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12/28/11

Wednesday, December 28, 2011

The Times

FLOYD COUNTY

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Briefs

Three kill on state road over holiday

Times Staff Report

FRANKFORT Preliminary statistics show that three people died in separate crashes on Kentucky roadways during the Christmas holiday period beginning at 6 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 23, extending through Monday, Dec. 26, 2011 at 11:59 p.m.

All of the fatalities involved motor vehicles and two of the victims were not wearing seat belts. Single-fatality crashes occurred in Hardin, Hart and Warren counties.

Through Dec. 26, preliminary statistics indicate that 709 people have lost their lives on Kentucky roadways during 2011. This is 45 fewer fatalities than reported for the same time period in 2010.

There have been 564 motor vehicle fatalities and 287 of those victims were not wearing seat belts. Sixty-four of those crashes involved a commercial motor vehicle. Sixty-one crashes involved a motorcycle and thirty-four victims were not wearing helmets. Twenty-five crashes involved an ATV and 21 victims were not wearing helmets. Fifty-three crashes involved pedestrians and two involved a bicycle. Two crashes involved a scooter and two involved a horse-drawn vehicle. A total of 118 fatalities have resulted from crashes involving the suspected use of alcohol.

Citizens can contribute to highway safety by reporting erratic drivers to the Kentucky State Police toll free at 1-800-222-5555. Callers will remain anonymous and should give a description of the vehicle, location, direction of travel and license number if possible.

2 DAY FORECAST

Today

Chance of storms

High: 92 • Low: 70

Tomorrow

Chance of storms

High: 92 • Low: 70

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

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Officials concerned about new painkiller

Zohydro described as '10 times more powerful' than Vicodin

Ralph B. Davis

Managing Editor

Plans to begin marketing pure hydrocodone, a painkiller described as "10 times more powerful" than Vicodin is causing concern among officials in Eastern Kentucky, a region already plagued by prescription drug abuse and overdose deaths.

"In my personal opinion, a drug like that shouldn't be available, marketed under such names as Vicodin, Lortab and Lorcet. Unlike

many hydrocodone overdoses in his line of work. "It should strictly be an in-house medication."

California-based Zogenix plans to begin selling Zohydro as early as 2013. The company describes the medication as the "first single-entity hydrocodone therapy available," and that has Nelson and other officials worried.

Other forms of hydrocodone are already available, marketed under such names as Vicodin, Lortab and Lorcet. Unlike

those medications, which are mixed with other pain relievers such as aspirin or acetaminophen, Zohydro will be 100 percent hydrocodone. While the company says Zohydro is being formulated to release the medication over 12 hours, critics say addicts will simply crush the pills to achieve an immediate, intense high.

"The hydrocodone we have now is cut, and we have plenty of ODs with that," Nelson said. "I think this will only make things

worse." Hydrocodone already ranks second among the most abused prescription medications, according to the Drug Enforcement Agency, behind only oxycodone, which is sold under the brand Oxycontin.

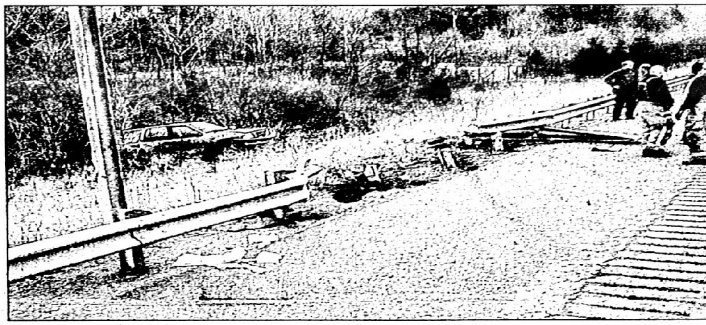
Officials with Operation UNITE, which fights illegal drug use with education, treatment and enforcement, expressed concern about the potential for abuse that could come from a pure form of hydrocodone, but also held out hope

that mechanisms already in place to fight the abuse of other prescription narcotics will be effective in keeping Zohydro abuse to a minimum.

"More Kentuckians die due to drug overdoses than in car accidents," said Karen Kelly, executive director of UNITE. "In addition, many of our region's counties rank near the top in per-capita usage rates for controlled substances. This is of great concern to UNITE."

See PAINKILLER | AX

Car accident backs up traffic



A wreck Friday on U.S. 23 at Prestonsburg near the Big Branch of Abbott left southbound pre-holiday traffic along the highway backed up for several miles. No serious injuries were reported.

photo by Jack Latta

McDowell gas station robbed

Ralph B. Davis

Managing Editor

McDOWELL — Police are investigating the latest in a string of robberies in the Left Beaver area, this time at the IGA gas station; Kentucky State Police reports that a white male wearing a black hooded sweatshirt, black gloves and a green ski mask approached the gas station Monday and opened the clerk's window. He then produced a weapon and demanded money from the clerk.

After receiving an undisclosed amount of money, the man then fled east on Route 122 in a maroon Nissan sedan.

No arrests have yet been made. Det. Ryan Hamilton is investigating the case.

The robbery is just the latest in a string of armed robberies stretching from McDowell to Wheelwright, although police have said they have not linked any of the crimes to each other.

On Nov. 21, a man with a firearm robbed the Cardinal Country Store, at Wheelwright. The perpetrator was described as being approximately 5 feet, 5 inches tall. At the time of the robbery, he was wearing a black mask, a white or tan hooded sweatshirt, camouflage pants and gloves.

On Oct. 23, a man entered Hamilton Enterprise, a hardware, video rental and tobacco store in McDowell, pointed a gun at a clerk and demanded money. As in Monday night's robbery, that robber also fled on foot and was described as being 5 feet, 5 inches tall. He was described as wearing a blue or black hooded sweatshirt at the time.

On Oct. 27, a woman was robbed in her driveway, as she returned to her McDowell home. The perpetrator in that incident was described as approximately 5 feet, 8 inches tall and was wearing camouflage and a green ski mask during the robbery.

Anyone with information about any of these incidents is asked to contact Kentucky State Police Post 9 Pikeville at (606) 433-7711 or (800) 222-5555.

Bill would make P'burg eligible for casino

Ralph B. Davis

Managing Editor

FRANKFORT — With the state legislature set to return to session next week, proponents are once again getting ready to make another push to legalize gambling in Kentucky. And in at least one of the bills being brought before legislators, Prestonsburg could be one prime target for a casino.

State Rep. Dennis Keene (D-Wilder) has pre-filed a bill

which would allow voters in certain areas of the state to decide whether or not to allow casinos in their communities. Such elections would be limited to counties with populations over 90,000 or in fourth-class cities that already have horse racing tracks within their boundaries.

Prestonsburg would meet the second classification.

"I believe this legislation would help move this issue to the forefront and the discussions, arguments, and posturing can

finally end," said Rep. Keene. "For too long, casino gaming has been used as a political football and my bill would allow the people who would be most affected by this issue to make the final decision."

Under terms of the proposal, the casino question could be put on the ballot either by the city council passing an ordinance to that effect or by submission of a petition with signatures

See CASINO | AX

Governor orders study of UPIKE plan

Ralph B. Davis

Managing Editor

FRANKFORT — Gov. Steve Beshear announced Tuesday that a study of the advisability and feasibility of adding the University of Pikeville to the state university system will begin immediately.

"The University of Pikeville meets a regional need for quality education in Appalachia, and the school's growth illustrates its potential as an economic driver in the area," said

Gov. Beshear. "Universities are economic drivers in their regions, producing well-educated and trained students who are prepared to enter the workforce."

Many students attend schools based on proximity to their homes, said Gov. Beshear, and many will remain in the region after graduation. The schools tend to attract highly educated employees, while also developing new research and partnerships with government and private businesses.

"However, a thorough review of the advisability and feasibility of including this institution in the state university system is prudent and necessary as we consider this proposal," added Gov. Beshear.

The proposal to make UPIKE a part of the state college system was revealed last week. House Speaker Greg Stumbo threw his full support behind the idea, saying the region's unmet higher education needs

See UPIKE | AX

Donation



Instead of drawing names and exchanging gifts this year, the staff of The Floyd County Times chose to donate food and household items to St. Vincent Mission, in David. From left to right are Jessica Thompson, Brian Conn, Ryan Hall, Jack Latta, Evelyn Osborne, Ralph B. Davis and Joshua Byers.

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- & Toast w/Jelly3.19

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Obituaries

Harold L. Bowling
Harold L. Bowling, 81, of New London, Ohio, died Friday, Dec. 23, 2011, at The Rehabilitation and Nursing Center at Firelands, in New London.

He was born Nov. 23, 1930, in Georges Creek, and moved to New London in 1953. He worked for the Norwalk and New London Foundry and retired from Sterling Castings of Wellington in 1996.

Harold was a member of the New London VFW and former member of the New London Eagles. He enjoyed fishing and was an avid reader.

Survivors include his children, David Bowling, of New London, Sue (Mike) Stratton, of New Haven, Delores (Jim) Midolo, of New London, Dee (Rita) Bowling, of New London, and Daisy (Don) Ward of Monroeville; 14 grandchildren; 10 great grandchildren; one great grandniece; and numerous nieces and nephews. Harold is also survived by his siblings, Anna Mae (Paul) Perkins, Willard (Rose) McKinney and Kenneth (Bonnie) McKinney. Harold was preceded

in death by his parents, James F. Bowling and Artie (Mullins) McKinney; wife of 51 years, Edna Bowling; stepfather, Wilson McKinney; granddaughter, Rachel Dawn Ward; and brothers, Jesse Bowling, Charles Bowling, James McKinney and Bernard McKinney.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Dec. 27, at Eastman Funeral Home, in New London, with Pastor Charles Mead officiating. Burial followed at Grove Street Cemetery.

Memorials in Harold's memory may be given to Stein Hospice, 1200 Sycamore Lane, Sandusky, Ohio 44870 and condolences to the family may be expressed at www.eastmanfuneralhome.com.

Stonney Burke
Stonney Burke, 45, of Martin, formerly of Jack's Creek, died Dec. 24, 2011, at the University of Cincinnati, in Ohio.

He was born March 1, 1966, at Martin, to Anna Sue Burke, of Martin, and the late Shirley Burke. He was married to Tiffany Dingsur Burke and was a U.S. Federal Park Ranger at Jenny Wiley

State Resort Park.

In addition to his wife and mother, he is survived by one daughter, Taylor Burke, of Martin; one brother, Shawn Burke, of Martin; two sisters, Lisa (Brian) Halbert, of Langley, and Renee (Matthew) Triplett, of Mousie; and nieces and nephews, Justin, Peyton, Brianna, Eric and Hailey.

Funeral services for Stonney Burke will be held at 1 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 28, at Nelson Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Lori Vanucci officiating. Burial will follow in the Dinwood Cemetery, in Martin. Visitation was after 6 p.m., Monday.

Nelson Frazier Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Ronald Gayheart
Ronald Gayheart, 59, of McDowell, died Dec. 23, 2011, at his home.

He was born July 14, 1952, at McDowell, to the late Jack and Edna Gayheart. He was married to Tonya Howard Gayheart and was a factory worker.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by one son, Dwight Gayheart, of Ashtabula, Ohio; four daughters, Rita Moore, Angie Moore and Kennedy Gayheart, all of McDowell, and Emily Steiner, of Tiffin, Ohio; seven brothers, Billy Gayheart, Roger Gayheart, Jackie Gayheart and Randal Gayheart, all of McDowell, Tony Gayheart, of Dayton, Ohio, Nick Horn, of Prestonsburg, and Randolph Gayheart, of Texas; six sisters, Phyliss McKinney,

of Teaberry, Faye Jones, Sandra Sammons and Trisha Gayheart, all of Dayton, Ohio, Sue Gayheart, of Versailles, and Sharon Gayheart, of Virginia; and eight grandchildren, David, Austin, Kali, Michaela, Veronica, Bridgette, Ian and Bradley.

Funeral services for Ronald Gayheart will be held at 11 a.m., Wednesday, Dec. 28, at Nelson Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Bethel Bolen and Raymond Gayheart officiating. Burial will follow in the Greenbury Hall Cemetery, in McDowell. Visitation was held after 6 p.m. Monday.

Nelson Frazier Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Roberta Marshall Taylor
Roberta Marshall Taylor, 84, of Prestonsburg, died Dec. 25, 2011, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg.

She is survived by two daughters, Judy (Tony) Childers, of Allen, and Emma Lou (Clarence) Martin, of Prestonsburg; five sisters, Rina May Palmer, of Armita, La., and Shirley Turner, Jean Frasure, Billie Lockhart and Peggy Marshall, all of Prestonsburg; six grandchildren, Mike, Steve, Susan, Rachael, Heather and Brittany; and 11 great grandchildren.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by one son, Alvin

Marshall "Butch" Taylor, and one daughter, Patty Taylor Greer.

Funeral services for Roberta Marshall Taylor will be held at 2 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 28, at Nelson Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Arnold Turner officiating. Burial will follow at Greenwood Gardens, in Prestonsburg. Visitation was held after 5 p.m., Tuesday, at the funeral home.

Nelson Frazier Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Milton Eugene Ryan
Milton Eugene Ryan, 88, of Martin, died Dec. 26, 2011, at St. Joseph Hospital, in Martin.

He was born Feb. 16, 1923, in Pikeville, to the late George D. and Lottie Mae White Ryan. He was married to the late Mildred Jean Tackett Ryan. He was a retired engineer for C&O Railroad, former owner of Ryan Funeral Home for many years, a 32nd-degree Mason, a veteran of the U.S. Navy and a member of the First Baptist Church, of Martin.

He is survived by two daughters, Catherine Jean Gregory, of Lexington, and Sharon Ann Stumbo, of Martin; three grandchildren, Paul Richard Gregory, of Lexington, Elizabeth Ann Glasscock, of Richmond, and Angela Baldwin, of Martin; four great grandchildren; and a very special friend, Inez Justice, of Martin.

In addition to his wife and parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers, Jack Ryan and George Ryan.

Funeral services for Milton Eugene Ryan will be held at 1 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 29, at Nelson Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Rev. James Stephens and Rev. Robert Ousley officiating. Burial will follow at Davidson Memorial Gardens, at Ivel. Visitation will be held after 6 p.m., Wednesday, at the funeral home.

Paul Richard Gregory is listed as a pallbearer.

Nelson Frazier Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Orville David Scutchfield

Orville David Scutchfield, 63, of Prestonsburg, died Dec. 22, 2011, at the Eastern Kentucky Veterans Center, in Hazard.

He was born Nov. 28, 1948, in Prestonsburg, to the late Erman "Bub" and Maurine Harmon Scutchfield. He was a maintenance worker for Dalton Foundry in Warsaw, Ind., and was a member of the Third Avenue Freewill Baptist Church.

He is survived by one son, Bryan Keith (Heather) Scutchfield, of Warsaw, Ind., and one sister, Sandra (Clarence) Frasure, of Prestonsburg.

Funeral services for Orville David Scutchfield were held Monday, Dec. 26, at the Nelson Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Phillip Ramey and Bill Whitaker officiating. Burial followed in the Mayo Cemetery, in Prestonsburg.

Nelson Frazier Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

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Park mourns death of ranger

Ralph B. Davis
Managing Editor

PRESTONSBURG
Family, friends and coworkers are mourning the death of Jenny Wiley State Resort Park Ranger

Stonney Burke, Burke, 45, of Martin, died Christmas Eve at University Hospital, in Cincinnati, following a recent illness.

"We want to express our most sincere condolences

to the friends and family of Stonney Burke," said Bryan Maka, public affairs chief for the Huntington District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which was Burke's employer.

"He was a valued

member of the Huntington District Corps of Engineers team and will be sorely missed."

Burke is survived by his wife, Tiffany Dingsur Burke, and daughter, Taylor Burke.

Substance abuse conference returns in January

LEXINGTON — Registration is open for the Different Faces of Substance Abuse Conference that will occur Jan. 18-19 at the Griffin Gate Marriott Resort and Spa in Lexington.

The conference seeks to build collaborations and partnerships between agencies and individuals who deal with issues related to prescription drug abuse and provide community education materials.

It is sponsored by the University of Kentucky's colleges of Agriculture, Social Work and

Pharmacy, the Lexington Mayor's Alliance on Substance Abuse, Fayette County Kentucky Agency for Substance Abuse Policy, Kentucky Division of Behavioral Health and the Ohio County Assets for Youth.

The conference begins with registration at 10 a.m. Jan. 18. Lunch will be served from 11 a.m. to noon. Presentations begin at noon. Speakers include Demetria Antimissaris, assistant professor in the University of Louisville School of Medicine; Dave Hopkins, program manager for Kentucky

All Schedule Prescription Electronic Reporting in the Office of the Inspector General; Van Ingram, executive director for the Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy and Jared Combs, clinical staff pharmacist at UK HealthCare.

The second day begins with a continental breakfast at 7:30 a.m. From 8:30 to 10:15 a.m. conference participants can attend two of eight breakout sessions.

The sessions include topics on overcoming addiction and obstacles to treatment, the take-back program, creating a local drug-free alliance, UK Cooperative Extension Service substance abuse prevention programs, creating a youth program, a law enforcement perspective, a regional initiative aimed at reducing and preventing prescription drug abuse in youth, and unique characteristics of prescription drug abuse and ways to target them.

At 10:30 a.m., Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi will speak. Lon Hays, chair of the UK Department of Psychiatry, will speak at 11:30 a.m.

Continuing education units are available for educators, social workers, county extension personnel, vocational educators and mental health specialists.

Space is limited to the first 250 participants and is quickly filling up. Registration forms, exhibitor forms and hotel information are available on the conference's website <http://www.facesofdrugabuse.net/>. Conference information also is available on Facebook under The Different Faces of Substance Abuse and through Twitter @FacesDrugAbuse.

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Calendar

Calendar items will be printed as space permits
 Editor's note: To announce your community event, you may hand-deliver your item to The Floyd County Times office, located at 263 S. Central Avenue, Prestonsburg; or mail to: The Floyd County Times, P.O. Box 350, Prestonsburg, KY 41653; or fax to 606-886-3603; or email to: fctfeatures@floydcountytimes.com. Information will not be taken over the telephone. All items will be placed on a first-come, first-serve basis as space permits.

New Opportunity School for Women
 The New Opportunity School for Women (NOSW) in Berea is accepting applications for the 2012 Winter Residential Session, Feb. 5-25. Deadline to submit is Dec. 15. The NOSW assists women of Appalachia and Kentucky in their pursuit of employment, education, and personal growth. To request an application contact the NOSW at (859) 985-7200, or info@nosw.org. Additional details available on our Website www.nosw.org.

Volunteer mentors wanted
 Mentoring for a Second Chance is a jail-based service program designed to help reduce recidivism and promote positive growth by linking nonviolent offenders with a mentor from the local community. M2C is looking for local men who are motivated to make a difference in the life of an individual while having a positive impact on the community. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a mentor, contact mentor coordinator Joshua Kinzer, (606) 886-4439, (606) 339-8878, or Kinzer@MtComp.org.

Veterans service officer
 VFW Post 5839 in Lancer will have a service officer available every Wednesday, from noon until 4 p.m. Some services offered will be initial claim filing, upgrades, appeals, permanent and total claims and others. Contact (606) 886-9428 or (606) 297-1973 for more information.

Free Parenting Classes
 To determine eligibility, call John 791-9887.

Communities Against Drug Addiction
 Floyd County Communities Against Drug Addiction meets at 5:30 p.m. the third Thursday of each month, at Allen Baptist Church.

Autism Awareness & Support Group
 2nd Monday of each month. Call Church, Lancer, Ky. (6.7 p.m.). Contact: Billie Chain, eastkyautismawareness@gmail.com

Autistic Children Support Group plans monthly meeting
 Support group for Guardians of Autistic Children will meet the first Thursday of every month at the Haven of Rest, 1601 Airport Road, Inez. Call 606-298-0520 for information.

Non-profit agency needs foster parents
 Non-profit agency in need of foster parents in your area. Financial compensation/ bonuses, free foster parent trainings, mileage reimbursement, and 24-7 support are available. All foster children get a medical card, free school lunches, and clothing vouchers/ other reimbursements. Call for more information at 606-886-0163 or visit our website at: <http://www.benchmarkfamilyservices.org/>

Foster parent info
 Benchmark Family Services is offering a free informational session for anyone interested in becoming a foster parent. If you have ever wanted to help a child in need, this is your chance. Monday, Jan. 24, at 10 a.m. and Wednesday, Jan. 26, at 5 p.m. at Benchmark Family Services Office. For more information, please call (606) 886-0163.

Auxier Learning Center offers home repair aid
 Need help with home repairs? The Auxier Lifetime Learning Center can help. We are now taking applications for home repairs. If you or someone you know are low income and need help with repairs on your home, please call 606-886-0709 for your application, or stop by the office at 21 South River Street, Auxier. Office hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00-4:00. Must provide proof of income and ownership.

FCCH offers Body Recall exercise classes
 The Floyd County Health Department offers Body Recall gentle exercise classes every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at 9:30 a.m. at May Drive, just off 1428, and at 10:30 at the First Presbyterian Church in Prestonsburg.

