



Many Rebels return
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The Times

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In brief

Appalled director to meet public Monday

by JESSICA HALE
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — The Appalachian Research and Defense Fund of Kentucky is holding a celebration Monday in honor of its new executive director. Cynthia Elliott was previously the directing attorney at the Jackson office and an employee for Advocates for Basic Equality in Toledo, Ohio. Elliott holds the distinct honor of being the first African American woman to head up a legal services program in the state. The celebration in honor of newly appointed executive director Cynthia Elliott will be held at Appalled's Prestonsburg office from noon to 1:30 p.m. on Monday during a meet-and-greet pizza luncheon.

Mobile meth lab found in Johnson

by JESSICA HALE
STAFF WRITER

PAINTSVILLE — Officials in Johnson County have discovered a mobile meth lab at John's Creek and two suspects have been arrested after allegedly fleeing from police. According to the Johnson County Sheriff's Department, officers received information regarding possible

methamphetamine lab activities in the John's Creek area on Wednesday. Upon their arrival near the wastewater treatment plant, officers located a maroon Geo in an adjacent field. Deputies Terry Tussey and Josh Cole approached the car and spotted two male subjects and one female subject inside, all of whom fled the vehicle once they realized the deputies were approaching.

Deputies were unable to locate the subjects and proceeded to search the vehicle. During the search, deputies found several commonly used meth manufacturing items in the back seat. A further search of the vehicle uncovered a complete mobile meth lab located inside the trunk of the car. The Johnson County Clandestine Laboratory Emergency Team (CLET) was dispatched to the scene in order to

dismantle and dispose of the meth lab but due to what the sheriff's department says was an "extremely volatile situation regarding the chemical found inside the car, the Kentucky State Police Drug Enforcement Special Investigations unit (DESI) was called to assist with the disposal of the hazardous waste." (See **METH**, page three)

FRIDAY FUN



photo by Jessica Hale

Above, the Fridays Alive concert series in downtown Prestonsburg began a few hours early with a few rounds of cornhole. Gypsy Rose was the band scheduled to perform later Friday evening. At right, Prestonsburg economic development director Brent Graden decided he'd help concert goers beat the heat by temporarily installing a sprinkler in the municipal parking lot on Friday. Temperatures earlier this week have reached the upper 90s.



Knott man faces federal drug charges

by JESSICA HALE
STAFF WRITER

PIKEVILLE — A Knott County resident has been arrested for cultivation of marijuana by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration after videotape surveillance allegedly captured the accused tending to his crop. According to the criminal complaint filed by special agent David D. Gray, of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, Gray received information from the Kentucky State Police that Knott County residents Ardith Dobson and others were distributing and manufacturing marijuana. KSP Lt. Ed Sheymleya and Det. Tim Ingles placed

two surveillance cameras on several plots of marijuana located on property owned by Ardith Dobson. Although the cameras were in operation over a period which spanned nearly two months, no activity was recorded the first few weeks. Approximately five weeks into the surveillance on June 4, a white male positively identified as Ardith Dobson could allegedly be seen on the video weeding and loosening the dirt around the marijuana plants. On June 21, investigators traveled to the crop in Knott County and when they arrived at the location (See **DRUGS**, page three)

3-DAY FORECAST

Today
Sunny
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Tomorrow
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High: 95 • Low: 65

Tomorrow
Partly cloudy
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Democrats say Fletcher stacking college boards with Republicans

The Associated Press

FRANKFORT — Gov. Ernie Fletcher has appointed primarily Republicans to the boards of the University of Louisville and the University of Kentucky, a move some Democrats say appears to violate state law. Since he took office nearly four years ago,

Fletcher has appointed 17 Republicans and five Democrats to positions on the two boards. A Kentucky Republican hold 9 at-large seats while Democrats hold seven. Nine Republicans and eight Democrats make up Louisville's board. (See **BOARDS**, page three)

Negotiators to resume talks Monday on energy plan

by BRUCE SCHREINER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — A top House Democrat said Friday he's optimistic that legislative negotiators can reach agreement on an energy tax incentive plan that Gov. Ernie Fletcher wants taken up in a special General Assembly session. House and Senate negotiators agreed to meet again Monday to try to reach a compromise on legislation aimed at helping Kentucky land a coal gasification plant. Fletcher said he also was upbeat

about prospects for the energy legislation and was optimistic that a special session could convene soon. House Majority Leader Rocky Adkins proposed the Monday afternoon resumption of talks, and Senate leaders — who wanted to negotiate over the weekend — agreed. Adkins, D-Sandy Hook, said conferees from the Democratic-led House and Republican-controlled Senate made progress last week but a few unresolved matters remain. Sticking points persist over the incentives, he said, without going into details. "I'm optimistic that we can reach an

agreement on the bill and hopefully be able to move forward," Adkins said in a phone interview. Soon after the Monday negotiations were set, Fletcher said in a statement that his administration would continue working with the House and Senate on the energy legislation, and said "negotiations are coming along well." He said he would not call lawmakers into special session Monday, but was optimistic that lawmakers "will work through their issues so the session can convene soon." Senate President David Williams had wanted talks to resume during the

weekend. Adkins said scheduling conflicts for some lawmakers prevented weekend meetings. Earlier Friday, Williams said there was bipartisan unity among senators on the energy plan. The Burkesville Republican said senators had agreed to some possible changes to the proposed legislation after prior discussions with House negotiators. Key lawmakers recently said Peabody Energy officials told them Kentucky would be recommended for a coal gasification plant if the state (See **ENERGY**, page three)

Inside

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Regional Obituaries

FLOYD COUNTY

■ Elsie Burchett, 93, of Prestonsburg, died Saturday, August 4, at the Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Monday, August 6, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Barbara Burkett, 58, of Prestonsburg, died Wednesday, August 8, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, Henry Burkett. Funeral services were held Saturday, August 11, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Thelma H. Frazier, 83, of Hi Hat, a native of Wheelwright, died Thursday, August 2, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Sunday, August 5, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Lurlie Mae Roberts, 91, of Harold, died Saturday, August 4, at her home. Funeral services were held Monday, August 6, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Clara Irene Slone, 73, of Blue River, died Sunday, August 5, at King's Daughters Medical Center, in Ashland.

Funeral services were held Thursday, August 9, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Glenda Sue Thompson, 56, of David, died Wednesday, August 8, at Good Samaritan Hospital, in Lexington. Funeral services will be held Sunday, August 12, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Jennie Wallen, 84, of Bull Creek, Prestonsburg, died Saturday, August 4, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were held Monday, August 6, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

PIKE COUNTY

■ Mable Jean Blankenship, 59, of Pikeville, died Saturday, August 4, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Wednesday, August 8, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

■ H. David Estep, 37, of Jamboree, died Wednesday, August 1, at Appalachian Regional Hospital, South Williamson. Funeral services were held Sunday, August 5, under the direction of R.S. Jones and Son Funeral Home.

Funeral services were held Thursday, August 9, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Chester Dafus Ford, 50, of Columbus, Ohio, formerly of Fords Branch, died Friday, August 3, at Riverside Hospital, Columbus. Funeral services were held Wednesday, August 8, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ Clara Phillips Gibson, 81, of Elkhorn City, died Friday, August 3, at her home. Funeral services were held Monday, August 6, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ Robert (Bob) "The Mayor" Lay, 51, of Virgie, died Tuesday, August 7, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Ann Lay. Funeral services were held Friday, August 10, under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

■ Arthur L. Long, 63, of Pikeville, died Friday, August 3, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Tuesday, August 7, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ Anna Mae McCoy, 81, of Regina, died Thursday, August 2, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Sunday, August 5, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

Funeral services were held Thursday, August 9, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Judy Kaye McKinney, 57, of Varney, died Friday, August 3, at St. Mary's Hospital, Huntington, W.Va. Funeral services were held Monday, August 6, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Lovelle Pierce, 67, of Elkhorn City, died Thursday, August 2, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Saturday, August 4, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ Robel Preston, 73, of Pikeville, died Wednesday, August 8, at Good Samaritan Hospital, Lexington. Arrangements, under the direction of Pikeville Funeral Home.

■ Mary L. Champ Ratliff, 63, of Pikeville, died Friday, August 3, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Monday, August 6, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ C.D. Roberts, 81, of Pikeville, died Friday, August 3, at his home. Funeral services were held Sunday, August 5, under the direction of Thacker Funeral Home.

■ Nicky Neil Slone, 55, of Elkhorn City, died Friday,

August 3, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Glema Joyce Robinson Slone. Funeral services were held Tuesday, August 7, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ Freddie "Sweet Pea" Stewart, 67, of Cancy Hwy., died Monday, August 6, at Pikeville Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Arnold Ray Stewart. Funeral services were held Thursday, August 9, under the direction of Lucas and Son Funeral Home.

■ Andrew D. Taylor Jr., 72, of Scottsville, a Pikeville native, died Saturday, August 4, at the Medical Center, Bowling Green. Funeral services were held Tuesday, August 7, under the direction of Goad Funeral Home of Welch, West Virginia.

LAWRENCE COUNTY

■ David Franklin Bradley, 57, of Hurricane, West Virginia, a Louisa native, died Thursday, August 2, in Charleston Area Medical Center in Teays Valley. Funeral services were held Monday, August 6, under the direction of Young Funeral Home.

■ Mart Carter, 92, of Catlettsburg, formerly of Irish Creek-Blaine, died August 7, in Three Rivers Medical Center in Louisa. Funeral services were held Friday, August 10, under the direction of Young Funeral Home.

■ Gladys E. Dearfield Raiser, 61, of Dayton, Ohio, a Louisa native, died Sunday, August 5, in Hospice of Dayton following a brief illness. She is survived by her husband, William A. "Bill" Raiser. Funeral services were held Wednesday, August 8, under the direction of Magetti Gavin Funeral Home.

MAGOFFIN COUNTY

■ Josephine Patrick, 92, of Salyersville, died Wednesday, August 8. Funeral services were held Friday, August 10, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

■ Franklin "Job" Prater, 45, of Salyersville, died Friday, August 3. Funeral services were held Monday, August 6, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

MARTIN COUNTY

■ Adaline Reed Fannin, 82, of Jackson, Ohio, a Paintsville native, died Friday, July 27, in Beaver, Ohio. She is survived by her husband, Gerald C. Fannin. Funeral services were held Tuesday, July 31, under the direction of the Erwin-Dodson-Allen Funeral Home of Minford, Ohio.

■ Edgar Goble, 91, of Sprigg, West Virginia, a Martin County native, died Thursday, August 2, at his residence. Funeral services were held Monday, August 6, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Launa "Bootsie" Goble, 79, of Inez, died Friday, August 3, in Huntington, W.Va. Funeral services were held Sunday, August 5, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

■ Nellie Fitch Mills, 82, of Wellston, Ohio, a Martin County native, died Friday, August 3, at the Holzer Medical Center, in Gallipolis,

Ohio. Funeral services were held Tuesday, August 7, under the direction of McWilliams Funeral Home.

■ Anna Messer Muncy, 93, of Kermit, W.Va., a Martin County native, died Tuesday, July 30, at Williamson Memorial Hospital. Funeral services were held Friday, August 3, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

■ Carl Stepp, 91, died July 25, at Pleasant Hill Manor in Piquette, Ohio. Burial was made in the Stepp Family Cemetery, at Pilgrim, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

KNOTT COUNTY

■ Bird Owsley, 86, of Vest, died Saturday, August 4, at the Rockcastle Hospital, Mt. Vernon. He is survived by his wife, Gertrude Stone Owsley. Funeral services were held Wednesday, August 8, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Hindman.

JOHNSON COUNTY

■ Melba Blair, 88, of Denver, a Johnson County native, died Saturday, August 4, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Tuesday, August 7, under the direction of the Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Mary Elizabeth Blanton, 89, of Paintsville, died Tuesday, August 7, in Mountain Manor Nursing Home in Paintsville. Funeral services were held Friday, August 10, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Elmer Gordon Rose, 56, of Tomball, Texas, a Paintsville native, died June 23 in Tomball. Funeral services were held Saturday, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

■ Ruby Jewell Castle Scarberry, 76, of Nippa, died Tuesday, August 7, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, Ellis Scarberry. Funeral services were held Friday, August 10, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

Obituaries

Yvonne Click

Yvonne Click, 65, of Garrett, died Thursday, August 9, 2007, at her residence.

