

The Times

FLOYD COUNTY

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Betsy Layne girls fall
page A7

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briefs

PC to hold King service

PIKEVILLE — Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once said, "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."

On Monday, the community is invited to join Pikeville College as the school honors the life and works of Dr. King. The featured speaker will be the Rev. Lester D. Lattany, pastor of Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Kingsport, Tenn. The Pikeville College Concert Choir will also perform under the direction of Jennifer Hughes, assistant professor of music. The program will begin at 2 p.m. in Booth Auditorium.

Lattany currently serves as president and CEO of the Johnson City Area United Way Inc. A member of the Greater Kingsport Area Ministerial Alliance, he is also involved in a number of civic and educational boards and organizations in his community. He has served in several leadership positions in the church, including Sunday school teacher, choir director, president of Faith Searchers Young Adult Auxiliary, deacon, and financial analyst and church accountant.

He earned his associate degree from Brunswick College in Georgia and his bachelor's and master's degrees from Tusculum College in Tennessee.

Lattany, along with his wife, Stephanie, are the parents of two children, Lester Demetrius and Catrina Verae.

Parking is available in the parking facility on Hambley Boulevard.

2 DAY FORECAST

Today
Rain
High: 60 • Low: 52

Tomorrow
Showers
High: 57 • Low: 32

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No plea deal in May Valley case

by ALEX SMITH
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A plea agreement was unable to be reached Thursday in the case of former May Valley Elementary teacher's aide Marty Mullins, and a trial date is likely to be set during the next scheduled motion hour in Floyd Circuit Court.

Commonwealth's Attorney Brent Turner said he expects the trial date to be set for some time in the spring or this summer at the latest. Turner could

not comment about the case, other than to say the two sides were unable to reach a plea deal.

Thursday's pretrial conference was the third conference scheduled in the case since last November in an effort to settle the case without a trial. A trial date for the case could be set as early as Jan. 19.

Mullins was indicted last July following a yearlong investigation into the abuse of several students that allegedly occurred at the school between January 2001 and September

2002.

Mullins faces 13 separate counts of criminal abuse against a child under the age of 12, with each charge carrying a maximum of 10 years in prison if convicted. He also is being charged with five counts of perjury after he allegedly lied while giving testimony during a hearing in July 2004, when he said he never made fun of a child's personal appearance or locked a child in a bathroom, and was never notified about any discontent with his job performance before Sept. 17, 2002.

Mullins was originally charged with six counts of perjury and nine counts of criminal abuse when he was indicted July 7 by a Floyd County grand jury. After the jury listened to 14 witnesses testify and reviewed hundreds of documents in the case, they decided that there was enough evidence against him to move forward.

The same jury issued a scathing report in conjunction with the indictment, saying the school's staff, as well

(See MAY VALLEY, page three)

LIFE LESSONS



photo by Jessica Hale

Lt. Deputy Shawn Roop, with the Floyd County Sheriff's Department, educated a classroom full of Prestonsburg Head Start students Monday on the basics of the war in Iraq. Roop, a soldier himself, thinks it is important for children of all ages to be aware of the things that are happening between the two countries. Roop discussed things such as American uniforms, differences in culture and also presented a slideshow of photos taken by his platoon in Iraq.

Three drug cases heard in circuit court

by ALEX SMITH
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Three Floyd County men arrested earlier this year in three separate drug raids by agents working for the Floyd County Drug Task Force were in circuit court Thursday to try and work out plea agreements in their cases.

Brent Holbrook, Billy Stanley and Carlos Carbide Little were each indicted in September of drug trafficking charges, each being charged with two counts of trafficking in a controlled substance within 1,000 yards of a school. Little netted an additional charge of second-degree trafficking in a controlled substance.

Stanley's case was the only one in which a deal was reached on Thursday, with him agreeing to enter a guilty plea Jan. 19. Stanley accepted the commonwealth's offer of two years in prison, but will claim during his sentencing hearing that the sentence should be lessened due to medical problems.

Holbrook and Little both saw their hearings continued until next week.

Twenty-six year old Brent Holbrook was the first of the three men to be arrested when officers working for the drug task force surrounded his home and executed an arrest warrant following two prior alleged

drug transactions with task force agents. A search of his home the morning of Sept. 20, which sits less than a half-mile from South Floyd High School, uncovered a large amount of pills in addition to scales used to weigh and sort drugs.

Carlos Carbide Little, 53, was arrested a week later to close out a six-month investigation into the alleged drug-trafficking habits out of his home in the Opportunities Unlimited school. After allegedly conducting three undercover drug buys with Little, agents searched his home and found a large number of pills in a recreational vehicle parked in his back yard. Agents found hydrocodone pills, Xanax tablets, several types of prescription pills, marijuana, \$1,500 cash and scales in their search of the RV. A 12-gauge shotgun was found in the trunk of a car and marijuana was also found in the home.

As is standard procedure for the task force, each man was recorded on either audio or videotape at least twice while allegedly engaged in a drug transaction with an undercover agent working for the force. The policy's purpose is to help secure a conviction by showing that they have sold more than once, providing evidence that the accused will likely continue to deal drugs.

Former Lt. gov. intends to file for governor's race next week

The Associated Press

LOUISVILLE — Former Lt. Gov. Steve Henry said he intends to file his candidacy papers to run for the Democratic nomination for governor on Wednesday.

"It will be a multi-city announcement," he told The Courier-Journal on Thursday.

Henry declined to discuss

details about his running mate, except to say he's "pretty far along" in vetting potential partners.

The Louisville orthopedic surgeon said he does not intend to put his wife, former Miss America Heather French Henry, on the ticket.

But if Henry wins, he said he would elevate the Department of Veterans Affairs

to a cabinet and name French Henry to lead it. She would make \$1 a year, he said.

State Treasurer Jonathan Miller, former Lt. Gov. Steve Beshear, and Otis Hensley of Harlan are also seeking the Democratic nomination.

The deadline for candidates to enter the governor's race is Jan. 30.

Four Floyd County teachers receive national certification

by JESSICA HALE
STAFF WRITER

Four local teachers have received national recognition for their extended efforts to bring quality education into our area.

National Board Certification, a voluntary process established by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, is a performance based assessment which measures what accomplished teachers should know and be able to do. Teachers who earn this advanced credential are said

to be among the best qualified in the nation to improve instruction, raise student achievement, and improve teaching practices in their classrooms, schools and districts.

Wendy Poe, an art teacher at Prestonsburg Elementary, is one of four teachers in Floyd County to achieve National Board Certification in 2006. Poe has been a teacher in Floyd County for 12 years and currently teaches art to 560 students at Prestonsburg Elementary.

Poe holds a bachelor's degree in elementary education K-4 and art K-

12 and a master's degree in elementary school counseling. Upon earning the National Board Certification, Poe has also earned a Rank I degree in early and middle childhood art. She will receive a \$2,000 stipend each year for her accomplishment.

"This process, although difficult and time consuming, was the most rewarding of my career," said Poe. "I became more confident in my ability to identify student learning and achievement."

(See TEACHERS, page three)



Susan Greene

Amy Halbert

Wendy Poe

Sandra Stapleton

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Regional Obituaries

FLOYD COUNTY

■ Clifford P. Childers, 92, of Prestonsburg, died Wednesday, December 27, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 30, under the direction of the Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Grace Ousley Flanery, 94, of Martin, died Wednesday, January 10, at her residence. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 13, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Eula Dean Little Frazier, 71, of Price, died Sunday, January 7, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. She is survived by her husband, Glenn O. Frazier. Funeral services were held Tuesday, January 9, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Gladis Holbrook, 72, of David, died Thursday, January 4, at Mountain Manor Nursing

Home, in Paintsville. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 10, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ David Marsillett Jr., 59, of Prestonsburg, died Tuesday, January 9, in Highlands Regional Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Doris Craft Marsillett. Funeral services were held Friday, January 12, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Warren Allen Mitchell, 56, of Harold, died Thursday, January 11, at his residence. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, January 14, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Alice Josephine Prater, 86, of Ionia, Michigan, a native of Prestonsburg, died Monday, January 8. Memorial services were held Friday, January 12, under the direction of Schrauben-Lehman Funeral Home.

■ Julia Reffitt, 72, of Langley, died Thursday, January 11, at Our Lady of the Way Hospital, in Martin. Funeral services were held Friday, January 12, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Robert William "Bob" Zeltner, 83, of Interlachen, Florida, died Thursday, January 4, at the Putnam Community Medical Center, in Palatka, Florida. He is survived by his wife, Nova Jean Boyd Workman Zeltner. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, January 10, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

PIKE COUNTY

■ Jackie Ray Blankenship, 30, of Stopover, died Wednesday, January 3, at Pike Community Hospital, Waverly, Ohio. Funeral services were held Monday, January 8, in the Stopover Church of God, under direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

■ Lillie Branham, 79, of Hardy, died Wednesday, January 10, at Trinity Healthcare Center in Williamson, W.Va. Funeral services will be held Sunday, January 14, at 1 p.m., under the direction of Hatfield Funeral Home.

■ Mary Brown, 63, of Grimsley, a Pikeville native, died Saturday, December 16, at Cookeville Regional Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Burton Brown. Funeral services were held Thursday, December 21,

under the direction of Jennings Funeral Home, Clarkrange, Tennessee.

■ Jackie Chapman, 81, of Huddy, a Martin County native, died Sunday, January 7, at the South Williamson Appalachian Regional Hospital. She is survived by her husband, William "Bill" Chapman. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 10, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Kyler Grant Coleman, son of Jason and Nicole Pinion Coleman of Rockhouse, was stillborn Friday, January 5, at Pikeville Medical Center. Graveside services were held Sunday, January 7, under the direction of Lucas and Son Funeral Home.

■ Esther Coleman, 65, of Raccoon, died Thursday, January 11, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 13, under the direction of Community Funeral Home.

■ Mark Andrew Diles, 40, of Phelps, died Friday, January 5, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Billie Joann Lassiter Diles. Funeral services were held Monday, January 8, under the direction of Phelps Funeral Services.

■ Harvey Douglas Hardin, 63, of Freeburn, died Saturday, January 6, at his home. Funeral services were held Tuesday, January 9, under the direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

■ Okeh Luke Harris, 52, of Raccoon, died Thursday, December 28, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Ruth Ann Howell Harris. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 31, under the direction of Community Funeral Home.

■ Delmon Hayton Jr., 66, of Pikeville, died Wednesday, January 10, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Joan Hayton. Funeral services were held Friday, January 12, under the direction of Thacker Funeral Home.

■ Steven Clyde Jackson, 30, a Pike County native, died December 23, at Jenny's Creek, West Virginia. Funeral services were conducted Friday, at Jenny's Creek Gospel Church, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

■ James A. Justice, 86, of East Shelbiana, died Sunday, January 7, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Gladys Kinney Justice. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 10, under the direction of Lucas & Son

Funeral Home.

■ Madge Sanders Justice, 101, of Ashcamp, died Wednesday, January 10, at Mountain View Health Care Center, Elkhorn City. Funeral services were held Friday, January 12, under direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ Willie Justice Jr., 61, of Greenville, a Pike County native, died Sunday, January 7. He is survived by his wife, Mary Simons Justice. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 10, under the direction of Thacker Funeral Home.

■ James Gary Lee, 58, of Pikeville, died Friday, January 5, at his residence. Funeral services were held Monday, January 8, under the direction of J.W. Call Funeral Home.

■ Jack Donald Reed, 74, of Williamson, W.Va., a Belfry native, died Sunday, January 7, at the Charleston Area Medical Center, Charleston, W.Va. He is survived by his wife, Ida Mae Williamson Reed. Funeral services were held Tuesday, January 9, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Michael Allen Reprogel Jr. (Woogie), 28, of Newtown, West Virginia, a native of South Williamson, died Wednesday, January 10, at Rt. 6, Mate Creek Road, Mingo County, W.Va. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 13, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Evelyn Daugherty Wolford Roberts, 80, of Phelps, died Tuesday, January 9, at her home. Funeral services were held Friday, January 12, under direction of Phelps Funeral Services.

■ Virginia Rutherford, 85, of O'Fallon, Mo., formerly of Grapevine, died Sunday, January 7. Funeral services were held Friday, January 12, under the direction of Thacker Funeral Home.

■ Emerson Melvin "Bud" Sanson, 75, of Stanton, formerly of Majestic, died Sunday, January 7, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Filomena Sanson.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 10, under the direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

■ Ricky Edward Vandyke, 42, of Grundy, Virginia, died Thursday, January 4, at the Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Patricia Ann Deel Vandyke. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 6, under the direction of Grundy Funeral Home.

■ Cleve Wolford, 84, of Phelps, died Tuesday, January 9, at St. Joseph Hospital in Lexington. He is survived by his wife, Clara Campbell Wolford. Funeral services were held Sunday, January 14, under direction of Phelps Funeral Services.

MARTIN COUNTY

■ Ruth Davis, 64, of Inez, died Tuesday, January 2, at Martin County Health Care Facility in Inez. Funeral services were held Friday, January 5, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

■ Clay Maynard Jr. "Scooby", 53, of Lovely, died Saturday, January 8, at ARH. He is survived by his wife, Joan Newsome Maynard. Funeral services were held Tuesday, January 9, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

JOHNSON COUNTY

■ Helen Frances Gray, 86, of Paintsville, died Tuesday, January 2, at King's Daughters Medical Center, in Ashland. Funeral services were held

Friday, January 5, under the direction of the Paintsville Funeral Home.

■ Marie Gullett Haney, 86, of Paintsville, died Wednesday, January 3, at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center, in Paintsville. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 6, under the direction of the Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Lillian Hitchcock, 90, of Van Lear, died Tuesday, January 2, at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center, in Paintsville. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 4, under the direction of Phelps & Son Funeral Home.

■ Carlie Kestner, 42, of Thealka, died Sunday, December 31, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Tammy Kestner. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 3, under the direction of Childers Funeral Home.

■ Francis Leon Slone, 50, of Meally, died Tuesday, January 9, at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Lola Butcher Slone. Funeral services will be held Sunday, Jan. 14, 11 a.m. at the Paintsville Funeral Home Chapel.

■ Viola Miller Williams, 90, of Paintsville, died Thursday, December 28, at the Jackson Nursing Home. Memorial services will be held Sunday, January 14, at the First Baptist Church of Paintsville. Arrangements, under the direction of the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Hindman.

Obituaries

Warren Allen Mitchell

Warren Allen Mitchell, age 56, of Harold, died Thursday, January 11, 2007, at his residence.

Born July 4, 1950, in Craynor, he was the son of the late Noah and Vernie Osborne Mitchell. He was a disabled coal miner.

