



The Floyd County Times

Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653

Speaking of and for Floyd County

USPS-2027-0000
Volume LXIX, No. 91

75¢

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This is your chance to get in your two-cents worth — let your doctors and other health care providers know how they can better meet your needs.

Community surveys of health care have been mailed to more than 1,000 residents of Floyd, Knott and Pike counties.

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If you have questions or need help in completing the survey, contact Katie New-some, Community Encourager, at 377-3447 or 358-9763.



Seven face expulsion over PHS disruptions

by Patti M. Clark
Staff Writer and
Scott Perry
Times Editor

Six juveniles and an older student have been accused and three other juveniles may be added Friday to a list of suspects thought to be involved in disruptions at Prestonsburg High School.

Only one of the suspects, however, is accused of making bomb threats, and that juvenile may not be the primary target of police, board attorney Phillip Damron said Thursday.

Nine of the suspects, who have not been identified because of their

ages, are accused of triggering fire alarms at the school. All are facing expulsion hearings and criminal prosecutions.

Damron said expulsion hearings will start today, Friday, for those students picked up Thursday and the additional suspects could be included in the investigation early Friday.

"My recommendation is that they are going to be expelled for the rest of the year," Damron said Thursday afternoon. "If they are over 18, I'm going to ask for penitentiary time. If they are under 18, I'm going to ask they be sentenced to the juvenile detention center."

"We plan to start expulsion hearings in the morning," he added.

He also said he plans to file civil suits against the parents of the juveniles and against the adult to recoup nearly \$100,000 the school system and the city of Prestonsburg has lost because of the false fire alarms and bomb threats.

There have been five threats called in since last Thursday, with two coming on Wednesday. Six high school students were involved in a two-car accident during the second bomb threat on Thursday. Three of them were taken to the hospital with minor injuries. The city of Prestonsburg has offered a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of any suspect in the case.

The school building is now being

monitored 24 hours a day to avert any attempts to place explosive devices in the school, but Damron emphasized that nothing has been found during any of the searches made by the Prestonsburg Fire Department.

"They are doing it simply to disturb that school," Damron said. "And they have succeeded completely."

Copycat callers have become a problem, but Damron said any individual who calls in a bomb threat is subject to expulsion and jail time.

The uproar began, Damron speculated, as a result of dissatisfaction with the renovation project at the school and a conflict between some

football players and the coach, John DeRossett. "I think now, it has escalated into a bunch of kids who just don't want to be in school," he said. "They just don't realize how serious the situation is. We are going to incarcerate every single one of them we can catch."

Average daily attendance at the school has dropped to about 80 percent over the last few days, and the school is suffering financially because of the low attendance figures. Schools receive state funding based on attendance, and the 20 percent daily absentee rate at Prestonsburg could cost the Floyd County School

(See Disruptions, page two)

Just one of the accused is suspected of making a bomb threat and that juvenile may not be the primary target of police.

Bartley claims solid waste law unconstitutional

by Chris McDavid
Staff Writer

Criminal charges against an Auxier man who has not paid his garbage bill were dismissed Wednesday because they were a result of an ordinance, (which) as it presently stands, is unconstitutional," according to County Attorney Keith Bartley.

Jim Daniels, who was charged with theft of services and for failing to comply with the terms of the county's solid waste ordinance, owes Rumpke nearly \$1,500, Bartley said Wednesday.

The county attorney said the Coal company is not to blame for trash, official says

An official with Costain Coal Company said Thursday that their employees are not dumping trash along the road on the Spurlock Fork of Left Beaver at Salisbury.

Garbage that includes old mattresses and tires has been dumped illegally in the area and community members are organizing a neighborhood watch program. Roy Spurlock, who is spearheading the clean-up effort, said this week he thought employees of the coal company and who lived out of the county were dumping the trash.

That's not so, says Jack Smith, Costain official. Costain employees aren't dumping trash in the community, he said, adding that Costain

(See Trash, page two)

criminal charges asked for money Daniels has not paid. "We are doing everything we can to increase the rate of collection," Bartley said. "He (Daniels) is causing everybody else's bill to increase. They (paying customers) pay more for those who don't."

Bartley said a civil suit will be brought against Daniels to collect the money owed to Rumpke.

Daniels would not comment about the proposed civil suit until he had time to look over it, he said Wednesday.

In July 1994, the fiscal court adopted an ordinance making it mandatory for residents to participate in the county's solid waste program.

Bartley said the ordinance was unconstitutional because it says if you don't pay your bill, you go to jail. "You can't put people in jail who truly can't afford to pay," he said.

Bartley said the Floyd County Solid Waste director Mike Vance will work through the list of customers who are not paying their garbage bills. "Civil suits will be filed against them."

"The county has forced every citizen to take Rumpke's services, if they need it or not," Daniels said after the dismissal. "The county should be in the garbage business and get Rumpke... out of here."

From the start of the criminal proceedings against Daniels, he has said "[i]t isn't the \$10 a month, it's the principle."

"If he is a man of principle, he will pay the bill," Bartley said.



An accident Wednesday morning sent a 15-year-old Prestonsburg High School student to Highlands Regional Medical Center, after the vehicle he and five other students were in pulled into the path of another car on Patton Street. The students' car was traveling at a high rate of speed when it hit another vehicle driven by Jimmy Moore, 52, of Garrett, a witness said. After impact, the vehicle then ran into a fence and damaged a small building, Prestonsburg Police sergeant Gerald Clark said. (photo by Chris McDavid)

New elementary school won't open until start of new year

by Patti M. Clark
Staff Writer

Saying it would be better to wait, the Floyd County Board of Education voted Tuesday to delay the opening of the new Martin/Maytown Elementary until January.

"There are some things that really aren't done," Jim Osborne, director of instruction, said at the school board meeting. "It would be better to wait."

The board has been discussing whether to move students into the new school at the Thanksgiving

break or to wait until Christmas. A survey of teachers at the two schools which will consolidate to fill the new facility found those at Martin Elementary wanting to move in during the Thanksgiving break. Teachers and the principal at Maytown, however, indicated they want to wait until Christmas.

Phil Paige, director of instruction for the system, said he too thought the best move would be to wait until Christmas because that break coincides with the end of the grading period.

Martin Elementary principal Carole Combs said, however, that the

grading period is not a problem since the classes will remain the same as they are now, with the same teachers and student groups moving to the new school.

In his recommendation to the board, interim superintendent Louie Martin said the Christmas move would give the schools "a longer period of time to make the move."

"We would have plenty of time in November and December to get the new furniture delivered and assembled," the recommendation

(See School, page two)

Coke bust is largest ever, says Thompson

by Chris McDavid
Staff Writer

The arrests Wednesday of two Perry County women marked the biggest cocaine bust ever in Floyd County, according to Floyd Sheriff Paul Hunt Thompson.

Gina Asher, 37, of Hazard, and Joan Napier Engle, 38, of Busy, were arrested Wednesday night at 10:30 p.m. at the Minnie BP Station by Detective James Rederick.

Asher and Engle were charged with first-offense trafficking in a controlled substance, after they allegedly sold two ounces of cocaine for \$2,800, according to police records.

"They are suspected suppliers of cocaine into Floyd County," Thompson said.

He said that Asher and Engle had been delivering large quantities of "close to pure cocaine" into the county.

During arraignments Thursday in Floyd District Court, Judge James R. Allen entered not-guilty pleas to Asher's and Engle's felony charges.

County Attorney Keith Bartley recommended that they be placed under a \$10,000 cash bond. He also informed the court that Engle had two outstanding bench warrants, and she would not be eligible for bond until they were served.

The arrests were part of the sheriff department's Operation: Halloween Ghost, an investigation that has resulted in the arrests of

(See Coke, page two)

Bus discipline issue remains unresolved

by Patti M. Clark
Staff Writer

Nearly a month after a bus accident on Route 80 near Garrett, members of the Floyd County Board of Education have said they are concerned about policies under which drivers must operate.

"This policy that a driver has to write up a student five times before anything is done is ridiculous," Phyllis Honshell said. "That's entirely too lax. It's time to look at this."

Board member Honshell said she is also concerned that the bus drivers are required to keep discipline on the vehicles as well as keep their eyes on the road and maneuver in traffic.

"They have to have some means of having more control on those buses," she said. "We cannot endanger our students. We cannot endanger their lives and we cannot

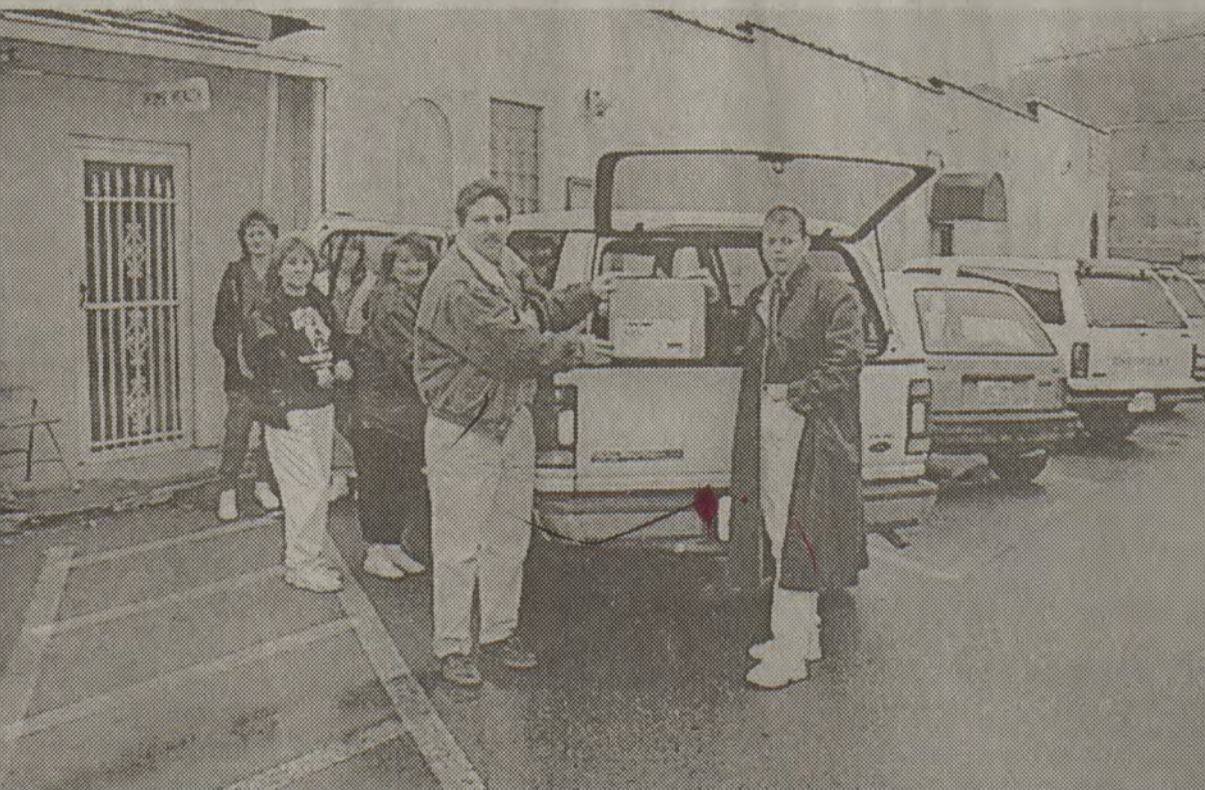
delay in taking some action on this," she said.

On October 16, a Floyd County bus, driven by Elinda Green, plowed into a parked tractor-trailer on the top of the Garrett Hill on Route 80. All of the nearly 50 students on board the vehicle were taken to area hospitals with cuts and bruises. Three of the students are still hospitalized after they suffered broken bones in the accident.

Transportation director David Layne told Honshell one of the problems he has with drivers' complaints is that drivers don't keep up with the paperwork on students who have a discipline problem and then they say they've misbehaved four or five times and nothing has been done.

He said students have 19 rules in the student handbook they must go by while they are on the buses and

(See Discipline, page two)



Giving hearts

Staff with the Floyd County Health Department's Waiver Program are going beyond the bounds of their employment duties. They are distributing to their patients the clothing, food, dishes, and other items donated by a local business and by individuals. Pictured are Rudy Little, coordinator of the program; CNAs B. J. Conley, Tammy Shepherd, Julia Ryan, Patty Spradlin, Tonya Goble, and Agatha Mullins; and RN Lisa Arnett. Janice Tackett, a CNA with the program, was not available for the photo. (See story, inside)

Annexation plan gets final city approval

by Patti M. Clark
Staff Writer

Prestonsburg City Council gave unanimous approval Wednesday to the annexation of about 3,700 acres of property into the corporate limits.

Getting approval was property on top of the mountain north of the city where a championship golf course and athletic complex are planned; and the ThunderRidge Racetrack on Route 3.

"Our push is going to be tourism," council member Hansel Cooley said after the meeting. "That's the direction this city needs to go."

The mountaintop project, along with the new Mountain Arts Center on Route 114, is expected to draw tourism dollars into the city.

With the opening of the arts

(See Annexation, page two)

P'burg will get new transit system

by Chris McDavid
Staff Writer

Prestonsburg residents will have affordable, clean, and safe transportation at their disposal in the near future, according to Greg Hamlin of Sandy Valley Transportation.

Sandy Valley Transportation is in the final stages of developing a public transit system for residents, Hamlin said Wednesday.

"It is a needed service and the people are fortunate to have this provided for them," Prestonsburg City Councilman Dick Clark, chairman of the city's community projects committee, said Wednesday.

Hamlin said the public transit vehicles are equipped to transport ten ambulatory people, or eight peo-

ple and two handicapped passengers. Bus stops will be located throughout the area to ensure that passengers can get where they need to go, he said.

Whether residents need to see a doctor, go shopping or to the pharmacy, or to visit a friend, public transportation can accommodate their needs, Hamlin said.

The cost for the transit is \$1 per trip, each time they get on and off the van.

"Once the transit schedule is complete, passengers need to give 15-30 minutes leeway, because we will be going door to door for those who can't get to a bus stop," Hamlin said.

Initial plans for the operation of the transit program are expected to

be complete today (Friday), November 15, Hamlin said, but it may not begin until November 25.

Once the schedule for the transit is complete, it will be made available

to the public through the local media, Hamlin said, and those who can't make it to a bus stop should call Sandy Valley Transportation at 886-1936.

