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Board hires interim superintendent

by KATHY J. PRATER
FEATURES EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG — Meeting in special session early Saturday morning, the members of the Floyd County Board of Education were happy to inform that they had selected an interim superintendent following the interviewing of several qualified candidates during executive session.

Ronald "Sonny" Fentress, retired superintendent of Anderson County Schools, has been named interim superintendent for a term slated to begin Sept. 1 and ending

Dec. 1.

Fentress' service as interim may be subject to extension if the Floyd board does not locate a new superintendent of schools by that time.

Fentress said that he is "looking forward to working with all those in the school district and community in continuing the progress that has been made and helping the team move forward."

Outgoing superintendent, Dr. Paul Fanning, commended Fentress for his "excellent record and reputation in public education" and said that he felt that

Fentress would prove to be "an asset to the district and the county during his time as interim."

"He will be a leader and a supporter in seeing progress for school children and those who work with them," Fanning said.

Fanning is leaving the Floyd County school district after eight years to take another superintendent position in a Georgia school district.

While superintendent in Anderson County, Fentress led the district to score



Ronald "Sonny" Fentress

(See BOARD, page ten)

Blackcats, Raiders get wins

- Page B1

briefs

Pike bypass gets funds for safety study

FRANKFORT — Gov. Ernie Fletcher visited Pikeville Monday to announce funding that will jump-start a project to reduce hazards and traffic congestion on Pikeville's Bypass Road, long prone to rockfalls. The Governor joined state and local officials at Pikeville City Hall to present \$250,000 in emergency road funds. With the money, engineers will begin plans to eliminate the rockfall problem and improve traffic flow.

"My administration is committed to improving the safety of our highways throughout this great commonwealth," Fletcher said. "Today we are announcing an investment that will finally deliver a solution for the critical rockfall issue on Bypass Road. Using our discretionary emergency road fund account, we are taking steps to move this project into the fast lane."

On average, 9,500 vehicles per day travel on Bypass Road, which serves the busy Pikeville Medical Center, Pikeville Elementary School and other facilities. A stretch of the road between the Ferguson Creek intersec-

(See STUDY, page ten)

2 DAY FORECAST

Today

Mostly sunny

High: 94 • Low: 70

Tomorrow

Isolated storms

High: 97 • Low: 69

For up-to-the-minute forecasts, see floydcountytimes.com

inside

- Obituaries.....A2
- Opinion.....A4
- Classifieds.....A13
- Sports.....B1
- Lifestyles.....B4



COOLING OFF



These kids knew how to cool down at last Friday's Prestonsburg Renaissance Fridays Alive concert. In addition to music by local band Gypsy Rose and, of course, water sprinklers, concertgoers were also treated to concessions, Kentucky Outback BBQ and games of cornhole. Restrooms and seating are also available at all concerts. For more about the Fridays Alive! Downtown Concerts, see Lifestyles.

Skateboarders make no headway with city council

by JESSICA HALE
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Skateboards? Roller-skates? Scooters? Or is it all of the above?

These questions and more were raised during Monday's Prestonsburg City Council meeting which focused mainly on the city's push to ban skateboarding in the downtown area.

The issue quickly took center stage as a slew of skateboarders and non-participating supporters filled the hallway and courtroom of Prestonsburg City Hall for the second reading of the skateboard ordinance, there to ask questions and voice their own opinions on the issue at stake. Some sought answers to lingering questions and attempted to argue their case, while others offered alternative solutions to the problem at hand.

Some seemed somewhat confused as to the provisions of the ban, stating that if skateboarding were banned, it would also be right to ban roller-skating and other types of self-propelled transportation.

One of the key issues which council members say is the main reason for their

decision to ban skateboarding is recurring vandalism.

"There's some kids that just seem not to care about the law," said councilman Shag Branham.

Those present in support of skateboarding argued that there are laws already on the books which are for the purpose of punishing those who choose to vandalize both personal and private property, citing that not all instances of vandalism are committed by skateboarders alone.

Branham responded to this by saying that the city ordinance to ban skateboarding will give police more room to enforce the laws against vandalism.

"We can't babysit you all," said Branham.

Safety issues were another concern on the list of reasons for the ban.

"I'm afraid someone's going to get killed," said council member Gorman Collins. "If it was my child, he wouldn't have a skateboard."

Several council members said that they personally had experienced instances in which they feared for the safety of those skateboarding after near-misses in public park-

(See COUNCIL, page ten)

LINKS begins project to build house for family

by JESSICA HALE
STAFF WRITER

McDOWELL — An act of kindness being deemed as a "house raising" is in the works and one family in McDowell is getting some much needed help from local residents and businesses.

Saturday was the beginning of the endeavor which LINKS Housing has set out to accomplish. They have already begun construction of a house for the Dye family in McDowell and many hands have pitched in for the cause.

Approximately 20 volunteers from the First Baptist Church of McDowell, United Parcel Service, Worldwide Equipment and LINKS came together for the first phase of the operation. The house's foundation, frame and some of

the trusses were completed over the weekend.

Many monetary and material donations have been acquired by the organization donated by both private citizens and local business owners. While many donations have been received, the crew is still in need of a few things such as a 36-inch-by-36-inch window, some type of heating and cooling system, plumbing fixtures and someone certified in plumbing who would be willing to donate his or her time.

Some of the other individuals and businesses involved with the McDowell house raising are Mike Froman of Big Sandy Community and Technical College, Tommy and Libby Hall, Pastor

(See LINKS, page ten)



Volunteers gathered at McDowell on Saturday to help begin construction on a house for a local family.

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Lawmakers object to regulation on athletic eligibility

The Associated Press

FRANKFORT — A legislative panel objected to a regulation on Tuesday that requires student athletes who transfer from a public to a private high school — or vice versa — to sit out for a year.

The Administrative Regulation Review Subcommittee found the regulation to be deficient, generating calls from lawmakers for the State Board of Education to withdraw it.

State Sen. Dick Roeding, R-

Lakeside Park, co-chairman of the subcommittee, said if the regulation isn't withdrawn, he and other lawmakers will push for legislation that would override it.

"They are penalizing students in order to regulate the supposed recruiting of athletes, instead of penalizing the offending school," Roeding said. "Why go after an innocent bystander and take away a year of eligibility. That's really wrong."

Under the regulation approved by the Board of Education earlier this

year, high school athletes could still practice with their teams but not play in games.

The regulation was a softer version of a proposal that would have blocked transfer students in those situations from participating in their sport at the high school level for a year.

The new regulation had been expected to be in place for the 2008-09 school year.

"This borders on being unconstitutional," Roeding said.

Debate over stricter sports eligibility rules has been raging between public and private schools for some time as part of a broader debate about athletics competition between them. Public school officials have complained that private schools recruit top players and have an unfair advantage by offering financial aid.

Under the plan lawmakers objected to, certain high schools and middle schools would be aligned along geographical boundaries as part of a feeder system. Students would have

to attend the seventh and eighth grades in their high schools' feeder systems or lose a year of eligibility.

An 18-member Kentucky High School Athletic Association control board approved a stricter version last summer that would have prevented pupils who transfer in those situations from participating in any way in athletics for a year.

Kentucky lawmakers considered a proposal earlier this year that would have pre-empted the new regulation, but that proposal died.

Former Manchester mayor pleads guilty to racketeering

LONDON — A former mayor in Eastern Kentucky pleaded guilty on Monday to federal racketeering charges.

Daugh K. White, 74, of Manchester, admitted that he

extorted kickbacks from a city contractor and that he attempted exchanging pavement projects for votes, the Lexington Herald-Leader reported on its Web site.

White will remain on house arrest until his sentencing, scheduled for Nov. 19.

In May, a grand jury charged White, former Assistant Police Chief Todd

Roberts and city Councilman Darnell Hipsher with conspiring to commit arson, mail fraud, extortion and drug distribution while in office.

White allegedly schemed

with Roberts to have a drug dealer burn down a vacant house that was blocking the way of a city construction project in 1999, according to the indictment. White also was accused of conspiring with Hipsher to have more than 30 private driveways paved, while taking kickbacks from the contractor.

White has pleaded guilty only to extortion and illegal blacktopping, said his attorney, Burl McCoy.

White lost re-election last November but was in office during the time covered by the indictment, from June 1999 through the end of 2006.

Obituaries

Martha Jane Blackburn

Martha Jane Blackburn, age 78, of Stanville, died Friday, August 10, 2007, at King's Daughters Medical Center in Ashland.

Born April 12, 1929, in Pike County, she was the daughter of the late James and Bessie Smith Young. She was a cook at Betsy Layne High School, and a member of the Church of Christ.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John D. Collins.

Survivors include a son, Wallace Collins of Stanville; two daughters: Penny Gunnels of Stanville, and Aline Ray of Abingdon, Virginia; a brother, Ed Young of Pikeville; a sister, Oma Hinkle of Pike County; three half brothers: Paul Scottie Young, Jackie Young, and Harry Young, all of Pikeville; three half sisters: Easter Salisbury of Hueysville, and Emogene Young and Sophia Howell, both of Pikeville; eight grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by a daughter, Mamie Judel Collins; and three brothers: Robert Wesley Young, A.C. Young, and Landon Young; a great-grandchild, Paula Lashae Gross.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, August 14, at 11 a.m., at Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Willis Adkins and Jack Hunt officiating.

Burial was in the A.C. Young Cemetery, at Varney, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin.

Visitation was at the funeral home.

www.nelsonfrazierfuneralhome.com

(Paid obituary)



Cantriel Gibson

Cantriel Gibson, age 80, of Santa Rosa Beach, Florida, formerly of Topmost, husband of Opal Smith Gibson, passed away on Friday, August 10, 2007, at his residence.

He was born January 4, 1927, at Raven, the son of the late Dewey and Pearl Patton Gibson.

He was a retired production worker for Premier Rubber Company, and attended the Martin Branch Freewill Baptist Church. He was a U.S. Army veteran of WW II.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his first wife, Mable Powell Gibson; two brothers: Ernest Gibson and Delano Gibson; two sisters: June Davis and Elva Blankenship.

He is survived by his sons: Cantriel Gibson Jr., of St. Petersburg, Florida, Shannon Gibson of Dayton, Ohio, and Russ Hill of Lima, Ohio; daughters: Connie Gibson of Santa Rosa Beach, Florida, Terri Dunn of Centerville,

Ohio, and Lisa Jo Wireman of Royalton; sisters: Bonnie Harris and Ora Sawyers, both of Topmost, and Shelby Jean Tessier of North Carolina; 12 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, August 15, at 11:00 a.m., in the Hall Funeral Home Chapel at Martin, with Red Morris officiating.

Burial will be in the Gibson Family Cemetery at Raven, under the professional care of Hall Funeral Home. (Paid obituary)



General Lee Sword

General Lee Sword, 49, of Wayland, died Monday, August 13, 2007, at Our Lady of the Way Hospital, in Martin.

Born June 28, 1958, in Prestonsburg, he was the son of the late Clifford and Gustava Burchett Sword. He was a disabled laborer for East Kentucky Pool, and was a member of the Garrett First Baptist Church.

She is survived by his wife,

Kathy Carr Sword.

Other survivors include three sons: Scottie Lee (April) Sword of Maytown, and General Lee Sword Jr., and Johnny Lee Sword, both of Wayland; a daughter, Rebecca Sue (Michael) Morton of Wayland; a brother, Tony Edward Sword of Hueysville; a sister, Susan Regina (Wallace) Coburn of Wayland; three grandchildren: Savannah, Devin, and Madison; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, August 16, at 1 p.m., at Garrett First Baptist Church, with Randy Osborne and Larry Adams officiating.

Burial will be in the Hunter Branch Community Cemetery, in Prestonsburg.

Visitation is at the funeral home; moved to the church on Thursday.

www.nelsonfrazierfuneralhome.com

(Paid obituary)

Card of Thanks

The family of Brenda J. Powers Davis would like to thank the individuals who participated in the memorial services given at the home of her brother, Darrell. Thank you for the prayers, kind words, flowers, food, and use of tables and chairs. We want to especially thank David and Shane Powers for the services. Thank you, Richard and Charolette Powers, Shane Powers and Roger Collins, for the beautiful songs and music. Thank you, Roger and Sharon Collins, for the help with food preparation and childcare during the services. Brenda will be missed, but always in our hearts.

**Brothers: Darrell and Mike Powers and families
Sons: Aaron and Eric Davis and families**

Card of Thanks

The family of Rita Wallace Slone wishes to gratefully acknowledge the thoughtfulness and kindness of friends, relatives, and neighbors in the loss of our loved one. Thanks to all those who sent food, flowers, prayers, and spoke words of comfort to our family. A special thanks to Clergymen Raymond Lawson and Roger Hicks for their comforting words, the Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control, and the Hall Funeral Home for their professional and compassionate service.

THE FAMILY OF RITA WALLACE SLONE

A "Thank You"

from the Roberts Family

The Harmel and Lurlie Roberts Family extends their heartfelt "Thanks" and appreciation to the following, for the services they rendered to the family during the passing of their dear mother, Lurlie Roberts.

To the Betsy Layne Church of Christ for the use of their building; To their minister, Tommy Spears for his over-all direction of the services, and for his preaching the funeral on Monday, August 6, 2007;

To ministers Tommy Bush and Willie Meade for their preaching services;

To those who sang special songs: the Frank Kidd Jr., quartette, and Morgan Clark, from the Kentucky Opry;

To those who sent flowers, and to the innumerable people, from all communities, who provided food and drink;

To the ladies of the Betsy Layne Church of Christ: A very special "Thank You!" to those who worked diligently and patiently in the kitchen and in the fellowship hall, to serve the Roberts Family and their visitors during the entire funeral program of services—such an abundant outpouring of LOVE and SERVICE!

To WPRG TV Channel 5, and "Dr." Don for filming the funeral service;

To the Floyd County Sheriff's Department for their service, and Finally, a sincere thank-you to the Hall Funeral Home personnel for their most excellent service.

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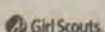
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Viewpoint

Amendment 1

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

Worth Repeating ...

"Speak out in acts; the time for words has passed, and only deeds will suffice."

