



# The Times

FLOYD COUNTY

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## In brief

### Federal agency proposes drug tests for miners

The Associated Press

FRANKFORT — The federal agency that regulates the nation's coal and non-coal mines says it will revise its drug and alcohol policy to include substance abuse testing for all miners.

Mine Safety and Health Administration Director Richard Stickler says mining is a dangerous business that is only made more so when a miner is under the influence.

The agency doesn't track if drugs or alcohol contributed to an injury or death, but MSHA says numerous investigations have discovered alcohol or drug paraphernalia near an accident scene.

MSHA estimates it will cost the industry about \$16 million the first year to comply, and \$13 million a year thereafter.

The agency expects to file a proposed regulation on Monday. Interested parties have until Oct. 8 to respond.

## Man wanted for murder turns self in

by JARRID DEATON  
FEATURES WRITER

PIKEVILLE — A Pike County man wanted by police for a 1975 murder in Ohio turned himself in on Thursday.

Billy R. Crisp, 59, surrendered to the Kentucky State Police at Post 9 in Pikeville. He was taken into custody without incident.

Crisp has been missing for more than 10 days after the Ohio Highway Patrol issued a warrant for his arrest in connection with the murder of Woodrow Perroud at the Wakefield

Mounds Rest Area on US 23 over 30 years ago. Perroud was found shot in the head in his truck.

At the time of the shooting, Perroud and Crisp were brother-in-laws, with Perroud married to Crisp's sister. Both men were originally from Johns Creek, with Perroud moving to Gallipolis, Ohio.

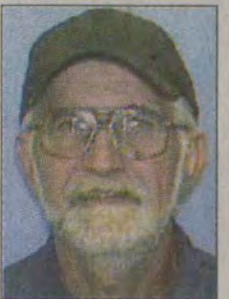
One of the possible motives being investigated by police is an insurance policy on Perroud.

Crisp went missing around the same time that the warrant was issued, and police

warned the public that he could be armed and dangerous, with Kentucky State Police Det. Mike Goble citing a previous incident where Crisp went missing and was found on an abandoned strip mine with a weapon.

Because of his history working in the mining industry, police suspect that Crisp has been hiding at abandoned coal mines for the past couple of weeks before deciding to turn himself in.

Crisp was taken to the Pike County Detention Center where he is being held on no bond.



Billy R. Crisp

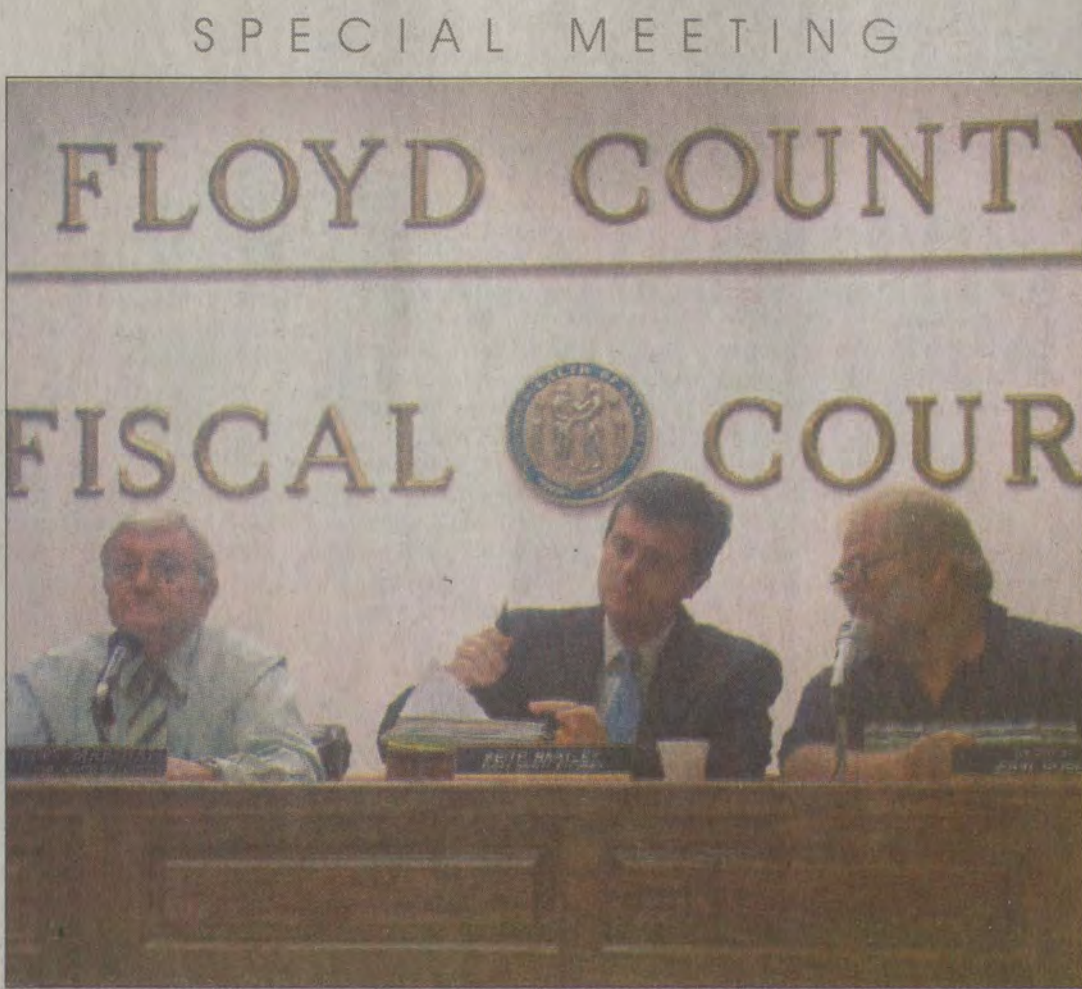


photo by Jarrid Deaton

The Floyd County Fiscal Court voted to approve checks in the amount of \$8,750 for each of the four senior citizen centers in the county during a special meeting on Friday.

### SPECIAL MEETING

## FLOYD COUNTY FISCAL COURT

## Pike grand jury issues 8 indictments

by CHARLOTTE SANDERS  
WILLIAMSON DAILY NEWS

PIKEVILLE — Seven indictments on Class D felony charges and one indictment charging a misdemeanor have been returned by a grand jury serving Pike Circuit Court.

Commonwealth's Attorney Rick L. Bartley also released a report of the grand jury, concerning the May 2008 primary election in Pike County.

The report noted that the jury panel had been charged

at the time of its selection, to inquire into any regularities brought to its attention as grand jurors with reference to the said election.

The report, signed by the jury foreperson, stated:

"Three months after the election, we have received no allegations of criminal wrongdoing from any investigatory agency.

"We would like to thank the court for having provided us the opportunity to serve on the Grand Jury. It

(See CHARGES, page three)

## Politicians keep money from indicted road builder

The Associated Press

LEXINGTON — Politicians who have received money in the past year from now-indicted road contractor Leonard Lawson say they plan to keep it.

The Lexington Herald-Leader reported Friday that Republican state Sen. Brandon Smith of Hazard and Democratic state Rep. Greg Stumbo of Prestonsburg are among those planning to keep \$1,000 contributions given to them by Lawson, who has given a total of \$17,850 to five candidates and two

political groups in the current election cycle.

U.S. Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell's campaign manager, Justin Brasell, declined to discuss the \$4,000 Lawson gave the senator and another \$4,000 he gave to the McConnell Majority Committee.

A grand jury in Lexington indicted Lawson and two other men Wednesday on charges stemming from an investigation of alleged bid tampering on state and federal road projects.

Last month, McConnell (See MONEY, page three)

## Fiscal court issues checks to senior citizens centers

by JARRID DEATON  
FEATURES WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Floyd County's four senior citizen centers are getting a helping hand from the fiscal court and the Big Sandy Area Development District.

The Floyd County Fiscal Court held a special meeting Friday to approve issuing checks in the amount of \$8,750 to each of the senior citizen centers in the county, totaling \$35,000.

The Betsy Layne Senior Citizens Center, Mud Creek Senior Citizens Center, Wayland Senior Citizens

Center and Wheelwright Senior Citizens Center should all receive the funds on Monday.

"This is something that is essential or we wouldn't have called this special meeting," said Judge-Executive R.D. "Doc" Marshall. "The fiscal court is in full support of these seniors, without question."

The money was made available to the Floyd County Fiscal Court by the Big Sandy Area Development District as an advance to be divided equally and used for operating expenses for the senior citizens centers. The advance was authorized because the \$140,000 from the Kentucky General

Assembly through House Bill 410 has yet to be received.

"We are going to make these funds available on Monday so they can continue operations as usual," Marshall said.

According to the resolution signed by the fiscal court, "The Floyd County Senior Citizens Centers are currently facing a crisis and are in need of emergency finances because of their loss of Title III funding."

"It's going to keep our doors open," said Sharon Anderson, director of the Wayland Senior Citizens Center. "We do lots of good things for our seniors, and

(See COURT, page three)

## Indictments latest problem for Transportation

by JOE BIESK  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — Allegations of corruption — or at least ethical lapses — at Kentucky's Transportation Cabinet aren't anything new.

Whether it's accusations of bid-rigging or employees using state computers to access pornography, the cabinet has made headlines, and Gov. Steve Beshear says, as others have in the past, that his administration is going to change things.

"Our attention is on the future," Beshear said. "We're determined to turn that culture of corruption into a culture of integrity."

State officials may have some work to do after a round of federal indictments Wednesday gave the agency its latest black eye. Former secretary Bill Nighbert was indicted as part of an alleged bid-rigging scheme, along with road contractor Leonard Lawson and Brian Russell Billings, who worked for Lawson.

All have denied any wrongdoing.

It was just the latest round of troubles for the agency.

Nighbert, who former Gov. Ernie Fletcher hired as his top transportation official, was also involved in a state hiring investigation that rocked the previous Republican administration and led to 29 indictments.

A special grand jury indicted Fletcher and more than a dozen of his associates were indicted on misdemeanor charges stemming from alleged illegal hiring. Fletcher administration officials allegedly gave protected state

jobs to political supporters in violation of state law.

The charges against Fletcher were eventually dropped in a deal with prosecutors, after the former governor pardoned his entire administration.

Also, Sarah Missy McCray recently won a \$500,000 judgment against the state to settle a whistleblower lawsuit against the Transportation Cabinet claiming Nighbert threatened her. Former Chief Deputy Inspector

(See PROBLEMS, page three)

2 DAY FORECAST

Today  
 Sunny  
High: 85 • Low: 57

Tomorrow  
 Partly cloudy  
High: 88 • Low: 58

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## inside

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



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# Regional Obituaries

## FLOYD COUNTY

■ Burlin Bradford, 83, of Blue River, died Sunday, August 31, at his residence. Funeral services were held Wednesday, September 3, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Roy Lee Branham, age 74, of Hueysville, died Saturday, August 30, in the Parkview Nursing Home, Pikeville. Funeral services were conducted

Wednesday, September 3, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ William Byron Brashear, 70, of Ballground, Georgia, formerly of Manton, died Thursday, August 21, at Kennestone Hospital in Marietta, Georgia. He is survived by his wife, Lena Brashear. A graveside service will be held Wednesday, September 10, at 11 a.m. in

Davidson Memorial Gardens, Ivel.

■ Clyde Eugene George, 87, of Prestonsburg, died Thursday, August 28, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Lois Adams George. Funeral services were held Sunday, August 31, under the direction of Carter Funeral Home.

■ Thomas Delano Lawson, 66, of Drift, died Sunday August 31, in the McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Brenda Hurst Lawson. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, September 3, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Tiffany Leann Moore, 21, of Minnie, died Sunday, August 31, at St. Joseph Hospital, Martin. Funeral services were held Thursday, September 4, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Anna Lou Patton, 84, of Prestonsburg, died Sunday, August 31, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Palmer Patton. Funeral services were held Wednesday, September 3, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Donald Patton, 88, of Langley, died Monday, September 1, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Earlene Patton. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, September 4, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Ethel Dudley Presley, 97, of Langley, died Tuesday, September 2, at her residence. Funeral services were held Friday, September 5, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Bessie Conn Samons, 92, of Banner, died Thursday, September 4, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, Prestonsburg. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, September 6, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Genevieve M. Stidham, 77, of Eaton, Ohio, and formerly of Camden, Ohio, a McDowell native, died Thursday, August 28, at Kettering Memorial Hospital, Kettering, Ohio. Funeral services were held Monday, September 1, under the direction of Girton-Schmidt-Boucher Funeral Home.

## PIKE COUNTY

■ Billy Ray Adkins, 62 of Stone, died Tuesday, September 2, at his home. Arrangements, under the direction of R. E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Tommy Dale Blankenship, 62, of Hurricane Creek, died Wednesday, September 3, at Central Baptist Hospital, Lexington. He is survived by his wife, Ermalene Blankenship. Funeral services were held Saturday, September 6, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ Leon Brown, 63, of Riverview, Mich., formerly of Pike County, died Saturday, August 30. He is survived by his wife, Judy Brown. Funeral services were held Wednesday, Sept. 3, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ Archie Clevinger, 80, of Pikeville, a native of Goody, died Thursday, August 28, 2008, at his residence. Funeral services were held Sunday, August

31, under the direction of Community Funeral Home.

■ Mangus Dotson, 61, of Elyria, Ohio, a native of Phelps, died Friday, August 29, in Lorain, Ohio. Funeral services were held Wednesday, September 3, under the direction of Phelps Funeral Services.

■ Robert Lance "Bob" Fannin, 68, of Georgetown, a native of Minnie, died Thursday, August 28, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy Ann Sipps Fannin. Funeral services were held Tuesday, September 2, under the direction of Carman Funeral Home.

■ Arkansas Hudson, 100, of Robinson Creek, a native of Weeksbury, died Sunday, August 31, 2008, in Thompsonville, Ill. Funeral services were held Thursday, September 4, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ Eleanor Belcher Maggard, 65, of Pikeville, died Saturday, August 30, at Pikeville Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Donnic Maggard. Funeral services were held Tuesday, September 2, under the direction of Community Funeral Home.