Born December 18, 1941, in War, West Virginia, she was the daughter of the late Carl and Evelyn Chaffins Cox. She was a homemaker and a member of the Lackey Freewill Baptist Church.

She is survived by her husband, Arthur Click.

Other survivors include a daughter, Carolyn Diamond of Pikeville; two brothers: Sheldon Cox of Garrett, and Rondal Cox of Dema; three sisters: Vickie Slone of Pippa Passes, Miretta Tuesch of Huntington, Indiana, and Phyllis Miller of Fairfield, Ohio; and two grandchildren: Rachel and Rebecca.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a brother, Shearl Cox; and a sister, Patricia Sexton.

Funeral services will be held Sunday, August 12, at 1 p.m., at the Lackey Freewill Baptist Church, with Johnny Collins and Earl Rose officiating.

Burial will be in the Arthur Click Family Cemetery, at Garrett, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation is at the funeral home.

www.nelsonfrazierfuneralhome.com
(Paid obituary)



James Orville Cooley

James Orville Cooley, age 92, of Prestonsburg, died Thursday, August 9, 2007, at Highlands Regional Medical Center.

Born June 15, 1915, in Bull Creek, Prestonsburg, he was the son of the late Harry and Nora Wills Cooley. He was owner of The Playhouse Poolroom for 35 years.

He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, Prestonsburg.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Gladys Parsley Cooley.

Survivors include two sons and daughters-in-law: Julian Blake (Vicky) Cooley of Brownsville, Texas, and David Ray (Gaye) Cooley of Prestonsburg; a daughter and son-in-law: Sara Ann (Charles) Butcher of Prestonsburg; a sister, Ruth

Meade of Prestonsburg; four grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, and two step-great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents and wife, he was preceded in death by two brothers, and three sisters.

Funeral services will be held Sunday, August 12, at 2 p.m., at First Presbyterian Church, in Prestonsburg, with Rev. Vicki Poole officiating.

Burial will be in the Richmond Cemetery, in Prestonsburg, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin.

Visitation, at the church.

Active pallbearers: Julian Cooley, David Cooley, Hansel Cooley, Mike Conn, Ray Hall, Cory Vicars, Wally Rose, and Charlie Butcher.

Honorary pallbearers: Vincel Cooley, Ronald (Cowboy) Cooley, Caleb Cooley, James William Cooley, Jimmy Goble, Dr. Phillip Simpson, Gary Wright, Dr. Alan Hyden, Roy Roberts, Greg Hall, Freddie (Munroe) Goble, Edgar Tackett, and Doug Meadows.

www.nelsonfrazierfuneralhome.com
(Paid obituary)



William Lee "Bill" James

William Lee "Bill" James, 69, of Prestonsburg, died Thursday, August 9, 2007, at UK Medical Center, in Lexington.

Born October 22, 1937, in Endicott, he was the son of the late Ruthford H. and Maxie Hite James. He was a retired general manager for ICI Explosives. He was a member of Zebulon Lodge 273, F&AM, Prestonsburg.

He is survived by his wife, Janice Warrix James.

Other survivors include three brothers: Russell James and Bobby James, both of Prestonsburg, and Dean James of Bagdad; a sister, Betty Bowling of Load; two nephews; two nieces; five great-nephews; and three great-nieces.

Funeral services will be held Sunday, August 12, at 11 a.m., at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Bill Campbell and Clifford Austin officiating.

Burial will be in the Davidson Memorial Gardens, in Ivel, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Martin.

Visitation, at the funeral home.

A Masonic service was held Saturday evening, August 11, at the funeral home.

www.nelsonfrazierfuneralhome.com
(Paid obituary)



Wilma C. Phillips

Wilma C. Phillips, 80, of David, died Wednesday, August 8, 2007, at her residence.

Born February 1, 1927, in Mt. Vernon, Missouri, she was the daughter of the late George and Martha Stogsdill Cole. She worked in the restaurant business, and was a member of Eastern Star Maple Chapter No. 90, of Oaklawn, Illinois, for 43 years.

She was preceded in death by her husband, James Phillips.

Survivors include her nephews: Wayne Cole of Jefferson City, Missouri, Larry Burke of David, David Burke of Georgetown, Charles Daugherty of Monett, Missouri, and Johnny Phillips of Greenfield, Missouri; two nieces: Elvita Rose of Miller, Missouri, and Linda Kirtley of Ashland; a special niece, Mary Lou Burke of David and a sister, Vivian Burke of Richmond.

Funeral services will be held Monday, August 13, at 1 p.m., at Kerr-Parzygnot Funeral Home, Chicago Heights, Illinois, with Ray Deabel officiating.

Burial will be in the Skyline Memorial Park, Monee, Illinois, under the direction of Kerr-Parzygnot Funeral Home.

www.nelsonfrazierfuneralhome.com
(Paid obituary)

Funeral services will be held Sunday, August 12, at 11 a.m., at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin.

Arrangements, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin.

www.nelsonfrazierfuneralhome.com
(Paid obituary)



Glenda Sue Thompson

Glenda Sue Thompson, 56, of David, died Wednesday, August 8, 2007, at the Good Samaritan Hospital, in Lexington.

Born April 16, 1951, in Floyd County, she was a daughter of the late Joe and Betty Mitchell Carroll. She was a teacher's aid at Clark Elementary, and a member of the Church of Christ.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Okie Thompson Sr.

Survivors include her sons: Okie Thompson Jr. (wife, Vanessa Renee) Thompson of Blaine, John L. Thompson and Steven A. Thompson, both of David; her brothers: Tommy Carroll of Little Mud, Randy Carroll of Prestonsburg, and Hazie Carroll of Ohio; a sister, Cora Tussey of Martin; her grandchildren: Okie Leo Thompson and Matthew Levi Thompson.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by a brother and sister: Leonard Carroll and Lucille Perry.

Funeral services will be held Sunday, August 12, at 2 p.m., at Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Ronnie Samons and Ronnie Lee Samons officiating.

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

Visitation is at the funeral home.

www.nelsonfrazierfuneralhome.com
(Paid obituary)

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Report says drought takes toll on Kentucky crops

by BRUCE SCHREINER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — The drought has taken a toll on Kentucky's projected crop yields leading up to harvesting, a crop-reporting service said Friday.

Predicted yields for corn and soybeans are down from a year ago, though overall corn production is expected to rise due to this year's larger crop, according to a report by the National Agricultural Statistics Service's Kentucky field office.

Hay producers took the biggest hit from the prolonged dry conditions, with alfalfa hay production off nearly 50 percent from a year ago.

Tobacco yields are expected to be down slightly from 2006 but overall production is forecast to be up fractionally due to the planting of more leaf, the report said.

The report offers the clearest picture yet of how dry conditions threaten to cut into farm income. The production forecasts were based on conditions as of Aug. 1, coming before this week's blast of triple-digit temperatures on top of dry conditions.

Western and eastern Kentucky are in severe drought, while central and bluegrass sections are in moderate drought, according to the latest Palmer Drought Index.

Even before the dry spring and summer, Kentucky agriculture was hurt by a spring freeze that inflicted considerable damage.

"It's been very frustrating for farmers," said Steve Moore, the agricultural extension agent in Henry County in north-central Kentucky.

Despite barely adequate rainfall for most of the county, corn and soybean crops look decent, tobacco looks good but hay production has been sub-par, he said.

Farmers got some timely rains in July when the corn was going through crucial development stages, he said. But more rain is needed for soybeans and to rejuvenate pastures and hay fields, he said.

"We're reminded every week just how close we are to a very hard drought," Moore said. "And yet we keep getting lucky and most places are getting just enough rainfall to keep the wolf away from the door."

The NASS report forecast

corn production for grain at 160.8 million bushels in Kentucky, up 6 percent from last year despite projected lower yields this fall.

Yield is estimated at 120 bushels per acre, down 26 bushels from the 2006 crop, the report said. It predicted that 1.34 million acres of corn will be harvested for grain, up 300,000 acres from last year. This year's total corn acreage harvested for grain is shaping up as the largest in Kentucky in 21 years, it said.

Kentucky's soybean production is forecast at 43.3 million bushels, down 28 percent from the record high 2006 crop, the report said. This year's smaller crop is due to lower yield and a drop in production. Harvested soybean acreage of 1.14 million acres is down 230,000 acres from last year's large production.

Soybean yield is projected at 38 bushels per acre, down 6 bushels from a year ago. The report said rains are needed as the crop goes through crucial development.

Meanwhile, alfalfa hay production is forecast at 540,000 tons, down 48 percent from last year. Per-acre yield was off sharply from a year ago.

Drugs

they intercepted Ardith Dobson at the intersection of Dobson Cemetery Road and Buckhorn Road. Ardith allegedly said that he and his father were the only people who had keys to the locked gate leading to the cemetery where investigators had been entering the marijuana plot. Ardith Dobson said he had

been hearing four-wheelers in the area. When they asked for the keys to the gate, Dobson said he has lost them and consented for the locks to be cut by investigators.

When the surveillance cameras were checked, investigators once again positively identified Ardith Dobson as the subject who was caught

tending to the marijuana crop. The crop was removed and disposed of by the investigators which included nearly 80 marijuana plants.

Dobson was arrested on August 6 and is scheduled to appear in U.S. District Court for a preliminary hearing on Tuesday.

Continued from p1

Meth

During the investigation of the crime scene, the female subject, Geneva S. McGinnis, 18, who had allegedly fled the scene earlier was found walking back towards deputies and was subsequently taken into custody. McGinnis is charged with unlawful possession of meth precursors and was lodged in the Big Sandy Regional Detention Center.

On Thursday, deputies received information that a

second subject, Steven M. Tackett, 35, of Paintsville, was being treated at Paul B. Hall Medical Center for injuries. Tackett was identified as the passenger in the mobile meth lab car and later told deputies that he was injured when he jumped from the moving vehicle in an attempt to flee from law enforcement.

Tackett was treated for his injuries and released from the

hospital. He is charged with possession of methamphetamine precursors and fleeing and evading police.

Sgts. Tom Wyatt and Tommy Hitchcock, Constable Terry Ward, Paintsville EMS, and Kentucky State Police all assisted at the scene.

The incident is still under investigation, by Sheriff Bill Witten and Deputy Terry Tussey.

Continued from p1

Boards

That gives the GOP a majority of the 33 seats. Kentucky law requires that at-large gubernatorial appointments at the two universities to reflect the political makeup of the state.

Using the state registration percentages, Democrats say they should have a 10-6 majority among gubernatorial appointments on the Kentucky board and a 10-7 majority at Louisville.

Fletcher's spokeswoman, Jodi Whitaker, said the administration has complied with the law because it interprets it to require only that Republicans and Democrats be represented in roughly equal numbers. Whitaker said the boards the Republican governor inherited from former Gov. Paul Patton, a Democrat, had more Democrats than voter registration called for.

"We don't interpret the statute as requiring a super-

majority of Democrats," Whitaker said.

The appointments drew the ire of House Speaker Jody Richards, D-Bowling Green, and Kentucky Democratic Party Chairman Jonathan Miller.

Richards called the issue "a significant problem."

"It's a problem first because he's not following the law. ... But it's also reflective of the governor's attitude toward loading up everything with members of his own party," Richards said.

When Fletcher took office, Democrats held an 11-5 advantage at Kentucky. At Louisville, there were 12 Democrats, four Republicans and one independent. Those percentages were in line with voter registration when Patton took office in 1995.

House Education Committee chairman, Rep. Frank Rasche, D-Paducah,

told Fletcher in a letter sent Tuesday that his four recent appointments to the Council on Postsecondary Education would be rejected because they didn't comply with a state law that requires the 13 citizen members of the council be balanced by sex and political affiliation.

The law on political makeup of boards of trustees applies only to at-large gubernatorial appointments.

At least one education expert described the political-affiliation squabble as "not particularly relevant."

"I'm not certain that I can see a firm rationale for the statute," said Robert Sexton, executive director of the Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence. "If the governor wants to control a board, he can control it even if he follows the law."