Survivors include a son and daughter-in-law: Allen Douglas and Mary Mitchell of Harold; a daughter, Brittany Mitchell of Betsy Layne; two brothers: Bobby Mitchell of Prestonsburg, and Larry Mitchell of Clyde, Ohio; three sisters: Carol Jean Mitchell of Shelby, Susie Wicker of Ohio, and Roxie Hamilton of Craynor; and two grandchildren: Geneva Mae and Allen Douglas Jr.

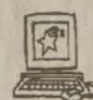
In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers: Billy Mitchell and Charles Mitchell; and a sister, Shirley Jean Mitchell.

Funeral services will be held Sunday, January 14, at 11 a.m., at Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Old Regular Baptist ministers officiating.

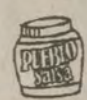
Burial will be in the Mitchell Cemetery, at Mink Branch in Craynor, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation, at the funeral home. (Paid obituary)

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U.S. General Services Administration

PSA

New Beginnings



This "Special Section"

will be published in

The Floyd County Times

January 31, 2007 edition.

Tabloid in size, and will feature information and helpful hints from the Beginning of Preparing for a Newborn, to things needed as your child reaches the toddler stages.

A complete guide to "New Beginnings" from choosing the Physician, place of birth, and the latest in items every parent needs for their "New Beginning" with their newborn.

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The Floyd County Times
Black Diamonds
P.O. Box 390
Prestonsburg, KY 41653

Deadline for entries: Monday, Feb. 5, 2007

Greene joins EKSBDK staff

PAINTSVILLE — Morehead State University's Small Business Development Center has announced the appointment of Philip D. Greene to the position of general management consultant for the Paintsville SBDC office.

The announcement was made by Mike Morley, district director for Morehead State's East Kentucky Small Business Development Center.

"This is an important addition for the Paintsville office, which in connection with the Pikeville office, covers 10 counties," Morley said. "With 20+ years of business experience, both in private companies and in business for himself, Philip can provide our clients with the knowledge and assistance necessary to help them make their business a



Philip D. Greene

success."

Greene is an MSU alumnus where he received a Bachelor of Business Administration and Master of Business Administration degrees. The Floyd County native is a licensed CPA in the state of

Kentucky.

The Small Business Development Center provides management consulting for existing businesses as well as start-up companies. The center also provides training workshops throughout the year on recordkeeping and accounting, small business tax issues and women and minority business owner issues.

The SBDC also provides potential and existing business owners with countless research resources including small business publications, videos, demographic information, entrepreneurial start-up guidance and Internet resources.

The Small Business Development Center is a one-stop destination for business information and assistance.

The office is located in Paintsville at the Kentucky Highlands Entrepreneurial Center, 120 Scott Perry Drive, Teays Branch Road. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. After-hours appointments are available.

Additional information is available by calling Greene or Sabrina Jude at (606) 788-6008 or (606) 788-6022. Appointments may be scheduled and walk-ins are welcome.

The Small Business Development Center is partially funded by the U. S. Small Business Administration. Small Business Administration funding is not an endorsement of any products, opinions, or services. Programs are extended to the public on a non-discriminatory basis. Reasonable accommodations provided for persons with disabilities if requested two weeks in advance.

Happy 16th Birthday.
Amber Nicole Hall
 January 15, 1991

*Today you get treated like a queen.
 Happy Birthday, Sweet Sixteen!*

Love, Aunt Debbie

KHS launches new website

The Kentucky Historical Society has launched a new website that offers enhanced content and services.

Visitors to the KHS Web site at www.history.ky.gov can explore a wide variety of features such as an online exhibit of the Toyota Kentucky Hall of Governors, conduct family history and genealogical research using KHS databases, view KHS's calendar of events, and plan a visit to the Kentucky Historical Society's History Campus, which

includes the Thomas D. Clark Center for Kentucky History, the Old State Capitol, and the Kentucky Military History Museum. Visitors can also sign up for KHS's monthly e-newsletter by submitting their e-mail address on any page of the Web site.

"We hope visitors notice some of the positive changes that come with this new Web site which help us provide a world-wide audience with the best Kentucky history resources," says Kent

Whitworth, executive director of KHS. "The new website is another tool that assists KHS in providing connections to the past, perspective on the present, and inspiration for the future."

News releases and general announcements will also be placed on the Web site. To post a comment about the Web site, suggest additional Web site services, or suggest content changes, visitors can use the "Contact Us" section of the website.

Teachers

Susan Greene, also a teacher at Prestonsburg Elementary, earned National Board Certification for 2006. Greene has been a teacher for 15 years in both Paintsville Independent Schools and the Floyd County School District. She holds bachelor's and master's degrees in education from Morehead State University.

"The certification process required me to analyze my teaching methodology and instructional strategies to improve student performance," said Greene. "By participating in the National Board Certification process, I hoped to continue my professional growth as a classroom teacher and receive national recognition as an educator."

Allen Central Middle

School also employs one of the four teachers in the county to receive the certification. Sandra K. Stapleton, English language arts teacher, received the prestigious credential also. Stapleton has been a teacher for eight years and holds and master's degree with a Rank I status in middle school education of mathematics and English communications and a K-8 Guidance Counselor Certificate.

Stapleton says one of her goals is to use the process for enhancing student learning during teaching experiences and she encourages all Kentucky teachers to seek certification.

"Achieving National Board Certification is a testimony for my dedication to the profession," Stapleton said.

Amy Halbert, math teacher at Allen Central High School, says she is thrilled to have received the certification. Halbert has been a teacher for 15 years and holds a master's

degree in secondary education specializing in mathematics.

"The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards guided me to refocus my efforts on helping all my students to get the most out of their education," said Halbert. "It has directed me to be more aware of how my teaching impacts my students."

The four teachers are among 7,700 teachers nationwide who received the National Board Certification in 2006.

Roy E. Barnes, chair of the NBPTS Board of Directors, said, "The single most important school related factor in raising student achievement is the quality of the teacher in the classroom. National Board Certification strengthens and reaffirms quality teaching strategies, adds credibility to the teaching profession, represents the profession's highest standards, and has a positive impact on student learning."

Continued from p1

May Valley

Continued from p1

as county education administrators, had failed to protect the safety and well-being of the children by not taking immediate action upon notice of the complaints.

A civil suit filed in September 2003 by seven families against the school and several employees after an investigation by the Cabinet for Families and Children reported there was enough evidence to warrant the lawsuit. That lawsuit was settled Jan. 14, 2005, when the defendants in the case agreed to pay the victims a lump sum payment of \$725,000.

Mullins was a defendant in the case along with the Floyd County Board of Education and six other instructors, including the school's principal, for failing to report the allegations and investigate them thoroughly.

A new incident report policy was enacted districtwide as a result of the suit, making it mandatory for staff members to file a report whenever there is an incident which requires restraining a student.

Local Planning Committee Forum and Meeting

The Floyd County Schools' Local Planning Committee will conduct a PUBLIC FORUM on January 24, 2007, at 6:00 p.m. at the May Valley Elementary School, 481 Stephens Branch, Martin, Kentucky 41649. This meeting is an informal gathering to encourage local participation through community suggestions relative to future utilization of existing school facilities and construction of new school facilities. These community suggestions or recommendations will be closely monitored by the Local Planning Committee in the Schools. This meeting will be immediately followed by a meeting of the Floyd County Local Planning Committee.

MIDWAY COLLEGE

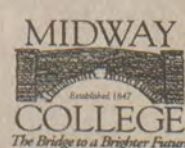
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 — Jessica Mulberry

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expression

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

Guest view

Forward the Light Brigade

And so, like Lord Raglan ordering the 13th Light Dragoons into the Tennyson's "Valley of Death," like Denothor ordering Faromir back to Osgiliath in "The Lord of the Rings," George W. Bush has ordered 21,500 more U.S. troops into the streets of Baghdad.

There was something strangely chilling in the president's "new way forward in Iraq" speech Wednesday night. Here was a man bent on pursuing tactics that hardly anyone at the Pentagon, including the Joint Chiefs of Staff, thinks will work. A concept that a majority of the Congress, both Democrats and Republicans alike, oppose, as do nearly two-thirds of the American public in new polls. A concept and tactics that defy the bi-partisan gray eminences of the Iraq Study Group and perhaps even his own father. A concept and tactics that will be bought in blood. And yet, as Tennyson wrote:

"Was there a man dismay'd?
Not tho' the soldier knew
Someone had blunder'd:
Theirs not to make reply,
Theirs not to reason why,
Theirs but to do and die."

Make no mistake: Someone has blundered again. Bush is determined to salvage something he can call "victory" out of the dog's breakfast he has made of Iraq. If only he could; Iraq, and the world as a whole, would be better off if the president's new way were to work.

We hope he's right. We wish that this time the Iraq government abides by its promises to achieve specific milestones in controlling sectarian violence; we wish that Iraqi soldiers, thrust into a leading role, this time will decide the notion and nation of "Iraq" are more important than their religious preferences; we wish that other nations in the Middle East will suddenly change their minds about cooperating with the U.S.; we wish that the new U.S. billions will be spent on jobs programs that create opportunity - and not just for graft. We wish that Lt. Gen. David H. Petraeus, the new U.S. commander, will be able to install the Army's new counterinsurgency tactics that he developed, winning hearts and minds in a hurry.

But wishing doesn't make it so. There's a reason to try all of these ideas, and that's why we have tried them before," one U.S. official in Iraq told The Los Angeles Times. "We're reliving all the issues that have been discussed since 2003. It's like 'Groundhog Day.'" Four years ago, before the invasion, before the rise of sectarian militias, Army Chief of Staff Eric K. Shinseki suggested "something on the order of several hundred thousand soldiers" would be needed to contain post-war Iraq. Bush now proposes to do it with 153,500 soldiers and Marines in the midst of a full-blown civil war.

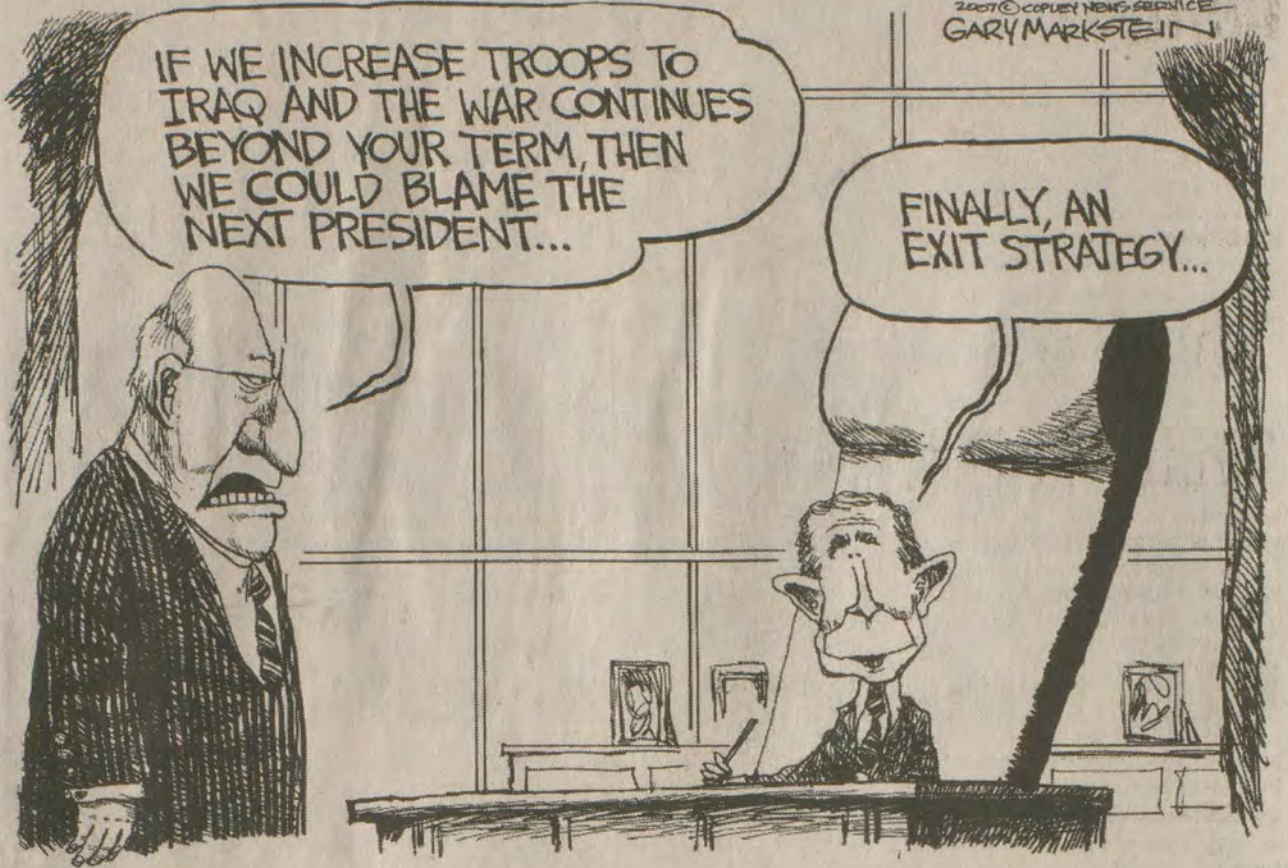
Many of them will be National Guard troops and reservists. By next year, the only way for the Army and Marines to fill the slots in Iraq will be to redeploy reserve units, thus breaking faith with its citizen-soldiers. Many of the active duty troops who will be "surged" into Baghdad are on their second or third tours in Iraq, and now they find their deployments will be extended by three months. The first of some 21,500 new troops to reach Baghdad are expected to be the 2nd Brigade of the 82nd Airborne Division. Literally, a light brigade.

Can't anybody stop this? Congress dithers. Rep. John Murtha, D-Pa., says he'll use his Defense Appropriations Subcommittee to challenge it. Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., wants the president to get re-authorization from Congress. But Sen. Joe Biden, D-Del., chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, says, "As a practical matter, there's no way to say, 'Mr. President, stop.'"

Congress must swallow its doubts; military families must hold their breath. Any effort by Congress to assert its constitutional powers over spending and choke off funding for the war would be seen as imperiling U.S. troops, whose peril only will grow as the politicians argue. It's damned if they do and damned if they don't.

Damned is the correct word.

— St. Louis Post-Dispatch



Rich Lowry Column

America gets richer

If you don't yet believe that we live in a de facto caste system, just wait until the new Democratic economic populists take over Congress. They will rely on the usual myths to portray the American economy as an engine of inequity and dispossession, benefiting only the very rich.

In advance of this onslaught, Cato Institute scholar Alan Reynolds has written a new book, "Income and Wealth," that explodes much of the downbeat economic conventional wisdom.

