

Second life for surplus

page A5



The Times

FLOYD COUNTY

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In brief

State won't cut security at social service offices

The Associated Press

LOUISVILLE — After public outcry by employees, the state is canceling plans to save money by cutting security at a welfare office in Louisville.

The cuts were to take effect Friday and included eliminating nine of 11 security guards at the building.

But after employees complained that the cuts would jeopardize their safety, Health and Family Services Secretary Janie Miller reversed course Thursday and said the building would open Friday with all 11 security guards on duty.

State workers in the offices said they routinely deal with clients whose children have been removed because of abuse or neglect, people angry at the loss of welfare benefits, and people who are addicted to alcohol and drugs or suffer from mental illnesses.

Indictment issued in band booster case

by JACK LATTA
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — The former treasurer of the Prestonsburg High School band boosters, who was arrested in March, was indicted last week on 32 counts of first-degree forgery.

Nancy Hall, 31, of Prestonsburg, in total, was indicted on 33 criminal counts, including an additional count of theft by unlawful taking over \$300. First-degree forgery is a class C felony.

According to the Kentucky Revised Statutes, "A person is guilty of forgery in the first degree when, with intent to

defraud, deceive or injure another, he falsely makes, completes or alters a written instrument which is or purports to be or which is calculated to become or to represent when completed."

Hall turned herself in to authorities in March after a warrant had been issued for her arrest, when it was

alleged that she had stolen over \$7,000 from the high school fundraising group.

Det. Steve Little said at the time of the arrest that the complaint had originally been made to Ted George, principal of PHS, and then passed along

(See FORGERY, page three)

EAST KENTUCKY FAIR



photo by Jarrid Deaton

Children and adults alike enjoyed the rides and festivities during opening day of the East Kentucky Fair at Thunder Ridge in Prestonsburg on Thursday.

Fridays Alive schedule released

by JARRID DEATON
FEATURES WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Fridays are about to get lively in Prestonsburg once again with the return of the Fridays Alive! Downtown Concert Series.

This year's series will have some interesting events that Brent Graden, economic development director for Prestonsburg, hopes will bring in

(See FRIDAYS, page three)

Blood center to give away car to donor

by JACK LATTA
STAFF WRITER

Blood donors will be given an extra perk in the latest round of donations, as the Kentucky Blood Center celebrates its 40th anniversary by giving away a brand new Toyota Camry.

KBC has partnered with Toyota South, WLEX 18, and the Cumulus family of radio stations — 92.9 The Bear, News Talk 590 WVLK, Z-Rock 103 and Hot 102 — to give away one of the best selling cars in America to a blood donor.

"Blood donors have saved

(See CAR, page three)

2 DAY FORECAST

Today



High: 87 • Low: 61

Tomorrow



High: 91 • Low: 66

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The Floyd County Times is printed on 100 percent USA recycled paper

inside

- Regional ObituariesA2
- Opinion.....A4
- Lifestyles.....A5
- Sports.....B1
- Classifieds.....B4



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Feds tout marijuana program

by JACK LATTA
STAFF WRITER

Law enforcement officials both locally and nationally are celebrating the one year anniversary of the "up in smoke" initiative that officials in the U.S. Attorney's Office say is putting a dent in the marijuana trafficking.

"This initiative is unlike any other in

the nation because it combines the nation's top marijuana eradication task force with the prosecution efforts of the U.S. Attorney's Office," said Kyle Edelen with the U.S. Attorney's Office. "In 2007, the U.S. Attorney for the EDKY (Amul Thepar) dedicated resources to work closely with the investigative team of the Governor's Marijuana Task Force. The result was

49 individuals being charged in federal court for violating federal drug laws and various federal firearm laws. Over 5,000 plants were seized during the marijuana season."

According to officials in the U.S. Attorney's Office, Kentucky ranks second behind California in the cultivation

(See MARIJUANA, page three)

21 inmates graduate from jail drug program

by JARRID DEATON
FEATURES WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — The mood in the Floyd County Detention Center on Thursday was one of both celebration and reflection, as 21 current and former inmates graduated from the jail's drug education programs.

The graduates included 20 from the 12-week Lifeline of Eastern Kentucky program, and one from WestCare, a program that lasts for six months.

Many of the graduates from the faith-based Lifeline program will enter the longer WestCare program.

Thursday's graduating class is the third group to complete at least one of the programs.

"We have a good success rate," said Roger Webb, jailer. "It's really been a positive program for the jail."

Webb told the graduates that having

an addiction was not a crime, and related some personal stories about friends and family dealing with alcoholism.

"Being addicted to drugs or alcohol isn't a crime," Webb said. "It's a disease, and it needs to be treated."

Some of the graduates gave speeches, while others received their certificates with a handshake and a brief nod, but all appeared to be genuinely appreciative for the help and guidance they received during the programs.

"We want to make the path that you can choose clearly visible," said Floyd County Judge-Executive R.D. "Doc" Marshall.

After receiving their certificates, the graduates were treated with pizza and soft drinks supplied by the jail.

"I want to see you all out on the street or at McDonalds," Webb said. "I

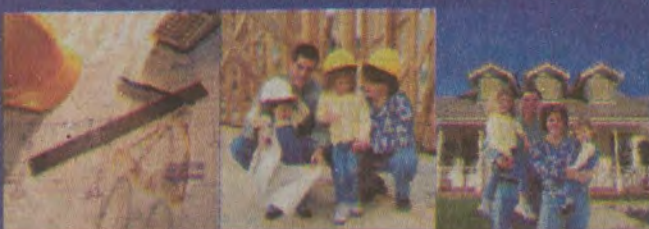
(See GRADUATION, page three)



Floyd County Jailer Roger Webb spoke to graduates of the jail's drug education program on Thursday.

photo by Jarrid Deaton

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Regional Obituaries

FLOYD COUNTY

■ Larry V. Bentley, 64, of Farmers, formerly of Garrett, died Friday, July 25, in the Veterans Administration Hospital, Huntington, West Virginia. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, July 29, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Gjenna Levon H. Childers, 57, of Banner, died Sunday, July 27, at her residence. Funeral services were held Wednesday, July 30, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Anna Mae Childers, 70, of Russell, a Wheelwright native, died Wednesday, July 30, in Kingsbrook Lifecare Center. A graveside service was held Friday, August 1, under the direction of Carman Funeral Home.

■ Martha O. Chafin, 84, of Martin, died Monday, July 28, in Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Thursday, July 31, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Maxine Stumbo Dye, 65, of Frankfort, formerly of Hi Hat, died Tuesday, July 29, at Hospice Care Center, in Lexington. Funeral services were conducted Friday, August 1, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Darlene Jacobs, 68, of Martin, died Saturday, July 26, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Tuesday, July 29, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Herman Meade, 55, of Prestonsburg, died Tuesday, July 29, in Prestonsburg from injuries he received in an automobile accident. Funeral services were held Friday, August 1, under the direction of Young Funeral Home in Louisa.

■ Alma Kathrin Salisbury Sammons, 88, of Printer, died Friday, July 25, at her residence. Funeral services were conducted Monday, July 28, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Alean (Hall) Springer, 76, of Minnie, died Sunday, July 27, at her residence. Funeral services were held Wednesday, July 30, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Foster Tackett, 82, of Prestonsburg, died Sunday, July 27, in Highlands Regional Medical Center in Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Wednesday, July 30, under the direction of Carter Funeral Home.

JOHNSON COUNTY

■ Lester Branham, 87, of West Van Lear, died Friday, July 25, in Highlands Regional Medical Center in Prestonsburg. He is survived by his wife, Louella Ratliff Branham. Funeral services were held Monday, July 28, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Ira Butcher, 86, of Sitka, died Friday, July 25, in Kindred Hospital in Louisville. Funeral services were held Saturday, July 26, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Dorothy Crislip, 92, of Sitka, died Monday, July 28, at Mountain Manor Nursing Home, in Paintsville. Funeral services were held Thursday, July 31, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Joy Nell Curtis, 69, of Red Bush, died Friday, July 25, at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center, in Paintsville. Funeral services were held Monday, July 28, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Lundie Estep, 98, of Flat Gap, died Saturday, July 26, at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center, in Paintsville. Funeral services were held Monday, July 28, under the direction of Paintsville Funeral Home.

■ Ella Skeens Evans, 86, of Paintsville, died Thursday, June 5, at Mountain Manor Nursing Home, in Paintsville. A memorial service was held Saturday, July 26, at the First United Methodist Church in Paintsville. Graveside rites were Monday, July 28, at Highland Memory Gardens, Logan County, West Virginia. Arrangements, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Connie Rose Ward Jarrell, 54, of Thelma, died Saturday, July 26. Funeral services were held Tuesday, July 29, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Marie Jennings, 91, a native of Johnson County, died Wednesday, July 30, in Mountain Manor Nursing Facility in Paintsville. Preston Funeral Home in Paintsville, is in charge of arrangements.

■ John "Jiggin John" Meade, 52, of Hagerhill, died Friday, July 25, in Highlands Regional Medical Center in Prestonsburg. He is survived by his wife, Darlene McKenzie Meade. Funeral services were held Monday, July 28, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Alfred R. 'Al' Ward, 75, of Andrews, Indiana, a Paintsville native, died Saturday, July 26, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Patty A. Ward. Funeral services were held Thursday, July 31, under the direction of Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Home Service, Wabash, Indiana.

PIKE COUNTY

■ Sarah Fay Aker Basham, 61, of Virgie, died Saturday, July 26, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, Joe Kenneth Basham. Funeral services were held Monday, July 28, under the direction of the Roberts Funeral Home.

■ Reable Gay Bevins, 76, of Pikeville, died Tuesday, July 29, at the University of Kentucky Chandler Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Arlie Bevins. Funeral services were conducted Friday, Aug. 1, under the direction of the Lucas and Son Funeral Home.

■ Clinton Landy Blankenship, 85, of Pikeville, died Saturday, July 26, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Esther Stratton Blankenship. Funeral services were held Tuesday, July 29, under the direction of the Community Funeral Home.

■ Joyce A. Grizzle, 57, of Mouthcard, died Wednesday, July 30, in Kingsport, Tenn. Funeral services were held Saturday, August 2, under the direction of the Bailey Funeral Home.

■ Phyllis Smith Harmon, 77, of Belfry, died Tuesday,

July 29. Funeral services were held Thursday, July 31, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Richard T. Hites, 78, of Pikeville, died Tuesday, July 29, in Pikeville. Funeral services were held Thursday, July 31, under the direction of Phelps & Son Funeral Home.

■ Billie Sue Hurst, 56, of Pikeville, died Monday, July 26, at the Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Thursday, July 31, under the direction of the J.W. Call and Son Funeral Home.

■ Merlin Jackson, 69, of Phelps, died Wednesday, July 30, at his residence. Funeral services will be conducted Sunday, August 3, at 1 p.m., at the Jamboree Church of God. Arrangements, under the direction of the R.S. Jones and Son Funeral Home.

■ Thelma C. Justice, 80, of Pikeville, died Sunday, July 27, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, Rara Justice. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, July 29, under the direction of the Pikeville Funeral Home.

■ Pearl Mae Jones Lewis, 100, of Columbus, Ohio, a native of Virgie, died Saturday, July 26. Funeral services were held Wednesday, July 30, under the direction of Jerry Spears Funeral Home, Columbus.

■ Roberta Lynn Metcalf, 53, formerly of Pikeville, died Monday, July 28. A memorial service was held on Saturday August 2, at 11:00 a.m. in H.D. Oliver Funeral Apts., Laskin Road Chapel.

■ Darlene Trout Muncy, 47, of Johns Creek died Friday, July 25, at the Pikeville Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Jerry Milton Muncy. Funeral services were held Wednesday, July 30, under the direction of the Lucas and Son Funeral Home.

■ Jerry C. Ratliff, 53, of Tarentum, Pa., formerly of Lookout, died, Tuesday, July 22, at the Forbes Regional Hospital, Monroeville. He is survived by his wife, Erina J. Lin Ratliff. Funeral services were held Saturday, July 26, under the direction of the Duster Funeral Home of Tarentum.

■ Patty Dee Smith, 66, a native of Pikeville, died Tuesday, July 29, at her daughter and son-in-law's residence in Bowling Green. A memorial service was held Saturday, August 2, under the direction of Kerr Brothers Funeral Home, Lexington.

■ Johnda Denise Thacker, 40, of Wolfpit, died Saturday, July 26, at the Pikeville Medical Center. She is survived by her husband Clyde Ray Thacker. Funeral services were conducted Monday, July 28, under the direction of the Lucas and Hall Funeral Home.

■ James Albert Thacker, 66, of Pikeville, died Tuesday, July 29, at his residence. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, Aug. 2, under the direction of Thacker Funeral Home.

MAGOFFIN COUNTY

■ Grant L. Helton Jr., 33, of Salyersville, died Tuesday, July 29. Funeral services will be held Sunday, August 3, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

■ Carrol Dae "Mammur" Keaton Vanderpool, 86, of Westwood, a Salyersville native, died Sunday, July 27, in Community Hospice Care Center in Ashland. Funeral services were held Wednesday, July 30, under the direction of Preston Family Funeral Home, Ashland.

MARTIN COUNTY

■ Maggie Copley Endicott, 59, of Crum, died Friday, July 25. Funeral services were held Tuesday, July 29, under the direction of Richmond-Callaham Funeral Home.

