this violent but funny 1990 Martin Scorsese offering. The film earned six Academy Award nominations, including a win for Joe Pesci as best supporting actor. Robert De Niro, Ray Liotta, Paul Sorvino and Lorraine Bracco also star.

8 p.m.

ABC

George Lopez

Andy Garcia guest stars as Ray, Angie's (Constance Marie) brother, a scam artist who shows up claiming to have reformed and wanting to reconnect with his daughter, Veronica (Almea Garcia). But George smells a rat, especially after Ray asks Veronica for some of her inheritance to invest in a new business. Belita Moreno also stars in the new episode "George Doesn't Truste Angie's Brother."

8 p.m. check local listings

PBS

Windsor Castle: A Royal Year
The chronicle of a year in the life of a royal homestead concludes with the new episode "The Ranger." The title refers to the man in charge of the 15,000 acres of grounds, also known as the Great Park of Windsor Castle. For more than 50 years, that title has been held by Prince Philip, making him the longest-tenured ranger in the castle's history. Events spotlighted in this episode include the wedding of Charles and Camilla.

8 p.m.

UPN

America's Next Top Model

The new special episode "Where the Girls Are" offers updates on the show's contestants and how their participation in the series has affected their lives, whether they won or lost. Among those profiled is season five winner Nicole Linkletter, whose Paris photo shoot is prominently featured.

8 p.m.

WB

One Tree Hill

A student brings a gun to Tree Hill High, and Nathan and Lucas (James Lafferty, Chad Michael Murray) put their own lives in danger to protect the others. Hilarie Burton, Sophia Bush, Bethany Joy, Paul Johansson, Barry Corbin and Craig Sheffer also star in the suspenseful new episode "With Tired Eyes, Tired Minds, Tired Souls, We Slept."

8:30 p.m.

ABC

Freddie

Freddie (Freddie Prinze Jr.) helps Chris (Brian Green), who is opening his own restaurant, with the search for a chef. Not only is Freddie displeased with Chris' choice, but he thinks the wild ideas his friend has for the place will never work. Eventually, he shuts his mouth and does his best to be supportive. George Takei, Kiko Ellsworth and the Pussycat Dolls guest star in the new episode "Recipe for Disaster."

9:30 p.m.

FOX

Free Ride

Recent college graduate Nate Stahlings (Josh Dean) moves back in with Mom and Dad (Loretta Fox, Allan Havey) in this new party scripted, partly improvised sitcom. With no career plans just yet, he reconnects with a couple of high school classmates: Amber (Erin Cahill), whom he would love to date if she wasn't engaged, and Dove (Dave Sheridan), who shows him around the local party scene — such as it is.

10 p.m.

BRAVO

Project Runway

Relax, "Runway" addicts: you don't have to quit the show cold turkey. The season-ending festivities and selection of the winner have been divided into two episodes. In Part 1, the three finalists go home to work on their lines in anticipation of the big fashion show, which airs next week. Mentor Tim Gunn pays each of them a visit at home, and viewers learn more about their families and lives.

10 p.m.

TCM

Movie: From Here to Eternity

The scene of Burt Lancaster and Deborah Kerr in the throes of passion on a beach is undoubtedly this film's most lasting image. Still, the 1953 epic of men and women stationed in Hawaii before the Pearl Harbor attack has many other memorable aspects.

WEEKDAY MORNING/AFTERNOON		© TV Data																	
		9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	12:00	12:30	1:00	1:30	2:00	2:30	3:00	3:30	4:00	4:30		
24	23	TBS	Dawson's Creek	Movie				Becker	Becker	The Cosby Show	The Cosby Show	The Steve Harvey Show	The Steve Harvey Show	The Drew Carey Show	The Drew Carey Show	Yes, Dear	Yes, Dear		
3	4	NBC	Today Cont'd	Live With Regis and Kelly	The Tyra Banks Show	News	Inside Edition	Days of our Lives	Passions			Be a Millionaire	Be a Millionaire	Oprah Winfrey					
4	5	PBS	Dragon Tales	Clifford's Puppy Days	Sesame Street	Caillou	Barney & Friends	Teletubbies	Mister Rogers	Varied Programs	Pre GED Connection	Reading Rainbow	Between the Lions	Zoom	Postcards From Buster	Cyberchase	Maya & Miguel		
6	7	ABC	Maury	Montel Williams	The View	News	The Insider	All My Children	One Life to Live	General Hospital	Judge Joe Brown	Judge Joe Brown							
10	15	WGN	The Beverly Hillbillies	The Beverly Hillbillies	Rockford Files	Matlock	Magnum, P.I.	News	Magnum, P.I.	Da Vinci's Inquest	The Cosby Show	The Cosby Show							
5	10	CBS	Family Feud	Varied Programs	Live With Regis and Kelly	The Price Is Right	News	The Young and the Restless	The Bold and the Beautiful	As the World Turns	Guiding Light	Green Acres	The Andy Griffith Show						
11	11	FOX	My Wife and Kids	The Bernie Mac Show	Judge Mathis	The People's Court	Judge Hatchett	Judge Hatchett	Malcolm in the Middle	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	That '70s Show	My Wife and Kids	Jerry Springer				
13	13	CBS	Dr. Phil	Martha	The Price Is Right	News	The Young and the Restless	Bold & B.	As the World Turns	Guiding Light	The Ellen DeGeneres Show								
14	46	ESPN	SportsCenter	Varied	SportsCenter	SportsCenter	Gamenight	Fastbreak	Varied Programs										
15	30	DSC	American Chopper	American Chopper	Varied Programs							The New Detectives	The FBI Files	Varied Programs					
16	31	TNT	Charmed	ER	ER	Judging Amy	Judging Amy	NYPD Blue	Law & Order	Law & Order									
19	65	A&E	Varied Programs	City Confidential	City Confidential	American Justice	Cold Case Files	Varied Programs											
19	59	TNN	3 Stooges	3 Stooges	MacGyver	Wildcat Police Videos	Star Trek: Deep Space Nine	Star Trek: Deep Space Nine	Star Trek: Next Gener.	Star Trek: Next Gener.	Star Trek: Next Gener.	Star Trek: Next Gener.	Star Trek: Next Gener.						
20	53	NICK	Dora-Explorer	Go Diego	Blue's Clues	Backyard	Dora-Explorer	LazyTown	Max & Ruby	Dora-Explorer	Go Diego	LazyTown	Rugrats	Robot	Varied Programs	Steen			
17	46	USA	The District	Nash Bridges	Nash Bridges	Walker, Texas Ranger	Varied Programs	Movie	Varied Programs										
40		FAM	The 700 Club	Living	Gilmore Girls	Step by Step	Full House	Full House	Fam. Mat.	Fam. Mat.	Boy World	Boy World	Full House	Full House	Grounded	Grounded			
22	24	LIFE	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	The Nanny	The Nanny	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Will & Grace	Will & Grace	Unsolved Mysteries	Unsolved Mysteries	Movie						
15	27	ESPN2	Mike and Mike	Cold Pizza					Varied Programs	Varied Programs							2005 World Series of Poker		
20	72	AMC	Movie Cont'd	Varied Programs					Movie	Varied Programs									
105	66	HGTV	Carol Duval	Carol Duval	Room	Room Service	Country Style	Designing	That's Clever	Painted	Decorating	Sensible Chic	Mission	Divine Design	Design-Dime	Designers'	Painted	Designer	
63	61	SCIFI	Passions	Varied Programs														Ripley's Believe It or Not!	
42	44	HIST	Varied Programs						Modern Marvels	Varied Programs									
37	33	TOC	Varied Programs						Paid Program	Varied Programs									
204	14	HBO	Movie Cont'd	Varied Programs	Movie	Varied Programs												Movie	Varied Programs
205	15	HBO2	Movie	Varied Programs															Varied Programs
211		HBO3	Movie	Varied Programs															Movie
203		MAX	Movie Cont'd	Varied Programs					Varied Programs	Movie	Varied Programs								
64	29	DISN	Doodlebops	Charlie & Lola	The Wiggles	The Koala Brothers	Rolie Polie Olie	Doodlebops	Charlie & Lola	Rolie Polie Olie	Higglytown Heroes	Jolo's Circus	Lilo & Stitch	Brandy & Mr. Whiskers	Varied Programs				
206	22	SHOW	Movie Cont'd	Varied Programs	Movie	Varied Programs													Varied Programs
210	25	TMC	Movie Cont'd	Movie	Varied Programs														Varied Programs

Among them are the Oscar-winning performances of Frank Sinatra and Donna Reed and a vivid portrayal of a genuine brute by Ernest Borgnine. The film itself was named its year's best picture.

10:03 p.m.

ABC

Barbara Walters Special

West Coast viewers won't feel quite so time-warped this year — and can go to bed earlier — now that Walters' traditional Oscar-night special is airing before, not on Oscar night. This year, she interviews triple-threat nominee George Clooney, who's up for an acting Oscar for "Syriana" and directing and writing honors for "Good Night, and Good Luck." Her other subjects are Patrick Dempsey, Matthew McConaughey and Mariah Carey.

THURSDAY, MARCH 2

3 p.m.

USA

PGA Golf

Ernie Els, Retief Goosen, Jim Furyk, Chris DiMarco and Nick Faldo are among those who will tee off today in the Ford Championship at Doral in Miami, but it's two players in particular who have everyone still talking a year later. In a final-round, final-group battle of titans last year on Doral's Blue Monster course, Phil Mickelson and Tiger Woods matched shot-for-shot before Woods prevailed by one, his 264 for the week breaking the Doral record.

8 p.m.

ABC

Movie: Sweet Home Alabama

Southerners Reese Witherspoon and Josh Lucas soft-pedal the more ludicrous stereotypes in this otherwise amiable 2002 romantic comedy. A driven New York fashion designer (Witherspoon) returns to her backwater hometown seeking a divorce from her estranged husband (Lucas) so she can marry her wealthy Manhattan fiancé (Patrick Dempsey). Candice Bergen, Ethan Embry, Fred Ward and Mary Kay Place costar.

8 p.m.

AMC

Movie: The High and the Mighty

If you think the modern disaster movie began with "Airport," check out this 1954 classic starring John Wayne as an aging pilot haunted by a tragedy in his past. When mechanical trouble threatens the fate of the airliner he's piloting, and the pilot (Robert Stack) freezes, he must subdue his demons and try to save the day. Claire Trevor, Laraine Day, Phil Harris and Carl Switzer — formerly known as Alfalfa from Our Gang — also star.

8 p.m.

TCM

Movie: The Lost Weekend

Director Billy Wilder and producer Charles Brackett pulled no punches in their 1945 screenplay that follows writer Don Birnam (Ray Milland) as he goes on a massive weekend alcoholic bender. Milland responded with a fearless performance that won him an Academy Award as best actor and lifted him into the ranks of the heavy-weight thespians. Wilder and Brackett also won Oscars for the screenplay and direction, while the film itself was named best picture.

8 p.m.

WB

Smallville

Clark (Tom Welling) becomes paranoid, thanks to exposure to silver kryptonite. He thinks Jonathan and Lionel (John Schneider, John Glover) are plotting against him. Lex and Lana (Michael Rosenbaum, Kristin Kreuk) are having a secret affair, and Chloe (Allison Mack) is planning to reveal his secret. Professor Fine (James Marsters) has the cure for what ails

him, but there's a catch. Annette O'Toole also stars in "Splinter."

9 p.m.

FOX

Skating With Celebrities

The winner of the competition is crowned in tonight's season finale after the two remaining pairs skate for one last time. Those eliminated from the contest earlier in the proceedings will be back to support the finalists. Dorothy Hamill, Sir John Nicks and Mark Lund are the judges, and Scott Hamilton and Summer Sanders host.

9 p.m.

HBO

Movie: Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story

In this 2004 comedy, the owner (Vince Vaughn) of a small gym needs to come up with \$50,000, or the fancy fitness center across the street will take over his place. Fortunately, there's a dodgeball tournament coming up with a \$50,000 prize. The gym's regulars get a team together and work with a veteran champ (Rip Torn) to get ready. Now all they have to do is beat the team of heavy hitters assembled by the boss (Ben Stiller) of the other gym.

9 p.m.

WB

Beauty and the Geek

With only three teams remaining, the beauties and geeks make videos for the people they've been paired with, showing what they've learned from their partners. The challenge of the week is a scavenger hunt that tests the girls' map reading skills, while the guys go shopping for gifts. At the end of the hour, one team is sent home, leaving two to vie for the title of ultimate beauty and geek. Mike Richards hosts.

9:30 p.m.

NBC

The Office

Dwight (Rainn Wilson) is named salesman of the year, which means he has to give a speech at the big convention. Terrified of public speaking, he seeks guidance from Michael (Steve Carell), who may not be the best choice to coach him. Pam's (Jenna Fischer) wedding planning has Jim (John Krasinski) making plans of his own — to get out of town. B.J. Novak and Leslie David Baker also star in the new episode "Dwight's Speech."

9:59 p.m.

NBC

Dr. Carter

Dr. Carter (Noah Wyle) is back, but not at County General. The new episode "Darfur" finds him in the Sudanese desert helping those suffering the effects of famine and disease — and in one case, rape by militants. Eamonn Walker ("Oz") plays his colleague, Dr. Dakara. Back in Chicago, Pratt and Neela (Mekhi Phifer, Paminder Nagra) treat a hit-and-run victim, and Pratt is outraged to learn who did the hitting.

FRIDAY, MARCH 3

8 p.m.

CBS

Ghost Whisperer

Melinda (Jennifer Love Hewitt) buys some items for the shop from a woman (guest star Lori Loughlin) and meets the spirit of her son (David Dorfman, "The Ring"). He is still so angry at his mother for neglecting him for her career that he's lashing out against her and his baby sister, putting both their lives in danger. Melinda steps in to help him communicate with Mom so he can release his anger and move on in the new episode "Demon Child."

8 p.m.

FOX

37th NAACP Image Awards

Fresh from a big win at the Screen Actors Guild Awards — for best performance by a movie cast — the drama "Crash" is a leading contender at these awards honoring achievements by people of color in the arts and entertainment. On television, the HBO movie "Lackawanna Blues" has seven nominations. New this year are categories for directing in both movies and TV. In music, Kanye West, Alicia Keys and Mariah Carey have four nominations each. Cuba Gooding Jr. hosts.

8 p.m.

WB

What I Like About You

Val (Jennie Garth) discovers that she and Vic (Dan Cortese) aren't legally married. They decide to remedy the situation with a City Hall ceremony, but they must wait 24 hours. While waiting, they take a compatibility test that leads to a fight over how many children to have. Holly (Amanda Bynes) wonders if she broke up with Vince (Nick Zano) too abruptly, but a family reunion reassures her in the new episode "Garden State."

8:30 p.m.

WB

Living With Fran

Riley (Ryan McPartlin) wonders where he fits into Fran's (Fran Drescher) family when Josh and Allison (Ben Feldman, Misti Traya), along with Fran's ex, Ted (guest star Charles Shaughnessy), interrupt the couple's one-year anniversary dinner. After an argument with Riley, Fran seeks help from her cousin Meryl (Debi Mazar) and an aspirin — which turns out to be an animal tranquilizer — in "A Year of Living With Fran."

9 p.m.

A&E

Biography

Is he a complex artist or just a charming eccentric? In either case, the talented and unpredictable Johnny Depp has built a substantial career out of devising such unforgettable characters as Edward Scissorhands, Ichabod Crane and Capt. Jack Sparrow. Between films, the handsome actor has cut quite a swath among ladies ranging from actress Winona Ryder and model Kate Moss to his current love, French singer Vanessa Paradis.

9 p.m.

LIFETIME

Movie: Fatal Lessons: The Good Teacher

A spiritual descendant of "Fatal Attraction" and "The Hand That Rocks the Cradle," this 2004 thriller stars former "Baywatch" babe Erika Eleniak as a teacher who becomes friendly with a student's parents while tutoring her in her home. When strange things start befalling the family, especially Mom (Patricia Kalember, "Sisters"), Teach convinces Dad that it's all in his wife's head, and she's going crazy. Lori Loughlin also stars.

9 p.m.

NBC

Las Vegas

Monica's friend (Sarah Ann Morris) finds a finger in the buffet in the new episode "Coyote Ugly." Everyone's afraid she'll sue, but it's not money she wants. Ed, Danny and Mike (James Caan, Josh Duhamel, James Leshure) are surprised to learn whose finger it is and how he lost it. Sam (Vanessa Marcil) has a customer (guest star Ed Begley Jr.) who disproves the old honey-beats-vinegar theory. Howie Mandel and Wayne Newton have cameos.

9 p.m.

WB

Reba

Reba (Reba McEntire) isn't happy having Brock (Christopher Rich) hanging around her house while Barbara Jean is in St. Louis. She tries to throw

him out but relents when he develops kidney stones and doesn't want to be alone. Cheyenne (JoAnna Garcia) is disappointed that her volunteer gig at the homeless shelter isn't more glamorous in "Brock's Got Stones."

9:30 p.m.

WB

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FLOYD COUNTY Lifestyles



INSIDESTUFF

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CAR TALK:

What are the downsides of hybrids?

see pg. A10

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This Town, That World

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

HM-M

I am even at this late date, learning things. Fellow asked me the definitions of "legal" and "illegal," and after listening to my humming and hawing, reminded me that I was wrong about this word, "illegal," said it means a sick eagle.

WELCOME TO THE CLUB

Had a rather fortuitous meeting with Mrs. Ed Burke, the other afternoon. From her I learned that I am not the only resident of this town to wander the labyrinth of Louisville streets, alleys, bypasses, parkways and the like by night, till a guide at the cost of five bucks was employed to do a ten-minute job of leading me out of the maze. Mr. Burke or "Snow" White will supply the details.