— John Greenleaf Whittier

Our View

Interim hiring bodes well for school district

Only time will tell for certain, of course, but the Floyd County Board of Education's hiring of an interim superintendent appears to be a solid choice for an uncertain period.

On paper, Ronald "Sonny" Fentress appears to be everything Floyd County needs to guide the oft-troubled school system during its search for a new superintendent — experienced, qualified and successful, with a proven track record.

During his tenure as superintendent of Anderson County Schools, that district consistently scored near the top of state on standardized testing, and Floyd County would be well served to pick his brain for success strategies before his ultimate departure.

Given the short amount of time they had to work with, it appears board members very possibly hit a home run in hiring Fentress. While temporary, that is good news, because it allows the system to move forward as the search for a permanent replacement continues, and proves that this board is fully capable of making a similar hire when the time comes.

— The Floyd County Times

Guest View

Only a beginning

Senators indulged in a paroxysm of self-congratulation on Thursday after approving, by a vote of 83-14, legislation that would force lawmakers to disclose more information about their attempts to fund pet projects (spell that "pork") and get money from lobbyists.

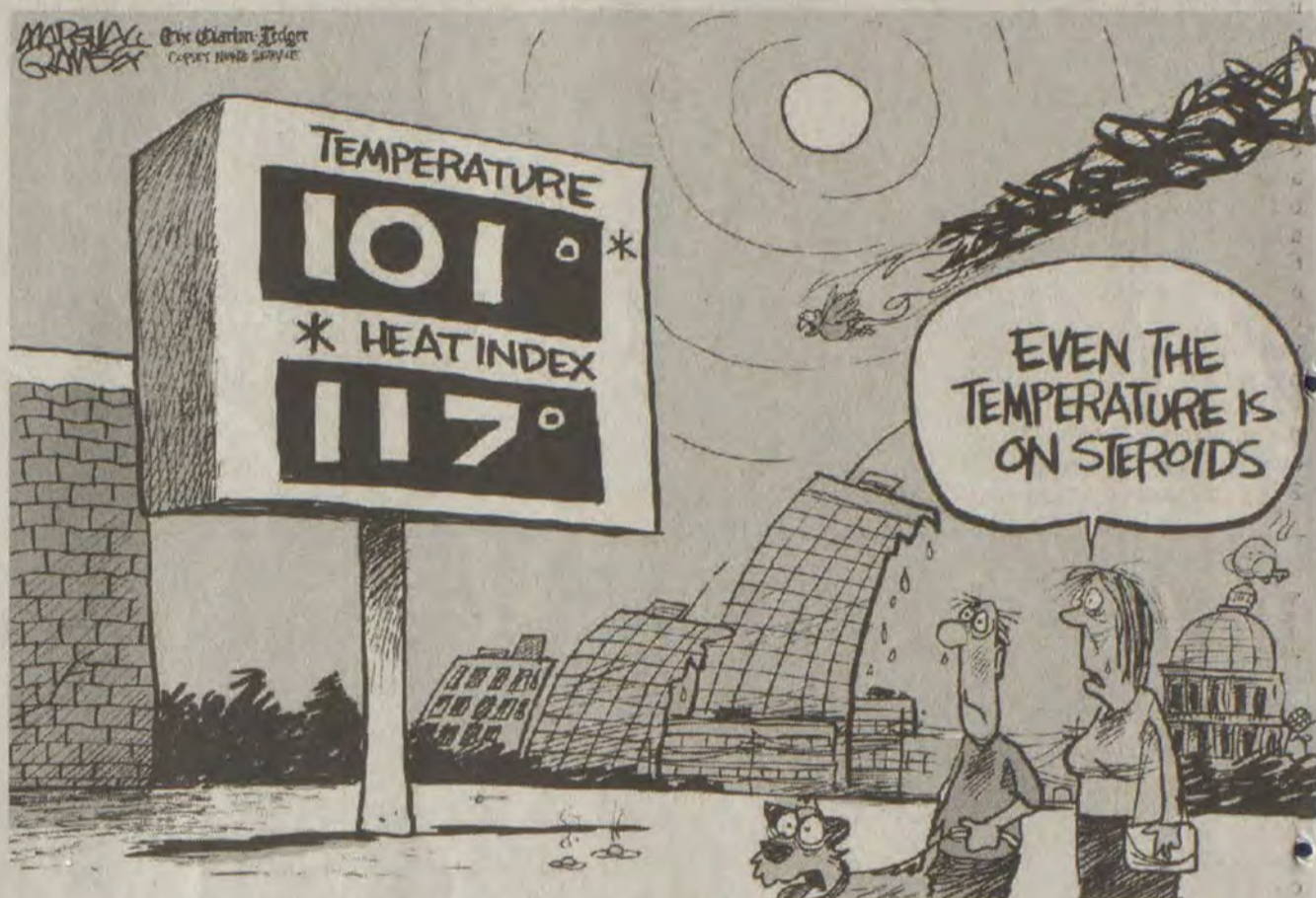
The bill now goes to President Bush and, of course, he should sign it without hesitation. But the legislation could have been more far-reaching. ...

If signed into law, this legislation would make lawmakers publicize their earmarks well before the legislation comes to a vote and certify that they don't have any kind of direct financial interest in the projects.

But some Senate Republicans pointed out that the earmark reforms didn't require full disclosure, and Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., drubbed the bill, saying it "has completely gutted the earmark reform provisions we overwhelmingly passed in January."

All we can say is, it's better than nothing. It's a start upon which to build — if the Senate has enough of a sense of ethics to do that.

— El Paso (Texas) Times



Letters

Paper playing political blame game

In response to your recent published bashing of the Prestonsburg City Council, let us glance at your case and see exactly how much you have chosen to look at the whole picture before you initiated yourself as a mouthpiece.

Your laundry list includes:

■ "Paintsville and Pikeville are winning the battle of the tri-cities, attracting new businesses and jobs."

This is an unconvincing truth! Your argument is invalid, though, by laying the crux of the blame at the foot of this council. This is something that has happened over time. Not just the first seven months of this council's term. Therefore, this argument is invalid to be directed towards this council, as we will make every attempt to recruit and retain businesses.

■ "Drug abuse remains rampant, contributing to increases in crime."

This is true in parts. Drug abuse remains rampant, and this council will work with those agencies that can assist in this matter, but this council cannot be blamed for this. And your statement about contributing to crime increase may be true regionally, but as per my personal conversation with our local police department leadership, it is not as large of a problem here in this city as it is in surrounding communities of our county, and is something that they work very hard on deterring

and preventing. Which is probably why our city's numbers have decreased over the past four years. Your numbers should be checked before you make a blanket statement on such.

■ "City just been fined because of its antiquated sewer system" and "on a hot day, the entire town smells like something we cannot print in the newspaper."

No argument here. These are problems that this council has inherited. These are also problems that this council has spoken about with the leadership of the city utilities. We have been told that we can go ahead and fix the problem with millions of dollars. But then we run the risk of having to do that again because of the involvement of the federal agencies and the timeframes that they have regarding their plans for flood control. Now would it be wise to spend those millions now, only to have the federal government initiate a project that removes the results of a project and requires our city to possibly do another build, costing our taxpayers more millions? That sounds like an astronomical waste of taxpayers' money.

We have asked, as a council, that the city fire department do hydrant check by release of water, as this will assist in keeping the smell down, as was stated at this meeting with the leadership of the city utilities.

Our "alleged" misplaced priorities seemed to have hit a button with your paper. The problem is that you tried to make a case based on items that need to be looked at by the council. These were statements and accusations made without knowledge and one-sided.

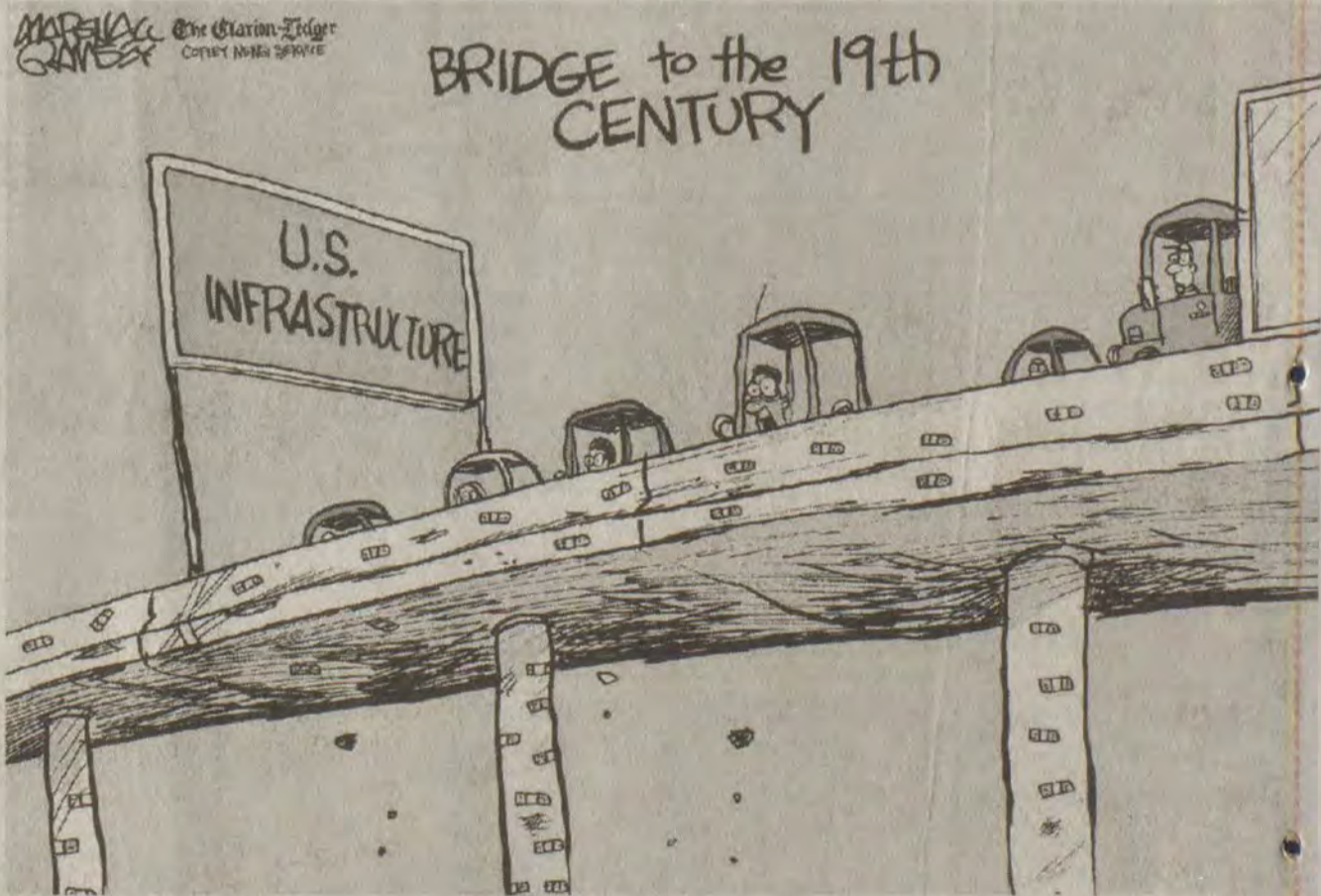
The proposal to ban skateboarding is not a citywide ban. It is a skate-free zone in response to the problems faced by the downtown business owners and private property owners. That also takes into account the safety issues of all those involved.

This also is not a new problem. As a matter of fact, this problem was faced and addressed while I served on the council in 2002 and 2003. The problem was, in turn, laid back to that of the parents, and yet the same problems exist today. You cannot expect the city police to babysit without direction. That is not a local government's job; that is a parent's job. So the council has initiated direction for the city police based on an ordinance that can be enforced.

This alleged "wholly divided" council is not divided as your state. Of all city council votes and actions taken, there have been two votes that have not been unanimous. Wow, two votes, out of over 50 actions votes. (One was 6-2 and the other was 7-1.) That sure is a wholly divided council, now isn't it?

What is your attempt here? Why would you try to perpetrate this council being at odds with each other? We may, mostly due to my mouthy fault, have differing opinions at times, but we are intelligent enough to do what we feel is best for this community. Quit trying to play a political blame game and jump on board to part of the solution, instead of playing political adversary.

C. Shag Branham
City council member
Prestonsburg



Letter Guidelines

Letters to the Editor are welcomed by The Floyd County Times.

In accordance with our editorial page policy, all letters must include the signature, address and telephone number of the author.

The Times reserves the right to reject or edit any letter deemed slanderous, libelous or otherwise objection-

able. Letters should be no longer than two type-written pages, and may be edited for length or clarity.

Opinions expressed in letters and other voices are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the newspaper. Send letters to: The Editor, The Floyd County Times, P.O. Box 391, Prestonsburg, Ky. 41653.

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Governor candidates differ on pardoning powers

by JOE BIESK
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — Kentucky's gubernatorial candidates disagree sharply on whether new limitations are needed to rein in future governors' pardoning powers — an issue likely to emerge as a contentious one in the campaign's coming months.

Gov. Ernie Fletcher, a Republican seeking re-election on Nov. 6, pardoned his entire administration last year to head off an investigation into his administration's hiring practices. He believes Kentucky's chief executive must maintain that power to protect possible victims from prosecutorial misconduct.

"The pardoning powers of the governor were placed in our founding documents over 200 years ago as the last stop

for justice," Fletcher said in response to a candidate questionnaire from The Associated Press. "They should be used sparingly and only in unusual cases, such as instances of prosecutorial abuse, where the interest of justice would be truly served."

Steve Beshear, Fletcher's Democratic opponent, has a starkly different idea, and has attacked Fletcher on the pardon issue.

Fletcher's administration "has had more indictments, more pardons, more times that the governor has taken the Fifth Amendment and refused to testify before a grand jury than any other state in this country," Beshear said during a stump speech at Fancy farm this month.

Beshear said if elected, he'll push the General Assembly to put a constitutional amend-

ment on the ballot that would let voters decide whether the governor's broad power should be tightened.

