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The Times

FLOYD COUNTY

school
basketball

page B1

One Voice for Eastern Kentucky

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In Brief

Inmate signs other name, walks out of jail

Times Staff Report

PIKEVILLE — An inmate escaped from the Pike County Detention Center this past week after forging another inmate's name on a bond release form and walking out of the jail.

State police said Wednesday that 30-year-old Michael Farley, of Lovely, signed the release form and simply walked away from the facility.

KSP dispatchers said they learned of the incident at approximately 3:30 p.m. that afternoon.

Farley is described as being 6 feet, 1 inch tall and weighing 315 pounds with black hair, beard and mustache.

At the time of the escape, Farley was said to have been wearing a gray sweatshirt and blue pajama pants.

The case remains under investigation by KSP Trooper Justin Cornett.

Stumbo unveils gambling expansion bill

by SHELDON COMPTON
STAFF WRITER

FRANKFORT — As many expected, House Speaker Greg Stumbo filed legislation Friday morning that would allow video lottery terminals at the state's horse tracks, the end result of a proposal Stumbo has been pushing for some time.

"The time for this bill is now, when we desperately need money in state government, when our families need tax relief at home and when our horse farmers need a boost before we lose the commonwealth's signature industry," Stumbo said shortly after filing the bill. "This legislation is nothing more than the extension of the lottery, and it only applies at race tracks where gaming is already taking place."

Failure to pass the bill into law would be a missed opportunity, Stumbo said.

"We are shortchanging ourselves if we don't take this step," he said, "because other states are already beating us to the finish line."

The terminals could only be located at tracks licensed by the Kentucky Horse Racing Commission, according to the bill, and only in areas where those 21 and older would be allowed. Likewise, despite the fact that the terminals would be located at these tracks, they would all be connected to lottery headquarters, which would have oversight.

Local taxes would not be affected, Stumbo said, and he projected the termi-

(See GAMBLING, page three)



House Speaker Greg Stumbo, shown speaking with reporters early last week, wasted no time following his election to the top post in the House of Representatives before unveiling his proposal to expand gambling in the state.

SOURCE OF REVENUE?



Michelle Elkins, a clerk at the Cardinal Mart on Watergap Road, stocked cigarettes at the store Friday. Some state leaders say a 70-cent hike of the cigarette tax could go a long way toward easing a crippled state budget, while local health officials approve from a health-related viewpoint.

photo by Sheldon Compton

College offers education help for unemployed

Times Staff Report

PIKEVILLE — Recently unemployed workers will be offered a unique opportunity for the upcoming spring semester at Pikeville College.

College officials announced this week that, considering the downturn in the national economy, the school will be offering empty seats in classrooms tuition-free to unemployed individuals who might be interested in returning to the classroom.

"The institution's 120-year mission has always been one of service to the region," said incoming President Michael Looney. "In these tough economic times, we want to help."

Admissions officers and other campus advisors will be available during the next two weeks to answer questions and provide assistance and information on educational programs. They will also help identify any state, federal and other student aid programs that may be available.

"It is our hope that this program will provide encouragement to anyone thinking about starting college or continuing their education" added Looney. "We are also pleased to join other academic institutions across the state offering similar opportunities."

Spring semester classes started Wednesday, but prospective students under the unemployment waiver can register through Jan. 13.

For more information, contact Melinda Lynch, dean of admissions and student financial services at (606) 218-5251.

Proposed cigarette tax hike draws mixed reviews

by SHELDON COMPTON
STAFF WRITER

FRANKFORT — With a wounded budget as a backdrop, state legislators will focus a great deal of attention in the next session on a proposed

increase to the cigarette tax.

It has been suggested that taxes be raised 70 cents for each pack of cigarettes, and most of the discussion about this proposal has been in relation to how much revenue this could generate for the state.

However, some feel the tax increase is just as much an issue of health as anything else.

"I approve of the tax," said Helen Crider, a registered nurse and tobacco coordinator with

(See TAX, page three)

Hearing to be held in murder case

by JARRID DEATON
FEATURES WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A status conference is scheduled next week for Tony Ray Tackett, the man charged with the 2006 murder of Margaret Hall, of Tram.

Tackett, 46, was arrested on Nov. 29, 2006, after an eight-month investigation conducted by the Kentucky State Police.

The remains of Margaret Hall, 56, were located on a strip mine road in Harold in April 2006. Hall had been reported missing on March 30 and had not been seen by friends or family since March 18.

The investigation led police to Tackett, who was arrested outside of a residence in Printer without incident. Tackett was charged with murder, first-degree rape and first-degree unlawful imprisonment.

At the time of the investigation, the Kentucky State Police did not rule out the possibility that other suspects could have been involved in Hall's murder, but no other arrests have been made.

Tackett is currently being held at the Floyd County Detention Center, where he has been since his arrest. He has a \$100,000 cash bond. Tackett's bond has ranged from no bond allowed to \$1 million in the past.



photo by Sheldon Compton

This truck left the road near the entrance to Adams Middle School Friday afternoon and struck a storage building adjacent to a mobile home. The driver, whose name was not known as of press time, was taken to Highlands Regional Medical Center following the accident, police said.

2 DAY FORECAST

Today



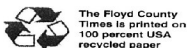
High: 34 • Low: 24

Tomorrow



High: 40 • Low: 29

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Regional Obituaries

FLOYD COUNTY

■ Vonda Dameron Burke, 82, of Weeksbury, died Tuesday, Dec. 30, 2008, at Princeton Community Hospital, Princeton, W.Va. Funeral services were held Friday, Jan. 2, 2009, under the direction of Roberts Funeral Home.

■ Garner Lee (Rushie) Crum, 61, of Martin, died Friday, January 2, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. He is survived by his wife, Janavee Johnson. Funeral services were held Monday, January 5, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Alexis Faye Endicott, infant daughter of Sasha and Jonathan Endicott, died Tuesday, Dec. 30, 2008, at Frankfort Regional Medical Center, Frankfort. Funeral services were held Saturday, Jan. 3, 2009, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Donald E. Gibson, 67, of Athol, Massachusetts, a Wayland native, died Tuesday, December 30, 2008, at his residence. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 7, 2009, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Elmer (Dick) Greer, 80, of Prestonsburg, died Monday, December 29, 2008, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Bertha Bryant Greer. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 1, 2009, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Oliver Bascom Hall, 77, of Betsy Layne, died Thursday, Jan. 1, at his residence. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, Jan. 3, under the direction of the Hall Funeral Home.

■ Mildred Hall Hatfield, 88, of Lexington, formerly of Weeksbury, died Sunday, January 4, at Hospice Care Center, Lexington. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 7, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Seth Addison Lafferty, 8, of Prestonsburg, died Tuesday, January 6, 2009, at Cabell-Huntington Hospital, in Huntington, West Virginia. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, January 10, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Georgia Lee Martin, 68, of Bypro, died Friday, January 2, in Somerset. Funeral services were held Tuesday, January 6, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Blanche R. Martin, 76, of Prestonsburg, formerly of Hippo, died Tuesday, January 6, at Highlands Regional

Medical Center, Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Friday, January 9, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Howard Meade, 76, of Printer, died Friday, January 2, at Central Baptist Hospital. Funeral services were held Sunday, January 4, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Maxine Dutton Mullins, 86, of Weeksbury, died Thursday, January 1, at her residence. Funeral services were held Monday, January 5, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Paul Sherman Mullins, 59, of Weeksbury, died Wednesday, January 7, at McDowell ARH. Funeral services will be held Sunday, January 11, at 1 p.m., under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Ellen Irene Samons, 82, of Banner, died Sunday, January 4, in the U.K. Medical Center, in Lexington. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 7, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Gleason Stone, 73, of Bypro, died Sunday, December 28, 2008, in Prestonsburg. He is survived by his wife, Louise Ramey Stone. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 1, 2009, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ **PIKE COUNTY**
■ Peggy Jerce Blackburn Brown, 69, of Ashland, formerly of Pike County, died Sunday, Jan. 4, at King's Daughters Hospital, Ashland. Funeral services were held Thursday, Jan. 8, under the direction of J.W. Call Funeral Home.

■ Orthe Lester Bently, 84, of Rockhouse, died Thursday, Jan. 1, at the Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, Jan. 4, under the direction of the Bailey Funeral Home.

■ Sammie Alvin Carter Sr., 75, of Pikeville, died Saturday, Jan. 3, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Monday, Jan. 5, under the direction of J.W. Call Funeral Home.

■ Patricia Ann Cochran, 68 of Williamson, W.Va., a South Williamson native, died Thursday, Jan. 1, at the Appalachian Regional Hospital, South Williamson. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, Jan. 4, under the direction of the R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ June Parsons Compton, 81, of Pikeville, died Monday, Jan. 5, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, Solly Compton. Funeral services

were conducted Friday, Jan. 9, under the direction of the Lucas and Son Funeral Home.

■ Shirley Catherine Pope Conley, 56, of Belfry, died Tuesday, Dec. 30, at her home. Funeral services were held Saturday, Jan. 3, under direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home of Belfry.

■ Magdalene Hatfield, 98, of McCarr, died Friday, Jan. 2, at her home. Funeral services were held Tuesday, Jan. 6, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Roy Hensley, 67, of Kimper, died Thursday, Jan. 1, at the Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, Jan. 4, under the direction of the Community Funeral Home.

■ Dock Hensley Jr., a Pike County native, died Monday, Jan. 5. Funeral services were held Thursday, Jan. 8, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Ann Jensen, 62, of Orland, Ind., a Pikeville native, died Sunday, Jan. 4, at Lutheran Hospital, Ft. Wayne. Funeral services were held Thursday, Jan. 8, under the direction of Beams Funeral Home of Fremont, Ind.

■ Lewie Gene Johnson, 53, of Virgie, died Thursday, Jan. 1, at his residence. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, Jan. 4, under the direction of the Hall and Jones Funeral Home.

■ Hobart Kinder, 89, of Pikeville, died Monday, Jan. 5. Funeral services were held Friday, Jan. 9, under the direction of Thacker Funeral Home.

■ Jeannie Thornsbury Migneron, 33, of Sidney, died Monday, Jan. 5, at her home. Funeral services were held Wednesday, Jan. 7, under the direction of Community Funeral Home.

■ Jimmy Ray Moore, 41, of Lakeland, Fla., formerly of Pikeville, died Sunday, Dec. 28, 2008, at the Lakeland Residential Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, Jan. 3, 2009, under the direction of the Thacker Funeral Home.

■ James Forest Ratliff, 77, of Elk Horn City, died Monday, Jan. 5, at his home. Funeral services were held Wednesday, Jan. 7, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ Ellis "Hunkie" Sanders, 68, of Millard, died Wednesday, Dec. 31, 2008, at the Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Monday, Jan. 5, 2009, under the direction of the Lucas and Son Funeral Home.

■ Lowell Thomas SESCO, 66, of Jackson, Ohio, a Pike

County native, died Tuesday, January 6, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Joyce Hensley SESCO. Funeral services were held Friday, January 9, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Hazel Stone, 65, of Kimper, died Jan. 1, at the Pikeville Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Tony Stone. Arrangements were under the direction of the Thacker Funeral Home.

■ Alta Stone, 82, of Douglas Parkway, died Saturday, Jan. 3, at Pikeville Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Fred Stone. Funeral services were held Monday, Jan. 5, under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

■ Ben Smallwood, 78, of Graying, Mich., a Pikeville native, died Friday, Jan. 2. He is survived by his wife, Catherine Vinnie Smith Smallwood. Funeral services were held Tuesday, Jan. 6, under the direction of Lynch & Sons Funeral Home of Clawson, Mich.

■ Maudie R. Smith, 82, of Canada, died Sunday, Jan. 4, at Pikeville Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Raymond Smith. Funeral services were held Thursday, Jan. 8, under direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home of Belfry.

