

# The Times

FLOYD COUNTY

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Friday night football

page A7

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## briefs

### Test results coming

by JESSICA HALE  
STAFF WRITER

FRANKFORT — The Kentucky Department of Education plans to release data from the Commonwealth Accountability Testing System on Thursday, Sept. 21.

Each year, statewide assessments through Kentucky Core Content Tests and the Comprehensive Test of Basic Skills are administered to all students in Kentucky's public schools. The results of these assessments along with nonacademic data are used to determine overall district and school progress.

Nonacademic data was released in May and included dropout, attendance, retention, and successful transition to adult life statistics.

Date released will include results from both KCCT and CTBS. This release will also include information about school district accountability and performance judgments.

The data will be available for viewing on the Department of Education's website, education.ky.gov, on Sept. 21.

## 2 DAY FORECAST

**Today**  
Mostly sunny  
High: 85 • Low: 65

**Tomorrow**  
Partly cloudy  
High: 88 • Low: 68

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## inside

- Regional Obituaries.....A2
- Opinion.....A4
- Lifestyles.....A5
- Sports.....A7
- TV Listings.....A11
- Classifieds.....A14



## Drug charges net 7 years

by ALEX SMITH  
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A Langley man was sentenced Friday in Floyd County Circuit Court to seven years in prison for multiple drug trafficking charges.

Franklin Delano Hagans, 46, agreed to the offer of 15

years in prison probated, meaning he will serve seven years followed by an additional seven years of supervised probation. Hagans accepted the deal knowing that five years of probation in this type of case is what is typically allowed.

In exchange for less time in prison, he risks serving the

remaining eight years if he is arrested for any violation of law during his probation.

"This is a guy who sold (drugs) himself, trafficked himself and assisted others selling drugs," said Wayne Taylor, the chief assistant commonwealth's attorney.

(See DRUGS, page three)



Franklin Delano Hagans, right, left Floyd County Circuit Court Friday afternoon with his lawyer, Jason Charles Reichenbach, after he was sentenced to 15 years in prison for numerous drug charges.

photo by Alex Smith

## TAX BILLS HEADED HIGHER



photo by Kathy J. Prater

Local citizens upset by the Floyd County Board of Education's move to increase property taxes Thursday night spoke with board member Mickey McGuire, the only member present who voted against the tax increase, following adjournment of the meeting.

## Despite opposition, board passes property tax increase

by KATHY J. PRATER  
FEATURES EDITOR

MARTIN — Though tempers flared and citizen voices expressed opposition, the Floyd County Board of Education voted to approve an increase in property tax for Floyd County property owners at a meeting held Thursday evening at May Valley Elementary School.

Earlier this year, board members voted down a motion to impose a countywide utility tax.

"The property tax is not a fair tax," said board chair Jeff Stumbo before casting his vote to approve the property tax

increase. Stumbo was in favor of adopting a utility tax when the issue came before the board earlier this year.

Thursday night, Stumbo reminded those citizens in attendance that Floyd County is one of only 17 districts in the state that has not adopted a utility tax to help pay for the public school system. Stumbo said that his feelings were that without a utility tax in place, the school board had no other option than to increase taxes on real estate and personal property.

"We're being required by the state to do more, with less," he said.

Carol Stumbo, vice chair, said that she supported the tax increase because she made "a commitment to the students of Floyd County" when she was elected as a member of the board.

"We are improving our schools," she said, adding, "If I have to make a choice between children and adults, I'm going to choose children."

Board member Sherry Robinson also supported the tax increase, informing those assembled that she had worked on the budget reduction commit-

(See TAX, page three)

## Man sued for sharing music over internet

by JESSICA HALE  
STAFF WRITER

PIKEVILLE — Many have heard the warnings against downloading music from the internet, but some don't give it a second thought before burning a new CD of their favorite songs and sharing it with their friends.

But now music fans might want to think twice, after some of the largest names in the music industry filed a lawsuit last week against a local man for copyright infringement.

Priority Records, UMG Recordings, Sony BMG Music Entertainment and BMG Music of New York have filed a copyright infringement complaint against Wade Tackett, of Printer, for allegedly using Kazaa, a peer-to-peer file-sharing network, to illegally download and distribute copies of songs in the companies' catalogues. The plaintiffs claim that Tackett intentionally com-

(See MUSIC, page three)

## Court rejects appeal from families fighting against radiation

by SAMIRA JAFARI  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PIKEVILLE — A state appeals court has rejected an argument by two Eastern Kentucky families that radiation from an oil company's activities damaged their property values.

The families argued that Ashland Inc. contaminated the surface and ground water of their properties in the Martha oil field in Johnson County, near the Lawrence County line.

Ashland conceded that some naturally occurring

radioactive material was carried to the surface when wells in the Martha oil field were injected with pressurized water to force out crude. However, Ashland contends that the plaintiffs exaggerated the dangers of the actual radiation levels.

The appeals court, in an order released Friday, ruled that the plaintiffs failed to prove that the contamination diminished their property values.

The three-judge panel concluded that "Ashland's position has greater sup-

(See APPEAL, page three)

## No one injured after car collides with school bus

by JESSICA HALE  
STAFF WRITER

MARTIN — An accident involving a Floyd County school bus and a passenger car slowed traffic for about an hour Friday afternoon.

At approximately 2:30 p.m., a red Ford Focus pulled out from Long John Silvers restaurant into the path of

Floyd County school bus number 706, which was traveling towards Route 80 at the intersection near McDonald's.

According to Martin Volunteer Fire Department Captain Randy Caudill, there were not any children aboard the bus because it hadn't yet picked up students for the first run of the evening.

There were no injuries

reported in the accident.

A separate accident earlier Friday at the intersection near the Piarist School sent one woman to the hospital.

The vehicles involved were a Chevy Silverado and a red minivan. According to the Martin Volunteer Fire Department, the driver of the minivan ran a red light, which caused her vehicle to crash into the pickup.



photo by Kim Frasure

No one was injured in this accident Friday afternoon in Martin.

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# Regional Obituaries

## FLOYD COUNTY

■ Laymond "Elwood" Bragg, 63, of Eastern, died Saturday, September 9, in the Hazard Appalachian Regional Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Florine "Rena" Stepp Bragg. Funeral services were held Tuesday, September 12, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Betty Jean (Tinnie) Newman, 68, of Melvin, died Tuesday, September 12, at McDowell Appalachian Health Care. Funeral services were held Friday, September 15, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

## PIKE COUNTY

■ Ellen Blankenship, 92, of Columbus, Ohio, formerly of Phelps, died Monday, September 11, at her home. Funeral services were held Friday, September 15, under the direction of Phelps Funeral Services.

■ Bennie Bryant, 71, of Virgie, died Tuesday, September 12, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Julia Hall Bryant. Funeral services were held Friday, September 15, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ Homer Caldwell, 86, of Ray, Mich., formerly of Pike County, died Tuesday, September 12, in Michigan. He is survived by his wife, Dori Caldwell. A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 17, in Romeo, Michigan.

■ Patterson Lee Cesco, 76, of Vilas, N.C., formerly of Turkey Creek, died Saturday, September 9, at Watauga Medical Center, Boone, N.C. Funeral services were held Thursday, September 14, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Judy Sawyers Chapman, 47, of Kimper, died Tuesday, September 5, at Pikeville Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Janis Paul Chapman. Funeral services were held Friday, September 8, under the direction of Community Funeral Home.

■ Victor "Ivan" Collins, 82, of Pikeville, died Thursday, September 14, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Helena Justice Collins. Funeral services will be conducted Sunday, September 17, at 1 p.m., at the Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ Charles "Chuck" Easterling, 84, of Marrowbone, died Sunday, September 10, at Mountain View Health Care Center, Elkhorn City. Funeral services were held Wednesday, September 13, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

■ Mavis Jerlene Epling, 74, of Mouthcard, died Friday, September 8, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Sunday, September

10, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ Mary Lou Francis, 67, of Turkey Creek, died Tuesday, September 12, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Friday, September 15, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Opal Greene, 84, of London, formerly of Pikeville, died Saturday, September 9, in London. Funeral services were held Wednesday, September 13, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

■ Truman Arley Hill Sr., 78, of Pinsonfork, died Tuesday, September 12, at the Charleston Area Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Alice Dotson Hill. Funeral services were held Thursday, September 14, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Elige Hunt, 84, of Mouthcard, died Monday, September 11, at Good Shepherd Nursing Center, Phelps. Funeral services were held Wednesday, September 13, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ Rexel Nee Jackson, 78, of Forest Hills, died Friday, September 8, at Williamson Memorial Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Nita Carol Sammons Jackson. Funeral services were held Tuesday, September 12, in the Belfry Middle School gymnasium.

■ Kevin "Guttwrench" Justice, 39, of Varney, died Sunday, September 10, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Carol Ann Sartin Justice. Funeral services were held Wednesday, September 13, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Columbus Mullins, 70, of Cleveland, Ohio, a native of Pikeville, died Monday, August 28, in Cleveland. Arrangements, under direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

■ Clarence R. Pauley Jr., 85, of Taylors, S.C., died Tuesday, September 12, at Taylors. Funeral services were held Friday, September 15, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ James "Barry" Price, 43, of Regina, died Sunday, September 9, at Road Creek Road, Elkhorn City, the result of injuries suffered in an ATV accident. He is survived by his wife, Loretta Hunt Price. Funeral services were held Thursday, September 14, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ Charlie B. Reed, 89, of Forest Hills, died Saturday, September 9, at the South Williamson Appalachian Regional Hospital's Skilled Nursing Unit. Funeral services were held Tuesday, September 12, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Clarence Douglas Stapleton, 69, of Mouthcard, died Saturday, September 9, at

his home. Funeral services were held Monday, September 11, under the direction of West Funeral Home.

■ Zella Elizabeth Stapleton, 61, of Pikeville, died Saturday, September 9, at Pikeville Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, James R. Stapleton. Funeral services were held Tuesday, September 12, under the direction of Justice Funeral Home.

■ Wayne Varney, 82, of Kimper, died Saturday, September 9, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Arizona Varney. Funeral services were held Wednesday, September 13, under the direction of Community Funeral Home.

■ Susana Williams, 92, of Virgie, died Saturday, September 9, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Tuesday, September 12, under the direction of Lucas and Son Funeral Home.

■ Nolean Adkins Wolford, 73, of Ransom, died Saturday, September 9, at her home. Funeral services were held Tuesday, September 12, under the direction of Hatfield Funeral Chapel.

## JOHNSON COUNTY

■ John H. Arrowood, 83, of Thelma, died Wednesday, August 30, at Central Baptist Hospital, in Lexington. He is survived by his wife, Jackie Witten Arrowood. Funeral services were held Saturday, September 2, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Donald Bolden, 62, of Offutt, died Tuesday, September 5, at his residence. Graveside services were held Thursday, September 7, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Estelle Burga, 87, of Hager Hill, died Wednesday, September 13, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, Bill Burga. Funeral services were held Saturday, September 16, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Noah Lee Castle Jr., 63, of Urbana, Ohio, a Johnson County native, died Sunday, September 10, at his residence. Graveside services were held Friday, September 15, under the direction of Walter-Schoedinger Funeral Home.

■ Verlia Mae Hall, 80, of Lexington, and formerly of Paintsville, died Sunday, September 10, at Samaritan Hospital, in Lexington. Funeral services were held Thursday, September 14, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

■ Norma Jean Castle Haney, 79, of Paintsville, died Monday, September 11, at Mountain Manor Nursing Home, in Paintsville. Funeral services were held Thursday, September 14, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Opal V. Helton, 85, of Thompson Station, Tennessee, died Monday, September 11, at her residence. Funeral services were held Saturday, September 16, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Jesse Lee Mayhan, 54, of Paintsville, died Thursday, September 7, at his residence. Funeral services were held Monday, September 11, under the direction of Paintsville Funeral Home.

■ Manford Leon McCarty Jr., 59, of Hager Hill, died Friday, September 8, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. He is survived by his wife, Joan Little McCarty. Funeral services were held Sunday, September 10,

under the direction of the Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Ruth Burke Meek, 85, of West Van Lear, died Sunday, September 10, at Riverview Health Care Center, in Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Thursday, September 14, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Dr. John Powell, 44, of Centerville, Ohio, a Paintsville native, died Monday, September 11, at his residence. Funeral services were held Friday, September 15, under the direction of the Glenn Funeral Home, Owensboro.

■ Mary Grace Roman, 82, of Paintsville, died Wednesday, September 13, at Salyersville Health Care Center. She is survived by her husband, Orbin F. Roman. Funeral services were held Friday, September 15, under the direction of Paintsville Funeral Home.

■ George B. "Shorty" Spradlin Jr., 88, of Denver, died Monday, September 11, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. He is survived by his wife, Betsy Betty Adkins Spradlin. Funeral services were held Thursday, September 14, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral

(See OBITUARIES, page three)



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## Open House

Highlands Regional Medical Center is pleased to invite the community to an Open House on Tuesday, September 19, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., in their newly expanded Outpatient Services Department. The department includes Outpatient Surgery and IV Therapy services, and a new surgery waiting area. Highlands had tripled the size of the Outpatient Services department and added many new conveniences for patients and families. Stop by and tour the new Outpatient Services Department on Tuesday, September 19, between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. At Highlands, we're growing and changing to meet the needs of our community.

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your wisdom, your integrity  
And when I lift my face towards  
the sky, I will remember you in  
every ray of sunshine

You were my great-grandmother,  
My story teller and friend, and how  
I loved to listen to your stories.

Oh, how your eyes would glisten as you spoke of the hard  
times and the good times; and that smile you would  
enjoy as you filled my head with ghost stories, that I  
remember to this day.

