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Sports



Errors prove costly as Betsy Layne falls to Jenkins Lady Cavs, 9-3

B1 ■ JB Sports • B2
■ Bentley's Comments • B3
■ NASCAR Page • B6

Lifestyles



Jenny Wiley Theatre are

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C1 ■ Things to Ponder • C2
■ Youth News • C2
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Sunday, April 9, 2000

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Inside:

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- Termites: Answers and Questions • A6
- PCC Host Science Exhibit

Public meetings

- Prestonsburg City Council, regular meeting, 6 p.m. tomorrow.
- Prestonsburg Community College Board of Directors, 5:30 p.m. Thursday. Items on the agenda include the presidential search, an update on construction projects, a budget proposal, the annual improvement plan, and a report from the nominating committee.

Times staff spotlight

Jim Goble

See back of card, page A3

Two Day Forecast...

Today	Tomorrow
Mostly Cloudy	Party Sunny
High: 55 Low: 42	High: 62 Low: 44
UV Index: 4	UV Index: 5

Brought to you by the Floyd County Times

The Big Story: Families in Crisis

'I fear for these children'

Woman says she will go to jail before returning nieces to mother

by Ralph B. Davis
Managing Editor

It doesn't take long after meeting 8-year-old Autumn Renee Bush for her to tell you she doesn't like to eat grass.

She doesn't like it at all and she never wants to eat it again. The Prestonsburg Elementary student would much rather go to McDonald's, as she planned to do with her sisters and aunt Thursday afternoon.

Autumn's aversion to eating grass could be chalked up to childhood experimentation in almost any other case involving any other child. Instead, she and her sisters say, it came out of necessity.

And hunger.

A court order signed December 29, 1998, by Meigs County, Ohio, Juvenile Division Judge Robert Buck doesn't mention the grass. In staid, legal language, it merely grants "emergency temporary custody," of Autumn and her sisters, 13-year-old Sarah Dawn Bush and 10-year-old Megan Lynn Bush, to their aunt, Candy Robinson, who now resides in Prestonsburg.

The motion from Meigs County Prosecutor John R. Lentes which led to Judge Buck's order doesn't go much further, but it begins to paint a picture by saying that the girls' parents, Denver and Gail Bush, did not provide them with "proper or necessary subsistence, education, medical or surgical care or other care necessary for [the children's] health, morals or well being."

All three girls vividly remember the day they ate grass. Megan recalled that she went to her father, telling him the girls were hungry and wanting him to give them some chicken.

"He said, 'No, go out and get your own and get a job and buy your own,'" Megan said.

Instead, the girls resorted to going out into their front yard to pick grass to fill their empty stomachs.

Legal questions

The grass-eating incident is only one of many horrific tales involving hunger, abandonment and abuse the girls related about their experiences living with their parents, many of which could not be corroborated by press time.

Those accounts are precisely why Robinson, who has kept the children since she picked them up after their



Candy Robinson, back, with the three girls who have been under her care since December 1998 — from left to right, Autumn, 8, Megan, 10, and Sarah, 13. An Ohio judge has ruled the girls must be returned to their mother, but Robinson is vowing to fight returning the children to the same conditions from which they came. (photo by Willie Elliott)

parents were placed in jail the day after Christmas 1998, wants to continue to raise the children as her own.

But time is running out.

Judge Buck, who originally granted Robinson temporary custody of the children in 1998, has now ordered that the children be returned to Meigs County to live with their mother, Gail Bush, 35, of Pomeroy.

Buck did not return a phone call seeking comment about the case.

In addition, the girls' father, Denver Bush, 43, has been granted visitation every other weekend, despite the fact he was charged February 28 in Ohio with two counts of sexual imposition for allegedly having sexual contact with two girls, age 13 and 14. He later reached a plea agreement with prosecutors, pleading guilty to two counts of attempted sexual imposition in exchange for a 30-day suspended sentence.

Robinson believes the children are in danger if they return to their parents.

She says she believes they will return to the same conditions which led them to Prestonsburg to begin with and, for that reason, she has been fighting against reuniting the girls with their parents.

She is also afraid for her own life, having obtained an emergency protective order barring Gail and Denver Bush from coming within 1,000 feet of her. She said she requested the order after the two allegedly threatened to shoot her.

"I fear for my life," Robinson said. "I fear for these children. I know this man [Denver Bush] will get a gun and come shoot me and have no qualms about it."

If the girls are not returned, Robinson says she has been told she will go to jail along with her lawyer, Paintsville attorney Paul Deaton, who is also currently running for commonwealth's attorney for Johnson.

(See **Custody**, page two)

Second arrest made in robbery

by Randell Reno
Staff Writer

Detective Lee Weddington has made a second arrest in the alleged robbery of an elderly Langley woman.

Dorothy Arnette, 59, of Royalton was arrested Monday for allegedly assisting Carma Miller, also known as Tammy Slusher, during an alleged robbery at the home of 87-year-old Lanie Terry.

Charged with first-degree robbery, theft, unlawful imprisonment and terroristic threatening, Arnette allegedly entered the Terry's home around 12 p.m. along with Miller and robbed her.

Entering the home under the guise to clean it, the two allegedly told Terry to stand in a corner and to keep quiet or they would kill her. The women are accused of robbing Terry of cash, jewelry, two guns, a portable stereo and a coat.

The two had shown up at Terry's home unsolicited.

Weddington found many of the stolen items in Miller's home.

An April 12 preliminary hearing has been set for the alleged crime. Additional charges are pending against Miller.

PRIDE spring cleanup is at hand

by Randell Reno
Staff Writer

Floyd County's annual PRIDE cleanup is just days away.

Beginning April 17 and lasting through April 29, residents of Floyd County may take rubbish and many large items to county transfer stations.

Residents may bring old appliances such as stoves, refrigerators, washers, dryers, metals and tires (separated from the rims).

Officials at the sites will not accept batteries of any type, lead-based paints, or hazardous materials of any

(See **Cleanup**, page three)

Health department adding new services

by Randell Reno
Staff Writer

The Floyd County Health Department has introduced new programs in an effort to give Floyd County residents better health care.

Beginning May 23, the Prestonsburg office will introduce the Extended Wellness Child Preventive Health Screenings. This service is intended to aid children participating in the KCHIP program. School physicals will be included in the services.

The later hours will also aid working parents who are unable to get their children to a doctor through the day.

The clinic has a tentative schedule of April 25, May 16 and 30, June 20, and June 27.

Plans are to continue the services through the summer or as long as long as the FCHD can keep costs within the budget.

Beginning May 23, women will be able to visit an OB/GYN nurse practitioner for a monthly Monday evening clinic with family planning services, with pap smears and clinical breast exams available.

This will become a permanent service at the clinic, with the same hours of 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

(See **Health**, page three)



Students at Wesley Christian Day Care in Allen celebrated spring and marked Child Abuse Prevention Month with a balloon release Friday, although some didn't want to let go of their balloons. Other events during the day included a picnic, sack race and egg race. (photo by Ralph B. Davis)

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Custody

Lawrence and Martin counties.

But Robinson believes she is fighting the good fight and, as such, has filed to adopt the three girls and is continuing to challenge Buck's order in the Kentucky court system.

At the same time, she is also preparing herself for the possibility of jail.

"I'll go to jail because I'm not going to willingly release [the children]," Robinson said Thursday. "I

don't want to go to jail. I've never even had a speeding ticket."

Deaton says, as her attorney, he cannot advise Robinson to ignore Buck's order. But he says he also realizes how resolute she is in her beliefs and, based on his knowledge of the case, says he cannot really blame her.

"If I have to go to jail, I guess I'll have to go," Deaton said.

Robinson has been assisted by the Meigs County prosecutor's office. Christi Lynch, Meigs County victim advocate, deferred all questions about the case to Lentes, who she said was tied up in meetings all day Friday.

But Lynch did have one thing to say about the case: "I'm just as distraught over this as you can imagine."

As for the girls, they, too, are firmly opposed to moving back to Ohio to live with their mother. Sarah even wrote a letter to her mother saying as much.

"We never want to come back!" Sarah said at the end of the letter. "Aunt Candy and Uncle Mike take very, very, very good care of us so please leave us alone!"

Other incidents

According to the children, having no food was common in their home. That situation made its most lasting impact on Autumn, the youngest.

Autumn's preoccupation with food was noted by a children's therapist who has been seeing the child since she moved in with her aunt. All three children have been in therapy since that time.

In records released to The Times by Robinson, the therapist noted Autumn's obsession with having food.

"[Autumn] excessively plays with play food in every session and plays role of mother who screams and yells at children and only

allows them to eat small portions of food," the therapist wrote in a report. "She will take out all available play food and stack it high up on the table, not allowing anyone to touch it. Then she plays 'family is moving' and packs several bags full of food items."

On September 3, the same therapist noted that Autumn continued to focus her playtime on food.

In addition, Autumn also required extensive medical treatment upon her arrival in Kentucky. Robinson said the girl required 25 oral surgeries to repair and remove teeth which had been left to decay. She also required treatment from a doctor for what Robinson described as "a mass of infections" which had been ignored over the years.

Sarah, who is the oldest at 13, is learning how to become a child again at an age when many girls are dreaming of becoming women.

Sarah's therapist noted in a March 22, 1999, report that the pre-teen often had to play the role of parent in caring for her sisters when they lived with their parents in Ohio.

"[Sarah] has spoken at length about her prior home," the therapist wrote. "When asked about the differences between there and here she replied, 'Here we have enough to eat and Aunt Candy takes care of us.' ... She describes her former home as a place where she was left alone to care for her younger sisters, sometimes overnight, and there was not 'good' food to eat. She remembers walking to another home to get food to feed her sisters. She states she had a bed, but her sisters did not. Sometimes there were not enough 'covers,' she states, and they would all sleep together in bed."

The therapist also noted that Sarah refused to speak with her father, but "uncomfortably" talked to her mother by phone. Following one such call, the girl told her therapist, "I told her I loved her, but I didn't say I missed her."

Now, faced with the possibility of returning to live with her mother in 10 days, Sarah seems to wish to put her life in Ohio completely behind her and move on.

"They just need to leave us alone," Sarah said of her parents.

In a March report concerning Megan, a therapist noted that the girl was adamant in her wishes to remain with her aunt and not return

to her parents.

"She told therapist that she does not want to go home to live with parents, 'Never — they hurt us and beat us and leave us without food,'" the report says.

Six months later, those feelings had not changed.

"When the question came up in July 1999 for her and her siblings to possibly return home to live with their biological mother, Megan seemed very withdrawn, verbalizing doubt that mother could take care of them and also fear of having to 'move again and again.' She told therapist plainly that she did not want to move back to Ohio," the therapist wrote.

The earlier report also noted that Megan talked about "bruises on her back from her dad beating her." In an interview Thursday, both Megan and her aunt said the girl continues to have problems with her back which doctors say will probably remain with her the rest of her life.

A new life

Since moving in with their aunt in Kentucky, first at East Point just over the Johnson County line, and now in Prestonsburg, the girls all say their life has changed for the better, and many close to them agree.

The girls are enrolled in Girl Scouts and gymnastics, attend church regularly and do well in school. Letters from their schools — Adams Middle School for Sarah and Prestonsburg Elementary for Megan and Autumn — indicate the girls come to class neat and clean, are rarely absent, and appear to be thriving in their current environment.

Adams Middle School guidance counselor Charlene E. Nunn, in a letter dated August 16 provided by Robinson, went further.

"[O]ur school is very appreciative of the encouragement Ms. Robinson has provided toward Sarah's education and the cooperation Ms. Robinson has had with school personnel in support of our curriculum and middle school program," Nunn wrote. "Ms. Robinson has provided the kind of support from the home that we wish all our students could have. It is my opinion that Sarah is now in a home situation with Ms. Robinson acting as her guardian — a setting which provides the love, stability and support needed by Sarah to allow her

the opportunities to develop to her full potential both as a student and as an individual."

The girls also say that, since they have come to live with their aunt, they have been able to do things they had never done before when living in Ohio. Those experiences range from the spectacular, such as trips to the zoo or Six Flags, to other things most people would take for granted, such as going trick-or-treating or getting presents for Christmas and birthdays.

When asked where they want to live, all three girls say they wish to remain with their aunt. Autumn said living with her mother would be "worse," while Sarah said the only thing she has to say to her parents is, "Leave us alone."

When asked why they like living with their aunt better, each girl provided answers which gave insight into their lives before coming to Kentucky.

"We have beds," Sarah said.

"We have food."

"We get to go to the store and get toys," Megan replied.

"We don't have to eat grass," Autumn said.

Perhaps most striking is a thank-you note the girls gave to Robinson:

"Thanks,
Thank you for a place to eat, sleep, bathe, live!

"Thank you for the clothes, socks, shoes, underwear and a bed to sleep in.

"Thanks alot.

"Love ya always
Sarah, Megan and Migit (Autumn)"

That letter, their aunt says, is very telling.

"That just shows you what they've been through," Robinson said looking over the note, her voice cracking. "Things most of us would take for granted, they feel they have to say thank you for."



Whales can get lice.

Continued from p1

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Monday, April 17 thru
Saturday, April 29

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Appliances, metal items and tires must be separated and taken to the staging area near the landfill.

Tipping will be free-of-charge to FLOYD COUNTY residents.

If you are NOT ABLE-BODIED and require assistance with the loading and disposal of items you may call the county Garage and request assistance. Please give a specific location of the pick-up and the items to be picked up. It will be necessary to separate tires and metals.

You may reach the County Garage by calling 478-1001 or 452-1001.

All calls must be received before 4:00 p.m. April 14, 2000.

Absolutely no calls will be accepted after that date.

NOT ACCEPTED ARE BATTERIES, LEAD BASED PAINTS OR ANY HAZARDOUS WASTE.

WASTE TIRE AMNESTY FOR FLOYD COUNTY

Floyd Countians will have six days in April during which they may get rid of old tires.

April 24-26 Residents may bring tires to the transfer station at Garth Hollow.

April 27-29 Residents may bring tires to the state highway garage at Allen.

Tires on Rims will be accepted.

NOT ACCEPTABLE are foam-filled tires, off road construction tires, heavy equipment tires and solid tires with pressed on rims.

Does not include retailers or salvage yards.

THIS PROGRAM WILL HAPPEN ONLY ONCE. IT WILL NOT BE AN ANNUAL PROGRAM.

1999 Totals

2500 tons of trash and debris (5 million pounds)

800 tons of metal and white goods (1.6 million pounds)

More than 25 miles of creek bank

Shakespeare coming to Floyd County!

On April 10, Floyd County students will get the chance to see William Shakespeare "Alive!" Kentucky Shakespeare Festival's touring educational outreach program, "Shakespeare Alive!" will perform its "Boy Meets Girl Meets Shakespeare" for students of South Floyd Middle School in Hi Hat at 12 and 1 p.m. Now in its tenth season, "Shakespeare Alive!" runs through May 15, bringing interactive performance workshops to schools throughout Kentucky.

These workshops will introduce 2000 students to Shakespeare's drama through performance. Students will enjoy scenes from three of the Bard's plays, with a focus on the theme "The course of true love never did run smooth." Within the interactive format of the program, students are encouraged to ask questions and assert their opinions regarding the artistic work while exploring the program's theme. The Festival will conduct 500 such workshops this season.

The 2000 tour features Michael McNeil and Tina Jo Hagens. A native of Pennsylvania, Tina Jo earned her BFA in acting at Syracuse University, making her professional debut there at Syracuse Stage. She then moved to North Carolina to work for the Children's Theatre of Charlotte, where she toured with the Taradiddle Players and taught theatre classes for three seasons. She has also worked with Chickspare,

an all female Shakespeare troupe, and with Pritchard Theatrical Productions in Michigan. Michael McNeil grew up in North Dakota, and graduated from the University of North Dakota with a BFA in Acting. He first joined Kentucky Shakespeare Festival for the 1999 summer production of "The Taming of the Shrew." Mike and Tina Jo perform scenes from "Twelfth Night," "A Midsummer Night's Dream," "Romeo and Juliet," and "Antony and Cleopatra." The scenes have been selected and staged to reflect the relevant and contemporary nature of Shakespeare's works.

Kentucky Shakespeare Festival, located in Louisville, is a year-round non-profit theatre dedicated to providing quality class-

ical theatre and educational touring programming throughout the region. "Shakespeare Alive!" is designed to address the KERA Core Content for the Arts & Humanities and National Standards for the Arts & Humanities, and since 1990 the tour has served over 224,000 students in all Kentucky counties. The Festival has also toured into Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia and Tennessee.

Sponsors for the 1999-2000 tour include: Clark County Arts Council, Winn-Dixie, Humana Foundation, Tricon Global Restaurants, The Miller Family Foundation, The Gheens Foundation, The Norton Foundation and The UPS Foundation.

Health

Beginning June 15, Men's Day will be held at the clinic. On these afternoons, men can visit the clinic for PSA cancer screening for prostate cancer, as well as cholesterol, blood sugar and hypertension screenings.

Men's Day will be held just four times a year but will be a permanent program at the clinic.

The FCHD will work in conjunction with the Christian Appalachian Project for a one-time service in the Harold/Betsy Layne area. The

MammoCare Van will be set up at the Betsy Layne Post Office on May 10 to aid patients in mammograms.

Patients will visit the Health Department at the Betsy Layne location for a OB/GYN nurse practitioner breast cancer screening and then they will be sent to the MammoCare Van. The van will be on location from 9 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.

The adjustment and addition were made to better accommodate the community's needs, said Thursa Sloan, director of nursing.

Cleanup

kind.

Residents who are not able to remove unwanted items from their homes may contact the county garage for assistance. When requesting assistance specific locations are a must. You should contact the county garages at 478-1001 or 452-1001.

Calls requesting assistance must be received before 4 p.m. April 14. Absolutely no calls will be accepted after that date.

Last year's cleanup efforts netted 2,500 tons (5 million pounds) of trash and debris, and 800 tons (1.6 million pounds) of metal and white goods with more than 25 miles of creek banks cleaned of debris.

Tire Amnesty Week will be held during the PRIDE spring cleanup. From April 24-26, Floyd County residents may bring tires to the transfer station located at Garth Hollow near Martin. April 27-29

residents may bring tires to the state highway garage at Allen.

The tire project is unprecedented in its scope. Floyd Fiscal Court officials urge all residents to bring tires in from property, creek beds and streams for a countywide effort to clean up the commonwealth.

Both stations will accept tires still on the rim.

Foam-filled tires, off-road construction tires, heavy equipment tires and solid tires with pressed-on rims will not be accepted.

Everyone may participate in this effort. Retailers and salvage yards owners are not included.

This is a one-time project. It is not an annual event. The fiscal court and the county PRIDE agency urge all to participate.

Continued from p1



It's illegal to ride an ugly horse down the street in Wilbur, Washington.

Quote

"A lot of times you have to be a mind reader... sometimes things aren't legible or intelligible..."

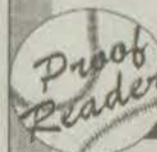


Jim Goble

Career Statistics

Name: James E. Goble
Birthdate: May 19, 1919
Hometown: Prestonsburg
Years of service: 65
Began employment: 1935 as a high school student
Became full time employee: 1937, as printer and pressman
Position: Proof Reader
Mr. Goble retired as member of the composing team, 54 years.

He returned to the paper after suffering a broken shoulder about six years ago as a proof reader.
Career at The Times: He has been involved in all aspects of letterpress composition and presswork, including both newspaper and commercial production.
Fun facts: Mr. Goble's father, H.L. Goble, was an original founder of the Floyd County Times in 1927. At the age of eight or nine, he was placed upon a stool and given some gasoline to clean the brass rules.



The Times



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—First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution—

Viewpoint

Sunday, April 9, 2000 A4

QUOTE OF THE DAY...

To be nobody but yourself—in a world which is doing its best, night and day to make you everybody else—means to fight the hardest battle which any human being can fight and never stop fighting.

e.e. cummings—

Editorial

Making roads safer

When it comes to promoting highway safety, the most important aspect of the drunken-driving law enacted by the 2000 General Assembly is not that it lowers the blood-alcohol level — in which a driver is presumed intoxicated — from 0.10 to 0.08.

Instead, it's the provisions that toughen the penalties for the most dangerous drivers on the road: The repeat offenders who are driving well above the legal limit. Getting these drivers permanently off the road is far more important than prosecuting those whose blood-alcohol level may or may not impair their driving.

As we have said previously, we are not convinced that those driving with a blood-alcohol level between 0.08 and 0.10 pose a serious threat to highway safety. However, one can hardly blame the General Assembly for agreeing to lower the level at which one is presumed intoxicated. After all, failure to do so would have diverted millions of dollars — from federal highway construction funds to highway safety programs — from our state. That's Uncle Sam's way of coercing states to do something they may not otherwise do.

It is the other provisions in the new law that will do the most to make our highways safer. The law gives judges the option of seizing the license plates of repeat offenders or having ignition locking devices put in their vehicles. Those devices — which the offender would pay to have installed — prevent drivers who are intoxicated from starting their vehicles.

The bill would create mandatory jail time, exempt from probation, for "aggravating circumstances" that heighten a drunken driver's public risk. Those circumstances include: driving in the wrong direction on an interstate or parkway, going at least 30 mph over the speed limit, having a blood-alcohol level of 0.18 or higher, refusing the breath test and traveling with a youngster in the same vehicle. The required jail time in such instances would range from four days for a first-time offender to 240 days for a third-time violator.

Also under the bill, first-time DUI offenders could have their licenses revoked for 30 to 120 days. For a second offense, the revocation could last from 12 to 18 months, and for third-time offenders it could be 24 to 36 months.

People caught driving on a revoked or suspended license stemming from a DUI offense would face tougher punishment, including possible jail time.

Such provisions are needed to convince those who have clearly had too much to drink from getting behind the wheel.

As for the lowering of the blood-alcohol limit, a word of advice: When out for an evening that includes the consumption of alcohol, use a designated driver. It doesn't take many drinks to raise one's blood-alcohol level to 0.08.

—Ashland Daily Independent



Charles Lindbergh was not the first man to fly across the Atlantic, he was the 67th. He was the first, however, to make the flight alone.

The Floyd County Times

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Letters to the Editor

Prestonsburg already on its way to forming school district

Editor:

In Ms. Carol Stumbo's excellent letter, "Attitude, not size, has plagued Floyd County schools," in the April 5 edition of The Floyd County Times, she criticized Mr. Ralph Davis for suggesting that smaller school districts might help solve our school problems.