Trash

(Continued from page one)

takes care of its trash and pays for garbage service to the mine site.

The coal company provides dumpsters at the strip mine site and the employees use those bins, Smith said.

He also said that Costain employees are not from other counties, but are mostly Floyd County residents.

Floyd County Ecology Officer

Lon May and officials with Elkhorn Coal, which owns property where trash is being dumped, were in the area Thursday to sift through the trash, looking for clues they hope will lead them to the illegal dumpers.

Elkhorn Coal plans to clear the site and erect a barrier on the property.

Annexation

(Continued from page one)

center, the city has been pushing the tourism industry as the new hope for Prestonsburg, where the financial picture has been blurred by the loss of coal mining jobs in the area.

Work has already started on a new hotel near the arts center. A Comfort Suites is planned for the site.

The city purchased 40 acres to add to donated land from the Corps of Engineers for the mountaintop project. The annexation plan includes property from the 800-foot elevation level to the top of the mountain and the city plans to develop about 600 acres of land.

While the annexation had received opposition from the beginning, only a handful of property owners were at Wednesday's meeting and none of them voiced their opposition.

Also approved during the special meeting Wednesday was the annexation of about 100 acres of land south of the city limits and adjacent to Route 23 south of the Route 80 intersection.

The property to be taken into the city is owned by Archer Music

Enterprises; Betty Lou Branham, Jack T. and Sharon B. Howard, Ernest and Opel Branham, John C. Hall, John C. Hall Jr., Thomas N. Hall, and Thomas N. and Edna B. Kuss, and encompasses the Wickes property at Dwale.

Originally, the city approved an intent to annex ordinance because one of the owners had not signed the petition asking to come into the city limits.

Between Monday night, when the intent to annex ordinance received first reading and the special meeting Wednesday, the last property owner signed the petition. The council voted unanimously to amend the original ordinance and approved the second reading of an ordinance that annexes the land.

Property owners had indicated they wanted water and sewer service to their properties and could not get it until the land was annexed into the city limits.

The annexation is effective immediately and Prestonsburg City Police began patrolling the additional sections of roadway on Wednesday afternoon.

Disruptions

(Continued from page one)

System as much as \$2,500 per day.

Board members directed interim superintendent Louie Martin at Tuesday's meeting of the school board to look into the situation and try to correct situations that have helped inflame students and parents at the school.

Parents have said the renovation project has made the school unsafe and they are concerned for their children. The have also said the project is disrupting the education their children should be receiving.

Board member Phyllis Honshell asked that Martin meet with the contractor to emphasize that the work should disrupt the school day as little as possible, have the parking lots cleaned of debris, and take measures to control the dust in the classrooms.

"We promised the people of Prestonsburg there would be as little intrusion as possible," Honshell said. "Personally I think we have to

keep those promises."

She also said all the teachers and administrators at the school should accept that the project is ongoing and "keep discipline exactly the same way they did before the renovation started. They are not there to sabotage the work that is going on there."

Damron said the students should do the same.

"It's absolute chaos down there," he said. "It needs to stop."

Meanwhile, the PHS Parent-Teachers Organization was expected Thursday night to approve a community watch program to help officials catch those suspected of making bomb threats.

"We want to show that we will not be divided by these issues, that we will stand together and we will stand behind our school officials and local authorities," PTO president Jerome Greathouse said Thursday.

Student smoking banned in Floyd County schools

by Patti M. Clark
Staff Writer

Students can no longer smoke at schools in Floyd County, at least during school hours.

The Floyd County Board of Education narrowly approved a policy at its meeting Tuesday that prohibits any student from smoking on school grounds.

"I make a motion that we have a policy that there be no student smoking on school grounds, period," member Phyllis Honshell said. "At least during the school day, until the last bus leaves the school ground."

Voting for the measure were Honshell, board chairman Eddie Patton, and member Dr. Brent Clark. Board members Ray Brackett and Ursal Ray Wilcox voted against the move, with Clark breaking the tie after passing on the first round of voting.

Smoking will be permitted in the schools during athletic events, but

board attorney Phillip Damron said there may be some problems with enforcing the policy.

"This is the way I perceive the direction the law is going," Damron said. "But it never worked in Wheelwright in 1965 and I don't know why it would work now."

The board has been grappling with the issue for several months. The issue was tabled at the October meeting to give Damron and former superintendent Dr. John Balentine a chance to research the issue. Balentine never got a chance to finish that research. He died the next day.

It was also tabled at the September meeting after Damron told the board that while it is illegal for teens under the age of 18 to purchase tobacco products, there are some students in the school system who are over the age of 18.

He did say that many schools had already banned smoking on their campuses and that federal funding for schools could be tied to the ban on smoking in the future.

Students have been permitted to smoke outside the buildings. Smoking inside the buildings has been prohibited for some time.

Coke

(Continued from page one)



Gina Asher and Joan Napier Engle were arrested Wednesday night and charged with trafficking in a controlled substance after they allegedly sold two ounces of cocaine for \$2,800.



nine alleged drug offenders, four of which were indicted Monday for trafficking in cocaine.

Three additional indictments in connection with the month-long investigation were also returned,

but those true bills were sealed pending the arrests of the suspects.

"It is a real problem in the county with cocaine," Thompson said, "and the sheriff's office will continue to target the problem."

Discipline

(Continued from page one)

that monitors wouldn't be a help because they wouldn't have the authority to discipline students either.

Green had already written up two students on the day of the accident and she said she had been having problems with some other students for about a week before the wreck occurred.

Bus drivers have repeatedly asked for help in the situation and some say video cameras on the vehicles might be the answer.

Board chairman Eddie Patton also pointed out that the system's contract with the union which represents the drivers has a policy that complaints by drivers be responded to within five days.

"We have five days to do something about it," he said. "Are we upholding that end of the bargain?"

The board advised interim superintendent Louie Martin to look into the situation.

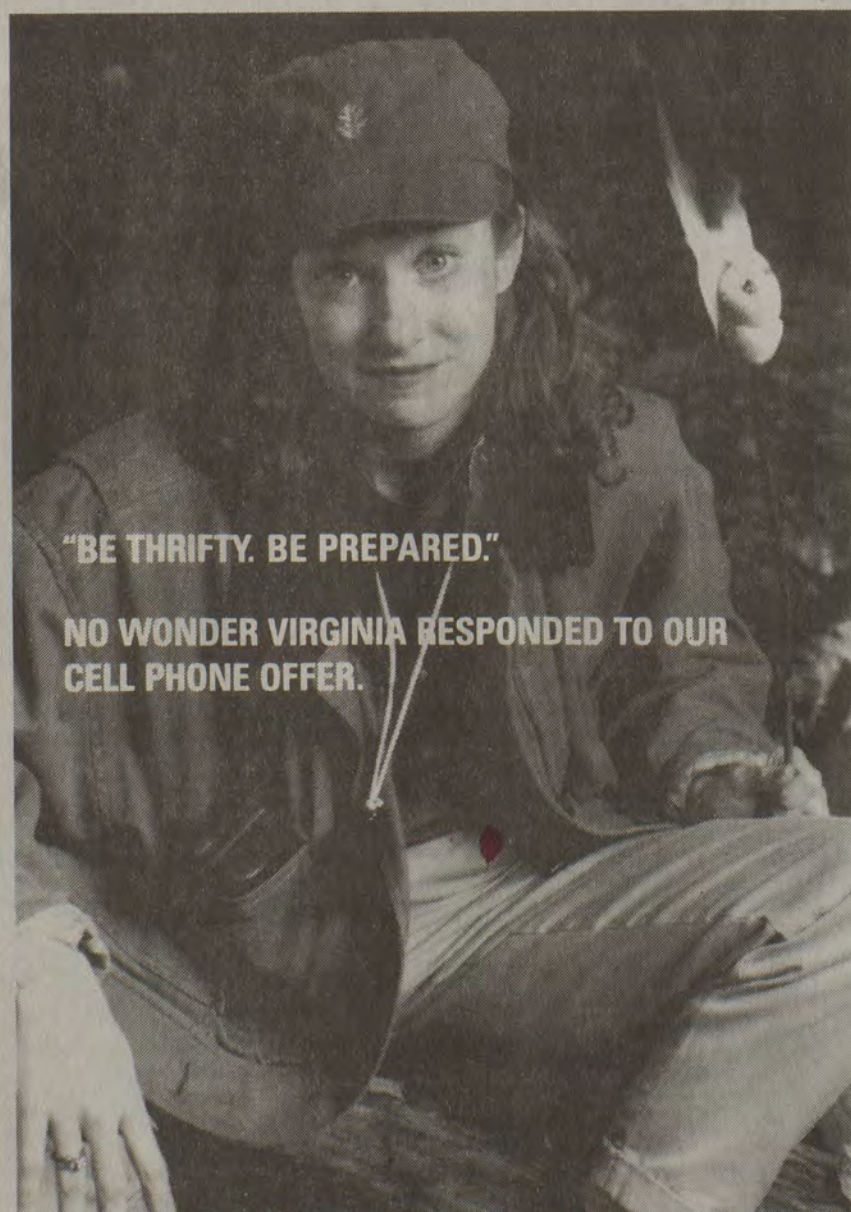
School

(Continued from page one)

states. "We would also have more time to clean the building and to check out all of the heating, plumbing and electrical systems."

The school system hopes to hold an open house before school is out for the holidays.

No decision has been made on the name of the school, although a committee has met several times in an effort to select a name for the facility. Considered have been Central Elementary and Stephens Branch Elementary.



Virginia McPeak, Condor Scout Mom Cellular Calls:

Sept. 25: None

Sept. 26: None

Sept. 27: None

Sept. 28: None

Sept. 29: Called husband. "Our wilderness cooking badge class didn't go so well. Could you swing out with enough hot dogs and hamburgers for twelve kids?"

Sept. 29: "Bring marshmallows, too."

Sept. 30: None

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Board will again use KSBA in super search

by Patti M. Clark
Staff Writer

The Floyd County Board of Education laid the groundwork Tuesday night in the search for a new, permanent superintendent for the system, the fourth since 1993.

"It is unfortunate that we are faced with this task again," Dr. Ed Ball with the Kentucky School Board Association, said during the regular meeting of the school board Tuesday. "We are ready to again offer our assistance."

The KSBA helped the system find former superintendent Dr. John Balentine, who died from an apparent heart attack October 16.

Ball said he was ready to offer the system in 1995 a timeline for the project and begin advertising for superintendent candidates.

"I think we told you last time we wanted high quality, cheap and fast," board attorney Phillip Damron said. "I think that's what we'd like this time."

The board approved the use of the KSBA's assistance with the stipulation that they receive approval from the state Board of Education for the cost of for the state-wide search.

Ball set the cost of a state-wide search at \$3,700 plus expenses and a national search at \$5,200 plus \$2,580 for advertising.

"I think you paid \$3,500 plus expenses last time," he said. "The cost has gone up \$200."

Board member Phyllis Honshell, who served on the superintendent selection committee that hired Balentine, said she found the assistance of Ball and the KSBA to be "invaluable."

"I think we would find their services to be very valuable this time around," she added.

The first step in the selection process will be to form a similar selection committee to speak with candidates. The committee will include two teachers, one board member, one principal, and one parent. Chairman Eddie Patton

appointed himself to the committee at Tuesday's meeting. Elections of other members are to be completed sometime before a November 23 deadline when the state requires the committee to be in place.

Ball said he expects to begin the search for candidates immediately and expects the committee to begin

interviewing those individuals by the first of February. He said he hopes to have a new superintendent hired by the end of March.

Until then, interim superintendent Louie Martin, who was hired October 23, will lead the school system. Martin cannot seek the full-time job.

Dropouts in Floyd schools 'falling through the cracks'

by Patti M. Clark
Staff Writer

Despite the fact that between 50 and 60 students each year are "falling through the cracks," the Floyd County School Board cannot contract with the David School to help them.

"There are two sections of the state constitution that precludes the use of state education funds at a private school," Phillip Damron, board attorney, said during the school board's regular meeting Tuesday. "The only exception is for special education students."

The school system and the head of the David School were attempting to provide students who had dropped out of the county system an alternative to getting no education at all. They were also attempting to put the state's average daily attendance money to use for those students.

The David School is a non-profit school that operates with federal funds. It has a 20-year reputation of

turning students around scholastically who have problems in the regular classroom.

Damron and Daniel Green, administrator of the David School, were hoping the county system could sign a contract with Green and the county could receive the ADA for those students who then attend the private school. The county would then pay the David School for those students. Currently, no school receives ADA funds for students who drop out.

"What we were trying to do — and we had a lot of moral support in Frankfort — is eliminate one of those areas where these children are falling through the cracks," Damron said. "We cannot pay the David School to take these students."

What the system can do, Damron explained, is apply for federal grants through drop-out prevention programs and then pay the David School on behalf of the drop-out students who attend.

"Our only hope of reaching

some of these students is through a federal grant," Damron added. "We are still going to try to do this."

The board voted unanimously to table the contract with the David School. They have been discussing the contract for several months and had thought a contract would offer an alternative to the system's alternative school at Garth.

Eddie Patton, board chairman, said at an earlier meeting, that the current alternative school is "not taking care of everything that needs to be taken care of." He also indicated that failure could be caused by the board not providing the facilities and staff needed to make it a success.

One board member, Phyllis Honshell, said at an earlier meeting that while she is committed to public education, the system needs to look at alternatives for students who aren't successful in the regular classroom.

Green said at the October meeting of the board that there is room for both alternative schools. He said the system's school usually handled students on a short-term basis while Green strives for a long-term fix for the problems. "My goal is to get them to the finish line, to college or a vocational school," he said in October.

School employees are not permitted to work for board members

by Patti M. Clark
Staff Writer

School personnel are no longer permitted to do work during their spare time on property owned by members of the Floyd County Board of Education or the school system's superintendent.

The school board voted Tuesday night to prohibit employees from doing work at the home or businesses of those individuals. The policy was presented at the board's regular meeting by board attorney Phil Damron and stemmed from a state investigation of board member Ray Brackett.

Brackett is being investigated after a school maintenance worker was reported doing work at Brackett's home.

The allegation made was that the worker was on the school's time and was paid by the system for the work.

