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The Times

FLOYD COUNTY



page B1

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Repul attorney, met Jan. 30

Hubert Collins for the seat, listing his ad-

Redistricting fight could leave candidate in the cold

able over legis- appears to have the 97th District contest, as one tly on the ballot n the district.

msion, a Louisa to challenge Rep. Hubert Collins for the seat, listing his ad-

ress as a post office box in Louisa. At the time, proposed boundaries for the district included a portion of Lawrence County, along with Johnson and Martin counties. Three precincts in Floyd County formerly in the 97th District were removed.

But that was then.

Following Franklin Circuit Judge Phillip Shepherd's ruling Feb. 7 that the redistricting plan was unconstitutional, the new plan was scrapped and the district returned to its 2002 boundaries. As such, the Floyd County precincts remain the 97th District, while the Lawrence County precincts have reverted to the 99th District.

And the story is not yet over. The state Supreme Court is scheduled to hear oral arguments on Friday, after the state appealed Shepherd's ruling. It is possible the court could reverse the earlier ruling and return to the new boundaries, which would make Robinson eligible to run in the district once again.

For now, Robinson still appears as a candidate for the 97th District. If he remains on the ballot, he will run against Big Sandy Community and Technical College administrator Bobby Wayne McCool of Van Lear, who registered to run for the seat Feb. 10, after deadlines for filing were extended.

However, a state official said Thursday that there is nothing preventing him from staying on the ballot, even if he does not

(See FIGHT, page 2)

County to sue banks to recover lost fees

Ralph B. Davis
Managing Editor

PRESTONSBURG — Floyd County will soon be looking to recoup unpaid mortgage filing fees, believed to run into the hundreds of thousands.

The Floyd County Fiscal Court voted last week to join with other counties to sue Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems and its affiliated financial institutions. The court believes MERS and its affiliated banks skirted requirements to file mortgage assignments, resulting in lost revenue for the county.

Under Kentucky law, mortgage assignments are supposed to be filed with the county clerk's office, whenever a mortgage changes hands. According to County Attorney Keith Bartley, however, many of the banks affiliated with MERS failed to do that by trading mort-

(See COUNTY, page 2)



Emergency personnel attended to the driver of bus No. 604, following Thursday morning's accident. The driver complained of hitting his head, after the bus he was driving was struck by an 18-wheel flatbed truck. No students were aboard the bus at the time of the wreck.

photos by Ralph B. Davis

Driver hurt after flatbed collides with school bus

Ralph B. Davis
Managing Editor

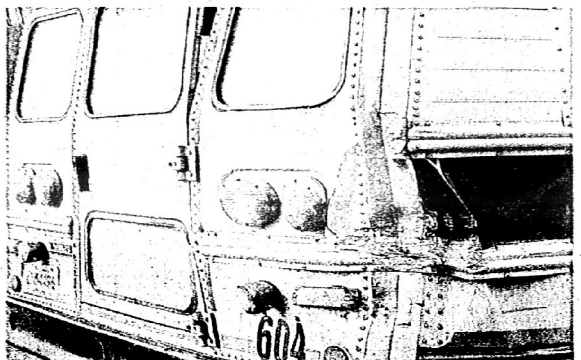
PRESTONSBURG — The Thursday morning school rush contributed to an accident involving a Floyd County school bus and an 18-wheel flatbed truck.

No students were on the bus when the accident occurred, but the driver was taken away by ambulance, complaining of head injuries.

School bus No. 604 was stopped in a line of traffic in the westbound lane of Route 114 in front of Prestonsburg Elementary at the time of the wreck. An empty flatbed truck registered to Kentucky May Inc., out of Hazard, came around the curve too fast to be able to avoid colliding with the bus.

Police said the truck driver attempted to stop and move over to avoid an accident, but still caught the corner of the bus as it veered to the side.

The bus driver, who has not yet been identified, was taken out of the bus on a stretcher and transported to Highlands Regional Medical Center. The truck driver, who has also not yet been identified, appeared uninjured.



Damages to the school bus appeared minor, after a flatbed truck struck it from behind. The bus was stopped in traffic in front of Prestonsburg Elementary. The driver of the truck attempted to stop and swerve out of the way, but tagged the corner of the bus as he moved around.

2 DAY FORECAST Today

of sb

High: 57 • Low: 30

Tomorrow

Mostly Sunny

High: 43 • Low: 24

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

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Alert canceled after missing girls found in Maryland

The search for two young girls is over, after authorities found them with their parents in Maryland.

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children issued an Amber Alert for two Tennessee girls, and Kentuckians were asked to be vigilant, after police traced a cell phone used by their parents to Lexington.

The Center reported that 4-year-old Lovell Knasel and 3-year-old Summer Knasel were taken by their parents,



LOVELL KNASEL



SUMMER KNASEL

Jeremy Knasel and Ashley Norberg, around midnight Wednesday. The girls were removed from their parents' custody Feb. 17, after the couple was accused of making methamphetamine in their home, in the presence of the children.

No further details about the girls' recovery are yet available, other than that they were safe and that their parents were under arrest.

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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 390, Prestonsburg, KY 41653; or fax to 606-886-3603; or email to: features@floydcountytimes.com. Information will not be taken over the telephone. All items will be placed on a first-come, first-served basis as space permits.

Maytown

Community Homecoming

The Maytown Community Homecoming will be held Memorial Day weekend, May 25 and 26. Registration will begin Friday, May 25, at 10 a.m., in the old school building. There will be a gospel sing at 7 p.m. Friday night, at Graceway Church. Saturday, May 26, will begin with breakfast from 8 to 11 a.m. and an afternoon meal from 2 to 4 p.m. Meals will be catered and the \$22 per person fee must be paid in advance. Saturday activities will take place in the lunchroom. On Saturday night, the evening program will feature the Valentinos, from Lexington. Admission will be \$5 at the door. Send meal reservations by May 2 to Betty May, 363 Wilson Creek, Langley, KY 41645. For more information, call (606) 285-3362.

Gospel sing

4-His Holy Merry County will be singing at the Garrett Church of God on Friday night, March 2, at 7 p.m. Turn off Route 80 at the Garrett exit, turn left at the end of the ramp. The church is less than half a mile on the left, behind the bank. Everyone is welcome. Pastor is Bill Tussey.

Free clothes & household giveaway

The Middle-Creek Volunteer Fire Department Ladies' Auxiliary will give free clothes and household items to anyone in need on Friday, Feb. 24, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and on Saturday, Feb. 25, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Old Middle-Creek Fire Department, on Route 114. For more information, contact Pearl Faye Holbrook at (606) 886-8481 or (606) 226-3525. Donations of any kind are accepted.

Floyd County Job Club

The Floyd County Job Club meets every Thursday, from 11 a.m. until noon, at the Floyd County Public Library, in Prestonsburg. This free job club is sponsored by Eastern Kentucky Concentrated Employment Program, Big Sandy Area Community Action Program and the Office of Employment and Training. At the club, you will get job leads, job search advice and networking opportunities that will help you get hired. All are welcome and first-time visitors are encouraged to come 30 minutes early for a new member orientation. Call (606) 886-2948, for more information.

Allen VFD membership drive

Allen Volunteer Fire Department is now holding a membership drive. Meetings are held every Monday night, at 6:30 p.m., at the station. Please stop and help your volunteer fire department, or call Chief Roy Tompton at (606) 791-1790.