■ Michael Lloyd Prater, 20, of Greasy Creek, died Sunday, Aug. 31. Funeral services were held Wednesday, Sept. 3, under direction of Roberts Funeral Home of Robinson Creek.

■ Recie Young Quartana, 84, of South Williamson, and Clearwater, Florida, died Monday, September 1, at Eden Gardens Home, Marietta, Georgia. Funeral services were held Friday, September 5, under the direction of Everly-Wheatley Funeral Home.

■ Paul Raines, 50, of Pikeville, died Sunday, Aug. 31, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Jane Raines. Funeral services were held Wednesday, Sept. 3, under the direction of Thacker Funeral Home.

■ Shirley Ruble, 72, of Chloe Road, Pikeville, died Sunday, Aug. 31, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Wednesday, September 3, under the direc-

tion of Thacker Funeral Home.

■ Harry Lee Smith, 57, of Pikeville, died Tuesday, September 2, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Paula Wilson Smith. Funeral services were held Friday, September 5, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Robert (Ronnie) L. Varney, 70 of Hardy, passed away Saturday morning, August 30, 2008, at his residence. Funeral services were held Monday, September 1, under the direction of R. E. Rogers Funeral Home.

## LAWRENCE COUNTY

■ John Paul Clay Jr., 26, of Louisa, died Wednesday, September 3. Funeral services were held Sunday, August 31, under the direction of Young Funeral Home.

## MAGOFFIN COUNTY

■ Danny Wireman, 60, of Salyersville died Saturday, August 30. Funeral services were held Monday, September 1, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

## JOHNSON COUNTY

■ Cecil Blair, 92, of Nippa, died Wednesday, September 3, at Mountain Manor Nursing Home, Paintsville. Funeral services will be held Sunday, September 7, at 1 p.m., under the direction of the Paintsville Funeral Home.

■ Gerald Fyffe, 60, of Staffordsville, died Wednesday, September 3, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Belva Lynn Ferguson Fyffe. Funeral services were held Saturday, September 6, under the direction of Paintsville Funeral Home.

## Obituaries

### Edith Ousley

Edith Ousley, 81, of Goggins Lane, Richmond, formerly of Langley, widow of Jimmie Ousley, passed away Friday August 29, 2008, at the Terrace, in Berea.

She was born November 25, 1926, at Risner, of Floyd County, and was the daughter of the late Leonard and Nancy Jane Sammons Ousley. She was a homemaker and a member of the First Baptist Church in Richmond.

She is survived by one son Delbert (Carolyn) Ousley, and one daughter, Dianna Ackerman both of Richmond; two sisters: Lucille (Willie) Wright of Indianapolis, Indiana, and Evalee (Stuart) Cambell of Safety Harbor, Florida. She is also survived by 7 grandchildren: Janet Ranaldi, Renee Williams, Pamela Smith, Andrea Bowman, Angela Rosanbalm,

Billy Ackerman and Terry Ackerman; 13 great-grandchildren; and one faithful caregiver, Sue Owens.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by a daughter Delta Faye Ousley; one son-in-law Bill Ackerman and one great grandchild.

Funeral services will be held 11 a.m., Monday, September 1, at Hall Brothers Funeral Home, in Martin, with Rev. Bill Fort officiating.

Burial will immediately follow in Davidson Memorial Gardens.

Visitation is at the funeral home.

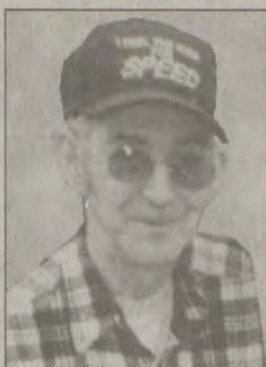
In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be made to the First Baptist Church Building Fund, P.O. Box 697 Richmond, KY 40476 or to the American Cancer Society, 1504 College Way, Lexington, KY 40502.

(Paid obituary)

### In Loving memory on his 64th Birthday

#### Martin B. Frasure

September 7, 1944 - November 30, 2006



We had no idea that evening that God was going to call your name. In life we loved you dearly, in death we do the same.

It broke our hearts to lose you, but you didn't go alone, because a part of us went with you, the day God called you home.

We will never be the same, but as God calls us home, We will be together again.

September 4, 2008, would of been 41 years together.

We love and miss you very much,

Your wife, Willa Frasure,  
Sons, Dean and Stanley Frasure

### In Loving Memory of Cret Caudill

For a very special man whom a woman could never forget.

When I walk that hill, I can see you; but deep in my heart you are a long way from me. God took you from me, but none else could. You are always on my mind, day and night. I can't get you out of my heart, you are there to stay. You always stood by my side through good and bad. It's been one year and my heart has been broken ever since. My tears have flowed from daylight to dark. It feels like just yesterday I held you tight in my arms. No matter what, my heart will never heal without you, as long as we are apart.

A million times I have needed you, a million times I have cried. If love could have kept you here, you would have never died. It broke my heart to lose you, but you didn't go alone, because part of my heart went with you the day God took you home. I will always love you, and I will never forget you as long as I live. You were my first love, and you will be my last.

Annie



### PAPAW

He would sit on the front porch swinging, counting the jets go by. He was waiting for the people he knew and loved, to drive by. He had a coffee cup in one hand and the paper in the other. He was the greatest man I knew, he was like no other.

He was a strong man and felt strong about his beliefs. He set a good example for his family to see. He was a private man and showed few emotions. But we knew we were loved when we felt his strong hugs.

He would fix the bicycles for the kids to ride. He would make us laugh so hard, we sometimes cried. He always made sure everyone ate. There were apples, bananas, and cookies to eat.

At Christmas time he tried to be the grinch. But inside we knew he was like one of the kids. At Thanksgiving time he was the first one at the table. The man of the house sat at the head of the table. At Easter time he loved seeing his girls in dresses. As that was the one time of year it happened...until today.

He left socks on the end table and junk mail galore. Rubber bands and paper airplanes. These are the things we will see no more.

All of you who knew him have been blessed. All of us who adore him will somehow learn to rest. It will be hard, but we will get through. Because that is what our Papaw would want us to do.

Written in memory of

#### JOHN BAYS, JR.

December 22nd, 1929 - February 15th, 2008

### HAPPY GRANDPARENT'S DAY!

Love,

YOUR GRANDCHILDREN:

Crystal, Jennifer, Elizabeth, Cassie, Jonathan, Rebecca, and Cameron

AND GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN:

Emily, Wesley, Payton, Abby, Joshua, Delila, Taylor, Jacob, Logan, and Laken

## FCT ONLINE POLL

RESULTS FOR WEEK OF AUGUST 31 - SEPTEMBER 7, 2008

### What do you think of Barack Obama's choice for running mate?

- I am more likely to vote for him now.  (56 Votes, 40%)
- I am less likely to vote for him now.  (38 Votes, 27%)
- The running mate makes no difference in how I vote.  (47 Votes, 33%)

Go online today and answer this week's question!

### What do you think of John McCain's choice for running mate?

- I am more likely to vote for him now.
- I am less likely to vote for him now.
- The running mate makes no difference in how I vote.

## FCT ONLINE POLL

## SEE YOUNG AGAIN

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# Novel anti-overdose drug studied

LEXINGTON — Devastating bodily harm caused by cocaine overdose may soon be avoided because of new drug discovery made by University of Kentucky researchers.

By tweaking a naturally occurring enzyme, Chang-Guo Zhan, professor in the department of pharmaceutical sciences at UK's College of Pharmacy, and his colleagues created a molecule that could flush a cocaine overdose out of the body before it can cause irreparable damage to the body.

Currently, doctors can only try to relieve the symptoms of a cocaine overdose. If the enzyme undergoing

research works in humans, it could remove the drug from a user's body.

Enzymes in the body combine cocaine with water and then, over a sequence of reaction steps, break it down into two harmless products. However, this process is very slow — it takes up to 90 minutes to dispose half of even a tiny dose, and much longer for a large overdose. Zhan says that the molecule his team created can break down cocaine much faster.

"Our drug discovery was based on rational design using a novel computational approach," said Zhan.

Zhan and his colleagues, including

scientists at the University of Michigan Medical School, calculated the energy required to perform each reaction step, which enabled them to determine how much energy a molecule should have to successfully react. Using computer simulations that systematically tweak the structure of the enzyme and predict the effect of these tweaks on the energy barrier, Zhan and his colleagues arrived at a candidate molecule that promised to speed up the degradation of cocaine by 2,000 times faster than the naturally occurring enzyme. The molecule was then synthesized and tested on animal models to determine whether it might

work in the human body.

Zhan says the overdose therapy should have few side effects in humans.

"We expect that this candidate molecule can be tolerated very well in the human body because it is a variant of the primary cocaine-metabolizing enzyme in the human body and we have not made any change on the enzyme surface," Zhan said.

Cocaine is a powerfully addictive stimulant drug that has many adverse effects on the body including damage to the central nervous system, the cardiovascular system, respiratory system and digestive system.

## Court

Continued from p1

we depend on this kind of money to put in our budget. It's wonderful, and we really appreciate everything that the fiscal court does for us."

The court also voted to enter into agreements with the Big Sandy Area Development District and the four senior citizens centers for accounting and administration of a Nutrition Services Incentive Program commodity food component of the Big Sandy Area Aging Program, as well as programs from the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

# KESPT introduces new investment options

FRANKFORT — The Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA) and TIAA-CREF Tuition Financing, Inc. (TFI) are announcing new enhancements to the Kentucky Education Savings Plan Trust (KESPT) which includes an expanded investment portfolio, a new fee structure and additional website features.

Effective September 2, 2008, KESPT, Kentucky's official 529 college savings plan, will add two new investment options for a total of five to choose from.

Account owners will be able to diversify their current portfolios among the two new options—the Active Equity Option and the Fixed-Income Option—as well as the existing Managed Allocation Option, 100% Equity Option and Guaranteed Option.

"We are pleased to provide a stronger, more competitive plan for Kentucky families," said Edward J. Cunningham, Executive Director/CEO of KHEAA. "It's important for us to provide a smart and flexible way for families to help save money so their children can

afford a college education."

The Active Equity Option is an aggressive option which mainly invests in equity mutual funds that seek capital appreciation and a favorable long-term return. The Fixed-Income Option takes a more moderate approach by using a combination of mutual funds that invest in conventional and inflation-linked bonds, seeking to preserve capital and provide a moderate rate of return.

"With these new options added to KESPT, our account owners will be able to better diversify their portfolio based

on their personal investment strategy, risk levels and economic conditions," said Craig Parkin, KESPT Program Director. "Also, portfolio changes can now be made online with our new enhanced website feature which allows account owners with secure access to transfer funds among their investment options." Other website changes include enhanced security features for account owners, an event calendar and a soon-to-be launched web presentation explaining the features and benefits of the plan.

KESPT also has a new fee structure and has lowered the annual asset management fee on the Managed Allocation Option from .80 percent to .70 percent. The range for the choice of investment options will vary from .70 to .91 percent depending on the investment option. The Guaranteed Option will continue to be offered with no program manager fee. KESPT continues to be a low-cost option and does not apply broker or application fees.

## Charges

has truly been a life-changing experience. Our eyes have been opened to many problems in our country that we did not know exist."

The indictments returned by the jury contained one drug-related charge; other felony offenses such as theft of identity, theft by unlawful taking, and bail jumping, and one misdemeanor count of assault, fourth degree.

A list of indictments, including name, age and address of each defendant and the specified charges, is as follows:

■ Justin M. Kidd, 26, of Harold, attempt to obtain a controlled substance by fraud, July 27.

■ Stephanie Scott, no age listed, of

Pikeville, identity theft allegedly possessing or using identifying information of Shelia Adkins without consent and with the intent to represent that she was such person and for the purpose of avoiding detection, June 18, 2006.

■ Jonah Lester, 21, of Phelps, theft by unlawful taking on June 23, for allegedly taking or exercising control of a 2005 Honda 70 dirt bike valued at \$300 or more, and which belonged to Rick Hatfield.

■ Paul C. Baisden, 32, of Huddy, theft by unlawful taking on June 12, for allegedly exercising control of mattresses, box springs and bed frame valued at \$300 or more, which belonged to Rosecoe Blackburn.

■ Jimmy Akers, 41, of Harold; Steven Murphy, 39, of Pikeville; and Michael Adkins, 37, of Harold. The three stand jointly indicted for the offense of theft by unlawful taking or exercising control of railroad metal in an amount valued at \$300 or more and which belonged to CSX Railway; July 24.

■ Mark Hurley, age not listed, of Red Jacket, W.Va., first-degree bail jumping on Aug. 4, when, having been previously released from custody by court order upon condition to appear subsequently at a specified time and place in connection with a charge of having committed a felony in Indictment No. 07-CR-028, the defen-

dant allegedly failed and refused to appear per orders of the court.

■ Lorenzo A. Yascone, 46, of Regina, and Charles D. Thacker, 23, of Pikeville, jointly indicted for theft by unlawful taking of metal grates valued at \$300 or more and belonging to the Kentucky Department of Highways, Aug. 6, and first-degree wanton endangerment, for allegedly engaging in conduct which created a substantial danger of death or serious physical injury to the public.

■ Jerry Clarence Fields Jr., 34, of Phelps, fourth-degree assault (Class A misdemeanor), when he allegedly caused a physical injury to Alex Ray Mitchell on June 7.

## Money

said he would donate to charity the \$10,000 his campaign received from a political action committee set up by indicted U.S. Sen. Ted Stevens, a Republican from Alaska. McConnell is facing a stiff challenge from Democrat Bruce Lunsford this fall.

"I think it's absolutely fine to take and keep the money," Smith said. "So far, only an accusation has been made against Lawson. People are innocent until proven guilty,

and I really appreciate his support."