If I could have just one more moment with you,  
I'd spend it on your front porch in those old  
rocking chairs listening to your stories of the past.

I love you.  
Your great-granddaughter,  
Donna Stevens Mullins

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9-13-10/11-30-98

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## GOSPEL MEETING

Please mark your calendar for our Fall Gospel Meeting with Bro. EDDIE CRAFT, from Elizabethton, Tennessee, Sept. 17-20.

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## Tax

tee and that "sometimes we get our (state budget) numbers late ... that's what's happened now" in regard to necessitating the newly imposed tax rates.

"Our test scores are going up, our children are getting smarter," Robinson said in support of the work the current board has done for the school system.

Board member Mickey McGuire, however, saw things from a different angle, prompting him to vote against the tax increase.

"I am opposed," McGuire said, "because I don't feel we

are doing a good job. If I thought we were doing a good job, I'd support the increase."

McGuire went on to cite several instances in which he felt the school board had not been mindful in handling its monies, such as building and then voting to fill in a swimming pool at Allen Central High School.

"We spent a lot of money filling in a hole instead of hiring teachers," McGuire said.

McGuire also cited the expenditure of funds on fueling buses and paying drivers to transport children to school-related activities when parents

and guardians were willing to transport their children themselves, but were not allowed to, as dictated by board policy.

McGuire also said "dual administrators" helped to create budgetary shortfalls within the county system.

"In many cases, we could make do with one, and instead hire more teachers, but we keep the dual administration, I think, for political reasons," he said.

"I feel," McGuire said, "I know other board members don't, but I don't feel we've spent enough time cleaning our own house before deciding to

raise taxes on others."

McGuire urged the board to put the tax issue up for a public vote before deciding the issue.

The board, instead, voted to adopt a levy of 55.1 cents per \$100 of assessed value for real property (54.7 plus an additional .4 cents to recover losses due to prior year exonerations) and 59.4 cents per \$100 on personal property (59.0 plus an additional .4 cents to recover losses due to prior year exonerations).

Dr. Chandra Varia, board member, was absent from the meeting, as well as board attorney Jonathan Shaw.

■ Continued from p1

## Drugs

"We feel the sentence makes a strong statement, that we have a zero-tolerance policy in Floyd County."

Taylor said the compelling part of the case was what Hagans did when he discovered he was going to be arrested.

"His attempts to keep himself out of trouble by threats and by destroying evidence added to the trouble," Taylor said. "It's difficult enough to get someone sentenced."

This led Taylor to bring a motion that was accepted during Hagans' sentencing which asked that his probation include an order for him to stay 1,000 feet away from the two witnesses he was charged with intimidating.

Overall, Taylor said he is very pleased with the resolution of the case and the sentence that was handed down.

"This is exactly the type of case we remain steadfastly in favor to prosecute," Taylor

said.

Hagans pleaded guilty to all 13 charges Aug. 30, which were from two separate cases filed against him in February and April.

Hagans pleaded guilty to the charges brought against him in the February case, including first-degree possession of cocaine and misdemeanors other than traffic violations.

In Hagans' April case, he entered a guilty plea to all 11

charges against him, including two counts of first-degree trafficking in controlled substance, two counts of first-degree complicity to traffic in a controlled substance, two counts of intimidating witnesses, two counts of tampering with evidence, theft by unlawful taking of under \$300, fourth-degree assault and criminal mischief. The two drugs were Percocet and methadone.

■ Continued from p1

## Appeal

port in both fact and law" and rejected the plaintiffs' request for a new trial. The judges also denied a motion for the court to review a recent scientific study on the dangers of even minimal radiation exposure.

"I'm very disappointed in the opinion," said attorney Ned Pillersdorf, who represents the plaintiffs and about four dozen other families who have filed separate suits against Ashland.

Property owners began filing lawsuits in 1997, after they became increasingly concerned about health risks and property damages due to radiation. The case of the two Johnson County families went to trial in July 2003.

In the appeal, plaintiffs claimed the trial judge unfairly kept them from submitting evidence against Ashland.

For example, the trial court excluded a video tape depicting Ashland employees dressed in protective gear pumping water from a pit into a creek near one family's property. The plaintiffs argued that

the water in the pit was contaminated.

The appeals court upheld the trial judge's decision, saying the videotape put Ashland at an unfair disadvantage because it did not prove the water was contaminated.

Ashland officials said radiation levels in the Martha oil fields are too low to be dangerous.

"It's all a matter of degree and exposure," said Ashland spokesman Jim Vitak. "The levels present there, there was no risk and no harm."

The issue was first addressed in 1987, when Ashland agreed to clean up groundwater contamination in a consent decree with the federal Environmental Protection Agency. Ashland also removed contaminated pipes and soil from the affected properties, according to court documents.

The clean up project, which was a stalled a few times during litigation, is still in the works but near completion, Vitak said.

Pillersdorf said he still plans to pursue jury trials for the rest of his plaintiffs: "The harm to this community is too great to give up."

## Music

■ Continued from p1

mitted this act while being aware of the copyright notices displayed on published copies of each of the recordings.

The plaintiffs are requesting that Tackett destroy all copies of the recordings in question. They are also claiming statutory damages for each infringement and requesting compensation for costs acquired in the lawsuit, legal fees and any other relief they may be entitled to.

According to the complaint, Tackett's actions have caused great and irreparable injury which cannot be fully compensated or measured in money.

Tackett's attorney was not available for comment concerning this case.

■ Continued from p1

## Obituaries

Home.

## MARTIN COUNTY

■ Mary Delong, 89, of Tomahawk, died Saturday, September 9, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in

Prestonsburg. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, September 12, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

■ Olive Cassady Endicott, 90, of Inez, died Thursday,

September 7, at Martin County Health Care Facility, in Inez. Funeral services were held Sunday, September 10, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

■ Continued from p2

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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

## Grateful, but suspicious

We don't mean to sound ungrateful. But it's sure difficult to avoid being suspicious about the sudden tumble in the cost of feeding our national addiction to gasoline.

Don't get us wrong. We would much rather pay the approximately \$2.34 a gallon now being charged by Hardin County outlets than the nearly \$3 we paid two or three weeks ago.

We have to ask, though: Is this precipitous drop in the price per gallon really because Labor Day is behind us and vacation time 2006 is history, as some claim? If that were so, you would think the U.S. Department of Energy would have anticipated it.

Instead, the Energy Information Administration last month warned Americans, "Significant relief from the high crude oil and gasoline prices is not likely to occur soon as the current tight market must also cope with strong gasoline demand, which typically reaches its seasonal peak in August, and the traditionally more active months of the hurricane season."

Is gas cheaper today because a tropical storm bearing down on the U.S. mainland failed to develop into a Katrina-like hurricane threatening off- and onshore drilling and transportation? After all, that's about when the prices started to decline.

Rejecting those stock explanations, we can't help but wonder whether it is just a coincidence that when members of Congress returned to the nation's Capitol after hearing their constituents' discontent about gas prices, the prices started falling. Production disruptions in the Mideast continued without relief. No new refineries had been built to process more crude oil. And developing countries have not cut back on their need for oil. None of these factors that affect oil prices can account for cheaper gas today.

So what other explanation could there be? We sincerely would like to hear it.

No matter what the explanation, though, it does not make much sense that about two weekends ago, gasoline sold for \$2.32 a gallon at the stations at the end of the Blue Grass Parkway in Lexington, while here in Hardin County, the same companies stations sold gas for at least 25 cents more a gallon. Even at \$2.34 a gallon today, the price here still is not as low as it was about 10 days ago in Lexington, much less anywhere near the \$2.179 it cost there a couple of days ago.

We know, you don't have to remind us: The price of what we pump into our vehicles in Radcliff and Elizabethtown is established in a world market and responds to the law of supply and demand. But don't they have one of those laws in Lexington, too?

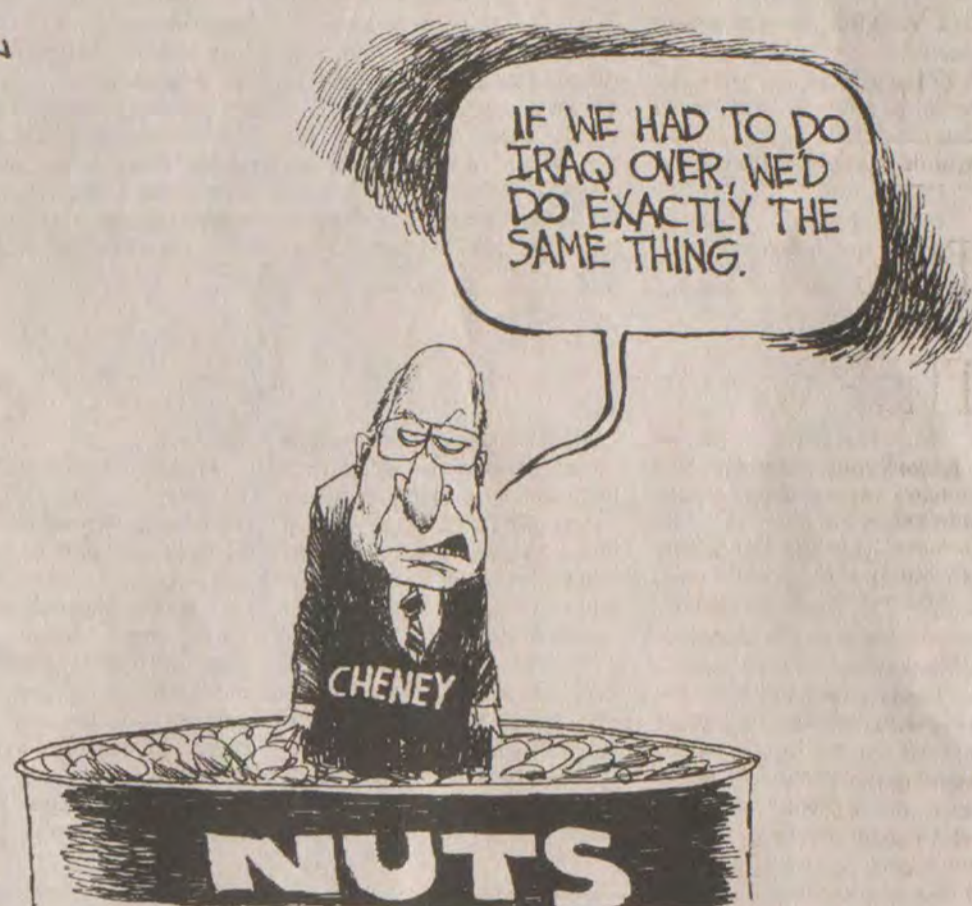
It sure seems there's something more going on here. Local consumers deserve an explanation, not just the same global-market, supply-and-demand, ethanol's-the-answer gobbledegook they're accustomed to getting. Kentucky Attorney General Greg Stumbo raised questions when prices spiked upward a few weeks for no apparent reason, and he should raise the questions today, too.

If he won't, some local government, some local public official or candidate should muster the courage to step forward, take on the oil companies, find out what's going on and tell the public.

Then we would know whether we really should be grateful.

— The News Enterprise, Elizabethtown

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GARY MARKSTEIN



Rich Lowry Column

### The heart of the matter

If there is one bedrock conviction underlying President Bush's foreign policy, it is that freedom is the desire of every human heart. Bush repeats the phrase at every opportunity, and it is the premise of his push for democracy in the Middle East and elsewhere: Given a free choice, it is assumed, people will choose freedom and the political system best suited to foster it.

The problem with Bush's freedom rhetoric is that it appears to not be true. Hezbollah and Hamas, and the populations that support them, desire the destruction of Israel above all, and are willing to endure warfare and dysfunctional societies to bring it about. The Sunni insurgents in Iraq want power more than anything else, and are willing to kill and maim to gain it. The Shia militias, in turn, desire revenge against the Sunni.

All around the chaotic and violent Middle East, human hearts are yearning for many things, but freedom isn't high on the list.

Bush's belief in the desire for freedom has influenced the policy of his administration in crucial ways. One reason that the administration hadn't more seriously considered worst-case scenarios prior to the fall of Baghdad was that its thinking was

soaked in the notion that once Saddam Hussein's dictatorship was removed, the true nature of the Iraqi people would be revealed as freedom-loving democrats. Don Rumsfeld justified the post-liberation looting as the natural exuberance of a newly freed people.

In this, they had forgotten conservative wisdom about the importance of institutions and culture.

Even if people desire to be free, it does them no good unless their desire can be channeled through appropriate governmental institutions, which are excruciatingly hard to build up once they have been torn down. We are still working on the Iraqi police, and will probably be doing so for years.

And while, all things being equal, people surely prefer to live in freedom than under a dictatorship, culture ensures that things are never equal. Someone living in a tribal or traditional culture will view the world differently, and have different values, than an atomized individual in the West. He might value sexual purity more than freedom, thus insisting on the repression of women. He might value his religious conviction that all of the Levant

should be Muslim-controlled over freedom and life itself. He might hate the dishonor of foreign occupation more than he loves anything.

For all these reasons, Hezbollah seems to have a better understanding of human hearts, at least in its part of the world, than the president of the United States does. This doesn't mean that Bush should abandon the

liberalizing thrust of his foreign policy. A democratizing Middle East offers the best alternative to the violent, dictator-plagued region of today. But his administration would be well served to focus on the

particular instead of the universal, and talk more of the messy compromises and disappointments that are inevitable on the path to a better Middle East, even if we eventually get there.

It would be nice if James Madison were by default the world's favorite political philosopher. He's not, because the human heart is more complicated — and twisted — than President Bush acknowledges in his rhetoric.

□□□

Rich Lowry is editor of the *National Review*.

beyond the beltway

### Bottled water, the latest scam

by PATRICIA LYNN  
MINUTEMAN MEDIA

Editor's note: Donald Kaul is on leave, recovering from a death in his family.

