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Volume 82, Issue 44 • 75 Cents



TACKETT IS COACH OF YEAR

— page B1

briefs

Court releases lethal injection protocol

The Associated Press

LOUISVILLE — Kentucky's execution protocol is now public after the U.S. Supreme Court ordered its release as part of a case challenging lethal injection.

The U.S. Supreme Court is expected to rule by June whether the protocol passes constitutional muster.

The protocol had been kept secret until Wednesday, when an edited version was filed publicly on order from the high court. Kentucky's lethal injection protocol is similar to that used in 35 other states.

The 16-page protocol details everything from rules for visiting an inmate once an execution order has been signed to how to reverse an execution if it is halted once the drugs have started flowing.

Family alleges prison played role in suicide

by JACK LATTA
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — The former warden of Otter Creek Correctional Center was named in a lawsuit filed this week by the estate of an employee who died at the facility in January.

Thomas Ray Meade, acting as administrator of the estate of Carla J. Meade, filed suit this week against Warden Joyce Arnold and Corrections

Corporation of American, the parent company of Otter Creek.

Carla J. Meade died Jan. 22 of an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound at the Wheelwright facility.

According to the complaint, Meade was employed as an administrative department secretary at Otter Creek and had in the months prior to her death been experiencing many health problems arising from diabetes, and had in fact been hospitalized for that

condition mere days before her death.

The complaint alleges that, "The defendant, in retaliation for the decedent being ill, being diabetic and missing work, caused the plaintiff to be demoted by personally causing a letter to be delivered to her on Jan. 16, 2008, while she was hospitalized."

The letter, reprinted in the complaint, reads as follows:

"Dear Ms. Meade: This letter is to inform you that you are being trans-

ferred from your current position as the Administrative Department Secretary at Otter Creek Correctional Center. Your new position will be in the Security Department as the Secretary under the direction of the Chief of Security, Tina Hodge. This departmental transfer is by the order of Warden Joyce Arnold, and will be effective immediately. A PSN will follow

(See LAWSUIT, page ten)

TIME OUT



Dozens of parents turned out Thursday to the Mountain Arts Center for the 14th "Give Yourself a Break Day" sponsored by the Floyd County Board of Education.

photo by Jack Latta

Candidate for Senate speaks to students

by JACK LATTA
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — United States Senate candidate Greg Fischer spoke to students during a government class at Big Sandy Community and Technical College on Wednesday.

During the class visit, Fischer, of Louisville, said he wants to "restore some common sense to Washington."

Fischer is hoping to unseat longtime incumbent Mitch McConnell for his seat in the U.S. Senate, but first must face six other challengers in the Democratic Primary in May. Most notable of Fischer's opposition in the primary race is former candidate for governor, Bruce Lunsford.

Fischer spoke to the students in Julie Paxton's Government 101 class about some of the problems that the country faces as well as his thoughts on civic responsibility.

Fischer says he was raised in a family where community service was expected. "If you can help people, you help them."

Speaking to the students, Fischer noted health care and rising energy costs as the two biggest problems facing the United States today. "We spend more on health care than the entire GNP (Gross National Product) of China."

Fischer noted with regard to Iraq that the U.S.

needs to continue to move towards getting out of the conflict. "We are refereeing a power grab over there and those people need to handle it themselves."

According to Fischer, the U.S. dependence on oil is fueling the war in Iraq, where, reportedly, over \$500 billion has been spent to date. Fischer says the problem is that we are only spending \$2 billion a year on investigating alternative energy sources, as opposed to \$150 billion a year in Iraq.

Fischer took a few swings at his opposition, citing Lunsford's support of Ernie Fletcher in 2003. After dropping out of the Democratic primary for governor in 2003, Lunsford went on to endorse Republican candidate Ernie Fletcher over Democrat Ben Chandler in the General election.

According to records, after the election, Lunsford worked as chairman of Fletcher's transition team and has reportedly made donations to several other Republican campaigns, such as congresswoman Anne Northup, as well as the man he hopes to run against in November, Mitch McConnell.

Fischer also spoke to students about his possible Republican opposition, downplaying the senator's leadership position as minority chair and noting

(See FISCHER, page ten)

Transportation official: FBI is investigating

by JOE BIESK
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — Former Gov. Ernie Fletcher's administration is facing a new round of legal scrutiny, after four years of fending off state-level investigations.

This time, less than six months after leaving office, Fletcher's administration is being looked at by federal investigators. Officials in Gov. Steve Beshear's administration have acknowledged an FBI investigation involving the

Transportation Cabinet, and an engineer said authorities are looking at the bidding process for projects that took place under the Fletcher regime.

"The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet is cooperating with the FBI in an investigation that involves the previous administration," Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Secretary Joe Prather confirmed in a written statement. "We are not at liberty to discuss details and can say nothing more at this point."

During Fletcher's single

term as governor, the Republican invoked his Fifth Amendment right against self incrimination, and was indicted on misdemeanor charges that were dropped in a deal with prosecutors. Authorities spent millions of dollars on a lengthy investigation into whether the Fletcher administration improperly steered protected state jobs to political supporters.

Fletcher, meanwhile, issued pardons in 2005 for everyone

(See FBI, page ten)

Judge OKs deal requiring Massey to pay \$20 million fine

The Associated Press

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — A federal judge has signed off on a settlement requiring Massey Energy Co. to pay a record \$20 million fine for alleged pollution violations.

The agreement approved Wednesday by U.S. District Judge John T. Copenhaver settles a complaint filed by the

Environmental Protection Agency in May 2007. The EPA had alleged that Massey routinely polluted hundreds of streams and waterways in West Virginia and Kentucky with sediment-filled waste water and coal slurry.

Under the agreement, Massey will invest millions of dollars for pollution control improvements at its mines and

coal facilities.

Massey officials have said the settlement would allow the Richmond, Va.-based company to avoid costly litigation and resolve questions about its liability for the damage.

Massey is the nation's fourth-largest coal producer by revenue and operates 19 mining complexes in West Virginia, Virginia and Kentucky.



photo by Jack Latta

U.S. Senate candidate Greg Fischer, a Democrat from Louisville, took questions from students during a government class at the Big Sandy Community and Technical College on Wednesday.

2 DAY FORECAST

Today
Showers

High: 77 • Low: 52

Tomorrow
Partly cloudy

High: 63 • Low: 38

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

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Obituaries

Linda Sue Daniels Caudill

Linda Sue Daniels Caudill age 57 of Ivel, passed away on Thursday, April 2, 2008 at her residence.

She was born November 19, 1950, in Martin, the daughter of Arnold Daniels of Martin, and the late Genevieve Jones Daniels. She was a homemaker.

She is survived by her father, Arnold Daniels; two daughters, Sarah Geneva (Charles Jr.) Jent of Allen; and Teresa Ann (Ricky) Ramey of Martin; one brother, Arnold Dean Daniels of Eastern; and one sister, Brenda Gail Huffman of McDowell; grandchildren: Rebecca Paige, Victoria Jent, Justin Jent, Cody Ramey, and Casey Ramey; and one great-grandchild, Jada Johnson.

Funeral services for Linda Sue Daniels Caudill were conducted, Sunday, April 6, at 1:00 p.m., in the Hall Funeral Home Chapel in Martin, with Gary Compton and Jeffrey Crum officiating.

Burial was in the Marshall Cemetery in Martin, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Pallbearers: Arnold Dean Daniels, Ricky Ramey, William Cru, Logan Shepherd, Matt Johnson, Donnie Ray Jones, Branton Mannies, and Louie Moore.

Honorary: Cody Blake Ramey, Casey Brandon Ramey, and Kristen N. Cole Daniels. (Paid obituary)

□□□

Robert Michael Compton

Robert Michael Compton, 52, of Harold, died Monday, April 7, 2008, at the Pikeville Medical Center.

Born September 5, 1955, in Wyandotte, Michigan, he was the son of Robert and Lizzie Marie Brewer Compton of Pikeville. He was a Kentucky State Licensed Auctioneer, and attended the Pentecostal Church.

He is survived by Teresa Frasure of Harold, his companion of nine years.

In addition to his parents and companion, survivors include one son and three daughters: Michael Robert Compton, Nicole Marie Rearden, Ashley Elizabeth Compton, and Cassie Lynn Marie Compton, all of Michigan; one sister, Audrey Mae Vogel of Michigan; and two grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Thursday, April 10, at 1 p.m., at Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Coy Wright and Gary Williams officiating.

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

Visitation was at the funeral home. (Paid obituary)

□□□

Bee Johnson

Bee Johnson, 76, of Martin, died Wednesday, April 9, 2008, at Highlands Regional Medical Center.

Born March 3, 1932, in Martin, he was the son of the

late Jim and Pearl Slone Johnson. He was a retired coal miner.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Eunice Ousley Johnson.

He is survived by his fiancée, RoseMary Castle.

Other survivors include his sons and daughters-in-law: Dickie (Frances) Johnson, and Teddy (Kathy) Johnson, all of Martin; Mickey (Velma) Johnson of Auxier; Wallace (Melissa) Johnson of Minnie; and Jeff (JoAnn) Johnson of Clay City; a step-son, Christopher Don Castle of Martin; his daughters and sons-in-law: Zola (Charles) Rose and Abigail Johnson, all of Prestonsburg; Janavee (Garner) Crum and Pauline (Tivis) Adams, all of Martin; a stepdaughter, Samantha Robinson of Martin; his brothers: Elmer Johnson of Prestonsburg; Allen Johnson of Stockbridge, Michigan; Will Johnson of Cave Run; and Charlie Johnson of Eastern; his sisters: Rebecca Brown of Martin; and Daisy Clemons, Virginia McKissee and Beatrice Dublin, all of Lima, Ohio; and Marie Arnett of Indiana; 23 grandchildren, 4 step-grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents and wife, he was preceded in death by a son, Billy Charles (Black) Johnson; a step-son, Michael Castle; two daughters: Alpha Jean Johnson, and Delphia Johnson; four brothers and one sister: Henry Johnson, Columbus Johnson, Ell Johnson, James Johnson,

and Eliza Ousley.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, April 12, at noon, at Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Ted Shannon and Jerry Manns, officiating.

Burial will be in the Johnson Cemetery, (Caney Fork), in Martin, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation is at the funeral home. (Paid obituary)

□□□



Edgar A. Meade

Edgar A. Meade, age 79, of Allen Park, Michigan, died Monday, April 7, 2008.

He was the loving father of David (Margaret); dear grandfather of Cody; dear Brother of Betty (Lester) Breeding; and Genevieve Stidham. He was a teacher and AV director with Lincoln Park, Michigan schools for 37 years.

He was preceded in death by his wives: Ida and Peggy; and brothers Rex and Raymond.

He is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

Visitation is Wednesday, April 9, from 12:30-9 p.m.

Services will be held Thursday, April 10, at 11:00 a.m., at the John Molnar Funeral Home, 14032 Northline Rd. Southgate, Michigan.

www.molnarfuneralhome.com (Paid obituary)

□□□

Mary Ellen Mulkey

Mary Ellen Mulkey age 90, of Banner, passed away on Tuesday, April 8, 2008, at Prestonsburg Healthcare Center.

She was born December 23, 1917, in Martin, the daughter of the late Albert and Cora Crum Spears. She was a homemaker and a member of the United Baptist Church.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Isaac Lee Mulkey; one son, Jeff Mulkey; two daughters: Blanch Akers and Maxine Boyd; four brothers: Italy, Mexico, Oscar, and Leict Spears; four sisters: Della Lafferty, Nellie Goble, Emma Crum, and Aileen Crum; and one grandchild.

She is survived by one son, Earl Mulkey of Banner; one brother, Leonard Spears of Banner; 8 grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren, and 1 great-great-grandchild.

Funeral services will be held Friday, April 11, at 2:00 p.m., in the Hall Funeral Home Chapel, in Martin, with Regular Baptist ministers officiating.

Burial will be in the Akers Cemetery in Dana, under the professional care of Hall Funeral Home.

Pallbearers: Shawn Hicks, Brian Boyd, Jeff Mulkey, Randall Mulkey, Tommy Salle, Steven Conn, Russell Hamilton, Anthony Conn, Josh Hamilton, Caleb Mulkey, Elliot Fraim, Brandon Mulkey and Phillip Johnson. (Paid obituary)

□□□

Leora Hall Tucker

Leora Hall Tucker, 83, of Newman, Georgia, died Tuesday, April 8, 2008.

She was born January 27, 1925, in Floyd County, the daughter of Susanna Hicks Hall of Newman, and the late Tony Hall. She was a member

of Unity Baptist Church.

In addition to her mother, she is survived by a daughter and son-in-law, Susie and Sam Edge of Newman; grandchildren: Sam Edge Jr., Andy Edge; granddaughter-in-law, Ana Edge; and great-grandson, Benjamin Tucker Edge.

In addition to her father, her husband, Archie R. Tucker, preceded her in death.

Funeral services were held Thursday, April 10, at 2 p.m., in the chapel of McKoon Funeral Home, with Pastor Archie Slaton officiating.

Burial was in Forest Lawn Memorial Park.

Visitation was Wednesday evening, at McKoon Funeral Home, 38 Jackson St., Newman, Georgia.

Condolences may be sent to the family online at www.mckoon.com (Paid obituary)

www.mckoon.com (Paid obituary)

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ARH, UnitedHealthcare reach agreement

Appalachian Regional Healthcare and UnitedHealthcare have reached an agreement providing UnitedHealthcare commercial health plan customers access to Appalachian Regional Healthcare facilities in eastern Kentucky and southern West Virginia.

In addition, Appalachian Regional Healthcare has signed a system-wide physician contract with UnitedHealthcare that went into effect on April 1, 2008. All ARH clinics and employee-physicians are covered through this contract.

The agreement, effective April 1, 2008, includes: Morgan County ARH, Williamson ARH, Middlesboro ARH, Hazard ARH, Harlan ARH, Beckley ARH, McDowell ARH, Whitesburg ARH and Summers County ARH health care facilities.

"More Kentucky and West Virginia residents now have broader access to quality, affordable health care through our new partnership with Appalachian Regional Healthcare," said Dan Krajanovich, CEO of UnitedHealthcare of Kentucky. "This new agreement expands upon UnitedHealthcare's robust network of 152 hospitals and more than 11,600 physicians in Kentucky and West Virginia."

"We look forward to serving the members in UnitedHealthcare's network by offering quality, compassionate health care services that are close to their homes," said ARH President and CEO Jerry W. Haynes.



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 606-886-8506, today, or mail to
 P.O. Box 390, Prestonsburg, KY 41653
and Picture it Sold!

For the Record

Marriage Licenses

Debra Blackburn, 35, to Travis Hall, 26, both of Prestonsburg.

Kathleen Collins, 20, to Roy Nichols, 42, both of Prestonsburg.

Sabrina Harris, 27, to Matthew Martin, 26, both of Prestonsburg.

Amanda Hall, 21, to Jeffrey Stumbo, 26, both of Langley.

Tonda Shepherd, 38, to Burley Hall, 57, both of Dwalc.

Grace Burton, 43, to Willie Gabb Jr., 52, both of Prestonsburg.

Mable Littleton, 39, to Terry Collins, 46, both of Printer.

Paige Copley, 31, to Robert Martin, 28, both of Williamson, W.Va.

Brandi Montgomery, 18, to Larry Lewis, 24, both of Prestonsburg.

Civil Suits Filed

Estate of Carla Meade, administrator, Thomas Meade vs. Joyce Arnold, et al

Jeffrey C. Young vs. Fawn S. Young

Pioneer Credit vs. Bryan Manns, et al

Brittany D. Music vs. David Allen Music

Darvis Newsome vs. Crystal D. Newsome

Stephanie Sagraves vs. David LeMaster

Pinnacle Credit Services vs. Connie M. Jones

US Bank National Association vs. Mary Wills, et al

Karen Collins vs. Layman Collins

James Salisbury vs. Annie Tackett

April Hill vs. Tony Johnson

Karen Collins vs. April Hall

Michael Collier vs. Teresa Rowe

US Bank vs. Clarence Brown

Capital Alliance vs. Mickey Hall

Capital Alliance vs. Eric Stratton

US Bank National Association, et al vs. Johnny Johnson, et al

Lonnie Watkins vs. Black & Decker Shelbyville, LLC

Community Trust Bank vs. Nicholas Newsome, et al

Small Claims Filings

Asset Acceptance vs. Lisa R. Moore

Capital One Bank vs. Joseph Mullins

North Star Capital vs. Stacey E. Handshoe

Professional Investments vs. Libby A. Pack

Professional Investments vs. Tammy McCoy

Erin Capital Management vs. Tammy McCoy

North Star Capital vs. Lily Stumbo

North Star Capital vs. Carol Nabergall

Charges Filed

Brenda L. Conn, 43, of Prestonsburg, theft by unlawful taking.

Ricky Castellanos, 38, of Keaton, possession of marijuana, alcohol intoxication.

Rita C. Thornberry, 45, of Wayland, public intoxication.

Brandon S. Hamilton, 24, of Martin, public intoxication.

Steven Clifton, 18, of Allen, terroristic threatening, harassment.

Kimberly Harvey Brown, 41, of Garrett, criminal trespassing.

Tonya Lynn Shepherd, 28, of Prestonsburg, harassing communications.

Joshua D. Puckett, 35, of Salyersville, alcohol intoxication.

Brittany Nichole Boyd, 23, of Frankfort, operating motor vehicle under influence of alcohol/drugs, possession of controlled substance/drug unspecified, use/possession of drug paraphernalia, prescription not in original container.

Steven D. Thompson, 21, of Town Branch, alcohol intoxication.

Amy Varney, 20, of McAndrews, public intoxication, prescription not in original container, illegal possession of legend drug.

Rachel L. Wallen, 28, of Prestonsburg, operating motor vehicle under influence alcohol/drugs, possession of controlled substance/drug unspecified, prescription not in original container, use/possession of drug paraphernalia.

Timmy Lee Castle, 26, of Prestonsburg, permit unlicensed operator to operate motor vehicle, terroristic threatening, disorderly conduct, criminal mischief.

Ladonna Kaye Estrada, 18, of Galveston, public intoxication.

James A. Newsome, 33, of Banner, assault.

Gerald W. McIntosh, 40, of Somerset, operating motor vehicle under influence of alcohol/drugs, driving on DUI-suspended license, possession of marijuana, possession of controlled substance.

Diane L. Hamilton, 50, of

Betsy Layne, alcohol intoxication.

Ronnie Blackburn, 51, of Allen, alcohol intoxication.

Steve Edward Caudill, 42, of McDowell, violation of EPO.

Stacia Mudge, 21, of Wayland, assault.

Cory L. Thompson, 22, of Prestonsburg, alcohol intoxication.

Gary Lee Rogers, 45, of Danville, alcohol intoxication.

Ricky Crider, 19, of Auxier, alcohol intoxication.

Adrienne Shepherd, 20, of Prestonsburg, alcohol intoxication.

Judy C. Hicks, 48, of Langley, violation EPO.

Ollie D. Campbell, 32, of David, assault.

Shirley Ann Martin, 57, of Dema, menacing.

McLinda G. Ramey, 28, of Langley, theft by unlawful taking.

Shane David Mosley, 26, of Minnie, public intoxication, failure to wear seat belts, possession of controlled substance, prescription not in original container.

Inspections

B&M Services; Grethel, regular inspection. Violations noted: Food Comments: Where chemical sanitization methods are employed operators not providing and using chemical test kits. Cloths used for food and nonfood contact surfaces not stored and rinsed frequently in water sanitizing solution. Garbage and refuse containers not covered as required. Lighting not provided as required. Score: 95

Retail Comments: In use food (ice) dispensing utensil not properly stored. Garbage and refuse containers not covered as required. Lighting not provided as required. Score: 96

Duff Elementary, Eastern, regular inspection. Violations noted: Nonfood contact surfaces not properly constructed. Nonfood contact surfaces not properly maintained. Floors not in good repair. Employees personal items not stored prop-

erly. Score: 97.

Hot Rod Pizza, Garrett, regular inspection. Violations noted: Lack of accurate thermometers in all refrigeration units storing potentially hazardous foods. Food not protected during storage. Where Chemical sanitization methods are employed, operators not providing and using chemical test kits. Toilet room doors not self closing. Floors not in good repair. Walls, ceiling, attached equipment not in good repair. Light fixtures not shielded as required. Score: 91.

Property Transfers

Earvina Adkins to Bertha and Randall Adkins; location undisclosed.

Bank of New York as Trustee to Lois Stone; location undisclosed.

Bank of New York Trust Company NA to James Rentals Inc., Harold.

Archel and Emma Blackburn to Debbie and Stevie Blackburn; location undisclosed.

Wesley and Marie Blackburn to Steven and Tina Blackburn; Brandykeg Subdivision.

Drema Canterbury to Robert Stanley; near Tram.

David and Della Clifton to Dana and George McGaffee; location undisclosed.

Tera Fitzer to Sirva Relocation LLC; Porter Addition to Prestonsburg.