DISCOURAGED PREACHER

I am indebted to Ranel Roberts of Harold, for the following, which he has set down as an item from the rich recollections of J.J. Johnson, of Toler Creek:

On the headwaters of Toler's Creek, a preacher lived neighborly with a farmer next door, half a mile away! Twas a rough farm, to be sure. Old survey showed a two-row garden with 400-foot limitation, running north and south on Gospel Fork of Toler. East and West sides were bound by extensive lines running skyward. The farmer soon realized the need of an animal for transportation, and one that could feed on steep pasture. In his quest for such an animal, he led home one day a shaggy, surefooted jackass, loosed him inside the plantation gates and gave him limited freedom. But because he had just been led away from home and his animal associates, he started a call for his kind in rapid succession that lasted for several days. The call had a radius of .94 knots and fell on the ears of half a dozen families. Because of the thrilling combination of hee, haw and whistle, executed in such exciting detail, it never grew monotonous.

Meanwhile, the preacher, although not having announced himself publicly, anticipated a preaching venture. His plans included an initial sermon preached to his wife in the seclusion of their home. He instructed the beloved wife, to score him on sound of his voice, gestures, choice of words and knowledge of scripture. Evening time, and came the sermon. His voice was a monotone, one octave below baritone, but he gestured wildly for points, twisted up a few big words and got hot under the collar and quit, sat down beside his ponder-

(See ALLEN, page ten)



Science teachers from across the state converged upon the BSCTC campus to attend a mid-winter conference at the East Kentucky Science Center last weekend. At the close of the session, participants were given a special treat when they attended the science center's salute to Pink Floyd laser light show

KSTA holds mid-winter session at East Kentucky Science Center

Fifty-one teachers and presenters converged on Prestonsburg last Saturday despite falling temperatures and blowing snow to participate in a day of professional development at the East Kentucky Science Center and Planetarium. The Science Center partnered with the Kentucky Science Teacher's Association to host the 3rd KSTA Mid Winter Breakthrough. This annual event provides science teachers across the state an opportunity to continue their professional growth and gather new ideas and methods for teaching in their classrooms from fellow educators.

The event began with a reception at the East Kentucky Science Center Friday evening co-hosted by the Science Center and KSTA and spon-

sored, in part, by Prestonsburg Tourism. Participants toured the Science Center's latest traveling exhibit, "Bone Up On Bones," and were later treated to a screening of the Center's new planetarium program "Sky Watchers of Africa." The evening ended with a performance of the Center's laser rock program "Pink Floyd - Dark Side of the Moon."

Saturday kicked off early with opening remarks from KSTA President Bonnie Embry and East Kentucky Science Center Board Member and Treasurer, Rev. Johnny Ross. Braving the cold and snowy weather as they moved between buildings on the Big Sandy Community and Technical College's Prestonsburg Campus, teachers par-

ticipated in a variety of sessions tied to this year's theme of "From the Earth to the Stars." Sessions presented covered the field of Earth and Space Science as teachers studied and shared ideas that ranged from Paper Rockets That Really Fly to Teaching with the Stars.

The day ended with a wrap-up session in the BSCTC Gearheart Auditorium and the announcement that next year's Mid Winter Breakthrough will be held at Hopkinsville, located in Christian County.

For additional information about the East Kentucky Science Center, or for a schedule of activities at the Center, call (606) 889-0303 or visit the Center's website at www.wedoscience.org.

Science center hosting health fair March 4

Joints creaking, bones popping, heart pumping—time for some facts on improving your health. Come to the East Kentucky Science Center's Health Fair on Saturday, March 4, to receive some important information and health screenings.

The Health Fair, which will be held from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. in the Science Center's exhibit hall, is in conjunction with Highlands Regional Medical Center (HRMC) and in association with the Science Center's latest exhibit, Bone Up On Bones, a hands-on exhibit regarding bone health.

HRMC personnel will be on hand Saturday to provide fun activities, do health screenings, and hand out important information about how you can improve your lifestyle and your health. Ernest Brewer, PT with HRMC's Wellness Center, Hollis Whitehead, RN with the Emergency Services, Deanna Rice, RN Director

of Surgical Services, Amy Hyden, B.S., with Community Development, as well as other members of HRMC staff, will participate in the health fair and offer tips to keep you safe and healthy.

Brewer, a physical therapist and athletic trainer with 13 years experience, will test upper extremity strength. Husbands and wives can compete using the hand grip strength test. Brewer will check grade school students for scoliosis and will provide information about the Wellness Center and the physical therapy department. In addition, he will also be accessible for general questions regarding physical therapy, occupational therapy, and the importance of exercise. Visitors to his booth can register for a prize drawing. Brewer will be giving away a month's membership to the Wellness Center's fitness club.

Also on hand will be Hollis

Whitehead, Director of Emergency Services. Hollis will give tips on ATV safety, bicycle safety, and motorcycle safety. He will also have brochures containing information that will make your visit to the Emergency Room a little less traumatic. Blood pressure screenings will be available.

Admission to the health fair is free with the purchase of a ticket to East Kentucky Science Centers' Bone Up On Bones Exhibit. Tickets are \$3.50 for adults, \$2.50 for students and seniors. Children under four years of age are admitted free. While you're at the Health Fair, visit the Center's planetarium and take in the latest show, "Skywatchers of Africa".

For additional information, contact the Science Center at (606) 889-0303, or visit the Center's website at www.wedoscience.org.

MOVIES FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

'Blackout'

by TOM DOTY
STAFF WRITER

One tough cop is all that stands between the residents of a posh Upper East Side apartment building and four escaped cons during the titular event in this late 1970s thriller.

An establishing shot tells the audience that this all takes place in New York (though many accents are distinctly Canadian). First up we are introduced to the cons who are being transported to a maximum security prison hospital. They are an eclectic mix and include:



Tom Doty
Staff Writer

■ Christie, a terrorist who is out to cripple the class system in America.

■ Chico, a total whackadoo who comes off as a Native American that is channeling Jerry Lewis.

■ Eddy, a bug-eyed rapist.

■ Marcus, who is a hulking mass murderer spawned from excessively bad parenting.

Once they are locked up in the paddy wagon, Christie begins exercising his powers of persuasion on them and soon forms the foursome into a semblance of a group.

Next up we are introduced to officer Dan Evans. It's not an awesome intro, with Evans chasing after a purse snatcher, who he can't manage to gain any ground on, until he is taken out by a clothing rack. The scene actually works well because you just know he'll come face to face with the gang and his sloppy navigational skills make it anyone's guess who'll win out by the time it's all over.

The city loses power that night in a goofy scene where actors are posed before a subway grid that wasn't designed by someone who has ever seen a map of the five boroughs. The event works out fine for the cons, who break free of their transport when the driver refuses to drive slowly through an intersection with no functioning signal. Christie dons the driver's uniform and leads his motley crew into an apartment building where they plan to loot all of the apartments and get away before power is restored.

The plan goes awry almost immediately, when Eddy decides to assault an apartment dweller who has time to run out on her porch and scream for help. Her cries are heard by Evans, who is investigating the wrecked paddy wagon and he responds to her call and manages to put a couple of slugs through Eddy.

The victim talks him into letting her tag along and the pair pursue the hoods through the building but are, unfortunately, too many steps behind to save several supporting characters from meeting grim fates from the unholy trio sacking their building.

It all leads to an action-packed cli-

(See LAGOON, page ten)

Morse code

by BERNARD BELASCO
"CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE VETERAN'S SOUL"

Davey and I bent over our task with the earnest concentration of 12-year-old boys, nailing kitchen towels to two old broomsticks. Davey was trying to earn his Boy Scout merit badge in communications and had asked me to help him learn Morse code. I found the project so interesting that I was able to squelch my feelings of disappointment that were mingled with just a bit of jealousy. My family was poor, and we couldn't afford the \$12 uniform I needed to join the Boy Scouts. There would be

no merit badges for me, no need for me to learn Morse code at all. But that wasn't Davey's fault, and Davey was my friend.

Davey lived two blocks away from me in Philadelphia, and each day after school, we would run home, grab our broomstick flags and stand in the middle of Osage Avenue, learning to send messages to each other. Dot on the right. Dash on the left. Be careful not to foul the flag. We were soon so good at reading each other's messages over the two-block span that I pretended we were in the line of battle, skillfully communicating crucial, life-saving messages.

Our effort paid off. Davey earned his merit badge, and I... well, I knew Morse code. And even if it hadn't earned me anything, I figured I was the better for it. I kept up my knowledge of it during my teen years, occa-

sionally interpreting coded messages that came over my shortwave radio.

Years passed, and I finally had a uniform — one belonging to the United States Army. Memories of Davey and my old neighborhood in Philadelphia had faded into nostalgia, but for some reason, the Morse code had stuck with me, though I had no more use for it than I did back then.

Until the typhoon hit. My company was stationed at Dulag on the island of Leyte in the Philippines when a tremendous storm blew onto us, wiping out visibility and drowning us in a whipping torrent of rain and wind. Into this churning chaos, a landing ship tank (LST), loaded with equipment, dangerously approached the beach where we were encamped. The ship's officer was clearly lost.

Shrugging on my rain gear, I slipped out into the storm with my

lieutenant and stood at the shore beside him. The officer on the LST was shouting through the storm to us, but all we could hear was the howling wind and downpour. Communication was futile. I stood there helplessly watching the officer's dim form as he gestured frantically from a distance. It reminded me of something, something from long ago. Suddenly, I ran back to my tent, grabbed my flashlight and aimed it at the officer on the bridge.

"WHAT DO YOU WANT?" I flashed out in Morse code.

The officer, no doubt surprised to find an Army man who knew Morse

code, jumped at his signal lamp, a 12-inch spotlight, and signaled back: "WHERE IS TARRAGONA?"

Topography was my company's specialty: I made maps of the area. Without hesitation, I skillfully dotted and dashed: "TARRAGONA IS FIVE MILES SOUTH OF HERE."

The officer quickly turned away to reroute his ship to the south and deliver the much-needed equipment. As the LST retreated into the dark storm, one final message flashed to the shore: "... (TNX)."

Thanks, I grinned like a little boy. I had just earned my merit badge.



What are the downsides of hybrid cars?

by TOM and RAY MAGLIOZZI



Dear Tom and Ray:
I am currently living in Taiwan, and I don't have access to your radio show. But I can get your column! I'm hearing a lot of hype about how great hybrids are, and since I love road trips and hate expensive gas, I'm considering the purchase of one. However, no one seems to be talking about the downsides of hybrids. If they are so great, wouldn't we have had them 20 years ago? So, what are the negative aspects of these vehicles? Thank you for your always expert advice! — Angela

TOM: I fear you might be getting a poor translation of our column in Taiwan, Angela. You refer to some sort of "expert advice."

RAY: Anyway, one reason we didn't have hybrids 20 years ago is that we didn't have the cheap and miniaturized computer power we have today. The computers in hybrids assess the power needs at any given moment, and then switch seam-

lessly between the gasoline engine and the electric motor, or some combination of the two. Twenty years ago, you would have had to tow a U-Haul full of IBM computers behind you to get that kind of computing power. And the weight of the trailer would have halved your mileage.

TOM: So, hybrid technology has come a long way in 20 years — thanks, in large part, to the

Japanese, who are doing most of the innovation. But there still are downsides to hybrids. The most obvious one is the cost. You pay a premium to drive a vehicle with a hybrid powertrain. Yes, there are tax breaks and feel-good points for doing it. But will you make that money back in lower gasoline costs? Not quickly. Our quick, back-of-the-brake-pad-box calculation says you might save \$500 a year if gasoline is \$2.50 a gallon. But the premium for hybrids still averages several thousand dollars.

RAY: There's also the cost of the batteries. While most hybrid manufacturers are warranting their batteries for a long time (Toyota — eight years, 100,000 miles, for example), eventually the batteries may need to be replaced by the owner. It could cost you several thousand dollars to buy a new battery pack for a car that — by that time — is nine or 10 years old. That's a little different from getting a \$79.95 DieHard at Sears.

TOM: And the other poten-

tial downside is that your mileage depends a lot on precisely what kind of driving you do. Hybrids get their best mileage in stop-and-go traffic. Because the most common hybrid powertrain systems (Toyota's and Ford's) are designed so they can run on batteries alone at lower speeds, they can get higher mileage in the city than they do on the highway. So those who do a lot of highway driving (like road-trippers) might not find hybrids much better than high-mileage gasoline cars.

RAY: All that said, however, they're fabulous, Angela. And if you do a lot of city driving, a hybrid is a particularly great option. It cuts down on pollution, it helps move us toward energy independence, and it allows you to smile smugly at SUV owners when you pass a gas station while they're loading in another 75 bucks' worth of regular.

What to do when your car blows smoke out its tailpipe

Dear Tom and Ray:
I have a Saturn 2001 L-300 with about 44,000 miles on it. Every morning when I start the car, a huge puff of white smoke comes out of the tailpipe. It does not continue to do this throughout the day — just in the morning when it has been sitting overnight. It has been doing this for about six months. I have not noticed a change in the way the engine sounds, nor in my gas mileage. I get oil changes every 3,000 miles or so. Any idea what it could be, and do I need to have it fixed? — Linda

TOM: Gee, that's unfortunate, Linda. I'm guessing that the smoke has a light-bluish tinge to it. Look carefully, and I think you'll see it. Because I'm guessing it's oil.

RAY: Yeah. Your car's probably burning a little bit of oil every morning. But it may not be serious. The first thing you should do is monitor your fluids for a month. See if you're losing either motor oil or coolant (in case it's coolant that's being burned, which does make white smoke). If the losses are negligible, that's a good sign.

TOM: And if the smoke always goes away within 30 seconds or less, that's a good sign, too. In that case, it's most likely just a little bit of oil leaking down from the valve guide seals overnight, or something like that. When you start up the engine, that oil burns and comes out the tailpipe as blue-gray

smoke. It doesn't take much oil to produce a lot of smoke.

RAY: If that's the case, it's kind of like some very slow-growing cancers. Sometimes men in their 70s will be diagnosed with prostate cancer, but it's a strain that develops so slowly that the doctor will say: "Don't worry about it. Something else will get you before this ever does." That's probably the case with your Saturn, too. I predict this will have no bearing on the ultimate demise of this car.

TOM: So, if you're not losing oil, and the smoke goes away quickly rather than lingers all day, I wouldn't spend the money to take the engine apart and fix this. I'd forget all about it. Just stop looking behind you right after you start the car. In fact, back into your garage at night from now on, Linda.

□□□

Changing your oil regularly is the cheapest insurance you can buy for your car, but how often should you change it? Find out by ordering Tom and Ray's pamphlet "Ten Ways You May Be Ruining Your Car Without Even Knowing It!" Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Ruin, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk Web site at www.cartalk.com.

Exhibit traces banjo roots from Africa to Appalachia

by DUNCAN MANSFIELD
ASSOCIATED PRESS

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Banjo maker Dave Ball says you can't tell how an old banjo will play by its looks, but every scuff, scratch and worn fret stirs dreams of where it may have been.

A new exhibit at the University of Tennessee's McClung Museum displays 55 instruments that have been picked and plucked around the world, from African villages and American slave quarters to Victorian parlors and the hills of southern Appalachia, where bluegrass music was born.

"It is fascinating to think of whose hands that instrument has been in," says Ball, among those lending banjos to the show.

Curators say the exhibit, "Banjo: From Africa to America and Beyond," features the largest collection of pre-bluegrass banjos ever assembled in the South and brings full circle what many thought was only a "hillbilly" instrument.

The exhibit, with occasional banjo performances, runs to April 30. It is free but accepts donations.

Displays trace the instrument's evolution from a primitive African combination of gourd and twine to an example of Appalachian whimsy fashioned from scrap wood to a finely crafted instrument inlaid with rich hardwoods and mother of pearl.

"It is arguably the most influential joining of cultures ever," says Matt Morelock, a 26-year-old cultural anthropologist.

Morelock, also a banjo enthusiast who

worked with Ball on a Do-It-Yourself cable TV series on building banjos, put this exhibit together from private collections in Toronto, Baltimore, New York, Boston, Stockholm and just up the road at the Museum of Appalachia in Norris.

More than 300 years before bluegrass legends Earl Scruggs and Lester Flatt ripped into "Foggy Mountain Breakdown" with a flurry of notes in a singular three-finger style, banjo-like lutes were described in travel logs and slave-trading documents in Gambia in West Africa.

In 1654, similar instruments were first noted in the Americas among slaves in the Caribbean.

"There are some people who doubt the

(See **BANJO**, page eleven)

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

Obsessed executives have always taken business home at night, but increasingly they take it into the bathroom, with laptop computers, high-speed connections, flat-panel televisions and speaker phones, according to a February Wall Street Journal report. (Said one, "I'm beside myself when I can't get my e-mails.") However, there are problems, e.g., "sound-chamber" sound (the hollow voice created by typical bathroom acoustics usually gives away one's location) and the "BlackBerry dunk" (with one Houston repair shop saying it gets a half-dozen jobs a day of portable devices accidentally dropped into the sink or tub, "or worse").

Government in Action

■ In January, a police SWAT officer in Fairfax, Va., accidentally shot and killed an unarmed optometrist on whom the swarming team was serving an arrest warrant for suspicion of gambling. (In April 2005, a SWAT team arrested 24 community poker players in Palmer Lake, Colo., but at least there were no casualties. In October 1998, a passive but startled security guard was killed by a SWAT team moving in on a club in Virginia Beach, Va., suspected of housing gambling.)

Tough Love:

(1) Australia's Attorney-General, Philip Ruddock, announced in December that terrorist suspects being held under house arrest would routinely be sent to anger management classes, to help them address their alienation. (2) In December, a 75-unit apartment house opened in Seattle, funded by grants from the local, state and federal governments, as free housing for what the city considers its most incorrigible drunks, on the theory that keeping an eye on them would be less costly than leaving them free to cause mischief and overuse emergency rooms.

■ The Times of London reported in January that according to recently released government files from the 1980s, the administration of Prime Minister Thatcher appeared seriously concerned that poachers posed a threat to the Loch Ness monster (if and when it revealed itself). (Also in those files, as reported in News of the Weird in 2004, was a letter from

Swedish officials seeking advice from the Nessie-experienced British on protecting Sweden's own underwater Lake Storsjo monster.)