"When our leaders break the law and abuse the public trust, they should be held accountable — just like regular citizens," Beshear said in his response to the AP. "Ernie Fletcher has placed his political appointees above the law by abusing his constitutional power to pardon — a power that was never meant to allow a governor to hide criminal acts by his political friends from the public."

Fletcher's administration was under investigation for more than a year on allegations that the governor's supporters had been handed protected state jobs because of their political connections instead of their qualifications. Nearly two years ago Fletcher announced

he was granting a blanket pardon to nine people who had been indicted, and to anyone else who could have been charged, in the probe.

Fletcher was later indicted on three misdemeanors that were eventually dropped as part of a deal with prosecutors in which he acknowledged evidence in the case "strongly indicates wrongdoing by his administration."

Jason Keller, Fletcher's campaign spokesman, said Fletcher believes the pardoning power is needed to allow some protection from prosecutorial abuse. The governor has also previously noted that legal expenses can lead to enormous debt.

"This is clearly a desperate attempt by Steve Beshear to shift focus away from his one-issue campaign," Keller said. "The hiring investigation was a

political witch hunt that was a clear example of prosecutorial abuse."

Larry Sabato, director of the Center for Politics at the University of Virginia, said the pardons are likely to become an issue closer to the Nov. 6 election.

"It's a gut-level issue," Sabato said. "Everybody gets it because they say to themselves, 'If I got convicted, I wouldn't get a pardon. I wouldn't even get a hearing with the governor.' Naturally people view it as special influence."

Scotty Fugate, a former state employee, worked in the highway department until he was transferred for political reasons to a job about 100 miles from his home. Fugate, who retired instead, called Fletcher's pardons "a mockery" and said they offended

him personally.

Governors should not have the opportunity to pardon someone until after they have stood trial, Fugate said.

"He treated it very lightly," Fugate said of Fletcher. "It wasn't of any consequence to him, at all. It didn't matter to him who was injured."

Beshear said in his response that governors should only be able to pardon someone convicted of a crime. That way, any possible criminal offenses that were committed would be aired in open court, he said.

"The governor would be more accountable to the people," Beshear wrote.

The Kentucky House, which is controlled by Democrats, passed a proposal earlier this year that called for a constitutional amendment preventing governors from pardoning someone before being charged with a crime. The measure stalled in the Republican-led Senate.

Police: Crime lab overworked, understaffed

The Associated Press

COVINGTON — The bullets that killed 83-year-old Alma Sauer in her northern Kentucky home have sat in a crime lab for nearly a year.

Police think they know who killed Sauer in her Erlanger condo in September 2006, but can't prove it until the evidence is analyzed. That's something that likely won't happen in a hurry.

The state crime lab can't keep up with the growing amount of evidence collected in criminal cases across Kentucky, creating a backlog of cases and threatening to delay trials and hearings, police and prosecutors said.

About 135 Kentucky State Police Crime Lab scientists and support staff analyze evidence from more than 50,000 cases annually. More than 400 Kentucky agencies depend on the lab to help prove criminal cases through tests on every-

thing from blood and drugs to fingerprints and ballistics.

"DNA and ballistics testing are two areas of concern for me. We don't have quite the resources in either to get the job done as quickly as we would like. ... So cases get pushed aside," said Kentucky State Police Crime Lab Forensic Services Commander Major Wayne Mayfield.

Mayfield said problems are beginning to grow in DNA and ballistics testing. Mayfield said the state's 12 DNA analysts are stretched already to handle several hundred cases annually.

Two of the ballistics lab's eight-person staff retired in July, Mayfield said. Of the six remaining analysts, two are still being trained. Once replacements are hired for those who recently retired, it will take another two years to train them, he said.

The shortage is creating problems for prosecutors.

Kentucky Commonwealth Attorney Rob Sanders said DNA evidence is still pending in a case set for trial in September, 10 months after the evidence was sent to the lab in Frankfort.

"It puts both the prosecution and defense in a pinch because we both need to know (the results)," Sanders said. "I know that the biggest problem is not the people at the lab, but that the lab is just incredibly underfunded."

Campbell County Commonwealth Attorney Jack Porter said lab technicians are moving as fast as they can, but some cases face being dismissed because the court cannot meet the constitutionally guaranteed right to a speedy trial.

"It delays setting up a trial or necessitates a trial being continued," Porter said. "Generally, DNA evidence takes a lot more time. ... But if I call and say I have trial date,

generally they will help us out and get (the lab tests) moved up."

Police agencies and prosecutors have limited options for DNA and ballistics testing. Some agencies have sent evidence to less-taxed labs in other states, although cost makes that practice prohibitive in most cases.

The FBI ballistics lab is also receiving some firearms evidence from Kentucky cases. But Porter said even the FBI ballistics lab has a substantial backlog.

Mayfield is hoping lawmakers will soon allocate money to hire more people and either increase the size of the central lab or build a new one in western Kentucky.

"It's going to get worse though if we don't put more resources into the lab system. But for the most part, people don't think about it until they need it," Mayfield said.

That leaves people like

Sauer's daughter, Carma Fieger, waiting to find out if the only suspect in her mother's death pulled the trigger.

"It was the same type of gun, the same type of bullet. ... We just want answers and I don't think we're being out of line," Fieger said.

But because the suspect is already dead, police said the ballistics test may take a while longer.

RENAISSANCE
FRIDAYS ALLVIBES
Downtown Concert Series
PRESENTS
The Big Sandy Singers
Friday, Aug 17th, 6:30pm
Downtown City Stage
Concessions, Sprinklers, Restrooms, Seating, and Cornhole provided!
Come see some great music with the entire community!
Questions? 606-886-2335

Owners Brian Nelson & Rick Crum says: 'Move'em Out!'

SUMMER CLEARANCE!

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Convertible, Sport Package, Power Top, Loaded, Local Trade!
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'04 Chevy 2500 HD 4x4 Crew:
Dresser Cloth, Allison Auto, All Power, Alloys, Factory Warranty!

HOT DAYS, DYNAMITE DAYS!

Auto Brokers
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Calendar

Continued from p3

Hope in the Mountains

Hope in the Mountains will host public meetings on Mondays, at 9 a.m., at the junction of U.S. 23 and Rt. 80, on Watergap Rd., behind the Trimble Chapel Church.

Meetings focus will be to offer information in regard to community resources available to women seeking freedom from drug abuse. Family members are also welcome to attend. The Hope initiative proposes to help women break free from addictive lifestyles to become self-respecting contributing members of society.

Call 874-2008 or 788-1006 for more information.

Prestonsburg Rotary Club

Prestonsburg Rotary Club meets, 12 noon to 1 p.m., at Made From Scratch Restaurant, 1566 North Lake Drive. For additional information, contact Chris Daniel, 886-7354, or Tommie Layne, 886-2321, ext. 1297.

UNITE

The UNITE coalition of Floyd County will meet on the SECOND Monday of each month, at 5:30 p.m., at the New Allen Baptist Church. All interested persons welcome to join UNITE's fight against drugs.

•"Living Free" - A support group sponsored by the Floyd County UNITE Coalition. Group will meet weekly at the old Allen Baptist Church, on US 23 N., between Allen and Banner, on Tuesdays, at 1:15 p.m.

Living Free is a faith-based 12-step support group open to all who are searching for recovery. There is no fee to attend. For more info., contact Shirley Combs at 874-3388 or 434-8400.

'Earn While You Learn'

The Big Sandy Area C.A.P. office is taking applications for its "Senior Training Program." You must be 55 or older to apply. In Floyd, call 886-2929; Johnson, call 789-6515; Magoffin, call 349-2217; Pike, call 432-2775; and in Lawrence, call 638-4067.

Senior employment program

Are you a senior citizen on a fixed income struggling with soaring medical bills and liv-

ing expenses? Could you use some extra spending money but don't know how to get back into the workforce?

If you are at least age 55, the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) may be able to help. Earn extra money, learn new skills, and help your community at the same time! To find out more, call: 886-2929

Free Body Recall classes

Free Body Recall Exercise Classes will be held Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at 9:30, at the Presbyterian Church in Prestonsburg. Classes are held Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, at 11 a.m. at the old R & S Building. Classes are offered by the Floyd County Health Department. Call the health department, 886-2788, for more information.

External Diploma Program

Kentucky residents age 25 and older can earn a high school diploma by demonstrating skills learned on the job or in raising a family. Flexible scheduling is provided and confidentiality maintained. Classes are held at the Carl D. Perkins Rehabilitation Center, in Thelma, Mon. thru Fri., with evening classes on Thursday. EDP classes are also held at the Mullins Learning Center, in Pikeville, on Tuesdays, from 4:30-8:30 p.m. Contact Andy Jones at 606-788-7080, or 800-443-2187, ext. 186, or Linda Bell, at ext. 160 to make an appointment.

GED classes are also available.

Floyd County Extension Homemaker Club Meetings

Allen: 1st Monday, 11 a.m., at Christ United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

Dixie: 3rd Thursday, 12:30 p.m., Dixie Community Room.

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

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

Maytown: 3rd Thursday, 6 p.m., Maytown Learning Center.

Cliff: 3rd Tuesday, 12 p.m., Community Center.

Prestonsburg: 2nd Tuesday, 10:30 a.m.,

Extension Office.

South Prestonsburg: 3rd Tuesday, 7 p.m., Home of members (call 886-2668 for info.)

Left Beaver: 2nd Tuesday, 10:30 a.m., Osborne Elem. School Library.

Special interest groups: Nimble Thimble Quilt Guild: 1st/3rd Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Extension Office.

Newbees Quilt Group: 4th Thursday, 6 p.m., Extension Office. (The Newbees do not meet during the months of January and February.)

Looking for a Support Group?

•Floyd County Alzheimer's Support Group meets regularly at Riverview Manor Healthcare Center. Call the center for meeting times.

•Domestic Violence Support Group - The Big Sandy Family Abuse Center holds meetings each Wednesday from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. The meetings are free of

charge. Call Jessica Slone at 886-6025 for more information.

•Overeater's Anonymous - Meetings held each Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., at the old Allen Baptist Church, located in Allen, just past red light. Call 889-9620 for more info.

•US TOO! Prostate Cancer Survivors Support Group - For all men with prostate cancer and their families. Group meets the 3rd Thursday of each month, at 6 p.m., at the Ramada Inn, Paintsville.

•Community Weight Loss Support Group - Meets Thursday's at 6:30 p.m., at the Martin Community Center. For more info., call 377-6658. Those who have had gastric bypass surgery most especially welcome to attend. Meetings being offered as support to anyone needing extra support in dealing with weight loss.

•Domestic Violence Hotline - 24-hour Crisis Line manned by Certified Domestic Violence counselors. Call

886-6025, or 1-800-649-6605. Remember, "Love Doesn't Have to Hurt."

•Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children - Free, confidential assistance for unplanned pregnancy concerns. Talk with someone who cares about you and your baby. Call 1-800-928-5242.

•Disabled? - You may be eligible for grant money to assist in your daily living. For an application or more information, call 886-4326.

•A.S.K. (Adoption Support for Kentucky) - Support group for all adoptive parents (public, private, international, and kinship care), foster parents and all others interested in adoption. To be held the first Monday of each month, at the Department for Community Based Services office, 1009 North Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, from 6-8 p.m. Childcare will not be provided. For more information, contact Dedra Slone, adoptive parent liaison, at 432-4110 or 422-7927, or email to: doslone@eastky.net.

doslone@eastky.net.

•PARENTS! - Contact the Big Sandy Area Community Action Program, Inc. to find out about child care services in your area, the STARS for KIDS NOW licensing standards program, and how you can earn an income by staying home with your own children while caring for the children of others. Find out more by calling Cheryl Endicott at 886-1280, or 888-872-7227 (toll-free).

•East Kentucky S.T.A.R.S. Homeschoolers - Will hold monthly meetings at the Paintsville Recreation Center. For more information, call Trudy at 889-9333, or 297-5147. Everyone welcome.

•Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Each Wednesday, from 7-8 p.m., in the Atrium Conference Room, 2nd floor, May Tower, Pikeville Methodist Hospital. For more info., contact Chris Cook at 606-433-1119 or christopher-cook@hotmail.com.



**Dr. Vaughn Payne
Cardiologist**

Highlands Regional Medical Center is proud to welcome Dr. Vaughn Payne, Cardiologist, to our community. Dr. Payne earned his medical degree from the University of Missouri - Kansas City and his Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy and Doctor of Pharmacy at the University of Kentucky. Since 1992, he has also taught as an Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine at the University of Louisville School of Medicine and before that taught as an Assistant Professor of Medicine at the Schools of Medicine and Pharmacy at the University of Missouri - Kansas City. Dr. Payne was recognized by the American Medical Association by receiving the Physicians Recognition Award and in 1991 received the American College of Cardiology/Syntex Education Award. An additional award came from the American Heart Association (Kentucky Affiliate), "Determination of Mechanisms of Receptor Specified Desensitization in G-Protein Coupled FMLP Receptors", 1989 - 1990. Dr. Payne is joining Cumberland Cardiology and is accepting new patients.

**Dr. Vaughn Payne
Cumberland Cardiology
Highlands Medical Office Building
Suite 4102
5000 KY Rt. 321
Prestonsburg, KY 41653
606.886.7595**

**Open Monday - Friday
8:00 am to 5:00 pm**



For an appointment call 606-886-7595.

W.Va. county narrowly approves gambling proposal

by LAWRENCE MESSINA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — By just 33 votes, the prospect of jobs and economic development appeared to trump moral concerns over gambling Saturday, as voters in West Virginia's largest county approved poker, blackjack and other table games at the local greyhound track.

With all 175 of Kanawha County's precincts reporting, the table games proposal was slightly ahead 50.1 percent to 49.9 percent, with 45,055 ballots cast.

The unofficial results changed slightly after officials counted 155 votes that were overlooked in three precincts during the original tally.

Nearly 500 other votes have been challenged, over such questions as whether they were cast in the correct precinct, County Clerk Vera McCormick said.

The fate of those provisional ballots will be determined when the vote count is audited starting Friday. Once that canvas is complete, either side has 48 hours to request a recount, McCormick said.

Turnout appeared close to 36 percent of the county's 125,048 registered voters. McCormick had predicted overall turnout of 20 percent to 25 percent on the question of authorizing the games at Nitro's Tri-State Racetrack and Gaming Center.

