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briefs

Mountain Homeplace to host Native America festival

STAFFORDSVILLE — The Mountain Homeplace will host the 2007 Native American Spring Festival on April 20-22, at the Paintsville Lake State Park in Staffordsville.

The event will feature native food, music, dance, arts, crafts and demonstrations.

POW's, veterans, and active military will be honored at the event. The grand entry begins at noon and closes at 6 p.m.

Schools and educators are encouraged to attend the festivities, specifically on Friday. There will be an abundance of tribes from different states attending the festival.

For more information please contact Nancy Price, Paintsville Tourism at 606-297-1469, www.paintsville-tourism.org or dial 5-1-1 for tourism information.

STILL ON STRIKE



United Steelworkers stood outside McDowell ARH during the first week of the strike, making their thoughts clear on signs held up by hand and posted up and down the roadway in support of their crusade to reach a fair contract agreement.

photo by Jessica Hale

Temporary closures loom as strike continues

by JESSICA HALE
STAFF WRITER

McDOWELL — Its been two weeks now since United Steelworkers went on strike at all Appalachian Regional Healthcare facilities. Now, ARH officials fear that the ongoing strike is and will continue to affect health care and economic development around the region.

"The USW strike against ARH has been very damaging to Eastern Kentucky and Southern West Virginia. The strike called by the USW is

threatening the provision of health care throughout the region and the potential for economic development in the future," said ARH President and CEO Jerry W. Haynes. "ARH remains hopeful that the USW is ready to go back to the negotiating table and deal with the disputed issues."

Candace Elkins, spokeswoman for ARH, says that several ARH facilities across the region have already closed their doors on a temporary basis and the long-term effects have yet to be seen.

Elkins said ARH Tri-City

Medical Center in Cumberland has closed its doors due to the lack of support staff since the beginning of the strike. ARH has also discontinued service at Healthright, a free clinic in Henton, W.Va. Elkins says these closures are only temporary.

When asked whether or not she thought that the possibility of hospitals in this immediate area were at risk of closing, Elkins replied, "Yes, in the long term, if the strike continues."

Last week's negotiations

(See **STRIKE**, page three)

Mine widows call for changes in investigations

by ROGER ALFORD
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HARLAN — Coalfield widows are calling for changes in the way investigations are handled after coal miners are killed on the job.

Widows of Kentucky miners killed last year were scheduled to meet with Bush Administration officials in Harlan on Friday to call for two fundamental changes: To allow family representatives the right to attend inquiries and to grant subpoena power to the federal investigators handling the inquiries.

Melissa Lee, whose husband was killed along with four other men in an underground explosion in Harlan County last year, said those are important changes. Lee, who has lobbied in Frankfort and Washington for tougher mine safety laws and regulations, said it is unfair that mine operators can attend witness interviews but that family members are excluded.

"I didn't appreciate that the families were left out," she said, speaking of the interviews that followed the explosion at Darby Mine

No. 1 where her husband was killed. "The families were kept at bay."

Richard Stickler, head of the U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration, and some of his top aides will meet with Lee and other widows at an agency field office.

The widows will ask Stickler to help them lobby Congress for a law that would grant federal investigators responsible for mine accident investigations to have the power to subpoena witnesses, instead of simply asking for answers.

"You're inviting people to testify. That's no way to handle an investigation," said Tony Oppgaard, a former attorney for the U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration who now represents miners and their families in Kentucky courts.

Nearly a year after the Darby tragedy, the widows learned Thursday what federal investigators found in their investigation: Sparks from a cutting torch caused a methane explosion.

The accident occurred, the investigators concluded,

(See **WIDOWS**, page three)

Two Floyd County officers graduate police academy

RICHMOND — Martin Police Department Officer Jason B. Caudill, along with law enforcement officers from 19 other agencies, graduated today from the Kentucky Department of Criminal Justice Training's Basic Training Academy.

Martin Police Department Officer Jason

B. Caudill and Floyd County Sheriff's Deputy Roger K. Shepherd are among the most recent class of graduates.

The 26 members of Class 380 underwent 18 weeks of training, which consisted of more than 750 hours of recruit-level offi-

(See **COPS**, page three)

Local government, health officials highlight need for insurance

by JESSICA HALE
STAFF WRITER

Hospitals and other local healthcare agencies are now joining together to support uninsured children.

Our Lady of the Way Hospital, the Floyd County Health Department, and the Kentucky Department of Health and Family Services have announced that they have joined together to support the expansion of federal and state programs that cover uninsured children.

Floyd County Judge-Executive R.D. "Doc" Marshall signed a proclamation declaring April 23 through 29 as "Cover the Uninsured Week" in Floyd County.

"As judge executive of Floyd

County and as a retired dentist, I have great concern for the healthcare needs of our community, especially the children," said Marshall. "I applaud the organizations that are participating in the Cover the Uninsured Week. Their efforts will enlighten many about the 46 million Americans who do not have health coverage."

The program at stake is the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), known as KCHIP in Kentucky. Over the past 10 years, SCHIP has provided health coverage to children whose parents are either not offered health insurance for their children through their job, or who cannot afford the insurance that is not offered. Nationwide, over 6 million children are covered by SCHIP.

"Too many children in our community and our nation are uninsured and do not receive the care they need," said Neva Francis, OLW's director of community outreach. "There has never been a more important time for us to come together and support federal efforts to provide health coverage to children. Congress must continue to fund SCHIP and make America's uninsured their top priority."

In order for the program to continue, Congress must reauthorize SCHIP in 2007. President Bush, governors and members of congress are discussing budget features for the program's future. Experts say the current funding levels for these state programs that were

(See **UNINSURED**, page three)



Floyd County Judge-Executive Dr. R.D. "Doc" Marshall, accompanied by Neva Francis, OLW, and Thursa Sloan, FCHD, signs proclamation declaring April 23-29, as "Cover the Uninsured Week" in Floyd County.

3 DAY FORECAST

Today
Showers
High: 45 • Low: 34

Tomorrow
Partly cloudy
High: 51 • Low: 34

Tuesday
Mostly sunny
High: 58 • Low: 37

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Inside

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Regional Obituaries

FLOYD COUNTY

■ Ruth M. Adkins, 74, of Ashland, formerly of Hurricane Creek, Pikeville, and a Floyd County native, died Saturday, April 7, at Oakmont Nursing Home, Flatwoods. Funeral services were held Tuesday, April 10, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

■ Hubert Gene Allen, 66, of David, died Thursday, April 5, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Kim Goyette Allen. Funeral services were held Monday, April 9, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Richard D. Ball Jr., 88, of Ypsilanti, Michigan, a Prestonsburg native, died Tuesday, April 10, at the Veterans Hospital in Ann Arbor. Funeral services were held Friday, April 13, at Stark Funeral Service Moore Memorial Chapel. Graveside services will be conducted at 2 p.m., Sunday, April 15, at the Mayo Cemetery, Prestonsburg, under the direction of Carter Funeral Home.

■ Edward Caudill, 82, of Hi Hat, died Sunday, April 8, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Wednesday, April 11, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Millis Hamilton, 66, of Beaver, died Sunday, April 8, at the McDowell Appalachian Regional Healthcare emergency room. He is survived by his wife, Verdine Mae Hamilton. Funeral services were held Wednesday, April 11, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Irene Cast Hayes, 90, of Lakeside Park, formerly of Hueysville, died Saturday, April 7, at St. Elizabeth Hospital, in Edgewood. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, April 11, under the direction of the Hall Funeral Home.

■ Oscar Horne, 80, of Lackey, died Thursday, April 5, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Sunday, April 8, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Rev. William D. Jagers, 75, of Louisville, a former pastor of the Irene Cole Memorial Baptist Church in Prestonsburg, died Friday, April 6. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, April 10, under the direction of Pearson-Ratterman Funeral Home, Middletown.

■ Faye E. Lewis, 81, of Ironton, a Lawrence County native, died Monday, April 9, at her residence. Funeral services will be Thursday, April 12, under the direction of Phillips Funeral Home in Ironton.

■ Nathaniel Stephen "Opie" Meade, 28, of Dwale, died Monday, April 9, at his residence. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, April 12, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Larry Newsome Jr., 27, of Hi Hat, died Monday, April 9, at the Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Kimberly Hills Newsome. Funeral services were held Thursday, April 12, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Eddie Dean Rowe, 59, of Elkhart, Indiana, formerly of Harold, died Sunday, April 8, at Elkhart General Hospital, Elkhart, Indiana. Funeral services were held Thursday, April 12, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Stephen Salisbury, 47, of Novato, California, formerly of Martin, died Saturday, March 24, at his residence. A memorial service was conducted Saturday, April 14, at Hall Funeral Home, with graveside services in the Martin Cemetery, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Deborah Kay Stephens, 51, of Allen, died Friday, April 6, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, Samuel Jesse Stephens Jr. Funeral services were held Monday, April 9, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

PIKE COUNTY

■ Reathel Blackburn, 82, died Tuesday, April 10, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Friday, April 13, under the direction of Thacker Funeral Home.

■ James Garfield Blankenship, 72, died Sunday, April 8, at Sea Breeze Health Care, Panama City, Florida. Funeral services were held Friday, April 13, at the R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home. Burial was in the Hurley Cemetery at Phelps.

■ Harry Bowman, 84, of Thacker, W.Va., died Tuesday, April 10, at Williamson Memorial Hospital. Funeral services were held Saturday, April 14, under the direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home, Phelps.

■ Mildred Harp Daugherty, 79, of Jamboree, died Monday, April 9, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Thursday, April 12, under the direction of Phelps Funeral Services.

■ Gail Woodson McCollum, 83, of Pikeville, died Thursday, April 5, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Sunday, April 8, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

■ Edna Faye McCoy, 89, of South Williamson, died Saturday, April 7, at the South Williamson Appalachian Regional Hospital. Funeral services were held Tuesday, April 10, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Edgar Morris, 65, of

Sidney, died Monday, April 9, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Brenda Hensley Morris. Funeral services were held Thursday, April 12, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Elsworth "Eli" Osborne, 81, of Jonancy, died Sunday, April 8, at his home. Funeral services were held Thursday, April 12, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home of Pikeville.

■ Hollis Nathaniel Ramey, 71, of Belcher, died Saturday, April 7. He is survived by his wife, Gladys Hackney Ramey. Funeral services were held Tuesday, April 10, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ Alfred Raschella, 92, of Pikeville, died Wednesday, April 11, at Pikeville Medical Center. Arrangements, under the direction of Pikeville Funeral Home.

■ Hazel Ray, 75, of Varney, died Wednesday, April 11, at her home. She is survived by her husband, Joe Ray. Funeral services were held Saturday, April 14, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

■ Ida Hammond Salmons, 82, of Good Shepherd Community Nursing Center, Phelps, formerly of Goodman Manor, Williamson, W.Va., died Sunday, April 8, at the South Williamson Appalachian Regional Hospital. Funeral services were held Wednesday, April 11, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Robert Smith, 50, of Sidney, died Thursday, April 12, at Central Baptist Hospital, Lexington. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Sunday, April 15, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Charles Bobby Thacker, newborn, son of Charles Dean Thacker and Sara Beth Hatch, died Wednesday, April 11, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Saturday, April 14, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ Donald Gene Thompson, 47, of Pikeville, died Saturday, April 7, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Rita Smith Thompson. Funeral services were held Tuesday, April 10, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

■ Sylvia Ruth Thompson, 59, of Hale, Michigan, a native of Pikeville, formerly of Romulus, died Sunday, April 8, in North Carolina. She is survived by her husband, James

Thompson. Funeral services were held Wednesday, April 11, under direction of Buresh-Bennett Funeral Home, Inc.

■ Eugene Thompson, 53, of McAndrews, died Monday, April 9, at the Veterans Administration Hospital, Huntington, W.Va. Arrangements, under direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Merle Wolford, 75, of Wautoma, Wisconsin, a native of Phelps, died Saturday, March 31. A memorial service was held Saturday, April 14, in the Seefeld Family of Funerals Chapel, Oshkosh, Wis.

■ Charles Edward Worrix, 51, of Pikeville, died Saturday, April 7, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Wednesday, April 11, under the direction of Thacker Funeral Home.

KNOTT COUNTY

■ Ivan J. Amburgey, 77, of Pine Top, died Monday, April 9, at Whitesburg Appalachian Regional Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Maywood Amburgey. Funeral Services were held Thursday, April 12, under direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

JOHNSON COUNTY

■ Myrtle Marie Blair, 87, of Volga, a Magoffin County native, died Thursday, March 22, at Salyersville Health Care Center, in Salyersville. Arrangements, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Effie Wiley Copley, of Rydal, Georgia, a Johnson County native, died Thursday, April 5, at Calhoun Health Care Center, in Calhoun, Georgia. Funeral services were held Saturday, April 7, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ James E. Duty, 71, of Whitehouse, a Johnson County native, died Wednesday, April 11, at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center, in Paintsville. Funeral services were held Friday, April 13, under the direction of the Preston Funeral Home.

■ Cecil Hall Jr., 45, of Van Lear, died Sunday, April 8, at Nippa. He is survived by his wife, Donna Horn Hall. Funeral services were held Wednesday, April 11, under the direction of Phelps & Son Funeral Home.

■ Fannie L. Hamilton, 71, of Forestdale, a Paintsville native, died Friday, April 6, at her residence. Funeral services were held Wednesday, April 11, under the direction of Phillips Funeral Home.

■ Charollette Preston, 49, of Boons Camp, died Monday, April 9, at King's Daughters Medical Center, in Ashland. She is survived by her husband, Darrell D. Preston. Funeral services were held Thursday, April 12, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

■ Paula E. Trimble, 80, of LaGrange, died Sunday, April 8, at University Hospital in Louisville. Funeral services were held Wednesday, April 11, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Delmar Ward, 67, of Fayetteville, North Carolina, a Johnson County native, died Thursday, April 5, at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center, in Fayetteville. Graveside memorial services were held Monday, April 9, under the direction of Crumpler Funeral Home.

MARTIN COUNTY

■ Jennie Bell Endicott, 87, of Sandusky, Ohio, a Martin County native, died Thursday, April 5, in Ashland. Funeral services were held Wednesday, April 11, under the direction of Groff Funeral Home, Sandusky.