Continued from p1

Energy

passed certain tax breaks.

The energy issue was brought up in an election-year special legislative session that Fletcher convened earlier this summer that ended in stalemate.

Fletcher, who is running for a second term against Democrat Steve Beshear in the Nov. 6 election, added other issues in the previous special session, including a proposal to ban domestic partner benefits at Kentucky's public universities and more than \$427 million in construction pro-

jects throughout the state.

House lawmakers adjourned the day they reported to Frankfort last month, saying the call was politically motivated and that the measures weren't urgently needed. The Senate carried on and passed legislation addressing Fletcher's agenda.

Even as the first special session ended in an impasse, the House and Senate agreed to spend the coming weeks crafting an energy plan.

Adkins said Friday that House Democrats want to

limit another special legislative session to the energy issue. He also said there should be House-Senate agreement on the energy bill before the governor calls lawmakers back into special session.

Adkins, who sponsored an energy bill that died in this year's regular legislative session, said he sees the energy plan as an economic development tool for the regions "that need it the most — eastern and western Kentucky." Both areas are coal producers.

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FIRST 2 MONTHS FOR 2 PENNIES - FIRST 2 MONTHS FOR 2 PENNIES - FIRST 2 MONTHS FOR 2 PENNIES

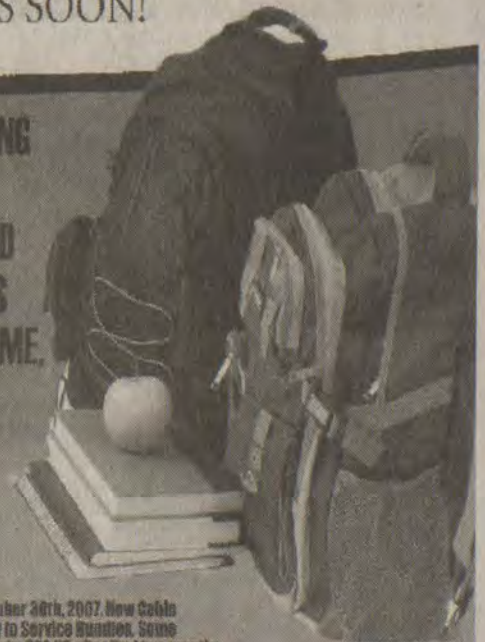
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expression

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

Inspections go only so far without action

The catastrophe last week in Minneapolis, where an eight-lane I-35 bridge across the Mississippi River collapsed during evening rush hour, has focused attention on the deplorable state of this nation's bridges and highways.

Across the country, 13 percent of all bridges carry the same designation as the I-35 bridge "structurally deficient." Another 13 percent of the nation's 800,000 bridges are considered "functionally obsolete." Thus one in four bridges in the United States is considered deficient or obsolete.

In Kentucky, the statistics are hardly encouraging. More than 4,000 Kentucky bridges are considered "structurally deficient" or "functionally obsolete." Fortunately, there are no bridges in Kentucky constructed in the same manner as the Minneapolis bridge.

In the wake of the I-35 bridge collapse, with an as yet unknown number of deaths, Gov. Ernie Fletcher ordered state Transportation Cabinet officials to check bridge inspection information to determine if further inspections or safety precautions are needed at individual bridges.

In the meantime, engineers in all 50 state capitals will be waiting to learn the reason why the 40-year-old Minneapolis bridge suddenly dropped into the river.

The cost of bringing all these deficient and obsolete bridges up to safe standards or replaced entirely is estimated to cost about what the Iraq war is costing for two years. And without spending what is necessary to upgrade and replace deteriorating bridges, it is only a matter of time before another major bridge comes down.

The next one could be in Kentucky.

It would be interesting to know how many of the 140,000 drivers a day who crossed the I-35 span would have continued their driving route if big digital signs along its approaches had announced "structurally deficient."

It's a safe bet a lot of them would not and some would be alive today. They also would have demanded that the state and federal governments stop inspecting and begin correcting deficient and obsolete bridges.

The rest of us should do the same.

— The State Journal, Frankfort

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Rich Lowry Column

Abandoning the fight against al-Qaida in Iraq

"America good! Al-Qaida bad!"
— A trader in the Qatana bazaar, Ramadi, Iraq

This is a sentiment that the Iraqi trader felt safe to utter as a visiting U.S. general passed by, according to John Burns of The New York Times, only after a furtive glance "up and down the narrow refuse-strewn street to check who might be listening." In a microcosm, this is why we are finally making progress against al-Qaida in Iraq. The protection afforded by American combat power has made it possible for Iraqis in Sunni areas to turn against the terror group.

In a global struggle against Islamic extremism, it is an incontestably welcome development that ordinary Sunnis in the Arab heartland are spurning al-Qaida. The grassroots revolt against it means that it is within our reach to deny al-Qaida its most important current geopolitical objective, which is plunging Iraq into a bloody chaos in which it can thrive.

Al-Qaida relies on intimidation to impose itself on the Sunni community, and succeeds unless driven back by a stronger force, i.e. the U.S. military. In his report from Anbar

province, John Burns notes that the Sunni "sheiks turned only after a prolonged offensive by American and Iraqi forces, starting in November, that put al-Qaida groups on the run." He continues, "Iraqis, bludgeoned for 24 years by Saddam Hussein's terror, are wary of rising against any force however brutal, until it is in retreat."

This experience has been replicated in precincts of Baghdad, Diyala province and other Sunni parts of Iraq, but now a group of Republican senators want American forces, rather than al-Qaida, to do the retreating by deconstructing the troop surge that has begun to give us the upper hand.

The main "compromise" proposal — adopting the recommendations of the Iraq Study Group — would have all U.S. combat troops out of Iraq by the end of March 2008. It is self-evidently impossible to fight al-Qaida in Iraq without any combat troops to do it. What all those abandoning the surge essentially want is a return to the old failed Rumsfeld strategy of prematurely drawing down and handing over to unprepared Iraqi forces.

The surge has succeeded in reducing sectarian killings in Baghdad and civilian casualties overall, but at the

cost of increased U.S. casualties and without the Iraqi legislative accomplishments that were established as "political benchmarks." Those benchmarks shouldn't be fetishized. The reason that they were considered so important is that they were thought necessary to entice Sunnis away from the insurgency. Instead, they have swung our way anyway, in reaction to al-Qaid brutality and our strength.

By any measure, this is significant political progress — so significant, in fact, that no one even considered making it a "benchmark" at the beginning of the year.

The U.S. political argument over benchmarks is shot through with bad faith anyway. Would the advocates of retreat really have a different position if the Iraqi parliament had managed to pass an oil-revenue-sharing law already? Unlikely.

Once again, all depends on President Bush. Senators of his party are ready to quit Iraq with al-Qaid undefeated. Is he?

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

The Rich Lowry column



beyond the beltway

Don't let your child go into journalism

by DONALD KAUL
MINUTEMAN MEDIA

The New York Times reports a new and shocking trend at universities: they're charging extra for courses in lucrative fields — business for example. That's not the shocking part. Universities have always charged more for graduate courses in fields that promised students higher paychecks when they got out of school. Moving the practice over to undergraduate education is merely an extension of that.

The shocking part is that Arizona State University is charging a \$250-per-semester premium for courses in journalism.

What do they charge for courses in buggy whip manufacture, \$500?

Journalism, in case you haven't noticed, is in a state of rapidly accelerating decline. It has become obsolescent, which is the term economists use instead of "Dead Man Walking."

The latest signpost on journalism's road to oblivion is last week's sale of the Wall Street Journal to Rupert Murdoch. Rupert Murdoch! Is nothing sacred?

The Wall Street Journal is one of the crown jewels of American journalism. Despite an editorial page that has yet to enter the 20th century, let alone the 21st, it has been a beacon of excellence in a sea of mediocrity. It collects Pulitzer Prizes by the bushel.

Rupert Murdoch is an Australian who entered the news business

through the medium of supermarket tabloids, the kind that intercept the space aliens. He owns and directs the Fox News franchise. Enough said.

A.J. Liebling, one of the great press critics of the post-World War II period, once wrote, "A newspaperman's life is like the plot of 'Black Beauty.' Sometimes he finds a kind master who gives him a dry stall and an occasional bran mush in the form of a Christmas bonus, sometimes he falls into the hands of a mean owner who drives him in spite of spavins and expects him to live on potato peelings."

So too with newspapers, apparently. The Wall St. Journal is the corporate version of Black Beauty. Off his record, Murdoch is that mean owner.

It's not as though it's a new trend of course. When I entered the business, some 50 years ago there were dozens of papers throughout the country with a legitimate claim to distinction. Now there is a meager handful and hardly one of them can honestly claim to be as good as it used to be.

Newspapers always had to walk a line between being a successful business and an institution that served its community "without fear or favor." As ownership has become more corporate the emphasis has shifted from the journalism function to profits.

Then there's television. Television was a stepsister to print journalism 50 years ago. Television producers used to read newspapers to find out where to send their cameras. By the time I quit fulltime writing, it was the

ink-stained wretches who were trailing the TV people, although the hated to admit it.

And now, God save us all, we have the Internet, which has not merely damaged journalism it has atomized it. It turns on its head the old journalism slogan: "You are entitled to your own opinion, but not to your own set of facts." On the Internet there is no distinction between fact and opinion. In that atmosphere, there is no such thing as journalism.

And that is the world that Arizona State is charging extra to prepare its graduate to enter.

If I were running a big university (and I'm available, by the way) would I forget journalism and institute a premium course in handymanhood?

You remember handymen, those Jacks (and now Jills) of all trades who could do little jobs around the house? We live in a society where hardly anyone other than a farmer can do those things anymore. There is a great need out there for people who can fix toilets, caulk showers, hang doors, repair screens, sharpen knives, change water filters, make sliding doors slide and fix doorbells. For a reasonable price.

A person with skills like that could clean up.

Are you listening, Arizona State?

□□□

Don Kaul is a two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning Washington correspondent who, by his own account, is right more than he's wrong. Email him at dkaul1@verizon.net.



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Hood popper doesn't need head examined

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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.

When the cat's away the mice will play. But this cat isn't a very good mouser when he's home.

THAT'S DIFFERENT

For some vague, unexplained reason, I've worried about being away almost a week. So many things to do, so many undone...the end of the month...first of the month...and 10th of the month just ahead...work to be done...Just now I'm reminded that a week's fishing trip always finds me carefree, r'arin' to go, and in no hurry to get back, even though the same work is to be done that troubles me just now.

THAT CERTAIN SOMETHING

What is this intangible thing that lures the Floyd Countian back, and grips him when he gets here? One of our former newsboys was home from Florida, the other day, and he dropped in to pass the time of day. And stayed to talk. He's doing well in Florida. But he wanted to know how things are here, remarked that there must be a lot of money, judging from the new buildings he saw about town and its suburbs. Failing to get the desired assurance that all would be well if he would come on home, he paused, looked soberly out the window and said:

"I don't know why it is, but every time I come home, I just almost decide I'd rather be here and shine shoes for a living, than to go on back."

A hillbilly's gotta have a hill, I reminded him. And he smiled. But it was a sad sort of smile, it seemed to me.

□□□

Remember back to only a few weeks ago, when you were complaining about so much rain?

□□□

I have just talked with a guy who is home from two weeks in reserve camp. He's so worn out with his arduous labors, that this task has become too arduous for me. And so I quit. Kaput. Sine die.

Editor's Notice

The Floyd County Times is happy to announce your engagement, new marriage, new baby, birthday or family reunion free of charge. However, space is limited and we can offer no guarantee of the exact day your announcement will run. Readers may opt to purchase ad space if these conditions are not satisfactory. With the purchase of a paid ad, run date, size and placement may be guaranteed.



photos by Kathy J. Prater

Food, of course, is always a main attraction at any fair and this vendor hawking homemade country stew was popular among the crowd.

Fairgrounds fun

by KATHY J. PRATER
FEATURES EDITOR

Due to hard work and dedication from many local sponsors and individuals, the East Kentucky Fair continued to grow in popularity this year as visitors flocked to the fairgrounds this past August 3 and 4 for some wholesome family fun.