Remember public phones? In cities across the country, public payphones are disappearing. Where they exist, it's difficult to find one that works. Personal cell phones are everywhere and public phones seem to be fading into the past. Finding a working water fountain is no easy task either. Could water be next?

Bottled water brands are now as common as cell phones. Since Coke's Dasani and Pepsi's Aquafina started filling up vending machines, finding a well-maintained public water fountain has become more challenging. But water is unlike telecommunications in at least one critical way: We are not in the midst of a telecommunications crisis.

Today, over 1 billion people around the world do not have access to safe drinking water. According to the United Nations, most people in the world will not have access to water within 20 years. To some corporations, however, limited supplies plus increasing demand is a recipe for huge potential profits. Corporations like Coke, Pepsi and Nestlé are perched like vultures on

the brink of the global water crisis.

Nestlé has been lobbying for greater access to water that feeds the Great Lakes. Mesa Water is buying up groundwater rights in Texas, hoping to mark it up and sell it to the municipal water system in San Antonio. A handful of corporations are meeting with the World Bank and International Monetary Fund about controlling access to the world's freshwater resources.

Bottled water is the most visible example of the corporate control of our water. Today, most Americans drink bottled water and 1 in 5 drink only bottled water. The bottled market has more than doubled in the United States in the last decade. This boom, which is no accident, is quite troubling.

Beverage corporations spend tens of millions of dollars each year promoting bottled water as pure, safe, clean, and superior to tap water, even though many popular brands, like Coke's Dasani, Pepsi's Aquafina and Nestlé's Pure Life, actually come from our public taps. Here in the United States, our public water systems are much more regulated than bottled water brands; tap water is tested far more frequently than bottled water and its standards are more rigorously monitored, reported, and enforced by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Despite bottled water ads aimed at undermining our confidence in public tap water, studies have shown bottled water is no safer — and sometimes less safe. In 2004, half a million bottles of Dasani were recalled in Britain after they were

found to contain elevated levels of cancer-causing bromate. Over the past two months, grocery stores all over the Northeast have had to pull their own brands off the shelves for the same reason.

Adding insult to injury is the astronomical mark-up on each bottle of water. A family of three that follows the industry's hydration recommendations will spend more than \$24,000 over 18 years. That's nearly 15 percent more than the four-year cost of a public university here in the United States.

There is enough water on the planet for everyone, but not if corporations gobble it up and then turn around to sell it to the highest bidders. Water should remain under public, democratic control. It is a fundamental human right that should be protected and preserved under a global treaty similar to the one that now protects people from the deadly abuses of big tobacco corporations.

Locally, we need to support our public water systems and those who have worked steadily to improve them over the past two decades. We can start by sending letters to Coke, Pepsi and Nestlé challenging the marketing muscle and political power of these bottled water giants. We can also let our public officials know: It's not okay to replace our drinking fountains with vending machines.

□□□

Patricia Lynn is campaigns director of Corporate Accountability International, formerly Infact.

## The Times

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**INSIDESTUFF**

- TV listings • page A11
- Classifieds • page A14

**CAR TALK:**

Was muffler the victim of foul play?

see pg. A6

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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.

Wednesday, late afternoon. A dark ending for the day. Leaves heavy with rain and doing their best to shed their burden. Flowers blooming outside the window, grass green, all that. You say, there's a feel—a smell of Autumn in the air? But, honest, now—if you had slept all year and hadn't consulted a calendar, a newspaper or any other human, could you say it wasn't the end of a showery day in April?

**THE HUNTING UPTURN**

Squirrel-hunting is the talk of eastern Kentucky, these days. There are more people, more houses, fewer trees, every day it becomes more difficult to get away where it's quiet—and the woods are strangely full of squirrels. Fifty years ago, when you'd have thought everything was ideal for the lively, little squackers, they were so scarce you traveled miles to get into "squirrel territory." Now...you wonder why.

You, who like this type of hunting, may owe more than you know to the boys who enforce the game laws and those who afford another kind of protection by putting out those forest fires. The hunter might also do his bit by resisting the impulse to kill as much game as the law allows. The supply isn't inexhaustible, you know.

**DID MERCURY WEAR SHOES?**

Some of the Dewey Lake Fish & Game Club boys were having fun with their exhibit at the county fair last week. They had the pelt of a gray fox nailed to a board, and they took turns jokingly lying to big-eyed boys who stopped to look.

Up would step one of the club members and solemnly assure the youngster that "Bill Pettrey, there, ran that fox down and knocked him in the head with a rock."

This went on for some time with varying effect, till this boy came along, studied the late Sir Reynard, and was told of Pettrey's chase of the fox, and the demise of the latter. The boy looked Pettrey over, then asked:

"Run him down with your shoes on?"

**REPORT OF CONDITION**

Somebody remarked, the other day that the dog hasn't been mentioned herein of late, True, and there's a reason. Our old friend shows up at the office almost every day—even on Sunday, not being overly bright—but the fun has gone. The poor fellow is literally on his last legs. He has to be helped up, and only today couldn't, under his own power, get down. It's no fun to watch one of your best friends grow old, weak, begin to die. Because it was only three or four years ago when he was sailing onto any desk-top in sight, the change is the more striking. About the only space left

(See ALLEN, page six)



A student member of the Paintsville Elementary UNITE Club accepted the club's UNITE Club of the Year (Elementary) Excellence Award.

**Operation UNITE names  
Excellence Award winners**

**Local organizations,  
individuals recognized**

Operation UNITE recognized individuals and organizations in their efforts to support drug-free communities on Friday, September 8, during the "Celebration of Communities in Action" education conference and awards ceremony, held on the University of the Cumberland college campus, in Williamsburg.

Awards for excellence in service were received by Paintsville Elementary School, the UNITE Pike Coalition, Pike County resident Barry Chaney, and Whyne Supply Company for their work in southern and eastern Kentucky.

Formed in November, 2005, after encouragement from the Johnson County UNITE Coalition, the Paintsville Elementary School UNITE Club has worked hard to promote community awareness about the drug problems both inside and outside their school.

The club's 56 members collaborated with their principal to determine the best approaches to take in tackling their project. What resulted was a schoolwide anti-drug rally attended by former University of Kentucky basketball star Jeff Sheppard and community awareness programs for parents and community members presented at a

Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) meeting at the school.

Club members proudly sported UNITE t-shirts bearing drug-free messages as a means to showing their pride in being drug-free. The club ended its year with a semi-formal dance with the theme "Reaching for the Stars, Not Drugs."

The Paintsville Elementary School UNITE Club is sponsored by Elizabeth Bruner.

Wishing to bring attention to their anti-drug efforts and to the problem of substance abuse in Pike County, UNITE Pike Coalition leaders looked outside the box.

What resulted was the JULY JAM—"Jesus Unconditionally Loves You, Just Ask Me"—an interdenominational, two-day, faith-based event held in an effort to impact youth with the positive message of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Targeting all walks of life, the event featured a wide range of activities designed around an anti-drug theme, including local bands, free food, lots of displays and many give-away items provided by the community - including two \$5,000 four-year scholarships to Georgetown College.

The event brought much needed attention to the coalition and the region's drug problem, according to Debbie Trusty, UNITE Pike's full-time coordinator.

Friday's activities were held in

the Pikeville City Park. Saturday afternoon, there was a skateboard/BMX competition, followed by an evening concert at the Eastern Kentucky Expo Center featuring the Christian rock band Seventh Day Slumber, whose lead singer is a recovered drug addict who shared his powerful personal testimony.

Community response was so great for this innovative project that organizers have already begun planning for 2007 - with many more people who have come on board offering to volunteer their assistance.

Barry Chaney, of Pike County, long yearned for the opportunity to work with persons fighting drug addiction. As Lifeline chairman for Pike County, he has made helping others a personal mission.

Chaney has personally recruited dozens of people to facilitate Lifeline groups. Currently, Pike County has more Lifeline after-care support groups than any other county. Chaney personally teaches adolescent groups, supervises a group at the WestCare Kentucky residential facility, services the Pike County Drug Court, conducts a jail ministry, helps teens at schools and groups at the local hospital.

He is founder of The Road to Recovery Bike & Car Show, which will be an annual fundraising event

(See UNITE, page six)



Debbie Trusty, UNITE Pike, accepted the Innovative Project of the Year Excellence Award for Pike UNITE's July Jam festival.



Barry Chaney, third from left, accepted his Cornerstone Award for Excellence from Rep. Hal Rogers.

**MOVIES FROM  
THE BLACK LAGOON**

**'Running Scared'**

by TOM DOTY  
STAFF WRITER

A low-level mobster finds his life spiraling out of control when he loses a gun, which he was supposed to destroy after it was involved in the shooting of two corrupt cops, in this excellent crime flick that features razor sharp editing and gritty violence.

Joey Gazelle is a happily married hood who is juggling more than his share of balls when the film opens. He has his mob duties and family obligations which include raising a 10-year-old and looking after his brain-damaged dad. Things only get harder when a gun (he was supposed to dispose of) falls into the hands of his son's best friend, Oleg, who uses the weapon to shoot his abusive stepfather.



Tom Doty  
Times Columnist

Gazelle goes after the gun and the boy, but nothing seems to go his way. Every time he closes in on his goal, fate intervenes and sees the weapon change hands. Outside forces appear to be against him as well, with a corrupt cop breathing down his neck while the members of the crime family he serves, the Perellos, appear poised to cut him loose. All this and he must also contend with a street pimp (who has seen "Super Fly" way too many times) and some Russian mobsters who just happen to be connected to Oleg's dad as well as the Perello family, which has been making money for both clans via a gasoline scam (hmmmm ... corruption linked to gasoline price-fixing — where do they get these ideas?).

It all comes to a point at a hockey stadium, where Gazelle finds himself trussed up on the ice while two players practice their slap shots at his bloodied cranium. It's a knockout sequence that sees more blood on the ice than when Guy La Fleur played for the New York Rangers.

What makes this work is the dynamic direction of Wayne Kramer, who also supplies the screenplay that finds bad situations getting impossibly worse at every turn. It's the cinematic equivalent of watching a man chase his hat through a breezy park while a category five hurricane descends on him.

Kramer doesn't stop at making Gazelle's life complicated and reserves the best scenario for his wife, Teresa, who finds herself drawn into the chase when Oleg calls her on a purloined cell phone in the midst of a sinister predicament which finds him captured by a married couple who are also sexual predators. It's a riveting set piece that harkens back to "Pulp Fiction," when Bruce Willis found himself kidnapped by a pair of sadistic homosexuals, but has an even more explosive finale that will take your breath away.

Kramer also recruits a fine cast which top lines Paul Walker as Gazelle. He is much better here than in "The Fast and the Furious" and manages to flesh out his character despite the fact that the film is plot driven, as evidenced in a scene where he explains

(See LAGOON, page six)

**A handful of emeralds**

by REBECCA CHRISTIAN  
"CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE WOMAN'S SOUL"

When Jeff and I got married 16 years ago on a blustery Saturday, it never crossed our minds that the day would come when it would seem like a long time ago. Since that time, we've lived in eight towns and had three children. We're on our third bottle of Tabasco sauce, and I just tore up the last of the sheets we got as wedding gifts for the cleaning rags. Unfortunately, most of the horrible

earth-tone furniture we bought for our first apartment survives. My wedding dress hangs in the back of my closet. I can still zip it up (as long as I'm not in it). We've gone through four cars (alas — none of them new), and too many ups and downs to count.

One day stands out in my memory. We were living out East and my folks had come to visit. Because we were broke and exhausted new parents, Mom and Dad kindly footed the bill for a week in a beach house at the Jersey shore. The arrangement was

hard on Jeff's ego, I was in a foul mood myself, and he and I had an enormously stupid quarrel over a game of Monopoly. He stomped out of the house and across the street to the beach. A couple of hours later, as I waited for him on the shore, he emerged from the Atlantic badly sunburned, carrying an air mattress.

"Where's your wedding ring?" I demanded.

He looked down at his left hand, stricken. His finger had constricted from the cold water as he drifted on the raft. The ring slipped off and was out there with the sea anemones. I started to cry.

"Take your ring off and throw it out in the ocean, too," he begged me.

"Why on earth would I throw away gold when we don't have enough money to buy gas to get home?" I wailed.

"Because both of our rings would be out in the ocean together."

Practicality won out over hearts and flowers, and I wear my ring to this day. That memory, however, has kept me going

through many a time that was far from romantic.

When our anniversary rolls

around, I think of that day on the beach. And I think of what the late Charlie MacArthur told Helen Hayes when he met her at a party. He gave her a handful of peanuts and said, "I wish these were emeralds."

After they had been happily married for many years and MacArthur was near the end of his life, he gave her a handful of emeralds and said,

"I wish these were peanuts. Me, too."



