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Section

Sunday

January 9, 2000

Volume 73 • Number 4

75 Cents

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. P'burg council to give \$300K to PHS field



The city of Prestonsburg is giving the Floyd County Board of Education \$300,000 to help buy land adjacent to Prestonsburg High School's football field for an expansion. The property includes the former River City Parts Company building, owned by Prestonsburg Mayor Jerry Fannin and city police officer Anthony Castle. (photo by Ralph B. Davis)

Money to buy land for expansion, including building owned by mayor, cop

by Willie Elliott Staff Writer

Calling it a historic occasion, the Prestonsburg City Council. members of the Floyd County Board of Education and the Floyd County Fiscal Court worked out the details Thursday night that could hasten and improve the construction of a new football complex at Prestonsburg High School.

The three entities met in closed session for about an hour-and-ahalf discussing the matter. Then, everyone except the city council was asked to leave, as the council held its own closed-door session for about half an hour.

While the council said it was not in the business of trying to buy property for the construction of the football field, the council voted to provide the Floyd County Board of Education with \$300,000 toward the completion of the football project.

That money will go toward buying land adjacent to the school's present football field, including a tract owned by Mayor Jerry Fannin and city policeman Anthony Castle. Fannin and Castle jointly own a vacant auto parts. store directly beside the football

Fannin, who has lobbied for expanding plans for the football complex, told a Times reporter earlier in the week that, if he sells the land to the board, he would not ask for more than he has in it.

Fannin and Castle purchased the land in September 1997 for

Although many of the details were worked out behind closed doors, it appears that the city will do the site demolition and meet other in-kind expenses, including trenches and rearranging the topography of the field.

Stating that he would have to get support from the Floyd County Fiscal Court, Thompson offered

(See Council, page-two)

. Fiscal court votes to observe King holiday

by Ralph B. Davis Managing Editor

County workers can add an extra half-day to their holiday schedules following action taken by the Fiscal Court Friday.

During a one-item special meeting, commissioners voted unanimously to make the observance of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday a full paid holiday.

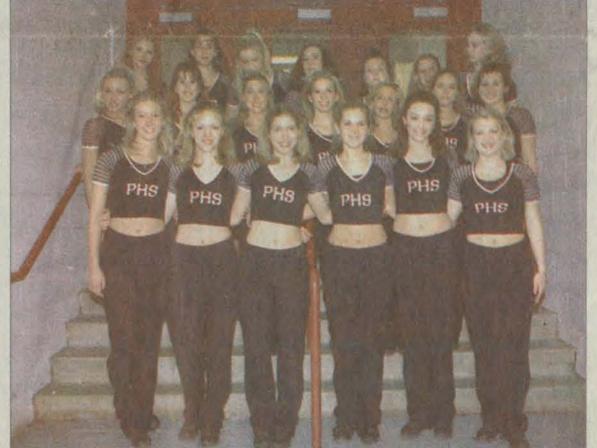
Under terms of the resolution adopted by the court, the holiday

will replace Good Friday, for which county employees received only a half-day off.

County Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson said the court would likely revisit the matter next year and seek to place Good Friday back on the county's calendar, in addition to Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday. But he said county finances precluded the court from doing that this year.

All members were present for Friday's two-minute meeting.

Westward bound ...



Members of the three-time national championship Prestonsburg High School Dance Cats will be heading to St. Louis later this week to defend their crown. Last year, the team returned as Grand National Champions. For more details, see story in Sports, page B1. (photo by Ed Taylor)

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Briefs

Police probe murder/suicide

Kentucky State Police are investigating an apparent murder/suicide in the Johnson County community of Boons Camp Friday night.

Police were called to the home of Henry Sites, 65, of Boons Camp. There they found the bodies of both Sites and his son-in-law, 32-year-old Greg Frisk of London.

Police theorize that Frisk went to Sites' home around 7:45 p.m., shooting him with a rifle before turning the gun on himself. A police statement said there had been an ongoing domestic dispute between Frisk and his wife,

Both men were pronounced dead at the scene by Johnson County Coroner J.R. Frisby.

Officers from KSP and the Johnson County Sheriff's Department responded to the scene of the shooting

The incident remains under investigation by KSP Det. Steve Bowman.

Free email address

Although The Floyd County Times will not unveil its new website until later this month, you can now sign up for a free

(See Briefs, page two)

Federal pen construction leads to airport expansion

by Randell Reno Staff Writer

New jobs are a certainty inside the walls of the new high-security federal prison being built in Martin County, But less certain are the number of spin-off jobs the prison will produce.

Despite the lack of promise and security of knowing for sure Floyd and the surrounding counties will

grow from the prison's existance, one institution will definitely see a

Big Sandy Regional Airport sits high on the mountaintop adjacent to the proposed prison.

But since its inception, the airport has struggled to keep flight. But with the penitentiary on its

way, there will have to be a way to

(See Airport, page two)

General Assembly convenes with a new look

By Lisa Carnahan and Karla Dooley KPA News Bureau

As the 2000 General Assembly got underway, it was business as usual in the House of Representatives, where there are no changes in party leadership. But in the Senate, it was a different story

For the first time in history, the Republican Party holds the majority in the Senate and with that majority comes the coveted position of Senate president.

David L. Williams, R-Burkesville, the longest serving Republican member of the Senate, was elected to the position, replacing Larry Saunders, D-Louisville.

The new majority was caused by the switch last summer of two Democrats, Bob Leeper of Paducah and Dan Seum of Louisville. The switch in parties gave the GOP a 20-18 majority.

'We feel pretty good that we've gotten off to a good start," said Sen. Dan Kelly, R-Springfield, the new majority floor leader. "But we also realize that we've got a lot of work ahead of us.

House Democrats unveiled their agenda for the session, which includes pledges to look at a number of issues related to education, senior citizens, the environment, infrastructure, health, and how to spend the tobacco settlement funds.

It also mentions economic development, public protection, campaign finance and women's and children's issues.

The agenda echoes many of the educational matters Gov. Paul Patton mentioned in his State of the Commonwealth address, including an anti-dropout proposal, early childhood development efforts, teacher quality initiatives, supporting the goals for higher education defined in 1997, and adult literacy programs.

It also proposes refining school safety legislation and increasing teacher salaries.

Stumbo proposes comprehensive environmental bill

House Majority Leader Greg Stumbo, D-Prestonsburg, has filed a broad-sweeping environmental clean-up bill.

Stumbo isn't any stranger to controversy and the 2000 General Assembly probably won't be an exception. House Bill 1 encompasses the key elements of his bottle bill from the 1998 session that drew heavy debate and lobbying, primarily from the soft drink industry and grocers.

The bill would require a five- or 10cent deposit on plastic, aluminum, metal or glass drink containers that the purchaser could redeem at local recycling centers and it places an advanced disposal fee of one-quarter of one cent on fast food packages. The bill exempts baby formula packages, milk, medical food and some fruit and vegetable juice containers.

Stumbo's bill makes garbage pickup mandatory in every county. Only 22 counties of Kentucky's 120 currently require it. Another one, Jackson County, recently passed such a measure, which takes effect in July.

Natural Resources Secretary James Bickford is offering a compromise on the container deposit aspect of the bill, a onecent non-refundable deposit on drink containers, with the proceeds going to a state cleanup fund.

Patton has said he'll support the mandatory garbage pickup and either Stumbo's or Bickford's proposal on container deposits.

'Mandatory garbage collection is an idea whose time has come," said House Speaker Jody Richards, D-Bowling Green. Stumbo said he knows the bill will face stiff opposition but believes its chances of

passing are good. "A lot of legislators have expressed their support of this bill and the environment ... they know we've got to do

something," he said, "All

I've asked them to do

about this bill is keep an open mind. Let us present the information that shows that what they (opposition) are saying happened in the other states, didn't

Round-up

He said he has the facts that show litter was drastically reduced and recycling increased in other bottle bill states "without the job loss and other problems claimed by the beverage industry.

Addressing identity theft

In other action, legislators are taking a stab at preventing "identity theft," calling it the "fastest growing type of theft in

House Bill 4, which was approved unanimously by the House Judiciary Committee, makes it a Class D felony to

steal identifying information from someone with the intent of taking property from that person. making purchases, commercial or political benefit and avoiding detec-

"Identifying information" is everything from an individual's name, Social Security number, birth date or other type of personal identification

The bill enables Kentucky prosecutors to file charges against perpetrators, regardless of where they're located, in the state

Attorney General Ben Chandler, who testified in support of the legislation, said the bill was needed to discourage people from committing the crimes against Kentuckians. With prosecutors' ability to file charges in the county where the victim resides. Kentuckians won't be forced to travel to New York to file charges against

(See State, page two)

by Willie Elliott Staff Writer

Last week Superintendent Paul Fanning of the Floyd County School System discussed what we could expect in the coming year for the support elements of the school system.

This week Fanning spoke about two major items for any school system - curriculum and instruction (which includes assessment and accountability).

Fanning prefaced many of his statements about the direction the school system will take with the idea that expectations are key to all other elements.

"Expectation is a very dominating factor in achieving success," Fanning said, adding those expectations should include those of teachers, administrators, parents and community members.

"Students don't rise to low expec-

Fanning said whether they expressed it orally or not, students appreciated those teachers who had high expectations for them and worked with them to meet those expectations.

Fanning said CATS scores from the last cycle speak for themselves. He said the system now knows its strengths and weaknesses and would use the strong points to hopefully make some gains in the weaker areas.

Fanning said it took many people doing many things to run a system the size of Floyd County. but added that everyone involved should place a priority on student learning.

Fanning said there could be many factors to account for the wide range of scores found in Floyd County schools. He said the

effects of these factors could be minimized by aligning the curriculum which the system is working toward. He said he thought most teachers really wanted to know what it is that they are supposed to teach.

Other than aligning the curriculum, the system is looking for ways to improve student and staff attendance. Fanning said the system was looking at more professional development that did not involve taking teachers away from students. He said two practical ways to accomplish this are to have more summer sessions and to take full advantage of technolo-

Fanning said the consolidated planning that schools do each year would also help identify what professional development was needed at individual schools.

Fanning said Floyd County is

lucky to have many resources available to it. He pointed out that state management made highlyskilled educators available to the system, and the close proximity of Region 8 was another plus for the

Fanning said schools that had high achievement were willing to share knowledge and techniques with other schools.

Fanning said Core Content and Program of Studies were available at every school. He said scores rise when teachers use these documents, but he warned that they are not a panacea. He said other factors go into making a good program as he reiterated the idea of high expectations.

Fanning said the role of central office personnel in regard to professional development is to help, rather than dictate.

Central office personnel are

encouraged to work with faculties and site-based councils to work toward learning goals. Fanning said principals are encouraged to ask for additional resources from the board, keeping in mind that schools should always be able to answer the question, "What are you doing with what you have now?

Fanning said just by the law of averages, there probably are some teachers who, as he put it, "question" the concepts the KERA. He said that is to be expected and applauded as long as the teacher follows through with what is expected of him or her from the Kentucky Department Education.

Fanning said he expected to see improvement in next year's scores, but was hesitant to put a number on any improvement, saying that should be left up to individual schools. He cautioned schools against competition other than with themselves - making gains on previous scores and working toward a 100 score on the

CATS test. He said the difference in math and language arts scores that occurred in both the district and state was similar to scores across the nation.

Since Fanning has been in office less than a year, he has depended on people in the county to answer the various questions he has about KERA. He also goes to required training and gets information directly from KDE.

Fanning said the Floyd County school system is "going to be as good as the community expects it to be. We all need high expectations and recognize how they contribute to a student's success in learning."

-(Continued from page one)

State

a con artist with a computer in that state, said the bill's sponsor Rep. John Vincent, R-Ashland.

The bill makes it a more serious crime to traffic in stolen identities and for repeat offenders. Those people will be charged with a Class C felony, punishable by up to 10 years in prison. Under the proposed new law, the attorney general's office would have concurrent jurisdiction with local commonwealth's attor-

Vincent said the law is specific enough to avoid problems for those individuals who use someone else's identifying information for legitimate purposes, such as individuals who care for the aging or disabled or those with power of attorney

The bill now heads to the full

House for consideration.

Health issues

Affordable, accessible insurance is expected to be a key health care issue. Richards said the goal is to lure three to five insurance companies back into the state, in order to restore a degree of competition to the health insurance market.

"I don't think we have any stars in our eyes about a whole lot of companies coming back," he said.

A bill that would increase spending for programs for mentally disabled adults by 50 percent, filed by Representatives Steve Nunn, R-Glasgow, and Jimmie Lee, D-Elizabethtown, is getting a lot of

It is the only effort to which the

governor said he has definitely made a commitment of funds.

"I think all of us are for that," Richards said of House Bill 144, which has been co-sponsored by 28 members of the House of Representatives.

Tobacco settlement

The Democratic Party's plans for spending the tobacco settlement money include anti-smoking initiatives for youth, health-related programs and using some for an initiative that would attempt to keep down a rise in health care premi-

However, it gives top billing to spending the money for assisting farmers, with a major emphasis on "improving family farms, tobaccodependent communities and the agricultural economy.'

Patton has proposed spending a "substantial amount" of the funds on helping family farms, although he has said he does not support a direct payout, which some legislators favor. He has also said he'd like to use some of the money for early childhood development programs.

"The truth is that we don't know how the tobacco settlement money's going to be spent," Richards said.

Because the governor's budget office expects the state's expenses next year to be \$131 million higher than its revenue, there may be little money for new programs, which Patton has said makes the settlement money even more important.

Patton will unveil his proposed two-year budget for the state by January 25.

Collective bargaining

Although Patton devoted a considerable amount of time in his State of the Commonwealth address discussing labor issues, many mem-

bers of the legislature say they are doubtful that Patton's plan, which will be pushed by organized labor groups, can get enough votes to

Patton has said he would like to extend public employees the right to unionize and re-evaluate the system under which they are paid.

"I think it has very little chance," Richards said of the collective bargaining issue. He said one reason is that legislators feel that "public employees, especially state employees, already have a good many of the items that would be bargained

Senate Democrat Marshall Long, Shelbyville, said he didn't "see two votes for it" in that chamber.

As for resolving the issue of how to evaluate and pay public workers, Richards said "I endorse the concept. But that's all it is right now a concept."

Assessing the state's tax structure was another item on Patton's agenda, but Richards said it's unlikely the General Assembly would have time to look at the issue during this session.

"How in the world would we have time?" he said.

Other issues

Other issues that are expected to come to the forefront in this session include:

Fairness - Reps. Kathy Stein (D-Lexington) and Mary Lou Marzian (D-Louisville) have introduced a bill that would prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation in housing, employment, insurance, and financial services. At the same time, legislation that would prohibit fairness ordinances is also being prepared.

■ Ten Commandments - • Several legislators have filed a House bill that would allow for the posting of the Ten Commandments if the majority of voters in a school district wanted it.

Campaign finance - Senate President David Williams, R-Burkesville, has filed Senate Bill 2, a bill that would prohibit businesses and contractors from working for the state if they have contributed to a state candidate or political party within the past 18 months. Likewise, Rep. Tom Riner, D-Louisville has introduced a bill to prohibit members of the General Assembly from accepting or soliciting contributions for a political party during the legislative session.

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his help in completing the project. a more than reasonable cost. Carter said while the City Council had a quorum and could make

decisions, the county could not be obligated until any measure went through the Fiscal Court. Knowing the board needed a decision, Carter suggested the city go ahead and make the offer and get what help it could from the county.

Carter said, with all agencies working together, the project could be what everybody thinks it should be.

Both Carter and board chairman Terry Dotson commented on the significance of the occasion.

Carter, who said he celebrated his 60th birthday (later amended to 65) this past year, said, "This is the first time in the 42 years I have lived in Prestonsburg and Floyd County that I have seen such a willing spirit among the Floyd County Board of Education, the county and the city." Carter summed up his feelings on the occasion by saying, "I'm proud to be here."

Dotson, who said he was speaking for the board, said it was good to see the cooperation of the three agencies. He gave thanks to the Prestonsburg Industrial Corporation for its part in getting the system a new central office at

Council member Estill Lee Dotson said the sale of the central office helped not only the students in the Floyd County system but also the Floyd County Health Department and the Floyd County

Dotson said this act allowed the board do some good things for students, buying 850 computers being one that Dotson mentioned. Dotson said he and Mayor Jerry Fannin did not always see eye-toeye on the construction of the football field, but it was good that they worked through those differences.

Fannin said he hoped details could be worked out so that the community would be allowed to use the facility, Councilman Trent Nairn said whether or not that permission could be worked out, the completion of the project would be a boost for the community.

It was pointed out how the county is involved in assisting the school system, with the county now involved in projects in all districts of the county.

The city council voted to borrow the money and get it to the board within two weeks. The city will seek bids to borrow the money and the low bidder would get the contract, unless it happened that two firms had the same

bid, in which case the bid would be split. The council invited all banks in the county to bid on the

(Continued from page one)

The council also approved the architect contract on the senior citizens center.

(Continued from page one) get the prisoners to the area. That way may very well come through the expansion of the airport.

"Because of the prison, the airport will be expanded 1,500 feet," said Bob Morrison who directs the airport operations.

The current runway spans 5,000 feet by 100 feet, servicing mediumto small-sized airplanes and smaller jets like the Gulf Stream II, III, or IV. The limited size of the runway will not allow the G-IV to take off if it is fully loaded with fuel or weighed down, said Morrison.

The addition to the runway will allow bigger jets to land at the airport - up to 727s. The changes will make a major difference in airport

Ironically, even though larger planes will be able to land at the airport, it is not likely a terminal will be built for commercial air traffic to come into the area. "Huntington just lost Com-Air, a Delta connection," said Morrison. "The market just won't support it."

March named first National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month The United States Senate has

officially declared March 2000 as the first annual National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month.

Cancer Research Foundation of America together with the American Digestive Health Foundation and the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable have been working with senators to designate the month.

Approximately 130,000 new cases of colorectal cancer, cancer of the colon and rectum, are diagnosed every year and another 56,000 people die annually. It is the second leading cause of cancer deaths for men and women combined and African Americans and Hispanics are more likely to be diagnosed in

advanced stages. "We are gratified that the Senate

has recognized the importance of colorectal cancer," said Carolyn Aldigé, president and founder of the Cancer Research Foundation of America. "Colorectal cancer is a disease that no one has to die from. It is preventable ... treatable ... beatable. Colorectal cancer is preventable through regular screenings, a healthy diet and regular exercise. It is treatable when detected in its earliest stages and can be beaten."

The campaign is made possible through contributions from presenting sponsor, Hoffmann-La Roche and sustaining sponsor, Bristol-Myers Squibb Oncology.

For more information, call 1-877-35-COLON (2-6566) or visit www.preventcancer.org/colorectal.

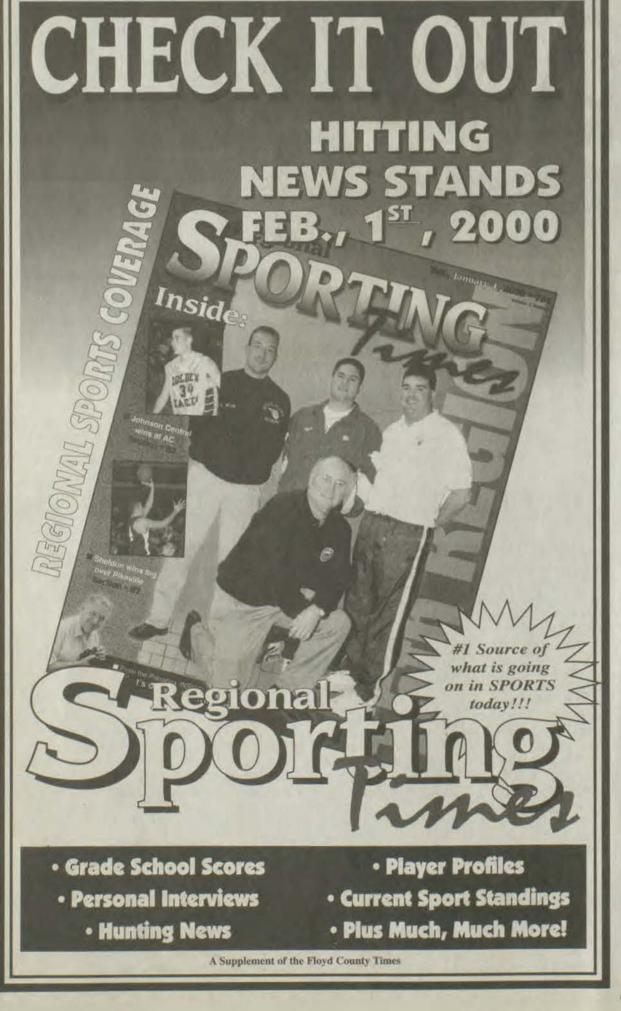
Briefs

(Continued from page one)

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History's great



Wanda Williamson gained private employment with McDowell Home Health as a full-time employee after completing the TOPS program.

Public safety comes . with high prices

(NAPSA)-Like the medicines we take and the food we enjoy, too often we take the sacrifices made on our behalf by police officers for

It's estimated that nearly 15,000 police officers have made the ultimate sacrifice since the first recorded death of a police officer in the line of duty in 1794.

Over the past decade there have been an average of 160 law enforcement fatalities each year. That's in addition to 3,000 assaults on police officers resulting in more than 21,000 injuries.

Recently, a ceremony to mark the eighth anniversary of the dedication of law enforcement's national monument in Washington, D.C. paid special attention to the three officers who were ambushed and killed in Pleasanton, Texas.

In the Texas incident, a man lured law enforcement officers to a trailer park with a 911 call and then opened fire when they arrived on the scene. The suspect had been jailed prior to the shooting on a domestic violence charge and it's believed the officers were shot in an act of revenge

Craig W. Floyd, Chairman of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial observed, "No matter whether the reason is madness, retaliation or hatred, the fact remains that our law enforcement professionals have become the target of cold-blooded criminal vengeance with increasing frequency in recent years."

Shirley Gibson, mother of slain D.C. police officer Brian Gibson,



The National Law Enforcement Memorial is located Washington, D.C.

delivered the keynote address. She is the president of the D.C. Chapter of the Concerns of Police

Mrs. Gibson expressed her thanks for and appreciation of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, calling it "a quiet place of remembrance, dignity and pride." The memorial-which carries the names of nearly 15,000 officers killed in the line of duty-is supported with private funds.

Legislation has been introduced in Congress to build a national law enforcement museum with private

engineering feat: **The Panama Canal** Since the adoption of the

canal has been operated by the U.S.

government, but as of December

31, 1999, it is operated by the

Republic of Panama.

dream of the Spanish and the Panama Canal Treaty of 1979, the French since the early 1500s, it was not until 1914 that civil engineering ingenuity united the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans through the Panama

The 50-mile-long system of locks, man-made lakes and channels has allowed the crossing of more than 830,000 vessels, and continues to influence world trade patterns and spur growth in developed and developing countries around the world. A ship traveling from New York to San Francisco, for example, saved 7,872 miles by using the canal instead of going around Cape Horn.

Heralded as one of the world's most significant engineering feats that remains unparalleled-and named one of the Seven Wonders of the Modern World by the American Society of Civil Engineers-the Panama Canal took 10 years, 75,000 workers and almost \$400 million to build.

More than 4.5 million cubic vards of concrete went into building the canal's locks and dams. And if the earth that was excavated to build the canal were put on a train of flat cars, those cars would circle the planet four times.

The engineering challenges that were faced included digging through the Continental Divide; building the largest earth dam at the time; designing and building the largest canal locks and gates; and meeting tremendous environmental and sanitation challenges.

Did you know?

(NAPSA)-Pizza Hut, said to be the world's largest chain of pizza restaurants, is sponsoring a youth literacy program that reaches 800,000 classrooms.

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Thoughts of you come to mind everyday, In our hearts you will forever stay. We love and miss you very much, Jean , David , Malcom, and David Layne II.

The Floyd County Times www.americanbible.org. A long-standing holiday treat, finds on federal property across the pistachios help adults and children street from the memorial Announces the Publication of meet their daily nutrient needs To learn more visit the Web site while being fun to eat at the same at www.nleomf.com or call 202-

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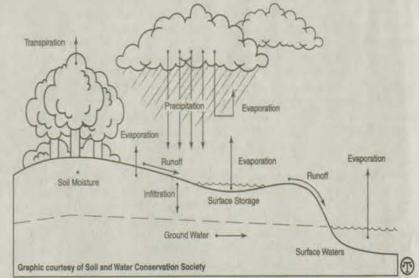
Soil and water: Nature's delicate partnership

(NAPSA)-Soil and water form nature's most precious combination, a combination that all life depends upon. Together, soil and water produce vegetation that provides food and fiber for humans and animals, as well as habitat for many of earth's creatures.

Soil provides all but three of the 16 nutrients essential for plant growth. Even foods grown in aquatic environments, such as rice, rely on nutrients from the

Soil-the skin of the earth-is also a natural filter. It removes impurities and disease-causing organisms from the water that passes over it or through its pores. Tiny organisms that live in soil break down toxins in wastes. Soil also absorbs carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases, which could help offset the effects of global climate change. And soils absorb large quantities of water, minimizing the potential for floods. Soil provides the earth's most efficient reservoir, storing large amounts of water for days, months, or even

Unfortunately, the vital combination of soil and water is under constant threat. Soils on about 127 million acres of cropland-equivalent to the combined land area of Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont-are being washed or blown away faster than they can be replenished. Soils in growing cities and suburban areas, where conservation practices are relatively uncommon, are also subject to erosion. In addition, many acres that were once cropland, grassland, or forestland are being covered over with impervious surfaces of asphalt and concrete. The



Soil filters waste and stores water through the hydrologic cycle. Soil erosion increases both the risk of flooding and the chance of pollutants reaching the nation's lakes and streams.

loss of these soils comes at a time when the nation needs more water storage capacity than ever before. Rainfall events of more than two inches per day have increased 20 percent in the continental United States over the last century, creating an ever-increasing threat of

Erosion tears away the surface layers of soil, carrying with it fertilizers, pesticides, and other potential pollutants, some of which are deposited in the nation's lakes and streams. It depletes the soil of essential nutrients, which reduces the land's productivity. Erosion also reduces the soil's capacity to store water and support organisms that break down wastes.

Over the past 100 years, landowners have implemented conservation practices to reduce or prevent soil erosion on millions of acres of cropland across the United States. Common practices include conservation tillage, stripcropping, terracing, and conservation buffers, such as filter strips and windbreaks. In many cases, the public has shared with landowners the cost of installing these practices, knowing that protection of the precious combination of soil and water is key to ensuring safe, affordable supplies of food and fiber and a quality environment for future genera-

In recent years, however, conservation progress has slowed across the United States. It's no coincidence that this slow-down comes at a time when public investment in conservation programs is declining. Americans recognized long ago that the delicate combination of soil and water resources must be nurtured carefully. So, too, must the partnership between landowners and the public to protect these vital natural resources.

To learn more about soil and water conservation, visit the Web site www.swcs.org.

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> -First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution-



QUOTE OF THE DAY...

You never know what is enough unless you know what is more than enough.

William Blake-

Sunday, January 9, 2000 A4

-Editorial

An absurd reason

As legislators gather in Frankfort for the 2000 General Assembly, a key senator has expressed reservations about a proposal to require every county to enact mandatory garbage collection ordinances.

But the reason Sen. Ernie Harris, R-Crestwood, gives for having doubts about the bill (proposed by House Majority Leader Greg Stumbo) borders on the absurd.

"If we have mandated trash pick-up, do our landfills have the room to control this? the senator asked.

What if the state doesn't have enough landfill space for all Kentuckians to have their trash picked up and disposed of in an environmentally sound manner?

Does that mean we should continue the status quo where a small percentage of residents illegally dump their trash on hillsides and along creek banks? Indeed, is the senator trying to tell us that the illegal dumps actually provide a service by preserving landfill space? Surely not!

First, we think there exists in Kentucky adequate landfill space to handle the trash now being illegally dumped. If not, that is still no reason to reject the one proposal that would do more than anything else to clean up Kentucky.

A far better solution would be to increase landfill space to handle the extra volume. An even better approach would be for the state to do more to encourage recycling and waste reduction. Doing so could reduce the amount of trash being buried in this state, even with mandatory garbage collection.

As we see it, the biggest challenge facing the mandatory garbage collection proposal is establishing a workable way to force residents to pay for the garbage they have collected.

The failure of some Elliott County residents to pay their garbage collection bills to a private hauler is the biggest problem that county has faced in enforcing its universal garbage collection ordinance. The traditional response to those who don't pay - cancellation of service - does not work when it comes to garbage collec-

However, finding a way to convince people to pay for their garbage collection is a solvable problem that should not prevent passage of the bill Stumbo is proposing and Gov. Paul Patton has endorsed.

Harris is the new chairman of the Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, through which any mandatory trash pickup bill presumably would have to pass. Since chairmen have the power to single-handedly kill bills that come before their committees, that gives Harris considerable influence on this issue.

No one knows just how the new Republican majority in the Senate will impact the 2000 General Assembly, but if it results in the demise of the mandatory garbage collection bill, it will be a disservice to those working for a cleaner Kentucky.

- The Daily Independent, Ashland



Guest Column

A Kentucky earned income tax credit would help make work pay

By Douglas Hall, Ph.D.

Kentucky retailers are rubbing their hands in glee as we proceed through the holiday season. Consumer confidence is fueling unprecedented sales, while the stock market continues to flirt with record highs.

Like the rest of the country, Kentucky continues to enjoy incredible economic growth. Governor Patton's occasional warnings that state coffers won't be adequate for current spending priorities have not dampened the enthusiasm of the "typical" Kentuckian.

Unfortunately, not all Kentuckians have shared in this economic prosperity. For the 80,000 working poor households, the holiday season will be a muted affair. Kentucky's welfare caseload is down 40 percent. Yet this can hardly be cause for celebration when so many of those families continue to live in

Most of those entering the workforce start in jobs which pay wages inadequate for supporting a family. In addition, state taxes on Kentucky's poorest working citizens are among the highest in the country. A family of four living at the poverty line of \$16,655 owes the state \$550 in taxes, the highest in the country. Surely, something can be done to make work pay for those who have worked so hard.

Something can be done. A state earned income tax credit (EITC) provides tax relief to families working to lift themselves out of a state of poverty or nearpoverty. A Kentucky EITC would both offset taxes that reduce "take home" pay and, for the poorest workers, offer a refundable credit to supplement

State level EITCs are typically patterned after the federal EITC, which has a proven track record as an anti-poverty measure. State EITCs encourage recipients to enter the workforce by supplementing their income — for every dollar earned, they receive a tax

EITCs clearly benefit the recipients, allowing them to pay off outstanding rent or utility bills, or to invest in child care or tuition. Whether being used to makes ends meet, or to invest in their future by furthering education, an EITC acts as a powerful catalyst, rewarding hard work with tangible benefits.

It also benefits the entire state, since the money of the poor and working poor returns quickly to the

economy, supporting local merchants. One in four Kentucky tax filers eligible for earned income tax credits represents the possibility for significant economic stimulus.

Critics of EITCs argue that the amount of funds available to recipients is not a great deal of money. Yet for those with annual incomes in the \$9,000 to \$12,000 range, the maximum state EITC of \$563 is a great deal of money. During this holiday season, EITCs could have meant warm coats and a gift for each child. It might even mean the working poor could go to the grocery store for Christmas dinner, rather than the food bank. Surely Kentuckians working hard to lift their families out of poverty deserve the dignity of a holiday season without hunger.

earned income tax credit cannot on its own solve the problems faced by Kentucky's working poor. Do we need to focus on the importance of lifelong learning, including education and training? Yes. Do we need to pursue creative opportunities for economic development that build up the people and the communities of the commonwealth? Yes. Is there a critical need to invest in quality child care? Of course. These things are also all very important as we try to build a society that can survive, indeed thrive, in the complex economy of the 21st century.

A key measure of any community is how it treats its poorest and weakest citizens. By that measure, Kentucky doesn't fare very well. The gap between the richest and poorest is growing. The poorest members of society are actually getting poorer, while the wealthiest continue to amass huge fortunes.

Implementing an earned income tax credit in Kentucky is one important step we can take towards closing that gap. Expanding the most successful antipoverty initiative of our time to help Kentuckians today is not just a good idea It is an important step in building Kentucky's common wealth.

Hall is a senior analyst with Kentucky Youth Advocates, a member of the Coalition For Tax

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Paison Pen

by Ralph Davis Managing Editor



No clear right or wrong

We all like to think, when it comes to making decisions in government, there is a right way to do things and a wrong way. But if ever there were an argument in favor of shades of gray in policy-making, the terribly painful process of building a football stadium at Prestonsburg High School is it.

I don't think anyone was satisfied when the decision was made to keep the field on its present site, making it necessary to scale back plans. That much was evident from the outcry which arose once the decision was announced.

Among those decrying the school board's decision was Prestonsburg Mayor Jerry Fannin. Fannin was very vocal in his opposition to the scaleddown plans, even attending a board meeting in an attempt to convince board members to change their minds.

Fannin's strategy apparently worked, although experience has taught us that nothing can be certain in this seemingly never-ending saga. On Thursday, the Prestonsburg City Council voted to give the school board \$300,000 in an effort to make certain money would not be an obstacle to building a top-notch stadium.

That money will help the board purchase land adjacent to the current football field, allowing the school to turn the gridiron 90 degrees and making more room for better seating and a running track.

Normally, I would applaud such action. From all appearances, Fannin saw a need in the community and leveraged his resources in order to accomplish the goal.

But my praise will have to be somewhat muted in this instance, primarily because Fannin stands to benefit directly from the sudden change in plans.

You see, Fannin, along with Prestonsburg policeman Anthony Castle, happens to own one of the tracts which will have to be sold to the board, the former River City Parts Company located directly beside the football field along Rt. 1428.