■ Raymond "Cannonball" Syck, 81, of Meta, a Floyd County native, died Wednesday, Dec. 31, 2008, at Jenkins Community Hospital. Funeral services were held Saturday, Jan. 3, under direction of Community Funeral Home and Roberts Funeral Home.

■ Denise Darnell Varney, 28, of Pinsonfork, died Thursday, Jan. 1, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, Haskell Shawn Varney. Funeral services were held Sunday Jan. 4, under the direction of the Rogers Funeral Home.

KNOTT COUNTY

■ Connie Amburgey, 63, of Taylor, Mich., died Monday, December 22, 2008. Graveside services were held Saturday, December 27, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Bobby Lee Beaver, 60, of Dwart, died Monday, December 22, 2008, at the Hazard ARMC. He is survived by his wife, Betty Beaver. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, December 24, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Jack C. Cornett, 80, of Florence, formerly of Knott

County, died Monday, December 15, 2008, at the St. Elizabeth Hospital in Edgewood. He is survived by his wife, Verma Mac Cornett. Funeral services were held Thursday, December 18, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Stanley Everidge, 79, of Pinetop, died Tuesday, December 16, 2008, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Rose Everidge. Funeral services were held Thursday, December 18, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Ronnie Martin, 52, of Hindman, formerly of Dema, died Monday, December 15, 2008, at the Hazard ARMC. Funeral services were held Thursday, December 18, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Dana Munn, 91, died Wednesday, December 25, 2008, at St. John's Lutheran Center in Billings, MT. Services were held Friday,

January 3, 2009, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Virginia "Jenny" Restauri, 74, of Lexington, formerly of Larkslane, died Thursday, December 18, 2008. She is survived by her husband, William J. Restauri. Graveside services were held Saturday, December 20, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Mable Lee Ritchie, 67, of Bulan, died Monday, December 22, 2008, at the Hazard ARMC. Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 24, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

■ Gary Leealan Stone, 22, of Hazard, a Prestonsburg native, died Wednesday, December 24, 2008, at Jacksonville, Florida. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 1, 2009, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Hindman.

Obituaries

Paul Sherman Mullins

Paul Sherman Mullins, 59, of Weeksbury, died Wednesday, January 7, 2009, at McDowell ARH. Born November 16, 1949, in Weeksbury, he was the son of the late Marion "Squeezie" and Maxine Dutton Mullins. He was a retired veteran.

Survivors include a son: Lance J. Mullins of Weeksbury; three daughters: Paula Sue Mullins Delaney of Marion, Ohio, and Michelle Mullins and Iris Tackett, both of Melvin; four brothers: Bill (Pam) Bailey of Wyoming, and Greg (Shirley) Mullins, Richard (Debbie) Mullins, and Porky (Michelle) Mullins, all of Weeksbury; two sisters: Cissy (Carl) Johnson and Maggie (Jimmy) Johnson, both of Weeksbury; 15 grandchildren, and a great-grandchild.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Charles "Fatman" Mullins; and a sister, Barbara Ann Mullins.

Funeral services will be held Sunday, January 11, at 1 p.m., at the Wheelwright Frcwill Baptist Church, with Vernon Johnson and Louis Ferrari officiating.

Burial will be in the Johnson

Cemetery, in Weeksbury, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin.

Military services will be conducted by DAV Chapter 128 at Garrett.

Visitation will be Friday, January 9, at 1 p.m., at the church. (Paid obituary)

Richard (Wickie) Prater

Richard (Wickie) Prater, 62, of Ocala, Florida, formerly of Garrett, died Thursday, January 1, 2009, at the Hospice of Port Orange, Florida.

He was the son of the late James and Leona Prater.

He will be best remembered for his free spirit, and was always ready to lend a helping hand to others.

He is survived by a daughter, Jennifer, and his granddaughters Emily and Abby of Michigan; his brothers, James and John Prater of Edgewater, Florida, and Don Prater of Westland, Michigan; his sisters: Dianne Hall of Oak Hill, Florida, and Sally Moore of Westland, Michigan.

Donations can be made to Hospice of Volusia/Flagler, 3800 Woodtrior Trail, Port Orange, FL 32129. (Paid obituary)

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AB

Feb. 1 is deadline for HCTC's Kudzu

Kudzu, an annual literary publication of Hazard Community and Technical College, is now soliciting submissions from the general public as well as students and HCTC employees for its 2009 issue.

A Feb. 1, deadline has been set for submissions of poems, pen and ink art work, short stories, and personal

essays. The short stories and personal essays should not exceed 4,000 words.

With the submissions, please include a few biographical facts, town or county of residence, occupation and/or interests. Please provide a return address, telephone number, and email address (if available).

Those wanting their work

returned should send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Donna S. Sparkman, Hazard Community and Technical College, Knott County Branch, One Community College Drive, Hazard, KY 41701.

The work and biographical information should be submitted to Donna S. Sparkman at the above

address anytime before Feb. 1, 2009. In addition to general submissions, Kudzu is having a fiction and poetry contest. Anyone interested in these contests or simply submitting work for consideration, please contact Donna S. Sparkman at (606) 785-4114, ext. 73411 or email HZ-HCTC-KUDZU

Gambling

nals would bring in \$700 million annually, to be used in numerous ways. First on that list would be the elimination of the state's share of the motor vehicle and motor boat property tax. Stumbo said this alone would save Kentucky residents roughly \$110 million annually.

Other areas in which the money would be used include the formation of a trust fund for drug and alcohol rehabilitation to be funded up to \$20 million a year, as well as up to another \$20 million each year to be distributed to county fiscal courts to offset the cost of housing state prisoners in

county jails.

Additionally, the bill calls for up to \$2.5 million to be set aside for a problem gamblers awareness and treatment fund, as well as up to another \$1 million each year for the Kentucky PRIDE program, not to mention preservation of a staple industry for the state.

Continued from p1

"I'm hoping that this bill will ensure the continuing vitality of our horse industry," Stumbo said. "It will make our tracks more competitive with other states by providing larger purses. I see it as a winning proposal for the state, for our families and for horse farmers."

Tax

the Floyd County Health Department. "It could prevent younger people from starting to smoke and statistics have proven that."

Crider, who admitted that tacking on a full \$1 as a tax hike would be fine with her, said other states that have embraced this idea have seen a decrease in the number of teen smokers.

"I hope Kentucky jumps on the bandwagon," continued Crider. "And I hope someday we can see a smoke-free Floyd County right here at home."

Despite support from health officials such as Crider and a number of others, the tax hike could still be a hard sell, however. House Speaker Greg Stumbo has said the 70-cent increase would be "a bit of a stretch."

A proposal to raise cigarette tax 25

cents passed the House last year, but failed in the Senate.

According to reports, the national average for cigarette tax is \$1.19, with more than 20,000 teens trying cigarettes for the first time every year in Kentucky.

For some locals, tax hike or not, they say it will not have an effect on their lighting up.

"I'm probably going to smoke regardless," said Richard Collier of Big Branch. "Whether they raise the tax or not, I think people who smoke are still going to smoke."

Officials with the Floyd County Health Department have been aggressive in the past year with various initiatives to curb smoking, including campaigns to reduce secondhand smoke and, most recently a postcard campaign.

Continued from p1

"We've just recently sent out postcards about the myths of secondhand smoke," Crider said. "Our hope is to see the county become a smoke-free county, but in the meantime we'll continue working to bring awareness and concentrate on appealing to our youth."

Wellness, health and nutrition forum cancelled

The Floyd County Schools Wellness, Health, and Nutrition Forum planned for January 26, 2009, 5:30PM, at May Valley Elementary School has been cancelled. The forum will be rescheduled in February.

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Why Some People Think

Duke Ellington

Is a Member of the Royal Family.

KIDS DON'T GET ENOUGH ART THESE DAYS. So you can see why some of them might accidentally confuse a jazz legend named Duke with royalty named duke. But it's finally time to set the record straight.

Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington didn't rule over a small English estate. Instead he reigned supreme over jazz institutions like The Cotton Club. He riffed

powerfully on the piano, but it was the full orchestra that he considered his most compelling instrument. He introduced improvisation to his compositions — a process unheard of using a 15-piece orchestra. The result was a different approach to jazz that sparked a revolution and an evolution. His music spread across the world with songs like "Sophisticated Lady." "In a



A piano player. A composer. An orchestra leader. Duke Ellington reigned over a land called Jazz.

Sentimental Mood," and "Take the 'A' Train." His historical concert in 1953 at the Newport Jazz Festival has entered the lexicon of legendary live performances. There is no doubt about it. Ellington's brand of jazz has contributed significantly to the American songbook and to the lives of anyone who has ever tapped their foot to a beat.

Jazz is art, you dig? Art can

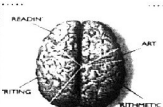
really transform lives.

In fact, the more art kids get, the smarter they become in subjects like math and science. And the more likely they'll become well-rounded, cool members of

society. For Ten Simple Ways to get more art in kids' lives, visit AmericansForTheArts.org.



Royal dukes are square-jawed. They have no rhythm. And they wear crowns.



Give your kids a chance to succeed. Up their daily dose of art.



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

Tax cuts work best to stimulate economy

If it really is necessary for the federal government to spend \$775 billion it doesn't have to stimulate a withering economy, at least President-elect Barack Obama is giving the spending bonanza a better chance to work by targeting 40 percent of the money to tax relief.

Details leaking out about Obama's stimulus plan indicate that at least \$300 billion will go to individual and business tax cuts. Cutting taxes will deliver far better results than the earmarks that are expected to consume much of the rest of the package.

What Obama reportedly will propose are tax credits of \$500 per individual or \$1,000 per family for those who pay federal income taxes or are eligible for the earned income tax credit, designed to soften the impact of payroll taxes on lower-income workers.

The credits for individuals would come in the form of reduced tax withholdings, rather than a one-time check, making it more likely that the money will work long-term to stimulate the economy.

Businesses would be able to write off last year's losses, as well as losses occurred this year, and they'd get a one-time tax credit for hiring workers or forgoing layoffs. Smaller business would be able to write off a wide variety of expenditures, encouraging them to invest to create jobs.

These are all solid ideas that should help get the economy moving. Tax cuts are proven to be far more reliable than spending programs for strengthening the economy. The Bush administration's tax cuts in 2001 kept the economy growing through the Sept. 11 attacks, two wars and Hurricane Katrina. Had Congress and the administration done a better job of monitoring the mortgage markets and Wall Street, those tax cuts would still be doing their job today.

What hasn't been revealed is whether Obama intends to make good on his campaign pledge to raise income and payroll tax rates on upper-income earners and hike the capital gains tax to 20 percent from the current 15 percent. Doing so would be a mistake.

Investors are already skittish about putting their money to work; uncertainty about tax rates or increases in taxes will make them even more so.

And Obama should target the 35 percent corporate income tax rate, which is among the world's highest. Making the tax rate competitive would encourage more domestic investment.

Obama is getting heat from the left, which prefers more spending on social programs and government-funded jobs. But he sees the tax cuts as a way to win the support of skeptical Republican members of Congress. Obama reportedly wants 80 to 90 votes in the Senate to signal broad bipartisan backing for the package.

He'll have a much better chance of reaching that goal if he leaves the tax cut portion of his proposal intact and pledges not to raise taxes on any group of taxpayers.

As for the rest of the stimulus package, helping states meet unemployment insurance and Medicaid obligations is essential. But the hundreds of billions of dollars he wants for infrastructure projects could wind up as the biggest boondoggle since the Hurricane Katrina relief project.

Without vigorous oversight, the disastrous New Orleans results will be repeated; billions of dollars will get spent with little result, and many of the new construction jobs will go to illegal immigrants.