First, permit me to say that Mr. Ralph Davis' comments concerning multiple school districts here are timely and get the subject out in the open. To me, it has been obvious for some time that the City of Prestonsburg has planned to establish an independent school district.

Consider for a moment what they have accomplished toward this end in the past few years. First, they forced the school board to abandon the "North Floyd High School" location on Middle Creek, even after the board and paid \$400,000 for the site. Second, they "convinced" the Floyd County School Board and the state Board of Education to spend \$13 million to renovate a decrepit, run-down, out-of-date, 1960s high school building in probably the poorest location of any such building in the state. Next, our state representative, apparently an ardent athletic supporter, arranged for a designated appropriation of about half a million dollars to construct a football field here.

No folks, it isn't difficult to see the direction things here are heading. As they did with the E-911 project, they want to separate themselves from us unwashed, unlettered folks out here in the county. And to be honest about it, I don't much blame them. Maybe in the long run they would be able to better educate their children.

I disagree with Ms. Stumbo's concept that mere attitude has created the educational holocaust that exists here in Floyd County. The fact that city officials could force the Floyd County School Board to abandon the North Floyd High School site to spend \$13 million on an outdated, 1960s-designed school building clearly indicates what is wrong. And it isn't attitude.

Sunday school teacher shares student's poem

Editor:

The following is a poem from an 11-year-old in my Sunday school class. It is about what a mess man has really made of the world. I really hope it can be put into the paper, and I appreciate and thank you in advance for printing it.

A MESS OF ALL

This world is in a terrible shape,
And man has put it there,
With greed and hate,
And lust of power,
Never taking time to care.

For our disobedience,
To our God,
He will make us pay for sure,
By taking away the rain,

No moisture for our crops to grow,

For a period of time of more than half a century, I have never known a school board that considered education and the county schoolchildren as their primary concern. Rather, the opposite, as for the most part they have been pawns of the "good ol' boys." How many times down through the years have we heard the statement made about some school board member, "Oh, he's the sheriff's man," or "He's the judge's man?"

The Floyd County School System has always been a cash cow for the political machine here. And the school board has been little more than herdsmen elected by the machine for that purpose alone. That is to say, to help them milk the cash cow.

Floyd County has many excellent teachers and some good principals. But it also has many "teachers" who should be banned from the classroom — period. And it has a few principals that should be deported — to Mars. Whatever the cost in money, litigation or re-assignment, these people should be taken out of the classroom and away from any contact with students. Until the school board is willing, and able, to stand on its own feet and wield this ax, it is useless to talk about improving our schools.

I do not expect to see much improvement in my lifetime. The school board projects that it will take until the year 2014 to bring our students academic achievement level from an F to a D-plus. That seems to me a tacit admission that they can do little, if anything, about the dead-wood teachers and principals. Would Prestonsburg cut the dead wood? I don't know. They seem little more than fanatical jacks, who never got over, or past, being 17 years old.

I congratulate Ms. Stumbo on speaking out so plainly. I remember when the school board met in small, smoke-filled rooms, with their backs to the few chairs for the public. And I remember what one of them told me about the people of Floyd County. He said, Blue, if the Lord had not intended for them to be sheared, He would not have made them sheep."

Lloyd "Blue" Goble
Prestonsburg

Or food for our animals to eat,
Just dry, parched earth all around us,
And the sun's unbearable heat.

It's too late now for man to change,
And has he got a lesson to learn,
For he'll go right on in his ways of sin,
As the sun continues to burn.

I'm always thankful,
When it rains or,
There's snow upon the ground,
For man will never go so high that God can't bring him down.

Vicky Slone
Sunday school teacher
United Christian Church of God
Hi Hat

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 objectionable. 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. 41653.

Guest Column - Volunteering: Don't put off until tomorrow what you must do today

by Mike Neufeldt

One of the unforgettable moments in Charles Dickens' classic tale "A Christmas Carol" occurs when Scrooge is shown a nightmarish vision of spirits wailing and lamenting on a London street.

The spirits, who in life never exercised their ability to help other human beings, are lamenting at the feet of a destitute woman and her child. They wish only to ease her suffering, but have forever lost the power to do so.

More than a century later, Dickens' message has lost none of its meaning: We must seize the opportunity to do good for others today, while we have the power. There is no better time than now, as National Youth Service Day (April 14-15) draws near.

As a student at Marquette University in Milwaukee, I understand how tempting it can be to put off the obligation to help others. When you're 22, the future beckons wide and bright, and it's easy to feel you have all the time in the world.

But as a person who received the diagnosis of a neuromuscular disorder (Emery-Dreifuss muscular dystrophy) as a child, I learned early on that you can never anticipate what kinds of surprises life has in store for you.

And, as someone who has personally benefited from the good work done by caring volunteers — including those who make it possible for the Muscular Dystrophy Association to help families like mine on a daily basis — I know that the time to help is always now.

MDA, the organization to which Jerry Lewis has committed most of his life in his work as MDA National Chairman, and a national partner for National Youth Service Day, doesn't put off the chance to do good.

MDA's philosophy has always provided not only for visionary research seeking new treatments and cures, but also for clinic visits, summer camps, support groups and public health education that make a practical difference in the here and now.

With National Youth Service Day being celebrated on April 14-15, this is a great time to acknowledge the good that volunteers do nationwide. It's an even better time to get out and volunteer yourself.

By serving as an MDA volunteer, I feel I've been able to return some of the good this organization has done me. When I was younger, I traveled the country as MDA's National Goodwill Ambassador. During my college years, I've taken on another voluntary role as a member of MDA's National Task Force on Public Awareness.

What cause is closest to your heart? And what have you chosen to do about it?

National Youth Service Day is a project of Youth Service America, whose mission is to increase the quality and quantity of opportunities for young Americans to serve locally, nationally and globally. National Youth Service Day is the largest volunteer event promoting the benefits of youth service to our nation.

You don't have to be young to volunteer, even on National Youth Service Day. You just have to have a caring heart and the willingness to make a difference in someone else's life.

Jerry Lewis, who has willingly led MDA's fight to conquer muscular dystrophy for five decades, puts it this way: "I shall pass through this world but once. Any good, therefore, that I can do or any kindness that I can show to any human being, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again."

Seize the opportunity. Get out and volunteer. Do it today.

Michael Neufeldt, 22, is a volunteer on the MDA National Task Force on Public Awareness, an advisory body of 13 high-achieving adults with neuromuscular diseases. Neufeldt, who is from New Berlin, Wisconsin, is a senior and a Burke Scholar at Marquette University in Milwaukee where he's majoring in broadcast and electronic communications with a minor in business.

For more information on National Youth Service Day, call 202/296-2992 or check www.servenet.org.

Ralph B. Davis' column "Poison Pen," which normally runs in this space, does not appear today. It will return next week.

Life at the eye of the storm, or vignettes from nights at a 911 center

from Association of Public Safety Communications Officials

Every day in this country, people are born and die, injured or lost, victims of natural or manmade tragedy. Chances are good most of them have contact with a public safety telecommunicator — a 911 operator or similar source of help — and the vast majority of the time, help is forthcoming.

Have you ever wondered what it is like to be at the other end of that phone, handed impossible problems and expected to make it all better? It is a challenging, frustrating, rewarding job, often poorly paid and little respected, yet absolutely vital — just as any mother whose choking infant survives because someone was there when help was needed most.

Most people either associate the job with dramatic rescues or with publicized incidents where the system failed. Most of the incidents handled by public safety telecommunicators fall into neither category. The job can be periods of exhausting boredom punctuated by intense adrenalin-bursts of activity.

April 9-15 is National Public Safety Telecommunications Week. Through the efforts of APCO, the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials International, the second full week of April is set aside annually to recognize and thank the dedicated professionals, about 250,000 strong, who spend their careers helping total strangers through the dark moments of their lives.

These professionals range from the operator who answers your 911 call; to the dispatchers who send the police, firefighters, paramedics and other public safety professionals to your aid; to the center managers who do all the work required to ensure that the phones are there to answer and the people are there to answer them, to the thousands of dedicated technicians nationwide who respond day and night to keep the system efficient and functional, all to accomplish one task: to answer the call for help when it comes.

To shed light on their work, here are some typical stories from a typical night in a mid-size city communications center.

As soon as I sat down at the beginning of my shift and plugged in my headset, one of the deputy's emergency-call-for-help signals activated. The signal is supposed to indicate a deputy is in trouble, but nine times out of 10 the signals are activated accidentally.

Still, I have to treat each as if it were a real emergency, because in a 9-1-1 center, when in doubt, that is what we do.

My radio partner and I started trying to find the deputy. The deputy was due at the station for roll call any minute, so we called there first. The sergeant who answered the phone in the squad room hadn't seen her. We called her house — she'd already left.

(Such phone calls to deputies' families are hard, because it scares them and I cannot reassure them nothing's wrong, because something might be.)

The phone calls having yielded nothing useful, we sent deputies to check the routes between the missing deputy's house and the sheriff's office. They'd been en route for perhaps three minutes when the missing deputy showed up at the station. Another accidental activation, and another 12-hour shift begun.

When the weather is cold, as it is tonight, the homeless shelters fill up fast, foot traffic decreases, and the deputies drive around bored and shivering. A few nights ago, on what will likely turn out to have been the coldest night of the year, one of the deputies found a drifter trying to sleep on the ground.

I talked the already-full St. Francis House into letting him bunk down in their dining room in lieu of freezing. For many of the homeless, contact with law enforcement is a negative thing that serves only to reinforce the perception they don't belong anywhere or they're in the way.

So it felt good to have sought this man out of concern for his welfare, and even better to have made sure, for this night at least, he had a place.

Tonight, although cold, is not cold enough to discourage a roving band of car burglars. They hit two northwest neighborhoods, smashing windows, jimmying doors, stealing whatever they find.

In the first neighborhood, one of the victims hears them break into her car, and calls us with a description of the suspects and their vehicle. Within minutes, we've dispatched deputies to the area, broadcast the description to the other area departments.

Even so, the burglars are long gone when we get there, leaving behind several burglarized vehicles that have to be processed for crime scenes. It is my job to run the tags on the cars, find phone numbers for the owners and wake them up to inform them they are victims and, despite our best efforts, we were too late to catch the suspects.

In the second neighborhood, a deputy discovers another freshly burglarized car and the suspect vehicle parked right next to it. I send a K-9 unit to attempt a track, and other available deputies set up a perimeter. The dog tracks for 30 minutes, but the suspects elude us. So the deputies impound the suspect vehicle, which is loaded down with stolen property.

The suspects might get away, but they'll have a long, cold walk home and have to deal with us if they want their car back. For us, those are grimly happy thoughts.

A woman calls, panic-stricken, convinced she has heard someone coming up the stairs in her apartment. I send deputies, and the complaint-taker keeps the woman on the phone until help arrives.

It can be awkward talking to a scared total stranger, to whom even the shortest response time feels like hours, but at least we'll know what is going on if someone really is in the house.

The deputies arrive and the complaint-taker can hear them over the phone, talking to the woman through her second-floor window. The deputies want her to toss keys down to them so they can come in and check the residence, but she doesn't have the keys in the bedroom with her. She'll just have to brave the wilderness and come downstairs to let them in.

She carries her phone down with her; if the complaint-taker hears anything happen to her on the way down, the deputies will force entry. She makes it downstairs safely, and the deputies check the residence, finding no one. Another false alarm, but better those than the alternative.

Deputies usually enforce the law through the usual channels. However, occasionally they get better results by appealing to a higher power, which is why I had to call the parents of a newly licensed 16-year-old.

"Ma'am, this is the sheriff's office. One of my deputies was just out with your son on a traffic stop."

"He's all right, isn't he?"
"Yes, he's fine. And he didn't get a ticket. But the deputy wanted me to call you and ask you if you knew how your son drove. He's in your car, right?"

"Yes," the woman answered.
"Well, the reason my deputy pulled him over was after he clocked him speeding, he watched him jump a curb in order to go

through a parking lot to avoid a light, and then spun the tires out as he pulled out. It took the deputy three blocks to catch up with him, and he was switching from lane to lane to get around cars. The deputy thought that perhaps you would deal with this problem."

"It won't be a problem because he just lost his car privileges," the woman answered. "Thank you very much for calling me."

"What was the score of the game today?"

"Sir, don't call 9-1-1 to ask the score of the game."

... an old man who had just awakened to find his wife had died in her sleep. I sent an ambulance (to render aid if she was really still alive, or to declare her legally dead), called his son and one of his neighbors, who happened to be one of our deputies. Then I kept him on the phone till someone arrived.

Those phone calls are the worst. Usually we try to stay detached and professional, and address only our role in the situation at hand. But now and then people ask for help at a dark moment in their lives, and the cry is heard by the human in us, not just the professional.

While I was on the phone with his son, I had put the old man on hold and he had begun to cry. When I picked the phone back up and told him his son was coming, he thanked me and said, "What am I supposed to do?"

I could tell from his tone and from where his question hit me that he didn't mean "who calls the funeral home and where do I find a probate lawyer?" He meant "what am I supposed to do with the rest of this long night and all the long nights to come?"

I remembered a piece of advice I had read in a book by Anne Rivers Siddons, good advice for anyone facing a tragedy, and I tried to put it into words for him. "When it gets bad, just tell yourself to endure it for 15 minutes. You can stand anything for 15 minutes. And when that 15 minutes is over, just take on the next 15. It will get better. Not immediately, but it will."

He wept on. The deputy who was his neighbor arrived, and the paramedics shortly thereafter. And his life went on, encompassing his great change, and my routine of work and school and sleep and bills went on, and our moment of anonymous contact had passed.

People are funny. Funny peculiar, and funny ha-ha, and funny insane. Like the railroad official we called to have a train stopped because we had a car stuck on the tracks, who was more worried about whether or not we were going to cite the owner of the car for blocking the tracks than he was about stopping the train.

Or the woman whose car had been stolen, and whose neighbors had followed the thief and kept us abreast of their progress via mobile phone. After we caught the thief and recovered the car, we called her to come get it, and she told us she couldn't because if she left, who



MSU faculty record album

Morehead State University music faculty members Dr. Gordon Towell (left), assistant professor, and Jay Flippin, associate professor, have recorded "Ask Me Know," a jazz compact disc on Ballpark Records, their own company. The album is a series of jazz duets between Flippin on piano and Towell on saxophone. Three of the disc's tracks are original compositions, "A Sunday Lakeside" and "Allisong" by Towell and "The Nite Owl" by Flippin. The other tracks are jazz and popular music standards such as the title song by Thelonius Monk. (MSU photo by Tim Holbrook)

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OBITUARIES

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Charles "Daddy-O" Damron

Charles "Daddy-O" Damron, 74, of Robinson Creek, died Friday, April 7, 2000, at the Pikeville Methodist Hospital.

Born on July 19, 1925, in Penny, he was the son of the late Ruben and Rosetta Damron. He was a retired coal miner, a Baptist, a member of the UMWA and was a WW II Army veteran.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Rose Nell Damron.

Survivors include four daughters, Peggy Johnson of Louisville, Shirley Hill of Arkansas, Donna Damron of Robinson Creek, Denise Crawford of Lexington; two brothers, Creed Damron of Robinson Creek, Bobby Damron of Richlands, Virginia; and five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted Monday, April 10, at 11 a.m., at R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home, Virgie Chapel, with Donald Ray Davis, Greg Damron and Gregory Damron, officiating.

Burial will be in the Annie E. Young Cemetery, at Pikeville, under the direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

James Diles

James Diles, 68, of Greasy Creek, died Wednesday, April 5, 2000, at the Pikeville Methodist Hospital.

Born on November 29, 1931, at Dry Fork, he was the son of the late Andrew Diles and Myrtle Diles. He was a retired coal miner.

He is survived by his wife, Geneva Diles.

Other survivors include one son, James Andrew Diles of Wolfpit; one daughter, Tonia Collins of Greasy Creek; three brothers, Bobby E. Diles of Augusta, Georgia, Jackie Diles of Greasy Creek, Andy Richard Diles of Florida; seven sisters, Ruby Hall of Kernsville, North Carolina, Deetta Johnson of Georgia, Gloria Faye Burnette and Margaret Thacker, both of North Carolina, Myrtle Mae Adkins of Greasy Creek, Bertha Branham and Ollie Lee England, both of Michigan; and six grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted Saturday, April 8, at 1 p.m., at the Justice Funeral Services-Morris Chapel, Justiceville, with Carson Adkins, Franklin Justice and Doug Kendrick, officiating.

Burial will be in the Adkins Cemetery, on Greasy Creek, under the direction of Justice Funeral Services.

Ruby E. Thornbury

Ruby E. Thornbury, 79, of Pikeville, died Thursday, April 6, 2000, at the Pikeville Methodist Hospital.

Born on April 26, 1920, in West Virginia, she was the daughter of the late Mary Pinson Dye and Earl C. Dye. She was a member of the Pikeville Freewill Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John K. Thornbury III.

Survivors include one son, Gregory Dean Thornbury of Pikeville; three daughters, Barbara S. Kirk, and Jamie Diane Thacker, both of Pikeville, and Collette Ratliff of Millard; two brothers, Jimmy F. Dye of Bristol, Tennessee, and Norman Layton Dye, and one sister, Ruth Huffman, both of Pikeville; and three grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted Sunday, April 9, at 1 p.m., at the J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home, with Don Lee, Tracy Patton and Jim Patton officiating.

Burial will be in the Annie E. Young Cemetery, at Shelbyana, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Serving as pallbearers will be Todd Hess, Jeffrey Hess, Jimmy Dye, Timmy Dye, Mark Coleman and Mike Coleman.

James W. Hall

James W. Hall, 82, of Langley, died Thursday, April 6, 2000, at Highlands Regional Medical Center.

Born on February 25, 1918, in Greenup County, he was the son of the late William "Cooge" and Edna Sherman Hall. He was a self employed grocery store owner and miner.

He is survived by two daughters, Lorena "Sis" Hall of Martin, and Bonita Jo Fairchild of Langley; two grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

A private memorial service will be announced at a later date.

Burial will be in the Hall Family Cemetery, in West Van Lear, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society. Attn: Floyd County, P.O. Box 2884, Pikeville, Ky. 41502.

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 SBDM to meet

Allen Central will hold its regular schedule SBDM meeting on April 11th, at 6 p.m., in the school library.

AARP to conduct 55-Alive Driving Class

Jenny Wiley Chapter No. 3528, American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) will conduct the 55-Alive Driving Course on Monday and Tuesday, May 1 and 2. The class will be held at the Extension Service office on South Lake Drive, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., each day. For reservations, call Sarah Laven, 886-0939, or Margaret Ackerman, 886-2551. Cost of the class is \$8.

Pikeville Methodist Hospital Community Calendar

May 8—"A Celebration of Hope," Breast Cancer Survivor's Day, hosted by First Lady, Judi Patton, will be celebrated at the Governor's Mansion in Frankfort begins at 1 p.m.

May 13—A free skin cancer screening will be conducted at the Leonard Lawson Cancer Care Center from 7:30 a.m.-noon. You may schedule an appointment with Pauline Loony during the week of May 8 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Call 437-3500, ext. 3280 for an appointment.

May 15—The ABC (After Breast Cancer) Support Group will meet

at 6 p.m. at the First Christian Church on Chloe Road in Pikeville. The speaker will be Shirley Coleman, RN, discussing research/clinical trials and new programs at the Leonard Lawson Cancer Care Center.

May 19—The American Cancer Society's "Relay for Life" will be held at Bob Amos Park from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. Join the Leonard Lawson Cancer Care Team! Call 437-3500, ext. 3822 for more details.

Super Pantry offered

A Super Pantry for low-income persons will be held at the Auxier Lifetime Learning Center on Thursdays from April 13 to May 18, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Participants will take part in cooking demonstrations and will then be given food to replicate the meal at home. Participation is by referral. Call 606/886-0709.

Food pantry open in Auxier

The Auxier Lifetime Learning Center has opened a food pantry, sponsored by the Voice of Victory Church. According to Rev. Junior Hayton, the food pantry will be open Tuesdays and Thursdays in the second week of each month, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mercy calls will be accepted. Call 606/886-6009.

Couples retreat at Camp Nathanael

Camp Nathanael will host its annual retreat for married couples on April 28-29. This relaxing weekend begins with registration from 5-6 p.m. on Friday evening, and ends Saturday evening after a candlelight dinner and concert. Rick Franklin, from Camp Nathanael, will speak on "Fanning the Flames of Marriage." Housing is available on a first come basis, and commuters are also welcome. The cost of the retreat is \$55 per couple. Reservations are required, so call 606/251-3231 to register.

"Start Smart"

Spring into better diet control, food guide pyramid, and carbohydrate counting. Portion sizes, meal scheduling and label reading will

also be discussed.

All meetings will be held in the Floyd Room at Highlands Regional Medical Center from 5 to 6 p.m.

Earn while you learn

The Big Sandy Area Community Action Agency is taking applications for the senior training program. You must be 55 years old, or older to apply. For further information, call 606/886-2929. Ask for Tammy Jervis.

The program's primary goal is to create employment for those 55 and over. SCSEP helps prepare older workers to compete for jobs by providing minimal training and placing eligible applicants into permanent employment. Training sites are expected to develop the participant's skill and hire or release them.

Help with census

Do you need help filling out your census form? Come to the second floor of the old courthouse, between noon and 4 p.m. on Mondays; between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Wednesdays; and between 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. on Fridays. There is no charge.

Women's rally scheduled

The Women for Christ 2000 Rally is planned for Saturday, April 29, at the Mountain Arts Center in Prestonsburg.

The program runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Guest speakers will be Dottie Williamson and Eva Self.

The \$5 fee includes lunch. For information, call 606/432-2660.

Conference scheduled

The 13th annual East Kentucky Leadership Conference is set for April 28-29, at Benham in Harlan County.

It will be hosted by the Kentucky Coal Mining Museum, Benham School House Inn, and Southeast Community College.

Registration is \$30 and includes meals. For information, call 606/573-4156.

Looking for 'Patsies'

A reunion of the former Patsy Singers at David is being planned, in conjunction with the Floyd County Bicentennial celebration

the weekend of July 1. Shirley Branham of Prestonsburg is coordinating the effort, along with the staff of David Appalachian Crafts and St. Vincent's Mission. Planners hope members of the singing group can share a mini-concert at David. A potluck luncheon, crafts demonstrations, games and an exhibit of memorabilia of people who lived and worked in David are also planned. Persons who have items to share in the display are asked to call the David Craft Center at 606/886-2377.