Early voting accounted for 10,275 of the ballots cast. Nearly 1,600 voters showed up on Wednesday when the 14-day early voting period ended, McCormick said.

If Saturday's tally holds, opponents can petition for a recall election after five years. If the result changes, the track could seek a vote again in two years.

The special election caps a multiyear campaign pitting the state's four tracks against antigambling forces over whether to expand the state lottery system.

The tracks already host more than 12,000 video slot machines for the lottery, which will oversee the table games. The tracks' parent companies argue the new games will help them blunt competition from surrounding states. Slot casinos began opening in Pennsylvania late last year.

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U.S. General Services Administration

Odds & Ends

■ HUNTINGTON, W.Va. — It's tough times for trash haulers in West Virginia's second-largest city, which is down to three working garbage trucks.

Eight of Huntington's 11 garbage trucks are out of service, along with two flatbed trucks used to pick up loose trash in alleys, said Public Works Director Chuck Cornett.

"It's the age of the equipment catching up with all of the work," Cornett said at a City Council meeting Monday.

The average age of Huntington's garbage truck fleet is about 15 years. Besides normal wear and tear, the trucks are driven five days a week to a landfill about 17 miles away near Cannonsburg, Ky., Cornett said.

The city uses seven garbage trucks on a normal schedule. Cornett said the city of 49,198 residents should have one more truck in service by the end of this week and two more back on the road by sometime next week.

Residents are being asked to have their trash at curbside the night before their scheduled collection days. Crews are collecting garbage as early as 4 a.m., with a second shift working until mid-afternoon, Cornett said.

Mayor David Felinton said he plans to ask City Council members to approve funding for three new trucks.

■ ELKO, Nev. — This might make for a tense time at home.

An off-duty sheriff's deputy was pulled over and charged with driving under the influence — by her husband, a fellow deputy.

Charlotte Moore, 36, a jail deputy and 11-year veteran, was driving her 2004 Pontiac Grand Am when she was pulled over by her husband, Elko County Sheriff's Deputy Mike Moore, a police report said.

She allegedly left before being administered a portable breathalyzer test, the Elko Daily Free Press reported.

Mike Moore pulled her over again and called the Elko Police Department for backup. He left shortly after officer Shane Daz arrived. Elko Police Department Sgt. Mark Butterfield also was on scene.

Charlotte Moore was released at 1:47 a.m. on Sunday and placed on paid administrative leave, Elko County Undersheriff Rocky Gonzalez said.

Mike Moore was following procedure when he asked for backup, Gonzalez told the newspaper. The sheriff's office supports the police department's actions, he said.

Neither Mike nor Charlotte Moore was available for comment Monday, the Elko Daily Free Press said.

Charlotte Moore reportedly had been drinking approximately two hours earlier at a downtown business group's wine walk, the newspaper said.

■ WEST ORANGE, N.J. — A New Jersey cat may have only eight lives left after it survived a house fire by hiding in the couch.

Firefighters initially thought the feline, who belonged to one of the tenants in the two-story house, had been killed by flames and smoke Saturday night. But after putting out the blaze and surveying the damage, they found the cat wedged into the couch.

"To our amazement, it had survived," Fire Chief Peter Smeraldo told The Star-Ledger of Newark. "They should change that cat's name to Lucky."

No one was injured, and the cat's owner, who was ecstatic to have the animal back, took the cat to stay at a relative's house.

■ SAINT JO, Texas — One of the most renowned boot makers in Texas said "a varmint," a "low-life scum" or "a filthy thief" is responsible for swiping a pair of award-winning cowboy boots worth \$10,000.

Featuring scenes of busting broncos and a cattle drive, with green full-quill ostrich bottoms, the hand-tooled leather boots were most valuable pair in the store until someone walked away with them.

A man in his 20s came into Trail Town Custom Leather last week wearing a pair of tennis shoes but left in the valuable boots, said John Glaze, an apprentice to craftsman Carl Chappell, who made the boots.

Glaze said he answered some of the man's questions about having his boots repaired, but got distracted by a phone call. Then he noticed the man exiting the store, tennis shoes in hand and the custom-made boots on his feet.

"By the time I made it to the door, he was already going around the corner," Glaze said. "And by the time I got to the corner, he was in his white pickup driving away."

As boots go, the missing pair is well known. They won an award at the 2003 Boot and Saddle Makers Trade Show Roundup, appeared in boot books, magazines and on the cover of the specialty publication Shop Talk.

Chappell and Glaze have pinned up reward posters along U.S. Highway 82 and posted notices on custom cowboy boot Web sites. They reckon a \$1,000 reward might be enough to entice a posse to go after the thief.

The poster says, "Anyone wanting to turn this piece of trash in should contact the Saint Jo PD."

■ LONG BEACH, N.Y. — A man who decided to go for a late night swim in the buff was found hours later by rescue crews, hiding under a pier not far from where he jumped in the water, authorities said Sunday.

Neal Mello, 37, of Brooklyn, was found around 5:30 a.m., and appeared to be in good physical condition but was "without the benefit of a swimsuit," the Coast Guard said in a release.

"Mr. Mello's modesty may have been harmed, but he could have done himself worse by not swallowing his pride and showing himself to rescuers when he did," Lt. Douglas Miller said.

Mello had stripped off his clothes and went in the water around 9:20 p.m. Saturday, the U.S. Coast Guard said. When he was still gone at 10 p.m., a friend called for help, and rescuers were dispatched.

The search extended about 5 miles offshore and involved boats and a helicopter.

Mello's clothes, wallet and cell phone were found on the shore near where he entered the water in Long Beach, a city that boasts an expanse of oceanfront within 30 miles of Manhattan.

■ SPRINGFIELD, N.J. — A device using a flashing light and a shrill alarm is being tested on a stretch of road near Fort Dix to see whether it can deter deer.

The devices, installed by Mount Laurel company Jafa Technologies Inc., are activated when the unit senses headlights on an approaching vehicle up to 150 yards away.

Then the device emits a shrill noise and flashes a blue strobe light.

The combination of the light and the sound is designed to keep deer away from the road when a vehicle is approaching.

"What makes this device so much more effective than others is that this can detect head-

lights before a deer sees them and gets mesmerized," Ed Mulka, project manager for Jafa, told the Courier-Post of Cherry Hill for Sunday's newspapers.

The devices are being installed on a stretch of road near Fort Dix that local officials say has about 60 to 80 accidents a year involving deer.

Springfield Police Chief Kenneth Gerber said there were no deer accidents over a

10-day period after the devices were installed.

Jafa is paying for the cost of installing the 38 devices, which usually cost about \$150 each.

■ MONESSEN, Pa. — A high school art teacher who went on a date with a porn star after winning a satellite radio contest has resigned.

Jaison Biagini traveled to St. Petersburg, Fla., last month after winning the date on the

Sirius satellite radio show "Bubba the Love Sponge."

The school board voted Tuesday to accept his resignation.

Biagini, who taught art for 14 years at Monessen High School, said he entered the contest because he wanted to win the free trip and visit the Salvador Dali museum in St. Petersburg. He described the date as being "all fake and staged."

Biagini, who uses a wheel-

chair, was interviewed on the radio show after returning home, and told the Valley Independent in Monessen that he was ridiculed for his disability.

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FALL REGISTRATION

RETURNING STUDENTS

Pre-school through 1st grade
Monday, August 13th—4 to 7 p.m.
2nd Grade-5th Grade
Tuesday, August 14th—4 to 7 p.m.
6th Grade-12th Grade
Wednesday, August 15th—4-7 p.m.

ALL NEW STUDENTS

Thursday, August 16th—4-7 p.m.

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The Floyd County Times

wants to encourage and acknowledge excellence in the Floyd County Area. The Floyd County Times is conducting its annual ballot of readers so they can let us know whom they consider to be best in the county. Winners receive a certificate suitable for framing and will be featured in a

SPECIAL SECTION September 28, 2007

Deadline to submit entries: Sept. 14, 2007

Reader's Choice

BEST IN FLOYD COUNTY

- Area Attraction _____
- Church _____
- College _____
- Community Festival Event _____
- Dining Atmosphere _____
- Elderly Care Facility _____
- Elementary School _____
- Entertainment _____
- High School _____
- Hospital/Medical Facility _____
- Local Band _____
- Middle School _____
- Place to camp out _____

BEST FOOD

- Biscuits _____
- Brand of Soft Drink _____
- Burgers _____
- Catering _____
- Chicken _____
- Chinese Food _____
- Decorated Cake _____
- Fish and Seafood _____
- French Fries _____
- Fresh Meat for Grilling _____
- Home Cookin' _____
- Hot Dogs _____
- Ice Cream _____
- Kid's Meal _____
- Mexican Food _____
- Onion Rings _____
- Pizza _____
- Salad Bar _____
- Shakes/Malts _____
- Steaks _____

BEST PEOPLE

- Accountant _____
- Attorney _____
- Bank Teller _____
- Employed at _____
- Barber _____
- Employed at _____
- Massage Therapist _____
- Employed at _____
- Physicians Asst. _____

- Employed at _____
- Boss _____
- Employed at _____
- Building Contractor _____
- Bus Driver _____
- Car Salesperson _____
- Employed at _____
- Chiropractor _____
- City Employee _____
- Club President _____
- Coach _____
- Employed at _____
- Dental Hygiene _____
- Employed at _____
- Dentist _____
- Electrician _____
- Employed at _____
- EMT/Paramedic _____
- Firefighter _____
- Funeral Home Attendant _____
- Employed at _____
- Furniture Sales-Person _____
- Employed at _____
- General Physician _____
- Hairstylist _____
- Employed at _____
- Heating/Air Service Room _____
- Employed at _____
- Insurance Agent _____
- Employed at _____
- Jeweler _____
- Law Enforcement Officer _____
- Loan Officer _____
- Mechanic _____
- Employed at _____
- Nurse _____
- Employed at _____
- Optometrist _____
- Employed at _____
- Painter _____
- Employed at _____
- Pastor/Priest _____
- Pastor of _____
- Pharmacist _____
- Photographer _____
- Physical Therapist _____
- Employed at _____
- Plumber _____
- Employed at _____
- Politician _____
- Principal _____

- Employed at _____
- Radio Announcer _____
- Employed at _____
- Real Estate Agent _____
- Employed at _____
- School Teacher _____
- Teaches at _____
- Secretary _____
- Employed at _____
- Store Cashier _____
- Employed at _____
- Sunday School Teacher _____
- Teaches at _____
- Surgeon _____
- Employed at _____
- Sunday School Teacher _____
- Teaches at _____
- Waitress/Waiter _____
- Employed at _____
- Veterinarian _____
- Employed at _____

BEST PLACE TO PURCHASE

- Athletic Shoes _____
- Auto-Body Repairs _____
- Cabinets _____
- Carpet _____
- Dairy Items _____
- Dress Shoes _____
- Frozen Foods _____
- Health & Beauty Aids _____
- Home Health Care Needs _____
- Home Mortgage Loan _____
- Kids Clothing _____
- Men's Clothing _____
- Pet Supplies _____
- Produce _____
- School Supplies _____
- Shoe Repair _____
- Stereo _____
- TV-VCR Repair _____
- Used Automobiles _____
- Vinyl _____
- Women's Clothing _____

BEST BUSINESS

- Appliances _____
- Auto Parts _____
- Beauty Salon _____

- Bookkeeping/Tax _____
- Building Supplies _____
- Car Dealership _____
- Commercial Printer _____
- Construction/Remodeling _____
- Convenience Store _____
- Crafts _____
- Daycare Center _____
- Dry Cleaners _____
- Electrical Supplies _____
- Electronics _____
- Eyewear _____
- Exterminating _____
- Financial Institutions _____
- Financing _____
- Floor Coverings _____
- Florist _____
- Funeral Home _____
- Furniture _____
- Gas Station _____
- Gifts _____
- Grocery Store _____
- Guns/Ammo _____
- Hearing Aids _____
- Home Decorating _____
- Insurance Agency _____
- Janitorial Service _____
- Jewelry _____
- Landscaping _____
- Laundromat _____
- Manufacturing _____
- Mine Supply _____
- Mining Company _____
- Mobile Home _____
- Motel/Hotel _____
- Motorcycles/ATV _____
- Newspaper _____
- Office Supplies _____
- Oil Changes _____
- Pharmacy _____
- Plumbing _____
- Real Estate Agency _____
- Rental Items _____
- Restaurant _____
- Retail Store _____
- Security _____
- Sewing/Alterations _____
- Tanning Salon _____
- Tire Store _____
- Tools & Supplies _____
- Truck Dealership _____
- Videos _____

Ballot Rules:

1. Only ballots from the Floyd County Times will be counted. No copies accepted.
2. Businesses nominated have to be in the Floyd County area and individuals nominated have to live and work in Floyd County.

3. Entries may be mailed to The Floyd County Times, P.O. Box 390, Prestonsburg, KY 41653 (Please allow 7 days for mail delivery) or drop off at our office at 263 South Central Avenue.
4. All entries must be at The Floyd County Times by Wednesday, September 14, 2007 (mailed or delivered)
5. Limited to 5 copies per person available for sale at front desk, up to normal press run copies. No extra forms will be printed.

YOUR VOTE COUNTS!!!

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Winners to be published in the Friday, September 28th edition of the Floyd County Times.

BUSINESS & PROFESSIONS



Citizens National Bank hosted Career Day with 10 young ladies from the Kentucky Highlands Entrepreneur Center's Math and Science Summer Career Camp for Girls. Dennis Dorton, president and CEO, presented opening remarks to the group. Following a tour of the Main Office which houses all operational functions, the group heard different CNB officers and employees speak on topics such as personal banking/finance, career opportunities and credit. Lunch was provided and each lady received a gift bag and paycheck for successfully completing the Camp. The Camp is a four-day event that gives middle school aged girls from surrounding counties the opportunity to participate in various workshops and on-site learning hosted by various business entities. The girls are pictured with Kelli Hall, director of Kentucky Highlands Entrepreneur Center.

Coal-to-liquids quietly becoming a reality in U.S.

by TIM HUBER
AP BUSINESS WRITER

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — It's largely escaped notice, but there's already a dozen or so coal-to-liquids plants in various stages of development around the country.