Now, I am glad to see Prestonsburg High School get the opportunity to build a better facility. I graduated from PHS, was even a member of the football team for a couple of years. Seeing the school get a better football field worthy of the school's and team's history could not please me more. I suppose I am thankful that Fannin did help make that a reality.

But I am also of the opinion that our officials should engage in actions which place them above approach. The fact that city money will be used to, in essence, buy property from the mayor for a project he lobbied very strongly for does not quite meet that standard.

Does that mean the project should be scrapped? By all means, no. That would be to no one's benefit, least of all the community's.

To his credit, Fannin has told our reporters that he will not seek to sell the property for more than he paid for it, which from our research is \$45,000.

In addition, Fannin has always voiced his support, publicly at least, for a plan which would not have included

See Pen, page five

Floyd County

Published Wednesday, Friday and Sunday each week

cnhi

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263 SOUTH CENTRAL AVENUE PRESTONSBURG, KENTUCKY 41653

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: \$38.00 Outside Floyd County: \$48.00

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

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A THOUSAND POINTS OF LIGHTWEIGHT

Letters to the Editor

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. The Times reserves the right to reject or edit any letter deemed slanderous, libelous or otherwise objection-

able. Letters should be no longer than two type-written pages, and may be edited for length or clarity. Opinions expressed in letters and other voices are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the newspaper. Send letters to: The Editor, The Floyd County Times, P.O. Box 391, Prestonsburg, Ky.





The TOPS (Through Opportunities People Succeed) program completed its latest class on December 17. Pictured with the class is Harold Reynolds, Community Support Coordinator from the Mountain Comprehensive Care Center, conducted mock interviews during the last week of class. From front left are Candy Young, Career Counselor; Sondra Spurlock, Career Counselor Aide; Elizabeth Lawson, Career Counselor Aide and Reynolds. Middle row from left: Lisa Blackburn, Amber Ashley, Shelly Newhouse, Lisa Hagans. Back row from left: Lora Bentley, Pam Nesslerotte, Tabitha Bentley, Jeffery Bays, and Alisha Meade. Rebecca Hill is not pictured. For more information about the TOPS program, call 606-886-2929. TOPS is located in the annex building with the Big Sandy C. A. P. Office.

High-speed web surfing comes h

shop, work, bank and even date online these days-if you can manage to get a connection that's fast cost. and reliable. Faster connection speeds decrease the amount of time you need to wait for your favorite web page or e-mail to download and increase the realism of games, audio and video content.

With the introduction of some affordable new alternatives, highspeed Internet connections are finally coming home to your living room. But it's easy to get conavailable. Here are some helpful descriptions from the experts at Motorola:

Telephone Modems-Most computers come with a modem that connects you to the Internet via ordinary telephone lines. Telephone modems are the slowsest, but most universally available way to connect. Modem speeds are measured in kilobits of data per second (Kbps, often abbreviated as just K), and the fastest telephone modem you can buy right now is 56K.

However, even with a 56K modem you won't see a 56K connection-usually it's more in the range of 40 to 50K. Telephone modems are inherently slow, and

you're online unless you have a ed by your local cable operator, second line installed, which adds and uses the same wire as your TV

Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN)-ISDN is offered through local phone companies, and has a maximum speed of 128K-again, actual speeds vary. ISDN is faster than a telephone connection, but requires a special modem (called a terminal adapter) and can be costly and complicated to set up and use.

Digital Subscriber Lines fused by the different options (DSL)-Many phone companies now offer various types of DSL service, with theoretical download rates up to 8 megabits per second (Mbps)-that's 140 times faster than a 56K modem. More typically, DSL users get between 512K and 1.5 Mbps for downloading and about 128K for uploading. As with ISDN, you'll need the phone company to install special wiring and a special modem. But DSL is not available in all areas. You have to be located within 15,000 feet of your phone company's central office equipment, and not all local phone companies offer DSL.

> Cable Modems-Cable modems are the fastest way to modems, visit Motorola's web site connect at home. They offer at www.motorola.com/multimeastounding download speeds, up dia.

(NAPSA)-You can play games, you can't talk on the phone while to 30 Mbps. The service is providservice. Because cable modems use a different frequency, you can watch cable TV at the same time. And your connection to the Internet is always "on," so you don't have to wait to connect like you do with a telephone modem.

Cable operators typically charge around \$100 to set up the service, and the monthly service charges range from \$30 to \$50. Most cable operators provide the actual modem, and soon you'll be able to purchase cable modems in retail stores or online.

According to industry experts. the growth of cable modems and services like IP (Internet Protocol) telephony will bring entirely new services to consumers through their cable networks.

While cable modem service is not yet available in all areas, about 95 percent of the homes in America have the cable wires required already in their neighborhoods. To find out if the service is available in your area, call your cable operator.

To learn more about cable

MSU to emphasize technology

Morehead State University has received a \$120,775 grant to be used to build a community of partners in rural eastern Kentucky to infuse technology in teacher prepa-

Preparing tomorrow's teachers to use technology has become a national priority, according to the U. S. Department of Education, the source of the grant money. In less than a decade, more than two million teachers must be recruited to replace retiring teachers. These future teachers must be technologyproficient educators who know how to use modern learning tools to help students meet high standards.

The grant, which will fund special projects to allow MSU students to become technology proficient teachers, will be directed by Dr. Cathy Barlow, interim dean of the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, and Dr. Elizabeth Regan, chair of the Department of Information

"It is especially important that technology-proficient teachers be available in eastern Kentucky where there is a widely dispersed population concentrated in lowincome communities and rural areas that rely on their schools for access to modern information and communications technologies," Barlow said. "Our goal is to have students prepared to reshape education at all levels for the 21st centu-

Funding from the grant will allow MSU education students, who will be completing their professional semester this term, an opportunity to learn the latest in technology before departing for public school classrooms.

subscribe to the Floyd County Times call 886-8506

prospective teachers will participate in a pre-service teacher workshop that will include instruction by university faculty members and teachers from five surrounding counties.

During the session, which will be held January 11 and 13 on the campus, they will learn about developing instructional strategies. creating resources and preparing lesson plans, all with technology in

"Students will learn about technology as it relates to teaching," said Regan. "The workshop will offer hands-on training and show real life experiences while allowing those in the trenches to share what they have learned in the classroom.

The future teachers will be paired with master teachers, composed of MSU faculty members, who are utilizing the latest technology in their classes. Real-life expe-

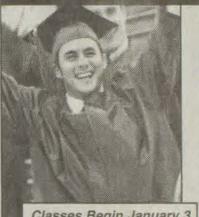
The 128 students who are riences will be provided by technology coordinators from five partner school districts which will include Mike Barker, Carter: Randy Evans, Elliott; Kelly Lee, Fleming; Sylvia Rowland, Morgan; and Jeff Grubb,

"The master teachers will provide information and guidance to build a skill that the pre-service teacher will need in the classroom," Barlow said.

The students will be divided into work groups with each unit identifying an objective and developing a strategy to incorporate technology in the classroom. During the last session of the workshop, outcomes of each unit will be shared with the entire group.

Additional information on the pre-service teacher workshop is available by calling 606/783-2163. MSU's Teacher Education Program is a co-sponsor of the two-day workshop.

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Sullivan College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award Associate, Bachelor's and Master's degrees.

Heating up chilly dogs: Cold weather tips to keep pets warm

by Bernadine Cruz, D.V.M.

(NAPSA)-When the season moves into winter, people adjust their routines and plan for colder weather. At the same time, take a few minutes to prepare your pets for the changing seasons. The following is a list of do's and don'ts to help you give your pets the coldweather care they deserve.

DO provide proper shelter. If you can't keep your dog indoors during winter months, provide an elevated structure with a door to protect pets from wind and weather. Provide dry, clean bedding materials such as straw or blankets, and replace bedding if it becomes damp or wet. Find a house large enough for your dog to be able to stand up and turn around, but small enough to retain her body heat.

DO use caution around bodies of water. Keep pets away from rivers, ponds and lakes as they begin to freeze. Continue to use caution even when the water appears completely frozen.

DO check your dog's ears, tail and feet for frostbite. Just as dogs are sensitive to hot summer sidewalks, cold winter walkways may cause pain or contribute to frostbite. A dog that continually lifts individual legs off the ground during a winter walk may feel the effects of frostbite. Frostbitten skin may appear red or gray. If you suspect frostbite, wrap your dog's feet in a blanket or towels to gradually warm them and contact your vet-

DO provide adequate fresh, unfrozen water. If your dog lives outside, consider investing in a heated water bowl. Indoor dogs also may require more water to combat dry winter air.

DO keep identification tags updated in the event your dog runs

DO clean up antifreeze spills immediately. Many dogs like the sweet smell and taste and, unfortunately, even small amounts can be lethal. If you suspect that your dog may be serious, resulting in hospihas ingested antifreeze, take him to your veterinarian immediately. There may be time for Antizol-Vet. an antifreeze antidote, to help your dog. Also consider using an animal-friendly antifreeze.

DO visit your veterinarian for a checkup before the cold weather strikes. Cold weather may exacerbate certain conditions, such as arthritis.

DON'T assume that your dog feels fine. Dogs that appear to move more slowly in the fall, winter and early spring may actually be exhibiting signs of osteoarthritis, and should be checked by a an associate veterinarian at veterinarian. Arthritis affects one in five adult dogs-more than eight million in all.

DO know the signs. Osteoarthritis is a painful, degenerative joint disease, and signs can be subtle and easily missed. Early signs may include lagging behind on walks, limping, appearing stiff after activity and difficulty climbing stairs. Signs of severe, more advanced arthritis may include soreness when touched, unwillingness to rise from a resting position. yelping or whimpering in pain, acting aggressive or withdrawn, or exhibiting other behavioral changes.

DO consider providing pain relief for dogs diagnosed with arthritis. Rimadyl® (carprofen) was the first nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drug (NSAID) of its class cleared by the Food and Drug Administration in over a decade to relieve the pain and inflammation of osteoarthritis in dogs. Rimadyl has provided real relief for more than a million dogs.

Signs of Rimadyl intolerance may include appetite loss, vomiting and diarrhea, which could indicate side effects involving the digestive tract, liver or kidneys. Some of these side effects, like those of many other NSAID-class medications, may occur without warning and, in rare situations,

talization or even fatal outcomes. In actual field use, the reported rate of all side effects for Rimadyl has been less than one percent. If these signs occur, discontinue Rimadyl therapy and contact your veterinarian. See important Information for Dog Owners and attached product infill for prescribing information. Your veterinarian can help you decide if Rimadyl is right for your dog. For more information, visit Rimadyl website at www.rimadyl.com, or call 1-800-720-DOGS

Dr. Bernadine Cruz, D.V.M., is Laguna Hills Animal Hospital in Laguna Hills, Calif. She specializes in small animal medicine and has been practicing veterinary medicine for more than 16 years. She also serves as a volunteer veterinarian for a number of organizations and has done veterinary consulting for national television programs.

(Continued from page four)

purchasing his property - moving the football field adjacent to the city's mountaintop golf course project.

And while the idea of city money being used to buy property from the mayor leaves a bad taste in my mouth, I am certainly not accusing Fannin of engaging in any illegal behavior.

But appearances do matter. Even if this latest turn of events arose entirely from the most noble of intentions, there will be many who just won't buy it.

In a county which has a long history of elected officials selling out the public for their own benefit, in a region and state with much the same history, this latest proposal will likely raise more than a few eyebrows

Does your teddy bear have the sniffles?



"There's no cure for the common cold."

That old saying is hardly reassuring when your children get sick during cold and flu season.

Providing relief for your children's coughing, runny nose, sore throat and other cold symptoms is important. So is making sure a persistent cold is not something more serious like bronchitis, pneumonia or the flu. Finding the right health care may help your children - and you-breathe a little easier this winter.

Dr. Saifullah, board certified pediatrician at the Mud Creek Clinic, can help. His services are available to everyone. If you do not have insurance, Medicare or a Kentucky medical card, you may have to pay as little as 20% of the total.

So with a pediatrician like Dr. Saifullah-and a clinic like Mud Creek just down the road, there is every reason to get the health care needed by your children.

And their teddy bears, too.

Open weekdays 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., and Thursdays until 7 p.m. For an appointment, call 587-2200 or 886-1242.

Mud Creek Clinic

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A proud tradition of providing access to quality health care.



In memory Brenda Crouch

December 28, 1961 -January 8, 1998

Beloved daughter of Omer Banks Crouch and Beulah Mae Crouch of Sharpsburg, and beloved sister of Sandy Crouch Crump of Ashland.

A graduate of Morehead State University with a major in art, she was an employee of the Floyd County Times in various capacities in advertising and circulation during a 14year period.

She was a talented artist and a kind, gentle, thoughtful and generous person, still sadly missed today. She is free of pain and at peace.

Ida Reynolds Gayheart

Ida Reynolds Gayheart, 84, of Beaver, died Thursday, January 6, 2000, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital, following an extended ill-

Born on March 13, 1915, at Beaver, she was the daughter of the late Preston and Vina Jones Reynolds.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Earl Gayheart.

Survivors include two sons, Adury Gayheart and Glenis Gayheart, both of Beaver; one daughter, Wanda Gayheart of Beaver, two sisters, Edith Wilhite of Legon, Tommie Vance of Huntington, Indiana; nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchil-

Funeral services will be conducted Sunday, January 9, at 10 a.m., at the Samaria Old Regular Baptist Church, Teaberry, with Old Regular Baptist ministers officiat-

Burial will be in the Family Cemetery, Beaver, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Martin.

Hall pallbearers listed

Serving as pallbearers for the funeral of Luther Hall were Jeremy Hall, John Paul Luxmore, Ronnie Samons, Mike Tackett, John Hall and Tim Samons.

Pike County

Creek, died Tuesday, January 4

2000. He was a coal miner for 38

years, retired from Bethelem Steel

Corporation. He is survived by his

wife, Ferbie Robinson Belcher.

Funeral services were conducted

Saturday, January 8, under the

direction of R.S. Jones & Son

Huffard Bevins, 81, of Powells

Creek, died Tuesday, December 21,

1999. He was a retired coal miner.

Funeral services were conducted

Friday, December 24, under the

direction of Justice Funeral

Maxine Johnson Hinkle, 75, of

Hardy, died Wednesday, January 5,

2000. She is survived by her hus-

band, Grayson "Dick" Hinkle.

Funeral services were conducted

Funeral Home.

Services.

Funeral Home.

Willie Belcher, 79, of Caney

Alvin Coleman Morris

Alvin Coleman Morris, 72, of Teaberry, died Thursday, January 6, 2000, at U.K. Medical Center, Lexington, following an extended

Born on September 18, 1927, in Liberty, he was the son of the late John Coleman and Daisy Derringer Morris.

He was an retired laborer, a Korean veteran, a member of Church of God in Jesus Name, Pike County.

He is survived by his wife, Clara Jean Newsome Morris.

Other survivors include one son, Ronald Lee Morris of Holly, Michigan; two daughters, Teresa Ann Stilson, of Ft. Myers, Florida, Debra Jean Hutchinson of Carlisle; one step-daughter, Deborah Lynn Hall of Teaberry; one brother, Bobby Morris of Florida; one half-brother, John (Butch) Armstrong Morris of Midway; three sisters, Mildred Thompson of Midway. Lucille Kidd of Winchester, Shirley Anderson of Washington, County; six grandchildren, two step-grandchildren and two step-greatgrandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted Monday, January 10, at 10 a.m., at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, with Donnie Hall, Woodrow Crum and others offici-

Burial will be in the Dewey Newsome Cemetery at Teaberry, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Martin.

Randall Ray "Boo" Isaac

Randall Ray "Boo" Isaac, 49, of Versailles, formerly of Spurlock Creek and Jack's Creek of Floyd County, died Tuesday, January 4, 2000, at the Woodford Memorial Hospital, Versailles.

He was born May 26, 1950, in Bevinsville, the son of the late Virgil Isaac and Opal Marie Cook Isaac Clemons. He was an electrician, a U.S. Army, Vietnam War veteran, and a member of Wheelwright Masonic Lodge.

He is survived by his wife. Kathleen Smith Isaac

Other survivors include one son, Evan Isaac of Versailles; two daughters. Rae Lauren Isaac and Leah Isaac, both of Versailles; four brothers, Gary Wayne Isaac of Virgie, Terry Dean Clemons of Bevinsville, Jerry Randall Clemons of Somerset, Joe Clemons of Morristown, Tennessee; three sisters, Carol Boudle of Bevinsville, Karen Elaine Shumate of Sesser, Illinois, and Sandra Clemons of Somerset.

Funeral services will be conducted Friday, January 7, at 11 a.m., at the Hall Funeral Home Chapel, Martin, with Father Dave Powers officiating.

in the Burial will be Buckingham Cemetery, Bevinsville, under the direction of the Hall Funeral Home.

(Obituary reprinted due to

Pikeville, died Tuesday, January 4,

2000. He was self-employed,

retired from Hicks Wrecker

Service. Funeral services were con-

ducted Friday, January 7, under the

direction of Lucas & Hall Funeral

Don "Brother" Weddington, 61,

of Pikeville, died Tuesday, January

4, 2000. Funeral services were con-

ducted Friday, January 7, under the

direction of J.W. Call & Son

Ryan Chaney, 24, of Red Creek,

died Tuesday, January 4, 2000.

Funeral services were conducted

Friday, January 7, under the direc-

Frank Phillips, 76, of Pikeville,

died Monday, January 3, 2000. He

was a retired coal miner. He is sur-

tion of Thacker Funeral Home.

Funeral Home.

REGIONAL OBITUAR

Calendar items will be printed as space permits

Editor's note: As a service to the many clubs and committees that meet in our community, The Floyd County Times' Community Calendar will post meeting and public service announcements. Articles for the Community Calendar must be submitted in writing to The Times no later than 5 p.m. Monday for Wednesday's publication, 5 p.m. Wednesday for Friday's publication, or 5 p.m. Thursday for Sunday's publication. These cannot be taken over the telephone.

Allen Central Middle School to hold council meet

The Allen Central Middle School Youth Service Center is having an Advisory Council meeting Tuesday, January 11, at 5 p.m. in the center. The meeting is open to the public.

Domestic violence?

Is your intimate partner jealous? do they try to control you? Do they have an explosive temper, even over little things? Do they have difficulty expressing their feelings? Do they often blame you for everything wrong in their lives? Do they call your names or use put downs to damage your self-esteem? You may be a victim of domestic violence, even though no one hits you. Emotional abuse can be just as hurtful as a fist. Don't wait around to see if it's going to get worse, call the crisis line at 886-6025 or outof-area, 1-800-649-6605, we are here 24-hours a day, every day, because "Love doesn't have to

P'burg SBDM

Prestonsburg Grade School Elementary will have a regularly scheduled SBDM council meeting on Monday, January 10, at 6 p.m., in the auditorium.

Sullivan College holds information night

Sullivan College will be holding an off-campus information night at Bell County High School on Monday, January 10, from 4-7 p.m. Information concerning academic programs, housing, accreditation, faculty, and financial aid will be available to all interested students. This information session is open to the public. For additional information or directions, call Sullivan College at 1-800-467-6281.

Power Wheelchairs available

January, 2000, The Senior Wheels Program USA makes available Power (Electric) Wheelchairs, to non-ambulatory Senior Citizens (65 years old and up) and others at no out-of-pocket expense if they qualify. The Power Wheelchairs are provided to those who are in a wheelchair, and are not able to selfpropel in their living area, and meet the additional qualifications of the

program. No deposit required. Call for more information on the details of the program. No nursing homes, or HMO's please. Call 1-800-360-

> Fibromyalgia group meeting

The Fibromyalgia Family Support Group meeting for individuals with FMS and the people who care about them are encouraged to attend our meetings.

The meeting will be held the first Tuesday in each month at 7 p.m. in the Betsy Layne Senior Citizens Building.

For more information, call: Phyllis at (606) 874-2769 or Sharon at (606) 478-5224.

Christmas trees wanted The KY Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources is accepting live cut Christmas trees to use as fish attractors in Dewey Lake. The drop off point is at the Fish & Wildlife office located on Ky. 302 at Dewey Lake near Stratton Branch. These will be accepted immediately and can be dropped

Clark family resource center

off at any time.

Nursing Services: A nurse from 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, 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 commu-

· Advisory council meeting-January 11, at 5 p.m.

· Parental support group meeting-January 12, at noon.

• PTA meeting—January 11, at 7

SSI representative to visit Mud Creek Clinic

A Social Security representative will visit the Mud Creek Clinic each Tuesday during the month of

The representative will be in the clinic to assist people in filing Social Security claims and appeals.

People can also apply for Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Black Lung and Social Security numbers. You can also pick up booklets on Social Security and get questions answered.

South Floyd High PTA meeting

South Floyd High School will have a PTA meeting on Monday, January 10, at 7 p.m.

Energy Assistance Program

Are you in a crisis with your home heating costs? If so, Big Sandy Area Community Action Program Inc. may be able to help you through its Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

Applications for home heating assistance will be taken beginning January 10 through March 15, or until all of the agency's crisis funds have been expended, between the hours of 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., at your local Community Action Program

To be eligible for Crisis assistance, a household must:

• meet the 110% poverty income guidelines, and

• the household is within four (4) days of running out of fuel if bulk fuel (coal, fuel oil, propane, kerosene, or wood) is the heat source; or

nected notice if natural gas or electric is primary heat source; or

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

· the household's home heating costs are included as an undesignateed portion of the rent, and the household has received an eviction notice for non-payment of rent.

To make application, clients should bring social security numbers, birth dates, and proof of income for the previous month for all household members, certification that the household is out of heat or going to be out of heat or has a past due/disconnect notice from their heating source as stated

The program is funded through the Cabinet for Families & Children Community Based Services and the Kentucky Association for Community Acton.

For more information, contact Big Sandy Area Community Action Program Inc., in Floyd County at 886-2929.

McDowell SBDM/PTA

McDowell Elementary holds its monthly SBDM meetings on the first Tuesday of each month. PTA monthly meetings are held on the first Monday of each month. The January meetings are rescheduled as follows: SBDM will meet January 18 at 6 p.m. in the school library. PTA will meet January 17 at 7 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

Join Alice Lloyd College in the new millennium

It's not too late. Classes for the 2000 Spring Semester at Alice Lloyd College will begin on Wednesday, January Registration for upcoming classes at ALC will begin Tuesday, January 18 at 8:30 a.m. in the June Buchanan Alumni Center. Call 1-888-280-4ALC or come by for a

County Pictorial History 2000 calendar available

The Floyd County Pictorial History 2000 Calendar containing 18 pictures of various county locations and scenes is available from any member of the Floyd County Historial Society. The cost is \$8.

Pikeville Methodist Hospital January 2000

January 18: So you're going to have a baby? An Epidural Class will be offered from 7-9 p.m., at the Education Center, located in the Wallen & Cornette Building. Preregister at 437-3938.

January 19: A Sibling Class will be offered from 6-7 p.m., at PMH. Participants meet in the lobby. Preregister at 437-3938.

For a complete listing of hospitalsponsored events, call the Events Line at 437-2003.

You or someone you know can't stop drinking

Alcoholics Anonymous is willing to help. For more information, call 1-800-467-8019.

Al Anon: For support and understanding of the disease-meets, 8 p.m., Saturdays, at the Presbyterian Church in Prestonsburg. (Alanon is for family members of alcoholics).

Depressed Anonymous

Are you feeling lonely, hopeless and trapped in a self-constructed prison and can't overcome it or get out? This support group is not for those people who need it but for any help you could give their school · has received a past due/discon- those people who want it. We with this project.

understand. For more information, call: Randall, 886-0483; Jim, 886-3027; Jane-886-8219; Sue-789-

G.E.D. classes

Linda Bailey of The David School will teach G.E.D. classes at the Mud Creek Community Family Resource/Youth Service Center each Tuesday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Classes are free.

SF Youth Service Center

Walking track is open to the general public, 7 a.m. till 5 p.m. (walking track is closed during special events). The Center is sponsoring several guest presentations. Contact the center for time and subjects. The center has a One-stop Career Station satellite, available to the community as well as to the students. Stop in Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Anyone interested in Adult Education should contact the

The South Floyd Youth Services Center is located on South Floyd's campus in room 232. For more information, contact Keith Smallwood or Mable Hall 606/452-9600, ext. 243.

Martin High alumni

Mark your calendar now for Martin Purple Flash Bash, 2000 on Memorial Day weekend, 2000. This will be perhaps the last Martin Purple Flash Homecoming. The event will begin on Friday evening and end Saturday night with the alumni dance.

McDowell Family Resource Center Activities

G.E.D. classes are each Monday from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., free of charge for those interested in earning their G.E.D.

The Floyd County Health Departments Nurse is at the Center each Monday to see patients needing immunizations, T.B. Skin tests, pre-natal W.I.C., W.I.C., and school physicals (head start, kindergarten, 6th grade).

Call to schedule an appointment, 377-2678.

A Mountain Comprehensive Care counselor is at the Center each Tuesday to see students in need of counseling services. If you feel your child is in need of counseling services, call the Center for more information, 377-2678.

If you would like more information on any of the above programs or services contact the Center, 377-

Veterans rep.

A Veterans Benefit Field Representative for the Kentucky Department for Veterans Affairs has an office on the third floor of the Floyd County Courthouse. He is there to assist veterans and their dependents in filing for state and federal benefits. This service is free and is provided by the commonwealth. Call 606/886-7920. If there is no answer, leave a message and he will return your call.

Apples for the students

James A. Duff is collecting Food City receipts that will help them get free computers and other items that they can use in their school. Help by saving your receipts and either send them to school with your child or drop them off at the Family Resource Center. You may also drop them off at the front office of the school. They would appreciate

The "Word" for the Week

Millennium challenge number two

Here is another millennium challenge. The Bible and over again. The same goes for those involved in skating, skiing, tennis, golf, or active in team sports like football or basketball. Practice, practice, practice. That's the name of the game.

Christianity is no different. Discipline yourself. Do enable you to discipline yourself.

Set aside a time each day and get in the habit of reading your Bible. It takes discipline. The same goes for prayer. Practice prayer. Discipline yourself and pray regularly. Keep a written prayer list and check off God's answers to your prayers. Does a bad habit often trip you? Discipline yourself. "Flee youthful lusts, and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace" (2 Timothy 2:22). Turn away from the temptation. Work on forming new habits. Discipline yourself. Here is the catch. You don't do this alone.

you have a problem getting into the Bible? Work at it.

Christianity differs from pep talks from coaches and exhortations from teachers. The Bible says the gospel is "the power of God" (Romans 1:16). Think about it. Christianity is the power of God at work in you to

vived by his wife, Hester Phillips. Saturday, January 8, under the Funeral services were conducted body was donated to science at the exhorts, "Discipline yourself for the purpose of direction of Rogers Funeral Home request of the deceased. Friday, January 7, under the direc-Godliness," (1 Timothy 4:7). Does this seem strange? It of Belfry. tion of Thacker Memorial Funeral shouldn't. The word discipline in our English Bibles is Ollie Kathinell Thacker, 55, of the word from which we derive "gymnasium" and Home. Opal Nadine Justice, 73, of Raccoon, died Wednesday, January "gymnastics." Gymnasts must do their routines over Pikeville, died Wednesday, January

Stanley Blake Fleming, 40, of 5, 2000, at Pikeville Health Care Perryville, Maryland, formerly of Center. Funeral services will be Mouthcard, died Saturday, conducted Sunday, January 9, under December 25, 1999, at Perryville. the direction of Lucas & Hall Funeral services were conducted

George Alfred Hicks, 73, of Saturday, January 8, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home. Elkhorn City.

Everett Hampton, 59, of Little Robinson Creek, died Tuesday, January 4, 2000. He was a retired coal miner (foreman). In addition, to his mother, he is survived by his wife, Lillian Ann Casebolt Hampton. Funeral services were conducted Friday, January 7, under the direction of Lucas & Hall Funeral Home.

Elmer Johnson, 76, of Livonia, Michigan, formerly of Pike County, died Wednesday, January 5, 2000. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, January 8, under the direction of Howe-Preston Funeral Home, Taylor, Michigan.

Stella Gail "Mother Mays" Coleman Mays, 78, of Coal Run, died Tuesday, January 4, 2000. Her

5, 2000. She is survived by her husband, Tunis Ray Thacker. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, January 8, under the direction of Thacker Memorial Funeral Home.



This forklift was getting a great deal of attention last week when the machine stalled on one Times' worker on South Central Avenue as members of the staff offered suggestions. (photo by Willie Elliott)

Counterfeit software victimizes online shoppers: How to protect yourself

(NAPSA)-Are you one of the hundreds of unsatisfied consumers. name or provide a physical street millions of consumers who are buying products on the Internet? Enjoying the ease and convenience of shopping from your own home? Pointing, clicking and waiting eagerly for the delivery truck to arrive at your door?

Internet shopping has exploded in the past few years, and the ecommerce boom is just beginning. According to Forrester Research, consumers in the United States spent more than \$8 billion on Internet commerce during 1998 and are expected to spend more than \$20 billion in 1999. Software is one of the leading products distributed online, and according to a report published by International Data Corp., the worldwide market for electronic software sales will reach \$3.5 billion in 1999.

While most people enjoy a positive online shopping experience, more and more consumers are also being victimized. During the past few years, the sale of counterfeit software to unsuspecting consumers through Internet businesses and auction sites has multiplied and become a challenging problem for consumers, legitimate Internet businesses and the software industry.

While the majority of Internet businesses are honest, the explosion of and anonymity of the Internet have made it easier for criminals to sell counterfeit and otherwise illegal software. The Business Software Alliance, a software industry trade association, estimates that there are 840,000 Internet sites selling illegal software and passing it off to consumers as genuine product. Many disreputable online businesses have such professional-looking sites that even the savviest online consumers can fall victim to

Besides being illegal, counterfeit software exposes consumers to technological risks that can be costly and frustrating. As with other unauthorized software, consumers are not eligible to receive technical support with counterfeit softwarewhich means there's no one to call if the software doesn't work. With counterfeit software, there is also the risk of acquiring a virus or incomplete software programs that simply don't work due to faulty manufacturing.

Many consumers who acquire software over the Internet never even receive the programs that they paid good money for. Others are not able to get their money back if they discover that the software they purchased is counterfeit. Often, disreputable Internet businesses quickly vanish into thin air, leaving behind

Dishonest online businesses often use multiple e-mail addresses and websites, making it harder for law enforcement officials to locate

"I ordered software from an online auction this past year. After an entire month and numerous fruitless efforts to contact the seller, I finally received my software-which to my dismay turned out to be counterfeit," said Sherry Husak of Ohio. "After that, the guy disappeared off the Internet. The end result was useless software and no way to get my money back."

The United States has become the leading manufacturer and exporter of counterfeit software, with major counterfeiting rings based in California, Texas, Florida and New York. These counterfeiting operations have produced hundreds of millions of software units per year. Between June 1998 and June 1999, authorities seized 650,000 units of counterfeit Microsoft soft-

Software counterfeiting is generally a sophisticated criminal activity, increasingly dominated by organized crime rings that use counterfeiting revenues to fund and launder profits from other criminal activities. Even sophisticated consumers are often unable to distinguish legitimate software from counterfeit.

By spending money on illegal software, customers also are inadvertently contributing to the loss of tax revenue and employment. In 1998, software piracy caused losses amounting to nearly \$1 billion in taxes, 109,000 jobs and \$4.5 billion in lost wages in the United States.

You can protect yourself and your family by being a knowledgeable consumer. Educating yourself about both the products you want to buy and the telltale signs of counterfeit software is your best defense against being duped while shopping

Shop Smart and Avoid Being Victimized While Shopping Online

Being perceptive makes a world of difference while shopping online. Here are some tips to help consumers shop smart and safely:

* Be aware that not everyone is as honest as you are. Counterfeit software is widely available through Internet business and Internet auctions.

 Get full company addresses and phone numbers up front. Avoid doing business with companies or individuals who are unwilling to verify their identity or full business address and telephone number for follow-up after the transaction has occurred.

· Always ask for full details regarding return, service or warranty policies. Avoid purchasing from online distributors who are unwilling or unable to provide adequate or satisfactory descriptions of these

· Keep records. Print out the page with the order, as well as any e-mail order confirmations, and keep them until the software arrives and proves satisfactory.

· Check product prices to reduce the risk of buying illegal software. If the price seems too good to be true, it probably is. As a guide, check the offer against the publisher's recommended or estimated retail price. It's okay if the price is lower, but be wary if it's much

· Be cautious of online distributors that offer unusual inventory explanations such as special deals with the software publisher, liquidated inventories or acquisition through bankruptcy sales. Counterfeiters often use these types of phrases to fool consumers into believing that they are getting genuine product that was overstocked or otherwise deserves to be discounted.

· OEM software cannot be legally acquired on the Internet unless you are getting a whole system. OEM software only comes with the purchase of a new computer. OEM product bought separately from a new computer is illegal.

· Review and understand the products. It is easy to be misled by software that is commonly misrepresented on the Internet. Distinguishing counterfeit and illegal software on the Internet is extremely difficult because you can't see the product or the seller. Take the time to read reviews and talk to colleagues, family and friends, not just about the products you plan to acquire, but also the people you're acquiring them from,

. If in doubt, call the software publisher. The publisher will provide details about what should be received as part of the acquisition and will give an indication of the price range. When acquiring Microsoft products, consumers can call the Microsoft anti-piracy hotline at (800) RU-LEGIT (785-3448). Consumers can obtain more information about software piracy by calling the Business Software Alliance anti-piracy hotline at (888) NO-PIRACY (667-4722) or by sending software@bsa.org.

Prestonsburg Community College , to host regional science olympiad

Big Sandy Natural Science Center the Floyd' Conservation District will cosponsor this year's Regional Science Olympiad.