■ Billy Joe Justice, 67, of Ona, West Virginia, a native of Milo, died Thursday, July 15, at UK Medical Center, in Lexington. He is survived by his wife, Patricia Pat Smith Justice. Funeral services were held Saturday, July 19, under the direction of Wallace Funeral Home.

■ Anthony Marcum, 25, of Lovely, died Sunday, July 27, at his residence. Funeral services were held Wednesday, July 30, under the direction of Richmond-Callaham Funeral Home.

■ Betty (Ray) Maynard, 61, of Parma, Michigan, formerly of Martin County, died Saturday, July 12, at the home of her daughter. Funeral services were held Saturday, August 2, at the home of her uncle, Everett Maynard, in Beauty.

■ Roscoe Precece, 65, of Pilgrim, died Saturday, July 26, at his residence. Funeral services were held Wednesday, July 30, under the direction of Richmond-Callaham Funeral Home.

■ Carmen Simar (Miss Carmen), 82, of Kermit, died Friday, July 25. Funeral services were held at the Jennys Creek Gospel Church. Arrangements, under the direction of Richmond-Callaham Funeral Home.

LAWRENCE COUNTY

■ Nellie Brooks, 63, of Webbsville, a native of Lovely, died Thursday, July 31, in Webbsville. Funeral services were held Saturday, August 2, under the direction of Young Funeral Home in Louisa.

■ Myrtle Dyer, 68, of Louisa, a Martin County native, died Wednesday, July 25, at her residence. Funeral services were held Saturday, July 26, under the direction of Richmond-Callaham Funeral Home.

■ William R. Setser, 75, of Louisa, died Tuesday, July 22. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy Spence Setser. Funeral services were held Friday, July 25, under the direction of Wilson Funeral Home.

KNOTT COUNTY

■ Combs, 68, of Leesburg, Florida, formerly of Hindman, died Monday, July 28. He is

survived by his wife, Lilly Combs. Funeral services were held Friday, August 1, under the direction of Page-Theus Funeral Home.

■ Edith Reynolds Gibson, 92, of Mousie, died Monday, July 28, at Central Baptist Hospital, in Lexington. Funeral services were held Thursday, July 31, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Sharlee Danielle Wright, 20, of Litt Carr, died Friday, July 25, at the UK Medical Center. Funeral services were held Sunday, July 27, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.



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to be filmed in Prestonsburg/David, KY, August 16th and 17th.

We're looking for a blonde hair, blue-eyed attractive, outgoing girl who looks to be between 6 and 8 years old, to portray the main character in this video. The compensation for his role will include a copy of the DVD, as well as credit for the role portrayed. Those interested in attending this casting call are asked to come to The Archer Park Skating Rink on Tuesday, August 5th, between 5 and 6 p.m. Headshots and résumés are welcomed, but not required.

FCT ONLINE POLL

RESULTS FOR WEEK OF JUNE 29 - JULY 6, 2008

What should Prestonsburg do with its surplus?

- Pay down city debts (47 Votes, 27%)
- Spend it on improving existing city services (9 Votes, 5%)
- Spend it on new city services (4 Votes, 2%)
- Return it to the taxpayers -- it's their money (117 Votes, 66%)

Go online today and answer this week's question!

Who do you favor for president?

- Democrat Barack Obama
- Republican John McCain
- Libertarian Bob Barr
- Independent Ralph Nadar
- None of the above

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Salyersville, Kentucky

Massey mulls further expansion

by TIM HUBER
AP BUSINESS WRITER

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — Coal mine operator Massey Energy may expand into Pennsylvania and the Illinois Basin coalfields as it continues an ambitious plan to boost output 25 percent by 2010.

Massey has obtained permits to develop leased reserves in western Kentucky and bought property needed to develop reserves it owns in Pennsylvania, Chief Executive Don Blankenship said during an earnings conference call with analysts Friday.

Currently Massey operates in West Virginia, Virginia and eastern Kentucky. Western Kentucky is part of the Illinois Basin and would be new territory for Massey.

"Both of these projects appear to have various advantages in terms of quality and proximity to market that could make them very attractive ventures," Blankenship said.

Any expansion into new regions would be atop a flurry of new mines and other projects Massey is undertaking to increase annual production from 40 million tons to 50 million. Those plans are on track, Blankenship said.

The Richmond, Va.-based coal company is trying to take advantage of the booming international coal market.

Prices for eastern U.S. coal have more than doubled over the past year on tight world supplies, strong demand, the weak dollar and other factors. Market factors such as short supplies at U.S. electricity

plants and a recent trip to India, Ukraine and other far-flung destinations have convinced him tight international supplies and strong demand will continue, Blankenship said.

Massey capitalized on the situation in the second quarter.

Excluding a \$245.3 million charge related to a contract lawsuit, the company earned \$92 million, or \$1.15 per share, easily beating the 76 cents per share expected by analysts polled by Thomson Financial.

Including the charge, Massey lost \$93.3 million, or \$1.16 per share, in the period, compared with earnings of \$34.9 million, or 43 cents per share, in second-quarter 2007.

Massey has increased pricing expectations to \$84 to \$92

per ton for 2009, from an earlier range of \$65 to \$74 per ton. For 2010, Massey is projecting a range of \$115 to \$132 per ton, up from \$75 to \$87 per ton.

Production increased to 10.8 million tons in the second quarter, from 10 million in the same period last year.

Chief Administrative Officer Baxter Phillips Jr., credited new mines, including two opened during the second quarter, for helping to boost the total.

"We can expect production to increase further as these new mines continue to ramp up," he said during the conference call.

Massey also increased its estimate for capital expenditures by \$100 million to \$650 million.

"These market conditions have created and still represent an excellent opportunity to invest in our business," Blankenship said.

Some of the extra spending will go toward building three to six new preparation plants over the next two years. One is under construction in southern West Virginia and work on a second in eastern Kentucky is due to start in the current quarter, Blankenship said.

ter, Blankenship said.

"The new preparation plants will provide us with more flexibility and shipping points, create additional opportunities to increase production and sales volumes, reduce our operating cost, and lower shipping costs for our customers," Blankenship said.

Massey's stock rose \$2.29, or 3.1 percent, to \$76.54 in afternoon trading Friday.

Felon pleads guilty to weapons charge

by JACK LATTA
STAFF WRITER

LONDON — A Knox county man involved in an accidental shooting in October 2007 appeared in the London U.S. District court Monday for sentencing on charges of being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm.

Jimmy Ray McDonald, 49, of Gray, was sentenced to 180 months in prison after pleading guilty to the charge.

According to Kyle Edelen, with the U.S. Attorney's

Office, as part of McDonald's guilty pleas, he "admitted that in October 2007, he was responsible for the accidental shooting death of his neighbor and hunting Partner, Brian Myrick, 20, also of Gray."

While squirrel hunting, McDonald shot Myrick with a .22 caliber rifle.

The Knox County Sheriff and Kentucky State Police reportedly responded to a report of a shooting on Oct. 14, 2007, in the Bailey Hollow area of Gray. Once on the scene, law enforcement officials discovered

McDonald providing aid to Myrick, who had a single gunshot wound in his side. Myrick was later taken to a local hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

In an investigation by Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agents and Kentucky State Police troopers, it was determined that McDonald was prohibited from possessing a firearm because of numerous felony convictions.

According to Edelen, typically a felon in possession of a weapon charge carries a

maximum sentence of 10 years. However, McDonald's sentence was increased due to his armed criminal career.

McDonald's prior convictions include third-degree burglary and second-degree escape.

Forgery

Continued from p1

through the Board of Education before coming to the attention of the county attorney's office.

Little reported that Hall, who was acting as treasurer, apparently was "doing fine" until she got behind on some personal bills and saw that, "the money was there, and easy to get to." Little said after Hall's arrest that she seemed relieved to confess.

Hall has a previous criminal history in Johnson County, where she was found guilty theft by deception for writing cold checks under \$300.

If convicted, Hall could face up to 10 years in prison.

Fridays

crowds that are ready to have fun.

"We're having an 80's video dance party on September 12," Graden said. "We're going to project music videos on the back of the bingo parlor, kind of like a drive-in theater. There's probably going to be a Michael Jackson impersonator as well. It should be a lot of fun."

The first event for the concert series is scheduled for August 8, with Family Gospel Night. The following Friday will feature the Southern Storm Band, a group that has proved popular with the Prestonsburg crowd at previous concerts.

According to Graden, an open date is set for August 22, but he hopes to schedule the Big Sandy Singers.

Prestonsburg Idol will also be making its return, with try-outs scheduled to be on September 19. The show is scheduled to be held on October 10.

All of the shows will take place in the city parking lot are free to the public, with various vendors on hand to sell food and other concessions. Games for the children will also be available, and Graden said that the hydrants are frequently opened in order to help battle the heat and provide extra fun

for the kids. All shows will begin at 7 p.m.

"The reason we are going the concert series is that we want to spur on economic development in Prestonsburg," Graden said. "We want you to have fun and we want people to discover downtown Prestonsburg."

The concert series was held for the first time in July of 2006. It was a joint effort between the Prestonsburg Renaissance on Main Association and the city.

For more information on the Fridays Alive! Downtown Concert Series, contact Brent Graden at (606) 886-2335.

Marijuana

of domestic marijuana.

"The addition of the U.S. Attorney's Office to this endeavor has increased the deterrence to those who grow marijuana in Eastern Kentucky," Edelen added.

Edelen says it is important to note the factors which make this program so unique and effective.

"In previous years, the efforts during the marijuana season focused on eradication, but now it has become much more than that," said Edelen.

According to Edelen, the investigative component of the Governor's Marijuana Task Force is operating conjunctively with the United States Attorney's Office, meeting weekly to discuss investigations and future targets.

"The U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Kentucky is taking an aggressive stance and is using all federal laws including forfeiture avenues in prosecuting marijuana growers," Edelen said.

According to Greg Ousley, with the U.S. Attorney's Office, the threshold for marijuana plant busts has been loosened. "It used to take 100 plants just to get a judge to look at it."

Ousley says now law

enforcement agencies take each suspected offender on a case-by-case basis and look into the suspected grower's background criminal history as well. "There is a lot of emphasis on prosecution now, not just cutting."

According to Ousley, the eradication team is one of the nation's most elite units. "We have repel teams, spy rigs — it's all very high speed and cutting edge."

"Numerous law enforcement agencies across the nation are now aware of this initiative and are trying to model their marijuana eradication programs after the one in Kentucky," Edelen said.

According to Edelen, those agencies participating in the initiative include: The United States Attorney's Office, Kentucky National Guard, Kentucky State Police, United States Drug Enforcement Administration, United States Forest Service, United States Marshal's Service, and Appalachia HIDTA.

The Governor's Marijuana Task Force with the aid of Appalachia High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) is implementing a tip line so citizens can report marijuana growers to law enforcement. The number to dial for

the tip line is (866) 424-4382.

Ousley said the tip line is not only for marijuana information, but anyone with information regarding any illegal drugs.

Ironically, also last week, it was reported on CNN that Rep. Barney Frank filed a bill to decriminalize marijuana use.

"The vast amount of human activity ought to be none of the government's business," Frank said in an interview with CNN. "I don't think it is the government's business to tell you how to spend your leisure time."

House Resolution 5843, titled the Personal Use of Marijuana by Responsible Adults Act of 2008, would prohibit the imposition of any penalty under an Act of Congress for the possession of marijuana for personal use or for the not-for-profit transfer between adults of marijuana for personal use.

Under the new law possession of 100 grams or less of marijuana would be deemed for personal use.

When asked about the bill, Ousley said that the U.S. Attorney's Office does not set policy, but acts on the laws as they are currently established.

Continued from p1

Graduation

don't want to see you back in here again."

The programs are funded through a grant from the Kentucky Justice Cabinet and is funded until 2010. The Floyd County Detention Center is one of only 14 jails to receive the funding.

The graduates of the program are: Jack Abshire, Cret Caudill, Jeffrey Johnson, Jerry King, Eric

Meade, Billy Nelson, Dustin Brown, Ronald D. Collins, Jr., David Ferrell, Ronald Hamilton, Gary Little, Jr., William Moore, Jessie Tackett, Tony Tackett, Monica Hall, Teresa Akers, Melissa Ferrell, Rhonda Caudill, Irene Wallen, Carolyn Stricklin, Heather Castle, Micheal Colyer, Brian Keith Gilbert, Douglas Todd Keathly and Shaw Douglas Sexton.

Car

Continued from p1

thousands of lives and we want to celebrate the anniversary in a really special way," said KBC spokesperson Jim Tinker.

An upcoming blood drive will be held locally at Q95 FM radio station on Tuesday, August 12, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Blood donors must weigh at least 110 pounds, and be in general good health. Potential donors will answer a series of questions, as well as, have their iron, blood pressure and pulse tested prior to making a donation.

The winner of the competition will be determined in a randomized computer drawing from the list of donors the Kentucky Blood Center between July 21 and Sept. 21. While the winner must be 18 years old, 17-year-olds are able to donate blood, and 16-year-olds are able to donate blood with their parents' consent.

The winner of the competition will be announced during half-time of the University of

Kentucky and Western Kentucky football game at Commonwealth Stadium, to be held on Sept. 27.

