



Friday night football page B1

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In brief

State board to name next school chief

The Associated Press

LOUISVILLE — The Kentucky Board of Education has reached a consensus on who the next school chief should be.

But the board says it's keeping its choice for the \$200,000 a year job a secret until Sunday afternoon.

Two weeks ago, the Kentucky Board of Education narrowed their candidates to four.

In an effort to avoid another embarrassment, the board is taking its time and doing extra background checks before making the announcement.

Kentucky state lawmaker Jon Draud and former Florida state school chief Jim Warford are believed to be the favorites for the position.

The board says it has made its decision and will announce the new commissioner Sunday. The announcement comes six months after suffering the embarrassment of picking a local superintendent from Illinois who was surrounded by controversy. Then Barbara Erwin quit before she started.

The school board also is rejecting a request incoming Gov. Steve Beshear to reopen the search process again.

Mongiardo preparing for new role

by CRIS RITCHIE
HAZARD HERALD

HAZARD — Frankfort is about to take on a new look following the election earlier this month, as Governor-elect Steve Beshear has named secretary appointments and members of his transition team, and for the first time in four years an Eastern Kentuckian will hold one of the state's top offices.

Both Beshear and Lt. Governor-elect Dr. Daniel Mongiardo will be sworn into their offices on Dec. 11, and, according to Mongiardo, a gov-

ernment composed of both Democrats and Republicans working together is perhaps what connected most with voters during their campaign.

"I think as we went around the state talking about issues, common issues that all of us face, such as health care, education, economic development, good jobs and benefits, what resonated the most is they want to see a bipartisan approach to solving problems," he said. "People are tired of partisan fighting going on in Frankfort and

(See MONGIARDO, page three)



Lt. Governor-elect Daniel Mongiardo, left, and Governor-elect Steve Beshear celebrated their victory on election night. Mongiardo says that he and Beshear will work to promote the economy of rural Kentucky.

photo by Karlyle Young

BLACK FRIDAY



Shoppers were up early to take advantage of savings and special sales in hopes of getting a jump start on holiday shopping.

photo by Jennifer Lawson

Consumers line up to get jump start on shopping

by JENNIFER LAWSON
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — As millions of shoppers all over the U.S. marked Friday as the unofficial start of holiday shopping, Floyd County was no exception.

The day after Thanksgiving, traditionally known as "Black Friday" for retailers, began as early as midnight for some places such as Wal-Mart, where store managers say people

began lining up just past midnight in hopes of taking advantage of the weekend holiday sales that began at 5 a.m. Friday.

As usual it was toys and electronics that consumers were after. Whether it be fighting for the LCD high-definition televisions, which were marked as low as \$198, portable DVD players for under \$50 and a whole sales page full of toys for under \$10, the store was packed with everyone hoping to mark some things off of their

Christmas lists.

Crowds also swarmed the doors at Big Lots, which opened at 6 a.m. and had already accumulated a large crowd long before opening, according to store officials.

"It's been a steady stream of people all day," said assistant manager Annette May.

Specialty stores were also no exception. As Friedman's Jewelers also opened at 6 a.m.,

(See SHOPPING, page three)

Families sign over land for adventure tourism

by SAMIRA JAFARI
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HAZARD — For generations, two eastern Kentucky families have enjoyed more than 10,000 acres of scenic terrain on the outskirts of Buckhorn Lake. Now they have opened up their properties to the public for four-wheeling, horseback riding and hiking.

The heads of the Gay and Abner families decided to lease their land for free as part of a regional push for adventure tourism after monthslong talks with county officials and Lt. Gov.-elect Daniel Mongiardo, a Perry County native who made adventure tourism a part of his campaign.

"As far as we're concerned, we did it to generate revenue — to bring in tourism and business," Darrin Gay, of Buckhorn, said Friday. Gay represented his family in the deal.

The goal is to create an all-terrain vehicle trail that spans over five adjoining counties — Clay, Owsley, Perry, Breathitt and Leslie. Officials hope to have the area accessible to ATV riders by next fall, though long-term plans include trails for horseback riding, hiking and biking.

State and local officials have been trying to capitalize on the notoriously

rugged mountains of eastern Kentucky for years. A recent state-commissioned study found that the Kentucky counties best suited for adventure tourism are also the most economically distressed.

That's because the region is characterized by severe terrain that has kept the area from diversifying its economy beyond coal mining.

Earlier this year, Gov. Ernie Fletcher rolled out a strategy at Buckhorn Lake State Resort Park, focusing on the region's potential to draw in an annual 100,000-plus whitewater paddlers, rock climbers, hikers and horseback riders.

The tricky part is convincing landowners to come on board with tourism plans. Some 94 percent of land in Kentucky is privately owned, making deals with families a key part of outdoor tourism, said Chris Gilligan, a Commerce Cabinet spokesman.

Over the past three years, about 100,000 acres of privately owned land has been signed over for public hunting and fishing. In return, the landowners get a single elk hunting permit in exchange for every 5,000 acres.

The Gays and Abners aren't getting anything in return for their lease — at

(See TOURISM, page three)

No progress made after meeting

by JENNIFER LAWSON
STAFF WRITER

CHARLESTON, W. Va. — Despite West Virginia Gov. Joe Manchin's interest in the nurses' strike, no resolutions are in sight as of now.

As representatives from the Kentucky and West Virginia Nurses Association and Appalachian Regional Healthcare corporate officials met in Charleston Wednesday morning with Manchin and personal representatives from Kentucky Governor-elect Steve Beshear, both sides say that Manchin expressed his desire to see a resolution to the strike.

(See STRIKE, page three)



While many were out shopping, bikers from the Eastern Kentucky Chapter Brothers of the Wheel Motorcycle Club spent the day after Thanksgiving at roadblocks in hopes of giving local needy children a merry Christmas. For seven consecutive years, members have taken donations while working with local Head Start programs to give less fortunate children each a new pair of tennis shoes along with a toy that they request from Santa Claus and a bag full of candy and treats. While their goal is to be able to help at least 100 children, members say last year enough funds were collected to give to over 500. Club members worked throughout the weekend at various locations in both Floyd and Johnson counties.

photo by Jennifer Lawson

2 DAY FORECAST

Today



High: 53 • Low: 44

Tomorrow



High: 63 • Low: 39

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inside

- Regional Obituaries.....A2
- Opinion.....A4
- Lifestyles.....A5
- Sports.....B1
- Classifieds.....B4



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Regional Obituaries

FLOYD COUNTY

■ Mona Conn Boyd, 98, of Dana, died Saturday, November 17, in the Prestonsburg Health Care Center. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, November 21, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Memorial services for Donna J. Farrington, 58, a Prestonsburg native, who died Sunday, November 11, at Lima Memorial System, were held Thursday, November 15, under the direction of Hanson-Necly Funeral Home, Ada, Ohio.

■ Donald Herald Goble, 79, of Prestonsburg, died Sunday night, November 18, following a courageous battle of 20 years with cancer. He is survived by his wife, Maxine Newman Goble. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, November 21,

under the direction of Carter Funeral Home.

■ Ralph "Bud" Hagans, 89, of Langley, died Saturday, November 17, in Highlands Regional Medical Center in Prestonsburg. He is survived by his wife, Chrissie Ethel Taylor Hagans. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, November 20, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Timothy Hall, 45, of Wheelwright, died Saturday, November 17, in Dorton. He is survived by his wife, Teresa Johnson Hall. Funeral services were held Wednesday, November 21, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Dina Newsome Hamilton, 68, of Mt. Vernon, formerly of Teaberry, died Thursday, November 15, at the Rockcastle Hospital and Respiratory Care. Funeral services were held Sunday, November 18, under the direction of the Hall Funeral Home.

■ Hayden Winslow Milligan (Boogie), 36, of Lexington, formerly of Prestonsburg, died Monday, November 19. He is survived by his wife, Hazel Milligan. Services were held Friday, November 23, under the direction of Carter Funeral Home.

■ Roxie Moore (Nanny), 89, of McDowell, died Friday, November 16, at the Prestonsburg Health Care. Funeral services were held Monday, November 19, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Beatrice "Below" Newsome, 79, of Harold, died Sunday, November 18, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Wednesday, November 21, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ James Calvin "Bub" Reynolds, age 62, of Ligon, died Wednesday, November 14, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Sandra Ann Osborne Reynolds. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, November 17, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Lee Roy Ross, 44, of Harold, died Sunday, Nov. 18, 2007, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Dianna Justice Ross. Funeral services were held Wednesday, November 21, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

PIKE COUNTY

■ Barry Neil "BJ" Abshire Jr., 25, of Phyllis, died Friday, November 16, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Orlena Abshire. Funeral services were held Monday, November 19, under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

■ Chester Adkins, 79, of Shelbiana, died Monday, November 19, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Maxie Prater Adkins. Funeral services were held Friday, November 23, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ Zenith Elkins Coffman, 67, of Versailles, formerly of Pike County, died Sunday, November 18. She is survived by her husband, Judge Jimmy

N. Coffman. Funeral services were held Friday, November 23, under the direction of Blackburn & Ward Funeral Home of Versailles.

■ Paul Edward Compton, 84, of Coal Run Village, died Saturday, November 17, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn Deskins Compton. Funeral services were held Tuesday, November 20, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ Russell Elkins Jr., 61, of Rawl, W.Va., a Pike County native, died Friday, November 16, in the South Williamson Appalachian Regional Hospital emergency room. He is survived by his wife, Ella Mae Milam Elkins. Funeral services were held Monday, November 19, under direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Jeanetta Hampton, 58, of Whitesburg, a Pike County native, died Monday, November 19, at the Whitesburg Appalachian Regional Hospital. She is survived by her husband, James Martin. Arrangements are under direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home of Virgie.

■ Clarcie Ruth Harrison, 77, of Liberty Center, Ohio, formerly of Mouthcard, died Saturday, November 17, at White House, Ohio. Funeral services were held Wednesday, November 21, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ James Ester Lowe, 75, of Varney, died Saturday, November 17, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Betty Ruth Williamson Lowe. Funeral services were held Tuesday, November 20, under the direction of Community Funeral Home.

■ Jesse Roscoe Ray, 64, of Varney, died Monday, Nov. 19, at his home. Funeral services were held Wednesday, November 21, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ Mavis Jean Chapman Rogers, 65, of South Williamson, died Friday, November 16, at her home. Funeral services were held Sunday, November 18, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Arthur G. Willett, 77, of Lexington, S.C., formerly of Pikeville, died Sunday, November 18, in South Carolina. He is survived by his wife, Sylvia Lee Wright Willett. Funeral services were held Thursday, November 22, under the direction of J.W. Call Funeral Home.

JOHNSON COUNTY

■ Mona Evans Kelly, 95, of Flat Gap, died Saturday, November 17, at Mountain Manor Nursing Home, in Paintsville. Funeral services were held Wednesday, Nov. 21, under the direction of the Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Anna Grace Wilson Palmer, 71, of West Van Lear, died Wednesday, November 14, at U.K. Medical Center, in Lexington. She is survived by her husband, John Carl Palmer. Funeral services were held Sunday, November 18, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Delores Ramey, 63, of East Point, died Monday, November 19, at her residence. Funeral services were held Wednesday, November 21, under the direction of the Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

MARTIN COUNTY

■ Carrie Ann Fitch, infant daughter of Walter and Rebecca McCoy Fitch of Inez, died Tuesday, November 13, at King's Daughters Medical Center, in Ashland. Graveside services were held Wednesday, November 14, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

■ Larry Howard, 57, of Inez, died Friday, November 16, at King's Daughters Medical Center, in Ashland. Funeral services were held Monday, November 19, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

■ Gladys (Mollett) Jablonowski, 70, formerly of Tomahawk, died Tuesday, November 13, in Southfield, Michigan. She is survived by her husband, Charles (Chuck) Jablonowski. Burial was in Parkview Memorial Cemetery, in Livonia, Michigan.