Four J Development Inc to Joyce Bates; near Banner.

Franklin Credit Management to James Rental Inc; Bucks Branch.

Jo Ann and Larry Goble to John Hunt; Cow Creek.

Margie Hall to Teddy Hall; Hi Hat.

April, Ira, and Jamie Hamilton to Bank of New York Trust Company; location undisclosed.

Olga Hamilton to Glen and Sandra Hamilton; location undisclosed.

Jay and Mary Henthorne to Evelyn Smith; Osbourne Addition to Martin.

Barbara Hunter to Goldie

Hunter; Trace Branch of Little Mud.

Barbara Hunter to Goldie Hunter; Little Mud Creek.

Interstate Natural Gas Company to Ricky Shepherd; Abbott Creek.

Brenda and James Jarrell to John Hunt; Cow Creek.

JPMorgan Chase Bank to James Rentals Inc; Harold.

William Kendrick Master Commissioner to Bank of New York Trust Company; location undisclosed.

Doug and Hedda Lewis to James Ousley; David Community

Alice and Effert Little to Margie Hall; Left beaver Creek Burton Village Subdivision.

Connie McKinney to Bertha and Paul Ray; Toler Creek.

Dean and Wilma Merritt to Curtis Merritt; location undisclosed.

Jeanie and John Mullins to John Mullins II; Show Branch of Left beaver Creek.

Daina and William Purvis to Benjamin and Terra Moore; Jack Webb Farm on Turkey Creek.

Curtis and Sandra Risner to Gary and Vickie Beverly; Trimble Branch.

John Sammons to Evelyn Smith; Osbourne Addition to Martin.

Avanell Shepherd to Melissa Ronayne; Big Branch of Little Mud.

Sirva Relocation LLC to Georgetta and Kenneth McGuire; Porter Addition to Prestonsburg.

Bobby and Sharon Slone to Jolene Bradford, Josephine Muncy, Evelyn Schrock; Middle Creek.

Dallas, Larry and Ivalca Taylor to Robert Stanley; Tram.

Unison Corporation to Joyce Bates; Banner.

Freda and James Watkins to Daniel and Jonni Raines; Rough and Tough Creek.

Glenda and Michael Wilson to Michael Wilson; Station Branch Prestonsburg.

HRMC president and CEO honored by Kentucky Hospital Association



Bud Warman

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Kentucky Hospital Association has named Bud Warman, president and CEO of Highlands Regional Medical Center, "Grassroots Champion" for 2007.

This award, created by the American Hospital Association in conjunction with state hospital associations, honors one leader from each state who has effectively delivered the hospital's message to elected officials, lead efforts to broaden the base of community support for hospitals and advocated tirelessly on behalf of patients, hospitals and health systems.

Warman, who has been CEO of Highlands since 1999,

has been involved at the state and national levels on many topics that involve health care delivery.

"We have to work together as a community to influence our regulators and educate them on what the issues are here at the local level," Warman said. "There are a lot of people who are affected by policy created by legislators, and they need to understand that their input is needed."

Warman's achievements were honored at the third annual "Breakfast of Grassroots Champions", on Tuesday, during the 2008 AHA Annual Membership Meeting in Washington, D.C.

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April 5-19




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State Highway Garage
 at Allen, KY,
 April 17, 18, and 19,
 from 8:30 a.m.
 to 3:30 p.m.



Viewpoint

Worth Repeating ...

I finally figured out the only reason to be alive is to enjoy it.

— Rita Mae Brown

Amendment 1

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

— Guest View —

Editorial roundup

Journal Star, Peoria, Ill., on the nation's environmental responsibilities:

This week, representatives from more than 160 countries are meeting in Bangkok to discuss an international climate treaty to replace the decade-old Kyoto Protocol. Again, the United States is shying away from a leadership role. ...

Which makes us wonder: If an asteroid was hurtling toward Earth would the Bush administration likewise sit on its hands?

Of course not. ...

Last month a hunk of ice the size of Chicago broke off its Antarctic shelf. Another block as large as Connecticut is said to be "hanging by a thread." Canada and Russia are fighting over who rightfully owns buried natural resources that are becoming accessible for the first time thanks to retreating sea ice. ...

Regardless of whether this change is manmade or 100 percent natural (though, for the record, the overwhelming scientific consensus says man's fossil-fuel-burning habit is a big contributor), there's no excuse for doing nothing. World leaders, especially those in the United States, need at the very least to plan for the increased droughts, altered planting seasons, coastal flooding and stronger storm systems that experts are forecasting.

And if we cut air pollution and save energy while we're at it, is that such an awful thing?

The Republican, Springfield, Mass., on regulating cigarettes:

We live in a nation of regulations. ...

Except when it comes to cigarettes and other tobacco products, that is. When it comes to federal oversight of a pack of Marlboros, there is no federal agency, no governing authority.

It's astonishing, really. The Food and Drug Administration does not have the authority to regulate a pack of cigarettes. Nor does the Department of Health and Human Services. No department or agency in the federal government has that authority.

The U.S. House of Representatives is looking to change that, and has taken a real step toward giving the FDA the authority it needs to have over cigarettes and other tobacco products.

One wonders why this hasn't long been the case. Let's see: Nicotine is a drug. And cigarettes are a device for dispensing nicotine. Since the Food and Drug Administration is the federal agency charged with regulating drugs, there shouldn't be much debate over who will be the regulating authority. ...

The law would grant certain authority to the FDA. The agency could monitor cigarette labels. It could ban flavored cigarettes, which attract and addict younger smokers. And it could restrict advertising that claims that some cigarettes are safer than others. ...

This is a good law, long overdue. It deserves broad support.

Northwest Arkansas Times, Fayetteville, Ark., on dealing with gas prices:

Every person we know very well has complained about the rising price of gasoline. Some appear to be resigned to the inevitable - that gasoline, like the air we breathe, is a requirement of life, and the public simply has no choice but to pay the going market price. ...

But a lot of Americans aren't content to just sit back and take it. ...

Two news items from recent days cover issues related to their frustration regarding inaction by the nation's congressional representatives.

The first item regards a February vote in the U.S. House of Representatives that means to rescind \$18 billion worth of tax breaks that the nation's largest oil companies currently receive, and to redirect those funds toward development of renewable fuels and clean energy. ...

Whatever ideas our leaders settle on (investing heavily in hybrid and nuclear technologies, for instance) it will require billions in funding. Where will those dollars come from? The tax breaks currently heading into the pockets of oil companies seems like an obvious place to start. ...

That said, the oil companies have a good argument when it comes to Congress allowing them to expand drilling operations along the nation's coastlines, which is the second news item.

Importantly, this oil would arrive without OPEC-sized bills attached. And it would probably help drive down the cost of gasoline at the pump (at least somewhat). ...

The short-term needs that can be aided by drilling can't be ignored, but drilling is only desirable if it's part of a long-term plan to reinvent how we fuel our nation.



Olympic torch on the last leg in China

Letters

RECC showed compassion

I want to thank the Prestonsburg Big Sandy RECC for their understanding during the recent loss of my wife's father.

I had signed a contract to make my payment by a certain date and got the call that we had to go to Indiana, having to use my electric money for the trip. I called them from Indiana and they extended my contract, not cutting off my service.

I want to extend my thanks for their compassion and understanding for our loss.

Vance Hale
Martin

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Clooney's 'Leatherheads' lacks winning game plan

by DAVID GERMAIN
AP MOVIE WRITER

Maybe the best offense in a real football game is a good defense. Not so in a movie about the early years of the sport, when pro football was a poor cousin to the college game.

George Clooney's "Leatherheads" plays everything safe, offering up all the solid defensive moves it needs. Great period costumes, jazzy music, 1920s slang, all of which combine for a nice recreation of the feel of the era, with Renee Zellweger a sound choice to play a saucy reporter opposite Clooney's gridiron grunt.

Yet the movie never takes any risks, never goes on the offensive, never dances giddily along the sideline on some bold storytelling equivalent of a broken-field run the way you'd like to see in a throwback to old screwball comedies.

It's all perfectly pat, and



"Leatherheads," a Universal release, is rated PG-13 for brief strong language. Running time: 114 minutes.

Two stars out of four.

sadly, perfectly boring, for the most part. In chronicling pro football's transition from laughable frivolity to true spectator sport in 1925, "Leatherheads" proves feather-light.

There's no figure in modern Hollywood more amiable and admirable than Clooney, and "Leatherheads" was a chance for him to lighten up as a filmmaker after his strange but sober directing debut "Confessions of a Dangerous Mind" and his masterful drama "Good Night, and Good Luck."

Taking the lead role in a

film he's directing for the first time, Clooney starts with a premise that you're just dying to love: His aptly named Dodge Connolly is an artful dodger trying to save his destitute Duluth Bulldogs and elevate the grungy pro circuit by signing flashy college star Carter Rutherford (John Krasinski).

The movie opens with Carter besieged by sportswriters wanting to know what he'll do after his final season at Princeton.

"You could always go pro," one reporter suggests.

There's a perfect pause,

then Carter and his audience let out a belly laugh, no better way to summarize the shabby stature of professional football then, an era where teams such as Duluth groveled in turnip fields to a few dozen fans while college squads played in huge, sold-out stadiums.

That's about the biggest laugh "Leatherheads" musters, and it's never a promising sign when the best moment in a movie comes at the outset.

In a nod to the fast-talking journalists of such screwball-comedy classics as "The Philadelphia Story" and "His Girl Friday," Zellweger's Chicago Tribune reporter Lexie Littleton comes on the scene to ferret out the real story of golden boy Carter.

Touted as a World War I hero who single-handedly forced the surrender of a trench full of Germans, Carter seems the ideal poster boy to sell football tickets. But Lexie's editor has an inside scoop that Carter's war record may not be so shiny.

Also in line with the ghosts of screwball past, Lexie ends up in a romantic triangle involving pretty boy Carter and wily Dodge. Jonathan Price complicates the action for everyone as CC Frazier, Carter's oily agent.

The cast, particularly Clooney and Zellweger, deliver their lines in a suitably curt and affected style reminiscent of the lightning patter of 1930s comedies. Yet the dialogue itself is surprisingly bland given that the screenplay comes from former Sports Illustrated reporters Duncan Brantley and Rick Reilly, the latter known as one of sportswriting's premier humorists.

Here and there, Clooney and his collaborators craft some funny sight gags, and the visual trappings are superb, from the grand hotel lobbies and muddy football fields to the chugging trains and slightly ratty motorcycle and sidecar Dodge drives.

Randy Newman, the man behind such period scores as

"Ragtime," "Seabiscuit" and "The Natural," has created another lively musical backdrop for "Leatherheads." And the movie is filled with colorful character actors, a screwball-comedy staple, notably Clooney's "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" colleagues Stephen Root and Wayne Duvall.

With all of that going for it, "Leatherheads" just never streaks downfield. Actor Clooney is lovable, but filmmaker Clooney can't quite give the story the spark it needs, and he falls back repetitively on gimmicky black-and-white photos and newspaper headlines to make transitions from scene to scene.

The film leaves you longing for a few Hail Mary end-zone passes, while the filmmakers stick to a story that tries to pound it out with a safe,

Rental Central

by TOM DOTY
TIMES COLUMNIST

Four new releases offered something for everyone this week with two dramas, one horror movie, and a comedy competing for your video dollar.

■ "There Will Be Blood" — Daniel Day Lewis snagged a second best actor Oscar for his performance here as an aspiring oil baron. Director Paul Thomas Anderson ("Boogie Nights") adapted this tale of capitalism from Upton Sinclair's "Oil" and deserves kudos for capturing the oil boom era as well as using snippets of period speak in such a way as to enhance the film

and not detract from the action (when Lewis remarks that he'll drink another man's milkshake, you know exactly what he means). That said this is sometimes unpleasant as it charts a ruthless man's rise to power, but it is always gripping.

■ "Lions for Lambs" — The conflict in Afghanistan takes center stage in this drama from actor/director Robert Redford ("Ordinary People"). He weaves together three stories that touch on each other and look at the war through the eyes of soldiers, reporters, a politician and a college professor. No histrionics here, but plenty of A-level acting from a cast that includes

Redford, Tom Cruise and Meryl Streep.

■ "Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story" — If you've had enough of bio-films about the troubled lives of singers, then you will get a kick out of this effort which spoofs "Walk the Line" and "Ray" as it traces the career of a fictional musician whose rise to fame brings him into the orbit of real-life personalities while examining the excesses that constantly sabotage his career. It's all made watchable thanks to a smart script (co-written by Judd Apatow of "Knocked Up" and "The 40-Year-Old Virgin") and an engaging lead performance by John C. Reilly.

■ "Day of the Dead" — The trend

to remake all of George Romero's zombie films continues with this entry, which follows a band of survivors of a zombie plague who seek shelter in an underground military complex. There are some decent action scenes here and a nice turn by Ving Rhames (not playing his character from the previous entry, "Dawn of the Dead"), but it's for undead enthusiasts only and falls short of the previous remake's energy.

Next week you can look for "Aliens vs. Predator 2" and the return of directing legend Sidney Lumet ("Dog Day Afternoon") who checks in with "Before the Devil Knows You're Dead."

Odds & Ends

■ DURANT, Okla. — A man who had just received a 10-year prison term exchanged marriage vows with a woman in the same courthouse before being led away in shackles.

Forrest Lynn Foreman, 49, was sentenced to 10 years Friday after pleading no contest to making methamphetamine, but he wanted to marry 30-year-old Amie Gaylene Lang before beginning his sentence.

In a third-floor courtroom of the Bryan County courthouse, Calera Police Chief Don Hyde Jr., who is an ordained minister, performed the marriage ceremony after being asked to do so by a court clerk deputy.

"It was an emotional moment because the two had professed to love each other and do what was right and unite as a family," Hyde said. "It was a situation, that from talking to the two of them, he was going away a long time and they wanted to become legal as a couple."

Hyde said that the service was beautiful and that the couple cried.

"It was just an emotional thing," he said.

After the service, Foreman was taken to jail.

■ ATHENS, Ga. — Police say they got a major clue to the identity of a suspect in the armed robbery of a convenience store — his job application.

Investigators in Athens, Ga., say Demetrius Robinson filled out the application to kill time while waiting for the Golden Pantry store to empty of customers.

Authorities say it was Robinson who then produced a knife and held up the store last week.

The job application gave Robinson's name and an uncle's phone number, but a phony address.

Police arrested the 28-year-old man Saturday on armed robbery charges.

An official at the Clarke County Jail said Robinson remained in custody Sunday but did not know whether he had an attorney.

■ WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — A team of Purdue

University students concocted a 156-step recipe to prepare a hamburger to win Saturday's annual national Rube Goldberg Machine Contest.

This year's task was to assemble a burger consisting of no less than one precooked meat patty, two vegetables and two condiments, sandwiched between two bun halves.

The victory by the 17-member Purdue Society of Professional Engineers was the team's third such win in the past four years in the contest, named for the late cartoonist known for his drawings of complicated devices performing simple tasks.

Texas A&M University placed second; the University at Buffalo in New York was third.

After winning the regional contest in February, Purdue's team added 55 more steps to perfect its machine, said captain Drew Wischer.

"We put 4,000 to 5,000 man-hours into this machine since September, and all the hard work has been well worth it," said Wischer, a senior in aviation technology from Cedarburg, Wis.

The competition, sponsored by Phi Chapter of Theta Tau fraternity, rewards machines that most effectively combine creativity with inefficiency and complexity. Machines must complete the assigned task in 20 or more steps.

Winning machines must complete two successful runs. Points are deducted if students have to assist the machine once it has started. Judges award points on the creative use of materials, team chemistry, flow of the machine and each machine's theme.

Other teams competing Saturday were Ferris State University in Michigan; Michigan Technological University; Penn State University Brandywine; and the University of Texas at Austin.

■ STOCKHOLM, Sweden — The electrocution of a fat rat in an electric station Saturday caused a three-hour power outage in Stockholm's central train station, halting elevators and escalators.

The early morning outage

led to some delays in train traffic, said Jesper Ekenlund, a spokesman for power company Fortum. Nearby hotels and shops also were affected, he said.

"The rat had sneaked into a secondary substation and came into contact with some parts that caused it to short circuit," he said.

"It must have been really big because there's a certain distance between the parts it touched."

Ekenlund said Fortum will now have to decontaminate the area where the rat met its fate.

■ PROVO, Utah — A 96-year-old man who outlived two wives is separated from his third — by immigration problems.

Canadian Doreen Buttery, 73, was a temporary visitor when she met Leonard "Woody" Woodward at a senior center in Provo. They wed this year and honeymooned in Alberta — which gave Buttery the chance to sell her house and prepare to move to Provo permanently.

But she hadn't filled out the paperwork to immigrate and was stuck at the border as her husband took the bus back to Provo.

"We tried to provide her as much guidance as we could," said Larry Overcast, port direc-

tor at the Customs and Border Protection entry point in Sweetgrass, Mont.

Woodward and a neighbor who has a law degree are trying to put together the paperwork to bring Doreen back. But it's a complicated process that takes time.

"It's on a merry-go-round," Woodward said.

Buttery will also have to go through an interview, so U.S. officials can determine the marriage is legitimate and not just an attempt to bypass immigration rules.

Woodward said can still get by on his own, but he doesn't like it.

"I need her home, bad," he said.

■ WELLINGTON, New Zealand — A New Zealand man has been accused of assault with a prickly weapon — a hedgehog.

Police allege that William Singalargh picked up the hedgehog and threw it several yards to hit a 15-year-old boy in the North Island east coast town of Whakatane on Feb. 9.

"It hit the victim in the leg, causing a large, red welt and several puncture marks," police Senior Sgt. Bruce Jenkins said Monday. The teen did not need medical treatment, he added.

The Herald on Sunday newspaper reported that it was

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
Highlands Home Health is recruiting for: Certified Home Health Aides
 Highlands Home Health is a good place to work; offers a competitive salary, and a generous benefits package, including:

- Seven (7) Paid Holidays
- Vacation
- Life and Accident Insurance
- Retirement
- \$500 Sign-on bonus

Interested applicants may apply to the Highlands Home Health
 P.O. Box 757
 188 Collins Circle Drive
 Prestonsburg, Ky. 41653
 Contact: Bilena Elkins, R.N. Nurse Aide Supervisor
 (606) 889-9967
 Fax (606) 886-7633
 E-mail: bilened@hrmc.org
 Highlands Home Health is an equal opportunity employer.

negotiable. Call 606-889-0123.

For sale: Two jet skis one 750 cc, one 700cc with dual trailer, \$3,500. One 900cc Jet ski with trailer, \$3,000. Serious inquires only 606-886-8539 after 5:30 pm

600 grizley 4 - wheeler. 400 Miles. \$3,800. Call 886-2842 or 886-3451.

EXTRA MONEY!! Host Photo Shoot. New! "KAMERA KIDZ". Glamour, Antiques, Families. 1-800-892-7604.

REAL ESTATE

Houses

For Sale: Nice 3 BR 2 bath home on 1/2 acre lot, 1/2 mile from Wayland on 1086. Call 358-9357.

New home for sale located at Camargo. 10 minutes from Mt Sterling. 3 Br, extra room, large 2 car garage. Hardwood floors & carpet. Exterior-vinyl & brick on level lot. Approx 1 acre on Macormik Rd. 2 min from Green bryer lake. Living space 1,760 sq ft. Vaulted ceiling living room, 2 full baths. Reduced to \$155,000. call 859-498-3429 or 859-274-2907.

For sale: one of Prestonsburg's finer homes. 3-story four bedrooms, three baths, jacuzzis, furnished basement, swimming pool, patio etc. Also house w/ three bedrooms, 1 bath. House # 381 located at 389 maple Ave. Also for sale golf clubs, bicycles and so forth. Call 886-3422.

3 Br, 2 bath house for sale. 2 New heating units, newly floored, back deck, basement, city water & sewage. Central air & gas heat. Located at Allen off US 23. Price \$152,000. Call 606-297-2792(h) or 454-4579 (c).

3 Bd house for sale. 1 1/2 bath new kitchen & app. Commercial bldg also located on property. Located on Middle Creek. Call 886-2699.

Brick & Stone House for Sale. Four bedrooms, two and a half baths. 2900 square feet. Desirable location in Trimble Branch. Reasonably priced. Call 886-2020

For sale: 2 Br, 2 ba mobile home. Large LR & K. C/W store, ref, wash & dryer. New roof very nice 14X72. Call 587-2149 or 434-4424.

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

Sale or Lease

Level lot for sale: 100x300 with city water. \$15,000 Call 886-8366.

Acres for sale. Located at Rt 80

close to Martin. Possible commercial property. \$85,000. Call 886-8366.

Apartment building for sale by owner. Located near HRMC. Call 889-9717. for more information.

Building for rent: approx. 2500 square ft. Former John P. Wells garage. Equipped with mechanics lift. Located on South Lake Dr Prestonsburg, Ky. Call 886-9690 for more info.