Stumbo also said he had no plans to return Lawson's contribution to his last campaign.

"Leonard Lawson has been a friend of mine for well over 30 years," Stumbo said. "I think he's entitled to be presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law."

Lawson's attorney, Larry Mackey, has pledged that his client would fight the charges and has lambasted federal

prosecutors for what he called "leaks" in the case that have "only destroyed Mr. Lawson's right to a fair trial."

Lawson, who lives in Lexington and owns a half-dozen road contracting and paving companies, has been a fixture in Kentucky politics for decades and is known as both a prolific campaign donor and fundraiser who often crosses party lines.

His most recent round of donations in the current two-

year election cycle is no exception. He gave to three Democrats and two Republicans, as well as the Kentucky Republican Party and the Kentucky Highway Industries Political Action Committee.

U.S. Rep. Ben Chandler hasn't decided if he will return \$4,600 that Lawson gave his re-election campaign in December 2007. That amount — \$2,300 for the primary and \$2,300 for the general election

— is the maximum amount allowed under federal law.

"Having just learned of the matter, we're going to reserve judgment on the question of contributions until further developments in the case," Chandler chief of staff Denis Fleming said.

## Problems

General Michael Duncan also settled a personnel case in December for \$369,000 and was allowed to return to work with back pay.

Meanwhile, a Jan. 30 report from the cabinet's inspector general found eight state workers were suspended in retaliation by a superior. They were unjustly accused of viewing thousands of non-work-related Web pages, the report found.

An investigation by the agency's inspector general's office in 2004 found that 45 computers had been used in the department to access pornography — 11 of which were seized by the FBI. And an earlier report claimed a Transportation Cabinet computer server may have been used to trade pirated movies and video games.

But Wednesday's indictments may have reached a boiling point.

"These indictments seem to be further evidence of a culture of corruption that had developed in the Transportation Cabinet in prior years," Beshear said. "Since we arrived on the scene, we have been cooperating fully with the federal authorities and will continue to do so."

The administration has also

taken its own steps to change things, spokesman Chuck Wolfe said.

Transportation Secretary Joe Prather has encouraged competition among bidders for road projects and has tried to change the agency's culture, Wolfe said.

"A lot of what has been done over here I would describe as being the tone that Prather has set as secretary of the cabinet and his emphasis on doing things openly and transparently," Wolfe said.

Two highway officials recently resigned under pressure after an internal auditor found a possible conflict of interest. Gilbert Newman, the state's former chief highway engineer, and aide Bill Gulick resigned. Both denied any wrongdoing.

Rep. Jim DeCesare, a Bowling Green Republican and member of the House

Transportation Committee, said the cabinet seems to have had problems and "an element of corruption" regardless of who the governor is. It's also an agency ripe for improper patronage, DeCesare said.

"Depending on who the governor is it sort of dictates which party is running the who in transportation and that's history," DeCesare said. "Does it need to be changed and scrutinized a little bit? Probably so."

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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

## Building on shaky ground

Whatever else is said or done in the next 18 months about reforming the U.S. health care system, tectonic shifts already are well underway.

The latest evidence comes from a new Census Bureau report released last week. It found that the number of Americans without health insurance fell by 1.3 million last year, to 45.7 million from a record high of 47 million.

That's some welcome good news. Not since 2000, when the number fell by 341,000, has the number of uninsured fallen. But there are important differences between the declines of 2000 and 2007. They foreshadow significant changes to come.

One is the increasingly vital role played by government-provided health insurance. The number of people covered by Medicaid grew last year by 1.3 million. That matches exactly the drop in the number of uninsured.

But as government programs like Medicare and Medicaid are covering more Americans, employer-paid health plans are covering fewer. In 2000, for every person who gained coverage through government health insurance programs like Medicare and Medicaid, two got new coverage through an employer.

Last year, for every person who gained coverage through a job, 10 got coverage through a government health insurance plan. In short, government is picking up the slack. That can't go on much longer.

The current recession means more people have been laid off or otherwise have become poor enough to qualify for Medicaid, the health insurance program for the poor.

But the slowing economy probably will send state revenues tumbling at the same time that demand for services like Medicaid coverage is climbing. At least 26 states modestly expanded government health programs last. As revenues dry up and medical costs continue to grow, states face difficult decisions about financing continued coverage.

Even as the economy remains soft, health insurance premiums have soared; they're up 78 percent between 2001 and 2007, to an average of more than \$12,000 for family coverage under a group plan.

That brings us to another of those tectonic shifts: The erosion of employer-based coverage. The percentage of Americans with health coverage provided through their jobs actually fell slightly last year, to 59.3 percent from 59.7 percent.

The percentage of American businesses that offer health benefits to their workers has been falling steadily for a decade. From year to year, the declines have been modest. But over time, the drop has been substantial and unmistakable.

Many companies, especially those that employ large numbers of low-skill workers, no longer subsidize coverage offered to family members of their workers. That makes it more expensive and adds to the economic strain many families are experiencing.

None of this probably will figure prominently in the coming health reform debate, where rhetoric tends to lag a decade or so behind reality. In 1994, for example, the insurance industry famously warned that consumers could lose the ability to choose their doctor if the Clinton reforms passed despite the fact that most people with private insurance at the time were in managed-care plans that already limited their choice of doctors.

This time around, the debate isn't about whether government should play a role in providing health care. It already does. Without it, millions more Americans would be uninsured. Most are poor and sick, the kind of potential customers private health insurance companies try their best to avoid.

The real debate — grounded in the fast-evolving reality of American health care — is how to create a more efficient system so that the money we're already spending goes to provide high-quality care to the greatest number of people who need it.

— St. Louis Post-Dispatch

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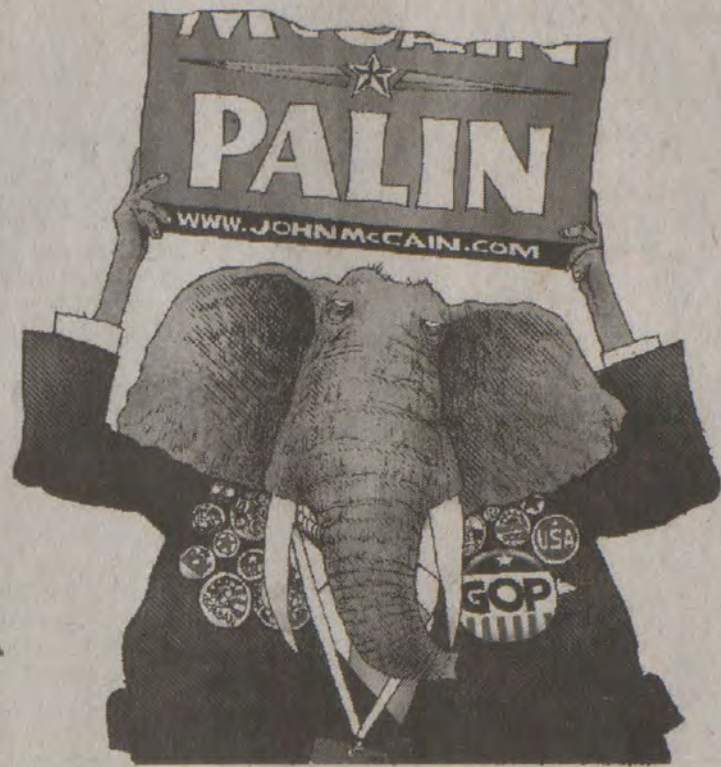
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## — Chuck Norris

### 'Puff, the Magic Obama!'

Last Thursday evening at the Democratic National Convention, presidential nominee Barack Obama tried to score a political touchdown on the 50-yard line at Denver's Invesco Field. Instead, he won the all-time governmental convention award for the best over-the-top political spectacle of sight, sound, speech and pyrotechnics — complete with superstar performances, "Braveheart"-like epic music, and an Olympic-sized fireworks show.

For a week prior to the event, newscasters, commentators and pundits were trying to guess what exactly that Greco-Roman column-structured stage backdrop was and what it was supposed to be representing and stating on behalf of Obama. Despite the fact that Obama's camp suggested that these Athenian columns were merely representative of the history of democracy, the entire visual felt more like a temple than a tenured politician's presidential platform. Even his podium looked more like a lectern or pulpit, rising and falling at will and out of sight beneath the stage. Is this the simple, substance-oriented, budget-cutting Obama we can expect if he's president?

As I listened to Obama's speech, which mentioned "change" roughly 15 times, I thought, "I wonder how many of those 80,000 in attendance

(and millions more watching on television) realize what type of change is really coming with Obama?"

I'm not saying that change isn't needed. It is. I want changes in government, but not the type that will increase its role in our lives. I want changes with the goal to better adhere to the Constitution, but not the type that appoints liberal judges and justices who legislate from the bench. I want changes regarding America's relations with the rest of the world, but not the type that further compromises our national security. I want changes regarding America's role in the Middle East, but not the type that creates instability and gives al-Qaida the upper hand again. I want changes to our medical care, but I don't want more big government and billions of dollars in new taxes. I want changes regarding America's deficit, but not the type that increases it. I want changes at America's borders, but not the type that creates more holes for terrorists and other illegal transport. I desperately want changes in the tax code, but not ones that ultimately raise taxes. (Only a "fair tax" eliminates most.) But all those types of changes are exactly what Americans will experience if we elect Barack Obama to be president.

Let there be no doubt about it: We

will have change with Obama, but, America, I assure you that it is not the type of change we need or want. No way. No how. NOObama. Now, more than ever, is the time to join the NOObamaNation revolution.

As with so many of you, I realized months ago that Obama can get away with just about anything because all that too many Americans seem to care about are charisma and the term "change." It doesn't matter if Obama plagiarizes speeches, who his pastor and spiritual mentor was for 20 years, that he has the most liberal voting record in the Senate, that he refused to wear the American flag as a pin, that he didn't place his hand over his heart during the national anthem, that his wife just recently has become proud of her country, or that he is sympathetic to Muslim terrorist groups, etc. Even a decade ago, most people never could have imagined appointing such a person to be county supervisor, let alone the president of the United States.

So it seems those Greek pillars just may represent something after all, because in ancient Greece, people were more enamored by rhetoric and passionate presentations than by principled truths and pragmatic solutions. In modern America, these few mil-

(See NORRIS, page six)



Chuck Norris

## — beyond the Beltway

### The real political contest starts now

by DONALD KAUL  
MINUTEMAN MEDIA

I like political conventions; they're like the Academy Awards with bad clothes. I like their idealism as well as their hypocrisy, their moments of real emotion as well as the phoniness. I like the occasional flashes of class as well as the general tackiness. If you don't like political conventions, you don't like the circus.

The Democratic convention was an especially good one, I thought, dominated as it was by the Clinton soap opera. Will Hillary, the woman scorned, be able to swallow her considerable pride to embrace fully the party's new Golden Boy, Barack the Magnificent? Will her husband Bill, the old Golden Boy, go along with the gag? Those were the questions.

And the answers turned out to be "Yes, sort of." She gave a fine speech in ostensible support of her opponent but at the end you weren't really sure whether she was praising Obama or rolling out a new version of her next presidential campaign.

Her husband followed suit and was more specific in his praise but you had to doubt his sincerity. (No one ever went broke doubting Bill Clinton's sincerity.)

Whatever. It's over and now the campaign begins. All that's gone before is merely prologue. From now on, they start using real bullets.

The Republicans, from early evi-

dence, are up to their old tricks. They always begin their campaigns by attacking their opponents' strengths, on the theory that if you can make someone defend strengths he or she will have a harder time defending weaknesses.

Thus, in 2000, when Al Gore was obviously smarter than George Bush, they attacked Gore's smarts, passing the word that Gore had said he'd invented the Internet. He never said that, of course, but it stuck and made him seem pompous and a little ridiculous. They took Bush's comparative ignorance and made a virtue of it.

(It's astonishing how often the Republicans get away with this gambit. The Democrats almost always nominate the smartest kid in the class while Republicans go with the guy next door, the one grilling hamburgers on his patio while wearing an apron that says: "Kiss Me Stupid." Stupid generally wins.)

In 2004, the Democrats ran a genuine war hero, John Kerry, against Bush, an MIA (Missing in Alabama) in the Vietnam War. So the Bush camp attacked Kerry's war record, making him seem like a phony. The attacks were spurious, of course, but who cares? They got Bush four more years to practice his incompetence.

The Republicans have saved their most brilliant work for Obama, however. The Illinois senator is a marvelous political speaker, able to attract and mesmerize vast crowds. So the GOP war machine (whose man couldn't fill up a saloon for a

speech if he offered free beer) has cast Barack in the role of an empty celebrity, something on the level of Britney Spears. After all, who wants a president who talks good, you know, who sounds like he went to college or something?

That is political jujitsu of the highest order. The Democrats are hopeless at that game.

Were I Obama (within every political writer's breast beats the heart of a political consultant) I would turn the tables on McCain. I would go after him where he thinks he's strongest, his experience.

What's the sense of having experience if you don't learn from it? What's the value of having met with political leaders all over the world if it doesn't help you figure out that invading and occupying Iraq when you don't have to is a really, really dumb idea?

Who cares how long you've been in Congress if it doesn't teach you that tax cuts for the rich aren't the answer to everything? If they were, President Bush's tax cuts would have the economy humming by now, not in a ditch.

Some people have served in Congress for 20 years. Some have served one year 20 times. There's a difference and I would point that out. If I were Obama.

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.



Donald Kaul



**INSIDESTUFF**

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

**CAR TALK:**

No reason for extra charge on oil change

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.*

Well, there's one less thing to worry about this morning, since the Cincinnati Reds blew their last chance last night.

**WELCOME TO THE CLUB!**

Things do come to pass. If you wait long enough. Years ago. I vented my wrath, spleen and supply of adjectives on that ancient toll-bridge across the Big Sandy, between Louisa and Fort Gay. It was only a rasping voice in the wilderness, and I got not even an echo. But now come many hundreds of them, saying this antiquated nickel-grabber, this fender-scraper that's been scrapin' fenders ever since there was one to scrape, must go.