Become a Volunteer with Victim Services Program
 You are more likely to be hurt by someone whom you know rather than be assaulted on Kentucky's streets by a total stranger. Learn to assist victims of sexual assault, child abuse and domestic violence by becoming a Volunteer with Victim Services Program. Call today to receive an application for our free training program. Call the Volunteer Coordinator at (606) 886-4323 for further information or to request an application. (The Victim Services Program is a program of Mountain Comprehensive Care Center.)

OutPatient Drug Treatment Program and Education
 Narconon warns parents that abuse of addictive pharmaceutical drugs with youth is on the rise with deadly consequences. Learn the signs of drug abuse. Call Narconon for a free brochure on the signs of addiction for all drugs. 877-379-0208. www.drugsno.com

Auxier Community Center
 Free GED classes, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, from 10 a.m.-12. Free Bible Lessons. Write to: Bible Way Outreach Ministry, P.O.

Box 3371, Kingsport, TN 37664. Lessons completely free of charge to all interested.

Need help with addiction?
 Lifeline of Floyd County "Conquer Chemical Dependency" is a Christ-centered 12-step program offering support to those who are coping with addiction and learning to live drug-free lives. The support group meets on the following schedule:
 Mondays, at Minnie (beside pharmacy), from 7-8 p.m.
 Mondays, at Little Mud, Spruce Pine School, from 7-8 p.m.
 Tuesdays, in Prestonsburg, in the Van Ark Building, from 2-3 p.m.
 Tuesdays, at David, The David School, from 3:30-4:30 p.m.
 Wednesdays, at Allen Baptist Church, from 7-8 p.m.
 Thursdays, at Allen Baptist Church, from 7-8 p.m.
 For more information, call Shirley Combs at (606) 434-8400, or Tom Nelson at (606) 478-2836.

Need Help With Home Repairs?
 The Auxier Lifetime Learning Center can help! We are now taking applications for home repairs. If you, or someone you know, are low income and need help with repairs on your home, please call 606-886-0709 for your application, or stop by our office at 21 South River Street, Auxier. Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8-4.

Hope in the Mountains
 Hope in the Mountains will host public meetings on Mondays, at 9 a.m., at the junction of U.S. 23 and Rt. 80, on Water Gap Rd., behind the Trimble Chapel Church. Meetings focus will be to offer information in regard to community resources available to women seeking freedom from drug abuse. Family members are also welcome to attend. The Hope initiative proposes to help women break free from addictive lifestyles to become self-respecting contributing members of society. Call 874-2008 or 788-1006 for more information.

Democratic Woman's Club
 The Floyd County Democratic Woman's Club meets the third Monday of each month at 6 p.m., at Prestonsburg City Hall. Have an 'Out of this World' birthday party! The East Kentucky Science Center is now offering a fun and distinctive party venue for kids of all ages. The Birthday Party package includes rental of a classroom and admission to exhibits and planetarium programs. Must be booked two weeks in advance; limit 40 guests. Call 889-8260 for more information.

Prestonsburg Rotary Club
 Rotary Club meets, 12 noon to 1 p.m., at Made From Country at Heart. For additional information, contact Chris Daniel, 886-7354.

'Earn While You Learn'
 The Big Sandy Area C.A.P. office is taking applications for its "Senior Training Program." You must be 55 or older to apply. In Floyd, call 886-2929; Johnson, call 789-6515; Magoffin, call 349-2217; Pike, call 432-2775; and in Lawrence, call 638-4067.

Senior employment program
 Are you a senior citizen on a fixed income struggling with soaring medical bills and living expenses? Could you use some extra spending money but don't know how to get back into the workforce? If you are at least age 55, the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) may be able to help. Earn extra money, learn new skills, and help your community at the same time! To find out more, call: 886-2929

Looking for a Support Group?
 Floyd County Alzheimer's Support Group meets regularly at Riverview Manor Healthcare Center. Call the center for meeting times.
 Domestic Violence Support Group - The Big Sandy Family Abuse Center holds meetings each Tuesday from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. The meetings are free of charge. Call 886-6025 for more information.
 Overeater's Anonymous - Meetings held each Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., at the old Allen Baptist Church, located in Allen,

just past red light. Call 889-9620 for more info.
 US TOO! Prostate Cancer Survivors Support Group - For all men with prostate cancer and their families. Group meets the 3rd Thursday of each month, at 6 p.m., at the Ramada Inn, Paintsville.
 Community Weight Loss Support Group - Meets Thursdays at 6:30 p.m., at the Martin Community Center. For more info., call 377-6658. Those who have had gastric bypass surgery most especially welcome to attend. Meetings being offered as support to anyone needing extra support in dealing with weight loss.
 Domestic Violence Hotline - 24-hour Crisis Line manned by Certified Domestic Violence counselors. Call 886-6025, or 1-800-649-6605. Remember, "Love Doesn't Have to Hurt."
 Disabled? - You may be eligible for grant money to assist in your daily living. For an application or more information, call 886-4326.
 A.S.K. (Adoption Support for Kentucky) - Support group for all adoptive parents (public, private, international, and kinship care), foster parents and all others interested in adoption. To be held the first Monday of each

month, at the Department for Community Based Services office, 1009 North Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, from 6-8 p.m. Childcare will not be provided. For more information, contact Dedra Stone, adoptive parent liaison, at 432-4110 or 422-7927, or email to: dosstone@easby.net.
 PARENTSI - Contact the Big Sandy Area Community Action Program, Inc. to find out about child care services in your area, the STARS for KIDS NOW licensing standards program, and how you can earn an income by staying home with your own children while caring for the children of others. Find out more by calling Cheryl Endicott at 886-1280, or 888-872-7227 (toll free).
 East Kentucky S.T.A.R.S. Homeschoolers - Will hold monthly meetings at the Paintsville Recreation Center. For more information, call Trudy at 889-9333, or 297-5147. Everyone welcome.
 Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Each Wednesday, from 7-8 p.m., in the Atrium Conference Room, 2nd floor, May Tower, Pikeville Methodist Hospital. For more info., contact Chris Cook at 606-433-1119 or christophercook@hotmail.com.

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— Gregory Nunn

Amendment I

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

Guest View Should there be a state supported university in Eastern Kentucky?

Former Gov. Paul Patton
President, University of Pikeville

This is a question that has become a subject of discussion among the policy makers in the Commonwealth. To me, the answer is obvious. Yes. The gold standard of education today is the bachelor's degree. The percentage of adults age 24 to 44 with a bachelor's degree in the 12 major coal-producing counties in Eastern Kentucky is 9.1 percent. In the rest of the Commonwealth it is almost double that, 17.1 percent. If Kentucky is to realize its maximum potential, the educational level of Eastern Kentucky must be brought up to that of the rest of Kentucky and the educational attainment of Kentucky as a whole must be brought up to that of the nation. An increase in educational attainment of this magnitude can only be accomplished by having an affordable, high quality, comprehensive state supported university in the coalfields dedicated to eradicating this educational deficiency.

Proximity Promotes Participation! Look at the education of the population in the rural counties which have had state supported universities for the past 80 years or more and then look at Pike County. Calloway County has Murray State University and 24.0 percent of the adult population between 24 and 44 have a bachelor's degree. Warren County, with Western, 24.7 percent, Madison County, Eastern, 21.8 percent and Rowan County, Morehead, 21.9 percent. But Pike County, with the University of Pikeville, is only 9.9 percent.

These counties have also evolved from agricultural economies to diverse economies. East Tennessee has East Tennessee State University in Johnson City, Tennessee, and it does not have our problems. Western North Carolina has Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina, and it does not have our problems. Northern West Virginia has a coal economy and West Virginia University and it does not have our problems. And if we had an 80-year-old state supported university like the rest of the state, we wouldn't have our problems.

I am gratified that major state leaders see the need and are willing to consider

the University of Pikeville as the vehicle to achieve this end. Any proposal will be subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees of the University of Pikeville; however, I believe the board will agree to the transfer of all assets and liabilities of the university (excepting the endowment) to a state university on an equal status with the six existing comprehensive universities and with comparable funding, considering difference in size. The replacement value of those assets will be nearly \$200 million.

State support will cut our tuition (\$16,250) by more than half and substantially increase the number of students achieving a bachelor's degree. All of Kentucky will benefit from the increase in intellectual capital. Our medical school has proven that if we educate students from the mountains, in the mountains, they will stay in the mountains to serve our people. The quality of healthcare in Eastern Kentucky is already significantly improved because of the presence of hundreds of doctors educated at the Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine, which is a part of the University of Pikeville and would be a part of this public university.

This same debate was conducted in Kentucky 40 years ago when Louisville and Northern Kentucky were not served by a state supported university. Can anyone today imagine Louisville or Northern Kentucky not having a major state supported university? Can anyone deny that such an institution would help Eastern Kentucky and thereby the entire state? As state Rep. Greg Stumbo has said, "This is a no-brainer!" I ask all concerned to rise above their individual perspective and loyalty to particular institutions and look at what is best for the entire Commonwealth.

This action would be the most important improvement in Eastern Kentucky since the construction of the Bert T. Combs Mountain Parkway. Governor Combs saw the need and acted decisively, beginning planning even before he was sworn into office. That is the kind of action we are hoping for. The need is obvious. The vehicle is available. The General Assembly will have the final word. All of Kentucky will benefit.



A Legislative Perspective

Rep. Greg Stumbo
Speaker of the House

Over the last month or so, there have been some encouraging signs that state governments are inching away from the toughest economic crisis in decades.

Combined, the states have trimmed a half-trillion dollars since 2007, but the days of cutting much more appear over, at least for now. According to the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), new budgetary gaps "are practically non-existent."

Two years ago, 39 states had to make mid-year cuts, but the number dropped to 19 last year, and only four so far have said they will have to do the same during the current fiscal year.

When asked about their budgetary outlook in the months ahead, officials from 21 states said they were concerned, but none were pessimistic. The remainder were at least cautiously optimistic.

In a report several weeks ago to the General Assembly's Appropriations and Revenue Committee, Governor Beshear's budget officials noted that Kentucky's state government revenues have not seen the highs and lows most states have.

Kentucky's revenues were below the 50-state average in the 2008 fiscal year, but did not see the tremendous dip that others did in 2009. We matched the average in 2010 and 2011, but are behind as we approach the fiscal year's halfway point at the end of this month.

Later that week, the state's economists offered a slightly better picture for the next two years than they did in October. We're on target to have a surplus for the second year in a row, and modest growth is projected after that.

Helping that along is the fact that our employment rate continues to make a slow but steady climb. October was a bellwether month of sorts, as the total number of non-farm jobs across the state reached a level last seen in December 2008.

During their recent testimony, the budget officials laid out their plan to close a nearly \$200 million gap this fiscal year, most of which was

mandated by the current budget. While no one expected it to be easy, it does appear we will be able to meet projections without drastic measures.

A three-pronged approach is planned. It will come from better-than-expected revenues and savings from debt payments, plus 2 percent cuts across a portion of state government that will go on top of cuts already made.

Key areas like classroom funding, corrections, parks, and Medicaid are not including statewide furloughs are expected, either.

Kentucky has been fortunate in many ways the last several years, but numerous challenges are still in front of us. As it has been for several years, the goal is to do all we can to avoid putting an undue burden on our children and our most vulnerable citizens. Like many of the state budget officials, I am "cautiously optimistic" that we can do just that.

The budget process will formally kick off several weeks from now, when Governor Beshear will offer his plan to the General Assembly. I will of course keep you updated on its progress.

House Week in Review

Rep. Hubert Collins

Divisions aside, the moment does seem ripe to revive the issue in legislative session, and for two reasons: the state's seemingly unending economic woes, and the launch of expanded gaming in Kentucky this year with the introduction of instant racing at Kentucky Downs. The instant racing games at the southern Kentucky track have been very popular, despite an ongoing court challenge brought against the games, and Kentuckians are quite frankly tired of losing services, retirement benefits, and progress in education and other areas to what appears to be a perpetually-strapped state budget.

Still, passing a constitutional amendment to allow casino gaming in Kentucky or any other attempt to authorize casino gaming here is no sure bet—no pun intended. It will take a lot of work on the part of the governor, pro-expanded gaming lawmakers and supporters outside of the Capitol to make casino gaming a winner in the next session.

While lawmakers consider the pros and cons of gaming for yet another session, we will also likely find ourselves once again debating whether to pass a statewide smoking ban for indoor public places throughout Kentucky.

We Kentucky lawmakers have considered a statewide smoking ban in the past with mixed results. While an attempt to ban smoking in all enclosed workplaces across the state including all bars, restaurants, and gaming facilities failed to receive a committee hearing in the Kentucky House during the 2011 Regular Session, the effort raised awareness of the issue in communities like Bowling Green and Corbin (both with recently enacted smoking bans) and other communities statewide.

Dozens of cities and counties in Kentucky—at least 31, at last count—have banned smoking in most if not all indoor public places in their communities in recent years, and many state and private colleges and

universities have gone smoke free. But a vocal group of Kentuckians say more needs to be done to reduce smoking statewide. These proponents of a statewide ban say prohibiting smoking in all indoor public places in Kentucky is the key to reducing the number of current and future smokers in the commonwealth, and improving the state's health.

Not everyone, including all Kentucky lawmakers, is on board with the ban. Those who oppose a statewide smoking ban feel, among other things, that banning smoking should be a local decision. We will have to wait and see how the issue is addressed in the coming months in session.

Another issue that appears ripe for discussion next session is possible reinstatement of Kentucky's estate tax, which has not been collected in full for a decade because of its direct ties to the currently phased-out federal estate tax. A 10 year phase out of the federal estate tax beginning in 2001 has cost Kentucky about \$40 million a year in inheritance and estate tax receipts, according to the State Budget Director's office. Kentucky's revenues for coming fiscal years could "be impacted negatively," based on one legislative summary, if the federal government continues to revoke the state credit against the federal tax.

To prevent further loss of state revenue, some lawmakers favor what is called "decoupling" of Kentucky's estate tax receipts from the federal estate tax. Decoupling would allow the state to only receive revenue from receipts on relatively large estates that are passed to heirs after the receipts are paid. Opponents say such a move would result in a tax increase since state estate tax receipts would have to be paid by estates instead of being "picked up" from federal estate receipts as a credit. This is another issue we will all be tuned into in the coming months.

I will share more issues facing the 2012 General Assembly with you next week. Enjoy the New Year's festivities and stay tuned.

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Casino

From Page A1

equal to 25 percent of the votes cast in the preceding general election.

Keene's bill would place oversight of casinos under the umbrella of the Kentucky Lottery Corporation.

"Once the voters have spoken and approved casino gaming in their location, the Lottery Corporation conducts the bidding process for casinos," said Rep. Keene. "If a county approves full casino gaming, the initial licensing fee is \$50 million. The initial license will be an exclusive license for the first 10 years."

Other provisions of Keene's bill include:

- An annual license renewal fee of \$6 million. If a city of the fourth class containing a horse racing track approves the ballot initiative, the track may be licensed for limited or full casino gaming. If the track chooses limited casino gaming it would only be licensed for slot machines or other electronic games of chance.
- Tracks would still be

required to pay the \$50 million initial license fee, but yearly renewals would be only \$25,000. If the track subsequently decided to expand to full casino gaming, the initial licensing fee would be applied to the full casino license and the track would only have to pay the \$6 million annual renewal fee.

- Tracks licensed for casino gaming of any sort would have to continue to run as many races as they did in 2011 to maintain their casino license.

- In addition to the licensing of casinos, the Lottery Corporation would also license casino equipment suppliers, manufacturers, and professions within the Kentucky casino industry that the corporation determines warrant licensure.

- No person could sell, lease, or otherwise furnish gaming supplies and equipment in the Commonwealth unless they have a valid license issued by the Lottery Corporation.

- No person under 21 years of age will be allowed

to place a wager on a game at a casino, nor will anyone under 21 be permitted access to areas of a casino where games are operated.

- The tax imposed on casinos will be 31% of each licensee's gross gaming revenue. Gross gaming revenue is defined as the amount wagered, less the amount paid out in winnings to players.

- Proceeds from the casino tax will be used to fund a Problem Gamblers Awareness and Treatment Fund (to a maximum amount of \$2.5 million per year) and the operations of the Lottery Corporation devoted to the oversight and licensing of casino gaming.

- The remainder of the funds shall be divided equally between childhood education (primary, kindergarten, and elementary education); funding the Kentucky Employees Retirement Fund; and for use in job creation and economic development in Kentucky. "Also, 15% of each gaming licensee's gross gaming revenue is to be allocated

to the Kentucky Equine Industry Enhancement Fund, a fund to be overseen by the Kentucky Horse Racing Commission for the benefit of the equine industry throughout Kentucky including purse supplements, breeder incentive funds, and backside improvements," said Rep. Keene.

- 10% of the fund is to be dedicated to non-racing breeds.

- There is also a \$3 per person admission tax imposed on casinos. The proceeds of the admission tax shall be dedicated to a regional tourism and infrastructure development fund established by the bill.

- The fund is established to promote tourism in regions containing a casino, to provide public protection, and to develop infrastructure projects designed to ease the burden of increased tourist activity in regions containing a casino. Projects to be included shall be within 30 miles of a casino and designed to incorporate multiple units of local government.

Painkiller

From Page A1

"Hydrocodone abuse is already a tremendous problem in southern and Eastern Kentucky.

When used properly, these medications help many who are experiencing moderate-to-severe pain. Unfortunately, we have seen how easily the system can be abused."

Nelson said a large part of the problem can be traced to a few unscrupulous doctors. "The biggest problem is a lot of doctors are overmedicating patients," Nelson said. "Most doctors are good, but it is obvious that there are a few out there who are only in it for the money."

Nelson said, when he is called to the scene of a drug overdose death, he often sees pill bottles with prescriptions for 140 methadone tablets and 60-to-80 Xanax tablets.

"If those people need that much medicine, they should be in the hospital," Nelson said.

Kelly believes having the tools, it needs to effectively fight prescription drug abuse.

"UNITE is diligently working to offer addiction training to prescribers through our Medical Advisory Council, and we wholeheartedly support efforts to require use of the state's KASPER [Kentucky All-Schedule Prescription Electronic Reporting] system," Kelly said.

"Currently, only 23 percent of prescribers in Kentucky use KASPER. Knowing a patient's history can help doctors determine the best course for treatment, as well as identify those who have a history of seeking pills for illegitimate purposes."

In addition to Zogenix, three other pharmaceutical companies also have pure hydrocodone products in their development pipelines. They include Egalet, Cephalon and Purdue Pharma, maker of Oxycotin.

UPIKE

From Page A1

are the last piece of the puzzle to fighting Eastern Kentucky's chronic history of poverty.

"Kentucky has to solve the problems in Eastern Kentucky that it has ignored for so long ..." Stumbo said. "We have some opportunities [in higher education] at Prestonsburg, for example, but they're not as far-reaching as they need to be."

Stumbo could not be reached before press time to comment on the governor's announcement.

The Governor's Office will issue a request for proposals this week to hire a consultant to conduct the study. The review will address a broad array of issues including:

- the educational need in Eastern Kentucky;
- the capacity of existing institutions to meet that need;
- the economic impact to the region of making the University of Pikeville a state institution;

- a review the financial resources needed to assure success of the University of Pikeville as a state institution;

- the impact of the proposal on the existing system of state universities;

- whether the proposal would advance the goals of the Postsecondary Education Improvement Act of 1997;

- and identification of transitional issues that should be considered including changes in policy, financial administration,

personnel issues, ethics and open meetings and records compliance, procurement issues, academic standards, accreditation, facilities and other related issues.

The state conducted similar reviews before expanding the university system to include the University of Louisville in 1970. The study is expected to take 6-to-8 weeks.

Robert King, President of the Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) submitted a letter to the Governor this week identifying issues that should be reviewed and offering assistance in the review process. President King recommended that the review be conducted by an independent party because of a potential perception of a

conflict of interest, as former Governor Paul Patton, the President of the University of Pikeville, serves on the CPE. As a result, the Governor's Office will select the consultant but will utilize the CPE in the review process.

The University of Pikeville enrolls about 1,100 full time students from 80 Kentucky counties, 35 states and 16 foreign countries. Founded in 1889 by Presbyterians, the University of Pikeville offers a broad liberal arts and sciences education.

The University of Pikeville is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award associate, baccalaureate and doctoral degrees.

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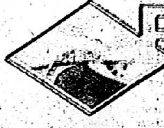
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Roberts ranked first in 15th Region All 'A' Classic player rankings

STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

BETSY LAYNE - As a junior, Andrew Roberts helped to lead the Betsy Layne Bobcats to the All "A" Classic statewide title. Now, as a senior, Roberts is listed as the top player in the 15th Region All "A" Classic. He will look to lead the Bobcats to another regional title. Betsy Layne, however, doesn't occupy the top spot in the 15th Region All "A"

Classic team rankings. Allen Central, Magoffin County, Paintsville, Phelps, Piariest School, Pikeville, Prestonsburg, Shelby Valley and South Floyd join Betsy Layne to make up the field for the latest 15th Region All "A" Classic boys' basketball tournament. Magoffin County is a newcomer to the field, which is now minus Sheldon Clark.