Beauty Shop For Rent: fully equipped located on South Lake Dr Prestonsburg, Ky. Ready to move in! Call 886-9690 for more info.

Prestonsburg business for lease. Great location on the main road, close to downtown and the courthouse. lease as is or change, many possibilities, ie restaurant, sports bar, office complex-ample parking. May consider selling. Call 791-3663.

FARM FOR SALE Floyd county 75 acres more or less, rt. 1100 off US 23 East Point Upper Little Paint Lum Derosssett Branch. Call 606-325-4430 or 606-325-2809. Level- Sloping and timber. HUNTERS PARADISE!! Could be made into a subdivision.

RENTALS

APARTMENT

Apartment for rent located at level on US 23, above Unisign. 2 BR 1 bath \$350 monthly + \$350 security deposit. 1 year lease required. No pets. Call 478-8100.

1 & 2 Br Apts located in Prestonsburg. No pets. Call 886-8991.

For rent: 1 Br apt near Prestonsburg. NO HUD. NO Pets. Call 205-9510. 1wk

APT FOR RENT Branham height Apt Wheelright KY, is now accepting applications for one bedroom Handicap accessible Apt. rent is based on income. Contact Kathy 452-4777

For rent: 2 Br duplex. Central heat and air. Excellent condition. Close to Prestonsburg. Also 2 br Mobile home. No pets. Call 889-9747 or 886-9007.

Small furnished apartment just off Mountain Parkway on old 114. Call 886-8724.

Townhouse 2 BR 1 Bath w/d hookup 2 car garage \$575 per month plus utilities plus deposit Call 606-477-2783

One bedroom unfurnished apt for rent near college suitable for one person. No pets. Deposit required. Call 874-9976 after 5 p.m

Efficiency Apt for rent. \$375 mth. \$375 deposit. Must be payed before moving in. Call 285-9003.

Apt. For rent: 1 and 2 BR apartments on Rt. 321 near Porter school. Central heat and air, washer and dryer hookup. \$375 per month plus references and deposit. Seniors welcomed! Call 789-5973.

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

Houses

For rent: 2 br townhouse all electric, appliances furnished, 1 1/2 bath, car garage, located in Prestonsburg. \$700. per month, \$700 deposit required. Serious inquires call 886-6186 or 886-8286.

Large house in country for rent. Newly remodeled. Must have good references. \$800 per month plus \$500 deposit. Call 886-8366.

Nice 3/4 Br house for rent. Good location. For more information call J&A Rentals at 606-358-3469.

Small 3 bedroom house for rent. Located at Banner. \$450 a month. \$300 deposit. References required. Not HUD approved. Call 874-2887.

Mobile Homes

2008 14x60 2 Br, 2 Ba save \$3,000. 2007 14X70 3 Br, 2 ba save \$4,000. 2007 16X80 3 Br 2 ba save \$5,000 only (4) 2007 singlewides left! The Home Show-Louisia. (606)638-4663.

The Home Show-Louisia needs your trade-ins!! Top dollar paid when you buy your new home! (606)638-4663.

2007- 28x56 3br, 2 bath. Delivered, set, A/C & skirting installed. Was \$59,000 now only \$49,350. Save over \$10,000. The Home Show - Louisia. 606-638-4663.

2007 32x72 3 Br, 2 ba. Huge kitchen & master bath! Was \$89,000 now only \$ 68,900. Save over \$20,000. The Home Show- Louisia. (606) 638-4663.

Pre-owned Homes Double wides & single wides in stock. As low as \$8,500! The Home Show- Louisia. (606) 638-4663.

2008- Norris 28x44 3br, 2ba. Full drywall, 9ft flat ceilings. 42" Raised panel cabinets, too much to list! A MUST SEE ! Save \$10,000 The home show- Louisia. 606-638-4663.

Mobile home for rent. Extra nice, 3 br, 1 bath. Located on Cow Creek. \$425 mth plus utilities and security deposit. No dogs. Hud accepted. Call 874-2802.

Special FHA Finance Program. \$0 down if you own land or use family land. We own the BANK your approved. Call 866-597-2083.

Legals

NOTICE OF BOND RELEASE

In accordance with KRS 350.055, notice is hereby given that Richardson Fuel Inc, P.O. Box 565 Betsy Lane, KY 41605, has applied for a Phase II/III Bond Release on Increment No. 1 of Permit Number 836-5342 which was last

issued on May 22, 2006. The application covers an area of approximately 3.50 acres located 0.60 miles north east of Ivel in Floyd County. The permit area is approximately 0.9 miles northeast from Ivy Creek Road's junction with U.S. Route 23/460 and located on Kinney Branch. The bond now in effect on Increment No. 1 is a surety bond for \$14,900.00. Approximately 100% of the original bond amount of \$14,900.00 is included in the application for release. Reclamation work performed includes: backfilling, grading, fertilizing, seeding, and mulching completed in March 2002 on Increment No. 1. Written comments, objections, and requests for a public hearing or informal conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Field Services, #2 Hudson Hollow, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, by June 4, 2008. A public hearing on the application has been scheduled for June 5, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. at the Department for Natural Resources

Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, KY 41653-1410. The hearing will be canceled if no request for a hearing or informal conference is received by June 4, 2008.

NOTICE OF BOND RELEASE

In accordance with KRS 350.093, notice is hereby given that The Elk Horn Coal Company, LLC, 544 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653, has applied for a Phase III bond release on permit number 836-5474, which was last issued on 04/22/05. The application covers an area of approximately 4.40 acres, located 1.30 mile northwest of Price, in Floyd County.

The permit area is approximately 2.0 miles southeast from KY Rt. 122's junction with Spewing Camp Branch Road, and located on Spewing Camp Branch Road of Left Beaver Creek. The bond now in effect for 836-5474, is a surety bond in the amount of \$4,200.00. The entire remainder of the original bond amount of \$14,200.00 is

included in the application for release. Reclamation work performed includes: All backfilling, grading, and revegetation activities, the removal of all temporary structures, and the establishment of the post-mining land use capability were completed in the fall of 2002. Written comments, objections, and requests for a public hearing or informal conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Field Services, No. 2 Hudson Hollow, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, by May 16, 2008. A public hearing on the application has been scheduled for May 17, 2008, at 9:00 a.m., at the Division of Mining Reclamation and Enforcement's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. The hearing will be cancelled if no request for a hearing or informal conference is received by May 16, 2008.

LEGAL NOTICE OF ROAD CLOSURE HEARINGS

Notice is hereby given that certain landowners residing in the vicinity of the following road have

ATTENTION: EXPERIENCED COAL MINERS

PREMIER ELKHORN COAL COMPANY—a subsidiary of TECO Coal Corporation is now accepting applications for the following underground mining positions: Miner, Roof Bolter, Shuttle Car and Scoop Operators, Inside Laborer, Bellman, Electrician, Belt Examiner, and Section Foreman. MET & EMT certification a plus.

Premier Elkhorn also has vacancies for Surface Backdump and Dozer Operators; Prep Plant Welder/Pipelitter/Repairman and Repairman/equipment Operators.

Premier Elkhorn Coal Company offers excellent wages, excellent medical, dental, vision, and prescription coverage, paid sick days, paid vacation, 9 paid holidays, including birthday holiday, life insurance, long-term care insurance, short- and long-term disability benefits, company paid retirement plus 401 K savings plan with a company match, and an Employee Assistance Program.

Applications are being accepted at:
Kentucky Department for Employment Services
138 College Street, Pikeville, KY 41501
Premier Elkhorn Coal Company subscribes to a drug-free work environment and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

LOOKING FOR EMPLOYMENT

Citizens National Bank
Position location: Paintsville
Outside Collector
Min. to start, \$9.81 per hour
with Max., \$14.07 per hour

This position is full-time and comes with a complete package of paid benefits, including health, dental, vision, life, and long-term disability insurance, paid vacation, and 401(k) retirement.

Education and/or Experience: Associate Degree and/or one to two years related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience.

Job Duties: Individual is responsible for initiating, pursuing the prompt collection of delinquent real estate, commercial and consumer loans. This includes corresponding with customers by phone and mail, or in person. This position also requires working with loan officers to establish the necessary actions to be taken.

Apply at any Citizens National Bank location
P.O. Box 1488, 620 Broadway, Paintsville, KY 41240
(606) 789-4001
www.cnbonline.com



TWO IMMEDIATE OPENINGS FOR RN'S

The Floyd County Health Department has 2 full-time openings for a Local Health Nurse II (LHNI).

General Functions: Will provide nursing care to clients in clinic/community settings. Must possess knowledge of scope of practice for RN with considerable skill in application of nursing procedures and the ability to learn policies/programs of assigned area. **Minimal Education:** Must have RN license in KY or compact state and one year RN experience. BSN or MSN in Nursing, or Public Health may substitute for the one year experience.

Successful applicant may be required to take a pre-employment drug test and criminal background check. Applications may be picked up at the Floyd County Health Dept. at 283 Goble Street in Prestonsburg, and completed applications returned to that location with transcript and copy of current nursing license by 4:30 p.m., April 23, 2008. **Starting salary:** 16.30-20.54 negotiable with additional experience. Position 1 will be with the Diabetes Center, and Position 2 will be in the clinic/community setting.

Applications for LHNI will be considered for Position 2 only if lack of candidates for LHN II are received. **Minimum Requirements:** Current RN license or compact state/provisional license in KY, meeting all requirements of KRS 314.041 and approved to practice. **Salary range:** 14.07-17.56.
Equal Opportunity Employer

requested that the following roads or portions of roads be discontinued by the Floyd County Fiscal Court: (1) Hoods Fork Road, located in Frasures Creek in Floyd County, KY. Pursuant to KRS 178.070 and KRS 178.050, it is, therefore, necessary that notice be given and a public hearing on the requests be scheduled for April 18, 2008, to take place during the Floyd County Fiscal Court's Meeting on that date.

Notice is now given by the Floyd County Fiscal Court, pursuant to KRS 178.070 and KRS 178.050 of the following actions: (1) The proposed discontinuance of the road Frasures Creek in Floyd County, KY. (2) That the County Judge/Executive has been previously authorized or will be authorized to advertise the proposed discontinuance of the sections of road

in question and to appoint two (2) viewers for the affected sections of road, in addition to the County Road Supervisor, for the purposes of preparing a report regarding the discontinuance of the road or portion of road in question, and (3) That a final hearing regarding discontinuance of the roads in question be scheduled to take place during the Court's Meeting at 10:00 a.m., on April

REQUEST FOR QUALIFIED BIDDERS For the Sale of FLOYD COUNTY GAS SYSTEM

The Floyd County Fiscal Court will receive sealed bids for the sale of a NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM, owned by Floyd County, Kentucky, by and through the Floyd County Fiscal Court, and operated and managed by East Kentucky Utilities, Inc., pursuant to a lease agreement. The Floyd County Fiscal Court will receive sealed bids for the sale of the Floyd County Gas System, until 4:00 p.m., Local Time, on Thursday, April 17, 2008.

SYSTEM DESCRIPTION: The Floyd County Gas System consists of a natural gas distribution system furnishing natural gas to approximately 770 residential customers and 101 commercial customers residing in the communities of Allen, Dwale, Estill, Garrett, Hueysville, Lackey, Middle Creek, Minnie, and Wayland, and their outlying vicinities in Floyd County, Kentucky. Documentation regarding the sale of the Floyd County Gas System may be examined and copies obtained of necessary documentation by scheduling an appointment with Seldon Horn during regular business hours from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Local Time, Monday through Friday, at the offices of East Kentucky Utilities, Inc., located at 320 South Central Avenue, Suite 102, Prestonsburg, Kentucky [Telephone (606) 886-2431; "FAX" (606) 889-9196], and having the mailing address of P.O. Box 408, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653.

BID PROCESS: The Floyd County Fiscal Court will receive sealed bids for the sale of the Floyd County Gas System at the Office of the Floyd County Judge Executive, located on the 2nd floor of the Floyd County Courthouse, 149 South Central Avenue, Suite 9, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653 [Telephone (606) 886-9193] until 4:00 pm., Local Time, on Thursday, April 17, 2008. The sealed bids for the sale of the Floyd County Gas System will be opened and an award of the bid made to the highest and best qualified bidder at the Regular Meeting of the Floyd County Fiscal Court scheduled for Friday, April 18, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. Local Time, to be held in the County Courthouse, located on the 2nd floor of Floyd County Courthouse, 149 South Central Avenue, Prestonsburg, Kentucky.

Any bid received later than the time specified for receipt of bids, or any bid not submitted with the necessary documentation shall not be considered. Bids received after the scheduled closing time for the receipt of bids will be returned unopened to the bidders. Submission of a bid shall be construed as evidence and confirmation that the bidder has reviewed all necessary documentation, has made all necessary site visits, and has conducted sufficient due diligence to allow its submission of a bid and bona fide offer for the system.

The Floyd County Fiscal Court reserves the right to reject any and all bids, or to waive any formalities in the bidding. No bid may be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days subsequent to the opening of bids without the consent of the Floyd County Fiscal Court.

BID PROPOSAL: The Floyd County Gas System is a public utility regulated by the Kentucky Public Service Commission. A qualified bidder will be required to provide all necessary proof of the bidder's financial, technical, and managerial ability to purchase, operate, and maintain the Floyd County Gas System. An award of the bid and the sale of the Floyd County Gas System shall be contingent upon the approval of the system's transfer by the Kentucky Public Service Commission.

All bids are to be submitted with the bidder's understanding and acknowledgment that the bidder will be assuming all debts and liabilities of the Gas Systems.

Due to the public trust owed by the Floyd County Fiscal Court to those citizens of Floyd County, Kentucky, served by the system, a qualified bidder for the Floyd County Gas System must meet strict requirements regarding financial stability, customer service, and pipeline safety. Therefore, please describe your proposal to purchase the Floyd County Gas System, including but not limited to providing the following information:

1. Describe and supply documentation for the financial structure you propose for purchasing the Floyd County Gas System.
- a. Name of proposed owner(s) and percentage of ownership interests,
- b. Copies of owner's articles of incorporation or other documents explaining ownership structure,
- c. Method for payment to Floyd County, Kentucky, for purchase of system,
- d. Plan for disposition of debt owed to First Guaranty Bank, Kentucky Frontier, Inc., & Governor's Office for Local Development and resulting equity and debt structure,
- e. Financial strength of proposed owner(s), with copies of supporting documents,
- f. Proposed time schedule for completing purchase of the system,
2. Describe your operating plans for the Floyd County Gas System:
 - a. Number and type of operating employees,
 - b. Physical locations of main office, maintenance shop, billing department, and customer services department,
 - c. Plan for performing 24/7 emergency response,
 - d. Plans for billing and customer service,
 - e. Plans for meeting Kentucky Department of Transportation (KYDOT) requirements, including operation and maintenance plan, operator qualifications, drug and alcohol testing, integrity management plan, and community education plan,
 - f. Plans for meeting Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) requirements,
 - g. Potential effects of new ownership on customer service.
3. Provide your financial, technical, and managerial ability references, including addresses and telephone numbers for each reference.
4. Note: Additional documentation not set forth in this bid package may be requested through an addendum to the bid package.

Bid Amount For Floyd County Gas System: \$

18, 2008, in the County Courtroom, located on the second floor of the old Floyd County Courthouse, 149 South Central Avenue, Prestonsburg, Kentucky.

NOTICE OF BOND RELEASE

In accordance with KRS 350.093, notice is hereby given that The Elk Horn Coal Company, LLC, 544 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653, has applied for a Phase III bond release on permit number 836-5475, which was last issued on 04/22/05. The application covers an area of approximately 5.20 acres, located 2.60 miles south of McDowell, Kentucky, in Floyd County.

The permit area is approximately 1.4 mile southeast from KY Rt. 122's junction with Spewing Camp Branch Road, and located 1.0 mile southeast of Pilgrim Rest Church.

The bond now in effect for the permit is a surety bond in the amount of \$3,100.00. The entire remainder of the original bond amount of \$8,800.00 is included in the application for release.

Reclamation work performed includes: All backfilling, grading, and revegetation activities, the removal of all temporary structures, and the establishment of the post-mining land use capability were completed in the spring of 2003.

Written comments, objections, and requests for a public hearing or informal conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Field Services, No. 2 Hudson Hollow, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, by May 16, 2008.

A public hearing on the application

has been scheduled for May 17, 2008, at 9:00 a.m., at the Division of Mining Reclamation and Enforcement's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653-1410. The hearing will be cancelled if no request for a hearing or informal conference is received by May 16, 2008.

BLASTING SCHEDULE

This is notice that The Elk Horn Coal Company, LLC, 544 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky, 41653, (606) 886-2330, Permit #836-5535 Original, will be blasting 2.0 miles Southeast of East McDowell near State Route 1929 and Ned's Fork Road at Latitude 37E 25' 28", Longitude 82E 42' 28". Blasting will be done daily between the hours between Dawn and Dusk. No blasting will be conducted before sunrise or after sunset. At least ten (10) minutes before the blast, access to the area will be barricaded by Company personnel. Before each blast is detonated a warning signal consisting of a one (1) minute series of long blasts of an airhorn will be given five (5) minutes prior to the blast signal consisting of a series of short blasts of an airhorn one (1) minute prior to the shot. The all clear signal will be one long blast of an airhorn. Blasting will not be conducted at times different from those given above except in emergency situations where rain, lightning, other atmospheric conditions, or operator or public safety requires unscheduled detonation. Prior to these detonations when permittee uses audible sig-

nals, oral notices will be given to persons within one-half mile of the blasting site.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Belrose Developments, LLC, of 103 Lance Street, Harold, Kentucky 41635, has filed an application with the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet to construct a medical building. This property is located approximately 1,400 feet west of the junction of U.S. Route 23 with KY Route 979, at Harold, in Floyd County. Any comments or objections, concerning this application shall be directed to: Kentucky Division of Water, Water Resources Branch, 24 Reilly Road, Frankfort Office Park, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. Phone: (502) 564-3410.

WANTED

Contact Information need for Randi (Fitspatrick) Ritz, Madison Fitspatrick and Warren Fitspatrick. Anyone having any information as to where or how they can be contacted, please contact Jerry W. Wicker at Jerry W. Wicker Law Offices, P.O. Box 1590, Hindman, KY 41822, or call toll-free at 800-819-0056 or 606-785-5556. I have money for them.

NOTICE OF BOND RELEASE

In accordance with KRS 350.093, notice is hereby given that Buck Coal, Inc., 544 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653, has applied for a Phase III bond release on permit number 836-5287, which was last issued on 10/22/01, Increment No. 1 covers an area of approximately 1.97

acre, and Increment No. 2 covers an area of approximately 0.14 acre, located 1.30 mile northeast of Hi Hat, in Floyd County.

The permit area is approximately 1.8 mile southeast from KY Rt. 122's junction with Spewing Camp Branch Road, and located 0.1 mile east of Spewing Camp Branch Road.

The bond now in effect for Increment 1, is a surety bond in the amount of \$4,200.00. The entire remainder of the original bond amount of \$17,600.00 is included in the application for release. The bond now in effect for Increment 2, is a surety bond in the amount of \$100.00. The entire remainder of the original bond amount of \$100.00 is included in the application for release.

Reclamation work performed includes: All backfilling, grading, and revegetation activities, the removal of all temporary structures, and the establishment of the post-mining land use capability, were completed in the fall of 2002.

Written comments, objections, and requests for a public hearing or informal conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Field Services, No. 2 Hudson Hollow, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, by May 16, 2008.

A public hearing on the application has been scheduled for May 17, 2008, at 9:00 a.m., at the Division of Mining Reclamation and Enforcement's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653-1410. The hearing will be cancelled if no request for a hearing or informal conference is received by May 16, 2008.

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Send a photo with description, along with check or money order, or credit card, for only \$50, and your Deals on Wheels will continue to run until Sold.

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Floyd County residents can help The Center support youth

Community supporters in Floyd County can help support the youth of Southern and Eastern Kentucky and enjoy a red carpet evening of fine dining and dancing at the premiere of The Center for Rural Development's annual fundraising gala, "Tinseltown," Friday, April 25, at 7 p.m. in Somerset.

Proceeds from "Tinseltown" will support The Center's three youth programs - Rogers Scholars, Rogers Explorers and Entrepreneurial Leadership Institute - and help bring educational arts and cultural opportunities to students in Floyd County and throughout the 42-county service area.

"The youth of our region is by far our greatest asset. Through our youth development programs, we strive to create an environment that encourages these future leaders to reach their life goals while remaining in their home region of Southern and Eastern Kentucky," said Pat Bradley, associate vice president of arts, culture and entertainment at The Center.

In the tradition of a Hollywood movie premiere or opening night at The Academy Awards, The Center is rolling out the red carpet for the premiere of "Tinseltown" with all of the associated glitz and glamour. The gala will include a ceremonial red carpet opening.

Walking the red carpet on premiere night will be contributors, supporters and invited guests. Supporters who lift up

the programs and services in the region will be the "stars" of this event and receive a "Tinseltown" welcome when they arrive at The Center.