If Congress agrees to take on this enormous debt in the name of stimulating the economy, it better do everything possible to keep it from becoming history's biggest pork barrel.

The Detroit News

LEON PANETTA PRESENTS HIS INTELLIGENCE CREDENTIALS TO THE SENATE



Chuck Norris Invasion USA

The USA is being infiltrated by illegals, sold to foreign powers, and abandoned by its government. But are Americans enabling the dissolution of our economy and country, as well, by continuing to buy foreign goods?

America literally is being sold out from underneath Americans. According to the 2008 Economic Report of the President: "The United States is both the single leading recipient and leading source of foreign direct investment in the world. In 2006, total cumulative FDI in the United States was almost \$1.8 trillion, 15 percent of the world total." In 2006, foreign-owned assets in the U.S. totaled roughly \$1.6 trillion.

And where does all that foreign investment go? As Paul Craig Roberts, who once was the assistant secretary of treasury under President Ronald Reagan and associate editor of *The Wall Street Journal*, wrote seven years ago: "Very little of the foreign money flowing into the United States is for the purpose of building Toyota and BMW plants. Eighty percent to 85 percent of direct investment by foreigners in the U.S. economy goes into mergers and acquisitions. In 2000, 97 percent of direct investment by foreigners went for the purchase of existing U.S. assets." And those assets include U.S. government securities and liabilities, including our national debt, which is mounting into

the teens of trillions. We all know China serves as an example of this vicious cycle. American companies, from agrribusinesses to Wal-Mart, have proliferated markets with so many "Made in China" labels that our nation has one big tag dangling from the toe of Florida — "Sold to China." And do the Chinese mind their material and monetary dominance over America? Of course not. In turn, they take the money that we pay them for their goods and invest (lend) it back to us via our government as one of the groups of "foreign investors" in our national debt. And why? Lately, the reason has been so Congress can bail out more American industries and deepen our bondage (and ownership) to countries such as China.

In the same 2002 column, Roberts eerily predicted: "The United States is on its way to becoming a country whose corporations are foreign-owned and foreign-based. The United States will decline as a consumer market, as there will be no high-productivity jobs to support consumer demand. The United States is importing a new population that will help it on its way to Third World-ism. Every year, millions of poor and uneducated immigrants, both legal and illegal, pour into the United States from alien lands. O Today, 20 percent of the

U.S. population is foreign-born or children of foreign born. This massive influx drives up the demand for income-support programs, while driving down the taxable wages in retail- and service-sector jobs, where Americans are forced to seek employment as higher-paying automotive, electronic, textile and manufacturing jobs leave the country. The United States is still a superpower, but it is a country with very little, if any, control over its future and its destiny, a country whose time is running out."

It's time to realize that we're all together in this boat called America, that the boat is sinking, and that government is not our salvation. Our hope is not in Congress or even a political messianic deliverance through the presidency. The only economic stimulus plan they should be preparing is the one that rewards manufacturers and consumers who promote and purchase American-made products and services. Our government doesn't need to dole out more bailouts and drown us deeper in debt. We don't need more bad trade agreements, such as NAFTA, or to provide tax relief incentives for corporations that are outsourcing. We need fair trade, not free trade. And we need a fair tax, not a flowering system of taxes.

(See NORRIS, page six)



Chuck Norris

beyond the Beltway Yes, 2008 was historic

by DONALD KAUL
MINUTEMAN MEDIA

I'm sure there have been worse years than 2008; I just can't think of one right now.

Bad enough that the economy fell into a hole the bottom of which we have not yet seen, it has also become apparent that we are at the mercy of thieves and swindlers.

Ted Stevens of Alaska, then the longest serving Republican Senator, was found guilty of illegally accepting favors (a doubling of his home) from a contractor who did business with the government. Really, a two-bit bribe for someone charged with moving hundreds of millions of taxpayers' dollars around. It makes you wonder what we didn't find out about.

Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich, once considered an up-and-coming star in the Democratic Party, was caught on tape talking about auctioning a U.S. Senate seat to the highest bidder.

Bernard Madoff, a genuine certified hon of Wall Street who thrilled hundreds of rich investors with the returns he produced on the money they gave him, was found to be a miserable fraud, as empty of substance as the Wizard of Oz and a very bad man besides. His worst offense was the damage done to charities that trusted their funds to him, money that was supposed to provide for the needy in many cases. But almost as serious was the stoking of the fires of anti-Semitism that his crookedness inspired, reinforcing the ugly stereo-

type of the dishonest, money-grubbing Jew.

It was a year when we saw legislators with platinum-plated government health insurance upraid atop executives for giving workers gold-plated health plans.

When we saw investment bankers and other Wall Street brigands dripping into the federal treasury for billions of dollars to stave off collapse, all the while paying themselves handsome bonuses for their good work.

It was a year in which a billion became the new million. As recently as September, our political candidates were still talking in terms of millions, as though that were real money. If a thing cost \$100 million, well, that was too expensive. We couldn't afford it. Then the economy went south and overnight the term "millions" became so yesterday. When the auto companies came to Washington looking for cash, they didn't ask for \$100 million to tide them over until payday — \$3.5 billion was the number — and they weren't the only ones. No problem it seemed could be addressed for less than \$30 billion, not even as a stopgap.

Having agreed with the consigning of perhaps a trillion dollars or more to do nothing more than apply a tourniquet to our hemorrhaging economy, President-elect Obama has announced he'll pour hundreds of billions more into the task of jump-starting it.

Will any of it work? No one really knows. It doesn't seem right though, does it? Excessive borrowing got us

into this mess in the first place; now we expect excessive borrowing will get us out.

They're making money in the old-fashioned way these days; they print it. (Many of the geniuses counseling Obama, by the way, are the same geniuses who didn't see the train coming until it hit them.)

All this borrowing means we're saddling our children and grandchildren with a mountainous debt that they will have to repay someday; the theory being that it's better to do that than leave them with a bombed-out, burned up economy where no one can earn a living.

For now we're left wondering whether we can count on our jobs, our pensions, our retirement accounts, our health insurance or even the ability of our children to get an education and/or job.

We had learned to take those things for granted but we can't anymore and it's damned scary; the threads of trust that bound us together as a society have been broken, one by one.

President Obama's biggest job will be to reweave that web of trust along with its correlatives, confidence and optimism.

If he can do that, he's going up on Mt. Rushmore.

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



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The Times

Published Sunday, Wednesday and Friday each week

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PRESTONSBURG, KENTUCKY 41653

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www.floydcountytimes.com

USPS 202-700

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

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

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

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FLOYD COUNTY Lifestyles



INSIDESTUFF

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

CAR TALK:

What's the proper use of 'B' mode in hybrids?

see pg. B6

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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.

THE WEATHER— FORGIVE US

Now they tell us the next three months will be colder than normal. That follows hard on assurances that the winter will be warmer. All of which, confirms my argument that a first-class case of rheumatiz will hold its own in the weather forecasting department with the latest in weather satellites. I could say that these early predictions of a more, shall we say, passable winter filled me into changing my mind about going to Florida for the winter, but it's nearer the truth to explain my staying home by the fact that the beachcombing profession down there doesn't appear to be as promising as it once was.

□□□

Anyway, if what we've had by way of weather the last few days doesn't hold you, just wait till something better—or worse—comes along.

ONE BRIGHT SPOT

On the most dismal day of the past week-end, I saw my first 1979 seed catalogue. I do not intend to infringe upon Omar Khayyam's copyright, but can't resist inditing this immortal line. Never grows the rose so red as in a seed catalog bed.

□□□

This may not be a tip on how to beat inflation, but Dave Sizemore tells how an old acquaintance reduced his grocery bill. Slept till around 11 a.m., then rose to announce that he had "slept a meal."

ANY HELP NEEDED?

I liked George E. Allen's letter to the Floyd County Board of Education and Supt. Grigsby, submitting his resignation with retirement in mind after 32 years. He wrote, in part:

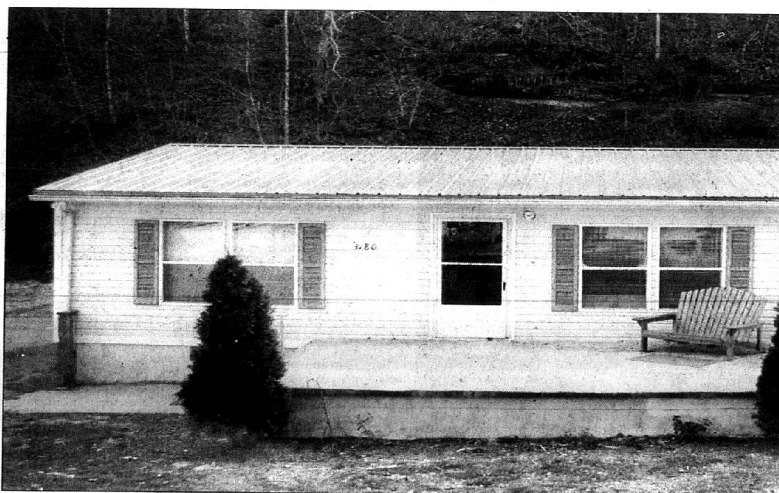
"Now, I feel that the feeding habits of black birds—my game fish need thorough study. Also, the wild-flowers in spring need much more attention, and my grandchildren need closer observation and study while they are still young."

Study the feeding habits of black bass—in my best Andy Devine croak I yelp, "Wait for me!"

SADLY MISSED

This time last year, birds were crowding our feeders. This winter, except for the sparrows, which we always have with us, and an occasional chickadee or titmouse—they just aren't. Two cardinals showed up this week. Last year, I had the pleasure of leuding with the evening grosbeaks, but as of inst. date they are, to put it with a great show of originality, conspicuous by their absence.

The same said report comes (See ALLEN, page six)



Kayla Zimmerman and her family now have a new roof over their heads thanks to volunteers and donations from local businesses and organizations.

HELP FOR HEROES

Neighbors chip in to help wife of soldier

by JARRID DEATON
FEATURES WRITER

Bobby Spencer knew something had to be done when he saw the tarp on the roof of Walter and Kayla Zimmerman's home in Little Paint.

Walter Zimmerman is currently serving in Afghanistan, and his wife lives in the home with their two children, ages 3 and 5.

"I live there in the area and I knew that Kayla didn't have any help, so when I saw a piece of plastic on the roof I knew we had to do something to help her out," Spencer said. "I had a couple of guys go over to check it out and they told me that it was too bad to be fixed.

That's when everybody came together and we were able to put a totally new roof on for them."

Along with the Auxier Freewill Baptist Church, where Spencer is the pastor, Kinzer Drilling, the Little Paint Church of Christ, Don Bartley Construction, Christ United Methodist Church, Fannin Heating and Cooling, Nelson Frazier Funeral Home, Hall Funeral Home, Phelps and Son Funeral Home, Jenny Wiley Florist, Logan Corp. and East Kentucky Metal provided donations to purchase the material to put a new roof on the home.

Kayla Zimmerman feels blessed for the help that she and her family received from the Auxier Freewill

Baptist Church and all of the organizations that chipped in to ensure that the leaky roof was a thing of the past.

"I just want to thank them so much," Zimmerman said. "Words can't express how much I appreciate what they did for us. My kids are so excited."

Zimmerman said that the family's home had a small leak in the roof when they bought it, and the leak continued to get worse over time.

Walter Zimmerman, who has been in Afghanistan since March of 2008, is scheduled to return home in March of this year.

HCTC holds poetry contest

Attention poets of high school age or younger HCTC is hosting the Third Annual Young Appalachian Poets Award. Individuals can submit up to three separate poems of any length. There are no topic limitations this year. Those wishing to submit their work have a Jan. 30, 2009 deadline.