In the team standings, defending 15th Region champion Shelby Valley

is ranked first, one spot ahead of Betsy Layne (2). The remainder of the team poll features Pikeville (3), Prestonsburg (4) and Paintsville (5).

As a junior, Roberts averaged 8.5 points and 3.9 rebounds per game for the Bobcats. Through the first seven games of his senior season, Roberts is averaging 11.7 points and 6.1 rebounds per game.

Pikeville guard Ethan Rowe is ranked

second behind Roberts in the 15th Region All "A" Classic player rankings. Paintsville junior guard Trevor Tiler (3), Shelby Valley sophomore center Cody Belter (4) and South Floyd senior guard Brandon Marson (5) round out the 15th Region All "A" Classic player rankings.

The 15th Region All "A" Classic will be tip off on Saturday, Jan. 7 at the East Kentucky Expo Center in downtown Pikeville.



ANDREW ROBERTS

Bobcats fend off Allen Central, remain undefeated

STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

BETSY LAYNE - Betsy Layne, playing for the first time in exactly a week, defeated 58th District/Floyd County Conference foe Allen Central 75-53 Friday night at the Dome.

Remaining undefeated, Betsy Layne improved to 7-0 overall and 2-0 in the 58th District.

Allen Central suffered its second straight loss, slipping to 4-6 overall and 2-1 in the district.

In the girls' game, the Betsy Layne Ladycats defeated the Allen Central Lady Rebels 56-39.

Betsy Layne shot 47.4 percent (27-of-57) from the field. The Bobcats were 4-of-15 from 3-point range in the district contest.

Betsy Layne finished 17-of-26 (65.4 percent) from the free throw line.

Sophomore guard Dylan Meade led the offense. Betsy Layne offensive attack with a game-high 24 points. Meade was 2-of-6 from 3-point range for the Bobcats.

The transfer from Pike County Central was one of four Betsy Layne scorers to reach double figures. Peyton Case, followed, adding 14 points for the Bobcats.

Landon Hale and Andrew Roberts also reached double figures, tossing in 12 points apiece for the Bobcats.

The Bobcats excelled on the boards, hauling in 38 total rebounds, 27 of which came on the defensive end.

Hale had a team-high nine rebounds for the Bobcats. Charles Daniel and Roberts added six rebounds apiece for Betsy Layne in the victory.

Betsy Layne recorded 16 assists. Defensively, Betsy Layne had nine steals and two blocks.

Defending All "A" Classic state champion Betsy Layne will face Hazard on Thursday in the opening round of the Pikeville Invitational Tournament at the T.W. Oliver Gymnasium.

Hazard is a perennial contender for the 14th Region championship.

PREMIER BASKETBALL COACH



Floyd County native Kevin Keathley is the new head coach of the Premier Basketball League's Sauk Valley Predators. The Predators are based in Northwest Illinois. The Friday, Dec. 30 edition of The Floyd County Times will include a feature article on Keathley and his new team.

Morehead State beats MAC preseason favorite Ball State

Times Staff Report

MOREHEAD - The Morehead State University men's basketball team forced 24 turnovers and connected on its final 13 free-throw attempts in a 62-54 win over Ball State on Friday night at Johnson Arena.

The Eagles, who played in the 2011 NCAA Tournament, improve to 6-7 overall. The Cardinals, who were picked to win the Mid-American Conference's West Division this year, slip to 6-4 on the season.

"Our energy was really good tonight," Morehead State Head Coach Donnie Tyndall said. "We defended, we rebounded and our press forced 24 Ball State turnovers."

Morehead State forced 15 miscues and held Ball State to 33 percent (7-of-21) from the floor in the first half. The Cardinals jumped out to a 6-0 advantage, but the Eagles finished the opening stanza on a 28-16 run to take a six-point lead into the locker room.

MSU pushed the advantage to a game-high 12 points at 14:27 of the second half. Ball State cut the deficit to 45-44 with 5:26 left, but the Eagles drilled 75 percent (15-of-20) from the charity stripe after halftime to secure the victory.

"Our team has certainly improved on the practice floor the past few weeks and that's carried over to our last two victories," Tyndall said. "Our guys are starting to buy into the team concept and that's

helping with our success."

Senior Terrance Hill registered a team-best 12 points for Morehead State, while classmate Ty Profit added 11. Juniors Kahlil Owens and Milton Chavis contributed nine rebounds apiece, while senior Lamont Austin handed out four assists.

Sophomore Tyrae Robinson recorded a game-high 14 points off the bench for Ball State, while senior Jarrod Jones pulled down six rebounds and senior Randy Davis dished out five assists.

Morehead State tallied a 34-25 rebounding advantage. The Eagles also posted an 18-8 edge on the offensive glass, which led to an 18-7 upper hand in

See BEAT | A10

Magoffin girls favored to win small-school regional title

STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PIKEVILLE - Magoffin County, a newcomer to the 15th Region All "A" Classic, carries the role of tournament favorite heading into the 2011-12 edition of the girls' high school basketball event. A former 15th Region champion, Magoffin County was selected as the preseason favorite to win the overall 15th Region title.

Reigning 15th Region All "A" Classic champion Sheldon Clark, due to higher enrollment numbers, didn't qualify for the 2011-12 tournament.

The Girls' 15th Region All "A" Classic field now consists of Magoffin County, Allen Central, Betsy Layne, Paintsville, Phelps, Piariest School, Pikeville, Prestonsburg, Shelby Valley and South Floyd. Shelby Valley is ranked second in the 15th Region All "A" Classic team standings.

Paintsville (3), Pikeville (4) and South Floyd (5) complete the 15th Region All "A" Classic top-five.

Shelby Valley junior guard/forward Leeza Mullins occupies the number one spot in the 15th Region All "A" Classic player rankings.

The remainder of the top-five includes two players from Pikeville and one each out of the Paintsville and Magoffin County programs.

Pikeville sophomore guard Rachel Potter is ranked second followed by Paintsville senior guard Leah Vanhoose, Magoffin County sophomore guard Jamie Castle and Pikeville senior guard Lindsey Isner.

The Girls' 15th Region All "A" Classic is slated to tip off on Saturday, Jan. 7 at the East Kentucky Expo Center in downtown Pikeville.

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REGION
ALL "A"
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ALC basketball players among best in nation

Times Staff Report

PIPPA PASSES - The NAIA (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics) and the USCAA (United States Collegiate Athletic Association) have posted weekly statistical ratings, and Alice Lloyd College had several basketball players ranked among the nation's elite for the third week of December.

In men's basketball, ALC is currently ninth in the nation in blocks

averaged per game (4.1), and 15th in total blocks (50). They are also 12th in the nation in both rebounds averaged per game (41) and offensive rebounds per game at 14.8.

Individually, sophomore bigman Terry Muse (Somerset, Pulaski Southwestern) is ranked 1st in the nation with an average of 3.25 blocks per outing and is also 2nd in total blocks with 37. This total is also first nationally in the USCAA.

Junior Brent Hall (Beaver, June Buchanan High) is 5th in the nation in rebounding, as he is hauling in 10.75 per game. Hall is also averaging 4.58 offensive rebounds per game, which is third in that category. His 128 total rebounds are good enough for 11th nationally.

Sophomore Isaac Wilson (Corbin, Corbin High) is ranked eighth in the country in assists, as he is averaging 6 per game. He is 14th overall

in total assists with 72. In the USCAA this total is good enough for first nationally.

Senior Casey Dalton (Nancy, Pulaski Southwestern) is fifth in the nation in 3-point percentage according to USCAA, as he is hitting 48 percent from behind the arc.

On the women's side, sophomore Ariel Nickell (Lawwell, Va., Clairborne High) is 4th in the country in total points scored at 309. This is

good enough for 12th in the country in scoring average (19.3 ppg). It is sixth nationally in the USCAA rankings. She is also seventh in the nation in total rebounds with 136, and is also 14th nationally with an average of 6.3 defensive rebounds per outing.

Senior Gemma Gray (Manchester, Clay County) is currently 15th in the nation with 256 total points scored and is 14th in total 3-point baskets made with 37.

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CARDIAC ANESTHESIOLOGIST
(606) 408-6593
King's Daughters Anesthesia Services
• Ashland



Roberto Rappa, M.D.
ANESTHESIOLOGIST
(606) 408-7142
King's Daughters Anesthesia Services
• Ashland



Charbel Salem, M.D.
NEPHROLOGIST
(606) 329-9335
KDMS - Nephrology
• Ashland



Khalid Shalaby, M.D.
GENERAL SURGEON
(606) 325-1151
KDMS - Surgery Suite
• Ashland
Also surgical oncology



Jay Shepherd, M.D.
ANESTHESIOLOGIST
(606) 408-7142
King's Daughters Anesthesia Services
• Ashland



Tina Sias, M.D.
CARDIOLOGIST
(606) 329-1997
Kentucky Heart Institute
• Proctorville • Ashland
• Ironton • Burlington



Raghu Srinivasan, M.D.
CARDIOLOGIST
(606) 329-1997
Kentucky Heart Institute
• Ashland • Portsmouth



Paul Weinberger, D.O.
EMERGENCY PHYSICIAN
(606) 408-4565
Ashland Emergency Medical Associates
• Ashland

Advanced Practitioners

1-888-377-KDMC

Lauren Arthur, APRN
Heart and Vascular Center

Josh Campbell, CRNA
Anesthesia

Lisa Davis, PA
Tri-State Vascular Specialists

Lindsay Dillon, PA
KDMS - Urology

Jennifer Duncan, APRN
KDMS - Jackson

Crystal Eastridge, APRN
KDMS - Neurosurgical Specialists

Wendy Fletcher, APRN
KDMS - Health Plus - Morehead

Allison Gosnell, APRN
Kentucky Heart Institute

Amber Gross, APRN
KDMS - Stone Street Primary Care - Morehead

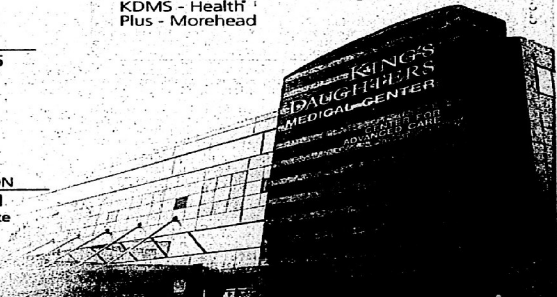
Donald Ramey, APRN
Urgent Care

Chris Wheeler, CRNA
KDMC Anesthesia

Cathy Tackett, APRN
Urgent Care

Summer Toler, PA
Urgent Care

Daniel Vanhoose, APRN
Urgent Care



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High school diploma or G.E.D. equivalent. Must have demonstrated experience in clerical and general office duties. Experience in medical offices preferred.

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 Prestonsburg KY 41653
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 Fax (606) 886-7534
 E-mail: tclark@hmc.org

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Legals
NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE
 Pursuant to Application Number 836-5569, Renewal No. 1

In accordance with KRS 350.055, notice is hereby given that FCDC Coal, Inc., P.O. Box 1200, Robinson Creek, Kentucky 41660 has applied for a renewal of a permit to an existing underground coal mining and reclamation operation located 0.25 mile south of Dana in Floyd County. The proposed operation will disturb 1,770.16 acres, and the total area within the permit boundary will be 1,773.56 acres.

The proposed operation is approximately 0.50 miles south from KY Route 142B's junction with Hunts Fork County Road and located adjacent to Prater Creek.

The proposed operation is located on the McDowell USGS 7 1/2 minute quadrangle. The surface area to be disturbed is owned by The Elk Horn Coal Company, LLC. The operation will underlie land owned by The Elk Horn Coal Company, LLC, Cliffshell, et al., Timothy Reynolds, Noah Vance, Willis Tackett, Walker and Ella Hall, Curt and Daisy Mitchell, Samuel Hamilton and Clifford Reynolds.

The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Natural Resources, Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director of the Division of Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow Complex, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

Legals
NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE
 Pursuant to Application Number 858-5064 Amendment No. 6

In accordance with the provisions of KRS 350.070, notice is hereby given that Carter Coal Corporation, 81 Enterprise Drive, DeBord, Kentucky 41214 has applied for an amendment to an existing underground coal mining and reclamation operation located 2.5 miles southeast of Odds in Martin County. The amendment will add 21.16 acres of surface disturbance and add 2,729.89 acres of underground mining that overlies existing underground permitted boundary, making the total area within the permit boundary will be 11,215.56 acres.

The amendment area is approximately 2.5 miles south of Kentucky Route 3's junction with Big Sandy Regional Airport Road and located in Sycamore Creek of Daniels Creek and Crooked Branch of Johns Creek.

The proposed amendment is located on the Thomas and Lancer U.S.G.S. 7-1/2 minute quadrangle maps. The amendment is to add a face-up area in the Coalburg area, and a slope up to the Van Lear seam and add underground mining acres that overlies currently permitted underground areas. The surface area affected by this amendment is owned by Pochontas Development Corporation. The operation will underlie land owned by Pochontas Development Corporation, New South Mining Company, Inc., Jerry Howell, William Crider, Charles & Della Bradley, Gene Porter, Leslie John Claude, Burchett, Sammy Lafferty, et al., Frank & Harold Buskirk and Virgie Burchett -Heirs.

The amendment application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Surface Mining Reclamation and Reclamation, Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

Legals
 methods of mining. The surface & underlying area to be disturbed under this operation is owned by Collins and Mayo Collieries Company.

The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Natural Resources Pikeville Regional Office, 121 Mays Branch Road, Pikeville, Kentucky 41501. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Mine Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, KY 40601.

This is the final advertisement of the application. All comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be received within thirty (30) days of today's date.

Legals
NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE
 Pursuant to Application Number 898-0874 A#1

In accordance with the provisions of KRS 350.070, notice is hereby given that Viking Acquisition Group, LLC, 2005 Webster Road, Summersville, WV 26681, has filed for an application for an amendment to an existing (surface/underground) coal mining and reclamation operation. The amendment proposed to add an additional 77.78 acres of surface disturbance (and to delete 4.17 acres of surface area for a total permit acreage of 299.94 acres located 1.25 miles south of Hartley in Pike & Floyd Counties.

The proposed operation is approximately 4.5 miles southwest from KY State Route 1469's junction with KY State Route 810. The proposed operation is located on Marshall Branch of Long Fork of Shelby Creek.

The proposed operation is located on the Wheelwright USGS 7 1/2 minute quadrangle maps. The operation will use the surface contour and a water/fillwall.

Legals
NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE
 Pursuant to Application Number 898-0874 A#1

In accordance with the provisions of KRS 350.070, notice is hereby given that Viking Acquisition Group, LLC, 2005 Webster Road, Summersville, WV 26681, has filed for an application for an amendment to an existing (surface/underground) coal mining and reclamation operation. The amendment proposed to add an additional 77.78 acres of surface disturbance (and to delete 4.17 acres of surface area for a total permit acreage of 299.94 acres located 1.25 miles south of Hartley in Pike & Floyd Counties.

The proposed operation is approximately 4.5 miles southwest from KY State Route 1469's junction with KY State Route 810. The proposed operation is located on Marshall Branch of Long Fork of Shelby Creek.

The proposed operation is located on the Wheelwright USGS 7 1/2 minute quadrangle maps. The operation will use the surface contour and a water/fillwall.

Legals
 methods of mining. The surface & underlying area to be disturbed under this operation is owned by Collins and Mayo Collieries Company.

The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Natural Resources Pikeville Regional Office, 121 Mays Branch Road, Pikeville, Kentucky 41501. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be received within thirty (30) days of today's date.

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 Highlands, a growing premier healthcare facility in Prestonsburg, is currently recruiting for
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 Highlands Heart and Vascular Center

Highlands Regional Medical Center has an opening for a FT LPN or RN in the Heart and Vascular Center. Under the supervision of the Director of The Heart and Vascular Center, the LPN or RN functions as an active participant in the health care team who assists in the delivery of nursing care based on standards of care and standards of practice established by nursing service. The LPN or RN utilizes the nursing process and adheres to established policies and procedures of nursing service under the direct supervision of the Director. Performs multi-task duties in the Heart and Vascular Center. Assist physicians in providing quality patient care. Performs all patient tests as assigned. Maintains equipment, supplies and records used for these procedures.

High school graduate or equivalent, current licensure as Licensed Practical Nurse or Registered Nurse by the Kentucky State Board of Nursing. Basic arrhythmia class and CPR certification required. Ability to work independently within general guidelines. Must be able to stand and walk for long periods and do heavy lifting.

- Nine (9) Paid Holidays
- Retirement Plan
- Medical/Dental Insurance
- Life Insurance

Interested applicants may apply to the Human Resources Department
 Highlands Regional Medical Center
 5000 Kentucky Route 321
 Prestonsburg KY 41653
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Highlands Regional Medical Center has an opening for a FT LPN in the Heart and Vascular Center. Delivers nursing care for patients according to Kentucky Practice Standards and under supervision of the Director of Heart and Vascular Center and reports all observations, reactions, treatments and change in patient's condition to the Physician. Demonstrates knowledge regarding emergency measure for sudden adverse development in the environment and/or patient. Assists physician with special procedures. Provides direct care for patients in a transitional care setting.

Graduate from accredited licensed practical/vocational school of nursing. Current licensure in state of Kentucky. Must be able to stand and walk for long periods and do heavy lifting. Preferred candidates will have previous experience. Interpersonal skills necessary to instruct, comfort patients and their families and maintain effective communication with a wide variety of office and hospital personnel. Must have knowledge of basic computer skills.

- Nine (9) Paid Holidays
- Retirement Plan
- Medical/Dental Insurance
- Life Insurance

Interested applicants may apply to the Human Resources Department
 Highlands Regional Medical Center
 5000 Kentucky Route 321
 Prestonsburg KY 41653
 (606) 886-7534
 Fax (606) 886-7534
 E-mail: tclark@hmc.org

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Apartments/Townhouses

Applications Being Accepted For 1, 2, 3, 4 Bedroom Apartments


Located in Prestonsburg is Highland Heights Apartments in Coble Roberts addition and Cliffside Apartments on Cliff Road. Rent is based on gross monthly income. All utilities included at Highland Heights and a utility Allowance at Cliffside. Learning centers at both sites with computers available. For more information call Highland Heights at 606-886-0608 and Cliffside at 606-886-1819. TDD: 1-800-648-6056 or 711 or come by the offices for an application. Highland Heights and Cliffside Apartments do not discriminate in admission or employment on account of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, disability or familial status.



MANUFACTURED HOUSING

Applications Being Accepted For 1 Bedroom Apartments for persons 62 and older

Located on Mays Branch in Prestonsburg. All utilities included, rent based on gross monthly income. Several activities such as line dancing, crafts, church services, hair salon. Furnished with stove, refrigerator, emergency alarm system and air conditioner. For more information, please call Highland Terrace at 606-886-1825. TDD: 1-800-648-6056 or 711 or come by the office for an application. Highland Terrace does not discriminate in admission or employment on account of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, disability or familial status.



RESORT PROPERTY

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted: General

Delivery and maintenance driver for growing home care company in Prestonsburg must have a good driving record experience a plus but not necessary. Call 606-886-0072

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HELP WANTED

PIKEVILLE KY CPA FIRM: Full time position for CPA with at least 5 years tax experience. Applicant must be highly motivated, willing to accept responsibility and looking for career advancement. Salary is negotiable with level of experience. We offer paid vacation and other fringe benefits. Please send a resume to CPA, P.O. Box 2788, Pikeville, KY 41502.

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Maintenance Supervisor Wanted

The Housing Authority of Floyd County is seeking to hire a Maintenance Supervisor. Successful person must have ability to independently perform a wide range of building and grounds maintenance repair and renovation tasks as hands on working maintenance mechanic. Record keeping required to maintain records such as maintenance logs, ordering and distribution of supplies and parts.

High School graduate or GED equivalent. Must have attained Journeyman level skill in electrical, plumbing, and carpentry trades through one (1) or two (2) years of trade training and/or three (3) to five (5) years of practical work experience. Relevant supervisory experience is highly desirable. An equivalent combination of training and experience may be substituted for the requirements above provided that the combination is sufficient to meet the required knowledge, skills and abilities. Must be willing to attend training seminars and attain necessary licensing, certification, etc., as required by the position. Must possess valid Kentucky driver's license.

Benefits package includes health insurance, retirement plan, paid vacation, sick days, and holidays. Pay will commensurate with experience.

Interested persons MUST apply in person at the Central Office of the Housing Authority located at Watco Apartments 402 John M. Stumbo Drive, Langley, KY. Monday thru Friday, 9:00a.m. to 4:00p.m. only. No phone calls.