■ Ronnie Horn, 61, of McArthur, Ohio, a native of Inez, died Monday, March 26, at Holzer Medical Center, in Jackson. He is survived by his wife, Karen Roush Horn. Funeral services were held Thursday, March 29, under the direction of Garrett-Moore Funeral Home.

■ Hayes A. Muncy, 88, a Martin County native, died Tuesday, April 3. He is survived by his wife, Winnie Muncy. Funeral services were

(See OBITUARIES, page three)

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States to give common math test, based on shared standards

by **NANCY ZUCKERBROD**
AP EDUCATION WRITER

WASHINGTON — Nine states including Kentucky have come together for the first time to develop a common high school math test, a move described by some as a step toward national educational standards.

State standards, and tests based on them, vary wildly for subjects as basic as math, English and science.

This group of states has decided to share a test and standards for Algebra II, saying a subject like that shouldn't vary across state lines.

The other states are Arkansas, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island. They were to announce their effort Tuesday.

The states are still trying to figure out which students will be given the test in the short term, but eventually the test will likely be given to all students who take Algebra II.

All the states are considering making scores on the test available to college placement offices to help determine the level of coursework freshmen are prepared to take, according to Mike Cohen, president of Achieve Inc., a Washington-based nonprofit that is helping design the standards.

Students typically take Algebra II in high school after taking a basic algebra course and geometry. Research has shown that students who complete Algebra II are much more likely to go on to earn a college degree. That has prompted more and more states to require the course for graduation for most of their students.

Cohen led a failed effort in the Clinton administration to develop national standards in a variety of subjects. But he said this is different, since it is a grass-roots effort rather than one being forced on states from Washington.

"This is a state-led effort to create consistent standards and assessments. It would not have

happened if the federal government had tried to make that happen," Cohen said, adding that he expects additional states to join the nine.

"Viewed as a pilot, it is a big deal and I hope an important precedent," said Chester Finn, a former assistant education secretary who runs the Fordham Foundation think tank in Washington. "You'd have to be joking to claim that Algebra II in Columbus, Ohio means something different from Algebra II in Columbia, Mo."

Finn's group has evaluated state standards and found that they are considerably different.

The issue has gained attention since the passage of the federal 2002 No Child Left Behind law, which requires states to administer math and reading tests in grades three through eight and once in high school. The law says all children should be proficient, or generally working on grade level, by 2014.

Many more students are

able to achieve proficiency on the state tests than on national math and reading tests — prompting many critics to say the states are setting their standards too low.

State tests are used in the No Child Left Behind Law, which tempts states to find ways to lower their standards, says Bruce Fuller, a professor of education and public policy at the University of California at Berkeley. The law penalizes schools that don't make adequate progress, creating an incentive for states to show they are doing well.

"They're tinkering with proficiency bars and how they test kids," Fuller said, adding that states are doing that to avoid penalties and so that they can meet the 2014 deadline.

Fuller said public awareness of what states are doing has lent support to the kind of effort that Achieve and the nine states are involved in.

"As this mischief is exposed out in the states, it's going to further support this push for

national standards," he said.

The No Child Left Behind law is up for renewal this year and several lawmakers are calling for a new provision that would encourage states to voluntarily adopt common standards.

In the meantime, Cohen says his group isn't waiting around and is considering expanding its model to other subjects.

"Now we're open to talking

with the participating states as to whether they want to take this further," Cohen said.

Arkansas Commissioner of Education Ken James says he's ready to have that conversation.

"These youngsters aren't going to stay in our respective states for the most part," James said. "They're going to need portable skills, and we should be able to agree on what those portable skills are going to be."

Strike

were unsuccessful. ARH officials say they have been ready since the negotiations recessed last week to continue in their attempts to negotiate with USW to reach a contract and end the strike.

Meanwhile, ARH has announced that they have named a new chief negotiator to head up talks with USW when negotiations resume. Joe Worthington, a Louisville

attorney with Smith and Smith, has participated in labor negotiations between ARH and USW over the last several months. Worthington has also served as the primary negotiator for a number of other companies that have contracts with the USW.

Former chief negotiator for ARH, Jim Johnson, was recruited in early March by Hospital Corporation of America to join

its corporate employee relations team as assistant vice president of Employee Relations.

USW has remained steadfast in its endeavors to obtain what they think is a fair contract. ARH is now awaiting the assignment of a federal mediator before both parties are brought back to the bargaining table.

Widows

because the mine operator did not observe basic safety practices and because critical safety standards were violated.

Federal investigators met with family members in the southeastern Kentucky town Thursday evening to discuss their findings, which mirrored conclusions reached by Kentucky regulators four months ago.

The federal regulatory agency also levied \$336,000 in fines against the operator of the mine for six safety and health violations contributing to the accident on May 20. Three of the citations were for "reckless disregard" and three others were "high negligence."

Mark Malecki, an attorney for the U.S. Department of Labor, didn't rule out the possibility of turning the case over to federal prosecutors for possible criminal charges.

"We can't comment at this time on that matter," he said.

Lee said the fines are not

sufficient.

"The mining families are wanting justice, and they're not getting it," she said.

The tragedy led to major modifications to Kentucky's mine safety laws earlier this year.

Lee, 33, and Amon Brock, 51, died at the scene of the explosion from blunt force trauma and heat injuries. The other three victims — Paris Thomas, 53, Roy Middleton, 35, and Bill Petra, 49 — died from carbon monoxide poisoning and smoke inhalation while trying to escape.

A sixth miner, Paul Ledford, was rescued with minor injuries. He attended Thursday's meeting but declined to speak with reporters.

Last year was one of the deadliest in recent history for coal miners in Kentucky. In all, 16 miners were killed on the job, prompting state lawmakers into action.

Uninsured

set in 1997, are no longer adequate to keep up with the growing numbers of uninsured kids, so it will take an increase in federal funding to cover kids currently enrolled in these programs with more money needed to cover more uninsured children.

"The country's most successful effort to provide insurance to vulnerable children is in danger unless Congress and the president act decisively to authorize and expand SCHIP and KCHIP," said Thursa Sloan, Director of the Floyd County Health Department. "If they do not provide sufficient

funding for the program, millions of children including kids here in our community who desperately need health insurance will remain uninsured."

The "Cover the Uninsured" campaign is the largest mobilization in history to shine a national spotlight on the need to secure health coverage for all Americans.

Obituaries

held Saturday, April 7, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

■ Russell Stepp, 83, of Inez, died Thursday, April 5, at Three Rivers Medical Center in Louisa. He is survived by his wife, Ada Kinner Stepp. Funeral services were held Sunday, April 8, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

MAGOFFIN COUNTY
■ Paul Hudson Salyer, 76, of Salyersville, died Tuesday, April 10. Funeral services were held Friday, April 13, at 2 p.m., at Licking River Baptist Church. Magoffin County Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

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Congratulations!

The Times staff would like to announce the arrival of baby Jakob Landon Byers, newborn son of Times Publisher, Joshua Byers and wife Barbara.

Jakob Landon Byers was born Thursday, April 12th, weighing 7 pounds, 8 ounces, and 19 inches long.

Times staff would like to wish baby Jakob, father Joshua, mother Barbara, and big brother Cade, the best of luck!

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1998. DOCJT is a state agency located on Eastern Kentucky University's campus.

The agency is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) and was the first accredited Public Safety Training Program in the nation. In July, DOCJT also became the first law enforcement training academy in the nation to be designated as a CALEA flag-ship agency.

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Southeast Floyd Co. Vol. Fire Dept. An Important Notice

This is to the Southeast Floyd County Volunteer Fire Department area.

We are in the process of trying to get our fire dept. put in the tax district, so that the ranking of our fire dept. will change. If we can get a better ranking, the insurance on our homes will go down. There are insurance companies now that charge so much that we can't afford it, or they won't even insure us when they find out we are in the Southeast District. They give the reason why, is because our fire dept. is ranked as almost non-existent.

We have gotten enough names on the petition that has been circulated to call a special meeting for the citizens of the Southeast Fire Dept. area. We will announce the time, date and place after this letter has circulated in the paper for three consecutive times. It will be for the citizens that are in the Southeast Floyd Co. Vol. Fire Dept. area. This should also help in getting funds for our fire dept. to buy trucks and equipment that we would need to further help the citizens of our area.

If you have any questions, please call 452-2222, or Betty at 452-9432.

Thank you,
Southeast Volunteer Fire Department

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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

The Imus disgrace

Even before radio-TV host Don Imus' repellent reference last week to the Rutgers University women's basketball team as "nappy-headed hos," his history was so littered with disgusting racist remarks that it was already a mystery how the CBS radio network and MSNBC kept him on the payroll.

Nothing about his two-week suspension changes that fact. Imus shouldn't just be contrite, he should be ashamed - but that also holds for CBS and NBC for keeping him on the national stage.

What's stunning is the readiness of so many of his enablers in the nation's media and journalistic elites to "downplay Imus' racism as a mere failure to be "politically correct." In 1997 on "60 Minutes," Imus admitted one of the reasons he hired staffer Bernard McGuirk - who also slurred the Rutgers team last week while on the air with Imus - was his proficiency at telling n-word jokes. For years, he has made a habit of singling out dark-skinned blacks for ridicule. Here's what he had to say about veteran journalist Gwen Ifill in 1995: "Isn't The (New York) Times wonderful. It lets the cleaning lady cover the White House."

This isn't "politically incorrect." This isn't satire. It is flat-out, full-on racism. Yet Tim Russert, Chris Matthews, Cokie Roberts, Sens. John McCain and Joseph Biden and dozens of other white media and political heavyweights have gone on Imus' show, admonished him for the remarks, but then appeared to act as apologists for him. Many journalists and politicians saw Ross Perot's "you people" reference in a speech to the NAACP as borderline racist, yet their leading lights tolerate offenses by Imus that are a million times worse. At some point, being willing to go on Imus and lend him legitimacy becomes a comment on these folks' character.

Enough is enough: The corporate bosses at CBS and General Electric, NBC's parent company, need to realize that the money Imus makes for them is dirty money, then act on that realization. Spewing racism is unacceptable. Period.

— The San Diego Union-Tribune



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HUMOR IS AN ALMOST PHYSIOLOGICAL RESPONSE TO FEAR. WE ARE ALL ADDICTS OF FOSSIL FUELS IN A STATE OF DENIAL ABOUT TO FACE COLD TURKEY. BEWARE OF THE MAN WHO WORKS HARD TO LEARN SOMETHING, LEARNS IT AND FINDS HIMSELF NO WISER THAN BEFORE. I WANT TO STAY AS CLOSE TO THE EDGE AS I CAN WITHOUT GOING OVER. OUT ON THE EDGE YOU SEE ALL KINDS OF THINGS YOU CAN'T SEE FROM THE CENTER. HOW NICE — TO FEEL NOTHING, AND STILL GET FULL CREDIT FOR BEING ALIVE. THE INSANE, ON OCCASION, ARE NOT WITHOUT THEIR CHARMS. WE ARE WHAT WE PRETEND TO BE, SO WE MUST BE CAREFUL ABOUT WHAT WE PRETEND TO BE. THE TWO REAL POLITICAL PARTIES IN AMERICA ARE THE WINNERS AND LOSERS. IF YOU CAN DO A HALF-ASSED JOB OF ANYTHING, YOU'RE A ONE-EYED MAN IN A KINGDOM OF THE BLIND. WHEN A SOCIETY IS IN GREAT DANGER, [WRITERS ARE] LIKELY TO SOUND THE ALARMS... BUT I CONTINUE TO THINK THAT ARTISTS — ALL ARTISTS — SHOULD BE TREASURED AS ALARM SYSTEMS. ANOTHER FLAW IN THE HUMAN CHARACTER IS THAT EVERYBODY WANTS TO BUILD AND NOBODY WANTS TO DO MAINTENANCE. JUST SOME OF US CAN READ AND WRITE AND DO A LITTLE MATH, THAT DOESN'T MEAN WE DESERVE TO CONQUER THE UNIVERSE.

Kurt Vonnegut
1922 - 2007

Rich Lowry Column

Democrats vs. the secret ballot

Behold, the self-styled friends of American labor. They are now trying to relieve the American worker of what they consider the unreasonable burden of the secret ballot, which is only one of the cardinal principles of free and fair elections.

The ballots in question are those in elections to determine whether or not a work force will unionize. Unions tend to win these elections when they occur (more than 60 percent of the time in 2005), but that's not good enough to stanch the bleeding in union membership. So the unions want to dispense with the elections in favor of a "card check" process. Or as a union official put it in an organizing dispute a few years ago, "There's no reason to subject the workers to an election."

House Democrats, who behave as if they hold their jobs only at the sufferance of AFL-CIO President John Sweeney (and some of them probably do), have duly obliged by passing legislation to do away with these pesky secret elections, which have been enshrined in the workplace Act of 1935. Instead, workers would become unionized when a majority of them signed an authorization card

presented to them by union organizers.

The supporters of this card-check approach argue that it is freer from the taint of intimidation than the secret ballot.

Perhaps through the looking glass. But a public process in which workers will feel peer and other pressures to sign up is obviously less likely to reflect their true sentiments than a secret ballot.

Nonetheless, the Democrats call their legislation the Employee Free Choice Act, which is hilariously perverse.

The House vote is a vindication of Sweeney, who, against the advice of union leaders who want to spend more on organizing, has insisted on continuing to bankroll the Democrats. His insight is that trying to unionize workers basically is hopeless without more Democrats in office to tip the playing field in the unions' favor.

Union membership has shrunk to a husk of itself. In 2006, it was just 12 percent of workers, down from 12.5 percent only a year before and down from 20.1 percent in 1983. Almost half of those union members are government employees, and almost half live in just six states.

Unionization has declined along with the manufacturing sector, and stepped-up competition has made it harder for companies to bear the increased labor costs and workplace rigidities that come with unionization.

Union organizers might as well show up at places of employment and say, "Hi, we're from the union, and we want to help make your company less agile and profitable."

Union advocates are missing the dynamic nature of the 21st-century American economy and misdiagnosing its ills. It has grown wealthier (the median income of households with married couples in their working prime is more than \$72,000). Americans aren't drowning in debt. They are taking on mortgages that represent investments in housing, and their assets are rising faster than their debts (real net worth for middle-income families has increased 35 percent over the past two decades).