The key difference between the richest and poorest households, Reynolds finds, is simply work: "Most income in the top fifth of households is from two or more people working full time. Most income in the bottom fifth is from government transfer payments." According to the Census Bureau, there are almost six times as many full-time workers in the top households as in the bottom, and 56.4 percent of the bottom households didn't have anyone working at all in 2004.

For Reynolds, the small number of workers in poor households casts doubt on the category of the "working poor." A member of the working poor is commonly defined as someone earning an hourly wage too small

to support a family of four. But Reynolds points out that most of these low-wage workers "are not supporting more than one person." He notes that the poverty rate among married couples was just 5.4 percent in 2003, and a mere 2.6 percent among full-time, year-round workers more than 16 years of age.

"The vanishing middle class" is another concept Reynolds doesn't buy. If the middle class is perpetually defined as those earning between \$35,000 and \$50,000, it will constantly vanish as people get richer. In this vein, one liberal study complained that 31.3 percent of families earned more than \$75,000 in 2002, whereas only 11.1 percent earned that much in 1969. "By this measure," it concluded, "America's broad middle class has been shrinking." No, members of the middle class were getting richer.

The New York Times reported in 2005 that the number of households with assets worth more than \$10 million grew 400 percent since 1980. The Times called this a sign of increasing concentration of wealth. Reynolds counters, "Having four times as many wealthy households in 2001 as in 1980 suggests wider own-

ership of stocks, bonds and larger homes — less concentration of wealth, rather than more."

The economy is not a zero-sum game, frozen in place. A Business Week article in 2004 reported that the top 50 percent of families own 95 percent of the country's assets, meaning "the gains from rising wealth have effectively left out half the population." Reynolds explains that the wealthy tend to be older and more established. They will be replaced by younger workers as they age in turn.

What's most important to wealth creation in the long run is human capital, and that has become more widely dispersed. According to Reynolds, "fewer than 8 percent of those above the age of 25 had a college degree in 1960, but that fraction doubled to more than 16 percent in 1980, and nearly doubled again to almost 28 percent in 2004."

It is America — not just the rich — that is getting richer, even if Washington's newly empowered populists don't want to hear it.

□□□

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.



beyond the beltway

Gerald Ford wasn't so hot after all

by DONALD KAUL

Gerald Ford died last week to generally excellent reviews. Obituaries were careful to point out that he was a decent man. You heard that again and again. (It tells you something about Washington that being thought decent is enough to qualify you for sainthood.)

I don't know about that; I never met the man let alone had him toast me an English muffin (which seemed to be the credential that verified one's standing in the Washington press corps, having had him toast your muffin) but I will tell you this:

No one who gave us Donald Rumsfeld and Dick Cheney can be all good.

You could argue I suppose that both Rumsfeld and Cheney were spawn of the evil Richard Nixon since it was his White House they entered first. But it was Ford — good old decent Jerry Ford — who drew them into the inner sanctums of the White House, making one first, then the other his Chief of Staff and raising Rumsfeld to the exalted status of Defense Secretary.

If you want to pick a moment in our recent history when things began to go seriously wrong, it was then. Rumsfeld and Cheney have been with us in one guise or another ever since, throwing sand in the gears of

democracy, dragging us toward perpetual warfare. I would classify Mr. Ford as one of those modest men who had a great deal to be modest about.

He had other flaws too. Early in his congressional career, he advocated impeaching Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas because Douglas had published an article in what he considered a "pornographic" magazine. (It wasn't.)

Still, he was not a right-wing zealot; he was more the kind of fellow you'd meet at the head table at the Kiwanis or Rotary. Decent.

You could argue that after the fury of the administrations of Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon, the chaos of the Sixties, he was the calm presence the nation needed.

If only he hadn't pardoned Richard Nixon. Those of us of a certain age and political persuasion had spent our entire political lives hating Richard Nixon. We thought we'd tied garlic around his neck when he lost the presidency to Jack Kennedy in 1960, then the California governorship two years later. He even told us he was through. ("You're not going to have Dick Nixon to kick around anymore," he said.) But he kept coming back, and back.

And when he was forced to resign his presidency in 1974, we wanted to make sure he was gone once and for all — no more comebacks. We wanted him in jail.

Then Ford went and pardoned him, thereby cheating half the nation of its just revenge. Ford always

claimed he never made a pardon deal with Nixon and I suppose I believe him. (Hey, he's decent. Would he lie?) But if there's one thing the episode taught me, it was this: When you get a vampire down, you drive a stake through his heart.

Ford paid a price for his leniency.

It was the pardon as much as anything that caused him to lose the next election to Jimmy Carter. But he was also made the target of cheap shots (some of which were mine) by a less than serious press (some of which was me). This former all-America football player had the misfortune to stumble and fall in public once or twice and from then on, the pratfall became the metaphor for the clumsiness of his administration.

He was also labeled dumb, which, as a graduate of the University of Michigan and Yale Law School, he most certainly was not.

What he was, was a little stolid and, of course, decent.

He led a long and successful life, filled with good fortune, and he leaves behind few enemies. (Of Nixon's "enemies list," he once said: "If you need a list to keep track of your enemies, you've got too many enemies.")

All of us should be so lucky.

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

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This Town, That World

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

If I change jobs, it will not be to go into the weather-forecasting business...But, with the "outs" I granted myself, and with a bit of tacking and filling, my long-range forecast made last week was as accurate as what you get from most of the experts.

TRY IT SOMETIME

Children, these days, do not know the real comforts of a bed. Central heating, furnaces, insulation and other conveniences make it impossible. To know how delectable a bed is, you must awaken to look outside on a world of snow and ice, in a room where the frost has made fancy patterns on the windows and the temperature is down to near-freezing. You must know that the touch of a bare foot on the uncarpeted floor will be like ice, that you'll have to build a fire in the grate—and that, there isn't a stick of wood or a lump of coal in the house. Only then can you know how delightful it is to remain in bed, beneath a load of quilts—and never mind the day or the time, or world events, or anything much.

BUSINESS GOES TO THE DOGS

"Dognapping" appears to be among the more prevalent of Floyd crimes, these days. The report we have is that a Tennessee man is buying dogs at the rate of 10 cents a pound, and that certain individuals have been, as a consequence, conducting a winter roundup, corralling every dog, stray or cherished pet, they can find, then on Fridays taking the week's collection to Pikeville to market.

For those involved in the dog-market, we suggest:

1. That they read a little boy's ad in this week's Times by which he hopes to recover his pet.
2. That the purchaser of these dogs will consider that, in many cases, he is receiving stolen property.

Moreover, we'd like to know when times got so hard in eastern Kentucky that the going price for a dog was as low as 10 cents a pound. I have owned, or been owned by, some pretty onery mutts in my day, but I have never had a dog that wasn't worth at least a dollar a pound—if he was for sale at any price.

JUST BREAKING THE SAD NEWS

I've heard this one from various angles, one time with the mayor of a certain town as one of the characters, another with a preacher in his stead. It runs to this effect:

The preacher telephoned a nearby funeral home to tell the director thereof that a mule had exercised the poor judgment of

(See ALLEN, page six)



Duff Elementary School Fall Classic winners



Allen Elementary School Fall Classic winners



South Floyd High School Fall Classic winners

Fall Classic attendance winners

Students in Floyd County Schools responded excitedly during the Fall Classic attendance competition. The Fall Classic ran during the month of October, 2006 and proved to be successful. The Fall Attendance Classic is one of three competitions occurring this school year. Attendance district-wide for the month was 93.7 percent compared to 92.7 percent for the same period last year. Congratulations to all Floyd County students, staff, and parents with special recognition to the schools with best attendance during the month. The schools with

- best attendance in October were:
- High School Winner – South Floyd High School
 - Middle School – Allen Elementary School (Middle School Students)
 - Elementary School – Duff Elementary School

Celebration events recognizing over 744 students occurred at these schools. Students and staff were presented with a banner to display at their school, a cookout for all students and staff, and a commercial recognizing the school. The Fall Classic Attendance

competition is one part of the "Got School Attendance Campaign" that began last school year. The attendance campaign is intended to increase awareness about the importance of school attendance and recognize students for attendance. Our thanks to Wal-Mart, BellSouth, Highlands Regional Hospital, Pepsi, Citizens National Bank, Community Trust Bank, Coalfields, Western Construction and Nortel, for contributions last year. Their support has made this and many other attendance recognitions and events possible.

MOVIES FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

'Relentless'

by TOM DOTY
TIMES COLUMNIST

A pair of detectives track a serial killer who appears to be choosing his victims from the phone book in this edgy thriller that beget three sequels.

Urbanites fear two things, with random acts of violence being numero uno. This film exploits that fear quite effectively, though it totally ignores the second greatest city-life fear, which involves air conditioners falling from high rise apartments and threatening passers by.

The film begins with a slow pan over L.A. to set the scene and establish that the place is so big that no individual matters much. The camera identifies a lone figure jogging and we follow him home, where he receives a phone message asking if he will be home that night because the caller plans to kill him.



Tom Doty
Times Columnist

The jogger takes the tape to the police, who say that it will be examined within 48 hours due to a high volume of evidence that came in ahead of it. The man gawks but doesn't appear surprised. He is, however, very surprised when he arrives home and is promptly set upon by a walleyed maniac who makes good on his phone threat.

Meanwhile Detective Sam Dietz is glimpsed at home before heading in for his first day as a plain clothes investigator. We learn that he is a transplant from New York and that he is anxious to make a good first impression. Unfortunately for Dietz, he gets the case of the jogger from the opening. Later he and his grizzled partner receive the first of many clues which amount to pages torn from the phone book with the victim's address and phone number listed therein.

Each page also includes a note asking when they will stop him and pleading for an end to the killer's torment. It turns out to be difficult for the pair to raise any sympathy as the killer continues to operate on a daily basis.

Things get ratcheted up to another level when the assassin targets Dietz and makes it personal. None of this helps Dietz make the adjustment to his new position any easier, but he eventually begins to put the pieces together which leads to a grim finale at his own home, where he is forced to use deadly force in his own kitchen. It's a crackerjack finale to a tense story and delivers the goods, which included three more outings for Dietz.

What makes this crime drama click is excellent directing from horror/crime guru William Lustig, who scored previously with "Maniac Cop." Here he crafts a story about the kind of excessively bad parenting which creates killers and he doesn't shy away from scenes of the abuse which fostered the film's killer.

There is no mystery as to who the killer is as Lustig introduces you to

(See LAGOON, page six)

Keeping the harvest

by CAROL McADOO REHME
"CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE GARDENER'S SOUL"

He rounded the corner where cornstalks still stood, tattered heroes of the garden patch. Late-afternoon sunlight filtered through a canopy of bare branches, laying down a grid of shadows. Underfoot, the crunch of dry, caramel-colored leaves sounded the music of a Colorado autumn.

It was the season for "after harvest." Or, what Emma called their "time of plenty." A time to count their

many blessings. Long after the last sun-ripened tomato was picked, the last of the autumn raspberries eaten and the garden put to bed for the winter, his wife always insisted on seeking out the later gifts of nature.

Fred knew the best places to start. Hadn't he searched and gathered on every square foot of this property for 44 years now? Planted it? Tended it? If Emma were here, she'd be out here with him.

But Emma wasn't here. So he would do alone what they had always rejoiced in doing together.

At the grape arbor, Fred took out his pocketknife and cut away aged vines, careful to take only the overgrowth. When he had enough, he tucked and plaited, wove and wrapped, shaping the supple lengths to form a wreath.

At the lip of their hand-dug pond, Fred pawed through the disheveled heads of cattails. Finding two still nappy and whole, he snapped them from their stalks and laced them through one side of the circle.

At the fence line, Fred clipped a few twigs of juniper berries and har-

vested two feathery plumes from the towering pampas grass. Thick fingers knew automatically where to put them, how to secure them.

He paused beneath a flaming mountain ash. Its clumps of jack-o'-lantern-orange berries added a festive touch. Satisfied, he studied the wreath, inspecting it for soundness. For balance. For beauty.

The drive to the Alzheimer's unit was short and pleasant. Humming under his breath, Fred nodded a greet-

ing at the nurses' station and walked into the day room.

Emma stared unseeing-ly out the bank of windows while her veined hand plucked rhythmically at her blouse. Fred laid his offering on a round table and leaned to kiss her.

"Look what I made today, sweetheart. It's 'after harvest,' and the property is brimming with all your favorite things." Fred pointed to the circle. Emma's bleached-blue eyes

(See SOUP, page six)



Special tires cause sticker shock

by TOM and RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:

I have a 2005 Honda Odyssey that needs new tires after only 32,000 miles, and a neighbor has the same issue. They are run-flat tires. My tire dealer says I cannot just buy new run-flat tires; I have to also replace the rims, and only the dealer can do it. The dealer agrees with the requirement of replacing the rims with the run-flats at a cost of \$580 per tire/wheel combination. He says it's possible to just replace the tires, but he can't do it, and says I'd have to go to another dealer for that. Is this for real — almost \$2,400 for new tires? Can I just mount regular tires on my current run-flat rims, and tell the run-flat industry to run away? — Mike

TOM: Doesn't that frost your Fruit of the Looms, Mike? Actually, 32,000 miles is pretty good for a set of run-flats.

RAY: We're seeing a lot of run-flat sticker shock these days. When folks go in for their first set of replacement tires and find out that the tires themselves cost three times as much and last only half as long as conventional tires, they panic.

TOM: And do crazy things ... like write to us!

RAY: The high-end Touring edi-

tion of the Odyssey came with run-flat tires. And run-flats are expensive. They have additional supports in the sidewall that allow them to hold up the weight of the car, even when there's no air in them.

TOM: The rims (aka wheels) that hold the run-flat tires are specially designed, too. They have large lips. Like my Aunt Brunhilda.

RAY: The lip, or "land," is the outside edge of the wheel, what the bead of the tire presses out against. The larger lip makes mounting any tire on that rim — even the run-flats — a challenge.

TOM: Some dealers can't even mount run-flats because they don't have the proper machine. Your dealer sounds like one of them. If you don't have the right equipment, you can cause the installer bodily injury and ruin the tire-pressure monitor that's built into the valve stem. That's why your Honda dealer is sending you elsewhere.

RAY: And you'd be well-advised to go elsewhere. The run-flat tires for your Odyssey sell for about \$240 each. The extra labor involved in mounting them adds about \$100 to the cost. But still, that's \$340 a tire instead of \$580.

TOM: I suppose if you were really determined to get rid of the run-

flats, you could buy a whole new set of regular wheels, and put a regular set of tires on them. But that would get pretty expensive, too. Plus you'd have to buy a spare tire, and you'd lose your car's tire-pressure monitoring system, since it's designed for the run-flat rims.