"Tinseltown" will feature an evening of fine dining and dancing in a Hollywood-themed setting. The Tom Daugherty Orchestra, a show and dance orchestra, will provide the music. The popular group performs a wide variety of music, ranging from the original "Big Band" arrangements of the Swing Era, to the "Rock and Roll" of the 1950s, to contemporary music.

Guests can bid on a selection of specialty items and sports-related prizes at a silent auction while at the fundraising gala. One of the top prizes is four invitations to University of Kentucky basketball coach Billy Gillispie's Call In Show at Malone's Banquets during the 2008-09 season. Another lucky winner will walk away with four tickets plus hospitality in the Big Blue Zone at UK-Arkansas football game on Oct. 18, 2008. Other prizes include hand-crafted pottery, watercolor print, golf passes to Dale Hollow State Resort Park, gift certificates for local and area businesses and more.

"The evening will be a fun and exciting way to help support programming at The Center that focuses on providing outstanding growth and development opportunities for our youth," said Bradley.

The Center has touched the lives of thousands of students in

Southern and Eastern Kentucky through its youth and arts education outreach programs. U.S. Congressman Harold "Hal" Rogers, who founded The Center in 1996 to be a state and national model, is committed to providing a better quality of life for the more than 900,000 residents in the 42-county region.

Rogers' signature phrase that "...no young person will need to leave home to find his or her future" is the driving force behind The Center's efforts to invest in the lives of the next generation of leaders. More than 600 students have received leadership training by attending one of the three youth development programs in the last nine years. Graduates are encouraged to find their futures in their home communities and often return after completing the programs to serve as mentors to other youth participants.

In Floyd County, eight students have graduated from Rogers Scholars, a youth leadership program for rising high school juniors, since the program was launched in 1998. Two local students attended the Entrepreneurial Leadership Institute in 2007.

The Center's arts education outreach programs have brought arts and cultural opportunities to approximately 18,000 students in the last three years. Students are exposed to high quality arts education performances that meet the core content areas of KERA (Kentucky Education Reform Act). The performances are

staged at the schools and provided free of charge.

The Center hosted a performance by the Lexington Children's Theatre in April for approximately 320 preschoolers through fifth-grade students at W.D. Osborne Elementary School.

"Research shows that students involved in the arts perform better in school. Beyond academics, every student has a right to enjoy the arts and be inspired by them. In our region, music and other art forms have been part of our way of life, and our students deserve every opportunity to tap into their own potential gifts," said

Bradley.

Sponsorships are available to help supplement program costs for youth leadership programs and to support the arts.

"Tinseltown" is sponsored by Windstream Communications, Citizens National Bank, Outdoor Venture Corp., Clay Parker Davis, Hensley, Elam and Associates, Wal-Mart and Leo Miller and Associates. Event supporters include Kingsford, Community Trust Bank, BB & T and Alton Blakley Ford. Additional sponsorship opportunities are still available.

Tickets are \$50 per person and may be purchased at The

Center or by contacting The Center Box Office at 606-677-6000.

The Center, located at 2292 South U.S. 27 (at traffic light No. 15) in Somerset, provides economic and community development programs to residents in Southern and Eastern Kentucky and is home to several statewide and national technology-based programs.

For more information on "Tinseltown" and to view a selection of silent auction items, visit www.centertech.com/tinseltown. Program descriptions of The Center's youth programs are available by visiting www.centertech.com.

Lawsuit

Continued from p1

describing the reason(s) for this transfer upon your return to work. Sincerely, Warden"

According to the complaint, because of this letter, Meade suffered "extreme emotional damage and immediately fell into a deep suicidal depression."

Upon returning to work, Meade met with Warden Arnold, and according to the complaint, "Arnold callously advised the decedent that she was being demoted for reasons apparently having to do with the fact that the deceased was a diabetic and had missed work for

medical reasons."

Meade took her own life, reportedly shortly after that meeting.

Attorney for the plaintiffs, Ned Pillersdorf, claims that the outrageous conduct of Warden Arnold in demoting Meade while she was hospitalized is grounds for the lawsuit, and cites Kentucky Supreme Court case Kroger vs. Willgruber as part of that argument.

The plaintiffs are seeking compensation for pain and suffering, lost wages and funeral bills, as well as an assessment of

punitive damages for the "conduct that is utterly intolerable in a civilized society and constitutes intentional and outrageous conduct."

Times staff attempting to reach Warden Arnold for comment learned Thursday that she is no longer working at Otter Creek Correctional Facility, and according to the new Warden Jeff Little, Arnold was transferred within the company to a prison in Florida sometime in March.

Phone calls to CCA were not immediately returned.

Fischer

Continued from p1

that McConnell is widely viewed as an obstructionist. Fischer said people need to ask themselves, "What's he done for the state? What has he done for the country?"

"Don't get infatuated with politicians who bring back money," said Fischer. "That's your money; that's what they are supposed to do."

After a short speech, Fischer took questions from many of the students in the class.

Nicole Samons, 26, of Banner, asked Fischer about his thoughts on mining regulations, noting that she and many Eastern Kentuckians had lost

family in the mining industry.

"There has been a lot of deregulation in the last eight years," said Fischer, noting that McConnell's wife Elaine Chao, is the current Secretary of Labor. "You can't put the fox in charge of the hen house."

Fischer said the most important aspect of mining should be safety in the workplace.

Another question posed to Fischer from Zachary Crum, 19, of Wheelwright, dealt with the candidate's feelings toward the Patriot Act.

Fischer said that the current form of the Patriot Act allows for too much intrusion into the

lives of citizens, and that such laws must always "be balanced between security, and civil liberties."

During the class Fischer fielded other questions ranging from the war on drugs to the increased corporate outsourcing of jobs.

"No problem is too big," said Fischer, "but you have to have leadership to set the stage."

Fischer is the second candidate to visit Eastern Kentucky. Mitch McConnell was in Floyd county two weeks ago visiting Highlands Regional Medical Center.

FBI

Continued from p1

charged in the probe, except himself.

A perjury charge, however, was filed against former highway engineer Sam Beverage in connection with the patronage probe, and was not covered by the pardons because it was for alleged activity after they were issued.

A former highway engineer, Beverage avoided a possible prison sentence last summer when he agreed to a deal with prosecutors that dropped the felony perjury charge against him in exchange for him pleading guilty to official misconduct.

Beverage told prosecutors that some state highway contracts had been steered toward certain vendors. Beverage also claimed that Bill Nighbert, the former transportation secretary, had wielded a \$42 million discretionary fund as a "large campaign chest" used to hand out favors to supporters and lawmakers who voted in line with the administration.

Nighbert has referred to Beverage's claims as "delusional ramblings." Nighbert, who is now an aide to state Senate President David Williams, was not at his office on Wednesday and did not return a message seeking comment.

Kentucky State Police said in a letter to the Kentucky Attorney General's office last year that the agency had inves-

tigated the matter and its probe "has not uncovered evidence supporting any felony charges."

Details on the latest probe were unclear Wednesday. But one state engineer said that FBI agents had asked her "several weeks ago" about how in-house cost estimates for road projects were handled during the former administration.

David Beyer, spokesman for the FBI in Louisville, and Kyle Edelen, a spokesman for the U.S. Attorney's office in Lexington, both said they could neither confirm nor deny an investigation. Laura Sweeney, a spokeswoman for U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, declined to comment.

Beshear said he was "aware of the investigation into the Fletcher administration's practices over there and we have been fully cooperating with the FBI in that investigation."

Marcelyn Mathews, a Department of Highways engineer under both Fletcher and Beshear, said FBI agents questioned her at work about the agency's process for handling engineer cost estimates for pending road contracts.

"Really, I didn't talk to the people that much," Mathews told The Associated Press. "They just asked me a few informal questions, in general about what our policy is on engineer estimates and how

we develop those."

Mathews said the estimates have been kept confidential, both in the current and previous administrations.

"There were no names or accusations made," Mathews said. "They just strictly wanted to know how some of our processes work."

Knowing the engineer's estimate ahead of time could benefit road contractors bidding on specific projects, said Larry Forgy, a former Republican gubernatorial candidate and a strong Fletcher supporter. Forgy questioned why investigators were pursuing the former governor and why Beshear's administration had acknowledged a possible federal probe.

"It's unusual that the state government would be announcing an FBI investigation that no one on the record is talking about," Forgy said. "It seems a little strange that they would announce that unless it did have a political tone to it."

Fletcher spokeswoman Jodi Whitaker said in an e-mail that Fletcher was not available for comment.

Forgy defended the former governor, calling him the "most mistreated fellow" in Kentucky politics.

"When you get in the habit of stomping on somebody, it becomes a habit and they keep stomping," Forgy said.

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Miners dig deep during successful debut season

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE — Professional basketball made an immediate impact in Eastern Kentucky during the 2007-08 season as the East Kentucky Miners made their debut in the Continental Basketball Association (CBA). The Miners ended the season as the CBA's most explosive offensive team. Along the way, East Kentucky set a single-game scoring mark that may never be broken, won 26 regular-season games and left thousands of fans eagerly anticipating the start of the 2008-09 campaign.

Former NFL quarterback Jay Fiedler and entrepreneur Demetrius

Ford, co-owners of Trinity Sports & Entertainment Group, brought professional basketball to Eastern Kentucky. Kevin Keathley, an Eastern Kentucky native, guided the Miners to a 26-22 record during their initial season.

"Jay (Fiedler) and Demetrius (Ford) did an excellent job of providing the tools to put a first class professional basketball organization on the floor in Eastern Kentucky," said Keathley. "I'm very proud of what we were able to accomplish. To go 26-22 during the regular-season and lead the league in scoring are accomplishments the entire organization — as a whole — can be proud of."

The Miners ranked as the CBA's

top offensive team during their debut season, averaging 110.6 points per game. East Kentucky's statistics back up the 110-plus points per game scoring average.

— The Miners ranked as the CBA's top three-point (42.3 percent) and free throw (76.6) shooting team.

— As a team, East Kentucky shot over 50-percent.

The Miners set an all-time professional basketball single-game scoring record, drilling the scoreboard for 194 points in regulation March 2 versus Atlanta. East Kentucky clamped the Krunk 194-115.

Postseason honors rolled in for the Miners. East Kentucky forward James "Boo" Jackson was named the

league's Newcomer of the Year and earned a spot on the All-CBA First Team. Miners guard Josh Pace and center Steve Thomas were each Second Team selections. Pace was the league's leading scorer, averaging 23 points per game. Thomas, who split the season between Atlanta and East Kentucky, averaged a double-double of 14 points and 11.4 rebounds per game.

Pace led the league in triple-doubles (3). Jackson was the CBA leader in double-doubles (27).

Pace, Jackson and Mike Dean, who joined the team after a successful stint with CBA rival Rio Grande

(See MINERS, page two)



photo courtesy of Dusty Layne Photography/East Kentucky Miners
Floyd County native Keathley Keathley guided East Kentucky to 26 wins during its first season.

Seeing a light at end of long tunnel

by RICK BENTLEY
TIMES COLUMNIST

I take a moment to pause, I can see it.

If I stop and, as Andy Griffith would say, look waaaaay off, it's there.

It's the light. Not the one, as the Bible says, that is a light unto my path. It's there too, but we're not talking about that one right now. This is the one at the end of the tunnel.

It's there. Finally, it's within sight. If I stop just for a minute — for if it's two, I'm too far behind — and look, I can see it. And sometimes, that pause for a second will get me there faster than if I just keep a steady nose to the grindstone.

With all apologies to those whose seasons are still playing out, it's been a long year. It started for many of us on a Friday or Saturday night in August and hasn't really slowed down. Oh, there were a couple of days in December when we paused for a moment, but those were a long time ago too.

I really hate this for those who play spring sports. I do. I know how they feel, because once upon a time I was one of them. At Millard — home of the Mustangs — we had three sports back in the day. There was basketball for both boys and girls and baseball.

That's it, that's the list.

And being that I topped out as a 6-0 center, I soon found myself as just a baseball player. I wasn't a great one, but I was good enough. And still, to this day, I enjoy going out to a field and maybe catching an inning or so in the dugout.

But those opportunities are difficult to find. They happen occasionally, but not nearly as often as I'd like.

At the conference basketball tournament, one of my fellow SIDs shared a story that had happened the week before at their school. One of the spring-sport coaches had offered a complaint to the athletics director about the lack of focus on his sport. His season had begun yet his sport had garnered little attention.

The athletics director in question apologized to the coach, and then told him not to expect it to get better in the foreseeable future. I understand your frustration, he said, but you have to understand where we're coming from. It's been a long, long school year, and we're tired.

That's all there is to it. We're tired.

I say this on behalf of not only people who work in sports information, but also for those who cover sports on the radio or in the newspaper. It's not right. Don't misunderstand me. These children deserve the same attention those who play other sports got.

But understand it may or may not happen. We were all charged up in the fall when football started, and volleyball and the rest. Then came basketball season, with its long, arduous schedule.

And just to be honest, one of the main culprits is March. Sure it's enjoyable. A few weeks ago I believe I proclaimed it my favorite month on the calendar. We all love the Madness, with its one-and-done lifestyle and seeing these young people represent us with all their might.

But think about it this way:

(See LIGHT, page two)



Landon Slone claimed another accolade late last week when he was named WYMT 15th Region Player of the Year.

Slone named WYMT 15th Region PoY

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

HAZARD — WYMT has released its boys' basketball honors for the 2007-08 season. University of Kentucky-bound Landon Slone claimed the 15th Region Player of the Year award after an exceptional senior season. Allen Central senior Aaron Crum and junior Josh Prater received honorable mention honors. Prestonsburg senior Taylor Clark was an all-academic selection.

A complete breakdown of the WYMT award-winners follow.

WYMT All-Mountain Team, First Team: Landon Slone; Josh Whitaker; Nick Brumback; Cody Miller; JD Strange. Second Team: Shane Grimm; Desmond Johnson; Zach Hurt; Ashley Hatfield; Tate Cox. Third Team: Madison Johnson; Clark Stepp; Josh Siedel; Stuart Stamper; Shawnta Zachery.

14th Region Honorable Mention: Andy Blank; Travis Smith; Josh Taylor; Michael Campbell; Trey

Short; Drew Davidson; Daniel Kinsler; Chris Puckett; Charlie Banks; Aaron Charles; Chris Noble; Cory Brewer.

15th Region Honorable Mention: Aaron Crum; Josh Prater; Dustin May; Jaryd Crum; Blake Bundy; J.D. Vanhoose; Justin Murray; Charlie Hunt; Caleb Hoskins; Tyler Hamilton; Tim Honaker; Jacob Bryant; Taylor Newsome.

Defensive All-Mountains: Devin Adams; Garrison Collins; Justin Hobbs; Matt St. John; Richard Caudill; Malachai Longworth; Zach Gay; Elisha Justice; Joe Nichols; Billy Jones.

Academic All-Mountains: B.K. Farley; Andy Blank; Brooks Hogue; Devin Blair; Josh Proffitt; Michael Boyd Thompson; Jared Jeffrey; Taylor Clark; Jason Napier; John Coomer; Adam Wallen; Jordan McCumbers.

Underclassman All-Mountains: Jordan Hairston; Adam Gay; Matthew Mitchell; Hobart Asher; Hobo McCoy; Jared Robinson.

Players of the Year — 12th/13th Regions: Nick Brumback; 14th Region: Josh Whitaker; 15th Region: Landon Slone.

Coaches of the Year — 12th/13th Regions: Steve Wright; 14th Region: Jeff Honeycutt; 15th Region: Bill Mike Runyon.

Paintsville names Ratliff new head coach: Paintsville High School has named its new head boys' basketball coach. Matt Ratliff has been chosen to take over for the retiring Bill Mike Runyon. Ratliff has been an assistant under Runyon for the past six years. He was the starting point guard on the Paintsville team that captured the 1996 state championship.

Runyon left the bench as one of the state's top all-time boys' basketball coaches. Paintsville, under the guidance of Runyon, pulled off an upset victory over 7th Region champion Jeffersonton in the opening round of this year's Sweet 16 state tournament.

Adams captures third straight archery title

by JAMIE HOWELL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Interest in the National Archery In The Schools program is quickly growing in Eastern Kentucky. Floyd County boasts one of the most successful archery teams in Eastern Kentucky — Adams Middle School. Adams captured its third straight county title on Saturday and is now in the process of preparing for a trip to compete in the national tournament in May. Adams defeated John M. Stumbo Saturday, prevailing 234-144 in the average category. Two separate divisions, a 4-6 grade division and a 7-8 grade division competed Saturday. Montana Lemaster of Adams captured the girls' 4-6 title, finishing with a score of 244 out of a possible 300 points. Kate Rose (Adams) finished in second place with a score of 216. Eddie Akers of John M. Stumbo finished third with a total of 184. Kelsey Smith (Stumbo) finished fourth with a score of 171. Amanda McKinney's total of 170 earned her a fifth-place finish.

Hunter Brown continued his strong run with a first place finish in the boys' 4-6 division with a 264 total. Austin Bailey's score of 252 allowed him to finish second. Drew Wright

finished with a total of 243, placing him in third place. Keith Kidd totaled 240 and earned a fourth place finish. All four shooters were members of the Adams team. Byron Hall of John M. Stumbo took home fifth place, scoring 238. Adams won the 4-6 team title with an average score of 218 compared to Stumbo's 149.

Adams took home top honors in the 7-8 division as well. Tiffany Wertz's total of 252 earned first place

of 279. Evan Bays (Adams) finished in a close second with a score of 273. Austin Newsome (Adams) 264 finished in third place. Josh Stambaugh (Adams) finished in fourth place with a score of 260 and Zack Romans' 251 effort rounded out the top five.

Adams also captured the 2008 region title. An 11th-place finish at the state competition qualified the Adams team for the national tournament to be held in Louisville May 12. Adams is

coached by Sherman Holliday. Members of the Adams archery team include Hunter Brown, Austin Bailey, Montana Lemaster, Drew Wright, Keith Kidd, B.J. Holliday, Austin Curnutte, Kate Rose, Jordan Marcum, Kaegan Dove, Aaron Curnutte, Terry Adams, Mitch Fields, Eric Collins, McKinley Minix, Evan Bays, Austin Newsome, Josh Stambaugh, Tiffany Wertz, Morgan Short, Zack Romans, Kyle Chaffin, Brant Smith, Anthony Collins, Mic Roberts, Cody Chaffin, Colton Shepherd, J.D. Adams, Cole Allen, Colton Boleyn, Laken Keathley, Curtis Griffith, Clay Lemaster, Victoria Hampton, Ashley Crace and Nick Hites.

on the girls' side. Morgan Short finished with a 251 total and a second place finish. Laken Keathley's 22 was good enough for a third place finish. Victoria Hampton finished in fourth place with a score of 207 and Samantha Hall (Stumbo), rounding out the top-five with a total of 196.

McKinley Minix (Adams) was the top overall shooter with a total score



The Adams elementary archery team (pictured) and middle school squad captured first-place in the county tournament.

Tackett named WYMT 15th Region Coach of the Year

Pike Central's Lowe named top player

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

HAZARD — First-year Betsy Layne girls' basketball coach Harold Tackett racked up a postseason award last week when he was named WYMT 15th Region Coach of the Year. Tackett guided the Ladycats to an 18-10 record in his first season. Betsy Layne tied for the 15th Region's fourth-best record.

Tackett took over a tradition-rich Betsy Layne girls' basketball program that enjoyed its most success under the guidance of head coach Cassandra Akers, who ranked as one of Eastern Kentucky's top coaches.

South Floyd standout Kayla Hall was an honorable mention selection. Allen Central Lady Rebel Amber Shepherd was tabbed one of the top young players in the Mountains.

A complete list of the WYMT girls' basketball honors follows.

First Team: Lauren Wombles (South Laurel); Kayla Lowe (Pike Central); Heather Sturdivant (Perry Central); Sarah Rowe (Rockcastle County); Lenae Shouse (Breathitt County).

Second Team: Samantha Coleman (Middlesboro); Kourtney Tyra (Jackson County); Sara Hammond (Rockcastle County); Kendall Noble (Breathitt County); Merissa Pruitt (Belfry).

Third Team: Celena Conley (Johnson Central); Gemma Gray (Clay County); Mikkah Rogers (Corbin); Sophie Robinson (Middlesboro); Whitney Belle Jackson (Clay County).

Honorable Mention, 12th Region: Ashley Fowler (Southwestern).

13th Region: Callie Mills (Barbourville); Emily Boggs (Cawood); Courtney Bell (Harlan); Amber Whitehead (Jackson County); Brooklynn Jimison (Middlesboro); Caitie Jackson (North Laurel); Leslie Howard (Pineville); Jessica Dean (South Laurel); Erin Sears (Williamsburg).