CITY OF WAYLAND

immediate opening for Position of Police Chief

Salary Range \$8-\$14 per hour

Health Insurance Available

Applicant must met all training as required by the Kentucky Department of Criminal Justice

Contact Wayland City Hall @ 606-358-4169

Legals

Legal Notice: Notice of Appointments

Commonwealth of Kentucky
County of Floyd

I, Douglas Ray Hall, Clerk of the Floyd District Court, Do hereby certify that the following persons have been appointed fiduciaries by the District Court. All person indebted to an Estate should settle with the Fiduciary within six (6) months from the date of appointment

DATE OF APPOINTMENT	CASE NUMBER	ESTATE OF:	FIDUCIARY	ATTORNEY
11-22-11	11-P-457	EARL ADKINS	SALLY ADKINS	
11-27-11	11-P-461	BEENDA COLLINS	CYNTHIA JOHNSON	
11-23-11	11-P-462	ALTA R. PRICE	LINDA PRICE WHITEN	
11-23-11	11-P-463	ANNA JEWELL PEICHARD CASE	JEPPI T. CASE	JIMMY B. MARCOM
11-29-11	11-P-465	CARL RAY SELLARDS	DANNY SELLARDS & MARGARET HULBROOK	GERALD DEPOSSETT
11-29-11	11-P-466	RALPH D. SPENCER	RALPH D. SPENCER & GLORIA J. ALLEN	JERRY A. FATTON
11-30-11	11-P-467	PHILLIP MORRIS FLANNERY	WILLA SUE FLANNERY	
12-01-11	11-P-468	BRILEY L. SETSER	HENRY L. SETSER JR.	LARRY D. BEOWN
12-02-11	11-P-471	JAMES JOSEPH DOLAN, JR.	SHEILA DOLAN	ANTHONY C. DAVIS
12-05-11	11-P-472	OSCAR PAUL COLLINS	TACOT COLLINS	JAMES D. ADAMS II
12-06-11	11-P-473	ROBERT R. OWENS	PEGGY J. BLANKENSHIP	
9-26-11	11-P-379	DELMA GENE SLONE	STEPHANIE RUBY SLONE	
12-07-11	11-P-477	DELMA SLONE JR.	SANDRA SLONE KILBURN	
12-08-11	11-P-478	NORMA HALL	CHERYL NEWSON	HERBERT DESKINS JR.

DATE OF APPOINTMENT	CASE NUMBER	ESTATE OF:	FIDUCIARY	ATTORNEY
12-08-11	11-P-480	JOHNNY B. HOLLAND	TORNY HOLLAND	
12-08-11	11-P-482	PAUL V. FLANNERY	KELLY FLANNERY	
12-12-11	11-P-485	WILLARD HUGHES	BYRONNE HUGHES	
12-20-11	11-P-493	FANCY SPURLOCK	KENNETH SPURLOCK	
12-21-11	11-P-494	DARRY WATKINS	MARY STACY & ROBERT WATKINS	THOMAS W. HOAR
12-21-11	11-P-497	DOUGLAS AWKLER SANDERS	ERNEST SANDERS, JR.	KEITH BARTLEY

Legals

NOTICE
(Of Final Settlement)

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
COUNTY OF FLOYD ... SCT

I, Douglas Ray Hall, Clerk of the Floyd District Court, do Hereby certify that the following Settlements of Estates have been filed in my office. Anyone desiring to take exceptions to said settlements must do so on or before **January 30th, 2012, at 10:00 am.**

Settlement	Case Number	Estate Of:	Fiduciary	Date Filed
Final	09-P-435	Virble Spears	Virginia S. Gibson	7-18-11
Final	11-P-149	John Elliott Murphy	Rebecca Murphy	11-18-11
Final	10-P-401	Marcettia Newman	Ellen Akers	11-18-11
Final	10-P-152	Jackie Edford Owens	Hattie Owens	11-18-11
Final	11-P-146	Juanita Varney Page	Wilburn Page Jr.	11-28-11
Final	11-P-189	Mollie J. Tackett	Parsie C. Tackett	11-22-11
Final	11-P-192	Ray Eugene Salisbury	Darlena Martin	11-22-11
Final	11-P-155	William T. Derosssett	Karen Clark & Drema Buerckley	11-23-11
Final	11-P-196	Hugo E. Miller	Sally Miller	11-28-11
Final	10-P-205	Arnold Crider	Roberta Crider	12-01-11
Final	11-P-199	Toby S. Cooley	Clara Cooley	12-01-11
Final	11-P-193	Burley Yates	Junior B. Yates	12-02-11
Final	10-P-25	Paul D. Kingsley	Lemonia Kingsley	10-31-11
Final	09-P-369	Irene Turner	Joyce Howell	12-02-11
Final	11-P-202	Dennis Conn	Margaret Conn	12-09-11
Final	11-P-121	Renda Moore	Irene Helton	12-12-11
Final	10-P-439	James J. Mollett	Keith Mollett & Rosetta Bays	12-15-11
Final	11-P-220	William T. Wolford	Gwen Williams	12-14-11
Final	10-P-295	Mabel Honeycutt	Paul Honeycutt	12-14-11
Final	09-P-428	Noah Hall	Pamela King	12-14-11
Final	11-P-212	Thomas L. Westfall	Berniece H. Westfall	12-15-11

Publication Date: 12/28/11

UK signs juco safety Kory Brown

Times Staff Report

LEXINGTON — Junior college safety Kory Brown has signed with the University of Kentucky and will enroll in January, Coach Joker Phillips has announced. Brown has spent the last two seasons at East Central Community College in Decatur, Miss. He incurred a knee injury during his freshman year in 2010 and redshirted in 2011. Brown can be added to UK's 2011 signing class to make that a full class of 25.

Brown will participate in spring practice and has three seasons of eligibility at UK. "I'm happy to have Kory as a part of our program and be able to come in and play in the spring," Phillips said. "He's a physical player with a strong desire to excel. He'll compete at Winston Guy's position (hybrid safety/linebacker) and if he gains about 10 pounds it's possible we could take a look at him at linebacker. Kory comes from an athletic family with two brothers at Marshall."

Cumberlands, Georgetown lead MSC President's Cup standings following fall competition

Times Staff Report

LOUISVILLE — The University of the Cumberlands and Georgetown College lead the Mid-South Conference President's Cup race following fall competition in the MSC. Cumberlands and Georgetown each scored 48 points in the all-sports competition in the six fall sports. Lindsey Wilson College is third with 46.5 points and defending cup champion Campbellsville University is fourth with 40.5 points. Shawnee State University (38 points) is fifth followed by University of Rio Grande (35), University of Pikeville (20.5), University of

Virginia's College at Wise (17.5) and St. Catharine College (17). West Virginia University Tech is not eligible for the President's Cup due to being ineligible for regular season championships in the MSC in 2011-12. The fall season includes men's and women's cross country, football, men's and women's soccer and volleyball. Points are awarded based on the final regular season standings for each conference-sanctioned sport. The regular season champion in each sport receives 10 points with second place receiving nine points, etc. At the conclusion of the 2011-12 season, the top six male and

top six female team finishes for each institution will generate the institution's overall totals. Cumberlands sits tied atop the standings despite not capturing a team regular season title in the fall. The Patriots' consistent fall consisted of three second place finishes (men's and women's cross country and football), a third, fourth and fifth place finish. Georgetown captured the football regular season title, finished second in women's soccer and tied for second in volleyball. The Tigers also recorded a third, fourth and a tie for fifth. Cumberlands' men's teams scored 26 points — the most among the men's side — while the

Georgetown women recorded the second-most women's points with 25.5 points. Lindsey Wilson — who finished with 26 women's team points — captured the most regular season championships in the fall winning men's and women's soccer and volleyball. Shawnee State won the final two championships, capturing the men's and women's cross country titles. The winter edition of the MSC President's Cup standings are scheduled to be announced in mid-March, 2012, following the completion of the men's and women's basketball, cheerleading and wrestling seasons.

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Beat

From Page A6
second-chance points. Ball State drilled 59 percent (10-of-17) from the floor in the second half to finish at 45 percent (17-of-38) for the game. Morehead State made 48

percent (11-of-23) from the field in the first half en route to 39 percent (19-of-49) for the evening. State will open Ohio Valley Conference (OVC) action on Wednesday at Southeast Missouri. Tip-off from the

Show Me Center is set for approximately 8:30 p.m. ET. The game will follow an MSU vs. SEMO women's game at 6 p.m. "We always break our season into thirds - non-conference, conference and postseason," Tyndall

added. "We're moving into that second portion of the year and it's a fresh start for everyone; Southeast Missouri is a very talented team and Wednesday will be a big test for us on the road."

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12/30/11

Friday, December 30, 2011

The Times

FLOYD COUNTY

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Floyd man charged in Pike stabbing

Ralph B. Davis
Managing Editor

PIKEVILLE — A Floyd County man was arrested for first-degree assault and impersonating a police officer, following a stabbing in Pikeville.

Pikeville 911 received report of a fight in progress at 189 Poplar Street shortly after 8 p.m. Wednesday. Pikeville Police officers arrived at the scene to find Tommy Bray, 21, of Pikeville, injured with multiple stab wounds. He was taken to Pikeville Medical Center, where he underwent emergency surgery for his wounds.

Officers arrested Daniel Gillispie, 21, of Harold, at the scene, without incident. Police say Bray knocked on Bray's door and said he was with the police in order to get him to answer. Once Bray opened the door, Gillispie allegedly stabbed him several times.

The incident remains under investigation by Pikeville Police, Pikeville Fire/EMS Department also responded to the scene.

Fast Lane robbery leads to fast arrest

Ralph B. Davis
Managing Editor

MARTIN — Two men were arrested following yet another armed robbery in Floyd County Tuesday night. Kentucky State

Police reports receiving notification of a robbery at Fast Lane Tobacco, shortly before 8 p.m. Tuesday. According to police, two men wearing masks entered the store and demanded money, then fled with an undisclosed

amount of cash. Later that evening, Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Sgt. Keith Justice and Officer Dennis Hutchison observed a passing motorist wearing clothing matching the

description of one of the robbers, and conducted a traffic stop. That stop led to the arrest of Shane D. Howard, 20, of Allen, and Travis L. Fields, 20, of Pikeville. Both men were charged

with first-degree robbery and were lodged in the Floyd County Detention Center. The robbery remains under investigation by Det. Jason Dials, with the Kentucky State Police.

Firefighters respond to a house fire



Firefighters from two departments were called to the scene of a house fire on Route 1428 Thursday morning. Cow Creek Fire Chief Jim Caldwell said his department received report of the blaze at 8:23 a.m. and arrived shortly thereafter to find the home fully consumed. The owner of the home, Marvin Jervis, was not at home when the fire started and told officials he left home the night before. Firefighters were able to save Jervis' pickup truck and boat from the house's carport and prevent the fire from spreading to other nearby buildings. Caldwell said no cause has been determined, but added the fire began in the rear of the house, near a bathroom. Cow Creek was assisted in putting out the fire by Prestonsburg Fire Department.

Environment groups sue coal company

Jack Latta
Staff Writer

PIKEVILLE — A federal court will hear charges leveled against a West Virginia mining outfit after a lawsuit was filed this week by the Sierra Club and Kentuckians for the Commonwealth.

According to court documents, the plaintiffs, Sierra Club and Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, filed suit against Laurel Mountain Resources LLC in U.S. District Court in Pikeville on Tuesday.

"These mining companies have to be held accountable for the destruction they are causing to Appalachia," said Rick Clewett of the Sierra Club's Cumberland (Kentucky) chapter. "The more we study these areas, the more evidence we find that coal mining is incompatible with healthy streams, and with the people and animals that rely on them."

Court documents state the plaintiffs' allegations that LMR has been dumping selenium into the waterways at its Bear Hollow mine in Johnson County in violation of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act.

Selenium is defined as an essential trace element, though if taken in excess can be toxic, and lead to selenosis. Kentucky has established a numeric acute criteria of 20 units per gallon, and a chronic 5 units per gallon for selenium levels in an aquatic habitat.

The mine at Bear Hollow is not permitted to discharge selenium into the waterways, and a series of random samplings taken throughout 2011 shows selenium concentrations as high as 30 units per gallon.

In October, the plaintiffs sent a letter to the mining company notifying them of its violation and their intention to sue.

"Until state officials step up and enforce the law, citizens will continue to have to bring actions like these to protect our streams," said Mary Love, of Kentuckians For The

See LAWSUIT | A3

3 DAY FORECAST Today

Rain
High: 56 • Low: 34

Partly Cloudy
High: 54 • Low: 34

Sunday Rain
High: 50 • Low: 29

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

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Heat assistance applications to be taken starting Wednesday

Times Staff Report

Big Sandy Area Community Action Program will begin taking applications for the Crisis component of the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) beginning on Wednesday, Jan. 4.

The Crisis component is designed to help poverty-level families and individuals pay heating bills if they are in danger of losing their primary source of heat as a result of being unable to pay their bill.

A household shall be considered to be in a home heating crisis if:

- the household is within four

days of running out of bulk fuel (coal, fuel oil, propane, kerosene or wood as the primary heating source);

- the household has received a past due/disconnect notice if natural gas or electric is the heat source; or
- the household's home heating costs are included in the rent and the household has received an eviction notice for non-payment of rent.

To be eligible for the Crisis assistance, households must meet federal eligibility income guidelines and verify that a heating crisis exists. Applications are taken on a first-come, first-

served basis through March 31, or until the funds are exhausted.

For more information about the Crisis segment of LIHEAP, contact the Big Sandy Area Community Action Program in your county. In Floyd County (606) 874-3595; Martin County (606) 298-3217; Magoffin County (606) 349-2217; Johnson County (606) 789-6515; and in Pike County, call (606) 432-2775.

LIHEAP is a statewide service provided through Community Action Kentucky, in partnership with the state Cabinet for Health and Family Services, and is administered locally by Big Sandy Area Community Action Program.

Suspect to appear in court on DUI-murder charge

Jack Latta
Staff Writer

PRESTONSBURG — Malen Mitchell Jr. is set to appear in Floyd Circuit court next week for a pre-trial conference.

Mitchell is charged with murder, three counts of first-degree assault, operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of drugs or alcohol, operating a motor vehicle on a suspended license, and leaving the scene of an accident.

According to the Kentucky State Police, Mitchell, 37, a resident of Beaver, was intoxicated when he was traveling north on Route 979, and crossed the center line to crash into a 2004 Hyundai Sonata, driven by Judith Blankenship, 50, also of Beaver. Blankenship's vehicle was pushed back across the center line due to the impact,

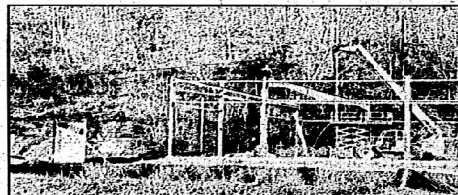
where it struck a 1996 Chevrolet Blazer driven by Jennifer Newsome, 29, of Wheelwright.

Tiffany Adams Blankenship, 22, of Beaver, a passenger in Blankenship's vehicle was pronounced dead at the scene as a result of the injuries sustained in the accident.

Mitchell allegedly left the scene of the accident, despite the fact he was missing a front tire.

In October, Mitchell, who had been charged with multiple DUI offenses in the past, pleaded not guilty to the charges against him. Mitchell is being in the Floyd County Detention Center on a \$1 million bond. Mitchell is considered a danger to others and himself, as well as a flight risk, with multiple prior failure-to-appear charges.

Coming Soon



Development of the former Kentucky West Virginia Gas property on North Lake Drive, in Prestonsburg, continues, as workers began construction of an Autozone franchise there this week. A new Wendy's restaurant opened on the property earlier this month.

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- 2007 Ford Taurus \$7,960.00

With icy conditions on the way, Farm Bureau offers driving tips

LOUISVILLE — With snow and icy weather almost assuredly around the corner, Kentucky Farm Bureau Insurance urges all drivers to exercise extreme caution on the roadways. Snowy, icy and slushy conditions can make roadways difficult to navigate, reduce tire traction, increase required braking distances and, at times, may limit driver visibility. Motorists must take extra caution when headed out under these conditions.

"Everyone hopes they won't be the person sliding off the road or crashing into another vehicle when a snowstorm hits, but ice and snow on the streets can be just as hazardous to an experienced driver as they are to an inexperienced one," said Greg Youngblood, Vice President of Claims, Greg Youngblood. "Staying off the roads until the conditions are clear and dry is really the best way to avoid being in a wintertime collision."

While not everyone is able to completely avoid driving whenever it snows, all drivers can make a few advance preparations to help increase the chances for a safe journey. Vehicle upkeep and modified driving behaviors are essential in the winter as road and vehicle conditions are often quite different during this season than at other times of the year.

In addition to scheduling the regular maintenance that keeps a vehicle

running at the highest level year-round, KFB advises all drivers to make extra preparations for cold-weather driving or commuting during snowfall. Kentucky drivers can optimize their vehicle's performance for snow, ice and freezing temperatures by checking:

- **Tire treads** - Special treads on snow tires provide optimal grip on icy roads, but at a minimum regular tires should be inspected to insure that an appropriate amount of tread is available on each wheel.
- **Air pressure** - Measure the air pressure of each tire to make sure it is filled to the manufacturer's suggested PSI (pounds per square inch). The PSI is listed in the owner's manual as well as on a label found inside of the driver's door.
- **Fluid levels** - The salt and sand on the road that comes with winter weather removal often ends up on windshields, making it is essential to have a full tank of no-freeze washer fluid. Additional checks on the engine's coolant system should also be made to spot leaks and make sure enough coolant is in the reservoir to withstand the colder winter temperatures.
- **Windshield wipers** - Vision on the roadways is imperative but not always possible if a vehicle's windshield wipers are worn. Replace wipers before the snow and ice hits.
- **Battery** - It takes more power to start a vehicle

in cold weather than in warmer conditions, and battery power drops as temperatures get colder. Have a mechanic check the charge on the vehicle's battery and keep jumper cables handy for those extra cold mornings.

- **Gas tank** - Fuel line freeze up is a wintertime headache in many driveways. Keep a vehicle's tank at least two-thirds full during the winter to help keep air and condensation from freezing and preventing gas flow to the engine.
- **Headlights, mirrors and windows** - Drivers should always remove ice and snow from all mirrors, windows and head and tail lights before pulling onto the road. The importance of being able to see and be seen on the road cannot be overemphasized. NEVER pour water on windows as this may cause the glass to shatter.

Of course, vehicle preparation is only part of the journey in winter conditions. Motorists must also make adjustments to their own driving habits and be keenly aware of the conditions and traffic around them. If driving is necessary, motorists can help prevent crashes on snowy or icy roads if they:

- **Check road conditions** - Depending on the severity of the storm, some roads may be closed, blocked or extremely backed up. Plan the best route to travel before leaving home.
- **Allow extra travel time** - When wintry weather covers Kentucky roads, everyone's commute time slows down. Drivers should take the time to completely uncover their vehicle, leave early whenever possible and allow plenty of time to arrive at their destination.
- **Accelerate and decelerate slowly** - Vehicles can better grip the road and avoid slipping if both the gas pedal and brake are applied slowly. A vehicle will not get moving - or slow down - quickly in the snow and ice.
- **Leave more space between vehicles** - Coming to a complete stop in the snow may require up to four times as much room as it would in dry conditions. Avoid crashes by allowing more space on the road.
- **Practice driving in the snow** - When it does snow, locate an empty section of a parking lot and become familiarized with the way vehicles handle in the snow. This is especially helpful for inexperienced drivers learning how to drive in wintry conditions for the first time.
- **Above all, KFB Insurance Company's safety tips** to protect themselves and their passengers. "We want everyone to stay safe as the snow and ice return to the region," said Youngblood. "Patience is the key to safely navigating wintry roads, but every bit of preparation and awareness a driver can add to the journey definitely helps."



Gregg Long

Long named new business development manager for Columbia Gas of Kentucky

LEXINGTON — Gregg Long has been named New Business Development Manager for Columbia Gas of Kentucky.

In this role, Long will be responsible for working with builders and developers on new construction projects and representing Columbia Gas of Kentucky in the

construction community. Long most recently owned Home Energy Efficiency Experts of Kentucky and brings valuable home-construction experience to this role. A native of Lexington, Long is a graduate of Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond, Kentucky.

Group says Santa could be more friendly to environment

FRANKFORT - Santa Claus has come and gone, making Christmas magical for boys and girls around the globe - but what else has he left behind? A big carbon footprint. New research shows St. Nick's operation could be more "eco-friendly" with some "fine-tuning."

According to an infographic created by Ethical Ocean, an online marketplace for ethical products and services, Santa's 122-million-mile trip around the world produced more than 69 million metric tons of carbon emissions.

Tony Hancock, president of operations at Ethical Ocean, says that with production, assembly and packaging (and its disposal), the biggest impact comes from all the toys.

"One of our biggest recommendations was for the Santa to switch to a recycled-toy-only policy: either re-gifting toys or giving toys made from recycled plastic or other recycled materials."

While making a mode of transportation could use an upgrade, Hancock points out that Rudolf and his friends are to blame for

more than 40,000 metric tons of carbon emissions.

"We recognize that the sleigh is run on Christmas cheer, but the reindeer actually were emitters of methane, which is 21 times as potent as carbon dioxide as a greenhouse gas."

Next year, Hancock asks moms and dads and everyone celebrating Christmas to make a mental note to seriously consider gifts made from recyclable materials, as opposed to adding more new, shiny "stuff."

"If you can avoid buying new products, or at least think about the impact that

every product you buy has, we could take things a lot farther on just a personal basis."