RAY: So I'd say the best of the bad options is to find a dealer who can sell you just the new run-flat tires, and suck it up, Mike. You're paying double what you'd normally pay for tires in exchange for the peace of mind of never having to change a tire by the side of a busy expressway. In the rain. Finding out that the lug nuts are too tight. And your spare is flat. We're trying to help you look on the bright side, Mike. Work with us here!

Putting out fires

Dear Tom and Ray:

My hubby is getting a '69 Dodge Coronet 440 restored, and the fellow who is doing the work has routed the new gas line through the wheel well. Is this a safety hazard? The car caught fire twice already (both were electrical fires), and the gas line is on my side of the car (passenger). I do keep a fire extinguisher next to me at all times when I ride with him, but I just want to know if I need to buy

another extinguisher to put out gas fires, too. — Linda

RAY: Should you carry another fire extinguisher with you? Yes — maybe two or three. A flame-retardant suit and a football helmet wouldn't be bad ideas, either.

TOM: Not so much because of the fuel line, but because the car has already tried to fry you twice. That's

terribly unsafe in the wheel well.

RAY: I don't think the fuel line is usually routed underneath the car, where it's subject to road debris and tall armadillos. So it's pretty tough.

TOM: On the other hand, in the wheel well it would be subject to debris being hurled at it from a spinning tire. And if you're going 75 miles an hour, some of the stuff coming off the tires could be going 150 mph. Or if you have a blowout, a piece of the tire itself could even strike the fuel line. And that may be



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more than the line is designed to take.

RAY: So I'd have him move it back to its normal position. Why not? In fact, it's probably easier to route it under the car than it is to take it through the wheel well.

TOM: I don't know why he put it there, Linda. But have him put it back in its traditional place. It's easy to do, and it'll mean one less fire you'll have to put out over the coming weeks.

□□□

To buy or not to buy — options, that is. Are options worth what you pay for them, or are you better off just going with the basics? Order Tom and Ray's pamphlet "Should I Buy, Lease, or Steal My Next Car?" to find out. Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Next Car, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

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

Odds & Ends

■ YONKERS, N.Y. — A homeowner used a kitchen fire extinguisher to beat back an intruder before catching him early Thursday, police said.

The homeowner woke up around 1:30 a.m. when he heard a man banging on the kitchen door and fumbling with the doorknob while trying to get in, police said. When the homeowner opened the door to see who was there, the man barged in.

The homeowner, fearing for the safety of his wife and children upstairs, grabbed the fire extinguisher, sprayed the intruder with foam, smacked him over the head and held him on the floor, said police, who arrested the thug and took him to a hospital.

The intruder, who was treated for minor injuries, was scheduled to be arraigned late Thursday in Yonkers City Court on a felony charge of second-degree attempted burglary, police said.

■ PORTLAND, Ore. — A 20-pound stray cat whose girth got him stuck in a pet door while trying to plunder some dog food was reunited with his owner Thursday.

Owner Geoff Ernest said the tubby tabby, Hercules, went missing while he was in Seattle for a lung transplant six months ago.

Jadwiga Drozdek, who lives in suburban Portland, found the feline stuck in the dog door of her home a few days ago, helped free him and gave him a plate of food on her patio.

While at the Humane Society, Hercules was diagnosed with Feline Immunodeficiency Virus, similar to HIV in humans.

The society says cats can live years with the virus and still make good pets, but owners should keep them indoors to keep it from spreading.

Veterinarians say about 40 percent of America's cats are obese, putting them at risk for a variety of diabetes-related disorders.

Hercules, meanwhile, has had his 15 minutes of fame, piling up stacks of hits on YouTube and other Web sites.

■ OSLO, Norway — Thirty-six years of suffering a guilty conscience finally has proven too much for a German who shoplifted from a small store while on vacation in Norway in 1970.

Seeking to make amends, he sent a check for \$375 to the small mountain town of Lom, and asked them to find the shopkeeper, Mayor Simen Bjoergen said on the town's Internet site on Thursday.

"For many years, my conscience has bothered me. With the enclosed check, I hope to free myself from that and request your help," wrote the German, whose name was not released. "I would also like to ask for forgiveness for the wrong I did so long ago."

In the letter, the man said he had been traveling in Scandinavia with his young brother and girlfriend, now his wife, when they stopped in Lom, a town of about 2,300 people 155 miles north of Oslo.

He said he shoplifted about \$15 worth of items from a local store, which he recalled only as "a souvenir shop with a big parking lot." He asked Bjoergen to find the shop owner and give him the check, and if that was not possible to use the money for a good cause.

Bjoergen finally found retired 78-year-old shop owner Gabriel Lund, who owned the Fjoset gift shop in 1970, and gave him the check.

In a letter to the German, the Mayor said Lund asked him to say "that he forgives you" and that he had given the money to the local retirement home to do something nice for its residents.

■ SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Brian Valentino sure picked the wrong hiding place to elude police. The 33-year-old burglary suspect was being transported yesterday to the Onondaga County jail in Syracuse when he kicked out a back window of the police car and dove headfirst through the opening.

Still handcuffed, Valentino ran a short distance and ducked into a building, where he ran down a hallway and hid behind a door.

There was one problem. His hiding spot was inside the headquarters of the county sheriff's office. Apparently, Valentino didn't notice the big yellow star on the entrance.

A retired deputy working part time in the building noticed the snow-covered, handcuffed man dash into the lobby. He followed him down the hall and held onto Valentino until the officer he escaped from arrived on the scene.

Valentino now faces additional charges for the escape attempt.

■ ATMORE, Ala. — A man shot a friend when the two got into an argument over James Brown's height, police said.

Dan Gulley Jr. was charged with assault in the shooting of David James Brooks Jr., police said.

Officers said the men were at a friend's home on Monday when, according to witnesses, the argument over the height of "The Godfather of Soul" escalated, with Gulley shooting Brooks twice in the abdomen. Brooks went to his car, got a gun and shot at Gulley but missed, then went to the police station, officers said.

Gulley, 70, also went to the station and told police he had shot Brooks. He remained in the Escambia County Jail on

Wednesday.

Police said Brooks, 62, was taken to a hospital. Information on his condition was not available.

The Press-Register of Mobile said officers did not believe alcohol was a factor in the argument.

Brown, who was known to wear lifts, died of heart failure Dec. 25 at age 73. Accounts of his height vary.

■ NEW PORT RICHEY, Fla. — Eve and Steven Greene made a simple plea to the burglar who broke into their house: Keep the valuables. Return the cremated remains of their 4-year-old son.

"Just drop it off somewhere with a note on it," Steven Greene said. "And that'll be that."

It worked. Someone left the urn containing the ashes of 4-year-old Zachary Greene at the end of the Greens' driveway Wednesday morning, two days after it was taken in a burglary.

Police said a burglar broke into the home, snacked on Cheerios and tracked mud all over the house as he filled pillowcases with about \$10,000 worth of valuables — and Zachary's ashes.

Zachary died of cancer in 2005. His parents kept the urn above their fireplace next to a Play Doh fire truck Zachary made before he died.

■ WISCONSIN RAPIDS, Wis. — The city will soon find out if its campaign to keep the stink out of a rink is working.

The Witter Field ice rink has a 2-year-old, \$196,000 warming house — as well as a not-so-savory reputation for its late-season odor.

Bill Mohr says visits to the rink often end back home at the washing machine to clean his daughters' winter clothes of the stink after they fall on the ice.

"You ask just about anybody who goes out there and they will tell you. ... It's almost like a sewer," Mohr said.

Dan Morzewski, relief supervisor with the city's Park and Recreation Department, said the problem isn't believed to be the ice but the dead grass beneath it.

In late January and February, sunshine heats the ground and causes an ooze of mud and grass that bubbles to the surface at soft spots in the ice, he said.

"We end up with what we call boils — areas where it boils up kind of like a volcano," Morzewski said. "It smells in my opinion like manure."

Because of the mild winter this year, the city has only opened the rink two days, but a cold snap this week allowed for reflooding the rink to reopen it for the rest of the season, he said.

If the weather cooperates, skaters should learn in coming

weeks whether the city solved the problem this year by scraping away the grass before flooding the rink.

Even if it works, there will be more questions for the city, Morzewski said — like whether it will be cost-effective to go through the scraping operation and then have to replant grass each spring.

■ TUCSON, Ariz. — Residents of a neighborhood next to the University of Arizona say small white rats have been swimming through sewer pipes and into their toilets.

Laura Hagen Fairbanks, spokeswoman for the county's Wastewater Management Department, said she doesn't know where the rodents come from, though they are the kind

researchers use in labs.

University representatives note that the same type of rats are sold in pet stores as food for snakes and other animals.

George Humphrey, spokesman for the Arizona Health Sciences Center, said university researchers follow strict guidelines for their lab specimens. Lab rats are euthanized, then double-bagged in biowaste plastic bags before they are taken to Phoenix and cremated.

"There would be no evidence that these are connected to us, and I wouldn't want that to become an urban myth," Humphrey said.

Hagen Fairbanks said no one knows why the rats are found in only one small area of town or why they show their faces only once or twice a

year.

Making it from the sewer up the lines into someone's toilet is a difficult trip, she said.

A four-inch wide pipe called the house connection sewer runs from the house to a sewer main. There's no "trap door" or other barrier in place, she said.

If the lines are running, the rats have to hold their breath and swim uphill in the pipes against the water current.

"If the rat makes it through your HCS, that's a determined rat," she said.

When calls come in, the department can dispose of the rat if the homeowner hasn't done so already. County workers then flush the sewer line as a precaution to keep any others from making their way up.

Lagoon

him at the outset. Here Lustig helps his film out tremendously by casting a post "Brat Pack" Judd Nelson in the role of the madman. Nelson swings for the fences here and succeeds admirably.

In what has to be his best screen outing, he resists the urge to make the killer an over-the-top madman and settles for crafting a socially inadequate loser who has been stripped of all self-esteem and willingness to live. The character is dying to be put out of his misery but doesn't have the courage to do so himself and instead begins hunting others in the hope that he will be put down without mercy. It's not your typical villain and Nelson understands that fact and relishes it.

He gets admirable support from screen veteran Robert Loggia, who is well cast as Dietz's partner who is just counting the days till he's ready to retire.

Despite the stellar leads it is

third-billed Leo Rossi who steals the film. It is a fine bit of stunt casting as audiences at the time this was released only knew Rossi as a sneering coward who incited the rape of Jodie Foster in 1988's "The Accused." Rossi is a revelation here and plays Dietz as a wise ass who has more on the ball than his partner or adversary gives him credit for. Despite not getting roles anywhere near as good since this film, you can still enjoy this character for the next three films in the series, though number two was so awful Rossi is about the only reason I'd recommend it.

Another reason to check this one out is an early screen appearance by Locky Lambert. Though the Internet Movie Database states she was born in Florida, this fine actress grew up in Floyd County and still drops by on occasion. Locky (or Elizabeth) began her movie career by

doing extensive work in the horror genre, with turns in "Class of Nuke'em High," "The Bare Fish Project" and "Witchcraft 3." Though she has since gone on to rack up plenty of TV gigs, with appearances on "Jack and Jill," among others, she did an admirable job of bringing class to plenty of B-movies. Here she has a small role as a victim who just happens to be in the wrong place at the wrong time.

So if you're a fan of horror movies you might just want to check out some of Locky's resume and keep an eye out for her when you grab a rental. Her best work is in a low-budget crime thriller called "Detour," in which she holds her own with accomplished thespians like Michael Madsen, Jeff Fahey and Gary Busey.

Best line: "I called to see if you were home. I have to kill you tonight." 1989, rated R.

Allen

lying down on the church lawn and giving up the ghost.

The undertaker wasn't looking for that kind of remains, so he told the preacher: "You're in the funeralizing business so why don't you take care of the body?"

"I could," retorted the

preacher, "but when I do, I always take time to notify the next of kin."

□□□

One fisherman told me that he heard a bluebird singing outside his window, Tuesday morning. Another suggested

we load up with nightcrawlers and go jigging. It was indicated that spring is just around the corner and that hope again was springing in the angler's breast. But by nightfall the jig was up, temporarily at least, for the snow was coming down.

Soup

focused on the wreath.

"Just see how thick and sound the grapevines are now, Emma. Remember how you insisted we plant those spindly things the very first year we moved to the farm?" Stilling her hand with his own, he guided her fingers around the broad circle.

"Why, looky here. Pampas grass. And cattails, two of them. One for you and one for me." Her tentative finger traced the velvety lengths.

"And, oh, sweetie, these beauties are clustered thick on the mountain ash. Nearly had to fight off the grackles to get them this year!"

Emma was smiling. Fred squeezed her hand and grinned back. If she couldn't tromp through the season herself, then he would bring those blessings to her. After all, it was a "time of plenty" — plenty of memories.

And Fred had gathered enough for both of them.

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■ Continued from p5

FLOYD COUNTY Sports

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Letcher Central holds off Ladycats

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

BETSY LAYNE – For one half, Betsy Layne controlled Wednesday's game against defending 14th Region champion Letcher County Central. Take away the third quarter and Betsy Layne was the better team. After being on the losing end of a 23-18 score at halftime, Letcher County Central outscored Betsy Layne 22-6 in the third quarter and held on in the final eight-minute frame, beating the Ladycats 52-48.

Ashley Sexton led Letcher County Central with a game-high 18 points. Sexton was one of two players to score a dozen or more points for the Lady Cougars. Tierra Baker tossed in

12 points for Letcher County Central. Sarah Brashear narrowly missed double figures for Letcher County Central, adding nine points.

The Lady Cougars were 18-of-28 from the free throw line. Betsy Layne limited Letcher County Central to just 14 successful field goals. Letcher County Central connected on a pair of three-point field goals as Sexton made a successful connection on each of the long-range tries.

The win was Letcher Central's third straight victory. The Lady Cougars improved to 12-4.

Betsy Layne outscored Letcher Central 12-8 in the first quarter. The Ladycats started strong and also had a stout effort late, outscoring Letcher County 19-12 in the final quarter

Taylor Hott led Betsy Layne with 18 points. Hott, who shared game-high scoring honors with Letcher Central's Sexton, made a game-high seven field goals.

Junior Kaitlin Lawson was the only other Betsy Layne player in double figures. Lawson tossed in 11 points for the Ladycats. Krista Flanery just missed double figures for Betsy Layne, scoring nine points.

Betsy Layne made 17 field goals and connected on 14-of-28 free throw attempts. The Ladycats didn't connect on any three-point field goal tries.

Megan Hamilton added three points and Amby Tackett and Lindsey Martin each had three for the Ladycats. Betsy Layne, due to the loss, dropped to 8-7.