For more information on the Kentucky Blood Center, and the complete rules for the contest, visit KBC's website at www.kybloodcenter.org.

Internet

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expression

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

— Felix Frankfurter

Guest view

McConnell: Failing to lead

Mitch McConnell's first ad in this year's Senate campaign in Kentucky is so silly and pointless that it seems like a spoof from a political satirist.

If only it were. Then maybe there would be hope that the minority leader of the United States Senate was going to talk about real issues, instead of probing the political depths to determine how many voters can be fooled one more time.

The ad claims Sen. McConnell's Democratic rival, Bruce Lunsford, lobbied for "automatic gas tax increases" almost 30 years ago. That refers to the successful effort by Gov. John Y. Brown Jr. during the 1980 General Assembly to convert the state's gasoline tax from 9 cents a gallon to 9 percent of the price of gas. Mr. Lunsford was Mr. Brown's chief legislative liaison.

The bill, actually, was a good one. It responded, without imposing a significant burden on motorists, to drastic shortfalls in the state's Road Fund that would have prevented essential highway maintenance and construction.

The new tax formula collected additional revenue when gasoline rose above \$1 a gallon, and it lowered taxes at times in the '80s when prices dropped below that level. The tax has increased to the current level of 21.1 cents per gallon in the years since, but that is less than the 1980 rate of 9 cents a gallon would be if indexed for inflation. (It would be 24 cents now.)

And a rate that had truly been frozen at 9 cents a gallon since 1980, as Sen. McConnell knows, would have led to untenable deterioration of state roads.

In any case, Sen. McConnell's criticism is simply irrelevant. This is a Senate race, and most individual senators cannot influence fuel costs.

An exception would be Sen. McConnell himself as the Senate muscle of the Bush administration's party. But Sen. McConnell has been President Bush's enabler — declining to demand a coherent national energy policy, failing to push for effective alternative energy sources and clinging to the fiction that drilling for more oil in Alaska and offshore will produce meaningful relief.

A leader would tell the truth about oil. Kentucky, and America, will need someone other than Sen. McConnell to fill that role.

— The Courier-Journal, Louisville



— Rich Lowry Column

Dupes for Obama

A signature moment of Barack Obama's primary campaign came last November in Des Moines, Iowa. He gave a speech at the Jefferson-Jackson Dinner that electrified the crowd and gave his campaign a kick that helped win the Iowa caucuses — a victory without which he wouldn't be the Democratic nominee.

Obama declared that "the same old Washington textbook campaigns just won't do." Deploring "triangulating and poll-driven positions," he said that "telling the American people what we think they want to hear instead of telling the American people what they need to hear just won't do." The Democratic Party had been at its best, he told the crowd, when "we led, not by polls, but by principles; not by calculation, but by conviction."

"I run for the presidency of the United States of America because that's the party America needs us to be right now," he vowed, staking his candidacy on the achingly idealistic premises of a new, more forthright and uncalculating politics.

What makes Obama's "textbook" dash to the center so extraordinary is not just its speed, but how it falsifies the very essence of his candidacy. It's as if Bill Clinton won the Democratic nomination in 1992 and announced suddenly that actually he was not a

"new kind of Democrat"; or if George W. Bush, after winning his party's nomination in 2000, forswore "compassionate conservatism"; or if John McCain, after winning the GOP nomination this year, declared in favor of a hard deadline for withdrawal from Iraq.

In the past two months, Obama has broken two pledges (to take public financing in the general election and to filibuster legal immunity for telecoms that cooperated with the government in terrorist surveillance); has belittled his own rhetoric during the primary campaign (saying it could get "overheated and amplified" on the issue of trade); redefined his promise to meet without preconditions with the leaders of hostile states until it's basically meaningless; endorsed a Supreme Court decision striking down a Washington, D.C., gun ban his campaign had previously said he supported; and made muddy, centrist-sounding statements about his positions on Iraq and abortion that he had to go back and try to clarify.

Has there ever in recent political memory been so much calculation and bad faith by a politician who has made so much of eschewing both? We now know that Barack Obama is

not naive, but his ardent supporters are. Obama exhorted them to "believe" — one of his favorite words — in him and his virtue above all, and as soon as they gave him the nomination he wanted, he showed how foolishly credulous they had been. When it comes to triangulating, he's Hillary Clinton without the baggage.

Obama is calculating shrewdly now — just as shrewdly as back when he was attacking calculation. His left-wing base won't abandon him, and all the dewy-eyed new voters attracted by him will stay that way, so long as he continues to look and sound good. His task is to win over general-election voters in a center-right country who value hardheadedness and practicality in their presidents.

Barack Obama doesn't need to be a messiah figure. He needn't even be particularly admirable. In a poisonous year for Republicans, he just needs to be a minimally acceptable Democrat, and so minimally acceptable he aims to be. But we're a long way from Des Moines.

□ □ □

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.



— beyond the beltway

Political humor not on purpose

by DONALD KAUL
MINUTEMAN MEDIA

Like many New Yorker readers, I was disappointed at the magazine's cover depicting Michelle and Barack Obama as Muslim terrorists. "The Wall Street Journal" carries sharper satire than that.

I am old enough to remember a time when "New Yorker" cartoons were funny, witty, at least amusing. This one wasn't any of those things.

It was instead an amateurish attempt to caricature the Right Wing's clumsy attempts to caricature the Obamas as dangerous, secret radicals. A caricature of a caricature is a difficult trick to pull off and the "New Yorker" didn't.

It's all part of a truly disturbing trend, the decline of sophisticated humor in our society in general and the "New Yorker" in particular.

It's still a great magazine, don't misunderstand me, it's just not funny anymore. Once home to James Thurber and S.J. Pearlman, Robert Benchley and Dorothy Parker — wits who could make an idea sparkle — it has become the headquarters of sober political discourse. There's nothing wrong with that, of course — it still contains some of the best writing found anywhere — but I miss the laughs.

The same thing has happened to the movies. Romantic comedies were once the province of William Powell and Myrna Loy, Cary Grant and Irene Dunne, Spenser Tracy and Katherine Hepburn — adults who talked smart in a way that put a smile on your face.

You grew up wanting to be like those people.

Today the typical romantic comedy features a loser who's extending his adolescence into his late-20s, hooked up with a vapid blonde who is nice but clueless. Do kids today actually want to grow up to be like Will Farrell or Jack Black? God save us.

So come on, "New Yorker," you're letting the team down. If we can't depend on you to provide smart, sophisticated humor where can we turn? Politics, maybe. Really, the question of the day isn't why people aren't making better jokes about Obama; it's why John McCain is being taken seriously at all. His entire campaign is an exercise in unintentional humor.

For example, he began to run ads last week accusing Obama of not having been to Iraq at the very moment that Obama was in Iraq talking to leaders there. Is that great comic timing or what?

Then a McCain spokesman followed up by calling Barack's current trip "a campaign rally overseas," as if he shouldn't have done it.

And no sooner had McCain said that Obama had gone with his mind closed to any new facts he might be exposed to, the Iraqi prime minister, Nuri Kamal al-Maliki, publicly supported Obama's plan to withdraw most of our troops within 16 months.

This, of course, is the plan that McCain has denounced as akin to surrender and a sign of Obama's inexperience.

To add to the fun, the White

House said that Maliki had been misinterpreted, even though it was his interpreter whose words we read. Then, after Bush had said we might establish a "timeline" for getting out of Iraq, the White House said he'd been misinterpreted too.

These are the jokes, folks. It's called the McCain Straight Talk Express.

Finally, there was Al Gore, whom George Bush likes to deride as "ozone man," saying the United States should set a goal of producing "100 percent" of our electricity from renewable sources — things like the sun, wind and geothermal energy — within 10 years.

Well, you can imagine the fun the McCain people — who favor drilling offshore, on-shore and between the shores — had with that.

However, within a few days Texas regulators had approved a \$4.93 billion wind-power transmission project that will be able to provide enough electricity for 3.7 million air-conditioned homes on a hot day.

Texas. Home of George Bush, the oil president.

Let me tell you something, if Texas gets the joke, it's time the rest of us did too.

It's John McCain who should open his mind to new facts. He'd be surprised at what's out there.

□ □ □

Don Kaul is a two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning Washington correspondent who, by his own account, is right more than he's wrong. Email him at dkaul2@earthlink.net.

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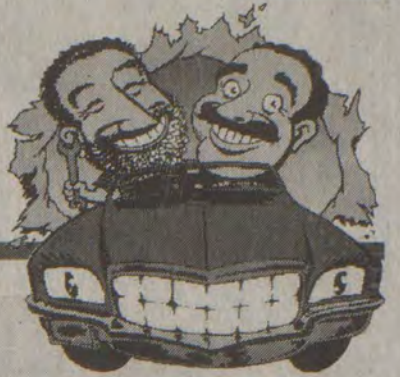
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INSIDESTUFF

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

CAR TALK:

An idle solution to a racing engine

see pg. A6

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This Town, That World

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

MAYBE IT HAD THE HOPS

Little Wonder that a fish-locator goes crazy in Dewey Lake. I, at first, thought it was those beer cans that made this one, I heard of jittering like a divining rod in the hands of man with the palsy, but Gordon "Red" Moore has set me straight.

Moore vows that he and others did a bit of diving in the lake off his camp last week-end, and that they recovered 55 beer cans, which he further says, other people had tossed into the lake in passing. And in every can recovered was a tiny catfish, mostly mudcats.

I still am not clear about what the locator was locating—the beer cans, or the fish inside them.

HELPFUL

The Cincinnati Reds are the best batters in baseball, it says here. And their pitchers are doing all they can to make good batters of every body else.

□□□

This fellow was telling about the psychiatrist who lit on a new shock treatment for his patients. He sent them a bill in advance.

REDUNDANCY

What's wrong with this sentence?—"He had a smile on his face, a yard wide."

Give up? Wouldn't a smile look funny, any other place?

ERROR

The Democratic party, nor any other party, for that matter, asks me for advice, but I have an idea it made a mistake at the state convention, last week, when it adopted a resolution calling for the abolition of the Kentucky Un-American Activities Commission.

This isn't Nunn's committee; it was created by the General Assembly. There's been no evidence of a witch-hunt or "star chamber" proceeding yet. Why not wait till something like this rears its ugly head before objecting? We are not among those who see a Communist behind every bush, but there are some things that will bear looking into, and in Kentucky, too.

Besides, the resolution had no effect except to give somebody the idea that Democrats are "soft" on Communism.

WHY?

You can't build, any old place you like, these days. Zoning commissions have the duty of guarding the rights of others, as well as your own. Your plumbing must be approved, for your health, and the other fellow's. You can't build a "joint" in a residential area. All of which, generally speaking, is for the commonweal, as they say.

But it leaves us with the old brow a bit furrowed, when we recall that land can be gashed and

(See ALLEN, page six)



photos by Jarrod Deaton

Over 35 students showed up at Betsy Layne High School on Friday to help dismantle old furniture for the Take-Back recycling program.

SECOND LIFE FOR SURPLUS GOODS

BLHS first school in state in 'take-back' program

by JARRID DEATON
FEATURES WRITER

BETSY LAYNE — School may not be in session yet, but that didn't stop over 35 students at Betsy Layne High School from showing up on Friday morning to dismantle old desks and other furniture to be recycled for the Take-Back program.

Betsy Layne is the first school in the state to participate in the Take-Back program, created by the Virco Manufacturing Company. The program is designed to assist schools with recycling out-of-service furniture components while giving students new ways to learn about resource recovery.

"The kids get to learn about saving the environment," said Todd McDaniel, with Virco. "It's a great way to teach them while helping to benefit the school system as well."

In order to become part of the program, the school district had to show commitments to environmental education, identifying the types and quantities of materials proposed for the program, the preparation of these materials for shipment and the responsibility for shipping costs related to the Take-Back materials.

Jeff Stumbo, member of the Floyd County Board of Education, was very impressed with the project.



Instead of paying to dispose of old furniture in a landfill, the school system is shipping it to a manufacturer for recycling.

"We're all really excited about it," Stumbo said. "Instead of paying to send the old furniture to a landfill, we are able to actually bring money back in through recycling. It also teaches the children how valuable recycling is. We really hope to be able and make this program district wide."

Superintendent Henry Webb was also on site to help with the dismantling and moving of the furniture.

"Hopefully this will carry over into the student's lives and they will continue to recycle," Webb said. "When you have this many students taking a day off of their vacation to show up and help, it really shows you the caliber of the kids we have at Betsy Layne."

The Take-Back program is one part of a \$3 million renovation project at Betsy Layne High School.

MOVIES FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

'The Executioner'

by TOM DOTY
TIMES COLUMNIST

"Mission Impossible" meets "Enter the Dragon" in this often humorous kung-fu fiesta that finds three men recruited by an ex-police commissioner to take on the ballooning drug trade in Tokyo.

The opening credits set the tone here, as two fists flash in front of the camera and perform all manner of intricate martial arts hand maneuvers while a screeching vocal chants the occasional "hai-ya." The story, or cue mechanism for the on-screen bone-breaking, centers on a police commissioner who quits the force when he realizes that his superiors have been paid off by the Yakuza, or Japanese mafia.



Tom Doty
Times Columnist

It all comes about when a planned raid yields plenty of arrests and dope, but no charges being filed. In fact the officers who made the arrests are themselves fired.