Piarist School sets entrance exam

The Piarist School, a tuition-free, private, college preparatory high school, will hold an entrance examination for students entering their freshman or sophomore year of high school in the fall.

The STS, a standard high school placement test, will be given on Saturday, April 15, at 9 a.m. at the school, located on KY 80 at Martin.

To register or to request more information, call 606/285-3950 or e-mail at piarist@kih.net.

Free information about Islam available

Would you like to know about Islam? Or are you curious about other faiths and looking for inner peace and contentment? The Islamic Center of Eastern Kentucky, located in Prestonsburg, will be glad to answer your questions. The Islamic Center offers free information and literature about the religion of more than a billion people worldwide. Learn why Islam is the fastest growing religion in the world, with six million Muslims in America. Contact the Islamic Center of Eastern Kentucky for information, at 684 Big Branch of Abbott, 889-0626 or email ICEK786@hotmail.com.

Gardening class on tap

A two-session vegetable gardening class is planned at the Auxier Lifetime Learning Center for April.

Ray Tackett of the Floyd County Extension Office will conduct the classes from 6 to 8 p.m. on Mondays, April 10 and 17.

The fee is \$2. To register, call 606/886-0709. The center is located at the old Auxier school.

Galen "Abe" Slone

Galen "Abe" Slone, 83, of McDowell, died Thursday, April 6, 2000, at the Hazard Appalachian Regional Hospital, Hazard.

Born on June 20, 1916, in Caney Creek, he was the son of the late Arland Slone and Sarah Margaret Patton Slone. He was a retired coal miner, a charter member of UMWA No. 7769, and deacon of the Old Beaver Regular Baptist Church, at Minnie.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Novelle Williams Slone.

He is survived by two sons, Jimmy Lee Slone of Geneva, Ohio, Ray Gordon Slone of McDowell; three daughters, Birdie Kathryn Berry of Cleveland, Ohio, Martha Faye Hamilton of Las Vegas, Nevada, Glenda Sue Blanton of McDowell; 13 grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted Sunday, April 9, at 11 a.m., at the Old Beaver Regular Baptist Church, at Minnie, with Old Regular Baptist ministers officiating.

Burial will be in the Lucy Hall Cemetery, at McDowell, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Samantha Faith Moore

Samantha Faith Moore of Ivel, died Thursday, April 6, 2000, at Central Baptist Hospital in Lexington.

She was the infant daughter of Sonia Gearld Blankenship Moore and Brian Keith Moore.

Survivors include her parents, grandparents Thomas and Dollie Blankenship of Breaks, VA, and Betty L. Moore, and great grandmother Ruth Snodgrass. She was preceded in death by her grandfather Samson Moore, Jr.

Funeral services will be held at Tom's Creek Freewill Baptist Church on Saturday, April 8, at 11 a.m. with Church Ferguson officiating. Burial will be at Johnson Memorial Park in Pikeville.

Visitation will be at the church on Friday after 7 p.m.

The "Word" for the Week Palms and Psalms

by Dr. Dennis J. Prutow
Sterling, Kansas

The Prophet Isaiah cried out on behalf of God. "Turn to Me and be saved, all the ends of the earth; For I am God, and there is no other. I have sworn by Myself, the word has gone forth from My mouth in righteousness and will not turn back, that to Me every knee will bow, every tongue will swear allegiance" (Isaiah 45:22-23). The Psalmist exclaimed, "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord; we have blessed you from the house of the Lord" (Psalm 118:26).

Both of these old prophecies came together when Jesus took His final pilgrimage to Jerusalem. "Most of the crowd spread their

coats in the road, and others were cutting branches from the trees and spreading them in the road. The crowds going ahead of Him, and those who followed, were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David; Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest!" (Matthew 21:8-9). The people recognized Jesus. They worshipped Him.

Old and New Testaments converge in Christ. "God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow... and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father!" (Philippians 2:10-11).

the direction of Phelps Funeral Services.

Emma Francis, 87, of Sassafras, died Monday, April 3, at her home. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, March 6, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

Rosie Adkins Hopkins, 73, of Shelbyana, died Wednesday, April 5, at her home. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, April 8, under the direction of Lucas and Hall Funeral Home.

Zettie Johnson, 76, of Virgie, died Tuesday, April 4, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Friday, April 7, under the direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

Emogene Staton, 63, of Edgerton, Michigan, died Tuesday, April 14, at St. Mary's Hospital in Huntington, West Virginia. Funeral

services were conducted Saturday, April 8, under the direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

Ruby E. Thornbury, 79, of Pikeville, died Thursday, April 6, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. Funeral services are under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Ruth Branham Anderson Velat, 76, of Pikeville, died Thursday, April 6, at her home. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, April 8, under the direction of Lucas & Hall Funeral Home.

Billy Joe Webb, 57, of Rawl, West Virginia, died Wednesday, April 5, at the South Williamson Appalachian Regional Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Emma Sue Simon Webb. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, April 8, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

St. Martha Catholic Community

Lancer-Watergap Rd - Prestonsburg, Kentucky

COME AND SEE

Holy Thursday 04/20/00 8:00 p.m.
MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
Eucharist and Foot Washing

Good Friday 04/21/00 8:00 p.m.
SOLEMN LITURGY OF THE LORD'S PASSION
Passion from the Gospel of Saint John

Holy Saturday 04/22/00 8:30 p.m.
SOLEMN EASTER VIRGIL
Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist
The most important service of the year!

Easter Sunday 04/23/00 11:15 a.m.
EASTER SUNDAY MASS
Rededication to our Baptismal Promises.



He has risen—
alleluia!



It took almost seven years but George Meegan of Great Britain walked the nearly 20,000 miles from the southern tip of South America to Prudhoe Bay in northern Alaska.

Termites: Straight answers to touch questions from Floyd County Cooperative Extension Services

Q: Why be concerned about termites?

A: Termites cause more damage than storms and fires combined. They primarily feed on wood, but may also damage paper, books, clothing, leather items, foam insulation, and even swimming pool liners and filtration systems. They may also injure living trees and shrubs.

While a structure may become infested at any time, presence of termites is of particular importance when buying or selling a home since a termite inspection/infestation report is normally a condition of sale.

More than 75 percent of all consumer complaints received by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture involve termite treatments and real estate transactions.

Besides the monetary impact, thousands of flying termites emerging inside one's home is an emotionally trying experience not to mention the thought of them silently feasting on one's largest investment. To complicate matters, the public has very little understanding of termites, and what should be done if their home is infested.

Q: Why are we typically bothered by termites during March-May?

A: Spring is typically when large numbers of winged termites, known as "swarmers," emerge inside structures. This, along with other signs of termites noted during real estate inspections is what usually triggers the initial call from homeowners.

In nature, termites swarm in order to disperse and start new colonies. After a colony reaches a critical size (typically requiring 5-8 years), winged reproductives are produced. Triggered by warmer temperatures and rainfall, the winged termites emerge from the colony and fly into the air.

The swarmers then drop to the ground, shed their wings, pair off with a mate, and attempt to begin a new colony in the soil.

Very few swarmers emerging outdoors survive to start new colonies. Termite swarmers emerging indoors are incapable of eating wood, and seldom survive, however, they do indicate that an infestation is present. They are best removed with a vacuum cleaner.

Q: How will I know if my home is infested?

A: The presence of winged termites inside a home almost always indicates an infestation warranting treatment. Termite swarmers are attracted to light and often will be seen around windows, doors and light fixtures.

They can be differentiated from winged ants by their straight antennae, uniform waist, and wings of equal size. (Ants have elbowed antennae, constricted waists and forewings that are longer than the hind wings.)

Swarmers emerging from tree stumps, woodpiles, railroad ties and other outdoor locations are not necessarily cause for concern, and do not necessarily mean that the structure, itself, is infested.

Another obvious indicator of a termite problem is pencil-wide mud foraging tubes extending over foundation walls, support piers, sill plates, floor joists, headers and sub-floors. Termites construct these mud "shelter" tubes as they travel between their underground colonies and the structure.

Termite-damaged wood is usually hollowed out along the grain, with bits of dried mud or soil lining the feeding galleries. Wood damaged by moisture or other types of insects (e.g., carpenter ants) will not have this appearance.

Oftentimes, there will be no sign of the termites themselves—small, creamy-white insects with an "ant-like" appearance. An infestation can go unnoticed for years, hidden behind drywall, paneling, floor coverings, insulation, and other obstructions. Termite feeding and the resultant damage can even progress undetected in wood that is exposed, because the outer surface is usually left intact.

Confirmation of infestation often requires the keen eye of an experienced termite inspector. However, even the most experienced inspector can overlook damage which is hidden.

Q: Can I treat the house myself?

A: Ridding a home of termites requires a great deal of "know-how" and on-the-job experience. Termite work is also very labor-intensive. A knowledge of building construction is needed to identify the critical areas where termites are likely to enter. Many of these potential entry points are hidden and difficult to access.

Termite control also utilizes specialized equipment such as masonry

drills, pumps, large capacity tanks, and soil treatment rods. A typical treatment may involve hundred of gallons of a liquid pesticide, known as a termiticide, injected into the ground alongside the foundation, beneath concrete slabs, and within foundation walls.

In short, termite treatment is usually a job for professionals. A possible exception would be if a mailbox post, sandbox or other small wooden object not attached to the house was infested.

Q: How do I choose a pest control firm? Why is there such a difference in price?

A: These are complex questions. In brief, the company should be licensed by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture. Membership in the Kentucky Pest Control Association and/or National Pest Control Association suggests that the company is an established firm with access to technical and training information needed to do the job correctly.

As with any service company, references are invaluable. Consider calling at least 2-3 companies. Requesting inspections and estimates from more than one company will substantiate the extent of your termite problem and allow you to compare services.

Companies offer different types of warranties or service agreements. Most offer retreatment of localized areas if the termites return. In some instances, no warranty/service agreement may be offered if construction elements such as wells, cisterns, subslab heating ducts, drainage systems, or inaccessible crawl space make it impossible to treat in accordance with industry standards.

Take your time when selecting a termite control company. Termites damage wood slowly enough that the amount of damage caused by an additional day, week or month of continued activity is seldom significant. Avoid firms that try to pressure you into signing a contract immediately with "specials" or scare tactics.

Q: How can I determine if I'm getting a proper treatment?

A: There are many elements to a quality termite job. The inspection should be thorough, with a diagram of the structure indicating location(s) of termite activity, observable damage, and types of treatment techniques that will be performed.

In the case of conventional (non-bait) type treatment, two of the most useful "quality assurance indicators" measureable by homeowners are amount (gallons) of termiticide applied, and spacing between holes drilled through concrete slabs. In order to achieve adequate dispersion of termiticide in the soil, gallonage must be high—often requiring 150-200 gallons or more on an average-size home.

Treatments using smaller amounts (e.g., 100 gallons or less) are less likely to provide a continuous barrier of protection in areas where termites can enter. Holes drilled through porches, patios, basement floors and concrete slabs should be spaced no more than 18 inches apart (12 inches is better) to help provide continuous coverage when the termiticide solution is injected.

Ultimately, the quality of a termite job depends less on the person who sells the job than on the individual who does the work. A safe and effective treatment requires an experienced technician, not someone who was hired a few weeks ago.

Q: Does my entire house need to be treated, or can I just pay for a "spot" treatment in areas where I see termites?

A: Subterranean termite colonies

can be very large; a single colony may contain a million or more individuals. Termite workers (the life stage doing the damage) can also forage considerable distances—in some cases, the entire length of a football field.

This means that the termite colony or colonies responsible for damage may actually be in a neighbor's yard, rather than beneath the house which is infested.

For these reasons, localized or "spot" treatments are generally a gamble, except in cases of treatment. Most reputable pest control firms will not warranty spot treatments, since it is likely that termites will eventually find other points of entry into the structure.

Q: How long will the treatment last? Which brand of termiticide is most effective?

A: Studies suggest that all registered termiticides should control termites for at least five years if they are applied according to label directions. The actual length of control on a given structure will depend on such factors as thoroughness of the application, prevailing environmental conditions, and density of termites in the area.

If termites continue to be present the year following treatment, it's probably not from degradation of the termiticide—but because termites have found an untreated gap in the chemical barrier. More important than the brand of termiticide, is that the treatment be performed by an experienced technician, backed by a responsible pest control firm.

Q: Will there be an odor after treatment?

A: Odor is one characteristic that may differ between termite control chemicals. Some products have more odor than others; in most cases, the odor is due to solvents in the formulation rather than the active ingredient. If odor is judged as a concern, ask about low-odor products that are available.

Q: Will the termite chemical harm my family or pets?

A: Termiticides are tested extensively for adverse effects on health. Before a product can be used, numerous studies must be conducted by the manufacturer and independently evaluated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Based on the current body of knowledge, these registered termiticide present no significant hazard to humans, pets or the environment when applied according to label directions. In spite of the negligible health risk from a termite treatment, people with lingering concerns should consult their physician. Homeowners especially apprehensive about pesticides may want to consider having their home treated with baits (see below).

Q: Isn't there a new termite control procedure utilizing baits?

A: A growing number of companies have begun using termite baits as an alternative to conventional liquid (barrier) treatments. The baits consist of paper, cardboard, or other "termite-friendly" food, combined with a slow-acting substance lethal to termites.

Some bait products are installed below ground out in the yard, whereas others are placed within the structure in the vicinity of active termite mud tubes. Foraging termites consume the bait and share it with their nest mates, resulting in a gradual decline in termite numbers.

On some properties, baits may constitute the only form of treatment; on others, they may be supplemented with either a partial or complete liquid application to the soil.

Termite baiting is a very complex subject. A detailed discussion of this alternate new technology is

provided in Entomology extension publications, ENT-65; Termite Baits: A Guide for Homeowners, and Entact-644; Consumer Update: Termite Baits. You can request these free publications by call the Floyd County Cooperative Extension Service at 886-2668.

Q: Have I been "cheated" if termites continue to infest my house after treatment?

A: Not necessarily. Unlike other services such as plumbing or electrical work, termite control involves living creatures. The best treatments performed by knowledgeable firms may fail at times, because termites are able to find their way through tiny, untreated gaps in the soil.

The intent is to establish a continuous and impenetrable chemical barrier in the soil, but this is almost impossible to achieve in actual practice. In the case of baits, it may take several months for termites to initially find the installations in the soil, and several months more to achieve control.

The key in termite control is to hire a reputable pest control firm employing experienced, conscientious technicians. Companies will usually return and retreat affected area(s) at no additional charge provided the service agreement is purchased and maintained.

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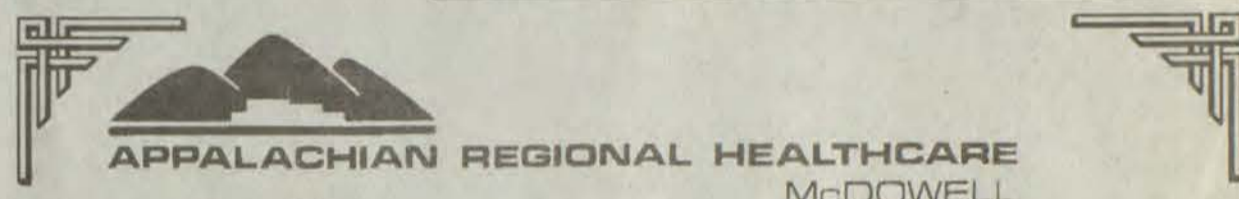
Special Information Night
Tues., April 11, 6:00 p.m.

Pikeville Regional Technical Center
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120 S. Riverfill Dr.
Pikeville, Kentucky

Call Today for more information!
859/276-4357 • 800/467-6281

MCSE classes start April 28!

In conjunction with Prestonsburg Community College
and Mayo Technical College



McDowell ARH Hospital requests the honor of your presence at a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the renovations to the facade of our building and the dedication of our new flagpole.

Wednesday, April 12, 2000 1:00 p.m.

McDowell ARH Hospital

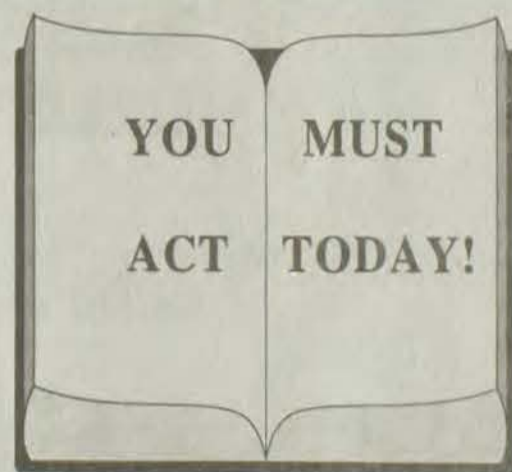
McDowell, Kentucky

Special thanks to the United States Steel workers of America Local Union #14636 for donating the flagpole and to the Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society for donating the American flag.

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Contact The Floyd County Times Today



R.C. Story, left, of the Department of Surface Mining, was guest speaker recently for the TOPS Job Club. TOPS students and staff include, front, from left, Candy Young (career counselor) Sandy Slone, Tammy Tilley, Teresa Layne, Ida Murrell, Clarissa Bailey, Crystal Hamilton, Linda Newsome, Sondra Spurlock (career counselor aide), Libby Lawson (career counselor aide); second row, from left, Lettie Kinzer, Jessica Younce, Monica Wright, Stephanie Tackett, Judy Skeens, Carey Wicker, Kim Skeens, Donna Moore; third row, from left, Eugene Horner, Jackie Crace. For information about the TOPS Program, Eastern Kentucky CEP, call 606/886-2929.

PCC hosts regional science event

by Willie Elliott
Staff Writer

Students from Floyd and Perry counties spent the greater part of Saturday, March 25, showing their knowledge of science at the seventh annual Regional Science Olympiad at Prestonsburg Community College.

The Science Olympiad is a state and national non-profit organization designed to promote scientific literacy among all students, a goal shared by education, business, industry and government.

The competition was co-sponsored by the Floyd County Conservation District, Big Sandy Natural Science Center and East Kentucky Center for Science, Mathematics and Technology.

The competition included two classes: class B for grades 6-9 and Division C for grades 9-12.

The booklet provided for the students made the purpose of the competition very plain: "...the purpose of the Science Olympiad is to improve student interest in science, develop teamwork and cooperation, and to have fun — winning is a bonus."

First place category winners in the high school division are

- Amphibians and Reptiles: Shad Stewart and Chandice Turner, Hazard High School;

- Bio-Process Lab: Edgar Tackett and Chris Newsome, South Floyd High School;

- Bottle Rocket: Brett Whitaker and Matt Adkins, Allen Central High School;

- Cow-A-Bungee: Martin Clifton and Josh Kinzer, Prestonsburg High School;

- Can't Judge a Powder by Its Color: Ryan Mullins and Nora Traum, Piarist School;

- Cell Biology: Patrick Chan, HHS;

- Chemistry Lab: Matt Goeing and Brett Hall, Piarist;

- Disease Detective: Leslie Martin and Erin Majakey, ACHS;

- Dynamic Planet: David Hicks and John Layne, Piarist;

- Experimental Design: John Mark Engle, Jessica Sturdivant and Bana Mehrbakhsh, HHS;

- Mission Possible: Matt Goeing, Emily Meyer and Nora Traum, Piarist;

- Physics Lab: Jessica Sturdivant and Nick Lasslo, HHS;

- Practical Data Gathering: John Slone and Jeremah Parson, ACHS;

- Qualitative Analysis: Monica Hobson and Amy Morgan, SFHS;

- Reach for the Stars: Swati Yalamanchi and Jan Turner, HHS;

- Rocks and Minerals: Willam Duty and John Layne, Piarist;

- Road Scholar: Joel Castle and Ryan Mullins, Piarist;

- Science Clue: Patrick Chan and Shad Stewart, HHS;

- Scrambler: Patrick Chan and Jon Turner, HHS;

- Tower Building: Matt Adkins and Kyle O'Quinn, ACHS;

- Water Quality: Jessica Hicks, PHS;

- Write It/Do It: Shad Stewart and Larry Adams, HHS;

- Sounds of Music I (Trial Event): Kyle O'Quinn and Heather Handshoe, ACHS; and

- WWW: Netsearch (Trial Event): Ryan Mullins and Jeremy Burke, Piarist.

The winners in the middle school division include

- Amphibians and Reptiles: Nick Jamerson and Tommy Layne, Allen Elementary School;

- Battery Buggy: Donovan Dye and Jarrod Gibson, McDowell Elementary School;

- Bio-Process Lab: Adam Chaffins and Robert Collum, Betsy Layne Elementary School;

- Bottle Rocket: Donovan Dye and Jarrod Gibson, McDowell;

- Bridge Building: Morgan Slone and Samantha Goble, Allen;

- Dynamic Planet: Tyler Hall and Matt Collins, Allen;

- Experimental Design: Josh McKinney, Tyler Hall and Amanda Keathley, Allen;

- Metric Mastery: Adam Chaffins and Robert Collum, Betsy Layne;

- Mission Possible: Morgan Slone and Tiffany Goble, Allen;

- Mystery Architecture: Adam Chaffins and Robert Collum, Betsy Layne;

- Nature Quest: Candice Hall and Lesley Mullins, South Floyd Middle School;

- Pentathlon: Robbie Murray, Teela Gayheart, David Joseph and Nicholas Jamerson, Allen;

- Physical Science Lab: Tyler Lasslo and Chris Osborne,



Mickey Tyler Martin and Brandon Caudill of McDowell Elementary demonstrate their balsa wood bridge that supported 50 pounds. This and other demonstrations took place during the Science Olympiad held at Prestonsburg Community College on Saturday. (photo by Willie Elliott)



McDowell Elementary students Josh Stumbo and Andrew Lafferty get ready to demonstrate the principles behind trajectory. (photo by Willie Elliott)

- Reach for the Stars: Brett Watson and Sabrina Howard, Allen Central Middle School;

- Rocks and Minerals: Danielle Eldridge and Carter Florence, Eversole Elementary School (Perry County);

- Road Scholar: Leelah Gayheart and Mandy May, Allen;

- Science Crime Busters: Samantha Goble and Alicia

- Science of Fitness: Molly Housley and Tyler Lasslo, Eversole;

- Trajectory Contest: Josh Stumbo and Andrew Lafferty, McDowell;

- Water Quality: Chris Osborne and Thomas Hammonds, Eversole;

- Water Strider: Josh Stumbo and Andrew Lafferty, McDowell;

- Write It/Do It: Amanda

- Can't Judge a Power by its Color (Trial Event): Kim Williams and Angel Thornsberry, Adams Middle School.