■ Edna Marie (Collins) McCoy, 75, of Pilgrim, died Wednesday, November 14. Funeral services were held Saturday, November 17, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

■ Shird (Click) Mills, 80, of Akron, Ohio, a native of Inez, died Thursday, November 8. Funeral services

were held Monday, November 12, under the direction of Hopkins Lawver Funeral Home.

■ Walker Preece, 77, of Deboard, died Sunday, November 11, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. He is survived by his wife, Olive Newsome Preece. Funeral services were held Wednesday, November 14, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

■ Elma DeLong Slonc, 77, of Deboard, died Monday, November 12, at Three Rivers Medical Center, in Louisa. Funeral services were held Thursday, November 15, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

MAGOFFIN COUNTY

■ Maudie Marshall Bailey, 90, of Salyersville, died Monday, November 19, at Paul B. Hall Medical Center. Funeral services were held Tuesday, November 20, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

■ Hazel M. Conley Beals, 78, of Salyersville, died Tuesday, November 13, in Salyersville. Funeral services were held Friday, November 16, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

■ Wishard Bush Howard, 72, of Salyersville, died Wednesday, October 31, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Catherine Allen Howard. Funeral services were held Friday, November 2, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

■ Sue Miller Joseph, 72, of Salyersville, died Friday, November 2, at Paul B. Hall Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Buck Joseph. Funeral services were held Monday, November 5, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

■ Ernest Miller, 80, of Salyersville, died Saturday, November 10, at Paul B. Hall Medical Center. Funeral services were held November 13, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

■ Zeda Cornett Watts, 88, of Salyersville, died Monday, November 12, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, Ollie Watts Sr. Funeral services were held Wednesday, November 14, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

Obituaries

Nicie Boyd

Nicie Boyd, age 94, of Dana, died Wednesday, November 21, 2007, at Our Lady of the Way Hospital.

Born December 27, 1912, in Dana, she was the daughter of the late Hi and Virgie Howell Conn. She was a homemaker, and a member of the Little Salem Old Regular Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Henry Boyd.

Survivors include six sons: Howard Boyd, of Dana, Roland Boyd of Dayton, Ohio, Elliott (Bob) Boyd, Ben Boyd and Roger Boyd, all of Verilion, Ohio, and Edsel C. Boyd of Wakeman, Ohio; four daughters: Hester Crooks of Ashland, Thelma Gilbert of Harvst, Alabama, Dorothy Akers of Shreve, Ohio, and Edith Hall of Dana; a brother, Banner Conn of Verilion, Ohio; three sisters: Allie Akers of Dana, Helene Cuien of Norwalk, Ohio, and Norma Hall of Banner; 25 grandchildren, 29 great-grandchildren, and 14 great-great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by a son, Elbert Boyd; two brothers: Willie Conn and Ed Conn; three sisters: Junie Boyd, Archie Gray, and Frankie Conn; and two grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Friday, November 23, at 11 a.m., at the Little Salem Old Regular Baptist Church, in Dana, with Old Regular Baptist ministers officiating.

Burial was in the Boyd Family Cemetery, in Dana, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin.

Visitation was Wednesday, at the funeral home; and Thursday, at the church.

(Paid obituary)

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ARH corporate executives are not being honest about the reason why Registered Nurses are on strike at ARH hospitals. ARH officials are falsely telling patients and the public that the strike is all about money.

The truth is Registered Nurses at ARH Hospitals went on strike to protect patient safety. ARH officials refused our repeated requests to stop its practice of chronic understaffing and forced overtime.

Almost every Registered Nurse on strike at ARH Hospitals was born and raised here in the mountains of Eastern Kentucky. We love these mountains and the people who call them home more than any ARH corporate official living in Lexington ever could. After all, our patients are our family, our friends, our neighbors.

Registered Nurses are striking at ARH Hospitals because we want to remain true to John L. Lewis' vision of affordable, quality healthcare in the mountains and that means putting patient safety - **YOUR SAFETY** - first.

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Strike

As the meeting was adjourned just before noon, a press release from ARH stated that management appreciates the recommendations provided by the governor and will remain ready and willing to meet further with the nurse's

union to resolve the current labor dispute.

According to KNA/WVNA Chief Negotiator Pat Tanner, the meeting was, "As positive as it was encouraging and we want to thank Gov. Manchin for his personal interest and

time."

The nurses' association met after the governor's meeting at the Marriott in Charleston to begin considering Manchin's suggestions and continued to work through the Thanksgiving holiday to

develop their response.

According to Tanner, no further negotiations are currently scheduled and ARH officials say that further talks between the parties will be scheduled by the federal mediator.

The strike is now entering into its eighth week after over 600 nurses walked out of ARH hospitals Oct. 1 and began protesting scheduling, unsafe staffing, employee and union member rights, patient safety and the right to have a life

after work.

According to a press release from KNA/WVNA, ARH Chief Executive Officer Jerry Haynes was "conspicuously absent" from the meeting.

Continued from p1

Shopping

customers were waiting in hopes of taking advantage of some holiday jewels.

Despite the crowded parking lots and seemingly endless lines of people, police say there have been no major

problems. As there's often national coverage of fights, arguments and even murders in regards to those jockeying for the hottest items for Christmas, Prestonsburg Police Assistant Chief Gerald Clark said that

things are calm locally.

"We've not had any problems so far," said Clark. "Of course things are busy, but there's not been any problems."

While the majority of holiday sales

and special hours will run only through the weekend, stores say they will continue to offer sales and specials all throughout the holiday season.

Continued from p1

Mongiardo

Washington and want it to stop."

Beshear has pledged to appoint those best suited for the job in secretary positions, and last week requested that two Republicans sit on the transition team that will work to evaluate the current government to see what is working and what is not. In addition to Mongiardo, Republicans Steve Nunn, a former state representative and son of Kentucky's last Republican governor, Louis Nunn, and current Lt. Gov. Steve Pence will be among the transition team's members. Mongiardo noted that the group has much to accomplish in the next few weeks before the Dec. 11 swearing-in date.

"There is obviously a lot to do in just a short period of time to start the process by which to set up the Beshear/Mongiardo administration," Mongiardo said. "We will go in and see where government is in each department and find out what we are facing and what's in the hopper that we need to continue to push."

Beshear has been quoted in media outlets as saying some programs currently in the government, such as the Unbridled Spirit campaign designed to boost state's tourism industry, appear to be working, and may be an initiative begun in the Fletcher administration that could be worth keeping. Beshear noted that he will not alter government operations "for the sake of change."

Rural areas of Kentucky in the eastern, southern and western parts of the state will benefit from the Beshear administration, Mongiardo said, and noted that by virtue of the home regions of both Beshear, a Dawson Springs

native, and himself, a Hazard resident, more for rural Kentucky can be done in terms of economic development.

"I think it is very important to have people in high level positions that are familiar with certain areas," Mongiardo said. "Steve being from Western Kentucky and me being from the eastern part of the state, rural Kentucky is well represented. Obviously, we have unique issues and problems, but also unique potential that hasn't been harnessed."

But Mongiardo also noted that the rural areas of Kentucky will not be the only focus of the Beshear administration, but there are certain initiatives in place that can be capitalized on in order to further the development of rural Kentucky.

"The first thing is we're going to provide good government for all of Kentucky," he said. "As far as economic development in Eastern Kentucky, adventure tourism is an area of unharvested potential and holds the most possibilities in the near future. The other, obviously, is coal."

The Beshear administration will be proactive in promoting coal, as statistics show that the energy sector will provide 30 percent of jobs locally, and Kentucky is well positioned to capitalize on those numbers, Mongiardo said. And developing the economy of the region could aid more urban areas in building infrastructure and growth by allowing these areas to function more autonomously.

"If rural Kentucky can develop an economy that is producing its own tax base, then the taxes produced in

Lexington and Louisville can stay there to help build infrastructure, so it's a win-win," he said.

Health care will also take up much of Mongiardo's time in office, he said, as he plans to work to further previous initiatives he helped develop as a state senator.

"I'm going to spend a lot of my time on health care initiatives we've started in information technology and e-health," he said, further commenting that Kentucky can lead the nation with positive changes in the way health care is provided.

Until next month, Mongiardo is still a state senator, a position he has held representing Perry, Leslie, Bell and Harlan counties since 2001, but his resignation doesn't mean he will stop working for his home district.

"It's a bittersweet feeling because winning lieutenant governor is a step up [from the Senate] and allows me to do more," he said. "Being a state senator for Perry, Harlan, Bell and Leslie counties, I certainly put my heart into it. I still see myself as still in a position to help do things we started, such as expanding water and doing things important to those four counties."

Mongiardo's successor in the General Assembly will be elected in a special election held next year.

Mongiardo, a physician and surgeon who has practiced medicine in his native Perry County for several years, says he is also not ready to give up his medical practice just yet, and his patients can still see him practicing medicine during his term as lieutenant governor.

Continued from p1

Tourism

least not in the near future. There is a potential for building rental cabins and other small ventures.

"This was done out of friendship," said Fritz Steel, chairman of the Hazard-Perry County tourism board, who, along with Judge-Executive Denny Ray Noble, initially approached the families with the idea. "These people know their community."

Continued from p1

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expression

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

— Felix Frankfurter

Guest view

The 'record' that isn't

Even fans and players who blindly stood behind Barry Bonds must now concede the damage has been done. If Bonds is convicted of federal charges of perjury and obstruction of justice for his testimony four years ago to a grand jury investigating the use of steroids, he will have forever tainted one of the greatest achievements in baseball and forced the sport to address the matter in its record books.

And a conviction will prove once and for all that although Bonds was an elite player, his record-breaking performance on Aug. 8 in San Francisco, when he topped Hank Aaron's all-time record of 755 home runs, was not only a chemically induced illusion but an act of outright fraud. While fans have a right to feel betrayed, the ultimate victim of that fraud was Aaron.

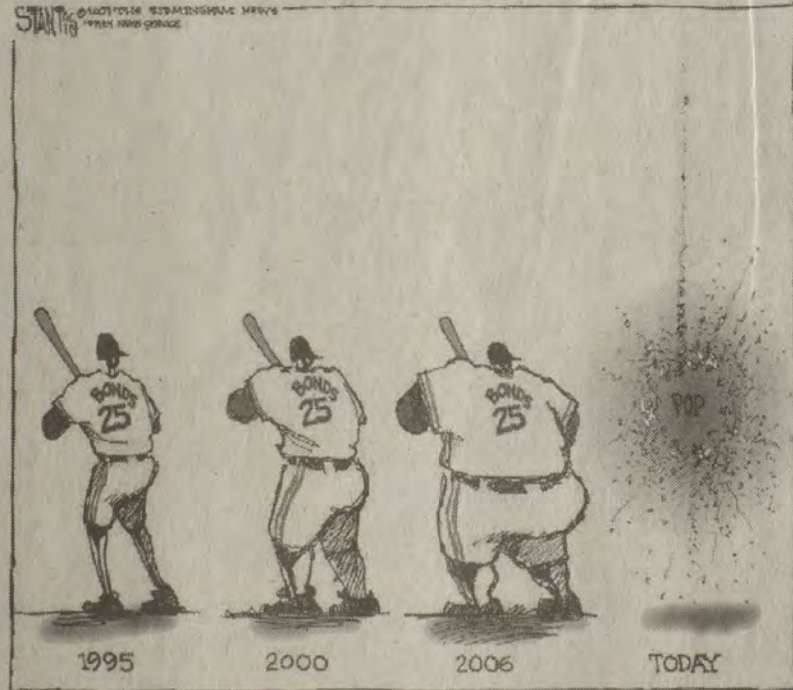
Even if Bonds is found innocent of the charges, the publicity from the trial, as well as the indictment itself, which revealed "positive tests for the presence of steroids and other performance-enhancing substances by Bonds and other professional athletes," will have further sullied his reputation and that of baseball.