Middle and high school students and teachers benefit from the Science Olympiad as its focuses are to improve the quality of science education, to increase student interest in science and to provide recognition for outstanding achievement in science education.

On Saturday, March 25, the The Science Olympiad includes Prestonsburg Community College interscholastic competitions with about 30 individual and team enter Division B and high school

Each school may enter one or more teams with a maximum of 15 students in each team. The registration fee for this year is \$100 for the first team and \$90 for each additional team which covers the cost of regional participation, state participation for qualifying teams (held at Morehead State University on April 15) and the Coach's Manual and Rules.

Division B and C competitions are being held. Middle grades 6-9 grades 9-12 enter Division C.

All middle and high schools in the five-county service area are encouraged to participate. Information, as well as an application, is available on the Internet at www.jcc.uky.edu/kso/. Any questions or concerns may also be addressed to Dr. Thomas Vierheller at PCC by telephone at 606/886-3863, ext. 316, or by e-mail at Thomas Vierheller@kctcs.net.

Fire: Don't let it catch on this season!

(NAPSA)-By following a few fire safety tips, you may be better equipped to prevent fires at home and to protect your family.

Here are some fire safety tips from the United States Fire Administration (USFA):

· Don't use a kitchen oven range to heat your home during the winter months, as it is both a fire hazard and a source of toxic fumes. Keep space heaters and wood stoves at least three feet from anything combustible. Make sure your space heater has a "tip switch" designed to automatically turn off should it tip over, and do not refill kerosene heaters during operation or while still hot.

Make sure wood stoves have proper floor support and adequate ventilation. Fireplaces must have a glass or metal screen to prevent sparks from igniting nearby carpets and furniture. Chimneys should be inspected and cleared annually.

· Be sure all furnace controls and emergency shutoffs are in proper working condition. Leave furnace repairs to qualified specialists; do not attempt them on your own. Inspect the walls and ceiling near the furnace and if the wall is hot or discolored, additional pipe insulation or clearance may be required.

FIRE SAFETY

ed, stock up on flashlights and extra touch. batteries in case of a power outage and do not use candles for emergency lighting. Don't stockpile liquid fuels such as gasoline, kerosene or lantern fluid.

· Smoke alarms should be installed on every level of your home, be tested monthly and receive new batteries yearly. If your smoke alarm uses a back-up battery, change that one yearly as well. Smoke alarms more than 10 years old should be replaced.

· When buying a Christmas tree, choose one that is as fresh as possible and keep it away from drying heat sources. Keep the stand filled with water at all times. Don't smoke near the tree and don't leave it up for longer than two weeks.

· Inspect holiday lights each year for frayed wires, bare spots, gaps in insulation, broken or cracked sockets and excessive kinking or wear before putting them up. Connect the light strands to an extension cord, not linking more than three togeth-

· While service disruptions sur- er. Periodically check the wires to rounding Y2K are likely to be limit- be sure they are not warm to the

* Never leave cooking unattended and double-check to see all appliances are turned off before going to bed or leaving the house. Always wear short, tight-fitting sleeves when cooking, turn pot handles inward to avoid spills and keep towels, potholders and curtains away from flames and hot surfaces. If a fire breaks out, put a lid on the pan to smother it or use baking

Serving the nation with a commitment to excellence, USFA, an entity of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, is the federal leader in challenging the nation's fire problems in the areas of public fire education and awareness, fire service training, fire-related technology and data collection. For more fire safety information, visit USFA, Office of Fire Management Programs, 16825 South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, MD 21727. Or you can visit www.usfa.

KY Dept. of Libraries sponsors "Internet Power" teleconference

The Kentucky Department of tion and register for college credits 9421; Pulaski-The Center for Rural Libraries and Archives is sponsoring a series of free Soaring to Excellence teleconferences aimed at library professionals.

The second in the series, "Internet Power: How to get it, How to keep it; How to pass it on," will be broadcast on Friday, January 14, from noon to 1:45 p.m.

The free, interactive lunchtime workshop will be downlinked live to The Center for Rural Development in Somerset and broadcast via videoconference to seven of its CenterNet sites. CenterNet is a regional network bringing new telecommunications capabilities to counties in southern and eastern Kentucky.

Since library patrons want to become effective users of the Internet and other technologies, it is imperative that library professionals are themselves effective users who are capable of teaching their skills to others. Internet Power concentrates on showing library workers how to become power searchers. Strategies for passing this information on to library patrons will also be discussed.

Each session will be worth 2 Certification Renewal Points. Attendees can find more informa-

Winn-Dixie designates fundraising program

Kentucky residents can help their western Kentucky neighbors who were victims of tornadoes that struck the region early Monday (January 3). Donations to the American Red Cross are now being collected at Winn-Dixie stores statewide through the supermarket's Even-It-Up-program.

When customers ask their cashier to "Even It Up," their total bill is simply rounded to the next highest dollar amount and the difference is donated to the American Red Cross disaster relief efforts. Customers may also request the donation amount of their choice to be added to their total purchases.

"Our shoppers have always come to the aid of their neighbors during times of crisis, and we are ready to lend a helping hand" said Jim Wells, marketing director, Winn-Dixie Midwest. "As the damage caused by the tornadoes is assessed, we stand prepared to make a contribution to rebuilding the community.*

Winn-Dixie Stores Inc. is one of the nation's largest supermarket retailers with more than 1,180 stores in 14 states and the Bahamas. Winn-Dixie Midwest operates 85 Winn-Dixie and Thriftway stores in Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana and Tennessee. For more information about Winn-Dixie, visit the official Web site at www.winndixie.com.

by visiting the Soaring to Excellence 2000 web page at www.cod.edu/teleconf/soaring. Sites offering the January 14

workshop are: Adair-Lindsey Wilson College 270/384-8102; Bell-Pineville Independent School 606/337-5701; Estill-Estill County Technology Center 606/726-9713; Floyd-Mountain Arts Center 606/889-9125; Jessamine-East Jessamine High School 606/887-

606/677-6000; Development. Taylor-Campbellsville University 270/789-5272; WayneÑThe Aspire Center 606/340-9362.

The program is free, but space is limited, so call the site where you wish to attend to reserve your spot. To find the site nearest you or for a schedule of upcoming workshops, contact The Center for Rural Development at 606/677-6000.

Reward

Black/White male Siberian Husky. Wearing red nylon collar w/reflective strip. Green tags from Country Hills

Answers to "Blackie"

Last seen on Arkansas Creek — 12-28. Please call 285-5072

Reward offered/no questions asked.

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Finding the top events made easy

(NAPSA)-For all of the lists that celebrate the best of this and the brightest of that, there's actually one that's useful-and it's compiled

This diverse list names the Top 100 events in North America scheduled for the coming year. These festivals, exhibitions, fairs, sports events-and more-take place in almost every state and province.

Each spring tourism offices through the U.S. and Canada nominate up to seven events for the following year and the American Bus Association narrows the list to 100.

One of the best ways to experience an event is to have fun getting there. Traveling by motorcoacheither as part of a tour group or on your own-makes that possible. You can travel in comfort and enjoy the scenery without the added stress of plotting a route and climbing behind the wheel.

This coming year, the top event scheduled for the United States is OpSail 2000-a flotilla of more than 200 tall ships from 60 nations



From tall ships to enchiladas-discover the top 100 festivals while traveling in comfort.

which will dock in eight port cities in the U.S. between May 25 and

Gala celebrations will commemorate this event in each of the eight ports, which include: San Juan, Puerto Rico: Miami, Florida; Norfolk, Virginia; Baltimore, Philadelphia, Maryland; Pennsylvania; New York, New

York; New London, Connecticut; and Portland, Maine.

Other events from the U.S. that made the list include the Whole Enchilada Fiesta in Las Cruces, New Mexico in early October and the Bridgeville Apple Scrapple Festival in Bridgeville, Delaware, October 13 and 14.

The Canadian events include the number-one-rated Shaw Festival-an annual event dedicated to the works of George Bernard Shaw and his contemporaries. This worldrenowned festival of about a dozen plays runs from April to November in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario.

A complimentary copy of the Top 100 Events in North America for 2000 may be obtained by sending a postcard to American Bus Association, 1100 New York Avenue, N.W., Suite 1050, Washington, D.C. It may also be obtained by sending a fax to (202) 842-0850 or e-mail to: abainfo@buses.org. Additional copies are \$3 U.S. each to cover postage and handling.



KIMBER HAMILTON



REGINA McKAY CRAGER



Cold weather car care and driving tips (NAPSA)-Cars don't like it of cold-weather driving and help · Make sure all filters-oil, gas cold. According to Bill Maxwell, to keep you safe while saving and air-are in good condition.

manager of technical products money and energy during the winsupport at Mobil's Paulsboro (NJ) Technology Center "It's the time crop up. Keeping your car properly maintained, tuned and modifying your driving habits can save you money, reduce fuel consumption and help the environment."

Maxwell that will take the bite out jumper cables in the car.

ter driving season.

· Make sure your battery and of year when all sorts of ailments charging system are in good operating condition. A battery's cranking power is reduced significantly in freezing weather. Be especially alert if your battery is four years old or more. A good practice Here are some more tips from would be to carry a set of quality

> Mary had a little lamb, Its fleece was white as snow, She use to be our little girl, But now she's turned the BIG 40!

To ease engine start-up load during cold weather use a multiviscosity oil such as Mobil 1 0W-30 or 5W-30, which helps provide car starts at temperatures down to 35 degrees F below zero or lower. The use of these low viscosity oils not only speeds start up, but helps reduce wear of critical engine parts. Motor oil should be changed routinely to help prevent excessive moisture and fuel build-up in winter conditions. Consumers can have their motor oil-related questions answered by calling Mobil's toll-free information line at 1-800-ASK Mobil.

Check coolant and thermostat to

Check tires for excessive wear

ensure proper engine warm up.

and proper inflation.

Lubrication

Vehicle Warm Up

When starting a vehicle in cold weather allow the engine to idle for a few seconds before driving off to insure proper oil flow and lubrication. Do not allow engine to idle for a prolonged period. This wastes gas.

Safe Driving

· Do not exceed speed limits

and keep safe driving distances. · Avoid gasoline wasting jackrabbit starts and pace your driving to help avoid sudden stops.

· Make sure you have ice scrapers and de-icers available. Also, make sure your windshield wipers and front and rear defrosters are working properly.

Remember, a properly cared for car will be more dependable and help put you on the road to safety.



RHONDA M. PRATER MERION

Morehead State University conferred degrees on about 500 undergraduate and graduate students at its 1999 winter commencement. Three local students were among them. Kimber Hamilton of Harold was a candidate for the Bachelor of Business Administration degree, with an emphasis in accounting. Regina McKay Crager of Martin, was a candidate for the Bachelor of Social Work degree, and Rhonda M. Prater Merion, also of Martin, was a candidate for the Bachelor of Arts degree, with an emphasis in special education. During ceremonies on campus, they received congratulations from MSU President Ronald G. Eaglin. The new graduates join the more than 40,000 MSU alumni around the world. (MSU photo by Tim Holbrook)

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Know the facts about giving the gift of life (NAPSA)-Organ transplant currently awaiting an organ transplant, yet 12 people die each day

recipients are living longer and healthier lives post-transplant. The improved success rates of transplantation, thanks in part to the availability of newer immunosuppressants, or anti-rejection drugs, make it more important than ever to give the gift of life.

More than 65,000 people are

due to an organ shortage reaching critical proportions. Although efforts are being made to educate the public about organ donation, the shortage persists. It is crucial for people to under-

stand the facts, make a decision to become organ donors and share this decision with their families and loved ones. While thousands are eligible candidates for organ donation, prevailing misconceptions and unfounded fears prevent them from making a life-saving decision.

Myth #1: Affluent people are moved to the top of the list faster than typical people are.

Fact: The only factors that affect the length of time to receive a transplant are blood type, length of time on the waiting list, severity of illness and other medical criteria.

Myth #2: Donation will disfigure the body.

Fact: Organs are removed surgically, similar to the removal of an appendix or a gall bladder in a live body.

Myth #3: There is a cost involved for the family of the organ

Fact: There are no costs involved in organ donation for fam-

ily members. Myth #4: Doctors will not try to

save a donor's life if he/she is in an

Fact: Organ and tissue recovery

only takes place after a person is declared legally dead.

Myth #5: Age affects whether or not someone can be a donor.

Fact: Age does not determine if your organs are usable. Anyone from the age of newborn and up can be a donor.

Myth #6: There are some religions that do not support organ

Fact: All mainstream organized religions approve of organ dona-

tion. It is considered an act of char-Myth #7: Only the heart, liver

and kidneys can be transplanted. Fact: Organs that can be donated include heart, kidneys, pancreas,

lungs, liver and intestines. In addition, tissue including the eyes, skin, bone, heart valves and tendons can be donated.

Myth #8: People with medical illnesses cannot be donors.

Fact: With today's advanced technology, more people are able to be donors than ever before. Myth #9: If it is written in a will,

then the family does not need to be told that the person wanted their organs donated. Fact: It is too late to recover

organs once a person's will has been read. Therefore, families must be told before the time of death. Myth #10: Organs are removed

from healthy people that have been drugged for a black market trans-

Fact: There is no evidence of this happening ever in the United States or any other industrialized

country.

Those who are interested in becoming organ donors, or who have any questions about organ donation, should contact the Coalition on Donation at 1-800-355-SHARE or visit the website at www.shareyourlife.org. For useful information about the transplant procedure, transplant patients and their families can visit the Transplant Patient Partnering Program at www.tppp.net.

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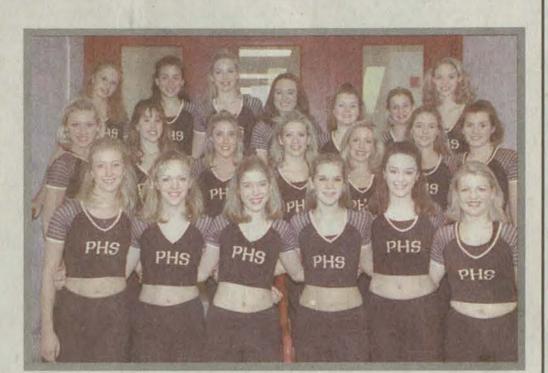
Prestonsburg Dance Cats set to defend national title

by Ed Taylor Sports Editor

Jody Shepherd's Prestonsburg Dance Cats will board a charter bus Friday morning, January 14, and about 5 a.m. pull out of Prestonsburg as they trek their way to the Gateway to the West, St. Louis, Missouri.

The Dance Cats will be singing "Meet Me in St. Louie, Louie," en route to the home of the St. Louis Cardinals and other interesting sites.

The old Union Depot in the midwestern city will once again be the site of the National Dance and Pom Championships, and once again the Prestonsburg Dance



Cats will be one of the many competing teams.

For this year's squad, some of the seniors on the team were on the first team that made the trip to St. Louis, but it was a more exciting time when it was over.

"I was on that squad that went the first year and we had bus problems," said Jennifer Willis. "Hopefully, we won't have bus problems again."

Sarah Conley, a senior at Prestonsburg, said this will also make her fourth trip to

"I am really excited about going back to St. Louis," she said. "This will make my

(See Dance Cats, page five)



PRESTONSBURG'S MATT CLAY (12) slipped between Belfry's Matt Slater (3) and Casey Lequire (10) Friday night at the Prestonsburg Fieldhouse. Belfry posted a 82-64 win over the Blackcats (photo by Ed

Coleman thinks that the Blackcats have ingredients to win regional

by: Karen Joseph Sports Writer

When the girls basketball season began back in November, if there was a favorite in the 15th region, most people would have believed it to be Prestonsburg. The Lady Blackcats lost the championship game of the regional tournament last year to the Belfry Pirates. But the Pirates had a weapon to use against the Ladycats that the Ladycats got back this year. Ramanda Music returned to Prestonsburg this season and things really looked good for the Ladycats at the beginning of the sea-

But after winning the Pike County Central Tournament, the Lady Blackcats lost the next five games. But junior forward, Brooke Coleman says things are not always as they seem. "Our first loss came at the hands of Belfry. This was a really hard game for Ramanda, and the Lady Pirates just had us physched out. Then we lost to Betsy Layne.

But in the Betsy Layne game, that was our fault. We just went into the game with the attitude that no one in the district could beat us. They proved us wrong.'

Coleman, who has played basketball all of her life, thinks people are down on the Lady Blackcats right now because they don't look at the whole picture. "If people look at the teams that we have played, they would have a different opinion. After the two regional losses to Belfry and Betsy Layne, we participated in the Queen of the Bluegrass Tournament. We lost three games in that tournament, but it was against three very talented ball teams. But neither team blew us away. All three teams are ranked high in the state, and all three played in the state tournament last year. But people don't look at whom you played, they just look at the win-loss record."

When asked her thoughts on why the Lady Blackcats have lost several

(See Coleman, page five)

Piarist Lady Knights win over Oneida Baptist First win in two years

by Karen Joseph Sports Writer

It was a bunch of happy young women at the Piarist School on Friday night. There was good cause to be happy. Darnella Bradley and her Lady Knights have practiced and played hard for the last two seasons. And on Friday night, all that practice and hard work paid off.

The Lady Knights won their first game in two years. Coach Darnella Bradley and the girls were beside themselves. The Lady Knights defeated the Lady Mountaineers of Oneida Baptist,

Piarist had two players in double figures. Kari Ross led the Lady Knights in the scoring department. She had 14 for the night, while teammate Emily Meyer had 13 for the Lady Knights. Oneida Baptist's Megan Travis led all players in scoring with 20 points,

The Lady Knights had a big second quarter, and this proved enough for them to hold on for the Lady Knights outscored the Lady

Mountaineers by 11 points. In the first quarter, the Lady Knights struggled a little. It was a low-scoring quarter for both teams, but at the end of the first quarter, the Lady Mountaineers were up by two points, 8-6.

But in the second quarter, the Lady Knights started to really

play ball. Due to their very aggressive defense, they were able to cause the Lady Mountaineers to commit several turnovers. The Lady Knights were fortunate enough to take advan-

tage of the turnovers. Piarist had a

(See Piarist, page four)

A Look At Sports Sports World

■ HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISH TO...

Allen Central's Jennifer Risner, who turned 17 today. Jennifer plays guard for the Lady Rebels. Happy birthday, Jennifer, from your mom and dad and from the Times sports department. Have a great day!

Have a birthday wish you want to pass on to an athlete, cheerleader, band member, etc., then give me a call and will print it right here.

YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUE The Pikeville YMCA is now registering





Darnella Bradley and her Lady Knights won their first game in two years on Friday night when they defeated the Lady Mountaineers 40-36. (photo by Karen Joseph)



From the Tackle Box w/Jim Lyons Page • B2



SFMS boys and girls wins Page • B3



Wrestling Page Page • B8



Girls

Piarist 40, Oneida 34 Shelby Valley 65, Whitesburg 47 Morgan Co 39. Menifee 22

■ Boys

Belfry 82, Prestonsburg 64 J. Buchanan 71, Breathitt 53 Knox Central 65, Cawood 62 Ashland 74, Lawrence Co 49 Morgan Co 73. Menifee 71 Oneida Baptist 90, Piarist 71 Pike Central 83, Millard 48 Owsley Co 59, Powell 43 Somerset 67, Pulaski 66 Riverside 81, Jackson 76 Paintsville 67,

Sheldon Clark 32 South Laurel 55, Wayne Co 39 Games on tap

Girls

Mon., Jan. 10, 2000 Pikeville at Betsy Layne

Tues., Jan. 11, 2000 South Floyd at Prestonsburg

Boys

Tues., Jan. 11, 2000 South Floyd at Prestonsburg Coca-Cola Classic, Pike Central Allen Central vs Sheldon Clark Betsy Layne vs Shelby Valley

Elementary Basketball

Mon., Jan. 10, 2000 Grade School Basketball Tournament @ ACHS

Elementary Basketball Tournament

The grade school basketball tournament will be held at the Allen Central High School gymnasium. The tournament tips off at 5:30 Monday with first round play. Tournament finals are set for Friday evening.

Magazine illustrates bias against mountains

Another example of how we in these mountains are the stepchildren of the rest of society came in the form of the Dec. 27 edition of Sports Illustrated, which somehow selected "The 50 Greatest Sports Figures" from each state.

cover boasts inside you will find the 50 greatest figures from "KEN-TUCKY", and then in fine print, "and every other state." Of course, while in Chicago we found SI's with "ILLINOIS" and in Phoenix, "ARIZONA", getting top billing. That's fine, although we'd hated to have been on that print crew.

The problem is with the list itself. For starters there is no explanation as to the criteria. It didn't tell if there was a committee who

The concept is a novel one. The picked it, if it was the people at the panel in each state.

All it did was announce the list, which despite its tremendous cover and the pages dedicated to it, was promptly overshadowed by the four pages which immediately preceded it (something about John Rocker's desire to someday work at the United Nations).

Anyway, the problem with the list was predictable. Right here I'll tell you that SI is not, nor has it ever

been my favorite publication. I magazine itself or if it formed a think the photography is brilliant but the writing is poor to say the least. And, when I picked up a copy of this, I immediately began to count the number of Kentuckians from the mountains.

> It wasn't hard. If you consider the mountains the area encompassed by the 13th, 14th and 15th basketball regions used by the KHSAA, the number of Eastern Kentuckians is four.

Four people. If you figure that we're talking about three of the 16 regions, just by average we should have had 9.4 of the 50. But that would have taken away from the city of Louisville.

Someone who decided this list obviously felt it was his/her/their job to inform the world that while Louisville isn't all of Kentucky, it's the only part that counts. Of the 50 top Kentuckians, a full 19 of them - a whopping 38 percent — were from Louisville.

Actually, 18 were listed as from Louisville and one, No. 47 Marvin Hart (and because I figure you don't know who he is either, he was a boxer from 1899 until 1910) was listed as being from Jefferson County for some reason.

In fact, the top three -Muhammad Ali, Mary T. Meagher (yep, the second greatest sports fig-from the mountains, so not deemed about the hills. Again.

ure in the history of our state) and Wes Unseld - were from Louisville. Six of the top 10; four more of the second 10, all from

The remainder of the top 10, by the way, was Pee Wee Reese, Cliff Hagan, Paul Hornung, Darrell Waltrip, John Beckwith, Eddie Arcaro and Phil Simms.

The first person from our mountains to make the list was Harlan native Wallace "Wah Wah" Jones, who was No. 14. Tim Couch, who set national records as a high school quarterback, records at the state university, was the top overall pick in the NFL draft and led the state in scoring as a basketball player his senior year, was no better than 22nd.

Wayland's "King" Kelly Coleman was 33rd, and the only 15th Region athlete on the list. The final mountain person was No. 50, Cawood Ledford.

Now, for comparison's sake, keep in mind that while only four people from our mountains made the cut, two of the other 46 were horses! Folks, they aren't even people! I know the magazine called them sports "figures", but my goodness, how stupid do we look listing two horses, with both of them in the

No. 36 was that famed sports figure and proud Louisvillian John Hillerich. The list didn't even try to argue his merits as an athlete, simply calling him a "sporting goods pioneer" who co-founded Louisville Slugger.

And he made the list,

Let me give you six people who didn't.

Johnnie LeMaster, the Paintsville native who was taken sixth in the Major League Baseball draft in 1973 and then spent 13 seasons in the big leagues. But he's

worthy of the list;

* Richie Farmer. Clay County's favorite son is beyond question the most celebrated high school athlete in at least the state. How many times did poor Cawood have to endure the question, "Richie gunna play tonight?" Of all the people left off the list, this one is the hardest to believe. An easy top 10 choice, arguably a runner-up to Ali:

* Geri Grigsby of McDowell, who carried girl's basketball when it was reinstated in the 1970s. She scored 4,385 points in her career. If that's not remarkable enough, consider this — they only started girl's basketball during her junior year, which means her career only consisted of two (21) years. Geri Grigsby is in five different halls of fame, but not good enough for this

* John Bill Trivette. While this may be a stretch for a list such as this, consider that while he didn't invent the full-court press, as some would have you believe, he undoubtedly was responsible for its popularity:

* John Pelphrey and Deron Feldhaus. In a state where basketball is king, only two of the top 10 were roundball players. And nowhere is the state university as beloved as Kentucky, where the team labeled the "Unforgettables" will always be revered as god-like figures. These two joined Farmer and Indiana native Sean Woods to lead that team, and at the very least should have been included as a group. Not to mention Pelphrey's high school numbers from Paintsville.

Maybe I'm a homer; I wouldn't even begin to deny that one. And maybe I'm anti-Louisville. But one thing is sure, there is no balance on this list. Someone decided to blatantly push the 'Ville and forget



Sailing

Robert Hall (33) of the Plarist School moved around a Betsy Layne player last week in district play. The Bobcats defeated the Knights.

If this is what your caddie looks like...



you need to hit The Trail.

WINTER. What a miserable time for golf. Unless you head for the sunny South and the red-hot Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail. Last year, over 5,000 golfers from Minnesota took advantage of the beautiful courses, the nice

weather and the low rates to experience what the New York Times called "some of the best public golf on Earth." And while we can't guarantee the weather, we can promise you great golf. Call for information about our 3-day/2-night golf and hotel packages as low as \$162.



FROM THE TACKLE BOX

Arizona wildlife officials fear the. incurable whirling disease.

familiar with the dreaded whirling disease that threatens to devastate the trout population in several western

We can't help but be concerned about this parasite which has been present in the waters of our country for about 50 years. It appears to have been bying coiled like a cobra and is now threatening to take a deadly bite out of our trout population.

As we begin a new year and a new millennium, we can look back over past history and see records of flora and fauna which no longer exist due to some circumstance of weather, disease or virus. I can remember in the past 50 years, some trees were completely devastated with a blight.

When I was a boy, growing up in eastern Kentucky, I can remember the woods were full of chestnut trees. It was a great source of food for animals. These trees along with some mulberry trees were stricken with a blight which eliminated the native chestnut. The chestnut trees we see now are a strain of blight proof trees which were introduced within the past 30 to 40 years.

In the past 25 years several more species of animals and birds may have become extinct due to one circumstance or another, had the wild life organizations not acted swiftly to save the particular species. The whooping crane, trumpeter swan, and the bald eagle are just a few examples. Through hard work of the various wildlife organizations, careful planning, banning of insecticide and cooperation from the citizens of our country, all the above birds have been removed from the endangered list.

Past history teaches us of the danger involved when an uncontrollable disease begins to run rampant through the country, killing off a species. We are concerned about the trout population, especially in the western states. The whirling disease has devastated the blue ribbon trout fisheries in Colorado, Montana and other western states in the past 10 years. Arizona has been spared so far.

Arizona Fish and Game personnel are keeping a vigilant watch on the disease and are taking steps to educate that state's \$600 million sports fishing industry of measures that can be taken that would help prevent the spread of the parasite into the state. The department has recognized its vulnerability to this disease and has cautioned anglers who travel from state to state to take precautions by cleaning their equipment prior to fishing in Arizona waters.

This disease is incurable and derives its name from leaving its victims swimming in circles. It does not in anyway threaten human health. It is a parasite that attacks trout fry, and causes deformation of the bone structure of the head and spine, restricting feeding and preventing them from escaping predators.

According to authorities this disease has affected over 20 states. Some states have created study groups to study the problem and to research methods for bringing the disease under control. This year, the state of Idaho plans to host a national conference to study the problem.

Study of the disease shows that it may have been brought in from Europe in the 1950s. It is not yet understood why trout in the eastern states have not been affected. The heaviest impact has been in the trout hatcheries in the western states. It is thought that the faster, fresher waters of eastern streams will not let the worm which carries the parasite infect fish. However, it is possible they may affect ponds and dammed bodies of

I have just returned from Arizona, where I became water. Even though Kentucky, to my knowledge, has not been affected, we should be on the alert. Anglers who have been fishing in affected western states should take precautions prior to using their equipment in our slow moving streams and lakes.

Once the waters become infested by this parasite, it is irreversible. Trout is the only species affected by this disease. If not controlled in time, other species may become victims of this same dreaded disease. To beat this potential disaster, we will all have to be vigilant and cooperate with our wildlife officials. I would suggest that anglers take every opportunity to read about, and become familiar with this disease. Our best defense in combating this disease is familiarity.

Teach someone to fish this year. Have fun, protect our environment and practice safe boating. See you at the fishing hole.



The Piarist School junior Matt Goeing (10) goes in for a lay-up against some tall Mountaineer defenders. Goeing finished the game with 17 points. The Knights placed four players in double figures in their loss to Oneida Baptist. (photo by Karen Joseph)

1-800-949-4444 or www.rtjgolf.com



SENIOR CHASTITY ISON WAS CROWNED Homecoming Queen at the Piarist School last week. She was

Johnson "treyriffic" in win over Allen Central Middle

Sixth -grader hits seven treys in 59-55 victory

by Ed Taylor Sports Editor

He is just a sixth-grader who chose to play middle school basketball rather than play for his school's (Osborne) sixth-grade team this basketball season. Many questioned whether he could play the caliber of basketball needed to compete in the middle school schedule.

But Ryan Johnson has proven everyone wrong this season and went a step further by putting an exclamation mark on the regular season, pouring in 27 points and hitting seven three-point baskets in leading South Floyd past Allen Central, 59-55, Wednesday night at South Floyd.

Johnson was outstanding in his ability to play against the much taller middle school players. He plays as though he fits in and has been playing there for several sea-

"He is my best ball handler," said South Floyd Coach Tony Isaac. "He is not afraid to take it to the bigger players.

Johnson, who excels in football as well, was the real giant Wednesday night and had Allen Central Coach Kevin Stumbo scratching his head, wondering how to stop the hot hand of Johnson.

ing play of Austin Francis was only scoreless in the first quarter, had overshadowed by the performance of Johnson. Francis, one of the county's top grade school players, pumped in 21 points to lead the Rebels. Justin Hall, another solid player, hit three treys and finished with 19 points.

Allen Central made a run at the Raiders in the fourth quarter, when they doubled the score on them at 18-9. But the rally fell short as the Rebels came up short.

Francis scored 12 points in the final period to lead the Allen Central comeback attempt.

Johnson hit two three-point baskets in the opening period, scoring six of his team's 11 points. But it was Allen Central leading 12-11 at the first stop behind the play of Hall, who had six points in the first ter.

up with one field goal in the second quarter but remained in the game from the free throw line. Dustin Addis hit a three-point basket for the lone field goal, but the Rebels connected on eight of 13 free throws in the quarter.

Johnson was unstoppable in the second quarter for the Raiders. He hit three three-point baskets in the second fame and scored 11 points as South Floyd took a 33-23 half-For Allen Central, the outstand- time lead. Brian Meade, who went

five points in the second, including a three-point basket. Adam Tackett scored five of his nine points in the second quarter and completed an old-fashioned three-point play.

Johnson continued his onslaught with his sixth three-point basket in the third period and he scored five points in the quarter. Hall led a late third-quarter comeback with nine points, including a three-point bas-

The comeback attempt continued for the Rebels in the fourth, as they cut a 13-point deficit to the final four points before time ran out. Johnson hit trey number seven in the fourth quarter and scored five points. South Floyd was 0-8 from the free throw line in the final quar-

"We played well but we are still Allen Central could only come struggling from the free throw line," said Coach Isaac

The Raiders hit only seven of 24 free throws. Allen Central connected on 20 of 30.

South Floyd and Allen Central tied with identical 7-4 records (however, the Raiders had one game remaining) and were tied in the conference standings. A flip of the coin gave the third seed to Allen Central, pending the outcome of a South Floyd/Stumbo match up Friday night.

Anderson leads South Floyd past Allen Central Middle

by Ed Taylor Sports Editor

The South Floyd Lady Raiders closed out their regular basketball schedule and have set themselves for tournament play this week by posting a 48-23 win over the Lady Rebels of Allen Central Middle School.

Guard Brandy Anderson scored a team-high 11 points and Megan Ousley added 10 for the Lady Raiders. Leigh Ann Tuttle finished with nine points.

Jesse Isaac led Allen Central with 14 points, while Terri Mullins netted eight. Becki Thomas scored

one point. The grade school county tournament tips off tomorrow night at Allen Central High School. South Floyd was co-conference champions along with Betsy Layne.

South Floyd improved to 10-1 on the season while Allen Central : fell to 6-5.

Anderson scored five of her 11 points in the opening quarter to give South Floyd a 12-4 lead. She buried a three-point basket. Tuttle hit three of four free throws and had five points in the period while Ousley had two points.

Mullins kept the Lady Rebels close with the only four points for Allen Central.

Things didn't get any better for the Lady Rebels in the second

stanza, scoring only five points in ished with seven for the game, the period. Isaac hit a three-point basket and Mullins had a field goal. Anderson had two baskets for the Lady Raiders in the second quarter while Ousley, Ashley Johnson and Sharee Hopkins had two points each.

South Floyd outscored the Lady Rebels 11-6 in the third period, with Isaac scoring all six points for Allen Central. Ousley had four third-quarter points for the Lady Raiders. Miranda Gregory came off the bench and scored two points in the third period. She finpumping in five in the fourth peri-

In the fourth, it was a 15-8 run for the Lady Raiders, led by Gregory, who completed an oldfashioned three-point play. Tabitha Trammell had two points for South Floyd in the period. Isaac hit her second three-point basket and had five points for Allen Central in the final stanza.

Trammell finished the game with two points in the game. Hopkins netted four and Johnson finished with five.



Prestonsburg 's John Dixon (14) went high for an rebound attempt against Belfry Friday night. Dixon scored seven points in the Blackcats 82-

64 loss to the

Pirates (photo

by Ed Taylor)

Snack Attack Defensive

Hey all you sports fans! Don't know what to serve your hungry team when watching the big game? The crowd will go wild when they try this delicious snack fit for royalty made with the crowning buttery tasting touch of Imperial® spread.