Other ideas to help Santa become "greener" include using solar technology to power his toy workshop and creating a redesigned sleigh that reduces wind resistance and ice build-up. And instead of leaving behind coal for the naughty children, Hancock suggests giving them an alternate form of energy generation, such as a wind turbine or pinwheel, or a piece of locally grown fruit.



Don Sparkman

Don Sparkman, 62, of Hi Hat, died Dec. 26, 2011, at Pikeville Medical Center.

He was born March 22, 1949, in Knott County, the son of Martha Hall Sparkman, of Topmost, and the late Douglas Sparkman. He was married to Elizabeth "Liz" Mullins Sparkman.

He was a caseworker for the Cabinet for Human Resources, a Kentucky Colonel, a Southern Baptist Deacon, attended 1st Baptist Church, at Deane. Volunteer in McDowell ARH Gift Shop, served on the Board for Minnie Senior Citizens, Site-Based Council Member for McDowell Elementary for two years and South Floyd High School for two years and PTA president.

In addition to his wife and mother, he is survived by one son, Lance

Sparkman of New York, N.Y.; brothers and sisters, Mark (Nancy) Sparkman, of Hueysville, Eugene (Leslie) Sparkman, of Kite, Clyde Sparkman, of Menifee County, David (Ola) Sparkman, of Topmost, Vernon (Debra) Sparkman, of Kite, Jerry (Regina) Sparkman, of Topmost, Grover (Jackie) Sparkman, of Lexington, Scottie (Shonda) Sparkman, of Topmost, Linda Coburn, of Orange Park, Fla., and Velma Sparkman and Tamie Hall, both of Topmost; and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends.

In addition to his father, he was preceded in death by one sister, Phyllis Robinson.

Funeral services for Don Sparkman will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 31, at Nelson Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Lawrence Baldrige and Kenneth Gooch officiating. Burial will follow at Gethsemane Gardens, in Prestonsburg. Visitation will be held after 6 p.m., Friday, Dec. 30, at Nelson Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to www.unitingaganinstlungcancer.org/get-involved/memorials.

Nelson Frazier Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

The Family of Kathleen Cribbs would like to sincerely say "Thank You" to all of our wonderful friends and neighbors who helped to comfort us during this difficult time. Thank you to those who sent flowers, food, or came by to share our loss.

A special thanks to Ken LeMaster for his comforting message, the Hall Funeral Home for their kind and professional service, and the Floyd County Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control. We will always remember all the expressions of love and kindness to our family.

-The family of Kathleen Cribbs

The family of Tommy Lee Green would like to extend their appreciation to those who helped comfort them during their time of sorrow. Thank you to all those who sent food, flowers, prayers, or spoke comforting words. We would like to send a special thanks to Glenn Hayes, Don Parker, Jr., and Louie Ferrari for their comforting message, the Hall Funeral Home for their kind and professional service, and the Floyd County Sheriff's Dept. for assisting in traffic control. All your love and support will never be forgotten.

-The family of Tommy Lee Green

The family of Carl Ray "Blackie" Sellards would like to say "Thank You" to all of our friends and family who helped to comfort us during this very difficult time. Those who sent cards, flowers, food, or just came by to share in our loss, thank you. A special thanks to Arnold Turner, Jr. for his message and all the kindness that was shown to our family. Thank you to the Floyd County Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control and the Hall Funeral Home for their kind and professional service. All your love and support will always be remembered.

The family of Carl Ray "Blackie" Sellards

Thank You

The family of Geraldine Blankenship would like to thank each and every one who sent flowers, sent food, and said kind words or came to the services. We would also like to thank the Hall Funeral Home and the Floyd County Sheriff's Department.

The family of Geraldine Blankenship

The family of Mamie Sword would like to extend their appreciation to those who helped comfort them during the time of sorrow. Thank you to all those who sent flowers or just spoke kind words, all your acts of kindness will never be forgotten. We would like to send a special thanks to the Bethel Old Regular Baptist Church ministers for their comforting message, the Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control, and the Hall Funeral Home for their kind and professional service. All your love and support will never be forgotten.

The family of Mamie Sword



Steve Yeary, executive director of Appalachian Children's Home, surprised PRIDE's Tammie Wilson with a \$500 donation. On the right is Bruce Crouch of Waste Connections of Kentucky, who was delivering bicycles with PRIDE staff as part of Waste Connections' annual Christmas Promise project.

Appalachian Children's Home gives gift to PRIDE

BARBOURVILLE — Eastern Kentucky PRIDE recently received an unexpected Christmas gift in the form of a \$500 donation from the Appalachian Children's Home.

"Because of PRIDE's excellent community efforts throughout the year, we are pleased to be able to give back to such a worthy organization," said Steve Yeary, executive director of

the Appalachian Children's Home.

"We are so grateful for this generous donation, which, I must say, caught me by surprise," said PRIDE's Tammie Wilson. "We went to the Children's Home to spread some Christmas cheer and invite them to volunteer with PRIDE in the future. The donation was unexpected and greatly appreciated."

"PRIDE will invest this

donation right back in the community by creating a cleaner, healthier environment," Wilson said. "I understand that's part of the mission of the Children's Home, to support community development."

Yeary presented a check to Wilson Dec. 15, when PRIDE staff helped deliver 50 bicycles to residents of the children's home. Waste Connections of Kentucky

gave the bicycles as part of its annual Christmas Promise project, which provides bikes to needy children in southeastern Kentucky.

The Appalachian Children's Home is a state-licensed institution and emergency shelter for boys and girls under the age of 18. The facility is located on a 158-acre campus on the outskirts of Barbourville. It is home to approximately

50 teenagers and employs 60 staff members. The web site is www.achky.org.

PRIDE stands for "Personal Responsibility In a Desirable Environment." The Eastern Kentucky PRIDE organization recruits volunteers to clean up their communities and educates young people about the importance of a healthy environment for their future. The organization serves 38

counties of southern and eastern Kentucky. The PRIDE web site is www.kypride.org.

Eastern Kentucky PRIDE, Inc., is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization, and all donations are tax deductible.

To donate to Eastern Kentucky PRIDE or to Waste Connections' 2012 Christmas Promise, please call the PRIDE office, toll free, at 888-577-4339.

Lawsuit

From Page A1

Commonwealth. "Selenium is a toxic pollutant, and mines should not be allowed to dump it in our streams."

Plaintiffs state in their suit that Laurel Mountain is continuing to violate the clean water act because of the selenium discharge and has taken no meaningful action to eradicate the cause of the discharge.

The lawsuit seeks to have Laurel Mountain

Resources immediately apply for a Kentucky Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit for its selenium discharges, to comply with terms and condition of its Surface Mining Permit to immediately begin installation of treatment facilities, and to pay the civil penalties of \$37,500 a day to the government.

The groups are represented by Joe Lovett and Derek Teaney with

Appalachian Mountain Advocates on the enforcement suit and permit challenge, and by Mary Cromer with the Appalachian Citizens' Law Center on the permit challenge.

Derek Teaney said that it is the position of his firm not to comment on ongoing litigation.

Calls to Bill Bissett with the Kentucky Coal Association were not immediately returned.



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Worth Repeating ...

A liberal is a man who is right most of the time, but he's right too soon.

— Gregory Nunn

Amendment I

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

Our View

Painkiller will only bring more pain

As we reported Wednesday, a new drug could be hitting the market in 2013, and that spells trouble for Eastern Kentucky.

The drug, Zohydro, is a pure form of hydrocodone that has been described as being "10 times more powerful" than Vicodin. The drug is being formulated as a time-release medication, presumably in an effort to prevent it from being abused. Critics, however, point out that other time-release formulations in drugs such as Oxycotin have proven completely ineffective in stopping abuse, because addicts can simply crush the pills to get an intense and immediate high.

While the company behind the drug, Zogenix, bills it as an alternative for patients who cannot tolerate other painkillers, like Vicodin, Lortab or Lorcet, which are mixed with aspirin or acetaminophen, it is clear from anyone who has witnessed the drug crisis in Eastern Kentucky that it will most likely result in even more crime, suffering and death.

That's not just our opinion; it's one that is held by nearly everyone who has been on the front lines of the prescription drug abuse epidemic in our region. Floyd County Coroner Greg Nelson, who has had a front-row seat to the devastation drugs like hydrocodone and oxycodone can cause, says he fears the new drug will only make matters worse.

Former Special Assistant Attorney General and UNITE prosecutor David Jorjani is even more succinct in describing the trouble he sees on the horizon.

"When talking to the local medical community, no one is clamoring for a new high-potency narcotic," Jorjani told us Wednesday. "It is a moral crime for the FDA to allow companies to manufacture 'time-released' narcotics that they know

can be circumvented." All of this has us wondering why the drug is being developed, when the medical community doesn't want or need it, and when law enforcement expresses strong reservations about its potential for abuse.

The pharmaceutical companies developing Zohydro and other copycat drugs clearly must know that their products will kill people. They see it happening every single day. And they have been warned that the problem is growing worse.

In November, a report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that, in 2008, prescription painkiller overdoses killed over 40 people every single day in the United States — an increase of 400 percent over the past decade.

Meanwhile, the pharmaceutical companies raked in billions in profits, and financial speculators are taking note. Since stories about concerns over Zohydro first began appearing over the weekend, Zogenix's stock has skyrocketed nearly 70 percent.

And yet, Zohydro appears assured of steamrolling through to regulatory approval. To put it bluntly, this is horrifying. Clearly, the U.S. health system is broken beyond repair, when pharmaceutical companies and shareholders stand to make out like bandits from a product that will most assuredly kill thousands.

We certainly hope the Food and Drug Administration, which has so far given the green light to Zohydro, will take note of the concerns being raised about the product. And we hope that Gov. Steve Beshear, Attorney General Jack Conway and legislative leaders do what they can between now and when the drug hits the market to minimize the certain harm it will cause.

— The Floyd County Times



Beyond the Beltway

Reading frog entrails

Donald Kaul
OtherWords

The Iowa caucuses may be over by the time you read this. But it doesn't matter. The caucuses are the second-most fraudulent event on the nation's political calendar.

The first, of course, is the Ames Straw Poll. It's entirely meaningless, but political reporters pay attention to it because if they didn't, their editors would make them cover a real story, like a meeting of the local water board.

Quick! Who won the Ames Straw Poll in August?

Did you forget already? I thought so. Michele Bachmann won it and was immediately anointed a serious contender for the presidency. That's of the United States, mind you. By Thanksgiving, her candidacy had shrunk to Lilliputian proportions. Told you so.

The Iowa caucuses are the oddest oddball of the political year. They have virtually no prescriptive value, but reporters and commentators act as though they do. Historically, they are as apt to choose a loser as a winner.

Don't believe me? Here are some of the people who have won the caucuses that preceded presidential elections past: Democrats Tom Harkin and Dick Gephardt, and Republicans Mike Huckabee and Pat Robertson. None of

them ever got within spitting distance of their party's nomination. Bob Dole won the Iowa caucuses once. It wasn't the year he secured the GOP nomination.

In 1988, Democrat Mike Dukakis and Republican George H. W. Bush both finished third in their respective party caucuses and went on to win their nominations. In 1980, Ronald Reagan finished second in Iowa and first in the hearts of his countrymen.

The first President Bush won Iowa the year he lost the nomination to Reagan. He lost it in 1988, the year he defeated Dukakis.

In 1976, Democrats put up a strong array of strong candidates. The contenders for their party's nomination included Sen. Birch Bayh of Indiana, former Sen. Fred Harris of Oklahoma, Rep. Morris Udall of Arizona, Sen. Scoop Jackson of Washington state, and Sargent Shriver, who had been George McGovern's running mate four years earlier. Oh, and the relatively unknown former governor of Georgia, Jimmy Carter.

Carter finished ahead of them all in Iowa and was propelled to a successful run for the presidency, more's the pity. In fairness to Iowa voters, it should be pointed out that Carter finished second to "uncommitted."

The rules for the caucuses — one set for Democrats, another for Republicans — are almost impossible to fully understand, though in my many years of covering them as a reporter and newspaper columnist I always found that drinking helped. The Democrats keep breaking apart into ever-smaller groups with more emphasis on making

sure every group, gender, race, and sexual preference is represented than on whom the candidate should be.

The Republicans, as I understand it, vote in their precincts on caucus night, pass the results on to the press, then forget about them. Months later, at the state convention where delegates to the national convention are actually chosen, everyone votes for whomever they choose without reference to the caucuses.

These things take place at hundreds of venues in the dead of an Iowa winter and can consume as much as two or three hours, with no absentee voting. Nor is there a secret ballot.

It's no more or less democratic than a Russian election, I suppose.

Out of this mess comes an avalanche of stories. I'm guessing that many will have headlines such as this one: "Newt Gingrich has seized the reins of the campaign."

The best thing about the caucuses is that they are really fun. Iowa campaigns are retail politics at their most charming, and the people are great.

I remember one caucus at which Orville Armstrong, a legendary if rough-hewn Polk County supervisor, became incensed at what the speaker in front of him was saying, so he punched him between the shoulder blades, sending him flying over a row of chairs. You don't get action like that with a secret ballot.

As far as being a crystal ball into the future, however, reporters would be better served by reading the entrails of frogs.

OtherWords columnist Donald Kaul lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan. <http://otherwords.org>

The Usual Eccentric

With apologies to Ralph Nader

Will E. Sanders
Creators Syndicate

I don't mean to name-drop, but let me tell you about the time I almost interviewed Ralph Nader.

Who is Ralph Nader? Heck if I know! Aren't you listening? This isn't a story about the time I interviewed Ralph Nader — it's the time I (SET ITAL) almost (END ITAL) interviewed him! I assure you that had I interviewed Ralph Nader, you'd better believe my first question would have been, "What is a Ralph Nader?"

The interview had mistakenly been scheduled on my birthday — "I don't care what Mr. Nader's itinerary says. It's my birthday, you idiot." — and that automatically gave the interview a 50 percent chance of failure from the start.

The year was 2000, and thankfully, the Y2K menace had spared civilization the antiquity of actually having a conversation with someone in person. At the time, I was a junior journalism student at You Haven't Heard of Our Football Team University and worked at the campus newspaper.

But this was my 21st birthday! So, basically, any notion of actually interviewing Ralph Nader that day was just plain doomed.

Now, everybody has a 21st birthday story, and I feel honored that a four-time presidential candidate plays a small part in mine.

C'mon, how many people can say that? Naturally, on the day in question,

I wanted to focus my attentions on purchasing alcohol for the first time instead of actual obligations involving my future career path. Besides, I reasoned, if skipping out on Ralph Nader to partake in some unabashed college hijinks on the holiest of holy days didn't earn me extra credit, then nothing would.

I walked to the store instead of opting to ride my bike that day, mostly because my Huff was purple, had no brakes and was purple. I walked barefoot, too, because I also had a pair of purple shoes at the time.

Everything went off without a hitch. Beside of legal limit, I proudly walked my bottle of wine back to the dormitory where the evening called for not interviewing Ralph Nader.

Sorry, Darth Nader — you only live once. (I hope you understand.) Now, the lynchpin to this whole caper was a corkscrew, or lack thereof. Honestly, what college student packs his bags with a clear consciousness toward practicality? I didn't even bring silverware to college. I ate like animals do for the first couple of months.

That's when I became a dorm-room MacGyver — one time I fashioned a clothespin clasped to the lid of a pill bottle to use as a spoon for my Ramen noodles. The only drawback was that it made everything taste like medicine.

So there I was with a bottle of wine on my 21st birthday and no corkscrew to open it.

Meanwhile, Ralph Nader sat alone somewhere with a tear slowly rolling down his face because — yet again — another person had forgotten about him.

Minus a corkscrew, I turned my attentions to the cork, which won't stand as the final metaphorical hurdle between

me and my first legal drink of hooch. I tried — and failed — to open that wine bottle four different times and in four different ways, which was hauntingly symbolic of the four times Ralph Nader ran for president and failed miserably.

Impatient, barefoot and sober, I hopped on my bike — the purple one with no brakes — to purchase a corkscrew and to vault myself into the NCAA Hall of Shame.

Due to some unexplained physics when I was impatiently negotiating a busy four-way intersection, my bare left foot got caught in the spokes — the bike stopped immediately — and in a matter of nanoseconds I went from being Will E. Sanders to Wile E. Coyote as my fragile body violently flung over the handlebars and spilled across pavement.

To add insult to an already ruptured spleen, I nearly dormitory was conducting a fire drill and more than 1,200 of my peers watched my sudden intimacy with cement with a raucous cheer.

And the people honking their horns did not help matters.

Normally when I am crumpled in pain on the ground, I tend to rest there for a while, maintain my composure and get my eyesight back, but in this instance I realized I had impeded traffic long enough for one day and fled in disgrace.

Many things transpired that day. As it ironically turned out, drinking wine and eating solid foods were not among them. And neither was interviewing Ralph Nader.

To contact Will E. Sanders, visit his website at wilesanders.com, or send him an email at wilesanders.com.

The Times

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Floyd County Devotional Page

This devotional and directory is made possible by these businesses who encourage all of us to attend worship services.

Devotional Spotlight



Maytown 1st Baptist Church
Rev. Robert (Bob) Varney

Sunday School	10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship	6:00 a.m.
Wednesday	6:00 p.m.

Attention Church Organizations, send in a picture of your church, pastor, or youth leaders.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD
First Assembly of God, Martin: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Lone Vannucci, Minister.
In Victory Assembly of God, West Prestonsburg: Sunday School, 10:00; Worship Service, 11:00 & 6:30; Wednesday Evening, 6:30; Gary Stanley, Pastor.
New Bethel Assembly of God, Burning Fork Rd., Sayreville: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Arthur (Gary) Smith, Minister.
Praise Assembly, 1 mile S. of Prestonsburg, intersection of Rt. 80 and U.S. 23: Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.; Midweek Thurs., 7:00 p.m.; J.M. Sloce, Minister.

BAPTIST
Allen First Baptist, Allen: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Arnold Turner, Minister.
Auxler Freewill Baptist, Auxler: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Thursday, 7 p.m.; Bobby Spencer, Pastor.
Dall Branch Regular Baptist Church, Mausey Ky: Worship Service, 9:30; Every third Sat. and Sun. of each month; Roger Hicks, Pastor; Ralph Howard, Asst. Pastor; Contact Kermit Newsome 606-377-6881 for more information.
Benedict Baptist, Stok Rock Branch, Cow Creek: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Gordon Fitch, Minister.
Betsy Layne Free Will Baptist, Betsy Layne: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Tracy Patton, Minister.
Big Sandy Community and Technical College Baptist Student Union, J 102: Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.; Vera Jover, 886-3863, ext. 67267.
Bonanza Freewill Baptist, Abbott Creek Road, Bonanza: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Jimmy D. Brown, Minister.
Brandy Keg Freewill Baptist, Com Fork: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Roger Music, Minister.
Calvary Southern Baptist, Betsy Layne: Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Doug Lewis, Minister.
Community Freewill Baptist, Goble Roberts Addition: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Paul D. Coleman, Minister.
Cow Creek Freewill Baptist, Cow Creek: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Nancy Lafferty, Minister.
Dantele Creek Baptist Fellowship Church of God, Banner Services: Saturday night, 7 p.m.; Sunday morning, 11 a.m.; Sunday night, 7 p.m.; Henry Lewis, Minister.
Drift Freewill Baptist, Drift: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 6:30 p.m.; Thursday, 6:30 p.m.; Jim Fields, Minister.
Endicott Freewill Baptist, Buffalo: Sun. School, 10 a.m.;

Prayer every Sun. Morning 11:00 a.m.; Wed. evening Bible Study & Church Meeting, 7:00 p.m.; First Sat. evening Service, All Welcome 7 p.m.; Pastor Jack Hunt, 606-479-2699.
Faith Bible Church, an independent Baptist church, located on 1428, between Allen & Martin: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Sunday Morning, 11 a.m.; Sunday Evening, 7 p.m.; Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer, 6 p.m.; Pastor, Rev. Bob Wirmann.
Faith Freewill Baptist, 1/4 mile above Worldwide Blvd. on Rt. 1428: Sunday Service, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Elder Donnie Patrick, Minister.
First Baptist, Garrett: Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Randy Osborne, Minister.
First Baptist, Martin: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Sunday Evening Service, 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Greydon Howard, Minister.
First Baptist, Prestonsburg, 157 South Front Street: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Wed., 6:30 p.m.; Jerry C. Workman, minister.
Fitzpatrick First Baptist, 1063 Big Branch, P.O. Box 410, Prestonsburg, KY 41653: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Pastor Tommy Reed.
Free United Baptist, West Prestonsburg: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.
Free United Baptist, West Prestonsburg: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.
Greithel Baptist, State Rt. 3379, (Branham's Creek Rd.): Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.
Garrett Regular Baptist, Route 550, Garrett: Worship Service, 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; Amy Elton, pastor; Phone 606-356-1070.
Highland Avenue Freewill Baptist, Sunday School, 9:50 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; David Garrett, Minister.
Jacks Creek Baptist, Bevinville: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Pastor Roger Trusty.
Katy Field Freewill Baptist, 2 miles up Abbott, Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; James (Red) Momm, Minister.
Lackey Freewill Baptist, Lackey, Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Johnny J. Collins, Minister.
Lancer Baptist Church, 71 Cooley St., Prestonsburg: Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.; Morning Worship, 11:00 a.m.; Evening Worship, 6:00 p.m.; Wednesday Prayer Meeting and Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.; Pastor Bobby Carpenter.
Left Beaver Regular Baptist Church across from Garth School, 4th Saturday & Sunday 10:00 am, Odd Saturday 6:00 am; Gary Compton, Pastor.
Liberty Baptist, Denver: Sunday Service, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Philip T. Smith, Minister.
Ligon Community Freewill Baptist, Ligon: Worship Service, Sunday, 11:00 a.m. Thursday, 7 p.m.
Little Rosa Regular Baptist Church of Jesus Christ, (Indian Bottom Association) Services: 1st Saturday & Sunday every month 9:30 a.m.; 3rd Sunday 9:30 a.m.; Ock Sunday 9:30 a.m.
Martin Branch Freewill Baptist, East: Sunday Service, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11:15 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; James (Red) Momm, Minister.
Martin Freewill Baptist, Martin: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; John L. Blair, Minister.
Maytown First Baptist, Main St., Maytown: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Bob Varney, Minister.
McDowell First Baptist, McDowell: Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Steve Sanders, Pastor.
Middle Creek Baptist, Blue River: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; William L. Hunt, Minister.
Lighthouse Baptist, 2194 KY Rt. 1428, Prestonsburg: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Donald Crisp, Minister; home phone 285-3385.
Pleasant Home Baptist, Water Gap Road, Lancer: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Mark Tackett, Pastor.
Prater Creek Baptist, Banner: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Wendell Crager, Minister.
Rock Fork Regular Baptist, Garrett: Worship Service, 9:30 a.m.; Jery Manns, Pastor; Willie Crace Jr, Assistant Pastor.
Salt Lick United Baptist, Salt Lick, Huesville: Worship Service, 2nd & 4th Sunday, 10:30 a.m.; Pastor, Allen Chaffins, phone 946-2123.
Sammy Clark Branch Freewill Baptist, Dana: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.
Stephens Branch Missionary Baptist, Stephens Branch: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.
The This Ave Freewill Baptist: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Philip Hamey, Pastor.
Tom's Creek Freewill Baptist, U.S. 23 (north of Layne Brothers): Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Chuck Ferguson, Minister.
Tom Moore Memorial Freewill Baptist: Cliff Road, Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Youth Services, 6:00 p.m.; Evening Service, 6:00 p.m.; No Service the 1st Sunday of each month; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Jody Spencer, Minister.
Trinkle Chapel Freewill Baptist: Intersection of U.S. 23 and KY 80, Westport, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship Service, 11 a.m. and Evening Worship Service 6 p.m.; Wednesday Bible Study, 7 p.m.; Youth Services 7 p.m.; Everyone Welcome.
United Community Baptist, Hwy. 7, Huesville: Worship Service, 2 p.m.; Friday, 7 p.m.; Carlos Beverly, Minister.
Wheelwright Freewill Baptist, Wheelwright Junction: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Louie Felt, Minister.