Brackett said earlier, however, that the employee was "on his own time and had his own vehicle." He said although the work was done during the day, the employee was on "compensatory time" when the work was completed.

He said he paid the man with a check and had the canceled check in his possession.

When the issue came up a couple of weeks ago, Brackett said he thought the investigation had been completed. He said former superintendent Dr. John Balentine was working on the matter at the time of his death and had not had a chance to complete the report to the state when he died October 16.

Damron said earlier that he had found a handwritten report on the matter in Balentine's papers and that those had never been sent to the state. He said he sent the report immediately to the state Department of Education which had initiated the investigation with a phone call and letter to Balentine.

"It was all done on the same day it was called in," Damron said earlier. "We decided that day there was nothing to it."

Sandy Gubser, director of the division of management assistance with the state Department of Education, did not return calls Wednesday or Thursday. Earlier, she said she would not comment on the investigation while it was ongoing.

Searching for Leandra

Fourteen-year-old Leandra Dawn Colley of Georgetown, has been missing since she left home on October 15. Colley's family want her to know that they love her; they want her to return home; that she is not in any trouble for running away; and they want to work things out. Colley has blue eyes, blonde hair, weighs 100 lbs., and is five feet in height. Anyone who has seen the teen-ager is urged to call (502)-868-0517; Georgetown police at (502)-863-7828; or Kentucky State Police at (502)-227-2221.



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CINEMA 1 "PG" *Larger Than Life*
Mon.-Sun. 7:10, 9:10; Fri. Mat. 4:10
Sat.-Sun. Mat. 2:10, 4:10

CINEMA 2 "R" *Thinner*
Mon.-Sun. 7:10, 9:10; Fri. Mat. 4:10
Sat.-Sun. Mat. 2:10, 4:10

CINEMA 3 "R" *Ransom*
Mon.-Sun. 7:20, 9:40; Fri. Mat. 4:40
Sat.-Sun. Mat. 2:20, 4:40

CINEMA 4 "PG-13" *High School High*
Mon.-Sun. 7:15, 9:15; Fri. Mat. 4:15
Sat.-Sun. Mat. 2:15, 4:15

CINEMA 5 "R" *Sleepers*
Mon.-Thurs. 7:00; Fri.-Sat. 4:00, 7:00, 9:45
Sun. Mat. 4:00, 7:00

CINEMA 6 Starts Friday "PG-13" *The Mirror Has Two Faces*
Mon.-Sun. 7:00, 9:20; Fri. Mat. 4:20
Sat.-Sun. Mat. 2:00, 4:20

CINEMA 7 "R" *Ransom*
Mon.-Sun. 7:00, 9:20; Fri. Mat. 4:20
Sat.-Sun. Mat. 2:00, 4:20

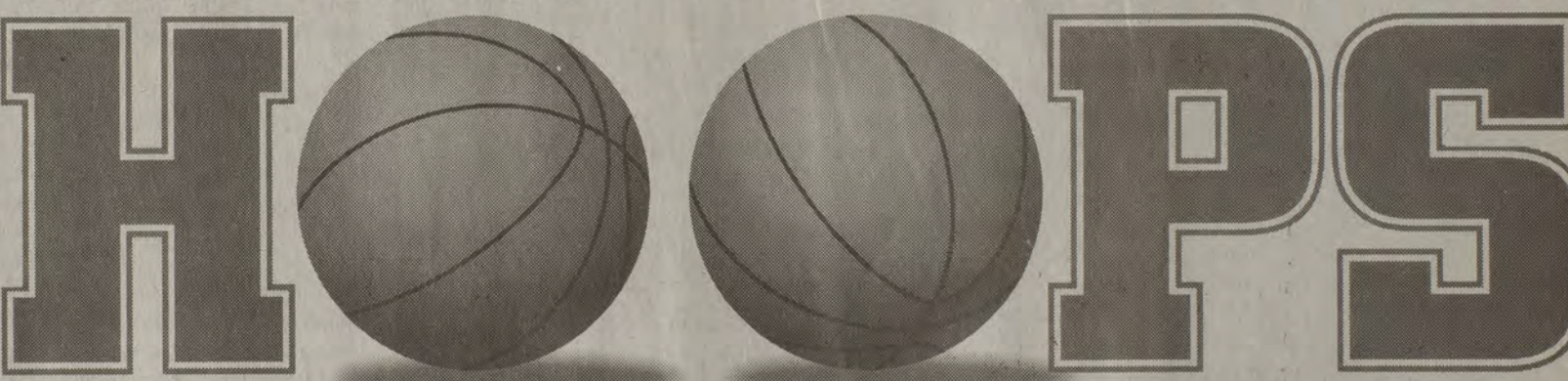
CINEMA 8 Starts Friday "PG" *Space Jam*
Mon.-Sun. 7:05, 9:15; Fri. Mat. 4:05
Sat.-Sun. Mat. 2:05, 4:05

CINEMA 9 "PG-13" *Romeo and Juliet*
Mon.-Sun. 7:05, 9:15; Fri. Mat. 4:15
Sat.-Sun. Mat. 2:05, 4:15

CINEMA 10 *Dear God* "PG"
Mon.-Sun. 7:15, Sat.-Sun. Mat. 2:15

The Ghost and the Darkness "R"
Mon.-Sun. 9:15, Fri., Sat., Sun. Mat. 4:15

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Jan. 18 AUBURN	Jan. 22 Vanderbilt	Jan. 26 Arkansas	Jan. 29 Florida	Feb. 1 GEORGIA	Feb. 4 South Carolina	Feb. 6 WESTERN CAROLINA	Feb. 9 VILLANOVA
Feb. 12 LSU	Feb. 15 FLORIDA	Feb. 19 Alabama	Feb. 22 Vanderbilt	Feb. 25 Tennessee	Mar. 2 SOUTH CAROLINA	Mar. 6 SEC Tourney	Mar. 14 NCAA Tourney



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Viewpoint

Friday, November 15, 1996



A 4

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Published
Wednesdays and Fridays each week
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Phone 886-8506
112 South Central Ave., Prestonsburg, Ky. 41653
USPS 202-700
Entered as second class matter, June 18, 1927, at the post office at Prestonsburg, Kentucky under the act of March 3, 1879
Periodicals postage paid at Prestonsburg, Ky.
Subscription Rates Per Year:
In Floyd County, \$28.00
Outside Floyd County, \$38.00
Postmaster:
Send change of address to: The Floyd County Times
P.O. Box 391, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653
ALLAN S. PERRY III—Publisher-Editor
Liberty of thought is the life of the soul—Voltaire

A four-letter word worth using

by Scott Perry

We've often marveled...agony might be a better choice of words...over the proliferation of four-letter words in the most common of conversations these days.

We've certainly become a vulgar lot and shamefully unashamed about our choices of words.

There is one four-letter word, however, which is used too infrequently to suit most of us.

F-r-e-e.

A Kentucky college has found a use for that four-letter word, though, that ought to be repeated across the Commonwealth.

Lindsey Wilson College, a private institution of higher learning in Columbia, is offering free tuition to unemployed folks in south-central Kentucky.

All displaced workers, including about 800 who have been laid off by plant closings at two Fruit of the Loom operations, who qualify for assistance under the federal Job Training Partnership Act and Trade Readjustment Act, can attend the four-year college tuition-free.

F-r-e-e.

Is that a great idea, or what?

What if all our state supported colleges followed suit?

Imagine the possibilities a free shot at a college education would offer those who need it most.

Well, they'd be able to acquire new skills and training for jobs that do exist.

They'd be able to make new opportunities for themselves.

And, they'd find use for another inoffensive four-letter word...

H-o-p-e.

Wow, if this approach to easing the burdens of unemployment catches on, who knows where it could lead us?

Why it might even help us expand our vocabularies beyond those nasty obscenities we're using so frequently now.

As a matter of fact, we've already thought of a six-letter word to express our feelings about the program to Lindsey Wilson and any other college that might follow its lead...

T-h-a-n-k-s.

A little bit of imagination can go a long way.

SKILL ©1996 SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE COPYLEFT NEWS SERVICE

WITH THE ELECTION OVER, POLITICAL POLLSTERS RETURN TO THEIR REGULAR JOBS....



Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor policy

Letters to the Editor are welcomed by The Floyd County Times. In accordance with our editorial page policy, all letters must include the signature, address and telephone number of the author. Letters must be received no later than 10 a.m. Tuesday for publication in Wednesday's issue and 10 a.m. Thursday for Friday's issue. Letters may be sent to Editor, The Floyd County Times, P.O. Box 391, Prestonsburg, KY 41653. Letters may be edited for clarity and length.

Protect our children from illegitimacy

Editor:

Men who are born out of wedlock live an average of 50 years, while men legitimately born who don't smoke live an average of 80 years. This is proven using data from issues of the Statistical Abstract of the United States.

Seventy percent of all prisoners come from fatherless homes. Sixty-five percent of those arrested for serious non-drug crimes test positive for drug use.

About 15 percent of men born out of wedlock who are between the ages of 18 and 54 are in jail. Only about one-half of one percent of those legitimately born of that age group are in jail. Roughly ten percent of all males born illegitimately are murdered.

At current rates about ten percent of men born illegitimately have died from or will die of aids. Suicide, accidental death, and death from other causes are also much higher for this group of men.

Some of our states still have a murder rate of one or two per 100,000 people per year, while

some of our cities with the highest murder rates have a murder rate of 50 to 75 per 100,000 per year. This merely reflects those states had illegitimacy rates of about two percent while the cities with the highest murder rates had illegitimacy rates of about 50 percent or greater 20 years ago.

Anyone doubting the above items should go to the library and check out pages 21, 44-46, 77, 99, 140, 200-202, 207, 217 and 852 of the 1995 Statistical Abstract and review those items in the older Abstracts for the long-term trends.

Anthony W. Rust
Seymour, Indiana

Fall carnival a big success

Editor:

The annual fall carnival was held at Clark Elementary School on Saturday, October 26. The carnival was a great success. The students had lots of fun and the PTA was able to make a lot of money. Money earned at the fall carnival will be used to further the education and social development of our students.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents and teachers who supported our school by helping with donations, decorating, and putting on the school carnival.

A special thanks to these businesses that supported our school by giving donations: Brown Food-Service, Winn-Dixie, McDonald's, Subway, Dairy Queen, Slone Meat Co., Somerset Foods, Flowers Bakery, Hall Funeral Home, Jan's Florist, Wright Lumber Company, Factory Shoe Outlet, Trends & Traditions, Ritchie's Hallmark, Country At Heart, Billy Ray's Restaurant, Martin's Department Store, Lad 'n Lassie, Marty Minix, DMD, Pro-Hair, Layne's Hardware and Industrial Distributors.

If I missed anyone who donated time or products please accept my apology. The support of the community and it's people is what makes our school have such a great fall carnival each year.

Wayne D. Combs
Principal
Clark Elementary School

Enough of your bull!

Editor:

I am a senior at Prestonsburg High School, and very upset at the fact that some people have the nerve to call in and threaten kid's lives. What did we ever do to make this jerk angry at us?

All we're trying to do is get an education to make a living in the real world. This guy is nothing but a gutless, yellow-bellied coward who thinks he's a big man.

He has the gall to curse out someone over the telephone and threaten our lives by saying and I quote, "If you send those ___ back into the gym again, I will blow them straight to ___ hell."

What kind of man would say such a thing? I'll tell you right now, not much of a man.

Mister, if you're reading this, and this also goes for all of those who are doing the same thing, plus pulling fire alarms, you're not doing anything but hurting yourself. Because you're bound to get caught, sooner or later.

All I can say to those who think that this is a funny matter, is that you're nothing but trash and that's all you'll ever be. It's garbage like you who give people a bad name, so give it a rest.

There's an old saying, sometimes you gotta take the bull by the horns, and this student has had enough of your bull.

Mark Eugene McKinney
Martin

The Political 'Party' Playing games with the constitution?

"The constitution is either a supreme paramount law, or unchangeable by ordinary means, or it is on a level with ordinary legislative acts, and, like other acts, is alterable when the legislature shall please to alter it...If the latter part be true, then written constitutions are absurd attempts, on the part of the people, to limit the power, in its own nature, illimitable."—Chief Justice John Marshall

Most of us, hopefully, agree with the phrase in the Declaration of Independence

"All men are created equal." However, very few of us had any idea our state constitution contained language which promoted segregation, and allowed local governments to impose poll taxes to discourage blacks from voting. There is no reason we should have known. In 1966, the Supreme Court ruled poll taxes violated the fourteenth amendment's Equal Protection Clause and, in the famous *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954) decision, segregation was outlawed.

The Kentucky constitution is a 105-year-old document which contains all sorts of similarly outdated language and, obviously, the language should be removed. But why, in 1996, did this particular amendment appear on our voting ballot? And why did all but one Republican Senator initially refuse to vote on the amendment, thus ensuring it would not receive the 23 votes necessary to pass?

As the official story goes, State Senator Tim Shaughnessy stumbled across the outdated language while examining a report from a special commission on constitutional review. The report included a summary of the segregation language and recommended it be removed from the constitution. Upon reading the language, Shaughnessy announced he was "offended" and "embarrassed" for the state of Kentucky. So he, and Senator Gerald Neal, resolved to have the wording changed through a constitutional amendment.

Skeptics have said this amendment was

nothing more than a political scheme to boost the campaigns of the states' Democrat candidates, and upon close examination of the facts, I totally agree. For example, both Shaughnessy and Neal are Louisville Democrats who have served in the Senate since 1989. The committee report, which so deeply offended Senator Shaughnessy, was actually written way back in 1987 and included other recommended amendments which have since been adopted.

For some reason, the outdated language amendment had not been attached to any other substantial amendments such as the lottery revision in 1988, tax exemptions for religious institutions in 1990, gubernatorial succession in 1992, or the omnibus reform of the local government structure in 1994. Unlike the removal of obsolete language, these amendments had major impacts on our governments, or even our daily lives. For this reason, and only for this reason, there was some justification for tampering with our constitution.

Democrats knew the language deletion amendment would bring out the black voters who overwhelmingly vote Democratic. Therefore, it is no coincidence we saw the amendment when Democrats needed it the most. As we know, Kentucky was a pivotal state in the Presidential election and Mitch McConnell was about to make history as the only Republican to serve three consecutive

terms as a US Senator. Kentucky's state Senate was even faced with the possibility of Republicans winning a majority—this, too, would have made Kentucky history.