Among the attractions were carnival rides, amusement park games, a petting zoo and pony rides, 4-H exhibits, rodeo exhibitions, truck pull, and music - lots of music.

In addition to performances by a variety of local performers and bands of a variety of genres, the 26th Annual Colgate Country Showdown was held with Gray Daniels grabbing the coveted state title with performances of two original songs, "Knockin' Boots" and "Ordinary Man."

Here, a look back at some of the fun...



Gray Daniels, winner of the Colgate Country Showdown Kentucky State Final, shows off his check for \$1,000 while posing for a quick snapshot with Tia Maria, Z-Rock radio personality.

This young fairgoer appears to be wondering just what attraction to take in next.



MOVIES FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

'Primitives'

by TOM DOTY
TIMES COLUMNIST

Indonesia weighs in on the obscure genre of cannibal gross-out films with this effort featuring Indonesian martial arts star Barry Prima.

Three anthropology students hire a guide named Obisma for a tour of a remote jungle in order to sample the cultures of tribes untouched by modern living and soon come to regret it. The guide brings them to a tribe that has some experience with outsiders, though have still retained their customs.

The visit is too tame for the trio, who includes rugged Robert, feitching Rita and terminally dorky Tommy. The trio press their guide to take them further into the jungle, but he balks at the prospect and observes that it would be too dangerous. The students are passionate about their mission and eventually talk their guide into the plan by bribing the heck out of him.



Tom Doty
Times Columnist

Soon enough they are heading downriver on a raft, but their plans immediately go south when they wreck on some rocks. The group gets split up, with Robert and Rita thrown together with their guide's nervous assistant, Lahung. Tommy and Obisma also survive the accident but are stranded separately.

Here things get boring for a bit with lots of footage of the principals wandering through the jungle while there are various native sightings. Another time filler bears a warning for animal lovers as the film appears to have staged several dust ups between various critters such as boa vs. komodo dragon, leopard vs. crocodile and treed monkey vs. a gang of crocs.

Robert and Rita stumble across the campsite of a Professor Marcus which appears to be abandoned. They discuss what could have happened to his party but that plot line is then dropped.

The ever anxious Lahung keeps spotting natives and freaking out but they are gone when Rita and Rob show up. Unfortunately Lahung fails to spot a lethal trap while in one of his panics and winds up spiked to a tree. The ensuing commotion brings on the natives who quickly descend on Rita and Robert and truss them up like Christmas turkeys.

Meanwhile, Tommy finds a diary kept by someone from the Marcus party who recorded that everyone was captured except for the author, whose bare bones lay inches away. Too bad for Tommy that the guy didn't mention that you shouldn't eat the apples growing nearby. Tommy snarfs one up and proceeds to upchuck everything he's eaten in the past week while the director catches it all in loving closeup.

Obisma isn't faring so well either and soon succumbs to heat stroke. He throws up his money (not after ingesting it, thank you) and begins shooting

(See LAGOON, page six)

The visitor

by JOYCE TRES

"CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE SISTER'S SOUL 2"

I was on the verge of capturing a dream teetering between two states: sleep and consciousness. I could faintly hear a voice calling me in the distance. I pulled the comforter over my head retreating further inside, letting the warmth envelop me, for the images were gone, but the memory of being soothed lingered. Once again, the burning question came to mind: Could separation by death really

sever a lifetime connection? I had no answer. Then the voice called out once more.

"Honey, come here. You have to see this." The voice belonged to my husband.

"Uh-uh," I mumbled diving deeper inside my cocoon.

"Really, you do need to see this," my husband said again.

I wished to be left to the warmth and lingering tranquility. I voiced my objection again.

"I don't want to; it's cold out there."

"Honey, you have got to see what is sitting on the window ledge." Jack's a very tenacious man. I finally relented.

"Is the coffee made?"

"Yes, and I saved you a muffin."

The coffee and muffin lured me from the bed, but I took my comforter with me. All wrapped up, I headed for the living room and my husband.

"What's going on?"

"Look out the window," he pointed smiling.

I turned and was amazed to see an owl sleeping on the window ledge. It was white, except for a sprinkling of black on the owl's beak and tips of its feathers.

"Has it been here long?"

"It was here when I woke up."

"It's beautiful." I sat on the floor in front of the window and watched it breathe. "Why do you think it is here?"

"I don't know; we don't have owls around here, unless it is a pet, or it escaped from a rescue. It may have bumped into the window chasing something out of the tree."

"Do you think it may be hurt?"

"It may be stunned or just asleep."

I thought about that, then another

thought suddenly came to mind as I remembered what day it was.

"It would have been Barbara's birthday today," I whispered to myself.

My sister, Barbara, died six months ago after a 15-month fight with breast cancer. I think of her every day. More than once, I've found myself dialing her phone number to share some observation. If she were alive, I'd be talking to her right now. I missed her, and knew I would for a long time. I was still

(See SOUP, page six)



Hood popper doesn't need head examined

by TOM and RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:

I just wanted to know if there is any long-term benefit to regularly opening the front hood of your car right after you park it. Is this a quick method to cool off the engine that will prolong its life somehow? You see, I have a neighbor who insists on keeping his hood open whenever he gets home. I call him "The Great Hoodini." He used to drive an early-'90s T-bird, and just recently purchased a new Korean import. I wondered if he'd use the same miracle hood technique with his new car, and sure enough, hood's up! Sometimes he forgets about the open hood and leaves the car in his driveway for hours that way. It always appears like he's working on his vehicles. This hood obsession intrigues me to no end. Is it normal, or does this guy need to get his "hood" examined? Please advise. — Daniel

RAY: Excessive heat is not a friend to your engine. So, sure, opening the hood to help the engine dissipate heat is a fine thing to do. If you have the time,

TOM: It's also a good way to get your battery stolen!

RAY: Heat harms the engine because it causes fluids to break down more quickly, and it does a number on belts, hoses, bushings and motor mounts.

TOM: However, most cars are fully equipped to dissipate the heat they generate. They have cooling systems that do the job while the car is running. And after the engine is shut off, when heat can temporarily build up, cars have fans that will continue to run, even after you've walked away from the car and are already sitting down to your first bite of a kielbasa sub. So it's not something the average person needs to worry about.

RAY: But if you're an AOC (automotive obsessive-compulsive), like your neighbor is, Daniel, then, yes, opening the hood when you park — or even just releasing the hood latch and letting the hood pop open an inch or two — will allow the engine to cool faster. It certainly can't hurt. And if you live in a hot, desert climate, it might even provide some real benefits in the summer months, when the ambient temperature is 110

degrees.

TOM: Of course, if you do pop the hood latch after driving, you have to be sure to remember to close the hood securely before you drive away again. While leaving the hood ajar to dissipate heat is good for the engine, having the hood fly up while you're doing 65 mph is bad for the engine ... since the engine is usually the first thing to hit the guardrail.

Cell phone in the AC unit — it's all the rage

Dear Tom and Ray:

My daughter has a uniquely equipped '91 Toyota Corolla. It now features a cell phone IN the air-conditioning unit! The car doesn't have louvers that direct the air, so the air comes through an open space on the dash. Anyway, she suddenly slammed on the brakes, and the cell phone, which was sitting on the passenger seat or console, flew into the AC — and that's where it still is. That's her story, and she's sticking with it. We've gotten a lot of "mileage" out of this story, but no solutions. Any ideas? — Fred

TOM: Well, it was probably time

to upgrade the cell phone anyway, Fred. I'm sure there's one with more megapixels and an optional butt-scratcher out by now.

RAY: My guess is that, despite the story she's sticking with, she used the air vent itself as a cell-phone holder. It's the perfect size for that.

TOM: And then she either pushed it in too far or stopped short, and ... down the drain it went.

RAY: The good news is that it won't harm the car at all. It'll just sit there in the duct and stay cool. It'll ring for a couple of days, but once the battery dies, you'll never know it's there.

TOM: So option No. 1 is to forget about it and replace it.

RAY: But if you're on the retentive side, Fred, or the phone's memory card has some prized photos of your daughter and her boyfriend jello

wrestling, you can try to retrieve the phone by taking apart the air duct.

TOM: Depending on which vent the phone went into, it may be relatively easy to access the duct in question. The ones on the sides are easier than the ones behind the center console. If it's in the center, it might require removing the dashboard.

RAY: If you're so inclined, ask your mechanic to investigate. Tell him which vent the phone entered through, and ask him how difficult it is to access the duct that supplies that vent.

If he runs into the men's room and locks the door, you have your answer, Fred.



CLICK & CLACK
Talk Cars

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.

Odds & Ends

■ TAMPA, Fla. — War stinks, apparently even behind the lines.

That's the gist of a military e-mail uncovered by the Tampa Tribune concerning toilet troubles at U.S. Central Command at MacDill Air Force Base. The bottom line: A small restroom facility near the command's Joint Intelligence Center doesn't have adequate ventilation, resulting in — as Navy Capt. Samuel J. Cox put it — "malodorous working conditions."

Cox posted written orders directing workers to take their serious bathroom business to more capable facilities unless it was an emergency. When the signs were removed, Cox pointed out in a lighthearted e-mail that ignoring the directive technically violated the Uniform Code of Military Justice. As for civilian contractors, Cox wrote, "I can make you wish you'd gone down the hall to the big bathrooms to do your business."

Central Command oversees military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. Command spokesman Maj. David Huxsoll confirmed the intelligence center's restroom woes.

"If you're asking if the memo is legitimate, yes it is," Huxsoll said Monday. "That was the captain's humorous attempt to deal with it."

Huxsoll said there are no plans to court-martial restroom offenders caught in the act.

■ DENVER — A library patron suspected of selling hundreds of books, tapes and

DVDs he had borrowed has cost Denver-area libraries tens of thousands of dollars, officials said.

Thomas Pilaar, 33, was suspected of using different names to obtain seven library cards from the Denver Public Library, then checking out 300 items per card and selling at least some of the items, KCNC-TV in Denver reported.

"It appears his intent was to sell 2,100 (items) from the Denver Library collection," Denver Public Library spokeswoman M. Celeste Jackson told the station. She estimated the losses at about \$35,000.

Arapahoe County library administrators said Pilaar obtained three library cards and checked out 250 to 300 items.

James Larue, Douglas County's head librarian, said Pilaar checked out more than 300 items from two county libraries and had \$11,000 worth of overdue items.

Authorities were tipped by a woman who recently bought books through Craigslist.org and noticed the library identification stamps.

Pilaar was jailed on an unrelated parole violation and was being investigated for theft, said Lynn Kimbrough, spokeswoman for the Denver prosecutor's office. He was being held without bond.

Pilaar declined to comment.

■ MYRTLE BEACH, S.C. — A teenager fell six stories from a hotel balcony but

walked away with just bruises and scrapes.

Matthew Savage, 17, was reaching up to a balcony one floor above to grab a bathing suit that had fluttered down from the 11th floor when he tumbled over the railing Friday.

The teen, from Gainesville, Ga., hit other balconies on his way down and slammed onto a slanted rooftop, then slid into bushes.

"I just closed my eyes," Savage said, nursing scrapes and bruises on his back and legs.

After landing in the bushes, he got up and started walking back to his room. But paramedics strapped him to a board and flew him to a hospital, where tests showed he was fine.

"This was a 'God is real' event," his sister, Mandy Baker, said.

■ TUPELO, Miss. — A curious monkey who somehow managed to free himself from his pen in the Tupelo Buffalo Park and Zoo and was on the lam for days was finally recaptured Monday.

Oliver was apprehended at Tupelo Stone & Masonry, the Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal reported, six days after leading park staff on a chase through the park's trail system before eventually eluding them.

Several days after the monkey's July 31 escape, an anonymous businessman offered a reward for the white-faced capuchin's capture and return. Motorist Mike Fair,

who helped end the search for Oliver, got the reward.

"I think it's great," said Fair, of Mooreville.

The reward included a weekend stay at the Tupelo Hilton Garden Inn and special tours of the Elvis Presley Birthplace and Museum and the Tupelo Automobile Museum. The reward also included one of Oliver's favorite foods — a case of bananas.

"But the bananas — I don't know about that," said Fair. "I'll just end up giving them to the monkey, I guess."