So, American workers seem to be doing OK, except for the terrible stresses of elections, of course.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.



beyond the beltway

Iraq for dummies

by DONALD KAUL
MINUTEMAN MEDIA

Let me see if I've got this straight. The world of Islam is divided into two mainstream groups — Shiites and Sunnis. They disagree on who is the legitimate heir to Mohammed's sovereignty over the Muslim world, a disagreement that has been going on for the past 1,400 years, give or take a few weeks.

Most Muslims, and there are a lot of them in the world, are Sunnis, BUT the majority of Iraqi Muslims are Shiite.

DESPITE THAT, Iraq was ruled for many years — rather brutally — by a Sunni minority. (Saddam Hussein, while a nominal Sunni, lived a lifestyle, along with his sons, that was quite secular, in the sense that Las Vegas is secular.)

UNTIL we reinvaded Iraq, deposed Saddam, uprooted the Sunni ruling class and engineered an election that installed a Shiite majority government.

UNDERSTANDABLY, the Sunni minority was totally ticked off at being shunted aside and began attacking U.S. and Iraqi government troops, as well as Shiite civilians.

PREDICTABLY, the Shiites responded by attacking Sunnis wherever they found them and, backed by a private Shiite militia called the Mahdi army, began driving Sunnis from their homes in traditionally mixed neighborhoods.

STUBBORNLY, our government refused to call it a civil war, preferring the term "war on terror."

INEXPLICABLY, in an effort to see that our Shiite-sponsored government succeeded, we attacked the

Mahdi army, which was the only thing propping up that government.

UNSURPRISINGLY, this made Iran, Iraq's neighbor, exceedingly happy since it also happens to be a Shiite-majority state. It began sneaking arms into Iraq to help the Shiite government (whom, you'll remember, we were also trying to help).

ODDLY, this infuriated us, apparently because we wanted a monopoly on protecting the Shiites from the Sunnis. We and the rest of the Incredible Shrinking Coalition of the Willing threatened Iran with sanctions even more severe than the sanctions we threatened it with because it won't stop trying to build an atomic bomb.

INFURIATINGLY, Iran retaliated by capturing 15 British sailors and marines at sea, claiming that they had violated Iranian waters. When the British government denied this, the Iranians produced confessions in which all 15 apologized for trespassing.

NATURALLY, this did not satisfy either Britain or the United States, who felt the confessions were obtained under duress.

IRONICALLY, we had just produced a member of al Qaida who, after four years of interrogation at Guantanamo, had confessed to masterminding every terrorist crime of the past 10 years and we accepted his word as gospel. (Apparently, with current interrogation methods, you can get a ham sandwich to confess to kidnapping the Lindbergh baby.)

EMBARRASSINGLY, the King of Saudi Arabia, a Sunni state and traditionally our firmest Arab ally, cancelled a Washington state dinner

in his honor and denounced the U.S. occupation of Iraq as "illegal."

DEFIANTLY, Sen. John McCain, a staunch supporter of the war, announced that the Surge in Iraq is working. He'd just returned from a trip to Baghdad, he said, where he'd found neighborhoods that were as safe as Lux soap, filled with "welcoming Iraqis."

UNFORTUNATELY, "The New York Times" went into those neighborhoods a few days later and found them still dangerous and the "welcoming Iraqis" cynical. It seems McCain and his party had been escorted by 100 soldiers in armored Humvees while attack helicopters circled overhead. "He is just using this visit for publicity," a Baghdad merchant said. "They'll just take a photo of him at our market and they will just show it in the United States. He will win in America and we will have nothing."

So there you have it. We have made our greatest enemy stronger in the region, alienated our allies there and made the country all but uninhabitable.

And that's why we're in Iraq UNENDINGLY.

(Correction: Last month I made light of conservative Republican presidential candidate Ron Paul's brag that he had raised \$50,000 for his campaign. The actual figure was \$500,000. I apologize for not making light of that.)

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

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CAR TALK:

It's safe to use the AC at high speeds

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.

One way to get warm is to get into an argument with your neighbor about whether this is dogwood or redbud winter.

OF RAMPS

I have a special request from a friend at Lackey to inform her and the general public about ramps.

(You will recall, it was this vegetable and the odor, which caused Secretary Udall to excoriate Southern cooking, the other day.)

You will excuse us, please, from giving the botanical name (which we do not know), but ramps is a vegetable, which could very well claim kinship with our wild onion. It grows in West Virginia and Tennessee, and perhaps several other states, but not in our section. In fact, ramps is quite famous in West Virginia; folks have an annual ramps festival.

Everybody eats ramps where they are eaten at all, we understand. Have to. Otherwise, the non-eater wouldn't be able to abide those about him.

But why should a fellow like Secretary Udall complain about the odor of ramps, since he comes from the big city where they smell up the premiers with limburger, garlic, and the like?

WE'RE SORRY

This similarity of names is still causing us and other folks trouble. We are asked to explain here that the Charles Osborne, caught here recently with a load of booze, is not the Charles Leonard Osborne who attends Caney Junior College. Writes Charles Leonard in mild protest: "Since this article was published, more than 15 people have asked me to get them a case of beer, my next trip."

□□□

Last Thursday, I made it back to the lake. Same beautiful lake, same friendly hills all about—same old luck.

□□□

Our item in this space last week about Roy Ramey's 200-pound catch seems to have been a bit ambitious. Well, to clear up the matter, we will tell what we did not intend to say: His fishing partner, Earl Castle, fell in the lake.

SHUCKS!

Mention of fishing brings me around to the violation of a confidence, I must tell you about Ernest Turner and his son-in-law, Olin Elliott, and their fishing contest.

They started the season off with an agreement that the one who caught the largest game fish this year would pull down \$10 from the other—and, first thing, Elliott hauls off and lands an 8 1/2-pound bass. But his father-in-law is not one to give up easily, and he is holding

(See ALLEN, page six)



The Big Sandy Singers

**BSCTC, MAC present East Kentucky Live:
A Concert for Music Education, April 27**

PRESTONSBURG — Big Sandy Community and Technical College (BSCTC), along with the Mountain Arts Center, will present East Kentucky Live: A Concert for Music Education on April 27, at 7:00 PM at the Mountain Arts Center. Admission is \$5.

The concert will feature BSCTC's Big Sandy Singers, InHarmony Women's Community Chorus, Serenade, and the 2007 Big Sandy Idol (high school vocal talent scholarship competition) winners.

The Big Sandy Singers will present a variety show of pop, country, and gospel music. The Singers is the elite, auditioned, student singing group directed by BSCTC Instructor and veteran Kentucky Opry member Laura Ford Hall, with Timothy Cooley - album producer and technical director, and Kentucky Opry member Clayton Case, assistant director.

The group released its first album, "Down to the River to Pray," last March and have sold over 1,000 albums, with all proceeds benefiting the college music and drama department and music scholarships. This December, the Singers released their second album "Going Home," and will be performing the songs from the album live, including "Boondocks," "Some Gave All," and "I Have a Father."

The Singers have performed several times on WYMT, at the Eastern Kentucky Exposition Center and previously at the Mountain Arts Center as well as many other venues. The group also takes shows into area high schools and elementary schools, presenting a "go to college" and "drug free" message.

InHarmony will be presenting several selections including "Fields of Gold," "Lean on Me," "My Guy," and a medley from the movie "My Best Friend's Wedding," along with several other pieces.



InHarmony



Serenade

InHarmony is a female, community-based singing group whose members consist of BSCTC students, faculty, staff, and members of our eastern Kentucky community. Hall also serves as director for the choir, with Cooley as technical director. Mountain Arts Center Kentucky Opry Orchestra pianist Alicia Hughes serves as the accompanist for the choir.

Serenade is a female singing group comprised of community members who audition for their position in the ensemble. Serenade will be performing selections such as "I Can Only Imagine," and "When You Believe."

Admission is \$5 or a donation of your choice. All proceeds will go to the BSCTC Music and Drama Club, which helps to fund the performing

arts programs at the college. Everyone is invited to attend!

The weekend following the concert, Saturday, May 5, auditions will be held for The Big Sandy Singers. Anyone eligible to enroll in college for the 2007 fall semester, is eligible to audition. Those chosen will receive a \$1,200 scholarship to attend BSCTC and album recording experience, with the option to make a free solo album. Those interested in auditioning are encouraged to attend the Big Sandy Singers concert on April 27, and then to arrive at Gearheart Auditorium on the Prestonsburg Campus between the hours of noon and 5 PM on the 5th. Auditionees will be taken on a first come, first served basis. For more information, call Laura Hall at 889-4764.

**MOVIES FROM
THE BLACK LAGOON**

**'Scream and
Scream Again'**

by TOM DOTY
TIMES COLUMNIST

Killer zombies, unethical scientists, a Nazi-like police state and three of horror film's biggest stars add up to cheesy fun in this effort from Gordon Hessler ("The Oblong Box").

This one comes out swinging with a barrage of opening scenes that are often startling, though it's not clear how any of the events are related until the film is almost over. It's not an engaging technique but I guess that you have to admire the audacity of a movie that plunges ahead without any regard for whether the audience is keeping up.



Tom Doty
Times Columnist

Over the opening credits we glimpse a jogger going for his morning run, while a pulsing, and entirely inappropriate, jazz score plays. Suddenly he grasps his arm and collapses. He awakens in a hospital where a mute nurse refuses to answer his questions about how he got there.

This behavior doesn't help ease his panic; especially when he sweeps off his sheet and screams when he notes that his right leg has been amputated.

More jazz music plays as a stone-faced man arrives at a checkpoint and enters a police state with a Nazi-like motif symbolized by three interlocking trees. The man reports to an office where a wimpy superior (played by Peter Sallis, who voices Wallace, of "Wallace and Gromit" fame) states that he can't leave whenever he wants and states that he is going to put stone-face on report. This does not sit well with Stony, who promptly squeezes the guy's shoulder until he dies. This turns out to be his variation on the Vulcan nerve pinch, but it's only setting appears to be death.

Yet more jazz music begins as the focus shifts to a police squad in London that is investigating the murder of a young woman. They determine that the victim worked for a scientist named Browning and set out for his home. Browning appears perturbed at the news but explains that he didn't know the lady, who functioned as a lab assistant, very well.

Meanwhile, the one-legged jogger wakes up again and is more than a little shocked to find that his other leg is now missing, and so he screams again (hence the title).

While these puzzling events unfold we are whisked back to the police state, where guards prove that it is harder to leave the place than enter it by assaulting a young couple who try to cross the border. Stone-face gets chewed out over the incident by his commanding officer, which prompts him to apply his lethal shoulder attack and assume leadership.

Another jump cut takes the film back to swinging London, where a nightclub is filled to the rafters with young people who dance as if they are

(See LAGOON, page six)

The little Clydesdale that could

by DAWN STUMM

"CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE HORSE LOVER'S SOUL II"

Frost's Erastus Sally was a short mare standing only 16 hands, so as a Clydesdale show horse she didn't have a future in the show ring. Nonetheless, Sally distinguished herself from other Clydesdales in a unique way. She became the only show jumping Clydesdale in the Midwest, if not the United States of America.

We started training in October of 1994, and by February we were at our first show. "How exciting this is," the

look on Sally's face seemed to say. The thought of a beer horse actually jumping a fence amused the audience, but laughter gave way to stunned silence as Sally completed the Jumper course without dropping a rail and doing the timed jump-off at the fastest speed. May 1995 found us successfully showing Sally in the Jumper ring, where she continued winning championships and blue ribbons throughout the show season. Sally enjoyed the crowds and loved to jump, the bigger the better.

Of all the horses I have ever owned, ridden, jumped or done equitation on, Sally was probably the best.

She moved like a cat, very smooth and elegant, and she was also very protective of her human. When I made a mistake going over a jump and took a bad fall, there she stood, her head by mine, refusing to leave me as I lay on the ground waiting for help to arrive. When they were able to drag her away and head back to the barn, she nickered as she left the ring. Sally continued her show season with another rider in the irons, and by the end of the summer, she moved up to the big jumps. After her appearance on ESPN, she was known across America and had fans everywhere. The mare who was too small for her breed standard served as an ambassador for the uniqueness and versatility of the Clydesdale.

Sally instantly became the star when she showed up at a horse show. Once, a woman in a BMW drove up to us waving her hand asking, "Is that Sally, the Jumping Clydesdale?" Never one to disappoint a fan, Sally graciously accepted the woman's offer of a carrot and a scratch on the nose. Throughout her show career, she earned many blues and championships and was mentioned in numerous articles in horse magazines. Sally had made her mark



on the show world, but what she meant to our family was so much more than accolades and ribbons.

While carrying my son, Sally had the endearing habit of putting her head down at my belly to feel him move. One day while turning my young gelding out, he kicked me in the head. I went down. Uncertain of how badly I was hurt, I didn't move. Immediately, Sally began speaking "horse" and stomping to the

(See SOUP, page six)

It's safe to use the AC at high speeds

by TOM and RAY
MAGLIOZZI



Dear Tom and Ray:
On a recent cross-country trip (South Carolina to Nevada) with my boyfriend, we had an air-conditioning issue, which I'm hoping you can help us with. I wanted to make a cell-phone call, so I put the windows up (for quiet) and turned the AC on. We were cruising at approximately 80 mph. At the next stop for gas, the car was making a funny noise, which said boyfriend decided was the compressor. Then the AC did not work any longer. Plus, the car was smoking. So he took it in for service the next day — and \$1,000 later, we have another compressor, among other AC parts. The man at the repair center said you should NEVER turn your AC on going faster than 50 mph. Everyone I've talked to says they've never heard of such a thing, and they've all done it. And I have done it myself, with no repercussions. So is the repairman right? Is this true? We were driving a 1998 Jeep Wagoneer. It has had AC problems anyway — could it have been an existing problem? Or did my turning the AC on at 80 mph cause this? I am

going to pay for it, because I feel so bad, but I would like to know for future knowledge. Thank you! — Julie

TOM: Don't pay for it! It wasn't your fault, Julie.

RAY: No, the timing was pure coincidence. The air-conditioning compressor was already on its last legs before this incident. It just happened to kick the bucket after you used it. You are completely blameless.

TOM: We've heard this myth before, about not turning on the air conditioner at highway speeds. The purveyors of this myth explain that, with the car going that fast, the belt is turning at high speed. And if you then switch on the AC, it

will be "jolted" into action at a very high speed, and this will harm it.