CATHOLIC
St. Martha, Water Gap: Mass: Sunday, 11:15 a.m.; Saturday, 5 p.m.; Sunday; Father Robert Damon, pastor.
CHRISTIAN
First Christian, 560 North Arnold Avenue: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Jim Sherman, Minister.

CHURCH OF CHRIST
Betsy Layne Church of Christ, Betsy Layne: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Tommy J. Spears, Minister.
Prestonsburg Church of Christ, 88 Hwy. 1428: Worship Service, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Richard Chester Varnay, Minister.
Harold Church of Christ, Harold: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Willie E. Meads, Minister.
Highland Church of Christ, Rt. 23, Hager Hill: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.
Huesville Church of Christ: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Chester Varnay, Minister.
Lower Toler Church of Christ, Harold: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; Lonie Meade, Minister.
Mare Creek Church of Christ, Starnville: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.
Martin Church of Christ, Martin: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Gary Mitchel, Minister.
Maytown Church of Christ, 66 Turkey Creek Rd., Langley: Sunday Bible Study 10:00 a.m., Sunday morning worship 11:00 a.m., Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m.
Upper Toler Church of Christ, 3.5 miles up Toler Creek on right: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.
Weakbury Church of Christ: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m.; John Burke, Minister.

CHURCH OF GOD
Betsy Layne Church of God, Old U.S. 23: Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Judith Hudell, Minister.
Community Church of God, Arkansas Creek, Martin: Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Friday, 7 p.m.; Bud Crum, Minister.
First Church of God, Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Steven V. Williams, Pastor.
Garrett Church of God, Garrett: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship, 11 a.m.; Family Training Hour- Thursday 7 p.m.; Bill B. Tussley, Jr, Pastor.
Landmark Church of God, Goble Roberts Addition: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11:10 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Kenneth E. Prater, Jr, Minister.
Little Plains First Church of God, 677 Little Plains Road, East Point: Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Jeff White, Pastor.
The Ligon Church of God of Prophecy, Saturday Services: 10 a.m.; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Ralph Hall, Pastor.

EPISCOPAL
St. James Parish, 562 University Drive, Prestonsburg, KY 41653: (606) 886-8046. Sunday Coffee Hour, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship, 11 a.m.; Wednesday evening worship, 7 p.m.; Office Hours, Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Reverend Stan McGraw, www.dioke.net/lutheran; Visit us on Facebook!
LUTHERAN
Our Savior Lutheran, Sipp Bayes Room Carriage House: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; WKLW (600 am) 12:05 p.m.; Roland Bentrup, Minister.
METHODIST
Auxler United Methodist, Auxler, Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Mead J. Smith, Minister.
Betsy Layne United Methodist, next to B.L. Gymnasium: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Randy Blackburn, Minister.
Allen Christ United Methodist, Allen: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Kenneth Lemaster, Minister.
Community United Methodist, 147 Burke Avenue (off University Drive and Neeley St.): Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Jeffrey Lambert, Pastor.
Elliott's Chapel Free Methodist, Rt. 979, Beaver: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Philip T. Smith, Minister.
Emma United Methodist, Emma: Sunday School 10 a.m.; Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m.; Pastor David Profit.
First United Methodist, 256 South Arnold Avenue: Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:55 a.m.; Youth Service 6 p.m.; Rev. Jim Adams, Pastor.
Horn Chapel Methodist, Auxler Road, Auxler: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Sunday Morning Service, 11 a.m.; Midweek Service, 7 p.m.; Sunday Evening Service held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at 6 p.m.; Jody Carr-Back, Minister.
Graceway United Methodist, Rt. 80, Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday Night, 7 p.m.; Roy Harlow, Minister.
Salsbury United Methodist, Printer, Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday 6:30 p.m.; Rev. Jim Adams, Pastor.
Wayland United Methodist, Rt. 7, Wayland: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Jack Howard, Pastor.
Wheelwright United Methodist, Wheelwright: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Bobby Isaac, Minister.
Vogel Day United Methodist Church, Harold: Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.; Sunday Worship Service, 11:00 a.m.; Wed. Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.; Dennis C. Love, Pastor.
Drift Pentecostal, Drift: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, Saturday/Sunday, 7 p.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Ted Shuman, Minister.
Free Pentecostal Church of God, Rt. 1428, East Point: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Thurs., 6:30 p.m.; Buster Hayton, Minister.
Free Pentecostal Church of God, Westport: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 7 p.m.; Wednesday/Saturday, 7 p.m.; John "Jay" Patton, Minister.
Free Pentecostal Deliverance, Ext. 46 off Mt. Parkway at 2nd: Bible Service, Saturday and Sunday, 7 p.m.; Patricia Reid, Minister.
Free Pentecostal Holiness, Rt. 122, Upper Burton: Sunday School, 11 a.m.; Worship Service, 6 p.m.; Friday, 7 p.m.; Paul Sanian, Minister; David Pike, Associate Minister.
Goodloe Holiness, Rt. 850, David: Worship Service, 6 p.m.; Malcolm Stone, Minister.
Palmyra First Pentecostal, Floyd and Maguffin County Line: Worship Service, 6:30 p.m.; Mike D. Caldwell, Minister; 297-6262.
Trinity Chapel Pentecostal Holiness, Main St., Martin: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 7 p.m.; 2nd Sat., 7 p.m.; Thurs., 7 p.m.; Ellis J. Stevens, Minister.
Free Pentecostal Church, Dwaie: Services Saturday, 6 p.m.; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Services, 11 a.m.; No Sunday Night Service.

PRESBYTERIAN
Drift Presbyterian, Route 1101, Drift: Worship Service, 11 a.m.
First Presbyterian, North Lake Drive, Prestonsburg: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST
Seventh-Day Adventist, 5 miles West on Mountain Parkway: Church Service, 9:15; Sabbath School, 10:45; John Baker, Pastor, 358-9263; Church, 886-3459, leave message. Everyone welcome!
THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints: Sacrament Mtg., 10:00 a.m.; Sunday School, 11:20 a.m.; Relief Society/Fellowship/Prayer, 12:00 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m. Church Meeting House address, Hwy. 80, Martin, KY 41649; Meeting House telephone number, 285-3133; Richard Salisbury, Bishop.

OTHER
Pastor Atha Johnson welcomes everyone to attend services at the CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY TRAM KENTUCKY, Sunday school 10 a.m., Worship service 11 a.m.
Drift Independent, Drift: Sunday, 11 a.m.; Thursday, 6:30 p.m.
Grace Fellowship Prestonsburg, (next to old flea market): Sunday School, 10 a.m. Worship, 11 a.m. Bill Stukenberg, Pastor 886-0905.
Faith Deliverance Tabernacle, West Prestonsburg: Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.; Thursday, 7 p.m.; Don Shepherd, Minister.
Faith Revelation, Harkins Ave., West Prestonsburg: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Thurs. 7 p.m.; Randy Hagans, Minister, 886-9460.
Faith Fellowship, Allen, Ky. Sun. School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Sun. Evening, 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.; Carl & Missy Woods, Pastors.
Faith Worship Center, US 460, Paintsville: Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Thursday, 6 p.m.; Baudy and Maude Fife, Minister.
Full Gospel Community, (formerly of Martin) moved to Old Allen: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Sunday evening, 6:30 p.m.; Wed., 6:30 p.m.; Lavonne Lafferty, Minister.
Lighthouse Temple, Main St. and Hall St.: Worship Service, 12 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesday/Friday, 7 p.m.; Roy Cosby, Minister.
Living Water Ministries Full Gospel Church, Rt. 3, just before Thunder Ridge: Pastor, 7:00 p.m.; Sunday Evening, 6:00 p.m. Pastor, Curt Howard.
Martin House of Worship, Old Post Office St.: Worship Service, 7 p.m., Saturday/Sunday.
Old Time Holiness, 2 miles up Arkansas Creek, Martin: Sunday School, 11 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Friday, 6 p.m.; John W. Patton, Minister.
Spurlock Bible (Baptist), 8272 Spurlock Creek Rd., Prestonsburg: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Jim Stephens, Minister, 886-1003.
Town Branch Church: Sunday School 10 a.m. except first Sunday in each month; Worship Service, Sun., morning 10:00 a.m.; Evening 6:00 p.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.; No Sunday night service on first Sunday of each month. Tom Nelson, Minister.
The Father House, Big Branch, Abbott Creek: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 6 p.m.; J.J. Wright, Minister.

The Tabernacle, 266 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg: Christian Education, 10:00; Sunday Morning, 11:00; Sunday Evening, 7:00; Wednesday, 7:00; Pastors: P. J. and Tamara Alken, Phone 886-1619.
Youth Fellowship Center, Wheelwright, Monday, Tuesday, 6 p.m.; Thursday, 7 p.m.
Zion Deliverance, Wayland: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; Prayer Line, 358-2464; Dufrene W. Amette, Pastor.
Taylor Chapel Community Church, formerly the old Price Food Service building, located 1/4 mile above Worldwide Equipment, Rt. 1428, Sun. Bible Study, 10 a.m.; Sun. Morning Service, 11 a.m.; Sun. Evening, 6:30 p.m. Kenny Vanderpool, Pastor.

International Pentecostal Holiness Church, 10974 N. Main St., Martin: Rev. Ellis J. Stevens, Senior Pastor.
Rising Sun Ministries, 114 Rising Sun Lane, Prestonsburg, KY 41653: Sunday, 11:00 a.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; Pastor D.P. Curry.
Church of God of Prophecy, Sunday School 10 a.m.; Worship Service 11 a.m.; Sunday Night - 6 p.m.; Wednesday Night - 6 p.m.; Pastor Glenn Haynes, West Prestonsburg.
House of Refuge, Rock Fork: Sunday Evening Worship 6 p.m.; Monday Bible Study 7:30 p.m., Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m., Bill B. Tussley, Pastor.
Seventh-Day Adventist 5 miles West on Mt. Parkway: Saturday-Sabbath School, 9:30 a.m.; Church, 11:15 a.m.; Bible Study Tuesdays, 7 p.m. (We are studying the Book of Revelation.) Pastor, Tony Kelley 423-464-2412. Church 606-886-3459.

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- Believe in Christ (John 8:24 / 14:3)
- Turn from Sin (Luke 15:3, Rom. 6:12-20)
- Confess Christ (Acts 8:37, Mat. 10:32-33)
- Be Baptized (Buried in Water)
- Walk in Holiness of Life (Rom. 6:1-23)

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Stapleton leads Blackcats past Estill County

STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

STANTON - Junior forward Trey Stapleton scored a career-high 17 points as Prestonsburg defeated Estill County 64-60 Wednesday in the Red River Classic at Powell County.

Stapleton led an evenly-distributed Prestonsburg scoring effort. Senior forward Joseph Jamerson scored 15 points and freshman guard Jarredd Jarrell had 13 for the Blackcats.

Prestonsburg persevered in the second half to post the win.

Estill County outscored the Blackcats 11-8 in the opening quarter and carried a 25-22 lead into halftime.

Prestonsburg, under the guidance of first-year head coach James DeRossett, outscored Estill County in each of the last two quarters. The Blackcats battled back to lead 42-41 at the conclusion of the third period.

Estill County suffered its fifth straight loss. The Engineers haven't won since defeating Rockcastle County 63-54 on Dec. 12 in a regular-season matchup in Mount Vernon.

Junior forward Brandon Morris led Estill County with a game-high 23 points. Colby Baber scored 14 points and Josiah Muncie added 10 for Estill County in the loss.

Ryle edged Estill County 60-58 on Tuesday in the opening round of the Powell County holiday tournament.

In other games played Wednesday in the Red River Classic, Ryle defeated Grant County 56-43. Gallatin County upended host Powell County 73-60 and Menifee County routed 16th Region rival Elliott County 86-63.

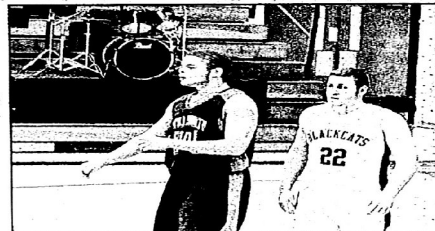
Prestonsburg was matched

up against Menifee County Thursday evening as the Red River Classic continued.

RED RIVER CLASSIC AT POWELL COUNTY

Prestonsburg 64, Estill County 60

Estill County: Jones 6, T. Jenkins 7, Muncie 10, Baber 14, Morris 23.
Prestonsburg: Jarrell 13, Bentley 5, Hall 2, Williams 9, Anderson 3, Stapleton 17, Jamerson 15.
Estill County.....14 16 19-60
Prestonsburg.....8 14 20 22-64



Trey Stapleton (22) scored a 17 points on Wednesday evening to lead Prestonsburg over Estill County in the Red River Classic.

Lady Raiders finish 1-2 in Smokey Mountain Classic

STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

GATLINBURG, Tenn. - The South Floyd Lady Raiders went 1-2 last week in the Smokey Mountain Classic at Gatlinburg-Pittman High School. South Floyd dropped an opening round game to Campbell County, Tenn., then bounced back to beat in-state foe Wolfe County. Another Kentucky team, Fleming County, defeated South Floyd 70-59 in a finale for both teams.

Currently, South Floyd is enjoying a layoff. The Lady Raiders will face Prestonsburg on Jan. 7 in the opening round of the 15th Region All "A" Classic at the East Kentucky Expo Center in downtown Pikeville.

More on South Floyd's three games played as part of the Smokey Mountain Classic follows: Campbell County, Tenn., 80, South Floyd 36; South Floyd fell behind early on in an opening round game versus Campbell County, Tenn., and never recovered. Campbell County pulled away for a convincing 80-36 win over the Lady Raiders.

South Floyd shot only 30.2 percent (13-of-43) from the field. The Lady Raiders were 6-of-20 (30 percent) from 3-point range. South Floyd finished 3-of-7 from the free throw line in the setback.

Kiana Hall paced South Floyd with a team-high 12 points. Hall was the only South Floyd scorer to reach double figures. Ashley Castle scored six points while Kelsey Dye and Brandi Stumbo added four apiece.

Kennady Newsome scored on a field goal and Branda Hamby converted a free throw attempt for the Lady Raiders.

Campbell County limited South Floyd to 23 total rebounds.

South Floyd 53, Wolfe County 46: The South Floyd Lady Raiders snapped a two-game losing streak on Thursday, Dec. 22, defeating Wolfe County 53-46 in the Smokey Mountain Classic.

Three scorers reached double figures for the Lady Raiders. Gabrielle Bailey paced South Floyd with 15 points and 10 rebounds. Bailey was the only player from either team to register a double-double.

Ashley Castle had 13 points and Kiana Hall added 12 for the Lady Raiders.

Hall also had eight rebounds for the South



Former East Kentucky Miners head coach Kevin Keathley, a Floyd County native, talked with his team during a recent practice. Keathley is now guiding the Sauk Valley Predators of the Premier Basketball League (PBL).

Keathley gearing up for 2012 season

STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

STERLING, Ill. - Floyd County native Kevin Keathley is back at the helm of a professional basketball team. Keathley, a talented young head coach who guided the East Kentucky Miners in the CBA throughout the local minor league basketball team's two-year stint, took over as Sauk Valley Predators head coach in early-December. Shortly after arriving in Northwest Illinois, Keathley went to work. Previously honored by ProBasketballNews.com as one of the Top 10 Coaches/Not in the NBA, Keathley inherits a first-year team poised to compete in the PBL (Premier Basketball League). Prior to being named head coach of the Sauk Valley team, Keathley was working out of an advisory role for a franchise in the NBA D-League. He will continue to



work in that capacity. "I really like the challenge of coming in this late and seeing how I can mold this team to the type of team I need it to be to be successful," Keathley confided. "I've worked in the UPBL, ABA, CBA, NBA D-League and now as a head coach in the PBL. As a coach or in any walk of life it's about getting better in your field. That's what I'm trying to do at

each step. I want to improve and I want to compete for championships. I like what I see so far, we have many of the pieces in place right now. I think the ownership group went out and did a solid job recruiting and signing the right type of players for on and off the floor. We have three players on our team that recently left the NBA D-League and I went out and signed Desmond Holloway, a combo guard that led his conference and team in scoring at Coastal-Carolina. So, the team is coming together."

Keathley made an immediate impact on his new team. "This is an opportunity of a lifetime to play for a coach with his resume," 6-foot-8 forward Carlton Faye said during a recent practice. "He brings a lot of intensity and

See SEASON | B2

Lady Blackcats beat Phelps for third straight win

STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG - The Prestonsburg Lady Blackcats claimed their third straight win on Tuesday, prevailing 54-27 over Phelps in the opening round of their holiday tournament at the Prestonsburg Fieldhouse.

Prestonsburg had defeated county foe South Floyd and Belfry for back-to-back wins prior to the holiday.

The Lady Blackcats dominated from start to finish Tuesday, hitting seven 3-point field goals against 15th Region counterpart Phelps.

Prestonsburg was 16-of-49 (32.7 percent) from the field. The Lady Blackcats were 15-of-23 (65.2 percent) from the free throw line in the victory. Senior guard Kristian Waugh paced Prestonsburg with a game-high 20 points. She was 5-of-13 from 3-point range.

Waugh was one of three Prestonsburg scorers to reach double figures as Cassie Burchett scored 15 points and Katie Burchett chipped in 12.

As a team, Prestonsburg grabbed 31 total rebounds. The Burchetts combined to claim 22 carrots.

Cassie Burchett led Prestonsburg with 12 rebounds. She shot 55.6 percent (five-of-nine) from the field and hit all four of her free throw attempts.

In other opening round games in the Prestonsburg Lady Blackcat Holiday Tournament it was Paintsville 63, Menifee County 44, Shelby Valley 68, Wolfe County 45 and Southwestern 89, Piarist School 19.

Prestonsburg slipped back into the loss column on Wednesday, falling 32-58 to 15th Region foe Paintsville. The Lady Blackcats, however, returned to the win column with a 58-34 victory over 58th District/Floyd County Conference foe Piarist School.