It wasn't the first time Oliver, 9, had escaped from the zoo. About six years ago the monkey escaped and ran amok on the grounds of Tupelo Country Club before being captured and returned to the zoo.

Within minutes of return-

Lagoon

at every noise that the jungle emits. He eventually spots Tommy across a lake and frantically crosses it. This is good news for the crocks who are waiting there. The ensuing battle is one-sided, with Obisma going down quicker than Paris Hilton at a spelling bee.

Meanwhile, in a cave where the natives reside, Robert and Rita get a hands on view of the primitives they wanted to study. It's a harsh itinerary which includes being stripped, poked and urinated on by the local gentry. An attempted sexual assault on Rita becomes a lesson on how the tribe handles conflict resolution. It turns out that the head guy chooses to deal with said situation by crushing the offenders groin with a large rock.

Things then get a little goofy as the pair try to teach the women of the tribe how to make clothes, which also offends the leader, though no rocks are used to keep the peace this time.

Finally something happens and Robert and Rita escape just as Tommy shows up and brains Robert with a rock (thinking he's a native). The trio head for the river but the tribe is soon in pursuit. The blow from the rock apparently

ing home after his latest adventure, Oliver feasted on grapes, marshmallows, monkey biscuits and bananas, and then took a long nap.

■ ELMIRA, N.Y. — A woman who was quick with the bargains at her rummage sale mistakenly accepted 50 cents for a ceramic turtle with the ashes of her husband's previous wife inside.

Now, Anita Lewis is desperately searching for the buyer who said she planned to use the urn as a cookie jar.

Lewis said she had hauled items into her yard early Saturday while her husband slept. The buyer quickly selected the large turtle container, despite being unable to get the lid open.

Her husband's previous wife collected turtles.

"We have lots of turtles,"

Anita Lewis said. "It didn't even register that this was the one (containing the ashes)."

■ NEW YORK — An ice cream truck parked in front of a junior high school was offering up cocaine and marijuana along with the soft serve, police said.

A police search of the vehicle uncovered a loaded pistol along with the drugs, police said Friday after arresting 26-year-old Jermaine Jordan on charges including criminal possession of a weapon near a school and criminal sale of a controlled substance near a school.

There was no listed number at Jordan's address, and it was not immediately clear whether he had a lawyer.

The school, J.H.S. 008, is in Queens.

■ Continued from p5

eyes and cavort like monkeys on the business end of a cattle prod.

That said, this mess does sustain a sense of menace and you're never sure if a given character will survive any of the scenarios they are thrust into, though to be fair you probably won't care either as it is impossible to root for over-privileged snots who write off all tribes as having the same customs.

The good news is that this appears on a double-sided disc called "Tales of Voodoo Volume 2." This is a good deal giving you two genre flicks for under 10 bucks. The only problem is that the B-side ("Ghost Ninja") is actually worse than "Primitives."

At least the box is entertaining and proves that the distributors didn't even watch this movie before selling it to consumers. If you can explain to me what this plot description means, then I'll give you my copy of the movie: "Deadly traps and human fleas loving natives make this jungle a no fly zone." Good luck deciphering that one.

Best line: "They killed the poor monkey." 1978, unrated.

Soup

intrigued by the visitor. Then I remembered the dream.

"I dreamt about Barbara and her imaginary childhood companions. She had two mammoth elephants: Tundra and Mundra. She also had a white owl she called Snow. They were in a lush green forest close to a river. It was so powerful, and they seemed so happy to be together; it felt soothing. It left me so calm upon waking that I tried to recapture the dream. It seemed

so real, then you started calling me."

"Barbara may have sent Snow to let you know she's all right."

At that very moment, Snow opened its eyes and looked right into mine. For a few moments, we stared at one another with only the glass between us. I reached out and placed my hand against the window almost touching Snow, but for the glass. Its gold eyes bore into my green

eyes, and then it turned and flew away.

"What do you think, did Barbara send Snow?"

"Barbara was subtle," I said smiling.

"Yes, you would've sent Tundra or Mundra," he laughed.

I laughed also, knowing my sister was somewhere laughing too and that our connection, though subtle, would endure forever.

■ Continued from p5



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FLOYD COUNTY Sports

Sunday, August 12, 2007

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VB: Raiders beat P'burg, improve to 2-0

TIMES STAFF REPORT

HI HAT – South Floyd served with great efficiency Thursday night, making good on 41-of-44 serves with 14 aces in a varsity volleyball match versus visiting Prestonsburg. In Prestonsburg's season-opener, South Floyd prevailed, winning 2-0 (25-13, 25-9) in the Floyd County varsity volleyball match. South Floyd – thanks to the victory – improved to 2-0.

In the first game, South Floyd opened up an early lead when Danielle Tackett took over serving with the score 3-1 in her team's favor. When the Blackcats broke the serve, the score was 12-1. Tackett finished the night 14-of-15 in the serving department with seven aces. In the second game, the

score was knotted at 8-8 before the Raiders would once again take over. With Amber Tackett serving, South Floyd got the lead out to a 12-8 advantage. On the next side-out, South Floyd was ahead 13-9 when senior Samantha Isaac served out the game – connecting on the next 12 serves with two aces in the middle of the brilliant stretch.

Junior Trista Damron had one of the better games in her career with four kills, one and one-half blocks and two digs, all of which came in the last eight points of the second game. Senior Amber Tackett led the way in the kill department for the Raiders, offering up six kills. She was followed by Damron, who landed four. Sophomore Bailey Hamilton added three kills while Isaac and sophomore Brittany Little con-

tributed two each.

For the second game, senior setter Billie Stumbo added 10-plus assists (11). Eighth-grader Ashley Castle and Little both added one assist. Senior libero Stephanie Stone led the Raiders with 13 digs. Amber Tackett added 12 digs for the winning team. Little ended the contest with six digs. Stumbo (four), Damron (two), Hamilton (one) and eighth-grader Kiana Hall (one) also aided in the digs department.

South Floyd will be back in action Tuesday night at home when Allen Central visits for another conference/district contest.

PRESTONSBURG VS. SOUTH FLOYD
Freshmen – Prestonsburg 18-16, 18-10
Junior Varsity – South Floyd 21-12, 21-16



photo by Jamie Howell

BLACKCAT SPOTLIGHT: Prestonsburg High School receiver/defensive back Taylor Clark ranks as one of the school's top student-athletes. Clark is headed into his senior football season.

New Bristol Motor Speedway surface gets high marks

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

BRISTOL, Tenn. – What was billed as a facelift turned into major surgery this summer as Bristol Motor Speedway's surface underwent its first major change since the original concrete replaced asphalt 15 years ago.

The reconstruction of the surface that had been placed in the summer of 1992 began March 26, the day after Kyle Busch captured the Food City 500, when workers began tearing up the old surface and replacing it with concrete.

Work on the multi-million dollar project was completed in mid-July and the end result is a much smoother track with an even more distinct look to it. Over the years, the previous surface had developed a crown effect creating a convex shape. Now, with variable banking, the track has more of a bowl-shape to it, which designers believe will lend itself to offering drivers more racing options. The transitions going into and coming out of the turns also were adjusted.

A number of drivers tested the new surface in July and the majority left Bristol impressed with the new layout and anxious to return for the August NASCAR events.

"I think our development guys did a tremendous job with the track," said BMS president Jeff Byrd. "The drivers I spoke with were very pleased with the surface and couldn't wait to get here for the August events. We wanted a smoother surface with better transitions in the corners and I believe that's exactly what we got. And because of that we should have some fantastic racing."

After three late-model race events in late July and early August, the first NASCAR races on the new surface will be on Wednesday, Aug. 22 when the O'Reilly 200 Craftsman Truck Series event takes place along with the Food City 150 USAR Hooters ProCup event. The Food City 250 Busch Series race is Friday, Aug. 24, followed by the sold-out Sharpie 500, NASCAR's most popular race, on Saturday, Aug. 25.

BMS resurfacing notes:

It required 3000 cubic yards

(See SURFACE, page two)



photo courtesy of UK Athletics

UK Coach Billy Gillispie is known as one of the nation's top college basketball recruiters.

Board declines to reconsider ban on text-messaging

TIMES STAFF REPORT

INDIANAPOLIS – The NCAA Division I Board of Directors declined to reconsider a ban on most forms of electronic communication – including text-messaging – with recruits during its meeting Thursday.

Because the Board members declined to reconsider the text-messaging ban, the proposal will come to a vote of the Division I delegates present and voting at the January 2008 Convention in Nashville.

New University of Kentucky men's basketball coach Billy Gillispie is not in favor of the text-messaging ban. Gillispie, who has already gotten commitments for many future Wildcat recruiting classes, favors allowing coaches to use text-messaging in communicating with recruits.

UK Coach Billy Gillispie landed a key recruit when Huntington (W.Va.) High standout Patrick Patterson signed with the Wildcats. Here's some of what Gillispie said about Patterson during the recent SEC Teleconference:

"There are high expectations (for Patrick) as there is for all of the players, but I think he's a very mature player and maybe more so than most freshmen up until this point. He's just impressed me with the way he lives every day life, and in the classroom I think that he may be able to shoulder a bit more of a burden than say a normal freshman. I do think that he has the ability to maybe lead early in his career starting this year. We'll have some other help for him."

Prestonsburg girls', boys' soccer teams set for season-openers

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG – The Prestonsburg High School boys' and girls' soccer teams are headed into season-openers. The girls' team is the more experienced of the two Prestonsburg soccer squads. Prestonsburg's boys' soccer team is a first-year unit.

The Prestonsburg girls' soccer team has several players returning, including seniors Emily Stanley, Caitlyn Newsome, Hannah Fitzpatrick, Aleshia Mayfield and Maura Minix. The Prestonsburg girls' junior class consists of returning players Katy Petry, Linsey Fields, Brittany Holliman and Samantha

Osborne

New juniors in the mix are Laura Absher and Shelby Brewer. Heather Joseph is the lone sophomore. Freshmen are Clara Osborne, Alexis DeRossett, Kaitlyn Minix, Breanna Holliman and Hilary Stone.

The Tina Petry-coached Prestonsburg girls' team – which has 17 games scheduled – will open the season Tuesday on the road versus Perry County Central.

Despite being a first-year squad, Prestonsburg's boys' soccer team should be competitive given that many players have participated in the sport on other youth teams for several years.

The Prestonsburg boys' soccer team consists of the following play-

ers: Josh Holbrook (Sr.); Ryan Johnson (Jr.); Adam Kimbler (Jr.); Nick Kanahan (Jr.); Austin Minix (Jr.); Brad Stanley (So.); Nick Conn (So.); Tyler Hall (So.); Zach Lemaster (So.); Jeff Searls (So.); Devin Clifton (So.); Caleb Petry (Fr.) and Logan Hunt (Fr.)

The Prestonsburg boys' soccer team is still accepting players for the 2007 season. Busy preparing for its debut, the Prestonsburg boys' soccer team will also open its season versus Perry County Central. The Prestonsburg soccer teams – which are set to host home contests at StoneCrest – will play several doubleheaders over the next two-plus months.

Herrick, teammates compete at Ky. Open

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LOUISVILLE – The Bellarmine University golf program was well-represented at this week's Fifth Third Bank/Callaway Golf Kentucky Open, held at Hurstbourne Country Club. While three current Knights missed the final cut, two former Bellarmine stars made it into the final round.

Former Knight Cory Kaufman, who has been playing in numerous professional events the past few years, battled intense heat to turn in a 72-75 147 after two rounds on the par 71 course. That tally had him in a three-way tie for eighth place on the leader board, four shots behind leaders Justin Moore and Philip Henderson heading into the final round.

Another former Bellarmine player, Austin Meyer, is tied for 22nd place with a 75-76 151. The top 70 scores made the final cut.

Just missing out on the final day was Bellarmine junior-to-be Kyle Leach (Louisville/DeSales). After posting an 82 on the first day, Leach shaved four strokes off his score on day two to enter the clubhouse with a 160 total. All golfers scoring 159 or better made the final cut. Leach earned All-Great Lakes Valley Conference honors this past season.