# Was muffler the victim of foul play?

by TOM and RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:  
I have a question that might involve automotive espionage. Last Saturday, my wife and I were awakened by a very loud explosion that shook our upstairs windows — we thought someone had bombed our neighborhood. We investigated to find everyone crowded around a neighbor's old Ford Bronco. Evidently, when my neighbor started his car, the entire muffler system exploded, leaving a pile of debris surrounding the vehicle. I've never heard of a muffler going up in

smithereens like that. I do know, however, that this neighbor is in a virtual hatefest with another neighbor — a former Navy Seal — and I know that this other neighbor has been hoping for an opportunity for revenge for a previous insult. Is it possible that the muffler just went up in spontaneous combustion — much like the drummers in the rock group Spinal Tap — or do you think that this was the result of some nefarious human act? We believe it was the latter. My wife and I are dying to know. — Randy  
RAY: I suspect that you guys are right, Randy. This has all the

markings of an I.E.D.: an Irate Ex-military Dirty-trick.  
TOM: It is possible for a muffler to explode. For instance, if your spark is interrupted, or if the spark plugs aren't creating enough spark to start the car, unburned gasoline can collect in the exhaust system. And then, when the car finally does start, that unburned gas can ignite.  
RAY: This is commonly known as a backfire. And it can be severe enough to blow a hole in the muffler or to blow a weakened muffler right off the car. But when that happens and you examine the muffler, what

you usually see is a gash — a 4- or 6-inch opening where the muffler's metal seam has separated. I've never seen pieces of the muffler distributed around the car.  
TOM: So I'm guessing the Navy Seal calculated very carefully, and put just enough explosive under the car to scare the hell out of this guy without actually maiming him.  
RAY: Or maybe he miscalculated, and only blew up the muffler.  
TOM: In any case, the lesson here is: Don't start a feud with your neighbor if he's a former Navy Seal. And I hope the

neighbor with the Bronco is smart enough to leave the investigation of this to the proper authorities and not take it upon himself to escalate this feud any further. After all, these guys are underwater-demolition experts. You don't want the next explosion to take place while you're sitting on the throne doing the crossword puzzle.  
□□□  
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](http://www.cartalk.com).



## Training

for Lifeline, recruits volunteers for Hooked on Fishing - Not on Drugs events, attends many coalition activities, and continues to organize Pike's faith-based community in the fight against drugs.  
In addition, Chaney holds down a full-time job as a railroad employee.  
Chaney makes the time to ensure that changes are made and to offer solutions toward making Pike County a drug-free place in which its citizens may live.  
Monte Boyd, president and CEO of Whyne Supply Company, knew that he wanted to become involved the moment he heard about the UNITE program.  
"It's a problem that must be won. It's a problem facing our communities, our employees

and certainly our businesses," he said in a UNITE promotional video released last year. A video that is helping make a major impact in the region.  
Boyd noted that business and industry can choose to become involved in any one of UNITE's major prongs - investigations, treatment, or education. Whyne Supply, under Boyd's leadership, has chosen its major focus to be centered around the treatment component.  
In September, 2005, Whyne Supply orchestrated a Ride Against Drugs event throughout southern and eastern Kentucky. The event raised more than \$67,800 for new treatment facilities in Pike and Clay counties. The company also hosted a Ride For Hope event in Perry County

yesterday.  
"Whyne Supply has recognized the devastation that drugs can have upon a business and their employees," said

Karen Engle, UNITE executive director. "Drugs can decimate the potential employee base, cut productivity, contribute to absenteeism, and

increase the cost of health care and liability. A community's problem is everyone's problem," she said.  
The dedication that Whyne

Supply has shown serves as a prime example of a corporation giving back to the community it serves," Engle said at the September 8 awards event.



Monte Boyd, president and CEO of Whyne Supply Company, accepted the UNITE Appreciation Award for Excellence from Congressman Hal Rogers.

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## Lagoon

an act of violence that heralded his 14th birthday.  
Cameron Bright manages some intense moments as the put-upon Oleg and definitely has a future in the business.  
Vera Farmigia scores too as Gazelle's wife and the scene where she rescues Oleg should get her the kinds of roles that used to be reserved for Jennifer Jason Leigh.  
Chazz Palminteri shows up in a bit of inspired casting (against type) as a corrupt detective who despises gangsters.  
The smaller roles are gold here too and the film benefits from the two seasoned actors (Bruce Altman and Elizabeth Mitchell) who appear all too briefly as a pair of serial sex abusers who target children.  
There is a palpable and quiet menace in their performances which will have you on the edge of your seat.

David Warshovsky conveys a similar "this guy is capable of anything" vibe as a low-level pimp who fancies himself an Original Gangster.  
All this and some brilliant use of CGI effects which make a cinematic event out of every bullet fired. The dialogue is pungent too with about 50 words typed into the script and punctuated by liberal use of the F-bomb.  
About the only thing wrong with this movie is a last-minute revelation about Gazelle that feels forced and very Hollywood. Otherwise this is a fine, if extremely dark, drama that manages to marry the crime drama to a Road Runner cartoon tempo and only misses one beat.  
Best line: "You spill Perello blood, you're deep six invested."  
2006, rated R.

## Allen

here for the old boy is his obituary.  
**IT LEAVES US IN A "STATE"**  
A little research, perhaps an inquiry in the right spot, would give us the date when it happened and who was responsible. But I'm not so sure I want to know, or that you need to know.  
I refer to the time when the goldenrod was designated the state flower of the state of Kentucky, and to who was responsible for this tragedy.  
Why a state that has its dog-

wood, its rhododendron, or literally hundreds of varieties of bloom and flower should have foisted upon it as its very own official flower, what is no more than an obnoxious weed with a sickly crown of greenish-yellow, is a mystery that surely will defy any mind that hasn't slipped a cog.  
Goldenrod doesn't mean Kentucky. It means watery eyes and running noses and whooping sneezes. It means hayfever time for a stateful of people.  
Goldenrod, a state flower! I'll take dog fennel.

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# FLOYD COUNTY Sports

**Inside**

- FB Scoreboard • A8
- KHSAA • A8
- NASCAR • A10
- Sunday Classifieds • A14

## Tigers dominate Betsy Layne

### Paintsville amasses 527 yards of total offense

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

PAINTSVILLE – In last week's loss to Prestonsburg, Paintsville senior quarterback Daniel Pugh was only able to get the Tiger offense into the endzone one time. This week, Paintsville returned to the gridiron, playing at home against future Class A, District Eight Betsy Layne. If Friday night's game is any indication

of how Paintsville will fare against the Bobcats in district competition next season, Betsy Layne could have much work ahead of it. On Friday night, Pugh led Paintsville to a 65-14 victory over the Bobcats. The senior Tiger rushed for 197 yards and five touchdowns on 10 carries as Paintsville rolled on Homecoming Night.

Paintsville put together 527 yards of total offense in the blowout win.

Tiger Coach Jim Tom Allen, in his first season at the helm of the Tiger football program, spread the football around in the non-district contest. The Paintsville offense showed plenty of versatility, even completing a half-back pass.

Shane Cantrell, Kyle Sublett, Nehemiah Doderor and Tyler Deaton added one touchdown apiece for the

(See TIGERS, page eight)



Betsy Layne junior quarterback Brennan Case rushed for 48 yards and one touchdown in Friday night's loss to Paintsville.

photo by Steve LeMaster

## Rebels upend Belfry

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

BELFRY – Visiting Allen Central got off to a great start and defeated defending 15th Region champion Belfry 2-0 (25-20, 27-25) Thursday.

Allen Central claimed the first game 25-20. The Rebels won the second game 27-25, thus claiming the match.

The Rebels allowed Belfry to get out in front early on the first game. Belfry led Allen Central 7-4 in the opening game before the Rebels lived up.

Allen Central (11-5) was led by senior Christina Blevins with eight kills on .500 hitting. Middle hitter Courtney Martin had six kills, also on .500 hitting. Outside hitter Brittany Hodge had five kills on .333 hitting. The Rebels hit .408 and recorded 14

service aces. The four-time regional champion's offense was limited by a tough Allen Central

defense as the Rebels blocked 12 and prevented 96 point attempts with 35 confirmed digs.

Allen Central was led by senior Alesia Hall, who had 15 confirmed digs on 25 attempts. Hall was quite productive in the 15th Region match, committing only three errors.

Christina Blevins stopped 30 attempts with 10 digs for the Rebels. Kimbo Blevins blocked four with two partial blocks and Courtney Martin racked up three blocks and four partial blocks for the Allen Central squad.

Koko Martin ran the offense 41 times, dishing up 12 while Hannah Howard recorded nine assists.

The Rebels were virtually faultless on their serving, recording 91-percent with three players putting 20 serves over without an error. Kimbo Blevins landed five aces in 13 attempts for the winning squad.

"Make no mistake, this was a

(See REBELS, page eight)

TOMCATS 38, BLACKCATS 20



photos by Jamie Howell

The Ashland offense stayed on the ground for most of the game Friday night against host Prestonsburg. The Blackcat defense held Ashland on a few drives and forced the Tomcats to punt on numerous occasions.

## Thomas rushes for 209 yards as Ashland knocks off P'burg

by JAMIE HOWELL  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

PRESTONSBURG – After falling 55-9 at Ashland in 2005, the Prestonsburg Blackcats entered the 2006 campaign with somewhat of a chip on their shoulder. Ashland rolled into Blackcat Stadium Friday night fresh off three straight wins. The Tomcats knocked off Portsmouth West, Ohio last week on the road and were looking to make it two straight away wins. Prestonsburg was coming off its first win of the season last week over Paintsville. A big crowd was on hand for Homecoming Night, with most hoping to see a Blackcat win over Ashland. Prestonsburg, despite giving one of its best efforts of the season, fell short in the Homecoming game. Ashland built on a 17-7 halftime lead and defeated the Blackcats 38-20.

Prestonsburg would win the coin toss and elect to take the football to open the game. A Prestonsburg fumble on the kickoff return would give Ashland the football on the Blackcat 26-yard line. Ashland junior tailback Matt Thomas needed only two carries to find the endzone, scampering in from 18 yards out to give the Tomcats an early 6-0 lead. Preston Freeman came on to add the extra point and Ashland led 7-0 with 10:16 left in the opening period.

(See BLACKCATS, page eight)



Sophomore Allen Craynon (not pictured) scored all three of Prestonsburg's touchdowns.

## Madness tickets to be distributed Sept. 30

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON – Tickets for the University of Kentucky's 2006 Big Blue Madness at Rupp Arena will be available Saturday, Sept. 30, at 8 a.m., at the Memorial Coliseum ticket office, online at UKathletics.com, and at all Kentucky-area TicketMaster outlets. Madness, the first practice opportunity for Kentucky's 2006-07 men's and women's basketball teams, is Friday, Oct. 13, at 9 p.m.

Tickets are free again this year, however online and TicketMaster outlet sales have a service fee attached. There is a limit of four tickets per person. A list of Kentucky-based TicketMaster outlets can be found at Ticketmaster.com.

At the request of campus public safety officials, fans wishing to line up ahead of time at Memorial Coliseum are asked to do so no earlier than 8 a.m., Wednesday, Sept. 27. The Athletics Department will provide portable restroom facilities, but safety concerns will prohibit the use of permanent, wooden-type structures, and propane tanks or other open flames used in cooking.

Last year, the first time Madness was held at Rupp Arena, drew a national-record 23,174 fans for UK's first practice. 20,000 tickets were snapped up in the first 35 minutes of availability.

## All 'A' meeting set for Sept. 28

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

PIKEVILLE – Phelps High School boys' basketball coach Clay Campbell, All "A" Classic representative for the 15th Region, has announced a meeting for all 15th Region All "A" coaches, to be held Sept. 28 at 6 p.m. in the middle conference room of the Pike County Board of Education. All 15th Region girls' basketball, boys' basketball, baseball and softball coaches must attend the meeting.

The South Floyd High School boys' basketball team is the defending 15th Region All "A" Classic champion. On the girls' side, Paintsville High School's girls are defending 15th Region champs. Paintsville made a strong run in last season's Touchstone Energy All "A" Classic state tournament, playing its way into the semifinals.

## Allen Central hosting 15th Region Small School Spectacular

TIMES STAFF REPORT

EASTERN – Allen Central will host the 15th Region Small School Spectacular Sept. 18, 19 and 21 at J.E. Campbell Arena. Matches will begin each night at 6 p.m. The event will be a double-elimination tournament for the 15th Region's Class A schools. Although there is no sanctioned All "A" Volleyball tournament at the state level, this tournament promises to be a showcase at the regional level.

The sport of volleyball continues to gain momentum throughout the 15th Region.

"This promises to be a great week of volleyball at Allen Central in J.E. Campbell Arena, with some great competition," Allen Central Coach Larry Maynard. "Get out and support your schools and volleyball in the 15th Region."

On Monday, Betsy Layne will face Paintsville to open the tournament. Betsy Layne is a young team with only two seniors.

"Our record does not show the talent of the team, but we are improving every day and every game," third-year Betsy Layne Coach Christina Crase said.

This will mark the second meeting this season between the two teams with the Ladycats holding a 1-0 edge. Betsy Layne is led by Brittany Baker, Jordon Jarrell and Samantha Stewardson.

The Tigers are led by Mikka Ratliff, Jessica Grimm, Logan Vanhoose, Kendra Sammons, Whitney Preston and Sarah Cyrus.

The 7 p.m. match pits Allen Central against

(See 15TH REGION, page eight)



GETTING ITS KICKS: Piarist School is fielding its first ever soccer team this year. It's a co-ed squad that's playing a limited schedule. The Knights played Pikeville Thursday night in their first-ever game. Pikeville won 7-1 as upstart Piarist showed a lot of promise in its first outing. T.J. Hollyfield scored the only goal off an assist from Chris Baker. Josh Ousley is pictured on defense for the Piarist team.

**Tigers**

Continued from p7

**Tigers.**  
Before the game, Allen eluded to last week's 21-8 loss to Prestonsburg, saying his team "had some unfinished business left." Paintsville was going all cylinders when the Bobcats visited Walter Brugh Football Complex.

Paintsville - on two Pugh rushing touchdowns and another from Doderer - led 19-0 at the end of the first quarter. The Tigers held a commanding 39-0 lead in the second quarter when Betsy Layne's Brandon Blair got loose on a kick return and raced for an 80-yard touchdown. The Bobcats then tried to cap Blair's touchdown and fell short on a two-point conversion attempt following a fumble.