RAY: This, as we say in the garage, is bullfeathers. Here's why. When the AC is running, it cycles on and off by itself anyway. So it's already turning itself on and off all the time, no matter how fast you're driving.

TOM: Right. So if what the repairman said was true, you wouldn't ever be able to use your AC on the highway. And we know that's not true. Otherwise, everybody you passed on the interstate would be dripping sweat, with their hair plastered to their forehead.

RAY: Plus, the major accessories are all shut off every time you accelerate hard, so that all of the engine's power can go to the wheels. When you back off the gas pedal, the AC comes right back on. The engine is always turning fast at that moment. I'm not saying that's great for the AC, but the compressor has its own clutch, and it's engineered and designed to be used that way.

TOM: So you can turn the AC on and off whenever you want, Julie. And if you want to contribute to your boyfriend's new compressor, feel free. But we call this a pre-existing con-

dition. You're off the hook.

Car warm-up no longer necessary

Dear Tom and Ray:
I have a 2002 VW Passat. I live in the Chicago suburbs. I park it outside in a public lot all day while I'm at work. How long should I let the car warm up before driving it home at the end of the day? Keep in mind, while it is getting warm, I am very cold. My late husband was obsessive about this, but I've been told that new cars and oils don't need to warm up. I don't have time to read the manual. Please help. Thank you so much. — Carolee

RAY: You don't have time

to read the manual? What about all that time you spend shivering while waiting for the car to warm up!

TOM: Actually, what you've been told is correct, Carolee. Modern cars don't need to be warmed up at all. Nor do older cars.

RAY: If your car starts and doesn't stall when you put it in gear, it's ready to go. In fact, the best way to warm it up is by driving it.

TOM: It's best to drive it gently for the first three to five minutes, to allow the oil to fully warm up and thin out. So, you don't want to pull out of the parking lot and immediately floor it on a highway ramp. But driving it gently is an ideal

way to warm it up.

RAY: The only exception is when the temperature is inhumanly, butt-freezingly frigid (like below 10 degrees Fahrenheit). Then it's not a bad idea to let the car idle for 30 seconds or a minute before heading out.

TOM: But generally speaking, you don't need to warm it up at all. Turn the key and drive, Carolee. And now that we've saved you all this warm-up time, use some of it to read the manual.

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.

Lagoon

routinely being shot with tazer guns. Turns out this is where the killer does his hunting and he latches onto another victim.

The police are aided by a 1970 CSI-type guy named Sorel who informs lead investigator Bellaver that the killer is drinking the blood of his victims through their wrists. The cops get proactive and place an undercover officer in the same club, where the same band seems to have a steady gig, and they hit pay dirt.

The killer goes after their bait, which leads to an astonishing 20-minute chase that is a breath of fresh air after all off the cuts between scenes. It ends at a rock quarry, where they handcuff their suspect to a fender, but he outsmarts them by ripping his hand off and now it's a foot chase. The killer runs onto Dr. Browning's property and drowns himself in a vat of acid kept in the doc's barn (I assume they were all the rage in 1970).

A London bureaucrat informs Bellaver that this death ends the investigation and orders the case closed, even though the mute nurse steals the severed hand away from their lab and brutally kills the lab tech who tries to stop her.

Stone-face shows up in

London and proves that he is aware of these experiments and is in fact the first alpha male of a new race of super humans that Browning is creating. Turns out that they have been getting too much press lately and Stony is there to shut it down.

It all leads to an exciting finale in which Sorel shows up and everybody tries to kill each other, with many victims ending up in the acid bath which has been moved back into the lab.

Don't forget the bureaucrat character. He shows up to drop even more bad news, which amounts to this confrontation being just the tip of the iceberg.

Oh, and the guy in the hospital who keeps waking up to find another limb gone is abandoned at the halfway point, so there's no closure there either.

This one feels like it could have been the first in a trilogy since it raises more questions than it answers. You never find out who was in charge of the super soldier program and only observe events through the eyes of lower level flunkies.

What keeps it from being a total mess, however, is some stunt casting that sees horror stalwarts Peter Cushing,

Christopher Lee and Vincent Price cast in key roles. Cushing gets the short end of the stick and only appears in one scene as the police state's leader. Lee gets a somewhat meatier role as a shifty British politician, though it's never clear whether we should root for him or hiss whenever he appears.

Price gets the most scream time as the project's mad scientist and he relishes the role. He actually engenders some sympathy for Browning during the confrontation with Stone Face. It boils down to a battle of the bad guys and Price gets you on his side, despite the fact that it still may not be clear what's going on. Now that is acting.

That said there is plenty to recommend this, such as the 1970s gore, arch dialogue, a great chase scene and plenty of jazz for you music fans. All that and a cryptic story that almost refuses to let you in on what's going down, but that's half the fun.

The disc also includes the 1969 thriller "The Oblong Box." This one, from an Edgar Allan Poe story, also features Lee and Price and is in league with the Poe classics that Price made with Roger Corman.

Best line: "Either this is coincidence, some kinky freak burglary turned tragic, or we've got more than one supernormal maniac on our hands."

1970, rated PG.

Soup

gelding, keeping him at bay until help arrived. Sally saved my unborn son and me from further, more serious injury from my rambunctious gelding who knew no better.

At the age of 15, Sally went lame and we turned her out to pasture to enjoy a well-deserved retirement. The final day she was with us, I put my son on her. She nuzzled his leg and stood quietly as if she knew the intimate connection they shared. Oddly, the day after Sally peacefully went over the rainbow, a newborn fawn and her mom appeared at

my back door. As I watched these gentle creatures graze on tender grass, the fawn noticed me and gave me a strangely familiar look. It suddenly struck me where I had seen that expression before and when I acknowledged her as "Sally," she went back to her momma and friends. Whether the moment between us was simply my way of coping with the loss of an irreplaceable member of our family or a truly magical message from my friend, it was no less a comfort to know Sally was still watching over us.

Allen

into his ten-spot.
Last Friday, he tells Elliott as they start fishing. "I'll fish from the bow of the boat, this time, and I'll show you how to beat that minnow you caught."

And, sure enough, it wasn't long till he was all tangled up with a whopper that had struck an eel strip while he was jigging. This monster took off; he circled, he rose and he went down. "Reminded me of the way a porpoise will act," Turner said. But the big fish was well-hooked, and finally he swung back toward the boat. "Guess this'll hold you!" he yelled to

Elliott. "Get the landing net."

Elliott cooperated, slipped the net beneath the fish, then heaved mightily to bring it into the boat.

The fish would have gone a good 10 pounds, Turner swears. But it was never weighed, he sadly relates. It was a carp.



Continued from p5

Attention

Is Your Mom Magnificent?

Then write us, in 500 words or less, describing Why She Stands Above the Rest

This Mother's Day The Floyd County Times "Most Magnificent Mom" will receive royal treatment.

Send your Mother's photo along with your tribute by:

Friday, April 27

Mail or Bring in to:
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FLOYD COUNTY Sports

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Lady Blackcats outlast Allen Central, 18-15

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG – Prestonsburg continues to rank as one of the 15th Region's top-five teams. The Lady Blackcats found themselves with the 15th Region's fifth-best record Thursday night following a hard-fought 18-15 win over visiting Allen Central in a game that was held at the Prestonsburg Sports Park. The victory was Prestonsburg's second over a 58th District/Floyd County Conference foe in as many games. With the win, Prestonsburg improved to 5-2 overall and 2-0 in the district/conference.

In a pitching battle between two talented young eighth-graders, Prestonsburg pitcher Alexis DeRossett prevailed. Allen Central eighth-grade pitcher Shea Spurlock was stuck with the loss.

Allen Central outscored Prestonsburg 3-2 in the first inning, but the Lady Rebels fell behind in the second frame. The Lady Blackcats led 5-3 at the end of the second inning. Allen Central briefly regained the lead at 6-5 in the top half of the fourth inning, but the advantage was short-lived. Prestonsburg plated seven runs in the fourth inning and scored three in

each of its last two at-bats.

Allen Central came across with four runs in each of its last two trips to the plate before finishing short of claiming the win.

Linsey Fields was Prestonsburg's most productive baserunner. Fields, a sophomore, reached base in each of five plate appearances, scoring four runs. Brittany Collins and Alisha Mayfield each scored three times.

Amanda Thacker and Sara Johnson each scored three runs for the Lady Rebels.

With the loss, Allen Central dropped to 4-3 overall and 1-1 in the

district/conference.

Other area high school softball results from Monday evening were Betsy Layne 15, South Floyd 3; Jenkins 6, Perry County Central 4; Jenkins 7, Perry County Central 6; Knott County Central 25, Riverside Christian 10 (3 innings); Lawrence County 5, Boyd County 2; Magoffin County 10, Johnson Central 6; Phelps 7, Pikeville 5; Pike County Central 17, Sheldon Clark 7 (6 innings) and Shelby Valley 4, Paintsville 1.



BRITTANY COLLINS

MSU to hold camps for Girl Scouts

TIMES STAFF REPORT

MOREHEAD – Morehead State University Athletics will host two sports clinics for the Girl Scouts on Sunday, April 22 on the MSU campus. The women's volleyball and basketball teams will teach the girls game rules and basic skills.

Callie Lewis, membership specialist said, "I am so excited about this event the girls are going to get to experience basketball and volleyball in a whole new way. Hopefully this will encourage more girls to take action and learn a sport to get more physical activity. Come out and enjoy a great Girl Scout event with the MSU college athletes. Don't miss out on this opportunity to work with and learn from strong female athletes."

The clinics will be taught by current coaches and players at MSU. Each session will be 90

(See MSU, page eight)

WILDCATS MAKE VISIT



photo by Jamie Howell

TOUGH DEFENSIVE ASSIGNMENT: Adams Middle School eighth-grader Alexis DeRossett guarded University of Kentucky senior Bobby Perry when this year's group of UK men's basketball seniors visited Adams Middle School Thursday afternoon as part of a Floyd County trip.

Herrick places 14th at GLVC Championships

TIMES STAFF REPORT

COLUMBUS, Ind. – The Bellarmine University men's golf team finished fourth among 13 teams at the Great Lakes Valley Conference championship held this past week at Otter Creek Golf Club. The Knights finished with a final tally of 910, 24 strokes behind conference champion Northern Kentucky. The Knights were the only team among the top eight schools to not break 300 on any single day as they finished 301-302-307. Northern Kentucky recorded a 297-294-295 886, while SIU-Edwardsville finished second at 301-296-297 844. Lewis was third at 297-306-302 905.



Brooks Herrick

Freshman Brooks Herrick

(See HERRICK, page eight)

P'burg hosts, wins track meet

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG – The Prestonsburg High School track and field program hosted a home meet Thursday evening that included visiting teams from Knott County Central, Johnson Central, Betsy Layne and South Floyd high schools. Both Prestonsburg teams – boys and girls – prevailed. The PHS track and field program, under the guidance of veteran head coach Dewey Jamerson, won both the boys' and girls' competitions convincingly.

The PHS track and field athletes excelled in less than ideal conditions.

"The one thing I thought was great Thursday night was that no one complained about having to run or tried to get out of running," said Jamerson. "They complained about the cold and that was OK. Everyone ran hard. For the most part times were

(See TRACK, page eight)

All-Star tryouts to start Friday

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

GEORGETOWN – Tryouts for the Kentucky All-Star basketball teams – boys and girls – will get underway at 4 p.m. on Friday at Georgetown College. The tryouts will continue Saturday. Four different girls' players from the 15th Region – including two from Magoffin County – were picked for the tryouts. A complete list of the tryout invitees follows.

Girls-Whitney Ballinger (Carroll County); Whitley Briggs (Fairdale); Hope Brown (North Hardin); Elizabeth Campbell (Sacred Heart); Cati Comeff (Somerset); Courtney Davis (Montgomery County); Nicole Dickman (Notre Dame); Jessica Doran (Graves County); Latridra Elliott (Ballard); Chloe Elam (Russellville); Jessica Fortman (Russell); Thia Gholson (Assumption); Rebecca Gray (Scott County); Melly Heaton (Caldwell County); Clarrisa Houston (Union County); Ashley

(See ALL-STAR, page eight)

Shoot Hoops Not Drugs basketball camps returning

TIMES STAFF REPORT

SOMERSET – Operation UNITE's Shoot Hoops Not Drugs basketball camps will make a return later this year. The popular free youth basketball camps are scheduled for June and July. The camps, sponsored by Project UNITE, will run from 4 to 7 p.m. each day.

Jeff Sheppard, a highly acclaimed former basketball player at the University of Kentucky, will conduct seven free one-day regional basketball camps this summer in the Fifth Congressional District. The Shoot Hoops Not Drugs Tour will teach school-age youth fundamental basketball skills while emphasizing the importance for them to stay drug-free.

Pre-registration is not required. Participants should wear comfortable shirt, shorts and closed-toe sneakers.

SouthEast Telephone will be providing free hotdogs and water at each of the camps.

Wal-Mart Corporation has donated two portable basketball goals that will be given away at the conclusion of each camp.

Participants will receive a free event T-shirt and Shoot Hoops Not Drugs basketball.

Last year's basketball camps had 878 participants from 35 Kentucky counties and 5 states and involved 155 volunteers.

Sponsorships are available: GOLD

LEVEL (\$1,000-plus), SILVER LEVEL (\$500-\$999) and BRONZE LEVEL (\$100-\$499).

The camp schedule is as follows: Thursday, June 7 - The Lord's Gym at Whitley City in McCreary County. Tuesday, June 19 - Jackson County High School (Date rescheduled from June 14).

Thursday, June 21 - Cumberland High School

Thursday, June 28 - Menifee County High School in Frenchburg.

Thursday, July 5 - Knott County Central High School.

Thursday, July 12 - Lawrence County High School.

Thursday, July 19 - East Ridge High School.

EKU FB program announces home game times

TIMES STAFF REPORT

RICHMOND – The Eastern Kentucky University football program has announced the times for its 2007 home schedule Friday. The home opener against Western Carolina will be played on Sept. 8 at 6 p.m.

All four of the remaining home tilts will be played in the afternoon. The Family Weekend game against Samford is slated for Sept. 29 at 3 p.m. Also, the 2007 Homecoming game versus Tennessee State will be played on Oct. 20 at 3 p.m. Senior Day and the regular season finale is slated for Nov. 17 against Tennessee

Tech at 1 p.m.