While on campus, the students were provided hot dogs, drinks, chips and coffee at a minimal charge by the Student Government Association, which used the activity as a fund raiser.

USDA accepting applications for rural development initiative

Agriculture Under Secretary for Rural Development Jill Long Thompson has announced that USDA is accepting applications to participate in the Rural Housing Service's (RHS) Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI).

The recently-authorized initiative will help housing and community development organizations improve service to their customers.

RCDI is a \$6 million grant program to help private, not-for-profit community-based programs improve rural economic development, housing, and community

facilities, such as schools, daycare centers, medical clinics, etc.

Qualified private and public (including tribal) intermediary organizations proposing to provide technical assistance to such projects are eligible to receive the funds. The application deadline is 4 p.m., on June 15.

The grant funds may be used to provide technical assistance and training to recipient organizations. Participating organizations must provide matching funds from other non-federal sources in an amount equal to the amount of the grant.

Further information is available in a Notice of Funding Availability published by RHS and available from USDA Rural Development state offices and on Rural Development's website at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs/rcdi/index.htm>.

Interested parties may also phone Beth Jones, at (202) 720-1491, e-mail her at: epjones@rdmail.rural.usda.gov, or write to her at: USDA Rural Housing Service, STOP 0787, 1400 Independence Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20250-0787.



Lexington and northern Kentucky get a new area code April 1.

Kentucky needs phone numbers. Numbers for the kids, numbers for the office, numbers for pagers, faxes, and cell phones. And don't forget about computer modems. Each one needs a number, and there are only so many to go around. It's just a mathematical fact. So to open up a few million more, Lexington and northern Kentucky are getting a new area code: 859. If your area code is currently 606 and your phone number begins with any of the prefixes at left, 859 will be your new area code.

On April 1, 2000, a portion of Kentucky will be assigned the new 859 area code. Then, through September 30, 2000, you can dial 606 or 859 to make long distance calls to and within the new 859 area. After this transition period is over, only the new 859 area code can be used to complete calls to and within the 859 area. Local calling rates will not be affected by this change.

Please make a note of 859 and begin preparing for the change. You may need to reprogram telecommunications equipment like speed dialers, fax machines, PBXs — virtually anything that dials numbers automatically (consult your vendor if you're not sure). If your area code is changing, be sure to let friends, relatives, and appropriate people know.

If you have any questions about area code 859, visit our Website at www.bellsouth.com/areacode. Or call us at 1 800 964-7941.



PREFIXES CHANGING FROM 606 TO 859							
200	268	341	409	506	608	699	842
208	269	342	413	508	609	705	846
215	271	344	415	512	613	707	854
219	272	351	416	513	614	712	858
220	273	352	417	514	618	715	865
221	275	354	419	516	619	719	866
222	276	357	421	518	620	721	873
223	277	359	422	519	621	727	879
224	278	361	425	525	622	733	881
225	280	362	426	527	623	734	885
226	281	363	428	531	624	736	887
227	282	364	429	532	625	737	892
229	283	367	430	533	626	740	898
230	284	369	431	534	627	741	908
231	288	370	441	536	628	744	904
232	289	371	442	537	630	745	905
233	291	372	443	538	635	746	912
234	292	373	445	540	640	748	913
235	293	375	448	541	643	749	914
236	294	380	449	543	646	760	916
238	296	381	455	544	647	762	925
239	299	383	461	547	651	765	930
240	302	384	462	548	653	767	936
243	304	385	466	552	654	771	937
244	312	386	472	554	655	778	938
245	313	388	481	559	657	781	940
246	314	389	483	560	658	792	944
250	315	390	484	567	661	795	942
252	321	391	485	568	667	797	964
253	322	392	486	569	669	802	971
254	323	393	488	572	670	803	979
255	328	394	489	578	671	814	982
257	330	396	491	579	681	815	985
258	331	400	492	581	684	816	986
259	332	401	498	582	685	817	987
260	333	402	495	583	689	823	988
261	334	403	496	585	691	824	
262	335	404	497	586	692	825	
263	336	405	498	588	694	827	
264	338	406	499	592	696	830	
266	339	408	505	594	697	838	



Feature:
Dale Jr.
Favorite for
Rookie of
the Year
 ■ NASCAR
 page • B6

■ Pikeville football signings

No Floyd Countians in first 20 Pikeville football signings

by Ed Taylor
 Sports Editor

All but one of the first 20 football signees for the new Pikeville College football team will hail from Pike County, leaving out anyone from Floyd County.

Pikeville will field the first-ever football team in the history of the school in the fall of 2000.

Fleming-Neon's Random Duty is the only non-Pike Countian to sign with the school.

Head football Coach Zak Willis,

who has been on the job since March 13, inked the 20 players this past Thursday evening at the school's Hall of Fame room. Willis said he felt that he got the best the area had to offer.

"We think we've gotten the cream of the crop in local football talent," said Willis. "We feel like these guys will be the focus of what we're doing here in building this program."

While Pikeville signed the 20 in a start to fill 75 scholarship positions, Coach Willis said his staff

was not through yet.

"There's a lot more talent out there, and we'll continue to keep in contact with them," he said. "We want the local players to know they are vital to what we're doing and we think we're making that statement tonight."

Signing with Pikeville were Dusty Hall, Josh Hobson and Roy Standifur of Shelby Valley. Hall, one of the state's top rushers last season for the Wildcats, was considered a top find.

The Bears also signed Elkhorn

City's John Johnson and Phelps' Chris Hurley. Three from Pikeville High School inked with the Bears. Those three included Jason Anderson, Jeremy Anderson and Jordan Charles.

But it was near the West Virginia border that the Bears reaped a big harvest. Pikeville signed eight players from Belfry High School which included quarterback Jonathan Wright and back R.P. Viperman. Also, Jonathan Blackburn, Derek

(See SIGNINGS, page three)

"We want the local players to know they are vital to what we're doing and we think we're making that statement tonight."

Dugout
 With Ed Taylor

■ Bichette handling the Boo Birds

Dante Bichette was one of those consistent long ball hitters when he was with the Colorado Rockies.

The Cincinnati Reds had hoped bringing Bichette to Cincinnati would make up for some of the home run power lost when the Reds did not resign Greg Vaughn. So far this season, Bichette has homered once but that is not the reason the "boo birds" are out against him. It is more his fielding than anything else.

Already he has butchered a couple of plays in right field and that is what fans remember the most. They forget that he has thrown out two base runners already this season, one at third and another at home.

Against Milwaukee the other night, Bichette bobbled the ball in right field, allowing run to score. When he came to the plate in the Reds' half of the fifth inning, he was booed by the bird watchers. He then promptly homered to right field, changing the boos into cheers. You figure it!

Bichette said he expected the fans to react that way and he was going to work hard on his defense. "Or die trying."

Bichette averaged 29 home runs a season when at Colorado and over 100 RBIs. In seven years with the Rockies he has a batting average of .318. Those are not bad career credentials if you ask me.

Look for Bichette to have another banner season. He will make Reds fans forget Vaughn. Now if Junior can just get on track.

Chicago Cub outfielder Sammy Sosa says not to worry about Kenny Jr. He will hit after he gets accustomed to the National League. Wait a minute, don't they play the game the same way in both leagues?

■ Is it the Enron Dome?

No, Enron Field, the new home of the Houston Astros is not a dome but an outdoor facility — something the Astros have never had before.

I wonder what they will do with the Astrodome. Wasn't it supposed to be the eighth wonder of the world when it first opened?

The Cincinnati Reds will be in their new home in the 2003 season. But they are trading a 55,000-seat stadium for one that will hold only 42,000.

Remember old Crosley Field? It held only 28,000 and was hardly full of fans.

I enjoyed my trips from Indiana to Crosley Field. That was a real baseball stadium. None of this enclosed thing. It was small but it was an enjoyable place to watch the game.

The terrace in the outfield. No warning tracks, just a terrace that told the fielders how close they were to the wall.

Looks like the Florida

(See DUGOUT, page two)

Betsy Layne pounds Paintsville pitching for 14 hits in 10-3 win

by Ed Taylor
 Sports Editor

Heather Hamilton, Devon Reynolds and Denise Jones collected three hits each as the Betsy Layne Ladycats pounded out 14 hits in winning over host Paintsville 10-3 in girls softball Thursday evening at Paintsville.

Kim Tackett held the Lady Tigers to just four hits in giving up three runs in the win. She struck out eight batters and issued but two walks.

Heather Daniels suffered the setback for Paintsville allowing 10 runs on 14 hits. She fanned two batters.

Betsy Layne took a 1-0 lead in the top of the first when Reynolds tripled with one out. She scored on Jones three-bagger.

Paintsville left two runners stranded in their half of the second inning as Betsy Layne pushed across their second run to lead 2-0. Parsons opened he inning with a base hit, stole second and moved to third on a passed ball. She later scored on a wild pitch.

The Ladycats made it 3-0 in the top of the third on a lead off single by Hamilton, who stole second and scored on Reynolds RBI single.

Paintsville tied the game at 3-3, hitting Tackett with three runs in the bottom of the inning on three hits.

The Ladycats struck for four runs in the top of the fourth on a lead off walk to Parrsons, Mitchell's double, and a single off the bat of Amanda Robinette. Hamilton and Jones had runs batted in singles in the inning.

While Tackett was setting down the Lady Tigers, Betsy Layne scored a single run in the top of the fifth on a two-out single by Danielle

Newsome who reached third base on two errors by Paintsville. She scored on Hamilton's base hit, her third.

The final two runs for Betsy Layne came in the seventh inning on a two-out home run by Reynolds, a single by Jones and Bentley's RBI double.

Fifteen outs for Betsy Layne was recorded on fly balls. There were only two ground outs.

■ Betsy Layne vs. Jenkins



BETSY LAYNE'S KIM TACKETT went the distance in a win over Paintsville Thursday evening. She fanned eight batters in scattering four hits (photo by Ed Taylor)

Errors prove costly as Betsy Layne falls to Jenkins

Fourth, fifth inning rally helps Lady Cavs 9-3

by Ed Taylor
 Sports Editor

For four innings, the Betsy Layne Ladycats and Jenkins Lady Cavaliers hooked up in a good old-fashioned softball game Friday night at Pikeville.

The two teams met in an opening round game of the Pikeville Lady Panthers Hillbilly Day Classic at Pikeville High School. Hard-throwing April Damron bested Betsy Layne's Kim Tackett as the two dueled from the mound through the four innings.

Tackett, who had struggled the first two games of the season, looked to have regained the form that made her one of the region's top hurlers last season

Tackett surrendered nine runs but only four were earned. She fanned six batters and issued only six walks.

Damron seemed to get stronger as the game progressed. She scattered four Betsy Layne hits in giving up three runs. Damron struck out 12 batters and walked five.

While throwing the ball extremely hard, Damron had some early control problems. But Betsy Layne could not take advantage of her wildness, leaving runners stranded in five of the seven played. Betsy Layne just could not come up with the

(See BETSY LAYNE, page two)

A Look At Sports...

Sports of all sorts



Still no word on whether the process of finding a head football coach at South Floyd High School has begun. With the summer camps coming up in a couple of months, you would think that someone would be in place by then.

I really think the folks up Left Beaver are hoping longtime Coach Donnie Daniels would have a change of heart and return to the team. Says here, no way will that happen!

ADKINS NAMED
 Former Paintsville standout Keith Adkins was officially hired as the new head basketball coach at Campbellsville College.

Adkins replaces Travis Ford, who accepted a similar job with Eastern Kentucky

University.

Adkins, who played for Coach Bill Mike Runyon at Paintsville and was an All-Stater, was to join Ford at EKU if he had not been hired as the new Campbellsville coach.

Campbellsville finished 23-11 this past season and made the school's first-ever trip to the nationals.

Adkins said the Tigers would continue to be an up-tempo team with plenty of long-range shooting from the arc.

■ BASKETBALL TIME

I suppose it is always time to talk basketball. Already, we are looking forward to the season in December. The Floyd County Classic, an eight-team showcase, will be held on Saturday, December 9, with four games beginning at 1:30 p.m.

Betsy Layne will meet Millard in game one followed by Allen Central and Lawrence County at 3:30 p.m. Prestonsburg faces East Carter in a 5:30 p.m. tip off and defending district champion South Floyd takes on Magoffin

County in a rematch of a first round regional tournament game. Game time there is 7:30 p.m.

■ OUT OF BOSTON

Rick Pitino and the Boston Celtics dropped their 10th consecutive game in a loss to Philadelphia Friday night. The longest Celtic losing streak is 13 games. You should have stayed put at UK, Rick.

■ WHO WILL RETURN?

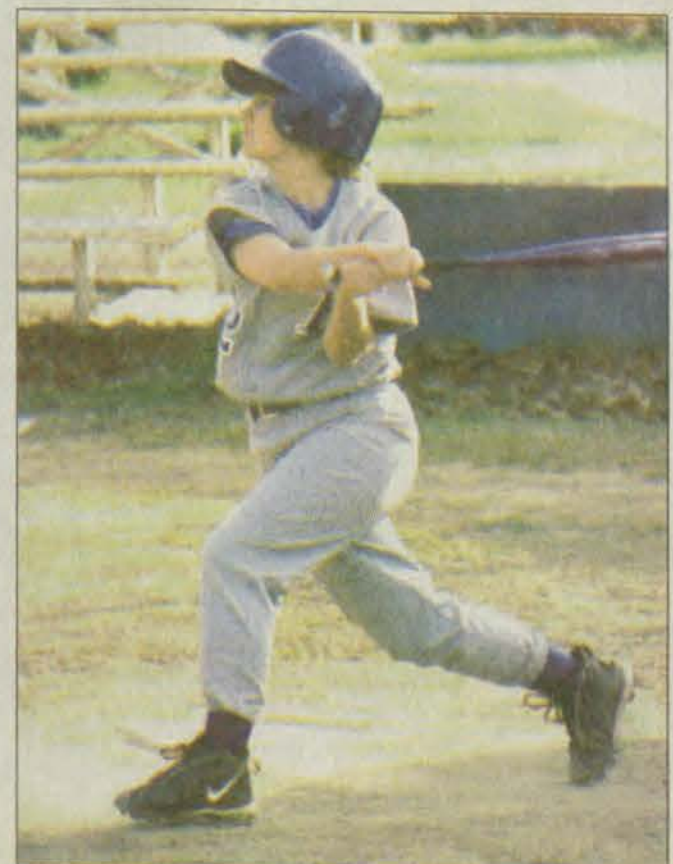
Who will be back? Who will not return to the coaching ranks in our county? Who knows? We do know that Paul Cline resigned as girls' coach at South Floyd. There could be an opening or two still in the girls' ranks.

For the boys, look for all to return for another season of basketball.

■ DON'T FORGET

Kids Day in the Park will be a happening

(See SPORTS, page two)



DEVON REYNOLDS OF BETSY LAYNE played long ball as she had a home run against the Paintsville Lady Tigers in softball play. Reynolds collected three hits in a 10-3 win (photo by Ed Taylor)



BRADLEY BROOKS WAS SURROUNDED by teammates and family when he inked with Campbellsville College recently. Brooks was the second signee from Floyd County for the Tigers. (photo by Ed Taylor)

Sports

on Saturday, April 29, at Archer Park. You want to make plans to have the kids (9 and under) at the local park.

BASEBALL

The Cincinnati Reds got two decent starts out of two of their starters in their series with the Milwaukee Brewers. Denny Neagle and Ron Villone had fine outings. Villone has the only win for the Reds heading into the Friday night series with the Chicago Cubs.

Here's a trade deal: Scott Williamson, Mike Tucker, Chris Stynes for Sammy Sosa and part of the torn down Cinergy Field when the new stadium is completed.

The Reds struggled big time against Chicago Friday night in a 10-6 loss. How much did we pay for Junior?

WHAT A FACILITY!

Every time I make my way over to Pikeville High School to cover either baseball or softball I still am

amazed at the facilities they have there.

I mean, it is not this "settle-for-what-you-have" thing. It is a nicely manicured park and just an excellent place to play either game.

The folks at Pikeville are always glad to see you come their way. I wish our kids had facilities as such to perform on. A big, big crowd was on had for the Hillbilly Classic at Pikeville.

It is a shame that our administration started work at Betsy Layne

High School (softball field) and has neglected to see it through.

I know, I know, I have heard all the excuses. But if it wasn't to be finished, then why was it started?

One concerned parent said to me, "Maybe we will have it next year." Then again, maybe you won't!

HOUSTON

What is baseball without the Astrodome? Well, we found out this past Friday night when Houston

moved into their new stadium. The name: Enron Field. The walls down the right field and left line are very short and it is no secret they are catering to the long ball hitters.

It is the first time the Astros have had an outdoor stadium to call home.

First game: Phillies 4, Astros 1.

SPEAKING OF STADIUMS

Have you noticed how empty the stadiums are this season? Watch game highlights on television and

all you see are near-empty stadiums. The Florida Marlins drew only 7,000 for opening day. Are the folks in Gatorland mad or something?

FOOTBALL

The Cincinnati Bengals, who swear they are going to turn things around this season, will open with the Cleveland Browns in their new stadium.

Until Wednesday, good sports everyone and be good sports!

Continued from p1

Betsy Layne

timely hit that could have put them back in the game.

The Lady Cavs busted open an otherwise scoreless game with two runs in the bottom of the fourth inning. Damron started the rally with a lead-off double, moved to third on a wild pitch and scored on Angie Wyatt's RBI single. Lisa Anderson reached on a fielder's choice when Wyatt was forced at second base. Tackett looked like she was going to get out of the inning with just the one run scoring, getting Dee Halbert on strikes for the second out.

Collins grounded weakly to third baseman Danielle Newsome, who elected to go to second for the force. The throw pulled second baseman Amanda Robinette off the bag and rolled into right centerfield. Anderson scored the second run, unearned, on a slow roller to Newsome at third. This time the throw was errant to first base.

Jenkins added five runs in their half of the fifth inning and only two were earned. A walk to Caudill to start the inning and Addington's base hit, a blooper that was catchable but fell, scored Caudill. Damron walked and Wyatt reached on an error by shortstop Devon Reynolds to load the bases for the Lady Cavs. Lisa Anderson then hit a deep drive to right center that fell for a two run single. She later scored on a two-base throwing error by Newsome to give Jenkins a 7-0 lead.

Betsy Layne avoided the shutout with two runs in the top of the sixth inning. Denise Jones started the two-run rally with a double and scored when Brandy Bentley's roller to third was thrown wildly. Bentley then scored on Kim Tackett's long drive to right center for a double.

In the bottom of the Jenkins sixth, the Lady Cavs plated three runs for a 9-2 score. Collins drove in two of the three runs

with a two-run single. Duty had an RBI safety for the Lady Cavs.

Newsome scored the final Betsy Layne run in the top of the seventh. She led off with a single, moving to second and third on wild pitches. She later scored on Reynolds' RBI single with two out.

Damron had a no-hitter going through three innings until Bentley spoiled the bid with a fourth-inning single. Betsy Layne left one runner stranded in the first and two in the second. Runners were stranded at second and third with just one out in the second. Jenny Parsons and Tabitha Mitchell drew back-to-back one out walks and moved up a ase on a wild pitch. But Damron got Robinette on a strike out and Newsome grounded into a force out.

Addington, Damron, Wyatt and Anderson collected two hits apiece for Jenkins. Mullins also had three safeties in the game.

Continued from p1



Notes from columns that did make the paper in recent weeks.

With the success of this year's Girls' State Tournament in Richmond, I beg to ask the Kentucky High School Athletic Association why they would want to keep moving the tourney around.

The next two years, however, the girls' tournament will be held at Diddle Arena in Bowling Green.

The people at Eastern Kentucky University are great. There's no fee for parking and McBrayer Arena is a great place to watch a game.

West Carter finished the best season ever for a team with its 37-1 record as the Comets beat the Shelby County Rockets, 58-50, in front of a State Tournament record of 6,512 fans to capture the 2000 crown.

For 22 years John "Hop" Brown has coached the Comets and has built the Carter County school into one of the powers not only in the 16th Region, but also in this half of the state.

Brown is a sports writer's dream because he's a funny person with a lot of one-liners.

You can tell he enjoys his club and by guiding the 16th Region squad to its first-ever state championship, he'll enjoy this a lot more. Another reason will be because his daughter Kandi earned MVP honors and also received the J.B. Mansfield Award, which is given by the Louisville Courier-Journal to an athlete who excels in basketball ability, academics, sportsmanship and citizenship in honor of the KHSAA's second commissioner.

Ward vs. KHSAA

Floyd County native Randy Ward may be in the toughest test of his coaching career. Ward's Greenup County High School was sanctioned by the KHSAA because of alleged academic improprieties involving a student-athlete.

Greenup County Superintendent Shelia Reeder announced the sanctions, which included forfeiture of nine basketball games during the 1998-99 season and more than \$8,000 in revenue from the district and regional tournaments that season. The team is also banned from pre-season scrimmages and will have tighter restrictions on the acceptance of transfers.

KHSAA Commissioner Louis Stout was hard on Ward and principal Mike Thoroughman in his letter to the board of education.

Keep tournament in Richmond; Ward in hot water again

Stout wrote: "The evidence established that the principal and basketball coach at Greenup County High School were aware prior to the enrollment of (the student-athlete) that he would not be eligible to represent (Greenup County) due to academic non-compliance."

Thoroughman and Ward both deny the allegations of wrongdoing.

Reeder said that the school system would not appeal the findings.

Ward, who was fired a couple of years ago only to get his job back, told the Daily Independent that "I'm not a little bit innocent, I'm 100 percent innocent."

This time it may be a little too much for the Greenup County school personnel and fans and cost Ward his coaching job.

Locals in Final Four

It's an exciting time around east-

ern Kentucky even without the University of Kentucky in the NCAA Final Four.

Former Paintsville and UK player John Pelphrey and former Pikeville College Bear Donnie Jones are both on the staff of the University of Florida.

I got a chance to talk with Pelphrey last week and did a story, which didn't appear in this paper, and he was excited about the Gators. He went on to say about how glad that he is to work at Florida and with head coach Billy Donovan.