Mexican Lasagna

tablespoons Imperial® Spread medium onion, chopped package (1.0 oz.)

Seasonings can (28 oz.) diced tomatoes, in juice can (4 oz.) diced green chiles (optional) ounces tortilla chips cups (16 oz.) shredded Monterey Jack cheese cup sour cream cup (2 oz.) shredded cheddar cheese

In large skillet, melt Imperial® Spread over medium high heat. Add into squares.

Lawry's Taco Spices & onion and cook until tender. Add Taco Spices & Seasonings, tomatoes and chiles; mix well. Bring to a boil; reduce heat to low and cook, uncovered, 10 minutes, stirring occasionally. Spray 2-quart casserole dish with Shedd's Country Crock cooking spray; arrange 1/2 of tortilla chips, sauce and Monterey Jack cheese. Repeat layers, top with sour cream. Bake in 350°F oven 25 minutes. Sprinkle with cheddar cheese and bake 5 minutes longer. Let stand 10 minutes before cutting

Take A Popcorn Timeout During The Super Bowl

Are you ready for the biggest snacking day of the year? This game calls for easy to prepare treats the whole gang will enjoy. No other snack satisfies a crowd like popcorn. It's fast, easy, versatile and delivers a powerful taste sensation. Popcorn snacks give the nutrition and energy needed to cheer the team to victory throughout the entire game.

Here are some easy ways to score a snacking touch-

· Pop several batches of popcorn throughout the

game so it's always hot and fresh. · Give each fan their own individual bowl of popcorn to enjoy. Then create your own popcorn flavoring bar...simply set out shakers of your favorite seasoning salts and spices and let everyone flavor their own bowl.

· No time to whip up special superbowl snacks? Fresh popcorn is always special. Simply pop some in the microwave to serve up instant fun!

· Include both sweet and savory popcorn choices such as Cajun or Hot Mustard Popcorn and Touchdown

CAJUN CORN

2-1/2 quarts popped popcorn 1/4 cup butter, melted teaspoon paprika teaspoon onion powder teaspoon garlic powder teaspoon cayenne pepper teaspoon lemon pepper

Pour butter over warm popcorn. Combine remaining seasonings and sprinkle over popcorn, toss to mix. Bake in 300-degree oven for crispy popcorn, if desired. Makes 2-1/2 quarts.

Nutritional Information (based on 1-cup serving): Total Calories 92; Fat 7g; Carbohydrate 7g; Sugar .2g; Fiber 1g; Protein 1g; Sodium 48mg; Cholesterol 12mg.

Hunting News

SPICY SUPERBOWL POPCORN

quarts popcorn popped in 1/4 cup oil teaspoon mustard (dry)

teaspoon thyme teaspoon ground black pepper Dash cayenne pepper

Optional: 1/2 teaspoon low-sodium salt Keep popcorn warm. Mix seasonings together. Add to

popped popcorn and mix thoroughly. Nutritional Information (based on 1-cup serving): Total Calories 96; Fat 1g; Carbohydrate 7g; Sugar .2g; Fiber 1g; Protein 1g; Sodium 69mg; Cholesterol 0mg.

TOUCHDOWN TREAT

quarts popped popcorn cup unsalted cocktail peanuts cup seedless raisins cup honey cup water tablespoon lemon juice

In a large buttered bowl, combine popcorn, peanuts and raisins. Keep warm. Extra space needs to be taken out. Combine honey, water and lemon juice in a saucepan. Bring to a boil; cook and stir over medium heat until mixture reaches 250 degrees Fahrenheit, or hard ball stage on a candy thermometer. Pour over popcorn; toss to mix thoroughly. Turn onto-a buttered jellyroll pan or large baking pan. Bake in a preheated 300-degree oven for 20 minutes, stirring occasionally. Yield: 4 quarts. Nutritional Information (based on 1-cup serving):

Total Calories 172; Fat 6g: Carbohydrate 30g; Sugar 22g; Fiber 2g; Protein 3g; Sodium 3mg; Cholesterol

For more Superbowl snacking ideas, visit www.pop-

· Plus Much, Much More!



A Supplement of the Floyd County Times



FORMER PIARIST SCHOOL homecoming queen, Natasha Clark, has the pleasure of crowning new homecoming queen Chastity Ison at the Piarist School Homecoming last week

Karen's Korner



A belated birthday wish goes out to Jenny Parsons. Jenny turned 13 on January 3. Jenny Bobcats. Happy Birthday Jenny.

It was great to here that Jessica Bentley got to come home for the holidays. She had to return to Lexington on Tuesday. but she is improving everyday. Our prayers are still with you Jessica.

It is time for the most exciting week in grade school basketball. The grade school county tournament. This year is working out to

Allen Boys finished first. This years tournament is being held at Allen Central Middle Allen Central Middle School. School and should be a great one. We have some very talented young basketball players in this

play, Betsy Layne and South Floyd each have only one loss. These teams defeated each other at their respective courts. Betsy Layne defeated South Floyd in tournament play, but that does not count in determining the county outcome. In the first game between the two, the game went into double overtime. South Floyd came out on top. But Betsy Layne was declared the winner of the season, because they defeated the Lady Raiders

South Floyd and Betsy Layne will be in different brackets, so plays for the Betsy Layne Lady they very well could meet in the championship game. And boy, would this be a good one.

by more points.

Even though Betsy Layne and South Floyd finished in the top two positions, don't ever count John M. Stumbo, Allen Central and Adams out. There could be an upset or two.

In the boys, Allen Elementary finished in first and John M. Stumbo finished second in the regular season play. Stumbo defeated the Allen Eagles in the Shag Campbell tournament, so if be a great one. Betsy Layne girls these two teams meet in the finished first in the season and finals, this too would be a very

Watch out for South Floyd and

The tournament begins on Monday. If you get a chance, or better yet, make a chance, and get out and support our local grade For the girls, in regular season school youngsters.

High School Basketball

Both girls and boys high school basketball in Floyd County is really blooming. This week at Millard High School the girls All 'A' Class tournament gets under way. While in boys action, Prestonsburg, Allen Central and Betsy Layne will participate in the Coca Cola Classic at Pike County Central, beginning on Wednesday. Plus the grade school tournament. I really don't know how Ed and I plan to cover all of these games, but we will just do the best that

Over the holidays, our local high school girls teams participated in several tournaments. Allen Central, Betsy Layne and South Floyd all participated in the Inez Deposit Invitational Tournament at Sheldon Clark. While Prestonsburg Ladycats participated in the Lady Eagles Invitational at Johnson Central.

Both Tournaments were a round-robin type of tournament. Betsy Layne defeated the Allen Central Lady Rebels to place third in the Sheldon Clark tournament. While the Prestonsburg Ladycats lost the championship game to the host, Johnson Central Lady Eagles, they finished second in that tournament.

All four of the Floyd County girls teams are playing very good ball lately. Allen Central and South Floyd will participate in the All 'A' Class Tournament.

Piarist

big second quarter, and went into the locker room with a nine-point advantage over the Lady Mountaineers.

Kari Ross hit well in the second quarter. Ross had six points in the quarter. Emily Meyer also had a good second quarter for the Lady Knights. Meyer hit a three-point basket, as well as a two-point basket, for a total of five in the quarter. Piarist's other three points came from Nora Traum and Tai England.

In the second half, the Lady Knights continued to play good defense, but they committed a lot of turnovers themselves. The Lady Knights had 11 turnovers in the third quarter and still were only outscored by the Lady Mountaineers by two

Kari Ross continued on her roll and scored six of the eight points for the Lady Knights. Tai England scored the other two points for Piarist in the third quarter.

In the fourth quarter, the Lady Mountaineers again outscored the Lady Knights, this time by only one point. Megan Travis went on a shooting spree for the Lady Mountaineers, racking up nine of her team's 12 points in the period.

But Emily Meyer would keep the hopes of a win alive for the Lady Knights. Meyer had a big fourth quarter, scoring six points when the Lady Knights really needed them most, Kari Ross was in foul trouble and sat out a lot of the fourth quarter.

Even though the Lady Knights

were outscored by three points in the last half, their big second quarter proved to be enough for them to hold on for the win, 40-34

In the fourth quarter, Oneida Baptist shot poorly from the free throw line, hitting only three of eight, including two one-plus-ones. In the final quarter, Piarist hit one of two free throws.

But in the end, the Lady Knights didn't really care how they got the win. They were just excited that they defeated the Lady Mountaineers. Coach Bradley's words had finally come true. "Believe in yourselves."

The Piarist School will participate in the All "A" Class tournament next week, which will be played at

Piarist School places four in double figures in loss

by Karen Joseph Sports Writer

In the opening game on Friday night, the Lady Knights won their first game in two years and the boys were hoping to keep the winning going.

The Piarist Knights were hosting the Mountaineers from Oneida Baptist. OBI came into the game with a 6-2 record. Piarist has yet to win a game this season. The excitement of the Lady Knights' win carried over into the game between the

The Knights played a very hard ball game, but this very tough OBI squad was a little too much for the Knights. The Knights fell to the Mountaineers, 90-71.

This was not really a runaway ballgame as the score might indicate. Oneida Baptist just had more players than Piarist, and the Knights could just not physically keep up. The first quarter deficit was too much for the Knights to overcome.

The Knights were led in scoring by Shawn Rose. Rose had 18 for the night. Matt Goeing followed with 17, while George Hall and Robert Hall followed with 15 and 12 points

Oneida Baptist's Bryan LaPlante led both teams in scoring. LaPlante finished the game with 30 points.

Piarist's Robert Hall put the first points on the scoreboard when he completed an old-fashioned three-point play. Hall went in for the layup and was fouled by Matt Hoverter.

But the Mountaineers would soon take the lead and never relinquish it. The Knights tied the score two times in the first quarter. With 3:32 remaining in the first quarter the score was tied at 14.

It seemed as if the momentum changed in favor of the Mountaineers, when Piarist's Robert Hall went in for a layup and was assessed with a charge. After that play, the Mountaineers went on a 16-4 run to end the quarter with a 12-point lead over the Knights, 30-18. Brian LaPlante hit a basket just as the buzzer sounded at the end of the first quarter.

Matt Goeing and Robert Hall each had a threepoint basket for the Knights.

The Knights came out in the second quarter and played just as hard as they did in the first. This team never gives up. The Mountaineers outscored the Knights by only two points in the second quarter. There were very few turnovers committed by either team in the second quarter. It was a run and shoot quarter. The Mountaineers increased their lead by two. The Mountaineers went in the locker room leading the Knights, 50-36.

In the second half of the ballga. , with the way the Piarist School played, you could ver detect that they were behind by 14 points. They ver gave up.

Matt Goeing hit another three-point basket and with a little more than five minutes remaining in the third period of play, the Knights closed the gap to within 10. But once again, the Mountaineers went on a 14-5 run and increased their lead to 19 at the end of the third quarter.

In the fourth quarter, the Knights were extremely tired and even though they played with everything in them, they could not gain anything on this very tough

Shawn Rose hit a three-point basket for the Knights. Rose had nine of his 18 points in the fourth quarter. George Hall had eight of his 15 points in the fourth quarter.

The Mountaineers did not outscore the Knights in the fourth quarter, but the first quarter lead was enough for the Mountaineers, as they defeated the

The Piarist School Knights will participate in the All "A" Class tournament that will take place beginning the January 18 at Pikeville High School.



Brett Hall (30) blocks out in the game against the Mountaineers of Oneida Baptist. Brett finished the game with five points. The Knights fell to the Mountaineers 90-71. (photo by Karen Joseph)

mer players at Pikeville College, Bill Mike Runyon, and his Paintsville Tigers which beat Magoffin County.

We are a demanding program," Adams said. "I'm a teacher, whether it is in the classroom or on the court. If a player starts and finishes in our program, then I feel that he is not only a better player, but a better per-

All we ask is that our players do their best and it is our jobs to make them the best that they can be.'

Entering this season with only three players with any varsity experience, the Hornets are 6-5 and atop the district standings, which could be a key because Magoffin County hosts the 57th District Tournament

For 18 years, the fans of Magoffin County have had the pleasure of having a man and a coach like Danny Adams on the sidelines to help teach the Hornet play-

Caba leaves Rowan County

Former Magoffin County football coach Mic Caba, the man who brought passing into Kentucky before Hal Mumme, has decided to leave Rowan County High School after only one season.

The Vikings went winless this year and rumors had been flying around about Caba's future.

Caba decided to get back to the college level and late last week he was named the new head football coach at Alfred College in New York.

Is John off his Rocker?

I've waited a couple of issues to put anything down about Atlanta Braves pitcher John Rocker.

Major League Baseball waited about the same time before it decided to do anything, too.

This week, Commissioner Bud Selig announced

that Rocker would have to undergo psychological tests. Rocker's statements about gays, minorities and immigrants are enough to have him out of baseball for the upcoming season.

Major League Baseball will wait for the test results

before making a decision. Braves President Stan Kasten has been on record saying that if Rocker is not punished by baseball, then

the Braves will punish him. Rocker has this wild image to maintain, but went

across the line in his remarks. No matter how talented he is, there is no place in baseball for him. Let Rocker get a real job and be out in the real world making a living. Then his remarks might be different.

Then again, knowing Rocker, it might not change

Floyd County Basketball Stats for 1999-2000 BOYS

Scoring Team Gms TP Player Avg Jeremy Sexton Allen Central 110 15.9 Michael Hall South Floyd 11 156 13.9 Leslie Slone Allen Central 96 13.7 South Floyd Rusty Tackett 11 151 12.9 John Meade South Floyd 11 143 12.8 Jimmy Stumbo South Floyd 11 136 11.8 Ryan Shannon South Floyd 11 121 11.4 Byron Hall South Floyd 11 115 10.9 Dustin Music Prestonsburg 12 120 10.0 Allen Central Jeremy Hayes 9.9 **Assists** Team Gms Player Tot. Avg Allen Central Larry Mullins 43 6.14 Ryan Shannon South Floyd 11 66 Seth Crisp Betsy Layne 1 36 Rebounds Players Team Gms Tot Avg Jimmy Stumbo South Floyd 116 9.67

Allen Central

South Floyd

South Floyd

Prestonsburg

Jeremy Sexton

Byron Hall

Kyle Tackett

Dustin Music

Games through January 6

11

11

57

86

63

52

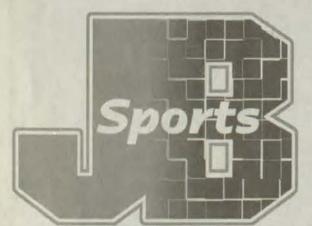
8.29

7.21

5.25

4.25

*Stats from Betsy Layne Bobcats were not available at press time. The women's stats were not made available but will appear in next Sunday's sports section.



by Jason Blanton Adams wins 300th;

Rocker must go The most important thing to Magoffin County Coach Danny Adams in this week's win over Sheldon

Clark is that it was a district win and put the Hornets' record to 2-0 in 57th district play. But the 60-37 victory was also Adams' 300th career

coaching victory. "This reflects on our entire program," said Adams, who now has a career record of 300-250. "It's a nice

milestone, but this has taken a lot of assistant coaches and players. Adams has been the heart-and-soul of Magoffin County basketball for the past 18 years.

A Pikeville College Hall of Fame player and a former Bears assistant coach under Wayne Martin, Adams began his high school coaching at Pikeville High School in 1979 and coached there three years before going back to Magoffin County.

"There were a lot of factors in me coming back to Magoffin County," said Adams. "I wanted my children to have some time with my parents and it was home.

"I wanted to be a part of something that this town

and community could be proud of."

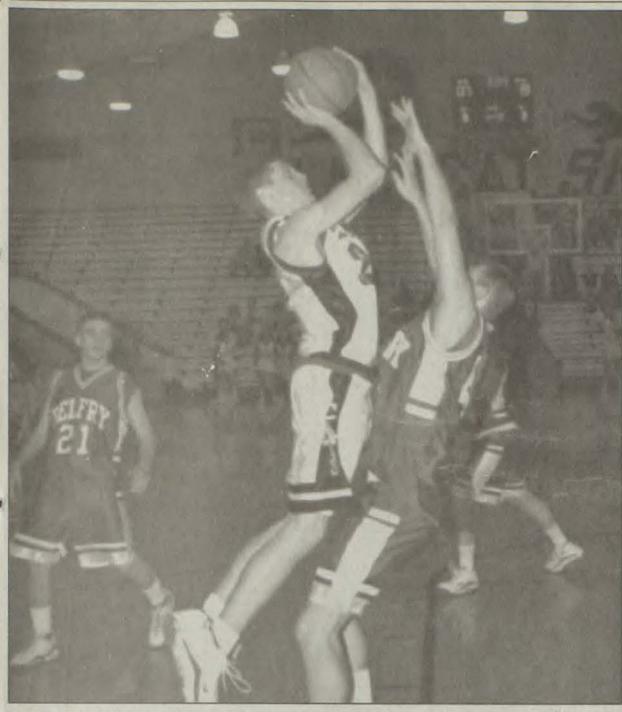
Since his return, Adams has won the only district championship in school's history (1984) and has taken the Hornets to the 15th Regional Tournament nine

The Hornets have reached the championship game three times - 1984, 1995 and 1996 - but each time a district rival has beaten them. In 1984 it was a heart breaking 62-60 loss on a last-

second shot by Johnson Central's Harry Meek.

In 1995 and 1996 it was one of former Adams' for-

(Continued from page one)



Prestonsburg's Kyle Shepherd was whistled for a charging foul after he hit the short jumper against Belfry Friday night. Prestonsburg fell to the Pirates 82-64 (photo by Ed Taylor)



SETH CRISP (20) OF PRESTONSBURG drove the baseline on Belfry's Matt Slater (3). The two teams squared off in regional basketball Friday night with Belfry posting a 82-64 win (photo by Ed Taylor)

Dance Cats

fourth year down there and I just hope we can go down there and do really well.

Conley said she felt this year's team is still the same team from last year, but with more potential.

Meredith Jarvis, who seems to have been a Dance Cat her entire life, will be making her fourth trip to the nationals.

"I just hope we can go down and do well again," she said. "We will leave here Friday and we will compete on Saturday. We have to make the pom pass before we can compete the next day (Sunday)."

The Dance Cats have become pioneers for other area dance teams and have found nothing but

just as fresh with her as the previright. ous three times.

success where they have gone.

ons again."

Willis said that going again is that everything is going to be all

"I am really, really looking forward to going this year," she said. "I just hope we can go down and

'four-peat.' While there are back-to-back championships, the local dance teams have done that. To threepeat, that is in the past. Now they want to come home with yet another championship and a fourth national title.

Sarah Vaughn says the squad is

"This is my second year going down there," she said. "We are all excited about it and we have two dynamite routines to do. Hopefully we can pull it off and be champi-

Jennifer White has that feeling

"I am looking forward to the

trip like everyone else," she said. "It is an experience that not everyone gets. This is my last year but I feel we are going to do really good down there.

Jamie McGuire, also a senior, said she is hopeful of a fruitful

"I just hope we do well when we go back down there," she said. We will do two routines while we

are there." "We have to go down and qualify," said Conley, "If there are six teams in our division, we have to be in the top three.'

Many of the routines the Dance Cats perform are from the mind of Jody Shepherd or some of the former Dance Cats. The team was Grand National Champions last

(Continued from page one)

players for its Youth Basketball League. The league if for boys and girls ages 3-18. Registration is going on now through February 9. Registration fees are \$25 for members and \$45 for non-members.

For more information, contact the Pikeville YMCA at 433-9822

■ DANCE CATS

Sports

We wish the Prestonsburg Dance Cats the best as they travel to St. Louis, Missouri, this coming Friday to defend their national title. They are fine young ladies and I wish them the best and hope they bring home another championship.

I don't know how they do all they do in remembering their routines. It amazes me. Have a great trip, Dance Cats!

■ SMITH CLOSE

Derrick Smith, a member of the football Kentucky Wildcats, will decide today whether he will be a member of the basketball Kentucky Wildcats.

Coach Tubby Smith covets the service of Smith but football Coach Hal Mumme says he must keep up his grades and conditioning.

I look for Smith to bypass basketball.

■ REDS GUZMAN GOES TO TAMPA BAY

Former Cincinnati Red hurler Juan Guzman signed a two-year contract to play for Tampa Bay next season. The loss of Guzman, and the free agent status of Steve Avery will have an effect on the Reds pitching rotation this summer. However, if you remember, Guzman was not that effective in the latter part of the season.

■ PAUL JORDAN WRITES...

Good friend Paul Jordan, who used to write for the Courier-Journal, wrote me a nice letter and he is an avid Reds fan. However, he made mention he finally agreed with me on an item. He wrote: "It really scares me, Ed, when I agree with you when it comes to the Reds and the Big Blue. The latter is another story going no place in 2000.

"It's really zero years for the Big Blue and it is nobody's fault. Tubby is a coach. I just don't care that uch for Saul (Smith) as a leader. I have always said he should be with Eastern, Western, etc., which is not to denigrate those great programs."

Jordan said the Reds were the object of his sports

"First, you are right about Ken Griffey Jr. We should have him," said Jordan. "If for no other reason than that he would prolong a tradition and bring the crowds back to 'somewhere on the Ohio River.' Old dad (Griffey Sr.) wants him and old dad was a heck of a player. Oh, for those days in the mid-'70s. The greatest team next to the early '20s Yankees in the history of the game.'

Jordan said that Johnny Bench was the "greatest catcher ever born and Joe Morgan was equally great."

Paul said he would personally would never be satisfied until Pete Rose and Tony Perez, "are in the Hall

"They deserve to be there because of their game and not their morals," said Jordan.

The recent signing of Greg Vaughn by Tampa Bay for \$34 million brought out these comments from

"Nobody deserves \$34 million in any number of years," said Jordan.

Jordan predicted that Vaughn will hit no more than 25 home runs at Tampa Bay. "Usually it is the opposite," he said. "When they

play lousy for Cincy, they're stars someplace else." Jordan said he refused to comment on the umpire

In closing, Jordan said he was proud of the Reds

"They did much with little," said Jordan.

RUMOR MILL...

Jessica Martin quits Allen Central Lady Rebels basketball team!

I hope this is just a rumor. I haven't been able to get

in touch with anyone on it (Saturday) but I have always been a Jessica Martin fan, as I was a Natalie We will look further into it and give more informa-

tion later. Jessica has had an outstanding season and if she indeed has left the team, then it comes at a bad time as Allen Central is about to enter the Girls All "A" Regional next week. They had a real shot at winning it. Say it isn't true!

Until Wednesday, good sports everyone and be

games this season, the very confident forward replied, "Our biggest problem is turnovers. Any team that commits a lot of turnovers is going to get beat. We had 38 turnovers in the Johnson Central game. Turnovers will beat you any-

The Lady Blackcats played very impressive in the Johnson Central Lady Eagle Invitational at the end of December and has had almost two weeks off. When asked if she thought if this would help or hinder the Ladycats, Coleman answered, "I think this will really help us. We were out of shape for that tournament and we have practiced very hard for the last two weeks. We are in better shape and have a lot better attitude. Our next game will be against South Floyd and we are not overlooking South Floyd. They have been playing very good ball lately. We don't over look anyone anymore. don't think that anyone in the region can beat us."

The Lady Blackcats have had four players to quit the ball team. When Coleman was asked why she thought this happened. "I don't really know why these girls have quit. I think we have a wonderful coaching staff and we have the right ingredients to be a winning team. When you play ball you must make a decision to make that a top priority in your life. Some people just don't make that decision. I think that the girls probably quit for personal reasons, I don't really know."

Brooke's overall feeling of the team is "We are improving everyday. If we stay healthy and keep working hard, we can win the regional tournament. We have two of the best post players in the region with Amelia Conley and Ramanda

But, if we keep our Music. We have got to play better heads together and play as a team, I defense and commit fewer turnovers. But we have more heart on this team than any team I have ever played on. And I have played on a lot of teams. I think we can do

(Continued from page one)

Brooke has played ball since she was in the fifth grade. She played at Allen Elementary and Kenny Music was the assistant coach there. So she knows Kenny's way of coaching. Brooke also gets a lot of support from her parents, Robert and Anita and her grandparents, Mike and Kay Auxier. You can always see her grandparents on the bleachers and this means so much to Brooke.

Brooke is only a junior, but she hopes that she can move on and play basketball at the college level. With her determination and attitude, is she stays healthy, I'm sure

Prestonsburg still looking for initial win

Wright scores 26 in 82-64 in Belfry win

by Ed Taylor Sports Editor

The beat goes on for the Prestonsburg Blackeats basketball team but there was a glimmering sign of improvement in the game they lost 82-64 to the Belfry Pirates

Prestonsburg fell to 0-12 on the season at home against the Pirates.

Seth Crisp and Ricky Power scored 13 points

each for the Blackcats. Jonathan Wright was the big man in the middle for Belfry, finishing with 26 points, all underneath

the basket. Matt Slater netted 13 points. Coach Crisp said his team just lacked confidence on the court.

lost confidence in their shot. We just need a good game where we shoot well."

However, there was that moment in the fourth quarter when Prestonsburg showed signs of greatness on defense as well as offense.

Prestonsburg trailed by as many as 26 points (57-31) in the third period when their defense came up a notch and forced the Pirates into three straight turnovers. The defensive spark also became an offensive spark as Prestonsburg ran off the last 10 points of the third period and scored the first seven of the fourth for a 17-0 run that pulled the Blackcats to within 10 points of the Pirates, 58-48, with 6:30 left in the game.

But the Pirates regrouped and went on a 17-0 run of their own to build the lead back to 27, 75-48.

"I don't know what it is," said Coach Crisp. "We just can't seem to get together.' Belfry improved to 8-2 on the season with the

win while Prestonsburg dropped to 0-12. The Pirates held a 19-9 first quarter advantage behind the play of Wright. Prestonsburg trailed by

"That is what it is," he said. "The kids have just one twice in the first period, but Belfry put togeth- had the Cats to within 17, 58-41 after three quarer a 9-1 run that netted them a 14-5 lead. The only baskets for Prestonsburg in the final four minutes of the first came from Crisp and Kyle Shepherd.

> Each team turned the ball over six times in the opening period.

> Prestonsburg's offense picked up in the second period behind the scoring of Crisp and Ryan Martin. Martin hit a three with 4:25 to play, Crisp completed an old-fashioned three-point play and later hit a three-point basket with 1:57 to play to trail 31-20.

Belfry led 40-22 at the half. Turnovers hurt the Cats at the onset of the third

period, as they struggled to take care of the basketball. Belfry took advantage of the sloppy play and raced out to a 57-31 lead, the biggest of the game.

Powers led the Prestonsburg comeback by starting it when he completed an old-fashioned threepoint play. He came back and scored underneath as the Pirates were having trouble handling the ball with three consecutive turnovers.

Two free throws by Martin, a charity toss by Dustin Music and a basket by Matt Slone off a steal,

Josh Justice opened the Prestonsburg fourth by drilling a three-point basket off the right side of the circle and Matt Tackett canned four straight free throws as the Cats were within 10 points, 58-48.

Prestonsburg placed 10 players in the scoring column against Belfry, something they haven't done this season. Music finished with nine points while John Dixon netted seven. Shepherd finished with six, with Martin scoring five points. Tackett had four and Justice had the one trey for three points. Matt Slone and Josh Turner totaled two points each.

Jeremy Pinson scored 10 for the Pirates, as did Boo Hager. Casey Lequire netted seven and Derrick Pauley scored six. Tom Varney had six points for Belfry.

Prestonsburg meets the South Floyd Raiders Tuesday night at home in a big conference game. Coach Crisp will then take his team to Pike Central on Wednesday night for the first round of the Coca-Cola Classic.

"I feel we can win there," he said.

■ INSIDE THE PRO FISHING TOUR

The 'Bass Czar' **Issues Decrees**

et's pretend that as the new year arrived, the dreaded Y2K problem proved to be real and farreaching — so far-reaching that the power brokers in professional fishing have the same brilliant idea simultaneously. They name me as the official U.S. Bass Czar, a job that carries with it all of the decision-making

power in the bass world.



Tucker's Tour Notebook

If I were the Bass Czar, I would... make Davy Hite the sport's official ambassador, a title that includes an automatic ticket to the BASS Masters Classic for life. He is an especially worthy Classic champion and an all-around genuinely nice man.

If I were the Bass Czar, I would... erase the tumultuous final chapter in the relationship between Ray Scott and BASS officials. Just for the sake of the warm and fuzzy feeling that should dominate our sport.

If I were the Bass Czar, I would... see that BASS CEO Helen Sevier gets the credit she deserves for bringing BASS Inc. out of the dark ages with her leadership.

If I were the Bass Czar, I would... eliminate the FLW Tour's rule barring anglers from wearing logos and patches that conflict with those of their tournament sponsors. It's just a blatantly unfair rule that hurts the pros who are trying to make a living in this sport.

If I were the Bass Czar, I would... establish an offlimits period before all BASSMASTER and FLW Tour events to put the sporting challenge back into the sport.

If I were the Bass Czar, I would... see that a larger portion of the money that FLW king Irwin Jacobs has attracted from outside the boating and fishing industries trickled down to the pros.

If I were the Bass Czar, I would... establish a seniors tour for the truly great pros who pioneered the sport. And I would get Ray Scott to emcee the televised

If I were the Bass Czar, I would... eliminate nets in BASSMASTER and FLW Tour tournaments. Let's give the bass a little more of a fighting chance.

If I were the Bass Czar, I would... order a return to normalcy for the price of all bass lures. No more \$25 topwaters and crankbaits. No more \$11 spinnerbaits. No lure should cost over \$4.

If I were the Bass Czar, I would... personally approve or disapprove all plans to kill or control aquatic vegetation with herbicides or grass carp on a case-bycase basis.

If I were the Bass Czar, I would... reduce the outboard power in BASSMASTER and FLW Tour events back to 150 horsepower. There's rarely a reason for a bass boat to go faster than that.

If I were the Bass Czar, I would... ask Triton Boats CEO Earl Bentz for advice on a regular basis. The man is a brilliant businessman who understands this sport as well as anyone.

If I were the Bass Czar, I would... expand the BASS Masters Classic field to 55 pros and pick half of the field based on their personality, attitude, community

consciousness and generosity to others. It's good to be the king.

Tim Tucker's Pro Power Ratings

This Week	Last Week	Weeks on List	Angler, Hometown
1	1	29	Denny Brauer, Camdenton, Mo. Runner-up in 1999 Classic; still the man to beat
2	2	29	O Davy Hite, Prosperity, S.C. Won '99 BASS Masters Classic
3	3	29	O Larry Nixon, Bee Branch, Ark. Won BASS Top 150 opener; made Md. finals
4	4	29	O Kevin VanDam, Kalamazoo, Mich. Won N.Y. BASS event; third in Md. Top 150
5	5	29	Rick Clunn, Ava, Mo. Runner-up in Vt. BASS Top 150
6	6	12	O David Fritts, Lexington, N.C. Two top-10 finals; Millennium runner-up
7	7	29	Stephen Browning, Hot Springs, Ark. BASS Mich. Top 150 finals
8	8	12	O Tim Horton, Spruce Pine, Ala. Won Md. Top 150; leads Angler of Year race
9	9.	25	David Walker, Cannon, Ky. FLW Tour Angler of Year; 15th in Md. Top 150
10	10	29	Zell Rowland, Montgomery, Texas Finals of Vt. BASS Top 150
11	11	26	Clark Wendlant, Cedar Park, Texas Won FLW Open; MegaBucks runner-up
12	12	9	O Darrell Robertson, Jay, Okla. M-1 champ; won \$850,000 in two months
13	13	29	Mark Davis, Mount Ida, Ark. Narrowly missed Md. Top 150 finals
14	14	19	Roland Martin, Clewiston, Fla. Runner-up in Top 150 season-opener; 21st in Me
15	15	7	O Aaron Martens, Castaic, Calif. Calif. BASS winner, WON Bass Angler of Year

These ratings of America's top tournament bass pros are based on Tim's opinion of their talent, knowledge, experience and most recent tournament A weekly guide to sports in the wild, including the professional bass fishing tour

*Longwing Publications Inc. Peter Gentile, Editor.



have to eat very often. It wants something big Arkansas fisherman Joe Hughes shows off his winter catch.

Still, the right lure combined with a methodical presentation can trigger either a feeding or reaction strike from largemouth, smallmouth and spotted bass during the absolute coldest times of the year.

And it doesn't always involve bottom-hugging baits. On a snowy day a few years ago, Texas pro Rick Clunn caught a 25-pound stringer on Virginia's Appomattox River. And one of Wurm's top cold-water lures is a spinnerbait.

It is no secret that the ordinary lead jigging spoon probably catches more cold-water bass than any other lure. It isn't flashy or elaborate. It doesn't closely resemble anything a bass would want to eat. Yet, the jigging spoon produces when the weather is

The simple marabou crappie jig has long been a standard cold-water lure in the deep, clear lakes of the Ozark Mountains. Missouri pro Guido Hibdon's father passed that knowledge on to him, and now his son, Dion, has come to learn that the crappie jig is a prime wintertime lure that rarely disappoints.