The disgusted commish decides to build a team of criminals to take on the drug trade and enlists a tough guy cop named Hyabusa (so tough he sports a Moc haircut and can punch a bad guy's eyes out of his head) to lead the group.

Next he recruits a ninja named Koga (who can cling to walls, throw smoke bombs and beat the snot out of you with his eyebrows) and a bumbling thief named Sakura. Koga's test run is to bring Sakura to their hideout, but that is complicated by the fact he is currently lodged in a maximum-security prison. Iron bars prove no problem for Koga, but the ninja tricks he employs are pretty lame and consist of using pepper to throw the dogs off their scent and breathing underwater with a reed until the guards pass by.

The next assignment Koga draws is to take out the top bodyguards for the Yakuza. Both appear to be American and they share a weakness for high-priced call girls. Before you can say, "Governor of New York," Koga drops in on each man whilst they're only wearing what God gave them. The ladies of the evening offer little resistance as Koga pounds their employers into pudding and one even accepts his impassioned thank-you when she drops a conveniently placed towel and accidentally offers him a glimpse at her wares.

It all leads to a final assault on the drug lord at his remote mansion during a celebration where all of the female guests are supermodels and security outnumbers the guests. It's a classic brawl that sees Koga use every move in the ninja handbook. It's a classic final duel that showcases ninja and Shaolin fighting styles which result in just about everyone getting the snot smacked out of them to a chorus of high decibel shrieks and bone

(See LAGOON, page six)

I am his mom

by JEAN KINSEY

"CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE ADOPTED SOUL"

Shortly after his 39th birthday, Billy, our adopted son, called me the day after Thanksgiving. "Mom, I gotta talk to you."

"Sure, Son, what is it?" In stunned disbelief, I listened as he told me his birth mother had telephoned him the day before Thanksgiving. He waited to tell me so he wouldn't spoil my holiday. This woman had paid someone \$50 to search the Internet for

him. They took a number off the original birth certificate and traced my son's birth records to us. The courts had told me it could never happen, but it did.

Trying to say all the right things, I told him I wouldn't mind if he met with her.

This was the only time I ever lied to one of my children.

I did mind. I didn't blame him, but I did mind.

He was my son. I sat up with him when he was sick. I sewed the rips and tears on his jeans. Why should I

share him now? He has two children. My grandchildren — not hers.

As Billy was growing up, we had talked openly about his birth mother. He was only 10 when he first came into our lives, yet he held a faint memory of her. Although I knew he loved me, I was aware of the remembrance of her lingering in the background of his mind. Trying to encourage him not to be angry, I told him she probably had a very good reason for not keeping him more than the two years he lived with her. I promised, when he was older, if he wanted to find his birth mother, I would help him. And I would have, but he chose not to.

Not even in my dreams did I expect she'd find him.

I tucked my skepticism away so as not to mar his excitement. I knew, because the social workers had told me, that his mother had given him away when she was young and recently divorced. She had remarried and had other children. After 37 years, I didn't understand why she wanted him now.

Billy has now met his other mother and accepted the explanation she gave for not being able to keep him. Somehow

I couldn't be with them at their first meeting, the day before Christmas. Eve, I wanted to give them space and was quite sure both she and I would have felt very awkward. Truthfully, there was another reason I didn't go. I was quite intimidated and not at all sure where I would fit in this new picture.

But the next day, while I was preparing dinner for our family Christmas Eve, Billy arrived early. He stepped up behind me and kissed me on the

(See SOUP, page six)



An idle solution to a racing engine

by TOM and RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:

A friend of mine has a 1997 Honda CR-V, which he bought used a few years ago. It is generally in good shape but has a problem that has become more and more alarming during the past year or so. Sometimes, while driving, the engine will start to race, and the car refuses to slow down. When the engine is racing, my friend has to step on the brakes very hard to get the car to slow down. Usually, after getting the car to slow down, the engine stops racing. But lately, sometimes it hasn't stopped racing. It seems to be getting worse. The CR-V has been to the dealer several times, but the mechanics have found nothing. The problem doesn't happen when they have it. They say they have never heard of the problem. What could this problem be? Is it fixable? Thank you for your help! — Neil

RAY: Funny you should mention it, Neil. Just the other day, we had a 1997 Honda CR-V in our shop with the same exact problem.

TOM: So, what was it?

RAY: We had no idea either. We couldn't get it to misbehave for us. We checked the computer for codes,

to see if any of the engine sensors were malfunctioning. We found nothing. We checked the database for any service bulletins or anything that would provide a hint. Nada. So finally, out of desperation, we cleaned the throttle body and added some fuel-injector cleaner to the gas tank.

TOM: And that fixed it?

RAY: Well, no. Not really. We still don't know what's wrong with it. But I'll tell you what I plan to do next, when the customer comes back in waving a baseball bat at me. I'll try to clean the idle air control.

TOM: The IAC is a device that's responsible for boosting the idle speed when certain conditions are met. For instance, if the fuel-air mixture is too rich, a sensor will send a signal to the car's computer, and the computer will instruct the IAC to send in more air to boost the idle.

RAY: Or, if you turn on your air conditioner, which requires a lot of power, a sensor tells the computer that the air-conditioning compressor is on, and the computer then tells the IAC to raise the idle speed to compensate for the extra load. So it's possible that the IAC is sticking in the open position sometimes. And perhaps cleaning it will solve the problem.

TOM: You think so?

RAY: Well, no. Not really. Actually, it might. But if it doesn't, I'd probably replace the IAC next, which is roughly a \$400 job.

TOM: OK. Now I know why you want to try cleaning it first.

RAY: Right. Unfortunately, if it's not the IAC, you'd have to look next at the computer itself. But in all my years of working on CR-Vs, I've never had to replace a computer. So I doubt that's the problem.

TOM: We'll certainly report back if we solve this problem, Neil, and you guys do the same (or, if anyone else has solved this problem on a CR-V, drop us a note at our Web site, cartalk.com).

RAY: But in the meantime, at least make sure your friend knows that he can always shift into neutral when the engine is racing. That'll stop the car from accelerating, and it's far preferable to crashing.

Engine's hot problem may be cooling fan

Dear Tom and Ray:

I was coming home from bowling the other night, and I passed my buddy going down the road. So we stopped in the road and were talking. Then all of a sudden he asked me,

"What the heck is that?" I looked up

at my engine, and it was either steaming or smoking. I was worried, so I popped the hood, and we opened it up. You definitely could smell antifreeze burning, and the smoke was coming from the radiator. Do you think that I have a bad radiator and need to replace the entire thing? Now there is antifreeze coming from under the car, so someone told me to put Bar's Leaks in the radiator. Oh yeah, I have a 1991 Pontiac 6000 LE, with a V-6. Thanks. — Travis

RAY: I'd start by checking the simple stuff first, Travis. The thing I'd suspect first would be the cooling fan.

TOM: Let's say, just for the sake of argument, that your cooling fan bit the dust at some point. Like in 1998. Or last week. You might not have noticed because as long as you're moving, air is flowing through the radiator and helping to cool the

engine.

RAY: It's only when you stop, say, at a railroad crossing, to let a 200-car freight train go by, or to chat with your buddy, that you really need the cooling fan to simulate the airflow you normally get when the car is moving.

TOM: So, while you sat there chatting for five, 10, 15 minutes, with no cooling fan, the engine was getting hotter and hotter. Finally, it overheated, your coolant boiled over,

and that boiling coolant blew a hole in a weakened hose or maybe even the radiator itself. That explains the steam, the smell of hot coolant and the puddle under your car.

RAY: Now, it's possible that with a car this old, you may need a cooling fan, a new hose, a new radiator AND a new engine as well. So there are no guarantees here, Travis. But start with the simple, inexpensive stuff first, and take it a step at a time.



CLICK & CLACK
Talk Cars

SOCIAL SECURITY NEWS

Plan ahead for emergencies with Direct Deposit

by JENNIFER HOPKINS

SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE
SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Did you know that Direct Deposit is one of the most convenient, dependable, and safe ways to get your Social Security or SSI check each month, even in the aftermath of a natural disaster?

It's that time of year again. Hurricane season is upon us. In some places it's wildfire season. In other places, towns are dealing with the threat, or the aftermath, of tornadoes and floods. If you're in the path of one of these potential disasters, hopefully, you've planned for it by signing up for Direct Deposit or the Direct Express debit card.

During an emergency, you don't want your Social Security or

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) check to be dependent on home delivery. With Direct Deposit, you'll know your money is safe in your bank account no matter what happens to interrupt mail service.

Even under ordinary circumstances, Direct Deposit or Direct Express is the way to go. It's safe, it's quick, and it's convenient.

With Direct Deposit, your money goes directly into your account at your bank or financial institution. Because your funds are transferred electronically, there's no risk of your check being lost or stolen. Payment is faster when it's deposited directly into your bank and your money is immediately available. Whether you're at home or away from home on the day of payment, you know your money is safe in your bank

account instead of sitting unsecured in your mailbox.

Don't have a bank account? Direct Express may be for you. Direct Express is designed for people without bank accounts and it works like a debit card. Payments are loaded onto the card and are immediately available. With Direct Express you can use the card to get cash or to purchase items.

With either Direct Deposit or Direct Express, there's no need to leave your house when the weather is bad or to stand in line at the bank. When you're away from home, it's comforting to know your payment is in the bank instead of the mailbox.

When faced with an emergency, there's no question about where you'll find your payment when it's directly deposited into your bank or

the funds are available on your Direct Express debit card. The same cannot be said for paper checks. What if mail delivery is interrupted in your neighborhood after a disaster—just when you need your funds the most?

To learn more about Direct Deposit of your benefit payments and to sign up, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov/deposit.

Of course, you can also start or change Direct Deposit services by:

Using our automated phone service at 1-800-772-1213;

Filling out a Direct Deposit sign-up form that is available from the Social Security website and taking it to your financial institution or Social Security office; or

Contacting your bank, credit union, or savings and loan association.

So whatever the weather, put Direct Deposit or Direct Express on your list of things to do. Visit www.socialsecurity.gov or call 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778). Or, go directly to www.godirect.gov or www.fms.treas.gov/directexpress-card.

For more information about online services just call your local Social Security Office in Prestonsburg at (606) 886-8525. The office is located at 1897 Kentucky Route 321 in Prestonsburg. Representatives are available to answer any questions.

And remember, we have representatives available to give presentations and speeches about Social Security Programs. Contact the office for more information.

Shoppers buying more store brands

by DAN SEWELL

AP BUSINESS WRITER

CINCINNATI — After watching the price of her favorite bread rising too quickly, Michele Shores decided it was time for a fresh approach.

She began picking up store-brand breads, Kroger Co.'s namesake brand or Wal-Mart Stores Inc.'s Great Value, when her usual bread went from \$2 to \$3 a loaf. Less than half the price, and not half bad.

"My husband takes his lunch to work and we all eat a lot of sandwiches here," said the 30-year-old mother of two from Atlanta. "So that's a lot of money for us."

As budgets get tighter and food gets more expensive, American shoppers are increasingly switching to store brands — even upper-income consumers who may not have been inclined to give them a try before.

The nation's biggest grocery-sellers, Wal-Mart, Kroger, Supervalu Inc. and Safeway Inc., all report that sales of their own brands are jumping, as customers can't stop regularly buying food and household items but need to reduce spending.

"There are things we can do to drive less, but how do you eat less? You don't," said Erin Frehner, a Brigham Young University senior.

Frehner said she and her husband, both full-time students with part-time jobs, always try to get the store brand unless they strongly prefer the national brand or if the price is almost the same.

The Food Marketing Institute, an industry trade group, found this year that the number of shoppers who say they are buying more store-brand items has been steadily rising, now up to some 60 percent. Candace Corlett, president of the consulting firm WSL Strategic Retail, says her group has found that even upper-income shoppers are

more willing to buy store brands, which have traditionally been seen as appealing most to people on limited budgets.

That shift comes as the chains are offering more store-brand products of better quality.

Gone, for the most part, are the gray, no-frills cans with nondescript labels such as "peas," packaging that evoked cheap, bland taste. Many now sport colorful labels with names like Kroger's "Private Selection" and "Naturally Preferred" that don't shout "store brand!"

The stores have been pushing their own brands in areas such as dairy products, meats and breads where prices have risen especially fast, and are also tapping into increased demand for organics and natural foods.

"Store brands have come a long way," said Tod Marks, a senior editor at Consumer Reports, which has tested store brands against national brands for quality and customer response. "Over the years, retailers realized that store brands were not just something to be floated out during hard times ... This is a signature product of ours. We want to be known for this."

Stores generally reap better profit margins by selling their own brands — also called corporate brands, private labels or generics — and also use them to build customer loyalty.

"All of us are creatures of habit, and when things are going well, you just buy what you bought last week," Kroger's vice chairman, Rodney McMullen, said in an interview. "Customers are much more willing to try a corporate brand when the economy gets tough, and when we can get the customer to try it, they like it. It just makes it so much easier for us to get the customer to try it."

Shores has been buying more store-brand diapers,

costing about 30 to 40 percent less, but sticks with Procter & Gamble Co.'s Pampers for use at night because they're more absorbent. She tried store-brand spaghetti sauce, then went back to Prego, a Campbell Soup Co. product she says is thicker and vegetable-rich. But she doesn't taste much difference in the store versions of canned vegetables and many other weekly grocery items.