REVIVAL

Upper Salt Lick United Baptist Church will host a

revival, beginning Feb. 24, at 7 p.m., weather permitting. The evangelist will be Bro. Ollie Smith. Call Pastor Clyde Williams for directions, (606) 785-2976.

Volunteer mentors wanted

Opportunity for a Second Chance is a job-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 JKinzer@MtComp.org.

Veterans service officer

VEV 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 Addition

Floyd County Communities Against Drug Addition 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. Calvarys Call Church, Lancer. (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-hour 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 www.benchmarkfamily-services.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 re-

pairs. 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.

FCHD 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. Classes are free and open to the public. Call 886-2788 for more information.

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.drugsnono.com

Auxier Community Center

FreeGED classes, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, from 10 a.m.-12.

Free Bible Lessons

Write to: Bible Way Outreach Ministry, 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 an 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

Prestonsburg 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 886-2926; Johnson, call 789-6815; Magoffin, call 349-2217; Pike, call 432-2775; and in Lawrence, call 638-4067.

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 Slone, adoptive parent liaison, at 432-4110 or 422-7927, or email to: doslone@eastky.net.

PARENTS! - 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).



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Opinion

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.

Guest View Regulations are Essential Protections for Small Businesses

Brian McGregor

A guy walks into a bar and says, "ouch."

Now, you might be thinking that's a really bad one-liner. Actually, I was just recounting the start of my day.

I walk into the Silver Dollar Saloon — the bar I own in Butte — every day, and I've been saying "ouch" a lot lately. My business may be more recession-proof than many others, but we're still hurting in this down economy.

Small business owners want our communities to flourish once again. We are working to build a thriving local economy that supports a strong middle class, and that can only happen if we have customers who have money they can spend at our businesses.

This isn't something we can accomplish on our own. Our economy is tied to the national economy, and we need our elected officials to take decisive action to create jobs and put Americans back to work.

As a small business owner, I want to be clear on one thing: if we want a vibrant local economy, we must maintain the rules and standards that protect our employees' health and our customers' financial security. Just look at the lessons from our local history.

Here in Butte, we know what happens when you don't have strong rules protecting workers and local quality of life. We know what happens when one company's unchecked power overruns basic rights to health and safety.

From the toxic smelter emissions that once gave Butte a higher death rate than New York City and created the largest Superfund site in the country, to the Speculator Mine disaster of 1917 where at least 167 miners were killed, Butte residents have paid for inadequate regulations and enforcement with their lives. And they worked hard — through unions and other organizations — to create life-saving labor, health, and environmental protections that built the middle class and bolstered the customer base for local small businesses.

Butte's history of working together to protect our local community and local economy from corporate special interests runs deep. But it's not just Butte's story. In thousands of communities across the nation, people have come together to demand rules and safeguards that protect our well-being.

Now, some politicians are siding with big businesses who want to roll back these protections, threatening to take away health, safety, and financial rules that keep our air clean, our workforces healthy, and our customers safe. Big businesses want more profits — no matter how much it costs the public.

You don't have to be a small business owner to see how high these costs can be. Just look at the 2008 financial crisis. That crisis, which destroyed more than 8 million jobs and left us with this jobless recovery, was caused by decades of deregulation that let Wall Street run wild in pursuit of astronomical profit — at our expense.

It boggles my mind that some legislators are arguing that gutting rules and standards will magically create jobs after the deregulation-fueled financial crisis just destroyed 8 million of them. This is like proposing another drinking binge as the cure for a really bad hangover. It's utterly insane.

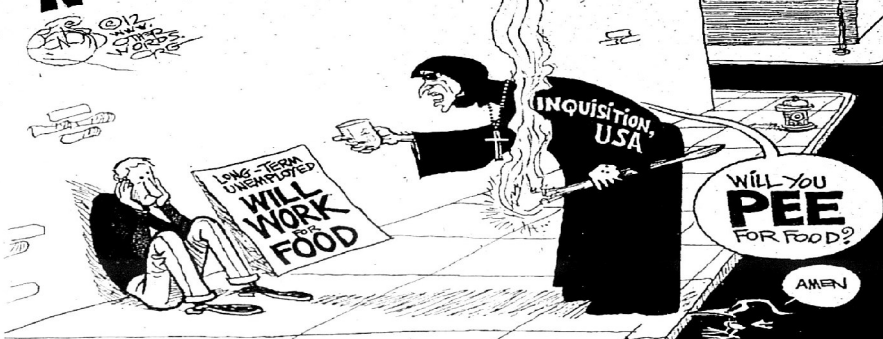
The fact is, regulations create jobs. About 32 jobs are created for each \$1 million of restoration funds for the Silver Bow Creek (for which \$85 million has been allocated). The workers on that project will be paying customers at Butte businesses. That's what small businesses need: customers.

I've heard politicians say they're for "liberating" Main Street. I'm for that, too. I'd love to be liberated from the Too-Big-to-Fail banks and from health insurance companies that hike rates by double digits every year. But gutting regulations won't liberate small businesses — it will liberate big banks and insurance companies to crush us.

So, the next time you hear politicians talk about scrapping clean air or financial protections in the name of small business, don't buy it. Remember that these rules keep communities healthy and level the playing field for small businesses against big special interests. If we let big business use small business as an excuse to rewrite the rules — for their gain and our loss — the joke will be on all of us. We have seen that happen before. Let's make sure it doesn't happen again.

Brian McGregor owns the Silver Dollar Saloon in Butte, and is a member of the Montana Small Business Alliance and the national Main Street Alliance business network.

NEWS ITEM: CONSERVATIVES PROPOSE SUBJECTING THE UNEMPLOYED TO DRUG TESTING



Beyond the Beltway The fight over reproductive rights

Donald Kaul
OtherWords

The air is still thick with outrage over President Barack Obama's attempt to require all employers to provide insurance coverage for people who desire (or need) birth control.

Catholic bishops and their fellow travelers exploded in righteous indignation over a proposal that would have required religious institutions (but not churches) to offer employees the same contraception coverage required of other, secular institutions under the Obama health plan.

The administration backed off in the face of a firestorm of protest, retreating to a compromise that would provide the insurance without requiring religious organizations to pay for it.

Even so, Republicans are still denouncing the original plan as a violation of the freedom of religion guaranteed by the Constitution.

I don't see it. The original Obama mandate didn't require Catholics or anyone else to use birth control. That's a personal choice. What it did was keep institutions from denying their employees a right that's guaranteed by law. That's not a denial of freedom. It's an expansion of it.

The Constitution is there to protect the rights of individuals, not the right of institutions to deny rights they find offensive.

I've always thought, in my cynical way, that the Catholic case against birth con-

trol was at best self-serving — a way of flooding the voting pool with Catholics — and at worst loopy.

If you really and truly believe abortion is the ultimate evil, how can you be against contraception, the great enemy of abortion?

Obama relied on the recommendation of the Institute of Medicine, an independent group of doctors and researchers, in crafting his proposal.

Birth control, the Institute stated, isn't a mere accessory to a self-indulgent life, but a medical necessity to ensure the health and well-being of women. And it presented facts to prove this point.

About half of pregnancies in the United States are unplanned, the Institute estimated, and nearly 40 percent of those end in abortion. Providing easy access to birth control could dramatically lower those numbers and save money besides.

From the reaction of the Catholic hierarchy and its friends on the reactionary right, you would have thought the White House had ordered a convent of nuns burned at the stake.