Prestonsburg High School senior lineman Wes Woods signed with the EKV football program earlier this year. It is unknown at this time whether or not Woods will redshirt during his freshman season at the OVC school.

Woods will play for the Kentucky All-Stars in June in the annual football game versus the Tennessee All-Stars.

"We look forward to going and watching Wes Woods and the rest of the Eastern Kentucky University football team," said Prestonsburg High School Coach John DeRossett. "Wes had a tremendous career here at Prestonsburg High School and we expect him to do very well at EKV."

Eastern Kentucky finished the 2006 campaign with four straight wins to finish 6-5 overall and tied for fourth in the OVC with a 5-3 record. EKV will be in search of its 30th consecutive winning season in 2007 and first league title since 1997.



photo by Chris Belcher/201 Speedway

NEW OWNERS: Travis Miller (left) and Chuckie May (right) are the new owners of 201 Speedway. The Johnson County dirt track ranks as one of the state's best. Miller and May are excited about the upcoming season. The season-opener for the revamped 201 Speedway is set for Saturday, May 5. A skilled driver, May plans to continue to drive the No. 28 Late Model.

Herrick

Continued from p7

(Prestonsburg) led the way for Bellarmine. The Prestonsburg High School graduate finished tied for 14th in the event with a final tally of 78-75-73 226, 11 strokes over par. Sophomore Kyle Leach (Louisville/DeSales) was one stroke behind at 227, tied for 17th overall while senior Chris York (Louisville/Manual) finished two strokes behind Herrick in a three-way tie for 22nd at 228.

After shooting a one-over 73 on the first day, junior Thomas More (Louisville/Butler) finished tied for 36th with a final score of 17-over 233. Northern Kentucky's David Shearer won the event, shooting a three-over 219.

Bellarmine now has one more tournament, the Great Lakes Spring Invite, to prepare for the NCAA Super Regional in May. The Great Lakes Spring Invite takes place in Alton, Ill., April 21-22.

MSU

Continued from p7

minutes plus dinner. During the sessions, the girls will be going through drills, stations and competitions. Each girl will receive a fun patch to remember the day.

Matthew Mitchell, head women's basketball coach said, "The girls will get to work with Division I athletes on skills and have fun at the same time. This event is a great chance for both the Girl Scouts and MSU athletes to work together."

To register for the event, forms are available through the Morehead Office. The registration form and fee must be sent to the Girl Scouts Wilderness Road Council, Morehead Office at 275 East Main Street, Morehead, Ky., 40351. Deadline for registration has been extended to Thursday, April 19.

For more information please contact Lewis at 606/784-7292.

Morehead State University believes that Intercollegiate Athletics is an integral part of the University and that a broad-based intercollegiate athletics program encourages student participation and involvement in the total life of the University. In addition, intercollegiate athletic programs play a positive role by supporting the academic and public service missions of the University.

The Girl Scouts-Wilderness Road Council is a quality program designed to help girls develop skill, values and self-esteem while enabling each to achieve her full potential and a joy of living.

Track

Continued from p7

down a bit but with the weather the way it was that is understandable. We did have some personal records set. This is a great group of kids. They will give you their best effort every time out and as a coach, that is all you can ask."

Prestonsburg was scheduled to compete in the Rowan County Invitational on Saturday, but the meet was cancelled. Results from Thursday's meet follow. Boys' Team Rankings (15 events scored) - 1. Prestonsburg, 147; 2. Knott County Central, 74; 3. Johnson Central, 42; 4. Betsy Layne, 26.5; 5. South Floyd, 0.5. Girls' Team Rankings (14 events scored) - 1. Prestonsburg, 121; 3. Johnson Central 73; 3. Knott County Central; 4. Betsy Layne, 12; 5. South Floyd, 8.

All-Star

Howard (Magoffin County); Paige Jackson (Clay County); Eileen Kennedy (Assumption); Shannon Klie (Newport Central Catholic); Amy Kurtz (Nelson County); Emily London (Lexington Christian); Kristen Madden (Perry County Central); Brittany Manns (Magoffin County); Stephanie McCullah (Whitley County); Wendi Messer (Knox Central); Amber Morrison (Shelby County); Whitney Odem (Apollo); Chinwe Okoro (Russell); Ashley Prince (Owensboro); Emily

Queen (Rose Hill); Haley Ratliff (Pike County Central); Whitney Seals (Raceland); Keyla Snowden (Lexington Catholic); Bethany Spillman (Barren County); Amy Swisher (Franklin Simpson); Laura Terry (Rose Hill); T.J. Thomas (Barren County); Lindsay Waters (McCreary Central).
Boys-Deron Anderson (Doss); Jeremy Anderson (Warren Central); Rashad Bassy (Jeffersontown); Doug Beaumont (Male); Twany Beckham (Ballard); Riley Benock (Meade

County); Sean Clark (Greenwood); Josh Clemons (Ohio County); Thomas Coleman (Jeffersontown); Matt Daniel (Rowan County); Zack Fain (West Jessamine); Matt Fraillix (Caldwell County); Luc Graves (Allen County-Scottsville); Johanne Hamilton (Ballard); Jordan Hammonds (South Laurel); Mike Hester (Simon Kenton); Justin Hicks (Hazard); Austin Hill (Holmes); Josh Hurd (Simon Kenton); Tanner Jacobs (Trinity); Jaron Jones (Bryan Station); Tristan Jones (Clark

County); Preston Knowles (Clark County); Jefferey McClain (Fulton County); Andre Miller (Central Hardin); Spencer Perrin (Boyle County); Stephon Pettigrew (Elizabethtown); Ty Proffitt (South Laurel); Greg Rice (Holmes); Shavo Savage (Bowling Green); Reggie Smith (Fairdale); Robert Troutman (Bullitt East); Justin Vittatoe (Clinton County); Terry Walker (Fort Knox); Matt Walls (Scott County); Ryan Whitaker (Bell County).

Kentucky High School Baseball Coaches Association Top 25 Poll

1. Lexington Catholic
2. Paul Dunbar
3. Pleasure Ridge Park
4. Lexington Christian
5. Danville
6. Tates Creek
7. Trinity (Louisville)
8. Owensboro Catholic
9. Christian County
10. Ballard
11. Butler
12. Daviess County

13. Male
14. Boyd County
15. Apollo
16. St. Xavier
17. Covington Catholic
18. Henry Clay
19. West Jessamine
20. Corbin
21. Henderson County
22. Ryle (tie)
23. Eastern
24. George Rogers Clark
25. Somerset

Others Receiving Votes — Butler County, Owensboro, Lafayette, Campbell County, North Hardin, Elizabethtown, Franklin County, Hopkinsville, Madisonville North Hopkins, Bowling Green, Heath, Beth Haven, Glasgow, Johnson Central, John Hardin, Rockcastle County, Barren County, Mercer County, Taylor County, Jeffersontown, Union County, Bourbon County, St. Henry, Pulaski County, Hancock County, Ohio County, Bryan Station, Lawrence County, Highlands.

General Assembly honors Cy Young winner Brandon Webb

TIMES STAFF REPORT

FRANKFORT — Arizona Diamondbacks pitcher Brandon Webb now has a highway named in his honor in his hometown of Ashland. Senate Joint Resolution 93 was amended in the Kentucky House of Representatives by State Representative John Vincent (R-Ashland) to honor Ashland native and 2006 National League Cy Young Award Winner Brandon Webb by naming the roadway in recognition of his outstanding accomplishments. The 2007 General Assembly passed the reso-

lution on March 26, and it was signed into law by the Governor on April 5.

The resolution designates the portion of U.S. 60 from the Ashland, Kentucky City limits to Beech Street in Ashland as the "Brandon Webb Highway." This portion of U.S. 60 passes by the entrance to Brandon's alma mater, Paul G. Blazer High School. The Kentucky Department of Transportation will be responsible for placing signs designating that portion of U.S. 60 as "Brandon Webb Highway," and this should be accomplished within the next sixty days.

"Brandon Webb is the first Kentuckian to win a Cy Young Award and this is a very notable achievement for the Commonwealth," stated Representative John Vincent. "This is a most deserving honor for Brandon. Not only is he an outstanding athlete, but he is an outstanding young man. Brandon is an important part of our community and an exceptional role model for our youth," said Rep. Vincent. "He certainly represents our Commonwealth in a positive fashion."

Webb played high school base-

ball for Ashland's Paul G. Blazer High School and pitched for the University of Kentucky before being drafted by the Arizona Diamondbacks. He made his major league debut in 2003 and has played for Arizona his entire career.

From time to time, the Kentucky General Assembly has deemed it acceptable to honor various Kentuckians by naming portions of state highways in their honor. This group includes Governors, veterans, educators, and distinguished athletes, such as Webb. The designation of this highway section will not change anyone's current address.

NCAA approves football proposals

TIMES STAFF REPORT

INDIANAPOLIS — The NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel approved April 12 all proposed rules changes submitted by the Football Rules Committee. The committee's changes were made to eliminate some downtime in the game without limiting the number of plays. The panel's action followed a joint meeting in March with the Football Rules Committee, commissioners representing each division and the executive director of the American Football Coaches Association, which resulted

in clarifications and a better understanding of the proposed timing rules.

The committee made two changes that revert to those rules used in the 2005 season. First, in Rule 3-2-5-e, the clock will start on the snap after a change in possession, as opposed to the 2006 rule which started the clock when the referee signaled the ball ready for play. The committee also returned its rules on free kicks to 2005 standards, starting the clock on kickoffs only when the ball is legally touched in the field of play.

Two major changes approved by the panel intended to control overall

game times include moving the kickoff to the 30-yard line, which should result in more returns, and limiting the play clock to 15 seconds in televised games following commercial timeouts.

The new rules will also limit charged team timeouts, during televised games only, to 30 seconds plus the 25-second play clock. Conference or institutional contractual media agreements shall supersede this policy. This will not affect non-televised games.

One proposal made in February by the rules committee was withdrawn

after the NCAA's comment period. The committee proposed to cap the total time for replay review to two minutes to make the decision. With the potential for technical difficulties and other possible issues, the committee withdrew the proposal.

The panel requested that the rules committee research and report its findings on a possible change to the play clock that could be proposed in the future. The rules committee is considering a 40-second/25-second play clock combination as a means for a more uniform pace of play.

Pitino announces three staff revisions

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LOUISVILLE — University of Louisville men's basketball coach Rick Pitino has made three revisions to his staff for the 2007-08 season.

Richard Pitino, an assistant coach at Duquesne University for the past year and the son of Rick Pitino, will join the U of L staff as an assistant coach. Eric Scott, an assistant coach at Bellarmine University in Louisville for the past two years and a former U of L program assistant,

will become the Director of Basketball Operations on Pitino's staff. Matt Morris, a program assistant on the U of L staff the past year, will move into the Cardinals' Director of Video Operations role.

Richard Pitino worked the past season as an assistant coach under Ron Everhart at Duquesne, where he helped the Dukes more than triple its victories from a year prior to their arrival, posting a 10-18 record after inheriting a team that had won just three of its 27 games.

Richard Pitino also worked with Everhart one year at Northeastern (2005-06) when the Huskies built a 19-11 record and 12-6 mark in the Colonial Athletic Association.

Richard Pitino served as an administrative assistant under Tom Herrion at the College of Charleston during the Cougars' 18-10 season in 2004-05.

Richard Pitino, who earned his undergraduate degree in history at Providence College in 2005, spent two seasons as a manager for the Friar's men's basketball team. In his junior year, Providence reached the school's highest national ranking of No. 12 (AP) and earned the school's 15th NCAA Tournament trip.

While at Providence, Richard Pitino also served as an assistant coach at Saint Andrew's School in Barrington, R.I. for two years. In his first season, the team finished the

year ranked 25th in the nation by USA Today and won the New England Prep School Championship.

The new staff members join current second-year assistant coaches Marvin Menzies and Steve Masiello on Pitino's staff. An opening on the Cardinals' staff became available for Richard Pitino when Kevin Willard, an assistant coach at U of L for the past six years, departed to accept a new head coaching opportunity which has not yet been announced. Morris replaces Dan McHale, who is moving to an assistant coaching role with Willard. Scott replaces Devon Smith, who had worked one season with the Cardinals.



EAGLE BASEBALL: The Alice Lloyd College baseball team includes several players from Floyd and other Eastern Kentucky counties. Floyd County resident Jad Deaton (far left) is an assistant coach to head coach Scott Cornett.

photo courtesy of ALC



photos courtesy of Robert Sizemore

PART OF RACING HISTORY: Chris Combs Racing is the owner of an old Bobby Allison racecar. The car saw feature race action at several tracks.

BENTLEY COLUMN: Welcome home, Donnie Jones

by RICK BENTLEY
TIMES COLUMNIST

Think of a traffic light, with its three colors to guide you safely through. Today we'll take the traffic light and apply another meaning — green is good, red is not, yellow means we're not ready to commit just yet.

It's been a busy time since we last sat down for our weekly chat and there's a lot of ground to cover. Let's take a look at what's gone down:

Green Light: DJ wins the green jacket

One of the easier predictions we've ever made came true last Saturday morning in the Henderson Center on the campus of Marshall University, when Pikeville College Hall of Famer Donnie Jones stepped out of the shadows on Masters' weekend and donned a green jacket after being introduced as the new coach of the Thundering Herd.

We've made no bones about our friendship with Jones, a former classmate on The Hill. He was a nice, humble, classy person then and is a nice, humble, classy person now. About the only thing that has changed for DJ since we spent many afternoons sitting on the steps of the Ad Building is his bank account.



Rick Bentley

There have been three buzz words flying about the last week: Tireless, recruiter and driven. Those words have been coming from Lexington, and they've been coming from Huntington.

I would never say DJ was solely responsible for recruiting the talent on Florida's back-to-back national championship teams, but don't discount his role, either. He spends an enormous amount of time on the road, in dusty high school gyms and living rooms and on playground courts and in the offices of coaches.

Marshall got a good one when Donnie Jones came home. And, it says here, he's in a better position than Billy Donovan was when he took over the Herd 13 years ago: Now Marshall is in a highly-respected Conference USA, but in my estimation, other than Memphis it is a winnable league.

Don't be surprised if other schools with deeper pockets aren't looking to Huntington for their coach in two to three years. Donnie Jones is going to win at Marshall.