14th Region: Amanda Southwood (Breathitt County); Jamey Jo Gilbert (Buckhorn); Ashley Hall (Hazard); Britni Tinchler (Jackson City); Nicole Revis (Jenkins); Whitney Boggs (Leslie County); Brittany Sexton (Letcher Central); Shannon Bays (Letcher Central); Allison Feltner (Perry Central); Kayla Spencer (Wolfe County); Kayla Stamper (Wolfe County).

15th Region: Shae Deskins (Belfry); Hollie McCarty (East Ridge); Brittany Swindall (East Ridge); Breanna Salyer (Johnson Central); Chelsey Salyers (Johnson Central); Amanda Jarrell (Paintsville); Katlyn Riley (Phelps);

(See TACKETT, page two)

Reds blast Brewers, 12-4 Plans announced for Bluegrass State Games

by COLIN FLY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MILWAUKEE — Brandon Phillips couldn't help but laugh.

No, the situation wasn't funny after he had just given up two unearned runs with an ugly error when the ball rolled right through his legs, but he quickly redeemed himself.

"You saw me laughing," Phillips said. "That (doesn't) normally happen."

Phillips scored twice off a pair of heady baserunning plays, Adam Dunn and Corey Patterson each hit two-run homers and the Cincinnati Reds scored 10 straight runs in a 12-4 victory over the Milwaukee Brewers on Wednesday night.

"We had some uncharacteristic errors out there," Reds manager Dusty Baker said. "That seemed to wake us up even more."

Phillips, who had an NL best fielding percentage for second basemen last year, let Rickie Weeks' hot grounder go right underneath his glove in the fifth inning to give Milwaukee its first lead at 3-2.

"When it hit the grass it took a big hop and then when it hit the dirt it just stayed down on me," said Phillips, who signed a four-year contract to stay in Cincinnati this off-season. "I can't make all the plays. That's one thing I learned last year, don't try to do too much, learn from your mistakes early and just play the game. The next thing you know I came up with a big hit."

And a baserunning play that broke the game open. The next inning, Ken Griffey Jr. singled and advanced to second on a balk by Brewers starter Dave Bush. Then Phillips singled to put men on the corners, setting up Dunn's sacrifice fly that tied the game at 3.

On the play, Phillips tagged up from first, then he took off again during Jeff Keppinger's at-bat, scoring as Keppinger's single went through the space between third baseman Bill Hall would have occupied had Phillips not been on the move.

Baker wouldn't say if he'd called a hit-and-run, but Phillips was more than willing to share the strategy.

"I was stealing, I was just trying to get to third," said Phillips, who had to jump to avoid being struck by the ball on the basepaths.

That run chased Bush (0-2) and Javier Valentin hit an RBI single off Brewers reliever David Riské to give the Reds a 5-3 lead.

"The next thing you know, we score like 10 runs," Phillips said. "We just started raking."

Bush, who may be out of the starting rotation with the imminent return of Yovani Gallardo, said he's not worried about his performance.

"It's part of the game," Bush said. "Sometimes you hit line drives right at people, and sometimes they find holes with ground balls. It's all part of it, nothing to get worked up about."

The Brewers' bullpen imploded from there, giving up seven runs over the final three innings, including Dunn's first homer of the season in the seventh and Patterson's second home run in as many days in the ninth.

"Those last innings were tough," said Brewers manager Ned Yost, who worked to completely retool his bullpen in the offseason by adding four new arms. "You give up 10 runs in the last four ... not good."

Phillips' legs also helped manufacture Cincinnati's first two runs in the second, when he stole third base and gambled by tagging up on Scott Hatteberg's shallow sacrifice fly to right field with Dunn at second.

It paid off as Corey Hart's throwing error allowed both to score, but it wasn't until the scoring binge that Reds starter Josh Fogg (1-1) could finally relax. Fogg earned his first win for Cincinnati after signing in the offseason following his pivotal role for the NL champion Rockies last season.

"I told Griff if I get 12 a night, I'll be a pretty good pitcher this year," Fogg joked.

Notes: After his strong performance on Tuesday, Reds rookie Johnny Cueto became the first pitcher since 1900 to strike out 18 batters without a walk through his first two starts. ... Gallardo (left knee) will travel with the team to New York but will remain on the DL.

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — Mayor Jim Newberry and Agriculture Commissioner Richie Farmer have announced a new sponsorship by Kentucky Proud, the new location for the opening ceremonies, and new sports added to this year's Get Healthy Kentucky Bluegrass State Games presented by Subway.

"The Games are a great opportunity for amateur athletes to compete, have fun and practice healthier lifestyles. In addition, the events are expected to have an economic impact of \$6 million on Central Kentucky," said Newberry. "With exciting new sponsors, new sports and even a new mascot, the Games will be better than ever before."

The Get Healthy Kentucky Bluegrass State Games will take place in Central Kentucky July 18-20, July 26-27 and Aug. 1-3. The "Celebration of Athletes" opening ceremonies will take place at Applebee's Park on July 18.

They hope to fuel excitement and increase awareness of the state's largest amateur sporting event as an opportunity for all citizens of the Commonwealth to train, condition and begin living healthy lifestyles.

"I have a passion for the Bluegrass State Games and for a Healthy Kentucky," said Farmer. "I also know how passionate Kentuckians are about their sports. On behalf of Kentucky Proud, I challenge the citizens of the Commonwealth to get out and

participate in the Games, and start living a healthy lifestyle. Let's get out, get active and get healthy. Let's make Kentucky Proud."

New sponsors for the 2008 Games include Kentucky Proud, UK Healthcare and Pepsi. As spokesperson for Kentucky Proud, Commissioner Farmer announced that each participant in this year's Games would receive a free Kentucky Proud t-shirt.

New sports added to the Games' lineup are lacrosse, Miracle League Baseball and the increasingly popular corn hole. The new mascot (to be named in an upcoming "name the mascot" contest) and Legends mascot "Big L" played a game of corn hole on the dugouts after the

announcements.

Other speakers included Lexington Legends President/COO Alan Stein, and representatives for Pepsi, UK Healthcare, Miracle League Baseball and lacrosse.

This year Get Healthy Kentucky is the title sponsor of the Bluegrass State Games, and Subway is the presenting sponsor. Other sponsors include: Commonwealth of Kentucky, Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government, University of Kentucky, Kentucky Utilities, Lexington Convention and Visitors Bureau, McDonald's of Central Kentucky, Best Western of Kentucky, Central Bank and Smucker's, among others.

ONLINE:
www.bsgsg.org

HS Softball: Lady Rebels rout P'burg

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG — Visiting Allen Central pulled away and defeated Prestonsburg 15-5 Monday in a district/conference battle at Prestonsburg SportsPark. Megan Jones paced Allen Central offensively, Jones went 4-for-4 with two doubles and five runs batted in. An eighth-grader, Jones scored three runs and stole a pair of bases.

"I thought it was a good

win," said Allen Central Coach Don Burke. "We didn't play at the level we have played all season defensively. However, I thought we hit

the ball as a team well against Prestonsburg style of pitching."

Senior Sara Johnson went 3-for-5 and drove in two runs for the Lady Rebels. Johnson also stole a pair of bases. Sophomore Jaimie Mullins was also 3-for-5. Mullins was a defensive gem for Allen Central, recording four

assists and three putouts.

"Jaimie has become a great defensive player with some of the quickest

feet I have seen in awhile."

Logan Cline went 3-for-5 with a pair of doubles and two runs batted in for the Lady Rebels.

Ericka Mullins had two hits and Sarah Kinney smacked a two-run double for visiting Allen Central.

Allen Central improved to 5-1 after claiming the win. Shea Spurlock pitched

and claimed the win for the Lady Rebels. Spurlock allowed five runs, four of which were earned. The Allen Central pitcher faced 33 batters, walking five and striking out two.

"Shea (Spurlock) didn't have the best of nights but I thought she kept herself very composed," said Burke. "This was the first game all season including scrimmages that her walks were higher than her strikeouts. She has been averaging six strikeouts a game with three walks."

Tackett

Kayla Johnson (Phelps); A.D. Slone (Pike County Central); Holly Harris (Pike County Central); Christina Johnson (Pikeville); Laura Perkins (Shelby Valley); Kayla Cantrell (Shelby Valley); Patience Brewer (Sheldon Clark); Carla Booth (Sheldon Clark); Kayla Hall (South Floyd). 16th Region: Leslie Eagle (Morgan County).
Defensive All-Mountains: Devin Fothergill (Southwestern); Amanda Brimm (Whitley County); Whitney Gilliam (Cumberland); Ashley Williams (Middlesboro); Maris Hovee (June Buchanan); Sharay Kincer (Letcher Central); Arielle Engle (Hazard); Beth Wooten (Leslie County); Brittany Hardin (Breathitt

County); Kayla Stamper (Wolfe County); Amanda Sawyers (Shelby Valley); Abby Coleman (Pike Central).
Academic All-Mountains: Sara Johnson (Allen Central); Sarah Burchell (Clay County); Emily Wireman (Johnson Central); Hayley Meek (Johnson Central); Megan Mosely (Knott Central); Breanne Wilson (Leslie County); Shannon Bays (Letcher Central); Shalcesha Coleman (Middlesboro); Jasmine Hall (Phelps); Taylor Keene (Phelps); Kayla Cantrell (Shelby Valley); Holly Jones (Whitley County).

Underclassman All-Mountains: Amber Shepherd (Allen Central); Miranda Davenport (Cawood); Paige

Slone (Cordia); Alyssa Pratt (Cordia); Brooke Coleman (Shelby Valley); Carla Booth (Sheldon Clark); Jessica Coffey (Somerset); Hillary Moore (Leslie County).

Players of the Year - 12th/13th Regions: Lauren Wombles (South Laurel); 14th Region: Heather Sturdivant (Perry Central); 15th Region: Kayla Lowe (Pike Central).

Coaches of the Year - 12th/13th Region: Steve Wright (South Laurel); 14th Region: Peggy Moore (Breathitt County); 15th Region: Harold Tackett (Betsy Layne).

ONLINE:
www.wymtnews.com

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ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Megan Jones,
Allen Central
Softball

Chris Schoolcraft,
Prestonsburg
Baseball

Light

March started this year on about February 25 when the district tournaments began a Monday too early. And it ended this past Monday night, which, I believe, was April 7.

That's pretty well six weeks worth of March, and while we went at it, as the saying goes, like we were fighting fire, it will wear on you.

And it has. And now, we're exhausted.

The end is coming. For us at Pikeville College, the end starts next week. On Monday we leave for our annual pil-

grimage to the national bowling tournaments in Wichita. While we're gone, the tennis team will end its season. When we get back, we'll have three days before the baseball and softball tournaments commence.

Golf will follow suit, and then it's over.

We'll have just long enough to catch our breath before the high schools begin their spring tournaments. We'll be charged up and ready to go then.

And then, finally, it'll be over.

So please accept our apologies if you don't see us at your games right now. We're sorry. It isn't right. But it's a fact.

We're tired. We're weak. And we're worn.

But we also know it's out there. Not very far off, it's there.

It's the light. The tunnel will soon open, and summer will be upon us.

Before then, however, we've got a few more championships to crown.

We'll see you then.

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photo by Jamie Howell

ADAMS MIDDLE SCHOOL won the elementary and middle school divisions of the Floyd County archery tournament.

Miners

Valley, were among the CBA's top 10 scorers.

Guard Mike Crain (Valdosta State) and forward Marcus Heard (DePaul), first-year players out of college, represented East Kentucky on the CBA All-Rookie Team.

The youngest team in the Continental Basketball Association, East Kentucky featured 10 CBA rookies throughout its inaugural season. East Kentucky won with a stable roster. Eight of the 10 players on the team's opening day roster fin-

ished the season in a Miners uniform.

Three East Kentucky players claimed a total of four CBA Player of the Week nods. Jackson was a two-time CBA Player of the Week. Pace and Jason McLeish were also Player of the Week honorees.

"We're going to look to build on what we accomplished this season for next season," Keathley confided. "I'm proud of the players who wore the Miners uniform and represented Eastern Kentucky well in the

franchise's inaugural season."

The Miners developed a loyal fanbase in their inaugural season. East Kentucky ranked third (best among four expansion franchises) in the CBA in attendance.

Keathley, voted one of the top 10 young professional basketball coaches in America in 2006, ended the campaign with his eighth straight winning season. He returned home to coach the Miners after a stint in Texas as an assistant coach with Rio Grande Valley.

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SPORTS FAN

OF THE WEEK



**If you are the sports fan circled here...
it's your lucky day!**

If you are the sports fan circled, you are entitled to a free 8-inch ice cream cake of your choice, redeemable at DAIRY QUEEN OF PRESTONSBURG. When claiming your ice cream cake, present this newspaper.

Kansas claims national title with 75-68 win over Memphis

Chalmers' 3-pointer at 2.1 in 4th quarter sent game into OT

by EDDIE PELLIS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN ANTONIO — Memphis kept missing. Mario Chalmers wasn't about to.

Chalmers' 3-pointer with 2.1 seconds left in regulation put the game in overtime, and Kansas pulled away to a 75-68 victory on Monday night for its first national championship since Danny and the Miracles 20 years ago.

Mario and the Miracles? That has a good ring to it, too.

Chalmers' game-saving 3 came after Memphis missed four of five free throws that would have put the game and the title out of reach. It completed a comeback from nine points down with 2:12 left.

"It'll probably be the biggest shot ever made in Kansas history," Kansas coach Bill Self said.

The ending made a mockery of Memphis coach John Calipari's theory that his players, one of the country's worst with 59 percent free-throw shooting, didn't have to be good because they would always come through when the stakes were highest.

"It will probably hit me like a ton of bricks tomorrow, that we had it in our grasp," Calipari said.

All those bricks meant something in a game where every point counted. So did Rose's two-point shot off glass initially ruled a 3 — and correctly overturned — with 4:15 left.

Nothing about Chalmers' 3-pointer was in doubt.

"I had a good look at it," he said. "When it left my hands it felt like it was good, and it just went in."

Although Chalmers will go down in history, the most memorable overall performance came from Rose, the Memphis freshman, who completely took over the game in the second half, scoring 14 of his team's 16 points during one stretch to lift the Tigers to a 60-51 lead with 2:12 left.

But Kansas (37-3) used the strategy any smart opponent of Memphis' would — fouling the heck out of one of the country's worst free-throw-shooting teams — and when Rose and Douglas-Roberts made only one of five over the last 1:12, it left the door open for KU.

"Ten seconds to go, we're thinking we're national champs, all of a sudden a kid makes a shot, and we're not," Calipari said.

Hustling the ball down the court with 10.8 seconds left, no timeouts and trailing by three, Sherron Collins handed off to Chalmers at the top of the 3-point line, and Chalmers took the shot. It hit nothing but net and tied the score at 63.

Robert Dozier missed a despera-

tion heave at the buzzer, and Rose went limping to the bench, favoring his right leg. Brandon Rush, Darrell Arthur and Darnell Jackson scored the first six points of overtime to put Kansas ahead 69-63.

Memphis, clearly exhausted, didn't pull any closer than three the rest of the way. Rose played all 45 minutes in what could very well be his last college game.

"Overtime, they kind of beat us down," Calipari said. "I didn't sub a whole lot, because I was trying to win the game at the end."

Arthur was dominant inside, finishing with 20 points and 10 rebounds, lots on dunks and easy lay-ups off lob passes. Chalmers finished with 18 points. Rush had 12 and Collins had 11 points, six assists and did a wonderful job shutting Rose for the first 28 minutes.

Rose wound up with 18 points in a game that showed how ready he is for the NBA. He was 3-for-4 from the line, however, and that one miss with 10.8 seconds left is what almost certainly would have sealed the game and given the Tigers (38-2) their first title.

"It wasn't really the free throws," Rose said. "If we'd done things before the free throws, we would've been in good shape."

Instead, the title goes back to Lawrence for the third time in the fabled program's history.

The inventor of the game, James Naismith, was the first Jayhawks coach. It's the school that made

household names of Will Chamberlain, Manning — and yes, even North Carolina's Roy Williams, the coach who famously left the Jayhawks, lost to them in the semifinals, but was, indeed, in the Kansas cheering section Monday wearing a Jayhawks sticker on his shirt.

After the game, Self didn't exactly end speculation that he might also bail for his alma mater, Oklahoma State.

"I'm not going to say that couldn't potentially happen because I guess it potentially can," Self said.

This game was not about coaches or sidestories, though. It was about the game, and what a dandy it was — a well-needed reprieve from a more-or-less blah tournament in which 42 of 63 games were decided by double digits.

This was the first overtime in the title game since 1997, when Arizona beat Kentucky 84-79.

"Being up seven, being down nine, being up two, down five, going to overtime," Kansas center Cole Aldrich said. "We fought it out, and it's surreal. It's nuts."

Rose went crazy during Memphis' second half run. A 3-pointer here, a scooping layup for a three-point play next. Then, the caper, an off-balance, 18-foot shot off glass with the shot-clock buzzer sounding. Officials at first credited Rose with a 3, but went to the replay monitor and saw he was clearly inside the line.

Even with the point deducted, Memphis has a 56-49 lead and all the momentum. Most teams would have been demoralized.

Clearly, Kansas is not most teams.

In fact, the Jayhawks are a team that has come together in tragedy over the last several months. The deaths of friends and family of Jackson, Sasha Kaun and Rodrick Stewart all cast a bit of a pall over this team, making Jackson wonder at times if staying at Kansas was even worth it.

Just when the Jayhawks looked to be moving past their bad times, Stewart fractured his kneecap, a freak accident during Kansas' practice Friday at the Alamodome.

But it was another injury that might have been most responsible for blending this championship formula. Rush tore up his knee during a pickup game last May, and his NBA plans were put on hiatus.

He worked his way back into shape this season and is playing his best right now. He didn't have the most impressive stat line of the night, but it hasn't all been about stats for him in this, his junior season. His defense was stellar, as usual, and surely his experience and resolve played into Kansas' refusal to go away.

He set the table.

Chalmers got the glory. "That has to be one of the biggest shots in basketball history," Stewart said.

Parker leads Tennessee women to second straight national championship

by DOUG FEINBERG
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TAMPA, Fla. — Though bruised and braced, an injured left shoulder hardly prevented Candace Parker from hoisting that championship trophy on high for one last time.

Parker scored 17 points and grabbed nine rebounds to help Tennessee capture its eighth NCAA women's basketball title with a 64-48 victory over Stanford on Tuesday night. The Lady Vols also became the first repeat champs since Connecticut won three straight from 2002-04.

"Obviously, my shoulder is a little sore," Parker said. "But winning the national championship is making it better."

About the only problem Hall of Fame coach Pat Summitt seemed to have all night was cutting down the net. She celebrated as each of her players cut down a piece of string, then climbed up the ladder to take the rest of the net.

She needed three tries to get it — hardly looking like an eight-time champion who's done it more often than anyone but UCLA men's coach John Wooden. Summitt is now two short of his record.

When she finally cut the thread, she waved it high above her head and blew kisses to the Tennessee faithful.

"No. 8, it's all about this team," Summitt said. "I've been very blessed with this team, these people I have around me."

Parker will leave the Lady Vols (36-2) with a year of eligibility remaining, but has accomplished one of her goals by winning multiple national titles.

"You know, it's funny because some players don't get one, and I'm fortunate enough to have two," The

Associated Press player of the year said with both hands raised and two fingers up on each.

Parker also became the fourth player to win back-to-back Most Outstanding Player of the Final Four honors. She joined Connecticut's Diana Taurasi (2003-04), Tennessee's Chamique Holdclaw (1997-98), and Southern Cal's Cheryl Miller (1983-84).

Stanford's loss ended Candice Wiggins' remarkable run through the NCAA tournament. She scored 14 points and finished with 151 over the six games — the fourth-best total in tournament history. Sheryl Swoopes holds the record with 177 points, when she led Texas Tech to the championship in 1993. Wiggins is the first player to have two 40-point games in the tournament.

Wiggins ended her stellar career by taking the Cardinal (35-4) further than they'd been since 1992, when the program won it all. Stanford hadn't reached the Final Four since 1997 or advanced to the championship game since the '92 team.

"I'm sad that it's over because of how much I love this program, this institution, this team, and my coaches teammates," Wiggins said, breaking into tears. "It's that amazing. This season, I could not ever have dreamed of this, so it's more than I could ever ask for."

She came in averaging 27.4 points in the tournament and opened the game with a 3-pointer, but couldn't find an open look after that. The All-American finished 6-for-16 from the field and left to a standing ovation with just over a minute left in her college career.

Parker struggled with her

shooting in the semifinals when she went just 6-for-27 from the field, but gutted out the championship game — not letting her injured shoulder bother her. For the second straight game, the All-American wore a long-sleeve shirt under her uniform to try, as she said, to not focus on the injury. Underneath Parker's shirt was a Sully brace.

"It goes across the shoulder and across the body with a strap system that limits her motion," trainer Jenny Moshak said.

While still clearly not 100 percent healthy, the expected No. 1 pick in Wednesday's WNBA draft didn't shoot nearly as many jumpers as Sunday night, instead taking the ball to the basket on an array of moves. She converted one steal in the second half into a pretty layup that gave the Lady Vols a 10-point advantage. She then followed it up with a three-point play on a driving layup. The Cardinal, who had a season low for points, would get no closer than eight the rest of the way.