Entries should be submitted via email to Scott.Lucero@ketcs.edu as an attached Microsoft Word document. Please put YA PA in the subject line. Be sure to include contact information. Although email is preferred, entries also are accepted by mail to Scott

Lucero, HCTC, One Community College Drive, Hazard, KY 41701.

Winners will be announced in April 2009. First place winner receives \$100. The second place winner receives \$50. Winners will have their work published in Kudzn and will be invited to read at Evening With Poets. The contest judge this year will be Affrilachian poet Mitchell Douglas.

If you have any questions, please contact Scott Lucero at Scott.Lucero@ketcs.edu or at (606) 487-3200.

Not like in the movies

by LYNN GRASBERG
"CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE SOUL: TEENS TALK HIGH SCHOOL"

He was so cute, standing on my front doorstep in his suit and his grin—the boy taking me to my first formal dinner dance.

For months, I knew I had to bring someone to this special party for the Confirmation class graduates of our Reform Jewish synagogue. But I felt like an old maid at age 14 — no date and no prospects. I was doomed to a of humiliation, sitting by myself at a

table of matched couples.

I called a girlfriend who had a boyfriend to help me out. He called one of his friends, and hallo! Here he stood. From our phone call a few days earlier, I knew that his name was Bart, and he was not Jewish.

I was not about to be picky. "Shut up!" I yelled at one of my younger sisters who immediately dubbed my fantasy date "Bart the Fart."

I answered the door with my family gathered behind me. My sister snickered, "Bart the Fart!" one more time and ran out of the room. Bart and

I pretended to ignore her, while my mother got her keys to drop us off at the dance.

At the banquet, Bart and I exuded "sophistication" as we maneuvered around the fancy food and made small talk. Bart mostly talked about base ball, and I mostly nodded and listened since I didn't know anything about sports.

After much bragging and head nodding, the band started playing and everyone was invited to the dance floor. I looked hopefully at Bart. "I don't dance," he said.

"Oh," I countered, trying not to look entirely devastated.

"Let's go for a walk," he said. "OK," I replied. At least we wouldn't be sitting alone at the table.

It was a beautiful, balmy spring night. Bart took my hand as we walked, and then put his arm around my shoulders.

It was so romantic. I could hardly breathe. We stopped beneath a beautiful flowering tree and Bart stopped talking about baseball (finally!) as he turned to pull me toward him.

"Yikes! What do I do? I closed my eyes and felt his face approach mine. As our lips met, suddenly there was this absolutely horrible noise! Was it supposed to

sound like that? Didn't he know what to do? I giggled. He pulled back, offended. "What's the matter?"

"Nothing."

He leaned in to kiss me again and our mouths made the same horrible noise — again. In the movies, two people kissing evoked the sounds of violins, not flautulence! In my mind,

my sister's cruel but prophetic words played over and over again. Bart the Fart, Bart the Fart, Bart the

I hate it when she's right.



(See LAGOON, page six)

SOCIAL SECURITY NEWS

The cousins are back and they're filing online for Social Security benefits

Michael J. Astruc, Commissioner of Social Security, and Patty Duke, Academy Award, Golden Globe and Emmy winning actress, recently unveiled Social Security's new online retirement application and launched the agency's Retire Online campaign. Featuring cousins Patty and Cathy Lane from the hit 1960's sitcom, "The Patty Duke Show," the campaign will let Americans know that it's now easier than ever to retire online at www.socialsecurity.gov.

"Social Security's new online retirement application can be completed in as little as 15 minutes from

the comfort of your home or office," Commissioner Astruc said. "Filing online means there's no need to drive to a local Social Security office or wait for an appointment with a Social Security representative. I'm thrilled that Patty Duke has volunteered to help us promote retiring online."

"Like millions of other baby boomers, I like to spend time with my grandchildren, travel or just relax with a good book. And I love the convenience of doing things online," Ms. Duke said. "Social Security has made applying for retirement benefits online easier than ever before. So

when you decide to retire, apply online for Social Security benefits at www.socialsecurity.gov. It's so easy!"

To apply, go to www.socialsecurity.gov and click on "Applying Online for Retirement Benefits." You will be asked a brief series of questions about you and your work. Need to look up some information? You don't have to complete the application in one sitting. You can stop and restart the application without losing any of the information entered. Have a question? There are convenient "more info" links that you can click on to get

an answer. And when you're done, just click the "Sign Now" button to submit the application. There are no paper forms to sign, and usually no additional documents are required. If more information is needed, Social Security will contact you.

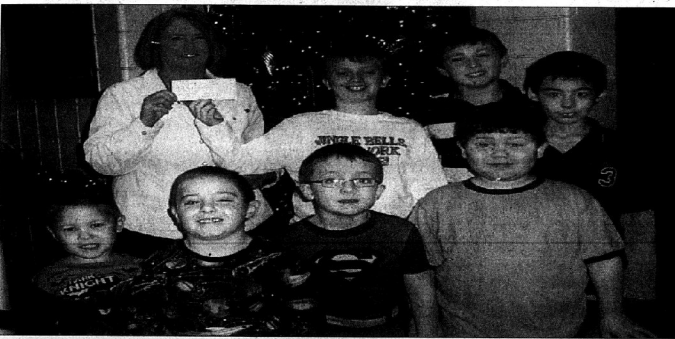
"To meet the needs of Patty and 80 million of her fellow baby boomers, who are becoming eligible for retirement at a rate of 10,000 a day for the next 20 years, Social Security is developing a wide range of online and automated services," Commissioner Astruc said. "In addition to our new online retirement

application, and other services like our new Retirement Estimator, the highest rated online service in government, we are continuing to expand and improve our Internet service options. These services will help provide the American public with world-class service for generations to come."

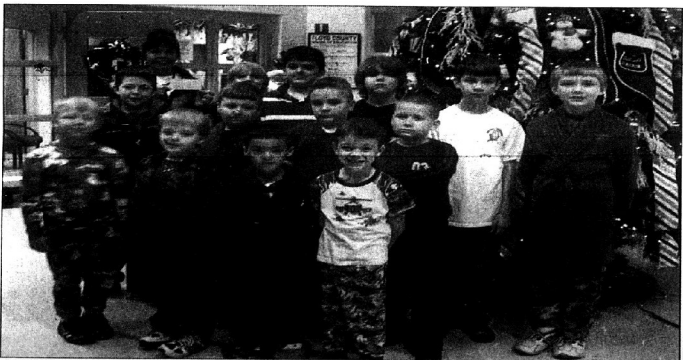
To see a demonstration of Social Security's online retirement application and to view the new public service announcements featuring Patty Duke as cousins Patty and Cathy Lane, go to www.socialsecurity.gov/pattyduke.

SCOUTS IN ACTION

Lagoon



Cub Scouts Pack 813 collected change for their November community service project, then split the total and donated to their schools - Duff and May Valley Family Resource Centers to use to help someone in need. Presenters from Duff are Jackson Dye, Robert Slone, Chase Martin, Logan Turner, Jacob Hall, Adison Hall, and Gavin Martin. From May Valley - Jeremiah Goble, Ethan Scarberry, Preston Grace, Connor Dings, Jacob McKinney, Blake Marshall, Nick Newsome, Eddie Belcher, Jacob Ison, Austin Lawson, Evan Burke, Jackson Flannery, and Josh Music.



Allen

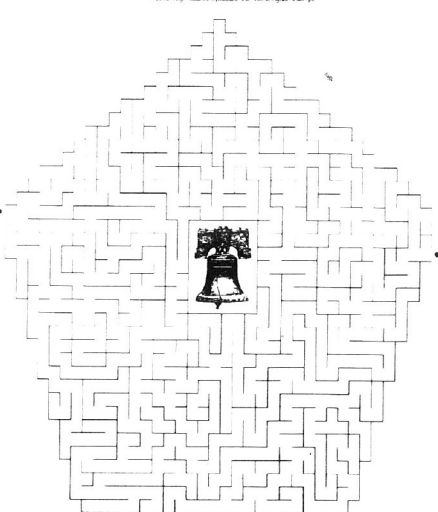
from a friend at Maytown. We'll welcome more encouraging reports, if anybody has any.

□ □ □

Question for the "Whatever Happened To"

Mega Maze

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	9			5		3	
5				3			7
	2	8	9		6		
	2		1		3		
	8			2		7	
1	6				4		9
		9	5				8
	7			4		2	1
4				3			6

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Hoo Challenging
★★★ Hoo BOY!

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It all leads to a tense showdown at Zomeon headquarters with Timmy out to rescue Fido, and his father in hot pursuit. It's a good payoff that sees dad set aside his fears to protect his son, while Mr. Bouoms gets a ruthless, yet appropriate, comeuppance.

This one's a real treat and can be appreciated on many levels. I found that it's best appreciated as a mishmash of zombie films and the adventures of "Lassie." It's no coincidence that the son is named Timmy and there's even a scene where the mute Fido must convince mom to follow him to a spot where Timmy lies in peril.

The 1950s setting is well evoked through costumes and soft lighting and the whole enterprise benefits from a solid cast that includes Carrie Anne Moss and Dylan Baker as the parents and a breakout turn by

K'Sun Ray as young Timmy. Tim Blake Nelson also turns up as a neighbor whose affection for his zombie maid crosses some boundaries, but the real scene stealer is comedian Billy Connolly, who resists the urge to play Fido as a shuffling doofus and manages to impart a dose of humanity to the walking dead.

Best line: "Grandpa's fallen, and he's getting up." 2006, rated R.

Continued from p5

Norris

Let's be honest. Justifications abound for purchasing foreign goods, and many of them make perfect sense. Reasons range from price to quality, but, as we have with gas prices, maybe we will continue to enable foreign dominance in commerce and beyond by paying the prices and not coming up with alternatives. We say we can't afford to buy American, but maybe it's time to say we can't afford not to. By supporting our homeland, we not only are investing in America and boosting the economy but also are helping to reverse staggering unemployment rates and keeping companies from going under. We all can do our part to bail the water out of our sinking ship by buying American goods and services.

But be careful with labels, as there's an obvious difference between "Made in USA" and "Assembled in USA." And some labels lie, so do your homework. Take some time to understand what it means for a business to comply with the "Made in USA" standards (www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/pubs/business/adv/bus03.s.htm). And check reputable consumer Web sites, such as MadeInUSAForever.com and StillMadeInUSA.com, to search for domestically manufactured goods and services.

The good news is that, according to a Gallup Poll, 72 percent of Americans today are more concerned with the geographical origins of products they purchase, and 50 percent even are willing to pay

more for American-made products. For many, "Made in USA" labels represent an increased concern for work and environmental conditions, quality and consumer safety. Buying American is also a way to reclaim a patriotism.

If you're old enough, you'll remember when "Made in USA" was a badge of honor. Well, I'm proposing a buyers' revolution in which we all economically win that medal of valor. If the government isn't going to help us by securing our borders, reducing outsourcing, or ceasing debt caused by bogus bailouts and out-of-control spending, then

we the people have got to take back the financial future of our country. The buck stops here — in America. One resolution we all should make in 2009: Buy "Made in USA." Don't just go green; spend green — in homemade products and services. If just half the country followed suit, our downturned economy would turn around in half the time.

To find out more about *Chuck Norris and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists*, visit www.creators.com.