I'm not joining these people. They're joining me.

**AND I MAY HAVE  
 TWISTED THE STORY**

I may have Long John Hyden's story, which he told me recently, slightly mixed up, but it runs to this effect:

Two preachers were exchanging confidences, and one prefaced his story by saying he hoped the other wouldn't think he was being irreverent, then told of approaching a man to discuss his relationship with God. The man turned his head, said the preacher, and when he looked back again the minister for the first time became aware that the other was the most cross-eyed man he had ever seen—so cross-eyed, in fact, he declared, that he was crying and the tears were running down the back of his neck.

"Who am I to dispute what may well indeed be the truth?" rejoined the other. "For I know what such physical affliction will do to living things. My brother, I tell you, I once saw a tree so crooked—please believe me!—that the sap couldn't rise in it and it was dying of starvation."

Comment on my explanation of how a b'led owl gets as drunk as some people, or vice versa.

"I have read your feeble attempt to explain th is, a la Trout, and it would appear that I have driven my ducks to a dry pond.

"Signed: JIM GOBLE."

**CLICHES, 1965 STYLE**

I have been idling a bit with one of these old-fashioned novels and its cliches; meanwhile have dawdled a bit with how the same thing might be said in these modern times. For example:

"She dropped her eyes" might now be written. "Her eyes made re-entry to the floor."

"He shot a glance around the room" would be. "His glance blasted off and circled the room, non-stop, a dozen times."

"Nay, nay, my love!" would be, "Nope, dope!"

And for the classic, "Their eyes

(See ALLEN, page six)



This no-touch thermometer is one of the tools used by the Floyd County Paranormal Society during the investigation process.

photos by Jarrid Deaton

**WHO YA GONNA CALL?**

**Group delves into paranormal world**

by JARRID DEATON  
 FEATURES WRITER

MARTIN — The strange world of the paranormal is more popular than ever in today's society, with shows like the Sci-Fi Channel's "Ghost Hunters" bringing in large numbers of viewers, so it should not come as a surprise that a group has formed locally to provide the same investigative services for seemingly unexplained phenomena in the area.

However, John Marshall, with the Floyd County Paranormal Society, wants to make sure that people know that his group is for real, and they enter each situation seeking an explanation for whatever is happening, be it spectral visions, cold spots, ghostly whispers or other common encounters that are often related to supernatural claims.

"We're a legitimate team," Marshall said. "We want people to know that they can have the confidence to come to us if they think they have paranormal activity going on."

Marshall founded the Floyd County Paranormal Society in January, and the organization has already grown to include 10 members.

"When I founded the group, it was just me and Robert Isaac," Marshall said. "We have grown so much in a short amount of time."

A number of unexplained experiences during childhood spawned Marshall's interest in the paranormal.

"I had paranormal experiences when I was a kid," Marshall said. "As I got older, I started doing research and realized that this is what I wanted to do. I've always been fascinated by the paranormal field."

Marshall's team, which includes



John Marshall, founder of the Floyd County Paranormal Society, listens to an audio recording of an alleged possession that occurred during one of the group's investigations.

members that he refers to as "mediums" and "sensitives" are willing to investigate any claims that come their way.

"Sometimes you catch stuff that you can't explain," Marshall said. "It's good to keep an open mind."

Some of the things that Marshall considers to be unexplainable at the moment are electronic voice phenomena (EVP) that he and his team have recorded during various investigations.

"We've heard a preacher giving a sermon, Old Regular Baptists singing, and a little girl wanting to play," Marshall said.

One of the members of the Floyd County Paranormal Society, Twyla Stephens, a resident of one of the group's frequently visited homes, was involved in what Marshall calls a "possession" where she started speaking like she was someone else and referred to herself as a 7-year-old girl with the last name of

Conley.

"I still get chills just thinking about it," Marshall said.

An audio sample of the alleged incident is available on the groups website.

The group has investigated multiple residences in the Floyd County area, along with Middle Creek National Battlefield. A short video clip of the battlefield investigation is also available to view on the website.

In order to help the public better understand what they do, the Floyd County Paranormal Society will be co-hosting a paranormal seminar with Lexington Ghost Hunters at the East Kentucky Science Center on October 25 at 6 p.m.

For more information on the Floyd County Paranormal Society and the upcoming seminar, visit <http://www.floydcountyparanormal.com>.

**MOVIES FROM  
 THE BLACK LAGOON**

**'Beast of Blood'**

by TOM DOTY  
 TIMES COLUMNIST

Green-blooded zombies make a hash out of an island paradise in this low budget sci-fi/horror hybrid that packed them into drive-ins during the days of Nixon, love-ins and bell bottoms. Be warned that this is the third film in a quartet of horror flicks, but don't fear that you've missed anything worth noting.

This one hits the ground running, as a midnight cruise on the Pacific gets downright deadly. The lone American on the boat, Dr. Foster, is gazing at a gorgeous purple sky while a guitar is gently strummed by a crewman, so it's kind of surreal when a zombie like creature cuts the song short by slamming the musician in the noggin with an ax (his playing wasn't even half bad).

Three sailors quickly enter the fray and are soon swabbing the poop deck with their own guts, as the ghoul appears to have seen his share of Ninja movies.

Dr. Foster enters the fracas with some under-rehearsed fighting moves, but it's over in seconds as the ship blows up, proving once again that ax fights and oil drums don't mix.

If you're one of those bleeding hearts who is pressing for zombie rights, then save your venom, as we are granted a shot of the ghoulish one washing up on a beach before staggering off into the woods.

Six months later we pick up with Dr. Foster heading back to the scene of the incident. His destination — Blood Island (dun ... dun ... dun).

He is accosted by a female reporter, named Myra, who assures him that she will get the story whether he helps or not. He opts to give her the brush off, but since they are the only passengers, that proves difficult. Once they get to the island, they are met by the restless villagers who are none too pleased that only the Doc and the creature survived and see them as two sides of the same coin. Luckily a young woman named Laida offers to help out and she appears to be a holdover from the first film, though she obviously didn't trade her salary for acting lessons.

Help is also offered by the ship's captain (simply called Captain) who rocks a blue shirt and white cap (a la the Skipper of "Gilligan's Island" fame).

The four decide to stake out the abandoned lab of a Dr. Lorca who dabbled in genetics and botany, with an idea toward inventing plant people (the sea monkeys idea was taken). They almost catch a thug who shows up but only succeed in having to rescue Myra when she falls through a trapdoor and is menaced by a spitting cobra.

In fact Myra proves to be a real hindrance and is soon kidnapped by

(See LAGOON, page six)

**Heritage**

by ED VANDEMARK  
 "CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE FATHER & SON'S SOUL"

For 33 years, "heritage" was just a word. It meant dead relatives I had never met.

My wife and I both grew up with fathers who earned their living in the construction trades. It was natural that we decided to build our own home. We were naive enough to believe that meant something.

Linda's father lived 50 miles

away and was fighting the later stages of cancer. Fortunately, my dad was an almost constant working foreman at our job site. Even with an on- and off-site adviser, our building progress bore a resemblance to a turtle taking a bath.

Three months into our home-building program, Linda became pregnant with our second child. We were paying rent and making mortgage payments. We were spending virtually every night and every weekend at our new home while my mother cared for our son. Six months into this killer routine, both Linda and I caught the flu. We needed relief. We decided to spend money we didn't have to spare to

hire Don Cronk to spackle our Sheetrock.

Don did in less than a week what would have easily taken us six weeks to complete. We were delighted to have the work done so quickly, but we feared the inevitable invoice. When he handed us that dreaded reality, we were shocked. The bill was only a fraction of what we anticipated.

"Don, this can't be right," I said. He assured me that it was, but it was such a low number Linda and I pressed the issue.

"When I was down and out, your father was the only contractor who would give me work. I can't do anything for him, but I can give you this

job at my cost," he said. My heritage suddenly hit me like a 250-pound linebacker. I hadn't done anything to deserve this good deed. My father earned the favor that I received.

I inherited a good name. That good name gave me a head start in life. I was the beneficiary of good will because my dad spent his life being an honest man who was in the habit of doing good deeds.

Today, "heritage" is more than a word to me; it is a lifestyle. My children and grandchildren deserve an unbroken chain of good will. They deserve the same family legacy I took for granted until Don Cronk's putty knife scraped away my blindness.



# No reason Tom and Ray can see for extra oil-change charge

by TOM and RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:

A few weeks ago, I stopped at Jiffy Lube for an oil change (I have a 2005 Kia Sportage, four-wheel drive, with 16,500 miles). I asked the man behind the counter for a price on an oil change. He said \$24.95. And then he said: "Oh, you have four-wheel drive. That'll be \$39.95." I asked what four-wheel drive has to do with the price of an oil change, and he just pointed to the price on the board. Since then, I've talked to five other garages, and they had that same dumb look on their face that I did when the guy pointed to the sign. So, is there any reason an oil change for a four-wheel-drive vehicle should cost more? — Dave

RAY: Only when the owner of the garage has a boat payment due.

TOM: The answer is no, Dave. There's no technical reason why an oil change should be any different on a four-wheel-drive vehicle. The number of driven wheels is determined by the transmission, not the engine. So a four-cylinder engine, for example, holds the same amount of oil whether the car has two-wheel drive or eight-wheel drive.

RAY: My guess is that this particular Jiffy Lube (Jiffy Lube is a franchise, so each store is owned by an individual, not by Jiffy Lube itself) includes something else along WITH the oil change.

TOM: Exactly. So, along with any oil change, for instance, this Jiffy Lube also checks your differential fluid level. And since you have an all-wheel-drive vehicle, you DO have an extra differential to check. If your car had an on-demand-style four-wheel-drive system (which it doesn't), there'd be a transfer case to check, too. Still, an extra \$15 bucks for that seems kind of steep.

RAY: We checked with a local Jiffy Lube franchise near us, and they charge an extra \$2 to do it.

TOM: It's something a lot of places will even do for free, Dave, since it gives them a golden opportunity to sell you a complete differential and transfer case service!

### Hazard lights: Not just for emergencies anymore

Dear Tom and Ray:

This has been an ongoing disagreement with my wife and others: When

you pull to the side of the road for ANY reason OTHER than an EMERGENCY ("emergency" defined as: vehicle trouble, flat tire, heart attack, etc.), should you use your emergency flashers? I stop and offer assistance two or three times a week (I'm not kidding) to anyone pulled to the side of the road with their emergency flashers on. More times than not, it is a NON-emergency. They're either on the phone, looking at a map, changing a baby's diaper or — just the other day, a couple was arguing. These are all valid reasons to pull off the road, just not to use your emergency flashers, in my opinion. What is yours? — Chuck

RAY: Chuck. You are a man in desperate need of something else to worry about. How about global warming? Nukes in Iran? Or the price of imported Jarlsberg cheese?

TOM: In our opinion, all of the drivers you refer to are perfectly entitled to use their flashers. And here's why. The primary purpose of the flashers is to make sure that another vehicle doesn't hit you.

RAY: You may have noticed that car makers call the flashers "Hazard

Lights" rather than "Emergency Flashers" nowadays. That's because they exist so you can make sure you're not a hazard to others on the road.

TOM: Anytime you pull over to the side of the road in a place where cars are not expected to be parked, it's appropriate to use your hazard lights to warn other drivers that you're stopped in a place where they don't expect to see parked cars.

RAY: Drivers aren't expecting to see a car in the breakdown lane, and to make sure you get their attention early enough that they're not surprised by you — so they don't drift off into your car, or into a door you're opening — turn on your hazard lights to get other drivers' attention.

TOM: You're a good citizen to stop and see if they need help, Chuck. We don't mean to criticize you, because

the world could use more good citizens like you. And if you don't mind getting turned down some of the time, you should continue to stop and offer people help.

RAY: But stopping your car to argue, make a phone call, read a map or change a diaper (especially to change a diaper — whoof!) are all good — and legitimate — reasons to pull off the road. And anytime you pull off near a road and not into a parking area, you should use your hazard lights for safety. That would include parking to help someone whose hazard lights are on — so don't forget to use your hazards, too, Chuck.



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## Norris

lenniums later, nothing seems to have changed. I might not be the smartest man on the political block, but I know fluff when I see it (or is it Puff?). Obama conducted his version of a political David Copperfield magic show. Will Americans really not see beyond his illusory performance? America, we are being duped again by fluff and folly, glitz and glamour, and hype and Hollywood.

It's time for America to wake up before it's too late! Reawakening our country and making necessary societal changes are the very reasons I've fully engaged in the culture wars with my new book (to be released Sept. 7), "Black Belt Patriotism," available for pre-order from Amazon.com. It is my battle plan for winning back America. But it's not just my plan; it's our Founders' plan, as I turn to them for their old solutions to our new problems.

Bottom line: Obama's big-government solutions will cost us big money through increased taxes and increased national debt. In the third chapter of my book, "Stop America's Nightmare of Debt," I cite Thomas Jefferson, who gives some timely advice for such a prospective form of government:

"What we need now more than ever is small-

er government and lower taxes. Thomas Jefferson was particularly eloquent on the problem of government debt and taxes: "To preserve (the) independence (of the people), we must not let our rulers load us with perpetual debt. We must make our election between economy and liberty, or profusion and servitude. If we run into such debts as that we must be taxed in our meat and in our drink, in our necessities and our comforts, in our labors and our amusements, for our callings and our creeds, as the people of England are, our people, like them, must come to labor sixteen hours in the twenty-four, give the earnings of fifteen of these to the government for their debts and daily expenses, and the sixteenth being insufficient to afford us bread, we must live, as they now do, on oatmeal and potatoes, have no time to think, no means of calling the mismanagers to account, but be glad to obtain subsistence by hiring ourselves to rivet their chains on the necks of our fellow-sufferers." (A prophetic statement?)"

To find out more about Chuck Norris and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

## Allen

met." I like the late Adlai Stevenson's, "We stood, eyeball to eyeball."