■ At Fort Polk, La., the Pentagon has created elaborate, Hollywood-like sets of buildings and homes but representing village scenes in Iraq and Afghanistan under realistic conditions of war, to train soldiers preparing for deployment. Among the fine details (according to a January Harper's magazine report): hiring amputees and using fake blood to simulate horrific injuries; piping in the scent of vomit and other emblems of battlefield chaos; bringing in U.S.-residing Iraqi natives to heckle soldiers in Arabic; conducting press briefings before hostile reporters; and at one venue, fighting in modern city blocks of buildings, presumably for guerilla wars of the future.

Tax Bureaucrats Gone Wild!

(1) In December, a self-employed market analyst in Chincago, Wash., requested from the IRS a copy of the 2003 Form 1040 and instructions, so he could revise an old tax return, and three weeks later received instead two shipments totaling 48,000 copies of 2005 Form 1040 and instructions. (2) Tax officials in Valparaiso, Ind., admitted in February that they mistakenly valued one house at \$400 million (though its previous assessment was \$121,900), and even though they recomputed the owner's bill, they failed to erase from the city budget the \$8 million in tax revenue they were expecting from the property, including \$3 million that they had already disbursed.

The Poor Dears!

(1) With Clinton Dearman about to be sentenced for burglary and assault in Christchurch, New Zealand, in January, his lawyer asked for sympathy. Dearman had been surprised mid-burglary by his victims, who were all seniors who proceeded to beat Dearman up and hog-tie him (a photo of which made the newspapers). Thus, the lawyer said, Dearman had become a "laughingstock" among prisoners and would "never be able to hold his head up in criminal company again." (2) In January, Alexis du Pont de

Bie Sr., 62, who grew up in a du Pont family mansion and inherited \$7 million, filed a lawsuit in New York City accusing his estate's trustees of mismanagement that has reduced his wealth to \$2 million and necessitated a cut in his allowance to \$3,000 a month, making him, he said, "literally destitute and homeless."

Sacred Traditions

(1) Muta, the 1,400-year-old Islamic tradition of "temporary" marriage (typically, for one-night stands or for financial reasons), has proliferated in Iraq since the fall of Saddam Hussein, embraced by Shiites even though condemned by Sunnis, according to a January Los Angeles Times dispatch. (2) Under sharia law, a Muslim husband can end a marriage at will, but apparently there are formalities. In Kuala Lumpur in January, a judge said the declaration had to be made in court and thus fined a Malaysian lawmaker the equivalent of about \$150 after he tried to declare divorce first by text-messaging his wife and then by voicemail.

World-Class Multitasking

Police arrested David Kennedy, 33, in January near Murfreesboro, Tenn., after he accidentally ran other drivers off the road, perhaps from being distracted by the open pornographic magazines that were in his front seat. And on a January afternoon, motorist Stephen Nielsen, 38, was stopped and finally awakened by Suffolk County, N.Y., police, who saw him driving 40 mph on the Long Island Expressway with eyes closed and mouth agape.

Least Competent People

■ A familiar definition of "insanity" (attributed to Albert Einstein) is doing the same thing repeatedly but expecting different results. Donald E. Neff, 38, of Pleasant Township, Ohio, launched his 27-foot boat in the Portage River to access Lake Erie on Nov. 12, but it ran aground, and Neff required a Coast Guard rescue. Despite warnings to wait for higher tide, Neff got another boat the next day and set out again. He of course ran the second boat aground and had to be re-rescued. Two days later, he persuaded a friend to take him out,

but naturally the friend's boat ran aground, requiring the Coast Guard once again. Officials were contemplating as many as seven criminal charges against Neff.

■ On Super Bowl Sunday, deputies in Sheridan, Colo., found a car with its windows blown out, its doors bulging outward and the roof bent upward about a foot. The license plate led to Norman Frey, 46, who admitted that he had been on his way to a football party with a balloon filled with acetylene, which he planned to explode in celebration. However, the balloon ignited, perhaps by static electricity from the back seat, and Frey and a companion suffered shrapnel wounds.

How Researchers Spend Their Time

(1) Documenting menopause in gorillas (at Chicago's Brookfield Zoo, to show that not just humans experience menopause) (December). (2) Studying whether hamsters are happy or depressed (an Ohio State University project to determine whether non-humans experience seasonal affective disorder) (January). (3) Finding the gene for ear wax (conclusion: Africans' and Europeans' ear wax tends to be wetter, and that among East Asians drier, with other Asians' wax about midway between, though the Nagasaki University researchers failed to learn much else) (January).

Update

In July 2005, News of the Weird reported that former Florida judge Gary Graham had been charged with child molesting, based on statements by a former girlfriend, and as an added touch, the woman had described Graham's insistence that she present herself for sex in pigtails and with paint-on freckles, to give the effect of a young girl. In February 2006, a judge in Inverness, Fla., dropped all the charges after the ex-girlfriend admitted that she made everything up because she was angry.

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Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, P.O. Box 18737, Tampa FL 33679 or WeirdNewsTips@yahoo.com or go to www.NewsoftheWeird.com

Allen

Continued from p9

ing wife and waited for her report. But the wife was silent as a stone. The preacher's patience got weak and his curiosity got strong until he asked for her impression, to which she replied:

"Honey, you sounded exactly like that thing up at Sam's farm."

Then the disgusted preacher pondered her verdict and made reply: "Well, I didn't score very much. I tried my best and tied with a Jackass."

CREDIT LINE

When Ed Scutchfield was

booked here last Friday on a charge of possessing moonshine whiskey, the jail record credited Policemen Thornsbury and Salyers with the arrest. But the star of the show was Deputy Sheriff John Reed. You see, Scutchfield, was aboard a horse when nabbed, and there was no mounted policeman around to take care of the nag. Reed was called, and it was he—Hi, yo Silver!—who crawled aboard, breasted the midtown motor traffic, and guided the charger to a non-existent hitching rack at the rear of the courthouse.

Lagoon

Continued from p9

max that begins in the penthouse apartment, where a wedding is in progress, and eventually concludes in the parking garage, where Evans and Christie go at it with 1970s sports cars.

This one works because the director, Eddy Matalon, gives equal attention to all of the players and manages to develop audience sympathy for the victims. The writing also manages to incorporate several plot gimmicks that would become a staple of 1980s action films, such as having a lone man trapped in a building where he is outnumbered by the bad guys (which would be exploited to its fullest potential in "Die Hard" 10 years later).

The director is obviously a classic movie fan and gives several roles to Hollywood veterans and their children. The leads are handled by two second-generation actors, with Robert Carradine (son of John) well cast as the sly and psychotic Christie. He is truly unpredictable, especially in one chilling scene where he returns to an apartment to shut off a terminal man's oxygen monitor while the victim's wife cowers in fear.

Evans is played by James Mitchum (son of Robert) and effects the same laid-back charisma that his father employed. He's fine in the role and should have worked more but he is such a clone of his father, who was still bankable at

the box office when this was made, that he wound up toiling in Italian genre films and never made a name for himself in the United States.

The supporting players are top notch here, with turns from Jean Pierre Aumont, June Allyson and Ray Milland. Aumont gets a scene-stealing bit as a fallen magician who is heartbroken when the guys looting his apartment don't remember his glory days. Allyson also has a fine moment as a devoted wife who must plead for her sickly husband's life, but it is Milland as a Donald Trump-like miser who steals the show.

In a classic scene he allows his wife to be tortured for the combination to his safe. He apologizes to her, saying that one can't give in to terrorists, but quickly changes his mind when they threaten to burn his priceless art collection.

This one feels like a late entry in the disaster movie genre, but it works better as a thriller wherein ordinary and fallible people must confront urban evil. Anyway you cut it, this is worth a look and has never been available on VHS so this is another win for the DVD market, which continues to mine the 1970s for diamonds in the rough.

Best line: "You've got no right to send him out there. He's got varicose veins."

1977, rated R.

Happy Anniversary!

Mike and Debbie Goble

Love, Your Daughters, Steph and Stacey



House panel OKs scaled-back version of sex-crimes bill

by BRUCE SCHREINER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — A scaled-back version of legislation aimed at cracking down on sex offenders cleared a House committee on Thursday after weeks of review.

The version approved by the

Judiciary Committee with broad bipartisan support is meant to strengthen the tracking of sex offenders in Kentucky.

"The sex offender registry is a tool in helping victims feel safe," said Rep. Joni Jenkins, D-Shively, the bill's lead sponsor.

The committee deleted some proposals sought by Gov. Ernie

Fletcher's administration. The panel's version did not include language to have some juveniles accused of violent offenses face public trial in adult courts.

As part of its 101-page product, the committee approved some tougher penalties for sex offenders but removed the harshest penalties that had been

proposed.

One deleted provision would have expanded the death penalty. Under that proposal, someone convicted of killing a youngster under age 12 would become eligible automatically for the death penalty. It also would add first-degree sexual abuse as an aggravated circumstance that could lead to the death penalty in a murder case.

Under the committee version, some persistent felony sex offenders could receive up to life in prison without the possibility of parole for 25 years.

Luke Morgan, a lawyer for the state Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, called the committee's version a "good first step."

The product is a hybrid of several proposals offered by lawmakers. Lt. Gov. Steve Pence has been outspoken in pushing for tougher laws

against sex offenders.

After the hearing, Rep. Brent Yonts, D-Greenville, said the original bill was "far too radical." Among the provisions he objected to that were dropped by the committee would have put young sex offenders on the state's sex offender registry.

"To suddenly throw them into the cannon of lifetime registration and potentially elevate them up to adult crimes is way beyond good public policy," Yonts said.

The committee also dropped language that would have abolished the statute of limitations for people wanting to sue for childhood sexual abuse.

The version now headed toward the full House would require sex offenders moving to Kentucky to register within a few days of taking up residence. It also would lengthen the time some sex offenders have to register to 20 years, up from 10

years.

Sex offenders would have to register every two years, with an updated photograph. Information on the registry would be expanded to include the nature of the offenses.

The committee also approved tougher penalties for distributing or advertising child pornography. Also, anyone harboring sex offenders to help them avoid registration would face jail time.

Committee Chairman Gross Lindsay, D-Henderson, said such comprehensive legislation should have been presented months ago to allow a more thorough review.

"Having to work as we did on this bill does not do justice to this committee, to this legislature or to the legislative process, and I'm very unhappy that we had to do it in this manner," Lindsay said.

Bill to revoke driver's licenses of teen drinkers facing overhaul

by ROGER ALFORD
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — Disagreement over language in a bill that would revoke the driver's licenses of teenagers who try to purchase alcohol has forced the sponsor back to the drawing board.

The sponsor, state Rep. Dennis Horlander, D-Shively, asked that a vote be postponed on Thursday after several members of the House Transportation Committee voiced opposition to one provision in the bill aimed at adults who provide alcohol to underage drinkers.

Backed by the beverage industry, the legislation proposes to revoke the licenses for six months of anyone under 21 years old who is convicted of possessing, purchasing or

attempting to purchase alcohol. That portion of the bill was not criticized.

The much-debated provision would revoke the driver's licenses of adults who provide alcoholic beverages to someone under 21, whether they sell it to them, give it to them or buy it for them.

"You've got a good idea, and I think with some work, it could be made into a good bill," said Rep. John Arnold Jr., D-Sturgis, vice chairman of the Transportation Committee.

Horlander said he plans to offer substitute legislation that would appease critics.

"We're going to see if we can come up with something that works for everyone," he said. "I think the concept of the bill is really good. I'm hoping in the long run, we can get it all worked out."

Sarah Harlow, a junior at Frankfort High School who expects to get her driver's permit in four months, said the legislation would likely make a difference if it becomes law.

"I think it would be effective for many people my age because driving is something that's very important to a lot of us," she said. "I think it would definitely reduce adolescents who try to get alcohol because they don't want to lose the freedom of driving."

Mothers Against Drunk Driving supports legislation across the country that would revoke the driver's licenses of underage drinkers.

Angela Leigh, executive director of MADD Kentucky in Frankfort, said such laws are effective in keeping young dri-

(See DRINKING, page twelve)

Clinics

in the process of finalizing the questions for the Palm Pilot. We're going to be the first state in the United States to use this at methadone clinics."

The types of questions will vary, but will include asking the client's drug of choice before entering into the program, tracking dose and phase levels, as well as positive and negative results following screenings. There will also be questions focusing on basic demographics.

"We've been doing this with other programs for several years, all on a Palm Pilot," Bell said. "It's got the potential for all types of things, not only tracking, but maybe things we could do to improve the treatment process, to improve detoxification of the client."

Following a five-day trial in Hazard, the courts found against Hazard Professional Associates and awarded Jason Caldwell's family the settlement. However, no physician or nurse was named in the lawsuit, and the clinic's owners at the time issued statements saying that no individual was found negligent in the case.

The clinic, which is one of 11 statewide, is now called Perry County Treatment Center after an ownership change Jan. 23. It is now owned by Floyd County native Terry Scott, who resides in Lexington and owns two other methadone clinics in Pikeville and Paintsville, according to records with the State Narcotics Authority. Scott did not return calls when contacted for comments on

advancements made with tracking information at clinics across the state. Kristi Elrod, the program sponsor at the Perry County Treatment Center, referred questions to Scott when contacted.

Jason Caldwell's death in 2002 and the subsequent settlement has caused a ripple effect across the region and prompted the state to take a closer look at mortality and morbidity rates, as well as focusing what is already a large number of state and federal guidelines for operating such treatment centers.

Bell said in statements on the subject shortly after the jury's verdict last year that there are approximately five deaths reported from methadone clinics in Kentucky each year. He has said that his office does investigate these deaths, but that they are handled by the sponsors at the respective facility.

In Caldwell's case, defense attorneys argued that the 21-year-old coal miner had been buying prescription drugs on the street and taking them in addition to his doses at the clinic, which is located along Independence Road in Hazard, rather than having been administered methadone at the clinic that would have resulted in his overdose.

Clients at methadone clinics are administered a variety of treatment options while part of the program. There are "take-home" doses, as well as "on-site" doses, according to Bell, who says there is a "whole lot of misunderstanding" about how clinics operate.

Continued from p1

According to state and federal law, methadone clinics are required to have a physician formulate what is referred to as a "therapeutic" dose, one that will not impair the client and should never put them at risk for an overdose. These doses are administered based on a balance of 200 to 400 mg for every milliliter, Bell said, but allowed that it was difficult to track what clients do after they leave the clinic.

"They would function as normally as anybody else would," Bell said. "The dose will not make them high. They are also monitored and observed between 45 minutes to four hours, depending on the client and their needs."

Clinics such as the Perry County Treatment Center are inspected annually, according to state law, and are held to regulations imposed on both the state and federal level, in addition to guidelines that must be met in order to maintain accreditation.

Chases

Continued from p1
years for the case as well as an additional two years, to run consecutively, for a second instance of fleeing in Prestonsburg, after a policeman tried to pull him over for, once again, driving without rear lights.

Both officers later indicated that they often just give warnings for such an infraction, but that fleeing police is a felony and they take that very seriously.

Suit

can't say how many."

The lawsuits represent a new approach for the mine agency in that it is going after fines mine operators may incur down the road. Agency officials say they are still trying to get the old fines paid through more traditional channels.

The mine agency first tries to

collect fines on its own, and after 180 days asks the Treasury Department to get involved. Treasury often asks collection agencies to go after the money.

If an operator cannot be found, goes out of business or doesn't have the money, MSHA can write the debt off. The Internal Revenue Service can

Continued from p1

consider the money part of the operator's earned income, meaning it is taxable.

Mine operators owed the government more than \$16 million in delinquent fines at the end of last year, according to MSHA spokesman Dirk Fillpot. More than \$11 million was for violations at coal mines, he said.

ARH

tion Appalachian Regional Hospitals, just as the UMWA had decided to sell all of its facilities.

Friday, at the 50-year mark, a host of hospital and government representatives spoke during the ceremony, including keynote speaker state Rep. Chuck Meade and ARH President and CEO Jerry W. Haynes.

"As a boy, I spent a lot of time here at McDowell ARH," Meade told those in attendance. "This hospital has been a vital resource to the area, and it's an honor for me to stand here and celebrate this with you."

Haynes, who served five years as McDowell's administrator, said it was important to recognize the hospital and its staff for their important role and selflessness both now and for years to come. "What I remember most about my time here is the people and their dedication to the hospital. They have always held strong to that dedication."

Dedication that changes lives, Tootsie Akers would say.

"I decided to go into nursing school after my son spent three months here in this hospital," Akers said, while overseeing

Continued from p1

tours of the historic exhibits. "He was in a bad accident when he was 6 years old and had broken both of his legs. That was 1964, and I stayed with him and, when he got out, I decided then to become a nurse and started here in 1969."

The event and care given to her son left a deep impression on her, which was clear as she took great care in pointing out the name of her son's doctor more than 30 years later.

"His doctor was Dr. Berardi," she said, smiling, and then spelled it out. "B-E-R-A-R-D-I."

Banjo

African origin of the banjo," Morelock says, looking to some of the earliest instruments on exhibit. "But even a cursory look at these instruments kind of puts to bed any doubt."

The oldest banjo-like instrument in the show is a small black "xalam" from Senegal dating to 1850. "Because of the organic nature of the materials used to make these instruments, they decay very quickly," Morelock says in explaining the need for some well-researched reproductions.

The banjo was played almost exclusively by blacks until the rise of minstrel shows, first with troupes of black performers in the 1860s and later by blackface whites in racist "Jim Crow" shows that were immensely popular into the early 1900s.

"When it was taken out of the hands of African-Americans and put into the hands of racist white performers, the music and the instrument specifically took on a completely different form and behaved in a completely different function," Morelock says.

While the instruments on display more closely resemble contemporary designs with a drum-head body and flat fingerboard neck, the banjo's purpose changed during this period. No longer was it the background rhythm for dancing, singing and storytelling at the end of the day.

"It was no longer a social instrument, it was now a performance (instrument) by clowns in blackface performing a very racist stage show to a seated audience," Morelock says.