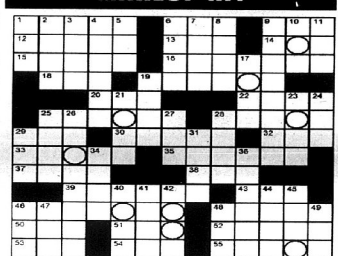
Continued from p4

ThemeCross by Kelly Ann Buchanan

ACROSS

- 1 Actress Halle who is a spokeswoman for the answer to #6-Down
- 6 Completely
- 9 Piece to place eyeshadow
- 12 First name in cosmetics
- 13 Aussie rapper
- 14 Here, to Henri
- 15 1983 Indy 500 winner, Tom
- 16 How the too-thickly-applied mascara looked
- 18 English as a Second Language, shortened
- 19 Foundation choices
- 20 Florida
- 22 Standout
- 25 Item to fill-in brows
- 28 Free Oil-Control Makeup (Maybelline product)
- 29 of Fundy
- 30 Popular mascara choice
- 32 Julius
- 33 Massenet opera, Le
- 34 Think tank outfits
- 35 Uses tweezers
- 37 Christina, now
- 38 de toilette (Perfume in a makeup bag, perhaps)
- 39 Deep blue (Eyeshadow color, perhaps)
- 43 Major TV brand
- 46 foundation (Kind of makeup often seen on commercials)
- 48 Classic Color

MAKEUP KIT



TUMBLE-THEME-A!

After completing the ThemeCross, untumble the 9 circled letters to spell out this MAKEUP ITEM.

- 7 1970s Kinks hit
- 8 Carri
- 9 Candace Bushnell's best-selling novel turned television series
- 10 Cubes
- 11 Pulled off
- 17 Fit together
- 19 Mast
- 21 Banned pollutants, briefly
- 23 Licorice-flavored liquor
- 24 Nail polish color
- 25 Cotton (Items to help remove makeup)
- 26 Kohl, to ancient

DOWN

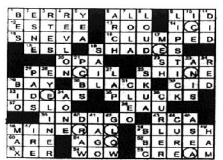
- 1 Would-Aspirants (Aspirants)
- 2 Anglo-Saxon labor
- 3 Pathways, for short
- 4 L'Oréal concealer
- 5 Formal voice (Commercials)
- 6 Eyebrow stencil shape
- 7 Egyptians
- 8 Carri's place
- 9 Candace Bushnell's best-selling novel turned television series
- 10 Cubes
- 11 Pulled off
- 17 Fit together
- 19 Mast
- 21 Banned pollutants, briefly
- 23 Licorice-flavored liquor
- 24 Nail polish color
- 25 Cotton (Items to help remove makeup)
- 26 Kohl, to ancient
- 27 Egyptians
- 28 Northern seabird
- 29 L.I. life story
- 31 Jazz singer, Dame
- 34 Perfect
- 36 Eyelash
- 40 Switch
- 41 Othello's undoer
- 42 Blonzer gives a radiant
- 44 #5-Across is a what for dry skin?
- 45 #5-Across
- 46 Offshore Factor
- 47 UK channel
- 49 Showboater

Asterisked clues relate to theme of the puzzle

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

8	9	7	6	1	5	4	3	2
5	1	6	4	3	2	8	9	7
3	4	2	8	9	7	6	5	1
7	2	4	1	5	9	3	8	6
9	5	8	3	2	8	1	7	4
1	6	3	7	8	4	5	2	9
2	3	9	5	6	1	7	4	8
6	7	6	9	4	8	2	1	3
4	8	1	2	7	3	9	6	5



TUMBLE-THEME-A! answer: "CONCEALER"

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FLOYD COUNTY Sports

Inside
*** ** ** ** **
** ** ** ** **

Expo Center to host Monster Truck Nationals

by STEVE LEMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PIKEVILLE — The East Kentucky Expo Center will host the Monster Truck Nationals Jan. 30-31. Monster trucks scheduled to appear as part of the show include Bigfoot (2007 Super Duty Ford), Tail Gator (2007 3D Alligator), Big Dawg (2006 Super Duty Ford), Eliminator (2008 Ford F-150

Supercab) and Killer Bee (2007 Dodge). Show time for both nights is set for 7:30 p.m. Doors will open one hour before the scheduled show time. Each show will last approximately two hours and 15 minutes.

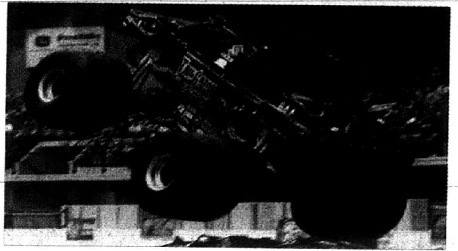
In addition to the monster trucks, Big Air FMX and Mini offroad trucks will also be featured. Stunt routines for the Big Air FMX will include Lazy

Boy/Coffin, Cliffhanger, Double Grab, Whip, Sterilizer, Stripper, Superman Seat Grab, Hart Attack and Rock Solid.

Four one-quarter scale off road race trucks, with paint schemes that imitate TV and movie favorites such as the General Lee and Mater, the beloved tow truck, will compete in a series of heats and an all-out feature race between the mon-

ster truck action. Tickets for the Monster Truck Nationals are available online at www.ticketmaster.com or by calling the East Kentucky Expo Center Box Office (606/444-5500).

ONLINE:
www.monsternationals.com



Tail Gator will be one of the monster trucks in action Jan. 30-31 when the Monster Truck Nationals visits the East Kentucky Expo Center. photo courtesy of Tail Gator

Lady Patriots defeat Valley

TIMES STAFF REPORT

Knott County Central gained another step on reaching the .500 mark Thursday night, defeating Shelby Valley 47-41 in a 15th Region-14th Region girls' basketball matchup.

Knott County Central trailed at the end of each of the first three quarters. The Lady Patriots outscored Shelby Valley 20-9 in the final quarter.

Knott County Central used a balanced offensive effort to get past the Lady Wildcats.

Natasha Stone led Knott County Central with 12 points. Kelly Pratt followed Stone in the Knott Central scoring column, finishing with 10 points. Keisha Perkins pushed in seven points and Sammy King added six for the Lady Patriots.

Shelby Valley edged Knott County Central 9-8 in the first quarter and went into halftime ahead 22-21. The Lady Wildcats owned one of their biggest leads of the game in the third quarter after outscoring Knott County Central 10-6.

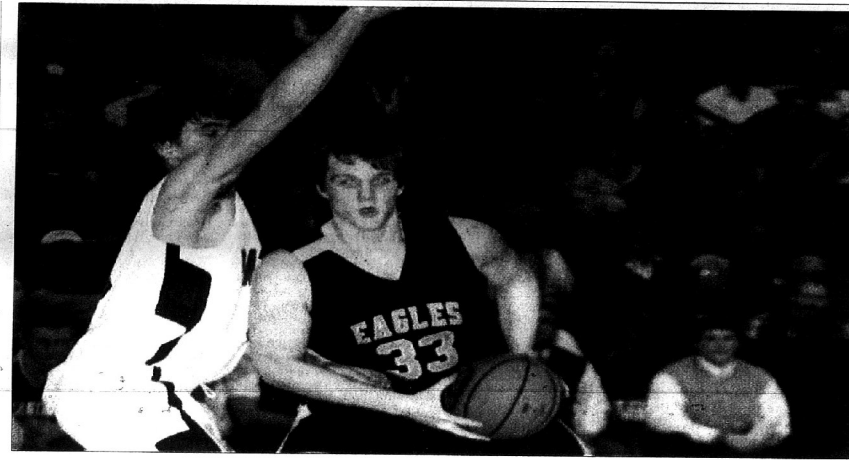
Laura Perkins led Shelby Valley with 12 points, sharing game-high scoring honors with Knott County Central's Stone. Laura Perkins was the lone Shelby Valley double figure scorer. Leeza Mullins scored seven points in the Shelby Valley victory. Brooke Coleman, Sarah and Megan Tackett each had five points for the Lady Wildcats.

Shelby Valley dropped to 8-4 after falling to Knott County Central.

Dance Etc. Elite teams take top honors at Jamfest

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PRESTONSBURG — The Dance Etc. Elite teams competed at the Jamfest WinterJam Competition on Saturday, Dec. 8 at the Lexington Convention Center. All four Dance Etc. teams claimed top honors. The Pee Wee Elite Team won first place in the Mini Jazz and Pom categories and also claimed the choreography award for its Jazz routine. The Jr. Prep Elite took first place in the Youth Variety division and won second place in the Youth Pom and Jazz divisions. The Junior Elite team won first place in the Junior All Star Jazz division and second place in the Pom Division. The Senior Elite won first place in the Senior All Star Pom division and 2nd place in the Jazz division. The Junior and Senior teams received gold bids to the Jamfest Dance Super Nationals to be held in Cincinnati in February and the Pee Wee and Jr. Prep teams received Silver Bids to the National Competition. The teams are now preparing for the Jamfest Nationals in February as well as the EDA Nationals to be held in Myrtle Beach in late March.



JOHNSON CENTRAL FORWARD Cody Parker made a move against a Knott County Central defender Wednesday during the WYMT Mountain Classic at Perry County Central. Johnson Central defeated Allen Central Thursday night in the WYMT tournament.

Care for spinning reels in winter

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

FRANKFORT — Over the past couple of fishing trips, your spinning reel feels like it is slowly filling with sand. The handle sticks in one spot on the retrieve, making rhythmic presentations difficult. The reel binds after getting wet. You figure it is time to replace the reel, not a popular suggestion at home with money tight.

But, an hour with some grease, an old toothbrush, rubbing alcohol and a quality reel oil will make your reel feel like it did right out of the box. Winter is a great time to do some reel maintenance.

Spinning reels take a lot of abuse, especially if you fish for trout or smallmouth bass, or if you float-tube ponds. They get dunked often. Dunking a reel in a stream, lake or pond removes valuable oil and grease and replaces it with crud.

Over the past couple of years, reel oils and greases that form a molecular bond with the metals they contact have appeared on the market. They cost twice as much as traditional reel oil and grease, but they make a reel sing. They are worth every penny. You'll be astounded at the difference these new lubricants make in the performance of your spinning reel.

Grab a used egg carton to store the parts you remove from the reel. Nothing in the world is as frustrating as searching for a tiny screw in Berber carpet. The tiny, ultrathin washers in spinning reels are virtually impossible to find if they drop on the floor.

Take off the spool first. Clean the spool shaft and add a few drops of reel oil. Again, use the new molecular oil or reel oil, not household oil. Household oil thickens and hardens much quicker than reel oil and can form a layer of

crud on reel parts. Check the nut at the bottom of the reel shaft to make sure it is tight.

Squeeze a few drops of oil on the roller guide that wraps the line around the reel spool. Oil the area where the ball spring meets the reel spool housing as well.

Remove the handle by either a screw or by rotating the handle backwards. Apply a few drops of oil on the handle knob shaft and the shaft that fits inside the reel.

Take the side plate off with the small screws to access the guts of the reel. Right in the middle is the main bearing. Lift this bearing off the main gear and remove the main gear if possible. Drop the main bearing in a degreaser, kerosene, rubbing alcohol or lighter fluid to dissolve old grease and sludgy oil. Clean the teeth of the main gear with an old toothbrush and soapy water or degreaser.

Allow the parts to air dry

and apply oil to the bearings and a tiny amount of grease to each tooth of the main gear. Check the inside of the reel for crud, sand, dirt, fibers or any other gunk. Do not spray the inside with harsh chemical solvents or use gasoline. This may damage some of the plastic parts and push crud into the inner recesses of the reel.

Grease the spiral worm gear in the bottom of the reel and the gears in the front of the worm gear with a light coating of oil. Grease any part that slides along another part. Use grease sparingly as it attracts dirt and sand and negatively impacts the performance of your reel. Applying too much grease makes the reel feel like it is full of mud.

Put the reel back together, spray the outside with WD-40 and wipe it down. Now you have a smooth spinning reel that will last you for many fishing trips to come.

Wildlife management through trapping

TIMES STAFF REPORT

FRANKFORT — While the number of people trapping isn't as high as in the days of our great-grandparents, trapping remains essential to today's wildlife management. Trapping is used as a management tool to both increase populations and reduce populations," said Laura Patton, furbearer biologist for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. "Kentucky's otter restoration could not have happened without foothold traps."