"This is a direct attack on religious liberty and will not stand in a Romney presidency," Mitt Romney said. He has also promised to end federal programs that provide family planning services to millions of women.

Rick Santorum would like to see birth control made illegal altogether. How's that for keeping government out of your life?

Conservative Christian leaders and

others try to make the case that religion is under siege in this country, and that liberals are attacking their rights.

Actually, it's the other way round. Liberals aren't trying to make anyone do anything. You want to use contraception? Fine. You don't? That's your right. You also have a right to an abortion if that's what you want.

Same with gay rights. If you want to marry someone of the same sex, that's OK with us. Nobody's forcing you.

Despite proclamations to the contrary by conservative Christians, a majority of Americans aren't ready to surrender their hard-won reproductive rights. The Susan G. Komen Foundation for the Cure found this out the hard way when it decided to stop its payments to Planned Parenthood.

The foundation was responding to pressure from anti-choice groups that oppose Planned Parenthood's abortion services. Plans to disrupt its popular Races for the Cure and boycott sponsors were in the works. When Komen's decision to cut off support for one of the nation's biggest providers of breast cancer screenings for uninsured low-income women produced a swift, huge outcry and a gush of financial contributions to Planned Parenthood, the foundation reversed course.

Who's besieging whom here?

The Constitution doesn't merely guarantee freedom of religion. It also guarantees freedom from religion.

OtherWords columnist Donald Kaul lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan. otherwords.org

The Usual Eccentric Ode to the Couch in the Other Room

Will E. Sanders
Creators Syndicate

You are the grand collector of coins and wayward snack foods. To unearth any of your long-faded and beaten-down cushions is to enter a world of intrigue.

"Hey, there's my rabbit's foot!" Not to mention the health hazards, especially once the ants make the discovery. Underneath your cushions awaits an alien landscape foreign to man that's littered with unlucky Lucky Charms pieces awkwardly mingled with rogue fingernail clippings. You are the couch in the other room.

When I was 4 years old or so, I murdered my mom and dad's old couch after I pulled all of the stuffing out of it when nobody was looking, and then when they bought you. Now that you know of my general disposition toward furniture, please be advised you are a "coming soon" movie attraction that is playing in select cities and at the curb behind the shed around back.

You were given to me as a perverted housewarming gift by my sadistic parents nearly a decade ago as my first piece of furniture. My parents were probably tickled to unload the cursed couch on their second-born child in the name of charity. Since that time, you've remained the prime suspect in many a household pick-theft.

And I shudder to think what embarrassing evidence could be gathered from a DNA swabbing of your dirty yellow surface. A cornucopia of numerous but-tocks of all shapes, sizes and grills have

trampled you (and often as they eat Lucky Charms and clip their toe nails). If you could speak, you would lament the awkward romances, pants-ripping flatulence and cat vomit ... especially the never-ending cat vomit.

You are upholstered in the height of Reaganomics fashion, a smashing affair of yellow cotton and even uglier yellow polyester. That is why I refer to you as Old Yeller. The name also is topical, because soon I will haul you behind the shed and pull the trigger.

Don't try me — I'm serious.

After all, you are the couch in the other room.

You do not belong in the living room with the rest of the furniture. You are old and smelly, and only the dog rests on you. And that's only because Silas the Devil Dog isn't allowed on any of the furniture except for you! So don't go thinking you have a friend.

I'm not exactly sure how you managed to survive this long. Perhaps the one saving grace you possess is nostalgia. I can never remember a time in my life without you. It's quite a beautiful story of companionship if you think about it.

In television years, you've lasted since "The A-Team" was on the air all the way through some stupid (and soon-to-be cancelled) show called "2 Broke Girls." You have witnessed the original "Return of the Jedi" on VHS and have lived to see the day of "Return of the Jedi" again, only digitally re-mastered, in high definition and 4-D.

Even still, at the end of the day, I'm painfully aware that you're now only 16 percent wood, 12 percent fabric, 70 percent accumulated skin cells and 2 percent cat vomit, which sort of acts as a bonding agent that holds it all in place.

I just need to figure out a way to haul you out of the other room first. How did I get you in here in the first place — grease you like a pig and squeeze you through the doorjamb? Or maybe you're making the room smaller on purpose, like some self-preservation tactic that sinister couches use to avoid the inevitable.

Of course, there is the matter of whether or not the trash company will claim you. My investigation into this matter has been less than thorough. OK, I keep forgetting to call. Nevertheless, I do not look forward to lugging your behemoth mass across the back lawn.

If provoked, however — say I stub a toe on you again — I will take you out of here in pieces. If I have to. Pieces, I tell you!

I'll make it look like an accident, tag and bag you and dump you on some rural stretch of land like a forgotten mafia hit. I will even remove your "Do Not Remove" tags and everything before I do it.

You are the couch in the other room, but not for much longer.

To contact Will Sanders, visit his website at willsanders.com, or send him an email at will@willsanders.com.

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Sports



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Grigsby still holds national scoring average record

Story courtesy of NFHS
(National Federation of State High School Associations)

In 1977, McDowell (Kentucky) High School basketball player Geri Grigsby finished her illustrious high school career with a glittering national-record 46.1 points per game scoring average.

Some 35 years later, that mark still stands, according to the National Federation of State High School Associations' National High School Sports Record Book.

The 5-foot-5 guard started her high school basketball-playing career at exactly the right time, and she made the most of it. As a result of Title IX legislation passed by the federal government in 1972 along with legislation passed by the Kentucky General Assembly, interscholastic sports opportunities for girls resumed in Kentucky for the first time in nearly 40 years. The daughter of longtime basketball coach Pete Grigsby, Geri Grigsby grew up in an environment that was very conducive to her development as both a basketball player and an athlete.

In the fall of 1974, the 15-year-old Grigsby started her sophomore year of high school. That year, she scored 1,079 points, followed by efforts of 1,421 and 1,885 points in her junior and senior years, respectively. At the

time, her three-year total of 4,385 was the national record and was the Kentucky state scoring record for both boys and girls. In addition, her single-season total of 1,885 points in 1976-77 still ranks as the national record in that category.

Along the way, she had single-game highs of 81 and 66 points. Her 81-point game still ranks fifth all-time.

Grigsby possessed a very well-rounded game as she also averaged seven rebounds and eight assists a game for the Daredevils, while shooting 50 percent from the field and 75 percent from the free-throw line. She was equally outstanding in the classroom where she maintained a perfect 4.0 grade-point average for her entire 12 years of school, and was valedictorian of her senior class. Grigsby also embraced the performing arts, as she was a cheerleader and played saxophone in the school band.

A three-time first-team all-star, Grigsby was named captain of the All-State team as

a senior and was also chosen Miss Basketball in Kentucky that same year after being runner-up as a junior. In 1978, she was named Kentucky's Sportswoman of the Year, and 10 years later, she was named to the first induction class of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame. She has also been inducted into two other Kentucky halls of fame for athletes.

Following high school, Grigsby matriculated at the University of Kentucky (UK), where she played for three years before transferring to Western Kentucky University for her senior season.

After completing her undergraduate degree at UK, she earned a law degree from that same school. Her career in public service since that time has been unparalleled. During her career, she has been staff attorney with the Legislative Research Commission, senior attorney with the U.S. Equal Opportunity Commission, associate counsel with the U.S. House of Representa-

tives, chief of staff for the Senate Minority Caucus in the Kentucky General Assembly, and her current position of chief of staff to Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Secretary Mike Hancock.