Sooner than later, Pelphrey will leave Florida and become a head coach of a major program and he will be a success like he has in everything he has ever tried.

Jones hooked up with Donovan at Marshall University and worked

(See JB SPORTS, page three)

Travis Ford named head basketball coach at ECU

RICHMOND — Eastern Kentucky University Athletics Director Jeff Long has announced that Travis Ford, formerly head basketball coach at Campbellsville University, has been named head men's basketball coach at ECU.

Ford, who guided Campbellsville to a 23-11 record last season and the first round of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) National Tournament before losing

Dugout

Continued from p1

Marlins (I keep wanting to call them Gators) are needing some fans. Leading the National League East Division, the Marlins are averaging less than 10,000 per game.

Major league baseball needs something to spark interest in the game. After all, the season is not almost over and NFL football about to begin. We are talking about the first two weeks of the season and the turnstiles are not turning with fans.

All the gimmicks they can come up with will not do any better than an attitude change of the players, owners and all connected with the game.

See you around the old diamond and by the dugout.

78-76 to The Masters College (Calif.), served as the head coach of the Tigers for three years, compiling a 67-31 record there.

"Travis Ford is an outstanding young coach who possesses a great combination of energy, enthusiasm, coaching background, head coaching experience and Division I playing experience, as well as a burning desire to succeed," said Long.

Two seasons ago, Ford led Campbellsville to another very impressive year, going 28-3 overall and 10-2 in the Mid-South Conference with two of the three losses coming to schools ranked in the top 25 in the NAIA poll.

"As Eastern Kentucky University pushes the envelope of excellence, it is appropriate that we meet up with and hire Travis Ford as our new basketball coach," said Dr. Robert Kustra, ECU president.

"Travis epitomizes excellence in athletics and basketball. His career is a sterling example of where talent and hard work will take a basketball program.

"We at ECU are excited about his leading us to victory as he has others on so many occasions. He has my strongest personal support and the support of the entire university community."

In three years at Campbellsville, Ford led CU to an overall record of 67-31, an NAIA playoff appearance and one MSC title. Following the

1998-99 season, Ford was named as Mid-South Conference Coach of the Year.

Over the past three seasons, Ford has coached seven first-team all conference players, 10 who have been named honorable mention all conference, three honorable mention All-Americans and one second team All-American.

"I'm excited about coming to ECU as the head coach and am looking forward to this opportunity," said Ford. "The university and the athletics administration have made a commitment to succeed at this level and I'm grateful for this opportunity.

"Our goal is to finish at the top of the OVC (Ohio Valley Conference) in the near future and hopefully become one of the top programs in the Southeast. I know it is going to take a lot of hard work, excitement and energy, but I'm ready for the challenge."

Ford, 30, is a native of Madisonville, where he played his high school basketball for North Hopkins High School, leading that team to three state tournament appearances and being named All-State.

After graduation from high school in 1989, where he averaged 31.7 points per game and was named Western Kentucky Player of

(See ECU, page three)

Attention, Anglers!



Submit your fish story, with photos. You could be The Floyd County Times Angler of The Month, and be eligible for a Wal-Mart Certificate.

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Drop by our office at 263 S. Central Prestonsburg, Ky.

Articles and photos to run in Sporting Times.

Bentley's COMMENTS

BY RICK BENTLEY

Unpaid Notes:

■ There seems to be some debate as to whether this season will be a changing of the guard in Major League Baseball.

Many seem to think this is the year the Braves fall from grace; the Yankees aren't getting any younger, especially in the pitching department; and some question whether the Junior Griffey deal will pay off for Cincinnati.

I think the Reds will be better with Junior, but maybe not as good as St. Louis. This is a team loaded with talent, and if Mark McGwire can get healthy and stay that way — which is questionable

— they may be more than Cincinnati can stand.

But the Wild Card race is a possibility. I still think Atlanta is the best team in the National League, and that means Cincinnati will battle it out with New York for the fourth spot.

Either way, things are a little more exciting these days in Reds Country.

■ Friday was the night for the annual Kentucky/Ohio All-Star games in Portsmouth, Ohio, and while the boys' side was void of 15th Region personnel, the girls' team was being guided by a couple of Pike Countyans.

Belfry's Cindy Halbert was

coaching the Kentucky ladies, a team led by the potent combination of Kandi Brown and Mandy Sterling from state champ West Carter. Also on the Kentucky bench was Shelby Valley's Bobby Spears.

It's great to see Pike County represented, but with the way our coaches are often quick to try to hold each other back, it's also good to see two of them working together.

■ Speaking of Spears, in a column about his team's appearance in the Sweet 16, I overlooked some folks who are instrumental in the goings-on in local sports.

No one, and I mean no one,

does a better job of covering the 15th Region than the folks at Inter-Mountain Cable. The WPRG guys are all over the place and should have been at the front of the line when we commenced back-patting.

As I explained to a couple of them the other night, it's unfortunate they aren't on my cable, because the memory is failing me at an early age and I just flat missed them.

I apologize to the whole group, especially my buddy Don. Keep up the good work, fellas.

■ My poor friend Jeremy Davis must be crushed. Oh how he looked forward to his annual shouting matches with Campbellsville's Travis Ford.

Only now, the Little General will belong to Eastern Kentucky University.

JB Sports

Continued from p2

extremely hard and earned his way into his job at Florida.

Both are fine representatives of this area and both Paintsville and Pikeville should be proud of these young men.

Adkins should get Campbellsville job

With Travis Ford getting the Eastern Kentucky University job, former Paintsville Tiger standout Keith Adkins should take over as head coach for the Tigers.

Adkins has paid his dues with Ford over the past three years and is one of the up-and-coming coaches on any level.

Before his arrival in Campbellsville, he worked both on the NAIA level (Pikeville College) and in the NCAA Division I level (UNC-Greensboro).

The school should not make Adkins wait as they go through the process of putting together a committee. If they make him wait long, he'll end up in Richmond as Ford's top assistant.

Reds improved, but is it enough?

The only advice I'd offer Ford is not to wave his wallet at OVC officials, and not to spend part of the OVC tournament yelling at the commissioner. The new guys may not specialize in looking the other way.

Seriously, last November's local appearance notwithstanding, Travis has been a good guy to me every time I've been around him. He's got a lot of potential, and if things go well, Richmond will only be the second stop on his way to the big time.

We wish him well.

■ That said, Ford's departure opened the door for a local guy to realize his dream.

Former Paintsville High standout and Pikeville College assistant Keith Adkins has been with Ford since he took over for the late, great Lou Cunningham at Campbellsville, and deserves a shot at the top job there.

Adkins, who signed with Digger Phelps and Notre Dame out of high school, has paid his dues. We certainly congratulate

him and wish him well.

And finally

While it won't happen until next Wednesday, today is my last chance to say good luck to the one and only Rob Herbst.

Herbst will be remembered for many things, and for me, allowing my ugly mug back in the pages of the News-Express on a weekly (weakly) basis is only one of them.

Herbst has been a lot of fun for us, because he has a terrific sense of humor and can dish it out as well as he can take it. And trust me, in the time he's been the boss, he's done a lot of both.

Pike County is losing a good guy to Winchester, and local sports is losing a good friend. He's been a ton of help to me both professionally and personally, and I hope he knows how appreciated he is.

Thanks, Herbst. And when the Braves are back in the World Series this October, expect to hear from your favorite columnist.

And me.

Free hunter education course slated

A free Kentucky Hunter Education Course is scheduled to be held at the Dewey Lake Fish and Game Club at Stratton Branch on April 3-5 beginning at 6 p.m.

The 10-hour course, sponsored by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources and the Dewey Lake Fish and Game Club, will include classroom instruction in hunter ethics, wildlife identification, outdoor survival, first aid, firearms, bow hunting and ammunition.

The last session will include actual range firing and an examination.

Upon successful completion of the course, a graduate card will be issued which is valid in any state where such certification is required. Attendance at all sessions is required for certification.

Effective March 1, 1991, all hunters born on or after January 1, 1975, are required, while hunting, to carry a valid hunter education course graduate card in addition to the appropriate Kentucky hunting license requirements.

A bow hunter not in possession of a firearm may carry a National Bowhunter Education Program course completion card in lieu of the hunter education card.

Children under age 10 and persons exempt from purchasing a hunting license are not required to possess the card while hunting. Children under age 10 shall be accompanied by an adult of at least 18 years of age while hunting.

For additional information, please contact Tim Goble at 874-2490 or Barry Frasure at 285-9183.



ACTION WAS HEAVY ON THIS play at the plate involving Jenkins and Betsy Layne. Betsy Layne dropped a 9-3 decision to the Lady Cavs. (photo by Ed Taylor)

EKU

Continued from p2

the Year for the second straight year, Ford played his freshman season of collegiate basketball for the University of Missouri.

During that 1989-90 season, Ford was selected to the UPI Big Eight Conference All-Freshman Team as he averaged 6.4 points and 3.5 assists per game, mostly as a reserve. Ford then transferred to the University of Kentucky where he sat out the 1990-91 season under the NCAA Division I transfer rule.

Ford was a first-team All-Southeastern Conference selection for two seasons (1991-92 and 1992-93), an Academic All-SEC pick three years and Most Valuable Player of the SEC Tournament twice.

As a junior, Ford was chosen as the Southeast Regional Most Valuable Player in the NCAA Tournament and led Kentucky to a

Final Four appearance. That season saw Ford average 13.6 points, 4.8 assists, reach double figures in points 23 times and become the first player in UK history to make more than 100 three-pointers in one season (101-191).

Called by his former mentor at Kentucky, Rick Pitino, as "one of the best shooters I've ever witnessed," Ford led the South team to a gold medal finish at the 1990 U.S. Olympic Festival and played for the U.S. team that captured the Gold Medal in the 1993 World University Games.

Following his graduation from the University of Kentucky in 1994 with a bachelors of science degree in communications, he played briefly with the Golden State Warriors in the National Basketball Association. After his stint with Golden State, he played the role of

Danny O'Grady in the motion picture, The 6th Man.

Ford is married to the former Heather Brooks of Campbellsville and they have a son, Brooks, age three months.

Signings

Continued from p1

Dotson, Brad Hatfield, David Oliver, Derrick Pauley and Ryan Thornsby signed from Belfry.

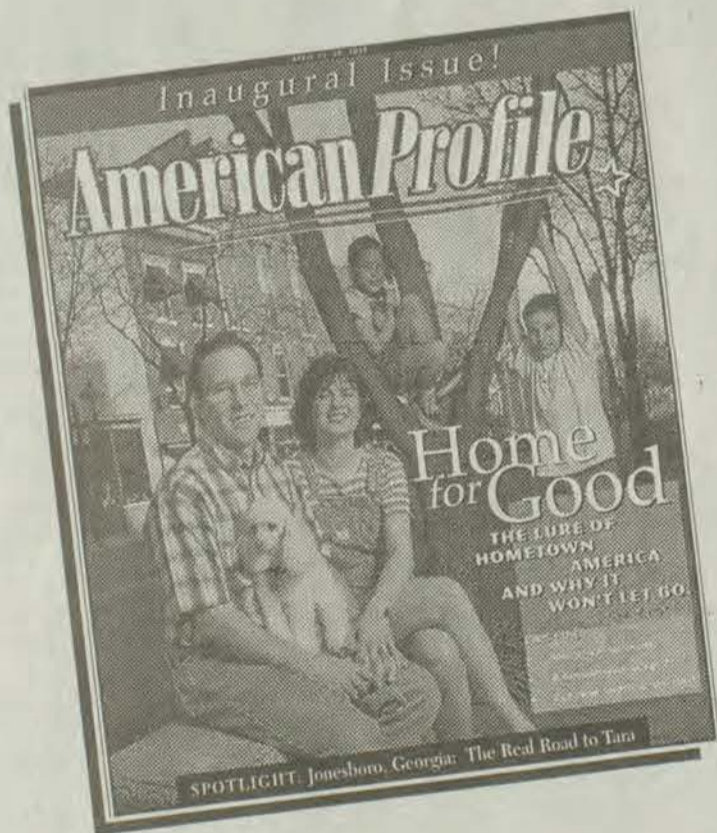
Coach Willis was quick to praise his coaching staff. Assistant coaches Mac Bryant and Shawn Thacker have been on the job for a couple of weeks grading the talent.

"Those two gentlemen deserve a lot of credit for what's happening here right now," Willis said. "They're putting in a lot of hours right now, and it's paying off tonight."



SAFE AT THIRD! THE Betsy Layne Ladycats softball team dropped a 9-3 decision to Jenkins in the opening game of the Hillbilly Classic at Pikeville Friday. (photo by Ed Taylor)

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INSIDE THE PRO FISHING TOUR

Beaver Lake Is Kind to Lytle

Virginia pro Curt Lytle should consider relocating to Arkansas, Beaver Lake, Ark., to be exact. On Saturday, the 31-year-old pro won an EverStart Batteries event on Beaver Lake, giving him two career victories and a sixth-place finish on the reservoir. And Lytle will return to Beaver Lake April 12-15 for the FLW Tour's Wal-Mart Open and a shot at \$200,000.



Tim Tucker's Tour Notebook

"This place has been great to me," he said. "For whatever reason, I fish well here." Despite his record on Beaver Lake, Lytle is cautiously optimistic about his chances of winning the Wal-Mart Open. "I hope the tournament is different," he said. "If the fish are the same as they are now, I'll probably make the same mental mistake that hurts so many anglers. I can't try to fish a repeat of this tournament."

Lytle landed a final-round five-bass catch weighing 12 pounds, 4 ounces. It was worth \$10,000 in cash and a fully rigged Ranger bass boat. George Toalson of Oklahoma finished second with 10-12, followed by Oklahoma's Jerry Evans (10-7), Jeff Stevens of Indiana and Darrell Robertson of Oklahoma.

Worldwater.com Joins BASS Worldwaters.com, a leading recreational angling e-commerce site, recently announced a multi-event sponsorship deal with the Bass Anglers Sportsman Society for more than \$1 million.

"We are pleased to welcome Worldwaters.com and respect their focus on avid anglers," said Helen Sevier, CEO of BASS. "We are excited about their plans to serve the needs of bass anglers worldwide."

Ms. Martin Returns Former top-ranked female bass pro Mary Ann Martin of Clewiston, Fla., came out of retirement recently to fish as a co-angler (amateur) in the Wal-Mart FLW event on Lake Murray, S.C. The mother of recent FLW winner Scott Martin and ex-wife of fishing legend Roland Martin, Mary Ann proved she still has what it takes as a competitor by finishing 12th in her first tournament in years.

\$1 Million Tournament Top professional fishermen will have a rare chance to fish for \$1 million when the Wal-Mart FLW Tour swings into northwest Arkansas April 12-15 for the fourth stop of the 2000 season.

At stake is the first-place cash award of \$200,000, which is \$67,275 more than Ward Burton collected for winning the recent Mall.com 400 NASCAR and \$52,205 more than Dale Earnhardt won for last year's DieHard 500.

Escape From New York Judy Israel of Clewiston, Fla., may originally be from the Bronx, N.Y., but you can't tell it by her success on two Southern-based Operation Bass circuits. Israel, who competes along with her husband and son, recently captured her third top-10 EverStart co-angler (amateur) finish. She also has an FLW top-10 co-angler showing to her credit. "She's got to be one of the best female anglers in the business today," Operation Bass tournament director Jerry Stakely said.

Tim Tucker's Pro Power Ratings

Star indicates a pro who is coming on strong.

This Week	Last Week	Weeks on List	Angler, Hometown
1	1	42	Denny Brauer, Camdenton, Mo. Runner-up in '99 Classic; Fla. Top 150 finals
2	2	42	Davy Hite, Prosperity, S.C. Won '99 BASS Masters Classic
3	5	25	★ Tim Horton, Spruce Pine, Ala. BASS Angler of Year; made four Top 150 finals
4	3	42	★ Larry Nixon, Bee Branch, Ark. Won BASS Top 150 opener; made Md. finals
5	4	42	★ Kevin VanDam, Kalamazoo, Mich. Won N.Y. BASS event; 1999 Angler of Year
6	6	42	Rick Clunn, Ava, Mo. Runner-up in Vl. BASS Top 150 and FLW event
7	7	25	David Fritts, Lexington, N.C. Two top-10 finals; Millennium runner-up
8	15	20	★ Aaron Martens, Castaic, Calif. Calif. BASS winner; made last two Top 150 finals
9	10	6	★ Shaw Grigsby, Gainesville, Fla. Won last two Top 150s; MegaBucks finalist
10	8	42	Stephen Browning, Hot Springs, Ark. BASS Mich. Top 150 finals; FLW Fla. finals
11	9	12	Michael Iaconelli, Woodbury Heights, N.J. Won Vl. Top 150; runner-up in Fla. Top 150
12	11	39	Zell Rowland, Montgomery, Texas Finals of Vl. BASS Top 150
13	12	39	Clark Wendlandt, Cedar Park, Texas Won FLW S.C. event; MegaBucks runner-up
14	13	22	Darrell Robertson, Jay, Okla. M-1 champ; won \$850,000 in two months
15	14	32	Roland Martin, Clewiston, Fla. Runner-up in Vl. Top 150; 6th in Miss. FLW

These ratings of America's top tournament bass pros are based on Tim's opinion of their talent, knowledge, experience and most recent tournament performances.

Tips From the Pros



TIM HORTON recently wrapped up the coveted BASS Angler of the Year title. The 27-year-old pro lives in Spruce Pine, Ala.

Persistence Pays Off in Sight-Fishing

"I learned to sight-fish for largemouths while fishing and guiding on Pickwick Lake (in Alabama). That was a good learning ground. So I feel comfortable fishing anywhere in the country for bass that I can see.

"With visible bass, if the fish will stick around their beds, I can usually catch them. If they are skittish and leave the bed, I'm sunk. But if they stick around, and I pay attention to the little things that they do, I can eventually catch them.

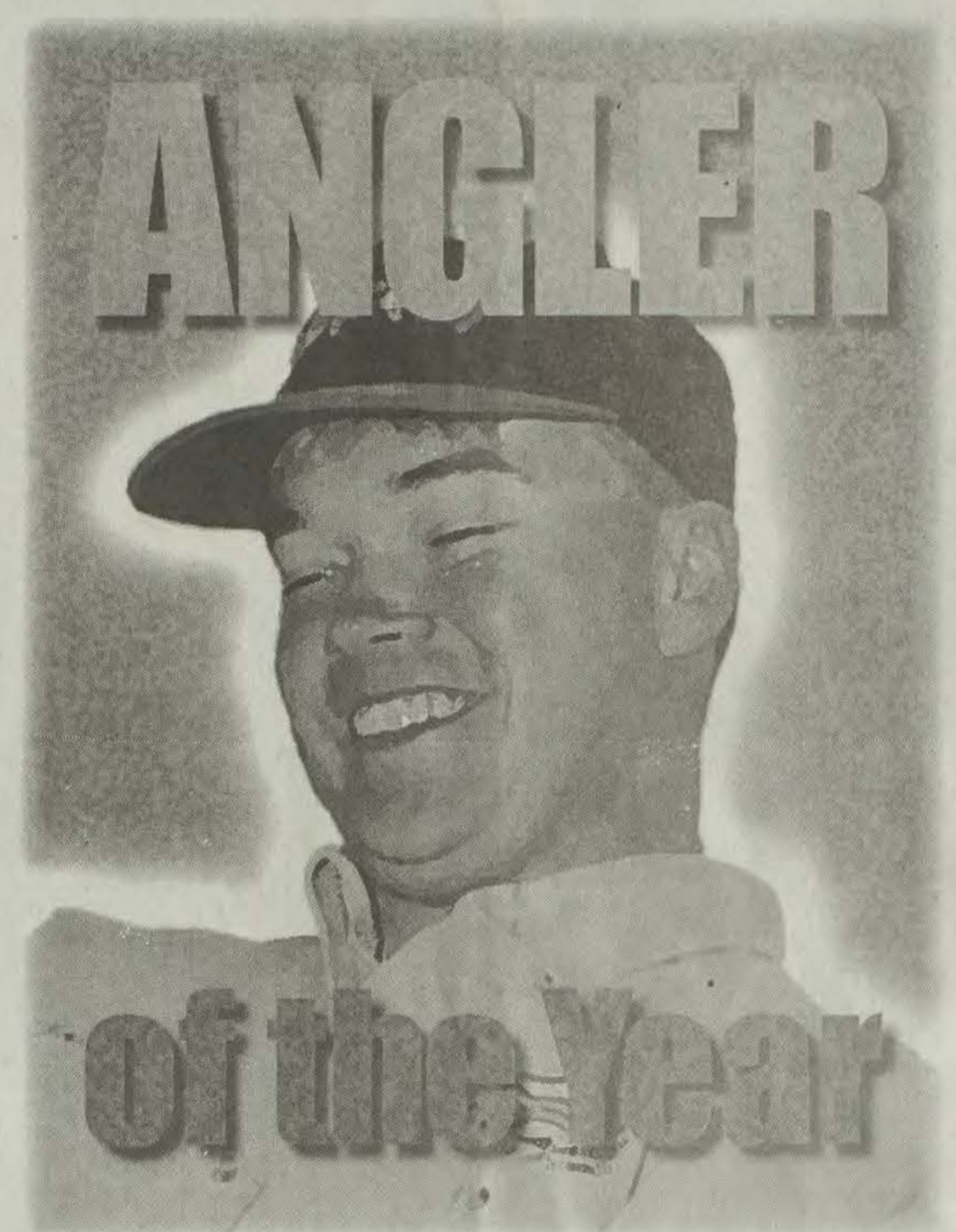
"It's not unusual for me to have to work a bass for an hour or more before I get the fish to bite and execute perfectly. Most times, it's a situation where you have to put your lure in the right spot in the bed. All bass have a sweet spot in their bed that they're guarding where they will react and grab the lure when it hits that spot. It's a matter of finding that spot.

"My best sight-fishing baits are a white 3/8-ounce Riverside jig and Riverside's new Woolly Beavertail (a compact bait with a ribbed body and paddle-shaped tail)."

A weekly guide to sports in the wild, including the professional bass fishing tour

Outdoors

Longwing Publications Inc., Peter Gentile, Editor. Write to us at P.O. Box 15045, Sarasota, FL 34277



Rookie Takes Top Honor

By TIM TUCKER, Outdoors Writer

SPRUCE PINE, Ala.— When it comes to fishing, Tim Horton has always had a plan to achieve his ultimate goal — pursuing a career as a professional bass angler.