"For oatmeal, there's almost a \$2 price difference," she said. "That adds up."

Surveys have shown that most people were highly satisfied with most store brands, Marks said, and testing found many of them held their own against the national brands. In some cases, he said, consumers must decide whether "good enough" at a lower price is better than buying a national brand.

"Some stores do it better than others," said Sonya Redwine, 35, of Knoxville, Tenn., who usually steers her shopping cart toward store brands.

She does prefer Pampers diapers for her daughter and also P&G's Gain detergent for her heavy laundry loads, so she watches for sales and coupons and stocks up on those items. But she's happy with Kroger and Target Corp. store products for most groceries.

"Just because it's a store brand doesn't mean it's not the best for your family," she said.

Trying to capitalize on what Safeway CEO Steve Burd recently called "an extraordinary shift," stores are offering more new products and increasing their marketing.

Safeway's 2-year-old "O Organics" line has been so successful the company has licensed it for sale by other retailers. Supervalu's chief executive, Jeff Noddle, said this month that the Wild Harvest natural/organic line that hit shelves in April has

been "our most successful product launch ever."

Wal-Mart, which says sales of some private-label categories are up 40 percent this year, is rolling out new "All Natural" ice cream featuring such new flavors as blueberry pomegranate.

Kroger has new lines of steaks, bread and pizzas besides more organic items. Within the past five years, the company has nearly doubled to 14,000 the number of store-brand products it offers. It also gives free samples and runs blind taste tests against national brands in its stores, and has increased direct mailings to regular customers with coupons and recipe ideas for its brands.

Like other chains, Kroger now uses a tiered approach, offering a sharply discounted "Value" brand, its namesake store brands, and what it calls "premium" brands such as Private Selection. Kroger says it puts that label only on products that meet or exceed the leading national brand in quality; Private Selection sales are projected to hit \$1 billion this year.

Burt P. Flickinger III, managing director of the consulting firm Strategic Research

Lagoon

Continued from p5

crunching sound effects that make every punch sound like it was delivered by a anti-tank gun.

This one works due to the lead performance and acrobatic hijinks of Sonny Chiba. This Japanese martial arts master shot to fame with the graphic "Street Fighter" series, which produced three films containing enough kung fu gore to choke a donkey. Here he gets to play it for laughs in several scenes and it mostly works due to his beetle brow and confused expression.

Group, said the big U.S. chains are catching up to the long tradition of strong private-brand grocery programs in other countries, such as those of London-based Tesco PLC and Canada's Loblaw Co. Ltd. — Loblaw 30 years ago introduced a brand called simply, "No Name."

While companies with the top-selling brands will probably hold up better than runner-up brands against the store competition, he said, "the long-term implications are really cause for concern for every branded manufacturer."

Kroger's McMullen said he thinks there's plenty of room for both store and national brands to do well as people cut back on restaurant spending. Kraft Foods Inc., the nation's largest food and beverage maker, on Monday reported second-quarter growth, citing price increases and more consumers eating at home.

P&G, which has repeatedly raised prices to offset higher costs for energy and raw materials, has expressed confidence that product innovations and people's loyalty to its generations-old brands such as Pampers, Tide detergent and Gillette shavers will keep sales growing.

"It's all about value," Clayton Daley, Jr., P&G's chief financial officer, recently told analysts. "It's not just price, it's all about product performance. ... It's about the trust that consumers have in your brands."

Frehner, for instance, recently loaded up on 48 boxes of Kroger macaroni and cheese that was on sale, 92 cents per box cheaper than their favorite brand.

But she and her husband miss their Kraft mac-and-cheese.

"Many times we can't tell the difference and we are glad there is a cheaper alternative," she said. "Other times, we notice a difference and just deal with it because of the money we save."

Allen

Continued from p5

stripped of coal, and torn apart getting timber out, and streams muddied and polluted, a lake such as Dewey threatened with coal dust—and nobody says a word...that is, nobody who can put a bit of authority behind their words.

What about the other fellow in these cases?

Soup

Continued from p5

check. "I love you, Mom," was all he said. But that was enough.

Billy wants his two families to meet. I've agreed. He believes I am gracious enough to share him, so I'll try. He was without a mother for so many years. Surely, he deserves to have two now.

All I want is for my son to be happy and find peace within himself. His 39-year enigma is solved. I'll be here to share his joy, or I'll be here just if he needs me.

Best line: "Your face does not look like you want to urinate or defecate."
1974, unrated.

FLOYD COUNTY Sports

Sunday, August 3, 2008

Inside

UK camp • B2

P'burg to scrimmage Clay, Sheldon Clark

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG

Blackcat football fans are eagerly awaiting the start of another season. Prestonsburg will host a pair of familiar foes in the preseason as Clay County and Sheldon Clark pay their respective visits. Hazard is also due to join the Blackcats in one of their home preseason sessions.

The Blackcats will host Clay County Aug. 15. Prestonsburg will entertain Sheldon Clark on Aug. 22. Clay County will look to

senior quarterback Zach Lewis for its leadership. Lewis is a four-year starter that has emerged as one of the state's top high school football players. He has ranked as one of the state's best prep quarterbacks each of the last two seasons.

Junior running backs Ethan Nolan and Delbert Collins are also back in the offensive scheme for the Tigers. Clay County, which faced Prestonsburg in a scrimmage last season, ended the 2007 campaign 7-5.

John Vernon Hooker is the leading receiver back for Clay County. Tanner Gilbert (6-4,

240) returns up front on both sides of the line for the Tigers.

Clay County competes in Class 5A, District 8 along with Letcher County Central (11-2), Perry County Central (7-4), Whitley County (2-9) and North Laurel (1-9).

Senior running back Ryan Kelly is back to lead Sheldon Clark. Kelly rushed for more than 1,000 yards as a sophomore but had his junior season cut short after suffering a debilitating injury.

Sophomore Austin Stepp has taken over under center as Sheldon Clark's starting quarterback.

The Cardinals lost leading rusher Adam Dials (21,85 yards, 29 touchdowns on 304 carries to graduation.

Back for Prestonsburg are senior running backs Allen Craynon and Seth Setser — last season's top two rushers. Junior quarterback Michael Burchett is set to run the Prestonsburg offense in his first full-time season under center for the Blackcats.

Prestonsburg will open the season at home on Saturday, Aug. 30 versus longtime rival Paintsville in the Joe P. Tackett Gridiron Classic.



photo by Paula Goble

ALLEN CRAYNON ranked as one of the state's leading rushers last season. Craynon is a senior running back for the Blackcats.

Hartline to begin camp as UK starting QB

Tainted offseason hinders Pulley's progress

by JEFFREY McMURRAY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON — Kentucky quarterback Curtis Pulley will lose playing time because of his recent legal troubles, pushing sophomore Mike Hartline into the starting role by default as the Wildcats begin preseason camp, coach Rich Brooks said Thursday.

Brooks made his first public comments on the matter since Pulley was arrested on several traffic charges in Hardin County on July 22. He pleaded guilty to speeding on Wednesday, but a charge of driving on a suspended or revoked license was dismissed.

Pulley, who missed last season with academic troubles, also received a citation for marijuana possession in Louisville in June.

Brooks said he hadn't yet decided how much playing time Pulley would lose, including whether it would be full games or partial games.

The speedster entered the summer locked in a battle with Hartline, a more traditional pocket passer, for the job to succeed Andre Woodson, UK's record-setting quarterback who was drafted by the New York Giants in the sixth round.

Brooks said Hartline now has a clear edge because of Pulley's legal problems but wouldn't rule out the possibility Pulley could still win the job this fall.

"He's lost a little ground," Brooks said. "He's got some ground to make up with his teammates and coaches."

Pulley isn't the only Kentucky quarterback who has had a recent brush with the law. Third-string quarterback Will Fidler was arrested on a disorderly conduct charge for an incident that happened last week outside a Lexington restaurant.

Brooks said Fidler won't be suspended and the matter will be handled internally.

"Will's been an outstanding young man and the circumstances were a little iffy," Brooks said. "He shouldn't have been in the situation, but it wasn't something he started."

Brooks, a former head coach with the St. Louis Rams, said his teams have had few off-season distractions throughout his coaching career, particularly involving quarterbacks, and he's hopeful these are isolated incidents.

"I'm looking forward to getting back to a quieter time, if you will, on these types of issues," he said.



photos by Steven Taylor

Livewells help to keep bass going. The livewells must be kept at the right temperature. This is especially during summer months.

Tips for keeping heat-stressed bass alive during summertime fishing tourneys

by HAYLEY LYNCH
KENTUCKY AFIELD

FRANKFORT — Bass tournaments are an exciting and popular activity on Kentucky's lakes. However, tournaments held during the heat of summer place a great deal of stress on fish.

"We don't promote summertime tournaments because of the potential for increases in mortality of fish," said Gerry Buynak, assistant director of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources' fisheries division. "We recommend that tournaments not be held when water temperatures are over 80 degrees."

Higher temperatures mean less oxygen in the water and more stress to fish held in a boat's livewell. If anglers don't take measures to cool the water, maximize aeration, maintain a healthy salt balance and flush ammonia from the livewell, fish can die either during the tournament or after they are released.

"If anglers cannot move their tournaments to cooler time periods, they need to learn the best techniques for taking care of fish in warm water," said Buynak. "If you are going to have a summertime tournament,

maintain aeration and use ice and salt in the livewell."

Anglers should first fill their livewells in the morning when the lake water is cooler. Switch the livewell to recirculate so it is not

keeping bass alive during summer tournaments.

"You've got to have the full range of resources to keep them alive," said Dave Dreves, fisheries research biologist for Kentucky Fish

and Wildlife. "Proper set-up at the weigh-in is also very important."

Tournament organizers can reduce stress on fish by lowering the creel limit, staggering weigh-in times and keeping weigh-in lines short and efficient. Summer tournaments can be held at night or shortened to four hours to reduce stress on fish. For full eight-hour tournaments, a weigh-in and release can be held halfway through the day to shorten the amount of time fish spend in the livewell.

"The big thing is, the less time in the boat, the better," said Buynak. "At the weigh-in, have an iced, aerated trough for fish. The water should be salted and cooled 5 to 10 degrees below the lake temperature. When releasing fish, take them out further from the bank where there is deeper, cooler water."

Fish survival is not only good for the resource, but it puts a positive face on the tournament fishing sport. Tournaments can encourage good fish handling even more by penalizing anglers whose fish die. "A lot of tournaments have penalties for bringing in dead fish," said Dreves. "That's one reason anglers want to keep their fish alive. But the reason these rules were instituted was to promote good care of the fish during their time in the livewell."

Buynak recommends anglers and tournament organizers review the B.A.S.S. sponsored manual "Keeping Bass Alive," which outlines in complete detail the best methods for handling bass during tournaments. Basic guidelines and information on how to get a copy of the manual are available at fw.ky.gov/bass-guidelines.asp.

Author Hayley Lynch is an award-winning writer for Kentucky Afield magazine, the official publication of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. She is an avid hunter and shotgun shooter.



taking on warm lake water, and keep it running continually throughout the tournament day. Add two 1/2-gallon frozen bottles of water to the livewell and about 1/3 cup of untreated salt for every 5 gallons of livewell water.

"After about a three-hour period in the livewell, the ice will be

melted, bass waste will be building up and you could have an ammonia problem," said Buynak. "The recommendation is to change half the water in the livewell after three hours, then add ice and salt again."

Taking care of fish in the livewell is only one part of

participants between the ages of 7 and 17.

The Bluegrass State Games operate as a signature event of the Lexington Area Sports Authority and is supported by the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government and the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

The Bluegrass State Games is a member of the National Conference of State Games which is recognized by the United States Olympic Committee as an Official State

Game Program participant.

The 2008 State Games included more than 30 venues in Fayette and surrounding counties with 30 different summer sports. The Bluegrass State Games are designed to provide Kentuckians of all ages and skill levels a wholesome avenue for positive development through sports and physical activity, to promote and develop amateur athletics and to provide the amateur athlete an opportunity to showcase their talent and receive statewide recognition.

2008 Bluegrass State Games due to conclude

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — The 2008 Get Healthy Kentucky Bluegrass State Games presented by Subway took place on July 18-20 and July 26-27. The volleyball and baseball games got underway Friday and are scheduled to conclude today. The opening ceremonies were held on July 18 at Applebee's Park. Those in attendance enjoyed the Legends game, and watched the cauldron be lit by Jared Fogle, "The Subway

Guy."

The Bluegrass State Games is a non-profit program sponsored privately to promote amateur athletics across the Commonwealth. Under the leadership of Governor Martha Layne Collins, Kentucky launched the largest amateur sports event in the state's history in 1985 with six sports and 2000 athletes. Last year, approximately 13,500 athletes competed in the State Games. Participant ages ranged from 2 to 86, with the largest number of par-

ticipants between the ages of 7 and 17.

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The Bluegrass State Games is a member of the National Conference of State Games which is recognized by the United States Olympic Committee as an Official State

Rt. 7 Motocross scheduled to host Round 16

TIMES STAFF REPORT

HUEYSVILLE — Route 7 Motocross Park will host round 16 of the Mountain Moto Series today. Signups for Round 16 will get underway at 9 a.m. Practice will follow the signups from 10-11 a.m. Racing is scheduled to get underway at noon.