Yellow Light: Billy G., not Billy D

One day after Donovan said no thanks to Kentucky, a press conference and pep rally were hastily thrown together to welcome Billy

anyway. Only this time, it was Billy Gillispie, late of the juggernaut that has become Texas A&M.

I'd love to sing the praises of Gillispie. I think it could be a terrific hire and I hope time will prove that it is. There are good things and there are, let's say, questionable things, in this move.

■ Good news? Those buzz words again. Tireless, recruiter, driven. Ask anybody who knows the guy they're suddenly calling Billy Clyde and you'll hear them. You've heard about the 6,000 text messages a month to recruits. You've seen him bring unthinkable talent and success to two places where the football teams normally have more wins than their basketball brethren.

He's enthusiastic, he's been largely successful (four 20-win seasons in five tries) and considers his passion for basketball "unhealthy."

It's entirely possible we've got another Rick Pitino on our hands, only this time we hired him *before* he really made a big splash, not afterward.

■ Question marks? They're there. This isn't Marshall or even Arkansas here. This is the winningest program in the country. The one where they only hang banners if you play in the last game of the college basketball season. The one everybody else guns for.

Then why am I the only one con-

cerned that we've handed the keys to a guy with only five years of head coaching experience? Is it just me? Am I really the only one who has noticed?

As I read elsewhere this week, five years ago Kentucky won 32 games and was beaten in the regional finals. Five years ago, this guy had no head coaching experience whatsoever.

I'm going to put those worries aside, or at least try to. I'm going to be in his corner. But if it doesn't work, remember this. Right now, I'm the very definition of "cautiously optimistic."

Red Light: DeMoss DeGone

I suppose I was as impressed with Sarah Elliott as I've been with any teenager I've met in a long time when our paths crossed one Saturday night a few years ago. Elliott was in town to play in an all-star game for high school seniors-to-be, and I'll tell you, I just liked the heck out of her.

She was bright, she was humble, she was incredibly personable. Amazingly, she was thanking us for letting her play in the game, when we knew she was doing us the favor. Having her there, the sure-fire Miss Basketball candidate the following year, really put a stamp of legitimacy on the evening.

That day began for Elliott at the University of Tennessee, if I remember right. She and her high school team had played in a camp there, no

doubt under the watchful eye of Pat Summit. Yet listening to her talk it became evident to me she would never see orange hanging in her locker.

Several times that night she spoke of how impressed she was with new Kentucky Coach Mickie DeMoss. She liked DeMoss a lot, she said. You could tell she was giving serious consideration to staying home for her college career.

And that she did. Now, four years later, she's heading into her senior year at Kentucky without her coach. DeMoss abruptly resigned on Wednesday, after four years and a 71-56 record.

The rumors about her departure are plentiful, but we'll not dabble in the speculation. DeMoss said she wanted to "reassess" her life after 30 years of coaching, so we'll go with that.

I too have been impressed with DeMoss in the brief time I've spent with her. She looks you in the eye — much like Jones — and focuses singularly on what you're saying when you talk with her. I like that out of a person.

I hate to see her go. She's brought legitimacy to a program that has had very little going for it for the longest time. She reminded a state that there were two basketball programs who call Memorial Coliseum home, and we owe her a huge debt of gratitude.

COACHING MOVES: Jones adds two assistant coaches to staff

TIMES STAFF REPORT

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. — Marshall University head men's basketball coach Donnie Jones has announced the hiring of two West Virginia natives, Shawn Finney and Brett Nelson, to his basketball staff. Finney, the head coach at Tulane from 2000-2005 and most recently a member of Tubby Smith's staff at the University of Kentucky this past season, is a Mullins, W.Va., native, and Nelson, a former recruit and player at the University of Florida under Jones, is from St. Albans, W.Va.

Finney was an assistant coach for Tubby Smith at Tulsa (1991-95), Georgia (1995-97) and Kentucky (1997-2000), where he won a national championship in 1998, before accepting the head coaching position at Tulane, which he held from 2000-05. A native of Mullens, W.Va., Finney received his undergraduate degree from Fairmont State in 1985, and his master's from Tulsa in 1992.

"Shawn brings great experience and leadership after his five years of

head coaching experience at Tulane and building winning programs with Tubby Smith through the years," said Jones. "He's won a national championship, and brings great energy and passion for the game."



Donnie Jones

"I'm extremely excited to come back and work for Donnie Jones and Marshall," said Finney. "It's always great to come back home, and I think we are building something special here at Marshall."

Nelson, a graduate of St. Albans High School, ended his prep career as the all-time leading career scorer in state history (three years) with 2,199 points. As a senior in 1999, the star guard averaged 31.9 points, 7.0 assists and 6.0 rebounds. At Florida, Nelson set school records for 3-pointers made (274) and attempted (689). Nelson scored 1,416 career points and ranks second on the Gators' all-time list in steals (199) and sixth in assists per game (3.16). Nelson played professionally in Sweden and the Continental Basketball Association from 2003-05, and most

recently was a member of former Herd assistant Anthony Grant's staff at Virginia Commonwealth in 2006-07.

"I'm really excited to be here," said Nelson. "I've known Donnie since I was 12 years old, and I really trust him and what he's trying to do. I'm thrilled to be here."

"Brett was a relentless worker as a player and will bring the same as a coach," said Jones. "He has a great work ethic and understands the system we're trying to implement here at Marshall."

HIGH EXPECTATIONS: Gillispie says Kentucky staff will be nation's best

by JEFFREY McMURRAY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON — New Kentucky basketball coach Billy Gillispie pledged Thursday that the Wildcats will have "the absolute best staff in the country" once he's finished assembling it.

Gillispie, appearing at his first official news conference since the one Friday that introduced him as coach, acknowledged that one potential assistant being considered is Jeremy Cox, who coached under him at Texas A&M. Cox is "way, way high on our list," Gillispie said.

He said he also is open to hiring a coach with Kentucky or Southeastern

Conference ties if he can find the right person. Regardless, all of his assistants will be versed in all facets of the coaching process, Gillispie said.

"We won't have just a recruiter," Gillispie said. "We won't have just an academics guy. We won't have guys who are only good in the area of skill development. We'll have guys who are multidimensional."

In just a few meetings with the returning players, Gillispie says the personnel is even better than he expected.

"We've had three real short workouts," he said. "They've been fantastic. I've really been excited about some things I've seen that I didn't

know were present."

Although NCAA rules restrict a coach's travels for recruiting purposes during April, Gillispie said he has been working the phones. He reiterated that it would be inappropriate to contact any of the players he recruited at Texas A&M, including the Aggies' top recruit, center DeAndre Jordan.

On Thursday, Jordan seemed to leave the door open to follow Gillispie to Kentucky if that becomes an option available to him.

"I can't say, 'coach you can take me,' because I don't think that's right

for Texas A&M," he said. "If it's my choice to consider Kentucky, then I will."

Gillispie said he believes in being upfront with all his recruits. If there is playing time available, he'll offer it, he says. If not, he'll tell them that, too.

"I'm going to tell guys the absolute truth," Gillispie said. "I'm not a big promise maker. I'm a really big honest teller."

Known for carrying a large roster at Texas A&M, Gillispie said he plans to take advantage of the entire team — even the walk-ons, who often can provide a major impact during prac-



Billy Gillispie

NEW BEAR TAKES POST: Pikeville College hires new soccer coach

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE — Pikeville College's new soccer coach has experience at both the high school and college level, and was involved in a program in its infancy. In other words, he's familiar with the task that's facing him.

Kenneth DeCook, a former director of soccer at William Penn University at Oskaloosa, Iowa, has taken over the reins as head soccer coach of both the men's and women's teams at Pikeville College.

DeCook replaces Calvin Wheat,

who recently resigned after helping start the program two years ago. Under his guidance, the college fielded its first teams during the 2005 season, and in 2006, he led the men to their first win ever with a 5-2 win over Taylor University-Fort Wayne at a tournament in Cincinnati.

DeCook grew up in both New Jersey and Iowa. After playing multiple sports in high school, DeCook played collegiately at Central College in Pella, Iowa. DeCook received several honors during his playing days, most notably distinguished academic honors.

DeCook spent three seasons as the inaugural assistant coach at William Penn where he helped not only start the soccer program but build it into one of the most competitive programs in the region. After a brief hiatus, DeCook returned the William Penn as the director of soccer, leading both the men and women's programs.

Both teams set numerous records under DeCook's direction. DeCook played a major role in recruiting several stand out players, including 17 all-conference players, 37 academic all-conference players, and 2 All American players.

DeCook received his Bachelor of Arts from William Penn University in secondary education and coaching. He earned his Masters Degree from Madison University in education administration. He has continued at Madison to complete is Doctorate in Education Administration.

"This is a tremendous opportunity to be able to lead the soccer program to the next level of play, particularly with the administrative and academic support shown by the college," said

DeCook. "Pikeville plays in one of the toughest soccer conferences in the nation and I look forward to developing a program that will quickly compete at that level."

DeCook and wife Claire, have been married for 23 years. They have one son, Kenny, who was an all-conference and academic all-conference soccer player at William Penn University and has served in Iraq with the U.S. Army.



Ken DeCook

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Union sweeps Alice Lloyd

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIPPA PASSES — Sarah Driver faced 15 batters and set all 15 down as she recorded the first-ever perfect game Union College history as the Lady Bulldogs swept host Alice Lloyd College 13-0 and 10-2 Monday.

The Hopkinsville native fanned nine of the 15 batters she faced in the Lady Bulldogs' 13-0 blanking. Driver also struck out seven Alice Lloyd hitters in three innings of work as she picked up the win as the 10-2 nightcap.

On the season, Driver owns a 16-6 record with a 1.71 earned-run average and 187 strikeouts in 139.0

innings pitched. Driver also helped herself at the plate during her perfect game as she went 3-for-4 with a double. Lee Davis was 1-of-2 with a double and two RBIs, while Heather Campbell was 2-of-3 with a double. Jessica Girdler and Bethany Outland each went 2-for-2 with Girdler also driving two runs.

In the finale, Samantha Bridges set the program record for doubles in a season as she went 2-for-4 with a two-bagger in the 10-2 victory. Bridges now has 17 on the year, surpassing the previous mark of 16 set by Kaila McSpedon in 2006.

Campbell and Karin Moore each went 2-of-4 with Moore lining a double. Driver helped out offensively by going 2-for-2.



SMOOTH TRANSITION: Allen Central junior Ryan Hammonds is just a month removed from basketball season, but continues to help the AC baseball team.

photo by Steve LeMaster

NEW GARAGE BOSS: Earnhardt growing up through ownership role

by JENNA FRYER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MOORESVILLE, N.C. — Dale Earnhardt Jr. stood silently against the glass at JR Motorsports, pensively observing the hustle and bustle inside his brand new race shop.

The finishing touches on the 66,000-square-foot facility had just been completed, with every last detail a reflection of Junior's personal taste — from the hip gear on sale in the gift shop, to the drivers he's hired and the personnel running the place.

As he watched a small crowd tour his shop during an open house he hosted this week, the sense of pride was obvious. The glistening building proved that NASCAR's party boy can build something on his own from the ground up.

"This is complete and utter joy to him," said his mother, Brenda Jackson, one of 10 family members Earnhardt has working at JRM.

"I think what makes it so much fun for him and everyone involved in it is he realizes he has a responsibility to everybody here, but it's still fun. The joy of seeing it be successful for all of us, it's kind of like not really work for him."

JRM was launched in 1999 with one employee, Kelley Earnhardt Elledge, his sister and most trusted confidante. He and some friends built a car over the next few years to enter in local street stock races, and the company has grown in spurts since then.

One late model team turned into two, then three. He added an entry in the Hooters Pro Cup Series and ventured into NASCAR's Busch Series, where Earnhardt established himself

with consecutive titles in 1998 and 1999.

He knew he needed a proper shop when he and his friends were storing cars at their houses, but the facility Earnhardt moved into last season didn't meet his short-term goals.

"Within three months we were falling out of the doors and windows because we were growing at such leaps and bounds," Jackson said.

So he closed on the new building late last year and hustled to get it ready for this season. The retail shop and "Dale Jr. Fan Experience" were completed just this week — one day ahead of an official U.S. Naval christening ceremony, held in honor of the Navy's sponsorship of his Busch team.

JRM today has 60-plus employees and a fleet of 18 race cars. His sister runs the show, his mother handles accounting and his uncles are in the engine shop. Almost every employee has some sort of personal tie to Earnhardt, and that includes his drivers.

Scott Young is a local boy who knew Earnhardt through his older brother, and one night over a pool game he mentioned that he'd like to race on asphalt. So Junior gave him a test drive that led to his late model ride.

Curtis Truex Jr. is a cousin of Martin Truex Jr., Earnhardt's Nextel Cup teammate and good friend, and came with a solid recommendation.

"Martin's Daddy told me he was better than Martin, and that's worth a shot in any shop," Earnhardt said of Truex's path to his late model ride.

And Jeremy McGrath, the seven-time Supercross champion who announced a 10-race developmental deal with JRM on Tuesday, became friends with Junior through sponsorship deals each had with Budweiser.

It all begs the question: Do all of Junior's friends get jobs at JRM?

Earnhardt says he is actively scouting talent, but finds it easier — and more enjoyable — to work with people he already knows.

"It's fun to do it with people you know, people you want to see succeed, people you want to help,"

he said. "These guys wouldn't be in the cars if I didn't think or they didn't think the talent was there and the opportunity was there for them to have success."

"The one thing I am nervous of is getting some guy in here from out of state that I don't know, and then six months down the road come to find out he's a spoiled brat or has no appreciation for people helping him. You don't want to get down the road and find you're in some kind of mess and you've got a contract on your hands you've got to get rid of."

That doesn't mean Junior is an easy boss, though. He puts all his drivers through tests, and schedule permitting he attends them and offers both praise and criticism.

"He's very meticulous," McGrath said. "Very hands on."

"He'll pat you on the back when you've done good and he's not afraid to tell you when you messed up," Truex said.

Shane Huffman, JRM's full-time Busch Series driver, experiences it

every week. He got an earful from Earnhardt when he wrecked during a January test at Las Vegas, and days later got a lesson on the art of racing at Daytona.

"It's actually been pretty neat to see him grow as a car owner — he went from maybe coming by once every other week to now he's here on a daily basis if he's in town," Huffman said. "He likes to be very involved, and friends with everybody and keep all of his friends around him. But he'll let you know if you've done wrong. He doesn't have a problem with that."