River otters were once rare or absent from most parts of the state. From 1991 to 1994, 355 otters were trapped from Louisiana and released at 14 sites in Kentucky.

Today's traps are designed with animal welfare in mind. For example, laminated jaws provide more surface area than those used generations ago. This holds the animal's

foot securely to prevent injury. Snivels are also used to allow the trap to spin freely as the animal moves, thus reducing injury.

"All the otters were trapped using foothold traps, and all were released unharmed," Patton said.

"The (foothold) traps today are more restraining devices than the traps of old," noted Gene Beeber, public relations officer for Kentucky Fur Trappers and director of the yearly Fur Trappers of America trapper's college. "Traps with teeth have been outlawed for over 50 years."

Traps can be used to eliminate problems when populations become too high in an area, or when nuisance animals cause livestock loss or property damage.

"Most of my work for the last couple of years has been nuisance beaver work," Beeber said. "They're getting in lakes and damming up overflows. They're dropping

a lot of trees and killing a lot of trees along the banks."

Trapping can eliminate other nuisance animal problems, such as raccoons raiding garbage cans, coyotes preying on livestock and otters eating most of the fish in a farm pond or damaging boats and docks.

"Trapping is far less time-consuming than hunting," said Patton. "Farmers may not have time to sit out there with a gun all day. They can set snares, under fences, or foothold traps along trails. It just takes a few minutes to set the trap, and then they can check it once a day."

Trapping is also highly effective. "In an area like a marina or farm pond, trappers can definitely take care of a problem muskrat or river otter," Patton said.

Farmers or landowners experiencing damage from furbearers may search Kentucky Fish and Wildlife's fur trapper database at

fw.ky.gov/app/trapper-landowner.aspx to find a trapper in their area during the regular trapping season. The database helps pair up trappers looking for a place to trap, and farmers looking for no-cost help with nuisance wildlife. Nuisance wildlife control operators are permitted to remove nuisance animals outside of furbearer trapping season. Operators charge a fee for their services. A listing of permitted operators is available at fw.ky.gov/app/nuisance-lookup.aspx.

Trapping season for most furbearers is open through February 28. Bobcat trapping season runs through January 31. All trappers, except kids under the age of 12, must have a trapping license. Reduced-price licenses are available for Kentucky resident landowners and their tenants, as well as all youth trappers ages 12-15.

Tigers topple Riverside Christian

by STEVE LEMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PAINTSVILLE — The young Paintsville Tigers scored early and often Thursday night at home versus Riverside Christian. Paintsville improved to 3-10 in the 2008-09 season, defeating Riverside Christian 102-23.

Paintsville left little doubt as to who was the better team early on in the non-region boys' high school basketball matchup. The Tigers outscored Riverside Christian 21-2 in the opening quarter. Paintsville, which held Riverside Christian to six points or less in three different quarters, carried a commanding 48-8 lead into halftime.

Building from an exceptional first half effort, Paintsville enjoyed its best offensive effort of the season in the third quarter, outscoring Riverside Christian 29-10.

Seth Daniels led Paintsville with a game-high 16 points. Josh Hall pushed in 14 points and Josh Green scored 12 for the Tigers.

Every Paintsville player broke into the scoring column. Trevor Tiller, Jared Vanhose and Zach Jackson each had eight points for the Matt Radloff-coached Paintsville team.

Paintsville, a team that is minus its five starters and sixth man from last season's region title team, dominated from the opening tip until the final buzzer sounded.

Jared Robinson led Riverside Christian with 10 points.

Riverside Christian dropped to 0-8 after suffering the loss.

Justice nearing 100 percent for Shelby Valley

by STEVE LEMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

ROBINSON CREEK — Shelby Valley is one of one of the state's top boys' high school basketball teams. The four-time 15th Region champion is favored to win another 15th Region championship. Lately, Shelby Valley has been without one of its top players. Junior standout Elisha Justice has been less than 100 percent for the Wildcats. Justice recently missed three games with a separated shoulder — his shooting shoulder. The injury sidelined the junior. One of the state's top juniors, Justice saw limited action in a holiday tournament in Florida last week. Now, he is steadily taking on a bigger role once again. Valley Coach Jason Booher and his staff expect Justice to be back at 100 percent when the Wildcats hit the East Kentucky Expo Center floor next week in the 15th Region All "A" Classic.

Justice drew a considerable amount of attention over the summer as several colleges showed an interest and started their recruitment. He is averaging 12 points, 5.5 assists and four rebounds per game for the Wildcats. Before sustaining the injury, Justice was averaging 20 points per game.

Shelby Valley, under the guidance of head coach Rodney Rowe, is 9-4 heading into the second full week of January.

Eastern Kentucky outlasts Jacksonville State, 75-67

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

RICHMOND — Senior Mike Rose scored 30 points to lead the Eastern Kentucky University men's basketball team to a 75-67 win over Jacksonville State on Thursday night in McBrayer Arena. The win snapped EKU's four-game losing streak and improved the Colonels' record to 8-7 (2-3 OVC). With the loss, JSU fell to 8-5 (2-2 OVC).

The Colonels shot 52 percent from the field, improving to 5-0 in games in which they shoot 50 percent or better from the field. Rose has now scored 30 points or more in two of the last three games. The senior shot 10-of-13 (76.9 percent) from the field and 5-of-7 (71.4 percent) from behind the arc. Freshman Joshua

Jones netted 13 points to go along with five rebounds and three assists. Meanwhile, junior Josh Taylor and sophomore Justin Stommes chipped in with nine points each.

Senior Ryan Wiersma scored only three points but recorded a team-high nine rebounds to make up for the loss of EKU's injured leading rebounder, Papa Opong.

Jacksonville State sophomore Jeremy Byrum and freshman Brandon Crawford led the Gamecocks with 13 points apiece.

After a free throw with 6:58 left in the first half by Jacksonville State sophomore Nick Murphy brought the Gamecocks to within one, EKU went on an 11-2 run, capped by a Taylor three from the top of the key, to pull ahead 32-22 with 2:57 showing on the clock. A back-and-

forth first stanza that featured five ties and 10 lead changes saw Jacksonville State score the last five points of the half and head into intermission down just 35-29.

EKU shot 52 percent from the field in the first half, but connected on only 3-of-10 three-point shots. Rose led the Colonels at halftime with 15 points on 5-of-6 shooting, including a perfect 2-of-2 from behind the arc. Jones finished the first half with four points, two assists and two steals.

Jacksonville State shot 43 percent from the field in the first half and was led by Murphy with 10 points and three rebounds. Freshman Geddes Robinson came off the bench to chip in with seven points and three rebounds.

JSU pulled to within four

early in the second half, but a baseline floater by freshman Jorge Camacho gave the Colonels a double digit lead, 48-37, with 13:21 showing on the clock.

Senior DeAndre Bray hit the Gamecocks' first three-pointer of the game with 10:37 showing on the clock, pulling JSU to within eight, 49-41. Jones, however, responded with a three of his own on the ensuing possession. Consecutive free throws by Taylor with 9:09 remaining gave EKU its largest lead of the night at 13, 54-41.

JSU would rally again, this time pulling to within seven points with just under seven minutes to play. Two timely Rose trifectas, however, stretched the Colonel lead back to 13 with 5:01 showing on the clock.

Mossong, Drake lead Lady Colonels

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

RICHMOND — Eastern Kentucky used a 10-0 run late in the game to take a 13-point lead but had to hold off a rally by Jacksonville State to secure a 67-62 Ohio Valley Conference win Thursday at McBrayer Arena.

A three-pointer by Charlese Williams cut a six-point deficit in half for JSU with 7:53 left in the game, but Eastern Kentucky answered with a 10-0 run. Nadia Mossong and Kayla Drake hit consecutive shots to get the run started. Cherie White had a pair of free throws and then capped off the spurt with a lay-up to give EKU a 13-point lead, 41-48, with 4:15 left in the game.

After their run, the Lady Colonels missed their final five shots from the field, allowing the Gamecocks to close to within three. Jacksonville State scored seven minutes to close the margin to 63-60. With 25 seconds remaining, Brittany Wiley missed the second of two free throw attempts that would have made it a two point game. Eastern made all four of its free throws in the

final 22 seconds to secure the win.

Mossong scored a game-high, and career-high, 25 points for Eastern Kentucky (5-8, 2-3 OVC). The sophomore made 5-of-8 attempts from the field and went 14-for-16 from the free throw line. She also had seven rebounds and five assists.

Jolie Eizekhae recorded a double-double with 13 for Jacksonville State (3-11, 0-4 OVC), finishing with 13 points and 10 rebounds.

Drake scored 21 points and grabbed nine rebounds for the Lady Colonels. White finished with nine points, nine boards and four steals.

EKU went 27-for-32 (84.4 percent) from the free throw line. The Gamecocks struggled from the charity stripe, finishing 10-for-21 (47.6 percent).

Jacksonville State won the tip, but a steal by White led to a Drake lay-up and an early 2-0 lead for the Lady Colonels. Eizekhae, JSU's leading scorer, picked up her second foul less than four minutes into the game. Sarah Fraser-Jones converted one of two free throw attempts to give Eastern a 6-2 advantage

with 16:22 remaining in the first half.

Back-to-back baskets by White and Sonja Hoston stretched the EKU advantage to six, 13-7, with 12:38 to go in the opening half. The Gamecocks answered with a 10-0 run to take their first lead of the game. Kelsey Johnkin's three-pointer from the right wing put JSU on top 15-13. Wiley followed with a lay-up at the 8:29 mark to cap the run.

The lead exchanged hands 10 times the remainder of the half.

A jumper by Fraser-Jones capped a quick 5-0 run by the Lady Colonels and gave the home squad an 18-17 lead. Zenobia Pitts answered with a three on the other end to put the Gamecocks back in the lead. Mossong's three at the 3:48 mark moved Eastern in front by one, 23-22. A trey by Jacksonville State's Cassi Stuart gave the visitors a 27-25 advantage with two minutes to go before intermission. Drake answered two possessions later with a three from the right wing to give the lead back to the Lady Colonels.

The two teams exchanged

a pair of free throws in the final 10 seconds of the first half. A pair from the charity stripe by Candice Carmine gave JSU a 31-30 halftime lead.

Six straight points by Eastern Kentucky early in the second half turned a three-point deficit into a three-point lead. White's lay-up with 16:36 left in the game made it 38-35.

Eizekhae's bucket gave the Gamecocks a brief 39-38 lead with 14:11 to play. Mossong answered with a lay-up on the other end and the Lady Colonels never trailed again. A jumper by Wiley for JSU tied the score at 41-41. A pair of free throws by Mossong gave Eastern the lead for good.

Back-to-back baskets by Drake and Colette Cole, sandwiched around a Jacksonville State turnover, stretched the EKU lead to five, 47-42, with 10:50 left in the game. Two more Mossong free throws extended it to a six point game, 51-45, with 8:12 showing on the clock. Williams followed with a three-pointer that preceded Eastern's decisive 10-0 run.