New track changes have been made. The Hueysville track continues to host competitors from Floyd and several other Eastern Kentucky counties. A breakdown of results from racing held Saturday, July 26 follows.

30-Plus: 1. Scott Varney; 2. Johnnie Osborne. 25-Plus: 1. Scott Varney. 40-Plus: Johnnie Osborne; 2. Danny Osborne. 250B: 1. Ryan Rowe; 2. Danny Osborne. 250C: 1. Corey Qualls; 2. Justin Jacobs; 3. Steve Jacobs; 4. James Briggs. 250D: Nick Conn. 125C: 1. Josh Bolen; 2. Shane Hamilton; 3. Myles Minix; 4. Johnnie Osborne; 5. Corey Qualls. 125D: 1. Chad Nelson; 2. Justin Ousley; 3. Steven Conley; 4. Cody Robinson. C/D Unlimited: 1. Josh Bolen; 2. Shane Hamilton; 3. Justin Jacobs; 4. Chad Nelson. Collegeboy: 1. Ryan Rowe. Schoolboy: 1. Shane Hamilton; 2. Myles Minix; 3. Nick Conn. 125 2-Stroke Am.: 1. Myles Minix; 2. Ricky Crider; 3. Steven Conley; 4. Cody Robinson; 5. Justin Ousley. 50 Senior: 1. Cameron Crider. 70/110: 1. Christian Francis. 65 Junior: 1. James Powers; 2. Jesse Brown; 3. Dawson Hamilton; 4. Cameron Nelson; 5. Christian Crider. 65 Open: 1. James Powers; 2. Cameron Nelson; 3. Dawson Hamilton; 4. Christian Crider; 5. Jesse Brown. 85 Junior: 1. Chase Soler. 85 Open: 1. Chase Soler. 85 Senior: 1. Justin Ousley; 2. Austin Salisbury.

JC Youth Soccer switches fields

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PAINTSVILLE — The Johnson County Youth Soccer Association will be relocating its fields to the Carl D. Perkins Vocational Training Center at Theima beginning this fall.

The league has been located in Hager Hill for the past several years, holding its games on the property adjoining the American Standard Plant. The league found itself in need of a new home with the pending plant closure, slated sometime in October.

Immediately after they heard of the plant closing, they began traveling the country for flat land within the close proximity to town. As anyone knows, flat land is a premium in East Kentucky.

League officials have expressed sincere appreciation to Faye Jameson and the American Standard Corporation for allowing usage of the fields.

"Other leagues that we compete with always said that the Johnson County fields are the best fields to play on," league president Donna Dancy said.

"We have always been blessed with a good group of players, coaches and parents. And we average about 140 players per season from ages 4 to 19. We just knew we had to find a home, and fast."

Martin settles in as ACHS boys' coach

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

EASTERN — Mark Martin is settling in as Allen Central High School boys' basketball coach. One of the top ACHS boys' basketball players of all-time, Martin was eager to begin work with the latest set of Rebels earlier in the summer.

"I had the boys in the gym for 10 days before football started," Martin acknowledged. "I'm excited about the opportunity and it seems as though there's a considerable amount of excitement in the area."

"It is going to take some time to get everyone on the same page. Naturally, with any coaching change, things are

going to be different. This program has a rich tradition of winning and our goal is to continue the winning ways of the Runnin' Rebels."

Among others, Allen Central lost Floyd County Conference Player of the Year Alex Hammonds and Transylvania University signee Aaron Crum via graduation.

This year's Rebel roundball team will return a strong frontcourt in juniors Hunter Crowder and Logan Crowder.

"I would like to see Hunter and Logan develop into the leaders with this group due to the amount of experience that we have coming back," Martin commented. "Even though they both are just juniors, they have played in some big games. Hunter is going to be a

strong presence inside and has shown some good range with his jumper this past summer. Logan, a southpaw, has had some success both around the basket and out on the perimeter."

Martin knows his way around a backcourt. He'll look to some inexperienced players at the guard position in 2008-09.

"Guard-wise, we do not return any players with any varsity experience at the guard positions," Martin confided. "Junior guard Justin Jackson along with sophomore Austin Woods will look to challenge for the point guard position as juniors Chris Stumbo, Christian Francis and Brandon Meade will compete for the other guard position."

Newcomer junior Blake Salisbury is going to help us out inside and we have a couple of freshmen who could see some varsity action before the year is out."

Martin expects his team to contend for a 58th District title in his first season at the helm. A former college player, Martin is no stranger to competition.

"Overall, district-wise, we expect to be in the thick of things and regionally expect to be in the hunt come tournament time," Martin added.

Allen Central ended last season, legendary head coach Johnny Martin's final campaign with the tradition-rich program, 21-9. The Rebels owned the third-best 15th Region record last season.



ROUTE 7 MOTOCROSS will host Round 16 today. The track is located at Hueysville.

McCarthy: marketing deal good for Favre, Pack
by CHRIS JENKINS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

GREEN BAY, Wis. — Green Bay Packers coach Mike McCarthy says a potential marketing contract for Brett Favre could benefit the star quarterback and the team. More importantly, it also could resolve their standoff over Favre's retirement.

The marketing deal, worth a reported \$20 million over 10 years, might end Favre's bid to return just months after retiring, and presumably would keep him from reporting to Packers training camp when the team is not planning for him to start. Favre confirmed he was considering the marketing deal to ESPN Thursday.

"Brett needs to stay a part of football," McCarthy said after practice Friday morning. "Obviously, he's a part of the Green Bay Packers. This is really something that's been out there all along."

McCarthy said the deal, which was interpreted by some as a last-minute bribe to keep Favre away from camp, actually has been on the table for months. McCarthy said he first heard about it at Favre's retirement news conference in March.

Despite that tearful goodbye, Favre now is considering a comeback. But Green Bay hasn't been eager to have him, with Aaron Rodgers taking over the starter's role. The Packers also don't want to release Favre, suspecting he would immediately sign with division rival Minnesota.

Tensions have built between Favre and the team over the past several weeks. Earlier this week, Favre sent a letter to NFL commissioner Roger Goodell requesting to be reinstated.

But Goodell has held off approving the request, hoping the two sides could resolve their differences. Team president and CEO Mark Murphy flew to Mississippi to meet with Favre and his agent, James "Bus" Cook, on Wednesday. That meeting apparently rekindled talks about the marketing agreement.

Favre said in a text message to ESPN reporter Ed Werder Thursday night that the marketing deal might be the best solution.

"There isn't a perfect solution to this, but Mark Murphy is at least trying," Favre told ESPN. "We know what they want and where I stand. His solution, although awkward and unsettling for most, may be the best in the end."

But if the deal can't be worked out, Favre still could be reinstated and report to camp, presumably to force the team to trade him or reconsider releasing him.

Cook told The Associated Press Thursday that Favre understands he would be walking into a media frenzy by showing up for camp, but he's willing to handle that if that's the only way he can force his way back into football.

"He's prepared to deal with it," Cook said. "He's ready to go back, but he can't go back until the commissioner reinstates

Big Brown made 1-2 favorite for Haskell

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

OCEANPORT, N.J. — Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner Big Brown drew the No. 4 post and was made the 1-2 favorite for Sunday's \$1 million Haskell Invitational at Monmouth Park.

A field of seven 3-year-olds was entered Thursday for the Grade 1 Haskell, with Big Brown set for his first start since finishing last in the Belmont Stakes in his bid to become the first Triple Crown winner since 1978.

Big Brown has been training well for the Haskell, and posted a sizzling six-furlong workout in 1:10.96 at Aqueduct on Saturday.

"They are saying that was one of the best workouts laid down at Aqueduct," said Mike Iavarone, the co-president of IEAH Stables, the majority owner of Big Brown. "We couldn't be happier with the way he's coming into the race."

Also entered are two horses trained by Nick Zito in Cool Coal Man and Coal Play, along with Alaazo, Atoned, Magical Forest and Nistle's Crunch. Zito's Da' Tara won the

Belmont.

Cool Coal Man, who drew the No. 2 post, is the 4-1 second choice, with Atoned at 6-1 and Coal Play at 8-1.

Trainer Rick Dutrow Jr. still has no explanation for Big Brown's poor performance in the Belmont, when the colt looked uncomfortable at the start and was pulled up by jockey Kent Desormeaux with a quarter-mile to go.

"I see the horse doing very, very good," Dutrow said this week. "I just can't see him doing anything other than run his race. I don't know why he wouldn't."

Big Brown, who will be ridden by Desormeaux, won his first five starts by a combined 39 lengths before the Belmont.

The Haskell, a 1 1/8 miles, is the top race of the Monmouth Park season.

Ken McPeck, who trains Nistle's Crunch, says other than Big Brown the field is wide open.

"If Big Brown is not on his A game, we obviously want to be there to pick the up pieces," McPeck said. "As the Belmont showed, anything can happen."

UK basketball camp tour scheduled

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — University of Kentucky basketball coach Billy Gillispie and his staff will travel around the state of Kentucky in August to introduce the game of basketball to the youth of the Commonwealth with an upcoming series of basketball instructional day camps.

The tour will include six sessions in four cities, from Aug. 15-27. Gillispie and his staff will also make a public appearance for non-campers after their stop in Pikeville with details and locations of the appearance yet to be determined.

"We are excited about the opportunity to travel around the Commonwealth and share the game of basketball with the youth of the state," said Gillispie. "Basketball is one of the many things that make Kentucky so special. We welcome all ability levels and are looking forward to some fun days of basketball."

The camps, which will include instruction from the Kentucky Basketball coaching staff, allow participants to learn the game of basketball through a fundamental, intensive learning environment. The camps will give individuals the chance to learn more about the game of basketball, introduc-

ing drills that can be used at home. The camps will also help the individuals develop positive attitudes, as well as gain more confidence on and off the court. In addition to learning the game, participants will also receive a Kentucky Basketball t-shirt, opportunities for autographs and photographs, a Kentucky Basketball Highlights DVD, a chance to participate in a question and answer session and chances to win prizes in camp competitions.

The fee for each camp is \$80 per child. Registration is available online. All campers must be pre-registered and paid in full and are encouraged to show up 30 minutes prior to the start of camp. For more information, please contact the Kentucky Basketball office at 1-800-852-2875.

Camp dates are as follows:
Session I: Aug. 15
Ashland,
Ashland Blazer High School
5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
For Boys and Girls Entering 1st-8th Grades

Session II: Aug. 16
Pikeville,
Pikeville High School
9 a.m.-Noon
For Boys and Girls Entering 1st-4th

Grades

Session III: Aug. 16
Pikeville,
Pikeville High School
2 p.m.-5 p.m.
For Boys and Girls Entering 5th-8th Grades

Session IV: Aug. 17
Hazard,
Hazard High School
1 p.m.-4 p.m.
For Boys and Girls Entering 1st-4th Grades

Session V: Aug. 17
Hazard,
Hazard High School
5 p.m.-8 p.m.
For Boys and Girls Entering 5th-8th Grades

Session VI: Aug. 27
Madisonville,
Madisonville-North Hopkins High School
5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
For Boys and Girls Entering 1st-8th Grades

Gibbs: Expansion to fourth team by '09 unlikely

by JENNA FRYER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS — Joe Gibbs probably won't field a fourth team next season because he's running out of time to put a proper expansion package together.

"You wouldn't say never, but it doesn't look right now that it will happen for us next year," Gibbs told The Associated Press before the start of Sunday's race at Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Gibbs has been intent on pushing his program to four teams, but doesn't want to rush into it and said he's closing in on a deadline that would make 2009 impossible.

"I think we want to be real cautious, we always have been, we've gone slow and I think everything has to be in place," he said. "I'd say right now everything is not in place. You've got to have the right driver, the right sponsor and I'd say we're pretty close to not being able to do that in time for next year."

That would seemingly indicate that 18-year-old phenom Joey Logano will indeed be promoted to replace Tony Stewart in the No. 20 Toyota.

Stewart is leaving Joe Gibbs Racing at the end of the season, and team officials are very high on Logano and have not said anything that would infer Logano won't be in the

ride. There had been some speculation that Ryan Newman, who announced last week he's leaving Penske Racing, was in talks with Gibbs. But if there's no fourth team, there doesn't seem to be room for Newman or any other free agent.

Gibbs was deliberate when the organization went from one car to two, properly putting Tony Stewart's team together so that he was competing for wins immediately. But the expansion to three teams was not as smooth, as the No. 11 entry struggled through its 2005 debut season.

Jason Leffler ran 19 races before he was replaced by a combination of Denny Hamlin

and J.J. Yeley. Hamlin took the ride over for good at the start of the 2006 season, won two races and made the Chase for the championship.

"We definitely do not want to rush it," Gibbs said. "The startup things, it's hard to get something off and running with that many people. Used to be, the first year we had 17 people and that's what you needed to start a race team. Now it's more like 70, it's a lot to get done and a lot to get done the right way."

"We did learn lessons from what we did before, and it's always good not to underestimate and think 'we did this, it won't be that hard' because it is very, very hard."

Beerman named UK volleyball assistant coach

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

LEXINGTON — Chris Beerman a former Big East coach of the year, has joined the Kentucky volleyball coaching staff Coach Craig Skinner has announced Thursday.