But as arrogant as Bonds has been about this whole affair, the culpability isn't only his.

For far too long, Major League Baseball dragged its feet, and when it finally got down to confronting the issue head-on, the players' union threw up hurdles until the U.S. Senate turned up the heat and forced the union to capitulate. Unfortunately, as the Bonds case has so dramatically shown, the new policy on performance-enhancing drugs and other substances, widely acknowledged as the toughest in pro sports, came too late. If Bonds is found guilty, baseball will have to pick up the razor-sharp glass shards.

That challenging and thankless job will fall to Commissioner Bud Selig. While many fans will no doubt ask that Bonds' record be stricken, the more practical alternative probably would be to attach an asterisk behind Bonds' name and record. Either way, it will be a painful moment for baseball and especially for Selig, who can otherwise point with pride to the many accomplishments during his tenure.

— The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel



STAFF PHOTO BY BISHOP/STAFF NEWS



Rich Lowry Column

How JFK assassination changed liberalism

From a distance of nearly 50 years, the liberalism of 1960 is hardly recognizable. It was comfortable with the use of American power abroad, unabashedly patriotic and forward-looking. But that was before The Fall.

In his eye-opening book "Camelot and the Cultural Revolution," Jim Piereson argues The Fall was the assassination of President Kennedy. It represented more than the tragic death of a young president, but the descent of liberalism from an optimistic creed focused on pragmatic improvements in the American condition to a darker philosophy obsessed with America's sins. Echoes of the assassination — and the meaning attributed to it by JFK's admirers — can still be heard in the querulous tones of contemporary liberalism.

The real John F. Kennedy wasn't the paladin of liberal purity of myth. He was friends with Joseph McCarthy. In his 1952 campaign for Senate and his 1960 presidential campaign, he got to the right of his Republican opponents on key issues. "Kennedy did not want anyone to tag him as a liberal, which he regarded as the kiss of death in electoral politics," Piereson writes. As president, he was

vigorously anti-communist, a tax-cutter and a cautious supporter of civil rights.

His kind of liberalism — "tough and realistic," as Piereson puts it, in the tradition of FDR and Truman — was carried away in the rip-tide of his death. In a crucial and counterintuitive interpretive act, the nation's opinion elite made JFK a martyr to civil rights instead of the Cold War. Kennedy had been killed by a communist, Lee Harvey Oswald, who a few years before had tried to defect to the Soviet Union. Liberals nonetheless blamed the assassination on, in the words of Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren, "the hatred and bitterness that has been injected into the life of our nation by bigots."

Thus, the assassination curdled into an indictment of American society: "Kennedy Victim of Violent Streak He Sought to Curb in Nation," read a New York Times headline. Until this point, 20th-century liberalism had tended to see history as a steady march of progress. Now, the march had been interrupted by the country's own pathologies. American history no longer

appeared to be a benign process, but a twisted story of rapine and oppression. "With such a bill of indictment," Piereson writes, "the new liberals now held that Americans had no good reason to feel pride in their country's past or optimism about its future."

Their agenda took on a punitive edge, focused on compensating victim groups and expiating the country's guilt. The conspiracy theories and anti-Americanism that had so appalled liberals about the far right in the 1950s had now gravitated to the left.

This downbeat and adversarial disposition is — more than any specific policy weaknesses on, say, national security — a drag on contemporary liberalism's long-term appeal. One day a Democratic politician will emerge who is compelling enough to vanquish the foul spirit of JFK's assassination from the left.

Until that happens, JFK has to be remembered, in Piereson's words, as "the last articulate spokesman for the now lost world of American liberalism."

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.



The Rich Lowry column

beyond the beltway

Pakistan's lawyers are superior to ours

by DONALD KAUL
MINUTEMAN MEDIA

It was a sight I never thought we'd see. Lawyers — half-shrouded in tear gas — rioting in the streets, being hit on the heads by policemen, throwing things at policemen. PROTESTING.

And get this, they weren't protesting in favor of higher fees. They were protesting the violation of their nation's constitution. Nor were these law students mind you, but full-fledged lawyers, willing to risk their skulls in service of the rule of law.

Yes, I know, the lawyers were Pakistanis and the streets were in Islamabad, but it was a stirring sight nevertheless.

(Pakistan, by the way, is that country over there next to Afghanistan and India. It was a frontier of the War on Terror before we abandoned that fight in favor of the War to End the Civil War in Iraq Or At Least Slow It Down.)

Pakistan's president, our friend and ally Pervez Musharraf, had provoked the protests by suspending the constitution, purging the supreme court of all but his lackeys, gagging the free press, arresting thousands of his political enemies and declaring virtual martial law.

This is what caused the Pakistani lawyers to revolt (as they had in March when Musharraf tried — unsuccessfully, partly due to the protests — to fire the chief judge of the Supreme Court for political reasons).

A lawyer whose activist mother had been arrested told "Newsweek" magazine: "There's no rule of law,

they've made the country unlivable." Gee, I wish we had lawyers like that in this country.

Oh, we do but not a lot of them. The rule of law has been systematically eroded in this country these past six years while the legal profession has stood by with hardly a whimper, let alone an organized protest.

Take Congress. Please.

Lawyers in Congress are as thick as fleas on a stray dog. You would think this so-called co-equal branch of government would have something to say when the U.S. Constitution is run through a shredder by a power-mad administration.

It hasn't. This Congress, whether controlled by Republicans or Democrats, has rolled over at every critical junction as the Bush administration usurped its powers and responsibilities. On one issue after another — war, torture, right of counsel, illegal surveillance, arbitrary imprisonment, warrantless search and seizure, suspension of the Geneva Convention — Congress has stepped aside, allowing the president to invoke phantom war powers that are nearly (and perhaps totally) limitless.

And if you think this is a partisan problem, you're kidding yourself. They're all in it together. Look at the recently concluded Senate hearings on Attorney General Michael Mukasey. All lawyers on that committee, by the way.

They asked him how he felt about the Justice Department's ruling that the president could approve the use of torture in violation of the Geneva

Convention and U.S. Constitution. He said that ruling was "a mistake." They asked him how he felt about torture. He said he was against it. Then they asked him about waterboarding, a treatment that has been recognized as torture for centuries.

He said he didn't know whether it was torture or not.

He didn't know? What, are you kidding me?

But the Senate approved his nomination anyway. That's outrageous. It's stunning.

Democrats argued that Mukasey was the best that Bush was apt to offer. He was a good judge, a decent man.

That makes him more of a danger, not less. It is the moderate conservatives — the Powells and Rices — who drag us into dark holes. Because we trust them. Our embrace of torture as an interrogation tool has helped forge the world's view of us as just another cynical, ruthless nation who talks one game, walks another and is without moral standing to criticize other tyrants. That's not a trivial matter; it's a big deal.

If Mukasey doesn't know waterboarding is torture, he is too dumb to be Attorney General.

If he knows but won't admit it, he's too dishonest.

Either way, Congress flunked its test again.

What this country needs are some Pakistani lawyers.

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

The Times

Published Sunday, Wednesday and Friday each week

263 SOUTH CENTRAL AVENUE
PRESTONSBURG, KENTUCKY 41653

Phone: (606) 886-8506
Fax: (606) 886-3603

www.floydcountytimes.com

USPS 202-700

Entered as second class matter, June 18, 1927, at the post office at Prestonsburg, Kentucky, under the act of March 3, 1879. Periodicals postage paid at Prestonsburg, Ky.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES PER YEAR:
In Floyd County: \$59.00
Outside Floyd County: \$76.00

Postmaster: Send change of address to:
The Floyd County Times
P.O. Box 390
Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653

PUBLISHER

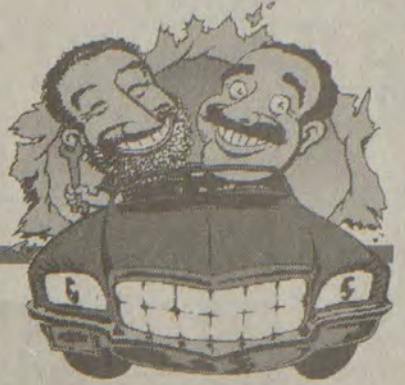
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INSIDESTUFF

- Sports.....page B1
- Classifieds.....page B4

CAR TALK:

All-wheel drive a necessity in some climates

see pg. A6

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This Town, That World

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

A MATTER OF YEARS

A little girl was bouncing about, late Tuesday, ecstatic about the snow that was swirling outside, repeating her fond wish that it would snow a foot deep, so there would be no school the next day. Meanwhile, I was mumbling in my beard about the weather and just as fondly hoping for a change for the better. Know what made the difference? A mere matter of years.

BIGGER UP THERE

This old fellow, who as a boy, had known only few, and very crude, methods of transportation — namely, Shank's mare, mule or wagon—had made the big jump to travel by jet. He had been all the way to California and back. He had much to tell, and he may have used his imagination some in telling of seeing the Mississippi, the Rockies the ocean, and all sweep below him.

Finally, somebody remarked, "Big country isn't it?"

"Yeah, shore is," he replied. "But it ain't half as big as that country up there."

THE MARKER

We who argue politics with Lenna Moore, sometimes say he has flipped. But L. J. Music the other day decided, for another reason, he had tossed his topper.

This judgment was passed when Lenna called on L. J., asked him to get his rifle and come over to his house and shoot a hole through the roof.

L. J. demurred, L. B. insisted. Finally, to "humor" his neighbor, L. J. got down Black Betsy, walked over to Moore's house and asked, "Where must I shoot?"

Moore walked inside, pointed to a hole he had cut in the ceiling for a flue, and told him to shoot, dead center, straight up through the hole. L. J. did. And there was Lenna's hole in the roof.

What caused all this was the fact that Moore had the hole through the ceiling for the flue, but the space above was too small for him to crawl inside to use a plumb bob and mark the spot in the roof where the hole needed to be cut for the flue to get on outside. Hence, the call for the rifleman.

THE TRUTH OF THE MATTER

I am one of those poor souls who would almost as soon walk out in the cold, gray dawn and face the firing squad as to face a camera, but the last two times I have been to see my barber, I would have welcomed a photographer. I have witnesses, but they might drop off and leave me without support of my story. I need permanent proof that this barber cuts the hair on top of the old cranium, and that this absence of hair folks have been making snide remarks about is merely a real, close crew-cut. Not a cute crew-cut, I admit. You might call it a sub-cuticle cut.

Christian Counseling services now offered in Big Sandy area

Faith Christian Counseling, at Ivel, is offering a much-needed service to the eastern Kentucky area. As one of the first Christian Counseling offices in eastern Kentucky, the center seeks to provide help for hurting individuals, families, marriages, those with addictions, and those who have suffered a loss that is greatly impacting their lives. "We want to help hurting families, restore individuals and marriages, and to nurture lives to complete wholeness," said counselor and owner Arlene Nickell, MSW,CSW. "Without the help and wisdom of the holy spirit, we could not do this job."