With the game in hand and a minute left, Parker went to the Tennessee bench for the final time, holding up four fingers on each hand to signify the eight titles the Lady Vols have won.

"One is disputable, but two, you can't stumble onto two national championships, so we're pretty good," Parker said.

Unlike earlier games in the tournament when Parker had to carry the Lady Vols, her supporting cast came through. Shannon Bobbitt scored 13 points and Nicky Anosike added 12 points, eight rebounds and six steals for the Lady Vols.

"They came out with a great mentality to play hard,

especially on the defensive end," Summitt said. "On offense, we got more people involved, but it was our defense that got it done. I'm so proud of our seniors, I'm going to miss them."

Bobbitt scored all of her points in the first half as the Lady Vols jumped out to a 37-29 advantage. Trailing by one early, Tennessee used a 13-4 run to take a 17-9 lead midway through the half. Bobbitt hit two 3-pointers and made a nifty layup to cap the spurt. The teams traded baskets before two free throws by Bobbitt gave the Lady Vols a 35-25 lead — their biggest of the half.

She also harassed Stanford into 14 turnovers by the break. The Cardinal looked tight on offense, committing more turnovers in the first half than they did in the semifinal win over UConn. They finished with 25 for the game.

"We did not play well. We did not handle the pressure well," Stanford coach Tara VanDerveer said. "The turnovers absolutely killed us."

Jayne Appel finished with 16 points to lead the Cardinal, whose 23-game winning streak — the longest in the nation — ended. The Pac-10 champs hadn't lost since dropping consecutive road games to UCLA and USC in the first week of January.

The victory redeemed the Lady Vols' 73-69 overtime loss to the Cardinal when the teams met Dec. 22 at Stanford.

Tennessee is 8-5 in championship games after barely making it to No. 13. The Lady Vols ended a nine-year drought with their championship last season. They won their other titles in 1987, '89, '91, '96, '97, and '98.



photo by Jamie Howell

Beaver Junction hosted 123 entrants Sunday during Round 2 of the 2008 season.

Beaver Junction hosts Round 2

TIMES STAFF REPORT

DWALE — Beaver Junction Motocross held Round 2 of the 2008 season Saturday. For a second straight week, Beaver Junction hosted over 100 motocross competitors. A total of 123 entrants competed at the Floyd County motocross. Mike's Excavating & Dozing of David sponsored the Round 2 trophies. The Floyd County track continues to attract motocross athletes from several counties. A breakdown of Round 2 follows.

Beaver Junction MX Outdoor Series 2008 Round 2 Results from Sunday, April 6-85 Jr.: 1. James Powers, 2. Chase Solar, 3. Brad Auxier; 65 Jr.: 1. Kenton Hall, 2. James Powers, 3. Dawson Hamilton; 65 Sr.: 1. Tai-Lee Francis, 2. Austin Osborne
College Boy: 1. Ryan Rowe, 2. Chris Graham, 3. Aaron Mullins; 125 Am 2. Stroke: 1. Donavon Jones, 2. Myles Minix, 3. Ricky Crider; 65 Open: 1. Kenton Hall, 2. Dawson Hamilton, 3. Tai-Lee Francis; School Boy: 1. Kyle Hinkle, 2. Brandon Abboud, 3.

Josh Bolen; 50 Open: 1. Christian Crider, 2. Grayson Cox, 3. Seth Binder; C/D Unlimited: 1. Josh Bolen, 2. Brandon Elkins, 3. Chase Coleman; 50 Sr.: 1. Christian Crider, 2. Jonathon Burton; 50 4-Stroke Oil Injection: 1. Blaze Stumbo; 2. Matthew Belcher, 3. Jonathon Burton; Pit Bikes: 1. Ryan Adkins, 2. Kent M.; 250 A: 1. Ryan Adkins, 250 B: 1. Kyle Hinkle, 2. Chris Graham, 3. Ryan Rowe; 250 C: 1. Brandon Elkins, 2. Chase Coleman, 3. Andrew Colley; 250 D: 1. Justin Moore; 2. Josh; 3. Joe Bush; 125 B:

1. Kyle Hinkle, 2. Ryan Rowe, 3. Brandon Abboud; 125 C: 1. Josh Bolen, 2. Brandon Elkins, 3. Tyler Kirk; 125 D: 1. Bruce Smith, 2. Josh Robinson, 3. Randy Workman; 85 Sr.: 1. Brian Watkins, 2. Justin Ousley, 3. Dustin Whisenhunt; 25-Plus: 1. Ryan Adkins; 30-Plus: 1. Johnnie Osborne, 2. Mike Prater; 40-Plus: 1. Kenny Mullins, 2. Jerry Combs, 3. Danny Osborne; 85 Open: 1. Myles Minix, 2. Justin Ousley, 3. Chase Solar.

UK FOOTBALL: Running back Dixon sustains sprained knee

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — The University of Kentucky football team held the ninth of the allotted 15 spring practices Wednesday morning, a two-hour workout in full pads at the Nutter Training Facility.

Senior tailback Tony Dixon sustained a sprained medial collateral ligament in his left knee during practice, Coach Rich Brooks announced.

"The good news is that it is usually a non-surgical injury," Brooks said. "At this point, we don't know the extent of it, but the rest of his knee seems stable and solid."

Dixon (Parrish, Ala.) has been a key member of the UK backfield during his career. He has rushed for 958 yards and

eight touchdowns as a Wildcat and caught 38 passes for 290 yards. He is coming off a career-best 411 yards during his junior season, with an excellent average of 5.7 yards per carry. As a sophomore in 2006, he scored the game-winning touchdown vs. Georgia, accounting for 54 rushing and receiving yards during the 69-yard TD drive.

Tamme Named to Hampshire Society: Kentucky tight end Jacob Tamme has been named to the Hampshire Society by the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame.

The Hampshire Society recognizes players who were seniors during the 2007 season, maintained a career grade point average of 3.20 or above, and

were starters or key reserves.

Additional academic honors won by Tamme have included:

— First-team Academic All-America by the College Sports Information Directors of America

— Finalist for the Draddy Award as the nation's top scholar-athlete by the National Football Foundation

— Southeastern Conference Football Scholar-Athlete of the Year as voted by SEC coaches
Tamme (Danville) is completing his master's degree in business administration during the current semester and has a 3.78 GPA in his master's work. He finished his bachelor's degree with a 3.82 GPA and a major in integrated strategic communications.

Spring Football Calendar:

Practices are open to media and fans. Practices held at Nutter Training Facility unless noted otherwise. For practices at Nutter, fans should stand behind the ropes in the porch area. Fans may sit in the stands for practices at Commonwealth Stadium.

Practices might be moved indoors to the Nutter Field House in case of bad weather.

Friday, April 11 9-11:20 a.m.; Saturday, April 12 10-11:40 a.m., Commonwealth Stadium (includes scrimmage); Monday, April 14 9-11:20 a.m.; Wednesday, April 16 9-11:20 a.m.; Friday, April 18 9-11:20 a.m.; Saturday, April 19 p.m./White Spring Game, 1 p.m. at Commonwealth Stadium.

NASCAR ownership group linking auto racing to baseball

by JENNA FRYER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Auto racing and baseball: two sports that couldn't be more different in structure.

But as an owner in both professional leagues, Jeff Moorad is thriving in the similarities.

"There's a closeness in NASCAR that in some ways I didn't expect because of the separation between the governing body and the teams themselves," said Moorad, part of the ownership group of the Arizona Diamondbacks and the No. 96 Hall of Fame Racing entry in NASCAR's top series.

"But there's a camaraderie that exists in the industry that I liken to my time in Major League Baseball, or even the NFL."

Moorad will bring both sides together this weekend when NASCAR races at Phoenix International Raceway. It began Wednesday when J.J. Yeley drove his race car out of the right field bullpen along the warning track at Chase Field, then threw out the first pitch against the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Yeley's car will also sport the Diamondbacks' 10th anniversary logo on its wheel well during Saturday night's race as the ownership group strives to link its two products together. Diamondbacks COO Tom Garfinkel is Moorad's partner on the NASCAR team.

Members of at least eight NASCAR teams will attend games this weekend as guests of the Diamondbacks.

"I consider it our local obligation

to play host to those from the industry," Moorad said.

For Yeley, a Phoenix native, it's a tremendous opportunity to show a stick-and-ball sport community how one of its local kids has made it big.

"Phoenix is not known for a racing town, and going through all the different paths that I've had to get here, for everything to turn around and my team, my NASCAR team, be owned by someone here from the Valley of the Sun — it's been a lot of fun," he said. "It's going to be fun coming back and have that relationship to really try to build something for the Phoenix-based fans, to give them something to root for."

But all this synergy was definitely not planned, and almost accidental.

Moorad and Garfinkel bought controlling interest in the racing team last September from its original owners, Troy Aikman and Roger Staubach. The Hall of Fame quarterbacks formed the team with three other partners in 2003 and entered their car in NASCAR's top series in 2006.

But the quarterbacks handed over control to a new ownership group that included Moorad, a former sports agent who had a lengthy relationship with Aikman. New to NASCAR, Moorad has relied heavily on Garfinkel and his extensive racing background.

As the former executive vice president of Chip Ganassi Racing, Garfinkel spent five years managing NASCAR and open-wheel organizations for the team owner. He left in 2006 to join the Diamondbacks, but yearned to return to NASCAR in

some capacity.

Buying majority interest in the strong single-car team gave him the opportunity, and he's introduced Moorad to a new sport. It's been an eye-opener to a racing outsider whose experience in sports had been more traditional.

"The most unique difference is the focus on the on-track performance and how it stands separately from the business of NASCAR," Moorad said. "Unlike my baseball experience, it's been interesting to not focus on ticket sales, sponsorship sales as an industry as a whole. To not worry about prepping a venue."

"NASCAR allows an opportunity to — in a baseball sense — to focus on the team in the field alone and ignore all else. It's a very, very different business that exists in team sports. It's more focused, more intense, and ultimately more rewarding from an ownership standpoint because of the hyper-focus on the competition itself."

The new owners inherited driver Tony Raines, who had done a decent job of keeping the single-car team ranked inside the top 35 in points. But wanting to put their own stamp on the team, they scoured the free agent market and brought Yeley in for an interview.

The 31-year-old had shown improvement from his first to second season with Joe Gibbs Racing, and Garfinkel's statistics showed that it typically takes a NASCAR newcomer at least three years to hit his full potential.

That he was also from Phoenix was an added bonus.

"It was completely by accident," Moorad said. "I didn't know until I sat and talked to him, so it was purely by chance that he has Phoenix roots. But it has been fun to see him in bold print on the stats page of the paper each week as the local guy."

But the new owners' first full season has not gotten off to the start the team would have liked. HoF is still adjusting to a new driver and new manufacturer with Toyota; and it made a major personnel change two races ago when engineer Steve Boyer was promoted to crew chief.

It will take time for Yeley and Boyer to gel, and their race in Texas last weekend was cut short by an accident that led to a 42nd-place finish.

The team heads into Phoenix ranked 33rd in the standings.

Sponsor DLP HDTV remains committed, announcing a contract extension last week through next season. It's a financial boon at a time when a weak economy has made funding for second-tier teams next to impossible to secure. Even the top teams are struggling in sponsorship spots, but DLP's sponsorship marketing manager, Dave Duncan, said the company has been pleased with the race team.

"It's been a really good return on our investment, and from our exposure standpoint, in '06, our brand awareness doubled among the avid fans. The preference for a DLP TV almost tripled at its peak in year one," Duncan said. "Now working with Jeff and Tom, they brought a lot of experience and expertise that we think will bring it to the next level."

We believe they are doing everything they are doing to build a first-class organization."

Still, there's a long way to go for the No. 96 team, which will always struggle to compete as a single-car organization battling the NASCAR heavyweights. But Moorad and Garfinkel have thrived in the underdog role before, transforming the Diamondbacks from a 111-loss team four years ago to tying for the National League lead in wins last season with baseball's fifth-lowest payroll.

Although Staubach is expected to bow out at the end of this season, Moorad believes Aikman will stay involved in some capacity and be around to see the No. 96 team hit its peak.

"When our group got involved, we never assumed it would be easy," Moorad said. "We knew there would be challenges, and also knew we're going to have to be patient and pay our dues as we build on the foundation that others have created in the race team."

NASCAR Sprint Cup Driver Standings: 1. Jeff Burton, 1,065; 2. Kevin Harvick, 1,006; 3. Kyle Busch, 1,001; 4. Dale Earnhardt Jr., 978; 5. Tony Stewart, 957; 6. Jimmie Johnson, 921; 7. Denny Hamlin, 913; 8. Greg Biffle, 901; 9. Carl Edwards, 881; 10. Ryan Newman, 876; 11. Clint Bowyer, 874 (tie); Kasey Kahne, 874; 13. Matt Kenseth, 820; 14. Jeff Gordon, 783; 15. Kurt Busch, 763; 16. Martin Truex Jr., 755; 17. David Ragan, 752; 18. Brian Vickers, 746; 19. Juan Pablo Montoya, 739; 20. Elliott Sadler, 711.

Trio of EK Miners named All-CBA

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE — Three East Kentucky Miners earned a spot on the annual All-CBA teams. The league announced the teams Tuesday. To be eligible, players had to have played in 24 games (one-half of the league's 48-game regular-season schedule) and be in good standing with the CBA. Coaches could not vote for their own players. CBA Newcomer of the Year James "Boo" Jackson was named to the First Team. The forward was the only East Kentucky player on the First Team. East Kentucky guard Josh Pace and center Steve Thomas were All-CBA Second Team selections.

"This is a very proud moment for the East Kentucky Miners organization," East Kentucky Coach Kevin Keathley commented. "To have three players named to the All-CBA first and second teams is an honor for this franchise. More specifically, it's rewarding for the basketball operations side of the team. Myself and Brandon Paquin spent the latter part of the year working all angles on the player personnel front. After many man hours put in to scouting, recruiting and watching video tape, we ended up signing 10 CBA rookies. Two of those rookies are now All-CBA Performers."

Jackson finished East Kentucky's inaugural season as the league's sixth-leading scorer, averaging 21.4 points per game. The Eastern Michigan product was the CBA's second leading rebounder, pulling down 10.4 boards per game. Jackson led the CBA in offensive rebounds (3.9 rpg) and shooting from the field (53.2 percent). He had a 40-point scoring outburst against Great Falls in a road game played February 13.

"There were a lot of unknowns with Boo Jackson when I first began recruiting him in early July," Keathley commented. "Boo had very little playing experience outside of college — so there was very little information to go on. There was no video tape or references to

get a good idea of what to expect for an entire season. All I had to go on was an old college tape of his and an individual workout I had with him in late August. I felt confident, though, that Boo would be able to contribute immediately for us. I just didn't know how much. He quickly proved that he was going to be a force in the CBA.

Outside of Amal McCaskill for Albany, I felt Boo was the most offensively dominant bigman in the CBA. I think all Boo needed was an opportunity to prove himself and we provided him that. I'm very happy for Boo Jackson.



JOSH PACE

tendency is one of the reasons for our success this year. Boo and Josh Pace became the cornerstones of this basketball team and I'm very grateful to them for wearing the Miners uniform with class."

The All-CBA First Team also included CBA Player of the Year Daryan Selvy (Oklahoma), Desmond Ferguson (Yakama), Ronnie Fields (Minot) and Mochie Norris (Yakama).

Pace, a Syracuse University graduate, led the CBA in scoring during the 2007-08 season, averaging 23 points per game. A former New Zealand Player of the Year, Pace helped the Miners to a 26-22 regular-season record. Pace was also a member of the CBA American Conference All-Star team. During East Kentucky's debut season, Pace turned in

back-to-back triple-double performances. He ended the season with a league-high three triple-doubles.

"Josh Pace was the first player to ever sign a contract with us and we felt confident that he was going to fit well into my system," Keathley acknowledged. "Josh far surpassed all my expectations and had a MVP type of year. What many people don't know is he was battling injuries for the better half of the year. Most players wouldn't have played, but Josh showed his dedication to the Miners organization and his teammates. The only surprise is Josh making the second team. I thought he should have been a first team selection. I'm very proud of Josh and expect him to get better and better with each year."

Thomas started the 2007-08 campaign in Atlanta before moving to East Kentucky in the middle of the season. He averaged 14.0 points and 11.4 rebounds per game. Thomas was one of three CBA players to average a double-double during the tradition-rich league's most recent season. A defensive presence, Thomas pulled down 21 rebounds in a January contest against Minot. Thomas, who earned a spot on the league's all-defensive team, set a season-high total for the most rebounds by a player in a single game.

"Steve Thomas was a player that became a free-agent late in the CBA season," Keathley recalled. "He was playing for Atlanta at the time and was averaging almost 12 points and 11 rebounds. When the opportunity came to acquire Steve's rights from Atlanta, we quickly moved on it. From the first game, Steve gave us a much-needed physical presence on the inside. Steve is the ultimate warrior and doesn't take a basketball possession off. He gave us that extra inside post threat we needed. I couldn't be happier for Steve."

The All-CBA Second Team also included Nat Burton (Albany), John DeGroat (Pittsburgh) and Marvin Phillips (Oklahoma).

Derby favorite Pyro draws post seven for Blue Grass

by WILL GRAVES
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON — After watching Big Truck zoom by seemingly invincible War Pass at the Tampa Bay Derby last month, trainer Barclay Tagg isn't worried about his colt getting an eye full of leading Kentucky Derby contender Pyro during Saturday's Blue Grass Stakes at Keeneland.

"He never gets intimidated, I don't think," said Tagg, who trained 2003 Derby winner Funny Cide. "He's a pretty crafty horse. He keeps getting better and better all the time."

A solid finish by Big Truck in the \$750,000 Blue Grass would give Tagg his second Derby entrant. Tale of Ekati wrapped up a Derby spot by winning the Wood Memorial last weekend.

Getting Big Truck to Churchill Downs the first Saturday in May wasn't in Tagg's original plans, but things changed when jockey Eibar Coa helped Tagg's horse hold off Atoned by a neck while War Pass faded to last in Tampa Bay.

"How could you beat one of the best horses around the other day and have him run good before that and not be interested in the Derby?" Tagg said. "It might be a stretch. It might be a long reach. But he's certainly maturing in the right direction."

Big Truck will start from the sixth post in the crowded 12-horse field, the largest for the Blue Grass since 1982. Pyro, coming off a victory in the Louisiana Derby, will start next to Big Truck in the seventh spot and is the early even-money favorite.

The 1 1/8-mile race will be the final Derby warmup for Pyro, whose Derby place is already secure. The same can't be said for most of the other horses in the field, many of whom need a solid finish over the Polytrack to solidify their place in the Top 20 in graded stakes earnings and gain a spot in the Run for the Roses.

Well-rested Cool Coal Man, trained by Nick Zito, is the second choice at 4-1 and will start on the rail. He had little trouble winning from an inside post during the Fountain of Youth Stakes in his last start on Feb. 24, stalking the pace before surging to a half-length win over Elysium Fields.

The Blue Grass will be the largest race so far for most of the horses, and how they handle the traffic could give an indication on how they'd fare in the traffic jam that is the Kentucky Derby.

"You're going to have to endure that," said Scott Blasi, assistant trainer for Pyro. "That's what's going to happen in the Derby because you're looking at a 20-horse field. He needs to be prepared for that."

Visionaire, trained by Michael Matz, who guided Barbaro to glory during the 2006 Derby, is the co-third choice along with Big Truck at 6-1. The colt, who won the Gotham Stakes last month, will start from the outside post. Matz said the Visionaire's Derby plans rest less on where he finishes in the race than on how he handles the added distance in preparation for the 1 1/4 mile Derby.

"We're basically looking for a race where he can make a little bit step forward," Matz said.

It's a step Tagg hopes Big Truck can make with ease. Tagg has never had two horses in the Derby before, but doesn't see why he should limit himself if Big Truck proves he can run with the elite.

"It's not like if this horse runs I'm going to have to carry him over there on my back," Tagg said. "I try not to be stupid about it, but as long as he's sound and healthy and happy, I'll do it. If I have to glue a leg on him or something, I'm not going to do it."

Four-time Eclipse Award winning trainer Todd Pletcher could miss the Derby entirely if he doesn't get a solid effort from Cowboy Cal or Monba. Cowboy Cal will start from the third spot while Monba will start from the 10th post position. Both horses are listed at 15-1.



photo by Jamie Howell

JOHN M. STUMBO finished runner-up in the elementary and middle school divisions of the Floyd County archery tournament.

AUTO RACING GLANCE NASCAR Drivers in desert

by BRIAN KACHARABA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

All Times EDT
NASCAR SPRINT CUP
Subway Fresh Fit 500
Site: Avondale, Ariz.

Schedule: Thursday, qualifying (Speed Channel, 7 p.m.); Saturday, race (FOX, 8 p.m.).