"I love my job," Grigsby said. "I function similarly to a deputy secretary and oversee all of the non-engineering aspects of the center. I'm an advisor to Secretary Hancock and do all kinds of functions around the state."

"The work is very rewarding and I enjoy the challenge of getting things done. It's a whole new experience of teamwork - I work with very dedicated, talented people and I often refer to it as 'basketball without the ball.'"

Although it's been many years since Grigsby set the record, people still remember her as the high-scoring basketball guard.

"These days, I still get recognized at work and at games and they'll ask me if I'm the basketball player," Grigsby said. "It comes up daily in some form or fashion. Basketball is so special in Kentucky. Part of me, I didn't want to be always known as the baller. Now, I'm very comfortable that that's part of my history."

(See RECORD, page 7)



Geri Grigsby

Raiders pummel Piarist in play-in game

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

EASTERN - South Floyd defeated Piarist School 85-55 on Tuesday night in the play-in game of the Boys' 58th District Basketball Tournament at Allen Central's J.E. Campbell Arena.

South Floyd improved to 6-20 after posting the win. Tyler Daniels paced South Floyd with a game-high 18 points. Austin Salisbury scored 12 points and Austin Bailey added 10 as three different South Floyd scorers reached double figures.

The Raiders faced Piarist in the district tournament's play-in game following a week-long layoff.

South Floyd dominated from the opening tip. The Raiders outscored Piarist 33-7 in the opening quarter and packed a commanding 53-22 lead into halftime.

Prior to posting the 30-point win, South Floyd led Piarist 78-37 at the end of the third quarter.

South Floyd featured 10 different scorers. Freddie Ousley and Jimmy Helton just missed double figures, finishing with nine points apiece. Corey Thornsbury and Dakota Justice were also active on the offensive end, scoring seven points each for the Raiders. Luke Rhea tossed in five points and Jacob Crager and Baylon Branham contributed four apiece for South Floyd in the win.

South Floyd hit seven three-pointers.

John Gullett led Piarist with 15 points. Gullett was the only Piarist scorer to reach double figures. Narrowly missing double figures, Blake Dean added nine points for the Knights.

Eight different Piarist players provided scoring. Other offensive contributors for the Knights included Michael Williams (seven points), Ben Dennison (six points), Rahul Annabethula (six points), Allen May (four points) and Tyler Stumbo (three points).

Piarist was 12-for-23 from the foul line in the season-ending setback.

With the loss, Piarist ended the season 3-16.

In the Girls' 58th District Basketball Tournament, Allen Central defeated Piarist School 81-43.



Allen Central High School senior Micah Harlow made his college choice official when he signed to play football for the University of Pikeville.

Harlow signs with UPIKE

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

EASTERN - Allen Central High School senior Micah Harlow will play college football close to home. Harlow has signed with neighboring University of Pikeville.

An accomplished quarterback, Harlow completed 100-of-192 passes for 1,466 yards and 16 touchdowns during his senior season.

The Allen Central gridiron standout also rushed for 111 yards and seven touchdowns in his final prep campaign.

Harlow was a four-year starter for Allen Central, excelling defensively prior to becoming the Class A football program's starting signal-caller.

Defensively, Harlow recorded 53 total tackles (31 solos) during his senior campaign.

Harlow completed his school basketball career earlier in the week when the Rebels competed in the 58th District Tournament.

Dudley Hilton is headed into his second season as head coach of the UPIKE football program.

The Bears concluded the 2011 season 4-7 overall and 1-5 in the Mid-South Conference. UPIKE competes in the Mid-South Conference.

Blackcats beat Rebs, advance to district finals

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

EASTERN - The Prestonsburg Blackcats are headed back to the 15th Region Tournament. Prestonsburg punched its ticket to the regional tournament on Wednesday night, defeating Allen Central 72-56 in the 58th District Tournament at J.E. Campbell Arena.

Freshman guard Jarredd Jarrell paced Prestonsburg with a game-high 26 points. Joseph Jamerson and Jarrin Hall joined Jarrell in double figures with 11 points apiece.

With the win, Prestonsburg improved to 15-15. The Blackcats will meet the winner of the South Floyd-Betsy Layne game in the district finals Friday night.

Prestonsburg shot 68 percent from the foul line, finishing 28-of-41. The Blackcats won without hitting a shot from beyond the arc.

Prestonsburg edged Allen Central 13-12 in the opening quarter and tried a 31-23 lead into halftime.

The Blackcats clung to a 43-41 lead at the conclusion of the third quarter before flourishing offensively in the final period.

Bryson Williams had eight points, Grant Anderson five, and Adam Crisp two for the Blackcats.

Trey Stapleton scored on a free throw in Prestonsburg's win.

Braxton Tackett led Allen Central with a team-high 18 points. Junior Handshoe followed, scoring 13 points for Allen Central in the loss.

Accompanying Tackett and Handshoe in double figures, Jake Prater pushed in 12 points for the Rebels.

University of Pikeville football signee Micah Harlow scored added eight points for the Allen Central boys. Jon Ross Gibson (two points) and Dalton Lawson (two points) and Travis Atkins (one point) also provided



Freshman guard Jarredd Jarrell (1) led Prestonsburg past Allen Central in the 58th District Tournament. Jarrell is pictured defending against Allen Central's Braxton Tackett.

scoring for the Rebels. Allen Central was 16-of-21 from the foul line, shooting 76 percent.

The Rebels hit four three-pointers. Prater

and Handshoe had two three-point field goals apiece for Allen Central in the season-ending setback.

Allen Central exited the season 15-15.

Lady Rebels roll past Piarist

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

EASTERN - Host Allen Central steadily pulled away from Piarist School on Tuesday in the play-in game of the Girls' 58th District Basketball Tournament. The Lady Rebels eventually rolled to a win, defeating Piarist 81-43.

Allen Central improved to 12-18. The Lady Rebels advanced to face 58th District powerhouse Betsy Layne.

Allen Central also defeated Piarist in the play-in game of the Boys' 58th District Basketball Tournament.

Longtime leader Sarah Rife led Allen Central with 18 points. Rife was one of three Allen Central scorers to reach double figures. Brooklyn Martin scored 17 points and Hannah MacElhose added 15 for the Lady Rebels.

Allen Central took control early, outscoring Piarist 26-5 in the opening quarter. The Lady Rebels led 45-21 at halftime.

Allen Central remained in control in the second half, outscoring Piarist 19-6 in the third quarter.

Krista Parsons pushed in eight points for the Lady Rebels. Aiding the Allen Central attack, Allysa Moore and Megan Layne added six points apiece.

Allen Central had swept Piarist during the regular season, defeating the Lady Knights twice during a two-game regular-season series.

Kelsey Parsons scored five points while teammates Elizabeth Prater, Breanna Prater and Kacie Poston chipped in two each for the Lady Rebels.

Allen Central hit eight three-pointers. The Lady Rebels were 11-of-21 from the foul line.

Kelli Akers paced Piarist with a game-high 23 points. Cathryn Calhoun contributed 15 points and Mario Jacobs added five for the Lady Knights.

Piarist hit nine three-pointers in the season-ending setback.

The Lady Knights exited the season 5-20.

Record

"At the time, I was just happy to get the opportunity to play ball and make the most of the opportunity. I didn't think much about the scoring or the record. Looking back sometimes, I wonder how I did that."

In life, timing is often everything. For Grigsby, getting the opportunity to play high school basketball as a result of the passage of Title IX and subsequent Kentucky legislation proved to be very fortuitous.