As expected, the state Democratic party did not hesitate to make the amendment a political issue. In a series of campaign commercials they actually implied Republican Senators were racists because they "voted against" deleting the outdated language from the constitution. In truth, the Republicans refused to vote for the amendment in hope of attaching a provision which would have required a three-fifth majority for the legislature to increase taxes.

Unfortunately, both Republicans and Democrats play these political games. A legitimate amendment was proposed by the Democrats back in January, which would have given the legislature power to decrease, or repeal taxes on stocks, bonds and unmined minerals. Republicans refused to approve it because they wanted an amendment which would not only give them the power to repeal the taxes, but would actually go ahead and repeal the taxes. After some long, heated debates, the two parties compromised...and did nothing. That's what happens when you don't contact your legislators on a regular basis.

"The urge to save humanity is almost always a false front for the urge to rule."—H.L. Mencken



by David Porter

Waiver patients get early Christmas

by Janice Shepherd
Managing Editor

B.J. Conley, 28, of Martin, says she has "a big mouth," and she's using it to bring an early Christmas to some needy Floyd County families.

Conley is a certified nursing assistant with the Floyd County Health Department's Home and Community-Based Waiver Program, an in-home alternative to nursing facility care. The program is Medicaid funded and is designed to provide in-home services, such as personal care, case management, homemaker, respite care, and minor home modifications (wheelchair ramps), to clients of the program.

Conley's been with the program only about five months, and she's already making a change in the lives of her patients.

During her work in the homes of her patients, Conley recognized the needs of her "family" of patients and began speaking up on their behalf, soliciting items that will help them get through the winter. The "Christmas-giving" project began, almost by accident, a few weeks ago when Conley was cleaning house for one of the recipients of the waiver program. A fuse box in the home began "cracking and popping, and the home almost caught fire," she said. She was concerned about the homeowner's safety, but the woman refused to leave her home until she had handed out candy to trick-or-treaters for Halloween, just a few weeks away.

Conley thought that if the woman could heat her home with a kerosene heater, at least she would be safe from the danger of an electrical fire. She decided to ask a local business to donate the heater.

"I thought, 'Well, as long as I'm asking for a heater, I might as well ask for some other things, too,'" she said.

She talked to her supervisor, Rudy Little, a licensed social worker and coordinator of the waiver program. He said, "Go for it," and she did.

"I'm knocking on (donors') doors continuously. There's other people knocking on their doors constantly," Little said, and he welcomed Conley's help.

Conley, and the other nursing assistants in the program compiled a list of needs for their home health patients. From their 61 patients,

Magner completes basic training at Marine Corps

Marine Pfc. Jeremy S. Magner, son of Eddie Howard of Garrett, recently completed basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego.

Magner successfully completed 11 weeks of training designed to challenge new Marine recruits both physically and mentally.

Magner and fellow recruits began their training at 5 a.m., by running three miles and performing calisthenics. In addition to the physical conditioning program, Magner spent numerous hours in classroom and field assignments which included learning first aid, uniform regulations, combat water survival, marksmanship, hand-to-hand combat and assorted weapons training.

Magner and fellow recruits worked as a team to solve a number of tactical problems during the program. They performed close order drill and operated as a Marine small infantry unit in the field.

Magner and other recruits also received instruction on the Marine Corps' core values—honor, courage and commitment, and what the words mean in guiding personal and professional conduct.

Magner joins 41,000 men and women who will enter the Marine Corps this year from all over the country.

He is a 1996 graduate of East Noble High School of Kendallville, Indiana.

they pinpointed the needs of 22 of the program's most disadvantaged.

"It was hard to narrow it down," Little said.

Items on the list include clothing for winter, such as gloves and jogging suits for the elderly to sleep in and keep warm, Conley said. Other items include dishes, silverware, electric heaters, and building materials for wheelchair ramps. The program also needs volunteers, Little said.

Some of the items that have been donated are used, such as a vacuum cleaner and dishes.

One of the waiver patients still needs dishes. "Her cabinets fell over. It broke all (her dishes). Maybe she'll get a set that means as much to her as those did," Conley said.

"I love my patients. What I can't do, I want someone else to help do. There's only so much the seven (CNAs) can do for our patients," she added.

Floyd County is split into three sections for the waiver program, Little explained. Two CNAs are assigned to each section. Conley is a "floater" and goes into each section as she's needed, but Little said she will go to full-time status soon.

"The program is growing," he added. Recently a full-time nurse was also hired in the program.

Conley and Janice Tackett, also a CNA with the program, sorted the list of needs and matched them with patients. They then assigned the patients numbers in order to protect their privacy. Two or three individuals can "adopt" one number, she explained.

Conley contacted local businesses and friends about the needs. Wherever she goes she mentions those needs, and the offers of help are coming in. She and the other CNAs delivered the goodies to their patients this week.

Conley has been giving a little extra of herself to participants of the program since her first day on the job after she fell through the bathroom floor of a patient. She stuffed the hole with towels to keep out bugs and rodents and then recruited her husband to repair the floor. She and her husband had just replaced a floor in the home of a relative so Conley knew they could do the job, but she needed the materials for the repairs. She contacted Little and told him that she and her husband would donate their labor if they could get the wood. They did and the patient got a new bathroom floor.

Conley, who has worked in nursing homes and hospitals, said she loves her job with the health department's waiver program. "I've found my spot," she said.

MSU to provide 'quit smoking' information

In conjunction with the American Cancer Society's Great American Smokeout on November 21, Morehead State University will provide two "quit smoking" information sites.

The campus information sites will be located on the second floor of the Adron Doran University Center and in the Wellness Center from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Correction

An article in Wednesday's edition of the Floyd County Times regarding the death of Robert Doyle Isaac, 44, of Russell, inadvertently omitted the name of Mr. Isaac's son, Robert Doyle Isaac II. The article also stated that Isaac had worked for 15 years at the Kentucky Hydrocarbon Plant at Warco. Mr. Isaac worked at the Kentucky Hydrocarbon Plant at Maytown for 20 years where he was superintendent.

Isaac was appointed to serve on the Floyd County Board of Education in 1993 to fill the unexpired term of Ray "Shag" Campbell.

It's not without its sad moments, though. "One of the (CNAs) lost a patient. It was kind of sad. She was looking forward to Christmas and fixing her pies," Conley recalled, and explained that the CNAs get emotionally attached to their patients.

"They greet us with 'Hi, baby. How you doing? Sit down and talk to Ma.' We don't think about the word 'client' or 'patient.' They're family. It's like talking to grandma," she said. "We don't have

names. Sometimes it's hard for them to remember (our names). They call us Rudy's Girls or the Waiver Girls," she said.

One patient calls Conley B.J. 'Bear' because her husband is named Barry. Another calls her 'Meanness,' because he claims he can see the "meanness in my eyes," she said.

The program continues to accept donations.

To donate, contact Little or Conley at 886-8702.

UK students should register by November 22 to avoid late fee

All currently enrolled University of Kentucky students who plan to attend the 1997 Spring Semester should register November 1-22. Students who do not register by then must late-register beginning the first day of classes and pay a non-refundable \$40 fee. Students should priority-register using the UK-VIP telephone registration system.

Before registering for classes, undergraduates must receive academic advising and should contact their college for advising instructions. Undeclared or nondegree undergraduates must be advised in the Central Advising Service and Transfer Center located on the first floor of Miller Hall. Undergraduate students cannot register using UK-VIP until they have seen an academic adviser.

UK-VIP priority registration is based upon three-day windows which open and close at specific

times based upon student classification, hours earned, and the last digit of the social security or student identification number. Students also will have a secondary window during priority registration in case they were unable to register during their assigned priority window.

Windows are listed in the 1997 Spring Semester Schedule of Classes and are available on the UK-VIP by using the 'Status Check' function.

Students who do not register during their time period may not register until the first day of classes. Students who priority-register also have more opportunities to adjust their schedules during UK-VIP add/drop from Dec. 5-Jan. 11 and from Jan. 15-22.

Students who need more information about priority registration should contact the Registrar's Office at 606-257-7173.

Teachers to spend November 23 resolving conflicts

Seventy-five educators from across the state will join together at ten different locations to spend Saturday, November 23, learning new ways to resolve conflicts in their schools. Teachers will participate in a day long, statewide teleconference on mediation, which is being aired live on KET's Star Channel 9 beginning at 10 a.m. Local area teachers will meet at the Prestonsburg Community College campus to participate in the program, which is free of charge. During the teleconference, comments and questions will be relayed to the KET studio by telephone to allow for interaction between presenters and participants.

Teachers from Beaver Elementary School in Topmost, Herald Whitaker Middle in Salyersville, Caney Creek Elementary in Pippa Passes, and Dorton Elementary in Virgie have registered to participate in the teleconference, which is based on the National Institute For Citizen Education in the Law's "We Can Work It Out!" mediation program, now in its second year in Kentucky. The program is designed to teach students to work out their differences themselves.

Traditionally, students have been sent to the principal's office when disputes arise. Under the "We Can Work It Out!" program, students are encouraged to seek the intervention of a fellow student

trained in various mediation skills, such as listening, remaining impartial, identifying alternative solutions, and maintaining control of the conflict resolution process.

David Trevaskis, director of Law Related Education at Temple Law School, Philadelphia, PA; Artemus Carter, a professional mediator from Cleveland, Ohio, Matt Block, assistant program director at the National Institute for Citizen Education in the Law, Washington, D.C.; and the Administrative Office of the Courts' Court-Community Relations staff will train the educators in the mediation process. Once trained, teachers will receive a free copy of the curriculum to help implement this program in their schools.

The Prestonsburg Community College viewing locations is in the Johnson Administration Building, Room J 132. For additional directions, contact Tim Cooley at 606-886-8683 by Wednesday, November 20. For more information on this or other Court-Community Relations programs, contact Deborah Williamson or Jeanie Lyles at the Administrative Office of the Courts, 100 Millcreek Park, Frankfort, KY 40601, or call the LRE staff at 502-573-2350. The mediation teleconference project is funded by the Kentucky Bar Foundation, the National Institute for Citizen Education in the Law, and the AOC.

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I would like to thank the people of Floyd and surrounding counties for letting me serve them for the past twenty-five years. You were more to me than just a customer, you were also a friend.

I am gracefully bowing out, but don't give up, the ballgame is not over yet. I am sure my children will appreciate you and your business as much as I have. For the same type of service, call 285-3383. I'll leave the power on for you.

Thanks so much,
John Henry Halbert

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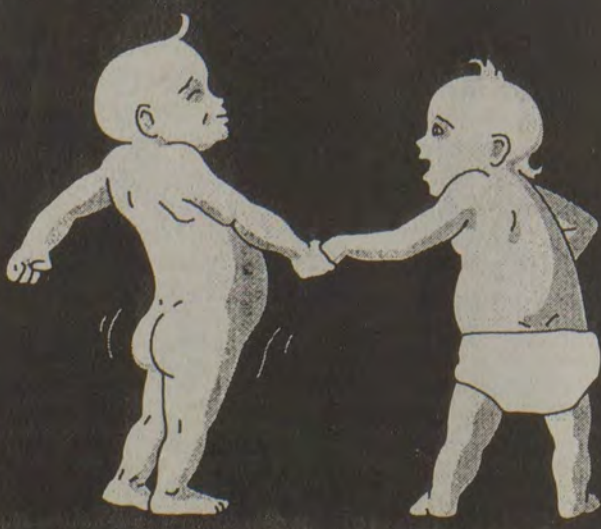
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YA WHO
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Bubby



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There's a New Pediatrician
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Morehead learning center grows

An evolving technological initiative by Morehead State University is providing greater access to upper level undergraduate and graduate college course work to residents in the Floyd County area of Eastern Kentucky.

MSU's Office of Distance Learning has experienced "dramatic growth" since its inception in July 1995. In Spring 1996, seven communities received MSU classes delivered via this computer-oriented technology and 14 communities will be receiving courses in Spring 1997. During the current fall semester, 12 sites are being utilized.

"It is truly an exciting time to be involved with higher education, particularly for those of us who are in a rural university setting," said Dr. Autumn Grubb, director of distance learning. "With the constantly improving distance learning technology, MSU is on the cutting edge of educational development."

Traditionally a faculty member travels to a particular location to deliver a course. With distance

learning technology, a course may be taught at multiple locations by a single instructor. "The beauty of our program is that we can offer courses for as few as two people per site because enrollment includes students at a number of locations throughout the service region. Distance learning therefore provides great diversity in a non-traditional classroom setting," Dr. Grubb said.

Distance Learning is a multifaceted program which utilizes the information superhighway to provide an interactive learning environment via the Internet, by satellite and interactive television, according to Dr. Grubb. "Simply put, we use a variety of methods that bring students and professors together, without them being in the same community," she added, noting that not only do the students receive the same quality instruction as those who attend classes on MSU's main campus or off-campus centers, but they also are exposed to the latest technology available.

Dr. Grubb told of one student

who recently took advantage of the competitive edge by participating in distance learning classes because a prospective employer was particularly interested in the student's Internet navigational skills.

It is the practical work experience aspect of distance learning that Michelle Kunz, MSU assistant professor of human sciences, is most excited about. Kunz, who teaches courses in the fashion merchandising field, said the compressed video classes have been valuable for students on MSU's main campus as well. "Big companies are using compressed video to do their purchasing, for example," she said.

Current coursework includes degree programs in nursing and business administration. All of the coursework for nursing may be obtained via Distance Learning and the clinical portion of the curriculum can be completed at an appropriate health care facility. A student can obtain the courses for both an undergraduate and a graduate degree in business administration


through Distance Learning, and many graduate-level education courses also are available.

Dr. Grubb is particularly excited about the education offerings because they give MSU the opportunity to provide continued training to elementary and secondary school teachers. "The spring schedule will include some upper-level general education courses to support the degree programs," she said.

Another positive, according to Dr. Grubb is that people who had been unable to pursue their educational goals will now have that opportunity. "We can capture the true intellectual potential of all the Appalachian region by increasing access to the resources which can facilitate educational development," she said.

Floyd County residents interested in obtaining additional information about Distance Learning courses may contact MSU's Office of Admissions at 1-800-585-6781 or the Office of Distance Learning at (606) 783-2082.