While most are years away from construction, supporters of converting coal to motor fuels say at least some are a certainty — even if Congress doesn't approve incentives sought by coal-to-liquids supporters. Yet supporters consider some form of subsidy vital if the nation is going to build enough coal to liquid plants to dent its reliance on foreign oil.

"You're going to have a coal-to-liquids industry in the United States," said John Ward, vice president for marketing and government relations for Headwaters Inc.

Among other things, the South Jordan, Utah-based company is working on a coal-to-gasoline plant proposed for North Dakota and researching the feasibility of coal-to-liquids for Pittsburgh-based Consol Energy. "The question is how fast will it happen," he said.

One plant is fairly far along. Los Angeles-based Rentech Inc. bought a natural gas-fed fertilizer plant in East Dubuque, Ill., and hopes to convert to using coal by the end of 2009 or 2010. Production would start low — 920 tons of fertilizer and 1,800 barrels of diesel a day.

That's at once a drop in the bucket compared with the nation's energy use and, to the industry's way of thinking, a

big step in the right direction. Rentech Chief Executive Hunt Ramsbottom and others figure at least one of several larger proposed plants will be built.

The coal industry, which is holding a conference on the subject Tuesday and Wednesday in Beckley, and coal-state politicians in particular say the nation can't afford to patiently wait for small developers like the Rentechs of the world to build plants on their own or in conjunction with coal companies including St. Louis-based Peabody Energy, the nation's largest producer.

But so far the notion hasn't gotten very far in Washington, and Gov. Joe Manchin senses a lack of commitment.

"There's not a concerted effort to be truly energy independent," he said. "How are you going to get us from A to B and still be a world superpower?"

Ward and Ramsbottom say the industry needs help to build more than a few plants.

"The answer is Wall Street needs it," Ramsbottom said.

Supporters are trying to frame their argument around national security. Using domestic coal would reduce dependence on imported oil from unstable parts of the world, they say.

"It has the potential to be a meaningful supply of fuel that would take the price off of gasoline and diesel fuel and would take the dependence down on the Mideast," said Don Blankenship, chief executive of Massey Energy Co., the nation's fourth-largest coal producer by revenue.

Environmentalists, on the other hand, contend conservation and energy efficiency would do the same thing. And they argue coal to liquids has numerous other problems: double the greenhouse gases of oil refining, consumption of vast quantities of water and increased coal production.

"Why in heaven's name would we be subsidizing anything that's giving double the

greenhouse gases?" said Vivian Stockman of the Ohio Valley Environmental

(See COAL, page ten)

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Council

ing lots and on city streets, when children on skateboards darted out in front of them while they were driving.

"This is a business shopping district," said Branham, citing the traffic flow through this portion of the city was much too congested for skateboarders to be allowed to skate through the streets.

Lastly, one skateboarder

said he has spoken previously to councilman Kelly Moore, who was absent at the Monday meeting, in regards to the issue, saying he and Moore had come up with a possible alternative to the ban — requiring a "skateboard license" which would require participants to take a safety and courtesy course in order to earn their right to skateboard

throughout the downtown area. The unofficially proposed skateboard license, which would require a small fee, would be similar to a driver's license and would also display photo identification of the individual.

Council members refrained from commenting on the idea, simply stating that it wouldn't take care of the issues on the table.

City economic development director, and supporter of

skateboarding, Brent Graden, said over 400 signatures were present on a petition turned into the mayor's office by those present in support of keeping skateboarding in downtown Prestonsburg.

In other news, council recognized Prestonsburg All-Star teams for their hard work throughout the season and the fact that they made it to the state competition this year. Each player received a certificate from Mayor Jerry Fannin

and a proclamation was presented making August 13 "All Star Day" in the city of Prestonsburg.

The council approved the city's bills, but not without question. Councilman B.D. Nunnery says the city is paying for 67 pagers when in fact only 58 can be accounted for. Phone bills were another issue, with statements made that not everyone who had a cell phone provided to them by the city actually needed one.

"We've got to get a grip on this," said councilman Branham.

Lastly at the meeting, Fannin announced that the council had determined that there were no city utilities which would be affected by the closure of the alley behind Brock McVey in Prestonsburg. A few residents of that immediate area expressed concern over the issue at the last council meeting.

Continued from p1

Board

as high as eighth out of 176 Kentucky school districts in state test scores. During his service in Anderson County, the district consistently performed in the top 15-20 percent of the state.

Fentress has been recognized for his contributions to education and leadership by the Kentucky School Boards Association, Kentucky Association of School Administrators, and the Kentucky Family, Career and Community Leaders of America.

He has also been named a Kentucky Colonel.

Since his retirement, he has served as a consultant to other districts in regard to student achievement and facilities planning. He comes to Floyd County schools with 42 years experience in the field of education.

Fentress began his duties in Floyd County on August 13 by working with Dr. Fanning and board staff on transition plans and by visiting district schools, sites, and with various community members.

Continued from p1

LINKS

Continued from p1

Gene Blackburn, Lenny Cieslak, Eric Reid, Johnny Keathley, Tommy Shelton along with son and daughter Jeremy and Samantha, Greg Mills of UPS, Michael Lambros, Josetta Newsome, Seldon Horne, F.S. Vanhoose, Wright's Lumber Company, Kathleen Weigand, Lenville Martin of Garth Vocational School, Floyd County Fiscal Court, Randy Clark and the Dye Family.

Phase two will take place this Saturday. LINKS needs additional volunteers and anyone interested should contact them by calling (606) 886-0152.

Coal

Continued from p9

Coalition. "Just the whole idea of it seems absolutely nuts ... It's basically a way to prop up the coal industry and give them more subsidies and hold people economic hostage."

Ramsbottom and others contend they'll be able to reduce overall carbon dioxide emissions by capturing the gas and selling it to oil producers to extend the life of aging wells, among other things.

"We'll be able to lower the carbon footprint," Ramsbottom said. "As long as we can get three or four off the ground quickly."

Blankenship says the industry is fighting a lack of understanding. "People have an opinion without the discomfort of actually studying the facts," he said.

Blankenship maintains there's no environmental issue.

"It actually increases your pollution and decreases safety not to do coal to liquids," he said. "The places that we're buying our products from don't care anything about the environment ... It's so backwards I don't really know how to describe it."

Jeanette Dixon McMillen



Jeanette Dixon McMillen, 84, wife for 64 years of Rev. Ira McMillen Jr., died Friday, Aug. 3, 2007, at Dover Manor Nursing Home. She was born in Dawson Springs, KY, on Sept. 30, 1922, to the late Charles B. and Vivian Fox Dixon. She left home at sixteen years old to attend Georgetown College, where she majored in music and received recognition in Who's Who among students, Sigma Kappa Sorority and Delta Omicron Music Fraternity. Most importantly, she met her future husband, Ira (Mac) McMillen Jr., a ministerial student from Versailles, whom she married on May 26, 1943, at Georgetown Baptist Church. Jeanette gave private vocal and piano lessons over the years and used her musical talents well and generously in the various churches where her husband served as pastor. She returned to Georgetown in 1999 with her husband "where it all began" for them and they have been active members of Georgetown Baptist Church and proud alumni of Georgetown College.

Survivors include a daughter: Deborah and James Baker, Boxford, MA, a son: David and Geraldine McMillen, Paris, KY, two grandchildren: Emily McMillen Stuart, Lexington, and James McMillen Baker, Boxford, MA, a sister-in-law: Ann Harper, Lexington, and her "chosen sister" Ella Ritchey Flynn, Lexington, and three step-grandchildren and their families: Scott and Steven Baker and Paula Baker Deffer. She was preceded in death by a sister: June Weir, and a brother, Charles Dixon Jr.

Funeral services were held August 6, 2007, at Georgetown Baptist Church by Rev. Kenneth D. Holden, Rev. Richard A. Weekley and Rev. Orville Griffin.

Study

tion and Route 1460 (the Chloe Road intersection) is often plagued by rockfalls, which engineers attribute to winter freezing and spring thawing of water between gaps in the rocks.

Area legislators praised the Governor's action.

"This is truly significant for the people of Pike County,"

said Sen. Ray Jones (D-Pikeville). "Improvements are badly needed, and we appreciate the additional funding for this project."

Remedial plans will include shifting lanes away from the rock wall and adding a fence to catch falling debris. The Transportation Cabinet will also examine improvements to


ease traffic congestion at the intersection of Route 1426 and Huffman Avenue by combining the two signalized intersections.

Fletcher has directed the Transportation Cabinet to place the project in the state's six-year highway plan. Total cost of the project, including design, right-of-way, utility

work and construction is estimated at \$15.7 million.


Continued from p1

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Dr. Dustin Devers received his Bachelor of Science degree from Auburn University and his Doctor of Osteopathic degree from Pikeville College School of Osteopathic Medicine. He served as a family practice resident at Cabell Huntington Hospital in Huntington, WV, where he received the "Outstanding Resident-Physician Award". Dr. Devers is a member of the American Osteopathic Association, the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians, and has participated in several medical conferences, including the Marshall University Sports Medicine Conference. Dr. Dustin Devers will be practicing at Hometown Family Care, the practice of Dr. Chris Bailey and Jeff Potter, located at 374 University Drive, Prestonsburg, KY 41653.

Dr. Leslie Allen Devers is a native of Salyersville, KY. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Eastern Kentucky University and her Doctor of Osteopathic from Pikeville College School of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Leslie Allen Devers was a Categorical Pediatrics Resident at Cabell Huntington Hospital in Huntington, WV, and is a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Osteopathic Association and served on Kentucky's Committee for Maternal and Neonatal Health. Dr. Devers has volunteered throughout her home state of Kentucky at the Ronald McDonald House and Highlands Regional Medical Center nursery. She will be practicing with Dr. Kate Shutts at Kids Care Pediatrics, 5000 Ky Rt. 321, Suite 2162, Prestonsburg, KY 41653.



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Grillin' & Chillin'

FAMILY FEATURES

Summertime is here, and what better way to enjoy all the fruits of summer than by spending time outdoors with friends and family? Throughout the season, longer days and warmer temperatures make grilling a favorite activity. Cooking on the grill is hot, hot, hot — and it's a great time for hot new ideas for the grill that go beyond the usual hamburgers and hot dogs.

Grilled fruit stars in these sizzling, fresh-off-the-grill recipes, and its sweet flavors are perfectly complemented by chilled white wine. Summer fruits like peaches, plums and nectarines are a natural for the grill, where a quick cooking brings out juiciness and intensifies sweetness. A crisp, cold white pairs beautifully with warm grilled fruits and creates a refreshing, delicious summer dining combination.

Try out this pairing with these recipes, which match fresh California peaches, plums and nectarines with the fruit-forward and food-friendly style of Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc and Riesling selections from Mirassou Winery®. You'll find the perfect summer duo that's both grilled and chilled.

For more recipes and wine suggestions, visit www.eatcaliforniafruit.com and www.mirassou.com.

Grilled California Nectarine and Butter Lettuce Salad

Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: about 15 minutes / Chill time: 1 hour
Makes 6 servings

Spicy nectarine dressing

- 1 California nectarine, peeled and pitted
- 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 3 tablespoons sherry or champagne vinegar
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper

Salad

- 2 firm, but ripe, California nectarines, pitted
- 4 boneless skinless chicken breasts, flattened slightly
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 8 cups washed and torn butter lettuce, lightly packed
- 1/3 cup shelled pistachios
- 6 strips crisp-cooked bacon, crumbled
- 2 green onions, sliced

For dressing, combine all ingredients in blender or food processor; puree until smooth. Cover and chill until ready to serve. Cut each nectarine into 8 slices. Place on well-oiled grill over medium-high heat and cook a few minutes on each side to lightly brown. Season chicken with salt and pepper; place on grill and cook about 5 minutes on each side or until cooked through; cool. Place lettuce in large salad bowl. Cut chicken into bite-size strips and add to bowl with pistachios, bacon, green onions and dressing; toss well. Add grilled nectarines; toss lightly.

Note: For a spicier flavor, sprinkle chicken lightly with cayenne pepper before grilling.

Pair with chilled Mirassou California Sauvignon Blanc

Red Plum, White Nectarine and Blue Cheese Pizza

Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 7 to 9 minutes
Makes 4 entrée servings
or 8 to 10 appetizer servings

- 1 pound pizza dough
- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 white California nectarine, pitted
- 1 red California plum, pitted
- 3 tablespoons white balsamic vinegar
- 3 tablespoons honey
- 3/4 cup crumbled blue cheese
- 1/4 cup chopped toasted walnuts
- Snipped fresh chives

Divide pizza dough into 4 equal pieces. Roll each out on lightly floured board to make 6-inch circles. Place dough circles on a baking sheet and brush both sides with oil. Grill over medium heat a few minutes on each side until dough is cooked through with light grill marks. Remove and cool. Cut each piece of fruit into 8 slices. Cook on well-oiled grill a few minutes on each side to lightly brown. Remove from grill and arrange fruit on pizza crusts. Stir together balsamic vinegar and honey; drizzle over fruit. Sprinkle with blue cheese and walnuts; place pizzas back on grill, cover with lid and cook to melt cheese. Sprinkle with chives.

Pair with chilled Mirassou Monterey County Riesling

Shrimp and Peach Kabobs

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: about 15 minutes total
Makes 4 to 6 servings

- 1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh herbs (combination like basil, marjoram, rosemary and thyme)
- 3 California peaches, pitted
- 1 pound large shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 1 lemon, halved and thinly sliced
- Freshly ground salt and pepper to taste

Heat oil in small skillet until very hot. Add garlic and cook briefly until aromatic; do not allow garlic to brown. Remove from heat immediately and stir in herbs; set aside. Cut peaches into 1-inch chunks and thread onto skewers alternately with shrimp and lemon slices. Brush lightly with garlic-herb oil. Grill over medium-high heat 3 to 5 minutes per side or until shrimp is pink and cooked through. Remove from grill and drizzle with remaining oil.

Pair with chilled Mirassou Monterey County Chardonnay



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Class 2A Water Operator needed. Submit application and or mail resume to Wheelwright Utility Comm. PO 353, Wheelwright, Ky 41669, Attn: Gary Mccoy. Tel # 452-4273.