Doug Wilkinson (Louisville/St. Xavier), who will be a sophomore for the Knights, shot an 84-82 166. Brooks Herrick (Prestonsburg), who will also be a sophomore this year, turned in an 82-85 167 at the event. A Prestonsburg High School graduate, Herrick is a former KHSAA regional champion. One hundred fifty-nine competitors qualified for the field.

Bellarmine earned the No. 2 seed at last year's NCAA super-regional. The Knights return six players off that squad this season.



photo by Steve LeMaster

A LOOK BACK AT CAMP: East Kentucky Miners Coach Kevin Keathley had the opportunity to evaluate 21 different players during the CBA team's recent free agent camp. Keathley, a Floyd County native, complimented the area players who attended the camp. More on the area players appears inside today's edition on Page B2.

Many players back for Rebel football team

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

EASTERN – Allen Central defeated Floyd County rival Betsy Layne 26-20 in triple overtime and registered a pair of district wins during the 2006 season. The Rebels were in contention for a playoff spot late last fall before falling short. Now, Allen Central is concentrated on the 2007 season and a district slate that takes away Hazard and Jenkins and adds Betsy Layne.

"We have had a pretty good preseason," said Allen Central Coach Jeremy Hall. "It was hard this year to get everyone on the field at the same time. Our morning practices would have a group of boys and then in the evening we would have some different in and some out. We have many returners. We are really young – but that just shows you how many freshmen and sophomore we were playing with last year."

Allen Central lost its leading tackler – defensive end Mike Case – via graduation. The AC football program also lost Eric Crum and Corey Click – both of its starting running backs last season.

(See FOOTBALL, page two)

Hendrickson wins Kentucky Open

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LOUISVILLE – Phil Hendrickson has placed himself among the elite of Kentucky golfers by winning the 2007 5/3 Bank/Callaway Golf Kentucky Open. He even raised that platform, becoming only the third player in the state's history to win both the State Amateur and the Kentucky Open in the same year, joining Jodie Mudd and John Holmes, both PGA Tour winners. Hendrickson was able to outlast the competition, especially low professional Grover Justice, with par 73 and a total of 216, three over for the tournament.

Hendrickson, an Eastern Kentucky University golfer, hails from Danville. The event featured top golfers from around the state. Justice, who

(See OPEN, page two)

Furcal's blast lifts LA; Dodgers beat Reds, snap 6-game skid

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — The Los Angeles Dodgers kept turning to an unlikely source for some much-needed punch, and it finally paid off with a win.

Leadoff hitter Rafael Furcal, who ended three innings with runners in scoring position, homered in the 11th and the Dodgers snapped a season-high six-game losing streak with a 5-4 victory over the Cincinnati Reds on Thursday.

"I was frustrated because I left so many runners on base," said Furcal, who left a total of four runners in scoring position with a strikeout, a popup and a groundout. "I concentrated a little more in that last at-bat. I got a pitch down the middle. I don't know what it was, but I got a good swing on it. It made me very excited because of the way we've been

playing."

Furcal's fifth homer of the season came off Victor Santos (1-4) and helped Los Angeles avoid a three-game sweep. The Dodgers went 28 innings without scoring before pushing across a run in the first. They were shut out in their previous three games and four of their past five.

Los Angeles manager Grady Little suspects the comeback win could jumpstart his lethargic team.

"I'm sure something like that can get us started," Little said. "We've been through it before, but you can't get ahead of yourself. You can't play tomorrow's ballgame, or yesterday's. You have to play the game today."

Reds interim manager Pete Mackanin didn't expect Los Angeles to go the entire series without scoring.

"That's one of those games

that got away," he said. "You look at the series, we take two out of three. It would've been nice to sweep, but they were due to snap out of it."

Delwyn Young went 4-for-4 in his second major league start for Los Angeles. He left with cramping in his calves after logging out a double in the eighth.

Scott Proctor (1-0) allowed one hit in two scoreless innings for his first National League win after being acquired from the New York Yankees on July 31.

Takashi Saito pitched the 11th for his 28th save in 31 opportunities. He got Alex Gonzalez to ground into a game-ending double play.

Gonzalez followed Edwin Encarnacion's single in the second inning with his 16th homer, giving the Reds a 3-2 lead. The Dodgers tied it on Olmedo Saenz's sacrifice fly

in the seventh off reliever Eddie Guardado, making his first appearance of the season. The left-hander, who had reconstructive surgery on his elbow last September, hadn't pitched in the majors since Aug. 19.

Guardado's failure cost Cincinnati rookie Phil Dumatrait his first career win. The left-hander, who lasted just 3 1-3 innings in his major league debut on Aug. 2, allowed two runs and seven hits in six innings.

"For the first couple of innings I still had some butterflies, but I calmed down and I thought I threw some quality pitches," Dumatrait said. "I definitely threw a lot of quality off-speed pitches. I even threw some changeups and curves when I was behind in the count — kept them off-balance. I felt like today was a step in the right direction."

The Reds regained the lead when Norris Hopper scored on Joe Beimel's balk in the seventh, but Los Angeles tied the game again in the eighth against Jared Burton when pinch-runner Andre Ethier scored from second on Ramon Martinez's single.

Los Angeles' Brett Tomko lasted six innings against his former team. The right-hander gave up three runs and six hits.

"I wish I could take back that slider I hung (to Gonzalez)," Tomko said. "He just as easily could have popped it up, and I would have told you what a good pitch it was."

The Dodgers ended their scoreless streak in the first. They loaded the bases with none out and Jeff Kent hit a sacrifice fly.

The Reds tied it in the bottom half when Hopper scored from third on Brandon

Phillips' groundout. Los Angeles regained a one-run lead in the second on Martinez's sacrifice fly.

Notes: Presidential candidate Rudy Giuliani stopped by Great American Ball Park during the game. The former New York City mayor was making a campaign fundraising stop in Cincinnati. ... Cincinnati's Jeff Keppinger made his first career start in left field, giving Adam Dunn a rest. ... Dodgers first baseman Olmedo Saenz snapped an 0-for-15 slump with a first-inning single. ... The Reds optioned RHP Todd Coffey to Triple-A Louisville to make room for OF Jason Ellison, who was claimed off waivers from Seattle. ... Dunn was ejected while arguing with plate umpire Paul Emmel after taking strike three as a pinch-hitter in the ninth.

Food City 250 to feature Nextel Cup-heavy lineup

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

BRISTOL, Tenn. — NASCAR's most popular Busch Series race, the Food City 250, also hits a high note with Nextel Cup drivers with at least 10 expected to do double duty, competing in the Friday night event on Aug. 24 before taking part in the sold out Sharpie 500 on Saturday evening.

Defending race winner Matt Kenseth will go after his second consecutive Food City 250 title after outrunning the likes of Kevin Harvick and Kasey Kahne a year ago. Like Kenseth, who swept the night races a year ago by also winning his second straight Sharpie 500, Harvick and Kahne will be gunning for the Food City 250 trophy in front of more than 100,000 fans.

Others NEXTEL Cup stars who'll be vying for the win are Carl Edwards, Kyle Busch, who won the Food City 500 NEXTEL Cup event at BMS in March. Jeff Burton, J.J. Yeley, Clint Bowyer, Ryan Newman and Greg Biffle.

Harvick is tied with Morgan Shepherd for most Busch Series wins at The World's Fastest Half-Mile with four. Harvick's wins

came in August of 2000, August of 2001, March of 2003 and April of 2004. Kenseth, who won in August 1999, March 2001 as well as last August could join Harvick and Shepherd at the top of the list with another win.

Ticket holders for the Food City 250 will get to enjoy a full day of on-track action prior to the 8 p.m. start of the race, including Cup and Busch

practice and qualifying for both the Food City 250 and Sharpie 500. Qualifying for the Sharpie 500 is set for 3:30 that afternoon while qualifying for the Food City 250 is at 4:35 p.m.

IF YOU WANT TO GO: Tickets are available for the Food City 250, starting at \$45. Tickets may be purchased by contacting the BMS ticket

office at (423) 989-6900 or by visiting www.bristoltx.com.

The Food City 250 will be preceded by the O'Reilly 200 Craftsman Series Truck race and the Food City 150 Hooters Pro Cup Series event on Wednesday, Aug. 23. Tickets for the doubleheader also are available for \$30 with children 12 and under admitted free with a paying adult.

Football

Junior quarterback Josh Prater and senior wide receiver Alex Hammonds — the team's leading receiver last season — are both back.

Allen Central also returns wide receivers Nathan Meade, Wes Crager and Chris Stumbo.

In the AC offensive backfield, Logan Crowder will be in the fullback position along with Justin Jackson and fresh-

man Mickey Parsons.

Corey Conn and Brett Shepherd have returned to anchor the Rebel offensive line.

Defensively, Allen Central returns twins Logan and Hunter Crowder up the middle

"We have changed up the attack a little more this year," said Hall. "We will mainly be an I-formation team and we'll

try to spread it out and throw it a little more than in the past."

Allen Central was in West Liberty this past Friday evening, playing Morgan County in the first of two pre-season scrimmages. The Rebels will travel to Estill County this Friday for a pre-season tuneup versus the Engineers.

Continued from p1

Surface

of concrete for the top layer of the surface.

More than 20,000 cubic yards of concrete was required for the project, including sub-surface, walls, etc.

More than 650 tons of rebar was needed to complete the entire project.

Six hundred-fifty (650) tons is equivalent in weight to 382 NASCAR Nextel Cup cars, 1,182 full-grown Kodiak bears, 1,625,000 12-ounce Coca-Colas (or approximately 10 for everyone attending the Sharpie 500) and 41,600,000 Sharpies.

Approximately 149 tons of rebar was required for the surface itself.

The new track surface, including sub-base, base and surface is 17 inches thick. It is

made up of six inches of lime-treated stone on the bottom, followed by four inches of lean grade concrete, rebar and the final layer is seven inches of continuously reinforced concrete.

The pits are now concrete, whereas before they were asphalt.

The old track surface was 40 feet wide. It is now 43 feet wide.

There are 43 pit stalls and each stall measures 16'x28,' two feet wider than they were previously.

An average of 50 workers took part in the resurfacing project. They worked, on average, six days a week, 14 hours a day. When the actual surface work began with the concrete, work-

ers worked in 12-hour shifts, 24 hours a day.

Crews removed 1,815 cubic yards of concrete from the old track — constituting the surface only.

Crews removed 842 cubic yards of wall concrete.

A total of 5,500 square yards of asphalt was removed. That is more than an acre of asphalt and amounts to 275 20-ton truck loads of material.

A total of 38,944 square yards — more than eight acres — of dirt was removed, amounting to 1,948 truck loads of material. 38,944 square yards amounts to slightly more than six football fields measuring 120 yards long from back of end zone to back of end zone and 53.3 yards wide.

Continued from p1

Open

calls Lexington home, missed a 3-foot par putt on No. 17. After missing the putt, Justice saved par from a front bunker on No. 18, ultimately

finishing second after a 71 — 217. Louisville's Patrick Vadden and John Bachman tied for third at 218. Grant Sturgeon — another Louisville

golfer — was fifth at 219. Matt Savage, the event's defending champion was tied for eighth at 221.

Continued from p1

Keathley touts Daniels, other area players who showcased abilities at recent free agent camp

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE — East Kentucky Miners Coach Kevin Keathley will be the first to admit he didn't know how many players would show up for the team's first-ever free agent camp. Held a little over one week ago, the free agent camp attracted players from several in-state colleges, including Kentucky, Louisville, Eastern Kentucky and Western Kentucky. The team's first free agent camp also included a strong group of area players. Betsy Layne High School graduate Jeremy Daniels, a player who went on to turn in four

solid seasons at Alice Lloyd College, held his own during the free agent camp.

"First off, the camp went quite well," Keathley commented. "On the local side of it, we had some good solid basketball players. Jeremy Daniels, one of the local players, showed he still has some potential in basketball after what I understand was a fine college career."

Jenkins High School graduate Micah Oden, a player who played at both Alice Lloyd College and Pikeville College, also attended the free agent camp.

"Micah Oden showed a lot of athleticism," said

Keathley. "He showed that he's really good around the basket."

Pikeville College product Daniel Price was also at the camp; chasing a chance to play professional basketball.

"Daniel Price showcased his ability to defend," said Keathley. "Daniel is also very athletic."