In other games on Wednesday it was Paintsville 63, Wolfe County 44; Southwestern 56, Shelby Valley 49; Wolfe County 75, Piarist School 45 and Southwestern 86, Phelps 27.

At press time on Thursday, Prestonsburg was facing Shelby Valley as the holiday tournament continued. Results from the Prestonsburg-Shelby Valley game were unavailable at press time.

UK football program releases 2012 schedule

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY 2012 SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Date	Opponent
Sept. 1	at Louisville	Oct. 13	at Arkansas
Sept. 8	Kent State	Oct. 20	Georgia
Sept. 15	Western Kentucky	Oct. 27	at Missouri
Sept. 22	at Florida	Nov. 3	Vanderbilt
Sept. 29	South Carolina	Nov. 10	Open
Oct. 6	Mississippi State	Nov. 17	Samford
		Nov. 24	at Tennessee

Times Staff Report

LEXINGTON - The Southeastern Conference released the 2012 football schedule Wednesday, including updates for the University of Kentucky's slate featuring the addition of Missouri and the deletion of LSU.

Along with the two adjustments of opponents, six of Kentucky's eight SEC games have a change of date from UK's previously announced schedule. In addition, UK will play host to Mississippi State for a second-consecutive season in order to balance a road

trip to Missouri. The Wildcats' non-conference schedule remains intact. The team's open date will move to Nov. 10.

The University of Kentucky's updated schedule follows: The schedule is still subject to change and could be adjusted to accommodate television. The league office noted that the 2012 schedule is not based on any other previous or future scheduling formats. The SEC athletics directors will convene in spring 2012 to begin formulating scheduling principles for the 2013 season and beyond.

See CLASSIC | B2

Season

From Page B1
enthusiasm. He's excited to be here every day and we appreciate that.
The Keathley-coached Predators opened training camp before Christmas and following a break for the holiday, resumed practice this week. Keathley has the Sauk Valley squad running much like his teams in previous seasons have done.
"The first few days of training camp have went well, we are getting in shape and slowly putting in our offensive philosophy," Keathley commented. "I really look for three keys to come together during camp and that's conditioning, chemistry and spacing on the offense and defensive ends. If we can have those three qualities as a team going in to the last week of camp, I will feel really good about where our team is in terms of development. I'm excited about this team and the community of Sauk Valley. It's a lot like Eastern Kentucky - good people and they're very supportive of the product we have put together. We are preparing every day for Jan. 6 when will come out from underneath our home arena's tunnel to be a team

that the entire region can be proud of. It's going to be exciting and one thing is for certain- we are going to get up and down the floor and play an exciting brand of basketball."
"The opportunity to coach the Sauk Valley Predators presented a good fit for the veteran pro basketball coach.
"Another aspect that really excited me about taking this position is that I don't have to move my family or have to take my children out of their current school," Keathley said. "My daughter will continue to go to school in Eastern Kentucky as I travel back and forth over the next two to three months. That's important to me and I'm very happy about that."
"PBL games will be featured on @SportsTV and several of the league's games will be aired on a tape-delayed basis on Direct TV channels including Tru TV.
In addition to Holloway and Faye, Sauk Valley's roster also includes East Tennessee standout Justin Tubbs and veteran point guard Herman Favors, a player Keathley coached during the Southeast Texas Mavericks' run to the 2010 ABA championship.

Morehead State drops OVC opener to SEMO

Times Staff Report

CAPE GIRARDEAU, Mo. - The Southeast Missouri men's basketball team raced out to a 15-0 advantage less than eight minutes into the game and never looked back in a 67-51 victory over Morehead State on Wednesday evening at the Show Me Center.

The Redhawks improved to 6-7 overall with a win in the Ohio Valley Conference opener for both schools, while the Eagles slip to 6-8 on the season.

The decision also snapped MSU's eight-game winning streak against SEMO. The Eagles had not previously lost to the Redhawks since the 2006-

07 campaign.
"Give Southeast Missouri credit," Morehead State Head Coach Donnie Tyndall said. "They played well tonight. I think SEMO is going to be a surprise team in the OVC this year. They're very talented and they're going to beat some people."

Southeast Missouri kept Morehead State off the scoreboard for the game's first eight minutes and 15 seconds. The Redhawks pushed their lead to 17 points shortly before intermission and a game-high 22 points midway through the second period.

"I thought we settled for too many jump shots early in the game and we committed some costly

turnovers," Tyndall said. "Driving the ball and finding open shooters was a big part of the game plan, and we didn't execute it like I had hoped we would."

Junior Marland Smith led five Southeast Missouri players in double figures with 14 points. Junior Nick Niemczyk and junior Corey Wilford added 13 points apiece, while senior Leon Powell tossed in 11 and sophomore Tyler Stone finished with 10.

Junior Kahlil Owens and senior Terrance Hill led Morehead State with nine points each. Owens also recorded a team-high five rebounds, while freshman Deandre Mathieu dished out a team-best three assists in just six minutes

off the bench.
The Redhawks knocked down 51 percent from the floor (24-of-47), which included a 47-percent clip (9-of-19) from three-point range. The Eagles canned 49 percent from the field (19-of-47), which included just 20 percent (4-of-20) from beyond the arc.

SEMO wrapped up the evening 47 in rebounding (32-25) and +1 in turnovers (12-11).

Morehead State will return to Johnson Arena for a New Year's Eve matinee against OVC preseason favorite Austin Peay on Saturday at Noon. The OVC game will be nationally televised by ESPN2.

Classic

From Page B1

Floyd girls' basketball team. Kelsey Dye chipped in six points and Branda Hamby and Brandi Stumbo scored four apiece for South Floyd in the tournament game.

South Floyd shot 37.7 percent from the field, connecting on 20 of 53 attempts. The Lady Raiders were 6-of-21 from 3-point range.

Fleming County 70, South Floyd 59; Fleming County, fresh off its best season in school history last winter, defeated South Floyd 70-59 on Friday (Dec. 23) in the final round of the Smokey Mountain Classic.

Ashley Castle led South Floyd with 22 points. Kiara Hall and Gabrielle Bailey

accompanied Castle in double figures, adding 16 and 15 points, respectively.

Hall had a double-double, pulling down 10 rebounds to go along with her 16 points.

Kelsey Dye had four points and Branda Hamby added two for the Lady Raiders.
South Floyd was 21-of-63 (33.3 percent) from the field. The Lady Raiders drained 2-of-14 3-point field goal attempts.

South Floyd fared well at the foul line, finishing 15-of-19 (78.9 percent).

The Lady Raiders carried a 15 overall record out of the Smokey Mountain Classic.

Times Staff Report

The All-District football team from Class 3A, Region 4, District 8 was released earlier in the month. Belfry head coach Philip Haywood was selected as Coach of the Year while senior fullback Trey Willis was chosen as Player of the Year. A Prestonsburg native, Haywood is the state's all-time winningest coach.

A list of players honored for Class 3A's District 8 follows.

- Belfry: Josh Dixon, Gary Runyon, Keagan Fields, Tony Messer, Howie Dotson, Sam Warren, Peyton Mullins, Madison Ghormley, Zach Thacker
Pike County Central: Alan Boggs, Cory Shouse, Wes Pugh, Justin Runyon, Marcus Johnson, Justin Smith, Kolt Pruitt, Mark Maynard.
East Ridge: Michael Fields, Christian Hagy, Justin Bevinis, Cody Smith, Austin Robinson.
Lawrence County: Tyler

- Combs, Hayden Kiser, Jacob Marcum, Blake Prince, Blake Watson, Jordan Wellman, Ricky Gobie.
Sheldon Clark, Kristian Skyles, Tim Smith, Chase Lafferty, Taylor Chapman, Jared Stevens, Brady Cornie.
A list of the players name honorable mention follows.
Belfry: Tyler Williams, Derrick Jude, Josh Robinson, Josh Nelson, Justin Johnson, John Duty
Pike County Central:

- Robbie Hopkins, Cody Trivette, Jared Ramey, Nathan Coleman, Austin Cochran, Calvin Cline.
East Ridge: Andrew Hilton, Jacob Skeens, Jordan Standifur, Mike Stiltner, Josh Colley.
Lawrence County: Josh Marcum, Daniel Leibee, Blake Schaeffer, Lance Clay, Cole Cyrus, Morgan O'Brian.
Sheldon Clark: Trevor Blackburn, Zack Norman, Brandon Finley, B.J. Jarrell, Austin Preece.

P'burg drops opener in Powell tourney

STEVE LEMASTER SPORTS EDITOR

STANTON - Prestonsburg sustained its second straight loss on Tuesday, falling to Grant County in the Red River Classic at Powell County.

Grant County, which returned eight experienced players from the 2010-11 season, pulled away to beat the Blackcats 78-51.

Sophomore guard Tyler Carr led balanced Grant County attack with a game-high 19 points. Senior guard Andrew Hurley had 16 points and junior guard Austin Anglin 11 for the Braves.

Prestonsburg led early

carrying an 18-16 lead out of the opening quarter. But Grant County moved out in front in the second period, outscoring Prestonsburg 23-12 to lead 39-30 at intermission.

The Braves remained on a basketball warpath in the third quarter, outscoring Prestonsburg 19-6 to push their lead out to double digits.

Junior forward Shipp chipped in eight points for 8th Region member Grant County.

The Braves returned to the win column following a loss to Walton-Verona last week in the Gatlinburg-Pittman (Tenn.) hosted Smokey Mountain Classic.

Junior guard Bryson Williams paced Prestonsburg with 14 points. Williams was one of three Prestonsburg players to reach double figures. Freshman guard Jarred Jarrell and junior forward Trey Stapleton added 11 points apiece for the Blackcats.

Host Powell County, Gallatin County, Elliott County, Estill County, Ryle and Menifee County are also competing in the Red River Classic. In other games played in the opening round on Tuesday it was Ryle 60, Estill County 58; Powell County 86, Menifee County 69 and Gallatin County 96, Elliott

County 55.

RED RIVER CLASSIC

- AT POWELL COUNTY Grant County 78, Prestonsburg 51
Prestonsburg (51): Jarrell 11, Bentley 1, Williams 14, Anderson 4, Crisp 2, Stapleton 11, Jamerson 5, Frasure 3.
Grant County (78): Hurley 16, Hicks 2, Johnson 9, Anglin 11, Carr 19, Shipp 8, Cummins 5, Coleman 6, Hunt 2.
Prestonsburg.....18 12 6 15-51
Grant County.....16 23 19 20-78

The Cincinnati Reds make moves for two pitchers

CINCINNATI Cincinnati Reds President of Baseball Operations and General Manager Walt Jocketty today announced the acquisition of LHP Sean Marshall from the Chicago Cubs in exchange for LHP Travis Wood, OF Dave Sappelt and minor league IF Ronald Torreyes.

Marshall, 29, last season for the Cubs posted a 2.26 ERA and 5 saves in 78 relief appearances, tied for fifth-most in the Major Leagues. He established a single-season franchise record with 34 holds while holding opponents scoreless in 65 of his 78 games.

"Sean has been one of the best and most durable relievers in baseball the last couple of seasons," Jocketty said. "He will be a solid addition to what we think already is a strong bullpen."

Also in 2011, Marshall allowed just 1 home run in 75.2 innings, the fourth-best ratio among all Major League relievers. His 0.89 ERA in his final 33 appearances of the season was the second-best in the majors over that span to Jose Veras's 0.85 ERA. Marshall's 4.65 strikeouts-per-walks ratio led all relievers who threw at least 75.0 innings.

Over the last 2 seasons, Marshall ranks second among all Major League pitchers with 158 appearances. Among all big league relievers the last 2 years, he ranks second with a 2.45 ERA and fifth with 150.1 innings pitched and 169 strikeouts. Marshall has posted a sterling 2.67 ERA in 233 career relief appearances.

Last season, Wood went 6-6 with a 4.84 ERA in 18 starts and 4 relief appearances for the Reds and 2-3 with a 5.33 ERA in 10 starts for Class AAA Louisville. Sappelt spent

most of the season with the Bats but hit .243 in 38 appearances for the Reds. Torreyes hit .356 in 67 games for Class A Dayton.

The Reds also claimed off waivers from the Cleveland Indians RHP Josh Judy.

Judy, 25, last season appeared in 12 games during 4 stints for Cleveland in his Major League debut. He went 6-2 with 23 saves and a 3.12 ERA (52.0IP, 44H, 23R/18ER, 25BB, 60K) in 60 appearances for Triple-A Columbus. Judy was drafted by the Indians in the 34th round of the 2007 First-Year Player draft.

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The family of Pauline Newsome Green would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to friends, neighbors and loved ones who helped comfort us during this time. Thanks to all who sent food, flowers, cards and prayers. A special thanks to Chuck Ferguson for his comforting words, the Floyd County Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control and the Hall Funeral Home for their kind and professional care.
The family of Pauline Newsome Green

Happy Birthdays
Happy "13th" Birthday to our beautiful, sweet & kind Granddaughter & niece. Kison Chase Allen
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It's time for new year's resolutions

Kentucky offers resources to those trying to give up tobacco

As 2012 approaches, so does the human resolve to make life changes, such as losing weight, increasing exercise — or quitting smoking and tobacco products.

If quitting smoking tops your list of 2012 resolutions, the Kentucky Department for Public Health (DPH) recommends the use of one or a combination of available tobacco cessation resources. These range from group cessation to telephone coaching to online cessation and are available at no cost to all Kentuckians.

"The first of the year is a great opportunity to make healthy lifestyle changes," said Irene Centers, manager of the Health Promotion Branch in DPH. "Quitting smoking is the single most important step smokers can take to improve their health."

Research indicates that 70 percent of smokers would like to quit, and 44 percent of smokers in Kentucky made at least one attempt to quit last year. Centers encourages smokers to seek the help of assistance programs in achieving their goals to give up cigarettes or other tobacco products.

"Kentucky's smoking rate — at 24.8 percent — remains the second-highest in the country, and we have an excessively high population of people being exposed to secondhand smoke in their homes," said Centers. "We strongly encourage those trying to quit smoking to use quit assistance resources. It's not only the best decision for an individual's personal health, but for the health of those around them."

If quitting tobacco use is your New Year's resolution, Kentucky's Tobacco Quitline, 1-800-QUIT NOW, and the Cooper/Clayton Method to Stop Smoking, offered through most local health departments can help make quitting easier.

Health organizations and health departments

across Kentucky and the nation are gearing up to assist smokers who want to begin 2012 free of tobacco. Programs like the Cooper/Clayton Method to Stop Smoking combine nicotine replacement therapy with group counseling and behavioral modification over a 12-week period to help smokers quit. Most health departments in the state offer the Cooper/Clayton program and many will start new groups in early January.

If you are a tobacco user who has decided to quit in 2012, 1-800-QUIT NOW is a free service that can help you reach that goal. When you call, a trained cessation specialist will work with you to help you quit, deal with withdrawal symptoms and resist relapses.

Kentucky's Tobacco Quitline is available statewide, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Eastern time.

After regular hours, callers can leave a message, and their call will be returned.

The Quitline (1-800-QUIT NOW) services are available in English and Spanish. For individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, TDY/TDD is available at 800-998-1393.

Group sessions and cessation materials can be made available at the workplace to employers who want to help their employees quit. More information about this option is available through the Quitline and local health departments.

MOVIES FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

'Orphan'

Tom Doty
Times Columnist

A dysfunctional family opens a whole new can of worms when they adopt the titular psychopath in this horror effort that tastes like a well-blended stew of such diverse films as "The Stepfather" and Lon Chaney's classic (silent) crime thriller "The Unholy Three."

The story finds Kate Coleman wanting another child after losing her third. She and her husband, John, are able to become foster parents despite some heavy baggage (which includes Kate losing her job due to her drinking problem). They visit an orphanage that's having an open house. The children are all happily playing in the main room, but John stumbles into the loner, Esther, who is painting pictures all alone on an upper floor. He and Kate appreciate Esther's underdog status and opt to adopt.

Esther turns out to be a rather odd child. Her Eastern European accent can't cover up her mature sentence structure and she rocks old-fashioned clothes that make her look like an

escapee from the "Little House on the Prairie." Then there's that weird book she carries around and, let's face it, those pig tails went out with "Pippi Longstocking." Strange things begin to happen to her classmates and new siblings, too. A nasty playground incident sees a classmate end up with a fractured ankle, but she's actually lucky.

Meanwhile, Kate is slowly figuring out there is a problem with Esther, but her baggage is too high for anyone to see over it. John simply doesn't believe there's any evil in Esther. This is despite some strong evidence, which includes accidents that almost kill his other two children.

Esther turns out to be a sharp student when it comes to "Impression Management." She uses her awkward speech and old-fashioned dresses to convince everyone that she's a naive foreigner. It totally works, and she even turns Kate's therapist against her.

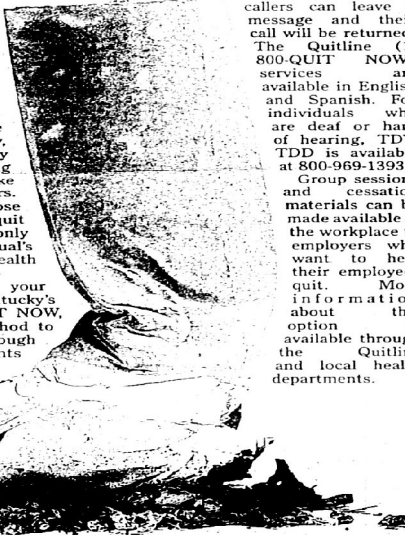
A nun from the orphanage tries to look into Esther's past, but finds research is impossible to accomplish when you've got a hammer-

induced headache. Dad eventually figures out that Esther's not right, but that's his last thought before getting repeatedly stabbed by Esther. Pretty soon, it's down to a duel between Kate and Esther, and it's one smackdown you don't want to miss, as the two duke it out with hammers, knives and firearms to determine which one gets to make it till the end credits.

This film works beautifully. It even gets away with an amazing twist that makes it okay for you to cheer the final battle that brutally pits a wounded mom against a knife-wielding little girl who really needs a time out — permanently.

You have to give this film credit for tackling some sensitive issues in a realistic manner, as well. There aren't many dramas, let alone horror movies, that tackle some of the mature content here, and it ranges from animal cruelty to sexual impropriety, and even includes a chilling moment wherein a young boy is threatened in a very adult manner. You could

See LAGOON 1 B6



RENTAL CENTRAL

Tom Doty
Times Columnist

Three sequels and one "found footage" flick made for a lackluster selection for holiday-wary renters this week.

"Final Destination 5" — The best special effects and some decent acting (for this series) distinguish this installment in the horror franchise. The stories always revolve around a small group avoiding a disaster and then finding themselves on the run from the spirit of death. Here, the opening disaster scene is quite intense, as we see why it is a bad idea to repair your vehicle on a suspension bridge during a windstorm. One guy on a bus sees the disaster ahead, and he and friends get off the vehicle, only to find themselves on the run from a force that wants to punch their ticket.

"Hostel 3" — Fans of this franchise get ripped off with this low-budget sequel that finds four guys in deep trouble in Las Vegas. The men are lured to a remote hotel for a private party with two gorgeous escorts. They are soon in for a long night with a certain torture club that has landed in the city of sin. Nice try, but moving the action to

Vegas was a huge mistake, as the Eastern European locations were a huge part of the success of the first two installments.

"Apollo 13" — Despite the fact that this is the umpteenth "lost footage" flick to come out in 2011, it was still kind of good. This time, they change things up by showing what happened to a lost space mission by sharing the feeds from the rocket. Lots of camera angles add variety as well as a science fiction angle that adds a measure of "anything can happen."

"In the Name of the King 2" — Uwe Boll directed this straight-to-video flick. Bad things happen to people when they make fun of his films. Boll tends to beat them up on camera in boxing matches and then include the footage as an extra on his DVDs. This proves that most critics are pretty dumb, as Boll's amateur boxing record is no secret. I am not so dumb and will only say that you should rent this sequel to a movie you never heard of, if that is your bag.

Next week brings the theatrical remake of that famous 1970s TV movie, "Don't Be Afraid of the Dark" as well as the second season of "Justified."

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 THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO (R)
 Mon-Thurs 7:30 • Fri 4:30, 7:30
 Sat-Sun 1:45, 4:30, 7:30

CINEMA 3
 WAR HORSE (PG-13)
 Mon-Thurs 7:30 • Fri 4:30, 7:30
 Sat-Sun 1:45, 4:30, 7:30

CINEMA 4
 THE SITTER (R) THE MUPPETS (G)
 Mon-Thurs 7:15, 9:30 • Fri 4:30, Sat-Sun 2:00-4:30

CINEMA 5
 THE ADVENTURES OF TINTIN (PG)
 Mon-Thurs 7:10, 9:25 • Fri 4:25, 7:10, 9:25
 Sat-Sun 2:10, 4:25, 7:10, 9:25

CINEMA 6
 MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE GHOST PROTOCOL (PG-13)
 Mon-Thurs 8:45, 9:20 • Fri 4:20, 6:45, 9:20
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CINEMA 7
 DARKNESS HORSE (PG-13)
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CINEMA 8
 ALVIN & THE CHIPMUNKS (G)
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 Sat-Sun 2:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:15

CINEMA 9
 WE BORN THIS 2ND (PG)
 Mon-Thurs 8:50, 9:15 • Fri 4:15, 8:50, 9:15
 Sat-Sun 1:50, 4:15, 6:50, 9:15

CINEMA 10
 THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN Part 1 (PG-13)
 Mon-Thurs 7:00 • Fri 4:30, 7:00
 Sat-Sun 4:30

CINEMA 11
 NEW YEAR'S EVE (PG-13)
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NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE

Pursuant to Application Number 836-0400 Transfer

In accordance with the provisions of 405 KAR 8-010, notice is hereby given that Laurel Mountain Resources, LLC, 1374 HWY 192E, London, KY 40741, intends to transfer permit number 836-0362 to Laurel Mountain Resources, LLC, 1374 HWY 192E, London, KY 40741. The new permit number will be 836-0400. The operation disturbs 319.40 acres. No new acreage is affected by this transfer.