"When I was a freshman, we knew it was going to take effect," Grigsby said. "I think it wasn't going to happen, I was prepared to play on the boys team."

"I'll never forget that first game. The gym was packed and people were curious if girls could play. For me, just getting the chance to play was more important than scoring a

lot of points or setting a record. I was really blessed to have been born when I was and to have the chance to play.

"Being part of that first group, I felt like a trailblazer. There were some pretty darn good female basketball players out there. You felt like you were part of something special."

With a father who was a longtime basketball coach, Grigsby grew up around the game and probably had greater insight into the intricacies of the game than most of her peers.

"My dad was a huge influence on me," Grigsby said. "I tell people that as a 10-year-old, I already knew what a 'box-and-one' was. Dad went from being a high school coach to Floyd County superintendent. He

was always a strong supporter of Title IX."

A lifelong fitness zealot, Grigsby embraced running and conditioning as a player and still maintains the fervor today.

"When I was in high school, we'd practice and then I'd run four to six miles afterward," Grigsby explained. "I never wanted lack of conditioning to be an excuse for why we perhaps didn't win a game. I think that my competitive desire and conditioning were my greatest assets. I was always moving and never still for a second."

During her lifetime, Grigsby has received numerous honors and awards. Near the top of that list was her induction into the NFHS' National High School Hall of Fame in 1993.

"Among my sports or professional rec-

ognitions, I would say that is one of the most special," Grigsby said. "Most of my trophies are at my parents' home. However, there are two or three items that I've got on my plane at home and one of them is this award. That shows how special it is to me."

While most people would likely place holding a national scoring record at the top of her personal list of accomplishments, Grigsby maintains an ever-optimistic and forward-looking attitude.

"I think my greatest accomplishment is yet to happen," she explained. "I always look forward to the next accomplishment coming up and always look forward to the next challenge."

Continued from p6

Mountain Cheerleading Classic Championships set for March 3

Times Staff Report

PIKEVILLE — The 26th annual Mountain Classic Cheerleading Championships will be held at Pikeville High School on March 3.

Competition will begin at 10 a.m.

This event features 20-to-30 elementary, junior high,

junior varsity and varsity cheerleading squads and dance teams.

Admission will be \$5 for adults and \$3 for students.

Concession, photography, and florist services will be available as well as several vendors exhibiting cheerleading clothing, jewelry and decorative items.

Representatives from

several major cheerleading companies will also be on site with information on summer camps, clinics and uniform selections.

For more information or to register your cheer squad, please contact Lisa Wheeler between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. at 606-432-0185 or by e-mail at lisawheeler@pikeville.kyschools.us.

KHSAA adds bass fishing as varsity sport

Times Staff Report

LEXINGTON — Kentucky's lakes, rivers and streams have always been a haven for anglers and record-breaking catches. Starting with the 2012-13 school year, young anglers will have a chance to win something more — a high school state championship.

The KHSAA will add bass fishing as a varsity sport-activity starting next year, Commissioner Julian Tackett announced in a Wednesday morning press conference. Bass fishing will join bowling, which is holding its first KHSAA-sanctioned state championship in late March, and competitive cheer as sport-activities offered by the Association. Kentucky becomes the second state nationally to offer bass fishing as a varsity sport, following Illinois. It will be offered in the spring with a regular season scheduled from late February through mid-April. The postseason and state competition will take place in late-April.

"To say we are excited to sponsor bass fishing as a state championship sport-activity is an understatement," said Tackett. "Not only does it seem like a natural fit, given the number of Kentuckians of all ages who enjoy fishing and the outdoors, but it also allows us to reach one more group of students who may not already participate in an extra-curricular activity and give them a chance to be a part of a team. Representing your school and your community comes with great responsibility — keeping your grades up, staying out of trouble and setting an example for others. Not only do we hope to reward these students with a state championship event experience next year but we hope it fosters a lifelong love of the sport."

Much like youth programs already in place for bowling and archery, Tackett

said the assistance the Association has already received from organizations such as The Bass Federation and youth director Mark Gintert, as well as FLW and Outdoors Operations Manager Dave Washburn has proven invaluable. The appreciation has been reciprocated.

"The Bass Federation is very excited to be working with the Kentucky High School Athletic Association and the FLW Outdoors to help bring high school fishing to the state of Kentucky," said Gintert. "These three organizations represent the forefront of youth fishing and athletics across the state and we can't wait to see the program grow as a result of this partnership."

The first state championship for bass fishing will be held at the Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area. The area has already played host to numerous high school fishing tournaments, including last year's Murray State High School Fishing Open on Kentucky Lake, an event that drew 88 teams representing more than 50 Kentucky high schools.

The new sport-offering has already gained traction in the state as Terry Johnson, Executive Director of the Bluegrass State Games, also announced on Wednesday that bass fishing will join the full offering of sporting events at this summer's competition.

"We are very excited to partner with Murray State and FLW Outdoors to add high school fishing to the Bluegrass State Games," said Johnson. "We provide Kentuckians of all ages with a wide array of sports in which to compete and the momentum high school fishing will gain as a result of its addition as a varsity sport by the KHSAA makes it a natural fit."

Bluegrass State Games adds fishing for 2012

Times Staff Report

LEXINGTON — The Bluegrass Sports Commission announced the addition of fishing to the 2012 Bluegrass State Games on Wednesday. Fishing was also added as a sanctioned sport by the Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA).

Murray State University is a sponsor of the BSGS event, which will take place May 5 at Kentucky Lake.

"We are very excited to partner with Murray State and FLW Outdoors to add high school fishing to the Bluegrass State Games," said BSGS Executive Director Terry Johnson. "We provide Kentuckians of all ages with a wide array of sports in which to compete and the momentum high school fishing will gain as a result of its addition as a varsity sport by the KHSAA makes it a natural fit."

ing will gain as a result of its addition as a varsity sport by the KHSAA makes it a natural fit."

The event is open to all ninth, 10th, 11th and 12th grade students, including home schooled students.

The entry fee for the BSGS High School Fishing Championship is \$25 per student (\$50 per two-person team), which includes: A one-year Student Angler Federation membership; A digital subscription to FLW Bass Fishing magazine; Insurance coverage while competing in SAF tournaments; Insurance coverage for SAF club hosted tournaments (including the option to add your school as additionally insured); Discounts on FLW clothing and eligibility to win great prizes in the monthly FLW Giveaway

at FLWOutdoors.com; Discounts on Coast Guard approved boater safety courses at BoaterExam.com (using promo code FLWFISH1).

Students fish as two-person teams in all SAF and FLW High School Fishing tournaments and are accompanied by the water by their coach or a volunteer. Only largemouth, spotted, redeye or smallmouth bass that meet the tournament's size requirements may be weighed in. The winning team in each State Championship, Conference Championship and the National Championship is determined by the heaviest five-bass catch. Each team's coach or volunteer supplies a boat.

Registration is available online at HighSchoolFishing.org.

Debt ceiling bill clears Senate

FRANKFORT — Legislation that would cap the Commonwealth's debt supported by General Fund appropriations was approved by the Senate Wednesday by a 34-2 vote.

Senate Bill 1, sponsored by Sen. Joe Bowen, R-Owensboro, and Sen. Damon Thayer, R-Corbin, would prohibit the legislature from appropriating more than 6 percent of General Fund revenues to bonded indebtedness. Supporters of the legislation say that percentage is a generally accepted industry standard used by bond rating agencies.