14TH REGION BOYS' BASKETBALL	
Team	Overall Record
Knott County Central	11-4
Letcher County Central	11-2
Perry County Central	9-2
June Buchanan	8-4
Hazard	8-4
Buckhorn	8-6
Estill County	6-8
Lee County	5-5
Cordia	5-6
Wolfe County	5-7
Leslie County	4-6
Breathitt County	3-6
Jackson City	3-7
Powell County	1-10
Jenkins	1-13
Riverside Christian	0-8

14TH REGION GIRLS' BASKETBALL	
Team	Overall Record
Letcher County Central	9-3
Owsley County	7-5
Breathitt County	7-5
Knott County Central	6-7
Perry County Central	6-7
June Buchanan	5-4
Leslie County	5-6
Cordia	5-6
Powell County	5-9
Hazard	4-5
Jackson City	4-5
Lee County	4-8
Wolfe County	3-5
Estill County	3-10
Buckhorn	1-9
Riverside Christian	0-8
Jenkins	0-8

15TH REGION BOYS' BASKETBALL	
Team	Overall Record
Phelps	9-1
Lawrence County	8-5
Betsy Layne	8-3
Shelby Valley	8-4
Johnson Central	8-5
East Ridge	8-6
Pikeville	6-6
Prestonsburg	6-6
Magoffin County	6-8
South Floyd	4-11
Sheldon Clark	3-7
Paintsville	3-10
Belfry	2-6
Pike County Central	2-10
Allen Central	1-7

15TH REGION GIRLS' BASKETBALL	
Team	Overall Record
Paintsville	9-2
Johnson Central	9-4
Shelby Valley	8-4
Pikeville	8-6
Magoffin County	7-6
Lawrence County	7-8
Phelps	6-3
Sheldon Clark	6-4
East Ridge	6-4
Betsy Layne	6-5
Pike County Central	6-5
South Floyd	4-7
Allen Central	3-4
Belfry	3-9
Piariat School	2-7
Prestonsburg	1-10

16TH REGION BOYS' BASKETBALL	
Team	Overall Record
West Carter	11-3
Elliott County	10-1
Ashland Blazer	10-4
Bath County	9-2
Fairview	9-3
Menifee County	9-6
Rose Hill Christian	8-5
Greenup County	6-5
Fleming County	6-8
Lewis County	6-9
East Carter	5-4
Morgan County	4-5
Rowan County	4-8
Raceland	4-8
Boyd County	3-8
Russell	1-10

16TH REGION GIRLS' BASKETBALL	
Team	Overall Record
Rowan County	11-0
East Carter	9-3
Boyd County	7-4
Raceland	7-5
Lewis County	5-4
Ashland Blazer	5-5
Fleming County	5-6
Greenup County	4-2
Morgan County	4-5
West Carter	4-8
Elliott County	3-7
Menifee County	3-7
Fairview	3-8
Russell	3-9
Rose Hill Christian	2-7
Bath County	2-8

HIGH SCHOOL SCORES ONLINE:
www.khsaa.org

MSU women top TTU, 64-52

TIMES STAFF REPORT

MOREHEAD — Sophomore Chynna Bozeman scored 26 points, and the Morehead State women's basketball team held visiting Tennessee Tech to two long droughts without a field goal Thursday night as the Eagles defeated Tech, 64-52, at Johnson Arena. MSU won its 11th straight home game and improved to 9-8 overall and 3-2 in the OVC. Tech dipped to 3-12 and 1-3 in the league.

The Eagles forced the TTU Golden Eagles into a spell of more than nine min-

utes in the first half without a made field goal, and Tech went more than 12 minutes in the second half minus a basket. The Eagles shot 52 percent in the second half, while Bozeman scored 18 of her game high 26 in the final half. She was 6-of-7 from three-point range in the game and hit 4-of-5 free throws.

A jumper by Tech's Vivian Nwosu at the 12:57 mark of the second half gave Tech a 38-37 lead, but that's the last field goal the Golden Eagles would hit until seven seconds left. Meanwhile, MSU went on an 8-2 run capped by a

Deja Watson free throw at 8:47 — to lead 45-40. The Eagles went on to lead by as much as 17 (63-46). The Golden Eagles trimmed the margin to three (47-44) at the 6:36 mark, but the Eagles outscored TTU 16-2 over the next six minutes to take the 63-46 lead.

Tech had three players in double figures, led by Jasmine White and Blair Bowers with 15 each. Nwosu had a double-double with 10 points and 12 rebounds.

The Eagles, who lead all NCAA women's teams in all three divisions in total three-

pointers made, hit their average with nine treys on 20 attempts. For the game, the Eagles shot 42 percent and held Tech to a 28 percent shooting.

Tech outbonded the hosts, 47-32. MSU's Ashley Martin topped her team on the boards with eight. She also added nine points off the bench. Brittany Pittman blocked a six point game high shot. She is now just seven blocks away from breaking the OVC career mark of 233. Pittman added nine points, and Tiffanie Stephens also cashed in with nine.

Eagles edge Tennessee Tech, 64-62

TIMES STAFF REPORT

MOREHEAD — Leon Buchanan scored 22 points, Demonte Harper added 18 points and Morehead State University held off a 64-62 comeback by Tennessee Tech over Tennessee Tech University Thursday (Jan. 8) evening in Johnson Arena.

Morehead State (7-9, 4-1 OVC) which maintained at least a share of the conference lead, also got eight points and a game-high 16 rebounds from Kenneth Farned.

"It wasn't the way James Naismith would have drawn it up," said MSU Coach Donnie Tyndall. "It was ugly, but we held them to 34 percent shooting and out-rebounded that team by 16. That shows how hard we tried to play."

This was a conference tournament atmosphere. Both teams were grinding it out in a half court game.

"Brandon Shingles got the ball to guys who were in good position to score. Demonte Harper took the ball to the rim strong. I believe Leon

Buchanan was the best player on the floor tonight. And, Kenneth Farned overcame foul trouble to get 16 rebounds in only 25 minutes."

Tennessee Tech (8-6, 2-2 OVC) was led by D.J. Lindsay who scored 20 points. Alex Davis scored 10 points off the bench.

MSU led by one point, 30-29, at halftime and never trailed in the second half. But, after the Eagles built their longest lead of the game, 37-44, with 5:25 left in the game, Tech went on a 14-to-2 run to

get back within one point, 59-58, with 2:18 remaining. Tech's Frank Davis was fouled with two seconds remaining and MSU leading 64-61. He made the first free throw, intentionally missed the second attempt, came up with a loose ball on the rebound and managed an off-balance shot from 15 feet at the buzzer that bounced off the rim.

The Eagles shot 41 percent from the field to 34.4 percent for Tech. MSU dominated the rebound battle, 50-34.

Hines named Kentucky Golf Association President

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — The Kentucky Golf Association has announced Hugh Hines of Danville as its new president. Hines, who assumed office on January 1, was elected by the Kentucky Golf Association's Board of Directors at its fall

meeting in October, and succeeds Sammy Levinson of Bowling Green. Hines, who is active as a Rules of Golf official at numerous competitions, also serves as a member of the United States Golf Association's Senior Amateur Championship Committee.

Other Kentucky Golf Association officers are as follows: Vice-President — Brandon Neal, Bowling Green; Secretary — Tom Cooksey, Ashland; Treasurer — Jimmy Riddie, Madisonville.

The Kentucky Golf Association, organized in 1911, is an association of over

220 golf facilities across Kentucky. The association provides handicapping and course rating services to member facilities. It also conducts a number of golf competitions, most prominent among them the Kentucky Amateur Championship, which was first conducted in 1911.

B3

Former UK coach Morriss takes over Texas A&M-Commerce program

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

COMMERCER, Texas — Texas A&M University-Commerce president Dr. Dan Jones and athletic director Carlton Cooper announced earlier this week the hiring of Guy Morriss as the new head football coach.

"We are very excited to have Guy Morriss join our Lion athletic family. He brings a wealth of football knowledge and relationships to our program," said Cooper.

"When we started this search, we were looking for a football coach to take our program in a new direction and build a program nationally recognized. We have selected the right person by choosing Guy Morriss to lead our football program."

The former head coach at Baylor University from 2003-2007 and the University of Kentucky from 2001-2002 brings an impressive background that includes a 15-year playing career in the NFL. Morriss attended Sam Houston High School in

Arlington and later Texas Christian University in Fort Worth. He then went on to the NFL where he played for the Philadelphia Eagles (1973-1983) and the New England Patriots (1984-87). As a player, he participated in Super Bowl XV with the Eagles and Super Bowl XX with the Patriots.

Following his playing days, Morriss began his coaching career at an offensive line coach with the New England Patriots from 1988 to 1989 under head coach and NFL Hall of Famer Raymond Berry. After spending a season as the offensive coordinator at Mansfield High School in 1991, Morriss was selected as head coach of the Washington Marauders of the Professional Spring Football League in 1997, but the league ceased operations prior to the start of the season.

From 1992 to 1993, he coached the offensive line at Valdosta State University before returning to the NFL in 1994 as a member of Buddy Ryan's Arizona Cardinals

staff. Morriss then spent the 1995 campaign with the Canadian Football League's San Antonio Texans, where they were second in the CFL in points scored and advanced to the semifinals of the Grey Cup playoffs. He spent the 1996 season as the offensive line coach at Mississippi State before moving on to the University of Kentucky. At Kentucky, he spent four seasons as the assistant head coach and offensive line coach before being promoted to head coach. In Morriss' two seasons as Kentucky's head coach, 10 Wildcats earned All-SEC recognition, three were named All-American and 43 garnered academic All-SEC honors.

Morriss was then named the head football coach at Baylor University on December 11, 2002. As the Bears' head coach, Morriss was instrumental in raising over \$10 million towards football projects including a new on-campus practice facility, The Highers Athletic Complex & Simpson

Athletics and Academic Center also including the Lee and Elaine Harrington Recruiting Center. His student-athletes were successful on and off the field as 58 student-athletes earned academic all-Big 12 Conference honors and 37 earned all-Big 12 Conference athletic recognition. He also revised and improved the Baylor strength and conditioning, academic support services and disciplinary programs that have been carried on through the remainder of the athletic department.

During the 2008 season, Morriss served as the executive associate head coach for football development and offensive line coach at Kentucky State University in Frankfort, Kentucky. At KSU, he had an offensive lineman earn second team all-conference honors as well as another named to the all-academic team. The Thorobreds offensive line averaged 168.8 yards on the ground and another 183.4 yards through the air.

FIU upends Toppers, 81-79

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

MIAMI, Fla. — Florida International (6-11, 1-3 SBC) built a 14-point second half lead with less than six minutes to play and held on for an 81-79 victory over Western Kentucky at US Century Bank Arena. The loss knocks the Toppers from the ranks of the undefeated in Sun Belt Conference play.

After a tightly contested first half that witnessed 14 lead changes, WKU scored the opening points of the final frame to pull within 36-35, but Michael Dominguez caught fire, draining three-straight three-pointers in a 9-1 run to build a 45-36 cushion with 15:34 remaining. Dominguez finished a perfect 6-of-6 from downtown for 20 points. The Panthers got 16 of freshman Freddy Asprilla's career-best 21 points in the opening stanza.

FIU extended the spread to 54-41 with 12:16 remaining on a Alex Galindo tray, but sophomore Steffphon Pettigrew almost single-handedly kept the Hilltoppers in the game. Nailing a three with 10:51 left, cutting the lead back to single digits at 57-48, Pettigrew scored 23 of WKU's last 31 points over the previous 17 minutes. He finished 9-of-16 from the field for a career-high 28 points.

Nikola Gacsa converted a second-chance opportunity for the Panthers with 5:28 remaining to increase the margin to 74-60. It would be the last field goal of the game by FIU. On the ensuing trip down the floor, AJ Slaughter ignited a furious WKU comeback with a three-pointer at 4:56, the start of a 12-0 run in just 2:20. Another Pettigrew tray trimmed the deficit to 74-72 with 3:08 on the clock. Slaughter had 15 points to go with a team-high seven rebounds and six assists. Orlando Mendez-Valdez added 14 points and six assists.

WKU had three chances inside the final two minutes to tie or take the lead, but could not convert with two missed shots and one turnover. FIU converted 6-of-6 free throws inside the final 35 ticks to seal the upset victory.

Galindo, in just his third game back from injury, connected on only 5-of-15 shots from the field, but went 3-of-8 from long range for 15 points and four rebounds in 33 minutes.