"Although Christians rely on the Lord to give them strength and to help them with their pain, God can still send people into our lives to help us by giving us guidance and by lending a listening ear," Nickell added. "We praise God for the opportunity to be a small part of His plan to help people remember that 'He gives power to the faint and weary and to him who has no might, He increases their strength,' which is found in Isaiah chapter 40."

There are several other counseling services in the eastern Kentucky area, but few other are Christian-based. There are many similarities between Christian counseling and secular counseling, but there are differences also. As a general rule, both Christian counseling and secular counseling share the same desire to help people overcome their problems, find meaning and joy in life, and become healthy and well-adjusted individuals, both mentally and emotionally.

The word "counseling" can have multiple meanings, including offering advice and encouragement, sharing wisdom and skills, setting goals, resolving conflict, etc. Counselors usually probe the past (whether the problem happened a week ago or during childhood) in an attempt to repair the present. Sometimes they explore possible affects of physical and chemical imbalances that can cause physiological problems. A major part of counseling is resolving and restoring conflicts between people.

Christian counseling is distinctly different from secular counseling in that for spiritual people, Christian counseling rises to another dimension. Christian counselors see the Bible as the source of all truth and understand that the Bible has a lot of practical wisdom about human nature, marriage and family, human suffering, and so much more.

Faith Counseling Center helps people with all types of problems. "Some of the things we see in our counseling office are marital issues, the Internet, pornography and sexual addictions, drug addiction, and depression and anxiety disorders," said Nickell. "We see everything from people suffering from the loss of a family member to people who have psychological dis-



Christian counselor Arlene Nickell finds satisfaction in offering faith-based counseling services to her clients.

orders or who are even considering suicide. We want to help people — no matter what level of counseling is needed, we are there to listen and to help, and we count on the Lord to lead us in the right direction."

"I have been attending Faith Counseling once-weekly sessions for five weeks," said a counseling client (who chose to remain anonymous for privacy purposes). "I cannot tell you how much they have helped me with some issues I have been facing in my life. After suffering a loss in my immediate family, I was depressed and had anxiety issues. I prayed and prayed about my problems and felt God leading me to call Faith Counseling. It took a lot of courage for me to go, but when I arrived, they made me feel so comfortable. I knew I had made the right decision. Attending Christian counseling was one of the best decisions I ever made and I encourage anyone — with a big or small problem to go if you need someone to talk to or need help with a problem."

"Christian counseling was greatly needed in our area," Nickell said. "I am from eastern Kentucky and after receiving my training, I always knew I wanted to be a Christian counselor in this area and help people solve their problems with the help of the Lord."

Faith Counseling Center works with children, adults, and seniors. Services are provided for all ages. If you are interested in receiving Christian counseling for yourself or someone in your family, call Arlene Nickell at (606) 478-3300.

Cade honored by Washington Center

PIKEVILLE — Nancy Cade, Ph.D., professor of history and political science at Pikeville College, was recently honored as Faculty Leader of the Year by The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars in Washington, D.C.

The Washington Center honors significant contributors for their organizational goals of professional achievement, civic engagement, and leadership. As Faculty Leader of the Year, Cade was recognized for her commitment to the civic education of students, for her expertise, and for her love of teaching. The honors were presented during the Academic Affairs Luncheon at The National Press Club on Oct. 15.

"Each year, The Washington Center honors a group of individuals and organizations that have contributed significantly to the experience that our students have in our

(See HONOR, page six)



Right, Eugene J. Alpert, Ph.D., senior vice president of The Washington Center in Washington, D.C., presents the organization's 2007 Faculty Leader Award to Nancy Cade, Ph.D., professor of history and political science at Pikeville College. Cade received the honor during The Washington Center's annual Academic Affairs Awards Luncheon at the National Press Club Oct. 15. Cade was recognized for her commitment to the civic education of students and for her love of teaching.

Cards and kisses

by LINDA NEWTON

"CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE CHOCOLATE LOVER'S SOUL"

It was Valentine's Day, and we were broke. It wasn't uncommon for us to be low on funds. Raising three kids on a pastor's salary often left us with "too much month at the end of the money." My husband, Bruce, complained: "You're my valentine, and I don't have anything for you on Valentine's Day. I don't have money for flowers, much less jewelry."

Trying to comfort him, I explained: "You don't have to get me expensive stuff. We try to teach the folks at church not to go into debt when a heartfelt card is more than enough." Bruce took my heartfelt-card idea to heart.

That afternoon I stopped by the church office after picking up the kids from school. Bruce waved me into his office and presented me with a bright-red envelope and a small bag of Hershey's Kisses before he headed downstairs to a meeting. Opening the

card, I found myself lost in the words and the images as tears welled up in my eyes.

The secretary called to me from the outer office, bringing me back to reality. "I have some questions about brochures for the upcoming women's event. Can you help me?" she asked. I laid the card down on my husband's desk and yelled back, "I'll be right there."

I wasn't gone for more than 20 minutes, but when I returned, I found my oldest daughter, Sarah, curled up like a cat in her dad's wingback chair, cradling the card carefully in her lap and polishing off what little was left of the Hershey's Kisses. "This card is beautiful, Mom," she cooed, stroking it with her sticky, chocolate-covered

fingers. "Who gave it to you?"

"Well, I hope Daddy did, considering what it says," I chuckled.

"It's the most awesome card I've ever seen," she responded, batting her big blue eyes as only a 13-year-old girl with a headful of romantic notions could do. Just then my husband walked through his office door. Grabbing him around the neck I planted a big kiss — one on each cheek.

"Wow, what was that for?"

"The first kiss was for my beautiful card; the second one was for teaching our daughter, by example to choose a man who will love and cherish her," I whispered in his ear.

"I need to give you more cards," Bruce smiled.

"And chocolate," I quipped as we all gathered up my things to head home. I kept the card out on the kitchen counter to enjoy for a while before I tucked it into my keepsake

(See SOUP, page six)



MOVIES FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

'10 to Midnight'

by TOM DOTY
TIMES COLUMNIST

We wrap up crime thriller month with this early 1980s effort from Charles Bronson and acclaimed director J. Lee Thompson ("Cape Fear").

This one stars Bronson as a veteran detective named Kessler. As the film begins we are made aware that there is a killer at large when a reporter tries to weasel details out of Kessler, who gives him a stone cold stare and intones, "I know you want a story, but I want a killer and what I want comes first."

Meanwhile, we get to meet said killer, Warren Stacy. He sports one of those typical 1980s blow-dry coifs and prefers to kill in the nude, or in a fashionable pair of slingshot briefs. He works hard on his body but that is no compensation for his awkward personality.

Too bad this guy is aware of his shortcomings and uses his icky persona to make sure two alibi witnesses remember him from a trip to the movie by propositioning the pair. He then sneaks out during the opening credits of "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid" to claim his latest victim. She turns out to be an attractive young lady who works at the same office as he does, and where he is routinely shunned as the "creepy fix-it guy."

Stacey is nothing if not efficient and he manages to kill the girl and her boyfriend and sneak back into the theater before the movie's over. He makes sure to creep out the girls he bothered on the way in and, voila, he's got two perfect alibi witnesses.

He needs them because he hasn't read his serial killer handbook and makes the mistake of showing up at the victim's funeral, where he is seen by Kessler and his new partner McAnn. Kessler's daughter Laurie also marks him but can't remember from where. Kessler and McAnn pay him a visit under the pretense of talking to everyone from the funeral, but a quick trip to the guy's bathroom convinces Kessler that he's the guy. That's what you get for leaving extreme porn and marital aids lying around your bathroom.

They also learn while at Warren's that the victim's roommate was murdered hours earlier by an intruder looking for the victim's diary. Stacy can't produce an alibi this time and fumbles the ball with that old "I was taking a walk" standard.

Unfortunately, Kessler can't break him during an interrogation, though he does get him to sweat a little when he reads the diary to him and Stacy learns just how "creepy" everyone at the office thinks he is. The D.A. backs off when the movie witnesses are questioned (how did they find those

(See LAGOON, page six)



Tom Doty
Times Columnist

All-wheel drive a necessary expense in some climates

by TOM and RAY
MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:

I'm writing to you from hot and sunny Phoenix. My wife and I currently own a 2004 Subaru Forester. We bought an all-wheel-drive vehicle because we hope to be living someplace where it snows within the next few years. We love the car, but the gas mileage isn't spectacular because of the AWD. However, the owner's manual talks about a way to make the car work in front-wheel drive only: by inserting a spare fuse into the fuse box when you need to drive on a spare tire, so that the AWD system doesn't get ruined. Our question: If we put in this extra fuse to deactivate the AWD and therefore get better gas mileage, are we running the risk of damaging the AWD system over time? — David

TOM: Well, having lived in the great frozen North for all of our miserable lives so far, we can't imagine why you'd want to move to where it snows. Unless you make your living selling Bronko Nagurski Long Underwear.

RAY: You've actually identified a problem that many people aren't aware of, David: All-wheel-drive vehicles are more expensive to own.

TOM: When you have all-

wheel drive, you add an additional set of drive-train components. Those components add weight to the car, which decreases your mileage. They also can add to your repair costs, because there are more things to break.

RAY: So if you live in, say, Florida, Arizona or Southern California, you do your commuting on paved roads and you don't work for Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom, you probably want to skip the all-wheel drive and save yourself some money.

TOM: A lot of people figure, "Well, it can't hurt. And maybe I'll be in a situation where it will be useful sometime." But they don't realize they're paying for that all-wheel drive every day in lower mileage.

RAY: Now, as you've discovered, David, Subaru does provide a way to deactivate the rear drive shaft. But unfortunately, it really won't help your mileage. Even though you can disconnect the rear drive-train components from the transmission, those parts are still turning (it's just that the rear wheels are pushing them, rather than vice versa). AND you're still carrying all of those parts around with you. So you still have the weight AND some of the friction of the AWD system, even when it's disconnected.

TOM: So I'm afraid you're out of luck, David. What CAN you do? Make sure your tires are properly inflated, be sure your engine is tuned and running well, and take that 1,000-pound snowmobile out of the back of the car until you actually make your move North.

Her husband is pulling a fast one

Dear Tom and Ray: I have a 2002 Daewoo wagon. (I'll pause here for your laughter.) I have owned it since it was new and have adequately maintained it, and it has just under 50,000 miles on it. Recently we took a trip, and because of an ongoing oil drip, my husband checked the oil, added a half-quart and then we headed home. After stopping and dropping off him and the kids, I headed out to my brother's house (10 minutes away) to pick up our dog. On the way there, I could see white smoke coming from the back of the car. Once I got into his driveway, the car was smoking profusely. I opened the hood to find the oil cap missing and oil coating the inside of the engine compartment and con-

sequently dripping on my brother's driveway. When I went to open the back of the car to get paper towels to wipe up the puddle forming underneath, I found a spray of oil on the back window and hatch door (like someone sprayed it with Pam). I can't imagine what the car that was tailgating me looks like. I immediately called my husband (who, I might add, I trust with my life and KNOW BEYOND A SHADOW OF A DOUBT THAT HE PUT THE CAP BACK ON PROPERLY). He tells me that the oil cap shot off (reminding me that this happened once before). My question: What happened? When I brought it in to the service station (the same guys who have fixed and serviced it for years), they told me that oil caps are not under any pressure and will not "shoot off." Service Guy told me in not so many words that the cap was NOT put on properly. What do you think? — Leslie

TOM: Well, Leslie, we know beyond a shadow of a doubt that your husband did not put the cap back on properly.



tem. If pressure were the problem, other things would blow off first.

TOM: You can try it yourself. Put the cap on correctly, and then try to pull it straight off. You won't be able to.