Betsy Layne will meet Allen Central Monday at 7 p.m. at Paintsville in the opening round of the 15th Region Girls' All "A" Classic. Tipoff for the Betsy Layne-Allen Central tournament game is set for 7 p.m.

Letcher Central 52, Betsy Layne 48
LETCHEM CENTRAL (52) – Kincer 2, Baker 12, A. Sexton 18, Brashear 9, Mynster 4, B. Sexton 1, Griffie 6.
BETSY LAYNE (48) – Lawson 11, Flanery 9, Hamilton 4, Tackett 3, Martin 3, Hott 18.
Letcher Central.....8 10 22 12-52
Betsy Layne.....12 11 6 19-48



photo by Steve LeMaster
Lindsey Martin (1) scored three points in Betsy Layne's setback to Letcher County Central.

KHSAA Board approves FB State Finals schedule

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON – The Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA) approved championship game schedules for the 2007 football finals at its regular January meeting Thursday. Also as a part of the Association's outreach to professional educational organizations, Kentucky Association of School Superintendents President Dale Brown presented a report to the KHSAA Board on current educational initiatives of KASS.

The Board approved a two-day tripleheader for the 2007 State Football Championships to be played at Papa John's Cardinal Stadium in Louisville. Three games will be played on Friday, Dec. 7, followed by three games on Saturday, Dec. 8. Class games and times will be announced at a later date.

The move accommodates the expansion of the KHSAA State Football Finals from four classes to six.

Early-race mishap collects Kinzer in season-opener

TIMES STAFF REPORT

ALLEN – Brandon Kinzer kicked off his 2007 racing season over the weekend at the Talladega Short Track in Eastaboga, Ala. The Allen native timed his Kinzer Drilling Company/Eastco Supply/Quality Oil & Gas/Art's Radiator & Welding/Commonwealth Chiropractic Center No. 18 GRT machine in eighth fastest during qualifying on Saturday, Jan. 6 in the annual Ice Bowl. The qualifying effort gave Kinzer the inside second row starting spot in the fifth heat race.

Kinzer had a solid run going at the drop of the green flag in his heat race, but was involved in a first-lap incident that took him out of contention for the weekend. As Kinzer battled hard for the second spot on the bottom of the racetrack, a competitor squeezed him into the inside retaining wall, causing them both to spin.

STAYING BIG BLUE



photo by Jamie Howell
Talented wide receiver Keenan Burton (19) will return for his senior season at the University of Kentucky. Burton announced his decision Friday during a press conference.

Burton bypassing NFL, returning to Kentucky

by JEFFREY McMURRAY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON – Kentucky wide receiver Keenan Burton said Friday he will return to the Wildcats for his senior season.

"I think it would be in my best interest to return to Kentucky next season," Burton said at a news conference.

His father, Ed Burton, said before the press conference that he didn't know what his son planned to do.

The elder Burton said he won't pressure his son either way.

"I believe with my influence I could probably influence my son to come back to University of Kentucky football," Burton said. "But if I influence him to come back and he comes back and gets hurt, he'll point the finger at me. I want him to do what's best for him. He's the one who has to live with it."

With the 6-foot-2, 195-pound

receiver's return, Kentucky has back all of the key offensive playmakers on the team that beat Clemson last month in the Music City Bowl – the Wildcats' first bowl victory since 1984.

Earlier this week, junior running back Rafael Little – the team's top rusher the last two seasons – announced he would return.

Burton led the Wildcats in touchdowns (13), receptions (77), receiving yards (1,036) and all-purpose yards (1,845).

Going into the season, he appeared to be the only reliable target for quarterback Andre Woodson, whose 31 touchdown passes ranked third on Kentucky's all-time list. But receiver Dicky Lyons quickly established himself by catching multiple touchdown passes in three straight games.

With Lyons taking off some of the double-team pressure, Burton was able to match Lyons' feat later in the year and finish with a flourish.

Going pro was tempting, in large part because of his injury history. Although he never missed a football game while playing for Louisville Manual High School, injuries plagued Burton throughout his Kentucky career until this season.

After a promising freshman season in 2003, Burton suffered a hairline fracture in his wrist during practice prior to his sophomore year. After two games, he decided to take a medical redshirt.

Then, during his second attempt at playing as a sophomore last year, he broke his foot during the Wildcats' second game and was sidelined for four more.

He is good friends with Louisville running back Michael Bush, who broke his right leg in the season opener this year against Kentucky. Bush said earlier this week that he would leave school early to enter the draft.

OBI blasts Piarist

TIMES STAFF REPORT

ONEIDA – Through one quarter Thursday night, visiting Piarist School found itself within a couple of shots of drawing even with host Oneida Baptist Institute. The final three quarters, however, spelled defeat for the Knights. After leading 28-15 at the half, OBI pull away and beat Piarist 62-32.

Eight different Oneida Baptist players dented the scoring column. Seventh-grader Shawn Arthur paced Oneida Baptist with a game-high 14 points. Arthur was one of three players in double figures for the Mountaineers.

Oneida Baptist put the game out of Piarist's reach in the third quarter, outscoring the Knights 20-6 in the first frame after the intermission.

Jake Moak led Piarist with a team-high eight points. Chris Baker scored seven points for the

(See OBI, page eight)

Bears stunned at Newark

TIMES STAFF REPORT

NEWARK, Ohio – For the second straight game, the Pikeville College Bears were outplayed in the second half and lost for the second straight game, losing to Ohio State-Newark 98-85 Wednesday night.

Four days after losing a four-point halftime lead in suffering a 14-point loss to Savannah College of Art & Design, the Bears led by eight at recess on Wednesday night only to be outscored 58-37 down the stretch by a determined OSU-Newark squad.

The win for the Titans avenges a 78-50 loss suffered to the Bears on Nov. 26 in Pikeville.

And for the Bears, it was the seventh loss in as many road games this season and their 18th consecutive loss on an opponent's home floor, dating back to Feb. 16, 2005 when they knocked off Campbellsville University 58-55.

Sophomore Bo Harris led the

(See BEARS, page eight)

Reds announce cities, dates for 2007 Winter Caravan

TIMES STAFF REPORT

CINCINNATI – The 2007 Cincinnati Reds Winter Caravan, sponsored by Cincinnati USA Regional Tourism Network, is scheduled to make 26 stops in 21 cities and towns in four states covering four days and 1,300 miles. The caravan kicks off Thursday, Jan. 25 and will include 13 fan stops that will be open to the public, 12 Hot Stove stops at Reds on Radio affiliates, a field renovation dedication ceremony in Louisville and a visit to Shriners Hospital for Children in Lexington.

The 2007 version will consist of two separate caravans touring simul-

taneously. The 13 stops open to the public will be free, and at each stop the Reds will raffle off two tickets to the 2007 Opening Day game against the Chicago Cubs.

Last year's Caravan made eight stops and covered 1,165 miles. The 2006 edition of the Caravan included a stop in Ashland as fans from several Eastern Kentucky counties were in attendance.

The very popular Reds Winter Caravan provides fans with the opportunity to interact with Reds executive vice president and general manager Wayne Krivsky, manager Jerry Narron, players, broadcasters and other members of the front office

staff. At each stop, the group will field questions from fans, sign autographs and pose for photographs. Sales representatives will be on hand to discuss season tickets and group sales, while the Reds Hall of Fame and Museum, the Reds Community Fund and Cincinnati USA Regional Tourism Network also will attend selected stops.

Already scheduled to appear in stops on the Northern Leg are Narron, pitcher Todd Coffey, outfielder Chris Dickerson, new Reds broadcaster Thom Brennaman and senior vice president of business operations Phil Castellini.

The Southern Leg group includes

Krivsky, executive vice president and chief operating officer John Allen, Hall of Fame broadcaster Marty Brennaman, infielder Brandon Phillips and the organization's Minor League Player of the Year, which will be announced at the LaSalle High School stop Jan. 24.

Two area cities – one in West Virginia and the other in Kentucky – will host the Winter Caravan.

Huntington Mall will host the Caravan Saturday, Jan. 28 from 2 to 3 p.m.

The Reds Winter Caravan will make a stop in Boyd County at the Ashland Town Center Saturday, Jan. 28, visiting from noon to 2 p.m.

YOUTH BASEBALL SIGNUPS

HAP Little League
Sunday, Jan. 14, 1-5 p.m. at the Betsy Layne Dome

Sunday, Jan. 21, 1-5 p.m. at the Betsy Layne Dome

Prestonsburg Little League
Saturday, Jan. 20, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at Adams Middle School during Prestonsburg JuniorBasketball

Saturday, Jan. 27, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at Adams Middle School during Prestonsburg Junior Basketball

OBI

Knights. Josh Ousley and Caleb Hoskins each tossed in six points for the Knights while Zach Parsons contributed five.

Oneida Baptist led 14-10 at the end of the first quarter.

With the win, Oneida Baptist improved to 5-6. Following the loss, Piarist dropped to 3-14.

Oneida Baptist 62, Piarist

32

PIARIST (3-14) — Ousley 6, Moak 8, Baker 7, Hoskins 6, Parsons 5.

ONEIDA BAPTIST (5-6) — Sahey 4, Smith 7, Brown 5, Moss 13, Arthur 14, Hensley 4, Somowou 11, Holcomb 4.

Piarist.....10 5 6 11-32

Oneida Baptist.....14 14 20 14-62

Continued from p7

Bears

Bears with 30 points, scoring 22 in the second half. Senior Will Holloman tossed in 23, having 15 at the break.

Senior Donald Thomas chipped in with 14.

Newark (12-7) was paced by Joe Swartz, who had 30 thanks to knocking down five three-point shots, four coming in the second half. Kelon

Continued from p7

Broadus tossed in 28, with Kevin Seals chipping in 17 and Freddie Biehl adding 15.

Pikeville (8-10) will be back in action on Jan. 20 when it begins play in the Mid-South Conference by visiting West Virginia Tech. Tipoff is slated for 4 p.m.

Reds get INF Keppinger from Royals

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — The Reds obtained infielder Jeff Keppinger from the Kansas City Royals on Wednesday for minor league pitcher Russ Haltiwanger.

Keppinger, 26, was traded by the Mets to the Royals last July 19. He hit .300 in 87 games for Triple-A Norfolk

and .354 in 22 games for Triple-A Omaha. He also played in 22 games for the Royals, hitting .267 with two homers.

Haltiwanger, 22, spent last season at Class A Dayton, going 0-4 with one save and a 4.15 ERA in five starts and 35 relief appearances.

To make room for Keppinger on the 40-man roster, the Reds designated infielder Ray Olmedo for assignment to the minors. Olmedo, 25, hit .282 in 100 games for Triple-A Louisville last season. He also appeared in 30 games for the Reds, hitting .205.

Archer resigns as UK Defensive Coordinator

LEXINGTON — Mike Archer, defensive coordinator at the University of Kentucky, has resigned in order to accept another coaching position.

Archer has been the defensive coordinator at UK for the past four seasons, working to build a unit that has been challenged by low scholarship numbers, injuries, and inexperience. Archer's patient building began showing signs of improvement during the 2006 season, as the Wildcats posted an 8-5 record, including a 28-20 victory over Clemson in the Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl.

After allowing 34.1 points per game in 2005, UK improved to 28.4 points per game during the 2006 season. The Wildcats also generated 32 takeaways on defense and the turnover margin of +15 will put UK as one of the top teams in the nation in that category when final NCAA statistics are released. The defense played some of its best football in the final two games of the season in a 17-12 loss to Tennessee in Knoxville, followed by the bowl win in which the Wildcats surrendered only six points until the fourth quarter and also held

the powerful Clemson running game well below its season average.

"I appreciate everything Mike Archer has put into the UK program," Coach Rich Brooks said. "Obviously, we had a very difficult rebuilding job but he got it done this year with a relatively young defensive group. We wish him well. Karen and I have enjoyed Mike and Barbara personally as friends and we're sorry to see them go. We'll be making an announcement on a replacement soon."

"I greatly appreciate what Coach Brooks has done in sup-

port of me," Archer said. "I also thank our coaches, our players, and our fans. The bowl game was a great experience, something I'll never forget, especially how our fans turned out for the 'Cat Walk' before the game. I'm looking forward to the next opportunity and challenge."

A native of State College, Pa., Archer played his college football at Miami (Fla.). He has coached at Miami, LSU, Virginia, Kentucky (1993-95), and the Pittsburgh Steelers before returning for a second stint at UK in 2003.

- TIMES STAFF REPORT

IROC to start of '07 season

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

TINTON FALLS, N.J. — The International Race of Champions (IROC) officials on Tuesday announced a delay in the start of the 2007 season due to not having a title sponsor.

The traditional IROC season opener at Daytona in February will not take place while the Series continues to pursue a new title sponsor.

"We're very disappointed about not making it to Daytona this year and we're working very hard to find a title sponsor," IROC President Jay Signore said. "Our hopes are to find a new title sponsor in enough time to be able to have

a full four-race season within 2007.

"I want to thank Robin Braig and his entire staff at Daytona International Speedway for all of their patience and support during this difficult period. All of IROC's partners and associates have been, and continue to be, very loyal and supportive of our efforts to continue the IROC Series."

The elite All-Star invitational competition, which matches 12 drivers from different disciplines of auto racing in equally prepared cars, celebrated its 30th anniversary season in 2006 with NASCAR Nextel Cup champion Tony Stewart winning the \$1 million IROC championship.

All plans regarding the remainder of 2007 are pending the procurement of a title sponsor.

MSU clips EKU in overtime

TIMES STAFF REPORT

RICHMOND — In its first overtime game of the season, the Eastern Kentucky women's basketball team fell 91-88 to Morehead State in two extra stanzas Thursday night. With the loss, their fourth straight, the Lady Colonels drop to 5-11, 2-5 in the league while the Lady Eagles improve to 6-10, 5-2.

In double overtime, Morehead State connected on two consecutive field goals to go ahead by three points with 17.5 seconds left and the Lady Colonels missed their final shot of the night.

Senior Andrea Jenkins and junior Niki Avery led the Lady Colonels, each scoring 20 points. Both Jenkins and classmate Tamika Bowers were one rebound shy of double-doubles with nine rebounds a piece.

Following three tie scores, Eastern Kentucky took a three-point lead (9-6) at the 16:30 mark off a three-point basket from junior Ashley Caze. The Lady Colonels twice went ahead by five points before the Lady Eagles jumped in front (20-19) midway through the opening stan-

za with Tarah Combs' basket from the top of the key.

Morehead State used a 9-0 run, during which Eastern Kentucky missed four shots and turned the ball over on three consecutive possessions, to build five point lead before going ahead by as many as eight.