The roots of that plan were planted in the waters of lakes Pickwick and Wilson, which sprawl over his native northeastern corner of Alabama. It was there that he learned to fish, and then spent five years refining his skills as a guide. And it was there that he learned to produce under pressure.

After fishing local tournaments to gauge his skills against others with the same goal, Horton fished a few sporadic big-league, multi-day tournaments. The results were encouraging. With his money saved up and still working as a guide, he made the big leap and joined the BASS-MASTER Eastern Invitational circuit in 1998 with the express goal of learning as much as possible and earning a promotion to the lucrative Big Kmart BASSMASTER Top 150 circuit, where his boyhood heroes reigned.

Horton accomplished that lofty goal by finishing 20th on the Eastern trail. Now, though, he would be matching casts with the big boys.

"My goal for this season was to make the (BASS Masters) Classic, which I thought was possible as long as I fished well, continued to learn, and didn't have any mechanical problems that cost me a day of fishing here or there," Horton said. "I didn't think making the Classic was out of the question or too high a goal.

"But I have to admit that I never even considered Angler of the Year, mainly because I had only fished

the lakes where two of the seven Top 150 tournaments were scheduled. I thought that would put me at a big disadvantage."

The 27-year-old Top 150 rookie surprised the fishing world by plowing through the strongest tournament fields in competitive fishing and dominating America's premier circuit. After qualifying for the finals in an impressive four out of six Top 150 events, Horton scored a rare feat by wrapping up the Angler of the Year crown and qualifying for the coveted Classic with one tournament remaining (May 7-9 at Alabama's Wheeler Lake).

"It's been such an incredible year that I hope I don't wake up."
—Tim Horton

"It's been such an incredible year that I hope I don't wake up," said Horton, whose worst finish this season was 38th. "It's really been just phenomenal. And it's happening at the right time with us starting a family and competitive fishing being such a tough career to start.

"Everything has worked out well this year. I couldn't have written it any better. It's just been a wonderful year. It really has."

After beginning the year with sixth and 38th showings, Horton allowed himself to start thinking about winning Angler of the Year when he won the third Top 150 event of the season (on the Potomac River). He took the lead with the win, but fell to third in the standings by finishing 14th at the next tournament in Florida. But Horton regained the lead with a fourth-place showing in the next event (Lake Seminole) and secured the title by making the recent MegaBucks finals.

"It's been an overwhelming experience," he said. "I'm kind of in awe of it. It would take another six or seven years of doing this well before anyone would say anything about being great. I think this year it's been a set of very fortunate circumstances."

YOUR SPORTS

Sailor Circles Globe in 155 Lonely Days

By STEVE GUST

Had he been alive 500 years ago, American sailor Brad Van Liew might have provided a little competition to the great explorer himself, Christopher Columbus.

Who knows? He might have even beaten Columbus to the New World.

Van Liew, 32, has already sailed single-handedly around the world. Columbus had help.

By air and sea, the Californian is tackling new frontiers all the time. In his first three decades, he has become an accomplished pilot, started two air-charter companies and tackled tough sailing challenges.

The toughest of which has to be the Around Alone competition, which most sailors wouldn't dream of trying, even if they could afford it.

The Around Alone is a nine-month, 27,000-mile single-handed race that uses the entire globe as its course. From September 1998 to April 1999, Van Liew took part in the quadrennial circumnavigation, with sponsorship from Balance Bar.

Van Liew finished third, competing among the best sailors in the world.

Along the way, there were some real setbacks. For example, his boat was blown over in the frigid waters off Antarctica. He was hundreds of miles from shore and possible help.

"Fortunately, the boat bounced right back up," he said. "That was quite an experience."

Then, starting the race's last leg from Punta del Este, Uruguay, Van Liew lost his mast. Fashioning a makeshift replacement, he returned to port. With help from his sponsors, he built a new mast for the 50-foot yacht. He resumed the race eight days behind the fleet, but passed five other skippers en route to a third-place finish in Charleston, S.C.

The around-the-world journey took him 155 days, about 174 miles a day. Without the mast incident, Van Liew could have made it in 146 days.

His performance did not go unnoticed in the boating world. Herb McCormick, executive editor of Cruising World, wrote for The New York Times, "Van Liew staked his claim as one of America's top young offshore talents." He was also the only American to complete the race.

Van Liew had set his sights on competing in the Around Alone as early as 1986, but it took him 12 years to fulfill his wish. And he was put to the test while he waited.

In June 1997, during the Bermuda One-Two race, he lost his rudder 180 miles off Newport, R.I. Despite the 10-foot waves and brisk winds, he refused to leave his boat for a ride back to the safety of the shore.

Improvising, Van Liew took a hatch cover and turned it into a passable rudder. That worked fine until it became entangled with a lobster pot line. Van Liew had to take a knife between his teeth and dive in to the chilly water to cut his boat free.

He didn't win the race, but was given the Seamanship Award for his tenacity.

Van Liew, who mastered small dinghies when he was 6, is a graduate of the University of Southern California. He is a commercial pilot who finds similarities between flying and sailing.

"Preparation is key with both," he said.

"In this race (Around Alone), I was managing my own level of performance and managing the performance of the boat," he said. That allowed only 4 1/2 hours of sleep a day, taken a half-hour at a time.



PHOTO BY BILLY BLACK
Brad Van Liew arrives at Charleston, S.C., the finish line for the Around Alone single-handed sailboat race.

Now, having sold his air charter companies, Van Liew and his wife, Meaghan, are taking on another challenge. They have started Mission America, a series of major international open-class regattas featuring the world's best professional sailors. The first series event —

L'Atlantique Challenge, a crewed race around the Atlantic Ocean — is scheduled for July 2001. The sponsor of the Challenge, Dry Creek Vineyard, plans to promote it with yacht clubs and sailing fans internationally. Other races planned include one from New York to San Francisco around Cape Horn, and another along the Pacific Coast.

To Van Liew, it's not all for the sailors. He plans for Mission America to make the sport of ocean sailing more accessible to the public.

"We intend to use satellite technology to bring sailing right into living rooms," he said.

Steve Gust is a writer in Edmond, Okla.

GEAR AND GOODIES

Grigsby Offers Insight on Fishing, Himself

With two victories and a top-10 final in the past three BASSMASTER Top 150 tournaments, Shaw Grigsby might be the hottest bass angler in America. The 43-year-old Florida pro has long been among the most insightful professional fishermen, which is apparent in his new book, "Bass Master Shaw Grigsby: Notes on Fishing and Life."

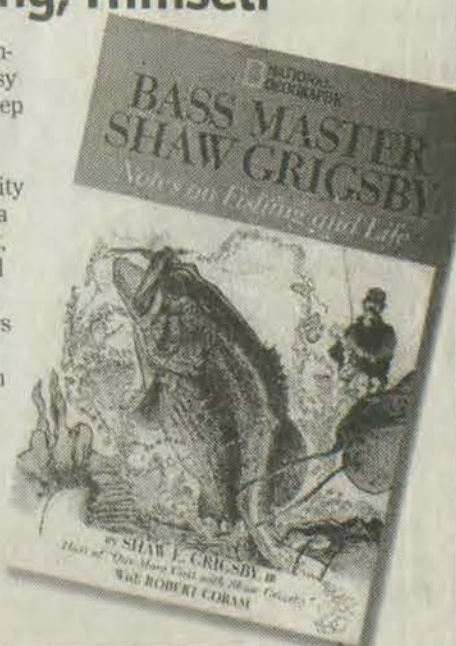
Published by National Geographic, the book is a hybrid among bass books. In addition to providing insight into how he locates and catches bass all over the country, we also get a peek at what makes Grigsby tick. He is an eight-time BASS winner and member of pro fishing's elite millionaire's club.

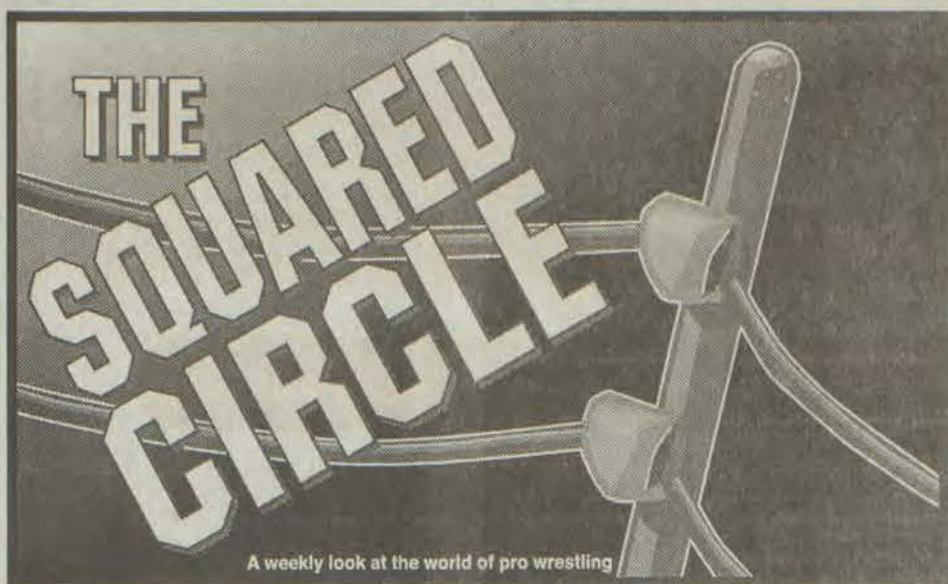
Written in Grigsby's own down-home style, the book is a fun, easy read. But there are also some deep thoughts about his sport.

"The best bass fishermen are almost metaphysical in their ability to enter nature and to think like a bass as they consider the habitat, the food, and all of the needs and concerns of the fish," Grigsby writes. "To go into strange waters and consistently catch bass is proof that you have crossed from your world into the world of a wild creature. You have entered another dimension."

— Tim Tucker

For more information, call National Geographic Books at (202) 857-7793.





A weekly look at the world of pro wrestling

TOP 10

1. Triple H, WWF
2. Jeff Jarrett, WCW
3. Mike Awesome, ECW
4. The Rock, WWF
5. Chris Jericho, WWF
6. Chris Benoit, WWF
7. Super Crazy, ECW
8. New Jack, ECW
9. The Big Show, WWF
10. Buff Bagwell, WCW



CHRIS BENOIT VAL VENIS

Look for: Val Venis to get a bigger push in the WWF.

PAY-PER-VIEW

- WCW, Spring Stampede, Chicago, April 16
- WWF, Backlash, Washington, D.C., April 30
- ECW, Hardcore Heaven, May 14

MAILBAG

Tell us what you think about professional wrestling, its stars, trends and story lines.

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@thomnews.com. Please include your hometown.



Dear Squared Circle, I was wondering if you could tell me when The Undertaker is coming back to the WWF? And here is my top 10:

1. Jeff Hardy
2. Kane
3. Sting
4. Undertaker
5. Sabu
6. Sid Vicious
7. Super Crazy
8. The Rock
9. Edge
10. Triple H

— Brett Johnson
Newark, Ohio

A: He's due back in the very near future.



Dear Squared Circle, My name is Tonya from Pataskala, Ohio. I read a question under the Mailbag section of The Squared Circle a couple of weeks ago. Mary Pogue from San Antonio wanted to know if there was a book about the Von Erich boys.

Well, I found a book. It is called "Von Erichs: A Family Album." The author is Fritz Von Erich. She can find it at Barnes & Noble for \$13.95. You can order it online. It has a background on the family and pictures of the wrestling boys and the rest of the family.



Dear Squared Circle, My top 10:

1. The Rock
2. Stone Cold Steve Austin
3. Kane
4. Chyna
5. Kevin Nash
6. Triple H
7. Goldberg
8. The Radicals
9. D-X
10. Too Cool

— Jonathan Jackson
Gibson, N.C.

FEUD OF THE WEEK



Los Fabulosos vs. Idol and Lane, WCW

CATCH PHRASES

"It doesn't matter what your name is."
— The Rock

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Shown here with the WWF's Linda McMahon, Mick Foley's 15-year career ended at Wrestlemania XVI.

FOLEY'S DREAM COMES TRUE

Anthony Conchel
Squared Circle Editor

ANAHEIM — A wrestler's dream was fulfilled Sunday night. Mick Foley, wrestling in what was billed as his final match in the WWF, didn't go out a winner in the fatal four-way match for the title at Wrestlemania XVI.

But he competed in "the biggest match of my career. Fairy tales can happen. Mine has come true for me tonight," Foley said.

With Disneyland just a few miles away, Foley chose the right venue for his exit.

Hobbled by a surgically repaired knee and at the urging of his wife, Colette, Foley ended his 15-year love affair with wrestling and its fans.

A standing ovation and chants of "FO-LEY, FO-LEY, FO-LEY" rang through the Arrowhead Pond after he was eliminated by Triple H, who went on to retain the championship.

Foley's body has been bloodied and broken on several continents. He's been thrown off a 16-foot-high steel cage, burned and cut by barbed wire. Foley knew the time had come to end the brutal style that has become his trademark.

"Some people think they need to go out a winner. I happen to think it's more romantic to go out this way. It's better for business. I firmly believe in doing what's best for the guys who have to stay there," Foley said.

He didn't want to stick around too long, as his namesake Mickey Mantle did.

"This is the biggest year for the WWF. By leaving now, I'm probably giving up on the most profitable year in my career," Foley said.

During the match Foley took a few glancing chair shots and falls, but it was Triple H's chair shot and subsequent Pedigree that led to his defeat.

Some followers might believe Foley's brain has been scrambled. Yet, he looks back on his career with no regrets and looks forward to staying home and spending time with his two

children.

While the WWF gave Foley his dream, it also gave its fans another swerve. This one came in the form of owner Vince McMahon.

Starting the match in The Rock's corner, McMahon turned on the popular star. With McMahon hitting The Rock with a chair, Triple H held onto his title.

McMahon and daughter Stephanie, Triple H's on-screen wife, embraced in the middle of the ring amid a chorus of boos from the 18,000 in attendance.

In other matches:

n Kane and Rakishi defeated Road Dogg and X-Pac.

n Chris Benoit won the Intercontinental title and then lost the European title to Chris Jericho.

n Chyna and Too Cool defeated the Radicals when Chyna pinned Eddie Guerrero.

n Terri defeated The Kat.

n In a three-way ladder match, Edge and Christian won the tag team title over The Dudley Boyz and The Hardy Boyz.

n Al Snow and Steve Blackman defeated Test and Albert.

n In a 13-man battle royal for the Hardcore title, Hardcore Holly pinned cousin Crash Holly.

n The Big Boss Man and Bull Buchanan defeated D-Lo Brown and The Godfather.

Notes: Ring announcer Lillian Garcia opened the night with an impressive rendition of the national anthem ... During the battle royal, 10 different pinfalls took place ... The most spectacular move of the night occurred when Jeff Hardy did a Senton Bomb from the top of the ladder onto Buh-Buh Ray Dudley, who was lying on a table ... Fans began lining up around The Pond on Sunday morning, several hours before the gates opened ...

In addition to California and other U.S. media, Canadian, German and Japanese reporters and photographers covered the event.

AFTER THE BELL

News and gossip from the wrestling world:

Injuries can't stop Dreamer's dreams

From Knight Ridder News Service

A degenerative back condition and two herniated discs are enough to make any athlete retire.

Not Extreme Championship Wrestling's Tommy Dreamer. Dreamer, 29, has performed with these injuries during the past 18 months, and there's no end in sight for the six-year veteran.

He plans to wrestle "as long as I can physically do it. I'm just going to wrestle until I can't go out and perform like I feel Tommy Dreamer can perform. Then I'll call it quits."

Dreamer had considered back surgery when he first sustained the injury, but doctors were pessimistic about his return to the ring. So, in true Tommy Dreamer fashion, he elected to press forward and see how far he could take things.

"My back feels a little better," said Dreamer, who wrestles under the moniker of the Innovator of Violence. "I have feeling in my feet, which is always good — at 29 years old, to feel your feet. I just take every day in stride. It's not a condition that's going to get any better. It can only get worse. I just keep on going out there and seeing what I can do."

Dreamer has been loyal to the company throughout its history, avoiding the lure of a higher salary but less exposure in either the WWF or WCW.

"I wanted to see this project through," Dreamer said. "I've accomplished a lot here in ECW. I've wrestled in front of 50 people. Now we have national television [Friday at 8 p.m. on TNN], dolls and video games. The video game [Akklaim's "Hardcore Revolution"] was one of my final things I wanted to accomplish. I'm happy and I make a lot of money."

The TNN show has been garnering improved ratings over the past six weeks, and recently set an all-time high with a 1.3 rating.

"We're doing decent numbers," Dreamer said. "We're the highest rated program on TNN. We're also the highest demographic for males ages 12-34 on Friday nights."

Dreamer believes ECW has the potential to do even better.

"I would like to see ECW become the No. 1 wrestling organization in the world," Dreamer said. "The WWF took all of our ideas and our style and ran with it. They took our stuff and accomplished No. 1. They made a billion dollars with it. All our hardcore fans know that we get the credit for it."

A recent program tagging with Masato Tanaka against Mike Awesome and Raven has been especially difficult for Dreamer, as he has been repeatedly driven through tables by Awesome.

"My neck and my back have been sore," Dreamer said. "But, hey, it makes for great TV."

But how about the constant pounding Dreamer is taking? Well, he doesn't seem too concerned about that.

"I'm trying to have Mike Awesome powerbomb me through as much stuff as possible," Dreamer said. "Maybe he'll knock my bones back in place."

Even though Dreamer deals with the pain, others in the company feel a change should be in order.

"I consider Tommy a close friend," said ECW television analyst Joey Styles, who has also been with the company for six years. "I wish Tommy wouldn't wrestle full-time. I wish Tommy would only wrestle on pay-per-view. I hate seeing Tommy take the punishment he takes. It pains me to see him limping around."

Dreamer scoffs at the suggestion.

"This is all I wanted to do in my life," he said.



DREAMER

COMING TO YOUR TOWN

A look at upcoming wrestling shows across the country:



WWF...

- April 10, "Raw Is War," Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.
- April 11, "Smackdown!," Tampa, Fla.
- April 15, New York City
- April 16, Pittsburgh

WCW...

- April 9, Huntsville, Ala.
- April 10, "Nitro," Denver
- April 11, Colorado Springs, Colo.

ECW...

- April 13, Indianapolis, Ind.
- April 14, Evansville, Ind.
- April 21, Bethlehem, Pa.
- April 22, Philadelphia

REAL NAMES

Wrath, Adam Bomb

Bryan Clark

6-6, 292

Hometown:
Parts unknown

Birthday:
March 14, 1964

Pro debut: 1991

MAT MEMORIES

A look back at memorable moments in pro wrestling history:

■ Nov. 7, 1962: Gorgeous George is shaved bald after losing a match to The Destroyer in Los Angeles.

■ June 17, 1986: Antonio Inoki beats Andre the Giant via submission in 9:30 in Nagoya, Japan.

WHO'S HOT/WHO'S NOT



Tank Abbott: Brawler is getting a lot of air time. If he develops at least one wrestling move to go along with his street fighting skills, WCW might give him a bigger push.

Sabu: Having left ECW over a contract dispute, the homicidal, suicidal, death-defying daredevil is working for Stampede Wrestling in Canada.

WRESTLING ON THE WEB

- www.wrestlezone.com
- www.wrestleScoop.com
- www.WWF.com
- www.WCW.com
- www.ECWwrestling.com
- www.wrestlingarena.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@thomnews.com

NASCAR 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

On TV

All Times Eastern

- **Busch Grand National, BellSouth 320**
1 p.m. • Saturday • TNN
- **Craftsman Truck Series, NAPA 250**
2 p.m. • Saturday • ESPN
- **Winston Cup, Goody's 500**
1 p.m. • Sunday • ESPN

2000 POINTS STANDINGS

WINSTON CUP	BUSCH	TRUCK
1. Bobby Labonte, 1,114	Matt Kenseth, 1,085	Mike Wallace, 673
2. Mark Martin, 1,030	Todd Bodine, 1,013	Andy Houston, 659
3. Ward Burton, 1,024	Jeff Green, 976	Kurt Busch, 643
4. Dale Earnhardt, 959	Randy LaJoie, 968	Greg Biffle, 587
5. Rusty Wallace, 940	David Green, 917	Joe Ruttman, 581
6. Jeff Burton, 934	Mark Martin, 905	Steve Grissom, 580
7. Ricky Rudd, 907	Ron Hornaday, 862	Jack Sprague, 574
8. Dale Jarrett, 895	Kevin Grubb, 811	Terry Cook, 574
9. Terry Labonte, 878	Jason Keller, 771	Dennis Setzer, 506
10. Jeremy Mayfield, 848	Hank Parker Jr., 754	Rick Crawford, 479

TOP TEN

Weekly rankings by NASCAR This Week writer Monte Dutton. Last week's ranking is in parentheses.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. (1) Bobby Labonte | Extended his points lead |
| 2. (6) Jeff Burton | Two seconds, one first |
| 3. (2) Ward Burton | Not one of his better weeks |
| 4. (4) Dale Earnhardt | Finished well, but behind Jr. |
| 5. (3) Dale Jarrett | Third finish outside top 20 |
| 6. (5) Rusty Wallace | Making some champ noise |
| 7. (7) Mark Martin | Two straight outside top 10 |
| 8. (8) Tony Stewart | Rallied from a lap down |
| 9. — Dale Earnhardt Jr. | Already a winner after 12 |
| 10. — Ricky Rudd | Not quite sorted out yet |

FROM LAST WEEK

THE WINSTON CUP SERIES

JUSTIN, Texas — Dale Earnhardt Jr. won for the first time at the same track, Texas Motor Speedway, where he claimed his first Busch Grand National victory. It was also on the same weekend, 21 years ago, that Earnhardt's dad won for the first time. The elder Earnhardt's first victory came at Bristol.

Dale Earnhardt Jr.'s victory came in his 12th career start. His margin of victory, 5.92 seconds, was easily the widest of the year. His father,

who joined him in victory lane, finished seventh.

BUSCH GRAND NATIONAL

JUSTIN, Texas — Guess what? They held a BGN race at Texas Motor Speedway, and Mark Martin won it.