Beerman spent the past eight seasons as the head coach at Pittsburgh where he held an overall 154-89 record that included a 2003 Big East tournament crown. "Chris Beerman has been

a winner at all levels," said Skinner. "It's a great day for our program and players to have him join our staff. We have moved quickly to find an excellent coach, and we have landed the best person for Kentucky volleyball."

Beerman led the Panthers to two NCAA appearances, in back-to-back seasons. His team advanced to the NCAA second round in 2004. In 2003, Beerman was tabbed the Big East and AVCA Northeast Region Coach of

the Year. During his tenure, he had three players named Big East Libero of the Year, two Big East Players of the Year and one named the Big East Rookie of the Year.

"I am very excited to join the Kentucky volleyball program," Beerman said. "Coach Skinner has been a friend of mine for nearly 20 years, and he has done an amazing job building UK into a nationally competitive program."

"I was awed by the vol-

leyball facilities and administrative commitment and feel there is no limit to what Kentucky volleyball can achieve. I have a lot of respect for Craig and look forward to helping him and the team achieve their championship goals in the SEC and NCAA tournament."

Married to the former Mary-Beth Singleton, Beerman and his wife have two children, Kendall and Jackson.



THE ALLEN CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL TEAM is set to debut in the 2008 season. Veteran head coach Larry Maynard guides the ACHS volleyball program. Allen Central High School is home to one of the 15th Region's top high school volleyball programs.

photo courtesy of ACHS Volleyball

Hunter education class scheduled

PRESTONSBURG — A hunter education class will be held at the Dewey Lake Fish and Game Club Aug. 4-6. For more information, call Tom Bormes (606/285-5061), Joe R. Bolton (606/496-8683), Tim Goble (606/874-2490) or Gerald Jones (606/886-8656).

James scores 20 in debut, leads US over Turkey

Americans coast to victory

by BRIAN MAHONEY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MACAU — Any team with Kobe Bryant and LeBron James in the lineup is going to score.

Sure enough, the United States had no problem doing so in the first quarter Thursday — but neither did Turkey. The Americans didn't pull away until their offensive superstars decided to be defensive stoppers.

James scored 20 points and was a defensive force in his exhibition debut, helping the U.S. Olympic team overcome some early sloppy play to beat Turkey 114-82 in its first game in China.

James and Bryant both finished with five steals, leading a defensive effort that had 16

of them.

"We love defense as a team because we have a lot of guys who can get at it defensively, cause some havoc and make a lot of plays," guard Dwyane Wade said.

James made them on both ends of the floor.

The NBA's leading scorer was 8-of-9 from the field and finished with six rebounds, five steals and four assists in 23 minutes, sitting out the fourth quarter.

"I think he played excellently," center Dwight Howard said. "He passed the ball well, played great defense, ran the lanes. He played like LeBron James."

Bryant was only 1-of-5 for seven points but had seven assists with his five steals. Often considered the NBA's greatest player, he wasn't the dominant player on the floor this time.

"The best was LeBron James, who made a big difference," Turkey coach Bogdan Tanjevic said.

Carmelo Anthony added

17 points and Howard had some powerful dunks while finishing with 14 for the Americans, who shot 69.5 percent (41-of-59) from the field.

They allowed 10 field goals in the first quarter, then only 10 combined over the next two periods. They improved to 2-0 in Olympic tuncup play and face Lithuania here Friday before moving on to Shanghai for their remaining two games.

"I think the first quarter was an adjustment period for us, we were getting used to what they were running, what their sets were," Bryant said. "The second quarter we did a much better job of locking in and taking those away."

James sprained his right ankle when he stepped on another player's foot during a scrimmage early last week. The injury was considered mild and James likely could have played Friday against Canada, but the U.S. staff opted to rest him to avoid further swelling before the long

flight to Asia.

"Obviously, he's healthy," U.S. coach Mike Krzyzewski said. "He got player of the game. I voted for him twice."

James said before practice Wednesday he was ready and needed just seconds to prove it. Turkey won the opening tip and took a quick shot. James pulled it off the rim — illegal in the NBA but allowed defensively in FIBA — and took off for the opening score.

"I just used my reaction time," James said. "Even some of the guys on Turkey were calling for goaltending. But it's legal."

The next 15 minutes were a struggle, even against an opponent without NBA players Hedo Turkoglu and Mehmet Okur.

The Americans yielded an alarming number of open shots and offensive rebounds for most of the first half and committed 10 turnovers. Even beating the quicker U.S. team downcourt on a couple of occasions, Turkey used a 10-2 spurt to grab a 27-24 lead on

Ender Arslan's 3-pointer with 1:42 remaining in the first quarter. The Americans were ahead just 31-30 after the period.

Turkey was still close late into the second before James seized control on both ends. He rebounded his own miss for a 10-point lead, came up with a steal and made a free throw, then leaped high for a one-handed dunk off an alley-oop pass from Bryant for a 50-37 lead. Another steal by James led to Howard's dunk and a 15-point cushion.

"We allowed them to get into a little comfort zone because we're trying to blow them out too fast," James said. "Once we realized we just need to win the game and our pressure will automatically put pressure on the other team, we did a great job in the second quarter of bumping the lead up."

James had 12 points in the half and added eight more and some of the game's highlight plays in the third. Following a basket by Turkey, he took the

ball out and whipped a pass to the other end of the court to a streaking Wade for a dunk. A minute later, James had another steal and passed ahead to Bryant, who bounced it in front of the basket to Anthony for a dunk.

Wade and Chris Bosh each scored 13 points and Chris Paul added 12 points and six assists.

Cenk Akyol had 22 points for Turkey. Turkoglu, the Orlando forward voted the most improved player in the NBA last season, shot around before the game and was introduced with the rest of the team, but Tanjevic held him out because of a lingering hamstring injury.

Turkey didn't qualify for the Olympics but has an automatic berth into the 2010 world championships as the host country.

Following the Olympic Games in The Floyd County Times.

Griffey joins White Sox for pennant race

by JOE KAY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — Ken Griffey Jr. is leaving home to get back in a pennant race.

The Chicago White Sox acquired Griffey from the Cincinnati Reds on Thursday, hoping the 38-year-old outfielder can help them hold onto their slim lead in the AL Central.

The Reds sent Griffey and cash to Chicago for reliever Nick Masset and Triple-A second baseman Danny Richar. The deal was announced a half-hour before the 4 p.m. EDT deadline to make trades without waivers.

Griffey, who hit his 600th home run this season, agreed to the trade earlier in the day. Because of the cash transaction involved, the deal did not become official until the commissioner's office approved it.

White Sox general manager Kenny Williams coveted Griffey for several years. Once one of baseball's premier players, Griffey has never reached the World Series and has not even been in the playoffs since 1997 with Seattle.

"One of the things that factored into this was a guy who has had a great career but has not won a championship and how motivated he's going to be to get on that stage," Williams said. "That is a factor and will always be a factor for me."

Now older, it's uncertain how much Griffey has left in his oft-injured body — it's been a long while since he was voted to the All-Century team.

Griffey played right field the last two seasons, but will return to center when he joins the White Sox on Friday for the start of a series in Kansas City. Manager Ozzie Guillen and the White Sox led Minnesota by 11/2 games when the trade was made.

"When I talked to Junior, he was very honest," Williams said. "He said, 'Well, I've got to tell you, I don't know that you're going to see the guy from Seattle.' I said, 'We're not looking for that guy from Seattle. What we're looking for is for you to use your instincts.'"

Griffey takes over for Nick Swisher, who moves to first base in place of the slumping Paul Konerko. Swisher also will give up his No. 30 to Griffey, who wore it during his earliest years in Cincinnati.

"I just think there's a lot of added things he can bring," Swisher said. "I mean, I had posters of that guy on my wall growing up. So I think it's going to be an awesome thing for all of us."

Reds general manager Walt Jocketty was surprised when the White Sox approached him on Wednesday. Griffey also was caught off-guard.

"I think he was just a little bit surprised, maybe, but I think he thought about it and said he wanted to talk to his family about it," Jocketty said. "I think he agreed it's a very good opportunity for him, and the club obviously wanted him and pursued him and came after him. That's got to be a good feeling for him, I guess."

The trade ended a bitter-sweet stay with his hometown team — a lot of injuries, a few benchmark homers, no playoff appearances.

Notably, his last hit with the Reds was a homer.

Griffey was on pace to break Hank Aaron's home run record when he came to Cincinnati in a trade with Seattle before the 2000 season. A series of severe injuries dropped him well off the pace. He finally hit No. 600 this season — only the sixth player to reach the mark — but struggled mightily at the plate.

That short, sweet swing has slowed down this year.

Griffey hit a three-run homer in a 9-5 win at Houston on Wednesday that left him with 15 home runs, 53 RBIs and a .245 batting average despite playing in one of baseball's most homer-friendly ballparks. His 608th homer left him one behind Sammy Sosa for fifth place on the career list.

Now, Griffey can catch up with Sosa on the south side of Chicago.

His speed and range have diminished since he was the game's best center fielder in the 1990s. Guillen said Griffey will play center and will be a designated hitter at times. Griffey batted third with the Reds, but will drop to sixth or seventh with Chicago.

"We're going to start there," Guillen said. "I don't know if we were going to move him up or down, but we'll start there."

The Reds agreed to pay some of the money left on Griffey's contract to get the

deal done. He makes \$12.5 million this season, and has an option for 2009 at a \$16.5 million salary. If the White Sox don't want to pick up next year's option, Griffey will be owed a \$4 million buyout.

The Reds were interested in dealing Griffey because of the size of his contract and their plummet after the All-Star break, which dropped them back to near the bottom of the NL Central, 13 1/2 games out of first place. The Reds haven't had a winning season since 2000.

The trade that united Griffey with the Reds in 2000 was hailed as a major breakthrough for the franchise, but turned out to be far less than expected. After the 2002 season, former general manager Jim Bowden tried to trade Griffey to San Diego for Phil Nevin, who used his no-trade clause to block the deal.

Bowden was trying to work out a deal with the Yankees in 2003 before Griffey got hurt. The White Sox also showed previous interest in Griffey, but Reds ownership was reluctant to trade its most prominent player as he closed in on 600 homers.

Masset, a righty, was 1-0 with a 4.63 ERA in 32 games for Chicago. Richar hit .262 with nine homers for Triple-A Charlotte.

AP Sports Writer Jon Krawczynski in Minneapolis and AP writer Terry Kinney in Cincinnati contributed to this report.



photo by Paula Goble

JUNIOR QUARTERBACK MICHAEL BURCHETT is set to lead the Prestonsburg High School football team from under center.

Newman: NASCAR bears 'ultimate responsibility'

by JOHN WAWROW
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PITTSFORD, N.Y. — NASCAR's apology went only so far with driver Ryan Newman, who held the governing body responsible for the tire fiasco that ruined the race at Indianapolis Motor Speedway last weekend.

"NASCAR has the ultimate responsibility," Newman said Wednesday, during a visit to Buffalo Bills training camp in suburban Rochester. "They are the Barnum and Bailey. They know what's going on in the center ring. And if they put a tiger out there that's going to bite somebody, then that's their responsibility."

He was careful to say he wasn't referring to NASCAR as being a circus in voicing his frustrations over a stop-and-go race in which the longest run under green was 13 laps. What troubled Newman, who is from Indiana, is that the problems occurred at Indianapolis.

"Let's just say, there's 100 years of automobile racing there. And I bet going back to 19-0-whatever they didn't have tire problems," Newman said.

The trouble was blamed on a durability issue involving the compound of the tires Goodyear selected not being strong enough when combined with NASCAR's current car.

NASCAR vice president of competition Robin Pemberton issued an apology Tuesday, saying: "I can't say how sorry we are and it's our responsibility being NASCAR that we don't go through this situation again."

Newman, however, said the apology was no consolation to fans.

"No, because you've got 250,000 people that spent time there, their money and took their families to see a great race. And all they saw was a 12-lap window max I think of racing," said this year's Daytona 500 champion, who finished 13th last weekend. "And that's not the way racing in NASCAR is supposed to be."

Newman did say "it was big" of NASCAR to apologize, but then criticized the governing body, Goodyear and track officials for failing to communicate.

Newman, who has been critical of NASCAR in the past regarding safety issues, noted that he watched Juan Montoya blow a tire that flew higher than the protective fence. "It's crazy," he said.

His visit to Rochester was part of a swing through the region to promote the Centurion Boats at The Glen race taking place at nearby Watkins Glen International on Aug. 10.

Cubs complete four game sweep of Brewers

Ashland native Webb records MBL-leading 15th win

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Chicago Cubs surely figured Rich Harden would be the big acquisition that helped them to a division title. Maybe even that long-awaited world championship.

But Jim Edmonds? Really?

Released just two months ago by one of the worst offensive teams in baseball, Edmonds hit two homers, including a grand slam, and the Cubs finished off a four-game sweep of the Milwaukee Brewers with an 11-4 rout to extend their lead in the NL East.

"I just got it started," said Edmonds, who struggled early in the season with San Diego.

Nice to win, nice series. Five days ago, the Cubs and Brewers were tied atop the division after Milwaukee made up five games in nine days. After the sweep, the Brewers have lost five straight and are five back.

The St. Louis Cardinals began the day four games behind Chicago.

Harden (1-1) picked up his first NL win, giving up a run and six hits in seven innings with nine strikeouts. He has yet to allow more than one run in

any of his four starts since being traded to the Cubs.