The "infectious rhythmic nature" of the banjo spread through the minstrel shows to Europe and from the minstrel shows to white Victorian parlors in New England. Some of the most elaborate banjos ever made — several of which are on exhibit — were crafted during this period for an increasingly classical repertoire.

"People were playing Bach on these banjos," Morelock says, pointing to an 1896 photo of an orchestra of tuxedoed banjo players.

Morelock believes the min-

strel stigma and the new musical craze — jazz — ended the connection between blacks and the instrument by the early 20th century.

But Appalachian whites embraced the instrument as the perfect accompaniment to their fiddles. With that, Morelock says, the banjo "returned to its original social function. The old-time banjo style (pre-bluegrass) is still some of the best, danceable, singable stuff that I could think of."

When John Rice Irwin, founder of the Museum of Appalachia, reflects on banjos he thinks of Levi Collins — a miller and moonshiner who served a few years in prison for shooting a fellow moonshiner.

"When I think of a banjo I tend to think of Levi Collins, sitting on his porch strumming. Playing the banjo by himself, no fiddles or guitars," Irwin says.

A 1980 picture of the old bearded banjoist, in overalls and a plaid shirt with a banjo in his lap, hangs on a wall in McClung. Next to his banjo.

Continued from p10

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Kid Rock puts on high-energy show in Pikeville

by TONYA MILLER
STAFF WRITER

PIKEVILLE — Eastern Kentucky was treated to an impressive event as Kid Rock performed in front of a packed house Thursday night at the East Kentucky Exposition Center.

The high-powered energy of this natural entertainer quickly worked the crowd into a frenzy that was sustained through the duration of the concert.

Kid Rock's stage show, as many might expect, was punctuated by female dancers and flaming pyrotechnics. However,

some attendees may have been surprised by the musical skill demonstrated by the performer.

In one segment, he proceeded to play every instrument to be found on the stage, which included, much to the delight of the audience, a lively banjo duet with his bass player. He skillfully made the transition of spinning records to playing the keyboards, taking the audience on a pure musical experience.

A little later, the arena was filled with voices as the crowd joined in with Kid Rock's rendition of "Drift Away," while images of Kurt Cobain, John

Lennon, Elvis Presley and other late musical greats flashed on the large stage screen.

But as memorable as Kid Rock's performance was, it was a moment he shared with a small girl no more than 7 years old that may have stood out the most. He eyed the small blonde early and continued to interact with her throughout the show, pausing during one of the songs to autograph a shirt she had been holding up to him.

The entertainer showed an ability to relate to the crowd. He proclaimed his gratitude that the members of the audience spent their "hard-earned money" to share time with him. As being onstage able to share his passion translated into each person to a two-hour adrenaline party, the performer allowing brief in which the fans act themselves before st into the musical



photo by Tonya Miller
Kid Rock thrilled the crowd at the East Kentucky Exposition Center during a Thursday night performance.

Budget

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During Fletcher's subsequent budget speech, union workers flooded the state Capitol in opposition. At times, their chants against the plan were noticeably audible from within the House chamber where Fletcher was speaking.

Fletcher has said Kentucky could save nearly \$40 million on proposed construction projects if the prevailing wage law were repealed. The state's prevailing wage law requires governments in Kentucky to pay union scale wages on construction projects.

Neither idea, however, have seemed to garner much support by legislators. Even some Senate Republicans have said they could not support the plans.

House Minority Floor Leader Jeff Hoover, R-Jamestown, said he was "not advocating" for either plan. But, Hoover said, he hoped there would have been more debate on them this session.

"I never expected either of those to certainly come out of the budget in the House," Hoover said. "It was just our position, no matter how you were on those issues, that we needed to have an honest discussion and debate on both of those issues."

Hoover acknowledged both labor issues would be "problematic" for some House GOP caucus members.

"There is no question about that, as it is problematic for members of the majority caucus," Hoover said. "And I understand that."

Hoover also said he was "not aware" of Fletcher administration officials "working those issues" with lawmakers.

Fletcher spokeswoman Jodi Whitaker said the governor

...ly was not enough time this session to change their minds. Williams said it was a public policy issue that should be dealt with outside of budgetary negotiations.

Nevertheless, Williams said, the state's prevailing wage law inflates the cost of government construction projects that was tantamount to "government interference in the free market system."

"In this particular environment, the Democrats depend upon labor unions and trial lawyers to get their money and they're going to block tort reform and not do anything about prevailing wage," Williams said. "And they'll receive their compensation for that with political contributions."

Meanwhile, Richards said the House plan would likely have other differences from Fletcher's proposed spending blueprint, including more money for teacher salaries and state universities.

"This is the tightest budget that I can remember," Richards said. "Because even though there's extra money, there's just so many things."

Drinking

Continued from p11

vers from attempting to acquire intoxicating beverages.

"It's a penalty that gets the attention of young people," she said.

Leigh said MADD is neutral on the provision that would revoke the licenses of those who provide alcohol to underage drinkers.

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KHSAA sets 2006 football playoff schedule

KHSAA NOTEBOOK

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — The Kentucky High School Athletic Association Board of Control, at its meeting on Monday, approved the schedule of games for the 2006 KHSAA State Football Championships to be played at Papa John's Cardinal Stadium in Louisville. The Class 4A

Championship will be Thursday, Nov. 30 with a tripleheader set for Friday, Dec. 1. The 4A contest will kick off at 7:30 p.m. (ET). Friday's schedule will have the Class AA Championship at 11:30 a.m., followed by the Class A Championship at 3:30 p.m. and the Class AAA Championship at 7:30 p.m.

The schedule was approved due to the University of Louisville's Big East home game scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 2.

The Kentucky All-Stars will host the

Tennessee All-Stars on June 16. The roster for the Kentucky All-Stars follows: Jeff Adams, OL, Trigg County; Brian Anderson, QB, Male; Darius Baughman, SS, Danville; K.J. Black, QB, Fern Creek; Quintin Borders, OL, Bryan Station; Wes Brown, RB, PRP; Cornell Burbage, WR, Lex. Catholic Jimmy Chaffin, WR, Lynn Camp; Marcus Davis, OL, Boone County; Mike Denny, OL, Rockcastle County; Blayne Donnell DB Trinity; Derrick Elder, OL, St. Xavier; Leonard Gordon, DB, Fort Campbell; Ben Guidugli, LB,

Highlands; Bryan Hall, DL, Paducah Tilghman; Josh Hatchell, LB, Mayfield; Chris Hawkins OL Henry Clay; Andre Henderson, DL, Manual; Justin Jeffries, OL, St. Xavier; Micah Johnson, LB, Fort Campbell; Rod Johnson, RB, Henry Clay; Chris Lamar, WR, Henderson County; Ronnie Letcher, SS, Madison Central; Matt Maynard, DB, Belfry; Wes McDermott, LB, Lou. Holy Cross; Taylor McGee, DL, Trigg County;

(See KHSAA, page two)

Eagles bounced out of KIAC tourney

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

NEW ALBANY, Ind. — Third-seeded Alice Lloyd College fell victim to No. 6 Bethel College Thursday afternoon in the first game of the 2006 Kentucky Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (KIAC) Men's Basketball Tournament. Bethel entered halftime with a 39-28 lead and extended it in the second half, beating the Eagles 76-72 and reserving a spot in the tournament semifinals.

Thomas Haynes led Bethel (20-11) with 21 points, 14 rebounds and five assists. Aaron Jacques added 16 points, 10 rebounds and three steals for the winners. Bethel forced Alice Lloyd into committing 21 turnovers.

Bethel shot 36.7-percent from the field and 37.5-percent from beyond the arc.

(See EAGLES, page two)

Clark, UofL tennis climb in rankings

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LOUISVILLE — The University of Louisville men's tennis team has reached its highest ranking of the season, moving up four spots from their previous



Jeremy Clark

position to 30th in the nation according to the Intercollegiate Tennis Association rankings. The Cards doubles team of Jakob Gustafsson and Stanville native Jeremy Clark shot up to the 26th position in the rankings.

"I am pleased that the national ranking committee noticed our four match win streak against other nationally ranked teams," said Louisville head coach Rex Ecarma. "This is a good starting point and we hope to move forward in the national rankings. Our goal is to get a No. 1 seed in the NCAA regional."

(See TENNIS, page two)

Ladycats hit free throws down stretch, beat Pikeville



photos by Guillermo Cuenca
ABOVE — ALL TIED UP: Betsy Layne and Pikeville players battled for control of the basketball during Thursday's girls' basketball game at the Dome.
BELOW — Betsy Layne eighth-grader Megan Hamilton went after the basketball.

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

BETSY LAYNE — The Betsy Layne Ladycats ended regular-season play winners Thursday night, beating rival Pikeville 63-53.

Senior Candice Meade led Betsy Layne with a game-high 24 points. Megan Hamilton added 19 points as the Ladycats won their second straight game. Betsy Layne ended the regular-season with five wins in its last seven games.

In Thursday night's regular-season finale, Betsy Layne shot well, particularly from the free-throw line. The Ladycats shot 83-percent from the free-throw line (25-of-30). Meade was a near perfect 14-of-15 from the charity stripe.

The Ladycats were not at full strength for Thursday night's contest. Betsy Layne's Kaitlin Lawson has been lost for the remainder of the season with an ACL injury.

"With Kaitlin being out, we'll have to go with more of the young ones," Betsy Layne Coach Cassandra Akers said, referring to her mostly young team.

(See LADYCATS, page two)



Bears drop ninth straight

TIMES STAFF REPORT

CAMPBELLSVILLE — Senior Zach Ingles scored 24 points in his final home game to lead Campbellsville to a 74-51 win over Pikeville College Thursday night.

Campbellsville (23-4, 6-3 in the Mid-South Conference) will look to move 20 games over .500 on Saturday when it closes out the regular season at Lambuth. The Tigers are coached by former Pikeville College assistant coach Keith Adkins, who is in his sixth year as head coach at Campbellsville.

For Pikeville (8-21), the loss was the ninth straight, all coming in league games. This year's Mid-South Conference Men's Basketball Tournament will be held at Pikeville in the East Kentucky Expo Center.

Ingles, a transfer from Eastern Kentucky, nailed four three-point shots in the first half. He had 17 by recess and his club led 42-31.

He was joined in double figures by Zach Allender with 17. He added eight rebounds as to pace the Tigers. James Steward followed with 11.

Pikeville's balanced attack was led by Chris Carroll with 12 points. He added eight rebounds. Emanuel Tekie and Troy Williams followed with 10 apiece.

Senior guard Kurtis Ellison led all players with 12 rebounds and also had five steals and four assists.

Lady Bears win first conference game

TIMES STAFF REPORT

CAMPBELLSVILLE — Junior Tonya Amburgey entered Thursday night's game shooting 100 percent from the free throw line in league play, and her 6-of-6 effort in the final 48.8 seconds ended a nine-game losing streak in a 63-57 win over the Lady Tigers of Campbellsville.

Amburgey, a guard from Pinetop, came off the bench for 22 points to lead the Lady Bears to their first league win of the season after opening with eight consecutive losses.

Pikeville improved to 12-17 with the win. Pikeville led 55-46 after Amburgey scored on a putback with four minutes to play. Julija Illic scored on consecutive trips, and when she scored with 1:12 remaining, the Lady Bear lead was down to four (56-52).

But Campbellsville was forced to foul, and after Vicki Hall sank one with 1:05 remaining, Amburgey kept the Lady Tigers at bay with her free throw shooting.

Amburgey was followed by Kellie Jo Moore, who had 12. Freshman Kim Clark tossed in 10 and pulled down 12 rebounds, including six off the offensive glass.

Illic led Campbellsville with 16 points and seven rebounds. Leigh Bolinger followed with nine.

Pikeville won on a night it shot only 35.5 percent, and before Amburgey hit the final six, the Lady Bears were only 9-of-17 from the line.



photo by Jamie Howell
TOURNAMENT TIME: District tournament play begins this week for area high school basketball teams. Prestonsburg High sophomore Bobby Hughes is pictured prior to a free throw attempt Tuesday against Paintsville. Paintsville sophomore Landon Stone is also pictured. Brackets for all four 15th Region districts appear inside today's edition.

Bobcats ease past Pikeville

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

BETSY LAYNE — Betsy Layne seniors and all other Bobcats ended the regular season on a winning note Thursday night with a 45-41 win over Pikeville. Senior Brandon Kidd, playing on Senior Night, led the Bobcats with 14 points. Pat Stapleton, Brandon Thacker and Derek Case — three other Betsy Layne seniors — followed Kidd in the scoring column. Stapleton tossed in nine points, Thacker scored seven and Derek Case added six.

Betsy Layne led at the end of each quarter. The Bobcats went into halftime with a 16-14 lead.

"We played well in the second half," commented Betsy Layne Coach Brent Rose. "But we didn't shoot the ball real well."

(See BOBCATS, page two)



photo by Guillermo Cuenca
Brandon Kidd was one of the seniors honored Thursday night when the Betsy Layne Bobcats and Ladycats hosted Pikeville

Ladycats

Faith Reynolds added six points and Lindsey Martin pushed in five in Betsy Layne's 10-point win. Whitney Tackett and Taylor Hott each had four points for the Ladycats.

Betsy Layne held some sort of lead at the end of every quarter. The Ladycats outscored Pikeville 27-19 in the fourth quarter.

Kylie Schmidt led Pikeville with 15 points. Schmidt connected on five three-point field goals en route to her 15 points. Jessica Martell added 14 points for the Lady Panthers, giving Pikeville

two players in double figures.

The Lady Panthers hit just 11 field goals and struggled from the free-throw line, hitting just seven-of-15 attempts.

Betsy Layne will begin play in the 58th District Tournament Tuesday night at Prestonsburg against Allen Central. The Ladycats are seeded second and Allen Central is labeled as the number three seed. Tip-off for the Betsy Layne-Allen Central game is set for 6:30 p.m.

Pikeville will take on host East Ridge Monday night in the

59th District Tournament. Tip-off for the Pikeville-East Ridge game is set for 8:15 p.m.

BETSY LAYNE 63, PIKEVILLE 53

BETSY LAYNE (7-17) – Meade 24, W. Tackett 4, Hamilton 19, Martin 5, Flanery 1, Reynolds 6, Hott 4.

PIKEVILLE (2-22) – Martell 14, Cecil 5, Davis 6, Schmidt 15, Johnson 8, Hamilton 4, Francisco 1.

Betsy Layne.....8 14 14 27-63
Pikeville.....6 15 13 19-53

KHSAA

Josh Minton, DE, Orlando Southwestern; Orlando Misalefua, LB, Fort Campbell; Brendan Nestor, DE, Bowling Green; Pete Nocht, TE, Bates Creek; Sean O'Brien, K, Paul Dunbar; Durrell Olinger, FS, Hazard; Corey Peters, DL, Central; Garnett Phelps, DB, Ballard; Enrique Shaw, DB, Lafayette; Justin Smith, DL, Newport Catholic; Luke Stocker, TE, Madison Southern; Seth Tamme, WR, Boyle County; Paul Warford, RB, Madison Central; Levar Weston, OL, Hopkinsville.

The KHSAA Public/Non-Public Task Force met Wednesday, Feb. 22, beginning at 9 a.m. (ET) at the KHSAA office in Lexington. Following the Commissioner's status report to the Kentucky Board of Education on Feb. 1, the KBE asked the group to re-convene the Task Force for the purpose of coming to consensus on solu-

tions for Proposal 3 and Proposal 20 that will go to the KHSAA Board of Control for consideration prior to the April 11-12 KBE meeting. A final review of the issues will be considered by the KBE at its April meeting.

Tickets to the 2006 Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame Induction Banquet are currently on sale through the KHSAA. The banquet is scheduled for Tuesday, March 14 at the Lexington Convention Center's Bluegrass Ballroom. Individual tickets are \$45 each, or a table of 10 may be purchased for \$425.

Those to be inducted are Earl Adkins, Richard Bedwell, Tom Hammond, Stan Hardin, James Holman, Joan Johnston, Charles Joseph, Rick Kestner, Carole Liedtke, George Lusby, Jimmie Reed, Kenny Rollins, Tom Steltenkamp.

Boys' & Girls' Basketball

District Tournaments are scheduled for this week. District Tournament brackets are posted on the Riherd's/KHSAA Scoreboard as received at www.khsaa.org/scoreboard. Scores will be posted nightly as received.

Draws for the 2006 National City/KHSAA Boys' and Houchens/KHSAA Girls' State Basketball Tournaments were conducted recently at WKYT-TV in Lexington. Complete brackets are posted on the Association website.

2006 National City/KHSAA Boys' State Basketball Tournament Bracket –

http://www.khsaa.org/basketball/boys/sweet16/2006/boys_tatebracket2006.pdf

2006 Houchens/KHSAA Girls' Bracket State Basketball Tournament Bracket –

<http://www.khsaa.org/basketball/girls/sweet16/2006/girl-statebracket2006.pdf>

Eagles

Alice Lloyd (17-14) – which finished its season with the tournament loss – had four players reach double figures. K.J. Waterman led the Alice Lloyd Eagles with a game-high 22 points. Rodney

Mitchell and Betsy Layne alum Jeremy Daniels added 11 points apiece for the Alice Lloyd squad. In the season-ending loss, Alice Lloyd shot 36-percent from the field and 36.4-percent from behind the

three-point line.

In other opening round KIAC Men's Basketball Tournament matchups, Spalding University, Berea College and Indiana University Southeast also prevailed.

Tennis

The No. 26-ranked doubles team of seniors Jakob Gustafsson and Jeremy Clark entered the weekend 6-3 in dual matches and 13-6 overall.

Playing mainly at the No. 6 spot, senior Jhonny Berrido had a team-best 6-2 dual match record. Clark and Gustafsson have posted singles records of

6-3 and 5-2 in dual matches. Winning the doubles point in eight of their last nine matches, the Cardinals were enjoying a four-match win streak.