Track: Phoenix International Raceway (tri-oval, 1 mile, 11 degrees banking in turns 1-2, 9 degrees banking in turns 3-4).

Race distance: 312 miles, 312 laps.

Last race: Carl Edwards dominated at Texas Motor Speedway, leading a race-high 123 laps while building a lead of more than 7 seconds at one point. Edwards has been unbeatable on intermediate tracks this season, also winning at California and Las Vegas. And he could have won at Atlanta had his motor not failed while leading.

Last year, Jeff Gordon tied the late Dale Earnhardt for sixth place on the career victory list with 76, winning for the first time since July 2006. Gordon's win in the Subway Fresh Fit 500 ended a 26-race victory drought.

Fast facts: Jeremy Mayfield parted ways Tuesday with Haas CNC Racing, and Johnny Sauter

will drive the No. 70 this weekend. The split comes after he placed 38th at Texas, his fifth finish of 30th or worse in seven events this season. Mayfield is 36th in the standings, and the car now must qualify on speed to make this weekend's race. ... Ryan Newman became the latest driver penalized by NASCAR, losing 25 points Tuesday because his car failed inspection at Texas. Newman's Dodge was too high when it was inspected following his fourth-place run, an adjustment that could provide additional downforce. The penalty dropped Newman from eighth to 10th in the standings. ... All three Richard Childress drivers are among the top 12 in the standings. ... Gordon's victory last year was the only one from the pole through the first 20 years of this event. He has eight top-five finishes and 15 top-10 placings in 18 career starts at Phoenix. ... Jimmie Johnson won the most recent Phoenix event on Nov. 11 for his only victory at the track. ... Stewart Cooper was hired as crew chief for Kyle Petty on Tuesday, taking over the slumping No. 45 Dodge after it missed the past two races. Cooper replaces Billy Wilburn.

Next race: Aaron's 499, April 27, Talladega, Ala.



YOUTH SOCCER: While teammate Joshua Holbrook stood by to offer help if needed, Floyd County's Taylor Moak made the tackle during a U19, Floyd Saturday versus the Letcher County Swarm.

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THROUGH MY EYES

Me, afraid?

I don't often show my mushy side (except, of course, upon exiting the shower stall - lol), but today I received this little talc, by way of email, from good friend and ex-office mate Sherri Kinzer. I like the message, that when life's turbulence and storms come our way, it would do us good to remember that, after all, it is our Father who is guiding the plane.



The Trip Home

A church pastor had been some time on a long flight, traveling from a church conference. At some point in the flight, passengers were warned of approaching problems when a sign near the front of the plane began to flash, mid-flight, "Fasten Your Seat Belts."

After a short while, a calm voice came over the intercom: "We shall not be serving any beverages at this time, as we are expecting a little turbulence. Please be sure that your seat belts are fastened."

As the pastor looked around the

(See EYES, page seven)

DINNER DIVA

Cinnamon

by LEANNE ELY

One of my favorite things is the smell of cinnamon anything baking. Heck, it doesn't even have to be baking; you could fake me out with the smell of it by putting a few cinnamon sticks on the stovetop in a pan of boiling water. I'm not the only one who'll fall for it either; I've heard of realtors who've actually suggested this to their clients.



The smell of cinnamon evokes that homey, comfy feeling we all associate with love, America and apple pie.

But cinnamon is more than just a simple spice. It has the ability to control hunger, zip up your metabolism a bit and helps diabetics process insulin more efficiently. Research has shown that cinnamon can cut blood sugar levels by as much as 20 to 30 percent. Further, it has a natural appetite suppressant quality and may help increase your body's production of muscle mass. Do you love that? But wait there's more...cinnamon may help lower your cholesterol levels anywhere

(See DIVA, page seven)

Ambition

by PHYLLIS PUFFER

We were sitting in the cafeteria at the community college we both attended. It was it was 1958 or 1959, probably 1959.

"I'm going to be a doctor." Her intensity was electrifying.

I was greatly impressed but also mighty skeptical. I had been raised to believe that women were equal, but medical doctor was aiming awfully high. In those days, medical doctors were on an elevated plane, off somewhere toward Mars, so the thought of a woman being accepted in medical school was in the category of thinking the world was round during the time of Columbus.

She was small. She sat leaning tensely forward over her lunch tray. Her face was almost completely round. Her hair was dark brown, nearly black, as were her eyes, and completely straight in a world of curls and waves, natural or permed. It was held back on one side with a plain, metal barrette. She wore an off-green, wool suit with large shoulder pads and no lapels. At the time, no student, male or female, wore a suit to school, but the coeds didn't wear slacks or jeans either. They wore skirts with blouses or sweaters. My companion's costume was straight out of a 1940s, small town, church service. It was clearly a hand-me-down from ten or fifteen years ago, and not an attractive one at that.

I only saw her twice but I have often thought of that fiercely intent little person in the unfashionable left-over suit from someone's wardrobe and hoped she made it. Nobody I knew at the time predicted the heights to which women have now climbed, but today it is reasonable to imagine that she succeeded. I have imagined her as a student in a lab, in a library, in a lecture hall, studying, studying with unbelievable single mindedness. I have thought of her ignoring all the other students, who would have been male, and beating them in all the exams. I imagine those students in the last years of their medical school stepping back slightly when she came into the room because she had earned their respect, but she would not notice. She would



photo by Glenda Barnett

As spring brings beautiful blossoms and mild temperatures, enjoy a little light reading from today's guest author, Dr. Phyllis Puffer. Dr. Puffer is a professor of sociology at Big Sandy Community and Technical College. She is a native of Michigan and has enjoyed traveling extensively throughout her life and remains an avid traveler yet today. In her spare time, she enjoys writing short stories, crocheting, and tending to her cats and gardens.

be thinking only of the task. I like to think of her now in an operating room or a clinic somewhere, in a white lab coat and then going home to a huge, beautiful home her income would have provided. I hope she made it. I wish I had kept in touch. I never even knew her name.

BSCTC student Terry Wright, left, with Professor Forrest "Joe" Stewardson.



BSCTC Auto Technology program strong

On March 30, 2008 Dr. George D. Edwards, President of Big Sandy Community and Technical College (BSCTC) received notification that the BSCTC Post-Secondary Automobile technician-training program had met all of the criteria for recertification in all eight areas, including Math, Science and Language Arts.

William A. Kersten, Senior Vice President of the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE), said, "We commend you and your staff for maintaining your program's standards, and continuing to meet the industry's requirements. The explosion in automotive technology makes your high quality automotive training program more valuable than ever."

Students graduating from an ASE certified program are more employable and can expect jobs that pay more than they otherwise can. The program at BSCTC has been ASE certified since March of 1987 and consistently graduates high quality technicians.

For more information about the Automotive Technology program at BSCTC, contact Joe Stewardson at 218-1252 or Roger Owens at 788-2829.

FLY LADY

The cheapest remodel

by MARLA CILLEY

We can get so stuck in a rut when our homes are in bad shape. The best remodel of all is to get rid of the clutter and start to really see your home.

Did you know that when I got my home in order with all the clutter gone that I started to love it? I mean, I really liked my home even with the 70's green shag carpet. It is amazing what you can see when your eyes aren't glued to the clutter everywhere.

When clutter is on every surface

you can't feel comfortable in the space. We need clear areas to feel peace. Clutter causes us to have that closed in feeling and we have to get out of our homes to feel better. Wouldn't you like to enjoy being home? Get rid of your clutter and you will find that you don't have to move to find the perfect house; you are already living in it.

I know you don't believe me, but the cheapest way to remodel your home is to eliminate the clutter so you can actually see what needs to be done to spruce up your living areas. A little

paint or soap and water can drastically change your outlook. With the clutter gone, you can see and enjoy the forest without all the trees getting in your way. We have had FlyBabies who no longer needed to move, because all of a sudden their home got bigger without wall-to-wall clutter taking up every corner and flat surface in their home. We have even gotten an email about clearing off the magnets and paper clutter from the refrigerator. That one clutter clearing exercise made that Flybaby's kitchen feel larger!

Look around your home and see if you can open up some space by cleaning out a hotspot.

Some of you have complained that

you don't want to clean when you have such yucky furniture. Well, decorators like to call this eclectic. We have seen those TV decorators take out half the furniture and add a pillow or two and change a whole room. Did you

know that you can do this too, but not until the clutter has left the building. Less is more!

We get to feeling sorry for ourselves because we can't afford this or that, when all we really need is to be happy with what we have and clean it up a bit. Don't get stuck in a rut of "ole poor me"! Count your blessings by blessing your home with a little TLC: Tender



(See FLY LADY, page seven)



Family Medicine

Martha A. Simpson, D.O., M.B.A.
Associate Professor
of Family Medicine

Q I've been having trouble sleeping, as I'm starting to go through the change of life. My friend suggested I take some melatonin since it helps her sleep. I thought melatonin was only for jet lag? What is melatonin, and will it help me sleep?

A Melatonin is a hormone that naturally occurs in our bodies. It is produced in the pineal gland, and it helps to regulate our circadian rhythm - the internal timing mechanism that keeps us awake in the daytime and asleep during the night.

Melatonin is manufactured by the

body in response to being in a dark environment, and production is decreased with exposure to light. The female hormones that help regulate the menstrual cycle are released in response to melatonin. Some research suggests that the body's decline in melatonin levels with age contributes to sleeping problems in older adults. Melatonin has also been shown to be an antioxidant and may boost the immune system.

Melatonin supplements can be used for many things. As you know from your friend, it has received a good deal of publicity as a treatment for insomnia. In fact, a few scientific

Melatonin may help reader's sleep, but long-term safety unknown

studies have shown it to be more effective than a placebo, or sugar pill, in treating sleep problems. Specifically, these studies have found that melatonin was better than a placebo in three areas - reducing the amount of time it takes to fall asleep, increasing the number of hours of sleep and improving daytime alertness. Other studies, however, have shown these effects to be present only for short-term use - a few days to several weeks. Also, the effects of using melatonin supplements for an extended period of time have not been studied, so its long-term safety is not known.

I find it interesting that melatonin is also being studied as an adjunctive treatment for a wide range of other conditions. A few that are currently under investigation include depression, eating disorders, osteoporosis, cancer, attention deficit, sunburn and heart disease. All the studies are very

preliminary, and you should not try on your own to use melatonin to treat any of these conditions.

While melatonin is available without a prescription, it should be used with caution. Always start with the lowest possible dose and only after consultation with your family physician. If you take too much melatonin, it can cause agitation and anxiety. When using melatonin for insomnia, take it about one hour before bedtime. You will know it worked if you get a restful night's sleep and have no fatigue or irritability the next day.

Melatonin is known to have side effects such as vivid dreams and nightmares. It can also disrupt your sleep and wake cycles if not taken properly. Also, be careful if you are taking other medications regularly, even over-the-counter products. Though many drugs and a few herbs can interact negatively with melatonin, you should be particularly

careful not to use other sedative drugs or alcohol when taking melatonin. Because of the possibility of these types of drug interactions, I urge you again to consult your physician before trying melatonin.

□□□

Family Medicine® is a weekly column. To submit questions, write to Martha A. Simpson, D.O., M.B.A., Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine, P.O. Box 110, Athens, Ohio 45701, or via e-mail to readerquestions@familymedicine-news.org. Medical information in this column is provided as an educational service only. It does not replace the judgment of your personal physician, who should be relied on to diagnose and recommend treatment for any medical conditions. Past columns are available online at familymedicine-news.org.

School Happenings

Adams Middle School Youth Services Center.

- Lending Library available for student/parent use. Pamphlets, videos, books and more on a variety of topics available.
- Appointments now available with the Floyd County Health Dept. nurse. Nurse can do school physicals and immunizations on site. Please call 886-1297 to schedule an appointment.
- The Youth Services Center provides services to families regardless of income. Please contact the center for more information on center services and programs. Call the center at 886-1297. Coordinator is Michelle Keathley.

Allen Central High School

- April 18 - Progress reports.
- April 18 - UK Barn Storming Tour (Basketball).
- April 21 thru May 2 - CATS testing window.
- Center hours: 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Mon. thru Fri. Sharon Collins, coordinator. Telephone 358-3048. Center provides services for all families regardless of income.

Allen Central Middle School

- April 7-21 - Accepting Parent SBDM Council nominations.
- April 11 - Energy program for 6th grade.
- April 17 - Child Abuse Awareness booth, in cafeteria, 2-3 p.m.
- April 21 - CATS testing begins.
- April 24 - Parent Site-Base Election, in YSC, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Career Decisions and Job Development videos available in YSC lending library.
- The ACMS Youth Service Center offers services to all families, regardless of income. For more information, call Marilyn Bailey, center coordinator, at 358-0134.

Allen Elementary and Family Resource Youth Service Center

- Call Allen Elementary Youth Service Center at 874-0621 to schedule your child's Hepatitis B vaccination, immunizations, and WIC appointments.

Betsy Layne Elementary

- Center hours are 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Mon. thru Fri. Center offers services to all families, regardless of income.
- The Betsy Layne Elementary Family Resource Youth Service Center is located in the 7th and 8th grade wing. The goal of the FRYSC is to meet the needs of all children and their families who reside in the community or neighborhood by the school in which the center is located. For further information, please contact the center at 478-5550.
- Brian H. Akers, Center Coordinator.

Duff Elementary

- Center is in need of gently used clothing, shoes, belts and backpacks. All donations greatly appreciated.
- Floyd County Health Dept. is on site three days per month. Services include 6th grade

school entry physical; kindergarten, Head Start and well-child physicals (age birth to 18 years); T.B. skin test; T.D. boosters; and WIC services. Please call 358-9878 for appointment if you are in need of any of these services.

•The J.A. Duff Elementary Family Resource Center provides services for all families regardless of income. We are located in the area where the old, main office used to be. Contact persons are Judy Handshoe, coordinator.

May Valley Elementary

- April 14-18 - Spirit Week!
- April 21 - May Valley FRC Advisory Council meeting, 4 p.m., in school library. Open to the public, everyone encouraged and invited to attend.
- April 21 - CATS testing begins.
- May 2 - CATS testing ends!
- May 7-9 - PTO Flower Sale.
- May 7-9 - Spirit Days for K-2 testing.
- May 12-15 - CTB testing, K-2.
- May 14 - DARE Day, 5th grade.
- May 22 - Kindergarten registration for school year 2008-2009, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- May 22 - County Perfect Attendance ceremony.
- May 27 - Puttin' on the Hits, Head Start thru 1st grade.
- May 29 - Puttin' on the Hits, 2nd thru 5th grade.
- May 30 - Schoolwide Puttin' on the Hits, 9 a.m., in Outdoor Classroom.
- June 2 - End of Year Head Start and Kindergarten programs.
- June 3 - Awards Day, 9:30 a.m.

•May Valley is currently accepting applications for the May Valley Elementary Early Childhood Program (3-4 year olds). There are only a few slots available. Please contact Ms. Pam or Ms. Irene in the school office at 285-0883 if you are interested.

•Parent Lending Library is available to parents for video check-outs. A variety of topics are available.

•Floyd County Health Dept. nurse at school every Wednesday. Services include Head Start physicals, kindergarten physicals, 6th grade physicals, well-child physicals, immunizations, TB skin test, WIC program, blood pressure checks, and more. Must call the FRC at 285-0321 for an appointment.

McDowell Elementary and Family Resource Center.

- Parents of 5th grade students are urged to call the FRC and make an appointment for their child's 6th grade physical exam!
- Floyd County Health Department Nurse Joy Moore, is at the center the first three Mondays each month to administer immunizations, T.B. skin tests, well-child exams, WIC, prenatal and post-partum services, and school physicals. Call 377-2678 for an appointment.
- Parent lending library available to all parents for video/book checkouts. A variety of topics are available.

•GED classes available at FRC each Monday, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., in library.

•Family Resource Center is open weekdays, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Center is located upstairs in the old high school building, on the McDowell Elementary School campus. For further information, call Clara Johnson, director, at 377-2678. The McDowell FRC provides services to all MES students and their families, regardless of income.

Mountain Christian Academy

- Tuition assistance and bus transportation is available. For more information or a tour of the school, call 285-5141 or 285-5142.
- Call 285-5141, Mon. thru Fri., from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- MCA is an accredited non-denominational Christian school.

Prestonsburg Elementary and Family Resource Center.

- April 15 - Parent Conference Night, 5:30-7:30 p.m. (Soup Bean dinner in cafeteria.)
- April 22 - Parent meeting to review Learning Compact for 08-09, 6:30 p.m., in cafeteria.
- May 15, 16 - Kindergarten registration, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- The Family Resource Center is open weekdays 8 a.m.-4 p.m., and later by appointment. Office provides services for all families, regardless of income.
- After-School Child Care: 3-6 p.m.
- School hours: 8:15 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Call the PES Center at 886-7088 for information and referrals regarding GED classes, preschool child care, and other programs or services offered to the community.

South Floyd Youth Services Center

- Floyd County Substance Abuse Counselor will be on South Floyd campus on Mondays; Mt. Comp Care counselor will be on campus on Tuesdays. If you need to speak with either counselor, contact the SFYSC.
- SFHS and SFMS Parent Volunteer training held throughout the year. Watch for dates TBA.
- Juniors and Seniors will attend the pre-Prom program at the MAC in May.
- Parents needing assistance with daycare may contact Mable Hall for information, or the "A Step Ahead" daycare center, at 452-1100.
- Walking track open to public (track closed during special events).
- The center has a one-stop career station satellite that is available to the community as well as students.
- All new students and visitors, stop by the Center, located on the South Floyd campus, Room 232, and see Mable Hall. Open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mon. thru Fri.
- For more information call 452-9600 or 452-9607, ext. 243 or 153.

Stumbo Elementary/Mud Creek Family Resource & Youth Service Center .m

- John M. Stumbo Elementary is currently registering students for Kindergarten. Parents/guardians may pick up packets in school office.
- Lost & Found located in the Family Resource Center. If your child has lost an item, please contact us as soon as possible. Items left over two weeks become the property of the center and will be donated to charity.
- Resource Center hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Parents and community members are welcome to visit. For questions, call the center at 587-2233 and ask for Anita Tackett, Center Coordinator or Joyce Blackburn, Assistant.

W.D. Osborne "Rainbow Junction" Family Resource Center

- April 14 - FRC Advisory Council meeting, 6 p.m., in resource center. Public is encouraged and welcome to attend.
- April 17 - "Give-A-Way" Day, 5-50 p.m., in school gym. Come see what we have to "Give-A-Way"!
- April 17 - "Family Read Night," will begin promptly at 6 p.m. Please make plans to attend.
- April 18 - CATS kick-off day!
- April 24 - Child Abuse Prevention Candlelight Vigil, 7 p.m., Prestonsburg Municipal Parking Lot. Come out and show your support for Child Abuse Prevention.
- April 26 - "Grandparents Appreciation Day," 12-3 p.m.,

at the Pin Zone Bowling Alley (Prestonsburg). For more information, call 1-800-737-2723.

- April 28 - Board of Education meeting, at OES, 6 p.m.
- May 2 - CATS testing. "When the testing starts, you should have all your apples in your cart!" Please be on time and good luck to all students!
- Lost and Found is located in the Family Resource Center. Items not claimed within three weeks become the property of the FRC.
- The Center is BEGGING for items such as children's clothing, shoes, belts, etc. that are in GOOD condition. All items are greatly appreciated and utilized by the center for OES students.
- The Family Resource Center is located in the central building of W.D. Osborne Elementary. Those wishing more information about the center are welcome to visit, or call. Ask for Cissy (center coordinator). Center telephone and fax: (606) 452-4553.

Wesley Christian School

- April 22 thru 25 - Stanford testing.
- May 1, 2, 8, 9 - WCS Aldersgate Camp Family Retreats. K-4 through 2nd grade on May 1, 2; 3rd grade through 7th grade on May 8, 9.
- WCS Learning Center accepts toddlers, preschool age (2-4). Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Mon. thru Fri.
- For more information about Wesley Christian School, call 874-8328.

Big Sandy Community & Technical College Adult

- Education and GED**
- Monday: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. - McDowell FRC; Martin Comm. Ctr.; BSCTC
- 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. - Highlands Regional Medical Center
- 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. - Drug Court
- 1-4:30 p.m. - BSCTC; Martin Comm. Ctr.
- 1:30 - 5 p.m. - Wheelwright Baptist Church.
- Tuesday: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. - Mud Creek Clinic; BSCTC; David Craft Center
- 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. - Dixie Apartments
- 9-11 a.m. - Hope House
- 1-4:30 p.m. - BSCTC; Mud Creek Clinic; Floyd County Jail.
- 6-8 p.m. - Highlands Regional Medical Center; Martin Community Ctr.
- Wednesday: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. - Martin Comm. Ctr.; BSCTC
- 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. - Highlands Regional Medical Center
- 9-11 a.m. - Hope House
- 1-4:30 p.m. - Layne House; BSCTC; Floyd County Jail.
- 6-8 p.m. - BSCTC.
- Thursday: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. - BSCTC.
- 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. - Weeksbury CC.
- 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. - Betsy Layne YSC.
- 1-4:30 p.m. - BSCTC.
- 6-9 p.m. - Betsy Layne Kay Hale Ross - Manager of Adult Education, 886-7334.
- Lisa Pelfrey - Assistant, 886-7397
- Ron Johnson, Stephanie Conn, Lynn Hall, Nancy Bormes, Cindy Justice and Wayne Combs - Adult Education teachers.