Wanted: Part time lady to work in antique and gift shop. Please call 886-9995.

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Prestonsburg Health Care Center has an opening for a full time MDS Coordinator, A full time RN, and a full and part time CNA. We offer competitive wages and excellent benefits. If interested please stop by or send resume to 147 North Highland Avenue, Prestonsburg KY 41653 (beside Prestonsburg Elementary) or call

886-2378
The University of Kentucky College of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service is looking for a Program Assistant for 4-H Youth Development to work in the Floyd County Extension Service Office. Work will be 37.5 hours per week. A brief job description includes with the 4-H Clubs (in school, community, and special interest) and the county's after-school tutorial for families with learning differences. Position requires a minimum of a high school diploma or GED equivalent. Knowledge of and experience with the Cooperative Extension Service/4-H Program is preferred. To apply for AG518211 A U.K./Online Application must be submitted to www.uky.edu/ukjobs. The qualifications and job responsibilities may also be viewed on the website.

Registered Nurse Opening
 The Floyd County Health Department has an opening for a Public Health Nurse I. Duties will include: Assists with community assessment; Assists in a variety of Public Health Nursing services such as family planning, Prenatal care, & communicable disease; Performing Physical Assessments; Conducting health education classes: working in the Diabetes Center. Minimum Education and Experience: A Bachelor's Degree in Nursing from an accredited college or university; must have met all requirements of KRS 314.041, having received a provisional license and approval to practice as a registered applicant or having

Application deadline is August 24, 2007. For more information or assistance Call The Floyd County Extension Service at 606 886-2668

Registered Nurse Opening
 The Floyd County Health Department has an opening for a Local Health Nurse I. Duties will include: Provides basic nursing care to client; Uses basic computer skills to access data; and communicates well both in writing and orally with working skills in the application of nursing techniques and procedures. Minimum Education and Experience: An Associate Degree or diploma an accredited college university or school of nursing; must have met all requirements of KRS 314.041 having received a provisional license and approval to practice as a registered applicant or having

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13.40-15.16 per hour based on experience. Applications are available at the Floyd County Health Department at 283 Goble St. in Prestonsburg, KY Monday through Friday 8-4 and must be returned there with transcript and copy of current license by close of business August 24, 2007. We are an equal opportunity employer.

Help Wanted: Carpenters and Laborers. Call 606-367-8840. Ask for Don.

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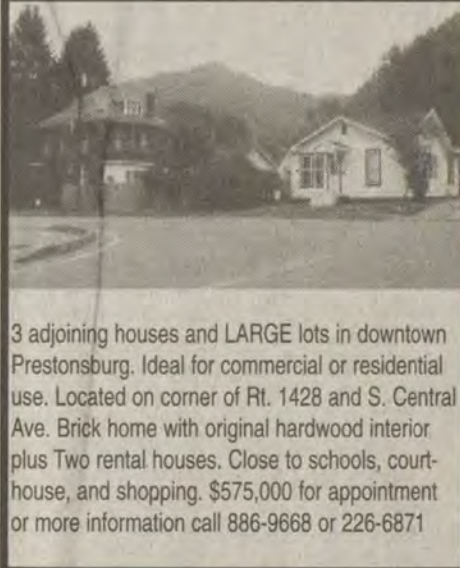
Otter Creek Correctional Center is currently accepting applications for Licensed Practical Nurse. Must be a graduate from an approved school of nursing with a certificate as a Licensed Practical Nurse. Must be licensed in the state of employment. A valid driver's license is required.

Otter Creek Correctional Center is accepting applications for a Vocational/Horticulture Instructor. Must be a graduate from an accredited college, university or vocational school preferred. Must possess or be eligible for certificate, license or other legal credentials required by state law, regulation or contract. Continued employment in this position will be contingent upon obtaining and/or maintaining appropriate state credentials. Experience in the trade and/or vocational area of instruction. Applicable experience may be substituted for education up to a maximum of four years, unless prohibited by law, regulation or contract. A valid driver's license is preferred, unless required by contract or applicable statute.

Otter Creek Correctional Center is accepting applications for Correctional Officers. Must have a high school diploma, GED certification or equivalent. Must complete pre-service correctional officer training and, where applicable, be a non-commissioned security officer licensed by the state of employment. A valid driver's license is required. Demonstrate ability to complete any required training. Must be available to work any hours, any shift.

Interested persons may apply at
 327 Correctional Road,
 Wheelwright, KY 41669,
 online at www.correctionscorp.com or
 you may fax a résumé to (606) 452-9703.

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

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE Pursuant to Application Number 877-0182

In accordance with KRS 350.055, notice is hereby given that Frasure Creek Mining, LLC, 4978 Teays Valley Road, Scott Depot, West Virginia 25560 has applied for a permit for a surface coal mining and reclamation operation located 1.1 miles northeast of Gunlock and is situated in both Magoffin and Floyd Counties. The proposed operation will disturb 570.41 surface acres and 22.53 acres of auger area of which 22.53 acres underlie proposed surface area, making a total permit area of 570.41 acres.

The proposed operation is approximately 1.1 miles southwest from Brushy Fork Road's junction with KY 7 and is located on Brushy Fork of the Licking River

The proposed operation is located on the David USGS 7 1/2 minute quadrangle map. The surface area to be disturbed is owned by Abe Shepherd Heirs, Abe Shepherd, Big Branch Holding Company, LLC, Gladys Shepherd, Clyde Allen Estate, Rule Reagan, Ruth Ousley, and Kelly Hale Heirs. The permit area will underlie land owned by Gladys Shepherd and Clyde Allen Estate. The operation will use the area, contour, and auger/highwall methods of mining.

The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Natural Resources' Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg,

Kentucky 41653. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director of the Division of Mine Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow Complex, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

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

IN RE: SIGMA GAS CORPORATION, CASE NO. 04-71003 NOTICE OF PRIVATE SALE OF NATURAL GAS COMPANY ASSETS PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

that on August 30, 2007 at 9:30 a.m., prevailing Lexington, KY time, a hearing will be held in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky, 100 E. Vine St., 3rd Floor, Lexington, KY, to consider the Debtor's request to privately sell substantially all of its assets located in Magoffin, Floyd and Johnson Counties, KY and assign certain contracts relating thereto.

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY FLOYD CIRCUIT COURT DIVISION NO. 1 C.A. NO. 05-CI-00308 JAMES TRUSTY PLAINTIFF VS. LINDA MCKENZIE DEFENDANT NOTICE OF COMMISSIONER'S SALE

BY VIRTUE OF Orders for Sale of Property entered on the 11th day of December, 2006, in the Floyd Circuit Court, in connection with the divorce proceed-

ings in the above styled cause, I shall proceed to offer for sale at the Old Floyd County Courthouse Door, South Central Avenue, Prestonsburg, Kentucky, (behind the new Floyd County Justice Center) to the highest bidder, at public auction on Thursday, the 23rd day of August, 2007, at the hour of 9:30 a.m., the following described real estate, together with any and all improvements and appurtenances lying in Floyd County, Kentucky, and more particularly described as follows: Tract 1 Thence beginning and starting point, at a Locust tree beside the main Middle Creek stream; thence running with main Middle Creek Stream east approximately 100 feet to a black walnut tree; beside the main Middle Creek Stream; thence running to a large pine tree up the hill to a large poplar tree approximately 10 feet above the old coal banks; thence straight around the hill west running with the old coal mine banks to a white oak tree; thence in a straight line down the hill west to the main hollow stream across the hollow stream approximately 15 feet; thence in a straight line back to the starting point. Being the same property conveyed to James Trusty and Linda McKenzie by deed dated July 10, 1989 from Lon Slone and Edith Slone, his wife, recorded in Deed Book 329, Page 76, Floyd County Clerk's Office.

Tract 2 Starting at a Walnut tree at the creek then runs up the hill to a Pine tree, then to Poplar ten feet above coal bank to stake, then around the hill to the end of point going down to creek back to

Walnut tree joining Lon Slone and Edith Slone. Being the same property conveyed to Linda McKenzie or James Trusty, by deed dated July 7, 2003 from Rosanna Watkins Collins, et al, recorded in Deed Book 489, Page 150, Floyd County Clerk's Office. TERMS OF SALE:

(a) At the time of sale, the successful bidder shall either pay cash or 10% down, with the balance on credit for thirty (30) days. (b) The successful bidder shall be required to execute a bond with good surety thereon for the unpaid purchase price of said property, if any, bearing interest at the rate of twelve percent (12%) per annum from the date of sale until paid, having the force and effect of a Judgment. (c) The property shall be sold subject to any easements and restrictions of record in the Floyd County Clerk's Office and such right of redemption as may exist in favor of the United States of America and/or the record owners thereof, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 2410 or KRS 426.530. (d) The purchaser shall be required to assume and pay all Floyd Kentucky, real property taxes for the fiscal year 2007, and all subsequent years not yet due and payable. Any and all delinquent Floyd County real estate taxes will be paid from the sale proceeds. (e) In the event that a lien holder herein is the purchaser of the above described property for an amount equal to, or less than, its first lien, it shall take a credit against said lien for the amount of the bid and no bond shall be required of the lien holder and it shall be obligated to pay court costs, the fees and costs of the Master Commissioner and any real estate taxes assessed against the real estate. Any announcements made on date of

sale takes precedence over printed matter contained herein. PLAINIFF'S COUNSEL: Hon. Jeffery N. Lovely P.O. Box 82 Salyersville, Kentucky 41465 WILLIAM S. KENDRICK Master Commissioner P. O. Box 268 Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653 (606) 886-2812

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that H20 Construction Co., Inc., has filed an application with the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet to construct a 40x80 equipment maintenance building. The property is located at 1,100 feet up Mare Creek Road from US 23 South. Any comments or objections concerning this application shall be directed to: Kentucky Division of Water, Water Resources Branch, 14 Reilly Road, Frankfort Office Park, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. Phone: (502) 564-3410.

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From the Desk
of Chris Carter



Dear Friends,

On Thursday, July 26th we experienced a small hail storm in Prestonsburg and some of our vehicles here at Music Carter were slightly damaged. Others were not.

The insurance adjusters have gone now and we've decided to pass the insurance savings along to our customers. So while the supply lasts, we're offering over 150 new GM cars and trucks at significant savings. All are still eligible for factory incentives, even Zero percent financing up to sixty months on some models. Chevys, Buicks and Pontiacs are deeply discounted.

We are featuring a few examples here – all brand new 2007 models – but when they're gone, they're gone!

We invite you to shop early and be sure and tell your friends and family about this one time event. A little Ding can save you a lot of Dough.

Chris Carter

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FLOYD COUNTY Sports

Inside

- Big East Football • B2
- NASCAR • B3
- ECU Football • B3

Raiders show promise versus Powell

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

STANTON – Veteran South Floyd High School football coach Donny Daniels, his coaching staff and players left Powell County Friday night feeling good about their preseason efforts. South Floyd, which only dressed 18 players for its preseason scrimmage versus Powell County, performed well on a sweltering Friday night. Due to a scheduling conflict, South Floyd won't have a second and final preseason scrimmage.

"I thought we had a good scrimmage," said Daniels. "Powell County threw the ball 40 out of 46

plays. That was definitely a different look for us – being in a district that features the run much more."

South Floyd was able to move the football against the Powell County defense.

"We had four good drives and just stopped ourselves," said Daniels. "But, overall, I was pleased with both our offense and defense."

Most of South Floyd's depth lies up front along the offensive and defensive lines.

"Our offensive line looked good and our defensive line was adequate," Daniels commented. "We're fortunate enough to have some depth on the line."

South Floyd was able to deal with

the hot, humid playing conditions.

"We only had one player cramp up and that was near the end of the scrimmage," Daniels confided. "Our conditioning was good."

Sophomore Tommy Joe Hall called the signals for the Raiders in the preseason scrimmage. Hall is set to enter his second season as South Floyd's starting quarterback.

The Raiders finished last season 3-7. Daniels fielded his youngest high school football team to date during the 2006 campaign.

South Floyd will open the 2007 season at home on Friday, Aug. 24 versus Magoffin County. Kickoff for the South Floyd-Magoffin County season-opener is set for 7:30 p.m.



file photo
Thanks to the Kentucky High School Athletic Association's realignment, Betsy Layne and South Floyd are now district rivals. South Floyd was in action Friday on the road at Powell County in a preseason game.

Evans leads 15 of 20 laps, wins Late Model feature

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

SITKA – West Virginia driver Rod Evans returned to 201 Speedway Victory Lane Saturday night, winning the track's latest Late Model feature. Evans led laps 5-20.

Rodney Davis finished second in the Late Model feature while Floyd County driver Paul Harris ended the race in the third-place position. Harris continues to lead the 201 Speedway Late Model points standings.

Randy Boggs and Terry Hicks rounded out the top-five in the Late Model division, finishing fourth and fifth, respectively.

Jamie Ferguson posted the fast time in the Late Model qualifying, turning a lap in 14.44 seconds.

In the Open Wheel feature, veteran driver Jim Lemaster navigated his way from last to first in 20 laps en route to the victory.

Bo Howard (Mr. Metal Bomber) and Jamie Hamilton (Four Cylinder) also claimed feature race victories.

Complete results from the feature races follow.

Late Model Feature: R1-Rod Evans; 6-Rodney Davis; 10-Paul Harris; 51-Randy Boggs; 64-Terry Hicks; 24H-Michael P. Howard; 8-Anthony Adams; B17-Brandon Johnson; 81-Brandon Fouts; 13-Jamie Ferguson; 6H-Tom Hall; 43K-Kevin Hall; 22R-Randy Caudill; 57-Brittany McKinney; 71-Donald Runyon; 77-Robert "Taco" Fletcher; 3-Jacob Ross; 81-Benny Butler; 25-Cowan Kinney; 87-David Smith.

Open Wheel Feature: 3H-Jim Lemaster; 911-Jason Hall; 33-Corey McKenzie; 46-Dennis Deboard; 87-Eddie Harmon; 35-Jeremy Hayes; 23-Courtney Conley; 74-Beadie Blackburn; CJ1-Charlie Jude; 17S-Brian Salisbury; 11-Pete Castle; 47-Aaron Barnhill; 2T-Jack Tackett; J16-Leslie Johnson; 32-Jimmy Adams; 20-Jason Perry; 30-William Hensley.