Bobcats

Betsy Layne came out in the second half and outscored the Panthers 17-16.

Chance Robertson paced Pikeville with a game-high 18 points. Tim Honaker added 12

points for the Pikeville boys.

The win was Betsy Layne's sixth in eight games.

Betsy Layne is the number one seed in this year's 58th District Tournament. The Floyd County

Conference champion will take on Floyd County rival Allen Central Monday night in the opening round of the district tournament. Tip-off for the boys' basketball tournament opener is slated for 8:30 p.m.

Williams trying to hold down spot in Reds' rotation

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SARASOTA, Fla. – When he got traded to the Cincinnati Reds for first baseman Sean Casey last December, left-hander Dave Williams was concerned about fitting into his new team.

Now that training camp has opened, he has a new goal – keeping a spot in the rotation.

Manager Jerry Narron has already decided that Williams will be in the rotation on opening day, although it's unclear where he'll be slotted. Paul Wilson is returning from shoulder surgery, and the rotation had the NL's worst earned run average last season.

So, there's a lot of wiggle room. And, a lot of room for Williams to make a good first impression.

"I want to show my new manager I can pitch and show my new teammates I can pitch," Williams said. "That's what I'm worried about, just showing them I can win games. Everything else is really minor."

The Reds got Williams because their pitching is a big deal.

Cincinnati had the league's top offense last season, scoring an average of five runs per game – more than enough to win most

of them. The problem was that the pitching staff gave up an average of 5.15 earned runs per game, worst in the NL.

That worked out to a fifth-place finish in the NL Central and a fifth straight losing season. It also prompted the Reds to trade the popular Casey to Pittsburgh for a starting pitcher.

Williams was shocked by the trade – he didn't think the Pirates were shopping him around. He's starting to get used to the notion of pitching for another team.

"Somebody asked me if Pittsburgh would be a rival, and I said any rival's good for baseball," Williams said. "For me personally, I'm sure it will be through the years." "You've still got to go out there and face hitters. But after being with the Pirates forever, it seems like, and getting a clean slate, I'm going to try to take advantage of it."

Williams, 26, led the Pirates' starters with 10 victories last season, going 10-11 with a 4.41 ERA during his first full season in the rotation. He didn't win the spot until the final week of spring training.

The left-hander missed more than half of the 2002 season because of shoulder surgery and spent all of 2003 in the minors.

He struggled in spring training last year, but made the team and made the most of the chance.

"I thought last year was that opportunity for me," he said. "They were like, 'Look, you didn't have a great spring, but we're going to give you that fifth spot and a chance to pitch in our rotation.' I had to take advantage of that, and it worked out for me."

Williams has a good breaking ball and a determination to keep his pitches down at Great American Ball Park, which yielded the most homers in the majors last season.

"By no means am I going to dazzle you or anything like that," he said. "But hopefully I can show these guys I can keep them in games. And with the offense they have here, I can kind of hold my own fate in my hands."

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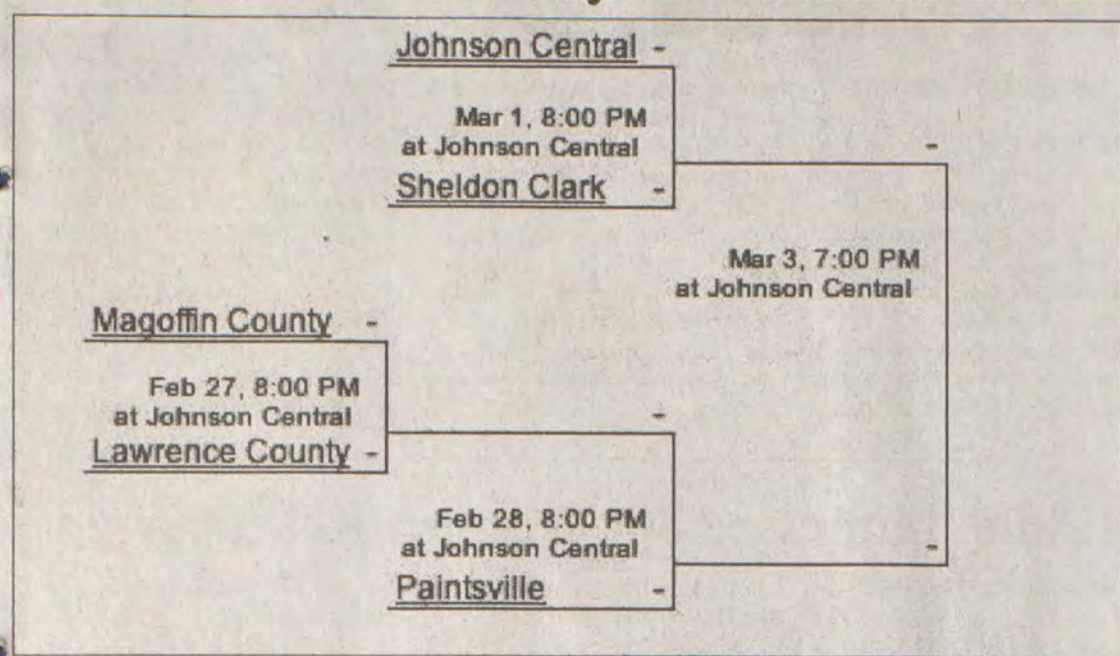
ABOVE – Betsy Layne senior Candice Meade tracked down a missed shot before a Pikeville player.
BELOW – Pikeville High head coach Cindy Halbert talked with her team during a timeout.



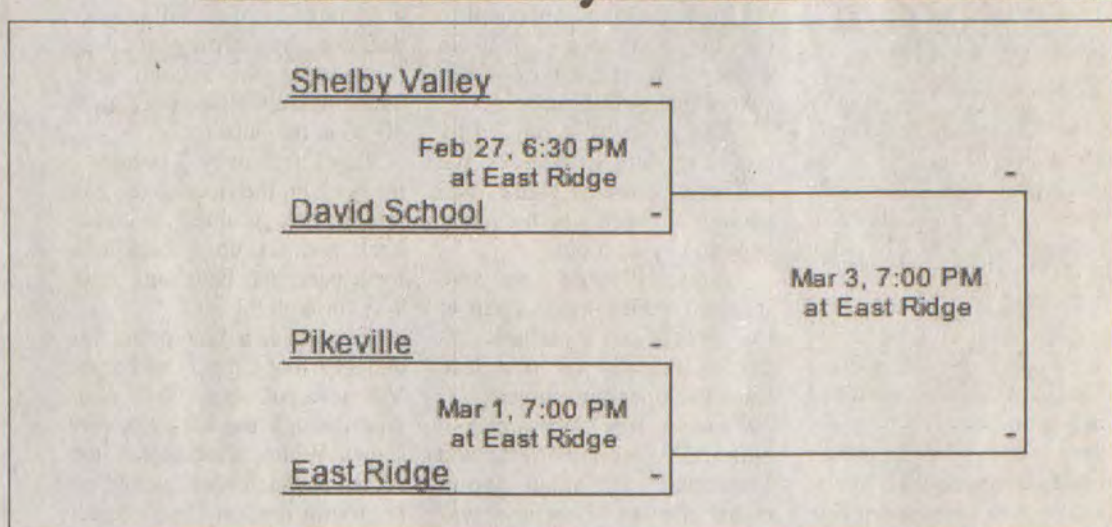
What 1992 horror film opens with a young couple foolishly chanting the name of a legendary killer into a bathroom mirror?

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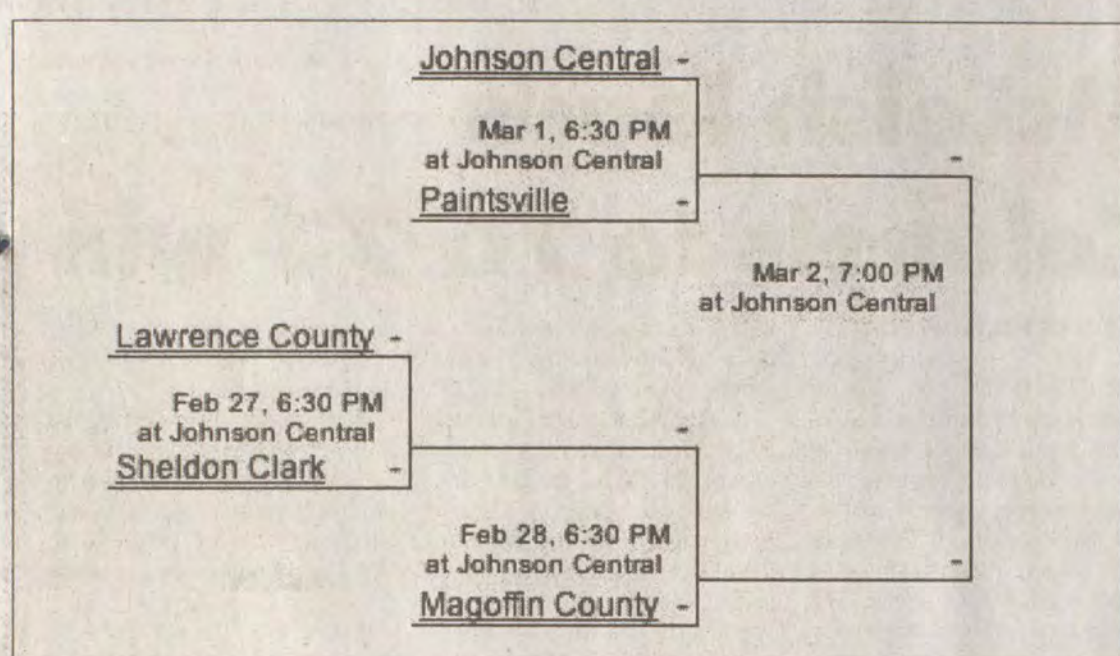
57th District Boys' Tournament



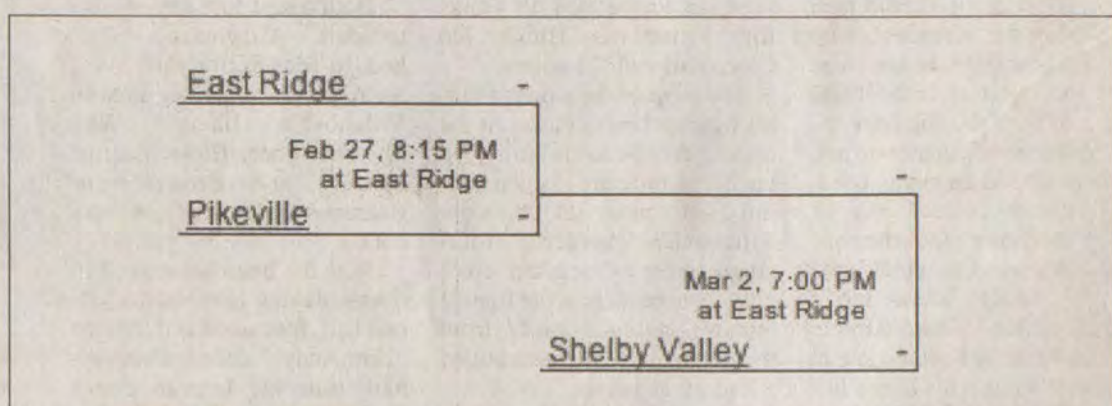
59th District Boys' Tournament



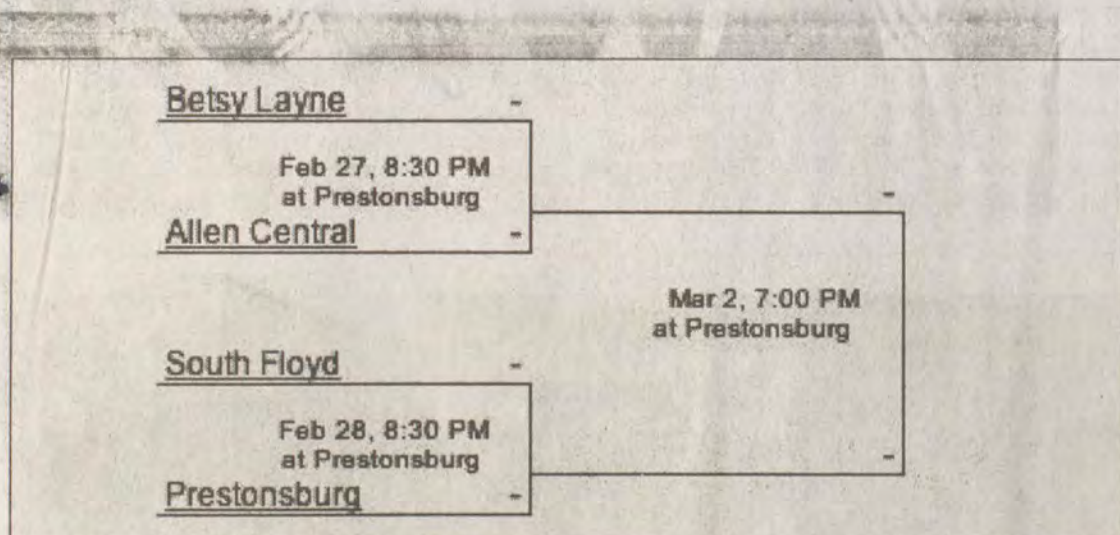
57th District Girls' Tournament



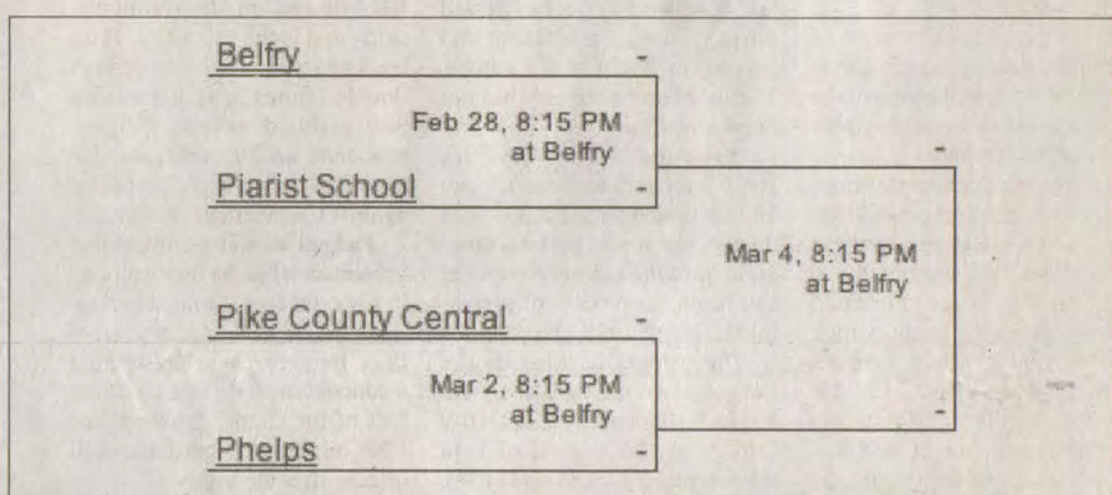
59th District Girls' Tournament



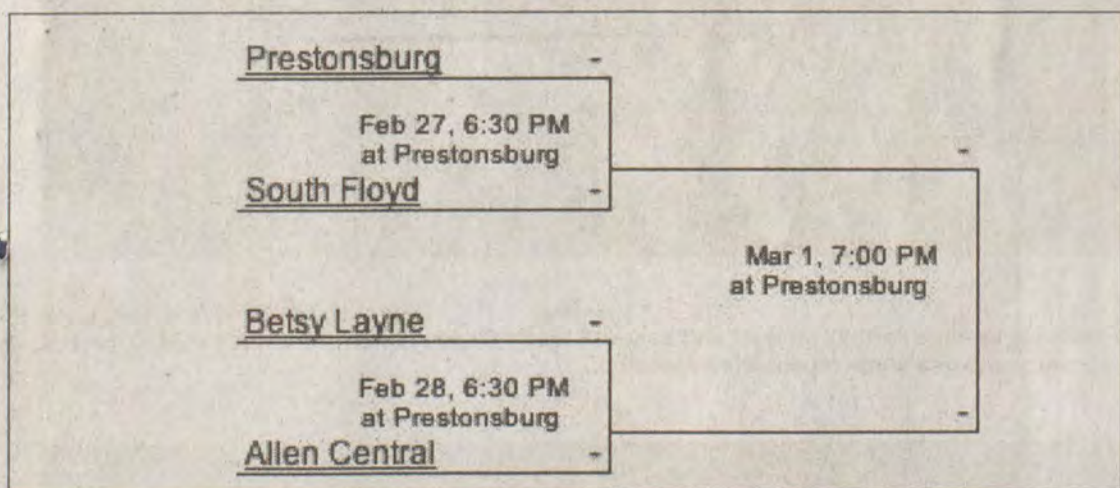
58th District Boys' Tournament



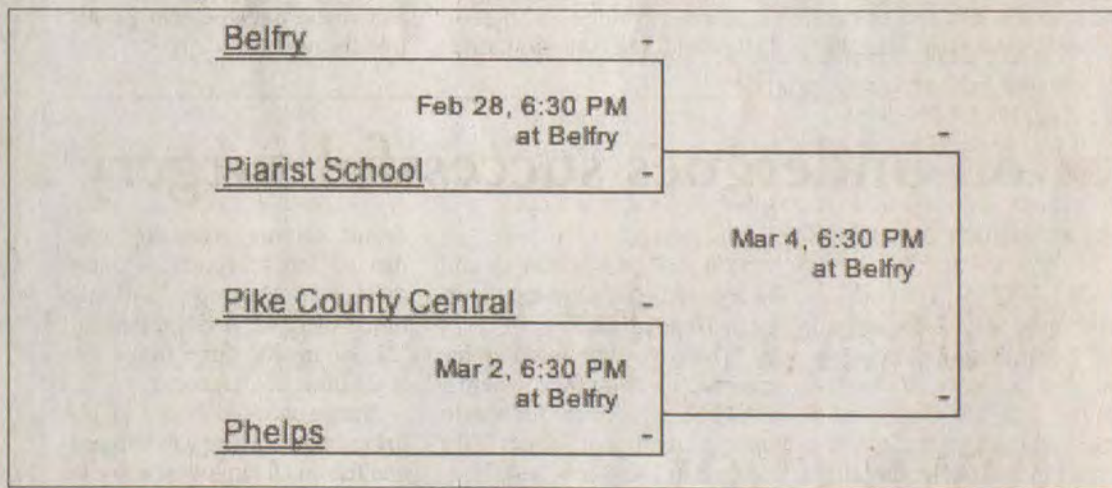
60th District Boys' Tournament



58th District Girls' Tournament



60th District Girls' Tournament



Leslie County edges Shelby Valley

TIMES STAFF REPORT outscored Shelby Valley in the first and last quarters en route to a 66-64 win. Shelby Valley took a 34-25 lead into halftime. Leslie County, however, outscored Shelby Valley 26-14 in the fourth period.