Sophomore Lauren Dubbert's three-point basket ignited an 11-0 scoring run from the Lady Colonels and with just under two minutes remaining, in the midst of the run, Eastern Kentucky regained the advantage (32-31) with a Crystal Jones' jumper. Both teams closed the half with an additional basket as the Lady Colonels took a 34-33 into the locker room at the break.

In the second half, the Lady Colonels rattled off seven unanswered points, capped off by a Jenkins' lay-up, to take an eight point lead (51-43), their largest of the contest, with 12:05 remaining in the game.

With just over eight minutes left, Morehead State battled back to knot the score at 54 and took a two point lead with a pair of free throws a minute later.

With 5:05 on the clock, Avery's three-point field goal gave the Lady Colonels' a three point edge but Morehead State again tied the score (61-61) at the 3:50 mark. Less than two minutes later, Avery restored Eastern Kentucky's lead but the Lady Eagles went back in front on their next possession.

A C. Jones' lay-up got Eastern Kentucky within one point and after a quick Lady Colonel foul, Morehead State, in the double bonus, connected on one of two free throws to take a 73-71 lead. With 6.2 seconds on the clock, C. Jones hit a pair of free throws to tie the game at 73 and Morehead State was unable to score on its final possession, forcing overtime.

In overtime, Eastern Kentucky held a two point lead with 17 seconds left but LaKrisha Brown's field goal evened the score with 1.2 seconds left. With a Lady Colonel foul on the basket, Morehead State had a chance to take the lead but Brown missed the free throw attempt.

Amanda Green led the visitors with 31 points, going 13-of-20 from the field, and added eight rebounds.

TVs, iPods help some exercisers, break mind-body connection of serious-mined

by MICHAEL HILL ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jennifer Unruh can run a mile in two songs.

"I've got it figured out," said Unruh, who moves to the beat of Van Halen and The Fray on her iPod. "Usually, every song lasts about four minutes. I run a mile in a little over eight. So if I can get through two songs, I know I'm a mile though my run."

Gyms are jammed with people like Unruh — the guy on the treadmill watching ESPN, the aerobic class bouncing to "Hollaback Girl," the spinner reading Self magazine. Words, images and especially songs can provide inspiration for exercisers, as well as a distraction from tedium and discomfort.

Unruh, director of wellness support at the YMCA of Metropolitan Atlanta, uses her songs-per-mile mind games as a way to keep engaged.

But are those distractions good or bad for exercisers? Researchers say it cuts both ways. Yes, a dose of video or audio can inspire better workouts. But distractions can also hurt performance. In a way, music can add some static to the mind-body connection.

Since the dawn of the Walkman, headphones have been as important as sneakers to many exercisers. Jacqueline Wojtusik, a fashion designer who lives near Albany, N.Y., and wears headphones for her regular workouts, listens to disco, '80s dance, electronic — anything as long as it has a fast beat.

"If it has a higher beat per minute," she said, "then I tend to stay with that beat."

Science is on her side.

In a 2005 study, British researchers put 18 undergraduates on stationary bicycles to pedal either to silence or to "popular electronic dance music" on headphones. Participants worked about 13 percent harder to the up-tempo music compared to silence. One of the researchers, Sam Carr, suggested in an e-mail interview that music competes with an exercisers' awareness of how hard they're breathing, or how much their legs ache.

Psychologists sometimes

use the phrase "dissociation effect" to describe distractions like music and TV, and they have found it can have other benefits.

Dr. James Annesi, a health psychologist who works at the same Atlanta YMCA as Unruh, found that novice exercisers given a choice of TV or music were more apt to stick with an exercise program than those told to focus only on their exertions or people limited to one type of media. If the gyms look like media centers, that's fine by Annesi, as long as it encourages people to exercise.

"The more dissociation the better, the more we can distance the people from their discomfort," he said.

Still, athletes digging deep for peak performance would do well to ditch the headphones and focus on their bodies. Studies have shown that the more distracted the athlete, the slower the times, said Ohio University psychology professor Benjamin Ogles.

"If you want to maintain a high level of intensity, you pretty much have to focus on your body," he said.

This is related to the belief that noisy gadgets interfere with the intensely focused mental state many athletes refer to as "flow." For instance, visitors to the Kripalu Center for Yoga & Health, in Stockbridge, Mass., are encouraged to leave the headphones behind. Jennifer Young, director of healthy living programs, said she wants to keep visitors' mind-body connections strong.

Hikers at Kripalu are coached to "scan" their bodies by concentrating sequentially on their ankles, hips, shoulders and so on. Even during weightlifting — an activity linked more to Metallica than meditation — people are asked to visualize what their muscles are doing, or to focus on their breathing.

"Don't turn out and turn off," Young said, "because then there's that underlying signal, 'Oh, working out is something I don't want to do. I'm escaping it by doing this.'"

Even Anna Fyodorova, a triathlete from New York City who calls the iPod one of the "greatest creations made" for training, sees its limits. When other runners wore their earbuds during a recent 60 kilometer race, she decided against it.

"When you're racing, you have to concentrate," she said, "you have to be totally in the moment."



FOURS — Above, left: Betsy Layne's Justin Collins (4) fired up a shot against heavy defensive pressure during a Floyd County Conference/58th District game against county rival South Floyd. Above, right: Prestonsburg's Mason Vance defended a Shedlon Clark player earlier in the week.



SHOOTING ON NEW HARDWOOD: University of Kentucky head coach Tubby Smith lofted a shot Thursday inside the school's new men's basketball practice facility.

photo courtesy of UK Athletics

Billberry named KHSAA Assistant Commissioner

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON – Darren Bilberry has been hired as an Assistant Commissioner for the Kentucky High School Athletic Association, KHSAA Commissioner Brigid DeVries announced. Bilberry fills the vacancy created with the retirement of Assistant Commissioner Roland Williams, who left in December following four and one-half years service to the Association. Bilberry

brings a wide array of experience to the Association with over 14 years working in athletics and education. He most recently worked in the Fayette County Public School System, teaching secondary students while serving as an assistant football coach at Henry Clay High School.

"We are excited to have Darren join the KHSAA staff," Commissioner Brigid DeVries said. "His experience working within the school system both on the field and in

the classroom will be of great benefit."

Bilberry's other past experience includes stints with the University of Kentucky Advising Service and Transfer Center as an Academic Advisor; the University of Kentucky Athletics Department as an Academic Counselor; Southern Illinois University Athletics Department as an Academic Coordinator for Student-Athletes; and Auburn University as an Academic Counselor

for Student Athletes.

"I am excited about joining the KHSAA staff, because I feel sports more so than any other endeavor is essential to instilling values such as discipline, leadership, and teamwork into young people," Bilberry said. "I look forward to the opportunity to use my past experiences in athletics to help the association continue to move forward with its mission." Bilberry is a 1985 graduate of Fort Knox High School and was an All-

State honoree on the football field for the Eagles. Playing under Coach Jerry Claiborne, Bilberry was a three-year letterman for the University of Kentucky football team from 1987-89 and he received Academic All-Southeastern Conference honors in 1989. He and his wife Cathy are the proud parents of two girls, Emma (7) and Jane (5) and the family resides in Lexington. Bilberry will begin his duties with the KHSAA Feb. 1.

Little League signs 8-year TV contract extension with ESPN

TIMES STAFF REPORT

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa. – Little League International has signed an eight-year television contract extension with ESPN that will expand national coverage to include all eight of its baseball and softball world series tournaments, it was announced today by Stephen D. Keener, president and chief executive officer of Little League Baseball and Softball, and John Skipper, executive vice president, content, ESPN, Inc.

At least 49 games in all eight divisions of Little League Baseball and Softball will be televised nationally each year starting in August 2007. The U.S. and World Championship games in the Little League Baseball World Series will again be televised on ABC, with

other games appearing on ESPN's expanding family of networks. Previously, the greatest number of Little League games to be televised nationally was 43, in 2006.

"Having Little League games on national television has helped us communicate the benefits of our program to millions of viewers annually since 1963," Keener said. "We're grateful that our partners at ESPN share that vision, and we are pleased to announce that the coverage has now expanded to all divisions of Little League play. We also are pleased to announce that this new contract means that Little League International will be able to provide more than \$1 million in direct financial benefits to local Little League programs."

The multimedia agreement includes coverage across 15 ESPN

platforms – ESPN on ABC, ESPN, ESPN2, ESPN HD and ESPN2 HD, ESPN Classic, Spanish-language ESPN Deportes, ESPNEWS, ESPN, ESPN International, ESPN Radio, ESPN.com, ESPN360 (the company's growing interactive and customizable broadband service), Mobile ESPN Publishing (ESPN's wireless content licensing business) and other ESPN-branded services (i.e. iPod, video-on-demand, etc.).

"Little League Baseball captures the heart of sport – a balance of competitiveness, sportsmanship, and passion for the game," Mr. Skipper said. "This new deal will allow fans to enjoy – any way they choose – these moments that touch so many."

In 2007, for the first time, all 32 games of the Aug. 17-26 Little League Baseball World Series in Williamsport, Pa., will be televised

on ABC, ESPN, or ESPN2.

In addition, ESPN and ESPN2 will continue to carry all eight of the U.S. Regional Championship finals in the Little League Baseball division. The U.S. regional finals have been televised by ESPN and ESPN2 every year since 1997.

In this photo, two Little League Softball players prepare for their scene. The players in each of the PSAs are wearing uniforms from the Official Little League Uniform Program. Local Little Leagues can purchase uniforms like these, with any lettering desired, at XP Apparel

The two semifinal games and the World Championship game of the Little League Softball World Series (11-12-year-olds), scheduled for Aug. 9-15 in Portland, Ore., will be televised on ESPN or ESPN2.

The championship games of the

following tournaments also will be televised on ESPN or ESPN2: Junior League Baseball (13-14-year-olds), at Taylor, Mich., Aug. 12-18; Senior League Baseball (14-16-year-olds), at Bangor, Maine, Aug. 12-18; Big League Baseball (16-18-year-olds), at Easley, S.C., July 28-Aug. 4; Junior League Softball (13-14-year-old girls), at Kirkland, Wash., Aug. 12-18; Senior League Softball (14-16-year-old girls), at Lower Sussex, Del., Aug. 5-11; and Big League Softball (16-18-year-old girls), at Kalamazoo, Mich., Aug. 13-18.

The contract extension calls for more than 390 Little League Baseball and Softball tournament games to be televised nationally through 2014, which will mark the 75th anniversary of Little League's first season, in 1939.

KHSAA basketball stats now online

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON – The Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA) started its weekly basketball stats rankings Thursday. Stats are posted on the KHSAA website under the basketball sports link. Rankings will be compiled weekly throughout the remainder of the regular season. A final season ranking (including postseason games) will be conducted on April 15. Individual school-by-

school stats reports are posted on the Riherd's/KHSAA Scoreboard as they are received from member schools.

Tickets to the 2007 National City/KHSAA Boys' and Houchens/KHSAA Girls' State Basketball Tournaments continue to be on sale through the KHSAA office and online at khsaa.org. At this time, only full tournament sets of tickets (one ticket to each of the eight sessions) are available. Lower arena seats are priced at \$108 each and

upper arena seats are priced at \$58 each. Tickets will be on sale through the KHSAA until Feb. 23. Beginning March 2, tickets will only be available through the Rupp Arena (boys) and Diddle Arena (girls) box offices and/or the venue's respective online ticketing agent.

Following are the dates for the 2007 National City/KHSAA Boys' & Houchens/KHSAA Girls' State Basketball Tournaments: Houchens/KHSAA Girls' Sweet 16,

March 14-17, WKU E.A. Diddle Arena, Bowling Green. National City/KHSAA Boys' Sweet 16, March 21-24, Rupp Arena, Lexington.

UPCOMING KHSAA EVENTS – Jan. 29-Feb. 3: Regional Swimming & Diving Meets; Feb. 9-10: State Swimming & Diving Meet; Feb. 9-10: Regional Wrestling Tournaments; Feb. 15-17: State Wrestling Championships; Feb. 26-March 3: District Boys' and Girls' Basketball Tournaments.

15th REGION GIRLS ALL "A" BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

PHELPS
Monday - Jan. 15th - 3:00pm

SHELDON CLARK

SOUTH FLOYD
Monday - Jan. 15th - 5:00pm

PIKEVILLE

BYE

PAINTSVILLE
Friday - Jan. 19th - 7:00pm

PAINTSVILLE

ALLEN CENTRAL
Monday - Jan. 15th - 7:00pm

BETSY LAYNE

Hosted By PAINTSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL
Jan. 15th, 16th & 19th, 2007

Sponsored By Appalachian WIRELESS



ALL 'A' BOUND: The Betsy Layne Ladycats will meet the Allen Central Runnin' Rebels Monday during the opening round of the 15th Region All "A" Classic. South Floyd, pictured in regular-season district/conference action against Betsy Layne, will take on Pikeville Monday in another opening round game.



Garrett beats Gate City foe

TIMES STAFF REPORT

CARR CREEK – Garrett Christian hosted Gate City Christian Academy Tuesday at the historic Carr Creek Gymnasium in a matchup that

featured balanced scoring from the home team. The Garrett Christian Warriors had one their most balanced offensive efforts of the season as 10 different players broke into the scoring column. Garrett started the game on a successful note and never looked back. The Warriors led from start to finish on their way to a 68-48 win. Three different Garrett players reached double figures as the Warriors posted the 20-point win.

Matthew Potter paced the Warriors with 13 points. Jan Hicks and Wes Prater followed closely with 10 points apiece for Garrett Christian.

Kyle Green narrowly missed double figures for the Warriors, finishing with nine points. Andrew Zabo added eight points for Garrett Christian in the victory. Travis Johnson finished with seven points for Garrett and Kyle Hamilton added four.

'White Out' set for Jan. 22 in Freedom Hall

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

LOUISVILLE – White will certainly be fashionable on Jan. 22. University of Louisville men's basketball fans are encouraged to wear white for the Cardinals' Jan. 22 game against Connecticut in an effort to "White Out" Freedom Hall. ESPN will televise the 7 p.m. Big Monday contest.

"The Miami Heat, U of L football and others have had similar events with great success," said Louisville Coach Rick Pitino. "It's a fun way to everyone to get involved and enhance the game atmosphere. It's tough to

find people today who can come up with an all-white outfit. I know our fans will get creative and see what they can do. Of course, everyone will want to make sure they stay in fashion and keep it winter white."

The official T-shirt for the "White Out" event is currently available in Louisville area stores Dawahare's and JD Becker, as well as the game day merchandise booths in Freedom Hall operated by Centerplate. A similar "Black Out" promotion for the Cardinals' Nov. 2 football game against West Virginia in Papa John's Cardinal Stadium this season was highly successful, with nearly every U of L fan in attendance wearing black at the game.