The operation is located 0.8 miles southeast of Grethel in Floyd County. The operation is approximately 0.15 miles southeast from Frasure Branch Road junction with KY Route 979, and located on Frasure Branch of Mud Creek. The operation is located on the McDowell U.S.G.S. 7-1/2 minute quadrangle map.

The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Natural Resources, Division of Mine Reclamation and Enforcement's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

This is the final advertisement of this application; all comments, objections or requests for a permit conference must be received within 30 days of this date.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE

Pursuant to Application Number 836-0404 Amendment No. 4

In accordance with the provisions of KRS 350.070, notice is hereby given that Laurel Mountain Resources, LLC, 1374 HWY 192E, London, KY 40741 has applied for an amendment to an existing surface coal mining and reclamation operation located 4.5 miles northwest of Hueysville in Floyd County. The amendment will add an additional 19.1 acres of surface disturbance, delete 50.1 surface disturbance and will delete an additional 50.3 underground acres making the total area within the permit boundary be 711.8 acres.

Legals

The amendment area is approximately 1.8 miles northwest from Route 2029's junction with KY Route 7, and located in Plummer Branch and Raccoon Branch of Saltick Creek.

The proposed amendment is located on the David and Handshoe U.S.G.S. 7-1/2 minute quadrangle maps. The amendment will use the contour strip and highwall/hauger methods of mining. The surface area is owned by John F. Hoover, M. O. Forestry Fund 3, LP and Sylvia Warrick. The operation will be under the surface area owned by John F. Hoover, Co., Inc., Laurel Mountain Resources, LLC, Thelma & Lurey Hoover, G. M. O. Forestry Fund 3, LP and Sylvia Warrick.

The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Natural Resources, Division of Mine Reclamation and Enforcement's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. Written comments, objections, or requests for a permit conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

This is the final advertisement of this application; all comments, objections or requests for a permit conference must be received within 30 days of this date.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE

Pursuant to Application Number 836-5608 Transfer

In accordance with the provisions of 405 KAR 8-010, notice is hereby given that Laurel Mountain Resources, LLC, 1374 HWY 192E, London, KY 40741 intends to transfer permit number 836-5595 to McCoy Elkhorn Coal Corporation, 1148 Long Fork Road; Kimpco, KY 41539. The new permit number will be 836-5608. The operation disturbs 3.3 surface acres and underlies 901.9 acres. No new acreage is affected by the transfer.

The operation is located 3.8 miles east from KY Route 1929's junction with Neads Fork Road and located in Neads Fork. The operation is located on the McDowell U.S.G.S. 7 & 12; minute quadrangle map. The application has been

Legals

filed for public inspection at the Department for Natural Resources, Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 5, Prestonsburg, KY 41653-1410. Written comments, objections must be filed with the Director, Division of Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. All comments or objections must be received within fifteen (15) days of today's date.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE

Pursuant to Application Number 836-5598, Bond Release

In accordance with KRS 350.083, notice is hereby given that Laurel Mountain Resources, LLC, P.O. Box 185, Lackey, Kentucky 41643 has applied for Phase I, II and III bond release on permit number 836-5598, which was last issued on 09-14-2011. The application covers an area of approximately 2.03 acres will underlie an additional 194.05 acres and is located 1.5 miles southwest of Mink Branch.

The permit area is approximately 1.5 miles southwest from the junction of KY 979 and Mink Branch Road, and is located 1.3 miles southwest of Mink Branch. The latitude is 37°25'52". The longitude is 82°40'22".

For Increment No. 1, approximately 100 percent of the original bond amount of \$17,200.00 is included in the application for release.

Written comments, objections and requests for a public hearing or informal conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Mine Reclamation and Enforcement, #2 Hudson Hollow, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, by February 07, 2012.

A public hearing on the application has been scheduled for February 08, 2012 at 9:00 AM, or soon thereafter as may be heard, at the Department for Natural Resources, Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. The hearing will be cancelled if no request for a hearing or informal conference is received by February 07, 2012.

Legals

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE

Pursuant to Application Number 836-5609, Transfer

In accordance with the provisions of 405 KAR 8-010, notice is hereby given that Laurel Mountain Resources, LLC, 1374 HWY 192E East, London, KY 40741, intends to transfer permit number 836-5597 to McCoy Elkhorn Coal Corporation, 1148 Long Fork Road; Kimpco, KY 41539. The new permit number will be 836-5609. The operation disturbs 4.4 surface acres and underlies 1142.0 acres. No new acreage is affected by the transfer.

The operation is located 2.6 miles southeast of McDowell in Floyd County. The operation is approximately 1.5 miles southeast from KY Route 680's junction with KY Route 1929 and located 0.11 miles south of Hall Fork. The operation is located on the McDowell U.S.G.S. 7 & 12; minute quadrangle map.

The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Natural Resources, Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 5, Prestonsburg, KY 41653-1410. Written comments, objections must be filed with the Director, Division of Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. All comments or objections must be received within fifteen (15) days of today's date.

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Maintenance Supervisor Wanted

The Housing Authority of Floyd County is seeking to hire a Maintenance Supervisor. Successful person must have ability to independently perform a wide range of building and grounds maintenance repair and renovation tasks as hands on working maintenance mechanic. Record keeping required to maintain records such as maintenance logs, ordering and distribution of supplies and parts.

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Interested persons MUST apply in person at the Central Office of the Housing Authority located at Warco Apartments 402, John H. Stangor Drive, Langley, KY 40340, thru Friday, 9:00a.m. to 4:00p.m. only. No phone calls.

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COMICS/ENTERTAINMENT

BLONDIE



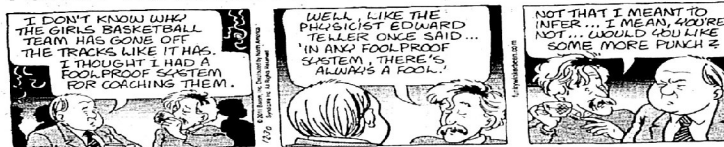
Dean Young/Denis Lebrun

BEETLE BAILEY



Mort Walker

FUNKY WINKERBEAN



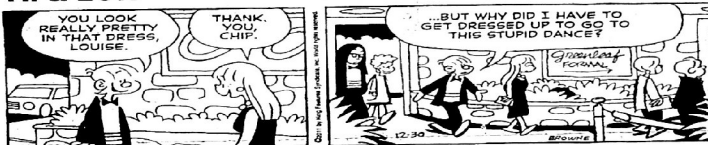
Tom Batiuk

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



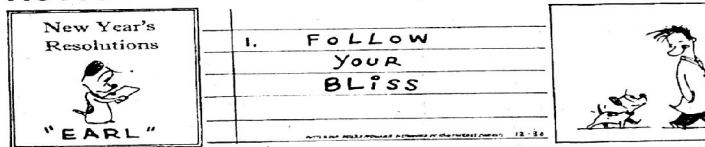
Chris Browne

HI & LOIS



Brian and Greg Walker

MUTTS



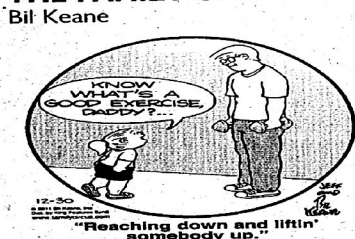
Patrick McDonnell

ZITS



Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

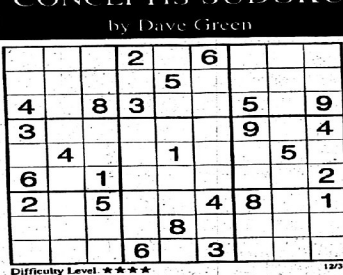


DENNIS THE MENACE



Hank Ketchum

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU

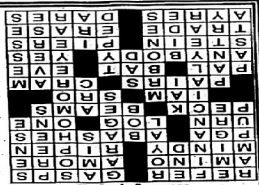


Difficulty Level: ★★ ★★

CROSSWORD

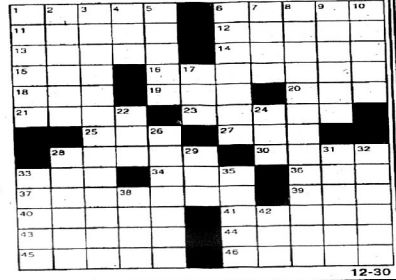
By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Allude
 - 6 Scolds of surprise
 - 11 Acid type
 - 12 Love, to Luigi
 - 13 Mork's friend
 - 14 Mature
 - 15 Links org.
 - 16 Disconcerts
 - 18 Fancy vase
 - 19 Fireplace sight
 - 20 Early hour
 - 21 Produce unit
 - 23 Roof supports
 - 25 Descartes' conclusion
 - 27 Hit show letters
 - 28 Skating category
 - 30 Study all night
 - 33 Crony
 - 34 Ball club?
 - 36 Dec. 31, for one
 - 37 "Who'll volunteer?"
 - 39 Agreeable answer
 - 40 Poet
 - 41 Berth places
- DOWN**
- 1 Increase
 - 2 Asylum seeker
 - 3 Accounting period
 - 4 Terminus
 - 5 Kingly
 - 6 Repair sites
 - 7 "Lucky Jim" author
 - 8 Second of four at college
 - 9 Spends time at the mirror
 - 10 Intuit
 - 17 Move up and down
 - 22 Chiang —sheng
 - 24 Circle section
 - 26 Minstrel troupe member
 - 28 Larder
 - 29 Blue
 - 31 Reluctant
 - 32 Slob's creations
 - 33 Some bow ties
 - 35 Used a keyboard
 - 38 Await
 - 42 Writer Levin



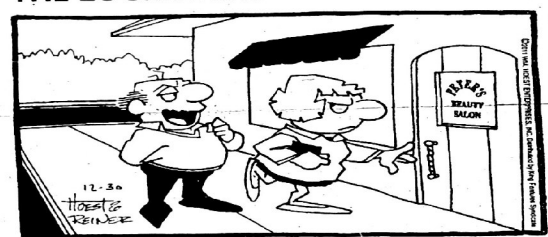
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THE LOCKHORNS

William Hoest



Jacqueline Bigar's HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, Dec. 30, 2011:
 This year you often find yourself confused or in situations where misunderstandings cause a problem. Learn better ways of communicating. Learn to confirm appointments as well as what you thought you heard. Much of the stress you experience will be between you and others. Relationships will become an important issue. If you are single, move in a new direction on a bond being forever at this time. If you are attached, the two of you should consider a weekend workshop in communicating. Your relationship will bond more tightly as a result. **PISCES** draws you out.
The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult
ARIES (March 21-April 19)
 ★★ You push so hard that you often miss out on other parts of your life. Right now, rest up for the next hurdle. You have a unique sense of what works and what you want. Honor yourself accordingly. Tonight: Work on your resolutions.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
 ★★ ★★ No one needs to tell you anything, and maybe no one should try. You are determined. You feel you have destiny behind you. You easily agree. Don't count on a child or loved one agreeing with you. Tonight: You are master of your night time.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
 ★★ ★★ Take charge of what has been neglected and needs handling. Critics might have slacked off or might not see the importance of a key task like you do. Be willing to stand up for what you believe. Don't worry about some flak here or there. Tonight: A must appearance.
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
 ★★ ★★ Reach out for someone you care about. How you feel and what goes on could be subject to change. Sometimes you can change the current. Is this what you want to do at this point? Resolve a conflict rather than hold back. Tonight: Speak your mind.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
 ★★ ★★ Realize the power and strength of teaming up with the right person. Though you are strong by yourself, together you are a force to behold. Be careful with a difference of opinion. Respect your differences. Tonight: Avoid a money discussion if it

is going to be a source of anger.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
 ★★ ★★ You might want to think before you speak. Who wants to go into the new year riding a wave of distraction and arguments? Sometimes postponing a talk might feel like the right way to go. Tonight: Move through an issue.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
 ★★ ★★ Stay even and direct. Your ability to move forward despite an underlying distraction or frustration could be a problem. Confusion surrounds motives and choices. Let it all go. You could argue into next year otherwise.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
 ★★ ★★ Your playfulness emerges as sensuality, causing a disruption in a partnership, especially if you're flirting with someone else. Do use caution, as you want to avoid a problem rather than allow it to develop. Prioritize. Scorp. Tonight: Let your hair down.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
 ★★ Tension builds, especially on the home front. A deadline of sorts weighs on you, triggering some distress. Investigate several ways to let go of the issues. How much do you need to handle now? "Now" means just that. Clear them out if need be. Tonight: Close home.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
 ★★ ★★ A conversation cannot be kept calling and calling — the theme is clear. A talk or get-together won't be as rough as you might think. A misunderstanding weaves into the problem. Tonight: Why not let the party begin?
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
 ★★ ★★ Don't use finances or another person's ire as a reason not to do something. If you can clear up a misunderstanding, do. Respect each other's point of view, and use both perspectives to grow and gain. The smart move is to work through your differences. Tonight: On a roll. Think resolutions.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
 ★★ ★★ You cannot seem to convince others of your rightness. Perhaps that is because it is only right for you. Give others the space they need to live and act on their views. Once they have their way, they could become more compliant. Tonight: Go with another person's suggestion.
 Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at www.jacquelinebigar.com.

CLICK & CLACK TALK CARS

Run-flat tires are the best option when tires keep getting punctured

Tom and Ray Magliozzi
King Features Syndicate

Dear Tom and Ray: Between yesterday afternoon and this morning, I have had three flat tires. The tire that was flat yesterday had a screw in it, and the tires that are flat this morning have finishing nails. Other than the obvious question of "Was this sabotage?" I have a question about repairing the tires. My question is, Are plugs reliable, or are patches or tire replacement recommended? I will add that I am living in Costa Rica, and tire puncturing is a known technique for robbing foreigners. Thus the idea of replacing tires only to have them repunctured is not appealing. But even less appealing is having to stop along a highway (they do not have shoulders) and being held up by the people who put the nails

in the tire. — Bill
TOM: Well, my first thought was that you need run-flat tires. But I'm not sure that technology is widely available where you live. Run-flats require special equipment to mount them, plus they're expensive, require tire-pressure monitors and may not be as repairable as standard tires.
RAY: So, on second thought, you need a 55-gallon drum of pepper spray mounted on the roof.
TOM: Actually, plugs have been used since the days of the Roman chariots. OK, not that long, but they're well-established and effective. As long as the hole in the tire is not too big (and screw or nail holes are not too big), you can insert a plug and expect it to last for the remaining life of the tire — which in your case sounds like about six hours.

RAY: But even better, a plug is something you can do yourself, Bill. You can go to any auto-parts store (try Manny, Mo and Carlos in Costa Rica), and buy yourself a plug kit.
TOM: It consists of a bunch of plugs, a reamer, which you use to make the hole the exact size of the plug, and a tool for inserting the plugs.
RAY: So you create the hole, then thread the plug into the insertion tool, and then you insert it and remove the tool. And voila! The repair is done and you're on your way.
TOM: So then what you need is a cylinder of compressed air that you can carry around in your trunk. Once you plug your tire, you can reinflate it by the side of the road, hand your wallet to the nice bandits who've been waiting patiently for you to fix the tire, and be on your way. Good luck, Bill.
Higher RPMs definitely are less efficient.
Dear Tom and Ray:
A friend and I are having a running debate

that I was hoping you two would be able to settle. We each recently bought ourselves pre-owned vehicles, and we both are members of the dying breed of drivers who love to drive cars with manual transmissions. Both cars are in stellar shape, both have fewer than 30,000 miles and have their original clutches, both have spotless Carfax history reports, and both were given the thumbs-up by our mutual mechanic when he inspected them. The disagreement is about driving styles. My friend says that he gets better average fuel economy for his car when he drives at higher revs in a lower gear, I, on the other hand, believe that driving lower revs in a higher gear is more efficient. For example, he says that driving 60 mph in 4th gear at 3,000 rpm gets you better mileage than driving 60 mph in 5th gear at 2,500 rpm. What do you say? — Marie
RAY: While he's reading this first paragraph,

Marie, we'll stall for time so you can double your wager. Because he's got his headlight firmly implanted in his taillight socket. He's nuts.
TOM: Completely. The higher the engine revs, the more fuel it uses. It's like walking. On the same terrain, the faster your legs move, the more calories you burn. And the same is true for your engine.
RAY: That's why, in chasing better fuel economy, carmakers have continually added more gears. In the 1950s and '60s most cars had three-speed transmissions. The Ford Focus we drove a few weeks ago had a six-speed automatic. And the BMW X3 we drove last week had an eight-speed!
TOM: Why? Because the higher the gear, the fewer times the engine has to turn for each rotation of the car wheels. And the slower the engine turns, the less fuel it uses.
RAY: If your friend is really thickheaded, Marie, and refuses to concede, suggest that

the two of you take a bike ride. Find a couple of 10-speed bikes (which won't be easy, because even bikes now have 21, 24 and 27 speeds). Then find a nice, flat road to simulate a highway.
TOM: Then set the rules: You get to use all 10 of your gears, but he can only go up to 3rd gear on his bike. Then race a mile. While you're pedaling easily and your bike is moving quickly, he'll be pumping his legs furiously and struggling like crazy to keep up with you.
RAY: At the end of the race, when he's exhausted, sweating profusely and doubled over trying to catch his breath, ask him how much "fuel" he used keeping up with you, and then collect on your bet, Marie.
Get more Click and Clack in their new book, "Ask Click and Clack: Answers from Car Talk." Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or email them by visiting the Car Talk website at www.cartalk.com.

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HOROSCOPE

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) With the new year's opportunities almost within reach, the Arian's courageous aspects are raring to go. And don't be surprised if a lot of people follow the zodiac's most trusted leader.
TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Change lies ahead for the brave Bovine who is ready to shuck off the tried and true to try something new. But appearances can be deceptive. Check it all out before you charge into anything.
GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) This week promises a

peck into what the new year holds for the Gemini twins, both in love and careers. Family matters continue to be a factor in decisions you're going to be facing.
CANCER (June 21 to July 22) As you move into the new year, your travel aspects grow stronger, and you might find yourself making decisions about a destination and a traveling companion sooner than you'd expected.
LEO (July 23 to August 22) The new year holds both glitter and gold. This means Leos and Leonas should begin getting the facts they need to separate the real thing from the sham in order to make important decisions next year.
VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A good way to start the new year might be to arrange for a visit to someone you haven't seen in a long time. You also

might want to pick up that project you put off a while back.
LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) As you contemplate the new year's potential, you might want to talk things over with people who are or have been where you want to go. Their experience and advice can be helpful.
SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Someone close to you might feel you have no more room for him or her in your life. This calls for immediate reassurance of your love so you can start the new year on a high note.
SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) The coming year will bring more people into your life. Some situations might not work out as well as others. But overall, everyone earns something, and that's always a good thing.
CAPRICORN (December

22 to January 19) The new year could find you indulging in one or more of the hobbies you've always wanted to take up. And don't be surprised if they ultimately direct you toward a new career.
AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) The artistic Aquarian should find more opportunities in the new year. You might even make some potentially helpful contacts as you gather to ring in the year 2012.
PISCES (February 19 to March 20) The new year offers challenges for Pisceans who want to make better use of the skills they now have and learn new ones. Personal relationships show stronger positive aspects.
BORN THIS WEEK: Although you sometimes tend to be a bit judgmental, nevertheless, you are generous and caring and very much beloved.



Lagoon

From Page B6
make entire "Lifetime Network" movies about some of the subjects this film throws out.
The success of this flick all boils down to Esther, who is played by Isabelle Fuhrman. It is an amazing performance that makes the film work. Without Fuhrman, they don't have a movie, but this kid comes through and manages to craft a character so complex

that she makes the final plot twist totally believable, despite the fact that it is kind of ridiculous. She is a consummate professional who will be on screen this year in the film adaptation of "The Hunger Games." She holds her own here against seasoned pros like CCH Pounder (as the unfortunate Sister Abigail) and Vera Farniga, as Kate.
All in all, this is an excellent slasher flick from the same people who

brought you the remakes of "13 Ghosts" and "House on Haunted Hill." Great stuff and the best killer kid character since the "Omen" flicks redefined child care.
Best Lines
"I don't think Mommy likes me very much."
"Little Bo Peep texted me. She wants her outfit back."
"Stop crying. Grab a foot and help me get her off the road."
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