Daniel Day led Leslie County with a game-high 27 points. Quenton Morgan followed with 26 points for the Eagles. Cade Riddle scored 18 points and Jeremy Jackson added 17 for the Wildcats.

GIRLS: Russell holds off Johnson Central

TIMES STAFF REPORT RUSSELL - Jessica Fortman fired in a game-high 30 points and Chinwe Okoro added 17 Thursday night as the host Russell Lady Devils rolled to a 64-56 win over visiting Johnson Central.

Christen Daniels was a third player in double figures for the Lady Devils, finishing with 15 points.

Russell took a 15-10 lead out of the opening period, but went into halftime behind a lone point. Russell outscored Johnson Central in each of the two second-half quarters. The Lady Devils outscored Johnson

Central 19-14 in the third quarter. Celena Conley led Johnson Central with 15 points. Conley was the only Lady Eagle to reach double figures scoring. Brianna Ritz added nine points for the Lady Eagles.

Johnson Central will take on rival Paintsville Wednesday in the 57th District Tournament.

RUSSELL 64, JOHNSON CENTRAL 56 (18-8) - Griffith 5, Ritz 9, Salyers 5, Conley 15, Wireman 2, Meek 6, Salyer 7, Burton 7.

RUSSELL COUNTY (19-5) - Simpson 1, Fortman 30, Menshouse 1, Daniels 15, Okoro 17.

Johnson Cent...10 16 14 16-56
Russell.....15 10 19 20-64

BOYS' BASKETBALL
Bulldogs hold Stepp, June Buchanan

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIPPA PASSES - Hazard claimed a 14th Region win on the road Thursday, beating fellow regional title contender June Buchanan 82-70.

Junior guard Justin Hicks fired in 21 points and teammate Chucky Osteen added 14 as the Bulldogs pulled away in the

fourth quarter. Five of Hazard's six scorers reached double figures.

The Bulldogs finished particularly strong, outscoring June Buchanan 25-16 in the fourth quarter.

June Buchanan took a 37-36 lead into the half.

Sophomore guard Clark Stepp led June Buchanan with 29 points and nine assists.

Tate Cox added 14 points for the Crusaders.

HAZARD 82, JUNE BUCHANAN 70 (17-10) - Hicks 21, Williams 13, Osteen 18, Campbell 14, Olinger 14, Bailey 2.

JUNE BUCHANAN (19-5) - Stepp 29, Cox 14, Conley 12, Hall 6, Huff 7, Howard 2.

Hazard.....15 21 21 25-82
June Buchanan...16 21 17 16-70

Lawrence slips past Belfry

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LOUISA - Shawn Thompson scored 26 points and Kyle Bradley added 20 Thursday night to lead host Lawrence County to a 69-66 win over 15th Region foe Belfry.

The Bulldogs took a 37-28 lead into halftime. Belfry, how-

ever, heated up in the second half, outscoring Lawrence County 21-12 in the third period.

Jamie Case led Belfry with 19 points. Matt Maynard followed with 17 points for the Pirates.

LAWRENCE COUNTY 69, BELFRY 66 (19-7) - Maynard 17, Case 19, Bowman 2, Steele 4, May 14, Reed 4, Warren 6.

LAWRENCE COUNTY (10-6) - C. Thompson 6, Brewer 3, Bradley 20, Michael 1, S. Thompson 26, Pelfry 1, Copley 12.

Belfry.....14 14 21 17-66
Lawrence Co...19 18 12 20-69

BIG EAST BATTLE: No. 2 Villanova 74, Cincinnati 72

by JOE KAY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — Randy Foye had 25 points and Dante Cunningham scored off an inbounds play with 3.2 seconds left, leading No. 2 Villanova to its 11th straight win Thursday night, 74-72 over Cincinnati.

The Wildcats (22-2, 12-1) wasted a 12-point lead down the stretch before pulling out a win that kept them in control of the Big East.

Playing with a No. 2 ranking for the first time in 10 years, Villanova also extended a few notable streaks. The Wildcats matched the best start in school history — they also did it in 1937-38 — and set a school record with their 11th straight win in the Big East.

They had to fight off the temptation to look past this one. The Wildcats go to Connecticut on Sunday for a rematch with the third-ranked Huskies, the team they beat on Feb. 13 to take control of the Big East.

Their rematch shapes up as a game to decide the regular-season title.

On the other side, this one meant a lot to Cincinnati (18-10, 7-7), which went into a nosedive after forward Armein Kirkland tore a knee ligament on Jan. 9. Four wins in the last six games put the Bearcats back in the running for an NCAA tournament berth.

A victory over Villanova —

the highest-ranked opponent to play in Cincinnati's 17-year-old arena — would have underscored their worthiness.

With a late 16-4 run led by power forward Eric Hicks, the Bearcats showed they had enough to keep up, not quite enough to pull it out.

Hicks, playing on two sprained ankles, made a pair of free throws and a putback that gave Cincinnati its first lead since the opening minutes, 72-70. Foye's free throws tied it with 53.9 seconds left, and Cincinnati freshman point guard Devan Downey was called for a charge.

On an inbounds play under the basket, Cunningham broke free and made an uncontested layup from the right side for only his second basket of the game. Hicks' 3-pointer at the buzzer was too hard.

Allan Ray added 19 points for Villanova. Hicks led Cincinnati with 21 points.

For most of the game, it didn't figure to be so close. At the outset, the Bearcats struggled under the pressure — some self-imposed, most of it from Villanova's energetic, four-guard lineup. Cincinnati made only three baskets in the first 12 minutes, going 3-for-17 from the field while Villanova pulled ahead by 11 points.

Foye and Ray had 13 apiece in the first half, which ended with Villanova up 40-34.

Cincinnati started taking

advantage of Villanova's defense by hitting pull-up jumpers in the second half. Muhammad's floater cut it to 40-36 at the outset.

Ray's fall-away 3-pointer — his back hit the floor as the ball met the net — blunted the comeback and set up a back-and-forth pace that held until midway through the half.

Foye made a three-point play and a 17-foot jumper that helped Villanova pull ahead 66-54 midway through the half. Forward James White, Cincinnati's top scorer and defender, picked up his fourth foul on Foye's three-point play, leaving the Bearcats in deep trouble.

Down, but not yet out.

Hicks' three-point play sparked an 11-0 run that cut it to 68-67. Moore's 3-pointer from the right corner made it a one-point game with 4:07 left.

Both teams lost key players to fouls — Cincinnati's White and 6-foot-8 forward Will Sheridan, the only big man in Villanova's lineup. With Sheridan gone, Hicks asserted himself and brought the Bearcats the rest of the way back.

With the Bearcats' makeshift lineup staying close in the second half, fans stood and cheered "Hire Andy!" during a second-half timeout. Interim coach Andy Kennedy has held the Bearcats together throughout a chaotic season that started with Bob Huggins' ouster in August.

Tennessee State beats Morehead, 83-76

TIMES STAFF REPORT

MOREHEAD — Kareem Grant scored 24 points and Wayne Arnold added 17 points to lead Tennessee State to an 83-75 win over Morehead State Thursday evening at Johnson Arena in Morehead.

TSU, now 12-14 overall and 10-9 in the Ohio Valley Conference, also got 13 points

and a game-high 10 rebounds from Clarence Matthews.

MSU, 4-22 overall and 3-16 in the league, got 20 points from Tyke Cockerham, 19 points from Shaun Williams and 13 points from Stan Januska. Cockerham, the OVC Freshman of the Week, hit eight-of-11 from the field, including all three of his three-point attempts. He was coming off a career-high 21-

point effort at Central Michigan.

Both teams hit 28-of-57 (49.1 percent) from the field. But, Tennessee State hit 10-of-26 three-pointers to seven-of-15 for Morehead State. The Tigers were 17-of-25 from the free throw line, the Eagles were 12-of-19.

MSU won the rebound battle 36-to-31, and the two teams combined for only 15 turnovers.

Middle Tennessee 80, Western Kentucky 74

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. — Marcus Morrison and Adam Vogelsberg scored 20 points each as Middle Tennessee beat Western Kentucky 80-74 Thursday.

Middle Tennessee (15-11, 7-6 Sun Belt Conference) used a strong inside game to withstand

strong shooting from the arc by the Hilltoppers (20-6, 11-2).

Middle Tennessee scored 28 points in the paint to Western Kentucky's eight.

The Hilltoppers were 12-of-21 from 3-point range for 57.1 percent, including 7-of-9 in the first half.

Fats Cuyler added 11 points

for the Blue Raiders, who led 34-32 at the half.

Western Kentucky was led by Anthony Winchester with 23 points, Benson Callier with 12 and Courtney Lee and reserve Butch Joiner with 11 each.

Neither team led by more than six points. There were 11 ties and 14 lead changes.

McLeish leads Colonels to 76-73 win

TIMES STAFF REPORT

RICHMOND — Senior guard Jason McLeish scored 26 of his game-high 28 points in the second half to help the Eastern Kentucky men's basketball team earn a 76-73 victory over Austin Peay Thursday night in McBrayer Arena. The win was the fourth straight in conference play for Eastern (14-14, 11-8 OVC) while Austin Peay (16-13, 10-9) falls to 2-6 in league road contests.

The visiting Governors took a slim 35-31 lead into halftime thanks to holding EKU's two leading scorers — senior Matt Witt (19.0 ppg) and McLeish (17.8) — to a combined four points. Austin Peay then tallied the first five points of the second half to build its largest lead of the game, 40-31. Consecutive three-pointers by McLeish quickly got the Colonels back

within striking distance and set up a tightly contested final 15 minutes of action.

Senior Alonzo Hird's lay-up at 10:53 put Eastern Kentucky on top, 46-45, for the first time since the score was 11-10 early in the game. From that point on, there were eight ties and four lead changes down the stretch. A pair of free throws by sophomore Darnell Dials followed by one of junior Michael Brock's five buckets on the evening made the score 58-54 in favor of the Colonels with 4:37 showing on the clock.

A couple of minutes later, Derek Wright capped a 6-0 Austin Peay run with a lay-up to put the Governors ahead, 62-60. After the two teams exchanged four points, McLeish netted his fifth trifecta of the night and gave Eastern the lead for good, 67-66. McLeish tallied 11 straight Colonel points in the

waning minutes helping EKU establish a 71-66 cushion with 30 seconds remaining.

Eastern Kentucky converted 9-of-10 (90 percent) free throws in the final minute of action to hold off Austin Peay and keep EKU in the hunt for a home OVC Tournament quarterfinal game next Tuesday night.

McLeish's 28 points were one shy of his career best. He went 5-for-5 (100 percent) from behind the three-point line and 9-for-10 (90 percent) at the charity stripe. Meanwhile, Dials and Brock each chipped in with 13 points apiece while shooting a combined 71.4 percent (10-of-14) from the field.

Four players finished in double figures for Austin Peay led by senior Zac Schlader's 16 tallies. Fernandez Lockett came off the bench to add 14 points while Kyle Duncan hauled in a game-high 10 rebounds.

Padgett will miss remainder of season

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LOUISVILLE — University of Louisville starting center David Padgett will miss the remainder of the season due to surgery necessary on his left knee.

Padgett underwent a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) test on Tuesday morning at Jewish Hospital on his knee, which has become inflamed recently from a sprain which occurred during an intrasquad scrimmage on Nov. 12. He returned to practice following that injury on Dec. 1 and has played in each of the Cardinals'

24 games since then. Over the last few weeks, he has rested during many practices and played in the Cards' games. The date for the surgery has not been scheduled.

"Over the last few days, his condition has deteriorated," said U of L Coach Rick Pitino. "The doctors say it's in his best interest to have the surgery now so he can begin the process of preparing for his return to the court."

The team's co-captain, Padgett is averaging 11.9 points and 6.1 rebounds for the 16-9 Cardinals. He leads U of L in rebounding, blocked shots (34),

field goal percentage (.582), free throws made (66-of-81, .815) and is the Cardinals' third leading scorer. He has scored in double figures in 16 games and has grabbed seven or more rebounds on 10 occasions. He scored a career-high 27 points against Connecticut on Jan. 21.

Padgett was also slowed this preseason when he broke a bone in his right foot during a pickup game on Sept. 19 and was sidelined for six weeks. He suffered a concussion early in the second half of the Cards' game against USF on Feb. 11, but had no ill effects after the injury.

Western guard out rest of season with broken foot

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOWLING GREEN — Western Kentucky guard Orlando Mendez-Valdez will miss the rest of the season with a broken right foot, the university said Thursday.

X-rays revealed the fracture, for which Mendez-Valdez will undergo surgery Friday, the school said. He is expected to make a full recovery, Western said in a statement.

Mendez-Valdez, a 6-foot, 180-pound San Antonio native,

had 68 points, 38 assists and 16 rebounds while averaging 11.9 minutes per game in 24 of 25 games, Western said. He shot 38.9 percent from 3-point range and made 88.9 percent of his free throws.

Sutton undergoes successful surgery

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

STILLWATER, Okla. — Oklahoma State basketball coach Eddie Sutton underwent successful surgery Thursday morning that his doctor said should help address the coach's chronic hip and back problems.

Surgeon James Rodgers said earlier this week that he would perform a lumbar spinal decompression on Sutton, which would create more room for the nerves in the 69-year-old coach's back.

Rodgers said the surgery went as planned. Sutton is "recovering comfortably" from the procedure and should be discharged from the hospital in the next two days to continue his recovery at home, Rodgers said in a statement released by

the university.

Rodgers said Sutton should be able to begin physical therapy in 10 to 12 days.

"Then we will monitor his progress to determine when it would be appropriate for him to enter a treatment center" for alcoholism, Rodgers said.

Sutton was hospitalized after suffering injuries in an automobile accident on Feb. 10 and took a medical leave of absence two days later. On Feb. 15, Sutton — who underwent treatment for alcoholism in 1987, when he was the coach at Kentucky — acknowledged drinking alcohol before the accident and said he would be entering a treatment center.

Last Friday, he was charged with misdemeanor aggravated

drunk driving, speeding and driving left of center. A court affidavit showed Sutton's blood-alcohol level tested at .22, or nearly three times the legal limit in Oklahoma.

Sutton cracked bones in his lower back when he was bumped and fell on an airport escalator in Los Angeles in July 2004. Two months later, he cracked his tailbone in five places when he jumped into a ditch to avoid being hit by a vehicle.

Rodgers said Sutton has been treated with medicine and lumbar epidural steroid injections for the past year in an effort to avoid a surgical correction to lumbar degenerative disc disease that causes pain to radiate from Sutton's back into his hips.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL EKU Football recruiting class reaches 17

TIMES STAFF REPORT

RICHMOND — Eastern Kentucky University head football coach Danny Hope announced today that 17 student-athletes signed National Letters of Intent to play football for the Colonels next fall. The class includes four offensive linemen, three defensive linemen, three wide receivers, two tight ends, two quarterbacks, one linebacker, one corner back and one running back.

"I had one marching order for our staff this year — recruit passionate players that love to play football and are fun to be around," Hope said. "Those are

the same type of players that were on our championship teams in the past. I'm certainly grateful for the resources we have at EKU to bring in a recruiting class of this quality, both on the field and academically."

Six of the signees earned all-state accolades including wide receiver Chris Fulmer and defensive lineman Yameen Thomas. Fulmer, a three-time all-state selection from Nitro, W.Va., finished his prep career with 329 receptions, 5,082 receiving yards and 45 touchdowns. His reception total is the most in United States high school football history while his receiving yards rank second all-

time. Thomas, hailing from Charlotte, N.C., was the Defensive Player of the Year as well as Student-Athlete of the Year in North Carolina. He notched 78 tackles, 7.5 sacks, 22 hurries and 12 tackles for loss during his prep career.

Three of the incoming student-athletes come from the same high school as current Colonels. Tight end Andrew Motes, hailing from Winter Garden, Fla., and junior safety Victor Nichols both played at West Orange High School. Kherryl O'Brien, a tight end from Palm Bay, Fla., and sophomore Marcus Pearson each competed at Bayside High-



photos courtesy of Pikeville College

The Pikeville College softball (above) and baseball teams (below) have been able to get in games in February, despite some recent winter weather.



Offensive lineman Tejon Washington and sophomore defensive lineman Bakahri Thornton both played football at Bartow High School in Bartow, Fla.

Meanwhile, five newcomers played in the Central Florida East-West High School All-Star game this past fall — wide receiver Ryan Aldrin (Orlando, Fla.), linebacker Jordan

Dalrymple (Oviedo, Fla.), offensive lineman Chris Krack (Winter Springs, Fla.), Motes and O'Brien. Dalrymple has family ties to Eastern as his uncle, Brooks, played on the Colonel offensive line in the late 1980s. He was the 2005 Central Florida Defensive Player of the Year.

Eastern Kentucky finished the 2005 season 7-4 overall and

7-1 in the OVC, its third consecutive second-place finish in the conference. The Colonels return five first team All-OVC players for 2006, including All-American tight end Patrick Bugg and OVC Offensive Player of the Year Josh Greco. EKU will be in search of its 29th consecutive winning season and its first league title since 1997.