### EXPLANATION

This week's Times, I suspect at this stage of the game, may be a bit late. We started the week off with a newsprint shortage which has been

solved—I hope. Work piled up—think you, one and all!—and our Uncle Sam's call for one of our fellows to take a preinduction examination took him away temporarily. Another was near to coming down with a granddaddy of a cold. And the set of complications didn't help the rest of us. So-o ...go crack that whip elsewhere, please.

Continued from p4

Continued from p5

## SOCIAL SECURITY NEWS

# Help your grandparents save \$3,600

by KIMBERLY THOMPSON  
SOCIAL SECURITY TECHNICAL  
EXPERT, PRESTONSBURG

As you know, grandparents are known for their wisdom and advice. It's likely that you can go to your grandparents with a question and they'll have an answer for you, given the experience that comes with age. Now is your chance to give your grandparents a bit of advice.

September 7 is National Grandparents Day. This Grandparents Day, tell them about the Medicare prescription drug plan and about the extra help they may be able to get through Social Security. You'll be doing more than just giving them some advice. You could be saving them as much as \$3,600 each per year.

The high cost of prescription drugs can be a burden on people with limited income and resources. Extra help - available through Social Security - can pay part of their monthly premiums, annual deductibles and prescription co-payments. The extra help could be worth up to \$3,600 per year.

To figure out whether they're eligible, Social Security

needs to know their income and the value of their savings, investments and real estate (other than the home they live in). To qualify for the extra help, your grandparents must be receiving Medicare and have:

Income limited to \$15,600 for an individual or \$21,000 for a married couple living together. Even if their annual income is higher, your grandparents still may be able to get some help with monthly premiums, annual deductibles and prescription co-payments. Some examples where income may be higher include if they or their spouse:

- Support other family members who live with them;
- Have earnings from work; or
- Live in Alaska or Hawaii; and

Resources limited to \$11,990 for an individual or \$23,970 for a married couple living together. Resources include such things as bank accounts, stocks and bonds. We do not count their house and car as resources.

Social Security has an easy-to-use online application that anyone — family members,

friends and caregivers — can complete. You can find it at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov). To apply by phone or get an application, call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) and ask for the Application for Help with Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Costs. Or go to the nearest Social Security office.

To learn more about the Medicare prescription drug plans and special enrollment periods, visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227; TTY 1-877-486-2048).

It's time to give your grandparents a bit of good advice - and to save them each up to \$3,600.

For more information about Extra Help 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 questions.

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

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# Grandparents Day

In Honor of  
Barney and Phyllis  
Walker

We love you,  
Mamaw and  
Papaw

Thank you for all  
you do for us!

Hannah and  
Gabriel Walker

In Memory of  
Preacher Ersel Huff

With a heart full  
of love!

Bridget Burke  
(Granddaughter)

In Memory of  
Sarah "Fannin"  
Endicott

Remembering you  
always in our hearts!

Your  
Husband and Family

## Lagoon

Continued from p5

Lorca's goons. Despite figuring out how to saw through her bonds with a blade of grass, she is promptly recaptured when she stumbles into quicksand.

Dr. Foster comes up with a brilliant plan to rescue her, which amounts to walking into Lorca's camp and spending the day there while the Captain and Laida raise an army of natives (hey, it takes a village) to storm the compound after dark.

This plan gives Lorca time to show up and brag about his latest attempts to mollify his plant/monster by giving it a new head. Unfortunately the procedure proves fatal for all of the donors, though it does give the zombie's original cranium time to figure out how to control its body while observing all of this hoo-hah from an unsanitary looking bowl in

Lorca's lab.

Meanwhile the Captain arrives with back up and there is plenty of the red stuff as Lorca's army gets decimated. Lorca, however, proves untouchable from inside his well-sealed lab, but that isn't such a good thing when you have chosen to lock yourself up with a headless corpse that's far from helpless.

This one is outrageous enough that it proves entertaining despite severe budgetary limitations. The story is obviously a hoot but you should also keep your eyes peeled for plenty of gaffes, such as the Doc's lab equipment, which hums, beeps and trembles like it was made of cardboard (actually it was).

There are also flubbed lines, missed him by a mile fight scenes, and even one instance where you can spot a member

of the film crew hovering behind the zombie's disembodied head.

Bonus points go to story creator Beverly Miller, who, despite having all the charisma of a lump in your mashed potatoes, saw fit to cast himself as the brave Captain.

This one is available for almost cheap as they made it, in a boxed set called "The Blood Island Vacation" which collects all four films in this forgotten cheese festival and packs them with more extras than you'll care to watch.

Despite the PG rating you should hide the young ones as these flicks contain gratuitous violence, nudity and enough 1970s fashion disasters to warrant a "mature viewers only" label.

Best line: "Reactivate the artificial head."  
1971, rated PG.

**B1**  
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# FLOYD COUNTY Sports

## Rebels hold off rival South Floyd

*Allen Central improves to 15-1 following win*

by **STEVE LeMASTER**  
SPORTS EDITOR

HI HAT – Visiting Allen Central held off South Floyd Thursday night a competitive Floyd County Conference volleyball match. The Rebels prevailed, defeating South

Floyd 25-16 in game three of a heated match.

South Floyd opened on a positive note, defeating Allen Central 25-21 in the first game. Allen Central battled back from a four-point deficit and won the second game 25-22.

Allen Central improved to 15-1 overall and 3-0 in Floyd County Conference play.

“I commend South Floyd on an outstanding match – they played exceptionally and put us on the ropes,” said Allen Central Coach Larry Maynard. “We started out

slow, but we responded at the end and made plays when it really counted. I can’t say enough about the job our players did getting it done when the match was on the line.”

Brittany Hodge led Allen Central, recording 11 kills in the winning effort. Kelsey Jones registered six kills and four partial blocks in the conference match. Brittany Clark added five kills with three blocks and six partial blocks.

Kimbo Blevins landed four kills and stopped three at the net. Blevins also earned two

deflections for the visiting Rebels.

Leigh Williams aided the Allen Central effort with 16 assists – a personal best/season-high. Koko Martin dished up five and led the team with six service aces. Allen Central libero Brittany Smith scooped up 13 digs. Hodge added 12 digs in the victorious effort.

Allen Central will return to action at home Monday night versus Lawrence County. Start time for the Allen Central-Lawrence County match is set for 6 p.m.



**SETTIN' UP AT THE TOP:** The Allen Central High School volleyball team is 15-1 through its first 16 matches.

## UofL releases basketball schedule

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LOUISVILLE

Appearances in four special events – the SEC/BIG EAST Invitational, Billy Minardi Classic, Marques Maybin Classic, and 2008 Stadium Shootout – at least 14 games on national television, and 19 home games in Freedom Hall highlight the 2008-09 University of Louisville men’s basketball schedule.

Twenty of the Cardinals’ 30 games will be played against teams that reached post-season competition last season, including 14 in the NCAA Tournament (NCAA Tournament: Austin Peay, Connecticut, Georgetown, Kentucky, Marquette, UNLV, Notre Dame twice, Pittsburgh, South Alabama, Villanova, Western Kentucky, West Virginia twice; NIT: UAB, Minnesota, Mississippi, Syracuse; College Basketball Invitational: Cincinnati, Ohio University).

“Last year we played one of the most difficult schedules in the nation,” said U of L Coach Rick Pitino, whose team played the nation’s fourth-toughest schedule by the ratings percentage index (RPI) last season. “This year could be the most difficult. We look forward to the challenge, not only in the BIG EAST, but in non-conference play. This type of competition only makes you better. Certainly, it will challenge our players to reach their potential at the highest level.”

Nine BIG EAST teams have been included among the nation’s top 25 teams in early rankings by CBS Sports, ESPN and FOX Sports with Louisville ranked second, fifth and sixth, respectively, in those listings. Nine of the Cardinals’ 13 possible non-conference opponents competed in post-season tournaments last season and the group collectively won an average of 21 games (274-154 combined record, .640 winning percentage).

Tipoff times and television arrangements will be released at a later date.

## UK moves Big Blue Madness to Oct. 10

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON – Big Blue Madness, the unofficial start to the basketball season, has been moved up a week and is now scheduled for Friday, Oct. 10 at Rupp Arena.

Tickets for the event will be distributed on Saturday, Sept. 27 at 7:00 a.m. at the Ticket Office outside of Memorial Coliseum.

“Our fans have transformed Big Blue Madness into the unique event it has become,” said UK head coach Billy Gillispie. “We capitalized on the flexibility provided by NCAA rules to schedule this event when it’s most beneficial to UK basketball. We’re looking forward to a packed house on October 10.”



**Prestonsburg finished strong Friday night, turning away Breathitt County in what many fans deemed an Instant Classic. Below: Prestonsburg quarterback Michael Burchett looked to complete a pass over the Bobcat defense.**

## Blackcats outlast Breathitt

by **JAMIE HOWELL**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

PRESTONSBURG – What was billed as a “top state matchup” turned out to be just that on Friday night as the host Prestonsburg Blackcats knocked off Breathitt County 27-20.

Prestonsburg came into the game as the No. 6-ranked team in class 2A while Breathitt County held a No. 3 ranking in class 3A.

Prestonsburg opened the 2008 campaign with a 54-20 thrashing of rival Paintsville and the cats were looking to go 2-0 as the Bobcats rolled into Prestonsburg. Blackcat head coach John DeRossett was confident in his team’s chances, saying, “We had a good week of practice and our kids always play hard.”

Allen Craynon returned to the Prestonsburg backfield after sitting out week one with a hamstring injury. The Blackcats won the toss and elected to take the football. Prestonsburg junior signal caller Michael Burchett got the Blackcat offense rolling early with a 25 yard completion to Matt Sword. After taking the ball inside Breathitt County territory, the Blackcat drive stalled and the cats were forced to punt. Breathitt County took over on their own 13 yardline and drove to the Prestonsburg 26 before the Blackcat defense stiffened and forced the Bobcats to turn the ball over on downs. Senior tailback Seth Setser got Prestonsburg on the board first with a 56-yard touchdown run at the 1:07 mark of the first quarter. Jamerson’s extra point gave the Blackcat an early 7-0 lead. Breathitt County would strike back quickly as Channing Fugate rumbled in from 23 yards out at the 10:34 mark of the 2nd quarter to even the score at 7-7.

Prestonsburg would retake the lead with 6:00 remaining in the first half as Jamerson connected on a 21 yard field goal. Breathitt quarterback Jade Haddix gave the Bobcats a 14-10 lead on a 13-yard scamper with only 3:01 left in the first half of play, but the Blackcat would retake the lead in less than one minute on a 57-yard touchdown run from senior Allen Craynon. The Blackcats took a 17-14 lead into the half. Both defenses took control in the third quarter. Junior Austin McKinney led the Prestonsburg defense with 5 tackles in the third quarter alone. Blake Meade and Austin Gearheart helped anchor the Blackcat defensive effort. Prestonsburg would tack on three points late in the third quarter on Jamerson’s second field goal, this one from 26 yards out and the Blackcats led 20-14 with :03 left in the third quarter. The big play in the Prestonsburg series was a 47-yard pass completion from Burchett to Sword. Breathitt would tie the game with 9:48 left on the clock on a 17-yard touchdown run from Fugate. Prestonsburg came up big on the extra-point as a solid push gave the Blackcats a locked extra point. The game would be all even at 20-20 with 5:00 remaining. Breathitt would be faced with a 4th and 1 from it’s own and the Bobcats set up to punt the pigskin. The play of the night came next, as Setser and Justin Trout combined to block the punt. Jamerson scooped up the loose ball and rumbled the the Breathitt County 4 yardline. One play later Setser would take it in and the Blackcats led 27-20 with less than 1:00 to play.

Breathitt County would get one final shot, but senior Austin Gearheart came up with a pass breakup on 4th-and-10 and the Blackcats walked away with a 27-20 win.

Prestonsburg improved to 2-0 on the season with the win. The Blackcats will hit the road this week for an important district showdown with Bath County.



photos by Jamie Howell

### HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SCOREBOARD

- Friday, Sept. 5  
Allen Central 42, Magoffin County 6  
Ashland Blazer 47, Pikeville 0  
Belfry 20, Lawrence County 13  
Bell County 38, Whitley County 8  
Estill County 43, Bourbon County 14  
Fairview 54, East Carter 17  
Harlan County Central 41, Lynn Camp 0  
Jackson County 30, Betsy Layne 20  
Johnson Central 49, St. Thomas Moore, Ont. 13  
Letcher Co. Central 67, Greenup County 6  
Middlesboro 27, Paul Dunbar 0 (at Corbin)  
Powell County 49, Morgan County 6  
Prestonsburg 27, Breathitt County 20  
Russell 35, Boyd County 20  
Somerset 57, Metcalfe County 30  
Williamsburg 44, McCreary Central 28

## Betsy Layne beats P’burg

by **STEVE LeMASTER**  
SPORTS EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG – Betsy Layne won its fourth match in five outings Tuesday, defeating Prestonsburg 2-1 in a Floyd County Conference contest. Host Prestonsburg edged Betsy Layne 25-23 in the first game. In the second game, Betsy Layne upended Prestonsburg 25-15. The Ladycats finished strong, defeating Prestonsburg 25-22 in the third game.

“We struggled to get off to a good start in the match,” said Betsy Layne Coach Christina Crase. “We came back strong in the second game and were able to gain a victory.”

Sophomore Keleigh Wagner led Betsy Layne with one ace, 14 assists, four kills and three digs.

Senior Andie Meade landed a match-high nine kills for the Ladycats. Meade also recorded three aces, four assists and five digs.

Seventh grader Allie Meade added three aces and two digs for the Ladycats.

Sophomores Taylor Watkins (three kills, six digs, three blocks) and Audri Ray (one ace, two kills, five digs, one block) and seniors Samantha Stewardson (two aces, one kill, six digs) and Ariel Hopkins (one assist) also contributed for visiting Betsy Layne.