Mr Metal Bomber Feature: 20-Bo Howard; 37H Greg Hensley; R17-Don Risner;

(See EVANS, page two)



photos by Jamie Howell
Prestonsburg defeated Clay County 21-14 on Saturday evening in a preseason scrimmage in Manchester. Clay County features a high-octane passing attack. The Blackcats will host Sheldon Clark this Saturday in a second and final preseason scrimmage.

Blackcats handle Clay in first of two preseason scrimmages

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

MANCHESTER – Prestonsburg squared off against Clay County on Friday in the first of two preseason scrimmages. Clay County, under the guidance of Prestonsburg graduate Aaron Stepp, fell short in the home exhibition game. Prestonsburg outscored Clay County three touchdowns to two, beating the Tigers 21-14.

Through the air, Prestonsburg generated 135 yards. Senior quarterback Bobby Hughes resumed his starting duties for the Blackcats.

Prestonsburg rushed for 126 yards in the scrimmage. Junior running back Seth Setser made a strong return after being sidelined with a preseason injury.

Overall, Prestonsburg Coach John DeRossett was pleased with his team's performance offensively, defensively and on special teams.

Prestonsburg kicker Clay Jamerson nailed each of his three PAT attempts. The Blackcat special teams unit was also consistent in the punting department.

After traveling 2 1/2 hours for the preseason game, Prestonsburg prevailed on a hot, humid Saturday evening.

"Anytime you travel 2 1/2 hours for a preseason scrimmage and come away with a win you have to be pleased," said DeRossett. "We played well offensively. Our defense played well after picking it up in the second half."

According to DeRossett, Prestonsburg still has some work to do.

"We have to work on fundamentals," said DeRossett. "Blocking, tackling and ball security are all key in winning football games."

The Blackcats were limited in practice time leading up to the scrimmage versus Clay County.

(See BLACKCATS, page two)

Rebels beat Paintsville, improve to 2-0

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

EASTERN – The Allen Central High School volleyball team improved to 2-0 Thursday evening, defeating visiting Paintsville 2-0 in a match held at J.E. Campbell Arena. Allen Central took the first game 25-19. The Rebels closed the match out in solid fashion in the second game, beating Paintsville 25-18.

The Rebels opened their season with a 2-0 (25-11, 25-8) win over East Ridge, turning back the Warriors in a home match played on Tuesday, Aug. 7.

Allen Central swept Paintsville in a pair of matches. The Allen Central junior varsity unit improved to 2-0 following a 2-0 win over the Paintsville junior squad. The Rebel junior varsity defeated the Paintsville JV convincingly, winning 21-3, 21-2 in two games.

The Allen Central freshman team (1-0) was not in competition Thursday.

Allen Central traveled to Pikeville Monday evening for a non-district match. The Rebels were in action Tuesday evening

(See REBELS, page two)

Wildcats dealing with injuries

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON – With full contact having begun for the University of Kentucky football team, the Wildcats have sustained some injuries. Coach Rich Brooks announced after Friday's practice at the Nutter Training Center.

- Redshirt freshman wide receiver Terrence Jones has a torn anterior cruciate knee ligament and will undergo surgery. He will be out for the season.

- Freshman defensive end Charles Mustafaa will have surgery to repair knee cartilage and will be out indefinitely.

- Junior Braxton Kelley, a two-year starter at middle linebacker, has a high-ankle sprain and is out "10 days to two weeks at best," according to Brooks.

(See WILDCATS, page two)



photo by Steve LeMaster
EAST KENTUCKY MINERS COACH KEVIN KEATHLEY spoke to the Floyd County Chamber of Commerce Monday afternoon. The Chamber hosted Keathley during its meeting at the May Lodge. Keathley is a Floyd County native.

Food City partners with Morgan-McClure Motorsports, Ward Burton for Sharpie 500

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

BRISTOL, Tenn. – Local race fans will be pleased to see the return of two local favorites for the running of the upcoming Sharpie 500 at Bristol Motor Speedway. Food City officials have announced that they will once again partner with Morgan-McClure Motorsports and driver Ward Burton for the August 25 event.

"We are longtime neighbors of Abingdon based Morgan-McClure Motorsports. We've watched their team for years and are extremely proud to have a locally owned team to root for on the NASCAR Nextel Cup circuit," said Food City president and chief executive officer, Steven C. Smith. "We're pleased to have Ward participate in our Thursday Food City Family Race Night event in Bristol and thrilled to have him behind the wheel."

The Morgan-McClure Motorsports No. 4 Food City Chevrolet will hit the track

during qualifying for the Sharpie 500 on Friday, Aug. 24, just prior to the start of the Food City 250.

"We are excited to once again be associated with Food City and the Smith family," said Larry McClure, President and Team Manager of Morgan-McClure Motorsports. "We've enjoyed a great relationship with our friends at Food City throughout the years and are excited to be working with them again on the co-sponsorship of our No. 4 Morgan-McClure Chevrolet Monte Carlo. Ward Burton enjoyed a great finish at the spring race in Bristol and we're pleased to have him representing us again at our home track. We're pleased about the momentum that's been building each week and are confident that we're capable of a great finish on Saturday."

"Bristol is one of my favorite tracks and I'm excited about having Food City on our car again this fall," said driver Ward

Burton. "I appreciate the support they've given to Morgan-McClure Motorsports over the years. We enjoyed working with the Food City team during the spring race and I'm looking forward to participating in their Food City Family Race Night on Thursday and improving upon our finish for the Sharpie 500."

Morgan-McClure Motorsports, Inc., (www.morgan-mcclure.com) based in Abingdon, VA, is a 14-time winner in the NASCAR Nextel Cup Series, including three victories in the prestigious Daytona 500 event in 1991, 1994, and 1995.

Food City is Bristol Motor Speedway's longest running sponsor and the second longest sponsor in NASCAR, next to Coca-Cola. Headquartered in Abingdon, Virginia, K-VA-T Food Stores operates 94 retail food outlets throughout the tri-state regions of Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia and Northeast Tennessee.

Stewart takes advantage of Gordon's spin, wins at Watkins Glen

by JOHN KEKIS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WATKINS GLEN, N.Y. — Tony Stewart can't wait to start the Chase.

Trailing leader Jeff Gordon by two car-lengths with two laps to go Sunday at Watkins Glen International, Stewart stared in amazement when Gordon spun out on his own entering the first turn on the 11-turn road course and went on to win the Centurion Boats at The Glen.

It was the third victory in four races for Stewart, who is on one of his midsummer rolls with only four races remaining before the Chase for the Nextel Cup title begins.

"You see how easy a streak can end and go the opposite way," said Stewart, a two-time Cup champion. "Once the Chase starts, I feel like we're in the best position of anybody. We just have to keep our fingers crossed."

Gordon's bobble was stunning, especially to Stewart.

"He's the last guy you expect to have a problem like that," Stewart said after his 36th career victory, tying him for 19th all-time with Dale Jarrett. "Trust me, I was probably the most shocked person. Our only shot of getting by him was to keep the pressure on him and hope he'd make a mistake."

For Stewart, who spun out in the same place as Gordon while leading earlier in the race and dropped to 19th, it was his sixth win on a road course. That ties him for second all-time with Richard Petty, Ricky Rudd, Rusty Wallace, and Bobby Allison.

"I think our car was a tick better than Jeff's, but if Jeff doesn't make that mistake, we run for second," said Stewart, who has won four of the last five Cup races at Watkins Glen and finished second a year ago to Kevin Harvick. "You were

going to have to be a bunch faster to get by him."

Even though Gordon has a commanding lead in the points and became the first driver to clinch a spot in the Chase after finishing ninth Sunday, it was a bitter disappointment. He seemed set to extend his Cup record for road course victories to 10 before making that uncharacteristic mistake on that hard 90-degree right-hand turn.

"I wanted that win real bad," said Gordon, who has four wins at The Glen. "Points don't mean anything. I pushed and pushed too far. I don't like making mistakes. That mistake is not a difficult one to make. That corner is ridiculously difficult and I knew I needed to make sure I didn't do it. I didn't do it all day until it came down to when it counted. What happened is the team deserved to win and the driver didn't get it done."

Despite the setback,

Gordon still posted his 20th top-10 in 22 races and is tied with Hendrick Motorsports teammate Jimmie Johnson with four wins, tops in the series and one more than Stewart.

The top 12 drivers in the standings after 26 races will race for the title and the points for every driver will be reset at 5,000. But each win-counts for an extra 10 points once the Chase begins.

"We gave up 20 (points) because I didn't get the 10 that would have kept him (Stewart) from getting the 10," Gordon said with a laugh. "Had I won, I would have been 20 more points ahead of him than I am now. I'd probably rather have the trophy than the bonus points. I think we can beat him in the final 10 races."

All but assured of a spot in the Chase, both Stewart and Edwards fought hard for the victory on the last lap. Edwards made a desperate final try in the rapid four-turn Inner Loop coming out of the high-speed esses.

"I just figured, the heck with it," said Edwards, who went off course and finished eighth. I just didn't want to finish second."

Denny Hamlin ended up second, Jimmie Johnson was third for the best road course finish of his career, Canadian road race ace Ron Fellows was fourth, and Robby Gordon fifth.

Dale Earnhardt Jr. suffered

a big blow to his chances of making the Chase. After complaining in practice about how bad his car was handling, Earnhardt turned things around in the race and was running up front much of the day. But while running third behind Gordon and Kurt Busch, the engine in the red No. 8 Chevrolet blew, ending his day on lap 63. He finished 42nd.

It was the fifth DNF of the season for Earnhardt, and four have been engine-related. He entered the day trailing Busch by seven points for the 12th and final spot in the standings and dropped to 14th, four points behind Ryan Newman and 100 points behind Busch, who rallied to finish 11th after being penalized for speeding on pit road and remained 12th.

"I was hoping for a good

showing and have something to be proud of," Earnhardt said. "I'm kind of disappointed. We have a couple of races left and there's no telling what will happen in those."

Rookie Juan Pablo Montoya, who won a Busch Series race in Mexico and the Cup race at Sonoma in June, was bidding to become the first driver in NASCAR history to win three road races in a season. He failed in Saturday's Busch race, finishing 33rd after being involved in an accident, and on Sunday he had another altercation.

Montoya and Harvick got together with less than 20 laps remaining in the 90-lap event while both were running in the top 10, and ended up in a shoving match after their cars got banged up. Harvick finished 36th and Montoya was 39th.

Bengals' backfield loses speed threat in Irons

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GEORGETOWN — Kenny Irons' knee injury has cost the Cincinnati Bengals some much needed speed to complement Rudi Johnson's power running.

Irons tore the anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee in the preseason opener. The Bengals were hoping the rookie could add a new dimension to the offense, utilizing his quickness and speed to stretch defenses that look for Johnson to run up the middle.

"It's unfortunate that Kenny got hurt because I think Kenny would have had a chance to do some things if he kept coming but now we go in different directions," Bengals coach Marvin Lewis said Saturday.

Irons was injured in a 27-26 loss at Detroit on Thursday night. A play after gaining 11 yards on a run around the right end, Irons went around the left side for seven yards and then hurt himself attempting to make a quick cut.

"Unfortunately in this game people get hurt. Every team goes through it. You just move and go on. It's something we'll overcome and be fine with," Lewis said. "It doesn't change anything we do because we haven't done anything yet."

With the injury to Irons, a second-round draft choice from Auburn, Kenny Watson will continue serving as the main backup to Johnson. Watson has been effective as a third-down back, averaging 5.9 yards on 51 career carries, and he has 48 career receptions.

Irons' injury also creates opportunities for Quincy Wilson and rookie free-agent Curtis Brown. Wilson led the Bengals last preseason with 217 rushing yards.

"It's unfortunate because we had a lot of expectations for (Irons) and he was doing good, just finding his niche," Wilson said. "You never want to see somebody go down, but now is the time to step up and it's up to me and (Watson) to make it happen."

Cardinals conduct first scrimmage

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LOUISVILLE — The University of Louisville football team conducted a 80-play scrimmage in front of approximately 5,000 fans at Papa John's Cardinal Stadium on Saturday night.

Head coach Steve Kragthorpe wanted to see how some of his players responded with fans in the stands and the lights on.

"There were some good things and there were some bad things," said the first-year head coach. "Overall, I was pretty pleased. We need to watch the film and study it. We're going to be

a good football team, but we need to continue to work hard."

The offense opened the scrimmage with a 13-play, 70-yard drive that ended with a one-yard run by Anthony Allen. Sophomore wide receiver Trent Guy also went 70-yards for a touchdown on a reverse. He later added a five-yard touchdown score.

Senior kicker Art Carmody booted two field goals of 31 and 46 yards.

Senior quarterback Brian Brohm threw an 11-yard touchdown pass to senior tight end Gary Barnidge and 20-yarder to Mario Urrutia.

Colonels complete first week of preseason practice

TIMES STAFF REPORT

RICHMOND — The Eastern Kentucky University football team finished its first week of preseason camp on Saturday with a light scrimmage in the afternoon session. The Colonels have one more week of camp to concentrate solely on football before classes begin on Aug. 20. Below are some notes from the first week of camp.

OPPRESSIVE HEAT: The heat was the biggest story during the first seven days of camp. Heat indexes often reached into the 100-degree range which forced the coaching staff to alter the practice schedule. Practices that were slated for the mid-afternoon were often moved to the early morning or early evening hours to avoid the hottest parts of the day. EKV Coach Danny Hope was pleased with the overall effort of the team through the conditioning sessions.

PLEASANT SURPRISES: In his second year on the offensive line, senior Bakahri Thornton has made a difference. Hope has been impressed with the overall play of the offensive line thus far. Junior Allan Holland (Perry County Central), coming off an injury in the spring, is completely healthy and throwing the ball well. Fellow junior Steven Sizemore's development at tight end has also been a plus for the offense. Sizemore is a Hazard High School graduate. Senior linebacker George Anderson continues to acclimate himself to a new position, but picked off a pass Saturday during a 7-on-7 drill and returned the interception for a score. On the defensive line, junior Chris Coy is making some positive noise.