Louisville 81, South Florida 55

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TAMPA, Fla. – With Louisville's top frontcourt player sidelined by injury, coach Rick Pitino made some hasty adjustments that worked to perfection.

With Juan Palacios sitting out because of a bruised wrist that made him an offensive liability the previous four games, Terrence Williams had 17 points and Brandon Jenkins keyed a decisive second-half surge to help the Cardinals (11-5, 1-1 Big East) rebound from losing their confer-

ence opener 78-62 at Notre Dame.

Jenkins finished 5-of-6, including all four of his 3-point attempts, and scored eight straight points to thwart South Florida's last push to get back in the game early in the second half.

Jenkins scored 14 points. Edgar Sosa had 12 and David Padgett and Jerry Smith added 11 apiece for Louisville, which started three guards and two forwards. The 6-foot-6 Williams led the Cardinals with nine rebounds.

Kentrell Gransberry led South Florida (9-8, 0-3) with 19 points and eight rebounds. Melvin Buckley had 15 points for the Bulls, who have lost 18 of 19 Big East games since entering the league last season.

South Florida was held to a pair of field goals by Gransberry in the first seven minutes of the game and never fully recovered.

The Bulls trimmed a 10-point deficit to six late in the first half. However, Louisville answered with Chris Current's 3-pointer and two free throws by Padgett to rebuild the lead to double figures.

It was 27-19 at the half, and the closest South Florida would get the rest of the way was four.

Louisville made 13 3-pointers and shot 53 percent overall. South Florida shot 42 percent and was held to three field goals in the final eight minutes.

Meyer starts focusing on Florida's future

by MARK LONG
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Florida coach Urban Meyer posed for countless pictures with four different national championship trophies Tuesday, smiling for every shot.

When the moderator asked photographers, "Is everybody good?" Meyer responded, "Awful."

There's little doubt Meyer would rather have been somewhere else, most likely recruiting and getting ready for next season. Believe it or not, he's got a big job ahead.

The Gators could lose as many as 17 starters from their championship team, including six underclassmen and 10 defensive starters. Meyer, of course, hopes to use Florida's 41-14 drubbing of Ohio State to boost recruiting and reload for another title run.

If he were a recruit, Meyer said, "I know where I would want to go. Am

I allowed to say that for recruiting? Say that again. Print that. I know where I would want to go. Our guys have a lot of fun playing.

"What's the future look like? I think it looks really good. That's part of the reason why our staff went to Florida, because you can recruit the best players in the country at that place."

Meyer plans to sign 27 recruits next month, including 10 who were expected to enroll in classes Monday and go through spring practice.

Many of the freshmen could play next season, too, especially with so many losses.

Quarterback Chris Leak, receivers Jemalle Cornelius and Dallas Baker, center Steve Rissler, running back DeShawn Wynn and fullback Billy Latsko are seniors. So are defensive linemen Steven Harris, Ray McDonald and Joe Cohen, linebackers Earl Everett and Brian Crum and cornerback Reggie Lewis. Even

punter Eric Wilbur and place-kicker Chris Hetland are gone.

Then there are the juniors.

Defensive end Jarvis Moss, safety Reggie Nelson, receiver Andre Caldwell and cornerback Ryan Smith are expected to jump to the NFL. Linebacker Brandon Siler and defensive end Derrick Harvey also might join them in the draft.

Moss, Nelson, Smith, Caldwell and Siler already sent paperwork to the NFL's advisory council, which gives underclassmen an idea where they might get drafted if they leave school early.

"I want to break the news to my coaches before I say anything," Moss said following the blowout.

Added Smith: "I can't talk about that until I speak to my coaches."

Meyer said Tuesday he had a feeling who might stay and who might leave.

"Our feeling is if it is for the right reasons, God bless you, go get it, we

are supporting you," he said. "The one thing about Florida guys from here on out will be very well-educated decisions about whether they go out or not."

Underclassmen have until Monday to apply for the draft.

In the meantime, the Gators will continue celebrating their second football national championship and second title in nine months. The men's basketball team won its first championship in April.

The football team flew back to Gainesville on Tuesday, and selected players were to be honored at half-time of Florida's basketball game against Arkansas. Quarterback Chris Leak also was to appear on the as a guest on "The Tonight Show" with Jay Leno.

A championship celebration was scheduled for Saturday inside Ben Hill Griffin Stadium.

Although Meyer surely will enjoy the festivities, he might also catch

himself thinking about his rebuilding task for next season. He already envisions offensive changes that include quarterback Tim Tebow running more option-style plays and Percy Harvin having an expanded role.

"It is Tim Tebow's team as of right now," Meyer said. "It is Tim Tebow's team and a lot of these young players will have to pick up the slack."

Leak, for one, believes they're ready.

"We expect these guys to be right back in this position next year," Leak said. "That's what you expect out of the Gator team every season, to compete for an SEC and national title. That (would be) a great thing to be able to get here two years in a row because not too many teams are able to do that."

"They're a very young and talented group. They have a lot of success ahead of them. They're learning now how to prepare for these big games."

Little remaining at Kentucky; skipping out on NFL draft

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — Tailback Rafael Little has announced that he will forego this year's National Football League draft and will remain at the University of Kentucky for his senior season.

"I have a lot of things to improve on," Little said of his decision. "I enjoy all our coaches and my teammates. I've had a great time at UK and I'm excited about the (upcoming) season. And, it will help me get my degree."

Little helped lead the Wildcats to an 8-5 record this season, capped by a win over Clemson in the Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl. Little played in nine games, missing four because of a knee injury sustained on Sept. 9 vs. Texas State. He tried to play with the injury, but finally had arthroscopic surgery on Oct. 9 and missed the next three games. He returned for the Vanderbilt game and played as if he'd never been away, delivering a dominating performance with 246 rushing and receiving yards in UK's victory over the Commodores.

For the season, Little was the team's leading rusher with 619 yards, averaging 5.0 yards per carry, with three touchdowns. He caught 29 passes for 377 yards and two TDs. He averaged 22.6 yards per punt return and would have led the nation in that category but he did not play in enough games to qualify.

Little enjoyed a fabulous sophomore season in 2005, when he led the Southeastern Conference in all-purpose yardage and punt returns, ranking fifth in the nation in both categories. He rushed for 1,045 yards that year,

only the sixth player in school history to accomplish that feat, and also led the team in pass receiving. His 16.9-yard punt return average and 1,982 all-purpose yards set school records. He was named Sophomore All-America and first-team All-Southeastern Conference.

"Obviously, we're pleased to have Rafael back," Coach Rich Brooks said. "He needs, and we need to help him, strengthen his position for next year's draft by working on the things he needs to improve."

Returning for his senior season also

will enable Little to enhance his position as one of the most outstanding players in Kentucky football history. He is sixth on the UK career rushing list with 1,983 yards and fifth on the all-purpose yardage chart with 3,856 yards. He is nearing the school's all-time top-10 list for pass receptions and needs only 23 receiving yards to reach 1,000 in his career. He already rates as the single-season and career record holder for punt returns.

The deadline for college juniors to apply for the NFL draft is Monday.

Mahoney's jumper gives UK win over Alabama

TIMES STAFF REPORT

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Junior guard Samantha Mahoney's (Detroit) five-foot jumper with 1.8 seconds remaining Thursday allowed Kentucky to escape Coleman Coliseum with a 63-62 victory over Alabama — its first win in Tuscaloosa since the 2003 season. The Wildcats, who trailed for the majority of the game, were forced to overcome a seven-point halftime deficit for the win.

Kentucky (13-4, 2-0 Southeastern Conference), which trailed 62-59 with 46 seconds remaining, scored the final four points of the game as junior center Sarah Elliott (McKee) knocked in a shot with 35.4 seconds remaining. The Cats forced a steal with 19 seconds left, but a three-pointer by senior guard Jenny Pfeiffer (North Vernon, Ind.) went off the mark. UK instantly fouled Alabama's Talisha Chandler,

who missed her charity shot to set up Mahoney's heroics.

Mahoney finished with a team-high 20 points, while Pfeiffer followed with 16 points including three clutch three-pointers. Elliott recorded her eighth consecutive double-figure scoring performance with 15 points, including 13 in the second half.

Kentucky, which led only five times during the game, shot 36.7 percent (22-of-60) from the floor and was forced to overcome a hot shooting night by the Crimson Tide. Alabama connected on 48.1 percent (25-of-52) of its shots from the field, but was forced into 24 turnovers that resulted in 25 points by the Wildcats. UK was out-rebounded (40-31) for just the fifth time this season and was led by senior forward/center Jennifer Humphrey's (Memphis, Tenn.) eight boards. Humphrey also dished out a career-high nine assists.

Freshman forward Lydia Watkins

(Hopkinsville) was one point shy of her career high with seven points, all of which came in the first half. Pfeiffer and Watkins led a strong effort by the Kentucky bench, which outscored the Alabama reserves 26-10.

The Crimson Tide took a 32-25 advantage into the locker room at halftime after shooting an impressive 54.2 percent (13-of-24) from the floor. Leading scorer Kate Mastin had 11 points in the opening period and was a perfect 5-for-5 from the field. The two teams combined for 23 turnovers in the first half. Alabama broke to an early 10-4 advantage at the 14:46 mark of the first half thanks to its sharpshooter Kate Mastin. Kentucky, however, forced four turnovers on Alabama's next five possessions and used a 5-0 run over the next 1:14 to pull within one, 10-9. The Wildcats took their first lead of the game at 14-13 after a three-pointer by

Pfeiffer and a jumper by Watkins on back-to-back possessions. From there, the Crimson Tide used an 8-2 run to go ahead 21-16 with 7:11 remaining until intermission. Alabama held its largest lead of the game, 32-23, with 49 seconds left in the opening period.

The Wildcats stormed out of the locker room with the first six points of the second half, including four from Mahoney, before the Crimson Tide scored four consecutive points to go up 36-31. After two three-pointers by Pfeiffer, including a four-point play, gave UK a 40-38 advantage, Alabama scored five in a row to go back in front by three with 11:39 left. The Cats led by as many as four, 51-47, after four consecutive free throws, but the Tide was relentless. Back-to-back baskets by Courtney Strauthers and Navonda Moore put Alabama ahead 60-59 with just over two minutes remaining.

Alabama was led by Navonda

Moore's double-double of 22 points and 10 rebounds. Moore had four three-pointers in the loss. Mastin, the squad's leading scorer, finished with 15 points.

Kentucky returns to action today (Sunday) when it plays host to Ole Miss. Tipoff in Memorial Coliseum is set for 2 p.m. EST and the game will be carried live on the Big Blue Sports Network (radio) with Neil Price.

The game is Fallen Soldier Recognition Day as 565 members of fallen Kentucky soldiers will be recognized. Single-game general admission tickets are available for \$5 adults/\$2 senior citizens and children 6-18. Ages five and under are admitted free. UK students, faculty and staff also are admitted free with valid identification based on availability.

For ticket information, log on to ukathletics.com or call the UK ticket office at 859-257-1818 or 1-800-928-CATS (2287).

Big start leads Lady Bears to win

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE — The Pikeville College Lady Bears scored the game's first 12 points and led by 17 halfway through the first half en route to a 75-65 win over U.Va.-Wise Thursday night.

The win was Pikeville's second straight after dropping seven of eight as they close in on the beginning of play in the Mid-South Conference.

Pikeville (6-11) jumped out to a 12-0 lead, getting points from four different players. Wise, on the other hand, missed their first nine shots before senior Sarah Helton scored on a layup with 14:30 to play.

The Lady Bears continued to drive, and when sophomore Whitney Hogg drilled a three with 10:54 to play in the half, the lead was 21-4.

But Wise wouldn't fold, getting three straight three-pointers to cut the lead to eight (21-13). They cut it to seven on a three by Helton with 3:53 left, but the Lady Bears scored the last six of the half and led 34-21.

Pikeville's impressive half was aided by a woeful performance from the floor from Wise, who was 6-of-32 (18.8 percent) from the field.

The second-half lead got under single figures only once, coming with 20 seconds left when Helton scored on a layup as the Lady Bears cruised to the 10-point win. The home team followed up a 52 percent first half by hitting 64 percent (16-of-25) after intermission.

The Lady Bears hit 57.7 percent from the floor and dominated the glass to the tune of 49-23. In fact, the 23 rebounds came off Lady Bear misses, and the home team got 13 of those boards.

The balanced scoring attack saw

four players in double figures, led by Hogg's 13. The Whitesburg product added five rebounds and three assists. Sophomore Kristal Daniels followed with 12 and six rebounds, while senior Tonya Amburgey had 10 points, five boards and four assists.

Junior Vicki Hall turned in a double-double, scoring 10 and grabbing 10 rebounds. The double-double performance ranks as one of the Belfry High graduate's top efforts of the season.

Freshman Heather Martin came off the bench for eight points and eight rebounds.

Helton led all scorers with 26 for Wise, adding five rebounds and three assists. Terry Ann Hill and Rachel Helton had 10 markers each. Point guard Chelsea Lee had five points, eight assists and five steals.

PIARIST BASKETBALL



KNIGHT TIME: Members of the Piarist School basketball and dance teams are in the middle of the 2006-07 hoops season. The Piarist School basketball team is gearing up to complete in this year's 15th Region All "A" Classic.

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MISC.

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06' Toyota Sion. \$10,000. 06' Nissan Sentra 4k. \$9,500. Call 606-478-5808.

FOR SALE

Tool box 2 fit full sized pickup truck bed, needs repainting. \$50.00 Call 886-0474.

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1996 Dodge Grand Caravan And a 1982 Voltswagon Rabbit Convertible stored since 1991 call 874-2421 if no answer please leave message.

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1999 Ford F-150WD PK Ext. Cab w/4 door fiberglass cab. Super sharp and clean maroon with tan interior. Asking \$8,500. RUNS GOOD. Call 606-791-6052, if no answer please leave message.

EMPLOYMENT

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

Job Listings

JOB OPENING

Construction Superintendent for major building project in Pikeville. Ten years supervisory experience. Send resume with references to Harbour, Box 22444, Lexington, KY

40522.

JOB OPENING

Mountain Manor of Painstville is taking applications for a LPN (7a-7p) position. Excellent wages and benefits. Apply in person at 1025 Euclid Avenue, Painstville, KY from Monday thru Friday between 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

JOB OPENING

Timer cutters, Dozer operators. Experience preferred. Call after 5:30. 285-2654.

MARTIN-HINDMAN AREA

The Lexington Herald-Leader has a morning newspaper route available. Route takes about 3-4 hours daily, with an approximate profit potential of \$1,500 monthly. Dependable transportation and ability to be bonded required. Call 1-800-999-8881

JOB OPENING

Employee needed for Dental Office. Could be full time pr part time. Computer experience would be helpful but not necessary. Send resume to 415 N. Lake Drive Ste. 201 Prestonsburg, Ky. 41653.