## Belfry turns back visiting Ladycats

by **STEVE LeMASTER**  
SPORTS EDITOR

BELFRY – After going 2-1 in conference play, Betsy Layne faced region rival Belfry Thursday night. Betsy Layne fell short in the 15th Region match. Belfry defeated Betsy Layne 2-1 (25-16, 22-25, 25-21). The Pirates started strong and finished strong after dropping game two in a match that went three games.

“It was one of our best matches this season,” Betsy Layne Coach Christina Crase commented. “I was very impressed with both teams

and look forward to meeting them again in the regional tournament.”

Audri Ray (four aces, three kills, 11 digs, two blocks); Andie Meade (two aces, five assists, four kills, four digs); Allie Meade (two aces, one kill, four digs); Taylor Watkins (one ace, three kills, two digs, one block); Keleigh Wagner (two aces, seven assists, three digs); Samantha Stewardson (two kills, three digs) and Ariel Hopkins (one assist) aided the Betsy Layne attack.

Betsy Layne will return to conference competition on Monday in a road match versus South Floyd. The Betsy Layne-South Floyd volleyball match is scheduled to get underway at 6 p.m.

**BLHS VOLLEYBALL UPCOMING MATCHES**  
Sept. 8 at South Floyd  
Sept. 9 East Ridge  
Sept. 11 at Piarist

## Forney named MSC Soccer Player of the Week

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE — The hits just keep on coming for the Pikeville College soccer program.

On Tuesday, Kate Forney was named the first soccer player of the week in the Mid-South Conference this season.

Forney, a 5-5 sophomore from Westerville, Ohio, is the first Pikeville College player to be named player of the week in soccer.

“I’ve said all along Kate is as good a player as there is around,” said Coach Ken DeCook. “These young ladies have put in a lot of hard work and it’s nice to

see them begin to be rewarded for it on the scoreboard. I’m very proud of them, and particularly of Kate, who is very deserving of the honor.”

Forney scored both goals in Pikeville’s season-opening win over Midway College on Aug. 26. The game was scoreless until

Forney scored in the 52nd minute, and then added an insurance goal in the 68th minute to seal the win.

The Lady Bears are 2-0 on the season and have recorded shutouts in both wins. They are back in action Saturday when they visit Berea College.

# CBA announces date of 2008 draft

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

ALBANY, NY – The Continental Basketball Association has announced that the 2008 CBA Draft will be held on Tuesday, September 23. The CBA Draft is considered by many to be the unofficial start of the 2008-09 season as the member teams look to start putting a face to their franchise. After the outstanding success last year, the CBA will again webcast the CBA Draft through the efforts of Web Television Network.

The CBA Draft will take place on Tuesday, September 23 and be webcast live starting at 8 p.m. EST. Fans can log on to the CBA Website (www.chahoopsonline.com) or Web Television Network (www.webtelevisionnetwork.com) to follow all of the Draft action. Every selection will be updated as it happens, and the final results will be posted when the draft has concluded.

The CBA Draft will consist of six rounds and is open to all players who have exhausted their college eligibility and were eligible for the NBA Draft this past June. CBA Deputy Commissioner Dennis Truax will serve as the moderator for the CBA Draft with CBA Director of Scouting Mark Argenziano and Director of Player Personnel Jeff Argenziano providing commentary on the Draft.

"We are very pleased to partner again with Web Television Network to webcast the 2008 CBA Draft," said CBA Deputy Commissioner Dennis Truax. "WTN did such a great job last season that we wanted to continue our partnership with them to bring the fans one of our premier events."

Web Television Network (webtelevisionnetwork.com) is a comprehensive broadband initiative designed to provide fans, sponsors, media and the public with quality live and archived streaming webcasts of games and other compelling video on-demand programming. WTN seeks to be the premier broadband destination for free, live video of Continental Basketball Association games and other video-on-demand features highlighting the League's teams and athletes.

A complete list breakdown of the draft order will be published in the coming weeks.

The East Kentucky Miners professional basketball organization is headed into its second season as a member of the tradition-rich CBA.

ONLINE:

www.chahoopsonline.com  
www.ekminers.com

# Cowboys start "Super Bowl" season on road in Cleveland

by DAVE GOLDBERG  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

From the moment Terrell Owens broke into tears after Dallas' playoff loss to the Giants last January, the Cowboys have been pointing toward 2008 as the season they WILL get back to the Super Bowl after a 12-season absence.

The quest starts this week in Cleveland against an up-and-coming team that most folks think isn't up-and-coming enough to deal with the Cowboys. On the other hand, if you listen to and read the jibber-jabber over the air and on the net, no NFL team is in Dallas' class.

So while even the always enthusiastic Jerry Jones avoids saying "Super Bowl," he goes to pains during an interview on ESPN a while back to claim his team really outplayed eventual champion New York in the 21-17 loss that sent it home without a playoff win for the 12th straight season. Sorry, Jerry, but the score is all that counts.

And when talking about first-round draft choices Felix Jones and Michael Jenkins and the addition of Adam Jones, the former Pacman, the Cowboys owner says: "All that speaks volumes to what I think we ought to be."

After a 10-6 season in 2007, a six-game improvement, Cleveland had high hopes for 2008. But it had a poor preseason and this game is the start of a killer schedule.

The Browns also are hurting. QB Derek Anderson and WR Braylon Edwards, their two most important offensive players, returned Monday after being out with a concussion and foot cut, respectively. And return man Joshua Cribbs, the AFC's answer to Devin Hester, will likely miss the opener with a foot injury.

The Cowboys also have injuries. Owens and Patrick Crayton are the only healthy wide receivers. Isaiah Stanback, coming back from a shoulder injury, is likely to be No. 3 for this game.

But they still have the weapons that got them to 13-3 in the regular season: a solid defense, Tony Romo, Marion Barber, the aforementioned T.O. Not to mention the rehabilitated (we hope) Adam Jones and Tank Johnson.

The question is chemistry: Owens, "Adam, no Pacman" and Tank could be a volatile mix. And Wade Phillips doesn't have much job security despite last season after Jerry Jones kept Jason Garrett from taking another head coaching job by signing him to a deal that effectively makes him a "coach in waiting."

It will be an interesting season in Dallas.

The season opened Thursday night with the Giants beating Washington 16-7 in the traditional opener hosted by the Super Bowl winner.

In other games Sunday, Detroit is at Atlanta; Cincinnati at Baltimore; Seattle at Buffalo; the New York Jets at Miami; Kansas City at New England; Tampa Bay at New Orleans; St. Louis at Philadelphia; Houston at Pittsburgh; Jacksonville at Tennessee; Carolina at San Diego; Arizona at San Francisco; and Chicago at Indianapolis.

Minnesota is at Green Bay and Denver at Oakland in a

Monday night doubleheader.

New York Jets (4-12) at Miami (1-15): You wouldn't think a game between teams that were a combined 5-27 in 2007 would be an opening weekend highlight, but this is.

That's because Brett Favre, traded from the Packers to the Jets after his retirement soap opera, is one quarterback. Chad Pennington, displaced by Favre in New York, will start for Miami. Adding to the intrigue is Bill Parcells pulling the strings in Miami, with Tony Sparano his hand-picked coach.

"I'm used to playing against former teammates. I've never played against a former team," says Pennington, who spent his first eight NFL seasons with the Jets.

Chicago (7-9) at Indianapolis (13-3) (Sunday night): Peyton Manning missed all of camp after having an infected bursa sac removed from behind his left knee. He's expected to make his 161st straight start — every game since he entered the NFL in 1998.

Dwight Freeney, Bob Sanders and Marvin Harrison, other injured Colts stars, also are expected to play in the opening of the team's new stadium. But All-Pro center Jeff Saturday who is out at least six weeks.

The Bears, who lost to the Colts in the 2007 Super Bowl, seem to be in decline. Kyle Orton beat out Rex Grossman at quarterback as Jerry Angelo and Lovie Smith declined to seek new blood. Rookie Matt Forte will carry the load at running back and hope an aging defense is healthy enough to keep Chicago competitive.

Minnesota (8-8) at Green Bay (13-3) (Monday night): Aaron Rodgers becomes the first Green Bay starting quarterback since 1992 not named Favre. Seventh-round pick Matt Flynn beat out second-rounder Brian Brohm for the No. 2 spot, giving the Packers three QBs who have never started an NFL game, two of them rookies.

The Vikings seem to have everything but a QB. But if Tarvaris Jackson, now in his third year, makes normal progress, Minnesota could be the favorite in the NFC North.

Denver (7-9) at Oakland (4-12) (Monday night): The Broncos have just one playoff win since John Elway retired a decade ago and are 16-16 the last two seasons. A lot depends on Jay Cutler, who was diagnosed with diabetes last year and hopes that knowing his problem and how to treat it will allow him to come into his own. He will be without his top receiver, Brandon Marshall, suspended for this game.

Since losing the Super Bowl in 2003, the Raiders are a league-worst 19-61 and second-year coach Lane Kiffin barely talks to 79-year-old owner Al Davis, who still calls most of the shots. JaMarcus Russell will be at QB and rookie Darren McFadden will play a lot at RB, giving the Raiders two high-profile youngsters.

Kansas City (4-12) at New England (16-0): The Patriots are working on a 19-game regular-season winning streak, although it means a lot less because they don't have a title to go with it. Tom Brady says

he'll play after sitting out the preseason with a mysterious foot injury — all New England injuries, of course, are mysterious by definition.

The Chiefs appear to have had a nice draft haul and two first-round picks will start: Branden Albert at offensive left tackle and Glenn Dorsey at defensive tackle. But Foxborough is not a good place for a rebuilding team to start.

Tampa Bay (9-7) at New Orleans (7-9): The Saints get to stay at home after Hurricane Gustav caused minimal damage to the Superdome.

This could be a key NFC South game. New Orleans, bolstered by some defensive additions and tight end Jeremy Shockey, is looking to revert back to 2006, when it made it to the NFC title game. The Bucs, defending division champions, got only one start in preseason from QB Jeff Garcia although Jon Gruden had his usual overstock of quarterbacks waiting in the wings.

Seattle (10-6) at Buffalo (7-9): Mike Holmgren starts his final year as Seattle's coach with a tough task: a 10 a.m. PDT start against a team that was competitive last season and has playoff hopes. Both quarterbacks go into this game after limited preseason work. Buffalo's Trent Edwards with a bruised thigh and Seattle's Matt Hasselbeck with back problems that limited him to two series in the preseason.

"I mean, ideally, yeah, you'd like to play a little bit more. But the situation is what it is," Hasselbeck says. "I've gone into seasons when I wasn't 100 percent healthy. And if I had to take one or the other, I would take healthy and not as many reps."

Cincinnati (7-9) at Baltimore (5-11): The Ravens will start Joe Flacco, their first-round draft choice, at quarterback. But it's by default: Troy Smith came down with infected tonsils and veteran Kyle Boller is on IR with a shoulder injury. "This is what I wanted all along," Flacco said. "Things happen funny, I've gotten my opportunity, and now it's up to me to go out there and play."

The Bengals may end up with the same dysfunctional locker room they've had in the past. They re-signed troubled wideout Chris Henry, who will be suspended for four games, and cut veteran leaders Rudi Johnson and Willie Anderson. Chad Johnson is now "Chad Javon Ocho Cinco," an official name change.

Jacksonville (11-5) at Tennessee (10-6): Two of last season's three AFC South playoff teams.

The Jaguars have legitimate hopes this season of breaking Indianapolis' five-year run of division titles. But they may be without one of their key additions, WR Jerry Porter, who tore a hamstring in preseason and just returned to practice. Backup OT Richard Collier was shot early Tuesday morning outside a Jacksonville apartment building, one of a string of unfortunate off-field happenings for the Jaguars.

Vince Young continues to struggle at quarterback under Mike Heimerdinger, who replaced Norm Chow as Titans offensive coordinator. Young has a bruised hand

going into the opener. Carolina (7-9) at San Diego (11-5): The Chargers got to the AFC title game last season and have a chance to go farther, one reason pass rusher Shawne Merriman is playing with two torn ligaments in his left knee. Philip Rivers' knee has been repaired after he played hurt in the AFC title game loss to New England.

Carolina QB Jake Delhomme seems fit, but the Panthers will be playing without Steve Smith, their best receiver. He was suspended for two games by coach John Fox after sucker-punching teammate Ken Lucas during a drill in training camp.

Houston (8-8) at Pittsburgh (10-6): The Texans, born in 2002, finally made it to .500 last season, but still were last in the AFC South, which had three playoff teams. They have a young and solid base with QB Matt Schaub on offense and DE Mario Williams proving he was the right pick over Vince Young and Reggie Bush with the No. 1 pick in the 2006 draft.

The Steelers could get back to basics after drafting RB Rashard Mendenhall to give them inside running. But the key is how a revamped offensive line protects Ben Roethlisberger and blocks for Willie Parker and Mendenhall.

St. Louis (3-13) at Philadelphia (8-8): Like Houston, the Eagles were a .500 team in a division with three playoff teams. They shored up their secondary with Asante Samuel, relegating Lito Sheppard, a former Pro Bowler, to nickel back. But they are without their best wide receiver, Kevin Curtis, who has a sports hernia.

The Rams suffered last year from offensive line injuries. Steven Jackson, their star running back, finally reported after a holdout and got a new deal, but it looks like another long season.

Arizona (8-8) at San Francisco (5-11): Last year, the Cardinals had only their third non-losing season since moving to Arizona and have designs on the NFC West. But there's discord. Anquan Boldin wants the kind of money fellow wide receiver Larry Fitzgerald got, the result of a series of mistakes by a mistake-prone front office.

Senior citizen Kurt Warner starts at QB over Matt Leinart, the Cardinals' No. 1 pick in 2006. Journeyman J.T. O'Sullivan starts for the 49ers ahead of Alex Smith, the No. 1 overall pick in 2005. O'Sullivan has played in five games without a start since being drafted by the Saints in 2002, but Mike Martz, the new offensive coordinator, loves him.