Paintsville, playing into front of a large home crowd, roared into half-time leading 53-6.  
Betsy Layne managed just 77 yards of total offense on 41 plays. Bobcat junior quarterback Brennan Case, under pressure for most of the game, led Betsy Layne in rushing with 48 yards on 11 carries. Blair, who has emerged as a proven rusher for the Bobcats, found himself bottled up on most offensive carries. He finished with a mere six yards rushing on five carries.

Through the air, Case completed three of 19 passes for 19 yards. The Bobcats ended the game with just five first downs.  
Betsy Layne's only other touchdown came with 8:03 left to play when Case cut through the Paintsville defense and scored on a 53-yard run.

Paintsville finished with 12 first downs, 11 of which came in the first half. Each team had three turnovers in the Week Five matchup.  
Paintsville (3-2) is due back in action Friday on the road against Phelps. Betsy Layne (1-4) will also play in Week Six when it hits the road and travels to Hi Hat for a game against county rival South Floyd. Kickoff for both games is set for 7:30 p.m.

**15th Region**

Continued from p7

Phelps. This marks the first time these two teams have met since 2003.  
Allen Central enters the Phelps match after having won in its last two outings. The Rebels are led by Christina Blevins, Alesia Hall, Courtney Martin, Tiffany Owens,

Brittany Hodge, Hannah Howard, Koko Martin and Kimbo Blevins.  
Match three is at 8 p.m. and places Sheldon Clark against Pikeville. Sheldon Clark brings a 5-9 record to J.E. Campbell Arena. The Martin County high school squad is a

young team under the guidance of first-year coach Roger Harless. The Cardinals got off to a slow start, but feel they can get on the right track during the tournament.  
"Our goal this year is to win 10 matches and be competitive in district play," stated Sheldon

Clark Coach Roger Harless.  
Sheldon Clark is led by Candice Preece, Brittany McCoy, Brittany Dalton, Deshia Finley and Ashley Sumpter.  
Tournament favorite South Floyd has a bye and will play the first match on Tuesday

against the winner of the Sheldon Clark-Pikeville first round match. Currently 11-3 on the season, South Floyd was the Septemberfest tournament and this past week posted a convincing win against Prestonsburg, improving to 4-0 in the Floyd County

Conference in the process. Amber Tackett, Billie Stumbo, Brittany Little, Danielle Tackett, Bailey Hamilton, Samantha Issac, Stephanie Slone, Trista Damron and Ashley Castle all play key roles in the Raiders' success.

**Rebels**

Continued from p7

team effort," said Allen Central Coach Larry Maynard. "Every player on the floor and on the bench had a role in this win. They came in this match committed to winning, pulled together as a team, played

together, pursued the ball on every volley, transitioned and covered well, and were focused on their task. There were some fantastic individual efforts but their team effort was unbelievable."

Allen Central will return to action Monday at home at 7 p.m. against Phelps in the Small School Spectacular.

**Two yearlings top \$1 million on fourth day at Keeneland**

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON - A colt by Pulpit sold for \$1.3 million to Stonestreet Stables to take the top price Thursday at the September Yearling Sale at

Keeneland.  
Jess Jackson, on behalf of Stonestreet, outbid representatives of Sheikh Mohammed al Maktoum to buy the colt, a half brother to Argentine Group 1 winners Rocking Trick and Randy Cat. The colt was consigned by Taylor Made Sales Agency.  
Bloodstock agent Tim Kegel paid the second-highest price of the day, \$1.2 million, for a colt by Distorted Humor. Kegel signed the ticket on behalf of an undisclosed rac-

ing partnership.  
It was the first time in the sale's history that two yearlings sold for \$1 million on the fourth day of bidding.  
Keeneland sold 273 horses for \$41.7 million on Thursday, up 21.6 percent over last year when 263 horses brought \$34.3 million.  
There was no sale on Friday. Selling resumed on Saturday, September 16 and is scheduled to run through Sept. 25. Sessions begin at 10:00 a.m. each day.

**MSU men's tennis team plays in Southern Intercollegiate Championships**

TIMES STAFF REPORT

MOREHEAD - The Morehead State University men's tennis team participated in one of the premier Fall tournaments last weekend at the Southern Intercollegiate Championships at the Dan Magill Tennis Center on the campus of University of Georgia. Four Eagles players competed against some of the nation's top collegiate players.

"This tournament is the premier event in the south. The NCAA tournament is held there, and it was a tremendous opportunity for us to see where we want to take Morehead State tennis," said head coach Kevin Fulton.  
For the Eagles, senior Adam Storti came away with a 2-1 record, including a win over an opponent from OVC rival Murray State. Participating in the flight two singles, Storti opened with a 6-4, 6-0 setback to Virginia Tech's Nico Delgado. Storti came back to claim a 6-4, 3-6, 10-5 win over Charlotte's Ryan Johnson the next day, and then beat Murray's Yuri Pompev, 6-1, 6-1, to close the tournament.  
Also participating for MSU was no. 1 singles player Jacob McLeod. He dropped a 6-1, 6-3 decision to Yale's

Brandon Wai, who was ranked in the 9-16 category. Martin Steigwardt of Georgia State handed McLeod a 6-2, 6-1 defeat on the second day.  
In flight three singles, newcomer Dusan Milovanovic was forced to retire in his match with Tennessee's John Thorton. Freshman Tyler Worley fell to Charleston Southern's Steven Dean (6-0, 6-0) and Chattanooga's Razvan Axente (6-0, 6-1).  
In doubles, Storti and McLeod played in flight one, falling 8-5 to sixth-seeded Stiegwardt/Anza Cevka of Georgia State. Milovanovic/Worley lost an 8-1 contest to Kiril Dimitrov/Aaron Carpenter of Duke.  
The Eagles will next play at the Middle Tennessee Fall Invitational Sept. 22-24.

**Proposals for KHSAA delegate meeting released**

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON - The Kentucky High School Athletic Association Board of Control, at its regular September meeting on Friday, reviewed 21 proposals that will be considered by KHSAA member schools at its Annual Meeting scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 19 at the Lexington Convention Center. Proposals submitted by individual member schools and the KHSAA Board were released to all member schools as well as posted on the KHSAA website (khsaa.org).  
The Association would like

to remind individuals of the KHSAA Bylaws approval process:  
■ A Proposal may be submitted by the designated representative of any KHSAA member school by the deadline (Sept. 10).  
■ Proposals are then presented at the Annual Meeting.  
■ A two-thirds vote of the registered delegates in attendance is required for passage.  
■ Following the Annual Meeting, the KHSAA Board of Control reviews approved proposals and forwards them to the Kentucky Board of Education with either a favorable or unfavorable recom-

mendation for adoption.  
■ The entire KHSAA Constitution and Bylaws, including approved proposals, are then reviewed by the Legislative Research Commission Regulation Review Committee for a final decision regarding approval or implementation.  
■ KBE then recommends approval or lack of approval for inclusion through 702 KAR 7:065 for the following year.  
The Board also took action with regard to the State Football Championships and the start of the playing season. For 2007 and 2008 the Board

voted to set the dates of the State Football Championships for National Federation of High School Associations (NFHS) Corresponding Week No. 23, which means that the games will be scheduled one week later than the current dates. This change was made to address concerns regarding the starting date for competition.  
Following will be the first week of the 2007 and 2008 playing seasons:  
For 2007, the first playing date will be Friday, Aug. 24. The State Football Finals will be for Dec. 6-8 with a final schedule for each of the Class

Championship games to be determined. For 2008, the first playing date will be Friday, Aug. 29 with the Finals scheduled for Dec. 11-13.  
The Board also adopted a playoff rotation system for the third and fourth rounds for the 2007 and 2008 seasons. A rotation was previously adopted for the 2006 playoffs.  
Commissioner Brigid DeVries shared with the Board a letter from Assistant Commissioner Roland Williams announcing his retirement, effective January 1, 2007. Williams has served the Association as Assistant Commissioner since 2002.

Williams, the former Bardstown coach, Athletic Director and KHSAA Board of Control member, closes out a 33-year career in education. A search for his replacement will begin immediately, including requirements for applicants.  
The Board welcomed Rowan County Superintendent Marvin Moore who was elected as representative of Regions 15 and 16 and will complete the term of Paul Dotson who resigned. Moore's term will include the 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 school years. He previously served on the Board from 1988-1992.

**Blackcats**

Continued from p7

Prestonsburg would answer with 5:22 left in the first quarter as sophomore Allen Craynon raced 56 yards for a touchdown. Seth Moore's extra point then evened the game at 7-7.  
The score would remain even at 7-7 after one quarter of play, before the Tomcats took the lead again at the 8:33 mark of the second quarter.  
Thomas again hit paydirt, this time from 59 yards out to give the Tomcats a 14-7 lead. Prestonsburg seemed to get a big break late in the first half as Thomas looked to have touched the football as he tried to field a punt. Wes Hall came up with the football for Prestonsburg but the officials ruled Thomas had not touched the ball, giving the Tomcats possession. It took only two plays for Thomas to carry the football from the Ashland 25 to the Blackcat 10 yard line. The Tomcats would add a Freeman field goal to take a 17-7 lead into the half. Thomas totaled 160 yards on the ground in the first half alone for the Tomcats.  
After an extended halftime, both teams returned to the field as Prestonsburg senior Bridgette McBride was being crowned 2006 Homecoming Queen.  
Prestonsburg was looking to get a defensive stop to open the half, but senior Drew McDavid had different ideas. McDavid took the second half

kickoff back 84 yards for a touchdown to give the Tomcats a comfortable 24-7 lead with 11:44 left in the third quarter. Prestonsburg got within 10 points late in the third quarter as quarterback Bobby Hughes found Allen Craynon with a 21-yard touchdown strike.  
The Blackcat defense played well through the better part of three quarters, before tiring late in the game. Fullback Josh Cordle helped pad the Ashland lead with a one-yard touchdown plunge at the 9:06 mark of the fourth quarter.  
The Blackcat offense, needing some quick scores, went to the air on their next possession but McDavid would shut the door with a 35 yard interception return for a score as the Tomcats took a 38-14 lead. Prestonsburg would tack on a late score by Craynon (his third of the game) on a two-yard run to set the final score.  
Prestonsburg played the entire second half without the services of starting linebacker Nathaniel Stephens, who was injured late in the first half.  
The Blackcats got a strong

effort from several different players. Lincoln Slone and Craynon led the offense while Wes Woods, Tyler Layne and Austin McKinney all contributed greatly on the defensive side of the ball.  
Prestonsburg Coach John DeRossett, while not happy with a loss, was not disappointed with his teams effort.  
"We are getting better every week," said DeRossett "Matt Thomas is just a tremendous athlete and he could be a big time Division I player for somebody. We just could not contain him."  
Thomas finished the night with a career-high 209 yards rushing Craynon also finished with a career night for the Blackcats, scoring three times and totaling over 110 all-purpose yards. Woods led the Blackcat defense, recording nine tackles on the night.  
Ashland improved to 4-1 on the season, while Prestonsburg fell to 1-3.  
Prestonsburg will open district play this Friday when it hosts Sheldon Clark. Kickoff at Blackcat Stadium is set for 7:30 p.m.

**H.S. FOOTBALL SCOREBOARD**

Friday's Games	
Bath County 26, Fairview 0	Knox Central 39, McCreary Central 6
Belfry 48, Magoffin County 0	Lexington Christian 21, Raceland 10
Bell County 17, Corbin 14	Lincoln County 31, Whitley County 18
Boyd County 35, Wheelersburg, OH 7	Lynn Camp 52, Pineville 14
Breathitt County 19, Harlan 7	Madison Southern 40, Rowan County 21
Clay County 44, Letcher County Central 30	Middlesboro 46, Cawood 18
East Carter 39, Estill County 12	Montgomery County 26, Madison Central 21
George Rogers Clark 49, Garrard County 27	Owen County 48, Jackson County 6
Grant County 27, Leslie County 20	Paintsville 65, Betsy Layne 14
Highlands 49, Southwestern 14	Pikeville 51, South Floyd 0
Jenkins 28, Phelps 22	Prestonsburg 38, Ashland Blazer 20
Johnson Central 55, Lawrence County 12	Russell 63, Morgan County 13
	West Carter 61, Powell County 26

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# Chad's weekend: List, dance, catch

by JOE KAY ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — Chad Johnson's weekend calendar was mighty full: — Publicly unveil this year's "who-didn't-cover-me" list. — Do the "Chicken Dance" at the city's Oktoberfest. — Top it off with a big game, and, maybe, a new touchdown celebration, against the Cleveland Browns. ...



Chad Johnson

And, Cleveland's defense has shown a knack for containing the Bengals' offense. The Browns came to town last December and lost 23-20 on Shayne Graham's field goal as time ran out.

Palmer threw for only 93 yards in that game, and Johnson had a season-low two catches for 22 yards.

The Browns' cornerbacks were so impressive that Johnson gave them a check mark on his who-covered-me list — the only defensive backs who got credit all season.

"I owe both of them," Johnson said. "You know, 'Welcome to the Jungle.' Everyone can look forward to a good game not out of myself, but us as a team offensively."

Browns coach Romeo Crennel has an explanation for the Browns' good showing last season: Cincinnati was coming off a victory in Pittsburgh that essentially clinched the division title.

"Last year when we came down there, I think (the Bengals) had come off an emotional victory and were riding pretty high, and the lowly Browns

were coming to town," Crennel said. "So I don't think the guys were at their best for that game."

This time, the intrastate rivalry comes one week before the Bengals head to Pittsburgh for an emotional rematch of their playoff game.

"It might be a similar situation this time, because the lowly Browns are coming to town and I think you have the mighty Steelers after that," Crennel said.

Not a chance. "That's what he's hoping," Palmer said, emphatically.

The difference is that this time, the Bengals feel they have something important to accomplish before they play the team that knocked them out of the playoffs. The offense was a little out of sync in Kansas City, and Palmer & Co. want to get it running at full speed.