Much of Earnhardt's business style can be traced to his sister, who is fiercely loyal to her kid brother and serves as his backbone and support system in every aspect of his life.

Earnhardt Elledge handles almost all the business details at JRM and is representing her brother in his contract negotiations with Dale Earnhardt Inc. It's a role she's held since she was 6 and their parents had just split up.

The kids went to Virginia to live with Jackson while Dale Earnhardt continued his NASCAR career in North Carolina. Jackson worked the third shift, often leaving the kids home alone to fend for themselves.

It continued when they moved in with their father and stepmother, Teresa, but were often left in the care of nannies as Earnhardt raced around the country.

"I was always the one looking out for him," Earnhardt Elledge said. "It was like, 'Pick up your cereal bowl off the floor. Take the trash out. If you'll just do these few things, you can get along here.' He knows that I've always had his back."

The two are so close that when

Earnhardt Elledge was diagnosed last month with a cyst near her pancreas that needed immediate surgery, her first concern was for her brother.

"The first thing I thought of was, 'I don't want my brother to have to go through losing someone again,'" she said. "He's already lost that one person that he trusted immensely, that he looked up to immensely, and I couldn't imagine him going through that again."

Jackson said the siblings complement each other perfectly, and that led to JRM's growth.

"Dale Jr. has great vision of what he wants to do and where he wants to go," she said. "Kelley can take all of that and put it on paper, make it operate, make it successful and make it work."

The siblings are fighting now for majority ownership in DEI, which is currently run by Teresa. But they want at least 51 percent of the company and the authority to guide it into an elite team on the Nextel Cup level, and it's a sticking point of the ongoing contract negotiations.

As for the future of JRM, well, that's still in limbo. Earnhardt now sees Nextel Cup opportunities in the future, an announcement that caught his sister by surprise.

"What's changed is just the size of the company, the confidence in the employees," Earnhardt said. "When you see people functioning and things working — Kelley and the guys will come in with a business model and say, 'This is how it's all going to go.'"

"And two years later, it all went the way it was supposed to go. You want to reach out a little bit further every time. I think you build that trust and that expectation fuels you a little bit."



Earnhardt

PRACTICE TIME: Mears tests at Kentucky Speedway

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

SPARTA — NASCAR Nextel Cup driver Casey Mears transitioned from the Car of Tomorrow to a conventional version of his No. 25 Hendrick Motorsports machine during a one-day test at Kentucky Speedway Tuesday and may have found the spark he'll need to have a strong performance at Texas Motor Speedway this Sunday.

The 29-year-old from Bakersfield, Calif., and his team led by crew chief Darian Grubb found valuable speed in a new car that should help the driver improve on his average 29th-place race finish through the first six events of the season.

"Our season so far has been a struggle. We were hoping to pick up and go, but we're finding out there's just a lot to work on and change," Mears said.

"We're actually here testing the first new car we've built for the season. All the cars we ran at the beginning of the year on the mile-and-a-half and two-mile racetracks were prepared last year, and, even then, we weren't up to par with the No. 48 (of defending series champion and teammate Jimmie Johnson) and the No. 24 (of teammate and four-time series champion Jeff Gordon).

"We've finally built a car that's very, very similar to the 48 and it looks as if we've picked up two- to three-tenths of a second, which is huge. The car is much more comfort-

able to drive. I'm really looking forward to going to Texas, I think we're headed down the right road on a lot of things."

Despite scoring his lone top-10 finish of the season in a Car of Tomorrow with a 10th-place run at Bristol Motor Speedway March 25, he said the addition of the new car design to the series repertoire has made the challenge of succeeding with a new team more difficult.

"For us, in a transitional stage coming over to Hendrick Motorsports, and Darian and I getting to know each other, to throw a whole other car into the mix with a totally different train of thought on how you set it up and need to approach it is definitely putting more workload on us as a new team. But then, for all the organizations out there, to build and maintain two totally different cars in the fab shop and on the shop floor is a huge undertaking. The sooner they (NASCAR) figure(s) out which direction we're going to go and the sooner we get to one car, the easier it's going to be on all teams," Mears said.

In light of the added challenge, he is keeping an open mind about the return of the Car of Tomorrow at

Phoenix International Raceway April 21.

"I think you've definitely got to see what's its going to do on all the tracks before you make any final determinations. From what I understand, NASCAR hasn't said that this is final and they're definitely open for suggestions. They have to be because it's a totally different car."

"I don't feel like in any way, shape or form it's a disadvantage, because everybody has the same car. In all reality, everybody's trying to be really politically correct on the answers they're giving about it. If you want to compare car to car, it's (Car of Tomorrow) just a lot slower car than the one we run right now. The bottom line is it has less downforce and less overall grip. Some of the things built mechanically into the car, like a chassis with a higher center of gravity, combine to make it go slower."

"When someone asks us, 'How do you like the Car of Tomorrow?,' as a driver, your initial thoughts are, 'I don't like it as much because it's no secret that the way it's built, it's inherently slower.' I think from a perfor-

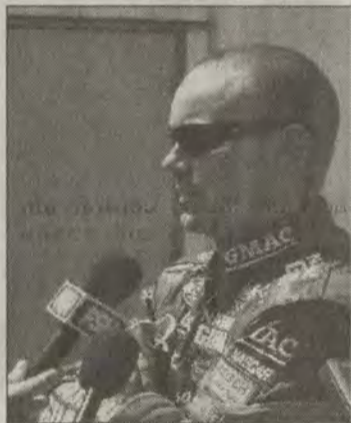
mance perspective it's difficult to swallow.

"Relative to the field, we're good and that's where things are getting confused. If that's the direction NASCAR wants to go to slow the cars down and make a car that has less grip, they've accomplished that. Everybody has the same thing, so nobody should complain that they're not getting something somebody else is. It's a tough topic right now because everybody wants to see it succeed and do well. At the same time, it's going to take a ton of work to get it to the level of the car we currently drive."

With 30 races remaining on the 2007 schedule, Grubb and his team are ready and willing to put in the hard work they'll need to help Mears make up his 500-point deficit from the top spot in the series standings and better last season's 14th-place championship finish.

"Once we get it all right, there's going to be a lot of success here. It's just going to take us a while to figure it all out," Mears said.

Two-time NEXTEL Cup Series champion Tony Stewart, who begins the week eighth in the series standings and 240 points behind the first-place Gordon, tested his Texas Motor Speedway back-up car at Kentucky Speedway Tuesday. He finished third in the 2006 Texas spring race and took a win in the fall event at the track. The Joe Gibbs Racing driver was on a compressed schedule that did not allow for interview.



Casey Mears

2007 NASCAR

Nextel Cup

Driver Standings

1. Jeff Gordon, 966
 2. Jeff Burton, 938
 3. Jimmie Johnson, 906
 4. Matt Kenseth, 836
 5. Kyle Busch, 804
 6. Denny Hamlin, 776
 7. Clint Bowyer, 751
 8. Tony Stewart, 726
 9. Carl Edwards, 710
 10. Kevin Harvick, 687
 11. Dale Earnhardt, Jr., 677
 12. Jamie McMurray, 650
 13. David Stremme, 645
 14. Elliott Sadler, 639
 15. Mark Martin, 629
 16. Juan Pablo Montoya, 625
 17. Kurt Busch, 624
 18. J.J. Yeley, 616
 19. David Ragan, 589
 - (tie). Ryan Newman, 589
- Today's race
April 15 — Samsung 500, Fort Worth, Texas

Stewart to drive NASCAR Day paint scheme at Texas

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Tony Stewart's No. 20 Home Depot Chevrolet will take to the track today with a slightly different look as The Home Depot shows its support for NASCAR Day 2007, now just a little more than a month away.

The Home Depot, the world's largest home improvement retailer and the "Official Home Improvement Warehouse of NASCAR," is this year's exclusive retailer of NASCAR Day. In support of the initiative, the company will run a special NASCAR Day-themed paint scheme on the No. 20 Home Depot Chevrolet driven by two-time Cup Series champion Tony Stewart as he competes in the Samsung 500 at Texas Motor Speedway today (1:30 p.m. ET, FOX).

Fans are now able to make a \$5 donation at any of the 2,167 The Home Depot locations nationwide and in return will receive a commemorative 2007 NASCAR Day lapel pin designed by NASCAR artist Sam Bass. Proceeds raised from NASCAR Day pins at The Home Depot locations will benefit The NASCAR Foundation and The Home Depot's

national nonprofit partner, KaBOOM!

NASCAR Day, which this year is on May 18, is an annual, charitable celebration of the spirit of NASCAR fans that last year raised more than \$1.3 million, with 98,000 pins sold online at NASCAR.COM and more than 3,000 company locations participating all across the country. Former American Idol and two-time Grammy-winning singer Kelly Clarkson is the official 2007 spokesperson for NASCAR Day.

Fans interested in participating in NASCAR Day can also obtain a pin, sign up his or her company and even purchase NASCAR Day apparel by going to www.nascar.com/foundation. NASCAR fans, corporations, schools and organizations across the country are encouraged to donate \$5 and all participants will receive a collectible 2007 NASCAR Day lapel pin for their donation.

Also supporting NASCAR Day in a big way is television partner SPEED. For the first time in the short history of NASCAR Day, the NASCAR Foundation will hold a telethon on May 18 from the Sam Bass Gallery in Concord, N.C., with SPEED giving updates throughout the day. Fans will be encouraged on NASCAR Day to dial 1-888-May18th (1-888-629-1884) and make a pledge to this most worthy of causes.



Tony Stewart

A LOOK BACK AT DIRT LATE MODEL RACING



photos courtesy of Robert Sizemore

DIRT RACING DECADES AGO: Charlie Swartz (below) and Walter Combs (above) ranked as two of the area's top dirt Late Model drivers during the early-1980s. The Times will publish racing photos from the past in each Sunday issue throughout the upcoming spring and summer months.

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 PHONE #: _____

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 2001 Ford Tarus SES 80,000 miles. \$4,495, Moonroof.
 92 Pathfinder, automatic, \$2,295
 2001 Impala 75,000 miles LS \$5,395. 97 Camry, Moon roof, 4 cylinder. \$1,995.
 '97 S-10 Automatic, 4.3. \$1,195.
 886-2842
 886-3451.

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 Submergible deep well Meyer pumps. Half 3 quarter and 1 horse power. Call 358-2000.

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When responding to Employment ads that have reference numbers, please indicate that entire reference number on the outside of your envelope. Reference numbers are used to help us direct your letter to the correct individual.

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HOUSEKEEPERS NEEDED Full and part time housekeepers needed. Must work weekends. Must have experience. Come by Microtel Inn and apply.

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at least 21 years old. (Senior Citizens) are welcome. Phone 1-800-444-RIDE/7433, or write so SVTS at 81 Resource Court, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653-7850 for an application for Employment and more information. SVTS is an equal employment opportunity employer. M/F/D/V.

JOB OPENINGS
 C & S Vaults, manufacture of steel burial vaults is seeking a driver for the Inez warehouse. Applicants must have a class B CDL license. Ability to perform physical labor. Must be dependable. Drivers load, unload, and deliver steel grave vaults through out regions in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Ohio, Virginia, and West Virginia. Must be comfortable dealing with customers. Benefits available after 90 days. Full time positions. Please fill out an application and sign up for an interview at C & S Vaults Industrial Dr. Inez, KY 41224

JOB OPENINGS
 We are seeking a full time driver at our Manton, KY location, to operate company vehicles to transport products to and from specified destinations. This position is responsible for operating company equipment at the job site under the direction of the blaster in charge, performing duties of load/plant crew or shot service crew and or assisting the plant manager. Must possess a current Class A CDL with Hazmat and tanker endorsements and 1 year driving experience. Please forward your response information to 152 Manton Rd, Martin, KY 41649; or Fax: 606-285-5171 or email humanresources@austinpowers.com

JOB OPENING
 Sales Career with a World-Renowned Company. Up to \$600 a week for completed appointments plus commissions and bonuses. 2-3 daily appointments set for you within your radius using our pre-qualifying system \$2,000 start-up bonus. Health benefits available. We have representatives with 6-figure incomes and over 30 years with our company. Call 1-877-392-4980

JOB OPENING
 Otter Creek Correctional Center is currently accepting applications for a **Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner** and

Family Practitioner. Must be licensed in the state of KY. Interested applicants may apply in person at 327 Correctional Road, Wheelwright, KY 41669, online at www.correction-sc.org or you may fax your resume to 606-452-9703. Otter Creek Correctional Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

JOB OPENING
 Pro Hair of Pikeville (K-Mart shopping center) and Pro Hair of Prestonsburg (Walmart shopping center) is now taking applications from licensed cosmetologist! Great pay! Hourly plus commissions. Bonus plus vacation pay. Call Prestonsburg Salon 886-1460 or Pikeville Salon 432-0375 or come by for an application.

JOB OPENING
PERMIT TECH/CAD OPERATOR
 International Coal Group (ICG), a major coal producer with mine complexes in West Virginia, Kentucky, Illinois, and Maryland, is seeking to fill the position of Permit Tech/Cad Operator at its office in Prestonsburg, Kentucky and surrounding areas. Qualified applicants must have 5 years permitting experience and proficiency in Auto Cad. ICG offers a competitive benefit package and starting salaries are commensurate with experience. Please submit resume and salary history to: International Coal Group Attn: Rhonda Mullins P.O. Box 2805 Pikeville, KY 41502

JOB OPENING
 Jenny Wiley Theatre is seeking 2 part time seamstresses/stitchers for the summer season. Please apply in person at Jenny Wiley Theatre 121 Theatre Court Prestonsburg, KY

JOB OPENING
 Heavy Equipment steam cleaning company needs employees. Must have valid Driver's License and up to date Surface Mining papers. Mine Emergency Tech is a plus. Call Mon.-Fri. 9:00am to 5:00pm 606-886-1759, if no answer leave message. Drug Screening Required.

JOB OPENING
 Prestonsburg Health Care Center has an opening for LPN'S or RN'S; full time and part time positions are available. We offer com-

petitive wages and excellent benefits. If interested please stop by or send resume to 14 North Highland Ave. Prestonsburg, KY 41653 (Beside of Prestonsburg Elementary) or call 886-2376.