In a camp that included more than one player with professional basketball experience, the level of competition was rather close.

"The local players represented themselves and the area quite well," Keathley concluded.



photo by Jamie Howell

A NEW SEASON: The Prestonsburg High School varsity cheerleading team is less than two weeks from the start of the 2007 football season. Leslie Ousley (left, back row) guides the Prestonsburg varsity cheerleading squad.

Kentucky Afield Outdoors: An affordable way to float a stream

by LEE McCLELLAN
KENTUCKY AFIELD

FRANKFORT — Air temperatures in the high 90s make fishing a lake during the daytime a painful and potentially dangerous experience during the suffocating and miserably hot days of August. Instead, imagine yourself gently floating down a cool stream with your legs dangling in the water, keeping the heat at bay and catching bass after bass.

A canoe costs several hundred dollars, as does a kayak or a small johnboat. But a float tube, also known as a belly boat, usually costs less than \$150 with many under \$100. Float tubes give anglers an affordable option to enjoy a day of stream fishing and escape the August heat.

Not all float tubes are created equal. Three main types of belly boats exist on the market: the original round design, the U-tube design and the pontoon design. The original round float tubes consist of a truck tire inner-tube sheathed in nylon cloth with pockets. They work in a pinch, but are a poor choice for stream fishing. Their design makes it difficult for you to get out of the boat in shallow water. Round float tubes can also slip over in current and pin you upside down.

The U-boat, which is open in the front and forms a semi-circle around the angler, is a better choice. These are more expensive than the round design, but are safer to use. They are lightweight and easy to carry to the stream.

The pontoon design, however, is the best choice for floating streams. The pontoon style employs two pontoons that fea-

ture a spreader bar in front of the angler, and a backrest for more comfort on longer floats.

The pontoon design is easy to get in and out of, especially in shallow water. You can prop their legs over the spreader bar and float through shallow shoals. Some anglers drill a hole in the end of a small wooden oar, run a piece of rope through it and tie a carabincer to the end of the rope. They next attach the carabincer to the D-rings on a belly boat so that they can maneuver in current without having to worry about losing the oar. Other anglers wear flippers on their feet to control their belly boats on streams, but a pair of wading boots or plain work boots do best in flowing water. The thick soles of these boots protect your feet from impacting rocks. Flippers make exiting the boat difficult on slick rocks in current or in shallow water.

Smallmouth streams with fairly deep holes punctuated by riffles are good places to fish with a float tube. You can fish a flowing hole, get out, and walk back up to the top of the hole and float it again. You may also float a section of stream and pack your float tube back out to your vehicle or set up a float of a couple of miles. You cannot cover nearly the water in a float tube that you can in a canoe, kayak or johnboat.

The low flows of August make float tubing on streams a great option. Float tubes are silent in the water, allowing you to sneak up on spooky fish.

The higher profile of a float tube gives fly anglers an excellent platform to present their lures. August is a productive time for fly rodders to tie on a cork popper, deer hair bug or

Sneaky Pete and catch small-mouth bass on top. Combinations of red, chartreuse, black and orange work for these flies, but plain black may do best of all. This type of fishing calls for at least a 6-weight fly rod to cast these hefty flies.

The topwater bite improves as the days shorten and water temperatures cool in early to mid-September. Spinning anglers can score with the cigar-shaped topwater lures retrieved in the walk-the-dog style, a minnow-shaped floater/diver or a chugger.

A smoke-colored 4-inch straight tailed worm with blue, gold, green and black flakes, sometimes called "smoke bluegill" is one of the best bets in August. A solid black 4-inch straight-tailed worm also scores smallmouths, spotted bass and rock bass. Shallow running crankbaits with a square or L-shaped lip in minnow or crayfish colors also attract big fish from August through September. August is a big fish month for stream smallmouths — and the day before a major weather front is a great time to trophy fish. Get a float tube, head to a stream and out fish those anglers in expensive boats sweltering in the heat.

Lee McClellan is an award-winning writer for Kentucky Afield magazine, the official publication of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. He is a lifelong hunter and angler, with a passion for smallmouth bass fishing.

Lions WR Johnson shines in 27-26 win over Bengals

by LARRY LAGE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DETROIT — Calvin Johnson shrugged his shoulders when asked about the only two passes thrown his way, both of which he caught, giving a glimpse of what's to come from the No. 2 pick in the NFL draft.

Johnson had two receptions for 45 yards late in the first half to set up a score and the Detroit Lions rallied late to beat the Cincinnati Bengals 27-26 on Thursday night in the exhibition opener for both teams.

The 6-foot-5, 239-pound receiver displayed his speed and savvy on his first catch, sprinting and settling into a spot behind a cornerback and in front of a safety. On the next play, Johnson used his body and leaping ability to shield first-round pick Leon Hall for a 21-yard reception that was

the second and final ball thrown to him.

"That's my job — go get the ball," he said. "People expect me to make plays."

Detroit has been expected to lose since 2001, when Matt Millen took over the franchise and the Lions went on to lose a league-high 72 games over the next six seasons.

But the players sense things will be different this year with Rod Marinelli on the sideline for a second season.

Cincinnati led 26-17 midway through the fourth quarter, then the Lions' third- and fourth-string players won out.

Dan Orlovsky threw a 7-yard touchdown pass to Kevin Kasper with 50 seconds left after Detroit recovered an onside kick following Kenny Byrd's field goal.

Cincinnati got in position to win the game, stopping the clock with 1 second left, but Shayne Graham, who made

four field goals, was wide left on a 48-yard attempt.

The Lions celebrated by jumping, hugging and screaming.

"Coach Marinelli came in here last year and preached winning, whether it was a 1-on-1 route in practice or a pre-season game," Orlovsky said. "Losing is going to be wiped out as a culture around here."

"Cincinnati is a good team. I think it was really important that we won and showed excitement."

The Bengals, meanwhile, were not bummed out.

"You always want to win any game you play, but this doesn't hurt," Cincinnati coach Marvin Lewis said. "We did a lot of good things when the veterans were in there. The young guys missed some chances to finish out the game."

If the score counted only when the starters were in the

game, the Bengals would have won 6-0.

Carson Palmer completed seven of 10 passes for 93 yards to set up two field goals on his only two drives, totaling 121 yards. The Bengals held Detroit's first-string defense to just three first downs on its two possessions.

"We expect to score touchdowns every time we have the ball, so that's disappointing," Palmer said.

Chad Johnson and T.J. Houshmandzadeh each caught two of Palmer's passes, combining for 74 yards. Rudi Johnson ran through a huge hole for a 20-yard gain on the first play of the game and finished with five carries for 32 yards.

The Bengals might have lost his backup.

Rookie running back Kenny Irons injured his left knee and ankle and was taken to the locker room on a cart

after hobbling off the field. He had four carries for 17 yards, including an 11-yard gain.

The second-round pick from Auburn was hurt when his foot appeared to get caught up in the artificial turf while making a stutter-step move. Lewis said Irons will have an MRI, adding there are concerns about his knee.

Jon Kitna was 3-for-5 for 52 yards, then his backups competed to be Detroit's No. 2 quarterback.

J.T. O'Sullivan was 12-of-19 for 225 yards, a score and an interception. Orlovsky completed 15 of 23 passes for 220 yards with two TDs and an interception that was returned for a score.

Rookie Matt Toaina, a 6-foot-2, 311-pound defensive tackle — caught the fluttering football and rumbled 81 yards for a score that gave Cincinnati a 26-10 lead early in the fourth quarter.

Cincinnati's Chris Henry is suspended for the first eight games of the season for violating the NFL's conduct policies, but that didn't keep him off the field at Detroit. He caught six passes for 86 yards, including a 9-yard TD with 1:08 left the first half to give the Bengals a 16-7 lead.

"I think it is good that he gets to play in these games because it will remind him how special this is, and how much fun it is," Palmer said. "He knows he has a long way to go, and he's not feeling sorry for himself. He is going to pay for the bad choices he made, and he accepts that."

Notes: Bengals DE Jonathan Fancne (muscle cramps) left the game in the third quarter, but Lewis said he will be fine. ... Lions DE Kalimba Edwards (shoulder) and RB Aveion Cason (concussion) were injured.

Cowboys open Phillips era with a pass to Owens, 23-10 win over Colts

by JAIME ARON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

IRVING, Texas — Wade Phillips keeps saying he likes getting the ball to his best players. So it probably wasn't a coincidence that the first play of his first game coaching the Dallas Cowboys was a pass to Terrell Owens.

Owens caught it for 8 yards, and didn't have another catch in his brief playing time in the preseason opener. The Cowboys still went on to beat the Super Bowl champion Indianapolis Colts 23-10 on Thursday night, making Phillips a winner in his first game since taking over for Bill Parcells.

"I envision myself getting those chances," Owens said. "The ball was distributed well.

... We'll practice hard and get better. This was a great start for us."

Phillips was smiling long before kickoff as he settled into the home sideline at Texas Stadium. His mood only improved seeing Tony Romo complete 10 of 11 passes while leading two long scoring drives and watching Keith Davis intercept a tipped pass and return it 41 yards for a third-quarter touchdown.

Dallas' lead reached 23-3 before the Colts scored a touchdown in the closing minutes against a unit featuring few guys likely to make the 53-man roster.

Indianapolis certainly won't fret this result. The Colts went 1-3 in the preseason last year and wound up winning the Super Bowl; they

were 0-5 in 2005 exhibition games then won their first 13 regular-season games.

"All in all, we have things to build on," Indianapolis coach Tony Dungy said.

In another exhibition opener Thursday night, Detroit beat Cincinnati 27-26. On Friday night, Atlanta is at the New York Jets, New England at Tampa Bay, Buffalo at New Orleans, and St. Louis at Minnesota.

Romo completed his first four passes, starting with the quickie to T.O., and his last six for a total of 93 yards. The only miss was an overthrow of Owens.

However, Romo missed a wide-open Jason Witten on the overthrow of Owens and he threw to Marion Barber instead of wide-open Anthony

Fasano on his final pass. The Cowboys had to settle for field goals on both drives, getting a 24-yarder from Martin Gramatica and a 25-yarder by Nick Folk.

"We were taking what the defense gave us," Romo said. "But at the same time it was fun to move down the field quickly. We got into a good rhythm."

Romo, by the way, didn't hold on either kick. His backup, Brad Johnson, handled duties for Gramatica and punter Mat McBriar did so for Folk.

Peyton Manning played just one drive for Indianapolis, going 3-for-5 for 37 yards. Most of it came on a 28-yard strike to Marvin Harrison, made possible by rookie left tackle Tony Ugoh holding off

Dallas' best rusher, DeMarcus Ware. Ugoh is trying to take over the spot vacated when Tarik Glenn retired five days before training camp opened.

Manning went into his pre-snap gyrations on the fifth play, a handoff, then threw a weird-looking ball for an incompletion the next down. Facing third-and-9 from the 22, he threw deep into the end zone near three Cowboys and no Colts. He walked to the sideline discussing with Harrison what went wrong and got the rest of the night off.

Kicker Shane Andrus, filling in for resting Adam Vinatieri, kicked a 40-yard field goal at the end of that drive.

"It would have been good to get a touchdown," Manning said. "Any time you can get

some points on your first (drive) of the preseason, that's a positive."

Manning's backup, Jim Sorgi, was unable to produce any points, save for the interception returned by Dallas' Davis. Third-stringer Josh Betts' pass was intercepted in the end zone in the fourth quarter. He redeemed himself with a 3-yard touchdown pass to Trent Shelton in the closing minutes.

After Davis' touchdown made it 13-3, the Cowboys stretched the lead with a 2-yard touchdown run by Tyson Thompson, who is coming back from a broken ankle that cut short his 2006 season, and a 47-yard field goal by Gramatica.

Wildcats pick up pace during Thursday practice

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — Kentucky football players were more livelier during their Thursday practice session. After a disappointing practice on Wednesday, Kentucky Coach Rich Brooks was in a much better mood coming off the Nutter Training Center practice field on Thursday.

"We were a little sharper (today)," Brooks said. "We have to understand that any day of practice you waste is a day that you don't get back. Every drill you waste is a drill your opponents are doing and getting better."