The Hibdons rely on a brightly colored marabou version of the standard line-wire crappie jig. The Hibdons have their best cold-water success with two sizes (1/4- and 1/4-ounce) fished on 4- to 8-pound test

■Tips From the Pros

makes digestion a lingering process.

really want to move because it is cold. Its metab-

olism and energy level are down. And when it

eats, the bass wants something that it doesn't

Ten minutes later, Wurm brings his boat off of

plane and allows it settle along a creek bank. The ago-

nizing, 15-minute run up the lake has caked his mus-

tache in ice. It brings the thought to mind that there

have to be better ways to spend such a bitterly cold

But within 30 minutes, Wurm has finished out his

limit, a stringer that most anglers would be proud to

claim during any season of the year. "I'm not really

surprised," he said in reference to the surprisingly

hot action. "The fish don't quit biting completely just

because it gets cold. There is some good fishing avail-

able in the wintertime, but most people don't want to

The coldest water temperatures of the year don't

necessarily signal an end to decent bass fishing,

although it certainly won't be as comfortable as other

seasons. But the bass are still around and will cooper-

The most productive cold-water lures share a com-

mon trait - they have to be presented to the winter-

weary bass as slowly and precisely as possible. The

cold water transforms the normally aggressive preda-

tor into a sluggish shadow of itself. Cold-water bass

feed only sporadically because their slow metabolism

ate with the proper lures and techniques.

that will fill him up for the rest of the day.

January day than bass fishing.

battle the cold to find it."



Mossy Oak camouflage pro-KIRK THOMAS of Montgomery, Ala., is a lifelong hunter who has taken many trophy white-tailed deer with gun and bow.

Scouting Is Time Well Spent

"Many hunters scout for a few days before the season and then hunt every chance they get. But the successful ones scout more than they actually hunt.

"White-tails and most other game animals move with the food sources. These food sources change throughout the season, and so should your hunting locations. If you have two days off to hunt, spend one of those days scouting for fresh sign. Be portable and keep looking for fresh signs that indicate lots of activity. Cover ground and look for signs that other hunters might miss. Food sources are always a good bet, so ask a local biologist what foods are available during different

"Look for food, and one thing's for sure, the deer will come to you."

Editor's Note: Despite being paralyzed from the waist down in an injury in 1992, Kirk Thomas still hunts for many species with gun, muzzleloader and bow. He founded the Wheelin' Sportsmen of America, and today helps handicapped people from across the nation experience hunting and fishing through WSA's many events.

■ GEAR AND GOODIES

YOUR SPORTS

Climbers Give **Grain Elevator** A Rockin' Role

By STEVE GUST

id the builders of an Oklahoma City grain elevator know in 1921 that their creation would be used by fitness and climbing buffs 79 years later? Most likely not, but there are plenty of people around today glad to see the

These days it's called OKC Rocks. From 1982 until 1998 it sat vacant, just south of the growing Oklahoma

Freddy Harth had a vision for the 145-foot-high grain elevator with its eight silos. Harth, 33, has been a climber for nine years. Oklahoma is not blessed with nearby mountains, so the need was there.

There are two others in the nation, and I thought it would work here," Harth said.

He leased the facility, and faced the biggest challenge: the cleanup. It took about 15 months.

Dray Bullard, manager of OKC Rocks, remembers it

"There was rotting grain still there," he said. Still, the 8-inch-thick walls were the perfect foundation for the placement of footholds and toeholds, which are arranged on the walls of the silos to create climbs of varying complexity. The fewer the holds, the more difficult the climb.

With training available on site, and a progression from the simplest to most difficult climbs, some novices are able to make tremendous progress in a short time.

"Ive seen strong people become proficient in a year or two," Harth said.

Harth has seen, and heard, new climbers discover the the allure of the sport in his venue.

"There are various stages just like when someone learns to skate," Harth said. "At first it's a bit scary and then there's a sense of accomplishment. There have been so many times when I hear somebody get to the top and scream, 'All right!' when they get there.'

till, it's not the same as the climbing you might see in a motion picture like "Cliffhanger."

"There is a world of difference between outdoor and indoor climbing," Harth said. "Indoor climbing is a controlled environment and outdoors isn't." One of the differences inside is safety, as very little is

Tve never heard of serious injuries from an indoor

facility," Harth said. "You have scraped knees and stuff, but that's about it." Bullard said that harnesses and ropes are checked

regularly. All the equipment can be rented on the site, including special shoes for \$3. Bullard said the shoes

have a sticky rubber substance on them that adheres to the wall Although the silo's

space is limited, it's not the same course every time. "We have about 30

different climbing routes people can take," Harth said. Since opening in

January 1999, the business has steadily "The climbers are a

close group, so once one of them found out, they all found out," Bullard said.

There was also a competition held at OKC Rocks, which drew climbers from as far away as South Carolina. This

climbers' paradise also has the fortune of being located near a new multimillion-dollar canal restoration project in Oklahoma City. The tour regularly points out OKC

PHOTO STEVE GUST

Arian Davis, 14, practices rock

climbing inside one of the silos

at OKC Rocks.

"We've gotten a lot of business from that," Harth said. Adult climbers can go on an adventure in the climate-

controlled facility for about \$10. Harth plans a long-term commitment to his business, which he admits he's still learning. But he does have one

"I'd like to be climbing more," he said.

■ Steve Gust is a writer in Edmond, Okla.

WRITE TO US

The Outdoors page is published weekly by Longwing Publications Inc., P.O. Box 15045, Sarasota, FL 34277. Outdoors writer Tim Tucker, who has written for every major outdoors magazine in America, has a Web site at www.probass.com. If you have a question that you would like Tim to answer on this page, write to him in care of Longwing Publications. Sorry, no phone calls.

■ PROFESSIONAL BASS FISHING STANDINGS

Top 150 Standings 2000 Kmart BASSMASTER Top 150 Pro division points standings. The top 25 qualifiers will be invited to the 2000 BASS Masters Classic. 1. Timmy Horton, Alabama

- Kevin Wirth, Kentucky 3. David Fritts, North Carolina 4. Norio Tanabe, Japan 5. Michael Iaconelli, New Jersey 384
- 6. Ron Shuffield, Arkansas 8. Carl Maxfield, South Carolina 374 9. Todd Faircloth, Texas 10. Takahiro Omori, Texas 11. Larry Nixon, Arkansas
- 11. Robert L. Kilby, Arkansas 13, Art Ferguson III, Michigan 14. Rick Clunn, Missouri 15. David Walker, Kentucky 16. Kim Stricker, Michigan
- 17. Gerald Swindle, Alabama 18. Steve Daniel, Florida 18. Jay Yelas, Texas 18. Roland Martin, Florida 21. Scott Rook, Arkansas
- 22. Dalton Bobo, Alabama 23. Mark Hardin, Georgia 24. Skeet Reese, California 25. Zell Rowland, Texas 26. Clark Wendlandt, Texas
- 27. Stephen Browning, Arkansas 28, Woo Daves, Virginia 29. Mark Pack, Texas 30. George Cochran, Arkansas Tony Couch, Georgia 32. Paul L Elias, Mississippi 33. Marty Fourkiller, Oklahoma 34. Chuck Economau, Florida
- 35. Randy Blaukat, Missouri 36. Kyle Greene, Michigan 276 37. Ray Sedgwick, South Carolina 274 402 38, O. T. Fears III, Oklahoma 6. Kevin VanDam, Michigan 39. Randy Dearman, Texas 39. Rick Lillegard, New Hampshire 271 41. Dion Hibdon, Missouri 42. Chet Douthit, Florida
 - 366 43, Toshinari Namiki, Japan 44, Dustin Wilks, North Carolina 44. Sam Swett, Louisiana 46. Mark Davis, Arkansas 47. Gary Klein, Texas 47. Danny Kirk, Georgia
 - 49. Mike Terry, Tennessee 50. Dan Morehead, Kentucky 51. Randy Howell, Alabama 51. Tom Mann, Jr., Georgia 51. Jerry Williams, Arkansas
 - 51. Stanley Mitchell, Georgia 55. Davy Hite, South Carolina 56. Charles Ingram, Tennessee 57. Chad Brauer, Missouri 58. Lee Bailey, Jr., Connecticut 309 | 58. Mark Menendez, Kentucky
- 305 | 60. Danny Correia, Massachusetts 240 | 93. David Gregg, Texas 61. Aaron Martens, California 237 62. Alton Jones, Texas 63. Peter E. Thliveros, Florida 64. Dean Rojas, Arizona 64. Timothy Wilson, Indiana 66. Jack L. Wade, Tennessee 288 66. Joe Thomas, Ohio
 - 66. Randall R Romig, Pennsylvania 232 69. Jerry Guest, Georgia 69, Brent Chapman, Kansas 71. David Mansue, New Jersey 71. Terry Baksay, Connecticut 71. Rick Morris, Virginia 74. Robert Soley. New Jersey
 - 74. Bernie Schultz, Florida

229

- 76. Guy H. Eaker, North Carolina 77. Ken McIntosh, Indiana 78. Lendell Martin, Jr., Texas 79. John Sappington, Oklahoma 79. Elton Luce Jr., Texas 81. Denny Brauer, Missouri 82. Craig Daniel, Alabama B2. Mike McClelland, Arkansas 82. Tommy Martin, Texas 82. Mark A. Schafer, New Jersey
- 82. Kenyon Hill, Oklahoma 87. Jeff Magee, Mississippi 88. Randy Fite, Texas 89. Robert Tucker, Texas 89. Tom Biffle, Oklahoma 89, David Wharton, Texas

241 | 92. Pete Gluszek, New Jersey

- 202 93. Gerald Beck, North Carolina 95. Tim Loper, Mississippi 96. Tom Burns, Illinois 196 194 97. Mark Tucket, Missouri 193 98, Guido Hibdon, Missouri 99. Jack Bell, Pennsylvania 100. Doug Garrett, Arkansas 101. Scott Martin, South Carolina 187 102. Homer Humphreys Jr., Louisiana 231 103. Robert Graham, North Carolina 229
 - 183 104. Johnny Lesesne, Georgia 104. Gene Mobley, Florida 106. Todd Auten, North Carolina 181 106. Scott Canelas, New Hampshire 108. Ken Cook, Oklahoma
 - 175 109. Jeff Barnes, Alabama 109. Terry Segraves, Florida 174 172 111. Wesley Kemper, Ohio 112, Allen Head, Oklahoma 112. Jim Murray, Jr., Georgia 114. Carroll Hagood, Florida 115. Jimmy Houston, Oklahoma 169 116. Mike Auten, Kentucky 168

117, Mike Wurm, Arkansas

118. Jeff Kriet, Oklahoma

120. Jim Bitter, Florida

205 121. Harold Allen, Texas

121, Jim Notan, Arkansas

119. Shaw E Grigsby, Jr. Florida

154 walleye, salmon, trout and pike. The Shad Rap RS is the result of the request of countless fishermen

baits for the year 2000.

The Rapala Shad Rap RS is a new

wooden crankbait that combines

the best of the original Shad Rap

(especially its wounded-minnow

resemblance) with the irresistible

result is a suspending version of a

answer to finicky bass, as well as

time-proven lure that should be the

action of a suspending lure. The

action and uncanny shad-like

Rapala Makes Good Thing Better

ne of bass fishing's most who wanted their favorite lure to suspend with the same internal celebrated and venerable rattle and famed Rapala wobble that lures recently underwent a they had come to depend on. transformation that produced one The new bait is available in two of the most impressive new bass

sizes (No. 5 and No. 7) and in seven color patterns: perch, shad, crawdad, firetiger, silver, silver-blue and silver-gold. It is capable of diving down 8 feet. It will suspend practically motionless at every

- Tim Tucker

For more information, call Rapala at (612) 933-7060.

> Rapala's new Shad Rap RS is a suspending version of the company's original Shad Rap.



MASGAR this week

If you've got a question or a comment, write:

NASCAR This Week c/o The Gaston Gazette 2500 E. Franklin Blvd. Gastonia, N.C. 28054



OnTV

All Times Eastern

■ 1981 Daytona 500

Jan. 7, 9 p.m. • Classic Sports Richard Petty beats Bobby Allison to win

1999 POINTS STANDINGS

	WINSTON CUP	BUSCH	TRUCK
1.	Dale Jarrett, 5,262	Dale Earnhardt Jr., 4,647	Jack Sprague, 3,747
2.	Bobby Labonte, 5,061	Jeff Green, 4,367	Greg Biffle, 3,739
3.	Mark Martin, 4,943	Matt Kenseth, 4,327	Dennis Setzer, 3,639
4.	Tony Stewart, 4,774	Todd Bodine, 3,029	Stacy Compton, 3,62
5.	Jeff Burton, 4,733	Elton Sawyer, 3,891	Jay Sauter, 3,543
6.	Jeff Gordon, 4,620	Jeff Purvis, 3,658	Mike Wallace, 3,494
7.	Dale Earnhardt, 4,492	Dave Blaney, 3,582	Ron Hornaday, 3,488
8.	Rusty Wallace, 4,155	Jason Keller, 3,537	Andy Houston, 3,359
9.	Ward Burton, 4,062	Mike McLaughlin, 3,478	Mike Bliss, 3,294
.0.	Mike Skinner, 4.003	Randy LaJoie, 3,379	Jimmy Hensley, 3,280

TOP TEN

- Top 10 potential comebacks of 2000 as rated by NASCAR This Week's Monte Dutton
- 1. Ricky Rudd
- 2. Terry Labonte
- 3. Mike Skinner
- 4. Kyle Petty
- 5. Bill Elliott
- 6. Sterling Marlin
- 7. Jimmy Spencer
- 8. Geoffrey Bodine
- 9. Bobby Hamilton
- 10. Darrell Waltrip

Could have a big year with Yates
Hoping team will rebound
A win would mean a lot
Last half wasn't that bad
Pressure's on for a better 2000
New teammate at Sabco
Tired of just driving around
Signs of improvement in late '99

Tired of taking his lumps

Odds long on a last hurrah

2000 SPEEDWEEKS SCHEDULE

2000 WINSTON CUP SCHEDULE

Daytona International Speedway (Bud Shootout)

Daytona International Speedway

North Carolina Speedway

Las Vegas Motor Speedway

Daytona International Speedway Daytona Beach, Fla.

Feb. 3-4: Practice/qualifying for Rolex 24 at Daytona. Feb. 5-6: Rolex 24 at

Daytona.
Feb. 9: Practice for ARCA 200 and IROC XXIV.

Feb. 10: Practice/qualifying for ARCA 200 and practice for Bud Shootout and IROC XXIV.

Feb. 11: Practice for Winston Cup Series, ARCA 200 and IROC XXIV.

Feb. 12: Pole qualifying for Daytona 500 (positions 1-2); practice/qualifying for ARCA 200 and IROC XXIV; Discount Auto Parts 200 Goody's Dash Series race.

Feb. 13: Bud Shootout and ARCA 200.

March 12 Atlanta Motor Speedway

March 26 Bristol Motor Speedway

Darlington Raceway

Texas Motor Speedway

Martinsville Speedway

Lowe's Motor Speedway

Michigan Speedway

Sears Point Raceway

Pocono Raceway

Pocono Raceway

Michigan Speedway

Darlington Raceway

Bristol Motor Speedway

California Speedway

Talladega Superspeedway

Richmond International Raceway

Daytona International Speedway

Indianapolis Motor Speedway

Richmond International Raceway

New Hampshire International Speedway

Watkins Glen International

Sept. 24 Dover Downs International Speedway

Lowe's Motor Speedway (The Winston)

Dover Downs International Speedway

New Hampshire International Speedway

Feb. 13

Feb. 20

Feb. 27

March 5

April 2 April 9

April 16

April 30 May 6

May 20

May 28

June 4

June 11

June 18

June 25

July 1

July 9

July 23

Aug. 13

Aug. 20

Aug. 26

Sept. 3

Sept 9

Sept. 17

Aug. 5

March 19

Feb. 14: Practice/qualifying for Winston Cup Series; practice for Busch Series, Craftsman Truck Series and IROC XXIV.

Feb. 15: Practice/qualifying for Winston Cup Series, Busch Series, Craftsman Truck Series and practice for IROC XXIV.

Feb. 16: Practice/qualifying for Busch Series and Craftsman Truck Series; practice for Winston Cup Series and IROC XXIV.

Feb. 17: Gatorade 125-mile Qualifying Races for Daytona 500.

Feb. 18: Craftsman Truck Series race and IROC/True Value XXIV race.

Feb. 19: NAPA 300 Busch Series race.

Feb. 20: Daytona 500 Winston Cup Series race.

THE WINSTON CUP CIRCUIT

BUSCH GRAND NATIONAL

Opportunities for upward mobility abound in NASCAR's version of the Triple-A minor leagues.

Three of last year's standouts
— 1998-99 champion Dale Earnhardt Jr., Matt Kenseth and Dave
Blaney — are competing in the
Winston Cup Series.

Some of the favorites in the championship race figure to be

Jeff Green, who was second last year, two-time champion Randy LaJoie, Elton Sawyer, Jason Keller and Jeff Purvis.

Others with championship aspirations include Tim Fedewa, Mike McLaughlin, Phil Parsons, Buckshot Jones, Mike Dillon and Dick Trickle.

The season begins, as always, at Daytona on Feb. 19 with the running of the NAPA Auto Parts

300. The wide-ranging series will also make stops near such far-flung metropolitan areas as Las Vegas, Dallas-Fort Worth, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, Denver, St. Louis, Indianapolis, Memphis, Phoenix, Nashville and Miami. Only minor adjustments to the schedule have been made this

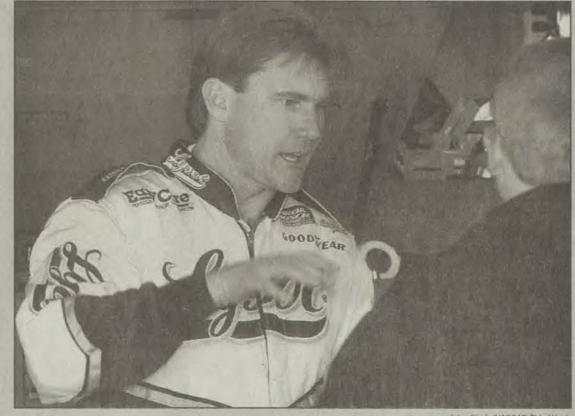
At many of NASCAR's traditional locales, BGN races will again

be held in conjunction with Winston Cup races. As a result, many Cup drivers are likely to compete. This situation is best exemplified by the career of Mark Martin, the all-time leader in BGN victories, who has never won the series championship.

Martin, by the way, has announced that this will be his last season of Busch Grand National competition.

PROFILE

Elton Sawyer



John Clark/NASCAR This Week

Elton Sawyer placed fifth in the 1999 point standings for Busch Grand National.

By Monte Dutton

NASCAR This Week
Elton Sawyer has finished fifth in the

Busch Grand National standings in each of the past two seasons.

Sawyer is tied with Dale Jarrett for sec-

ond on the all-time BGN list for starts. His 14 top-10 finishes last year was a personal best.

He has run at least one race in every BGN season except the first, in 1982. His first victory occurred at Myrtle Beach, S.C., in 1994, and he followed that up with a win at New Hampshire in May of last year.

Sawyer is married to Patty Moise, who has made 133 starts as a BGN driver.

AGE: 40

HOMETOWN: Chesapeake, Va.; now lives in Greensboro, N.C.

WIFE: Patty

CAR: No. 98 Lysol Ford Taurus, owned by Brad Akins

BGN MILESTONES: 324 starts, 2 wins,

40 top-five finishes, 88 top-10 finishes, earnings of \$2,400,411

RECORD: BGN - 3,891 points, 32 starts, 1 win, 4 top-five finishes, 14 top-10 finishes, earnings of \$599,105

HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE COMING OFF YOUR BEST SEASON? "I'm extremely proud of the way this team worked all season. They never gave up, and they worked hard all year. We had a lot of successes, and I am thrilled we could give (sponsor) Lysol their first top-10 finish in the standings. They are a great sponsor, and I look forward to even better things with them next year."

IS A CHAMPIONSHIP IN THE CARDS FOR 2000? "We certainly know we're capable of being a top-five team. We now want to contend for a championship. This team is already working to put programs in place to make us more competitive this year. We will not be content with fifth. We need to take our program to the next level."

Your Turn

Letters From Our Readers

Dear NASCAR This Week,

Could you please tell me the name and address and phone number of weekly racing magazines (other than Winston Cup Scene)?

Joseph S. Rocker Latrobe, Pa.

There are many weekly racing publications. A few are:

Area Auto Racing News, P.O. Box 8547, Trenton, NJ 08650; (609) 888-3618.

FasTrack, P.O. Box 2223, Gastonia, NC 28054; (704) 854-9077.

Inside Motorsports, 460 W. Main St., Wytheville, VA 24382; (540) 228-5037. National Speed Sport News,

P.O. Box 1210, Harrisburg, NC 28075; (704) 455-2531.

Racing News, 4343 Ritchie Road, Lincolnton, NC 28092;

(704) 732-2685. Speedway Scene, P.O. Box

300, North Easton, MA 02356; (508) 238-7016.

×

Dear NASCAR This Week,

I am 17 and in the auto-body field. Currently I am training at Ashland County West Holmes Career Center. My desire is to make a living doing auto-body work. Does any NASCAR team hire someone to train as an auto-body technician for them? Also, is finding a good, dependable auto-body technician difficult for a NASCAR team?

Levi Foss Perrysville, Ohio

First you should be aware of the fact that NASCAR bodies are placed on the chassis in a manner quite different from passenger cars. There is always a market for high-quality personnel, but the competition in the Charlotte area, where most of the teams are situated, is intense.

Fan Tips

Favorite recipes of Derrike

Cope, Sterling Marlin and Mark Martin are among those featured in the Jimmy Dean "Winning Recipes for Tailgating" cookbook. The 193-page book is available for \$13.50 from: Jimmy Dean Winning Cookbook Offer, 8000 Centerview Parkway, Suite 400, Cordova, TN 38018. Proceeds will benefit the United Cerebral Palsy Association and the Winston Cup Racing Wives Auxiliary.

Who's Hot... Who's Not

- HOT: Ricky Rudd can't wait for the new season.
- NOT: Still no announced plans for Ted Musgrave.

Trackside Trivia

How many tracks in Texas have hosted NASCAR Winston Cup events?

 Who achieved the largest margin of victory in NASCAR history?

ANSWERS

1. Three (Texas World Speedway in Bryan, Joseph Meyer Speedway in Houston and Texas Motor Speedway near Fort Worth); 2. Ned Jarrett, who won the 1965 Southern 500 by 14 laps.

HEIMEDE

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The official Winston
Cup Series media guide
lists Shorty Rollins as
being NASCAR's first
rookie of the year, in
1958. But according to
racing historian Bob
Latford, who publishes
The Inside Line newsletter, the first rookie of
the year was actually Ken
Rush, who won the award
in 1957.

Foyt reflects on changes in the sport out there. People want to get in time," he said, "But Indy is my want to do now is give young dr

AROUND THE GARAGE

By Monte Dutton NASCAR This Week

A.J. Foyt, who will own both NASCAR Winston Cup and Indy Racing League teams this year, has mixed feelings about how racing has changed during his career.

"The safety factors that have come into racing, I love," said the four-time Indianapolis 500 winner. "I look back on what I came through, stock cars, etc., and the advantages, we've come so far on safety standards and with tires and stuff like that.

"The only thing I don't care for is that it's gotten so much cutthroat out there. People want to get in racing and they don't know nothing about it, and all they've got is a line of (bull). You lose a lot of good sponsors. You've got a bunch of great big sponsors today, but yet there's so many people who've been burned. You didn't have all the freeloaders in the old days. I guess you'd say."

Foyt, who won the Daytona 500 in 1972, said he does not worry about the ever-increasing level of competition in NASCAR.

"We're going 100 percent to compete in all the NASCAR races, and it's going to take a lot of my first love, and I'm not going to take time away from that. I've surrounded myself with pretty good people so that should make it a lot easier. Even when I was driving Indy cars myself and running the occasional NASCAR race, I was able to make the field, so I think it's not going to be a problem.

"We're not scared of nobody.

They can't do anything I can't do.

... I guess that's what made me what I am today. Anything I do, I want to be competitive. You can't rest on your laurels. What you've done in the past is over. What I

want to do now is give young drivers the same opportunity that I had. Giving them the chance to win is the big thrill. A.J.'s time is past."

Mike Bliss of Milwaukie, Ore., a former sprint-car and Craftsman Truck Series driver, will pilot Foyt's No. 14 Pontiac.

FAMILY TRAGEDY: Threetime ARCA champion Tim Steele and his wife, Dawn, lost their infant son, Joshua Allen, who died on Dec. 27 just 14 days after his birth. Services were held Thursday in Grand Rapids, Mich.

LAS VEGAS

Las Vegas Motor
Speedway is actually
tearing down part of its
facility in an effort to
improve fan visibility. In
mid-December, construction crews began demolition of the second floor of
the pit-road building at the
track. It is the first phase
of a two-part plan.

"We're removing the second floor of the building to improve the line of sight from the front grandstands to the back stretch," said LVMS general manager Chris Powell. "This will give race fans a better view of the entire track at all superspeedway events."

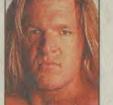
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TOP 10

- 1. Triple H, WWF
- 2. Bret Hart, WCW
- 3. The Rock, WWF
- 4. Masato Tanaka, ECW 5. The Big Show, WWF
- 6. Chris Benoit, WCW
- 7. Jeff Jarrett, WCW
- 8. Mike Awesome, ECW
- 9. Chris Jericho, WWF
- 10. Justin Credible, ECW

Look for: Berlyn to feud with some bigger names in WCW.



TRIPLE H



BERLYN

PAY-PER-VIEW

- ECW, Guilty As Charged, Birmingham, Ala., Jan. 9
- WCW, Souled Out, Cincinnati, Jan. 16
- WWF, Royal Rumble, New York City, Jan. 23

MAILBAG

Tell us what you think about professional wrestling, its stars, trends and story lines.

Give us your feedback on wrestlers or issues you'd like to see on this page.

Also, if you have a question or comment about a subject, write to us at The Squared Circle, c/o Sports, News Journal, 70 W. Fourth St., Mansfield, Ohio 44903. You can fax it to us at 419-521-7415 or e-mail to aconchel@cosmg.com. Please include your hometown.

Dear Squared Circle, Were Randy Savage and Miss Elizabeth ever really married? Who was the Dynamite Kid, and is he still wrestling?

I enjoy your articles

-Ray Maxwell Chattanooga, Tenn.

A. Yes, they were married for several years. The Dynamite Kid (Tom Wellington) is out of wrestling and reportedly is in very poor health from injuries he suffered while performing.

Dear Squared Circle, I remember awhile back there was a group known as the Nation of Domination and a guy who fought them named Ahmed Johnson. What has happened to him and also to Yokozuna?

> —David Weiss Hagerstown, Md.

A. Johnson is trying to get back into the sport after having some legal problems. Yokozuna was wrestling in Japan, but hasn't been heard from in a while.

Dear Squared Circle, I watched "Raw" on Dec. 20 and I think that it is getting a little out of hand. The part that really got to me was when they had people dress up like Santa Claus. This isn't good for little kids to watch.

-Mike Peterson Waveland, Miss.

Dear Squared Circle, I have been a wrestling fan for 21 years. I am thoroughly disgusted with all the crap and words I hear now. There used to be wrestling in the ring.

Where is the wonderful Sting I used to love, painted in all the bright colors long ago? He now has a back seat to match his black costume. Not worth watching.

-Patricia Hopkins Gulfport, Miss.

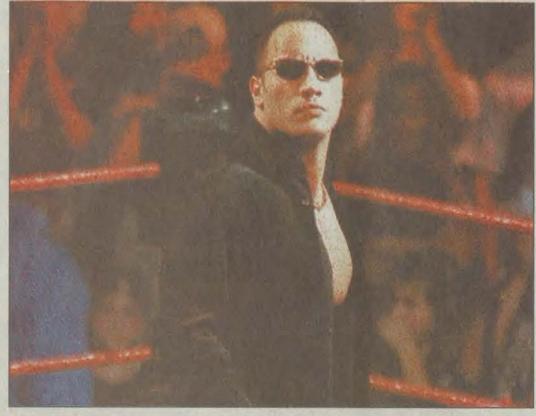


Kane vs. Test. WWF

CATCH PHRASES

"We are the duh, duh, duh, Dudley Boyz." - Buh-Buh Ray Dudley

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



■ The Rock entertains the crowd in Cleveland last year. (Jason J. Molyet/Squared Circle)

THE ROCK RISES IN POPULARITY

By Anthony Conchel Squared Circle Editor

n just three years. Dwavne Johnson has gone from virtual anonymity to superstar status. The phenomenon known as The Rock has just released his autobiography, "The Rock Says - The Most Electrifying Man as much as for what he does in the ring -In Sports Entertainment.

And just what does The Rock say that captivates the millions (pause) and millions of The Rock's fans?

Well, he layeth the smacketh down for starters. And he's got the People's Eyebrow (raised in a sign of both acknowledgment to the fans and scorn for his opponents).

He also possesses the most electrifying move in sports entertainment.

That, of course, is the People's Elbow, which follows up The Rock Bottom.

We're anticipating a huge success with The Rock's book. It's a laugh-out-loud, funny story with twists and turns, It will make you laugh. It will make you cry. The people who have read it have already said it is a phenomenal book," said the not-so-humble Great One.

Half of The Rock's book is written by Dwayne Johnson, aka The Rock. The other half is written in the third person by The Rock, using many famous Rockisms. The book depicts Johnson's life growing up in the wrestling business and the path leading to the University of Miami football team.

"I'm very happy with it, very pleased," The Rock said. "I'm sure the millions and the millions of The Rock's fans will be pleased as well. The ascension of The Rock has been nothing short of incredible."

How can the son of Rocky Johnson and the grandson of High Chief Peter Maivia walk into the sport and become an almost overnight success?

It's called style.

The Rock exudes it with his \$500 shirts from Lucky's, his Rolex watch, and his designer eyewear. He is the modern-day Ric Flair in that he styles and profiles better than any other wrestler.

And he talks the talk.

Young fans love The Rock for what he says kind of the way followers of The Four Horsemen took to Flair's braggadocio 20 years ago. They love a guy who can lay the smack down - and then get in the ring and back it

Perhaps as much as any of today's stars, The Rock is the product of slick marketing by the WWF. He has the physical attributes (6-4, 275 pounds), a face void of scars and the natural charismatic personality.

All the WWF has done is take those assets, shine them up real nice and put The Rock in the spotlight. He's a natural behind the microphone and in the ring, having grown up as a third-generation wrestler.

He is a good athlete, having played Division I football, but he's not a great technical wrestler like a Bret Hart or a high-flier like X-Pac. He doesn't possess the raw strength of a Goldberg or the awesome size of The Big Show. But he has that innate ability to get under an opponent's skin (much like Flair) and to get over with the crowd. That's why in just three short years The Rock has become a household name and is earning seven figures.

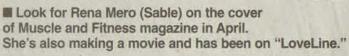
His rise to prominence has been nothing short of sensational. He has appeared on national talk shows, been featured as one of People magazine's 12 sexiest men, and managed to headline a few wrestling cards in between personal engagements.

He continues to get the loudest pops in arenas from coast to coast. The fans smell what The Rock has been cooking, and the aroma obviously is pleasing.

AFTER THE BELL

News and gossip from the wrestling world:

- The WWF has signed a pair of high-fliers to developmental deals. Ben Patel and Joe Peon are talented athletes who like to take to the air, a la the Hardy Boys. Look for them to debut soon.
- Vic Grimes is back in ECW and is even helping out with setting up and tearing down of the rings. His attitude and work ethic have impressed the brass at ECW.
- Some sources, including WCW insider Mark Madden, say that Hulk Hogan and Roddy Piper will return soon as a team. No word on when or in what capacity, but some speculate the two veterans will take on the new nWo.
- Logan Caine, younger brother of Al Snow, is working indy promotions in Ohio and Indiana. He received a recent tryout with ECW.
- Mikey Whipwreck broke his thumb in a match against Rob Van Dam. He should be back soon.
- Disco Inferno's new persona is Italian Ice, the Brooklyn Rapper.



- The first WWF Raw Magazine of the new millennium will feature Edge/Christian and the Hardy Boys on the cover. It will review what many are calling the match of the year the ladder match at WWF No Mercy between these two talented teams.
- Ernest The Cat Miller will not undergo surgery on his injured ankle. He hopes to be back in action in February.
- The WCW "Mayhem" CD sold 31,554 units for No. 123 on the charts. The "WWF the Music Vol. 4" sold 101,842, good for the No. 46 slot on the charts.
- The WWF reportedly is very happy with Kurt Angle and will keep pushing him, even giving him a crack at the Intercontinental title.
- Look for Too Cool (Scott Taylor and Brian Christopher) to feud with the Acolytes for the WWF tag team straps later this year.
- Expect David Flair and Daffney Unger to get a major storyline on WCW television. This pair bring a lot of humor to the programming.
- The recent WWF "Smackdown!" taping in Dallas drew 13,141 paid fans for a gate of \$370,486.
- The "Raw Is War" in Greensboro drew 13,806 paid for \$347,641.

COMING TO YOUR TOWN

A look at upcoming wrestling shows across the country:

WWF... Jan. 10, "Raw Is War," St. Louis Jan. 11, "Smackdown," Chicago Jan. 12, Grand Rapids, Mich.

WCW... Jan. 10, "Nitro," Buffalo Jan. 11, "Thunder" taping, Erie, Pa.



ECW... Jan. 9, Guilty as Charged, Birmingham, Ala. Jan. 14, Danbury, Conn. Jan. 15, Philadelphia

REAL NAMES

Axl Rotten Brian Knighton

6-2, 305

Hometown: Philadelphia, Pa.

Birthday: April 21, 1971

Pro debut: 1987

MATMEMORIES

A look back at memorable moments in pro wrestling history:

- Sept. 4, 1995: WCW debuts "Monday Nitro," live from the Mall of America in Bloomington, Minn. Top WWF star Lex Luger makes a surprise appearance.
- May 9, 1975: Bruno Sammartino and Giant Baba battle to a no-decision in Tokyo.

WHO'S HOT/WHO'S NOT



Lex Luger: This veteran wrestler Mankind: A tough-as-nails has a chiseled physique. But he's got to feud with someone other than Sting in 2000 in order to stay on top of WCW.



wrestler for 15 years, injuries have finally forced Mick Foley to retire from regular action. He'll have some role in the WWF.