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5	8.50	15.30	20.40	23.80	25.50	25.50
6	10.20	18.36	24.48	28.56	30.60	30.60
7	11.90	21.42	28.56	33.32	35.70	35.70
8	13.60	24.48	32.64	38.08	40.80	40.80
9	15.30	27.54	36.72	42.84	45.90	45.90
10	17.00	30.60	40.80	47.60	51.00	51.00
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LEGALS

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE PURSUANT TO APPLICATION NO. 836-5274 MAJOR REVISION NO. 4

1. In accordance with KRS 350.055, notice is hereby given that FCDC Coal, Inc., 750 Town Mountain Road, Pikeville, KY 41501, has applied for a Major Revision to a permit for an underground coal mining operation, located 1

1/2 mile southeast of Grethel, in Floyd County. The Revision will add 1.80 acre of surface disturbance, and underlie an additional 2.87 acres, for a total of 1406.93 acres within the revised permit boundary.

2. The proposed major revision is approximately 1.5 mile southeast from Rt. 979's junction with Branham Creek Road, and located 0.2 mile east of Branham Creek. The latitude is 37°28'24". The longitude is 82°37'53".

3. The proposed major revision is located on the McDowell U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 minute quadrangle map. The surface area to be added by the major revision is owned by K.C. Rogers. The area added by the major revision will underlie land owned by K.C. Rogers.

4. The major revision proposes the addition of face up areas for mining the Elkhorn No. 2 and Elkhorn No. 3 seams.

5. The major Revision has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Natural Resources'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 Mine Permits, No. 2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE PURSUANT TO APPLICATION NUMBER 836-7009

In accordance with the provisions of KRS 350.055, notice is hereby given that CAM-Mining, LLC, P.O. Box 901, 116 Main Street, Pikeville, Kentucky 41502, has applied for a permit for a coal haul road affecting 8.0 acres, located approximately 1.10

mile northwest of Endicott, in Floyd County.

The proposed operation is approximately 1.79 mile southeast from State Route 3385's junction with State Route 194, and located at Johns Branch. The latitude is 37°39'21". The longitude is 82°37'28".

The proposed operation is located on the Thomas U.S.G.S. 7.5 min. quadrangle maps. The surface area to be disturbed is owned by Alma Land Company. The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Natural Resources, Pikeville Regional Office, 121 Mays Branch Road, Pikeville, Kentucky 41501. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director of Division of Permits, No. 2 Hudson Hollow, Frankfort, KY 40601.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Donald Ray Bentley, of Floyd County, Kentucky, will no longer be responsible for any debts other than my own, as of Friday, February 24, 2006.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE PURSUANT TO APPLICATION NO. 836-0307 AMENDMENT NO. 1

In accordance with KRS 350.055, notice is hereby given that Matt/Co., Inc., 439 Meadows Branch, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653, has applied for an amendment to a permit for a surface coal mining and reclamation operation, located 2.6 miles north of Emma, in Floyd County. The amendment will add 312.28 acres of surface disturbance, of which 11.77 acres overlie area mining area, making a total area of 413.67 acres within the amended permit boundary.

The proposed operation is approximately 0.70 mile north-

east from Sugarloaf Branch Road's junction with KY 1428, and is located on Dials Branch of Sugarloaf Branch of the Levisa Fork.

The proposed operation is located on the Lancer USGS 7 1/2 minute quadrangle map. The surface area to be disturbed is owned by Joe A. and Barbara Burchett. The Elk Horn Coal Company, LLC, Wade and Ora Blackburn Heirs, John Dallas and Vina Sue Branham, Clark D. Pergren and Jesse L. Rudd, E.L. and Bertha Cline, John G. and Billie Goble, Rebecca Jarrell, Charles Michael Harris, Rex Reynolds, Tom and Melissa Reynolds, Albert and Janet Ratliff, Johnny and Patricia Huffman, Taulbee and Renisa Branham, Michael Hunt, Ranson and Betty Hunt, Billy Yonts, and Maxine Crider. The operation will use the area method of surface mining.

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, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director of Mine Permits, No. 2 Hudson Hollow Complex, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

This is the final advertisement of the application. All comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be received within 30 days of today's date.

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Tax returns for 2005 have new rules on auto donations and retirement savings

by EILEEN PUTMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — New rules for donating that old car, tax breaks for hurricane victims and people who helped them, and bigger incentives to save for retirement are among changes Americans will see this tax-filing season.

Other new wrinkles include: High gasoline prices lifted the standard mileage rate allowed for business use of vehicles. And a new definition of "qualifying child" affects tax benefits for certain filers — the technical details of which might make your eyes glaze over.

But if the fine print is too much to take, take heart: This year, the Internal Revenue Service has made it easier to procrastinate. The filing deadline is April 17, two days later than usual because the regular deadline, April 15, is a Saturday. And there's a new, automatic six-month extension anyone can get by simply filing a form.

Also, the IRS Web site features new online tools for figuring qualification for two complex tax items — the alternative minimum tax and earned income tax credit — as the agency continues to prod taxpayers toward electronic tax preparation and filing.

"Electronic filing is a quick, easy, smart way to file your taxes and get your refund faster," said Richard Morgante, commissioner of IRS' wage and investment division, which handles taxes filed by individuals.

Last year, 68.5 million individual returns were filed electronically — more than half, and an 11.3 percent increase from the previous year. Many were e-filed by tax professionals, but about 17 million came directly from home computers. Safeguards ensure e-filing is secure, the IRS says.

Those still resisting that route should know this: Taxpayers who e-file and have refunds deposited

"Electronic filing is a quick, easy, smart way to file your taxes and get your refund faster."

— Richard Morgante, Commissioner of IRS' wage division

directly into their bank accounts get the money in as few as 10 days, compared with six to eight weeks to get a refund check when paper tax forms are filed by mail.

Congress added several temporary tax breaks for victims of the devastating hurricanes Katrina, Wilma and Rita. Some highlights:

- Suspension of limits on writing off personal casualty losses; normally, such losses must be reduced by a \$100 deductible and by 10 percent of the taxpayer's adjusted gross income.

- Option to use 2004 income to figure the 2005 earned income credit and refundable child tax credit; for many hurricane victims, this will result in those credits being larger.

- Waiver of 10 percent penalty for early withdrawals from Individual Retirement Accounts and other qualified 401(k)s for people whose principal residence was in the disaster area.

Tax breaks for people who helped hurricane victims include:

- Increase in mileage deduction for vehicles used in volunteer work to help hurricane victims (29 cents a mile for vehicles used between Aug. 25-31, 34 cents a mile from Sept. 1-Dec. 31).

- Additional \$500 exemption (\$2,000 household maximum) for taxpayers who housed hurricane victims for 60 continuous days.

- Increased deduction for cash contributions to qualified charities — from 50 percent to 100 percent of adjusted gross income for donations made between Aug. 28 and Jan. 1. The money didn't have to be earmarked for hurricane aid.

Other changes for 2006 include new restrictions for charitable deductions of cars worth more than \$500, a deduction long abused. Many taxpayers claimed the fair market value of the car based on used-car value guides available at banks and car dealers, even if the car was a non-running junker worthy only of the scrap heap.

Now, taxpayers can't deduct more than the charity collected by selling the vehicle, except when the charity sold the car to a needy individual or family at a steeply discounted price. A written acknowledgment from the qualified charity must be attached to the donor's tax return and it must say how much the car sold for.

There's also a new uniform definition for "qualifying child," which is used for the dependency exemption, head of household filing status, earned income tax credit for lower- and moderate-income working individuals and families, child tax credit, and credit for child and dependent care expenses.

This standardized definition was designed to reduce confusion that sometimes resulted in multiple taxpayers claiming credits and exemptions for the same child. The IRS has devised several "tests" that determine who gets to claim the child, based on the child's age, relationship to the taxpayer, length of time living with the taxpayer and amount of financial support the child provides. The tests vary with the tax benefit claimed.

Also for 2006, the IRS adjusted the standard mileage to reflect 2005's increases in the price of gasoline. For business use of

vehicles from Jan. 1 to Aug. 31, 2005, the standard mileage rate is 40.5 cents per mile, compared with 37.5 cents a mile in 2004. Beginning on Sept. 1, 2005, the rate rose to 48.5 cents.

Ceilings for tax-deferred contributions to traditional IRAs have risen from \$3,000 to \$4,000 for most savers and from \$3,500 to \$4,500 for those age 50 and older, within certain income restrictions. Ceilings on Roth IRA contributions — which are taxed, although later distributions from the Roth aren't — also increased.

The IRS also made inflation adjustments for other credits, deductions and tax categories. For example: Each personal and dependency exemption rose to \$3,200, up \$100 from 2004. The standard deduction is \$10,000 for married couples filing a joint return and qualifying widow(er)s, up \$300; \$5,000 for singles and married individuals filing separately, up \$150; and \$7,300 for heads of households, up \$150.

And the IRS has streamlined state sales tax tables for itemizing taxpayers who choose to take the deduction for state and local sales taxes rather than the deduction for state and local income taxes.

At the IRS Web site, <http://www.irs.gov>, taxpayers can get answers to many tax questions, download and print tax forms, track refunds and find links for free electronic filing and hurricane-related tax assistance. The IRS tax information line is 1-800-829-1040 for individuals, 1-800-829-4933 for businesses, 1-866-562-5227 for hurricane victims.

2006 tax-filing at a glance

FILING DEADLINE: April 17, 2006 (because April 15 falls on a Saturday). In Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Vermont and the District of Columbia, the deadline is April 18, because of the Patriot's Day holiday in Massachusetts, where the IRS has a processing facility.

FILING EXTENSION: automatic six-month extension to Oct. 16, as long as Form 4868 is filed by April 17.

WHAT'S NEW: stricter rules for donating vehicles to charity; tax breaks for hurricane victims and those who helped them; higher mileage rate for business use of vehicles; higher ceilings for IRAs and other retirement savings plans; new definition and tests for "qualifying child"; new online IRS tools for determining qualification for alternative minimum tax and earned income tax credit; inflation adjustment for various other tax credits, deductions and categories.

IRS FORMS: Download at <http://www.irs.gov> by navigating to "Forms and Publications"; order by mail by calling 1-800-829-3676.

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PHONE TAX HELP: 1-800-829-1040 for individuals, 1-800-829-4059 (TDD) for those with hearing impairment, 1-800-829-4933 for businesses, 1-866-562-5227 for hurricane victims.

— The Associated Press

Alternative minimum tax hovers over millions of taxpayers

by MARY DALRYMPLE
AP Tax Writer

WASHINGTON — They may not know it, but millions of taxpayers could be at risk this year of owing the alternative minimum tax.

Roughly 3.5 million individuals and families filling out their 2005 tax returns or visiting their accountants this spring will discover they owe the tax. It was originally imposed to make sure that the wealthiest couldn't use tax breaks or deductions to eliminate their entire tax liability.

But inflation and recent tax cuts push more and more taxpayers into the grasp of the alternative minimum tax each year. Lawmakers had blunted the tax's effect on upper- and middle-income families in previous years, but ran out of time to keep the fix in place this year. Those laws expired at the end of 2005. This year, more than 15 million additional taxpayers could get tipped into the tax's reach unless Congress acts first.

Although it's expected that lawmakers will act to retroac-

"Normally, we tell our clients to plan for the worst case and hope for the best. This one's kind of tricky."

— Don Weigandt

Advisor to wealthy individuals at JPMorgan Private Bank.

tively stop the tax from hitting millions more individuals and families, taxpayers and their financial advisers start the year in a cloud of uncertainty.

"Normally, we tell our clients to plan for the worst case and hope for the best. This one's kind of tricky," said Don Weigandt, who advises wealthy individuals at JPMorgan Private Bank.

The alternative minimum tax, also known as the AMT, works as a second system of taxation that runs parallel to the regular income tax. If you owe more under the alternative tax than the regular tax, you pay the higher amount. If you don't, the AMT can still limit the size of your tax credits.

The alternative minimum tax can be unpredictable, but it tends to hit individuals and families with certain character-

istics. Tax advisers say those include middle- to upper-income people who live in states with high income or real estate taxes, have several children or take sizable deductions for things like business expenses.

The Internal Revenue Service has a tool to help taxpayers determine whether they need to pay attention to the tax. The AMT Assistant, available on the tax agency's Web site, is an automated version of a paper form and also an indication of the complexity involved in its computations. It's called the "Worksheet to See if You Should Fill in Form 6251 — Line 45."

The AMT Assistant could be most helpful for taxpayers doing their returns by hand. Most tax preparation software checks for the alternative mini-

mum tax automatically. Other taxpayers need to complete a draft of the Form 1040 through line 44 to answer some questions about income and certain deductions.

There's no easy way to know whether the AMT lies in your future without doing some calculations.

"One of the things about the AMT is that the AMT is illogical and inconsistent in its application as to who it affects and why. There's no real pattern. There's no logic behind it," said Alan Dlugash, an accountant for high net worth individuals and a partner at Marks, Paneth and Shron LLP in New York.

"So the way you have to deal with it is you have to say, OK, let's run the numbers."

Tax advisers recommend that individuals and families who might fall into the alternative

minimum tax next year make some of those calculations, even though Congress will probably make sure that millions of threatened families never pay the tax.

Ways and Means Committee Chairman Bill Thomas, the California Republican who serves as the House's top tax writer, said taxpayers take a risk if they assume lawmakers will retroactively remove the tax. But he said there's a bipartisan commitment to addressing the problem. "The question is when and how," he said.

Even if you know it's coming, it's difficult to escape the alternative minimum tax. Unless you want to relocate to another state, most planning options involve the timing of deductions and incentive stock options.

"The important thing to understand is there are certain things you can do. They may or may not help you," said Jackie Perlman, a senior tax research coordinator for H&R Block. "It's not something that is just totally and completely under control."

Online feature makes it easy to track refunds

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — How soon will your tax refund arrive? You can start tracking your refund seven days after filing electronically, four to six weeks after filing a paper return. Here's how:

Go to the Internal Revenue Service Web site at <http://www.irs.gov> and enter "Where's My Refund?" in the search box at the top right of the page.

You'll be taken to a secure site to enter your Social Security number or IRS individual taxpayer identification number, filing status and the exact refund amount shown on the tax return.

Within a few seconds, the IRS will let you know whether your tax return has been received and processed and whether a refund has been issued, either in the form of a government check mailed to your home or a direct deposit to your bank account using the account information you provided on your tax return.

If you prefer a lower-tech approach, call the IRS' Automated Refund Service at 1-800-829-4477.

If eight weeks have elapsed since you filed your taxes and you have not received your refund, call the IRS at 1-800-829-1040.

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Scams abound around tax time

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Common sense says the IRS doesn't e-mail taxpayers offering tax refunds in exchange for confidential personal information. And yet, every year people are fooled by those and other bogus tax schemes.

"If somebody comes to you and says what's your bank account number, it's probably not us," said IRS spokesman Anthony Burke. "We contact taxpayers by U.S. mail first and provide a toll-free number to call the agency."

Among the scams making the rounds this filing season is the latest twist on "phishing": e-mails purporting to be from "tax-refunds@irs.gov" aimed at tricking taxpayers into revealing personal information that is later used to steal their identities or cause other financial damage.

Typically, such e-mails use the same logos and e-mail

addresses as legitimate companies and organizations, fooling people into thinking they are genuine.

Recipients are directed to a Web link that asks for information such as a Social Security number or credit card information.

The Internal Revenue Service does not ask for personal identification or financial information via e-mail.

"We might ask you in a notice or a letter to explain your answer on something but it would be very unlikely for us to ask you your Social Security number because we already know it," Burke said.

Anyone uncertain whether a purported IRS communication is genuine should call the agency at 1-800-829-1040. Don't open attachments to suspicious e-mails because they may contain malicious code capable of infecting computers.

Other scams that appear

around tax time include:

■ **IRS tax "collectors":** Don't let anyone into your home unless they have identification. IRS special agents, auditors and collections officers carry photo IDs and will normally try to contact you before they visit. If you think the person at your door is an impostor, lock the door and call police. Then call the Treasury inspector general's hot line at 1-800-366-4484.

■ **Big refunds for "free":** Con artists may ask to "borrow" your Social Security number or give you a phony W-2 to make it look as if you qualify for a big refund. They may promise to split the refund with you. Don't sign a tax return without looking it over to make sure it's correct (and honest).

■ **Pay taxes, win a prize:** A caller claims you've won a prize and only have to pay the income tax due on it. It's true that taxpayers who win prizes

may need to make estimated tax payments, but the payment goes to the IRS, not the caller. A legitimate prize-giver sends you a 1099 form showing the total prize value that should be reported on your tax return.

■ **Social Security refund:** If you're offered refunds for Social Security taxes paid during your lifetime, don't be fooled — the law doesn't allow such a refund. The scam artist usually asks victims to pay a "paperwork" fee of \$100, plus a percentage of the anticipated refund, to file a refund claim with the IRS.

■ **Earned income credit:** Unscrupulous tax preparers "share" one client's qualifying children with another client in order to allow both clients to claim the earned income tax credit. In fact, stricter rules for claiming this credit went into effect for 2005 and taxpayers need to make sure they qualify.

■ **Military service tax refunds:** A caller posing as an IRS employee informs a taxpayer that he or she is entitled to a \$4,000 refund because of a relative's military service, and then requests a credit card number to cover a \$42 fee for postage. To appear legitimate, the scammer may provide an actual IRS toll-free number as the callback number. IRS employees who telephone taxpayers do not ask for credit card numbers or request fees for payment of a refund.

■ **Improper home-based business:** Promoters claim that taxpayers can deduct most or all of their personal expenses as business expenses by setting up a bogus home-based business. In fact, the IRS has strict guidelines for deducting home office and business expenses. Taxpayers who claim such expenses should be prepared to document them during an audit.

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Saving energy tops tax-planning list for 2006

by EILEEN PUTMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Taxpayers who put their money into energy-saving home improvements and hybrid vehicles in 2006 will reap big rewards next year at tax time: new tax credits, among the tax code's most potent gifts.