FRESHMAN IMPACT: Wide receivers Evan

Cromer and Charles Johnson have both caught Coach Hope's eye over the first few days of camp. Fans should expect to see both players in the line-up at some point in the fall. Kicker Logan O'Connor should push Taylor Long for the place-kicking duties as well. On defense, the freshman cornerbacks have impressed Coach Hope and in particular, Jaren Gooden could see some action in the opening game at Kentucky.

Prestonsburg High School graduate Wes Woods is in his first season with the EKV football program. Woods is wearing No. 68 for the Colonels.

POSITION BATTLES: The few key position battles happen to be at wide receiver and running back. Both seniors — Mark Dunn and Bobby Washington — are true No. 1 running backs according to Coach Hope and will continue to battle for playing time. Besides the freshmen listed above, sophomore Garnett Phelps has caught some attention with his play at wide receiver. The Colonels have added a transfer from Marshall — William Barber — who is a bit rusty, but Hope is optimistic the 6-4 wide receiver will be able to contribute this fall.

AREAS OF FOCUS FOR WEEK TWO: Hope has plans for EKV to spend more time on special teams over the course of the upcoming week. With kickoffs scheduled to move back to the 30-yard line this year, Coach Hope wants the Colonels to be prepared on both sides of the ball for more returns. The coaching staff also plans to put together the first two-deep in the coming week so players can begin to get the right amount of repetitions in practice.

photo by Jamie Howell
LOOKING ON: Prestonsburg Coach John DeRossett kept his eyes on the action during Saturday's scrimmage versus Clay County. The Blackcats scored three touchdowns in a preseason victory over host Clay County.



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- **Stay away from fallen power lines** and tell a grownup about any fallen line you see right away. (*Report fallen lines by calling: 1-800-572-1113.*)
- **Never** fly kites around power lines. (*If you can see power lines nearby, find another place to fly your kite!*)
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FLOYD COUNTY Lifestyles

SCHOOLNEWS

- Allen CMS • page B5
- Duff Elem. • page B5
- Stumbo Elem. • page B5

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YESTERDAYS

Items taken from The Floyd County Times,
10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70 years ago. page B5

INSIDESTUFF

- Burchett • page B6
- Birthdays • page B7
- Anniversary • page B7

POISON OAK

Destination, chocolate fudge

As an Eastern Kentucky coal-camp kid, I was surrounded on all sides by trees. But until I enrolled in a biology class at Eastern Kentucky State College in 1957 and, with notebook in hand,

made the trek with the rest of the class to the little forest surrounding what we lovingly referred to as "the ravine"



Clyde Pack

located dead center of the then-tiny campus — I hardly knew one tree from another.

Oh, I could recognize a sycamore and easily point out a black walnut tree, like the one

that stood on the bank near the drawbars that led to the Slaughter Pen Hollow pasture. I have special memories of that tree.

In the fall, when the tree had dropped its early-falling leaves and stood naked in its deeply furrowed, diamond patterned, dark brown bark with its heavily-laden limbs dropping fruit onto the little dirt road that ran beneath it, I'd join a group of neighborhood kids in collecting, hulling, and cracking them.

The best tree climber in the bunch would usually ascend to the upper branches and, after securing a tight grip with one hand, would shake the smaller limbs with the other. The nuts we couldn't shake off, we'd knock off. We'd gather up heavy pieces of old lumber, climb the bank, and fling the boards into the tree. Sometimes nothing fell to the ground except the board we'd flung. On occasion, though, our efforts would bring forth a dozen, or so, of the green, tennis-ball-size nuts.

(See OAK, page six)

KIM'S KORNER

Getting your PHD

Can you imagine how surprised members of our congregation were last Sunday when we heard if we were interested in getting our PHD we definitely didn't want to miss Sunday night's service?

That said, and after word spread, the evening service grew in attendance. It's been shared before that our Pastor is awesome when it comes to using analogies and props to get his message across.

And this message began as Pastor Carl had one of the men of our congregation (Jeffery) pass out two tiny mustard seeds to every person attending.

As we all joined in unison: "I am what the Word says I am", "I am an Over-comer," "I have what the Word says I can have" - Pastor Carl asked us what the opposite of up was, "down" we answered. What is opposite of right, "wrong" we answered (well, most of us anyway, there was one "Left"); and then, what is the opposite of in, "out" we answered.

"Take a look at the two tiny mustard seeds Jeffery has handed each of you," Pastor Carl continued. Then he began, as we turned in our Bibles to

(See KORNER, page six)



photos by Kathy J. Prater

Gypsy Rose took the stage this past Friday night for the second Fridays Alive concert. This coming Friday, August 17, The Big Sandy Singers will perform for the public.

Fridays Alive bringing crowds to downtown area

by KATHY J. PRATER
FEATURES EDITOR



Brandon Peters, concertgoer and Gypsy Rose fan, along with Brent Graden, the city's economic development director, shared an inside joke in regard to the "pick of destiny" that Peters managed to nab from one of the band's guitarists.

A good crowd of music lovers turned out for this past weekend's Fridays Alive concert, a performance by local band Gypsy Rose, featuring southern rock tunes.

Despite the high heat, concertgoers managed to keep cool underneath a tent provided courtesy of the city, cold drinks for sale on site, and cool water blasting from a few sprinklers set up by Brent Graden, economic development director, for the city.

"It's been hot, but everyone's managed to keep cool and enjoy the sounds of this great band," Graden said. "We're pleased with the turnout our concert series is seeing."

Christian Clark, a newcomer to the area by way of upper New York state, was on hand to introduce and serve his flavorful Kentucky Outback barbecue to the assembled crowd.

Clark, along with his teenage son, were manning a convertible combination grill/smoker that they

had set up in the parking lot area. "Yeah, we've been hot," the aspiring entrepreneur said, "but we want to let folks taste our product, meet the local people and get a handle on what the Kentucky people like in the way of barbecue."

Clark has tentative plans to open a courtyard style cafe, Kentucky Outback BBQ, in the downtown area in the near future. "If all goes as planned, we will be up and running for the remaining summer and fall seasons," he said.

"We have several more great concerts scheduled," Graden said. "We hope everyone will come out and enjoy the music, food and their downtown community."

This coming Friday, August 17, Big Sandy Community and Technical College's Big Sandy Singers will perform from the downtown stage, followed by SkateCore on August 31 and the popular Prestonsburg Idol event scheduled for September 7 and September 27.

All concerts begin at 6 p.m., at the downtown stage, located in the municipal parking lot.

CRITTER CORNER

Pregnancy doesn't mean ditching pet cat

by KATHY PRATER
FEATURES EDITOR

Too often, learning that she is pregnant prompts an expectant mother to give up her "first" baby, a beloved pet feline.

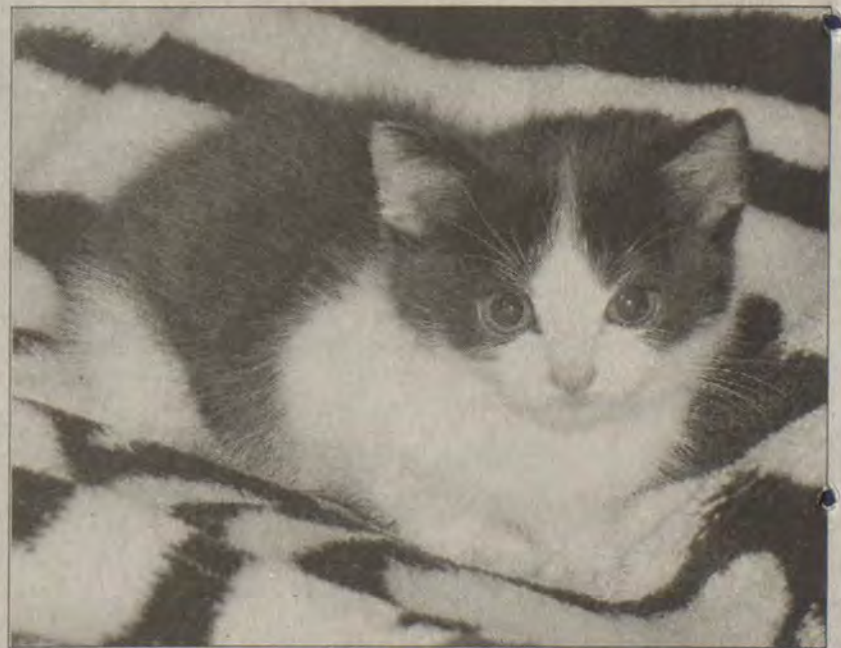
Recalling past discussions in regard to toxoplasmosis, infections, birth defects and even miscarriages, expectant moms feel they have to make a choice between their cat and their unborn baby. The resultant action usually involves a trip to the animal shelter and the loss of a faithful companion.

But what's a worried mom to do? For one, talk to your obstetrician and gynecologist. The Humane Society of the United States recently contacted more than 31,000 obstetricians and gynecologists nationwide to provide them with a packet of information to assist them in helping their

patients to understand the facts about the risks of toxoplasmosis. The bottom-line being this: Pregnant women need not give up their cats.

The HSUS packets include several items, among them the patient-education brochure, "Your Baby & Your Pet," and the clinician guide, "Toxoplasmosis: A Practical Guide for the Clinician," written for HSUS by Dr. Jeffrey D. Kravetz of the Yale University School of Medicine. The packets are a part of the HSUS's "Pets for Life" campaign, a series of programs designed to empower pet caregivers to solve the problems that threaten their relationships with pets.

Dr. Patrick Duff, residency program director of the department of obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Florida, penned the cover letter of his fellow OB/GYNs as



The cutie pictured here is named "Oreo." Oreo is 21 weeks old and, her owners write, "she loves to bounce around and play with her favorite toys - a catnip mouse, pop-up pet cube, and a Coca-Cola 12 pack box that she hides in." Oreo also "loves to play as an 'ankle biter.'" "She has her down times though," her owners continue, "when she is ready to sleep, she curls up beside us and is in her own little world. She is such a wonderful pet." Oreo is owned by Phillip and Danya Anderson, of Melvin, and "big sister," Olivia.

(See CRITTER, page six)

ANNIVERSARY



50th Wedding Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Fred and Mary Jarrell will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Saturday, September 8, 2007. Fred Jarrell Jr. is the son of Fred Sr. and Belle DeRossett Jarrell. Mary Ruth Day Jarrell is the daughter of Bill and Amma Sherman Day. The couple were married on September 8, 1957. Their daughter, Elizabeth Jayne, her husband, Dennis, and grandsons Jeremiah and Benjamin McFadden are pleased to announce the forthcoming celebration.

BIRTHDAYS



Look who's 1!

Karsen Blake Tackett, the son of Kevin and Kayla Tackett, celebrated his first birthday on August 13, 2007, with family and friends.



Happy Birthday, Kylie!

Kylie Jade Tackett, the daughter of Kevin and Kayla Tackett, celebrated her third birthday on August 7, 2007, at the Wheelwright Pool with family and friends.

Gettin' hitched?

If you're planning a wedding and would like to announce your engagement and wedding plans, the Times would be glad to help. Just drop by the Times office, or send photo and information to The Floyd County Times, P.O. Box 390, Prestonsburg, KY 41653, or e-mail to: features@floydcountytimes.com. We will be happy to run either an engagement announcement or wedding photograph, with accompanying basic information, for free as our "Best Wishes" to the happy couple.



Appalshop

Education Center.

Menius joins Appalshop following as decade with MerleFest, the highly successful Americana festival produced by Wilkes Community College in Wilkesboro, NC, where he was Marketing and Sponsorship Director. Menius, who earned an M.A. in History from the UNC-Chapel Hill, previously served as the first Executive Director of the International Bluegrass Music Association (1985-1990) and the initial manager of the North American Folk Music & Dance Alliance, the Folk Alliance (1991-1996). He has served on the boards of those organizations as well as the Americana Music Association, the Blue Ridge Music Hall of Fame, the Swannanoa Gathering, and the Old-Time Music Group.

"I learned about Appalshop initially from June Appal Recordings," Menius reported. "Later I became aware of Appalshop's Roadside Theater

and extraordinary documentary films, while my work at IBMA, Folk Alliance, and MerleFest kept me in touch with its unique community radio station WMMT-FM 88.7 since its inception in 1985. Appalshop is at a certain age where we need to take refocus on our mission and long range planning so that Appalshop can maintain its flagship position for many decades to come. That makes it a very exciting time to join this talented team."

A community-based arts and education center in the coalfields of southeastern Kentucky, Appalshop has earned an international reputation for ground breaking work in using media, culture, and education for grassroots community development. Appalshop's projects and activities include Appalshop Films, community radio WMMT-FM 88.7, Roadside Theater, an exceptional touring ensemble company, June

Appal Recordings, the Community Media Institute, and the Appalachian Media Institute (AMI), a nationally-recognized youth media program.

Continued from p6

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WELCOME BACK TO OUR COMMUNITY

**Jody Johnson, D.O.
Surgical Specialist**



Highlands Regional Medical Center is pleased to welcome Jody Johnson, D.O. back home to eastern Kentucky. A native of Hi Hat, Kentucky, Dr. Johnson is a graduate of Wheelwright High School, and received both his Bachelor of Science degree and Doctorate of Osteopathic Medicine from Pikeville College. He also served both his surgical residency and internship at the Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital in Pontiac, MI. Dr. Johnson served his procedural fellowship in Advanced Laparoscopic and Gastrointestinal Surgery at the University of Kentucky Medical Center. He is a member of the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons and is certified in trauma life support and cardiovascular life support procedures. Dr. Johnson is a specialist in laparoscopic surgeries, including gallbladder surgery, hernia repair, gastrointestinal and anti-reflux surgeries, as well as other general surgical procedures.

Dr. Johnson has returned to eastern Kentucky to practice at the Kentucky Laparoscopic and Advanced Surgical Specialists, PLLC, located in the old Social Security building at 5322 KY Rt. 321, Suite 1, in Prestonsburg. His office hours are 8:00 AM to 5 PM Monday through Friday. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 606.886.8240.

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