RAY: And the film on your back window was just oil, dripping down underneath the car and getting swept up onto the back window. We see that all the time when differentials leak.

TOM: Fortunately, you probably didn't do any permanent damage. If you were down only a quart or two when you took it in, the engine is fine — or at least no worse than it was before this incident.

RAY: To reduce the likelihood of this happening in the future, I would suggest applying some Ginkgo biloba — to your husband, not your oil cap. Good luck, Leslie.

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.

Honor

Continued from p5

programs," said Eugene J. Alpert, Ph.D., senior vice president of The Washington Center.

An educational nonprofit organization serving hundreds of colleges and universities in the U.S. and other countries, The Washington Center provides selected students challenging opportunities to work and learn in Washington for academic credit. The program has more than 35,000 alumni, many of whom are leaders in numerous professions and

nations around the world.

Cade has served as a faculty advisor and mentor to students from Pikeville College and other colleges throughout Appalachia, including The Washington Center's "Inside Washington" seminars from 2004-2007, and also during a national party convention seminar in 2004 which provided students with leadership and learning opportunities in the national conventions and presidential inauguration.

Soup

Continued from p5

drawer to remember forever.

Eight Valentine's Days passed, and that beautiful blue-eyed 13-year-old was now a blushing bride. I opened my keepsake drawer, looking for grandma's jewelry to offer her something old to go with the something new and borrowed to round out her wedding repertoire. There next to grandma's pearls was the

Valentine's Day card — complete with chocolate fingerprints.

The experts are right: Values are caught not taught. Sarah was about to marry Shaun, who adored her just like her daddy adored her mom. And now it's Shaun's turn to keep his admiring wife in beautiful cards and chocolate Kisses — forever.

Lagoon

Continued from p5

two?) and Kessler vows to keep at it.

He gets more inspiration when his daughter comes forward and states that she remembers Stacy as the creepy guy who all of her friends avoided like the plague. Stacy knows she can put him with the first victim and begins stalking her and making obscene phone calls to her while using a pathetic Spanish accent.

Kessler has the calls taped and a voice print analysis matches Stacy with the caller, but a misdemeanor charge won't keep Stacy away so he decides to plant blood evidence on Stacy's clothes. He almost gets away with it but backs off when his idealistic partner refuses to play along. Stacy gets freed and Kessler gets fired.

Kessler uses his free time to make Stacy's life a living hell and begins stalking him, breaking into his apartment and badgering him with phone calls. It doesn't take long for Stacy to crack, but can Kessler get to him in time before the madman gets to his daughter? Hey, this is Charles Bronson here, but I will say that the explosive ending, though you know it's coming, does feature a few surprises and several bodies hit the floor before justice can be served in such a fashion that Kessler may not be walking away after doing the right thing.

your average Bronson thriller and 10 times better than the future collaborations he would make with director Thompson, which include the uninspired final two films in the "Death Wish" series. Chuck gets to do some real acting here and he is especially effective in the scenes with his daughter.

Andrew Stevens also has some fine moments as the true blue McAnn, but this movie belongs to Gene Davis as the uber-creep. He skillfully portrays Stacy as the mama's boy from hell who never had a date because his crybaby personality overpowered his flashy looks and surface charm. It's a daring performance but not the kind that leads to offers to play anything other than Norman Bates wannabes.

The final message (that we don't need the law when we're right) is a dangerous one, but they stack the deck against Stacy so well that you'd be hard-pressed to suspect that the courts could have done him any better.

Best line: "The way the law protects those maggots out there, you'd think they were an endangered species."

1983, rated R.



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Kentucky's Meeks frustrated over mysterious injury

by JEFFREY McMURRAY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON — Kentucky guard Jodie Meeks, who will miss at least a month with a stress fracture, says he still can't pinpoint when he hurt himself.

Speaking this week for the first time since the injury to his pelvic area was diagnosed, Meeks says he assumed it happened during the team's second exhibition against Seattle. Which play, however, is still a mystery.

He felt good enough to play in two regular season

games after that. Not until after Kentucky's loss to Gardner-Webb Nov. 7 did Meeks realize it was more than just a nagging injury.

"I didn't know how serious it was," Meeks said. "After that game, I kind of told the coaches I was hurting a little more than I thought I was. They told me not to rush back."

It's not that the Wildcats (2-1) couldn't use him. They host Texas Southern Saturday, and are already without point guard Derrick Jasper, out indefinitely with a knee injury.

In Kentucky's 80-54 victory over Liberty Wednesday, coach Billy Gillispie started a lineup with three guards — senior Ramel Bradley, sophomore Michael Porter and freshman Alex Legion. Not among the starters was senior Joe Crawford, although he came off the bench to get 22 points.

"I don't think you have to

have a bunch of home run hitters when one guy goes down like Meeks," Gillispie said. "You have to have everybody on the team do a little bit more."

The Wildcats will miss his 3-point shooting. Last season, he was usually one of the first players off the

bench, and often provided an immediate spark from long-range.

Bradley and Crawford led the team with two 3s apiece against the Flames, but for the most part, the inside scoring of Patrick Patterson carried the Wildcats.

"We have no control over that," Bradley said of Meeks' injury. "We've still got to keep going."

Meeks says it's hard to know whether the doctors' prognosis of a four to six-week layoff is too long or too short. Nobody is in a bigger hurry to return to action, he

says, but he realizes that isn't realistic any time soon.

"It's frustrating, sitting on the sideline," Meeks said. "At the same time, coach is telling me, try to be a cheerleader, try to help my teammates out when they mess up. Try to tell them what I see from the sideline."

WILDCAT BASKETBALL UPCOMING GAMES

Nov. 27 Stony Brook, 7 p.m.
Dec. 1 North Carolina, 2 p.m.
Dec. 8 at Indiana, 3:45 p.m.

Great gifts now available for hunting enthusiasts

by LEE McCLELLAN
KENTUCKY AFIELD

FRANKFORT — With the garage half full of fishing gear and closets burgeoning with hunting clothes, decoys and portable blinds, how do you decide what to get the well stocked outdoors enthusiast for Christmas?

One of the simplest gifts that ensures the safety of your friend or loved one when they are on the water is a personal floatation device, commonly referred to as a lifejacket.

A personal floatation device is one of those items you really need, but don't want to buy. It isn't flashy, new or innovative, but one of the things you must have for fishing from a boat, canoe, float tube, inflatable pontoon boat or kayak. Nationally, nearly nine out of every 10 fatal boating accidents from drowning could have been prevented by wearing a personal floatation device.

The main complaint about these devices is they can be hot on a summer day and get in your way while fishing or rowing. Over the past decade or so, inflatable personal floatation devices have come onto the market. These vests consist of inflatable bladders that hang down your chest, connected in the back by a strap. They are no more uncomfortable than a towel hanging around your neck.

Inflatable vests don't get in your way while you fish or row, and the lack of material around your body keeps them from making you hot. The less expensive models inflate with the pull of the cord. The more expensive models inflate automatically when they hit the water.

Kentucky's boating laws require that each person on board wear a Coast Guard approved Type I, II or III personal floatation device, or have one readily accessible. Some inflatable vests must be worn to comply with the law, instead of just readily available. Check the label on the vest — it will inform you whether it must be worn in order to be Coast Guard approved as a Type I, II or III personal floatation device.

A resident sportsman's license (\$95) is another practical gift for the outdoors enthusiast who

(See GIFTS, page two)



PRESTONSBURG fell to Louisville DeSales in a regional championship matchup Friday night. The Blackcats ended the season 9-4.

photo by Jamie Howell

POSTSEASON FOOTBALL



photo by Jamie Howell

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY officials are on the verge of announcing which bowl the Wildcats will play in. Kentucky pulled off a Music City Bowl victory last season, defeating ACC member Clemson in one of the bowl season's most exciting games.

Prestonsburg Football

Coach: John DeRossett

Class: 2A

District: 7

POSTSEASON TREK

Nov. 9 Morgan County, 70-6 (W)

(Class 2A KHSAA

Commonwealth Gridiron Bowl)

Nov. 16 Shelby Valley, 38-0 (W)

(Class 2A KHSAA

Commonwealth Gridiron Bowl)

Nov. 23 DeSales

(Class 2A KHSAA Commonwealth Gridiron

Bowl at DuPont Manual) 20-33 (L)

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SCOREBOARD STATE PLAYOFFS

Friday, Nov. 23

CLASS A

Lexington Christian 45, Pikeville 14

CLASS 2A

DeSales 33, Prestonsburg 20

Newport Cent. Cath. 38, Corbin 16

CLASS 3A

Breathitt County 20, Russell 17

Belfry 38, Somerset 21

Miners let lead slip late, fall to Oklahoma

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LAWTON, Okla. — Despite a game-high 34 points from guard Josh Pace, East Kentucky fell short of getting in the win column Wednesday night at Great Plains Coliseum versus host Oklahoma. The Cavalry outscored the Miners 25-14 in the fourth quarter en route to a 104-101 win.

East Kentucky enjoyed leads in each half. The Miners outscored Oklahoma 34-28 in the first quarter and led 55-53 at the half. Visiting East Kentucky outscored Oklahoma 32-26 in the third quarter before being held to 14 points in the final period.

Pace had nine rebounds and three steals to go along with his game-high scoring total.



BRYANT NORTHERN

All five Oklahoma starters scored a dozen or more points as the home team claimed the victory.

Curtis Haywood led Oklahoma with a team-best 22

points. Daryan Selvy dumped in 19 points and Albert Robinson added 17 for the Cavalry. Oklahoma forwards Marvin Phillips and Judson Stubbs netted 12 points apiece.

Selvy and Phillips each had double-doubles, pulling down 12 and 13 rebounds, respectively.

Boo Jackson joined Pace in double figures for the Miners, finishing with 24 points. Reo Logan narrowly missed double figures, ending the contest with nine points. Bryant Northern added eight points for the Miners. Jason McLeish pushed in seven points and Lawrence Barnes added six.

The Cavalry outrebounded East Kentucky 56-40.

Mabel Kimmel passes

TIMES STAFF REPORT

Mabel Kimmel, 82, of Clarksville Indiana, mother of nine-time ARCA REMAX Series driving champion Frank Kimmel, died Tuesday morning, Nov. 20.

Mabel and her husband, Bill Kimmel Sr., were instrumental in nurturing and guiding the racing careers of their sons Frank and Bill.

Bill Kimmel Sr. was a successful race car driver for over 30 years, and is a three-time race winner on the ARCA RE/MAX Series, all with the long-term support of his wife.

Mabel and Bill's son Bill Jr. won championships locally and regionally in NASCAR late model competition before moving into a crew chief role for his brother Frank, helping to guide the Tri-State Racing Team's eight consecutive national championships including the 2007 ARCA RE/MAX Series championship.

Mabel Kimmel is survived by her husband Bill Kimmel Sr.; sons Bill of Sellersburg Indiana, Frank of Borden, Ind. and Thomas of Highland, Ind.; daughters Penny Henderson of Atlanta Georgia, Kim Meadors of Louisville and Jamie Upchurch of Atlanta.

A memorial service was held Saturday, Nov. 23 at 10 a.m. at Scott Funeral Home in Jeffersonville, Ind.

Bears roll in Thanksgiving Classic matchup

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE — The Pikeville College Bears shot above 50 percent from the floor and remained perfect at home this season, cruising past Cincinnati Christian 87-68 Wednesday in the Thanksgiving Classic finale.

In addition to the shooting percentage, the Bears held a 2:1 rebounding edge, 52-26, thanks to a double-double from senior Jeff Ferguson. The Toronto product finished with 11 points and 13 rebounds.