According to Sen. Bowen, this legislation would rein potential high debt levels in the future and put Kentucky at the same levels as many other states.

"We've taken on more debt than most states relative to

our tax base. We are acquiring more debt than we are retiring... Senate Bill 1 adds that structural safeguard that we need, that built-in discipline," he said.

"By limiting our bonded indebtedness, we're going to be better prepared to meet the programs and services we're obligated to provide... We're not going to become a slave to our debt. We're going to emphasize programs over pork, basics over bricks," Bowen said.

The measure excludes debt for universities, the Kentucky Housing Authority, and other agencies not using the General Fund. It also allows the General Assembly to exceed the 6 percent limit by a majority vote if the Governor declared a state of emergency that required additional funds.

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Bears roll past Eagles, 10-1

Times Staff Report

PIKEVILLE — Three players had multiple-hit games and winning pitcher Kyle Robertson threw five great innings of relief to lead Pikeville past ALC 10-1 Wednesday afternoon.

The win raised Coach Chad Gassman's Bears to 2-3 on the young season, while the game served as the season-opener for the Eagles of Coach Scott Cornett.

After senior left-hander David Bishop threw three innings to open the game, he handed it

to Robertson. The senior from Hopkinsville allowed only one hit and fanned six in his scoreless stint. Junior Austin Jarvis pitched the ninth for the Bears.

Alice Lloyd opened scoring in the second. Right-fielder Jeff Cyrus, a former Bear, singled and scored on a hit by designated hitter Bobby Caldwell.

The Bears answered with a pair in the bottom of the frame. Corey Adams reached on a one-out single. Luke Wright reached on an error and both scored when Adam Overbay reached on an error.

It was the first of six scoring innings on the day for the Bears, three of which produced multiple runs.

The Bears took advantage of seven Eagle errors which accounted for five unearned runs on the day.

First baseman Pat O'Brien led the Bear attack with three hits in four at-bats, driving in a pair and scoring one. Adams and Wright had two hits apiece and scored two runs; Adams had the only extra-base hit for the Bears when he doubled, and Wright recorded an RBI.

Morris, Overbay, Brad Andrews, Jason

Rosen and Chris Morford had hits for the Bears.

Alice Lloyd got a pair of hits from Cyrus, including a double, and Caldwell's single.

Starting pitcher Trevor Corns (0-1) gave up three runs, only one of which was earned, in 2-2/3 innings. He gave up five hits and had two strikeouts. Four Eagle relievers gave up seven runs on as many hits in the final 5-1/3 innings.

Pikeville will play a four-game series at Bryan (Tenn.) College beginning with a Friday doubleheader at 3 p.m.

Eagles outlast CCU in shootout

Times Staff Report

PIPPA PASSES — Alice Lloyd College's Isaac Wilson and Shawn Thompson combined for 60 points to lead the Eagles to a 101-94 victory over Cincinnati Christian University on Saturday at the Grady Nutt Athletic Center.

Wilson led Alice Lloyd in the opening half as the Eagles carried a 45-38 lead into halftime.

Both squads continued to put points on the scoreboard in the second half. ALC went on a crucial run midway through the second half, pushing its lead out to 15 points. The Eagles were able to control the contest until the final horn sounded.

With the win, Alice Lloyd evened its overall record to 14-14. The Eagles improved to 5-8 in the KJAC.

Wilson led Alice Lloyd with a game-high 33 points. Thompson scored 27 points and dished out a game-high seven assists for the Eagles.

Alice Lloyd senior Brandon Hayes contributed 12 points in the contest. He was also honored before the game for having reached a milestone on February 3 as he recorded his 500th career rebound in a matchup against KJAC for Saint Lou-



ALC senior Brandon Hayes was honored for registering his 500th rebound. Hayes is pictured with ALC head coach J.R. Hammond.

is College of Pharmacy. Freshman Clint Stepp added eight points, all in the second half. Senior Casey Dalton finished with seven points and six rebounds for the Eagles.

Alice Lloyd's post duo of senior Brent Hall and sophomore Terry Muse added seven points and nine rebounds apiece.

Guard Kevin Mitchell led CCU (10-18, 5-8 KJAC) with 26 points.

ALC edges non-conference rival KCU

Times Staff Report

GRAYSON — Playing on the road late last week didn't deter the Alice Lloyd College men's basketball team. ALC pulled out a hard-fought win over host Kentucky Christian University on Friday evening, defeating the Knights 71-68.

ALC packed a hard-fought 35-33 lead over KCU into halftime.

The Eagles led by as many as eight points in the second half before holding on for the three-point win.

Isaac Wilson, a sophomore, paced ALC

(13-14) with 21 points. Wilson also registered six rebounds for the visiting Eagles.

Fellow sophomore Terry Muse added a double-double for the Eagles, scoring 11 points and grabbing 11 rebounds. He also blocked five shots.

Senior guard Casey Dalton added nine points and six assists for the Eagles. Sophomore Shawn Thompson also chipped in, adding eight points and 10 rebounds for ALC in the winning effort.

Senior Bandon Clemons led home-standing KCU (11-18) with a game-high 33 points.

Click & Clack Talk Cars

What could be causing car's power brakes not to work?

Tom and Ray Magliozzi
King Features Syndicate

Dear Tom and Ray:

I love your show, and I desperately need your help. I am presently the "keeper" of my 25-year-old daughter's 2004 Nissan Maxima. It has a serious problem, which she also has mentioned. On any cold (34 F or below) winter morning, the power brakes are NONEXISTENT. Like, GONE for the first five to seven minutes after starting the car. If you let the car warm up for 10 minutes, they'll kick in. But if you try to head right out onto the road (which I have been crazy enough to try), you have virtually NO brakes. I can pump the brakes really hard and cause to stop if going less than 1 mph — seriously. Mechanics have suggested everything from the transmission to the master cylinder to a brake line to a vacuum problem. Please help! I don't want to be a kamikaze driver anymore!

— Sharon
RAY: We don't want you to be one either, Sharon. After all, we could be in the car in front of you.

TOM: The first thing I'd suspect would be the power-brake booster.

RAY: The power-brake booster is a device that uses a vacuum-actuated diaphragm to multiply the pressure your foot applies to the brake pedal. It's the "power" in power brakes.

TOM: If water has gotten inside the diaphragm, or into the line that runs to it, it could be freezing overnight and preventing the booster from working because the ice is blocking the flow of air.

RAY: Then, once the engine compartment heats up,

the ice melts and the booster works normally.

TOM: We're so used to having power brakes these days that when the "power" part fails, it feels like we have no brakes at all. And today's heavier cars are much harder to stop without power brakes.

RAY: This should be pretty easy to diagnose, Sharon. One option is to simply put a booster in it. I think there's at least an 80.75 percent chance that that will solve your problem.

TOM: Otherwise, you'll have to leave the car overnight with your mechanic.

RAY: First thing in the morning, while the brakes are actually misbehaving, your mechanic can poke around and figure out exactly what's going on.

TOM: In the meantime, stay off the road until your brakes are fully functioning. Remember, body work generally is a lot more expensive than power-brake boosters.

Do added-traction devices actually work?

Dear Tom and Ray:
Do those clamp-on or strap-on devices that go on your tires help with winter driving traction? Or do they just clamp on my wallet? — James

TOM: Sure, they can help. There are several different types of devices that can be used as temporary traction aids.