Detroit (7-9) at Atlanta (4-12): Atlanta is putting the Michael Vick/Bobby Petrino disaster of last season behind it with Mike Smith as the coach and Matt Ryan, the third pick in the draft, at QB. The symbol of the new era is an old one: Atlanta re-signed Grady Jackson, the DT cut last year by Petrino in a move to show recalcitrant veterans that he was the boss.

The Lions started 6-2 last year, then lost seven of their last eight. Second-year WR Calvin Johnson looks like he'll be a star, but a young QB is desperately needed to eventually succeed Jon Kitna.



SOUTH FLOYD SENIOR KYLE HOWELL helps to lead the Raiders. Howell is a veteran player for the South Floyd football team.

# Auditions scheduled for Diamond Girls dance team

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE – Auditions have been set for the Diamond Girls — official dance squad of the East Kentucky Miners professional basketball team. The auditions will be held Sept. 20-21 at Dance Etc. Studio of Dance in Prestonsburg. Dance Etc., located at 98 Oak Ridge in Prestonsburg, will host a pre-audition clinic for the Diamond Girls Dance team from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 20. The audition for the dance team is scheduled to start at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 21. The fee for the auditions is \$50 per participant. Checks and money orders should be made payable to East Kentucky Miners. "I'm super-excited about the new season and the auditions," said Diamond Girls Coach/Dancer Jillean Brown Vickery. "This is a great opportunity for area

dancers." The audition application and other information regarding the two-day event are available online at www.ekminers.com. The Diamond Girls gained a strong following during the East Kentucky pro basketball team's debut season. Vickery has acknowledged that the Diamond Girls would be making numerous appearances at various Eastern Kentucky festivals leading up to the start of the Miners' second season.

"Look for us at festivals and in communities throughout Eastern Kentucky," Vickery added. "Our first youth dance camp will be held in October or November. The children who participate in the dance camp will have the chance to perform at one of our home games during the upcoming season." The Diamond Girls dance team performed at each East Kentucky Miners home game during the 2007-08 season.



## BOBCAT FOOTBALL

The Betsy Layne High School football team will play seven home games during the 2008 season. Head coach Jon Parsons guides the BLHS football team. The Bobcats play in the same district as Floyd County rivals Allen Central and South Floyd. Paintsville and Pikeville are other district foes for the Bobcats.

REPORT SCORES TO THE TIMES  
606-886-8506



# Kentucky Afield Outdoors: Stay safe with hunter education

by HAYLEY LYNCH  
KENTUCKY AFIELD

FRANKFORT — As fall hunting seasons begin, safety should be the first thing on every hunter's mind. In 2007, the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources received 19 reports of hunting-related accidents. Eight of those accidents resulted in hunter deaths.

"Just keeping their firearm pointed in a safe direction would have saved the lives of four people," said Bill Balda, hunter training officer supervisor for Kentucky Fish and Wildlife. "Every time there's an accidental discharge that hurts someone, they've broken at least one gun safety rule. If you foul up everything else and the gun goes off, but you have it pointed in a safe direction, you might be mad or scared, but you still get to go home."

This cardinal rule of gun safety is at the heart of Kentucky's hunter education courses. Kentucky Fish and Wildlife offers more than 300 courses each year throughout the state. They are proven to keep hunters safer and reduce hunting deaths. Since hunter

education became mandatory in Kentucky in 1991, hunting-related deaths dropped by a third.

"We tell them three things over and over: always keep your finger off the trigger until you're ready to shoot, don't load until you're ready to shoot, and always keep the muzzle in a safe direction," said longtime Jefferson County hunter education instructor Bob McGee. "The majority of the questions on the test are on firearms safety. We try to cover every question on the test, so they hear every answer."

Dozens of the free courses are still available in September and October, before the most popular gun deer seasons begin. Hunter education courses are not just for kids. Veteran hunters can also benefit from a refresher course on wildlife identification, firearm identification and cleaning, hunting ethics, gun safety, outdoor survival and more.

Tree stand safety is one of the most important topics covered in hunter education courses. Of the five tree stand accidents reported to Kentucky Fish and Wildlife in 2007, one resulted in a hunter's death.

"That's pretty consistent from year to year. About 25 percent of our accidents will be tree stand accidents, and about 25 percent of those tree stand accidents will be fatalities," said Balda. "If they kept themselves tied-off to the tree and they raised their equipment on a haul line, they wouldn't have nearly so many accidents. Hunters need to be tied off to the tree even while climbing up."

In addition to firearms safety and tree stand safety, hunter education instructors stress the importance of identifying the target before pulling the trigger. Five accidents in 2007 involved hunters who mistook another hunter for game or fired at a sound when their hunting partner was not visible. Two of those accidents resulted in death.

Hunter education is required for all hunters born on or after Jan. 1, 1975, except kids under 12 and hunters who are license exempt. However, a one-time temporary hunter education exemption permit is available for \$5 online, which allows hunting for one year from the date of purchase without a hunter education card while accompanied by a

legal adult hunter who meets Kentucky's hunter education requirement.

"There is a tutorial online that goes over the basics of hunter education," Balda said. "The permit holder must be accompanied by an adult who can take immediate control of the firearm."

Hunter education courses are usually spread over a three-day period, including a live fire exercise on the last day of the course. Participants can choose to take the classroom portion of the course online, by videotape or by CD. Log on to fw.ky.gov on the Internet and click on "hunting", then "hunter education" for more information, to find a hunter education course near you, or to purchase an exemption permit.

## Boating fatalities to date lowest in five years

TIMES STAFF REPORT

FRANKFORT — Five people lost their lives so far this year on the state's waters, making boating fatalities for

2008 the lowest at this point of the season in the last five years.

"These lower statistics are what we love to see," said Sgt. John Anderson, boating education coordinator for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. "This trending toward a historically low accident and injury fatality rate is the kind of information that makes law enforcement professionals happy."

Through nearly the first eight months of 2008, Kentucky boaters have reported 41 accidents with 26 injuries. These accidents cost five lives.

By comparison, 71 accidents occurred on Kentucky waters in 2007 with 13 fatalities.

"Reports from our officers indicate a good boating season so far," Anderson said. "The change is that 2008 is a much safer season than in years past."

The Keep It a Safe Summer boating safety campaign combined with intensive patrol efforts have contributed to these positive changes, Anderson said. "We are putting this word out for people to continue to be safe this

Labor Day weekend," he said. "We want people out enjoying our waterways and having good stories to tell when they get home, not tragedies."

Anderson reminds boaters to avoid drinking alcohol while operating a boat. Take frequent breaks when driving a boat to avoid fatigue. Wear a personal flotation device or lifejacket when the boat is under power. Be aware of other boaters and pay close attention at all times when on the water if operating a boat.

"The waters of Kentucky are a safer place to be this year," Anderson said. "We hope Kentucky boaters and visitors keep this up."

### FCT ON THE HUNT:

Have a hunting experience you'd like to share? If so, email your information to The Floyd County Times for publication. The Times Sports Department can be contacted via email at the following address:

sports@floydcountytimes.com

# Second chance hunt proposed to reduce damages caused by elk

## Sportsplex to host public meeting about proposal

TIMES STAFF REPORT

FRANKFORT — The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources has proposed an additional elk hunt to help landowners alleviate damage caused by elk. The proposal would allow thousands of hunters not chosen for the regular season hunts a second chance at a cow elk hunt. The proposed hunt still requires final approval by legislators.

"Although we don't get nearly as many calls about nuisance elk as we do about deer and other species, elk can do significant damage to pastures during the winter, and to crops

during the summer," said Kentucky Big Game Program Coordinator Tina Brunjes. "We proposed this hunt specifically to help landowners, and it provides additional hunting opportunities."

The proposal includes a 14-day season for antlerless elk beginning Jan. 14. While modern firearms would be allowed for the hunt, it would be limited to private lands within two of the newly created Elk Management Units.

Under the proposal, 50 hunters will be randomly selected from the pool of applicants who were not chosen for the 2008 bull and cow quota hunts. Hunters would be assigned an Elk Management Unit in portions of Knott, Harlan or Bell counties, and be responsible for obtaining permission from a landowner to hunt.

Landowners like Jim Corum of Bell County said

they appreciate the department's efforts to solve his elk problems. Corum has lost young trees to hungry elk and rutting bulls over the last 3 years.

Corum and his neighbors, along with Bell County Judge-Executive Abey Brock, contacted Kentucky Fish and Wildlife for assistance in solving the problem. Although Corum has tried various methods of keeping elk off his land as recommended by department biologists who visited his property, his location next to the Begley Wildlife Management Area provides plenty of opportunity for elk to visit.

Key department personnel — including Wildlife Division Director Karen Alexy and commission members Taylor Orr and Doug Hensley — met Aug. 21 with local residents in Bell County to hear their concerns and discuss the proposed

hunt and other ways of dealing with elk. Orr represents the Ninth Wildlife District, which includes Bell County, while Hensley represents the Seventh Wildlife District, which includes Harlan County.

"Elk have brought a lot of positives to eastern Kentucky, but they sometimes get into conflict with people," Alexy said afterward. "This meeting and the proposed late-season hunt for the Straight Creek area are part of Kentucky Fish and Wildlife's efforts to address these issues."

A second public meeting about the hunt proposal is scheduled for 6 p.m. Sept. 15 at the Knott County Sportsplex near Hazard. A small area of private land in Knott County, located northeast of Carr Creek Lake Wildlife Management Area, is being considered for a late-season hunt.

# Sportsplex to host Kentucky Elk Expo September 12-13

TIMES STAFF REPORT

FRANKFORT — The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife is joining with the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and the Knott County Tourism Commission to sponsor a Kentucky Elk Country Expo at the Knott County Sportsplex near Hindman on Sept. 12-13.

The Expo, just off KY 80 east of Hindman, will feature outdoor sports-related vendors, hunting and fishing guides, outfitters, educational seminars and activities, music by the Moron Brothers

and makes optimum use of its location in the heart of Kentucky's 16-county elk restoration zone with guided elk tours.

"Kentucky Afield" television host Tim Farmer will be on hand both days. The Knott County Chamber of Commerce will sponsor an antler-scoring contest for shed and legally harvested deer and elk. First and second place prizes in each category will be awarded.

Both days also feature an archery shoot for ages 8 and up. Saturday's activities include the Kentucky Fish

and Wildlife's Brent McCarty with birds of prey, and Kentucky Big Game Coordinator Tina Brunjes' presentation on the history of the state's successful elk restoration program.

Elk tours cost \$10 a person. Call (606) 785-5881 to register for a tour. Friday's tour departs the Sportsplex at 6 p.m., while Saturday's tour departs at 6:30 a.m.

Special invitations have been extended to the 400 successful applicants participating in this year's elk hunt drawing. Admission is free for students, teachers and

school principals who register at the door. For other adults and children, the cost is \$5 and \$3, respectively. Admission is free for children under 12.

The Expo concludes with a Saturday evening banquet at the First Federal Center at Hazard Community and Technical College. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. with a live auction at 7 p.m. Seating is limited to 250 and advance reservations can be made by calling Perry County Tourism at (606) 487-1580. The cost is \$30 for adults. Children under 10 are free.

# Manufacturers to test new car for Nationwide Series at Richmond

TIMES STAFF REPORT

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — The Nationwide Series begins a new era when its new car goes on track for the first of two scheduled tests Monday and Tuesday, Sept. 8-9, at Richmond International Raceway. Wednesday, Sept. 10, will be a rain date.

Each of the four series manufacturers — Chevrolet, Dodge, Ford and Toyota — will be permitted to bring two cars. The drivers are to be announced but will be representative of their specific manufacturer.

"The goal of this test is for the manufacturers and participating teams to start laying a foundation for the transfer phase from the current car to the new car in the Nationwide Series," said Robin Pemberton, NASCAR's vice president of competition.

The cars will be on track in their current stages of development and the test data will be shared among the manufacturers, teams and NASCAR.

"We're still in the process of approving the cars," Pemberton said. "This wasn't a quick process on the NASCAR Sprint Cup side and it won't be with these cars. We've also been talking to teams and they've indicated they'd be better suited budget-wise to spend a full season building cars instead of a mid-year transition."

"We've had this style of chassis for more than two years in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series and many questions have already been answered," he said. "In applying the new car to the Nationwide Series, we fully anticipate the teams to be as competitive and resourceful as possible throughout the developmental process."

The NASCAR Nationwide Series' new car is also set to test at Lowe's Motor Speedway Oct. 13-14.

# Stewart, Logano avoid probation in Mich. incident

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Tony Stewart and Joey Logano will not be on probation in the NASCAR Nationwide Series after all.

A three-man panel of the National Stock Car Racing Commission issued a decision Wednesday rescinding the probation handed down to the drivers after the Joe Gibbs Racing team was caught trying to manipulate an engine horsepower test following the Nationwide race at Michigan last month.

NASCAR came down hard on the team a few days later, suspending indefinitely seven crew members.

In addition, Stewart and Logano each were docked 150 driver points and placed on probation until the end of the year.

The team appealed only the probation to the two drivers, saying they had nothing to do with the test that took place long after the race had ended.

# Logano parlays Kentucky NNS win into full-time Sprint Cup Series opportunity

TIMES STAFF REPORT

SPARTA — Eighteen-year-old NASCAR sensation Joey Logano, who scored his first NASCAR Nationwide Series (NNS) win in the "Mcijer 300" at Kentucky Speedway this past in June, will take over the reigns of the No. 20 Joe Gibbs Racing (JGR) NASCAR Sprint Cup Series machine beginning with the 2009 season.

The Middletown, Conn., driver nicknamed "Sliced Bread" has earned two pole awards and a total of three

top-five and seven top-10 finishes in 10 Nationwide Series appearances this season and is scheduled to make his first Sprint Cup Series start at Richmond International Speedway Sept. 6 and compete in six additional races driving cars prepared by either Joe Gibbs Racing or its satellite Hall of Fame Racing team.