Asked about any standouts as the

Wildcats complete their first week of practice, Brooks said, "I continue to be impressed with Zipp Duncan, who is working at both right and left (offensive) tackle. Justin Jeffries is doing a good job as well (at right tackle), and so is Brad Durham. We're going to have much better depth at tackle."

Brooks continues to emphasize that the coaches are looking at various combinations in the offensive line in order to come up with the most effective unit.

Woodson featured on College Football Live; Kentucky senior quarterback André Woodson was featured on ESPN's College Football Live Friday evening Kentucky Football on FSN South,

SportSouth: A 30-minute show on the Kentucky football team will be aired on FSN South and SportSouth. Shot on location at UK, the show provides an in-depth review of the 2006 season, a look ahead to the 2007 schedule, and exclusive interviews with Brooks and select key players. The show host is Natalie Taylor and also features commentary from veteran SEC analysts Tony Barnhart and Dave Neal.

Here is the schedule, all times Eastern Daylight: Thursday, Aug. 16 - 7:30 p.m. - FSN South; Friday, Aug. 17 - 10:30 a.m. - SportSouth; Monday, Aug. 20 - 1 p.m. - FSN South; Thursday, Aug. 23 - 7 p.m. - FSN South.

Smith to drive No. 01 for DEI at Watkins-Glen

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

WATKINS GLEN, N.Y. — It will be a homecoming of sorts for Regan Smith at this weekend's Nextel Cup event at Watkins Glen International. The 23-year-old driver will not only compete near the area where he grew up, but he will also rejoin his teammates on the No. 01 team.

Smith, who was raised in Cato, N.Y., approximately 75 miles north from the Watkins Glen road course, will drive the 01 Chevrolet in Sunday's race. It will be his first Cup event under the Dale Earnhardt Inc. racing banner.

It will also be a New York-New York tandem for the 01 team. Smith's crew chief — Ryan Pemberton — is also a New York native. His hometown is Saratoga Springs, located 225 miles east of Watkins Glen.

"So many things have happened in a short period of time, but the bottom line is that I am thrilled to be driving the Army

Chevy for the first time at my home track," Smith said. "Growing up in Upstate New York and being a huge race fan, I've always considered Watkins Glen a historic landmark. It's a special feeling to go back home to compete in front of family and friends."

This will be the sixth career Cup start for Smith, who has shared the 01 ride with Mark Martin this season. Smith's last Cup start was July 1 at New Hampshire.

Smith returns to the track after an up-and-down couple of weeks in which Ginn Racing announced on July 19 that he would take over driving duties of the No. 14 car at Indianapolis. But Smith didn't race there. A week later, Ginn merged with DEI, leaving Martin, Smith and Aric Almirola to all share the ride in a to-be-determined schedule.

"Driving for the 01 team has been a great experience," Smith said. "It's a talented team and I have all the confidence in them when I get behind the wheel.

We've learned a lot about each other in the previous five races. I am confident that we can put together a solid performance this weekend."

Smith was also behind the wheel of the car at the only other Cup road race of the season — June 24 at Infineon Raceway in Sonoma, Calif. He started 26th and finished 30th.

"Regan did everything we asked of him in Sonoma," Pemberton said. "We just didn't do our job in getting the car set up properly early in the race. But once we got the car hooked up, we were better. Hopefully the second-half-of-the-race data from Sonoma will transfer for Sunday's race at The Glen."

Though he has run in only five Cup races this season, Smith is getting familiar with the Car of Tomorrow. Four of the five races he competed in were with the COT. Sunday's race will make it five out of six. The only race he drove that wasn't a COT event was in April at Talladega Superspeedway.

Today's NASCAR Nextel Cup: At The Glen

Centurion Boats at The Glen
Site: Watkins Glen, N.Y.

Track: Watkins Glen International (permanent road course, 2.45 miles, 11 turns).

Race distance: 220.5 miles, 90 laps.

Last race: Kurt Busch dominated Pocono Raceway from the opening lap and drove his way back into championship contention, giving himself a perfect belated birthday gift: a trip to Victory Lane in the Pennsylvania 500. A day after he turned 29, Busch snapped a 51-race losing skid that lifted him into the 12th and final spot of the Chase for

the Nextel Cup standings with five races left until the championship races start.

Last year: Kevin Harvick passed Tony Stewart for the lead with three laps to go to win his first road race.

Fast facts: Juan Pablo Montoya will try to become the first driver to win on three road courses in the same season. He won the Busch Series race at Mexico City before taking the Sonoma event on June 24. ... Busch hadn't been in the top 12 in points since a 100-point penalty for reckless driving in June knocked him six spots down to 17th. ... Robby Gordon didn't compete at Pocono after he was

suspended by NASCAR for his conduct at the Busch race in Montreal the day before. On Tuesday, he was fined \$35,000 and placed on probation through the end of the year. ... Jeff Gordon and Stewart have combined for seven wins, 10 top-five finishes and 13 top-10 placings at Watkins Glen. ... This will be the ninth Car of Tomorrow event this season. ... Patrick Carpentier will replace Scott Riggs in the No. 10 Dodge this weekend.

Next race: 3M Performance 400, Aug. 19, Brooklyn, Mich.

On the Net: <http://www.nascar.com>



BACK ON TRACK: Beaver Junction Motocross will resume racing today. The Dwale track attracts riders from Floyd and several other Kentucky counties.

2007 NASCAR Nextel Cup Remaining Schedule

- Aug. 12 — Centurion Boats at The Glen, Watkins Glen, N.Y.
- Aug. 19 — 3M Performance 400, Brooklyn, Mich.
- Aug. 25 — Sharpie 500, Bristol, Tenn.
- Sept. 2 — NASCAR Nextel Cup Series 500, Fontana, Calif.
- Sept. 8 — Chevy Rock-and-Roll 400, Richmond, Va.
- Sept. 16 — Sylvania 300, Loudon, N.H.
- Sept. 23 — Dover 400, Dover, Del.
- Sept. 30 — Kansas 400, Kansas City, Kan.
- Oct. 7 — UAW-Ford 500, Talladega, Ala.
- Oct. 13 — Bank of America 500, Concord, N.C.
- Oct. 21 — Subway 500, Martinsville, Va.
- Oct. 28 — Georgia 500, Hampton, Ga.
- Nov. 4 — Dickies 500, Fort Worth, Texas.
- Nov. 11 — Checker Auto Parts 500, Avondale, Ariz.
- Nov. 18 — Ford 400, Homestead, Fla.

NASCAR Nextel Cup Driver Standings

1. Jeff Gordon, 3,236
2. Denny Hamlin, 2,870
3. Matt Kenseth, 2,825
4. Jeff Burton, 2,763
5. Tony Stewart, 2,749
6. Carl Edwards, 2,682
7. Jimmie Johnson, 2,624
8. Kyle Busch, 2,611
9. Kevin Harvick, 2,600
10. Clint Bowyer, 2,552
11. Martin Truex Jr., 2,437
12. Kurt Busch, 2,399
13. Dale Earnhardt Jr., 2,392
14. Ryan Newman, 2,309
15. Mark Martin, 2,183
- (tie) Greg Biffle, 2,183
17. Jamie McMurray, 2,147
18. Juan Montoya, 2,132
19. Casey Mears, 2,113
20. Bobby Labonte, 2,030

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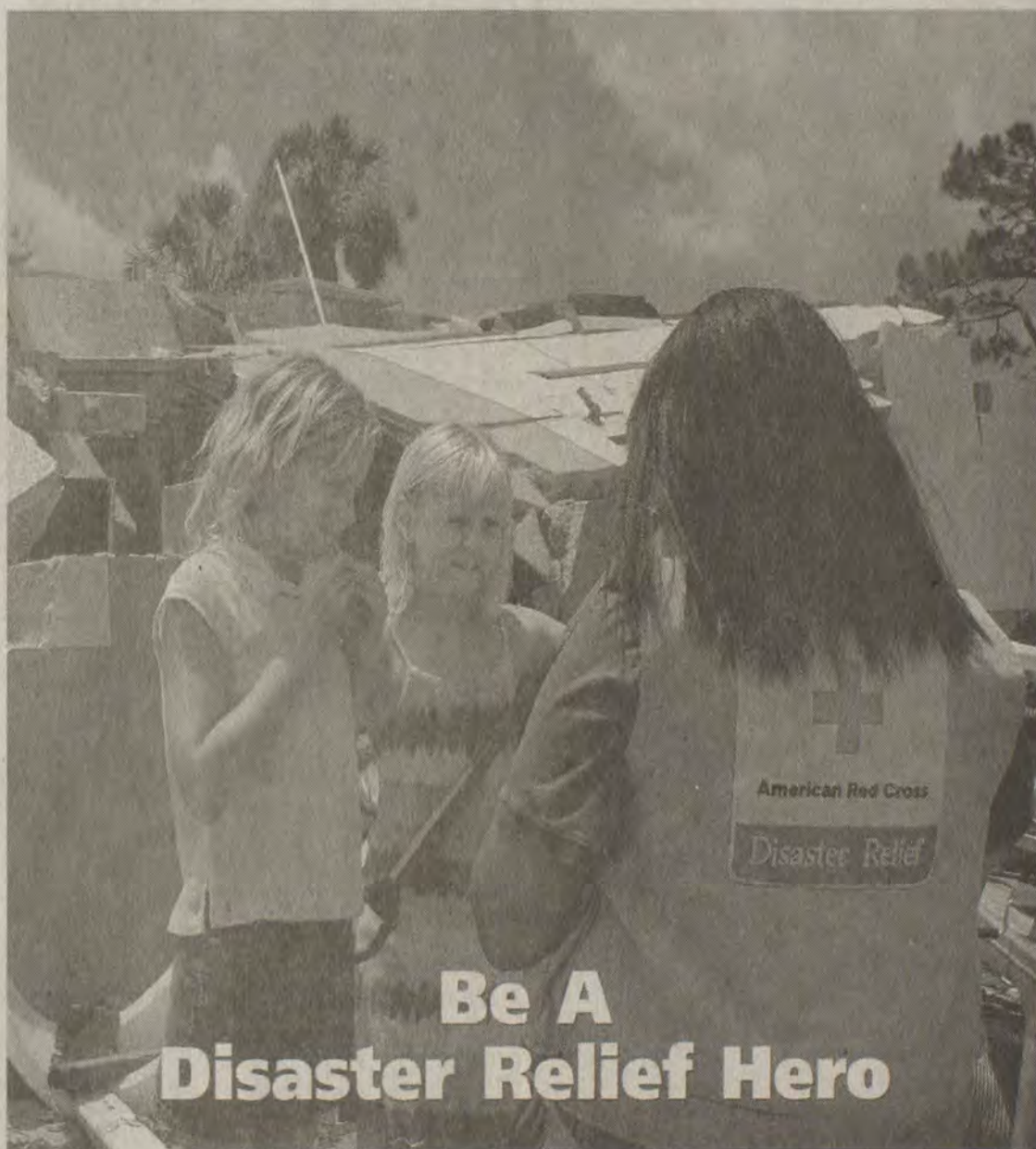
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Victims of the recent hurricane need help immediately. The American Red Cross is on the scene—providing shelter, food and counseling. But your help is urgently

needed. Your contribution will help the victims of the recent hurricane and thousands of other disasters across the country each year.

Make a financial contribution to the Disaster Relief Fund. Please contact the Red Cross at

1-800-HELP NOW redcross.org



American Red Cross. Together, we can save a life.

Pikeville Medical Center Welcomes
Dr. Densler



Dr. Densler, Neurosurgeon, is a graduate from Morehouse College in Atlanta Georgia. He received his Doctorate in Medicine from Meharry Medical College located in Nashville, TN.

Dr. Densler completed his residency in neurosurgery at the University of Louisville, School of Medicine, Neurosurgery Program, where he served as Chief Resident in Neurological Surgery.

Dr. Densler is a member of the American Medical Association and Kentucky Medical Association. He is also a member of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons: Sections on Tumors, Neurotrauma and Critical Care.

"I have enjoyed meeting with the people at Pikeville Medical Center. I love the area and look forward to being an active member of this community."

Dr. Duane Densler