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Guest Column

Present building boom recalls building boom of 1891

by Robert Perry
President, Friends of the May House

There's an old saying that the more things change, the more they stay the same. It's a commonplace observation, for example, that downtown Prestonsburg is in the midst of a building boom. What is less well-known is the fact that it went through a similar boom 105 years ago.

time residents of Prestonsburg, Margaret Spradlin and her daughter, Lida Howard. We spent the evening looking at some old photographs which the Spradlin family had inherited from Lida's grandmother, Lida Davidson Spradlin. Lida Davidson's father was Greenville Davidson (1842-1907), brother-in-law of Colonel Andrew Jackson May, and the county clerk of Floyd County during the 1890s. Greenville's wife was a Prestonsburg girl by the name of Laura Cooley. During the period

when the Davidsons lived in Prestonsburg, they raised a family of six children: Joseph, Nelle, Victoria, Lida, Judith, and Mary. Nelle grew up to become the second wife of Colonel A. J. May, and Victoria grew up to become the wife of Edward Arnold, a local mortician.

for some weeks, but is now improving. Miss Judith Davidson, daughter of Green Davidson, Esq., came up on the steamer Andy Hatcher to Beaver, on last Sunday, to visit friends and relatives."

Tram man enters plea of guilty to December charge

by Chris McDavid
Staff Writer

A Tram man entered a plea agreement Wednesday in Floyd Circuit Court to second-degree possession of a controlled substance.

Curtis Ray Gardner, 37, pleaded guilty to the charge with the agreement that he was to serve 30 days of a one-year sentence, probated for two years.

The charge, a class D felony, carries a one to five year sentence.

According to an arrest warrant filed in January by Steven Toy, of the Mountain Area Drug Task Force, Gardner allegedly had Tylox pill caplets in his possession on December 1, 1995.

Gardner was indicted in April on the possession charge.

Commonwealth Attorney John E. Hunt recommended that Gardner serve the sentence on weekends.

Gardner's formal sentencing will be at 1 p.m. January 10.

Gardner will serve his sentence on weekends beginning at 5 p.m. today (Friday), November 15.

An additional charge is currently pending in Floyd District Court against Gardner after he was arrested October 25 by Detective James Riederick and charged with trafficking less than 8 ounces of marijuana, a misdemeanor.

According to court records, Riederick alleged that Gardner sold a \$25 bag of marijuana to a confidential informant on October 22.

A pre-trial conference is scheduled for 3 p.m. on January 14 for Gardner's misdemeanor charge.

During the course of the evening, Lida showed me a scrapbook that Judith Davidson had kept during the 1890-1900 period. Pasted on the first page of the scrapbook was a newspaper clipping with this title: "Prestonsburg: The half has not been told us of her boom. A quiet hamlet suddenly develops into a booming city." Clues in the article suggest that it was published in 1891, during the period when the final touches were being applied to the new Floyd County Courthouse:

"There is represented upon the map of the Big Sandy Valley a certain city known heretofore as the quiet little hamlet of Prestonsburg, which consisted of a courthouse, jail, one or two old-time taverns, and a score of other buildings. To look at Prestonsburg, one would never think that she would forsake the gentle goddess of 'innocuous desuetude' and go a ... after Mammon. But things are all changed from what they used to be, and now the erstwhile quiet little hamlet is a booming city, in which everything is astir.

"Yes, we heard of the boom in Prestonsburg, and on last Saturday morning we left our sanctum and boarded the steamer Frank Preston, with a full determination to 'go down and see of those things which came up to our ears.'"

The clipping doesn't identify the name of the author or the name of the newspaper in which it appeared, but it was probably either the Louisa Big Sandy News or the Ashland Independent. Following his mock-heroic introduction, the author favors us with brief biographies of Prestonsburg's leading citizens, among whom were John M. Kendall, son of Congressman John W. Kendall of West Liberty, and Walter Harkins, president of the Prestonsburg Coal and Iron Company. "This company is composed of several very stiff capitalists," he says, "and they are determined to make Prestonsburg the flower of the Big Sandy Valley."

The author goes on to say that "the work on the new courthouse is progressing very nicely under the direction of the contractors, Messrs. Haley and Wilson, formerly of this place. The building will be a magnificent structure when completed." Then he passes along some local gossip. "Uncle Sam Steele, of the Floyd House, has been quite ill



This photo was in the possession of the Greenville Davidson Family. The photo is owned by Margaret Spradlin of Prestonsburg.



This photo of "Vick" was given to Nelle Davidson, who grew up to marry Colonel A. J. May.



Billy Reed, of Hippo, won a home satellite system, that was donated by DirecTV to assist area schools in fund-raising efforts. Magoffin, Martin and Johnson County schools also participated in selling tickets for the system. Reed purchased the winning ticket from a cheerleader at Allen Central High School.

DirecTV donates satellite system for fund-raiser

by Chris McDavid
Staff Writer

A Floyd County business donated a home satellite system to area schools to assist school-related organizations in raising funds.

Billy Reed, of Hippo, won the system during a drawing at the Championship Grade School Conference at Magoffin County High School on October 26.

Reed was also a second-place winner of a DirecTV hat.

Reed purchased the winning ticket from Katie Fultz, a cheerleader at Allen Central High School.

Magoffin, Martin, and Johnson County schools participated in selling chances for the system.

Roy Harlow, director of operations at Home Satellite Services of Harold, donated the system to area

schools for fund-raising efforts.

Home Satellite Services is the area's local DirecTV program provider.

Other winners who received a DirecTV/NBA shirts were Evie McCoy, of Pilgrim; Charles Moore, of Shelbyana; L.T. Cornette, of Warfield; Mary Ann Dyer, of Beauty; and Faye Fraley, of Eastern.

Eight other participants won a DirecTV hat. The winners were Don McGary, of Eastern; Ricky Frasure, of Martin; Billy Meade, of Pilgrim; Thelma Samons, of Martin; Irene Tackett, of Printer; David Moore, of Martin; Londa Thaxton, of West Virginia; and Margie Slone, of Langley.

McDonald's helped sponsor the event by giving a free large order of French fries to those who purchased a ticket.

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Nursing degree program receives accreditation

Morehead State University's Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program has received continued accreditation through 2004 from the National League for Nursing.

The eight-year accreditation is the maximum given to any nursing program by the league, according to Dr. Gerald DeMoss, dean of MSU's College of Science and Technology. Now in its 10th year, the BSN program received its initial accreditation with the graduation of its first class in 1990.

Elevator, escalator safety week observed

Governor Paul E. Patton has proclaimed November 10-16, as National Elevator/Escalator Safety Awareness Week. This is a national celebration to encourage safe usage of short-range vertical transportation to the general public.

Each day, the equivalent of the entire United States population "rides" the elevators, escalators and moving walks that make up the short-range vertical transportation industry. While vertical transportation is an extraordinary safe means of transportation, there are avoidable incidents and accidents that can be prevented through education and awareness of proper and safe use.

In Kentucky, the number of passenger elevators in operation increased from 5,800 last year to 6,000 this year. These numbers do not reflect those units on federal property. There are approximately 330 escalators and moving walks operating within the state of Kentucky up from 310 last year.

Since January, 1996, 28 elevator/escalator accidents have been reported in Kentucky. At this time last year, 46 elevator/escalator accidents had been reported. Robert Wright, the Director of Elevator Inspection for the State Fire Marshal's office, attributed the reduction in number of accidents to "our increased efforts towards public awareness and education of proper and safe use of escalator and elevators in Kentucky."

Children are the "most-at-risk" group to experience avoidable incidents and accidents. Parents should be aware of the safety rules and not allow children to ride unattended. Also, many serious injuries involve older riders (persons over the age of 65). Some of these are due to falls and can be avoided by following these safety rules:

ELEVATORS:

- Enter and exit carefully. Step up or down if elevator floor and hall floor are not level with one another.
- Watch out for closing doors. Do not touch closing doors or try to stop them from closing.
- If the doors do not open when the elevator stops, ring the alarm button and wait. Never force the doors open or try to exit!
- In case of fire, never use the elevator, use the stairs.

ESCALATORS AND MOVING WALKS:

- Step on and off with care, and take extra care if you wear bifocals.
- Passengers only on escalators. No strollers, walkers or carts of any type on the escalator.
- Always stand facing forward.
- Pay close attention and attend to small children.
- Hold on to the handrails and avoid the sides under the rail.
- Move quickly away from exit areas.
- On moving walks, stationary passengers should stay to the right and let walking passengers pass on the left.

Volunteers being recruited for foster care review board

Volunteers are being recruited to serve on the Floyd County Citizen Foster Care Review Board. Review boards are comprised of volunteers throughout the community who review cases of children placed in care out of their homes due to abuse and/or neglect.

In Kentucky, more than 7,500 children are committed to the Cabinet for Families and Children through district court. Reviews of case files are necessary to ensure the care and treatment of these children while away from home.

Anyone interested in foster care or child welfare is encouraged to volunteer. For additional information contact the Citizen Foster Care Review Board Program, 100 Millcreek Park, Frankfort, KY 40601 or call 1-800-928-2350.

"Accreditation of its academic programs by external agencies is very important to any university as it says that we give our students a quality education experience," said MSU President Ronald G. Eaglin. "MSU's nursing program is one that the faculty, staff and students can take great pride in," he added.

"The commitment of our faculty—campus and clinical sites—and staff to a quality program is what helps make this program strong," said Dr. DeMoss, joining the president in praising the department's effort.

"The BSN degree program underwent a thorough review by the league," said Dr. Betty Porter, chair of the Department of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences. "Our faculty/staff worked hard and it paid off for them," she added.

"The site visitation team was very complimentary of our campus resources, especially the technology resources," Dr. Potter said. "We also received high marks for the range of clinical experiences, the curriculum and the students' comprehension of nursing concepts," she said.

MSU's BSN degree program

offers two options:

- The generic track, a four-year program for students who plan a traditional pursuit of their degree.

- The R. N. track, providing registered nurses with an associate degree or diploma the opportunity to earn a bachelor degree in two years and to work full-time while completing their degree.

Currently there are 120 students enrolled in the BSN degree program. The curriculum combines nursing theory classwork with clinical experiences and even includes a research focus. It also gives students a foundation for graduate level study.

ing.

"Our curriculum prepares students for roles in practices, leadership, management and community health nursing," Dr. Porter said. Besides the main campus program, the full curriculum for the R.N. track is available at MSU's Big Sandy and Ashland Area Extended Campus Centers.

In addition to the baccalaureate nursing program, MSU also has a two-year nursing degree program and provides an extensive continuing education component for nursing and allied health sciences personnel.



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Academics



Allen Central students visit work sites

Allen Central students from the Hospitality and Tourism classes will visit several work sites this year in preparation for entering the world of work. They will gain a greater insight into the demands and responsibilities of career choices in this field. The program will teach basic employment skills and specific job competencies that will result in the placement of students into job shadowing and cooperative work experiences. These students will visit Holiday Inn, Jenny Wiley State Park, and Highlands Regional Medical Center. They will tour these areas and learn about managing a business.

McDowell Elementary students celebrate Johnny Applesed

Johnson County and McDowell Elementary had something in common this fall. Both celebrated with an apple festival.

Sandra Slone's and Ruth Hamilton's P3-P4 primary classes crossed the curriculum studying about "Johnny Applesed and the Apple."

The celebration concluded with students collecting apple recipes — making the apple dish (with moms', dads', grannies', aunts', and even uncles' help, of course), and presenting them to be judged.

The judges, Ken Osborne, Lucy Reynolds, Sharon Horn, and Pat Barnett, had a very difficult time deciding who was the first, second, and third place winners.

Elery Herrington won third place with his apple turnovers. Kristin L. Hall found herself in second place with her Cheese Apple Crisp. As David Tackett helped his mother stir his Fresh Apple Cake up the night before the judging, he told his mother that he was going to win. Win he did — first place. That is what confidence and grandma's recipe can do.

The students learned there was more than one way to eat apples, but most of them showed they preferred a raw apple on a stick covered with caramel and nuts — the caramel apple.

Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves as they remembered the man who walked through many states wearing his cooking pot on his head.



Head gear

Ms. Slone and Angela Buelis showed off their cooking pot hats during the Johnny Applesed celebration at McDowell Elementary.

Family Resource Centers

Martin Middle School Youth Service Center

- Ron Vanover of Jenny Wiley State Resort Park will be presenting a program on "Birds of Prey" to the 6th, 7th and 8th grades on November 11.
- Advisory council meeting on Tuesday, November 11, has been cancelled.

Duff Family Resource Center

- Line dancing classes are offered every Thursday night, from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Couple dancing is taught from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- Majorette classes are taught every Tuesday night from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- GED night classes soon will be offered once a week. Call for more information.

For more information about these services or activities, call the center at 358-9878.

Mud Creek Community Family Resource and Youth Service Center

- Fitness classes offered on Thursday nights, between 6:30-8:30 p.m. Classes are free.
- Beginning computer class offered two night a week, Mondays and Wednesdays, from 6-8 p.m. Classes will be from November 11-November 27.
- Clothing bank open to students and public upon request.
- GED classes Friday from 8 a.m. to noon.
- Parent and child education (PACE) classes Mondays and Wednesdays from 8:30-11:30 a.m.

For more information, contact the center at 587-2233.

New Horizons Youth Service Center

For more information, contact the center at 478-3389.

South Floyd Youth Services Center

- Adult Learning Center (ALC) is open Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. ALC is sponsored by the David School. This services are free and open to the public.
- The Clothing Bank is open by appointment on Wednesdays and Fridays.
- Cancer support group meets monthly. For more information, call Georgia Smith at 452-4115 or the SFYSC at 452-9600, ext. 145.
- Interested in learning to sew? Free classes will be held Fridays from 1-3 p.m. at the center. Class is limited to 10 individuals. Call to register. Participants must provide their own supplies and sewing machine.
- Student activity hour is held during lunch periods and from 3-4 p.m.
- Student Activity Hour is held during lunch periods and from 3-4 p.m.

South Floyd Youth Service Center is open 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Monday through Fridays. The center is located in Suite 232 at South Floyd High School. For more information, contact Keith Smallwood or Mable C. Hall, 452-9600, Ext. 145. Fax 452-9303.

Betsy Layne Elementary Family Resource Services Center

- Fluoride mouth rinse program administered every Thursday to grades K-6.

For more information, call the center at 478-5550.