Pikeville (5-2) had five players reach double figures, led by junior William Harris with 18 points to go with seven rebounds, seven assists and four steals. Junior Haakim Johnson tossed in 15 points while junior Ewan Linton and freshman Justin Hicks flipped in 12 each. Linton grabbed seven rebounds.

Cincinnati Christian (5-4) had four players reach double figures itself, with Adam Brown, David Pritchard and Brett West firing in 12 each. Justin Bilyeu had 11 for the Golden Eagles.

Pikeville will be back in action next Wednesday night when the Alice Lloyd College Eagles roll in. The women's/men's basketball doubleheader will begin at 6 p.m.

P'burg, South Floyd girls to open season in Cordia tourney

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

CORDIA — Prestonsburg and South Floyd girls' basketball teams will open the 2007-08 season Wednesday, Nov. 28 at Cordia in the Lady Lions Tip-Off Tournament Sponsored by Peoples Bank & Trust of Hazard. The Cordia girls' basketball tournament is scheduled for Nov. 28-Dec. 1. In addition to the Floyd County teams and host Cordia, North Laurel, Johnson Central, Knox Central and Christian Academy of Louisville will compete for the tournament title.

Prestonsburg and South Floyd are in separate pools in the Cordia tournament.

Lady Lions Tip-Off Tournament Sponsored By Peoples Bank & Trust of Hazard at Cordia High School, Nov. 28-Dec. 1: Pool A — North Laurel, Prestonsburg, Sheldon Clark, Johnson Central; Pool B — Knox Central, Cordia, South Floyd, Christian Academy of Louisville.

Wednesday, Nov. 28: 5:30 p.m. — Knox Central vs. South Floyd; 7 p.m. — Prestonsburg vs. Sheldon Clark; 8:30 p.m. — North Laurel vs. Johnson Central.

Thursday, Nov. 29: 6:30 p.m. — Johnson Central vs. Prestonsburg; 8 p.m. — Cordia vs. Knox Central.

Friday — Nov. 30: 5:30 p.m. — Cordia vs. South Floyd; 7 p.m. — North Laurel vs. Sheldon Clark; 8:30 p.m. — Knox Central vs. Christian Academy of Louisville.

Dec. 1: Games involving Pools A and B between fourth-place finishers, third-place finishers, second-third-place finishers and overall championship at 1, 3, 5, and 7 p.m., respectively.

Patterson's 23 points helps Kentucky regroup against Liberty

by JEFFREY McMURRAY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON — Freshman Patrick Patterson has the size and skills to be a dominant basketball player, but coach Billy Gillispie says the one thing holding him back is the lack of a mean streak.

The nice guy version of Patterson proved plenty for Liberty to handle Wednesday night as he had a career-high 23 points, helping Kentucky brush off the rust of a two-week lay-off with an 80-54 victory.

Patterson chipped in 10 rebounds, making him the first Wildcat freshman with 20 points and 10 rebounds in a game since Jason Parker in the 2001 NCAA tournament.

Afterward, when Gillispie

commented about Patterson needing to acquire meanness, the coach was asked whether that is teachable. He said he would try.

"I don't know if you can, but if it's possible, they've got a good teacher, I promise you that," Gillispie said.

Patterson, the highly touted power forward out of West Virginia, was confident that his coach would make him a fiercer competitor, he said.

"He's going to improve everyone on this team," Patterson said. "Pretty soon, we're going to be a well-oiled machine."

The Wildcats (2-1) hadn't played since losing to Gardner-Webb Nov. 7 in round two of

the 2K Sports College Hoops Classic and were outscored 14-0 early in that one. This time, Kentucky's shooters were sharper out of the gate, particularly Patrick Patterson.



Patrick Patterson

The Wildcats scored 18 of the game's first 22 points, getting baskets from five different players during that stretch.

Liberty coach Ritchie McKay said the national uproar about Kentucky's loss to Gardner-Webb was likely unwarranted.

"There might have been some overreaction," he said. "Kentucky basketball is in

great shape. I think they're going to continue to uphold their tradition. I'm sorry it came at our expense."

A dunk by Patterson provided the biggest spark during the early run, and he added two one-handed jams midway through the second half to bury the Flames.

Patterson's point total was the highest for a Kentucky freshman since Randolph Morris had 25 against Campbell Dec. 29, 2004.

Liberty (2-4) used the outside shot to try to pull back into the game but connected on only one of 15 3-point attempts in the first half. By the time Anthony Smith provided their next two 3-pointers early in the second half, the game was largely out of reach.

Alex McLean led the Flames with 15 points.

With guard Jodie Meeks sidelined for at least a month with stress fracture to his pelvic area, coach Billy Gillispie started a lineup with three guards — Ramel Bradley, Alex Legion and Michael Porter.

Not among the starters was senior Joe Crawford, but he made an impact when he appeared five minutes in. Crawford had 22 points and four assists — one of which fed Patterson on an alley-oop dunk.

Crawford said his pass was late, but Patterson still turned it into the highlight of the game.

"Shows what kind of ability he has," Crawford said of his freshman teammate.

Crawford also nailed a 3 just before halftime that stretched the Kentucky lead to 36-21.

Despite playing a smaller lineup, Kentucky won the rebounding battle 38-30. However, the Flames had more offensive rebounds, getting four on one possession.

Kentucky made 55 percent of its shots, the first game of the Gillispie era shooting over 50 percent.

Defensively, Gillispie said he wasn't impressed. He pointed out several missed layups by the Wildcats turned into buckets for Liberty on the other end.

"Our transition defense still stinks," Gillispie said. "That's all about hustle and communication and being tough."

Clark leads injury-plagued Louisville past UNLV, 68-48

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LAS VEGAS — Life without injured post players Juan Palacios and David Padgett could be tough for Louisville. Against UNLV, the Cardinals showed they could win without them.

Earl Clark had 16 points and 12 rebounds and Jerry Smith added 14 points to lead No. 6 Louisville to a 68-48 win on Wednesday night.

Palacios, a senior and the lone contributing holdover from

the Cardinals' 2005 Final Four team, is expected back from a torn ligament in his right knee by mid-December. Padgett, who hurt his knee Sunday, could be lost for the season.

That leaves Louisville with eight scholarship players and questions with depth. It runs an up-tempo offense and pressure defense and Pitino plans on doing more substituting than usual.

"We had to change our whole system overnight," coach Rick Pitino said. "Padgett was

the key to our offense and how we ran the high and low."

In the interim, the Cardinals will rely on forward Derrick Character, who scored eight points and grabbed five rebounds before fouling out late, and a host of others to carry the load. Edgar Sosa added 10 points.

Louisville (3-0) led by double digits in the first half, but UNLV made four straight 3-pointers to take a 35-33 lead with 14:36 left.

Following a time out,

Louisville scored the next nine points, including 3-pointers from Terrence Williams and Sosa, and never trailed again. The outburst was capped by a transition dunk from Clark as the Cardinals went on a decisive 16-2 run.

"We made an adjustment with our zone defense in that time out," Pitino said. "We couldn't stop them from making the 3, so we went to a man-to-man for the rest of the game."

Louisville, in town early for the Las Vegas Invitational on

Friday and Saturday, will play formidable BYU in the semifinals and could meet No. 1 North Carolina in the finals.

Pitino said giving bench players crucial minutes against quality competition will be a benefit, but only if the Cardinals survive a tough non-conference schedule that includes a contest at in-state rival Kentucky.

"If we get our guys back healthy it will make a lot of guys better," Pitino said. "When I made the schedule, I didn't

think we'd be done to eight scholarship players."

UNLV (3-1), which had won its previous 19 games at home, got a team-high 11 points from Matt Shaw, the lone Rebel in double figures.

Wink Adams and Joe Darger added nine points each for the Rebels, who missed 17 of their first 21 shots.

"Louisville is an outstanding team," UNLV coach Lon Kruger said. "Louisville turned it up a bit and made some good plays."

UAB holds off Eastern Kentucky comeback, prevails 64-50

TIMES STAFF REPORT

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — The Eastern Kentucky University men's basketball team fell on the road Wednesday night at UAB, 64-50. For the second straight game, cold shooting doomed the Colonels as the team shot 35 percent from the field (18-for-51), including 27 percent (6-for-22) from behind the three-point arc.

With the loss, EKU dropped to 2-2. The Blazers improved to 3-3 following the win.

The Colonels dug themselves a large hole early as the Blazers led by as many as 12

just seven minutes into the game. Solid defense and a slow pace kept the Colonels in the game and down just 31-18 at the half.

EKU crept within 10 of the Blazers numerous times in the second half, but were never able to make it a single digit deficit until senior forward Darnell Dials nailed his second three-pointer from the top of the key with 4:37 left to make it 52-45. Following a Jamaal Douglas put-back with 4:00 showing on the clock, the Colonels trailed only by five. However, a three-point play by UAB forward Reggie Huffman

made the Blazers' lead eight again, and the Colonels would not get any closer.

Dials led the Colonels with 15 points and seven rebounds, while shooting 2-for-4 from beyond the three-point line. The senior had taken only eight three-pointers in his entire career before this game, and made only one.

Each team's leading scorer played well below their respective averages. The Colonels' Mike Rose, who came in averaging 14.3 points per game, scored only five while shooting 2-for-14 from the field and 0-for-6 from behind the arc. The

Blazers' Robert Vaden, who was averaging 20.2 ppg finished with six points on 2-for-11 from the field.

Eastern Kentucky will conclude its three-game road swing today at Duke. That game will be televised regionally by Fox Sports Net South. Game time is set for 1 p.m.

Centre rebounds for first win: One day after falling on opening day for the first time since the 2000-01 season, the Centre College men's basketball team rebounded on day two of the Coaches vs. Cancer Classic to defeat LaGrange

College 76-59 in the consolation game, Saturday, Nov. 17 in LaGrange, Ga.

With the win, the Colonels even their record at 1-1 while LaGrange, which fell to Emory and Henry College a day earlier, dropped to 0-2.

Centre shot 44.6-percent (29-65) on the day, including 18-33 (54.5-percent) in the first half, while the Panthers were limited to 38.5-percent (20-52) from the field.

Senior guard Matt Nestheide (Edgewood) and junior guard Ryan Crowdis (Louisville) led the way for the Colonels, scoring 13 points

apiece. Nestheide also had four rebounds and a steal, while Crowdis added eight rebounds and a steal off the bench. Junior forward T.C. Thomason (Russellville) chipped in eight points and eight rebounds in the win.

Shelby Valley High School graduate Kris Bentley, a Floyd County native, added six points for the Colonels.

Landon Baize led LaGrange with 15 points, four assists, three rebounds and a steal. Demetris Render also finished in double figures with 13 points and seven rebounds in 37 minutes of action.

Woodyard works on recruits

by JEFFREY McMURRAY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON — When Wesley Woodyard decided to spurn offers from more established programs to help resurrect Kentucky football four years ago, the Wildcats landed not only a playmaking linebacker but also a dealmaking recruiter.

Woodyard, ninth on the school's all-time list with 370 tackles, is the guy who makes the much-improved defense tick. He leads the Southeastern Conference with 114 tackles and has recorded at least four tackles in each of the 35 games since the start of his sophomore season.

But as Woodyard's senior year winds down Saturday in the regular season finale against Tennessee, the more indelible mark on the program might not be his own accomplishments but his talent luring other stars to follow him to Lexington.

"I have a lot of confidence in our program and our city," Woodyard said. "I just let people know how it is."

When Woodyard goes after a recruiting target, he combines the persuasiveness of a used-car dealer with the credibility of a fierce competitor whose professional stock has risen through four years of seasoning at a school riddled by probation when he arrived.