WRESTLING ON THE WEE

- www.wrestlezone.com
- www.wrestleScoop.com
- www.WWF.com
- www.WCW.com
- www.ECWwrestling.com
- www.bad-boyz.com ■ www.24-7wrestling.com

If you know of a new or hot wrestling Web site, share it with Squared Circle readers. Send it to aconchel@cosmg.com

Section

Serving Floyd County since 1927

Kentucky Born and Southern Smart

Place, family prominent in songwriter's work

Story and photo by Pam Shingler

Judith Greer Edwards has been writing since she was 13, living in her grandparents' "three-room shack" on Arkansas Creek at Martin.

Her first poem, which she proudly had printed and laminated, was published by the Library of Poetry in the volume, "Lyrical Heritage.

Titled "Star Soul Searching," the poem begins "Here I lay on my bed / Staring out my window / My eyes are tired and turning red / From searching through the stars for my soul.'

Edwards' poems became song lyrics, dozens of them - country, bluegrass and gospel - scribbled sometimes on paper scraps, all hours of the day, whenever inspiration hits.

"I write on anything I can find, as long as it's a piece of paper and I can read it later," says the auburn-haired woman, with a scattering of freckles across her

Singer Sherry Robinson, who has recorded one of Edwards' songs before, has just released a CD of Edwards' material, aptly called "Sherry Robinson Sings the Songs of Judith Greer Edwards."

The album, Edwards says, contains songs "about people who've been in my life and touched me in some way." The first song, "My Mother," is dedicated to Ivalea Greer, Edwards' mother who lives now in Uniontown, Pennsylvania, with Edwards' brother and songwriting partner, Michael Greer.

Another song, "Run Fox Run," is dedicated to her uncles, Columbus Carroll and Fred Conn. "Frogville' is dedicated to her cousins, Walk, Will and Harm Carroll, and another, "Dear Uncle Curt," is about her Uncle Curtis Carroll.

The Spurlock Church of Christ and Edwards' grandmother, Drusilla Greer, are the focus of her song, "Pretty Please.

Most of what she writes, she says, is about people she's known or family and friends - sprinkled with the traditional "love-gone-bad" songs, although the latter theme is followed less frequently these days.

"The Closing of the Door," by Edwards and her brother, is included on a CD by Trish Arthur, a former backup singer for Reba McEntire.

Another song, "Kara Sonya," is sung by Tom Grant on a CD called "Alternative Country." Edwards also has a song, "Fade Away," on a recording of Charlotte Bradford and a tune called "Vision of Heaven" on a gospel album by Sherry Robinson.

Edwards grew up with her grandparents, Colbert and Drusilla Greer, on a farm on Arkansas Creek. "There was always

jolly singing around the house," she says. "We would sit around on the porch and sing.

Edwards and her husband, Paul Alan, and their sons, Christopher and Jason, lived in Vista, California, for 10 years, until the factory where the couple worked shut down and moved operations to Mexico. They came back to this region seven years ago and now live at Staffordsville in Johnson County.

The songwriter says when they first came back from the West, she went to see the old homeplace where she and her grandparents lived. The emotion of the homecoming led to a song she called "Kentucky Born and Southern Smart."

She recites a couple of stanzas: "Come sit down by my side, child, / I've something to tell you. / One of these days we'll be gone / And you'll be on your own. / Be proud of what you've got / whether it be a little or a lot. / When you're living in a three-room shack / And you've only got one dress to wear on your back / Don't worry, don't fret / It'll pass if you don't worry.

Edwards is working on lyrics for another CD, this one all gospel.

She's promoting the Sherry Robinson CD of Edwards' songs on her own. She has given copies to radio stations in Martin, Paintsville, Pikeville, Hazard, Huntington, southwest Virginia, and Atlanta, Georgia, as well as Uniontown,

Sherry Robinson Sings the Songs of Judith Green Echwards 1-May Microsoce (3-M) bedeated to my technic brokes form n June Dun (2-12) dember Carolit & Book Com S. Mero Sheet Beetle Mount So 4. Furgally (244) Delivored to my Course Work, will a house Course

Grandens Break Green was the market to be to be specified Church of Chica to the Europies Street (1:57) They litted's May Blacks Chain (24) Excitation so the State Commission Control. A. Sharelling Streets (200) they was Chrospins Show Cherolic & June See Che From Monda Front (2-416)

Ebony and Ivory Beauty Shop, both in Martin. She's working on placing

it in other outlets, as well. The CD can be requested by e-mail: ejudy@hotmail.com, or by writing her at 519 Rocky Knob Branch Rd., Staffordsville, KY 41256.

Judith Greer Edwards shows off some of the tapes and CDs that contain songs she has written, some alone and some with her brother Michael Greer.



The cover of singer Sherry Robinson's latest CD tells the story: "Sherry Robinson Sings the Songs of Judith Green Edwards.

This Town That World

Editor's Note: For years, Floyd County Times founder and former publisher Norman Allen wrote a weekly column that looked at Floyd County through his eyes. His columns are being reprinted due to request. The following column was written in 1960.

As if Christmas bills and income tax worries weren't enough, along comes the

REMEMBER!

If you remember when the flu was "the grippe," when tonsillitis was a "sore throat," appendicitis was "side pleurisy" and meningitis was "brain fever," you're getting old, friend. And if you heard the sore throat called "a sore neck," you must have been a neighbor of mine.

WARNING

Have just finished reading a dissertation based on a psychologist's opinion about the mood one should be in to go shopping. This dealer in things mental declares you shouldn't go out on a buying expedition if you're either feeling great or down in the dumps. Warns us that, if depressed, we might go out and buy something altogether unnecessary to bolster up the sagging morale; then says that, if in the mood like trilling from a mountaintop about having the world by the tail with a downhill drag, you might splurge needlessly out of sheer exhilara-

I can't joust with the psychologist too vigorously. I know of fellows going out singing the blues, investing foolishly in something to chase said blues away and returning home, high as the proverbial kite and loaded with all kinds of items so ridiculous that, had their wives made such purchases, they would have been hinting darkly of divorce.

I do think, though, the psychologist should have been more specific about it and told us unknowing ones what you call that mood when it's safe to fare forth to the shoppes.

IT'S ALL VERY SIMPLE

My reading also includes the following from SPORTS AFIELD which provides little to boost the ego:

"Dogs are easily taught, particularly in the simple things that go to make up good dog behavior. Through the use of your head, a fair amount of patience and a little ingenuity you can mold your dog into a valuable piece of property and a pleasant companion. But remember that your dog is an intelligent animal, so try to outthink him.'

Again I am in no position to argue. I have a little ingenuity and a fair amount of patience-so far, so good. But that line about trying to out-think him-that's what discourages me. The mutt always winds up training me. And you don't have to say where that puts me in the out-thinking department.

If a dog would only forget to wag his tail, I could kick him from here to next Thursday. But he never seems to forget.

PostScript

by Pam Shingler



Getting rid of the fear

If you or someone you know stockpiled food for the threatened Y2K disaster, here's a thought: Why not donate those goods to the food bank in your area or to God's Pantry?

Gwen Hall at 874-9170 can give you the contact person and telephone number for every authorized food bank in the county. Or call Debbie Amburgey at God's Pantry, 886-8598.

In January and February, there's traditionally less work and greater need. Canned and dry food comes in handy for those who have few resources and who have difficulty getting out to

Perhaps something good can come out of the fear caused by the millennial change.

Almost half of Kentucky's teen-agers smoke, I heard the other day. That's an appalling statistic.

Since the incidence of smoking overall is enormously higher on this end of the state, chances are that an even greater percentage of teens in eastern Kentucky smoke.

What are we going to do?

Boyd County High School, according to a story on WSAZ-TV, has a program worth looking into. Students caught smoking on campus go through a kind of intervention program that increases in length and intensity with each

It is primarily an education and awareness program, designed to show students the dangers of smoking and to help them quit using tobac-

Anything that will turn young people away from this expensive and deadly habit is worth considering.

A friend with a young daughter is agonizing over what she can do to raise her daughter to be independent, confident and able to reach her potential.

I already know I'm going to catch it from a lot of people for being negative, but I'll say it anyway and reap the consequences. My advice to my friend is to take her away from the moun-

In China, where, to control population growth, couples are strongly encouraged to have only one child, boy babies are at a premium. It is thought that some couples abort female children or kill them when they're born.

We do the same thing - not literally, but surely figuratively. Our culture continues to waste half of its citizens and to keep them

Some of the sexism is obvious: Men hired and promoted over women; men being paid significantly more than women for similar jobs; men physically and/or emotionally abusing women in relationships. But just as harmful are the subtleties - the

behaviors that make you feel degraded and second-class, the words, the gestures, the actions that go unnoticed by many others.

In some ways, these are more damaging because it's hard for a woman to articulate how they make her feel without being accused of being a nag, a whiner or a bitch. If she finally, out of frustration, blows up, it's considered hor-

See Postscript, page two

Opry looking for Valentines

One of everyone's favorite shows at the Mountain Arts Center each year is the Kentucky Opry's Valentine Show. This year's special show is being planned for Friday, February 11, at 7:30 p.m.

During the show, five couples and their special love stories will be featured, and those five couples will be the Opry's guests for the evening.

Anyone interested should send in a brief description of their relationship, how they met, how they were married or even how they celebrated a significant wedding anniversary, and why they are still in love with the same person today.

All the letters must be received no later than Friday, January 28, to be eligible to win. Five couples from the region will be chosen as winners. Love songs and special recognition will be given to the winning couples of the evening from the members of the Kentucky

The audience will be treated to the latest romantic escapades of Munroe and his "wife for life," Fairybelle. He will probably be offering advice on love to anyone who'll listen.

To enter the contest, send letters to Ann Lafferty, Mountain Arts Center, 50 Hal Rogers Dr., Prestonsburg, KY 41653

To purchase tickets for the show, call toll-free, 1-888-MAC-

ARTS, or locally 886-2623. Tickets are \$12, adults; \$10, children/seniors; \$30 for a family of five.

THINGS TO PONDER

January+The school term is half over

Mable Rowe Lineberger, Ph.D.

Well, the excitement of the Christmas break from school is over. Most folks are probably glad to be back to the routine of life, especially families. Weren't the kids cute and they had such a good time being in special holiday events and activities before the long sought-after vacation in midwinter?

Everyone was ready for change from the same old grind, but now, everyone needs to get ready for the long haul until spring. While a lot of families are excited about finishing the downside half of the school year, other families do not look forward to more frustrations and a sense of dread for students who have been having a difficult time all fall.

Will the next few months be more of the same? What might be done to make productive changes for the family's special little one who is seeing school as a time of frustration?

Although it is very difficult to do, this is probably a good time for some parents to really assess what their children's needs might be at school. It is time to listen to what the teacher's comments are about little Jerry's progress over the fall

Of course, it is so important to focus on how the students are actually doing with reading, writing, and arithmetic. Does your child seem to need more time than you think should be necessary for doing homework?

If parents think they are caught up in the endless struggle of homework and that it is ruling their lives, there are some basic things they might do. For example, ask the teacher what might be the expected length of time that would be typically necessary for your student, in that particular grade, to get the work done in a reasonable

fashion

Also, parents need to examine their methods for coping with homework. Has homework become the nightly power struggle with screaming matches? Have definite expectations been established, such as doing the work at a certain place and time? Many times, parents seem to get all involved with this "after-school nightmare."

A general suggestion is that parents be in charge of the extension of school; i.e., know what is realistic of your child in regard to homework; find out if work is not being done at school, but ends up being done after dark at home, and if so why.

Also observe whether or not, you as the parent are doing the homework or the child is, with appropriate guidance.

Another important aspect to notice about your child's schooling experience is how Jerry is getting along with classmates. Is he getting into trouble often and being sent to the principal's office? Is he missing recess more days than he is actually breathing fresh air, while at school?

So often, kids are unable to adjust to the confines and restrictions of the classroom environment-having to stay seated, getting work done within a certain time limit and going by an outsider's rules.

In contrast, attention needs to be focused on the child who is "so quiet and no problem at all." So often these quiet children have difficulty socializing with peers, have high anxiety levels, etc.

It is also important to notice any patterns of behavior related to the child interacting with adult authority figures in a school setting. Can your child consistently follow the rules or is he often in trouble?

Of course, it goes without saying, that the importance of reading, writing and arithmetic in the children's classrooms cannot be overstated. By this time of the year the average student has usually set a pattern of academic functioning.

If parents feel that their child is having more than the typical problems learning, there is concern about needing to stop the situation and do somemthing that will benefit the child's future academic careeer.

As pointed out in previous discussions, it is not unusual for children with various emotional problems to suddenly have a drop in grades. These children may be having difficulties adjusting to divorce, loss of a family member through death and/or another significant change in life.

Parents need to be alert to changes in their child's ability to cope with the structure and expectations of the academic setting. If your child is having consistent difficulties with school and grades, the possibility of a learning disability needs to be considered.

Needless to say, all "usual" efforts need to be explored and necessary remedial techniques should be utilized before approaching the school staff about the benefit of your child being tested in regard to potential intellectual functioning and possible learning disabilities.

Children's difficulties in school need to be recognized as soon as possible. Similar to other handicaps of life, learning disabilities and/or behavioral problems need to be identified as soon as possible; the sooner a deficit can be addressed, the greater the likelihood of productive changes.

It goes without saying that a child's time in school is when parents, school staff and the community need to strive to meet the child's specific needs. It is never too early or too late to do what is best to benefit a child's future.

SOCIETY NEWS



Members of the Floyd County Homemakers decorated the tree and lobby at May Lodge, Jenny Wiley State Resort Park, for the holidays. Pausing to pose (not in order) were Theresa Scott, Floyd County Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences, Juanita Akers, Virginia May Case, Marena Nelson, Mildred Branham, Sheila Amburgey, club president Joyce Allen, Freda Hicks, Mae Moore and Pam Hale.

Pikeville group sponsors pageant

The GFWC/KFWC Pikeville Junior Woman's Club is looking for contestants for the Miss East Kentucky Scholarship Pageant and the Miss East Kentucky Teen Pageant.

The Miss East Kentucky Scholarship Pageant is not a beauty pageant, but a scholarship program. Miss East Kentucky is a franchise of The Miss Kentucky Scholarship Pageant which in turn, is a franchise of the Miss America Organization. The Miss America Organization is the largest scholarship benefactor for young women in the world.

The focus of this scholarship program is intelligence, community service, and talent. Each contestant at both the Miss and Teen pageants are required to have a community service platform, to which they will devote themselves during their reign.

Each young lady participates in personal interview with the five-judge panel (certified by the Miss Kentucky Organization), a talent presentation, an evening wear presentation, and a swimwear presentation for the Miss Kentucky contestants and a sportswear presenta-

tion for the Teen contestants.

This scholarship program gives young women the opportunity to gain confidence, poise, interview experience, professional contacts and friends who will last a lifetime.

The Miss East Kentucky Pageants are for Pike, Floyd, Knott, Martin, Johnson, Magoffin, and Letcher counties. The Pikeville Junior Woman's Club members think that Miss East Kentucky should be from eastern Kentucky.

Eligibility requirements for Miss East Kentucky contestants are:

Age: 17-year-old high school seniors through 24-years old Residence: A resident of Pike.

Pageant is planned for February 6, at Hazard.

For more information, call 606/624-3036.

Floyd, Knott, Martin, Johnson, Magoffin, or Letcher counties. Residents attending school elsewhere are still eligible, as are residents of another county attending school as a full-time student in one of these counties.

Eligibility requirements for Miss East Kentucky Teen contestants are:

Age: Young women who will be entering their freshman, sophomore, junior or senior year of high school in the fall of 2000.

Residence: A resident of Pike, Floyd, Knott, Martin, Johnson, Magoffin, or Letcher counties.

For more information, contact Cathy Derry after 6 p.m., at 606/437-4454 or at catderry@eastky.net.

Be smart-look after your heart

(NAPSA)-At the age of 45, Sheryl Ann Dorney thought she was in control of her life until she experienced a heart attack in the early hours of August 3, 1996.

Working as a successful trial judge at York County Court in Pennsylvania, Judge Dorney admits that at the time she had a lot of unhealthy habits and a stressful job.

During a two-week hospitalization after the heart attack, Judge Dorney realized she had to take better care of herself.

"Many questions came to mind: Will I have another heart attack? How long will I live? Will I be able to do my normal routine again? Will I be able to continue on the bench? What do I do to reduce the risk factors? The answer was simple. My lifestyle and priorities needed to change," says Judge Dorney.

Answers to questions like these are available at a new online Cardiac Center at www.mediconsult.com/heart. The Center is the creation of Mediconsult, a leading provider of healthcare information on the Internet.

The Center provides all the free resources visitors will need for a healthy heart, including credible medical information, interactive health tools and support groups for cardiovascular disease.

Heart disease affects everyone. It was responsible for 726,974 deaths in America in 1998, making



it the biggest killer among men and women. It is also the fifth leading cause of death for people age 1-24, third for age 25-44, second for age 45-64 and first for those over 65.

Three years later, Judge Dorney still exercises every day, keeps her weight down, eats healthily and has reduced her insulin intake as she is diabetic. She has also learned to control her cholesterol level and blood pressure.

What advice would Judge Dorney pass on? "Get out there and exercise, get active, eat healthier and eat lots of fruits and vegetables, and learn to put stress to one side." And is she still scared? "For about a year and a half I lived in fear of another heart attack. But I'm not afraid anymore. I know I have prepared myself emotionally and have done all I can do to prepare myself physically."

The online Cardiac Center empowers people to make a real difference to their wellness. Resources include a heart risk self-assessment, support groups, a diet plan called "Eating Smart for a Healthy Heart," and medimessenger a prescription and appointment reminder service through email.

Visit the Mediconsult Cardiac Center for free at www. mediconsult.com/heart.

Seek physician's advice about skin spot

bond, among other prizes.

Question: I recently noticed a mole on my hand that I don't remember having a few years ago. Could a new mole like this be cancerous? When should a skin spot prompt a trip to the doctor?

Answer: Non-cancerous skin growths are far more common than skin cancers. That means, from a statistical point of view, it is most likely that you have a non-cancerous growth. However, since skin cancers can be deadly, I strongly recommend that any mole or other skin spot that worries you be evaluated by a physician.

A visual inspection and a careful patient history are often sufficient for a well-trained physician to make a diagnosis. It is frequently necessary, however, to remove at least a portion of the lesion to obtain a specimen that can be studied under the microscope. From this study, your doctor can determine precisely the type of growth and if further treatment is warranted.

One important clue in telling when a spot — what we doctors call a lesion — might need further study is its history, that is, how it developed and how it has changed over the last few months. Most non-cancerous growths have a smooth border where they join normal appearing skin and are symmetrical in shape. Their coloration is uniform across the lesion, and the growth is so slow that it is hard to say that they are growing — they just weren't there a year or two ago.

The most common form of skin cancer, and also the most prevalent cancer in humans, is basal cell carcinoma. These raised, "waxy-appearing" skin growths usually develop on the head, neck, hands and trunk—the areas that get exposed to the sun. They develop a rolled border



Family Medicine

John C. Wolf, D.O. Associate Professor of Family Medicine

Pageant set for Hazard

The second annual 2000 Mr. & Miss Kentucky Sweetheart

The pageant is sponsored by Dianne's Formalwear and Pageant

The pageant is to have three overall grand winners, with savings

Productions. It is to have 12 different age groups - 0 to 21 years.



College of Osteopath Medicine

with an open, unhealing sore in the center. Over a course of years, if left untreated, the cancer slowly gets larger.

The Skin Cancer Foundation predicts more than 500,000 cases of basal cell cancer nationally this year.

The next most common skin cancer — squamous cell — will affect 100,000 people this year, predominantly those over 60. These growths are reddish or pink and appear as raised, irregularly shaped, scaly or ulcerated nodules.

Often found on areas like the lips, face, mouth, hands and ears, they may appear as a new growth or inside of an existing pre-cancerous skin lesion.

Old scars or areas of chronic skin infection are also common sites. Left untreated, squamous cell cancer can spread to other parts of the body — a process called metastasis — and can cause new cancerous growth in other organs or tissues.

These two types of skin cancer are very curable and recovery is almost certain, if treatment is begun when the growth is small. However, failure to treat these common skin cancers can lead to serious problems. In fact, about 2,000 people will die of untreated basal or squamous cell cancers this year.

The deadliest of all skin can-

cers is melanoma. While it is still the rarest type, it has become increasingly common because of the popularity of the "suntanned" look. Exposure to the sun is a known risk factor.

A melanoma, in its early stages, is a multicolored growth with a cobblestone-like surface that may be confused with a common mole. It is usually multicolored including black, brown, blue, red, or even with areas of almost no pigment at all. The border between colors is usually indistinct.

As the melanoma enlarges, it becomes raised above the surface of the skin. At the same time, it penetrates more deeply into the skin, and this is quite serious. Melanoma that penetrates less than .75 mm (about 1/32 of an inch) is usually cured by simple removal.

Deeper growth often indicates that metastasis has occurred, and a cure is less likely. Yes, people regularly die from untreated melanoma! So if your skin lesion has any of the features of melanoma, please go see your family doctor or a dermatologist

immediately.

"Family Medicine" is a weekly column. To submit questions, write to John C. Wolf, D.O., Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine, Grosvenor Hall, Athens, Ohio 45701.

Postscript

monal.

monal.

The next time you're in a meeting of men and women, whether professional, church-related, academic or social, take the time to observe the interactions. Check to

 women being interrupted more frequently than men, when they're speaking, no matter how boring or inarticulate the male speakers are.

 males talking to other people in the meeting while women are speaking.

 males shuffling through papers or doodling, avoiding eye contact, while women are speaking.

 how ideas first uttered by a woman are accepted after being validated by a male.

 automatic smirks and grimaces on male faces when women say something disagreeable.

say something disagreeable.

• how often men speak in

patronizing tones to women, as if talking to an inferior being or a child.

Women get used to not being listened to, but the message is clear and loud: What you have to say is of no importance to me. As it happens over and over, you have to fight not to believe it yourself.

And think of your own predisposition. When you see a professional man and woman together, which one do you assume is the boss? And how many times have you heard a woman referred to as "just a secretary?"

I'm certainly not saying it's perfect anywhere for women. There is no place with sexual equality. But having lived in other parts of the country, in places with better educational systems, I know we in the hills have a long way to go.

Our men are hamstrung by religion and culture, which have

taught them that women are lesser beings, and we tend to act out what we believe.

(Continued from page one)

Sadder still, women here tend to play along, pretending to be content with their status and watching their dignity and sense of self-worth being chipped away daily

We even teach our sons and daughters to carry on in the same unequal tradition, knowing full well the damage that is being done. I'm also at a total loss as to how the father of daughters could uphold a system that does not allow his child to grow and develop and flourish.

My advice to my friend stands. Of course, she can try to change how women in our area are regarded, and I will try to do that, as well. But I think she'll have an easier go of it if she takes the girl away.



Serving Floyd County since 1927

Inside:



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Floyd County Elementary Basketball Tournament

J.E. Campbell Arena site of county tournament

by Ed Taylor Sports Editor

Realizing the magnitude of the Floyd County Grade School basketball tournament, Allen Central Middle School Athletic Director Brad Handshoe announced the tournament will be played at the J.E. Campbell Arena on the campus of Allen Central High School.

"We feel we can handle the tournament here at the middle school," said Handshoe, "but because of the parking situation we thought it better to take it to the high school gym."

Admission to the "Greatest Show On Earth" will be \$3 for adults and \$2 for students.

According to Handshoe, there will be a pass gate for players, cheerleaders and others who are affiliated with the tournament. The tournament committee was having difficulty in finding judges for cheerleading and the dance teams, but Handshoe and school principal Bonita Compton assured the coaches judges would be available although they may not be KAPOS judges.

First and second place trophies will be awarded to the winners and runners-up as well as to cheerleaders and dance teams. Also, an individual and a team free throw trophy will be awarded.

Members of the winners and runners-up teams will each receive an individual trophy.

Handshoe said security will be provided during the tournament.

There were some questions over officials and the fact of getting referees with the Girls All "A" and Coca-Cola Classic being played at the same time.

The tournament will open Monday night, January 10, with three games. While the complete pairings could not be announced because of some make up games at press time, the number one seeds were determined.

The tournament will open with a boys game at 5:30 p.m. on Monday when either South Floyd Middle School (7-4) or Allen Central Middle School (7-4) will face Betsy Layne (5-7). South Floyd and Allen Central tied, but South Floyd had to face Stumbo, the one seed, Friday night. With the flip of the coin-pending, Allen Central received the three seed and South Floyd the four.

In game two Monday night, the Stumbo Lady Mustangs (3-6) will meet Adams Middle School (2-7) in a 7 p.m. start. Stumbo was the fourth seed while Adams was seeded fifth.

The third game Monday night will pair the second seed Allen Eagles (9-3) against Adams Middle School (0-9) in an 8:15 tip off.

The second round will be held Tuesday night with two games. Again, either Allen Central or South Floyd will meet the Mountain Christian Academy (1-8) at 6 p.m. In game two, the Allen Central Lady Rebels will face the Allen Lady Eagles (0-10) at 7:30 p.m.

John M. Stumbo (9-1), the number one seed in the boys bracket, will face the winner of the Betsy Layne/Allen Central/South Floyd game on Wednesday night at 7:30 p.m.

The first game Wednesday night will pit the top seed, South Floyd Lady Raiders (8-1) (by the flip of a coin) against the winner of the Stumbo/Adams game.

Second round play will conclude on Thursday night with two games. At 6 p.m. the winners of the Allen/Adams game will face the winner of the Allen Central/South Floyd/MCA game. In the second game, the Betsy Layne Ladycats will meet the winner of the Allen Central/Allen game at 7:30.

The championship game will be played Friday night with the girls finals scheduled to tip off at 6:30 and the boys following at 7:30 p.m.



C. J. Newsome
(1) helped to
lead the
Mustangs of
John M. Stumbo
to a first-place
finish in the
county. Stumbo
will take on the
winner of the
South FloydBetsy Layne
game
Wednesday at
7:30 p.m.

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Slone-led Mustangs will be heavy favorite

by Ed Taylor Sports Editor

When the John M. Stumbo Mustangs captured the Shag Campbell Invitational and snatched the title from under the Allen Eagles, immediately they opened some eyes to the talent this team has.

Stumbo could have perhaps the best eighthgrader in Floyd County in the person of Jack Slone. Slone can do so much with the basketball on offense, and that makes his defensive ability and the ability to rebound go unnoticed.

The kid can do it all on the hardwood and he alone makes the Stumbo Mustangs our first choice to win the Floyd County Grade School tournament.

The tournament tips off Monday night at the Allen Central Middle School gymnasium, in what promises to be one of the best tournaments of past years.

Slone is a complete player with his ability to hit the three, drive the lane and hit the boards. He is a little slow afoot but he is a strong kid who can make up for his lack of good speed.

C.R. Mitchell complements Slone on the court and has the ability to score either inside or outside. He plays the court well and can rebound well.

Firmmy Akers is another big man in addition to Slone, and he is one who can step outside the arc and drain a three-point basket. An unselfish player, Akers may be a little too unselfish.

Brandon Hall and C.J. Newsome round out the starters for Stumbo. Both are capable players and good roleplayers.

Mason Hall gives the Mustangs good play off the bench along with Ryan Mitchell. Hall is a good outside shooter and handles the ball well on the court.

MUSTANG BENCH: Others to watch for John M. are Ryan Bryant, Kevin Newsome, Mike Spradlin, Eric Hamilton, Troy Swain, Dustin Hamilton, Jeremy Johnson and Brandon Kidd.



John M.
Stumbo finished first in the regular season to capture the Floyd County Grade School Conference and the number 1 seed in the county tournament.

Allen Eagles carries favorite's role

by Ed Taylor Sports Editor

As the 1999-2000 Floyd County Grade School tournament unfolds this coming week, fans would be hard pressed to really find a team clearly favored to win it all.

Every team has knocked off each other during the course of the regular season. However, you have to look at the personnel who dot the roster of each team.

Coach Jack Goodman is a good reason to favor the Allen Eagles in this year's tournament. Goodman has a solid starting five, but his bench may not be as long as others.

The Eagles are well coached and are a balanced team that will be hard to get

Josh Bingham is one of those players who possesses excellent speed. He can hit the short jumper or take the ball to the basket. Bingham is an unselfish basketball player.

Nicholas Jamerson has not gotten the respect he deserves as a point guard for Allen. But Jamerson is a solid basketball player and he can score from all over the half court. A good assist player.

Chris Crider goes about his business on the hardwood quietly, but when you look at the stats, you find he has done more than just make a presence on the floor.

Nathan Lafferty is a three-point threat, as are Bingham and Jamerson. Lafferty is a left-hander and has good quickness. His ability to score outside opens things up for Nathan Newsome under the basket.

Newsome is the "shy" person for the Eagles and the tallest player on the Eagle roster. He moves well around the basket and is effective from six feet to the basket, A strong rebounder.

If there is a minus on this team, it would be the shortness of the bench. The Eagles do not go that deep and early foul trouble could cause them a problem.

BENCH STRENGTH: Tommy Layne, Brandon Hurt, John Music, Patrick Porter, Gina Stratton, Jarred Kennedy, Tyler Hall, Jordan Case, Matt Collins, Jarred McKinney, Brandon Boyd, Steve



Nicholas Jamerson (5) plays for Allen Elementary. Allen Elementary finished second in regular season play and will take on the Adams Middle School Blackcats on Monday night.

Could ACMS be the surprise team - again?



by Ed Taylor Sports Editor

Could the Allen Central Middle School Rebels be the surprise team in this year's Floyd County Basketball School Tournament?

That was the case last year as Kevin Stumbo's ballclub was not expected to compete for a championship, but the Rebels did it any-

Of course, the tournament was played on the Rebels' home floor. but that is going to happen again this year with Allen Central Middle School hosting the event.

Allen Central has experienced an up and down season, but the Rebels could be peaking at the right time. This is a team that has a boatload of talent, but the chemistry just hasn't been there every time out.

Justin Hall leads the Rebels in scoring and has been the one consistent player all year. Hall is a

three-point threat from beyond the arc and also handles the ball well.

Add Austin Francis in the middle and you have a solid insideoutside game from both Hall and Francis.

Francis is a pleasure to watch with very good moves under the basket. He can hit the three and is a strong rebounder.

Paul David Francis plays the two-guard slot for Allen Central. Francis is a slasher to the basket as well as a good shooter from midrange.

James Slone, Terry Moore and Dustin Addis come off the Rebel bench and all three can play. Addis is a streak shooter and can "kill" a team from the three-point

REBEL BENCH: Jonathan Vanderpool, Josh Huff, Ryan Slone, James Meade, Anthony Prater, Andrew Prater, Wes Tackett, Michael Chaney, Dustin

does a great job for the Allen Central Rebels. Allen Central takes on MCA Tuesday night.

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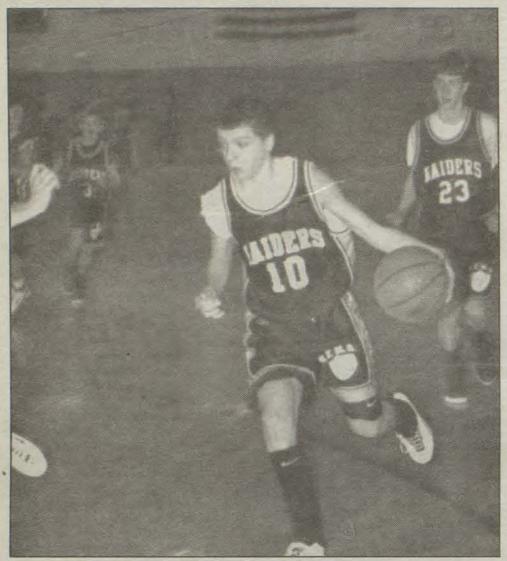
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Landon Hall (10) plays forward for the South Floyd Raiders. Hall leads the Raiders in scoring. South Floyd will take on Betsy Layne in the county tournament.

PIKEVILLE COLLEGE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

	DASKEIDALL	SCHLECLL	
JANUARY			
Sat. 8	Southern Virginia	Buena Vista, VA	2:00
Mon. 10	Brescia	Owensboro	5:00
Thur. 13	Alice Lloyd	Pippa Passes	6:30
Sat. 15	Indiana-Southeast	Pikeville	1:00
Mon. 17	Michigan-Dearborn	Pikeville	5:00
Sat. 22	Lindsey Wilson	Columbia .	4:00
Mon. 24	Bluefield	Pikeville	6:00
Wed. 26	Transylvania	Lexington	5:30
Sat. 29	Spalding	Pikeville	2:00
FEBRUARY			
Thur. 3	U.VaWise	Pikeville	5:30
Sun. 6	Indiana-Southeast	New Albany, Ind	1:00
	Cumberland	Williamsburg	7:00
Tues. 8		Pikeville	3:00
Sat. 12	Lindsey Wilson		
Tues. 15	Union	Barbourville	7:00
Sat. 19	Brescia	Pikeville	3:00
Tues. 22	Georgetown	Pikeville	7:00
Sat. 26	Spalding	Louisville	1:00
* All times Ea	stern		

South Floyd: a complete game away from title

by Ed Taylor Sports Editor

The Floyd County Grade School Basketball Tournament tips off Monday night at the Allen Central High School gym as six county teams plus the Mountain Christian Academy contend for a tournament championship.

Everyone knows if you are going to win a title, a team has to put together a full four quarters of good basketball. That seems to be the problem for the South Floyd Middle School Raiders — putting together a complete game.

South Floyd opened the regular season dropping its first four games. They have owned seven of their last eight games.