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Fly Lady

Loving Care. You have neglected it for long enough, just like you have neglected yourself.

Each day we continue to do the same things over again: washing clothes, doing dishes, folding clothes, dusting and sweeping floors. It is a never-ending procession of things that need done. When you

look at these chores as work, you start to dread doing them. Change your attitude from "work" to "blessing." When you do things for your family and to your home to help your family, you are giving them tender loving care. I like to call this "blessing our homes." As you pick up a dish to wash it, be thankful that you have had

food to feed your growing babies and nourish your bodies. As you fold that unending pile of laundry, your hand loves each and every member of your family. Let go of the martyred attitude and nurture your family with love and kindness. Now I am not saying that you are to do all the work. It is up to you to set the exam-

ple in love and they will follow. It is all about your attitude toward your home, family and your life.

I want you to FLY. It is hard to do it if you are stuck in the muck of a pity party about the way your home looks and ultimately feels. You can change this by letting go of your victim way of thinking and put a

new happy spin on your life. "Blessing your home" is much more fun than "cleaning house"!

Release Your Clutter and find your new home with the cheapest remodel of all!

For more help getting rid of your CHAOS; check out *Flylady's* website and join her

free life coaching at www.flylady.net, listen to her <http://www.blogtalkradio.com/flylady> show or read her books, *Sink Reflections* published by Bantam and her *New York Times Best Selling* book, *Body Clutter* published by Fireside. Copyright 2008; Marla Cilley. Used by permission in this publication.

Continued from p5

Eyes

interior of the aircraft, it became obvious to him that many of the passengers aboard were becoming quite apprehensive.

A while later, the voice on the intercom spoke again: "We are sorry, but we will be unable to serve our planned meal at this time. Turbulence lies still ahead of us."

And then the storm broke ...

The ominous cracks of thunder could be heard even above the roar of the engines. Lightning lit up the darkened skies and, within moments, the great plane was like a cork tossed about on a vast, celestial ocean. One moment, the aircraft was lifted up on

terrific currents of air; the next, it was dropped as if about to crash.

The pastor, usually of a calm nature, later confessed that he began to share the discomfort and fear of those around him. "As I looked around the plane, I could see that nearly all the passengers were upset and alarmed. Some were praying. The future seemed threatening and many were wondering if they would make it through the storm," he later said.

"Then, I suddenly noticed a small girl. Apparently, the storm meant nothing to her. She sat with her feet tucked beneath her as she calmly read

a book she held in her lap. Everything within her small world appeared calm and orderly.

"Sometimes, she closed her eyes, then she would open them and read again. Now and then, she would straighten out her legs, extend her arms into the air, and stretch a bit. Worry and fear were, most obviously, not a part of her world.

"As the plane was being buffeted to and fro by the terrible winds, it lurched this way and that, rising and falling with frightening severity. But even then, when all the adults aboard were scared nearly half to death, this marvelous child was completely

composed and unafraid."

The minister said that he could hardly believe his eyes.

It was not surprising therefore, that when the plane finally reached its destination and all the passengers were hurrying to disembark, the pastor lingered a bit to speak to the little girl whom he had watched for such a long time during the frightening episode.

Having commented about the storm and the unsurety of the plane, he asked the little girl why she had not seemed afraid.

The child, in the sweetest of innocence and purity, replied, "Because

my Daddy's the pilot, and he's taking me home."

There are many kinds of storms that buffet us. Physical, mental, financial, domestic, and more that can easily and quickly darken our skies and throw our planes into what seems like uncontrollable movement. We have all known such times, and let us confess, it is much easier to be at rest when our feet are on the ground than when we are being tossed about by a threatening storm.

At these times, we must remember that it is He who is in control and guiding us home.

(See you next week, folks!)

Continued from p5



Tackett-Boyd

Glen and Willa Tackett, of Teaberry, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Tera Michelle Tackett, to Jimmy Dean Boyd, the son of Judy and Jerry Spears, of Prestonsburg, and Harold and Becky Boyd, of Banner. Tera is a 1996 graduate of Betsy Layne High School. She holds an associates degree in computer application programming from the National College of Business and Technology.

Jimmy is an employee of Interstate Natural Gas, Inc., of Pikeville.

The couple will wed in a ceremony that will take place at the home of Mearl Tackett, of Teaberry, on April 19, 2008, at half past two o'clock in the afternoon. Mrs. Tackett is the widow of the late Walker Tackett.

A reception will be held, immediately following, at the home of the bride's parents, in Teaberry.



Appalachian Wireless supports JWT

Eastern Kentucky's locally owned and operated Appalachian Wireless has joined up with Jenny Wiley Theatre to help continue the tradition of professional theatre and theatre programming for eastern Kentucky. For 2008, Appalachian Wireless will be the sponsor of both Sound and the JWT Box Office. Pictured during the check presentation are Danny VanHoose, Appalachian Wireless Director of Marketing (left), Carrie Cinnamon, JWT Board President (center) and Cindy May Johnson, JWT Board Member (right). Gifts from friends like Appalachian Wireless help keep ticket prices and educational programming affordable. The Staff and Board of JWT sincerely thank Appalachian Wireless for their support and encourage everyone to express their appreciation by doing business with Appalachian Wireless and all our sponsors. "You Always Get More With Appalachian Wireless."

Jenny Wiley Theatre is a non-profit organization and receives funding from individuals, corporations, Prestonsburg Convention and Visitors Bureau, Paintsville Tourism, the Kentucky Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Kentucky Department of Travel.

Pikeville College Concert Choir performs April 15

PIKEVILLE — The campus and community are invited to the Pikeville College Concert Choir's annual spring concert Tuesday, April 15, at 7:30 p.m. in Chrisman Auditorium.

The performance features an evening of spirituals, including "I Wanna Be

Ready," in the gospel style and two madrigals from the 16th century. A repertoire inspired by various international cultures such as Five Hebrew Love Songs and Nigra Sum will also be performed.

The free concert is under the direction of Tamara Bustamante and accompanied

by Jancan Freeman. Chrisman Auditorium is located in Armington Learning Center on the campus of Pikeville College. For more information, contact the Public Affairs office at (606) 218-5270.

New Arrivals

HIGHLANDS REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

March 22, 2008

A daughter, Miley Nicole Jacobs, to Alicia Nicole Jacobs, of Pippa Passes

A son, Jaycee Daril Henson, to Rebecca & Jerry Henson, of Jackson

A son, Jayden Dale Henson, to Amber Daniell Wells, of Ary

March 23, 2008

A son, Alexander Cole Hall, to Samantha Newsome, of Harold

A son, Solomon Adam Lyons, to Princess Lynette & Adam Clayton Lyons, of Paintsville

March 24, 2008

A son, Christian Luke Fugate, to Tonia & Jackie Fugate, of Prestonsburg

A son, John Riley Fultz, to Leslie & James Fultz, of Royalton

A daughter, Ashley Gail Parsons, to Robin & Keith Parsons, of Honaker

A son, Steven Robert Edward Reed, to Leandra & Steven Reed, of Salyersville

A son, Jacob Ryan Horn, to Tonya & Greg Horn, of Oil Springs

March 25, 2008

A daughter, Kennedy Grace Click, to Sheila & Derek Click, of Blue River

A son, Tyler Clay Collins, to Karen & Timothy Collins, of Salyersville

A son, Lucas Paul Fitch, to Jessica Shawn & Paul Franklin Fitch, of Whitehouse

A son, Nicolas Scott Lee Trimble, to Cassie Mulkey, of Betsy Layne

A daughter, Alea Starr Chaffin, to Amy Lynn Mollett, of Wittensville

March 26, 2008

A daughter, McKenzic Karoline Newsome, to Pamela & John Newsome, of Raccoon

March 27, 2008

A daughter, Shyla Mercedes Grace Childers, to Natasha Childers, of Warfield

A daughter, Sabralynn DeAnna Lucas, to Angela Lucas, of Hazard

A son, Phillip Jayden Lee Turner, to Jasmine Nicole & Phillip Turner, of Hardshell

March 28, 2008

A daughter, Alyssa Mackenzie Manns, to Susan Jane & Mark Maverick Manns, of Salyersville

A son, Kaden Joseph Howell, to Tiffany Lynn Arms, of East Point

A son, Jayden Christopher Lyons, to Keshia LeAnn & Freddy Eugene Lyons, of Hippo

A daughter, Cheyenne Marie Perkins, to Jessica Marie Adkins, of Royalton

A son, Jackson Barrett McNew, to Dawn & Craig McNew, of Paintsville

March 29, 2008

A son, Logan Bayle Ratliff, to Kayla Music, of Van Lear

A daughter, Andrah Marie Pollis, to Angela Dee & Michael David Pollis, of Stone

A son, Jackson Ray Pinks, to Brandon & Rikki Pinks, of Salyersville

Diva

from 10 to 30 percent.

Is that cool or what? But here's the kicker—cinnamon can also help tame your sugar cravings! Now whaddaya say we get some cinnamon going for breakfast this week? Here's a recipe that will get you started using cinnamon without the sugar:

Chicken Tandoori

Serves 4
1 (6 ounce) container plain yogurt
1 teaspoon sea salt
1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
1/4 teaspoon ground cloves
1/2 tablespoon ground ginger
2 cloves garlic, pressed
1 teaspoon ground cumin

1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 teaspoon ground coriander
2 teaspoons paprika
8 chicken legs
spray oil (olive oil spray is best)

In a medium bowl, mix the yogurt with all the spices; sea salt through paprika. Set aside.

Place the chicken in a large, resealable plastic bag. Pour the seasoned yogurt mixture over the top, using a spatula to get all of it out of the bowl. Remove as much air as possible from the bag and seal it up. Place in the fridge and marinate overnight.

Preheat your outdoor grill to about a medium heat.

Remove chicken from bag, removing the marinade. Spray the chicken with the oil spray to prevent sticking on the grill. Cook the chicken on the grill, turning every 2 minutes or so or until nicely browned on all sides. Turn down the heat on the grill to low and continue cooking (still turning every 2-3 minutes) till chicken is cooked through. Enjoy!

For more help putting dinner on your table check out Leanne's website www.SavingDinner.com or her *Saving Dinner Book series* (Ballantine) and her *New York Times Best Selling* book *Body Clutter* (Fireside). Copyright 2008 Leanne Ely. Used by permission in this publication.

Continued from p5

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Faith and Family



KIM'S KORNER

Morning wisdom

Each and every morning an encouraging and enlightening email pops up on screen titled "Prime Time with God" and written by Os Hillman.

It's amazing the times these very messages have hit the nail on the head, so to speak, in relation to what is taking place during their arrival. Yes God is good. And as you read the message below may it touch your heart and spirit too.



Balance the Natural and the Spiritual
"No king is saved by the size of his army; no warrior escapes by his great strength. A horse is a vain hope for deliverance; despite all its great strength it cannot save" (Psalm 33:16-17).

"The Bible tells us not to put our confidence in things the world considers to be our protection, defense or strength. However, the man or woman who does not perform well on the job is left behind in today's competitive world. Not only is this typical of the world at large, but even many Christians promote the importance of identifying our strengths and encourage us to move in them to accomplish God's will. Yet, throughout the Bible, we are discouraged from depending upon our own strengths. Instead, we are urged to rely totally upon the Lord.

God wants us to depend upon Him, and He demonstrates this throughout Scripture. For example, in Judges 7, God wouldn't let Gideon fight against another army until he reduced his own from 22,000 soldiers to a mere 300, so that Gideon could not boast about his army's strength. In Joshua 6, God told Joshua to walk around Jericho seven times and blow trumpets instead of relying upon his mighty army to overpower his enemy. In 2 Samuel 24, God judged David when he counted his troops to determine the size of his army's strength, apparently because David took the census out of pride or overconfidence in the strength of his army.

On the other hand, Jesus instructed the disciples in due diligence through the parable of the builder, who is cautioned to consider the cost before beginning to build. "Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it? For if he lays the foundation and is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish'" (Luke 14:28-30).

Today, bring every project and endeavor before the Lord as you ask for His power and grace to accomplish it using both your natural gifts and the Spirit of God working together."

Til next week ...
God's blessings.



Folks of all ages come together to help make the Allen Baptist Church Puppet Ministry an award-winning success.

Allen Baptist members enjoy teaching 'God's Plans' with 'their hands'

The members of the Allen Baptist Church Puppet Ministry, "His Plans, Our Hands," traveled to Louisville on March 7-8 to take part in a puppet ministry festival and competition. The Allen Baptist team placed third overall in the competition, going up against teams from all across the state. In the puppet song competition, Allen Baptist earned third place for its performance of "It is Finished" and puppeteer Traci Tackett took first place in the individual competition.

The puppet ministry festival was designed to help church groups start or enhance their own puppet ministries. The engaging two-day festival featured a full schedule of workshops, performances and fun-filled competitions.



The Allen Baptist puppet ministry program has been known to use some eye-catching props in order to get the attention of their audience members.

'His Plans, Our Hands' Puppet Ministry reaches all ages

Frank and Carol Chambers, co-directors of the Allen Baptist puppet ministry, came to Allen Baptist Church a year ago where they shared their vision of what a puppet ministry could mean for the congregation's youth, as well as its adults. The Allen Baptist puppet ministry team consists of a diversified group of members who range in age from 7 to 70. The primary interest of the team is to help spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ through a unique avenue that captivates children, amuses adults, and touches all. Those who have witnessed the entertaining and educational performances of the puppet ministry have com-

mented that they feel blessed by the sincerity of the program's message.

Allen Baptist Pastor Arnold Turner was very quick to accept and get on board with the idea of a puppet ministry, noting that he felt that such a ministry could prove to ultimately touch the entire congregation.

The Allen Baptist Church Puppet Ministry performs every third Sunday by participating in the church "Call to Worship," setting the tone for the Sunday service by putting a smile on every face in the church pews. Recently, the Allen Baptist puppet team traveled to Garrett First Baptist Church where they performed for the Garrett congregation. Director Frank Chambers wishes to expand the Allen Baptist puppet ministry by accepting invitations from area churches to perform and to be allowed the opportunity to show others how such a ministry may extend God's blessings to all in their communities.

Anyone who would like to invite the "His Plans, Our Hands" puppet ministry to visit their home church, may do so by contacting the Allen Baptist Church office at (606) 874-9468. The Allen Baptist

puppet team will be happy to schedule a performance date to share their message of God's love with all.

The members of the Allen

Baptist Church Puppet Ministry are: Sarah and Keith Akers, Cathy and Briana Patterson, Noel Chandler, Sonny Ward, Chris and Cole Allen, Abbey Craft, Carter and Traci Tackett, Shane Webb, and Dalton Lewis.

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6:00 p.m., Sunday

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Bands compete to open at July Jam!

PIKEVILLE — July Jam's lineup is almost set. Christian artists StorySide:B, Sanctus Real and Pillar will play at the Eastern Kentucky Expo Center on July 19.

But one slot remains. That slot will be filled by one of 14 bands competing at the "Open at the Jam" concert on April 26 at Grace Fellowship in downtown Pikeville.

The bands playing at Open at the Jam include Another Day in Paradise, Crossworthy, Delorean Grey, Elohiym, Justin Harris, Legion of Light, Live Fish, Onyx Stone,

Pierced, Reflection, Restored, Route 23, Saving Penny and VII Days Away.

The winning band will become the opening act for July Jam. Open at the Jam, sponsored by Sound House Music, kicks off at 4 p.m. Admission is free and open to the public.

Southeast Telephone will be offering free hot dogs and water at the event. For more information, Chris Bartley at 437-7315 or 434-7791 or you can e-mail info@julyjam.com.

For directions check out the website at www.julyjam.com.

Jennifer Burke Elliott

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FLOYD COUNTY Around Our Schools

John M. Stumbo students were proud to compete on the state level, in Bowling Green, this past March as members of their school's forensics team.



JMS Elementary Forensics headed to state

Mary Newsome's Forensic Team from John M. Stumbo Elementary sent themselves to state competition again this year! Out of the eight members from SES who competed at the Regional Competition against Johns Creek, three students placed and competed at the state level in Bowling Green, March 20-22. Those students and their categories were: Brittany Newsome, Oratorical and Improvisational Duo Acting; Teddy Newsome, Improvisational Duo Acting; and, Gabriel Vance, Broadcasting. Other students from Stumbo who participated at the Regional competition included: Savannah Swiney, Kayla Swiney, Belle McKinney, Lindsay Hall, and John Hall.



Members of Floyd County school Site-Based Decision Making Councils met recently at Jenny Wiley State Park.

Floyd County Schools convene Council of Councils meeting

School based council members from all Floyd County Schools convened in a member training session on March 25 at Jenny Wiley State Park. Floyd County school district hosted the event as part of the best practices identified in the Standards and Indicators for School Improvement. Tuesday's training focused on how the council can use its budget role to help students meet or exceed state standards, and how to use all its resources to get students there. The school council's mission is to improve student achievement. This workshop and others throughout the year are approved by the Kentucky Department of Education and the Kentucky Association of School Councils for school council member training credit, and are aligned with the School Council Proficiency Keys and all legal requirements for school councils. Presenters at Tuesday's session included Roy Johnson

and Michael Hughes, Floyd County Schools Directors of Instruction and guest speaker Jean Rosenberg, Floyd County Health Department Consultant. Superintendent Henry Webb opened the session and welcomed the group of over fifty council members. Participants gained information into the development of budgets that use all school resources to support school strategies; positive relationships that support effective teamwork; professional development that supports school strategies and individual needs; and ongoing learning about effective Site Based Decision Making (SBDM) practices.

SBDM councils are a vital part of the educational process and in ensuring the best learning environments that impact student achievement. These sessions provide members with on-going lifelong learning opportunities in their local community.



David School Students help Department of Environmental Protection monitor watershed

On Friday, March 14, Clark Allison and Christie Cook from the Big Sandy Division of the Kentucky Environmental Protection agency, visited the school in order to jumpstart the school's participation in an area wide watershed study.

Located on the Left Fork of Middle Creek watershed, the school's students

directed by Science teacher Joey Conn, will be sampling water from the streams that course along the school's campus.

Following a brief tutorial regarding water sampling, Allison and Cook provided the students with hands on experience. Water samples were taken from the streams on campus, which gave the students some insight into what to look

for when they begin to conduct the sampling on their own. College students from Lock Haven University who dedicated their Spring Break to The David School were also present for the tutorial.

The sampling will assist environmental protection agencies with watershed studies throughout the area.

PHS Future Business Leaders advance to state

The Prestonsburg High School Future Business Leaders of America organization competed at the Regional Leadership Conference at Morehead State University on March 6, 2008. Nine PHS students participated, along with students from the other Region 5 schools. Competition events were held in over 50 different business, career, and technical areas.

FBLA is a state and national organization with over 215,000 high school members. The organization continues into college under the name Phi Beta Lambda. FBLA is funded through membership fees, fundraising, business partnerships, and grants.

Through competition, the students further their experience in leadership by participating in events that demonstrate their knowledge and skills in business. These skills reflect upon their potential to become future leaders. "This was a wonderful experience for all of the members who participated," said Mrs. Judy Combs and Mrs. Terri McCoy, PHS business teachers and FBLA sponsors. "The students now know what is expected of them to grow professionally."

Emily Holbrook placed second in Personal Finance. This qualifies Emily to advance to the State FBLA Leadership Conference in Louisville, KY on May 6-8. Any winners at the state level will advance to the National FBLA Conference.

Other members participating in the competition were Natalie Combs, Courtney Foley, Rachael Goble, Emily Holbrook, Olivia Holbrook, Tori Hunt, Kayla Snodgrass, Kayla Thacker, and Rachel Tussey.



PHS FBLA members pictured are, from left to right: Olivia Holbrook, Tori Hunt, Courtney Foley, Rachael Goble, Natalie Combs, Emily Holbrook, Kayla Snodgrass, Rachel Tussey, and Kayla Thacker.



Allen Central Middle School Conservation Winners

This year's Floyd County Conservation District's Conservation Essay topic was "Wildlife Conservation." Kyle Griffith, of Allen Central Middle School, wrote an essay that placed third in the competition. Kyle is an eighth grader and the son of Beth and Burton Griffith, of Martin. Jeremy Conley, also an ACMS eighth grader, wrote an essay that placed second. Jeremy is the son of Darin and Teresa Conley, of Hueysville. Caitlin Kidd, a seventh grade ACMS student, penned an essay that placed first in the competition. Caitlin is the daughter of Laura and Craig Kidd, of McDowell.

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