JOB OPENING

A nationally known company has recently opened a full sized factory authorized sales and service center in the Painstville area. Responsible people needed in all departments. \$375 per week to start. Paid vacations and advancements available. People who are ready to work and advance, call Monday, Jan 15 9am to 5pm. Call 606-788-7334.

JOB OPENING

Metal framers, dry-wall hangers and finisher's, acoustical ceiling installers for Prestonsburg school. 859-281-6828.

JOB OPENING

Prestonsburg Health Care is looking for an RN. Every other weekend off. Call Lynn Fletcher or Elane Jones. 886-2378.

JOB OPENING

Timber cutters, Dozer operator. Call after 5:30. 285-2654.

JOB OPENING

Cost Cutters located inside of Pikeville Wal-Mart is seeking part time/full time hair stylists. Benefits include: Paid vacations, Health insurance, ect. Apply inside or call kay @ 606-432-6629.

JOB OPENING

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

MERCHANDISE

Animal

FOR SALE 8 Mo. old Boxer, for more information please call 606-434-5704.

Misc.

ATTENTION BALL ROOM DANCE PARTNER NEEDED! Must have previous experience OR have interest in taking dance classes. Must be capable of going to dance class. Ages 50-70. If this applies to you please call LeighAnn at 886-8506 to apply.

REAL ESTATE

House

HOUSE for sale. Two houses one two bedroom kitchen living room with bath built over work shop and wash house. One four bedroom kitchen dining and living room with bath. All carpet, except baths. Two storage buildings, natural gas. All on 0.70 acres fenced in lot. Hueysville area. \$46,000 OBO in next 30 days. Call 606-358-9346

HOUSE for sale at Goble Roberts. 3 BR 1 bath. Call 886-3047.

HOUSE for sale. 3 BR above ground pool, new appliances, chain link fence. Newly paved drive way, large back porch. Located 2 miles from Highway 80 and 23. Call 606-874-0529 for more information.

HOUSE FOR SALE By owner call 886-6733 or 587-2872 in Prestonsburg.

HOUSE FOR SALE

2 Bedroom 1 Bathroom, GREAT DEAL \$10,000 Located at Cornfork near Jenny Wiley Lake Road. call 226-6392 or 886-0726. Land Contract possible. Call today!!!!!!

Sale or Lease

FOR SALE 16 Acres of land for sale on left fork of Little Paint, East Point, KY. All mineral rights go with it. Call 886-3060.

FOR RENT OR LEASE

150 Ft. Deep commercial location. Located half way between Allen and Prestonsburg Rt. 1428. Call 874-2421. \$300 monthly

FOR SALE

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

FARM FOR SALE

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

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1978 Mobile Home 12 x 70, 3 BR bath and 1/2. Refrigerator, stove, washer and dryer. Standard appliances include a new furnace. Very good condition for model. Underpinning included. Need a home? Look here! \$3,800. Must be moved. Call 606-886-9544 days or 606-886-3386 nights.

RENTALS

APARTMENT

APT FOR RENT 2 BR Townhouses at Prestonsburg. \$600 with \$600 deposit and \$650 with \$650 deposit. Call 886-6186

FOR RENT

New townhouses for lease 1500 Sq. feet with garages. 3 BR \$700 per month. \$700 deposit. Half mile from Highlands Regional Hospital. Call 606-886-8100 or 606-434-7715

FOR RENT

New 1 BR near HRMC most utilities furnished. \$500 per month. \$250 deposit. 886-6343.

APT FOR RENT

Newly remodeled unfurnished ground floor apartment. Located across from Floyd County Technical center on Route 122 at Martin. \$500 per month plus utilities. Must furnish references. Call 285-9112.

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Walking distance from downtown, 3 BR 2 bath. New double wide. \$550 per month. \$440 security deposit. Call 226-0380.

HOUSE FOR RENT

\$400 Per month, 2 BR @ Betsy Lane. Call 478-5403

HOUSE FOR RENT

3 BR 2 Bath Log Home in Oaklawn, Hager Hill. Central H/A low utility bills. Large covered-deck, Large storage barn. Acres of privacy. Open Oct 31. \$1090.00 month or best offer. 850-222-2226. Leave message.

HOUSE FOR RENT

EXCELLENT NEIGHBORHOOD 1600 Sq ft house 3 BR 2 bath, kitchen, utility room, heat pump, built in vacuum. Gated community, references and deposit required. Located in Knott County. No pets, available 12/29 call 438-6104.

Mobile Home

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Nice furnished mobile home for rent. Suitable for 2 or 3 people. Just off Mtn. Parkway on old 114. Phone 886-8724

FOR RENT

One Mobile Home lots for rent 1/2 mile on right from Prestonsburg on Town Branch Road. Lots have city water, gas, sewage, and AEP electric. Call Karen 874-7155.

FOR RENT

2 BR MH. Minutes from Prestonsburg. W/D hookup. Water, Sewage, and trash included. 889-0036.

FOR RENT

Trailer for rent, 3 miles from Prestonsburg on 404 David Road. Quiet neighborhood. Call 886-3902.

TRAILER for rent.

3 BR. Call 874-2818.

LEGALS

NOTICE OF BLASTING SCHEDULE

Permit No. 836-0330 In accordance

with the provisions of KAR 16:120E, Wolverine Resources Inc., P.O. Box 77, Ivel, Kentucky 41642, phone (606) 889-8440 proposes the following blasting schedule. The blasting site consists of approximately 417.24 acres, located in Floyd and Magoffin Counties, located primarily 0.75 mile southwest from KY 114's junction with Prater Branch, and located 0.92 mile southwest of Middle Creek. The latitude is 37°39'26". The longitude is 82°54'44". Detonations of explosives are proposed to occur from sunrise to sunset, Sunday thru Saturday. The blasting schedule is for the period from January 22, 2007 to January 22, 2008. Entry to the blasting area will be regulated by signs and barriers. An authorized company representative will prohibit access to the blasting area by unauthorized persons at least 10 minutes prior to each detonation. Prior to each blasting event, two signals will be sounded with an airhorn, whose signal is audible up to within one-half mile of the blast site, as per the following: (1) Five (5) minutes prior to the blast signal, a warning signal of a one (1) minute series of long airhorn, blasts will be blasts will be given. After the blast has been successfully conducted, an all-clear signal of one blast lasting twenty (20) seconds duration will be sounded from the same airhorn following the inspection of the blast area. Events which could necessitate an unscheduled blast include, but are not limited to, rain, lightning, other atmospheric conditions, or deteriorated explosives which involve personnel, operational or public safety

any or all bids received.

Invitation to Bid

The Carl D. Perkins Job Corps Center, Prestonsburg, KY, is now accepting bids for 4,000 square ft of VCT tile, 400 ft of vinyl cove base, and 40 gallons of glue. The deadline for bids will be Wednesday, 1/19/07. Late bids will not be accepted. For more information, please contact Tracy Reichenbach at (606) 886-1037 ext. 131 or Thomas Rainey at (606) 886-1037 ext. 104 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday. The Carl D. Perkins Job Corps Center reserves the right to reject any or all bids received.

Ordinance Amending Code of Ordinances and the Utility Rules and Regulations so to Provide for Immediate Disconnection of Utilities Obtained by a Check, Draft, Note or Other Negotiable Instrument which is Dishonored for Not Sufficient Funds for Any Other Reason; Providing For Immediate Disconnection of Utilities when Check, Draft, Note or Other Negotiable Instrument is Dishonored for Non-Sufficient Funds or Any Other Reason After the Account has Received a Final Notice and Subject to Disconnect For Nonpayment Without the Customer Receiving a Further Final Notice. ORDINANCE NO. 0-2000-020 Be It Ordained by the City of Pikeville that the Utility Rules and Regulations, adopted by Ordinance No. 0-91-014 are amended to add Paragraphs 23(a) and (b) as follows: Paragraph 23(a). When a check, draft note or other negotiable instrument received by the Utility Department as a deposit for a utility account is returned without payment and/or dishonored for payment for non-sufficient

funds or any other reason, the utility account for which check, draft, note or other negotiable instrument was received shall be subject to immediate termination and immediate disconnection of the utility(s) without any notice to the account holder. Paragraph 23(b). When a check, draft, note or other negotiable instrument is received by the utility department for payment of a utility account and is returned without payment and/or dishonored for payment for non-sufficient funds or any other reason, the account shall be treated as if no payment had been received and the delinquent penalty shall be assessed pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 3 of the Utility Rules and Regulations and final notice issued (and tagging of the customer's door) immediately if one has not been issued. If a final notice and/or a disconnect notice tagged to the customer's door was issued before receipt of the dishonored payment, no notice or tagging of the customer's door will be issued before the utilities are disconnected.

The ordinance shall be in full force and effect after it is passed and published as required by law. The above ordinance was given first reading this ___ day of ___ 2000; the ordinance was given a second reading on the ___ day of ___ 2000.

Passed this ___ day of ___ 2000.

Commissioner _____

moved for the adoption of the foregoing ordinance. Commissioner _____

seconded the motion.

Upon roll call, the votes were as follows:

Yes _____
 No _____
 Frank Morris, Mayor

Gene _____
 Commissioner Davis,

Sharon _____
 Commissioner Clark,

Wanda _____
 Commissioner Wilson,

Bill _____
 Commissioner Blackburn,

The Mayor declared the within ordinance adopted.

Frank Morris, Mayor

An Ordinance Related to the Amendment of \$55.06 of the Code of Ordinances and the City of Pikeville Utility Rules and Regulations Adopted by 0-91-014 so to Provide for Payment on the Fifteenth Day Following the Bill for Service; Providing for a Penalty of 5% after Fifteen Days; And Discontinuance of Service After Twenty Days ORDINANCE NO. 0-2005 Now Therefore, Be It Ordained by the City of Pikeville that \$ 55.06 is amended as follows:

\$ 55.06 Billing Procedure; Late Payment; Remedies For Nonpayment.

Commissioner _____

Commissioner _____

Commissioner _____

Commissioner _____

Commissioner _____

Commissioner _____

Commissioner _____

Commissioner _____

Prestonsburg Park Commission is seeking Administrative Assistant to work in office to perform Administrative responsibilities. Responsibilities include all levels of executive support including written correspondence, calendar management, file organization, and special projects. This position will also involve handling daily bank transactions. The position requires good communication skills and organization skills. Some experience working with Microsoft Works Office is a plus. Candidates must be highly energetic, flexible, and able to multi-task. Please drop off resumes to the Archer Park office between the hours of 8:30a and 4:00p or mail to: Archer Park: P.O. Box 911, Prestonsburg, KY 41653. Resumes will be accepted until January 19, 2007.

(A) All users shall be billed monthly. Billings for any particular month shall be made within ten (10) days after the end of the month. Payments are due within fifteen (15) days following the date of bill for service; after the close of ordinary business hours on the fifteenth (15th) day following the date of billing, the utility account shall be delinquent and a late payment penalty of five percent (5%) of the current user charge bill will be added to each delinquent bill.

(B) After twenty (20) days following the date of billing and 24 hours notification to the customer (by tagging of customer's door) of the City intention to disconnect services, the City shall discontinue service to the delinquent customer and service shall not be restored until the account is paid in full, plus a service charge for discontinuing and restoring service.

(C) When any bill (including interest and penalty) remains unpaid for one (1) year after the date due, such bill shall be recorded in the land records of Pike County by the treasurer and shall constitute a lien on the property. If such lien (including interest and penalty) remains unpaid for a period of one (1) year after date of recordation, such property shall be subject to public sale by the treasurer.

Further the Utility Rules and Regulations adopted by the City by

ordinance 0-91-014 are hereby amended to conform with the changes set forth above.

The above ordinance was given first reading this 26th day of September, 2005.

The ordinance was given a second reading on the _____ day of _____, 2005.

Passed this _____ day of _____, 2005.

Commissioner _____ moved the adoption of the foregoing ordinance.

Commissioner _____ seconded the motion.

Upon roll call, the votes were as follows:

Yes _____
 No _____

Franklin D. Justice, II, Mayor

James A. Carter, Commissioner

Eugene W. Davis, Commissioner

Shane Hall, Commissioner

Dallas Layne, Commissioner

The Mayor declared the within ordinance adopted.

Franklin D. Justice, II, Mayor

Attest: Karen W. Harris, City Clerk

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
 FLOYD CIRCUIT COURT
 CIVIL BRANCH
 DIVISION II
 CIVIL ACTION
 No. 06-CI-00963
 HSBC Mortgage Services, Inc.**

**Assignee of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., nominee of Executive Mortgage, LLC Plaintiff
 V. NOTICE OF LEGAL ACTION
 Blake E. Campbell aka Blake Campbell, Melissa Campbell, the Unknown Occupants/Tenants,
 If any, of 75 Hatfield Estates, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653, and Commonwealth of Kentucky, County of Floyd, by and on behalf of Secretary of Finance and Administration Defendants**

On October 27, 2006, I was appointed warning order attorney to notify Melissa Campbell and/or the Unknown Occupants/Tenants, if any of 75 Hatfield Estates, Prestonsburg, Kentucky, of a lawsuit filed in Floyd Circuit Court. A copy of the complaint in this action may be obtained from the Floyd Circuit Court, Floyd County Justice Center, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. In the complaint, the plaintiff claims that the Defendant, Melissa Campbell, executed and delivered to Executive Mortgage, LLC, a Note, and in order to secure the Note they executed a Mortgage upon a certain parcel of real property, more commonly known as 75 Hatfield Estates, Prestons-

burg, Kentucky, 41653, located and lying in Floyd County, Kentucky, which mortgage is of record in Mortgage Book 489, Page 99, in the office of the Floyd County Clerk, which is now in default. If you are Melissa Campbell and/or the Unknown Occupants/Tenants, if any, of 75 Hatfield Estates, Prestonsburg, Kentucky, then you may want to make an entry of appearance in this action.

Under our civil rules, you must answer the complaint within 50 days of October 2, 2006. If you fail to file an answer, you might forfeit your rights to challenge these allegations. You may need the services of a local attorney. Please understand that I am the warning order attorney and do not and cannot represent you. My function is to attempt to notify you and report my findings to the court. Should you decide to answer the complaint yourself, your answer should be mailed to Floyd Circuit Clerk, Floyd County Justice Center, 127 S. Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky, 41653.

This warning order notification is being made by publication in the Floyd County Times, and this notification will be published for two consecutive weeks beginning 12/31/06.

Ralph H. Stevens
 Warning Order Attorney
 P.O. Box 466
 142 West Branham Street
 Prestonsburg, KY 41653

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