"This is a dream come true," Logano told reports during his news conference. "I couldn't be more excited to get in a car like this."

He also will attempt to

make the 43-car Sprint Cup Series fields at New Hampshire Motor Speedway Sept. 14, Kansas Speedway Sept. 28, Lowe's Motor Speedway Oct. 11, Martinsville Speedway Oct. 18 and Texas Motor Speedway Nov. 2.

The highly-touted driver will have the advantage of working with accomplished crew chief Greg Zipadelli, whose brother Steve helped Logano make a connection with JGR in 2005.

Greg Zipadelli teamed with Tony Stewart to guide

the No. 20 team to Sprint Cup Series championships in 2005 and 2002. Stewart will enter the Aug. 31 series event at California Speedway ranked sixth in the current standings with eight top-five and 12 top-10 finishes.

Logano became the third consecutive NNS driver to earn his first series win at Kentucky Speedway this season. Stephen Leicht wheeled an NNS machine to Victory Lane in the Bluegrass State in 2007 and David Gilliland scored a win at the track in 2006.



Family Academy of Martial Arts students competed in the Sterling Classic held August 23 in Mt. Sterling. Front: Colin Clevenger. Middle: Jacob Kirk, Dalton Lewis. Back: Elizabeth Vaughn, Jennifer Webb, Lauren Loughery, Austin Slone. The awards breakdown follows. Elizabeth Vaughn: 1st Sparring, 2nd Forms, 4th Weapons; Lauren Loughery: 3rd Sparring, 5th Forms; Austin Slone: Sparring 3rd, Forms 5th, Weapons 4th; Jennifer Webb: 1st Sparring, 4th Forms; Dalton Lewis: 2nd Sparring, 5th Forms, 3rd Weapons; Jacob Kirk: Medal in Sparring, 3rd Forms, Medal in Weapons; Colin Clevenger: 3rd Forms, Medal in Sparring. Not present for photo: Jonna Craft: 1st Sparring, 3rd Forms, 2nd Weapons; Kendra Gambill: 2nd Sparring, 3rd Forms, 5th Weapons; Tanner Keathley: 4th Forms, 5th Weapons; Jason Hall: 4th Forms, 3rd Weapons; William Mar: 2nd Sparring, 4th Forms, 1st Weapons, Grand Champion Weapons.

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### Employment

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**Huge Yard Sale:** Sept 11-12 Thur & Friday 9-5. 1/2 mile on 658 Salyers br rd Huelysville Ky. Women plus size clothes, adult clothes, children clothes & dishes. To much to list. Come see what treasure you can find.

### Misc.

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### REAL ESTATE

#### Houses

**House for sale.** 572 Riverside Dr in Prestonsburg. 3 br,

1 bath. Quite neighborhood. In the process of being remodeled. Current price 48,000 or make offer. Call 859-294-7010 or 859-229-1916.

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

**For sale: Manufactured 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.

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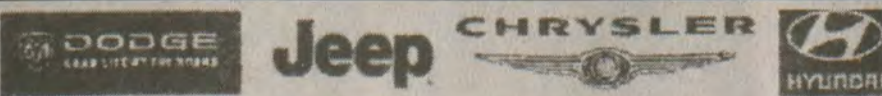
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 Mine Safety and Health Administration

### COAL MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH INSPECTOR FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT SCREENING

OCTOBER 4 & 5, 2008, at 7:00AM  
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The Mine Safety and Health Administration is seeking candidates for Underground and Electrical Coal Mine Inspectors throughout District 6: Elkhorn City, Hindman, Martin, Phelps, Pikeville and Whitesburg, KY.

A minimum of one year of underground mining experience, performing a full range of tasks and operating a variety of equipment is required. After passing math and writing tests, you will be interviewed for possible employment.

Specific requirements and online registration for MSHA-08-160-KY-D6 is located at [www.doors.dol.gov](http://www.doors.dol.gov)

Online advance registration closes September 19, 2008.

Walk-in candidates are also welcome to attend, subject to space availability. Registration for walk-ins begins at 7:00am & ends when testing begins at 8:00am. Candidates who pass both math and writing tests will be interviewed in the afternoon for possible employment.

For more information about MSHA's Inspector Career Intern Program and what to expect, please visit our website at [www.msha.gov](http://www.msha.gov)

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rent, if interested call 285-3025 Monday - Saturday 9am - 5pm.

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**Rentals**

**Apartment for rent.** 1 bed 1 bath. Located in Prestonsburg above Safe lite Autoglass. \$300 per month with \$300 security deposit. 1 yr lease, no pets. Call 606-478-8100.

**Apartment for rent.** Extra nice 2 br, 1 ba apartment. Located 1 mile South of Wayland. No pets. \$350 monthly. Plus utilities and deposit. Call 606-226-1925. 8/13 1wk

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**For Rent:** Nice clean 1 Br unfurnished apartment for near NEW food city. Lease and deposit required. No pets, no HUD. \$ 425 per month. Call 886-3565.

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205-9510 or 606-263-4323.

**2 Br, newly renovated** town house for rent. Located on 1428 near Prestonsburg. Call 358-9483 or 794-9484.

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

**Houses**

**4 Br Brick house** for rent. Carport, central heat & air. 3 miles from Prestonsburg city limits. On Rt 404 in David. \$700 mth price negotiable. Call 886-2842.

**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.

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**For Sale:** 32 x 40 Clayton doublewide. 2 br. 2 bath. Has all appliances. Brand new, never been set up. Asking \$35,000. Call 874-8104 leave a message if there is no answer.

**Modular Home** for rent. Located on Little Paint crk. Quiet neighborhood, excellent con-

dition, new carpet, carport, storage bldg. No pets, non-smoking. \$ 625.00 per month. Lease required call 886-3613 or 791-0565.

**Mobile home lot** for rent. 5 min from Highlands hospital, about 8 min from Porter grade school. 5 min from Dewy lake. Call 614-876-4516.

**For Sale:** 3 br mobile home. 12 x 60, 1 bath. 12 x 24 add on. Also 7 x 24 add on. Full front deck, paved driveway, covered carport, central heat & air. 3/4 +/- acre, # 8 Reed Street at Drift. Contact Bob Brown 377- 6889. \$45,000 firm.

**Legals**

**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE Pursuant to Application No 836-5463 Operator Change**  
In accordance with 405 KAR 8:010, notice is hereby given that The Elk Horn Coal Company, LLC, 544 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, KY 41653 intends to revise permit number 836-5463 to change the operator. The operator presently approved in the permit is The Elk Horn Coal Company, LLC. The new operator will be Shorty Enterprises,

Inc. 12164 Highway 582, Kite, Ky 41828. The operation is located 0.25 mile Northwest of Burton in Floyd County. The operation is approximately 0.65 mile Northwest from KY 1498's junction with KY Route 122 and located 0.25 mile west of the Left Fork of Beaver Creek. The operation is located on the Wheelwright U.S.G.S 7 1/2 minute quadrangle map. The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Natural Resources Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6 Prestonsburg, KY 41653. Written comments or objections must be filed with the Director, Division of Mine Permits, # 2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, KY 40601. All comments or objections

must be received within fifteen (15) days of today's date.

**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE Pursuant to Application Number 836-5532**

In accordance with KRS 350.055, notice is hereby given that FCDC Coal, Inc., 587 North Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, KY 41653, has applied for a permit for an underground coal mining operation located 1.3 mile east of Drift in Floyd County. The proposed operation will disturb 7.2 surface acres and will underlie 367 acres, and the total area within the permit boundary will be 374.2 acres. The proposed operation is approximately 0.6 mile southwest of Morgan Fork's junction with Little Mud Creek Road and

located 0.20 miles south of the Simpson Branch.

The proposed operation is located on the McDowell U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 minute quadrangle map. The surface area to be disturbed is owned by Dorothy Martin, Earl Martin and Cassie Martin. The operation will underlie land owned by Dorothy Martin, Earl Martin, Clayborn Bailey, Reba Martin, Myrtle Salisbury, and Cassie Martin. The operation will affect an area within 100 feet of public road KY Route 1426. The operation will not involve relocation or closure of the public road. The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Natural Resources, Mining Division, 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, Division of Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

**PUBLIC NOTICE** Notice is hereby given that The Kentucky Division of Abandoned Mine Lands (2521 Lawrenceburg Road, Frankfort, KY 40601) has filed an application with the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet to use a previously-disturbed vacant area (less than 1.0 acre) for storage of excavated earthen material for one of our AML reclamation projects, currently in progress. The proposed waste area is adjacent to, and on the eastern side of, KY-80 in the mapped floodplain of Beaver Creek, approximately 4,700 feet north of the intersection of KY-80 and KY-1210, at the community of Martin, in Floyd County. Any com-

ments or objections concerning this application shall be directed to: Kentucky Division of Water, Water Resources Branch, 14 Reilly Road, Frankfort Office Park, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. Phone: (502) 564-3410.

**Invitation to Bid**  
The Carl D. Perkins Job Corps Center, Prestonsburg, KY, is now accepting bids for the position of Center Dentist. The position will require 12 - 14 hours on Center each week. The deadline for bids will be Wednesday, September 10, 2008. Late bids will not be accepted. For more information, please contact Paula Davis at (606) 886-1037 ext. 104 or Tracy Reichenbach at (606) 886-1037 ext. 131 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday. The Carl D. Perkins Job Corps Center reserves the right to reject any or all bids received.

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# Raising grandchildren an extra burden for many

by DAVE CARPENTER  
AP BUSINESS WRITER

CHICAGO — The joy of grandparenting comes at a price for Dave and Nora Dacus, like many others who step up when a child's parents can't or won't.

From changing diapers to footing the tuition bills for Catholic school, the Dacuses have been on duty for 6-year-old Ethan virtually his entire life.

"You get tired," said Nora, 78, of Bourbon, Mo. "But you just do it. ... I wouldn't have seen him go anywhere else."

The couple are among an estimated 2.5 million U.S. grandparents responsible for the basic needs of one or more grandchildren who live with them, according to the Census Bureau's 2006 American Community Survey.

All face a challenge that can be financially and physically taxing. Providing a safety net for children who might otherwise face harsher fates is a tough task which can be even harder for those living on fixed incomes in retirement or those who were counting on money from their remaining working years for other purposes.

On Grandparents Day this Sunday, it's worth noting that the tradition of grandparents raising grandchildren has cherished roots in this country — George and Martha Washington raised their grandchildren at Mount Vernon, as grandparent advocate groups like to point out.

"Grandparents tend to be the saviors of both first and last resort," said Jerry Shereshevsky, chief executive of Grandparents.com. "People turn to them when things are bad an awful lot."

What's changed in recent decades is the increased complexity of family problems that experts say has contributed to a roughly 30 percent jump since 1990 in the number of children being raised by grandparents — currently about 3.7 million. In addition, grandparents live longer and are healthier than previous generations, and often are in better financial shape to take charge.

The circumstances that draw grandparents to second parenthood today vary widely and include substance abuse, teen pregnancy, divorce, child abuse and neglect, mental illness and incarceration of a parent.

Usually there's little or no time to make meaningful financial preparations in advance.

"It impacts the grandparents at a time in their lives when they should be saving for retirement, and instead they're depleting their resources to take care of the children," said Donna Butts, executive director of Generations United, a national lobbying and information organization.

While older Americans are on average much better off than a few decades ago, a large number of grandparent caregivers still struggle to get by. Generations United says some literally have to choose between buying prescription medications or diapers with their money.

Many are low-income or minorities. Some 477,000 grandparents who are caring for their grandchildren have income that puts them below the poverty line, according to U.S. Census data from 2006. The median income for grandparent-led households with a grandchild but no parent was just \$31,405.

Yet the issue crosses demographic boundaries. "Some people think it's just an inner-city, African-American grandmother issue, and it's not," Butts said.

The Dacuses don't have a lot of money and manage on Social Security and two company pensions. But they couldn't stand by when great-grandson Ethan appeared headed for a foster home as an infant. Born prematurely and under 4 pounds, he needed round-the-clock care for months, and his mother — their granddaughter — was single and unemployed and not up to the job.

None of their seven children wanted to raise him — "They all work and have families of their own," explained

Nora, a retired supermarket manager. So Dave, now 73, a retired maintenance supervisor at Emerson Electric Co., converted the basement of their two-bedroom ranch home into a playroom and they took him in as their own.

Now their seventies are dominated by child care. Trips and other indulgences are rare. The couple says they can't afford them in the face of \$2,600-a-year school tuition, clothes and other child costs, and they want to save their time, energy and money for Ethan anyway.

"It does change your life," Nora said. "We don't get to put our feet up. But he's just ours. I can't think of a day without him."

Elizabeth Reinsch, human development specialist at University of Missouri Extension, says grandparents 55 and over are eligible for some modest financial assistance from the Family Caregiver Act. But legal and emotional issues may prevent them from getting it.

Many grandparents delay going through the legal system to get custody or avoid it

altogether, thinking or hoping their duties will be only temporary, she said. Without a custodial relationship to the child, they can't get any assistance.

That's the case with the Dacuses, who looked into adopting Ethan but decided not to proceed for fear they would be rejected as too old, thus relegating the boy to foster care.

Grandparents may run up substantial legal tabs, especially if they encounter resistance from the child's parents or need to prove neglect or

abandonment. One couple in Utah estimated spending \$12,000 on attorneys, including one who specialized in juvenile law and another on an estate plan attorney to help them craft a will and trust incorporating their grandchild.

With or without financial help, experts say it's essential that those raising grandchildren find a support group.

"I've seen grandparents attend a support group for the first time and be in tears because they thought they were alone until that

moment," said Reinsch, who coordinates the Gateway Grandparents/Kinship Network, a coalition of groups in the St. Louis area working to support grandfamilies.

The Dacuses will mark Grandparents Day this weekend by attending a picnic held by the Gateway group — and by working to care for Ethan, as always.

"They are doing a phenomenal job," said Reinsch, citing their energy. "They're a shining example of what grandparent caregivers can be."



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