The talent is there for South Floyd. They have the players and the game, but putting it all together for 32 minutes seems to be the need as tournament time is here.

The Raiders will look to Brian Meade, Landon Hall and Ryan Johnson to carry the load for this one.

Meade, who missed part of the early season, has shown signs of getting his legs ready and tuned up for the upcoming tournament. The Raiders will need his inside presence.

"Brian is an aggressive player," said South Floyd Coach Tony Isaac. "He is a big strong kid."

Hall will play the two-guard for Coach Isaac and gives the Raiders the outside firepower they need. Hall is a heads-up player and runs the court well.

"Landon has been consistent for us all year," Isaac said of Hall. "He rebounds well, scores and plays good defense."

Sixth-grader Ryan Johnson runs the team at point guard and, despite his size, is a solid basketball player. He may be the shortest player on the floor, but he can drill the three-point basket, shoot the short jumper, take the ball to the basket and is very good at hitting the open man.

"I can't say enough about Ryan," said Coach Isaac. "I am surprised, then I'm not, as to how he has handled the pressure. He is our main ball handler."

Adam Tackett gives South Floyd inside play, as well as Meade. Tackett can hit inside the paint and is a good "garbage player." He goes for the loose balls and is a strong rebounder.

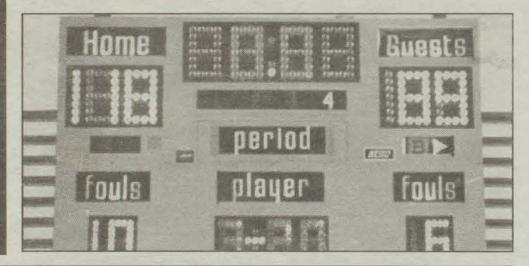
"Adam is our leading scorer," said Coach Isaac. "He is excellent in the middle against the press."

Clinton Meade completes the starting lineup for the Raiders.

"Clinton is in the same mold as Hall," said Isaac. "He does a lot of good things for us."

Coach Isaac likes to rotate his players and said, "I am pleased with the effort we have put forth this season."

SOUTH FLOYD BENCH: Ervin Vance, Scott Allen, Wesley Hall, Steven Stanley, Dana McCowan, Burnett Little, Jordan Johnson, Jason Johnson.





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Will Newsome play? **Question for Betsy Layne**

by Ed Taylor Sports Editor

The Betsy Layne Bobcats know what it is to win a Floyd County championship. Coach Dwight Newsome's ballclub could very well be a sleeper in this year's tournament. But much will depend on whether the Bobcats can find some answers.

One of the questions that needs to be answered is whether Brent Newsome will be able to return when the tournament begins Monday night at the Allen Central Middle

Newsome is the Bobcats' leading scorer and has been out the past four weeks with an injury to his mouth. It was expected that Newsome would return by tournament time.

Betsy Layne has been one of the more successful grade school programs of the 1990s and Coach Newsome has always surrounded himself with talented players.

With Newsome a question mark, the load of carrying a team will rest on the shoulders of Jordan Kidd and Jordan Scarberry, But Adam Roberts has played excellent basketball of late and could be the very catalyst the Bobcats need.

Kidd is a slasher type of player who can take the ball to the basket or hit the three. But he has the tendency to play out of control at times.

Scarberry gives Betsy Layne size in the middle. Others to watch for include Brenton Akers, Michael Watson and Jeremy

Betsy Layne does not have a long bench so staying out of foul trouble will be a must

Betsy Layne, as a team, has become more of a half-court team with the absence of Newsome.

Falcons hope to spread their wings at tournament time

by Ed Taylor Sports Editor

Mountain Christian Academy basketball Coach Joey Conn has seen his Falcons struggle this season but also entertains hopes that will all change now that the second season of the grade school year is

Coach Conn will lead his team on the court as the Falcons face highly regarded Allen Central Middle School in a first round game of the Floyd County Grade School Tournament at Allen Central High School Tuesday night.

The Falcons (1-8) are looking for some team chemistry that will put them in the second round of the event. However, they will face a stiff opponent in the Rebels.

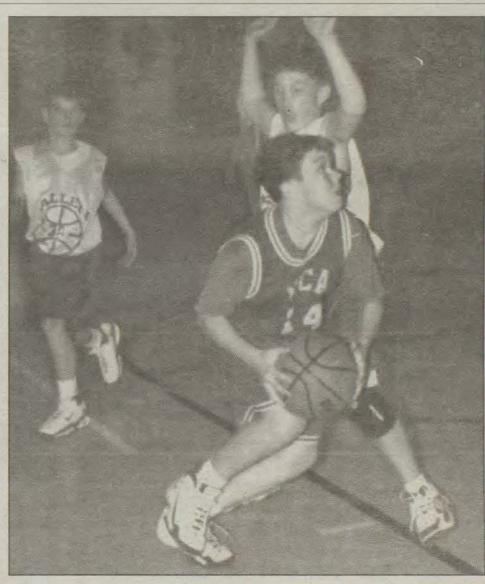
The Falcons have the ingredients for a successful run, but putting together a full four quarters has been a problem for the Falcons. They have the inside presence with Clinton Halbert roaming the paint area. Halbert works well around the basket and with his size gets a lot of put-backs. He leads the Falcons in rebounding.

Matthew Potter is a scrappy type of player who plays all over the court. He can hit the threes as well as drive the lanes

Chance Bradley is the team's leading scorer, but he hasn't played that much this season with other obligations. Bradley is the top scorer for the Falcons and a three-point

Stan Leslie will fill one forward slot, power forward. Leslie is a "garbage" player who goes after the loose balls and scores. Adam Milan fills the other forward position at small forward. But he plays larger than his size. A strong player under the basket.

FALCONS BENCH: Lincoln Slone, Chris Conley and John



Matthew Potter (24) plays guard for the Mountain Christian Academy. MCA will play Allen Central Middle School on Tuesday night at 6 p.m.

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Some things are just important enough to preserve. Memories

But there are some things in the physical realm that need to be preserved, such as events - events like the Floyd County Grade ber of fans who fill the stands but the atmosphere that is created Central High School but hosted by Allen Central Middle School. School Basketball Tournament.

ere has never been a show quite like the grade school tourna-

Although it has dwindled in numbers, still the grade school baslarger with fans, not even the 58th District tournamen

You do not measure the magnitude of an event by just the numwhen fans, players, coaches and all others involved show up.

runners-up of four different sections. Each sec- of that.

winner and runner-up (boys and girls). The four teams from each section would then advance to a central location for the final Floyd on the part of each player. County Grade School Championship Tournament.

are those things we lock in our heart and no one can take those ketball season is second to none in Floyd County. No event looms but the excitement, the pomp and pageantry, and the hard work to enjoy the Greatest Show On Earth!!! hold such a tournament has not.

This year, the Floyd County tournament will be staged at Allen The folks at Allen Central Middle School go all out when hosting a The tournament used to include winners and tournament. A look at the Right Beaver Classic is a good example

There is nothing like entering the gymnasium where the event is play its held (and it is at a different site each year) and feel the energy and own electricity that is created when you are there. From the time the tour- warm-ups begin, to the tip off and the final horn, it is a noisy place

This will make my 12th year to cover the event and I am looking forward to it. It all begins tomorrow night and all six of our elenament, mentary teams, along with the Mountain Christian Academy, will naming take part.

That makes 13 teams in a tournament that promises to be one of the more exciting ones in past years. MCA does not dress a girls team, the reason for the odd number.

Favorites? This year there are many. While the reason for staging the event is to eventually name a champion, it means more than that.

> On the court, you will have friend going against friend. Relative against relative. It will be "me" against "you," but when it is all over, the friendship will continue and it will be discussed way

up into their high school days how they were "rooked" out of the game.

Mom and dad, along with grandparents, will attend a ballgame for the first and only time during the year. Video cameras will be located throughout the gymnasium, grinding in those special moments that will be viewed again

Newspaper photographs of the event will be treasured memories and will dot the school lockers, be placed in scrapbooks or displayed on the wall. It will be a time when all will want to collect these special moments on film, in print or just in their heart.

So it is easy to see why the Floyd County Grade School Basketball Tournament is the "Greatest Show On Earth" as far as grade school fans are concerned.

Something I would like to see become part of all the festivities of the great event, is to recognize the coaches who gave so much of their time and efforts in the process of making this tournament the highlight of the basketball season.

Former coaches like Ronnie Patton, Hayes Hamilton, Frankie Pack, Jimmy Hopkins, Danny O'Quinn, Doug Derossett and Bide Click, just to name a few. What a setting this would create, to bring back all those who gave so much, and show them how much they are still appreci-

Cheerleading competition has been a big part of the tournament down through the years and now dance competition has become an event that is judged. These young ladies work hard, just as hard as a basketball team, in order to have a successful season. They will entertain at halftime and between games as the tournament moves on.

When the finals are held, the four teams that survive all the opening, quarter and semifinal rounds will meet to see who is going to be the champions for the 1999-2000 season. But really, there will be no real losers. To reach this

From this sports desk, the best of everything for each team, play-With consolidation, the number of teams competing has fallen, er and coach who takes part. To the fans, behave yourselves and just



Once the tourney terror, Adams looking for ways to win

by Ed Taylor Sports Editor

Once upon a time, long, long ago, there was a basketball program, the Adams Middle School Blackcats, which once ruled the hardwood in the Floyd County Conference.

Today, Coach Charlie Collins, in his first year, is still searching for ways to compete against the more experienced teams.

Collins' Blackcats have played both in the Floyd County Conference as well as the Middle School Conference against teams like Inez, Paintsville, Warfield and the like. But still they look for that initial win of this season. What better time to pick for win number one than with a win in tournament play?

One thing about this year's Blackcat team, everyone plays. While it has been a frustrating year for Adams Middle School, Coach Collins remains positive in believing that every kid should have a chance to compete.

Adams will face county rival Allen in the first round of the tournament on Monday night, January 10, with tip off set for 8:15 p.m.

The Blackcats have fallen twice to the Eagles during the regular season, but everyone knows when it comes tournament time, you throw the records "out the window."

Coach Collins team has played hard all season and, while winless, they have never quit.

Kory Caudill leads the Blackcats and has been a bright spot in a rather disappointing season. Caudill handles the ball on the court and runs the Blackcat offense.

Cody Branham gives Adams some threat outside. He is also a good ball handler and plays defense. Tyler Burke runs the court well and is capable of scoring from long range. Good complementary player.

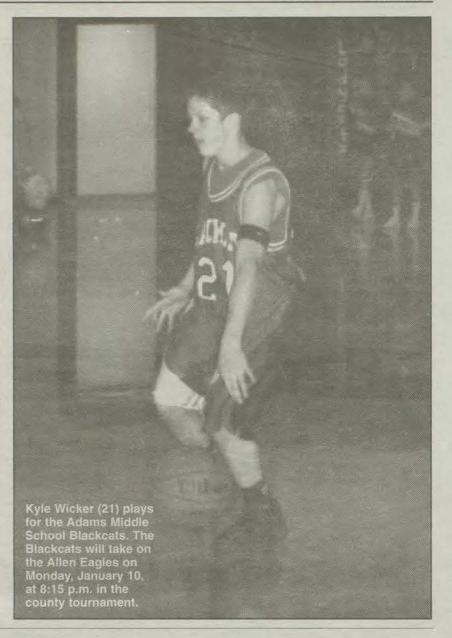
Shane Hatfield gives the extra effort every time on the floor. He has a good knowledge of the

Jason Hughes is a heads up player who likes to take the ball to the basket. Hughes comes off the Adams bench and contributes

Jeremy Jarrell is another who is quick to come in from the bench, a good scorer from inside the paint area.

ADAMS BENCH: James Knox, Zach McCoy, Jarred McGuire, Adam Meade, Jason Mullins, Chris Spears, Shawn Witt, Kyle Wicker, Josh McCarty.

Coach: Charlie Collins Colors: Red and Black Mascot: Blackcat



Girl's County Preview...

The Second season begins

South Floyd Lady Raiders

Betsy Layne Ladycats

Allen Central Lady Rebels

Stumbo Lady Mustangs

Adams Lady Blackcats



by Karen Joseph Sports Writer

It has been a very exciting year in grade school basketball this season, especially in girls basketball. For two of our county teams, this may be considered the third season. Betsy Layne and Adams Middle School started playing in September. They participated in a middle school conference.

In the previous year, Allen Central Middle School defeated a very tough Betsy Layne team by two points to claim the championship trophy in the girls county basketball tournament. So this year, Allen Central came into the



season hoping to repeat as county champions.

But this season, Betsy Layne and South Floyd Middle School have dominated the girls game. They both have only one loss in regular season games, and that came at the hands of each other.

At the meeting on Thursday, a coin was flipped to determined which team would get the first place draw. South Floyd won the coin toss and therefore they will be in the number one slot.

South Floyd and Betsy Layne will receive a bye in



the tournament since they finished first and second place. The first game of the tournament will take place on Jan. 10 at 7 p.m.

In the first game, the Lady Mustangs of John M. Stumbo will take on the Lady Blackcats from Adams Middle School. J.M. Stumbo finished fourth in the season and Adams finished fifth. So this game should be pretty much evenly matched.

J. M. Stumbo has eighth-grade forward Kesha Newman. Kesha has played grade school basketball for several years and has the talent and experience to really give an opponent a hard time.

Heather Hamilton is at

the other forward position and can really do some harm.

Natalie Newsome is at the center position for the Lady Mustangs and does an excellent job. Mara Biliter and Kristen Smith start at the guard positions and do a fine job for the Lady Mustangs. These Lady Mustangs are not to be overlooked.

The Adams Middle School Lady Blackcats finished fifth in season. The Lady Blackcats have

(See Second, page nine)

Second

(continued from page eight)



Heather White at center. Heather does a fabulous job in the middle for the Lady Blackcats. Heather also plays for the high school Lady Blackcats.

At the forward positions, the Blackcats have Michelle Lackey Patton. Megan Ladycats have two very good guards in Tabatha Caudill and Megan Harris. Both Harris and Caudill can hit from the outside and both do a good job getting the ball down the floor.

Molly Burchett, who is just a sixth grader, can come off the bench and score 10 points at any time.

In the second round of the tournament, which will take place Tuesday night at 7:30 p.m., the defending champs, the Lady Rebels of Allen Central Middle School, will be taking on the Allen Elementary Eagles.

Coach John Martin and his Allen Central Lady Rebels can give any team in the county a hard time.



Coach Martin starts Terri Mullins and Amanda Mills at the guard positions and this duo does a wonderful job of getting the ball down the floor. They can also put a hard defense on an opponent with the press.

Becki Thomas is at the center for the Lady Rebels. At the forward position, Coach Martin has Jessica Isaac and Amber Griffith. Jessica usually leads the Lady Rebels in the scoring department and also does a great job on the boards for the Lady Rebels.

The Allen Elementary Eagles have struggled this year. This is a very young ball team. They have Chanel Music and Mekala Rice back this year, but they are still a very young team. Music and Rice start at the guard positions for Coach Ashland Gearheart.

Kelly Key and Amanda Keathley usually start at the forward position for the Lady Eagles. The last two years have been a rebuilding season for the Lady Eagles after they lost most of their starters two years ago when they won the county tournament.

On Wednesday night, South Floyd will take on the winner of the Stumbo-Adams game. South Floyd enters the tournament with only one loss.

The Lady Raiders have two of the best guards in the county with Megan Ashley Ousley and

Johnson. Between the two of them, they will easily score 30 points in a game. They do a great job of



beating the press and they can shoot from anywhere on the court.

Leigh Ann Tuttle is at the center position for the Lady Raiders, while Sharee Hopkins Brandy Anderson play the forward positions. Tabatha Tackett comes off the bench and really contributes to this very talented ball team.

In Thursday night's game, the Betsy Layne Lady Bobcats will take on the winner of the Allen Central and Allen game. The Lady Bobcats have only one loss and are hopyear's defeat by Allen Central.

More than likely, the Lady Bobcats and the Lady Rebels will face each other. This has been a very emotional year for the Lady Bobcats. They have played with a lot of heart and have dedicated the season to teammate Jessica Bentley.

The Lady Bobcats have only two eighth-graders. Whitney Lykens leads the Lady Bobcats in the scoring department. Not only does Lykens score, she can rebound, play defense and pick up several assists in any given game. Lykens is one of the eighth-graders.

Lykens is assisted by the other eighth-grader, Tabetha Witt. Witt does a wonderful job inside for the Lady Bobcats.

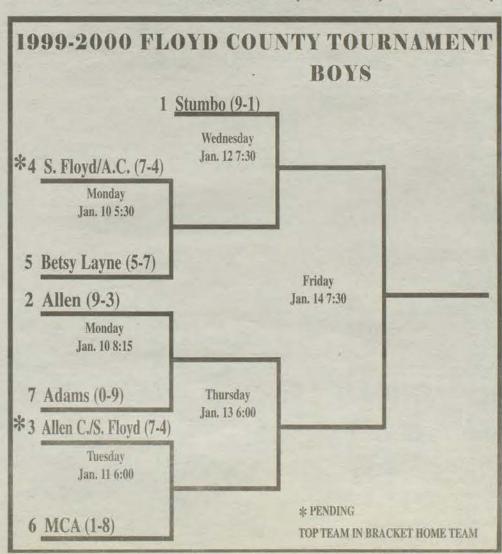
Candice Meade and Kim Clark are at the guard positions. Candice plays excellent defense. She doesn't shoot very much, but she causes a lot of turnovers by the opposing team. Kim Clark can shoot from anywhere on the floor and also does a good job under the basket.

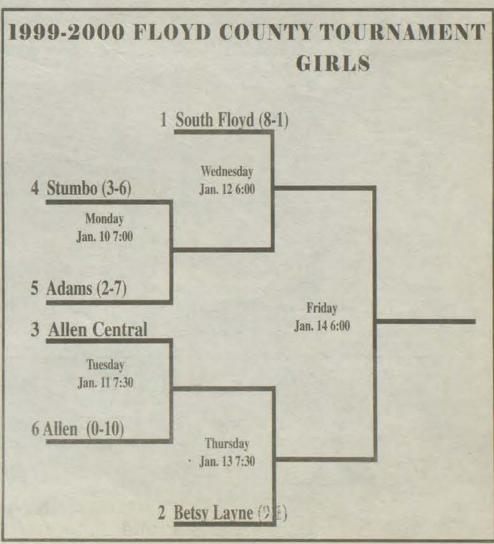
This is the first year that Breann Akers has played basketball. Akers does a

ing to make up for last wonderful job under the basket for Coach Jim Roberts. Breann and another seventh-grader, Lynsdey Frasure, play the forward position for the Lady Bobcats.

The odds are that Betsy Layne and South Floyd will meet in the championship game, but in tournament play, you can never tell. There is usually a Cinderella team, so this should be a very exciting tournament.







From the... PRESSBOX

Remembering those who made it the Greatest Show on Earth

This article is not going to be an easy one for me to

write, It will difficult because of the fear of leaving out someone's name who deserves to be listed in this column.

I moved back from Indiana in the summer of 1975. I "returned home" and found a lot of differences in living in the north land and residing once again in Kentucky, especially Floyd County. I was born, raised and attended Martin High School and still have that Purple and

One of the most difficult things for me to get used to were the narrow roads here in eastern Kentucky.

Gold in me.

But like everything else, you make adjustments and then you become accustomed to what you have not been accustomed to before.

Floyd County has always been my home and I, like most transplanted Kentuckians, always looked forward to "coming home."

Since I have been back, I have been close to one of the greatest sporting events to be held in our county, and that is the grade school basketball tournament. Now, I have sounded off many times and applauded this event many times over in articles I have written.

When I returned, through having my own photography studio in Martin, I photographed the kids who played grade school basketball and I got close to the program.

Then, 12 years ago, I took the job here at the Times and one of the events that I have followed closely over the years has been the Floyd County Grade School Tournament.

I have never been to one

that I did not enjoy. I hated to see consolidation, but I suppose it was a needed thing. I remember the good teams that I saw come through and all the great players who went on to play high school basketball, and, yes, some college ball.

I used to officiate in the grade school ranks and called many of the tournament games and several of the championship games. I got to know, personally, as any referee will, the coaches who were mentors of their respected teams.

I learned through the years to respect them for what they did for the kids and their concern for their welfare. I got to know these individuals very well and they are some of my dearest friends.

I appreciate them even today, although some have retired, passed on and some are still active.

I am going to attempt to review just some of them, but hopefully we can, in this tournament, bring them all back and recognize them for their contribution to the grade school basketball scene.

One that really stands out in my mind is Johnny Case, who coached at Wayland Elementary and also was the school's principal. Johnny had some great teams at Wayland and some great high school players played there. I am not going to try to name players for fear of missing some of them.

Johnny was a great individual and he knew his basketball. What great memories of the old Wayland gym and the Wayland Wasps and their championship years.

After Johnny gave up the coaching responsibilities,

he turned it over to another great coach in Frankie Pack. I can still remember those great teams he had at Wayland and the rivalry between the Wasps and the John M. Stumbo Mustangs. Others to coach at Wayland included Johnny Cox, who handled both high school and the grade school teams.

Speaking of the Mustangs, Hayes Hamilton headed the program for many years and it knew nothing but success. I have often stated that Hayes deserved a high school coaching job.

Going back even further was good friend Ralph O'Quinn of the Maytown Wildcats and later the Garrett Black Devils. Ralph, like Johnny Case, was both coach and school principal.

Following Ralph at Maytown was one Ronnie Patton and his record is well-documented. Ronnie would later move on to Wayland and had some great teams there before coaching at Duff Elementary.

At Maytown, Jimmy Hopkins was beginning to make a name for himself in the coaching ranks and when he made the move to Martin, the Purple Flash became one of the most successful teams in the county.

Back at Garrett, we had Neil Watson, who was a wonderful individual as well as coach. Neil had some great teams at Garrett. Danny O'Quinn followed Watson to the helm of the grade school program at Garrett and then Neil's son, Stanton, found success with the program after O'Quinn.

At Martin, Doug Derossett worked with the girls program and won two county championships before following Hopkins with the boys job. Again, Derossett was a winner with the boys team.

Edgel "Bide" Click took over the girls team, but before that, was a young lady by the name of Vivian Barnett Dingus, won a county title.

Up at McDowell, David Hall is well remembered for the contribution he made to the grade school game. Who can forget Danny Dawson at Melvin or Dewey Jamerson when he coached the Osborne Eagles? Dewey and I have memories of one particular year.

Roger Johnson came on the scene, first at Wayland, then he surfaced at Osborne, where he built a, strong program until consolidation took it away.

As we ramble on, we remember the great Prater Creek teams under Sandy Boyd, now teaching at Betsy Layne Elementary. Sandy was a great coach at the small school and had some great teams. Then Zenith Hall moved up and kept the Prater Creek program going strong. Those two coaches worked under stressful situations with no gym to call their own.

At Betsy Layne, Tim Rice made a contribution to the elementary program. Jim Roberts, now coach at Betsy Layne, worked with the program at Harold. But when you think of Harold, you have to think of Donnie Williams and the great Red Devil teams.

Returning to Melvin, our UPS driver, Tim Eads, had a stint at coaching the Cougars.

I am told that Gerald Newsome coached at Betsy Layne and Charles Hicks coached the Prater Creek girls. Edgar Rister coached at Garrett, as did Frank Reffitt.

(See Jessi, page eleven)

1999-2000 Basketball Schedule

8	Vanderbilt	Fox Sports South	6:00	H
11	Auburn	ESPN	9:00	A
15	South Carolina	Fox Sports South	6:00	A
19	Ole Miss	UKTV Delay	7:30	H
22	Vanderbilt	Jefferson-Pilot	TBA	A
26	Georgia	Jefferson-Pilot	8:00	A
29	Miami, Fla.	CBS	1:00	A
February				
1	Tennessee	ESPN	9:00	H
5	South Carolina	Jefferson-Pilot	TBA	Ĥ
8	Florida	ESPN2	9:00	A
13	LSU	Jefferson-Pilot	TBA	A
16	Alabama	Jefferson-Pilot	8:00	H
19	Georgia	Jefferson-Pilot	8:00	H
23	Tennessee	Jefferson-Pilot	8:00	A
26	Arkansas	CBS	Noon	H
29	Mississippi State	ESPN	9:00	A
March				
4	Florida	CBS	Noon	H

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"Good luck, coaches"

I have always been one who appreciates the hard work and effort any coach puts in with his or her team.

I sometimes think, and that is often, coaches in Floyd County do not get the credit they deserve but do get criticism they do not deserve.

This space is dedicated to those who have taken time from the first day of practice to put together their teams. It doesn't matter if they have won a game or not, still they deserve our applause.

GIRLS

January

The South Floyd Middle School and Betsy Layne Ladycats tied for first place in the grade school conference and by the flip of a coin, the number one seed fell to South Floyd.

Melinda Osborne has done a great job with this Lady Raider team and some day I would hope she would be rewarded with a high school program. She is energetic and takes her coaching very serious. She knows the game.

Jim Roberts returned this year to the coaching ranks after his last stint being at Harold before consolidation. But Jim has guided the Betsy Layne Ladycats through a fine season, finishing as co-conference champions with South Floyd.

Roberts is more exciting to watch on the sidelines than some games on the hardwood. He has done a great job.

Coach John Martin is a veteran coach and his Allen Central Lady Rebels are the third seed in this year's tournament. Coach Martin gets a lot of a kid who really doesn't have that much talent. Very good with kids.

John M. Stumbo and the Lady Mustangs have had a frustrating year but coach Danita Johnson has been one of the mainstays in the grade school coaching ranks and has known success in the coaching ranks. Danita has done an outstanding job with the Lady Mustangs

Adams Middle School will be

the five seed in this year's tournament and coach Jennifer West has been a real leader in the program. The Lady Blackcats have played both a county schedule and a middle school schedule. It takes a lot of time for two conferences and Coach West has excelled in coaching.

Ashland Gearheart returned to the grade school ranks this season and the Allen Lady Eagles have not done that well but they have played hard. Coach Gearheart is a veteran of the grade school ranks and has won his share of county championships. Here is another who is deserving of a high school coaching position.

BOYS

The John M. Stumbo Mustangs have emerged as the top seeded grade school team this year and it was an unexpected finish for the Mustangs. Unexpected to everyone else* except Stumbo and its fans.

Coach Mickey Newsome has the Mustangs back in contention

2:00

7:30

2:00

this year and a favorite to win it all when the finals are played Friday night. Coach Newsome quietly gets the job done.

At Allen, it has been documented over the past years the type of coach Jack Goodman is. Coach Goodman has a way to relate to the young men he coaches and gets the most of them.

Jack is a veteran of the hardwood and one of the best in the county as well as throughout the region. Here is a person who also is deserving of a high school position.

Allen Central does not have an in-house basketball coach but they have a good one. Coach Kevin Stumbo has taken this school to a county championship in his first season and there is no reason why he can't do it again. A disciple of Johnny Martin basketball, Stumbo has his team running, playing defense and playing aggressive basketball.

When the season started for the South Floyd Middle School Raiders, the first four games were disappointing setbacks as the Raiders quickly went to 0-4 on the season

But coach Tony Isaac never did lose confidence in his team and the Raiders have won eight of their last nine games and will take the fourth seed in the tournament.

Coach Isaac is dedicated to the

game and it shows that he enjoys the game.

Coach Dwight Newsome knows what it is to win a county championship. He has won two with the Betsy Layne Bobcats. Losing his leading scorer mid-way of the season has hurt Betsy Layne as they come into the tournament as a five seed.

But Coach Newsome is a tremendous coach and if Bret Newsome returns, the Bobcats could pull out another one.

Joey Conn took the helm of the Mountain Christian Academy half way through the regular season and inherited the Falcons team. Joey has been there for his team using his basketball knowledge to mold the Falcons into a competitive team.

Returning to the coaching ranks this year was Charlie Collins at Adams Middle School. I like Charlie and his coaching philosophy. Play all the kids. That is what is for. Coach Collins is a great person and we need more of him

Well, the tournament is just around the corner. The ball will be tossed up and the games will begin Monday night. Some of the fans, parents and others will try to second guess the coaches as they try to pull out a win.

But the fact is, we always think we could do it better, only to find out we can't when we put ourselves in their position.

I appreciate all the coaches. Win or lose, here you are respected and I wish all of you well. Thanks for taking time for the

Louisville Cardinals 1999-2000 Schedule

SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI(WDRB) Sat. 8 FREEDOM HALL Wed. 12 UAB (WDRB/WFTE) Birmingham, Ala. Marquette (WDRB/WFTE) Sat. 15 Milwaukee, Wisc. Thur, 20 DEPAUL (ESPN) UNC CHARLOTTE (WDRB/WFTE) Sat. 22 Thur. 27 CINCINNATI (ESPN) Sat. 29 Saint Louis (ESPN) February Tues, 1 Georgetown (ESPN2) Memphis (ESPN2) Sat. 5 Thur. 10 SYRACUSE (ESPN) Sun. 13 MARQUETTE (ESPN2) Wed. 16 UNC Charlotte (WDRB/WFTE) Sat. 19 DePaul (ABC) SAINT LOUIS (WDRB/WFTE) Wed. 23 Sun. 27 Cincinnati (ESPN2) SOUTH FLORIDA (WDRB/WFTE) Tues. 29 March Houston (ESPN Regional/WFTE) Sat. 4 Wed.-8 Conference USA Tournament

FREEDOM HALL 9:00 FREEDOM HALL 5:00 FREEDOM HALL 9:00 St. Louis, Mo. 1:00 Washington, D.C. 7:30 Memphis, Tenn. 7:00 FREEDOM HALL 9:00 FREEDOM HALL 6:00 Charlotte, N.C. 7:35 Chicago, III FREEDOM HALL 1:30 8:00 7:30

FREEDOM HALL 8:00

Cincinnati, Ohio 7:30
FREEDOM HALL 7:30

Houston, Texas 1:00
Memphis, Tenn. TBA

Pressbox-

I remember the late Sam Eversole at Martin. Sam had some good teams for the Purple Flash. Rick Hancock at Maytown had some very good Wildcat teams. David Mosley had some of the better county teams when he coached at Allen Elementary. Ernie Tackett coached at Betsy Layne Elementary.

A good friend of mine, Earl Thompson coached at Auxier Elementary in his glory days. How about June Allen coaching at McDowell as well as Greg Johnson? Donna Gray, kindergarten teacher at Martin, tried her hand at coaching the Martin girls

— (continued from page ten)
n teams. Also, Ronald Prater was at

Martin.

A coach who put a lot into the Martin team, as well as athletics in the county, was Raymond

"Muggsy" Griffith.

Well, I suppose I could go on and on and I am sure I left someone out. Now, if you can remember someone that I did not mention, please contact me. I really want to know who they are. No matter how far back.

Well, I'll see you at the grade school tournament next week. From the Pressbox, we'll be watching you!

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Flemingsburg	606-845-5351
Pikeville	606-437-4037
South Williamson	606-237-6057
Lovely	606-395-6439
Jenkins	

ARRIVALS

Highlands Regional Medical Center

December 26: A daughter, Alyssa Leighann Arnett to Stephanie and David Arnett of Salyersville.

December 27: A son, Samuel Ray, to Dorothy and Christopher Shepherd of Hueysville; a son, Taylor Elijah, to Tammy and Darin Blanton, of Van Lear.

December 28: A daughter, Danni Morgan, to Danny and Ida Blevins of Van Lear.

December 29: A daughter, Ashley Nicole, to Raven and Adam Alaniz of Prestonsburg; a son, Job Thomas, to Tracy and Brock Smith of Salyersville.

December 30: A son, Kendrick Tyrone Hinkle, to Teresa Newsome of Beauty.

December 31: A daughter, Leianna Paige, to Dollie Michelle and Michael Paul Harris of

January 1: A daughter, Mary Ruth, to Angela and Mark Spence of Tomahawk; a daughter, Charlie Marie McGuire, to Amy Wise of Battle Creek, Michigan; a daughter, Kaitlyn Brook, to Karla Collett of Salversville.

January 2: A daughter, Hannah Brook, to Margie Elizabeth and Ray Fitch of East Point.

January 3: A son, Kenton Dwayne, to Amanda and Chester Risner of Salyersville.

January 4: A son, Grant Alexander Patton, to Mary Ann Mullins of Hueysville; a daughter, Krysta Shay, to Danny and McKenzie Dawnetta Prestonsburg; a son, Cameron Ryan Hale, to Tonya Renee Shepherd of Langley.

Pikeville Methodist

December 1: A son, Cody Dwayne, to Liza Colleen and Joseph Wayne Burke.

December 2: A son, Austin Brayden Phoenix, to Stacy Roxanna Rose; a son, Jamison Edward, to Trina and Chris Stanley; a daughter, Heaven Reann Tackett, to Leisa Marie Salisbury and Christopher Jay

- December 3: A daughter, Chelsea Breanna, to Melissa and Larry Owsley; a daughter, Brianna Lynn, to Robin L. and Jamie O. Thacker; a son, Chad Owen, to Sarah and Shawn Baldridge; a son, Joshua Thomas, to Deneita Jean and Thomas Eugene Clevinger; a daughter, Victoria Grace Tackett, to Steavanie Bolen; a son, Benjamin Garrett, to Penny and Jon Stratton.

December 4: A daughter, Kitana Lynn, to Margaret and David Bentley.

December 5: A daughter, Jessica Renae, to Melissa and Brian Johnson; a daughter, Lyndsey Nicole, to Angelia Gay and Jonathan Mark Newsome; a daughter, Sydney Nikole, to Sonya Renee and Johnny Ray Tackett; a son, Shelby Joe, to Mary Lou and Kermit Howell.

December 6: A daughter, Victoria Paige, to Nancy Lou and Dwayne Tackett; a son, Dustin Gene, to Daisy and Darrell Warrix.