RAY: Consumer Reports tested a few of them, and the conclusion was that they can help, under certain situations, but they're not very easy to put on.

TOM: They tested one product called the Auto-Sock, which is a mesh sock that you slip over each tire, and the mesh gives you ad-

ditional traction in certain conditions.

RAY: They tested it on a snow-covered hill in Vermont and found that with the AutoSock, they could get their Honda Accord to the top of the hill, which they couldn't do with just the all-season tires.

TOM: They also tested a set of temporary "tire chain-like" things called SnoBoots. With straps and Velcro, you attach these textured rubber pads to your tires, and the pads are supposed to dig into the snow and increase your grip.

RAY: Consumers found that in soft snow, SnoBoots were disappointing. They dug into the snow and got stuck, just like regular tires do. But on roads with packed snow, the SnoBoots were impressive and increased tire grip significantly.

TOM: The downside of these devices is that they're fairly expensive (the Auto-Sock is 100 bucks per pair of wheels, and the Sno-Boots are \$250 for four). While that's not quite equal to the price of four good snow tires (which will help you more than anything), it is a significant investment.

RAY: They're also both fairly difficult to install. So you should plan to get wet and cold when doing so.

TOM: And these are not things you can put on in the fall and take off in the spring. They're temporary devices designed for low-speed, short-distance driving. Then they have to be removed.

RAY: There are other products and devices out there that we're less familiar with, but if you've used any temporary traction devices successfully or unsuccessfully — we invite you to tell us, and our other readers, about your experience. Make a note of the name of the product, and leave your comments at www.cartalk.com/snow.

TOM: And if you decide to toss one of these products in your trunk, consider also tossing in a waterproof jumpsuit and some hand-warmers.

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Legals

**PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF INTENTION
TO MINE**

Pursuant to Application Number 836-0348, Transfer in accordance with KAR 8:00-00, notice is hereby given that Laurel Mountain Resources, LLC, 1374 HWY 192E, London, KY 40301, intends to transfer permit number 836-0385 to Laurel Mountain Resources LLC, 1374 HWY 192E, London, KY 40301. The new permit number will be 836-0303. The operation disturbs 202.0 acres. No new acreage is affected by the transfer. The operation is located 2.2 miles northeast of Handance in Floyd County. The operation is approximately 0.1 miles northwest from Route 2029's junction with KY Route 7 and located on an unnamed tributary of Racoon Branch. The operation is located on the Wayland, Handshoe and David U.S.G.S 2 1/2 minute quadrangle maps. The application is being filed for public inspection at the Department for Natural Resources, Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Frankfort, KY 41653-1410. Written comments, objections must be filed with the Director, Division of Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. All comments or objections must be received within fifteen (15) days of today's date.

**PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF INTENTION
TO MINE**

Pursuant to Application No. 836-5578

1) In accordance with KRS 350.055, notice is hereby given that Honaker Coal Co., Ltd., Branch Road, Tram, Kentucky 41663 has applied for a permit for underground and surface coal mining operation. The operation is located 0.5 miles west of Tram in Floyd County. The proposed operation will disturb 4.06 surface acres and 25.56 acres, which is the total area within the permit boundary being 29.56 acres.

(2) The proposed operation is approximately 0.3 miles southeast from Camp Branch Road's (CR 1609) junction with Right Fork of Camp Branch Road (CR 1023) and located along Camp Branch Road. The latitude/longitude coordinates of the permit area are 37° 34' 15.3" North, 82° 39' 25.5" West.

(3) The proposed operation is on the Harold U.S.G.S 2 1/2 minute quadrangle map. The surface area to be disturbed is owned by Morton Hunt, Jesse Honaker Heirs, Booker Jones Heirs and Camp Branch Justice Family Trust. The operation will underlie land owned by Jesse Honaker Heirs, Booker Jones Heirs, Camp Branch Justice Family Trust and Kate Cade Heirs. The operation will affect a within 100 feet from public road CR 1609. The operation will not involve re-location or closure of the public road.

(4) The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, KY 41653. Written comments, objections or requests for a public hearing or informal conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. This is the final advertisement for the application. All comments, objections or requests for a permit conference must be received within thirty (30) days of today's date.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Clark Distributing Company, Inc., Mailing address P.O. Box 3390, Bowling Green, Kentucky, 42301, hereby declares intention(s) to apply for a Wholesale Beer and Wine license(s) no later than March 9, 2012. The business to be licensed will be located at 409 George Road, Bowling Green, Kentucky 41605 doing business as Clark Distributing Company, Inc. The Owner(s), Principal Officers and directors, partners, or members are, as follows: CEO, W. Orlan Clark, Jr. of 1005 Claypool-Alvaton Rd., Bowling Green, KY 42301; President, George F. Clark of 3109 Big Springs Rd., Bowling Green, KY 42301; Vice-President, Albert C. Clark of P.O. Box 986, Starkville, MS 39795.

Any person, association, corporation or body politic may protest the granting of the license(s) by writing the Dept. of Alcohol Beverage Control, 1003 Twilight Trail, Frankfort, KY, 40601, 606-500-1100, with 30 days of the date of this publication.

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Legals

NOTICE OF BOND RELEASE

Pursuant to Permit No. 836-0352

In accordance with the provisions of KRS 350.093, notice is hereby given that Clarence Hayer, 129 1/2 S. Layne Hill Drive, P.O. Box 41605, Botsey Layne, KY 41605, intends to apply for a Phase I bond release for increment 1 on permit number 836-0352, which was last issued July 1, 2010. The application covers an area of approximately 8.4 surface acres located at Botsey Layne in Floyd County.

The operation is located on Layne Hill Drive, 0.8 miles north of the intersection of U.S. 23 and K.C. Rt. 979. The location is located on the Harold U.S.G.S 2 1/2 minute quadrangle map.

The bond now in effect is a LOC bond for \$23,300.00. Approximately 60% of the original bond amount of 23,300 is included in the application for release.

Reclamation work performed includes: grading, seeding and mulching, and successful establishment of the post-mining Land Use, which was completed March, 2011.

All comments, objections, and requests for a public hearing or informal conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Field Services, #2 Hudson Hollow, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, by Closing Day on February 28, 2012.

A public hearing on the application has been scheduled for February 29, 2012 at 8:00 am., at the Department for Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, KY 41653. The hearing will be cancelled if no request for a hearing or informal conference is received by February 28, 2012.

This is the final advertisement of this application. All comments, objections or requests for a public hearing or informal conference must be received within 30 (thirty) days of the day of this notice.

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REAL ESTATE RENTALS

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Apartment for rent. Located above Union on US 23 at Ivel. 2 br. 1 bath. \$400 month plus \$400 deposit 1 year lease. No pets. Call 606-478-8100.

Furnished apartments for rent and one nice furnished trailer, also a furnished house. No pets. Near Prestonsburg J.V. lake. Out of state workers welcome. Call 606-295-0115 or 606-886-3941.

Duplex for rent, 2bdrm 1 bath, central heat & air on US 23 1 mile North of Prestonsburg. Call 889-9747 or 886-9007

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EMPLOYMENT

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Tire Tech Wanted Looking for off-the-road tire Tech with CDL license for a fast growing company. Competitive pay and an excellent benefit package. Experience necessary, work will be done in Eastern, KY. Send resume to: GCR Tire Centers 152 Academy DR. Delbarton, W. VA. 25670

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at Ivel, KY, has full time positions available for immediate placement as direct care support staff to work with adults with Intellectual Disabilities. All shifts available. Must have valid drivers license and insurance. Apply in person. (606)874-1900 Equal Opportunity Employer

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Pike budget proposes \$2 million in cuts

Julia Roberts Goad
Herald-News Service

PIKEVILLE — The Pike County Fiscal Court was presented with a budget for 2011-12 that included cuts of over \$2 million.