"His sales pitch was, 'Come here, believe, and be a part of something,'" defensive end Jeremy Jarmon said. "'Don't go somewhere else where they already have something established and people possibly won't even remember you.'"

Woodyard, a native of LaGrange, Ga., has had the most success recruiting fellow players from the peach state. He says one high school team-

mate — fellow linebacker Braxton Kelley — was a particularly difficult sell.

Kelley initially played tough to get, but eventually Woodyard's message got through and he signed with the Wildcats.

"He basically told me, 'Do you want to have to wait to play or come in and play now?'" Kelley said. "When you come to a place that's not winning, you have to take that as a role. You have to do something to make a change. Recruiting was the tool he used to make a change in our team."

Later, Woodyard hosted receiver Steve Johnson on a recruiting visit. Johnson signed out of junior college and has had a breakout senior season.

"Anybody that has the recognition that Wesley has and has performed on the field like he has, when he entertains recruits and talks to them about coming here, they're more likely to listen," coach Rich Brooks said.

Defensive coordinator Steve Brown said potential recruits are asking to be lined up with Woodyard. Recently, a high school player from Alabama called Brown and asked to talk to "No. 16." Brown gladly complied.

"When we recruited him to come here, we told him exactly the truth and he's learned to love this place," Brown said. "He's probably our best recruiter because he's a guy that can speak their language and he also understands that he can explain his experience here."

Woodyard, who is majoring in social work, also has made his mark at a Lexington clinic that specializes in helping at-risk teenagers.

He worked at the Lexington Day Treatment Center four hours a week last spring as part of his course

work and was so popular among the teens, the center hired him for more extensive work over the summer.

"He seems to really connect with even some of the more difficult kids nobody seems to connect with," said Lisa Berman, the center's director of clinical services. "He can find something about them to make them feel comfortable enough to let their guard down. They see him as a real genuine person, and they respond to that."

Berman said the linebacker easily could pursue a career in social work, but first he likely will try his fortunes playing football on Sundays. He is one of several Wildcats who figure to be drafted by an NFL team.

Woodyard's one possible drawback as a pro player may be his size. At 6-1, 212 pounds he is much smaller than many of the bulky linebackers found on NFL rosters. He might end up projecting to safety on the next level, but Brown is convinced Woodyard can remain a linebacker.

"Certain systems, like the (Indianapolis) Colts, like smaller, faster linebackers, whereas the Baltimore Ravens like 240-pound linebackers," Brown said. "But I think he'll get some opportunities to play at the next level."

Woodyard said he'll switch positions if that would help the team, but he considers establishing himself as a pro linebacker as a challenge.

"Coming into my freshman year, people would say, there's a certain thing about linebackers — you've got to be this height, got to be this weight to compete in the SEC," Woodyard said. "I think I've had some kind of success playing this year through my speed, through my heart and my love of the game."

Gifts

loves to fish and hunt. This license includes a combination hunting and fishing license, spring turkey permit (two turkeys), fall turkey hunting permit (four turkeys), statewide deer permit (two deer), state waterfowl permit and trout permit. You'll save \$50 off the cost of buying these licenses separately. The sportsman's license does not include the elk hunt application or the federal duck stamp

required for waterfowl hunters.

An application for the 2008 quota elk hunt only costs \$10, and is an inexpensive gift that most hunters would appreciate. Both the 2008-09 resident sportsman's license and elk hunt applications go on sale Dec. 1, 2007. You'll need the Social Security number of the person for which you're buying the license or application. You can purchase these wher-

ever hunting and fishing license are sold, online at fw.ky.gov, or by calling 1-877-598-2401.

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

Trout stockings in several lakes advanced

TIMES STAFF REPORT

FRANKFORT — Trout stockings originally scheduled for January and February in several lakes across Kentucky are being moved to November and December due to repairs scheduled for the Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery.

Officials with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers plan to make repairs to the hatchery's water intake structures in January, reducing the amount of water available to the hatchery. During the repairs, the hatchery will be using water supplied by two temporary pumps. The diminished water flows to the hatchery reduces the hatchery's holding capacity,

and therefore trout must be stocked before the work begins. The hatchery, located south of Jamestown below Lake Cumberland's Wolf Creek Dam, supplies all the trout for Kentucky stockings.

As part of the new schedule, Woods Creek Lake, Cannon Creek Lake, Cranks Creek Lake, Fish Pond Lake, Bert Combs Lake, Beulah Lake and Paintsville Lake will receive trout from Nov. 26-29.

Laurel Lake will receive its trout stocking from Dec. 3-7.

Laurel Lake and Paintsville Lake will receive additional trout stockings from Dec. 10-14. Other lakes scheduled to receive trout

during this week include Mill Creek Lake, Prisoner's Lake, Three Springs Park Lake and four lakes at Peabody Wildlife Management Area: Island, Musky, Bottom and Goose.

Greenbo Lake and the Upper and Lower Sportsman's Lakes at Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Headquarters in Frankfort will receive trout stockings in January, as originally scheduled.

FISHING AND HUNTING TALES: Have a photo of a big catch? Share it with The Times. Email fishing and/or hunting photos to The Times at sports@floydcountytimes.com



ALLEN RACER BRANDON KINZER recently wrapped up the 2007 race season with a feature event in Cleveland, Tenn., a familiar track for many Southeastern United States drivers.

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Titans can't afford another loss against Bengals — another familiar foe

by JOE KAY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — Before he started looking ahead to the next game, Tennessee Titans coach Jeff Fisher took a moment to do a little reminiscing.

So many of his memories involve the Cincinnati Bengals.

Like that surreal game in 1995, when sore-shouldered Chris Chandler went 23-of-26 while leading the Houston Oilers to a win. Or later that year in the rematch, when Carl Pickens set Cincinnati's single-season record for touchdown catches.

Or that historic Thursday night game in December 1997, when Corey Dillon broke Jim Brown's rookie rushing record against the team then known as the Tennessee Oilers.

Or ...
"There were always some great games," said Fisher, now in his 13th full season as head coach. "Late yesterday, I was kind of reflecting on some of

those games: the Corey Dillon day, and Pickens and Jeff Blake and all those great contests we had."

A little more history could be made Sunday when the Titans (6-4) visit town for the first time in five years, desperately needing to beat the team that knows them better than anyone else.

The Bengals (3-7) used to play them twice a year when they were division mates. Their 71st game on Sunday will be the most that Tennessee has played against any other team. So far, the Oilers/Titans have gotten the better of it, going 38-31-1.

They really need to get this one, too.

Consecutive losses to Jacksonville and Monday night in Denver have left the Titans barely clinging to one of the AFC wild-card berths. They're still in good shape to make a playoff run, but simply cannot afford to fall to a Bengals team that has lost its bearings.

"We have time," linebacker

Keith Bulluck said. "We built a good cushion starting the first half off 6-2. That cushion is starting to shrink."

So is there no sense of serenity.

"It's crushing to us," quarterback Vince Young said of the back-to-back losses. "To us how we started the season, we should not be in this particular predicament of losing."

They haven't look like themselves the last two weeks.

The 6-2 start was predicated largely upon the defense, which was one of the league's best. No opponent ran for 100 yards in those first eight games.

With dominating defensive tackle Albert Haynesworth sidelined the last two weeks by a strained right hamstring, the Jaguars and Broncos each ran for 166 yards, leaving the defense looking very vulnerable.

It's uncertain whether Haynesworth will be ready for Cincinnati.

"I hope he's not," Bengals quarterback Carson Palmer

said. "He's been unblockable. Really, if you sit down and watch him, he might not make every single play, but he's not blocked."

The Titans will be without rookie running back Chris Henry, who has started serving a four-game suspension for violating the NFL's substance abuse policy. Tennessee also has some concerns about Young, who bruised his right thigh during the loss in Denver but is expected to play.

How well he runs could well decide the game. The Bengals have one of the league's worst defenses and have struggled to contain quarterbacks who can move.

"I like to keep the defense on the edge of their seat," said Young, who threw for a career-high 305 yards and ran for a season-high 74 against Denver. "They never know what I'm about to do once the play is called."

Another big day by Young could push the Bengals over the edge.

* They've had only one winning season since 1990, taking the AFC North title in 2005 under coach Marvin Lewis. One more loss will ensure them of no better than their fourth 8-8 finish in Lewis' five seasons.

A franchise that was once synonymous with losing has become the measure of mediocrity.

"It's tough," defensive captain John Thornton said. "We've been preparing well every week. Things haven't gone our way, but during the week we're fine. We don't have anybody with their heads down saying, 'We're out of it.'"

Their best-known player isn't saying anything these days.

Chad Johnson has a chance to set Bengals history on Sunday. He's five catches from Pickens' club record of 530 career receptions. He's also working on the longest streak of his career without talking about himself.

Stung by suggestions the Bengals would be better off

without his look-at-me antics, Johnson has mostly kept to himself for the last four weeks. He hasn't gotten into the end zone, either. Johnson hasn't scored a touchdown since the second game of the season, when he dived into the Dawg Pound in Cleveland to celebrate.

The problems go much deeper, of course. Right tackle Willie Anderson suggested the Bengals ran into problems when they became enamored of their image of a high-tech passing team and got away from the hard-nosed mentality that took them to the playoffs.

"We weren't trying to be glamorous because we couldn't afford to," Anderson said. "I think we have to get back to that mold."

And fast.

AP Sports Writer Teresa Walker in Nashville contributed to this report.

Johnson isn't talking or scoring touchdowns while Bengals struggle

by JOE KAY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — Chad Johnson isn't talking. Isn't scoring touchdowns, either.

Nobody expected this.

The chatty receiver has clammed up in the past four weeks, stung by suggestions that his fun-loving antics are part of the reason the Cincinnati Bengals are stuck in last place in the AFC North.

He's not doing interviews. He doesn't seem to interact with teammates as much. He's definitely not smiling.

It's such a pronounced change that concerned teammates are urging him to go back to being Chad.

"I told Chad, 'Man, if you've got to talk to go score two, three touchdowns, start talking,'" right tackle Willie Anderson told reporters. "He was talking in '03. He was

talking in '04, when you guys loved him and built him up on top of this city. Now the guy gets killed for doing the exact thing he's always been doing."

Two things have changed: Johnson isn't scoring touchdowns, and his team isn't winning.

Since making the playoffs in 2005 with their high-tech passing attack, the Bengals (3-7) have steadily regressed. They've lost 10 of their last 13 games, their running game has evaporated, and Johnson has been penned in by opposing defenses stacked to stop him.

He had promised a lot more. Heading into the season, Johnson proclaimed that he had his "sexy" back and started dropping hints about his latest touchdown celebrations. When he scored the Bengals' first touchdown of the season on a 39-yard catch against the Ravens, he went to the sideline

and donned an oversized Hall of Fame jacket.

A week later, he scored twice in Cleveland and got a shower of beer when he dived into the Dawg Pound after the second touchdown.

He hasn't been back to the end zone since. Eight games, zero touchdowns.

"Teams have made the commitment not to let Chad beat them," offensive coordinator Bob Bratkowski said. "There's been some times when we've had the opportunity, and we haven't hooked up on it. It's kind of a freak thing of how the plays come out."

Instead, slot receiver T.J. Houshmandzadeh has been getting the catches. He leads the NFL with 76 catches and has 11 for touchdowns, ranking third in the NFL behind Randy Moss and Terrell Owens.

"T.J.'s been left in one-on-

one situations and done a good job beating those one-on-one situations, when Chad's been double- and triple-teamed," quarterback Carson Palmer said.