Martin, driving a Ford, has won four times already in the NASCAR series, and Winston Cup regulars have won all seven of the BGN events. The race ended after nightfall, without television coverage, because rain caused a delay of more than four hours.

Texas racing is on a grand scale

Texas Motor Speedway officials have always taken great pride in pointing out that eight Texas Stadiums (home of the Dallas Cowboys) would fit in the track's infield.

Along come more "fun facts," including:

- The front-stretch grandstands contain enough aluminum to produce 61 million soft-drink cans.

- The track has 2,500 toilets.
- Beverages consumed at the track would fill a 34,000-gallon pool.

- The hamburgers sold, if stacked, would attain the height of a 74-story building, and the hot dogs, if placed end-to-end, would stretch nine miles.

FEUD OF THE WEEK

Scott Pruett vs. Steve Park

Pruett, who had failed to make the starting field at the previous two tracks, put his Cal Wells-owned Ford in the lead by the fourth lap of the DirecTV 500 after starting third. Early in the race, however, Pruett's Ford was bumped from behind by Park's Chevrolet, and Pruett wound up 27th. Some members of Park's team said their driver never touched Pruett.

NASCAR This Week's Monte Dutton gives his opinion:

"Pruett, who will probably have a difficult time making the field again next week at Martinsville, really needed a good run. Surely Park did not mean to hit him, but the replay clearly showed contact."

FROM THE ARCHIVES

■ On Dec. 14, 1947, William H.G. France convened a meeting at the Streamline Hotel in Daytona Beach, Fla., with 35 businessmen from around the country. By late afternoon France and his advisory board had a tentative plan to form the National Association for Stock Car Automobile Racing, known more commonly by the acronym NASCAR.

Foyt switches to Mast to drive No. 14 Conseco Pontiac

By Monte Dutton
NASCAR This Week

JUSTIN, Texas — A.J. Foyt, preparing for the only Winston Cup race in his native Texas, dismissed veteran Dick Trickle in exchange for another veteran, Rick Mast, who Foyt says will drive his No. 14 Conseco Pontiac for the rest of the year.

Trickle will drive the No. 60 Chevrolet, normally driven by the now-injured Geoffrey Bodine. Ted Musgrave subbed for Bodine recently.

Mast's defection caused a vacancy at Larry Hedrick's Chevrolet team, where Gary Bradberry will do the driving duties at Texas.

"We're evaluating our options for

THE WINSTON CUP SERIES

Coming up: Goody's Body Pain 500

Where: Martinsville (Va.) Speedway (.526-mile track)

When: Sunday, April 9

Defending champion: John Andretti

Format: 500 laps/263 miles

Qualifying record: Tony Stewart, Pontiac, 95.275 mph, April 16, 1999

Race record: Rusty Wallace,

Ford, 81.410 mph, April 21, 1996

Notable: Andretti's victory a year ago was the only Pontiac victory not claimed by either Bobby Labonte or Tony Stewart.

BUSCH GRAND NATIONAL

What: BellSouth 320

Where: Nashville (Tenn.) Speedway USA (.596-mile track)

When: Saturday, April 8

Defending champion: Jeff

Green

Format: 320 laps/190.72 miles

Qualifying record: Sterling Marlin, Chevrolet, 113.566 mph, March 16, 1996

Race record: Jeff Green, Chevrolet, 83.608 mph, April 2, 1999

Notable: With the Winston Cup regulars racing at Martinsville, this race should see the season's first victory by a BGN regular.

CRAFTSMAN TRUCK SERIES

What: NAPA 250

Where: Martinsville (Va.)

Speedway (.526-mile track)

When: Saturday, April 8

Defending champion: Jimmy Hensley

Format: 250 laps/131.5 miles

Qualifying record: Mike Bliss,

Ford, 94.275 mph, April 16, 1999

Race record: Jimmy Hensley, Dodge, 74.282 mph, April 17,

PROFILE

Dale Earnhardt Jr.



John Clark/NASCAR This Week

Dale Earnhardt Jr. consults with a crew member.

By Monte Dutton
NASCAR This Week

Dale Earnhardt Jr. made himself the favorite for Winston Cup rookie of the year with a victory in the DirecTV 500 at Texas Motor Speedway.

Earnhardt, the son of the seven-time champion, won in his 12th Winston Cup start to become the second rookie in as many years to win in NASCAR's premier series.

Only one driver in the modern era of NASCAR has won sooner. Ron Bouchard, who never won again, scored in his 11th try at Talladega in 1981.

Until Tony Stewart won three times in 1999, no rookie had won a Winston Cup race since Davey Allison won twice in 1987.

Since Earnhardt's father won earlier this year in Atlanta, the two became the first father-and-son combination to win in the same season since Bobby and Davey Allison in 1988.

Hometown: Born and raised in Kannapolis, N.C. Now lives in Mooresville, N.C.

Age: 25

Car: No. 8 Budweiser Chevrolet Monte Carlo, owned by Dale Earnhardt

Career statistics: 12 starts, 1 win, 1 top-five finish, 2 top-10 finishes, 0 poles,

\$845,256 in career earnings

Firsts: Start (May 30, 1999, at Charlotte), pole (none), win (April 2, 2000, at Texas)

Since Texas was also the site of your first Busch Grand National victory, why do you think the track has been so good to you? "I really don't know why we run so well here. There's a lot of tracks like this that we don't run the same at. We just really run good here. ... We didn't change anything all day long. That tells you it's just a good race car. I could adjust my driving line and style to each set of tires. I didn't have to do a whole lot. I'd point and shoot, and that thing ran. That's about all there was to it."

Did you think you'd win as a rookie? "I thought so. I think we're going to see a couple of rookies get into victory lane this year. I didn't know how quickly it would come. I'm kind of overwhelmed with what happened. ... It's just crazy, man."

What did your dad tell you? "He just told me he loved me, and he wanted to make sure I took the time to enjoy this and relax a little bit with what we accomplished today. You can get so swept up with what's going on around you that you really don't enjoy it yourself personally, so he just wanted me to take a minute and do this, and celebrate how I wanted to celebrate."

Trackside Trivia

- Who lost the first Daytona 500 in a photo finish to Lee Petty?
- What was the original name of the NASCAR Winston Cup Series?
- What was the original listed size of Darlington Raceway?

ANSWERS

1. Johnny Beauchamp, in 1959;
2. The Strictly Stock Division;
3. 1.25 miles.

Who's Hot... Who's Not

■ **HOT:** Bobby Labonte, sixth or better in every race except one.

■ **NOT:** Jerry Nadeau, who dropped to 36th in the points

AROUND THE GARAGE

the rest of the season," said Hedrick. "By the time we get to Texas, maybe we'll be able to announce our plans. A.J. Foyt made Rick Mast an offer he couldn't refuse, and we wish him the best of luck."

One cannot help but wonder if Ricky Craven, who was rookie of the year while driving Hedrick's No. 41 in 1995, might factor into Hedrick's plans. Initial indications were that it was unlikely.

■ **STERLING UNPLUGGED:** Sterling Marlin on the Chevrolet in which he raced at Texas: "This car has got all the downforce in the world. We went from one motor to another motor that's got 40 more horsepower,

and it ran at the same speed. The boys have worked their guts out, and that's as fast as it is going to go. That's as fast as I'm going to ride in it."

■ **NEW CREW CHIEF:** Midwest Transit Racing, for which Ricky Craven currently drives, has hired Greg Conner as crew chief.

Conner, 34, has served previously as crew chief on teams owned by Cale Yarborough and Junie Donlavey.

"Greg is a great addition to this young team," team manager Charley Pressley said. "He brings the knowledge necessary to run competitively and a new enthusiasm to a team which has struggled early this year."

"While we are excited about this

announcement, we have decided to skip Texas to be better prepared for Martinsville. We will test at either Martinsville or Greenville (S.C.) to allow Greg and Ricky to work together prior to their first race."

■ **THE ROOKIE PERILS:** Dave Blaney, who is Ward Burton's teammate at Bill Davis Racing, ranked fourth in the Cup rookie standings entering Texas.

"I'd say the rookie race probably is going the way most people thought," said Blaney. "Kenseth and Earnhardt have had some good runs, and the rest of us have struggled. We've struggled a bit more than we would have liked."

Your Turn

Letters From Our Readers

Dear NASCAR This Week,
I recently watched the Cracker Barrel 500. The finish with Bobby Labonte and Dale Earnhardt was pretty close. I was wondering, if there had been a tie, what would have happened?

Troy Hayes
Benton, Ark.

No NASCAR race has ever been ruled a dead heat, but once at Talladega, two other cars in the top five crossed the finish line at exactly the same time. We assume, if a tie ever happened, the points and money for positions one and two would be combined and split between the two drivers.

Dear NASCAR This Week,
I've heard that you glue the lug nuts on when you put the tires on, and I was wondering if the temperature would have anything to do with how the lug nuts hold, since you use glue.

Myron Thompson
Peru, Ind.

Glue does not hold the lug nuts on once the tires have been put on. The glue is used to affix the lug nuts to the wheels so that they are already in place when air wrenches are used to tighten them.

Dear NASCAR This Week,
I've noticed over the years you seem to favor GM over Ford. We will go back to 1990 when you took points away from Mark Martin, and he lost the championship.

Then a few years back, when GM came out with a Monte Carlo, they ran the whole year before you did anything to even things up. Then Ford came out with the Taurus, and the first race, you took away from Ford. Now GM comes out with a new Monte Carlo, and Ford with a partially new Taurus — three races and you give GM more.

Last year you did the same thing to Greg Biffle. What gives here? I've seen those GM boys get caught, and they didn't lose any points. Would you please explain this to me?

Robert M. Smith
Winchester, Va.

We can't explain it because NASCAR This Week is not affiliated with the governing body. We do think there is some selective memory here, however. For instance, in 1992, Fords won the season's first nine races.

Dear NASCAR This Week,
After the first three races (this season), it was quite obvious why the (television ratings) went to the lowest since 1993: Jeff Gordon.

His failure with the Chevys kept him out of the top fives, so people turned the tuner to something else.

Chuck Bixler
Punta Gorda, Fla.

Thanks for your comments.

CREW OF THE WEEK

■ **Wow! A rookie pit crew cranking out pit stops under 15 seconds? It was a powerful factor in Dale Earnhardt Jr.'s victory in the DirecTV 500. Crew chief Tony Eury Sr. and car chief Tony Eury Jr. led a talented pit crew that performed like veterans in the rookie's historic first victory.**

FLOYD COUNTY Lifestyles



Feature:

**Celebrates
 Dr. Seuss'
 B-day**

■ Youth News •
 C3



Promotion of the arts is attorney's passion

Story and photo
 by Pam Shingler

The late Elizabeth Frazier told William G. Francis ("Bill" to most who know him) that his voice wasn't "strong enough" to sing in the choir at the First United Methodist Church.

Francis knew what she really meant. "I can't carry a tune in a bucket," the Prestonsburg attorney admits.

Nevertheless, he has spent most of his adult life promoting music, drama, dance and all other forms of art in eastern Kentucky and throughout the state.

Francis, and his wife, Linda, a Charleston, West Virginia, native, have been involved with Jenny Wiley Theatre almost since he began his law practice here in 1974.

"She is very dedicated behind the scenes," Francis says of his wife, whom he met while they were both attending the University of Kentucky.

Francis recently left the Kentucky Arts Council, where he had served for 13 years, the last four as chairman. He was first appointed by Gov. Martha Layne Collins in 1987 and was reappointed by governors

"She is very dedicated behind the scenes," Francis says of his wife, whom he met while they were both attending the University of Kentucky.

Wallace Wilkinson and Brereton Jones.

He was not reappointed to the Council by Gov. Paul Patton, and, as he points out, the council now has no member who lives east of the legendary Winchester line.

He remains, however, a member of the board of the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, whose national conference he helped to host last fall. He is serving a three-year term on the board of the organization which includes arts agencies in 47 states and several US territories.

He is also a member of the Southern Arts Federation and Kentucky Citizens for the Arts, a lobbying group that tries to influence state funding of arts programs.

"Art is a basic building ingredient for everyone's life," he says. "Art allows freedom. It is an escape from the drudgery of life."

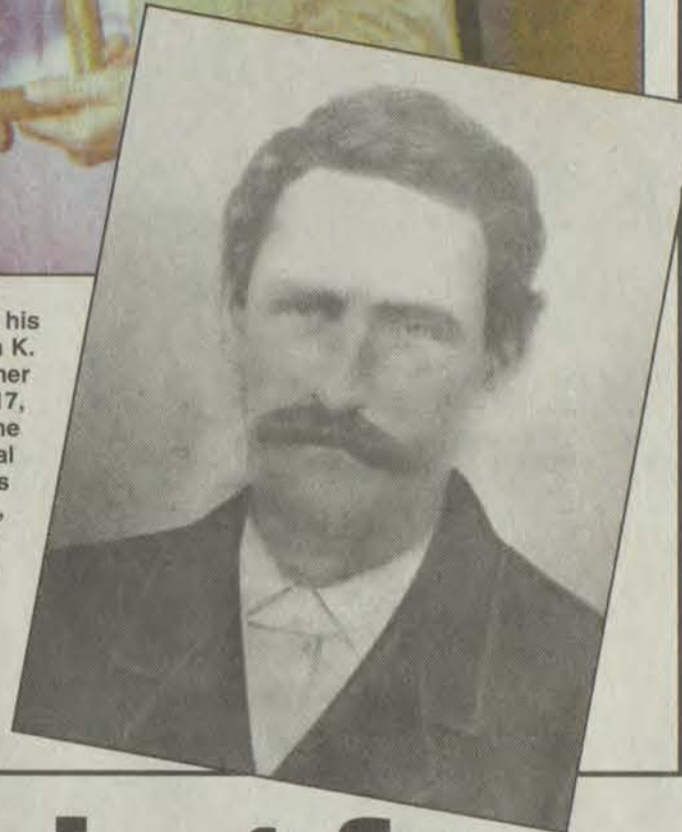
Francis is proud of his work with KAC. As chairman, he oversaw the needed physical move of the of the council into renovated, historic offices in the Old State Capitol. He was also involved in bringing the nation-

(See PROMOTION, page two)

Sheriff's Gallery



Lowell Edwin Martin of Eastern, left, gives a picture of his great-grandfather to Floyd County Sheriff John K. Blackburn to add to the collection of portraits of former sheriffs in the courthouse. Frederick Martin, 1860-1917, was sheriff here in the mid-1890s. A paper certifying the elder Martin's election in 1893 is attested by several notables including a number of Martins, as well as Greenville Howard, Joseph and Reese P. Gearheart, John Turner, John H. Preston, W.H. Fitzpatrick Sr., Henry Fitzpatrick, Hiram Fitzpatrick, William Stumbo, Adam Harris, Hiram Harris, Allen Slone, Robert W. Harris and Beverly May. The former sheriff's homeplace at Salt Lick still stands. He was married to the former Amanda Gearheart and is buried in the Gearheart Cemetery at the Bend of Beaver. (photo by Pam Shingler)



JWT preparing for youth programs

While preparations are being made for a summer of entertainment at Jenny Wiley Theatre, education is not being overlooked.

This year, the JWT will offer Commedia Dell'Arte classes for children ages six through 16 and Children's Theatre in the Pines for children six through 14 years old.

Commedia Dell'Arte classes begin on July 24 and run through August 5. They will be taught by Allison Williams and Todd Espeland of Commedia Zuppa and will focus on physical theatre and circus acrobatics.

Two classes are scheduled: Session One, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., and Session Two, 1:30-5 p.m. Each session will meet

Monday through Friday during the two weeks, with both classes working together on Saturdays.

Each class is limited to 15 students.

Children's Theatre in the Pines is set for June 26 through July 14, Monday through Friday, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. These classes will include learning and rehearsing a short play, as well as basic instruction in general theatre, such as make-up, basic dance, costume design and dramatic literature.

The students will perform their play in a free public performance on Saturday, July 15, at 1:30 p.m. at the Wilkinson-Stumbo Convention Center, next to the theatre.



Two Prestonsburg youngsters were learning about earning their own way last Wednesday. They were taking a bucketload of pennies they'd saved into the main office of First Commonwealth Bank when they dropped the container and the pennies scattered. They spent quite a bit of time on the beautiful spring-break day picking up the coins, some of which had rolled several feet away. (photo by Pam Shingler)

This class is limited to 20 students.

All classes will be held at the Pines Building, near the campground at Jenny Wiley State Resort Park. The cost of all sessions is \$150 per student.

To register for any of the classes, call JWT at 606/886-9274.

Celebrating change

McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital will celebrate \$3 million worth of renovations with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Wednesday.

The 1 p.m. affair will focus on the first major alteration to the facade of the building since it was constructed in 1955 and on extensive renovations to the interior.

The program will also include dedication of a new flagpole, donated by the hospital's union employees. The United Steelworkers of America Local Union #14636 donated more than \$1,000 to purchase the flagpole.

Local veterans have been invited to raise the flag. Also taking part will be the Allen Central High School Junior ROTC and South Floyd High School Band.

JoJo Pack of the Kentucky Opry will perform the "Star-Spangled Banner," prior to a 21-gun salute by the Monroe Vanderpool Chapter 128 of Disabled American Veterans.

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.

AH SPRING!

At last we announce that Spring has officially arrived. The cherry trees on Riverside are in full bloom, and this week I saw my first-barefoot boy of the season. The boy, a youngster of about 4, was carrying, bellyfirst, a black bulldog puppy, and the two of them made a sight good for bifocaled eyes. The pup's tongue was hanging out and from a distance I thought his owner had tied a red ribbon around his neck. From our conversation, I elicited two bits of information, to-wit:

The boy was Daddy's boy, and the pup certainly was not for sale.

THE EDITOR TALKS BACK

Time is slipping past entirely too fast to suit yours truly. Here we have got ourselves caught up in the swirl of this and that till we even forgot all about April Fool Day. But H. M. Sutherland, editor of The Dickensonian, Clintwood, Virginia, did no such thing. He used the day as an occasion to say a few things he'd been wanting to say for a long while. Without his permission we are excerpting from his column for that week:

APRIL FOOL QUESTIONS

On this April Fool Day, it probably would be appropriate if we listed some of the damphool questions that are being asked from day to day as we travel through this vale of tears, and we are also listing the answers that we thought up after we got home.

Q. Why don't you print your paper in colors, say red, once in a while.

A. Our entire supply of red ink is used in the Bookkeeping Department.

Q. Why don't you have funny papers?

A. Our paper gets laughed at enough as it is.

Q. Why don't you have advice to the lovelorn like Abbie Van Buren?

A. All our readers behave themselves.

Q. Why do you have all of those misprints?

A. Because they seem to be the most important part of the paper.

Q. Why do you make so many grammatical errors?

A. Because we ain't never learned no better.

Q. Why didn't you publish that poem I sent you?

A. It was lousy.

Q. What do you do with all that money you make out of advertisements?

A. We spend it on frivolities, like food and clothing.

Q. What is the reason you don't replace that old Linotype that you are always complaining about?

A. \$18,000.

Q. Why don't you run a column of the old Dickenson County News of about thirty years ago.

A. We tried that, but we published the story of a baby girl being born to a certain couple here in town. The trou-

(See TOWN-WORLD, page two)

PostScript

by Pam Shingler
 Editor



A couple of letters came in this week on different, but nonetheless intriguing, topics.

The first is from Lynn Weddington Tucker, daughter of the late Joe D. Weddington Sr.

The envelope has an impressive, formally printed return address on Third Avenue, New York, New York.

She sends a copy of an obituary from the New York Times and notes, "I enjoy both subscriptions: The New York Times and The Floyd County Times!"

The clipping reports the death of attorney Warren Egbert Magee, 91, in February in Washington. With the article runs an Associated Press photo, dated 1947, of a young Mr. Magee.

So why would Lynn take the time to clip the article from one Times and send it to another? What's the connection?

In the picture with Mr. Magee, the caption says, is US Representative Andrew J. May.

The late Mr. Magee, the article states, represented "Nazi war criminals, corrupt politicians and Senator Joseph R.

McCarthy."

The photo caption notes Magee represented May "in a corruption case after World War II."

In recounting the recently deceased attorney's career, the article says, "In 1949 Mr. Magee failed to save Representative Andrew J. May, the Kentucky Democrat

who was chairman of the House Military Affairs Committee during World War II, from a prison sentence for bribery and corruption, though President Harry S Truman later pardoned him."

The news article does not mention that May was from Floyd County. Lynn, however, knew that.

Rather, the writer is speaking on behalf of students at John M. Stumbo Elementary School and criticizing the Floyd County Board of Education.

"How can a softball field for students at Betsy Layne take precedence over additional classrooms at Stumbo?" the letter writer asks.

"When I think of the crowded 38-year-old school my children attend, it reminds me of the Census 2000 commercial which

was intended for the Viewpoint section as a letter to the editor, but it was signed "Anonymous." The Times does not print unsigned letters.

Sometimes, unsigned letters contain outrageous allegations that are libelous or, worse, insane.

This one did not.

Letters, etc.

The second piece of correspondence

is now on television — the one where a picture of a storage closet is shown in a school, the door opens and students flood out.

"I believe the policy of our educational system is 'Children First.' I guess it should say, 'Children First, except John M. Stumbo children.'"

"If you can't serve ALL the children of this county, how can you (the school board) justify holding your positions? Shame on this county's board of education."

We don't know why this parent would not sign his or her name. But we suspect a fear of retribution — an outdated perception, we hope.

We applaud a parent expressing opinions. We wish parents felt comfortable owning up to those opinions.

Greetings, while we're at it, to subscriber Lynn Weddington Tucker. Thanks for reading the (FC) Times and for sharing.

Promotion

al organization's annual meeting to Kentucky last year.

Under his leadership, the KAC re-instituted the positions of in-the-field representatives throughout the state, promoting and working with the arts in each region. The posts had been dropped. Judy Sizemore of McKee represents this area.

Non-profit organizations such as Jenny Wiley Theatre, can seek grants from KAC to augment their local fund-raising. The council also funds educational programs such as artists-in-residence in schools, to which Francis is committed.

"Art is a great tool for brain development," he contends, reiterating his strong belief in art as a vital part of education.

"The arts are the last thing to be added to a school curriculum and the first to be cut," Francis, a former school board attorney, insists. "It should be just the opposite."

Francis calls his long-time association with Jenny Wiley Theatre "the bright light under my bushel."