Though Congress' dithering with the alternative minimum tax poses some challenges for those who like to plan their tax year in advance, there's no doubt that energy-conserving moves make smart tax sense for 2006.

Replacing the tax deduction for hybrid vehicles, which expired at the end of 2005, is a tax credit, a bigger benefit. Deductions only reduce the income against which tax is assessed, while credits are a dollar-for-dollar reduction in tax liability.

Taxpayers who buy or lease a new hybrid gas-electric car or truck in 2006 are eligible for a credit of \$250 to \$3,400 per vehicle, depending on its fuel economy and weight. Because there are long waiting lists to get such vehicles, people who ordered hybrids in 2005 can claim the credit for the 2006 tax year, as long as they did not take possession of the vehicle before Jan. 1, 2006.

Homeowners who install new energy-saving devices like solar water heaters or rooftop solar panels are eligible for an energy credit of up to \$2,000 per system. Certain insulation, heat pumps, air conditioners and furnaces can qualify for a credit of up to 10 percent of their cost, to a total maximum lifetime credit of \$500.

"The first thing I would do is think about any necessary improvements to your home because we have the opportunity

for an energy-efficient credit. It applies to everything from new storm windows and doors to more energy efficient furnaces," said Maggie Doedman, tax advice specialist at H&R Block.

Saving for retirement, always a good idea, receives more favorable tax treatment in 2006, with higher contributions to qualified retirement plans permitted. Additional "catch-up" contributions for taxpayers over 50 also rise by between \$500 and \$1,000, depending on the type of plan.

That means taxpayers should try to contribute the maximum allowable this year, starting as soon as possible so that savings can build over the course of the year.

Another important task for early 2006 is deciding whether the right amount of tax is being withheld from your paycheck. Taxpayers due refunds for 2005 should realize that the government has essentially had free use of that money for much of the past year, notes John Battaglia, director of Deloitte & Touche's private client adviser division.

"If you're getting a significant refund, you're probably withholding too much and you're giving the government an interest-free loan," Battaglia said.

Those taxpayers should file a new W-4 form in 2006 decreasing the amount of tax withheld. Similarly, those who owe tax for 2005 should have more withheld in 2006.

Beyond those fairly simple steps lies a thicket of more complex tax planning issues for those hardy enough to delve into them.

One of the most bedeviling tax issues is the alternative minimum tax, a tax figured separately from

regular tax and originally designed to prevent the wealthy from avoiding taxation. Because the AMT was never indexed for inflation, each year more middle-class taxpayers find themselves subject to it.

Without congressional action, an estimated 15 million taxpayers could have to pay AMT in 2006 for the first time. Most are married couples with incomes over \$100,000, high state and local taxes, and multiple children they can claim as personal exemptions.

Though it's unlikely lawmakers will decline to help so many voters, taxpayers may want to hedge their bets with AMT-reduction strategies.

First, consult the Web site of the

Internal Revenue Service at <http://www.irs.gov>, which features an AMT "assistant," an online test that can tell taxpayers whether they might be subject to the tax.

Those flirting with AMT should be careful about making large charitable deductions during 2006 and exercising large "incentive" stock options typically given corporate executives. Taxpayers may wish to avoid or dump "private-activity" municipal bonds that lose their tax-free status under the AMT.

Beyond staving off the AMT, there are other strategies for saving taxes in 2006. Consider giving appreciated assets or cash to children who are in lower tax brackets.

The amount a taxpayer can give someone without having to pay a gift tax rises to \$12,000 this year for each recipient, up from \$11,000 in 2005.

Beginning in 2006, taxpayers who contribute to a 401(k) plan may designate some or all of those contributions as "Roth" contributions, if their employer plan permits. Such contributions are included in taxable income in the year they are made.

But Roth distributions later in life — when, presumably, they are needed — aren't taxed, so taxpayers who think they will be in a higher tax bracket at retirement may want to make Roth contributions in 2006.

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AARP program provides free tax prep for elderly

by EILEEN PUTMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — As an accounting major, Diane Flook had studied income tax preparation, but the subject truly came alive when she took that knowledge into a senior citizens center and helped elderly people with their tax returns.

"One of the things I ran into was a lot of seniors don't really know anything about their money," Flook said. "Their husband always did their taxes but he died, and the woman came in and it was hard to make her understand it."

Flook is one of more than 32,000 volunteers for AARP's Tax-Aide program, which helps nearly 2 million elderly people with their taxes at some 7,800 sites during tax season. Sponsored by the Internal Revenue Service, Tax-Aide is the largest free tax counseling and preparation program in the country.

Richard Davis, an accounting professor at Susquehanna University's Sigmund Weis School of Business, has been coordinator of the Tax-Aide program in Selinsgrove, Pa., for several years. Every tax season, he and his students help 150 or so elderly taxpayers with their federal, state and local tax returns.

"The students have all gone through my tax course and I also give them some material the IRS publishes just for this program that helps them get ready for it," said Davis, a former IRS official in the agency's chief counsel office, which handles taxpayers' audit appeals.

Complicating taxes for many elderly people is income they

receive from part-time jobs that supplement retirement benefits or from investments that generate capital gains. And while some elderly people have incomes too low to require filing federal taxes, they may still have to file state or local tax returns.

The IRS provides training materials for Tax-Aide volunteers, mainly about tax issues that pertain to the elderly — like the sale of a home, pension and Social Security income, dividends and bank interest.

Some clients know little about their finances, often because a spouse or relative handled them, Davis said. That's especially true for widows, he said.

"Things have changed in our country for the better, but we're still dealing with 80- and 90-year-old people who grew up in an era where, gender-wise, things were very different," Davis said. "Husbands took care of everything and the wife doesn't know what her husband did and it's a very real challenge."

Flook, a 21-year-old senior from Corning, N.Y., who plans to work for a regional accounting firm when she graduates, was among Davis' students who helped seniors with taxes last spring and will do so again this year. Much of what she learned wasn't in any textbook.

"While on campus you're in a little bubble," Flook said. "It is nice to go into the community" and "see the people you help because a lot of them would have no idea what to do without us, and they like having the chance to interact with younger people."

The IRS provides tax prepara-

tion software for AARP sites and encourages electronic filing. But "at our site we do it all by pencil and paper," Davis said.

"Our senior citizens prefer that we sit down with them and do it the way they've done it for maybe 50 years with a pencil and 1040 and go through the return line by line," he said. "I think they're a little uncomfortable when you pull out the computer and do it electronically."

Jan Cooper, operations coordinator for AARP's Tax-Aide, said volunteers will do a paper return for anyone who refuses electronic preparation. Many Tax-Aide volunteers are them-

selves close in age to those they are helping and "understand people's reluctance with the computer," Cooper said.

Regardless of how the return is prepared, all taxpayers get a printed copy for their records.

For 2005, Tax-Aide helped prepare about 1.1 million federal returns. Well over half were filed electronically, Cooper said. There is no charge for tax prep or e-filing. Most clients are low- to middle-income taxpayers over 60, and Tax-Aide sites tend to be in easy-to-access places like senior centers, libraries, banks and grocery stores. Volunteers will also visit retirement

and nursing centers and sometimes elderly taxpayers who are homebound, Cooper said.

The 2006 filing program begins Feb. 1. People needing help should bring photo identification, Social Security card, wage and earning statements, interest and dividend statements, a copy of last year's federal and state returns if available, and bank routing numbers and account numbers for direct deposit of refunds.

To find a nearby Tax-Aide site call AARP at 1-888-227-7669 or visit the IRS or AARP Web sites at <http://www.irs.gov> and <http://www.aarp.org/taxaide>.

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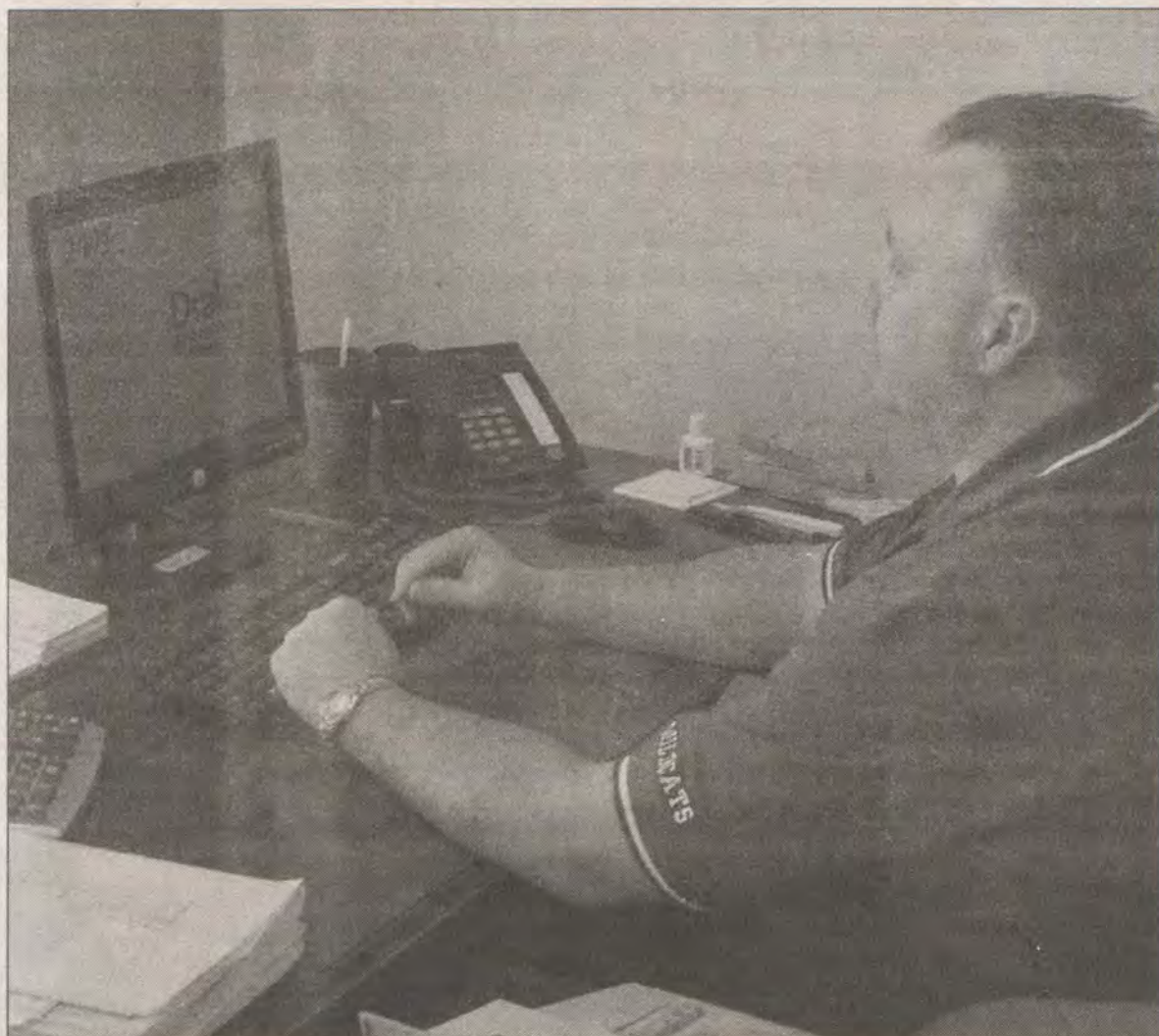


photo by Sheldon Compton

Charles Crum, manager of Pioneer Credit Company in Prestonsburg, preparing for the crunch of tax season at the company's location in University Plaza. The deadline for filing this year is April 17.

IRS continues to makes it easier and easier for filers to procrastinate

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Dread doing those taxes? This year, the IRS made it easier to procrastinate.

The filing deadline is two days later than usual — Monday, April 17, because April 15, the normal deadline, is a Saturday. The Internal Revenue Service has also made it easier to get an automatic six-month extension beyond that.

Before, obtaining a six-month filing extension was a two-step process. Taxpayers filed one form to get an auto-

matic four-month extension to Aug. 15, and a second form to obtain an additional extension, usually two more months. But the second extension wasn't automatic — taxpayers had to give a reason for the additional delay and the IRS could always deny the request.

In a cost-savings move, the IRS eliminated or consolidated deadline-extension forms. Now, taxpayers receive an automatic six-month extension to Oct. 16, 2006, by filing a single form, Form 4868. They don't have to provide a reason or even a signature, only file

the form by April 17.

Businesses seeking the automatic six-month extension file Form 7004. Before, only corporations could get an automatic six-month extension; now, most non-corporate business taxpayers, including partnerships and trusts, can use this option.

The IRS warns, however, that a filing extension doesn't extend the deadline for paying taxes.

If you don't pay the taxes you owe by the regular filing deadline — April 17 — you will owe interest and perhaps a late payment penalty.

Do-it-yourself tax programs take hold

by EILEEN PUTMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Gone are the days when tax time meant tiny-print tax forms spread out on the dining room table for days, followed by months of watching the mail for that distinctively bland government refund check.

Thanks to home computers, tax preparation and electronic filing have never been easier. Refunds come quickly, and waiting for them can involve little more than occasionally checking the IRS Web site.

The Internal Revenue Service began a big push for electronic filing several years ago and has finally muscled a majority of taxpayers in that direction. For 2005, the IRS says 68.5 million individual returns — more than half — were filed electronically, 11.3 percent more than in the previous year. Many were e-filed by tax professionals, but about 17 million came directly from home computers, up 17 percent over the prior year.

Judging by tax software sales, millions more Americans prepared their taxes on home computers or online but did not file electronically for one reason or another. In any case, it's clear that computerized tax preparation has taken hold.

"Doing taxes by hand manually is like churning your own butter," said Julie Miller, a spokeswoman for Intuit, maker of TurboTax, a home-computer tax program.

Tax software is a hot market. Intuit says TurboTax accounted for more than \$570 million of the company's \$2 billion in revenues in its 2005 fiscal year and is driving the company's growth. Intuit's chief competitor, H&R Block's Tax Cut, doesn't release sales figures but says its business is also booming.

The popularity of home tax software is a far cry from its early days, when many returns were disqualified from e-filing at the last minute and software often had maddening glitches and a cumbersome interview process.

Both Tax Cut and TurboTax are now fairly robust platforms, able to handle more complex tax situations like rental incomes, capital gains and small businesses.

"They get better every year," said Claude Renshaw, accounting professor at Saint Mary's College in Notre Dame, Ind. Renshaw uses such software for his own taxes and that of clients. "They're very user-friendly."

They're also fairly inexpensive. Either program can be had, on average, for between \$30 and \$40 — depending on whether features like state, business and estimated taxes are included — and less for a simple return or one done online.

Tax software is a hot market. Intuit says TurboTax accounted for more than \$570 million of the company's \$2 billion in revenues in its 2005 fiscal year and is driving the company's growth.

Steering clear of 'Red flags' decreases odds of an audit

by EILEEN PUTMAN

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — Certain "red flags" on a tax return increase the odds of being audited: a six-figure income, home office expenses, unusually high deductions or credits, interest or dividend income that doesn't jibe with IRS records.

And if you're a high-profile celebrity, watch out — the IRS keeps tabs on them, too.

Last year, the Internal Revenue Service audited 1.2 million 2004 tax returns, up about 20 percent over the previous year. Overall odds of being audited are about 1 in 107 — 1 in 63 for those with incomes over \$100,000.

Typically, the first inkling taxpayers have that all is not well is a computer-generated IRS notice, which is considered a "correspondence" audit.

"No one wants to get that envelope with 'Internal Revenue Service' in the upper left-hand corner," said Denise Sposato, spokeswoman for H&R Block, the tax-preparation company. "No good can come of that, usually."

Not all problems are serious, though. Tax returns with an incorrect Social Security number or no signature can easily be corrected; resolving other problems may only require sending the IRS copies of records or correcting a math error.

More serious tax issues involve underreporting income and overstating deductions, exemptions and credits. A tax return with a large number of deductions may be flagged.

That shouldn't discourage taxpayers from claiming legitimate deductions and credits, Sposato said, but records should be kept backing up those claims.

The IRS has no single formula that determines which tax returns will be audited, but certain situations increase the odds.

Deducting home office expenses, which has become more restrictive in recent years, may generate a flag. That's because people can only claim the part of the home used exclusively and regularly for business, and other restrictions may apply.

Trouble can also arise from the many 1099 forms people receive each January showing interest, dividend and other payments they received during the year. Though 1099s don't have to be attached to tax returns, the information on them

"No one wants to get that envelope with 'Internal Revenue Service' in the upper left-hand corner."

—Denise Sposato
Spokeswoman for H&R
Block

has already been sent to the IRS, which may later check the taxpayer's return to make sure all income is reported.

The IRS also checks information reported on Schedule K-1 documents, which cover income, deductions and credits from partnerships, trusts and S-corporations.

Celebrities have been known to attract the IRS' attention: Richard Hatch, who won \$1 million on the first season of the reality show "Survivor," was accused of failing to pay taxes on his winnings; former District of Columbia Mayor Marion Barry pleaded guilty to two misdemeanor counts stemming from failure to file tax returns in 2000.

Other high-profile figures with past tax woes include singer Willie Nelson, baseball's Darryl Strawberry, Hollywood madam Heidi Fleiss and hotel magnate Leona Helmsley — who, according to a witness at her 1989 tax fraud trial, once declared, "We don't pay taxes. Only the little people pay taxes."

Even the rich and famous may quake at the prospect of meeting face-to-face with an IRS agent, and the prospect of that kind of audit seems to bring out the worst in some people.

Richard Davis, an accounting professor at Susquehanna University's Sigmund Weis School of Business in Selinsgrove, Pa., said he saw some "very aggressive, very annoying, very rude" taxpayers during his tenure in the IRS' chief counsel office, which handled taxpayers' audit appeals.

"They somehow get the idea the IRS is out to get them, or maybe they think if they're really aggressive that will get a better result," Davis said. "They are so mistaken." Go in with a respectful attitude, he advises, even if you are contesting the IRS' findings.

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