"I felt as strong as I've been," Harden said.

The biggest news on Thursday came out west, where the Los Angeles Dodgers landed Manny Ramirez in a three-team trade just before the non-waiver deadline. Boston picked up Pittsburgh outfielder Jason Bay, and the Pirates got two young players each from the Dodgers and Red Sox.

The Dodgers could have used Ramirez's big bat, too. They lost 2-1 to the Diamondbacks.

In the other NL games, it was Philadelphia 8, Washington 4; Atlanta 9, St. Louis 4; and Florida 12, Colorado 2.

Alfonso Soriano and Kosuke Fukudome each homered for the Cubs, who swept four games from the Brewers for the first time since 2003.

"No one is happy after a game like this," Brewers manager Ned Yost said. "We don't like the fact that we allowed their fans to come into our park and have a four-day party."

Chicago scored first in each game of the series, and outscored Milwaukee 31-11 in the series, all while stranding 35 runners on base. The Cubs improved to 8-2 at Milwaukee in the past two seasons.

Brewers starter Dave Bush (5-9) retired the first two batters in the fourth, but Aramis Ramirez walked, Fukudome doubled and Bush hit Mark

DeRosa with an 0-2 pitch to bring up Edmonds.

The 38-year-old center fielder, who joined Chicago in May, hit an opposite-field grand slam to left to make it 5-0. It was the seventh grand slam of his career and the 27th time he's hit two homers in a game.

The game nearly turned ugly in the ninth when Eric Gagne threw behind Edmonds on a 3-0 pitch and was immediately ejected by home plate umpire Doug Eddings.

"The umpire told me I can't go inside," Gagne said.

Edmonds took his base instead of escalating the situation.

"I really believe that you go out there, set that kind of example day in and day out and keep it together," he said. "Not to say that they were wrong or anything, it's just that that's the way the game is, you can't ride the ups and downs with this game or it will kill you."

Did Edmonds think it was intentional?

"I don't make anything of it, I know where it came from," Edmonds said. "I've played this game a long time, I know what's going on."

Diamondbacks 2, Dodgers 1: At Los Angeles, Ashland native Brandon Webb allowed six hits in eight innings to win his big league-leading 15th game, and the Diamondbacks extended their lead over LA to two games in the NL West.

Webb (15-4) walked one

and struck out six in outpitching Derek Lowe and continuing his domination of the Dodgers. The 2006 NL Cy Young Award winner is 8-0 in his past nine starts against Los Angeles, allowing nine runs in 71 innings.

Brandon Lyon blanked the Dodgers in the ninth to earn his 23rd save in 28 chances.

The win was the sixth in seven games for the Diamondbacks while the Dodgers lost for just the second time in seven games.

Phillies 8, Nationals 4: At Washington, Jimmy Rollins and Jayson Werth homered, and Philadelphia stretched its winning streak to five games by completing a sweep of the injury-riddled Nationals.

Ryan Howard and Pat Burrell added RBI singles in a three-run sixth that gave the Phillies an 8-2 lead. Washington helped by making three errors, two of which led to runs off starter John Lannan (6-11).

Kyle Kendrick (9-5) earned his first win since July 1, giving up two runs in 6 2-3 innings.

Braves 9, Cardinals 4: At Atlanta, rookie Clint Sammons homered and drove in three runs to help the Braves snap a five-game losing streak.

Reliever Jeff Bennett (2-4) picked up the win with two scoreless innings.

St. Louis starter Joel Pineiro (3-5) gave up 10 hits and six runs in six innings.

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only, \$3,000. Call after 5pm (606) 886-8539.

Murray riding lawn mower for sale. 20 hp. Good condition. \$700. Call 205-9510 or 263-4323.

\$100 paid for junk cars with motor. Call 285-0899. Martin area.

Forklift for sale: Yale, LP gas, numatic tires. More info call 606-285-9115.

Want to buy junk cars. Will pay up to \$100. Running or not. Will pick up for free. Call 606-226-8111 or 859-621-0787.

For sale: 50 acres of coal. In Laurel Fork off quick sand, Ky. Call 260-347-0259.

Suzuki 230 quad sport 4-wheeler. Runs great! \$800 or best offer. Also a kids mini chopper \$400 OBO. If no answer leave message. Call 889-8872.

For sale: New 2008 Troy-Built lawn mower-17.5 H.P. 42 inch cut- \$900. Call 606-874-9703.

For sale: 2 800 Watt Max 10" sub-woofers Volfenhag. Also Boss Amp 400 w X 2 Revolution series. \$ 200. Call 789-8792 or 792-8657.

2 karat diamond choker necklace for sale. Call 791-0107.

REAL ESTATE

Houses

3 br, 2 ba brick home for sale. Located in Prestonsburg 1/2 mile from the MCA at Spurlock Creek. First brick with fenced in yard, carport, .75 acre, fireplace, and a garden area. Price reduced \$175,000. Call 889-0544 after 6pm Monday - Friday. Or call 791-3742.

3 Br, 2 1/2 home for sale. 37 acres, 2 rental properties and barn. 2,200 sq ft living space. Less than 2 yrs old. Asking \$350,000. Call 226-0528 or 791-2484.

For Sale: House and a 14x60 mobile home with 5 acres of land. 2 storage buildings, city water in Floyd County. Call 606-358-0064.

For sale: Home at Valley View estates, Langley, 3 Br, family room, living room, dining room, kitchen has lots of cabinets. 2 full baths one has a jacuzzi tub and utility room. It sits on around 2 acres. Price \$ 95,900. Call 606-285-9694 or

606-757-9661.

House for sale: 3 br, dining room, kitchen, single bath with full size unfinished basement. 5,500 sq ft with garage area. Located half mile south of World Wide Equipment. Call 874-2421.

3 Bd house for sale. 1 1/2 bath new kitchen & app. Commercial bldg also located on property. Located on Middle Creek. Call 8886-2699.

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

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

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

FARM FOR SALE Floyd county 75 acres more or less, rt. 1100 off US 23

Sale or Lease

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT!!!! Previously Webb Medical Group. Very nice! Call 874-0032.

Giovanis building in Martin will soon be vacated. Ideal for another restaurant. Reasonable rent. If interested call 285-3025 Monday - Saturday 9am - 5 pm.

Land for sale: 1/4 acre, exiting septic, city water located at lvel between Prestonsburg and Pikeville. Call 606-422-1862.

Office space for rent: Located on 1320 North Lake drive Prestonsburg. Good location for hair stylist. Call 886-6336. If no answer call 794-6204.

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.

APT FOR RENT Branham height Apt Wheelright KY, is now accepting applications for one bed-

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

For rent: 1 br small efficiency apartment. Located between Allen & Prestonsburg on Rt 1428. Fully furnished. Suitable for 1 or 2 people only. Private parking. All utilities are furnished including basic tv cable. \$475 mth plus \$250 deposit. No pets. Call 606-262-4296.

Apartment for rent. 2 br, 1 bath. Located on US 23 above Unisign at lvel. \$350 month plus security deposit. 1 yr lease. No pets. Call 606-478-8100.

Apartment for lease. 1 br furnished or unfurnished. Located close to town, on Old 114 Behind the Mountain Arts Center. No pets and no HUD. Call 606-205-9510 or 606-263-4323.

room Handicap accessible Apt. rent is based on income. Contact Kathy 452-4777

Houses

3 br, 3 bath house for lease. With 2 car garage. Located at Spradling Branch. Call 889-0363.

For rent: 2 br, 1 bath house located at Martin. \$500 month plus \$500 deposit. Call 791-6571.

For rent: 2 Br newly remodeled home. \$500 month security deposit required. Call Monday - Friday after 6pm 886-2239 or Sat-Sun before 2 pm. References required. HUD approved.

House for rent on Little Paint Crk. Quiet neighborhood, very clean, renovated, about 1100 sq ft. Carport, storage building, lease required. No pets. \$600 month plus utilities. Call 886-3613 or 791-0565.

House for rent: 1,500 sq ft. 2 Br, 1 bath fully furnished. All utilities. Located on US23 between Prestonsburg & Pikeville. \$795 deposit & \$795 month. Call 606-422-1862.

2 BR Duplex for rent, central heat and air. 1 mile North of Prestonsburg. No

pets, references and security deposit required. Call 889-9747 or 886-9007.

MobileHomes

New federal lending program for landowners. No down payment & low monthly payments. Complete improvement packages available. Will also remove existing homes. Call 866-597-2083.

For sale: 2002 Clayton 16x80 mobile home. 3 Br, 2 bath. \$22,000. Call 606791-2494.

Mobile home for rent. Meade rentals. Single and doublewide mobile homes. 3 br only. Located at Auxier. Call 789-8881 or 367-1169.

Mobile home lot for rent. 75x100 with septic. Private \$200 per month. Includes water & garbage. Call 886-8366.

Special FHA Finance Program \$0 Down if you own land or use family bank your approved. Call 866-597-2083

For rent: 2 br mobile home at Minnie. Call 606-377-6346.

For rent: 3 br, 2 bath double wide at Hueysville. City water, nice yard, HUD approved. Deposit and references required. Call after 5:00pm 886-8223.

2 Br mobile

home for rent. Call 889-0363.

For rent: Nice 2 br Mobile home for rent in Prestonsburg. Call 874-0875 or 226-3207.

LOTS FOR RENT Dwale Mobile home Park. off US 23 near Prestonsburg. Nice quiet community. Restrictions apply. 606-377-2357

2 Mobile homes with land for sale. Located at Cliff - side. Approx 2 miles from town for more info contact 791-3727.

Mobile home for rent. Located at Allen. Call 874-

For rent: Very good condition. 3 Br, 2 bath mobile home. Located close to Prestonsburg community college. Central heat / air. 2 inch installed metal top that reduces electric bill. Garbage, water, sewage provided. No HUD. Rent \$500 month with \$400 deposit. Must have 1 yr of references. Call 606-874-2162.

Double wide for sale. 3 br. 1994 South Elite 28 x 52. \$12,000. Call 358-9756.

Mobile home for rent: Nice 16 x 80. With 3 br, 2 bath with fridge/stove, washer dryer & partially furnished located in Emma. \$500 month plus utilities. Call 606-791-0963. No HUD.

Legals

add 0.0 acres of surface disturbance and 1,876.94 acres of underground mining area making the total area within the permit boundary will be 8,498.95 acres. The amendment area is approximately 2.5 miles south of Kentucky Route 3's junction with Big Sandy Regional Airport Road and located at the mouth of Bear Water Branch of Daniels Creek. The proposed amendment is located on the Thomas and Lancer U.S.G.S. 771/2 minute quadrangle maps. The amendment will use the underground mining methods of mining. The operation will underlie land owned by Pocahontas Development Corporation and New South Mining Company, Inc. The amendment application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

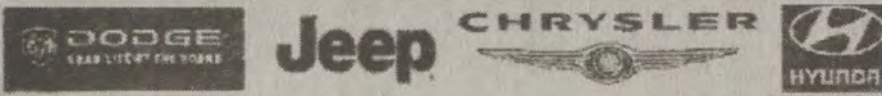
NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE Pursuant to Application Number 836-0346, Renewal No. 1

In accordance with KRS 350.055, notice is hereby given that Frasure Creek Mining, LLC, 4978 Teays Valley Road, Scott Depot, West Virginia 25560 has applied for a renewal of a permit for a surface and underground coal mining and reclamation operation located 0.91 mile northeast of Wayland in Floyd County. The proposed operation will disturb 161.67 surface acres and will underlie 201.11 acres for auger of which 8.64 acres are included in the surface acres, and the total area within the permit boundary will be 354.14 acres. The proposed operation is approximately 0.85 miles southwest from KY Route 777's junction with KY Route 680 and is located along in Martin Branch of the Right Fork of Beaver Creek. The proposed operation is located on the Wayland USGS 7 1/2 minute quadrangle map. The surface area to be disturbed is owned by The Elk Horn Coal Corporation. The operation will underlie land owned by The Elk Horn Coal Corporation. The operation will use the contour and auger method of surface mining. The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Natural Resources' Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director of Mine Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow Complex, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE1 Pursuant to Application Number 858-5064 Amendment No. 3

In accordance with the provisions of KRS 350.055, notice is hereby given that Czar Coal Corporation, HC 64, Box 915, Debord, Kentucky 41214 has applied for an amendment to an existing underground coal mining and reclamation operation located 2.5 miles southeast of Odds in Martin, Floyd and Johnson Counties. The amendment will

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2002 Toyota Sienna
\$9,999.00. NADA price \$12,000. Local, 1-owner, Carfax certified, champagne in color. Heated leather seats with sunroof, V6, Gas Saver!
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SURGERY DIRECTOR
Three Rivers Medical Center of Louisa, KY, is searching for a Director of Surgery Services to manage operations of the department.
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*the four safety-belt steps are not magical
...they're critical.*

safety belts alone are 4 times more likely to suffer head injuries than kids in car seats and booster seats. In addition, children 4-7 who use booster seats are a whopping 59% less likely to be injured in a crash than those only restrained by a safety belt. Booster seats raise your child up so that a safety belt (designed for adults) will fit and protect them properly. Remember, 4'9" is the magic number. Until then, kids really need to be in a booster seat. Booster seats work like...well, you know.

1 infant seat

2 toddler seat

3 booster seat

4 safety belt

www.boosterseat.gov