Martin-Maytown Family Resource Center

- GED classes every Monday from 8:30-2:30 upstairs in Maytown Elementary. Classes are free. Instructor is Joyce Hall.
- Health department nurse is upstairs in the Maytown Grade School every Wednesday. Services include WIC exams, vouchers, TB skin tests, baby shots, physicals and well-child exams. Call for an appointment. Now accepting WIC. Anyone interested in receiving WIC services can call the center.
- Clothes closet open upon request.
- Basic First Aid Program for parents on November 11, at 9 a.m. Sponsored by Our Lady of the Way Hospital.
- Advisory council meeting November 11, at 4 p.m. at the Maytown Library.
- Food Safety Program for K-1 at Martin and Maytown Elementary schools on November 15. Sponsored by the Floyd County Extension Office.

For more information on services and activities offered, call 285-0321.

McDowell Family Resource Youth Service Center

- Fluoride treatments each Tuesday for K-6 students.
- GED classes every Thursday from 8:30-2:30 at the center. GED students will be learning how to use a computer. Classes are free.
- A nurse from the Floyd County Health Department is at the center each Monday to administer school physicals (sixth grade, kindergarten, and head start), well-child exams, immunizations and T.B. skin tests. Also established W.I.C. patients. Call the center for an appointment.
- The center now offers parenting videos for parents who have children attending McDowell Elementary and Drift Head Start. The videos offer informative activities, solutions, and alternatives to problems facing all parents. These videos can be borrowed free of charge for one week at the center. The topics range from how to get children to help around the house to helping reduce rebellion.
- Aerobics class every Tuesday, from 6-7 p.m., \$1 per person.
- Free exercise class every Monday and Tuesday from 6-7 p.m.
- Line dancing classes every Thursday, from 7-9 p.m., \$4 per person.

• Dr. Norman will be at the center each fourth Thursday. Call for an appointment, 377-2678.

Allen Elementary Family Resource Youth Service Center

- GED classes every Tuesday, from 8-11 a.m. Instructor is Joyce Hall. Call to sign up.
- A nurse from the health department is available at the center on Thursdays to administer physicals, immunizations, T.B. skin tests, etc., all done on site. Call for an appointment or more information.

If you would like to know more about the Allen Elementary Family Resource Youth Service Center and what it has to offer, stop by or call 874-0621.

Clark Family Resource Center

- Joy Moore, RN from the Floyd County Health Department, is in the center on Fridays. Services available: Physicals for the 5th grade students entering 6th grade in the next school year; pre-school, headstart, and kindergarten physicals, for any student, age birth-21 years old; blood pressure screening, TB skin tests, baby shots. Call the center at 886-0815 for an appointment. These services are available to anyone in the community.
- The center is currently accepting new WIC patients. Also, anyone in the community that is now going to the health department for these services can now schedule their

appointments here at the Family Resource Center. Call to make your appointment. 886-0815.

- After-School Child Care—Monday through Friday, school days from 3 p.m.-5:30 p.m. There are currently openings for enrollment in after-school child care. Call the center for more information.

If you would like to know more about the Clark Elementary Family Resource Center and what it has to offer, stop by or call 886-0815.

A.M.S. Youth Services Center Activities

- Call the Homework Hotline at 886-9314.
- Magic Me meets after school on Thursdays from 3-4 p.m.
- The Respect Society meets after school on Tuesdays from 3-4 p.m.
- November 11: Advisory council meeting at 7 p.m.
- November 19: The TSC will be hosting a session for parents on Healthy Holiday Eating. Teresa Scott from the UK Extension service will be leading the session. Any parent can attend. Call 886-9812 for registration.

Allen Central Youth Service Center

- Free blood pressure and glucose screenings are given daily from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- The Clothes Closet is open upon request.

For more information, call 358-3048.

Mt. Christian Academy

November 26: Thanksgiving break. No School.



Caramel apples

Chris Hurst, Famer Halbert, Chris Adkins, and Jeremiah Hall found a tasty treat in caramel apples.



Winners

First place winner in the apple recipe contest was Dave Tackett. Kristin Hall won second place, and Elery Herrington won third place.



Judges

The judges of the apple recipe contest were, from left, Ken Osborne, Lucy Reynolds, and Pat Barnett.



Tasty treat

Apple recipe judges, from left, Ken Osborne, Lucy Reynolds, and Sharon Horn, sampled the goodies as they judged the entries.



Table full of apples

Apple dishes to please very taste bud adorned the table during the Johnny Applesed event at McDowell Elementary.



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The Friday Comics

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by David Waisglass
Gordon Coulthart

Farcus

by David Waisglass
Gordon Coulthart



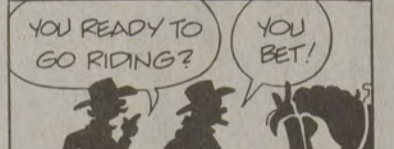
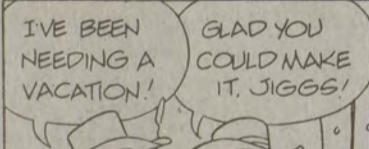
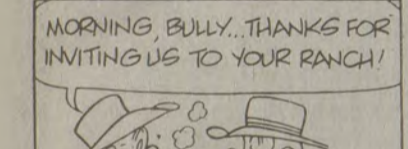
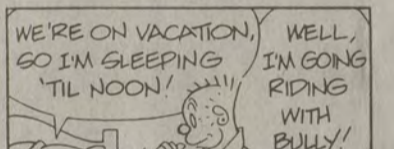
"Tell us about your parent corporation."

"I would have been a manager by now, if somebody hadn't snitched on me."

BUTCH AND DOUGIE by ALEX HOWELL



BRINGING UP FATHER



THE SPATS by JEFF PICKERING



R.F.D. by MIKE MARLAND



GEORGE by MARK SZORADY

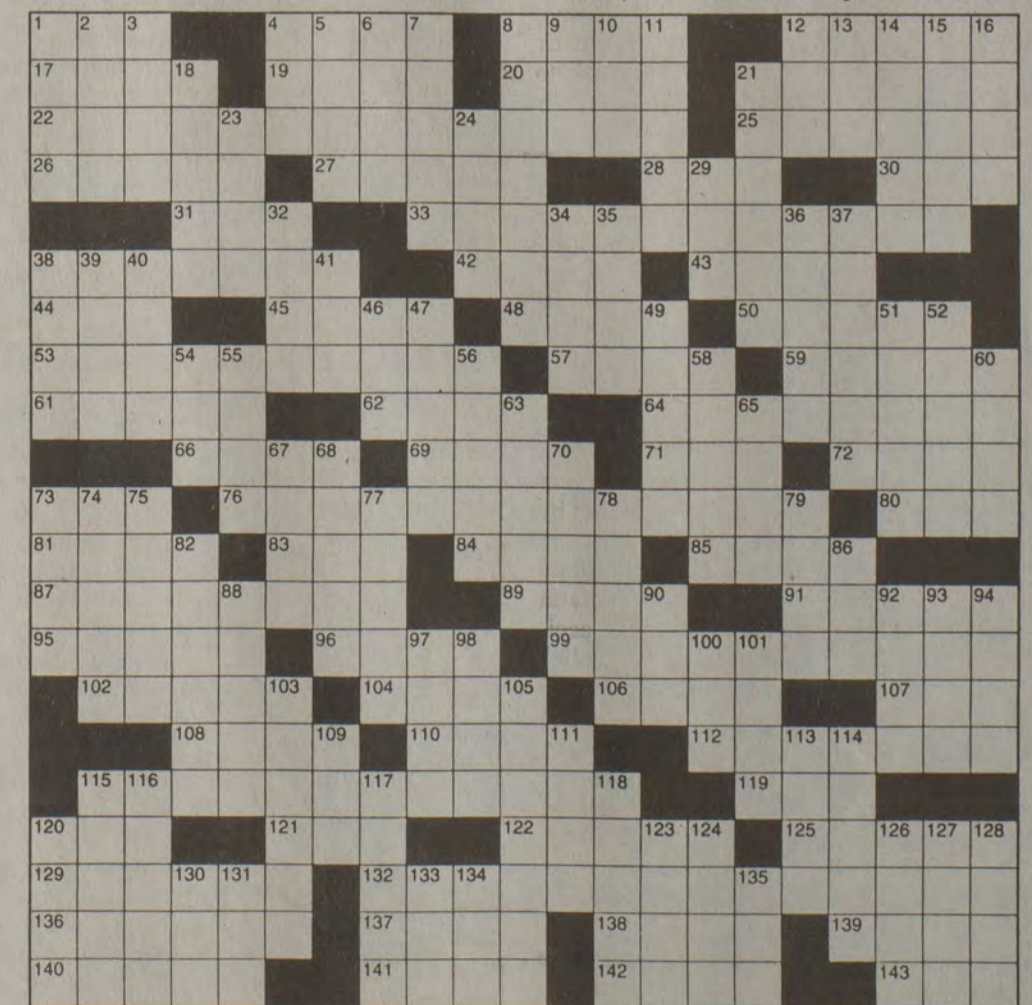


OUT ON A LIMB by GARY KOPERVAS



Super Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Maestro de Waart
 - 4 Talk-show pioneer
 - 8 "In" things
 - 12 Pancho's pal
 - 17 Rough it
 - 19 She, to Sartre
 - 20 The yoke's on them
 - 21 Chicken little?
 - 22 "Horror Hotel" actor
 - 25 Detergent ingredient
 - 26 Choice
 - 27 Grammarian's concern
 - 28 Spring mo.
 - 30 Too big for one's breeches?
 - 31 Co. kingpin
 - 33 "The Haunted Strangler" actor
 - 38 Mideastern capital
 - 42 "Parting is sweet..."
 - 43 Push-button predecessor
 - 44 Kimono closer
 - 45 Sign of holiness
 - 48 High time?
 - 50 Decagons have ten
 - 53 "The Devil
 - Bat" actor
 - 57 — Patrick Harris
 - 59 Mature
 - 61 Gawp
 - 62 Buster Brown's dog
 - 64 Composer Verdi
 - 66 — Hari Moray or conger
 - 71 Moray or conger
 - 72 "The King and I" setting
 - 73 Opening
 - 76 "A Nightmare on Elm Street" actor
 - 80 "Hold on Tight" rock group
 - 81 Maintain
 - 83 Crafty critter
 - 84 "Porgi —" (Mozart aria)
 - 85 Sheep's shaker
 - 87 Soft job
 - 89 "This is Life"
 - 91 Massenet opera
 - 95 City near Dallas
 - 96 Tare's relative
 - 99 "Mad Love" actor
 - 102 As a companion
 - 104 New Mexico resort
 - 106 Jocular Jay
 - 107 UN figure
 - 108 Earring part
 - 110 Wear the crown
 - 112 Perennial victim
 - 115 "House on Haunted Hill" actor
 - 119 Regulatory agcy.
 - 120 Calendar abbr.
 - 121 Plumb of "The Brady Bunch"
 - 122 "Quarter to —" ('61 song)
 - 125 Available
 - 129 Junior dress size
 - 132 "A Demon in My View" actor
 - 136 Ariel, for one
 - 137 Give a hoot
 - 138 Olympic troublemaker
 - 139 Theater collection of Molokai
 - 140 Bum a ride
 - 141 Get wind of
 - 142 Splinter group
 - 143 Snitch
 - 1 "Behold!" to Brutus
 - 2 Arlene or Roald
 - 3 Actor Katz
 - 4 Cosset a corgi
 - 5 Baseball family name
 - 6 Heidi's hangout
 - 7 Change for the better
 - 8 Precede
 - 9 Rocker Rose
 - 10 Wallace of "E.T."
 - 11 Prowl
 - 12 "Silent" president
 - 13 Cephalopod's squirt
 - 14 Pole
 - 15 "Turandot" tenor
 - 16 Exclude
 - 18 Emulate
 - 19 Koutax
 - 21 "The Gong Show" host
 - 23 It's for the birds
 - 24 Hollywood clashers
 - 29 Paw part
 - 32 Neighbor of Molokai
 - 34 Orthodox image
 - 35 Brake part
 - 36 Retreats
 - 37 '50s tunes
 - 38 Women's hairdos
 - 39 Be an accomplice
 - 40 Mexican monster?
 - 41 Mr. Hammar-skjold
 - 46 "Salem's —"
 - 47 Basket material
 - 49 Actor Bruce
 - 51 "Silas Marner" character
 - 52 Calyx part
 - 54 Supply with
 - 55 Shake-spearan monarch
 - 56 "— Name" ('73 hit)
 - 58 Mil. rank
 - 60 "Nautilus" captain
 - 63 Antagonist
 - 65 Arm bone
 - 67 Soybean product
 - 68 Scrub a mission
 - 70 Be nosy
 - 73 Huff and puff
 - 74 St. Teresa's home
 - 75 Correctional
 - 77 Put to use
 - 78 Thin porridge
 - 79 Pickling herb
 - 82 Celebrity
 - 86 Papal name
 - 88 Spruce-shaped
 - 90 AAA offering
 - 92 Overstuff
 - 93 "— La Douce"
 - 94 Obligation
 - 97 Tombstone
 - 98 Do Europe
 - 100 Goal
 - 101 Gambrel or mansard
 - 103 Lorne of "Bonanza"
 - 105 Move like a mamba
 - 109 Part of SASE
 - 111 Return address?
 - 113 Aroma
 - 114 Enlisted personnel
 - 115 Opera's Giacomo Lauri—
 - 116 Motionless
 - 117 Share wisdom
 - 118 Sea eagles
 - 120 Stocking stuff
 - 123 Bronte heroine
 - 124 Very impressive
 - 126 Wedding-cake layer
 - 127 Cultural grp.
 - 128 "Yo!" at the library
 - 130 Dana or Damone
 - 131 Ordinal suffix
 - 133 Dundee denial
 - 134 Singing syllable
 - 135 NY hours



(Answers on B 5)

Vision Teaser



Differences: 1. Kerchief is removed. 2. Chips are added. 3. The different. 4. Lamp is moved. 5. Drapery is wider. 6. Cornice is missing. 7. Chair is different.