The budget for 2011-12 is \$37,674,580. Finance commissioner Rhonda James said the county's departments all made cuts that amounted to the savings. With those cuts, James said, the county's fiscal outlook is good for now.

"The current budget had a shortfall," James said, "but we made cuts to stay within budget."

Those cost-cutting measures included cuts to salaries and benefits, achieved by reducing the number of county employees. The county also cut health insurance to its employees and did not open any of the county-owned swimming pools during the summer of 2012.

Savings were also realized with reduced travel and office costs and making fewer repairs to county equipment.

Among the cost reductions made by Pike County were the elimination of 10 employees, which saved the county \$873,000. Other major money savers included an \$800,000 reduction to insurance, cutting road funds by \$600,000, and jail costs by \$150,000.

James said that with the cuts, the county's fiscal outlook for this year was good, but that a reduction in revenues is a concern.

Regulations from the Environmental Protection Agency that are preventing some mining projects to move forward behind some of loss of revenue from coal severance taxes, county Judge Executive Wayne T. Rutherford said.

Also affecting coal severance income is the decline of the use of coal to produce electricity.

Coal demand in the U.S. is going down as power companies move away from the use of coal to less expensive resources. The use of coal to generate electricity will drop two percent this year, to its lowest since 1992, according to the U.S. Department of Energy.

Pike County also receives a portion of its

revenues from taxes derived from the production of natural gas, which is seeing a 35 percent drop in prices, due to higher-than-average temperatures, which have cut demand, and inventories at record highs due to fracking at shale formations.

The probability of a loss of revenue is being met with ideas of how to bring in money to county coffers.

Assistant Attorney for Pike County Roland Case two possible new income sources would be occupational tax or an insurance tax.

Case said the other counties' payroll taxes are usually between 5 and 10 percent of earnings in the county. He said that two coal producing counties, Belle and Hopkins, both had a payroll tax, and he had researched the income generated.

Belle County, population 29,055, made \$655,000 with a 6 percent payroll tax rate, and Hopkins, population 46,338, brought in \$2 million with a rate of 10 percent.

Case said he used the rate put in place in Pulaski County, 5.5 percent, to calculate that Pike County could bring in between \$2.7 million and \$3 million.

The other alternative, an insurance tax, was also broached by Case.

He said the tax would be added to premiums for insurance, such as homeowner and automobile policies.

He explained it is a progressive tax, and that those whose property cost more would pay a higher tax.

Case said there would be no cost to the county to implement the insurance tax, and it would be added to citizens' tax bills, and collected by insurance agents. The tax would not affect health insurance or workers compensation insurance.

Case said if the Fiscal Court wants to enact one of those proposals, it would have to take action by March 23.

God's Pantry 'Come to the Table' campaign approaching \$3.5 million goal

LEXINGTON — God's Pantry Food Bank is pleased to announce that its Come to the Table capital campaign is nearing its original \$3.5 million goal. The campaign, which began in the fall of 2010 and publicly launched in September, has a current stretch goal of \$3.85 million to cover construction costs above original estimates.

"We are thrilled to be approaching this important milestone in the campaign," Food Bank CEO Marian Guinn said. "We know better than most how tough this economy has been on the wallets of our supporters. To be able to realize the plans of this campaign is critical now as we are serving more families than ever in our 57-year history. We encour-

age our supporters to join us in this final push toward goal."

Renovations began in early February at the Food Bank's headquarters on Jaggle Fox Way in North Lexington. Those improvements include the addition of a larger, more efficient refrigeration system, which will make it possible to store more fresh produce and perishable products. Last year alone, the food bank distributed 6.1 million pounds of fresh produce, which represents nearly 27 percent of the overall distribution of 22.9 million pounds in FY2011. Other renovations underway in Lexington also include new volunteer work space, a community meeting room and additional office and meeting space.

"It's very exciting to see the plans of this campaign coming to life," Campaign Chair Dave Harper said.

"When you hear the construction noises and start seeing physical transformations, it is very rewarding and we're so thankful to the donors who have made this possible."

Leading the way in the financial support for the campaign are Pine Branch Coal Sales Inc. and its owners David & Susan Duff, Quantrell Auto Group and Lexington business leader Tom Dupree Sr. whose leadership gifts total \$1.1 million. One hundred percent of God's Pantry Food Bank's board members made campaign gifts and pledges totaling \$354,000, while the food bank's staff of less than 40 employ-

ees added nearly \$100,000 toward the goal. In addition, the James Graham Brown Foundation contributed a 1:3 matching grant of \$500,000 after the food bank raised \$1.5 million dollars in an allotted time period, and the American Electric Power Foundation added a generous grant of \$100,000.

As the Food Bank closes in on the final dollars needed to complete the directives laid out in the campaign, it continues to seek support from the public. Each gift raised during the final days of the campaign will enable the organization to expand its ability to meet the needs of those living in poverty across 50 counties of Central and Eastern Kentucky.

"No gift is too small to make an

impact on our ability to fight hunger and feed families," Food Bank Board of Directors President Steve Jennings said. "Every dollar raised in this campaign has the ability to transform lives. While we hope that the need for emergency food assistance does not continue to rise at its current rate, we know that we have much work to do in making sure that adequate nutrition is available for all of our neighbors and we can't do these important tasks without the support of the communities where we are fighting hunger."

For more information on the Come to the Table campaign or to make a secure online donation today, please visit godspantry.org/cometothetable.

Horoscope

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Keep an open mind about a suggestion you see as unworkable. Give it a chance to prove itself one way or another. The results could surprise both supporters and detractors.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) News about an upcoming venture causes you to make some last-minute adjustments in your plans. But the extra work will pay off, as you come to learn more about the potential benefits opening up.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A more positive aspect grows out of

your determination to reach your immediate goals. Continue to keep your focus sharp and on target by steering clear of petty quarrels and other pesky problems.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) By acting as a voice of reason, you can avoid adding to an already turbulent situation. You might have to shout over the tumult, but your words ultimately will be heard and heeded.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) The possibility of a new acquisition always makes those Leonine eyes light up. But be careful that what you see

is what you want. Appearances can often be deceiving.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) No matter how much you might feel that you're in the right, resist saying anything that could reignite a still-unresolved situation. Let the matter drop, and move on.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Help with a personal problem comes from an unexpected source. You also find workplace pressures easing. Use this period of calm to restore your spent energies.

SCORPIO (October 23 to Novem-

ber 21) You might have to share the credit for that project you're working on. But there'll be enough credit to go around, and your efforts will be recognized and rewarded.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Details need to be dealt with before you can move on to another area. Make sure you don't leave any loose ends that could later cause everything to unravel.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) News about a change in the workplace carries with it a challenge you could find difficult to

resist. Check it out. It could be what you've been waiting for.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Allowing your artistic nature full expression will help restore your spirits and will put you in the mood to take on that new career challenge. A Libra creates excitement.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Expect to happily plunge right into a hectic social whirl starting at week's end. Your aspects favor new friendships as well as the strengthening of old relationships.



Joel A. Shapiro, MD, PhD

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