December 7: A daughter, Adreanna Mikaelah, to Glenda Mae and Mackie Branham Jr.; a daughter, Megan Carolanne, to Tyra Lynn and Jimmy Dean Boyd; a daughter, Lindsey Rose, to Jeri Lynn and Christopher John McNamee; a daughter, Chelsea Marie, to Allison Rena and Johnny Daryl Adkins.

December 8: A daughter, Haley Madison, to Elizabeth Ann Shepherd and Kevin Thomas

December 9: A son, Dawson Isaiah, to Mary Jodi and Randall Bruce Mullins; a son, Nicholas Scott; to Christ Jean Moore; a son, Tyler Griffey, to Violet Marie and Donald Roy Estep Jr.; a son, Jacob Robert, to Julia and Kenneth Spurlock.

December 10: A son, Dylan Scott, to Shirley and Lowell Compton Jr.; a son, Cecil Blake, to Christy and Shannon Burke; a son, Zachary Lloyd Flannery, to Melissa Sue Henson; a son, Corey Anthony, to Tracy Renee and Anthony Grant Thompson.

December 11: A daughter, Carly Ann, to Valerie Lynn and Patrick Andrew Taylor; a daughter, Makayla Michelle, to Merita Michelle and Jimmy Ray Stewart: a daughter, Katie Skylar, to Kelly Rebecca and Jeffrey Allen Justice.

December 13: A son, Logan Carson, to Audra Denise and Mark Curtis Hillerman.

December 14: A son, Richard Brandon Dean, to Deana and Bryan Conn; a son, Dalton Ryan, to Carolyn and Herbert Ray Hamilton; female twins, Allison Hope and Faith Alexandria to Pennie Marie and Robert Allen Hunter; a daughter, Autumn Rayn, to Kimberly and Kevin Miller.

December 15: A daughter. Sarah Elizabeth, to Dinah Jo and John Akers; a son. Devon Chet, to Misty Marshall; a son, Jakob Devon Grant, to Rachel Nicole and David Grant Ellis; a son, Walker Caden, to Tracy Lee and Steven Ray Blevins; a daughter, Hannah Lasha Combs, to Jennifer

December 16: A daughter, Candyce Nicole, to Amanda and Jeremy Raschella; a son, Logan Alexander, to Tiffany Cornish and Alex Foster.

December 17: A daughter, Jeanette Rose Smith, to Melissa Jean Conley: a daughter, Julian Nicole, to Julian Mae and Barry Dean Miller.

December 18: A daughter, Kamryn Quinn Nicole, to Letha Renea and John William Reynolds; a son, Kyler Ryan, to Mary Elizabeth and Justin Ryan Sullivan.

December 19: A daughter, Alexandra Nicole, to Rascelle Rae and Charles Ellery Cokley; a daughter, Madisyn Elizabeth, to Sabrina Thacker McCoy and Phillip Arnold McCoy.

December 20: A daughter, Lindy Rebecca Prater, to Angela Ray; a daughter, Lindsey Katharine, to Dora May and Craig Rosel Kidd; a son, Isaiah Dee, to Anna Marie and Van Buren Blackburn.

December 21: A daughter, Courtney Paige, to Joetta and Christopher Gale Roberts; a daughter, Abigail Faith, to Avonelle Dawn and Kerry Ryan Harris; a son, Daniel Joseph, to Rebecca and Delmer Kendrick; a daughter, Kevin Nathanael, to Elizabeth and Levi Kevin Belcher; a daughter, Elisha Jean, to Sarah and Teddy Davis.

December 22: A daughter, Emily Page, to Vanessa and Keith Tackett; a daughter, Dawn Makenhan Conley, to Angela Dawn Belcher and Tommy Ray

Conley. December 23: A son, Kanin David Rogers, to Judy Kaye Darnell and David Earl Rogers; a daughter, Sierra Faith, to Georgzella and Michael Sincell; a

There's a method to retirement madness



It's a boy

Rodney and Lora McKenzie of Mountain Parkway, Prestonsburg, announce the birth of their first child, a son, Trevor Lee McKenzie. He was born December 22, 1999. He weighed seven pounds and six ounces and was 21-1/2 inches long. His grandparents are Robert and Lemozine Willis and James and Linda Trusty, all of the Mountain Parkway.

son, Skylar Chayse, to Melinda Gail and Terry Lee Williams.

December 24: A daughter, Ashley Kate, to Donna Kay and Robert Edward Marincil; a daughter, Kalin Mariah Williams, to Letitia May and Brandon Rondal Williams.

December 26: A daughter, Allison Marie Tubbs, Jann Allison and Ross Harris; a daughter, Leslie Blaire, to Shelly and Williams Stewart; a son, Zachary Darrell, to Rebecca Lynn Belcher and Glenn Farley; a son, Harley David, to Vaniesa Gail Robinson and Chad Erick Tubbs.

December 27: A son, Elijah Cortlin Cordel, to Jami and Mark Prater; a son, Cameron Chase, to Stacy Rena and Rondall Nelson; a daughter, Josie Renee, to Matosha Renia and Joseph Garrett Thacker; a son, Donovan Bryce, to Gina Ann Richardson; a daughter, Rebacca Danielle, to Amanda Sue Bentley and Danny R. Casebolt.

December 28: A daughter, Lanessia Larae, to Lesalie Denise and David William Keene; a daughter, Tayler Nicole, to Bridgette Michelle and Charles Burnette: a daughter, Cheyenne Paige, to Sherry and Danny Ramey; a son, Nicholas Xavier, to Barbara and Howard Sturgill

December 29: A daughter, Montana Bershia Hamilton, to Deborah Dicenna Watson and Tommy Hamilton.

December 30: A daughter, Jenny Marie, to Brandy Gail and Tate Edward Boyd; a daughter, Savannah Brooke, to Glenda Michelle and Ernest Glen Potter.

December 31: A son, Kenneth Charlie Glenn, to Rebecca Laronda and Kenneth Cecil Wallace; a son, Eddie Ryan, to Summer Beth and Eddie Randall Stump; a son, John Evan McKay, to Matasha and Kenny Scott.

January 1, 2000: A daughter, Katlin Elizabeth Samons, to Wanda Louise Meadors; a son, Chad Aaron, to Shelly Marie and Chad Allen Smallwood; a son, Austin Hunter, to Tambra Leiann and Arlie Ray Staley Jr.; a daughter, Zoe Reagen, to Kathy Lynn and Brian Porter Morrison; a daughter, Amanda Nicole Johnson, **Millennium Baby*** to Melissa Dawn Mullins and Jamie Lee Johnson.

Run, Patti, run

By Mark V. Hansen

At a young and tender age, Patti Wilson was told by her doctor that she was an epileptic. Her father, Jim Wilson, is a morning jogger. One day she smiled through her teen-age braces and said, "Daddy what I'd really love to do is run with you every day, but I'm afraid I'll have a seizure.'

Her father told her, "If you do, I know how to handle it so let's start running!"

That's just what they did every day. It was a wonderful experience for them to share, and there were no seizures at all while she was running. After a few weeks, she told her father, "Daddy, what I'd really love to do is break the world's long-distance running record for women.'

Her father checked the Guiness Book of World Records and found that the farthest any woman had run was 80 miles. As a freshman in high school, Patti announced, "I'm going to run from Orange County up to San Francisco." (A distance of 400 miles.)

"As a sophomore," she went on, "I'm going to run to Portland, Oregon." (Over 1,500 miles.)

"As a junior I'll run to St. Louis. (About 2,000

"As a senior I'll run to the White House." (More than

3,000 miles away.) In view of her handicap, Patti was as ambitious as she was enthusiastic, but she said she looked at the handicap

of being an epileptic as simply "an inconvenience." She

focused not on what she had lost, but on what she had That year she completed her run to San Francisco wearing a T-shirt that read "I Love Epileptics." Her dad ran every mile at her side, and her mom, a nurse, followed in a motor home behind them in case anything

In her sophomore year, Patti's classmates got behind her. They built a giant poster that read, "Run, Patti, Run!" (This has since become her motto and the title of a book she has written.) On her second marathon, en route to Portland, she fractured a bone in her foot. A doctor told her she had to stop her run. He said, "I've got to put a cast on your ankle so that you don't sustain per-

"Doc, you don't understand," she said. "This isn't just a whim of mine, it's a magnificent obsession! I'm not just doing it for me, I'm doing it to break the chains

Two Friends, Dream... Mark Victor Hanse

on the brains that limit so many others. Isn't there a way I can keep running?" He gave her one option. He could wrap it in adhesive instead of putting it in a cast. He warned her that it would be incredibly painful, and he told her, "It will blister." She told the doctor to wrap it

She finished the run to Portland, completing her last mile with the governor of Oregon. You may have seen the headlines: "Super Runner Patti Wilson Ends Marathon For Epilepsy On Her 17th Birthday.'

After four months of almost continuous running from the West Coast to the East Coast, Patti arrived in Washington and shook the hand of the president of the United States. She told him, "I wanted people to know that epileptics are normal human beings with normal

I told this story at one of my seminars not long ago, and afterward a big teary-eyed man came up to me, stuck out his big meaty hand and said, "Mark, my name is Jim Wilson. You were talking about my daughter, Patti." Because of her noble efforts, he told me, enough money had been raised to open up 19 multimillion-dollar epileptic centers around the country.

If Patti Wilson can do so much with so little, what can you do to outperform yourself in a state of total well-

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Genealogy software provides Internet-ready tools for researching and creating family trees

Individual Software Inc., developer and publisher of personal productivity and educational software, has introduced Family Ties Deluxe Edition (\$49.95) Version 6, a genealogy program that uses the power of Internet to assist in researching family history while generating comprehensive charts, reports and family

The World Wide Web has become an indispensable tool for creating family trees, and Family Ties Deluxe Edition incorporates valuable Internet search features to trace family history. At the same time, the program provides all of the means necessary to explore and complete a variety of genealogy projects, from detailed reports to pedigree charts, as well as lists and calendars to plan a family reunion.

"Family Ties Deluxe was designed to incorporate the Internet's vast resources in assisting people to explore their family's roots," said Tim Curry, product marketing manager at Individual Software.

"With the click of a button, the program takes you directly to the most comprehensive web sites to search for lost family members or track other useful informa-

Gathering Family History Made Easy

Family Ties has the Internet directly woven into the program by providing access to the largest and most complete online genealogy resources. By aligning with Ancestry.com, KindredKonnections.com and FamilySearch.org, it is no longer necessary to flip through multiple disks to complete family research.

When faced with a date or event that can't be documented, simply highlight the name on the family tree and click a button. Family Ties takes the user directly to the results page of the selected online resource.

Research Tools in the Box

Family Ties includes additional CDs to assist users in uncovering their heritage and enhance their presentations. These references include:

Progeny's Social Security Death Index information on 61 million individuals born in the 19th and 20th centuries. The program can call up records by name, birth date, date of death, state of issue, last known address and address of lump sum payment.

Francis Frith Collection — an archive of photographs dating from 1860 to 1970 containing images of the United Kingdom, including England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland and more.

The Centennia Working Model Edition features animated maps of Europe and the Middle East and offers a history of events, people and places.

Present Family Research

Once users are ready to display the records they've assembled, Family Ties offers a variety of options

A web page that can be posted on the Internet to share with others.

Interactive slide show complete with video, audio and pictures.

15 elegant family trees, reports, charts and

summaries including six new ancestry and descendant formats. By choosing a layout size, users can print single page trees or multi-page wall charts. Family Ties offers hundreds of options to personal-

ize any layout. Because Family Ties uses GEDCOM files, the universally recognized file format for genealogy files, as well as Personal Ancestry Files (PAF), the information can be shared with most other genealogy

System Requirements/Availability

Family Ties Deluxe Edition works with Microsoft Windows 95, Windows 98 or NT. The program requires a 486 microprocessor or higher, 8MB of RAM, 5MB of disk space, a 256-color VGA monitor or better, a 2x CD-ROM drive and a mouse.

Folic acid daily cuts birth defect risk

With the start of the new year, and during National Birth Defects Prevention Month, Kentucky women can make a simple resolution that could reduce Kentucky's incidence of neural tube birth defects. It is estimated that Kentucky

has twice the national average of babies born with neural tube defects, severe defects of the brain and spine. Research shows that women who consume the recommended amount of folic acid daily-found in most multivitamins-can reduce their risk of having a baby with these severe birth defects by as much as 70

"Because we know folic acid is effective in preventing neural tube birth defects, we urge all Kentucky women of childbearing age to make a New Year's Resolution to take folic acid every day," said Katrina Adams, program services director of the Greater Kentucky Chapter of the March of Dimes, the nation's leading voluntary organization dedicated to saving babies by preventing birth defects.

According to the March of Dimes, women should take the recommended amount of folic acid before they get pregnant and

during their pregnancy. The recommended amount is 400 micrograms a day, which can be found in most multivitamins. Women having a previous pregnancy with a child with a neural tube defect should consult with their physician for recommended dosage of folic acid.

"It's necessary for all women capable of becoming pregnant to be taking folic acid," said

Adams. "Most neural tube defects occur in the first month of pregnancy, before many women even know they are pregnant, and half of the pregnancies in this country are unplanned."

For more information on folic acid or pregnancy and birth defects, contact the March of Dimes Resource Center, toll free 888-MODIMES (888-663-4637).

State arts group to meet

Arts Kentucky has scheduled a statewide meeting for Saturday, January 15, in Frankfort.

The meeting of artists. craftspeople and members of arts groups will begin at 10 a.m. in room 125 of the Capitol Annex.

The focus of the morning session will be on "The Value of Multiculturalism in the Arts" and will feature Ken Clay of the Kentucky Center for the Arts and Jean Donohue of Media Working Group.

A box lunch and business meeting is planned for noon to 2 p.m., followed by a Kentucky Arts Council Workshop, in which new grant guidelines will be discussed, along with the panel review process.

Registration is \$25 for Arts Kentucky members and \$50 for non-members, which includes annual yearly dues.

To register, call the organization at 1-877-561-0701.

Arts Kentucky is a statewide membership organization. It provides members with professional development opportunities, access to resources, consulting services and inclusion in an arts network.

Results analyzed from a number of studies show that retirees base their decision on a variety of considerations. Ranked in order, future retirees are looking for low crime/security, pleasant climate, low cost of living, recreational/social features, neighbors, and a Virtually every prospective retiree wants to experismall town environment with big city amenities close

Knowing and understanding these concerns has helped the planners and builders of retirement communities, popular especially in the sun belt, to offer the features that soon-to-be retirees demand. A case in point is Green Valley, Arizona, an active retirement community about 20 miles south of Tucson, created by Fairfield Homes. Fairfield initially chose the location nearly 30 years ago to develop a community dedicated to retirement. With its sunny high desert climate and proximity to the culture and entertainment of Tucson, it was an ideal location. On top of that, since Green Valley is a self-contained retirement community, it offers excellent security and peace of mind.

(NAPSA)-Exactly how do retirement-age individ-

uals choose the place where they'll enjoy retirement?

Fairfield also saw the trend for active retirementwith retirees looking for diverse ways to enrich themselves. So, in addition to being the community's largest homebuilder, Fairfield has also developed \$14 million in recreational facilities, including three golf courses. Green Valley is also in the center of a wide

range of tourist and cultural attractions. Popular day trips include legendary Tombstone, the mining-townturned-arts community of Bisbee, shopping in Nogales, Mexico, scenic hiking trails and canyons. historic Spanish missions, as well as a number of casi-

ence a potential retirement spot first-hand before making the commitment to move. In response to this, many adult communities have developed affordable mini-vacations that allow prospective retirees an opportunity to get a taste of the community, the climate and future neighbors. Again Fairfield Green Valley is a leader, with their "Green Valley Sampler." Visitors stay in the luxurious Fairfield Green Valley Lodge, complete with neighboring golf course, restaurant, views of the nearby Santa Rita mountains, a heated spa, and a pass to Green Valley recreational facilities which include exercise machines, tennis, swimming, plus many arts and crafts classes. Guests get a package deal with free golf and lunch for a price much more favorable than those found at sunbelt

People interested in finding out more about the Green Valley Vacation Sampler can call 1-800-528-4930; visit the website at www.retireaz.com; send email to info@retireaz.com; or write Fairfield Homes, P.O. Box 587, Green Valley, AZ 85622-0587.

Douth



Fourth grade students at Allen Elementary School enjoyed their recent trip to Frankfort to visit the Capitol and State Representative

Greg Stumbo. The trip coincided with their study of Kentucky history.

High school students learning to protect our environment

(NAPSA)-Students in high school and students of the environment are devising ingenious ways to study our world-and winning prizes for it.

For example, a high school student group with a passion for saving frogs, a professor who seeks keys to restoration beneath the soil of damaged ecosystems and a travel agency entrepreneur who promotes environmentally responsible tourism in Kenya are among nine honorees to receive the nation's oldest, most prestigious conservation award-The Chevron Conservations Award.

"These nine trailblazers demonstrate what can be accomplished with a balance of dedication, determination and diplomacy," said Dr. Donald Paul, vice president of technology and environment affairs for Chevron Corporation.

The Viva la Rana (Long Live the Frog) Project, a winner in the Organizational category, was undertaken by a group of students at Douglas High School in Arizona. The Chiricahua leopard frog owes its revival in part to the students who significantly restored and rejuvenated the frog's habitat and population. The result is one of the largest leopard frog breeding populations in the world.

Dr. Michael Allen, director of the Center for Conservation Biology at the University of California, Riverside, and professor at the Department of Plant Biology, is an award recipient in the Professional category. Dr. Allen studies how microscopic soil organisms, known as mycornhizae, may hold the key to rejuvenating ecosystems damaged by forest fires, volcanic eruptions and other cataclysmic events.



Jorie Butler Kent, chairman of the Friends of Conservation (FOC) and co-owner of the Abercrombie & Kent travel company, has combined business savvy with compassion for wildlife to win in Chevron's Volunteer category. The FOC, which focuses on an ecosystem in Kenya, has sponsored instructional programs including educational wildlife presentations for inner-city school children throughout the United States. The FOC also works with indigenous Kenyan tribes in monitoring endangered wildlife.

The 1999 Chevron Conservation Awards winners include:

Organizations

 International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives' Cities for Climate Protection (ICLEI/CCP) Campaign-Berkeley,
California Sierra Madre Environmental Action Council (SMEAC)-Sierra Madre, California

 Viva la Rana Project-Douglas High School, Douglas, Arizona

Professionals

• Dr. Michael Allen, director, Center for Conservation Biology-University of California, Riverside

 Christopher "Kim" J. Elliman, former president and current trustee, Open Space Institute-New York, New York

 Edward T. McMahon, director of American Greenways Program, The Conservation Fund-Arlington, Virginia

Volunteers

• Iorie But

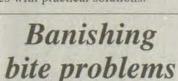
 Jorie Butler Kent, chairman, Friends of Conservation-Oak Brook, Illinois

 Charles H. Murphy, retired chairman and CEO, Murphy Oil Corporation-El Dorado, Arkansas

 Gerald Stoops, retired teacher-San Bernardino, California

Award winners were selected by an independent panel of seven distinguished conservationists representing a wide range of environmental fields, including land conservation, water resource issues and protection of endangered species.

Created by the late Ed Zern, a nationally recognized sportsman, humorist and author, the Chevron Conservation Awards honor individuals and groups who protect and enhance renewable resources. For more than four decades, honorees have been chosen for their ability to work effectively with divergent organizations, achieve consensus and meet difficult challenges with practical solutions.



(NAPSA)-Here's news that may make parents and teens smile. According to a recent research report, a small comfortable, dental appliance worn for two or three hours daily and while sleeping is highly effective in helping to correct common but difficult orthodontic problems. The six month study concluded that the appliance, the Kussick Tongue Retrainer, can correct abnormal tongue and swallowing habits that cause malocclusion, the improper positioning of teeth.

The study was done by the Manipal India Academy of Higher Education College of Dental Surgery on the appliance designed by American orthodontist Leon Kussick, to properly position the tongue during swallowing and to reduce its size. The study found this approach to be highly effective for children.

Parents interested in having their children's bite problems corrected with the Kussick Retrainer should contact their dentist for further information.

Hamm awarded nursing degree

Judith Hamm, daughter of Floyd and Edna Davis of David, and wife of Cecil Hamm, was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from the University of Kentucky College of Nursing.

Nursing graduates were recognized at a reception, December 16.

Hamm, who is enrolled in the nursing master's program at UK, was one of 42 students who graduated from the program with either a bache-

lor of science degree, master's degree, or doctoral degree.

Since the first bachelor of nursing degree was awarded at UK in 1964, more than 3,700 nursing students have graduated. In 1971, the College of Nursing started its master's degree program, and in 1988, the College began its doctorate program.

Last year, U.S. News & World Report ranked the U.K. College of Nursing master's degree program 48th among the 117 schools ranked.

Local student holds office at Centre College

Les Fugate has been elected an officer of the Centre College Interfraternity Council, the governing organization for fraternities on the campus. He is serving as vice president of risk management and education.

Fugate, who is the son of Marshall and Jackie Fugate of Prestonsburg, is a sophomore at Centre and a member of the Phi Kappa Tau social fraternity

Centre has campus chapters of six social fraternities and four social sororities. The fraternities and sororities are part of a larger campus community that includes nearly 80 student clubs and organizations.



Chase Inmon and Kris Ward enjoyed making bird feeders in December. They are students in Lisa Thornsberry's class at May Valley Elementary School.

New study shows instant hand sanitizers cut school absenteeism

(NAPSA)-Elementary school students who use an instant hand sanitizer in the classroom have 20 percent fewer absentee days due to illness, according to a recent study of over 6,000 children. The study results, supported by the National Association of School Nurses, emphasize the importance of hand hygiene in an effort to reduce sick days and keep kids in the classroom.

Handwashing is acknowledged as the most effective method for preventing the spread of infection. However, it just isn't possible or practical to wash with soap and water as often as needed. Instant hand sanitizers, when introduced as a complement to handwashing, provide an effective alternative that is convenient and easy to use.

Students in the study were instructed to wash their hands with soap and water as they normally do, but to also use the instant hand sanitizer before and after lunch, after recess and after using the restroom. Dispensers were installed next to every classroom door.

The study ran for 10 months, covering the 1998-99 school year, and school districts in Athens, Tennessee; Wilmington, Delaware; Irvine, California; Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio; and Hudson, Ohio were involved. A total of 19 elementary schools, grades K-6, took part. In each school district, classrooms containing Purell® Instant Hand Sanitizer were paired with control classrooms. Absentee days due to illness were recorded by school

personnel.

The spread of infectious dis-

ease accounts for more than 164 million lost school days annually among kindergarten through twelfth grade students in public schools, according to figures provided by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Gojo Industries, Inc, makers of Purell, and the National Association of School Nurses find the results promising for school nurses, administrators, teachers, students, and parents across the country and encourage additional studies to determine effective ways to prevent illnesses and absenteeism among elementary school children.

"This study demonstrates the importance of healthy hand hygiene in a classroom setting. Teaching children the importance of hand hygiene, whether it's with a hand sanitizer or soap and water, can help reduce the spread of infection and the resulting loss in learning days," said Judy Robinson, Ph.D., R.N. and Executive Director of the National Association of School Nurses.

So what can be done this winter to help keep kids healthy and in school? Parents can do their part by encouraging their children to:

• Wash their hands with soap and water regularly;

 Use a hand sanitizer between handwashings or when soap and water are not available;

water are not available;
• Eat a well-balanced diet;

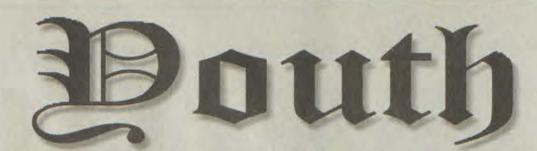
Engage in regular physical activity; and,

Dress appropriately when going outdoors.

For more information about the study or hand hygiene, visit www.purell.com.



Jesse Meade was a Pilgrim for a day in November. He is a student in Lisa Thornsberry's class at May Valley Elementary School.



Adding fun and family to the middle-school math equation: Figure this!

(NAPSA)-Remember being stumped in school by a complicated math problem and saying you would never need to solve one like it in "real life?"

If so, you're not alone. Yet from boardroom to boiler room, from the NASA launch pad to the Macy's sales floor, advanced math skills have become critical for virtually all of today's careers. Moreover, taking challenging math courses leads to opportunities in higher education. This could be troubling news to many of the nation's students. According to the most recent findings of the Third International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS), U.S. 8th and 12th graders perform near the bottom of the list in math abilities compared to their counterparts



by Ed Crutchfield

(NAPSA)-When Angie Flynn

stepped into her second grade

class, her teacher placed her in a

high, third-grade reading group

within days. Her parents were

pleased, but not surprised. "We

had read bedtime stories to her

since she was a baby," says her

mother, Jill Flynn, a First Union

their offspring well prepared for

life in the 21st Century. While

some moms and dads worry about

their children being "computer

literate," that's far from true "lit-

words on a printed page or com-

puter screen with fluency and

understanding. A literate person

can also write with correct

spelling, punctuation, and flow of

ideas so a reader can grasp the

literate when it comes to both

reading and writing says a new

study from the National

Assessment of Educational

Progress. Only one percent of stu-

dents in the fourth, eighth, and

Few American youngsters are

full meaning of the word.

Literate individuals can read

eracy.'

Reading to a youngster is a smart move for parents who want

around the world.

While there are a number of factors for closing this achievement gap, most national and local education groups agree that boosting parental involvement is key. Recognizing the importance of the middle school years, the Figure This! campaign is offering a series of engaging mathematics challenges for families to do together in the after-school hours.

Developed by the National Council of Teachers Mathematics (NCTM), a recognized leader in the development of standards for K-12 mathe-

matics achievement, the Figure This! challenges are designed for middle school students and their families to do at home. On a regular basis, dozens of these real-world, parent-family challenges will be featured in television, print, the Internet and radio. Like horoscopes, crossword puzzles and the morning traffic report, the Figure This! challenge will become a well-recognized feature in a variety of media outlets.

The campaign is funded by the U.S. Department of Education and the National Science Foundation (NSF), and supported in part by the National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering (NACME). A key message at the recent launch of Figure This! was a call-to-action for partnerships by America's business, education and civic groups. The groups are encouraged to promote the Figure This! challenges through product packaging, reprints and in advertising campaigns, and through dissemination to customers and employees.

Organizations interested in partnership opportunities with Figure This! are encouraged to call toll-free 1-877-GO-SOLVE, or to log onto www.figurethis.org for more information.





First grade students in Donna Collins' class at Allen Elementary School recently went on a field trip to the Mountain Arts Center to watch "Alice in Wonderland." The trip was sponsored by Layne Brothers Ford and Honda dealership of Ivel.



Keeping science real

(NAPSA)-Scientific discoveries are outpacing the ability of traditional textbooks to stay current.

Think about it: the cloning of farm animals; the mapping of human DNA; the latest innovations in over-the-counter medications. By the time a new science textbook reaches the classroom, researchers may have discovered a new, potentially life-saving drug.

A recent study by Project 2061, the education reform initiative of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, found that nine of the most popular science textbooks failed to meet science education teaching standards.

Today's teachers need more than traditional classroom materials to keep students interested in science. BioRAP® science curriculum supplements are one such resource many educators have discovered. BioRAP is a unique (and free) instructional tool that takes a "real world" approach to science by relating scientific concepts and information to topics relevant to today's teenagers.

Brian McCarry of Monsignor Bonner High School near Philadelphia has noticed a marked difference in his students' attitudes toward science since introducing BioRAP last spring. "Our textbooks are good, but they can quickly become outdated as scientists make new discoveries every day. BioRAP offers up-to-date information on the latest issues that really grabs my students'



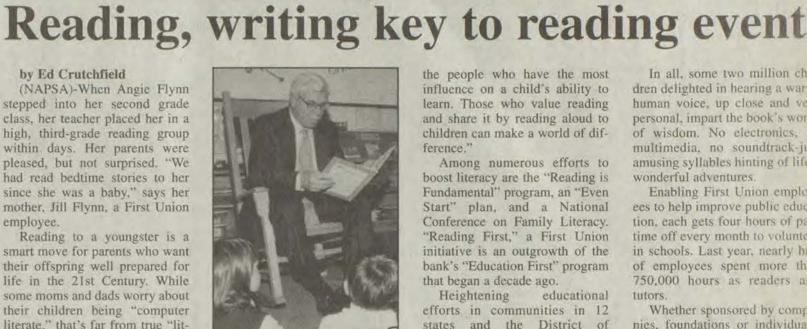
attention," said McCarry.

BioRAP topics include product safety, risk assessment, and healthy skin. The materials are packed with easy-to-read and timely information on the latest scientific discoveries, interactive activities, "real-life" cartoon scenarios, and features on sciencerelated careers.

"BioRAP helps my students see that science is part of their daily lives. It encourages them to think about the products they use every day and the science behind those products," said Jim Parker, a science teacher at Spring Valley Middle School in California.

BioRAP is distributed free-ofcharge to teachers by Join Hands, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting awareness and understanding of biological research. BioRAP supports The National Science Education Standards.

For more information, contact the Join Hands Educational Foundation at 1-800-933-8228 or www.joinhand.org.



Ed Crutchfield, Chairman and CEO of the First Union Corporation, takes part in his corporation's Reading First program and shares his love of books with a captive audience.

twelfth grades can do "advanced" writing, and roughly 20 percent fall below "basic" requirements.

Educators agree that the ability to write proficiently starts with an ability to read. And when it comes to teaching youngsters how to read, listen to one teacher's statement: "Parents are the people who have the most influence on a child's ability to learn. Those who value reading and share it by reading aloud to children can make a world of difference.'

Among numerous efforts to boost literacy are the "Reading is Fundamental" program, an "Even Start" plan, and a National Conference on Family Literacy. "Reading First," a First Union initiative is an outgrowth of the bank's "Education First" program that began a decade ago.

Heightening educational efforts in communities in 12 states and the District of Columbia, First Union employees volunteer to read to students in classes. In October, to mark the program's tenth year, employees, sports celebrities, and community partner representatives visited 75,000 classrooms. In each, they read Dr. Seuss's Oh, The Places You'll Go! and left the book to be enjoyed time and again.

Perhaps because my mother was a schoolteacher, I take extra pride in standing behind what we believe is the largest face-to-face corporate literacy event in the

In all, some two million children delighted in hearing a warm, human voice, up close and very personal, impart the book's words of wisdom. No electronics, no multimedia, no soundtrack-just amusing syllables hinting of life's wonderful adventures.

Enabling First Union employees to help improve public education, each gets four hours of paid time off every month to volunteer in schools. Last year, nearly half of employees spent more than 750,000 hours as readers and tutors

Whether sponsored by companies, foundations or individuals, such programs can help youngsters prepare to "communicate and reason in the beginning of the 21st Century," says an official at the National Center for Education Statistics.

Still, parents should realize that such efforts alone aren't enough. As one mom says, "Parents are the most important teachers, so it's important to find time, or take time, to read to kids at home.'

Ed Crutchfield is the Chairman and CEO of the First Union Corporation.



Improving skills at MSU

Morehead State University's College of Science and Technology recently hosted its sixth annual Mathematics, Physics and Advanced Technology Day. Several students from Allen Central High School were among about 450 juniors and seniors from nearly 20 schools

who participated in the advanced learning explorations. High school math and science teachers chose their best students to attend MPATE Day. (MSU photo by Tim Holbrook)

On the road to pedestrian safety

(NAPSA)-Are you driven to learn more about road safety? Well, maybe that's a stretch. But, drivers aren't the only ones who need to be concerned about safety. Pedestrians do too, especially school-age children who come in contact with traffic nearly every day. Because they do, it's especially important to teach our children how to be safe pedestrians. Teach YOUR children to always follow these important steps:

· Before crossing a street, stop at the curb, edge of the road, or corner before proceeding. Look left-right-and-left again, if its clear, begin to cross...and look over your shoulder for oncoming vehicles. Never stop watching for traffic when crossing the street,

· Always walk facing traffic when there are no sidewalks so you can see what's coming towards you. That way, you'll see the car if the driver doesn't see

· Be especially careful when walking after dark. Placing "cool" reflective stickers on children's clothing, shoes, and bookbags or slipping on a reflective wrist band is easy to do and greatly

increases the chances of being seen. · Always pay attention to and follow the traffic lights and pedestrian signals at intersections. Wait until you see the WALK signal, then, follow the basic

rules for crossing. · A flashing DON'T WALK signal indicates you shouldn't start to cross the street. However, if you have already started crossing when it begins flashing, continue walking. The timing mechanism in the signal device usually allows you time to cross before it changes to a steady DON'T WALK signal.

. If you see a steady DON'T WALK signal, don't begin to cross the street! Wait for the next WALK signal.

. The WALK signal and the green traffic light indicate that it's your turn to cross the street, but, they do not mean it's SAFE to cross. The WALK signal and the GREEN light mean LOOK, and go only if no traffic is coming your way.

Here are some tips for drivers to help improve pedestrian safety:

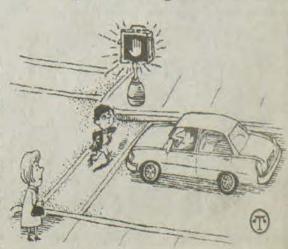
· Always travel at the posted speed

limit-especially through residential

· Avoid distractions and always be on the lookout for pedestrians-especially children-since they are much more likely to dart out into the path of incoming

. When turning left at a green light or making a right turn on red, look for pedestrians as well as cars. Often, when drivers are turning at intersections they are watching for traffic, but not pedestrians. Pedestrians always have the right of way at intersections.

The most common reason drivers give for why they hit a pedestrian is they did not see them. Stay alert! Don't let that happen to you.



If you're in a car, keep an eye out for children crossing, rushing across intersections or walls ing in streets or on roadway shoulders.

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