MagicMaze

WAYS TO SAY HELLO

P B X U R O L I E B Y V S Q S
 N K H E B ? Y W T R O L G G J
 G E B Y W U U R P N K I N G D
 B Z X W E L C O M E V I I S Q
 O M K I G E I A Y R T M N Y C
 A Y W U S Q A P N E L O R A J
 H F E C A L O Y E H R L O D O
 Y X V U A S D R Q T P A M D L
 N M K S ! W G J H I F H W O L
 E C B Z O I R E E H C S Y O E
 X V U H Y A H O L A T R Q G H

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions—forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

- Cheerio
- Ciao
- Good day
- Greetings
- Hello
- Hi
- Hi there
- Hil
- How are you?
- Howdy
- Morning
- Salaam
- Shalom
- Welcome
- Yo!

News of the Weird
by Chuck Shepherd

Several news services reported in October on the growing number of "telephone clubs" in Tokyo in which men (mostly middle-aged and older) talk sex with junior-high and high school girls, who use mobile phones for privacy from parents and teachers. According to The Wall Street Journal, perhaps 8 percent of schoolgirls participate at least occasionally. Many of the calls lead to dates and actual sex because of the serious money the girls can make to feed their habits of expensive designer clothing and accessories. The age of consent in the city of Tokyo is 12, and prostitution is illegal only if procured through a pimp.

Hiding Place of Choice: In September in Mound Bayou, Miss., Robert L. Johnson, 42, was captured after a three-hour foot chase during which he managed to elude police while rolling a spare tire containing about 6 pounds of marijuana. Said police chief Richard Crowe, "That's the fastest runner I've ever seen, of somebody rolling a tire." And back in February, in Kanab, Utah, Germain Berrelleza, 18, was arrested for marijuana possession hours after his car broke down.

He aroused the suspicion of the tow-truck operator when he insisted on taking the spare tire out of the car before it was towed and carrying it with him to a nearby motel.

Exotic dancer Pamela Harrison complained in October that she was wrongfully fired by the Kat Tales club in Stuart, Fla., because of a disability. Harrison said that fellow dancers had complained of a health hazard because surgery forces Harrison to wear an ostomy bag tucked into her G-string, into which body waste can flow during her performance. An expert cited by the Associated Press said there is no health hazard to others.

THE CONTINUING CRISIS

In August, Reuters news service reported that Brian Howson, 51, of Perth, Australia, repaired his single-engine plane's landing gear, in flight, while dangling out the door at 4,000 feet with three passengers holding his legs.

In September, Michael Potkul, 33, won a \$400,000 malpractice award against surgeon Dominic A. Brandy in Pittsburgh. Brandy had convinced Potkul that he could give him a nearly full head of hair by surgically (in six operations) grabbing the hairy back of his scalp and stretching it over the thin-haired top of his head. Potkul suffered such pain and depression by the fifth operation that he attempted suicide.

Mean Business: In July, in Cape Town, South Africa, four cab drivers were killed and several customers wounded as gunfire erupted again in a continuing war over competition among taxi companies. And in September in Los Angeles, police said that four of six recently missing boarding house residents had actually been kidnapped by a rival boarding house; stealing boarders apparently is an increasingly common competitive tactic to land other houses' customers in order to get access to their government checks.

In July in Japan, a 4-year-old boy drowned while frolicking unattended as his mother played Pachinko, a pinball/slot-machine craze sweeping the country. More than two dozen toddler deaths have been attributed to parents' obsession with the game. Also in July, The New York Times reported that the Russian government is cracking down on various gambling manias, including "one purely Russian refinement — virtual-reality cockroach races," in which images of the insects scurry competitively across video screens.

The Providence Journal-Bulletin reported in August on the environmental-regulation troubles of Manuel and Ana Martins of Swansea, R.I. Because their house is built on fill dirt in a wetlands, their septic tank cannot be installed very deep. In fact, it is largely above ground, covering their front yard in a mound of dirt 30

(See *Weird*, page five)

Popperri
by Scott Perry

Word on the street is that Workers' Comp lawyers are gearing up a new ad campaign that will encourage employees to quit nipping at their employers' heels and go right straight for the throats.

As rumor has it, the advertisements will suggest that workers "opt out" of the Workers Comp insurance program and sue their bosses directly whenever they are injured on the job.

Now that sure is some purty talk.

Bet there'll be a whole lotta suing goin' on.

The law of physics, not to be confused with the law of man, requires that every action have an equal and opposite reaction.

If employers applied that rule to the workplace, then it looks like they'd have a right to sue employees who injured their businesses or, better yet, sue the lawyers who are encouraging everybody to get what's a-comin' to em.

That, of course, would require employers to hire lawyers to defend them against other lawyers, thus perpetuating a conspiracy of sorts.

Hey, why can't we just be friends?

Folks who are hurt on the job should be adequately compensated, and they shouldn't have to share their benefits with anybody...including lawyers.

What purpose does it serve to make adversaries of employees and employers?

Well, that's an easy one to answer...if you are a lawyer.

Sue first, ask questions later.

It's the American Way.

There is another principle, though, that needs to be taken into consideration here.

Turn about is fair play.

We all want to be fair, now don't we?

Critic's Corner
by Michael Greene

Sleepers

The reviews out on this flick are overwhelmingly positive. And, while this critic has to agree that this is a well-played movie, it's too politically correct for my taste. It takes the concept of "victimization" as an excuse to commit crime and raises it to a higher level. I struggled with this thought as I watched this tale play out on the big screen.

The movie takes place in two parts, the first being the 1960s in New York's tough Hell's Kitchen neighborhood. Four young boys have forged an alliance, gleefully playing baseball, etc., in the streets and trying to stay out of trouble. That's hard to do, given the role models offered to them, such as a local mobster played by Vittorio Gassman. A bright spot is Father Bobby (Robert DeNiro), who tries to be a positive mentor.

The boys get in trouble when a harmless prank they pull turns deadly and a man ends killed. Shipped off to a juvenile detention center in upstate New York for a year, the four are brutalized, raped and beaten by the evil guards, led by one named Nokes (Kevin Bacon). This, apparently, is an experience which colors the entire remainder of their lives.

Fast-forward to the '80s. Two of the boys, Tommy and John (Billy Crudup and Ron Eldard), have become murdering punks; Lorenzo (Jason Patrick) hacks for a newspaper; and Michael (Brad Pitt) is an assistant district attorney. Once again, the four find their lives converging when Tommy and John bump into the malevolent Nokes in a Manhattan restaurant and promptly rub him out. Of course, the case goes to trial with Michael prosecuting it.

Dustin Hoffman does a turn as Tommy and John's defense attorney. He's a burnt-out druggie whose life has reached bottom and he knows it. His defense method doesn't bode well.

The performances here are worthy of each talented actor. However, it is DeNiro who truly shines as Father Bobby, particularly when he is called to take the stand at the murder trial. He is a man tortured between his love for the boys and his vows of the priesthood. How he deals with this particular moral dilemma was, for me, the heart of the movie.

I could have lived without the graphic nature of the violent scenes, but the flick is very well-made. You won't be sorry if you choose to see it.

The Weekend
Atlanta

'The Goose Is Loose' and coming to the Mountain Arts Center

Floyd County's own Charlie Gearheart will bring his Goose Creek Symphony hoedown to the Mountain Arts Center on November 23. The show begins at 7:30 p.m.

Formed in the late 1960s by Charlie Gearheart with Paul "The Pearl" Spradlin, Goose Creek Symphony has a reputation for their distinctive style of music which is as true to Gearheart's Appalachian upbringing as it is to his experiences playing jazz, rock and even military marching band music. Fans describe it as a "symphonic hoedown." The Tennessean called it "folk rock on steroids."

"A Goose Creek song is a musical journey," Gearheart explains, "traversing passages and movements as an orchestra would, thus the term Symphony." Indeed, as an explorer would venture away from camp into uncharted territory to later return with his discoveries, Goose Creek Symphony (armed with an arsenal of fiddle players, guitarists, saxophonists, a bassist and a drummer) departs from Gearheart's bluegrass "home base" to probe the adventurous, though boundless, waters of improvisation.

The phenomenon of their loyal following (often referred to as "Goose Heads"), is as much a part of Goose Creek's lore as the music. Their latest album, "The Goose Is Loose," spotlights a magnificent manifestation of the Heads. The group's fans — including individuals of all ages, backgrounds and musical tastes — traveled great distances to cheer on their heroes. Often singing louder than the band was playing, or joining in massive chants of "Goose! Goose! Goose!", the enthusiasm of the crowd serves as testament to Goose Creek Symphony's infectious music, which includes their wonderfully wry sense of humor, profound wisdom and uncanny ability to exchange emotion with an audience.

Gearheart was born and raised in Goose Creek Hollow in Floyd County. As this country boy became more worldly, he quickly gained a global perspective on life. His musical scope grew to encompass big band, jazz and rock. As a young teenager, he appeared on American Bandstand under the name of Ritchie Hart and the Heartbeats.

Still, he never lost touch with his roots or his deep-seated love for mountain music. He certainly never forgot how to fish, and after four years and four major label releases with Goose Creek Symphony, an appearance on The Ed Sullivan Show and a headline slot at the

Atlanta Pop Festival (along with Jimi Hendrix and The Allman Brothers), Gearheart decided to put down his Martin acoustic and pick up his fly rod. He moved to the Northwest, where he ran a "fly shop" and worked as a fly fishing guide, and he and his wife raised a family. When the kids grew up, Gearheart and his Symphony re-emerged, releasing *OSO Special* on June Appal

Records in 1990.

The band's performances are increasingly populated by the rapidly growing masses of wildly enthusiastic new "Goose Heads" joining the band's long-standing devoted fans. With a talented line-up of musicians, Goose Creek Symphony's music continues to soar to new heights.



Charlie Gearheart and the Goose Creek Symphony

Who, what, where and when

Sometimes we don't explain ourselves well enough for others to understand us. When this happens, communications break down and people fall out with one another over frivolous things. Things that could have been avoided. That's why we should pay particular attention to even the smallest details.



Smile Awhile

Sara Hopson

A good example of this occurred one afternoon recently when a gentleman came into our office and asked for Martha. Since we have no Martha working, I thought he may have gotten our office confused with another so I replied that there was no Martha here.

"No, where's Martha?" he asked again.

"Sir, I just told you, there is no Martha here."

"I don't want a Martha, I want the Martha," he answered.

A quick game of Charades would have been easier.

"You mean you don't want a person, you want a

thing?"

"That's right. I want to know where Martha, the place, is located," he said in an exasperated tone.

"It's not here, it's in Lawrence County."

"Where's that?" he asked.

"One county over."

"How do I get there?"

"Well, go back to the intersection and just keep going on 460 west until you hit 40 then

turn off on..."

"Just a minute, lady," the man interrupted. "I'm not from here. If you're going to give me directions, you're going to have to be more specific and speak slowly."

The incident reminded me of one of my favorite jokes.

It seems that two men were traveling through Versailles and stopped at a Burger King to eat. While they were having lunch, they got into a lively discussion as to the proper pronunciation of Versailles.

"It's French so it's probably pronounced Versi-

The 'i' is long," one man announced.

"But I think Americans pronounce it Versailles," the other man stated emphatically.

The debate continued until the first man declared, "Let's ask the waitress. Ma'am, tell us where we are and say it real slow."

The waitress looked at the two men strangely before answering in as slow a drawl as she could muster, "Bur-ger King."

My sister, Melinda, used to tell me that I needed to raise my hand before I talked because I often changed the subject in mid-sentence. She said that people lose the essence of what I'm saying when I do this. It isn't my intention to do this, however, I find myself doing it so I won't forget what I'm saying. It's a habit I'm trying to break.

And before I forget it, I want to say that I told him if he knew where Flap Gap or Keaton was he might find Martha, but it would take at least 30 minutes for him to get there from our office. I also told him he could stop along the way and ask for directions at one of several stores.

Excuse me, I'm talking about the man who wanted Martha.



Week 12: Prestonsburg travels to Newport

by Ed Taylor
Sports Editor

Coach John Derossett will take his Prestonsburg (8-2) football team into week 12 of the high school season as the Blackcats invade Newport (10-1) tonight for the second round of the State High School Playoffs where it will be defense versus offense.

The Blackcats are coming off a 40-6 win over Fleming County, a game that Prestonsburg's defense held the Panthers to just 24 yards total offense.

It was a total team effort for Prestonsburg, led by senior quarterback Mike Castle, who played one of his best games of the season. Castle has shown great maturity this season and will be a factor in tonight's game with Newport.

Newport had little trouble with Powell County last Friday night in a 53-0 romp. The Wildcats are a well-balanced team that do not depend solely on one phase of the game to win.

Quarterback Nick Rouse (6'3", 175) has passed for more than 2,000 yards this season, which ranks him as the best in the state in efficiency. Rouse ranks third best in passing average with 222.7 yards per game. He has two good receivers in Aaron Johnson (5'7", 160) and Wayne Posey (5'11", 165).

"We'll throw the football about half the time," said Newport coach Roy Lucas. "We have a good balanced team ballclub, but we are not taking Prestonsburg lightly."

Johnson had caught 25 passes this season for more than 600 yards. Posey has hauled in 20 passes for more than 400

yards. Rouse is a good option quarterback and possesses good running skills.

In the backfield behind Rouse will be Ben Glasscock (5'11", 185) at fullback and feature back Garrett Williams (5'11", 185) at tailback. Williams has rushed for 1,440 yards this season through 11 games.

"Prestonsburg is a big team, we know that," said the Newport coach. "They are strong and run the football very well. We feel they are a team to be reckoned with in the playoffs, and we are not looking past them."

Taking care of the football has been a problem for the Wildcats and Coach Lucas

Blackcats believe in themselves

said that must change tonight.

"We have to be able to hang onto the football," he said. "Prestonsburg is a team that will run at you and play hard-nose defense."

Coach Lucas said his team must have possession of the football in order to do what they need to do to win.

"Prestonsburg will hang on to the ball for long periods of time," he said. "We cannot permit that. We have to keep them away from their long drives."

Prestonsburg has an abundance of backs to run out of the backfield, and Coach Lucas says that poses a problem for his team defensively.

"You can't key on any one certain individual," he said. "They have several backs

they will run out of there, and all are good ball carriers."

John Ortega has taken the feature back role since Jon Morris went down against Breathitt County. He has rushed for more than 800 yards this season. Against Fleming County, he scored three touchdowns. Brian Jones and Matt Lafferty have been steady performers back of quarterback since they came off injuries. Grant Castle offers Coach Derossett a versatile back. Freshman Jeremy Caudill will see time in the backfield.