"Offensively, we have a high standard for ourselves," Palmer said. "When we don't go out there and move the ball and score every time, we are a little bit down."

There's a determination to get it right in their home opener.

"As time goes on, Carson and I will get in a rhythm like no other," said Johnson, who didn't catch a touchdown pass in Kansas City. "It's going to get scary by the time we get to Week 4 and Week 5."

The Browns can't wait that long to get their act together. They know that one more ugly loss will lead fans to dismiss them as another bad team.

"Everybody will until we start winning around here," Winslow said. "And we will win. I guarantee that. We will start winning."

This Sunday? "You want some bait?" Winslow said. "I'll give you some bait. We've got to win. It's a must-win game and the better team will win."

## NFL Schedule

- Today's Games
Buffalo at Miami, 1 p.m.
Detroit at Chicago, 1 p.m.
Houston at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.
Carolina at Minnesota, 1 p.m.
Oakland at Baltimore, 1 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Atlanta, 1 p.m.
New Orleans at Green Bay, 1 p.m.
Cleveland at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.
Arizona at Seattle, 4:05 p.m.
St. Louis at San Francisco, 4:05 p.m.
New England at N.Y. Jets, 4:15 p.m.
Tennessee at San Diego, 4:15 p.m.
Kansas City at Denver, 4:15 p.m.
Washington at Dallas, 8:15 p.m.
Monday's Game
Pittsburgh at Jacksonville, 8:30 p.m.

# Haddix hunts title in final season on The Hill

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

BOWLING GREEN — Western Kentucky University quarterback Justin Haddix enjoys hunting and fishing whenever possible, activities he really started finding time for while he was at Breathitt County High School although he began when he was a sophomore. He says that it's relaxing to be with a few friends or family members in the peaceful confines of the great outdoors.



Justin Haddix

So one might be surprised to find out that what the Jackson native really enjoys is games like the Hilltoppers' season opener this year, played in front of 90,000-plus screaming fans at Georgia.

"I really like playing in front of people," he says. "But, you can't do that all of the time. Going into the woods is really relaxing, and spending time with family and friends is nice." For Haddix, finding the time to relax has been hard to come by.

There's a good reason for that, though — since he came to the Hill in 2003, he has started all 38 of WKU's contests.

That he would become the Toppers' starter as a freshman wasn't etched in stone, since he arrived on campus to find himself in the middle of a nine-man battle for the position vacated by Lawrence County High School graduate Jason Michael. Michael graduated after leading WKU to the 2002 NCAA Division I-AA national championship.

"I didn't know that when I signed. The coaches told me that there would probably be three or four guys competing for the job," Haddix recalls. "I found out it was nine when I came to campus. On the first day of preseason camp I was the second quarterback to go in, so I knew coach [Willie] Taggart was going to give me an opportunity to earn the starting job."

Eventually the Hilltopper staff began moving some of the candidates to other positions, leaving the trio of Haddix, Alex Dukes and Blake Ladson fighting for the job. From that point, Haddix can pinpoint the minute that he felt he earned the starting nod. "We had a red zone scrimmage one day and I threw two touchdowns," he says. "I haven't looked back since then."

Haddix would go on to be named the Gateway Football Conference Freshman of the Year after throwing for 1,875 yards and 13 touchdowns. He increased that total to 1,976 yards through the air in earning second-team all-league accolades a year later, and was again recognized as an honorable mention all-conference selection as a junior following a season in which he passed for 1,892 yards and a career-best 15 scores.

He has also reached the end zone rushing 19 times, as he stands sixth in NCAA Division I-AA football among active players with 57 total touchdowns accounted for.

"I think I earned respect early on because I had to beat out eight people to win the job," he says. "We had some good seniors on the offensive line and good receivers, so they took care of me and sheltered me — all I really had to do was not mess up."

WKU head coach David Elson believes that certain character traits helped Haddix gain early acceptance from his teammates. "I think Justin has been very consistent. We've always known that he is a competitor and that he's tough — in this game, those are two things that always garner respect right off the bat. Some guys display those qualities on days that they feel good, but Justin is tough and competitive seven days a week, 365 days a year. That's what's earned him the most respect."

Now, in his final season of collegiate football, Haddix is chasing the Gateway and national championships instead of wildlife. Although he has already led WKU to a 24-14 (63.2-percent) record and two playoff berths, Haddix has higher aspirations for the Toppers this fall.

How high? "A Gateway Conference championship and a national championship. Ever since I've been here I've wanted to win — we've won some games, but I want to win championships. That's what it's all about."

Regardless of what happens this season, Haddix will be the Toppers' most prolific passer since Jeff Cesarone played on the Hill from 1984-87. He already holds the school's career records entering

tonight's contest against Chattanooga with a 55.1 completion percentage and a 134.97 quarterback efficiency rating, and he also ranks second all-time on the Hill with 6,012 yards passing and 38 touchdowns thrown. Haddix also needs 57 more yards of total offense to become the third player in WKU history to record 7,000 in a career.

Where he has developed during the course of his career is in his management of the game. Whereas at first he was expected to minimize his mistakes and let other individuals decide the outcome of contests, now he knows that he is a key to the Hilltoppers' success.

"I still have to let the game come to me, but when the game's on the line I have to make plays for us to score touchdowns," says Haddix. "That might mean getting out of the pocket and finding a receiver on the run, or getting the ball to running backs out of the backfield. It's little things like staying calm and not trying to force the issue downfield. I need to get the ball in other guys hands and let them make plays."

As the only player on the 2006 WKU roster to start every game during Elson's first three years running the program, Haddix has grown close to the Hilltopper head coach. Even though Elson has always been a defensive coach.

"When I first came here it was always, 'Don't mess things up,'" he says. "I've had some bad games and he's stuck with me, so I've always respected him for that. It's been a business relationship because he's a defensive coach, but we've been meeting once a week lately to see what we can do to help each other."

"Over the last year or so, I think we have taken our most significant

strides," adds Elson. "It's always been competitive because in the spring the offense is going against the defense. We've spent more time talking football and watching film. Justin's a smart player and he understands the game, so he has been able to share some ideas about what he has seen on our defense and also wants to know what I see from a defensive perspective. I think we've both benefitted from that."

Whatever happens in 2006, Haddix hopes to follow in the footsteps of his predecessor. When Michael left the Hill, he was a graduate assistant on the University of Tennessee's staff. From there he moved to the Oakland Raiders, and is currently an assistant with the New York Jets. Haddix hopes to help the Hilltoppers as a student assistant before earning his degree in December 2007, then would like to enter the coaching profession.

"I had a chance to talk to Jason early in my career, but haven't been able to keep in touch lately," he says. "I'd like to get tips from him to see how he caught on, though."

"I think Justin has a chance to do the same thing," says Elson. "I said back when he was a freshman that he is like a gym rat in basketball, and he still is today. Justin cannot get enough of watching film, and being around and studying the game — those are the makings of a good coach."

"Justin also has really good people skills, and that is as important as anything."

Before Haddix moves to the sidelines, though, there are games to be won and championships to be chased as he leads the Hilltoppers one last fall.

# Schaeffer one of six newcomers for ECU softball program

TIMES STAFF REPORT

RICHMOND — Eastern Kentucky University softball coach Jane Worthington has announced that six additional student-athletes, including one transfer, will join the Colonels for the 2007 season.

"This group of players not only brings depth to our team but they each have an unbelievable work ethic," head coach Jane Worthington said. "This team is going to hate to lose and therefore, I think that we will have a very successful season."

One of the newcomers to the ECU softball program is Lawrence County High School standout Brittney Schaeffer.

Here's more on the newest ECU softball players.

Brittney Schaeffer, a 5-8 outfielder from Louisa, Kentucky earned three varsity letters at Lawrence County High School. Schaeffer, who led the team in both runs and hits as senior, was named to the All-State Second Team following her final campaign. Schaeffer was also selected to the All-State Academic Team.

"Brittney is strong player who we plan to use in the outfield. In addition, she brings strong academic credentials to the team."

Lauren Ellis, a 5-5 utility player from Ashland, earned four letters at Boyd County High School while playing softball for five years. The 2006 16th Region Player of the Year was twice honored to the All-Area Team. Ellis, who was named to the Class 3A All-State Honorable Mention Team, was selected as a Kentucky All-Star and competed in the first-ever Kentucky/Tennessee

All-Star game.

Jena Handley played varsity softball for four years at Garden Grove High School in Garden Grove, California. A 5-6 catcher and outfielder, Handley earned All-League First Team honors in both her junior and senior years and was twice named the team's Offensive Player of the Year. A four-time scholar athlete, Handley was selected to the North/South All-Star Team.

Shyenne Hussey spent four years as a member of varsity softball team at Kailua High School in Waimanao, Hawaii. The 5-5 infielder was selected to the 2006 All-State First Team after leading the team to the OIA League Championship. Hussey hit 12 home runs during her prep career and in 2003, helped the squad to the OIA State Championship.

Heather Metzger joins the Colonels after playing at Transylvania University last season. A 5-4 pitcher and outfielder, Metzger was honored to the 2006 NCAA Division III All-Central Region Second Team after posting a 12-2 record on the mound and a 1.16 ERA. An All-State honoree at Booneville High School in Indiana, Metzger ended with the lowest ERA in the state during the 2004 season.

A 5-6 outfielder, Stephanie West spent three years on the varsity softball team at Little Elm High School in Texas, twice earning the team MVP award, before transferring to Oldham County for her final season. The two-time All-District 7-3A First Team honoree was named Newcomer of the Year during her freshman campaign. After competing in the 2003 USSSA 15A World Series, West was selected as the Offensive MVP.

The Colonels posted a 33-29 record last year while advancing to the title contest of the 2006 OVC Championship.

# PIARIST SOCCER



UPSTART SOCCER PROGRAM: Coaches Greg Friend and Tom Moak are guiding the Piarist School soccer team in its first season. Forward Taylor Moak (above) went on the attack for Piarist while Jacob Moak (left) battled for possession of the ball.

## As Chase begins, Childress back on top with 2 solid chances to win title

by JENNA FRYER  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Richard Childress paced through one of his team haulers, masterfully handling several different tasks at once. He monitored his drivers from his headset, kept a close eye on the competition via a nearby scoring monitor and doled out assignments as his crew members passed by.

It's that hands-on approach that has Childress' team back on top with two solid chances to win the Nextel Cup title.

"The funny thing is, when I came to Richard Childress Racing, they said Richard wasn't very involved in the team — that's what everybody told me," Jeff Burton said. "But I've never seen anybody work so hard. He is there every minute. He is there too much.

"He puts a lot of effort into it and he deserves to have his teams run well."

It took Childress five years to get back to the top after the 2001 death of Dale Earnhardt put his team in a downward spiral the owner couldn't stop.

Childress had opened 2001 on a high, confident Earnhardt would win an eighth championship that season. And he'd just announced plans to expand his two-car team into three, with hotshot Kevin Harvick joining the fold as the potential heir apparent to Earnhardt.

But Earnhardt's death on the last lap of the season opener set in motion a chain of events that pushed his team from the top of the sport to as close to the bottom as Childress had ever been. Although Harvick, who was quickly moved into Earnhardt's ride in the days

after the accident, salvaged a ninth-place finish in the final standings that year, it was one of the few bright spots.

"We were prepared to win a championship in 2001, and then we lost Dale and things just started getting away from us," Childress said. "Kevin helped a lot by getting us through the transition, but as we got through 2002 and 2003, we really just sort of got behind and came pretty darned close to rock bottom.

"A lot of it was my fault because I wasn't energetic, I dreaded going to the race track. It just got to a point where I looked around and said, 'I've got to fix this thing, I've got to get this thing turned around.'"

As NASCAR heads to New Hampshire this weekend for the start of the 10-race Chase for the championship, it seems Childress finally has finished

his rebuilding project. He's got two of his three drivers in the field, with Harvick in third and Burton in eighth.

Childress doesn't think one of his drivers has a better chance than the other to win the Nextel Cup, but loves his chances of bringing home a title.

"Two out of 10 — I'll take those odds," he said. "Kevin or Jeff can win this thing, both of those teams are right there in the mix. We want to win the championship and walk on that stage in New York (at the banquet). I've done it six times before, and there's nothing like it.

"Now I've got two out of 10 chances to walk it again, and I want to do it."

Harvick, though, is probably the favorite of the RCR teams. He's got three wins this season, while Burton remains

wireless but consistent. But after five seasons driving the flagship car with little support, Harvick welcomes help from his teammate over this final 10-race stretch.

"I think it's definitely good for the company, and I think that's the most important thing — it's great for RCR to have both of our cars in there," Harvick said. "I feel like both of us have run well enough to be in the Chase this year and earned that.

"We're going to give it everything we have. I know we've got a pretty good plan going in as far as cars and engines and things like that as far as what we're going to race. We'll just let it all hang out and see where it all winds up."

The RCR duo will have stiff competition from other multi-car teams. Hendrick Motorsports has a trio of dri-

vers in the Chase, with Jimmie Johnson, Kyle Busch and Jeff Gordon, and Roush Racing has two in points leader Matt Kenseth and Mark Martin.

And none of them can count out the single-car efforts expected out of Dale Earnhardt Jr., Denny Hamlin or Kasey Kahne.

Kahne is a five-time winner this season, and rookie Hamlin will have two-time champion Tony Stewart to lean on as Joe Gibbs Racing tries to keep the crown in house despite Stewart's exclusion from the Chase field.

But Childress isn't worried. "We're as good as anybody out there right now, and we've still got improvements we can make and areas we can shore up," Childress said. "If we get it all figured out, we'll be hard to beat."