JOB OPENING
 Renos Roadhouse in Prestonsburg is now hiring for all positions. Shifts-Day and Night. Apply in person only.

JOB OPENING
On call in home assistance caring for the elderly. Call Joyce at 606-889-8529. Also, accepting applications for caregivers.

Services

HISTORICAL SAMMUEL MAY HOUSE
 North Lake Drive, Prestonsburg is available for weddings, receptions, business meetings, and family reunions. Ample parking restroom and kitchenette, HandiCap accessible. Call Sam Hatcher 432-3528 for rates and dates.

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FOR SALE
 Feed for sale and flea market items for sale. Call 452-9651. Located near Wheelwright off 122 on Buckingham.

Animal

PUPPIES FOR SALE
 AKC Bloodhound puppies, first shots, wormed. Call 606-652-4986.

FOR SALE
 2 Male Jack Russell Dogs. Call 886-6495

Yard Sale

YARD SALE
 April 21 starting at 8:30 at Martin Assembly with lots of items. Located in church parking lot past Hall Funeral Home, there will be signs.

Misc.

ITEMS FOR SALE
 Shot Gun, 1925 asking \$500, free fire wood cut! Apartment size refrigerator for sale. \$100. Colonial rug for sale, \$20. Call 285-3704

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LOT FOR RENT
 Located at Old Allen Road. \$200 per month. City sewer available. 874-2421 and 259-1844.

REAL ESTATE

FOR SALE
 Gas well interest for sale. Owners desire to sell their 20% interest in 2 gas wells at Viper, Ky. If seriously interested call 478-1002.

Houses

HOUSE FOR SALE
 3.5 acres 3 BR 2 bath, attached 2 car garage with work shop or 1/2 acre lot for sale. Prestonsburg, meadows branch area. Call 889-1049.

HOUSE FOR SALE
 4 BR Brick house apx 1500 sq. ft. 2 baths, living room, family room, kitchen, utility room, large deck, double carport on nice corner lot. Hardwood floors in living room, kitchen, family room and one bedroom. New carpet in 3 bedrooms. Also has Gas log fire place, electric heat pump. Located 2 miles up Abbott Rd. on Frasure Hill Dr. Prestonsburg, KY. 606-886-6778. Shown by appointment. Call 886-2474

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 Commercial property 12 acres next to Walmart & McDonald's in Prestonsburg. 886-3023 after 5pm.

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Senior Financial Analyst E. KY

Prof. skills include:
 6 years + exp. in Fin. Planning & Analysis of Coal Operations, Fin. Reporting, and Mine Accounting, CPA preferred.
Black Diamond Mining LLC
 587 North Lake Drive
 Prestonsburg, KY 41653
 Call (606) 889-8440 x125
 For Appt., or E-mail resume to: ggroves@bdmining.com

FOR RENT
 Beauty shop equip with 3 stations and tanning bed. Would consider renting for commercial use other than beauty shop. Rt. 122 1 mile South of Martin across from Garth Technical School. Must have references. 285-9112.

FOR SALE
 Property for sale between Prestonsburg and Painstville. Also, double wide for rent. \$500 plus deposit. Call 606-789-6721 or 792-792-6721. No pets.

FARM FOR SALE
 Floyd county 75 acres more or less, rt. 1100 off US 23 East Point Upper Little Paint. Lum Derossett Branch. Call 606-325-4430 or 606-325-2809. Level- Sloping and timber.

RENTALS

Apartments

FOR RENT QUIKSILVER TOWNHOUSES
 New 1 BR with hardwood floors. A lot of extras. \$500 per month. 2 BR 1 1/2 bath with carport. \$575 per month. Call 285-

FOR RENT
 1 BR apt. for rent, all utilities paid. \$450 per month, call 886-6061.

FOR RENT
 2 BR Duplex, 0639.

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FOR RENT
 2 BR Duplex, 0639.

NOW HIRING

Combined Insurance is now hiring 2 full time positions in LOCAL area. Full Benefits. For more information Call Sandy Raymer 859-229-7133

HELP WANTED

COMMERCIAL CONTRACTOR MINER 42 INCH NUMBER 3 Elkhorn. Respond to the Floyd County Times. Bring in Resume or mail to po box 390 Prestonsburg, KY 41653



Newly constructed house for sale located at Abbott Creek. Vaulted living room ceiling, 3 BR, bonus room, fireplace, with cherry hardwood floors and cabinets with spacious attached garage. Located 4 miles from us 23. Panoramic view located in new subdivisions. \$210,00 asking price Seller willing to help with closing costs! Call 606-285-0054 606-791-0719, evenings 606-377-6042



House for sale!
 3 BR 1 bonus room!
 3 FULL bath!
 Decks all around with front awning, black top drive way. 5 acres more or less. Beautiful scenery with dog woods, red buds, large trees. Located at Stanville, KY. On Mare Creek. Call 606-478-9995 or 606-424-0722.

HOME FOR SALE
 2 1/2 Miles on Abbott, at 111 Creekside. Maple Cabinetry, carpet, 2 BR, fireplace. Recently remodeled. Call 886-0893.

Storage Units for rent
 10x10 \$40.00
 10x20 \$60.00
 10x30 \$80.00
 Located on 1428 Old Allen Rd.
 Call 874-4511.

WELDING POSITIONS AVAILABLE
 Excellent pay, drug screening required.
 Call Mon-Fri 8a-5p
 285-9358.



Missing: Vicinity of South Central "Jo", silvery grey short hair cat. Female adult, spayed. \$200.00 reward. Contact the Floyd County Times 886-8506.

total electric. Central heat and air, newly built. Located on US 23 North of Prestonsburg. No pets, call 889-9747 or 886-8003.

APT FOR RENT
2 BR, 2 Bath, Hueysville, \$499 per month water paid. Call 886-9478. Leave message. Deposit required.

FOR RENT
2 BR Rental available in Martin call 285-3980

APT FOR RENT
Upstairs, nice, clean studio apartment. Electric heat and air. \$350 per month. Deposit required. Call 886-6208.

APT FOR RENT
Now Renting Park place Apartments. Rent starting at: 1BR - \$280, 2BR - \$304. All electric HUD accepted. Call 886-0039
Equal Housing Opportunity

FOR RENT
Furnished apartment, real clean, quiet near Jenny Wiley lake. Suitable for 2 people. NO drugs. Call 886-3941.

FOR RENT
Branham Heights Apartments - Now accepting applications for 1 and 2 BR apts. Rent based on 30% of income. Appliances furnished. very nice, central heat and air, water, garbage and sewer included. Please contact the manager 606-452-4777.
Equal Opportunity housing.

Furnished 1 bed room Apt. Central heat & air. Rent starting at \$375. month, + \$300. deposit water included. Located near HRMC. 606-889-9717.

minute quadrangle map. The surface area to be disturbed is owned by Consol of Kentucky Inc. The operation will overlie land owned by Consol of Kentucky Inc.

The application has been filed for public inspection at the Division of Mine Reclamation and Enforcement, Pikeville Regional Office, 121 Mays Branch, Pikeville, Kentucky 41501. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director of the Division of Mine Permits, No. 2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

amendment is located on the Iynton, David, and Martin USGS 7 1/2 minute quadrangle maps. The surface area to be disturbed by the amendment is owned by Roger Lee Shepherd, Denver Shepherd, Kenneth Bradford, Eunice Shepherd, Philip E. Allen, Christine Bradford, et.al., and Marvin Music, Jr.

The operation will use the area method of surface mining. The amendment application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Natural Resources' date

Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director of the Division of Mine Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow Complex, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. This is the final advertisement of the application. All comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be received within 30 days of today's date

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE
Pursuant to Application Number 836-0329, Amendment No. 3

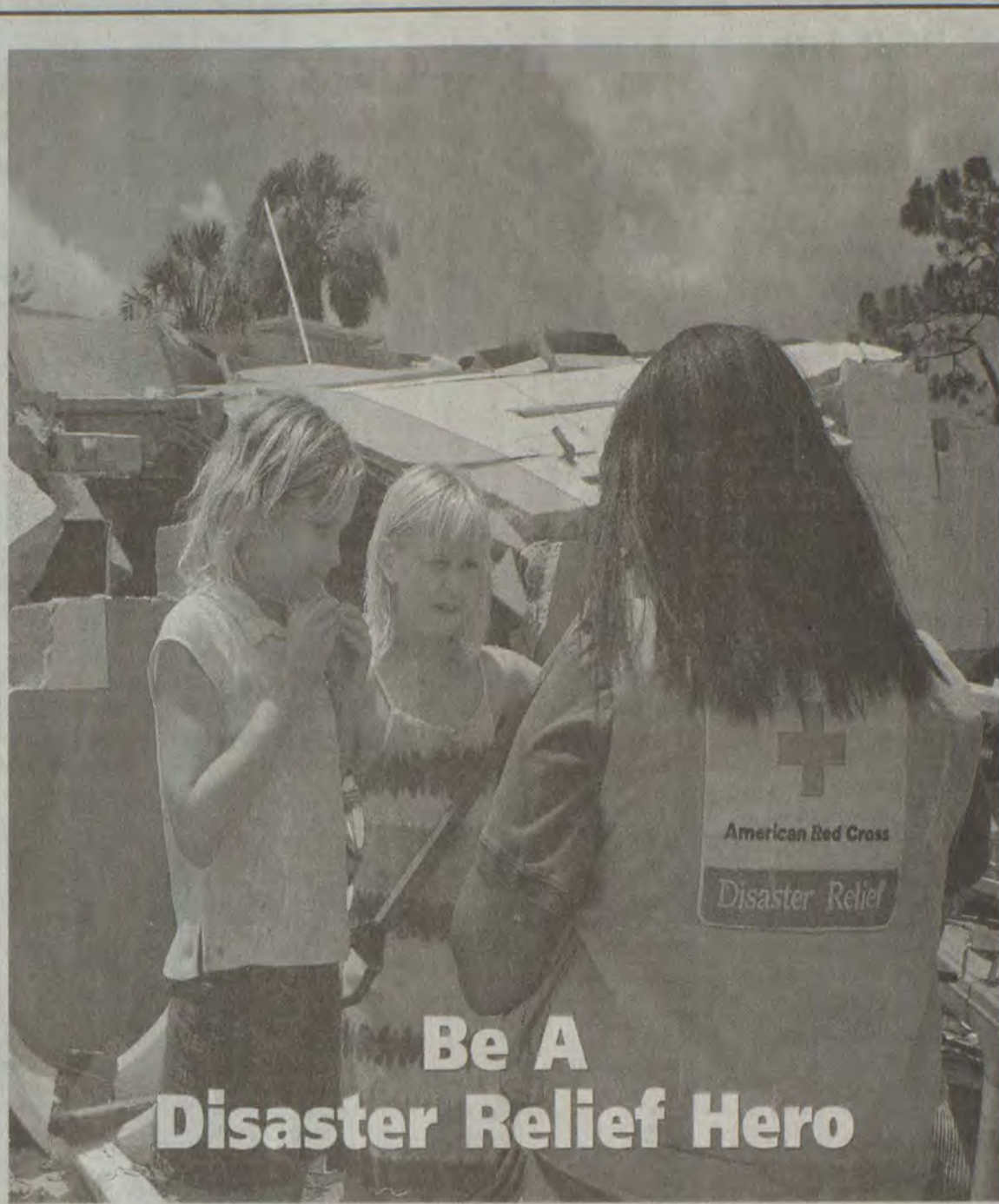
In accordance with KRS 350.070, notice is hereby given that Wolverine Resources, Inc., P.O. Box 77, Ivel, Kentucky 41642 has applied for an amendment to an existing surface and auger coal mining and reclamation operation located near David of Floyd County. The amendment will add 149.12 acres of surface disturbance making a total area of 196.59 acres within the amended permit boundary. The proposed operation is approximately 0.19 miles northwest from KY Route 404's junction with Rough and Tough Creek County Road and is located within Rough and Tough Creek and Buckeye Branch of the Left Fork of Middle Creek, and Mill Branch of Middle Creek. The proposed

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
Proposals are requested for replacement of roofs at our Grigsby Heights location. The proposal needs to include all costs to replace the roof on 11 buildings, plus the porch areas. The proposal needs to include the price for material and installation of metal roofing material, references for the past 10 years, Insurance certificates, any sub-contractors, warranty information for material and workmanship, wages must be paid in accordance with all applicable Federal, State and Local wage requirements, plus other documents as required for working in public housing.

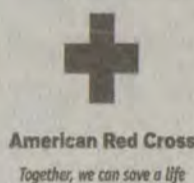
For more information, please contact Bruce Coleman, Housing Authority of Martin, P.O. Box 806, Martin, KY 41649, 606-285-3681.
All proposals must be received at the housing authority office by 2 p.m., local time, April 15, 2007. The housing authority reserves the right to refuse any and/or all proposals.



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redcross.org



LEGALS

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE
Pursuant to Application No. 836-6015
Renewal No. 4

In accordance with KRS 350.055, notice is hereby given that Consol of Kentucky Inc., P.O. Box 130, Mousie, Kentucky 41839, has applied for renewal of a permit for a preparation plant, located 0.67 mile northwest of Hueysville, in Floyd County. The proposed operation will disturb approximately 5.00 surface acres.

The proposed operation is approximately 0.67 mile northwest from S.R. 7's junction with S.R. 550, and located on Right Beaver Creek. The latitude is 37°30'04". The longitude is 82°50'27".

The proposed operation is located on the Martin U.S.G.S. 7 1/2

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Sabrina Boyd, P.O. Box 547, Allen, Ky. 41601, has filed an application with the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet, to construct a fill and commercial building within the flood plain of the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River. The project is located immediately north of the post office building at Allen, Kentucky, in New Allen. Any comments or objections concerning this application should be directed to: Kentucky Division of Water, Water Resources Branch, 14 Reilly Road, Frankfort Office Park, Frankfort, Ky. 40601. Phone: (502) 564-3410.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Freda Morgan, 10577 Ky. Rt. 122, McDowell, KY 41647, has filed an application with the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet, to construct a fill within the flood plain of the Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy River. The project is located 1 mile from McDowell Hospital, Rt. 122, on left side of road. Any comments or objections concerning this application should be directed to: Kentucky Division of Water, Water Resources Branch, 14 Reilly Road, Frankfort Office Park, Frankfort, Ky. 40601. Phone: (502) 564-3410.

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