A big key for Prestonsburg will be Castle. He is in charge and demonstrated last week he can carry the football as well as pass.

Rains fell on Prestonsburg just before last Friday's game against Fleming County, and it definitely hindered the Panthers in moving the football while Prestonsburg seemed to enjoy the muddy field. Coach Lucas says he hopes the rains stay away this Friday night.

"A wet field would definitely hinder us," he said.

Prestonsburg's defense gave up an opening game kickoff return for a score to Fleming County but shut the Panthers down the rest of the way.

Containing Williams and a strong secondary game will be a must against the passing of Rouse.

Game time is set for 7:30 p.m. and the game can be heard on WQHY, 95.5.

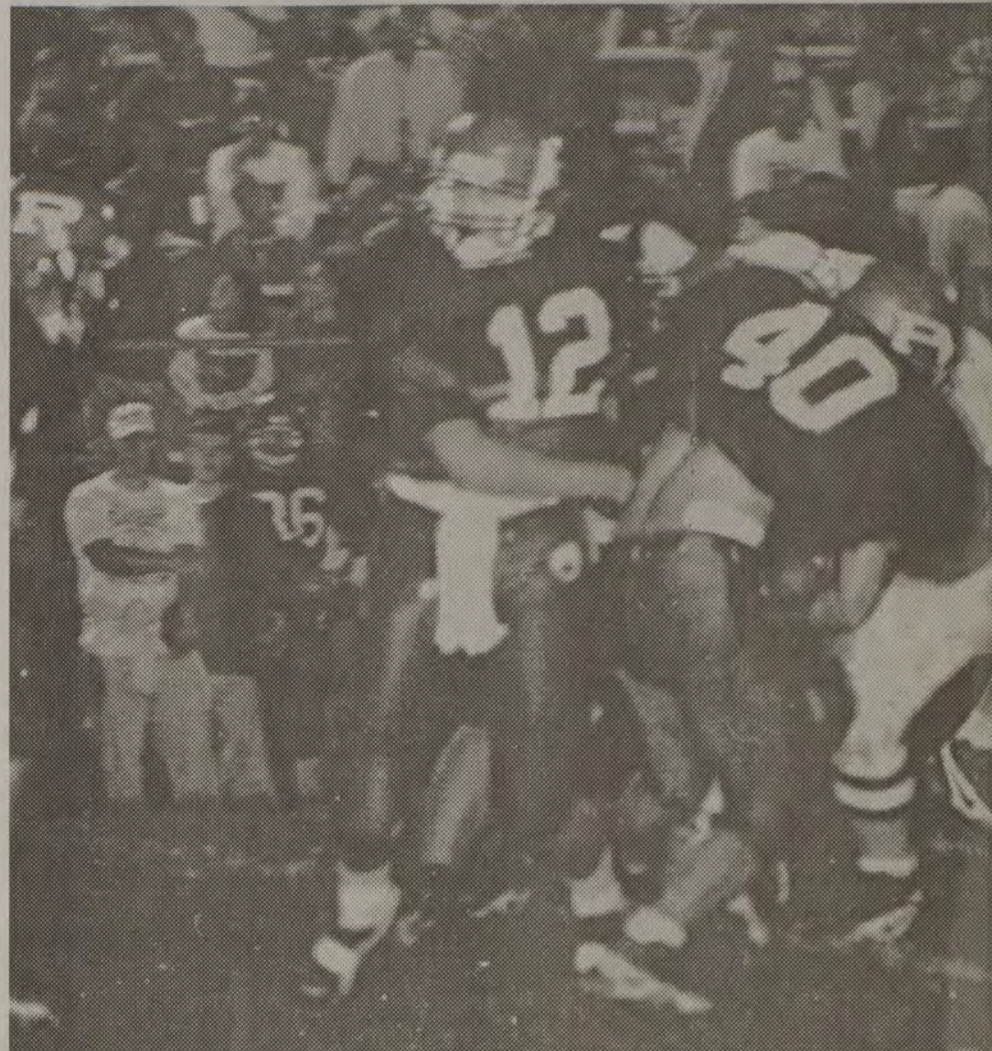
RUSSELL AT BREATHITT

A big, big playoff game will take place tonight as always tough Russell faces defending state champion Breathitt County,

winners of 24 consecutive games.

A Prestonsburg victory over Newport

will pit the Blackcats against the winner of this game.



Mike Castle to lead Prestonsburg tonight against Newport

Martin stuns Betsy Layne behind Mullins and Martin

by Ed Taylor
Sports Editor

Could the Martin Middle School Purple Flashes become basketball weary?

Not according to the way they performed last Wednesday night in the Allen Elementary Shag Campbell Invitational basketball tournament. Martin, who fell to Betsy Layne, 67-63, in the finals of the Right Beaver Classic, avenged the loss with a 80-47 win over the Bobcats to advance to the semifinals.

"We had played nine games last week," said Martin coach Doug Derossett. "That's counting five panorama games. We haven't had time to practice for playing so many games."

Larry Mullins scored a game high 24 points, and Patrick Martin was a perfect 10 of 10 from the charity stripe in scoring 16 points. Martin also pulled down 17

rebounds in the game.

Chase Gibson led Betsy Layne with 19 points, but the big difference between the two weeks was the way Martin handled high scorer Brad Daugherty.

"I told our kids that we had to stop Daugherty. Chase was going to get his points. We needed to stop Daugherty if we were going to win," said the Martin coach.

The plan worked. Daugherty, who hit four, three-point baskets and scored 18 points in the previous meeting, was held to only three points Wednesday night, all in the first half.

Another difference could have been the play of Jeremy Hayes. Hayes started the first game between the two teams, but went out with an injury just seconds into the contest. Wednesday night he scored 11 points and hauled in eight rebounds for the Purple Flash.

Timmy Davis, who had 12 points for Martin in the first event,

finished with eight.

Martin, who relies much on their outside shooting, buried four, three-point baskets. But according to Coach Derossett, Martin needed to put more pressure on the ball.

"In the first game we didn't get to play our game," he said. "We have to be able to get into our press. But the shots just weren't falling for us. Tonight the shots fell and we were able to pressure the ball and take them out of their offense."

Martin had built a lead as much as 40 points as they led 19-9 at the first stop. They went to the locker room at halftime with a 35-22 lead. The Purple Flash scored 29 points in the third period to open up a 64-35 advantage after three quarters.

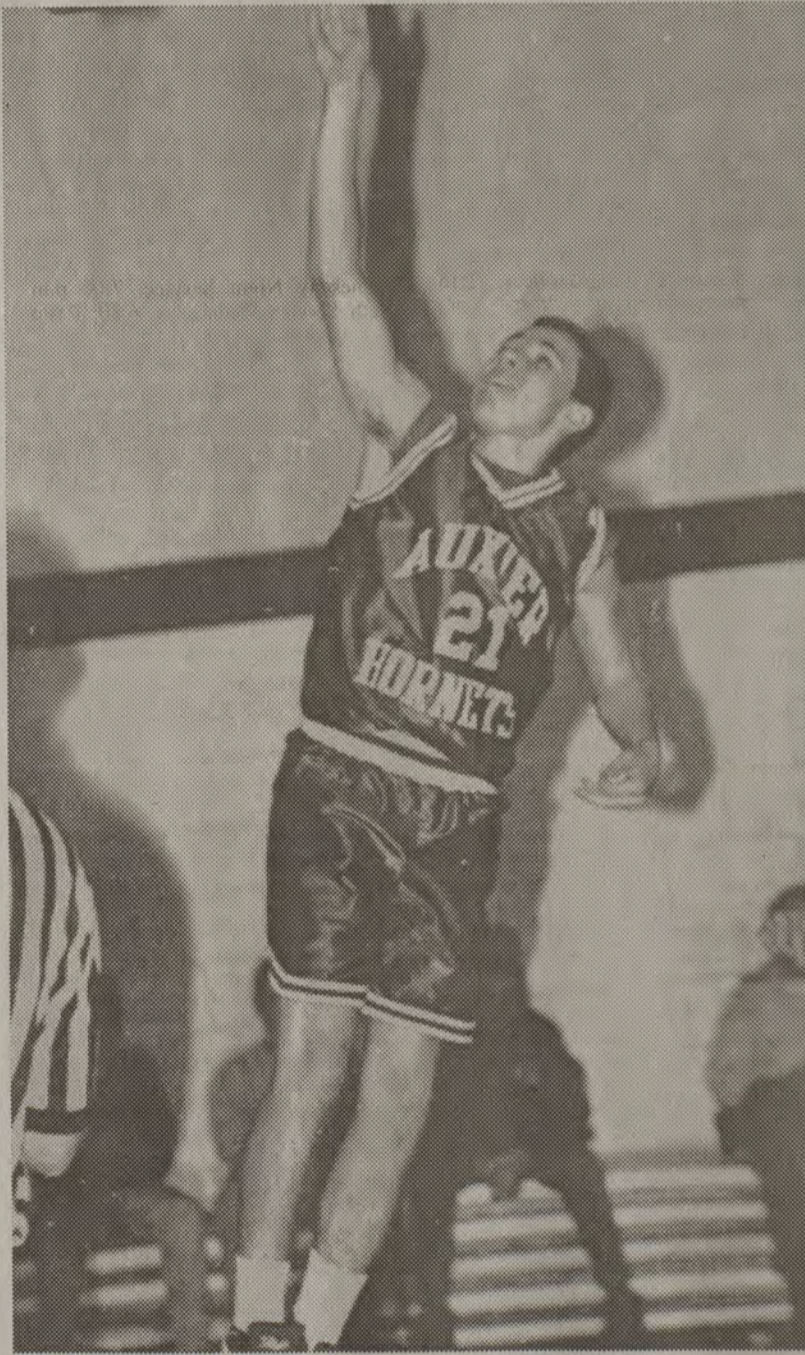
"I credit Wesley (Case) with the way this team is playing," said Derossett. "He had most of them in AAU last summer and it has helped."

Martin hit 21 of 28 free throw attempts while Betsy Layne connected on six of 18 tries.

Dwight McKinney and Keith Crum scored six each for Martin. Henry Napier and Brandon Hansford scored three apiece. Hansford had a three-point basket in the fourth quarter. Chad Samons scored two with Chris Owens tossing in one.

Eddie Tibbs had nine points for Betsy Layne after scoring 17 in game one. Brad Bevins scored six points while Clayton Case, Matt Hamilton, Shawn Rose, Jeremy Clark and Brent Bevins scored two apiece.

It was the first loss for Betsy Layne this season as they fell to 6-1 on the year. Martin, who also plays a middle school schedule, improved to 5-2.



Flying Hornet

Auxier's Ralph Mullett went solo for an easy basket against John M. Stumbo Tuesday night in the Shag Campbell Invitational at Allen. Mullett scored 13 points in the game won by Stumbo 60-49. (photo by Ed Taylor)

B.J. Bryant covers whole court in 62-43 win over McDowell

by Ed Taylor
Sports Editor

To hear Osborne coach Roger Johnson tell it, his point guard, B.J. Bryant, was everywhere when his Eagles faced McDowell this past Wednesday night at the Wheelwright gym.

"B.J. is such a quick player," said Johnson. "McDowell is big team and we had to dribble the ball between their legs, they are so big. But we played well."

Bryant scored 23 points, had 12 steals and dished off seven assists to lead the Eagles to a 62-43 win over McDowell and evened their record to 1-1 on the season.

Michael Hall poured in 18 points. Josh Newman had 13 points for the Eagles and pulled down nine rebounds. Hall hit two three-pointers in the game and scored seven points in the fourth period. Hall is

only a sixth grader at Osborne.

"He came in last year as a fifth grader and started for me," said the Osborne coach. "He is so little, but he plays a big game."

Scott Bradley came off the bench and led McDowell's scoring with 14 points. Steve Ward added 10.

Osborne blitzed the Daredevils in the first quarter, rolling out to a 24-8 lead behind the scoring of Bryant and Newman, who both scored eight points in the opening period. Ward had six of McDowell's eight points.

The Daredevils outscored Osborne 12-8 in the second period with Bradley hitting six of seven free throws in scoring eight points. McDowell trailed 32-20 at the half. Hall and Bryant each had three-point baskets in the second quarter.

(See Covers, page eight)

Prater, Green lead Lady Flashes to 53-37 victory

by Ed Taylor
Sports Editor

Coach Jimmy Hopkins' Martin Lady Flashes have played one season and are embarking on season number two, but already the Lady Flashes have played the Adams Middle School Lady Blackcats four times (counting the middle school schedule).

The fourth game took place this past Tuesday night in an opening round game of the Shag Campbell Invitational tournament at the Allen gym.

Barbara Prater scored 15 points and Angie Green added 13 as Martin posted a 53-37 win over Adams to advance to the semifinals of the tournament.

It was the same story as before, in the first half, as Adams played well only to falter in the second. Adams had its game plan going in the opening two quarters but, after Martin made some changes at the half, it was a different second half.

In the Right Beaver Classic, Adams took a lead to the locker room at the half, only to open flat in the second and falling in the final score. Again Tuesday night, the Lady Blackcats tied the Lady Flashes 24-24 at the half, only to see Martin drill three consecutive three-point baskets en route to a 14-2 run to open the third quarter.

Prater scored nine points in the spree hitting back-to-back three-pointers. Green followed Prater's second trey with one of her own and Prater then completed an old-fashioned three-point play, followed by a short-jumper by Becky Smith, to give Martin a 38-26 lead.

Stephanie Adams controlled the offensive boards for Adams in the first half, scoring six points in each of the first two quarters. But she was held scoreless in the third period and to one field goal in the fourth. Adams finished with 15 points.

Brittany Hites was another reason the Lady Blackcats were able to stay close in the first half with eight points. She finished with 14 for the game, hitting one three-point basket.

Martin built a 13-9 lead after the first quarter and led 15-9 early in the second before Adams made a comeback. The Lady Blackcats scored nine unanswered points to take an 18-15 lead as Martin was guilty of bad shot selection. Hites drilled a three-point basket; Angela Howell scored on a lay-in following a Martin turnover; Frasure hit a

(See Victory, page eight)



Prestonsburg C-Team Football coached by Don Compton had a successful '96 season going 10-0 on the year. This group of four and fifth graders is predicted to be future high school stars.