## Former star revives confidence with spot in Chase

by HANK KURZ Jr.  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

RICHMOND, Va. — Jeff Burton was once the most promising driver in NASCAR, a hot shot groomed by Jack Roush, mentored by Mark Martin and destined for stardom.

Then, after four dazzling seasons, it all went away.

First, he stopped winning races. Then he lost his sponsor and his feeling with his team, switching to Richard Childress Racing for the 2005 season.

But when the Nextel Cup series begins its Chase for the championship Sunday in New Hampshire, the South Boston native will be a part of it, his career resurrected by his move to a resurgent team, and his confidence rebounding with his performance.

It's been a road filled with doubt for Burton, who earned 15 of his 17

victories in a four-year span when he was a fixture in the top five of the driver standings, but who then found himself wondering what had changed to send him spiraling downward.

The struggles have made the bounce back so much sweeter.

"It feels good to have myself back in the position to be able to do the things I used to be able to do," Burton said at Richmond International Raceway, where he earned a spot in the 10-race playoff for the first time in its three years.

"I never really lost confidence in myself, but at the same time, when you aren't getting it done, you have to look at yourself and say, 'Hey, I'm doing some-

thing wrong.' It feels good to confirm to myself that, hey, I can still do this," he said.

No longer does he find himself averting his gaze when he walks through the garage, uncomfortable with the idea that people were looking and wondering what happened.

"It's been embarrassing, to be quite honest," he said. "I care a great deal what my peers think about me from a competition standpoint and from a personal standpoint. It's kind of hard to walk through the garage when you're running 20th and look Jeff Gordon in the eye and expect him to respect you for what you can do on the race track."



Jeff Burton

## Safer, cheaper, better? NASCAR's 'Car of Tomorrow' examined

by JENNA FRYER  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CONCORD, N.C. — Brett Bodine knows firsthand how quickly a run-of-the-mill NASCAR accident can go awry. It happened to him in 1992 at Dover International Speedway, when the force of a crash caused his head to jerk left and bounce off the concrete retaining wall.

Although he was wearing a helmet, Bodine still suffered a concussion and a pair of brain bleeders.

Fourteen years later, he believes NASCAR's "Car of Tomorrow" project will go a long way toward preventing similar injuries.

"This project was started with safety in mind," said Bodine, who traded in his car keys two years ago for an executive position at

NASCAR's research and development center here.

"Along the way it developed into something that will, in fact, be safer, but it will also have on-track performance upgrades and ultimately help reduce costs for our competitors. It's taken a long time for NASCAR to get to this point, but we believe we've finally got the right blueprint on something that addresses three critical areas of this sport."

The "CoT," as it's known, is a five-year project that began under the watch of Gary Nelson, NASCAR's former vice president of research and development, when the sanctioning body was reeling from the 2001 death of Dale Earnhardt. The sport's biggest star was killed in a wreck on the last lap of the Daytona 500, triggering a backlash of criticism over an antiquated safety system.

It took Earnhardt's death to push NASCAR into making some aggressive improvements, from the mandatory use of head and neck restraints to installing energy-absorbing foam barriers.

But the Car of Tomorrow was the biggest undertaking. It debuts in March at Bristol Motor Speedway, the first of 16 events in which teams will be required to drive it next year.

The car will run next season on all short tracks, the two road courses and Talladega Superspeedway, and then in 2008 in 26 races, including the season-opening Daytona 500. By 2009, NASCAR wants it in all 36 events.

The design changes are not subtle.

The Car of Tomorrow is 4 inches wider and 2 inches taller than NASCAR's current race cars. The driver compartment (roll cage) has been shifted 3 inches to the rear, and the driver's seat 4 inches to the right — making it more difficult for the head to snap to the side and hit the wall the way Bodine's did.

Placed side-by-side with a current stock car, the CoT is obviously bigger. But the differences don't end there.

An energy-absorbing material between the roll cage and the car's skin gives drivers a new layer of protection. The exhaust system runs through the body, diverting heat away from the driver and letting it out on the right side. The drive shaft is covered by a tunnel under the floorboard to keep it from tearing through the car if it should explode.

From a safety standpoint, the drivers are impressed.

"It's safer," Jeff Burton said. "I don't know how to tell you what per-

centage safer, but there's no doubt it's safer."

It's also expected to be racier.

The windshield is more upright, designed to increase the amount of drag and slow the cars. The front bumper is 3 inches higher and thicker, boxier in design, and should catch air rather than deflect it. And the air intake is placed lower, below the front bumper — which in today's cars can be covered by wind-blown trash, leading to overheating.

Then there are the add-ons.

A "splitter" in the form of a flat shelf is now below the front bumper. And the current rear spoiler has been replaced with a wing that looks more like something on a street car than a stock car.

Both features are designed to improve racing conditions and make the CoT compatible with various tracks. The splitter and the wing are both adjustable, so teams can tinker with them to improve handling.

The wing will push air both over and under it, giving the car more stability in traffic and improving the aerodynamics of the trailing car.

"I'm not a wing guy. I wasn't a proponent of the wing until I ran the car with the wing," Burton said. "But I like the adjustability of the wing. I

would shake out while circling Richmond.

"The last two weeks have been pretty long," he said.

The tension also made Burton rethink some earlier comments about the Chase.

"What I said was the more pressure-filled and the more excitement and more tense it is, the better it is for the fans," he said. "But damn, I'm not sure I want that."

In the end, the last six drivers to make the playoff were separated by just 29 points, with Burton one ahead of No. 9 Gordon, three ahead of Kahne and 19 ahead of Stewart.

He'll start this weekend's race in New Hampshire 35 points behind leader Matt Kenseth, in the hunt for a title for the first time since the 2002 season.

"I feel good," he said. "We're in. We've done a nice job."

think the wings will make racing better. The aero push behind the body won't be as bad and the loss of aerodynamics to the sides of the body won't be as bad.

"I think it will breed a situation where you can pass more and also run side by side more."

Ryan Newman, a book-smart driver with an engineering degree from Purdue University, initially balked at the car's design. But once he tested it in traffic, he was willing to overlook the funkiness of the splitter and the wing because of the tradeoff in improved performance.

"It's aesthetically not pleasing to me," he said. "But that's not the point. It's all about the racing."

Burton thinks race fans will quickly get over how the CoT looks.

"I have seen cars that are painted and decaled up with numbers and stuff and in that configuration they are fine," he said. "I think if the racing is good, the fans will like it."

The cost savings come largely from the fact that the same car can be adjusted to run on everything from a short track to a superspeedway. Currently, teams build about a dozen different track-specific cars. With the CoT, NASCAR hopes teams will only have to build four or so different cars a season.

## 7th Annual Mopar Thunder set for Bristol Dragway

TIMES STAFF REPORT

BRISTOL, Tenn. — Admirers of hemi-powered automobiles, Chrysler, Plymouth and Dodge, should mark Sept. 22-24 on their calendars as the 7th Annual Mopar Thunder, presented by Parts Depot/All Pro Bumper To Bumper, returns to Bristol Dragway.

A new addition to the event this year is the "Mopar vs. The World" bracket race scheduled for Friday at 6 p.m. After a Test & Tune set for noon to 6 p.m., Mopar drag cars will square off against any other manufactured automobile with the winner taking home \$1,500. Entry into the Test & Tune and race is \$40.

In addition to three days of drag racing, the event will feature a swap meet, car show

with trophies awarded, and the Mopar Manufacturer's Midway.

Car show judging will take place Saturday from noon until 4 p.m. and on Sunday from 9 a.m. until noon.

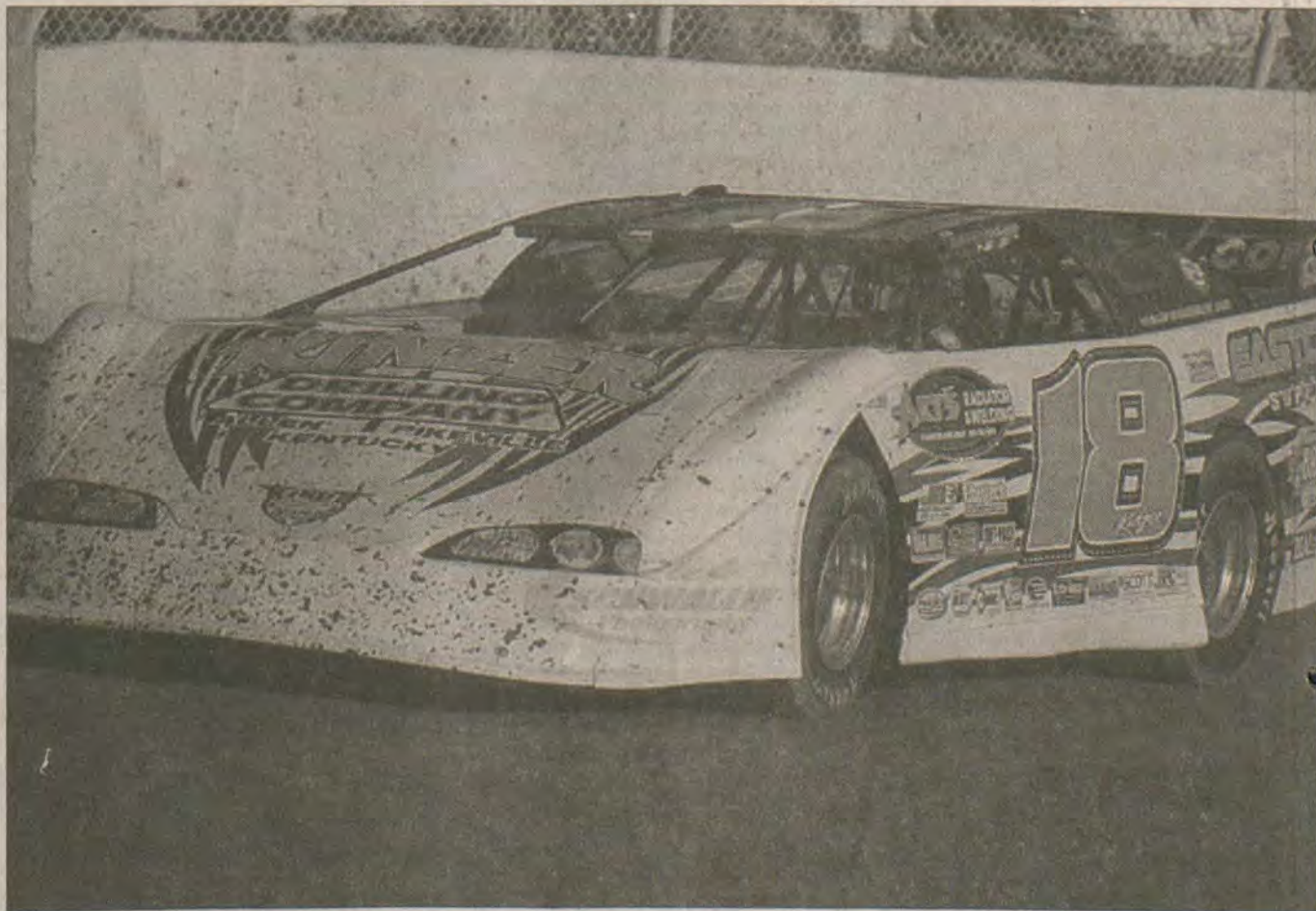
Entry fees are as follows: Car Show \$35 (car and driver), Super Pro (Bracket Race) \$80 (weekend pass), Pro (Bracket Race) \$60 (weekend pass), Slant 6 \$40 (weekend pass) and Trophy Class \$40 (weekend pass).

The Super Pro winner receives \$2,500, the Pro winner earns \$1,500 and the Slant 6 and Trophy class winners will each take home \$300.

A single-day pass for Friday is \$10 and \$20 for Saturday or Sunday. A weekend pass is \$35. Children under 10 will be admitted free with a paying adult.

Gates open Friday at 9 a.m. and at 8 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

For more information, go online to [www.bristoldragway.com](http://www.bristoldragway.com).



Brandon Kinzer Motorsports was on the road Saturday night at Atomic Speedway in Tennessee for a Southern All-Stars race. The Kinzer raceteam plans to race into the month of November. photo by Rick Schwalle

TV Listings

SUNDAY MORNING/AFTERNOON SEPTEMBER 17, 2006. Table with columns for time slots (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) and rows for various TV channels (TBS, NBC, PBS, ABC, WGN, CBS, FOX, ESPN, TNT, A&E, TNN, NICK, USA, FAM, LIFE, ESPN2, AMC, HGTV, SCIFI, HIST, TOC, HBO, HBO2, HBO3, MAX, DISN, SHOW, TMC).

Best Bets

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 1:15 p.m. TNT NASCAR Racing The beginning of the end of the Nextel Cup season comes today at New Hampshire International Speedway with the running of the Sylvania 300, the first of 10 Chase for the Cup races that determine the series champion. At this writing, Jimmie Johnson led the group of 10 drivers who will be vying for that title, and he's won twice before at NHIS. Others who've had a strong season thus far include Matt Kenseth, Kevin Harvick, Kyle Busch and Jeff Gordon.

8 p.m. TCM Movie: The Miracle Worker Dedicated Anne Sullivan (Anne Bancroft) helps young Helen Keller (Patty Duke) emerge from her silent prison in this Oscar-winning 1962 adaptation of William Gibson's award-winning Broadway play. By turns poignant, funny, suspenseful and uplifting, the critically acclaimed drama scored Academy Awards for both Bancroft and Duke, reprising their stage performances. Inga Swenson and Victor Jory costar.

8:15 p.m. NBC NFL Football A new chapter is written in football's most storied rivalry when the Washington Redskins visit the Dallas Cowboys. Will it top the heist pulled off by the Redskins in front of 65,000 fans at Texas Stadium almost one year ago? That's when Mark Brunell threw two touchdown passes to Santana Moss in the final 3:46 for a 14-13 margin, just the Skins' second win in their last 16 meetings with Dallas. Joe Gibbs called it one of his "greatest moments" in sports.