The lack of touchdowns aside, Johnson is still having an impressive season. He's third in the AFC in yards with 938. He needs six catches on Sunday against Tennessee (6-4) to break Carl Pickens' franchise record of 530 receptions.

There have been some uncharacteristic moments as well. He dropped what likely would have been a touchdown pass during a 33-21 loss in Buffalo. He fumbled without being hit while running after a catch in a 35-27 loss to Arizona last Sunday.

And, he's not talking about any of it.

"He's gone through some things," Palmer said. "I don't think he's ever had anybody

bad-mouth him in the media before, probably, in his career. It's tough to go through. It's something that everybody's first time going through that, it takes an adjustment."

The criticism started coming when the Bengals lost four of their first five games. Coach Marvin Lewis screamed at his underachieving players following a loss to New England on Oct. 1, calling them selfish.

Although Lewis didn't single anyone out, everyone assumed he was referring in part to Johnson, who got into a sideline squabble with Palmer during the game. Talk shows revved up over the question of whether the Bengals would be better off without Johnson.

He took it personally and clammed up.

Johnson also has been slowed by a sore ankle, a sore knee and a strained neck, suffered on a hard hit at the end of

the Buffalo game. A lot of things are involved in his unhappiness and his bad moments.

"He's frustrated," Bratkowski said. "Sometimes when you get frustrated, you press a little too hard. I told him the other day, he was flying with every ounce of energy to get that ball in the end zone (when he fumbled). He just carried the ball a little sloppy."

Today's Games: Seattle at St. Louis, 1 p.m.; Minnesota at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m.; Oakland at Kansas City, 1 p.m.; Houston at Cleveland, 1 p.m.; Tennessee at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.; New Orleans at Carolina, 1 p.m.; Washington at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.; Buffalo at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.; San Francisco at Arizona, 4:05 p.m.; Denver at Chicago, 4:15 p.m.; Baltimore at San Diego, 4:15 p.m.; Philadelphia at New England, 8:15 p.m.

Manning-led Colts KO Falcons, 31-13

by PAUL NEWBERRY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA — Peyton Manning and the Indianapolis Colts are still trying to recapture their Super Bowl-winning groove.

But they sure looked a whole lot more like themselves Thursday night.

All it took was a trip to Atlanta.

Manning threw three touchdown passes, Anthony Gonzalez had 105 yards receiving and the defending champs, after getting stunned with 10 quick points by the Falcons, rebounded for a 31-13 victory.

"They jumped out early," Manning said. "We finally got on track, got the lead and put them away."

Indianapolis (9-2) had struggled the past three weeks, losing twice and pulling out a lackluster home win over Kansas City. The Colts' malaise carried over the first quarter at the Georgia Dome, with the Falcons striking for Morten Andersen's 34-yard field goal and Joey Harrington's 48-yard touchdown pass to Roddy White.

But any thoughts the Falcons (3-8) had of pulling off a huge upset were quickly wiped out by Manning. He threw all three of his TD passes in the second quarter, going 23 yards to Reggie Wayne, 8 yards to Dallas Clark and 5 yards to Ben Utecht.

"It was frustrating because we came out so strong," Falcons

quarterback Joey Harrington said. "We were firing. But you know the defending Super Bowl champs are not going to roll over and die."

Gonzalez didn't get to the end zone, but he was Manning's favorite receiver. He hauled in a 35-yard pass that set up Wayne's TD and a 32-yarder that led to Clark's score.

Manning was 22-for-32 for 272 yards and went past another Colts great, Johnny Unitas, for 10th place on the NFL's career passing list with 40,407 yards. He also broke a tie with Warren Moon for fifth place in career TD passes, moving to 294.

"I'm a big fan of quarterbacks," Manning said. "I have great respect for Warren Moon. I never got to see Unitas, but my dad (former pro QB Archie Manning) told me what an impact he had on him."

After missing the past two games with a broken thumb, Gonzalez's return was a boost for a Colts' offense still plagued by injuries. Perennial Pro Bowl receiver Marvin Harrison missed his fifth straight game with an ailing left knee. Indy also had to go without two starting linemen, Tony Ugoh and Ryan Diem.

Not to worry, not against the Falcons. The Colts rallied for a 21-13 lead by halftime, and Atlanta just faded away over the final two quarters, managing just 92 yards after the break. The Falcons wrapped up a stretch of two home games in five days in

which they lost twice by a cumulative score of 62-20.

This was supposed to be a Manning vs. Michael Vick prime-time matchup. But Vick was sitting in a jail cell, having turned himself in Monday to begin serving his expected prison sentence for dogfighting.

It was Vick's off-the-field pursuits that put Atlanta in such a mess, assured of another non-winning season with five weeks still to go.

The only highlight for the Falcons was Warrick Dunn becoming the 22nd rusher in NFL history to reach 10,000 yards. He made it on a 2-yard run early in the second quarter, earning a standing ovation from the Georgia Dome crowd.

"I've just been consistent over the years," said Dunn, who finished the night with 10,044 yards. "Over the last few years, I've been able to get into a groove and play at a high level. I just kept fighting hard, training hard, practicing hard, and let my skills take over."

Dunn's milestone was about the last time anyone heard from the home fans, though there were plenty of blue-wearing Indy boosters — most of them in Manning's No. 18 jersey — to liven things up.

The Colts are still on course to lock down a first-round bye and home field for at least one playoff game, though they're not quite on top of their game.

Manning was sacked a season-high four times and also

threw an ugly pass near the Atlanta goal line that was easily intercepted by DeAngelo Hall. Linebacker Michael Boley had three of the sacks for the Falcons.

But the Colts took advantage of a big break when Atlanta's Demorrio Williams was called for running into punter Hunter Smith in the second quarter. Williams barely touched Smith, but the punter went down like he'd been punched and the flag came flying.

"That's so bad!" Falcons special teams coach Jerry Rosburg screamed.

Manning drove the Colts quickly for the go-ahead touchdown, and they never looked back. The Indy defense held Atlanta to a field goal over the final three quarters.

Harrington, starting again with Byron Leftwich sidelined by a tailbone injury, completed just 14 of 30 for 155 yards with two interceptions. White had his third 100-yard receiving day of the season, with six receptions for 104 yards.

Notes: Boley (elbow) and Colts RB Joseph Addai (neck) both left with injuries that looked potentially serious, but returned to the game. Addai scored Indy's other TD on a 4-yard run. ... The Colts improved to 13-1 in their history against the Falcons, the best record for any head-to-head matchup of at least 10 games. ... Next up for Manning on the yardage list: Joe Montana at No. 9 with 40,551.



Justin Robinson, Martin, took a 15-point piebald buck while hunting on his uncle's farm in Floyd County Saturday, Nov. 17. He said the buck was chasing does when he saw it about 10 a.m. Robinson is having a full body mount of the deer.



Family Academy of Martial Arts student Charity Thoms, 4, competed in the Thanksgiving Bash/Kentucky State Championship Tournament held in London earlier in the month. She placed second in weapons and fifth in forms.

Kragthorpe says he's committed to UofL

by WILL GRAVES
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOUISVILLE — Louisville coach Steve Kragthorpe tried to put to rest speculation that he was entertaining an offer from SMU, saying Wednesday reports of his departure were "total fiction."

Kragthorpe said he was "100 percent committed" to the Cardinals, though the defending Big East champions have tumbled from out of the preseason Top 10 to the bottom of the conference. Louisville (5-6) will need to beat Rutgers next Thursday to hold onto any remote hope of making a bowl game for the 10th straight season.

"I'm not going anywhere," Kragthorpe said. "I'm not interested in any other job. I'm committed

to taking this team and this program back to the championship level."

Kragthorpe said he felt compelled to come forward after seeing published reports that said he was considering taking the head coaching job at SMU. The Mustangs fired coach Phil Bennett in October, effective at the end of the season. SMU spokesman Bradley Sutton said the university had no comment.

"I'm not interested in going someplace else," he said. "I know you've heard that before, but I can guarantee you I'm not leaving the University of Louisville."

"Certainly there have been some challenges with some off-the-field situations that I did not anticipate, but we're working through those."

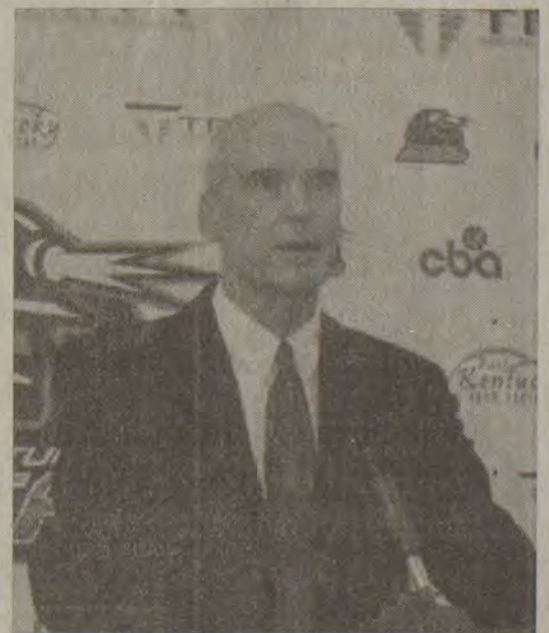
Though Kragthorpe said he's sure there are some disgruntled fans that would like to see him go, he's not ready to shy away from the high expectations that come with inheriting a program coming off its first Bowl Championship Series berth. The high expectations were among the reasons he decided to leave Tulsa and replace Bobby Petrino just days after the Cardinals won the Orange Bowl in January.

"I want to be here for the rest of my career, hopefully that's a long, long time and certainly I know I've got to win some games for that to happen," said Kragthorpe, who is in the first year of a five-year deal that pays him \$1.1 million annually.

Wins have been hard to come by for a team expected to compete for

another conference title. Though quarterback Brian Brohm has been spectacular at times, the Cardinals have been undone by a leaky defense that is 81st in the nation in yards allowed. Louisville has lost at home to Syracuse and Utah and was pounded 55-17 by South Florida last week, its worst defeat in nearly two decades.

"The easy thing for me to do would be to leave, to just pick up and leave, but that's not the way I am, that's not the way I was raised," Kragthorpe said. "My parents raised me to never back down from a fight and I'll never back down from a fight and I've certainly got a fight on my hands, no doubt about it."



University of Kentucky basketball great Kyle Macy is the new general manager of the East Kentucky Miners.

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Sealed bids will be received by the Betsy Layne Fire Protection District for one (1) Class. A triple combination pumper and specific equipment. Proposals are due by 7:00 p.m., local time, on November 30, 2007, and will be opened shortly thereafter at the Betsy Layne Fire Department, Betsy Layne, Kentucky. Specifications may be obtained by contacting Chief Eddie Clark at 606-478-4884. The Betsy Layne Fire Protection District reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and/or waive all informalities where the best interest of the District may be served.

PUBLIC SALE

Date and Time of Public Sale: November 30, 2007, at 11:00.
Type of Collateral: 2000 S-10 Blazer S/N 6375.
Contract Date: 07/31/03
Location: First Commonwealth Bank, 311 North Arnold Avenue, Prestonsburg, KY 41653.
Any questions call Mike Haney, 606-424/6453 or 606/886-2321, Ext. 129.

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Become a Kentucky organ & tissue donor.
For information contact: 1-800-525-3456, or www.trustforlife.org

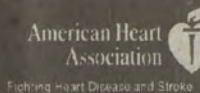
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Happy Thanksgiving

Don't miss our **Thanksgiving Sale!**
In County: \$47.20
Out of County/State: \$60.80

Offer expires November 30 2007

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