Kragthorpe adds three assistant coaches to staff

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

LOUISVILLE — University of Louisville head coach Steve Kragthorpe has announced three additions to his coaching staff for the 2009 season.

Former University of Tennessee coach Larry Slade, former Utah State head coach Brent Guy have joined the staff as defensive assistants, while former Southern Mississippi offensive coordinator Jay Johnson has joined the Cardinals as an offensive assistant.

Kragthorpe also announced that special teams coordinator Mark Nelson has resigned from his position to pursue other opportunities.

"I'm very excited to add the caliber of coaches like Larry Slade, Brent Guy and Jay Johnson to our staff," said Kragthorpe. "All three of these coaches have a tremendous amount of experience and I'm fortunate to be able to add them to our staff."

"Larry is one of the most-respected defensive back coaches in the nation," said Kragthorpe. "I worked with Larry at Texas A&M and he is one of the best I've ever been around. I'm excited that he has decided to join our staff."

Added Kragthorpe, "Brent has a proven track record playing great defense wherever he has coached. I'm excited to add a coach with the expertise to our staff. He had great success at Arizona State as a defensive coordinator and can add a lot of expertise to that side of the football."

"I've known Jay for a long time and he has an excellent offensive mind," said Kragthorpe. "His teams at Southern Miss were very successful and explosive, and we're fortunate to add Jay to our offensive staff."

Slade joins the Cardinals' defensive staff after 10 seasons with Phil Fulmer at the University of Tennessee in the defensive backfield and is known for turning out some of the nation's best secondary units.

Despite a 5-7 record by the Volunteers in 2008, Slade was instrumental in leading one of the nation's top defensive units. The Volunteers ranked fourth in the country in pass defense and tied for the third in the country in total defense.

Slade, 57, coached All-America defense back Eric Berry, who was recognized by five All-America outlets — American Football Coaches Association, Walter Camp Football Foundation, Football Writers Association of America, Associated Press and Sporting News — becoming the first Tennessee player to claim unanimous mention since offensive lineman Antone Davis in 1990.

Slade's 2000 and 2001 secondary units, aided and abetted by the rest of the defense, established school season

records with 64 and 72 passes broken up, respectively. It continued a pattern of success that Slade has enjoyed in his 36 years in the coaching profession.

Before coming to Tennessee, Slade spent five seasons at Texas A&M from 1994-98. His 1997 unit allowed nation's best three passing touchdowns.

Prior to joining the staff at A&M, Slade spent two seasons at Maryland as the defensive coordinator from 1992-93. Slade also spent two seasons at Washington from 1986-91, which was highlighted by a national championship in 1991, during which the Huskies ranked first in NCAA statistics for pass efficiency defense.

Slade also enjoyed stops at Southern Illinois (1984-85), Howard (1983), Richmond (1982) and his alma mater Shepherd (1979-81).

Slade, a native of Pelham, N.C., who twice was named All-West Virginia while playing guard at Shepherd in the early 1970s. He was named Little All-America honorable mention in 1971 and later inducted into the Shepherd College Hall of Fame. He received his degree in biology with a minor in English.

Guy joins the Cardinals' staff after spending four seasons as head coach at Utah State. Under his guidance, Guy had a total of 14 players (four in '05, three in '06, four in '07, three in '08) earn first or second-team All-WAC honors, including WAC Freshman of the Year Award in 2006 in linebacker Paul Igboeli.

Guy came to Utah State from Arizona State where he was the defense coordinator for four years. In 2004, ASU went 9-3 and defeated Purdue in the Sun Bowl. That marked the Sun Devils' second bowl appearance in three years. ASU's defense finished 2004 ranked 28th nationally in rushing defense, 32nd in pass efficiency defense and 48th in both total and scoring defense.

In 2002, Guy's defense forced 40 turnovers, including 22 interceptions. Those totals ranked third and fourth in the country, respectively. In addition, ASU recorded an incredible 123 tackles for loss, including 52 sacks that season. He coached Terrell Suggs, who set the NCAA record for sacks that season with 24 and was recipient of the Bronko Nagurski Award (nation's top defensive player), Lombardi Trophy (nation's top lineman) and Morris Trophy (Pac-10's top lineman).

Before joining the ASU staff, Guy was the defensive coordinator at Boise State from 1998-2000, helping the Broncos become the cream of the league as BSU won the 1999 and 2000 Big West Championships, posting a 10-1 combined conference record in those two years. Under his guidance, Boise State led the Big West in total defense, rush-

ing defense and scoring defense in both 1999 and 2000. During his first stint at Utah State from 1992-94, working with the linebackers, the Aggies won the Big West Conference Championship and posted the only bowl victory in school history, winning the 1993 Las Vegas Bowl, 42-33, against Ball State.

Guy, who has been a part of nine bowl teams in his playing and coaching career, had two stints coaching at his alma mater of Oklahoma State. After serving as a graduate assistant (1986-87) and recruiting coordinator (1988) there, Guy coached the Cowboy linebackers from 1989-91 and then again from 1995-97.

Guy began his playing career at Oklahoma State as a walk-on and became a starter at both defensive end and linebacker. As a senior in 1982 he started at linebacker and recorded 106 tackles to rank third on the team. He also had three tackles for loss, recovered one fumble, had one interception and broke up seven passes. Guy graduated from Oklahoma State with a degree in hotel and restaurant administration in 1983.

Johnson spent last season as an administrative assistant with the Cardinals after spending five years at Southern Mississippi, including three as the offensive coordinator, where he helped lead the Golden Eagles to five straight bowl appearances.

Under Johnson's guidance, the Golden Eagles established a school record for total offense in 2007 with 5,066, eclipsing the 5,000-yard plateau for the first time in school history. The Golden Eagles also finished in the top 25 in rushing offense in 2006 and 2007, rushing for over 2,000 yards in both seasons for the first time since 1987. The Golden Eagles averaged 27.8 points per game in '07 and 29.6 in '08, the highest totals since 1998.

Johnson also coached the school's third 1,000-yard running back in school history when Damon Fletcher ran for over 1,300 yards in consecutive seasons, becoming the only back in school history to accomplish such a feat.

Under Johnson's tutelage in 2008, Dustin Almond, had one of the best seasons ever of a Golden Eagle signal caller in 2005, as he set the single-season record for passing completions (216), passing attempts (392) and total offense (2,762), while throwing 23 touchdowns, the second most in school history. In 2004, Johnson guided a solid stable of running backs, which averaged 141.9 yards per game and 22.8 more yards per game and six more rushing touchdowns than in 2003. Anthony Harris, Sherron Moore and Larry Thomas carried the majority of the load for the season.

He has extensive coaching experience and knowledge of several positions, including

quarterbacks, receivers, defensive backs, running backs and tight ends. Johnson has honed his coaching skills at a variety of levels and schools. He started his coaching career at Columbia-Hickman High School in 1993, serving as the quarterbacks, receivers and defensive backs coach.

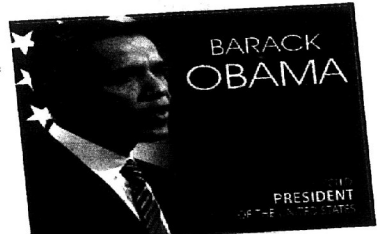
In 1994, he moved to Missouri as a graduate assistant coach, later moving to Augsburg College, serving as the school's offensive coordinator and recruitment coordinator from 1994-95, before moving to that same position at Truman State from 1995-97.

He directed Truman State's offense to an average of over 30 points and 400 yards a game during the 1995 and 1996 seasons.

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What's the proper use of 'B' mode in hybrids?

by TOM and RAY
MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:

We recently bought a 2008 Prius, and just love it, love it, love it. But we're having a bit of a discussion about how to use the "B" on the gearshift. I say it's like a downshift, and you should use it only temporarily, while going down a steep hill or coming to a stop. You use it to save the brakes, then return to "D." My husband thinks it's fine to drive most of the time in the "B" mode, since it regenerates electricity and recharges the battery. Who's correct? And if "B" is the gear to use all the time, why didn't Toyota just call it "D" and forget the separate braking option? Thanks for your help! —Gayle

TOM: Gayle, you're 100 percent right, and your husband, unfortunately, has his head up his brake line.

RAY: When you shift into the "B" mode, you increase the drag created by the regenerative portion of the brakes. And while that extra friction does produce some electricity to help recharge the battery, the "B" mode's primary purpose is to simulate downshifting, or engine braking, when you're going down a long, steep hill.

TOM: The "B" mode's secondary purpose is to give guys something to fiddle with while they're driving. And after THAT comes creating more electricity to recharge the battery.

RAY: In any car, hybrid or not, when you go down a long, steep hill, you run the risk of overusing your brakes. That makes the brakes overheat, which leads to brake fade (when the brakes become less effective). Even worse, if the brakes overheat badly enough, the brake fluid can boil, and cause the brakes to fail completely. So it's always recommended that you downshift in those circumstances, rather than ride the brakes, to keep the car at a safe, reasonable speed.

TOM: But since the Prius has an unusual propulsion system and transmission, they've essentially "faked" a downshift mode for just that purpose.

RAY: So unless you're driving under conditions where you specifically need the equivalent of engine braking, just leave it in "D." Gayle. But try not to rub it in too much. Remember, husbands have extremely fragile egos.

it's something you admire him for.

RAY: But it's perfectly acceptable for you to set some limits on it. For instance, where he does it. See, I think this guy needs to do this professionally. He needs to give up his seat on the appellate court (or whatever he does for a living), and go into the junk business.

TOM: Exactly. Some people have junk in their blood, Beth, and this guy is one of them. Our favorite local junk-

yard is called Nissenbaum's Auto Recycling. Joe Nissenbaum has junk in his blood. We'll need an alternator for a customer's car because the old one was burned to a crisp in an engine fire and then run over by a fire truck, twice, and Joe will say, "You're not gonna throw that away, are you?"

RAY: Sound familiar, Beth? If your boyfriend had a junkyard, he could take apart cars all day, and then leave everything at work, so you could

live in your house without getting nasty notes from the neighbors asking you to get those 14 transmissions off your lawn.

TOM: Now, if he's not ready to go "full in" on the junkyard idea, the next best thing is containment. It worked during the Cold War, right? So, when you have a home together, designate a space where he can do whatever he wants with the cars. It could be a building on your property, another site that he rents or just a cordoned-

off section of the backyard. RAY: And that way, when he accidentally sets one of his project cars on fire, it won't take your car with it, Beth. Best of luck to you guys.

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This guy's got junk in his blood

Dear Tom and Ray:

My boyfriend is a great guy but is prone to procrastination (or so his family has warned me). It's come to my attention, as I try to find a spot to park when I visit his home, that he is accumulating LOTS of cars. Here's the inventory of vehicles: a VW Bus, two Saabs, an Isuzu, a Rodeo, a Subaru Forester, his Subaru Legacy, an engine for the Rodeo sitting in the garage and a BMW R1100RT motorcycle (largely disassembled for a transmission repair) in the garage. All of the cars in the driveway are in various stages of repair, and some of these are project cars that he hopes to sell, if he can get them running. Don't get me wrong, he is an amazing mechanic, and when we listen to your show together, he knows the answers before you say them. But how can I help him finish some of them and make room for MY car? I'm asking you for advice because I give your radio show on NPR credit for bringing us together. When we met, I learned that we shared a love of BMW motorcycles and a peculiar sense of humor, and the rest is history because I fell for him (at that time, the only extra vehicles were one Saab and the VW bus). Thanks for your help! —Beth

TOM: Gee, Beth, it sounds like a pretty harmless hobby to me. I mean, some guys use their free time to go out drinking or carousing.

RAY: Or look at my brother's hobby: collecting food samples in his beard.

TOM: I don't think you want to stop him from playing around with his cars. He would resent you for that, and that would be a poor basis for a long-term relationship. Plus,

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