8:30 p.m. CBS The Amazing Race 10 A new crop of contestants is ready to rumble as the hit reality competition begins a 10th season, with China, Vietnam, Madagascar and Kuwait among the scheduled stops. The teams include six pairs of friends, two married couples, two dating couples, a pair of brothers, and a father and daughter. That last team could provide some drama; they were estranged for some time after the daughter came out and are hoping to use the race to help rebuild their bond.

9 p.m. DISCOVERY Assault on Waco What really went down at the Branch Davidian compound in Waco, Texas, in 1993? Unanswered questions have lingered for years, but this special purports to tell the "rest of the story" -- apologies to Paul Harvey -- thanks to some new information. It sorts out the conspiracy theories that have sprung up since the deadly confrontation between the cultists and federal officials, which left 80 people dead.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 8 p.m. CBS The Class It's another "20-something friends" sitcom, but don't let that scare you off. You like "How I Met Your Mother," don't you? The hook in this show is the reunion of former third-grade classmates. Jason Ritter, who obviously got Papa John's funny genes, leads the cast as the young doctor who brings them together, and newcomer Jesse Tyler Ferguson, who plays one of the classmates, manages to milk depression for major laughs. Lizzy Caplan ("Related") also stars.

8:30 p.m. ESPN NFL Football If the Jacksonville Jaguars can successfully navigate a sticky opening four games against the Cowboys, Colts, Redskins and tonight's opponent, the Steelers, then they should find themselves back in the playoffs. They won 12 games last season, good enough only for a wildcard in the tough AFC, and that was without quarterback Byron Leftwich for six games. He did play a year ago when the Jags beat a Ben Roethlisberger-less Pittsburgh team in overtime.

10 p.m. NBC Studio 60 on the Sunset Strip Attention, "Sports" fans and "Wing" nuts: Aaron Sorkin is back! The creator of "Sports Night" and "The West Wing" returns to the TV-behind-the-scenes world for this well-crafted drama set backstage at a late-night comedy series. Amanda Peet stars as the network executive charged with overhauling the sagging show; she brings in a pair of sharp guys (Matthew Perry, Bradley Whitford) whom her boss (Steven Weber) can't stand. Let the games begin!

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 8 p.m. TCM Movie: Rashomon You've heard the word; now see the movie. The title of this 1950 drama from legendary Japanese director (See BEST, page twelve)

SUNDAY EVENING SEPTEMBER 17, 2006. Table with columns for time slots (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) and rows for various TV channels (TBS, NBC, PBS, ABC, WGN, CBS, FOX, ESPN, TNT, A&E, TNN, NICK, USA, FAM, LIFE, ESPN2, AMC, HGTV, SCIFI, HIST, TOC, HBO, HBO2, HBO3, MAX, DISN, SHOW, TMC).

MONDAY EVENING SEPTEMBER 18, 2006. Table with columns for time slots (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) and rows for various TV channels (TBS, NBC, PBS, ABC, WGN, CBS, FOX, ESPN, TNT, A&E, TNN, NICK, USA, FAM, LIFE, ESPN2, AMC, HGTV, SCIFI, HIST, TOC, HBO, HBO2, HBO3, MAX, DISN, SHOW, TMC).

TV Listings

Best

Continued from p11 Akira Kurosawa has entered our lexicon as shorthand for the same story told from different people's viewpoints...

10 p.m. CBS Smith If "Field of Dreams," "Good Fellas" and "Unlawful Entry" didn't put you on the Ray Liotta love train...

10 p.m. check local listings PBS P.O.V. Thomas Allen Harris knew his stepfather, South African-born Benjamin Pule "Lee" Leinaeng...

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 7:45 p.m. SHOWTIME Movie: Ghosts of Mississippi Relax, folks, he's only acting. James Woods is chillingly convincing as racist killer Byron De La Beckwith...

8 p.m. CBS Jericho "You might find yourself confusing this new drama with the late, great "Everwood," as they're both set in small towns and have leading men whose first names rhyme with "feet."...

10:01 p.m. NBC Kidnapped Relax, "Law & Order" fans; your show is on Fridays now. Let's hope it left some of its ratings karma behind in its old time slot...

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 7:30 p.m. ESPN College Football Virginia has won four straight against ACC rival Georgia Tech, but they'll be relying on an untested senior at quarterback tonight...

10 p.m. CBS Shark James "Mr. Intensity" Woods is an acquired taste, so your reaction to his new drama series will depend on whether his acting style turns you on or off...

10:01 p.m. NBC ER The cliff remains hanging in the season premiere, as Steve, Mary and Rafe (Garret Dillahunt, Natasha Gregson Wagner, Michael Weston) head for Canada after the shootout...

TUESDAY EVENING TV schedule for September 19, 2006. Columns include time slots from 5:00 to 12:30 and various programs like Seinfeld, Friends, and Law & Order.

WEDNESDAY EVENING TV schedule for September 20, 2006. Columns include time slots from 5:00 to 12:30 and various programs like The Sopranos, ER, and The Contender.

THURSDAY EVENING TV schedule for September 21, 2006. Columns include time slots from 5:00 to 12:30 and various programs like The Sopranos, ER, and The Contender.





**LEGALS**

**LEGAL NOTICE**

I, Jennifer Burke Elliott, a duly licensed attorney, practicing in Floyd County, Kentucky, have been appointed by the Floyd Circuit Court as Warning Order Attorney for the unknown spouse of Mr. Samuel M. Stevens. The Order is to notify the unknown spouse of Mr. Samuel M. Stevens that a legal action has been brought against her, the same being Floyd Circuit Court Civil Action No. 06-CI-813. The legal action is in the nature of a debt col-

lection against the unknown spouse of Mr. Stevens by the Plaintiff, First Commonwealth Bank, and to secure a mortgage upon properties located in Pike-Floyd Hollow, and in Betsy Layne, Kentucky, and being more particularly described in the Deed of Record in Deed Book M399, Page 625, in the Floyd County Clerk's Office.

The Complaint of First Commonwealth Bank alleges that Mr. Samuel M. Stevens executed and delivered a Promissory Note, and has failed or refused to repay the same. Notice is hereby given to the

unknown spouse of Mr. Samuel M. Stevens that her failure to respond to the Plaintiff's Complaint could result in a loss of her interest in the property that was stated herein. As Warning Order attorney, a response must be filed within 50 (fifty) days of August 24, 2006.

Jennifer Burke Elliott  
Attorney at Law  
181 E. Court Street  
Prestonsburg, KY 41653  
(606) 886-9937

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that Jeffrey & Gwendolyn Hall, 392 Mays Branch Road, Prestons-

burg, KY 41653, has filed an application with the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet for a stream crossing and stream bank stabilization along Mays Branch. The property is located 0.75 miles NW of Prestonsburg, and 0.25 miles SE of Mays Branch Road's junction with Route 321, and within Mays Branch. Any comments or objections concerning this application shall be directed to: Kentucky Division of Water, Water Resources Branch, 14 Reilly Road, Frankfort Office Park, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

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# Top Tomato Picks

Bring taste, bright color to the table with organic tomatoes

Ciabatta Pizza

## FAMILY FEATURES

Impress your guests and family by serving these delicious dishes featuring deep red, vine-ripened organic tomatoes. The rustic pizza and fire roasted tomato and fruit salsa recipes are perfect for special seasonal gatherings, while the soup and tomato-basil pasta recipes can make your everyday meals more memorable.

The secret to these recipes is to combine pure organic tomatoes with other premium ingredients to bring fabulous creations to your table, explains Jennifer Kalitowski, organic test kitchen expert and recipe developer. "These ideas start with tomatoes that have a bright, balanced taste. You can capture guests' attention with the tempting aromas and vibrant colors, and then impress them with true-to-nature flavors," she said.

Hungry for more? Take your pick of dozens of delicious tomato recipes at [www.muirglen.com](http://www.muirglen.com).

### Ciabatta Pizza

Rustic and robust, Ciabatta Pizza earned culinary student Max Mong first place in a recent recipe contest. Expert judges deemed Mong's entry the best because it combines versatile, great-tasting ingredients in a contemporary way — something home cooks who want amazing flavor can embrace.

Makes 8 servings

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
  - 2 cloves garlic, finely chopped
  - 1 can (14.5 oz) Muir Glen organic diced tomatoes, undrained
  - 1 teaspoon sugar
  - 2 cups rapini (broccoli rabe) leaves
  - 1 tablespoon water
  - 1 small red onion, halved, thinly sliced
  - 1 tablespoon olive oil
  - 1/4 teaspoon coarse salt (kosher or sea salt)
  - 1/8 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
  - 1 large loaf ciabatta bread, split horizontally (1 to 1 1/2 lb)
  - 8 oz smoked or fresh mozzarella cheese, cut into 1/4-inch slices
  - 1/4 cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese
  - 3 oz very thinly sliced prosciutto (Parma ham)
  - Crushed red pepper, if desired
1. In 2-quart saucepan, heat 2 tablespoons olive oil over medium heat. Add garlic; cook 1 to 2 minutes or until softened but not browned. Add tomatoes and sugar; heat to boiling. Reduce heat; simmer about 25 minutes, stirring frequently, until thickened. Set aside.
  2. Meanwhile, in medium microwavable bowl, place rapini leaves and water. Cover with microwavable plastic wrap. Microwave on High 4 to 6 minutes or until tender. Cool slightly; drain. Cut up leaves.
  3. Set oven control to broil. Line 2 cookie sheets with foil. In medium bowl, place onion and 1 tablespoon olive oil; toss to coat. Sprinkle with salt and pepper; toss. Place onion in single layer on 1 cookie sheet. Broil 4 to 6 inches from heat about 10 minutes, stirring occasionally, until onion is soft and begins to brown. Set aside.
  4. Place ciabatta halves on second cookie sheet, cut sides up. Broil 4 to 6 inches from heat about 1 minute or until very lightly browned. Spread tomato sauce evenly on ciabatta halves. Layer with mozzarella, rapini and onion. Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese. Broil 2 to 3 minutes or until cheeses are melted.
  5. Arrange prosciutto over cheese; sprinkle with crushed red pepper.

Tip: Substitute 2 cups fresh spinach leaves for the cooked rapini if it's unavailable at your local market.



Fiery Fruit Salsa



Tomato and Roasted Sweet Pepper Soup



Tomato-Basil Pasta with Fresh Mozzarella

### Fiery Fruit Salsa

You're only 15 minutes away from a flavorful salsa that offers equal amounts of vibrant color and versatility. The canned fire roasted tomatoes add a distinct smoky flavor.

Makes 6 servings (1/3 cup each)

- 1 can (14.5 oz) Muir Glen organic fire roasted diced tomatoes, drained
- 1/2 ripe medium mango, peeled, diced (3/4 cup)
- 1/4 cup sliced green onions (4 medium)
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro
- 1 tablespoon fresh lime juice
- 1 teaspoon finely chopped chipotle chile in adobo sauce
- 1/4 teaspoon coarse salt (kosher or sea salt)

1. In food processor, place drained tomatoes. Cover and process until coarsely chopped. Place in medium bowl.
2. Stir in remaining ingredients.
3. Serve with meat or fish, or with tortilla chips as desired.

### Tomato and Roasted Sweet Pepper Soup

Warm up to a bowl of this comforting tomato-based soup.

Makes 5 servings (1 1/3 cups each)

- 2 large yellow or red bell peppers
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 medium onion, chopped (1/2 cup)
- 2 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 1 can (28 oz) Muir Glen organic crushed tomatoes with basil
- 2 cans (14 oz each) reduced-sodium chicken broth or vegetable broth
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon crushed red pepper or black pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon coarse salt (kosher or sea salt)

1. Line 15x10x1-inch pan with foil. Set oven control to broil. Cut peppers into quarters, removing membranes and seeds. Place skin sides up in pan; press down to flatten.
2. Broil peppers 4 to 6 inches from heat about 10 minutes or until blackened. Wrap foil around peppers; let stand 20 minutes. Remove skin from peppers; discard. Cut peppers into 1/2-inch pieces. Set aside.
3. Meanwhile, in 4-quart saucepan, heat oil over medium-high heat. Cook onion and garlic in oil 2 to 3 minutes, stirring constantly, until crisp-tender.
4. Stir in tomatoes, broth, sugar, crushed red pepper and salt. Heat to boiling. Reduce heat; simmer 15 minutes. Stir in roasted peppers; heat until hot.

Tip: If time is tight, substitute 1 1/2 cups jarred roasted sweet peppers rather than roasting your own.

### Tomato-Basil Pasta with Fresh Mozzarella

Fresh mozzarella and basil complement the rich, sweet tomato flavor found in this Italian-inspired main dish.

Makes 4 servings (1 1/2 cups each)

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 medium onion, chopped (1/2 cup)
- 4 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 1 can (28 oz) Muir Glen organic whole peeled tomatoes, undrained, cut up
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh basil
- 3 cups uncooked rigatoni, penne or ziti pasta (8 oz)
- 8 oz fresh mozzarella cheese, cut into 1/2-inch cubes
- 1/4 cup pine nuts, toasted

1. In 12-inch skillet, heat oil over medium heat. Cook onion and garlic in oil 3 to 4 minutes, stirring frequently, until onion is crisp-tender. Stir in tomatoes. Heat to boiling. Reduce heat; simmer 20 to 25 minutes or until thickened, stirring occasionally. Stir in basil.
2. While sauce is simmering, cook and drain pasta as directed on box. Stir pasta into sauce. Heat through.
3. In large serving bowl, pour pasta and sauce. Gently stir in cheese and pine nuts.