He has led the theatre's board, has helped raise money, has swept floors, and has been a cheerleader for the organization. In 1993, he even appeared in a play — albeit a non-singing role of the doctor in "Foxfire."

"I can go to Jenny Wiley Theatre, see a production, watch the moon on the ridges, see little creatures, and hear the night sounds. That's wonderful to me," he says. "I guess that's why I'm involved."

What is his vision for the arts in this region? Francis answers quick-

ly, as if he's thought about the question for a long time.

"That everyone find their form of art and develop it to the fullest, whether as a participant or as an observer and supporter."

"That they make art a building block for their life on a daily basis."

Although Francis is no longer on the Kentucky Arts Council, his commitment to the arts will not slacken.

Plus, he has plenty of other activities to fill his time. He's on the Council of School Board Attorneys, Executive Committee of UK Libraries, board of the Presbyterian Homes of Kentucky, and the board of directors of the Asheville School in North Carolina, the preparatory school of which he and daughter Carrie are both alumni.

(Carrie is an international relations major at Miami University of Ohio.)

A UK Fellow, Francis is past president of the university's National Alumni Association and has been active with the foundation board of another alma mater, Prestonsburg Community College.

He's a graduate of the rigorous Leadership Kentucky program and, appropriately, is in the Floyd County Chamber of Commerce Hall of Fame.

He jokes, "Someone asked me what I do to relax and I said, 'I join organizations.'"

The March/April edition of The Blue Moon, bi-monthly publication of KAC, paid tribute to its outgoing chair.

"If you look at the great strides

the Arts Council has made during his term as Chair, you can see that he is a pragmatic leader with a mindset for the future, KAC executive director Gerri Combs is quoted as saying.

The tribute states, "Under his leadership the arts in Kentucky have blossomed from some very meager grass roots into a stable environment supportive of the arts in communities all across the commonwealth."

For his work on a new governance policy, The Blue Moon article says, "The board will no longer be a rubber-stamping authority but assume a real role in policy making and visioning the future for the arts in Kentucky."

Town-World

Continued from p1

ble was that this baby girl was claiming that she was twenty-two.

Q. Why don't you write an editorial and tell those birds on the Town Council what they can do to improve Clintwood?

A. Why don't you go to the next meeting and tell 'em yourself?

Q. Why don't you print more Letters to the Editor?

A. Why don't you write one? And sign it with your name—don't be scared.

Q. Why don't you publish the paper twice a week?

A. Why don't you have babies twice a year at your house? Both take time, brother—especially with old equipment.

2nd Annual Father's Day Contest asks kids to nominate their dad to become "Yard-Man Of The Year"

(NAPSA)—This Father's Day kids have the chance to turn their dad into a new kind of superhero...Yard-Man! Dads across the country are constantly outside, devoting hours to keeping their yards beautiful. Whether it's trimming hedges, whacking weeds or carefully mowing around trees and flowerbeds, there is a prospective "Yard-Man" on every block in America.

Yard-Man by MTD and Sears now offer a Father's Day contest that allows kids to award their dad the recognition he's always deserved—and a garage full of lawn-care equipment delivered to their home on Father's Day 2000. The "Yard-Man of the Year" contest asks kids ages 6-12 to describe the things their dad does out in the yard that make him "Yard-Man of the Year." To enter, kids need to get creative and write an essay describing their dad in action, from raking leaves to running the sprinklers.

"For years families have enjoyed spending time together outside in the yard, and Yard-Man by MTD believes in that American tradition," says Robert T. Moll, vice president of marketing for MTD Products Inc. "By saluting fathers through the 'Yard-Man of the Year' contest, we celebrate that legacy."

THE DETAILS

The contest invites children to write a 50-word essay explaining why their dad should be "Yard-Man of the Year." The six kids with the most creative, original and sincere essays will win their dad a grand prize package personally delivered by Sears to their homes on Father's Day, June 18, 2000. The prize package includes a brand new Yard-Man by MTD Yard Bug™ riding mower and a set of Craftsman™ lawn and garden tools. Dad won't be the only prize winner—each of the six kid winners will receive a \$200 Sears gift certificate and 50 kid runners-up will win a \$100 Sears gift certifi-

HOW TO ENTER

Kids and their families can look in the April or May issue of Reader's Digest Family Plus, visit www.yardman.com, or look for the contest display at their local Sears store to get additional contest details and rules. Essays must be mailed to: "Yard-Man of the Year," P.O. Box 7896, Melville, NY 11715. Entrants must print their name, age, grade, full home address, home phone number, and specify where they heard about the contest on the back of their essay. Essays must be handwritten (no pencil) on paper no larger than 8 1/2" wide by 11" long. For complete contest details and rules write to: "Yard-Man of the Year" Contest, 200 E. Randolph Dr., 63rd, Chicago, Ill. 60601 or visit www.yardman.com. All requests for rules must be received in Chicago by May 1, 2000. The deadline for all contest entries to be postmarked is May 5, 2000.

America: A case of "He Slept-She Slept"

(NAPSA)—More than 30 million Americans are not satisfied in bed, according to the Better Sleep Council which recently surveyed the nation's sleeping habits. According to recent research conducted for the Better Sleep Council by International Communications Research, 25 percent of men and women reported that they would sleep better, were their spouses not sleeping in the same bed.

Fifty percent of women described their husband as "a mattress hog" (always on their side of the bed), "the Tasmanian Devil" (constantly tossing and turning), or "Sleepless in Seattle" (unable to fall or stay asleep). Forty-one percent of women were deemed less-than-perfect sleepers by their husbands.

Additionally, says Director of the Better Sleep Council Andrea Herman, it is quite possible that one member of the couple is more comfortable in bed than the other, mostly because they simply did not shop for their mattress together.

"No matter how much you have in common, comfort is a very personal perception," Herman said. "You both deserve the best night's sleep possible, but if you didn't pick the mattress out together, there's a good chance only one of you will be comfortable in bed."

Herman also attributes the comfort gap to when a man or woman brings a mattress to a relationship. "Often times, when people become a couple, they sleep on either his or her old mattress. As a result, one of them is happy with a mattress they're used to, and the other person probably is not sleeping as comfortably as they should be," said Herman.

According to the Better Sleep



Council, once you identify the problem, you can begin to find a solution. For instance, moving to a larger mattress would help solve the problem for those sleeping with someone who "hogs" the mattress or someone who tosses and turns all night. And, finding a more

comfortable and supportive mattress may help someone who has a difficult time falling asleep.

"The bottom line is finding a mattress that works for both of you, which is easy," says Herman. "Manufacturers today are offering such a wide variety of mattress selections, you may be surprised at the number of choices you'll have when you shop for a sleep set—mattresses that will satisfy both of you and surpass your expectations when it comes to comfort."

To find a mattress that best suits you both, visit a retailer and compare the comfort and support of new sleep sets with your set at home," Herman advises. Couples can take the Better Sleep Council's "Is your mattress a good match for your marriage?" quiz at www.bettersleep.org.

New proportions: The shape of things to come

The days are getting longer and the weather is warming up, which means it's time to freshen up your wardrobe for spring. This season you'll see an evolution of key trends with updated shapes and proportions in fresh spring color and prints.

Cropped pants—We saw them last year, and they weren't just a one-season fad. The cropped pant trend is back this spring, even stronger than before. Capris and other cropped pants have become a wardrobe essential these days with new details and printed fabrics. Choose the length and shape that works best for you—just below the knee or mid-calf, close or loose fit.

Sleeve lengths—Just like the different proportions in pants, sleeve lengths follow in like fashion. Maybe last year you tried a three-quarter sleeve top. Well they're even more popular now, in styles from knit turtlenecks for cooler spring days, to lightweight v-neck shirts. Other sleeves to look for: cuffed sleeves that end right above the elbow, bell sleeves that flare out, and long ruffled sleeves in peasant tops.

Bright with color—Let the color shine for spring. While you'll see a rainbow of colors, the blues have become the choice for early spring. And not just one shade or tone, but the whole range of blues from the softest sky blue, to bright true blue, to classic navy. Another important story is colorful fabrics in prints and patterns including crisp plaids, bold paisleys, and pretty florals.

So go ahead. Mix up what you already own with these hot trends, and instantly you've got a wonderful new spring wardrobe.



NEW ARRIVALS



Ashton Michelle Moore

Ashton Michelle Moore was born on March 4, 2000, at King's Daughter's Hospital in Ashland. She weighed seven pounds and one ounce. Her parents are Michael Warren Moore II and Samantha Dawn Martin Moore of Ashland. Grandparents are Marilyn Hall Moore of Ashland and Neil and Jennifer Martin of Printer. Great-grandparents are Irene Tackett of Printer, Creed and Barbara Martin of Printer, William Allen Hall of Ashland and the late Lucy Mae Hall, and Charles Warren Moore and Juanita Joy Moore of Ashland.

Things to Ponder

"Mirror, Mirror on the wall, who is the fairest of us all?"

As we know, when we read and/or talk about a specific topic, we are more likely to notice that particular item more afterward. So, last week, while in New Orleans for a regional professional conference, tattoos and body art seemed to be everywhere. Of course, famous Bourbon Street in the French Quarter had a tattoo shop. One could peep around the pappered-up storefront windows to see that an adult male was in a barber-looking chair. Wish now I had gone in to look around and ask questions. A variety of people about the hotel and the streets had tattoos. One young girl showed her small flower tattoo in a subdued fashion on the inner aspect of her left ankle below her anklebone. Another older teenage girl seemed to want to "show off" her tattoo on her upper arm; her T-shirt sleeve was rolled up as to give it space. Both of the girls would be considered a natural beauty. Furthermore, would you believe that there was a recent article in the National Geographic addressing the topic of "what is beauty?" ("The enigma of Beauty," Cathy Newman, January 2000). The caption related to an extensive colorful picture of tattoos on a young man's back, read, "When he looks back at a tattoo that took 70 hours to complete... (He) can see his fascination with the creepy world of horror writer Stephen King made flesh. 'Getting the tattoo was painful,' he says, 'but sometimes I look in the mirror and say, wow, that's beautiful, and it's on me.'"

What is beauty? A representative of the world's top model agency in New York could not describe what he was looking for in a "beauty", while interviewing and evaluating several thousand pretty hopefuls per year. He just acknowledged, "It's hard to say. I know it

when I see it." Reportedly various interpretations of beauty have been written over the centuries: (1) Plato thought of it as a moral equation—"What is beautiful is good"; (2) the poet John Keats wrote—"Beauty is truth, truth beauty"; and (3) Anatole France's opinion was that beauty was "more profound than truth itself." Modern plastic surgeons think that people, who seek ways to be made beautiful, want "...high cheekbones and a stronger jaw." Scientists perceive beauty as a strategy: "Beauty is health... (announcing) 'I'm healthy and fertile. I can pass on your genes.'"

When at its finest, beauty celebrates with its extremes from Brazilian natives painting themselves, similar to the animal they stalk, to Madonna in her metal bra. The anticipation is that the everyday skin will disappear and there is an opportunity to pretend to be a more powerful, romantic, or sexy being. Think everyone would agree with the author, "At its worst, beauty discriminates. Studies suggest attractive people make more money, get called on more often in class, receive lighter court sentences, and are perceived as friendlier. We do judge a book by its cover." We also try to talk ourselves into the idea that beauty is only skin-deep. It's only in the eye of the beholder. Pretty is a pretty does. Even though beauty does matter, whether for better or for worse, our living and embracing the world more broadly, the wider impact our definition of beauty our experience, the wider our definition becomes. In contrast, the lack of outer beauty may be overwhelmed by the person's inner beauty. For example, it seemed so true of many couple's relationship, when the male friend of a female English novelist wrote, "She is magnificently

ugly... Now in this vast ugliness resides a more powerful beauty which, in a very few minutes, steals forth and charms the mind, so that you end as I ended, in falling in love with her." It also seemed so true that we are truly human when we "believe that beauty is not so much in the eye, as in the heart, of the beholder."

For however beauty is depicted by different individuals, it is valued by most groups of people and beauty pays well these days; i.e., a beginning model makes \$1,500 a day and those at the top make \$25,000. As with other classical subjects, man has searched for beauty over the centuries and across continents. It was interesting to learn that an Egyptian nobleman, living about 2400 B.C., had a picture in his tomb of him getting a pedicure. Of course, we all have seen pictures of Cleopatra supposedly wearing an eyeliner made from ground-up minerals. Wonder where on the Nile she was able to have a cosmetic facial to test out the "just right" foundation for her while being in the sun and on the water. No one can forget how fancy and "dressed" the 18th century aristocratic citizens were with their love of "looking good." Supposedly both men and women spent much time trying to make themselves in top appearance. Thought it was amusing that women in Louis XVI's court reportedly drew blue veins on their neck and shoulders to indicate noble blood. Also during the 18th century, men and women became ill and sometimes died from the lead in the white powder they used on their faces. In addition, vermilion rouge used during the same general time tended to cause the loss of teeth and inflamed gums. One cannot forget the 19th century woman's corset with whalebone and steel that inter-

fered with breathing, which brought forth the fainting couch. Remember how Scarlet struggled to get one on in her pursuit of "just the right man." These inner garments were perhaps the earliest step to the Playtex Living Girdle or those strapless, long-line bras of the 1950's that had staves at the bottom and forced their way into the wearer's soft, protruding stomach, sometimes leaving small bruises. Isn't it nice that comfort is more valued these days? But is it at the cost of beauty?

Yet, the American beauties keep looking for good looks and are willing to pay for what they get. Last year alone, these amounts of money were spent in the search for beauty: six billion dollars on fragrance; another six billion on makeup; eight billion dollars each on hair—and skin-products; a billion on fingernail care; and plus billions for health club memberships and cosmetic surgery. Then one cannot forget the weight wearing apparel such as shoes has had on making women beautiful at any price; i.e., Eskimo women wore a style of boot that let snow in, but created a waddle attractive to the men, ancient Chinese women had the custom of binding their feet, and one can not forget that first trial at walking in spike, high-heel shoes for the first time.

Now, what do you think—are you beautiful and/or do you know someone that is beautiful? Have you had attractive friends that became even more beautiful as time went by and their wonderful inner selves continued to show? What has been your experience with the beautiful people? Do you truly not judge the book by its cover?

Student honored



The United States Achievement Academy has announced that Natalie Cooley of Hueysville has been named an All-American Scholar.

The USAA has established the All-American Scholar Award Program to offer deserved recognition to superior students who excel in the academic disciplines. The scholars must earn a 3.3, or higher, grade point average.

Cooley, who attends Allen Central High School, was nominated for the award by Jeanne Blankenship. The student will appear in the All-American Scholar Yearbook, which is published nationally.

She is the daughter of Carl and Ginger Cooley of Hueysville. Her grandparents are Wade and Lana Martin of Dema, and the late Gorman and Edna Cooley.

She has a 4.052 GPA and is ranked sixth in her graduating class. She plans to attend the University of Kentucky in the fall, majoring in nursing.

Floyd County volunteers needed to 'spring' into action

Local residents are being asked to open their homes to an Academic Year in America (AYA) international student.

AYA students, aged 15 to 18-1/2, come from many different countries such as Brazil, Germany and Japan. They bring with them a desire to share their language, unique customs and perspective, which is a great way for Floyd County families to experience another culture.

Students also bring a genuine curiosity about life in the United States.

"The experience can be immensely rewarding for the family and the student," says AYA Director Terri Williams. "All Floyd County families need to do is provide the student with meals, a place to sleep and study, and to treat him or her like a member of the family."

"Each student has full medical insurance and spending money and is the best and brightest 'ambassador' of his or her home country."

The Academic Year in America (AYA) program is sponsored by the American Institute For Foreign Study Foundation, a not-for-profit organization that for 20 years has helped international students realize their dream of experiencing life in the United States.

If you would like to host an international student, or simply learn more about the AYA program, call Danielle Carpino at 1-800-322-4678 ext. 5146 or e-mail at dcarpino@aifs.com.

PCC-SGA meets

The Student Government Association of Prestonsburg Community College met on March 3, concerning potential changes to the constitution and the restructuring of student government. Dr. Charles E. Stebbins, interim president of PCC, presented several models to SGA for their consideration. The members met again on March 24 and agreed to a proposed restructuring. Involved were, Frank Hall, freshman representative; Jethro Francois, sophomore senator; Anne Leslie Fitch, freshman representative; Bridgett Hall, freshman representative and secretary; and Tom Underwood, sophomore senator, president and student representative to the KCTCS Board, and Stebbins; Dr. Thomas Orf, faculty co-sponsor, and Rita Ratliff, sophomore senator and co-treasurer.

Kentucky writes! at KHC April 15

Children and families are invited to the Kentucky History Center in Frankfort for a Super Saturday "Kentucky Writes!" on April 15 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Lexington-based author John Maruskin will assist kids in exploring their own literary creativity through poetry, illustrations, and storywriting. Unique crafts will delight children who enjoy hands-on activities.

Discover creative works by Kentucky authors through readings at noon and 2 p.m. Experience special performances of "James Still's Schoolroom Primer," a play that mixes music and rhyme to celebrate the days of one-room "blab schools," at the Old State Capitol at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Craft activities are primarily for children between the ages of 5 and 12. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Groups of 10 or more must register in advance. Super Saturdays at the Kentucky Historical Society are free. For more information, call 502/564-1792, ext. 4424.

Music groups participate in festival at the MAC

Twenty-four bands from six middle schools and 18 high schools, along with 20 choirs representing one elementary school, three middle schools and 16 high schools, gathered at the Mountain Arts Center March 30-31 to compete in the District 9 Band and Choral Festival Competition.

Bob Saylor, manager of the eastern Kentucky music district and band director at Knott Central High School, said an average of 40 to 45 students were in each group, with some groups having as many as 90 members.

The band competition leads to a competition at the University of Louisville on May 16-17, and choral groups will compete on May 9-10.

Bands were judged in several categories, including a musical performance in the theater that had been rehearsed, as well as sight-reading a piece in the rehearsal room that they had never practiced.

On-stage selections were recorded as they were taking place with judges notes recorded over the music, so the bands could take home a tape of their performance and work on segments that might need improvement.

Rehearsal spots were set up all around the MAC, as young people prepared for their appearance on stage.

Groups participating were from Virgie Beginning Band, Sebastian Middle School, Louisa Middle, Elkhorn City Middle, Virgie Middle, Magoffin County High, Leslie County High, Pike County Central High, Whitesburg High, Prestonsburg High, Shelby Valley High, Jackson City Middle, Perry County Central High, South Floyd High, Jackson City High, Sheldon Clark High, Jenkins High, Paintsville High, Knott Central High, Johnson Central High, Pikeville High, Breathitt County High, Lawrence County High and Hazard High.

Youth News



First grade and kindergarten classes at Allen Elementary School saw "Black Beauty" at the Mountain Arts Center, thanks to Music-Carter-Hughes.

Center for school safety helps provide violence-prevention video to Kentucky schools

In a combined effort to help reduce youth gun violence, the Kentucky Center for School Safety (CSS) and Kentucky Crime Prevention Coalition (KCPC) have joined with the National Emergency Medicine Association (NEMA) to provide copies of the video programs, "In A Flash" and "Fitting In," to all middle schools.

Schools are encouraged to use the donated videos as part of their classroom instruction efforts to address violence prevention and school safety. The videos will be mailed to middle school principals statewide by the CSS.

While the "In A Flash" program does not take a position on guns, per se, it does take a no-nonsense look at what guns can do both victims and their families. Focused

toward the pre-teen and early teenage student, the video provides a realistic look at gun issues and gun safety.

Not only does the video illustrate the often-tragic consequences of gun violence—disfigurement, paralysis, mental impairment, blindness—but it also offers practical advice about resolving conflicts and avoiding dangerous situations.

In addition to being used in thousands of schools across the country, police departments, such as the Los Angeles Police Department, have also adopted her program.

The video "Fitting In" addresses the problem of peer pressure from the perspective of other students rather than from an adult perspective. Not only does the video allow students to see the problems associ-

ated with choices based on acceptance by others, it also encourages self-actualization through a simple question posed throughout the script: "How much of yourself are you willing to give up to be accepted?"

Like "In a Flash," this video offers a series of vignettes which prompt active discussion when the facilitator stops the video and allows students time to talk about what they know and how it relates to what they are seeing.

CSS Interim Director Bill Scott is excited about the opportunity reality-based tools such as these videos provide for classroom teachers.

"When used in conjunction with teacher-facilitated discussions," says Scott, "these videos can be very

effective tools for showing young people the horrific effects of gun violence and destructive choices.

"Rather than use actors from TV shows or movies, these videos focus on real kids who were just like the audience until their lives were shattered by guns or compromised by choices with were overly-influenced by the need for acceptance."

The CSS and KCPC recognize that prevention efforts cannot wait until students get into high school. Bob Thomas, of KCPC, also applauds the cooperation and coordination from the middle school to do something about the problem of youth gun violence. "We desperately need to keep Kentucky a safe place in which to live. To do this, we must all work together."

Dr. Seuss...



The students at Allen Elementary School celebrated Dr. Seuss' birthday the week of February 28 through March 3 by reading and doing activities which included his books. On Monday they wore weird, mismatched outfits. Then on Tuesday, the children wore different shoes and crazy socks. They turned themselves green on Wednesday, and Thursday was red day and many of the students wore whiskers like cats. The students also had a visit from "Munroe" of the Kentucky Opry as he explained to them some of his vocabulary words and how to spell them. On Friday, it was relax and read day and many wore their pajamas to school. Attendance was great and, at day's end, students threw pies at Mr. Goodman as a reward for participating in the Rock-N-Read Challenge which was reading books and keeping the rocking chair rocking all day. Dedra Gearheart and Chris Waugh were two of the parents who volunteered to read to the students this week.



Youth News



Prestonsburg Elementary's Future Problem Solving Team tied with MCA for first place.



Mountain Christian Academy received the second place trophy for Quick Recall and Overall.



Prestonsburg Elementary took first place in Quick Recall and was the overall champion. Prestonsburg also received the sportsmanship award.



MCA's Future Problem Solving Team tied with Prestonsburg Elementary for first place.

MCA hosts competition

The Governor's Cup District Academic Competition was held at Mountain Christian Academy on March 11. Allen Elementary, MCA and Prestonsburg Elementary competed in Quick Recall and for the Overall Championship. Prestonsburg Elementary took first place in Quick Recall, Overall and also received the sportsmanship award. PES and MCA Future Problem Solving Team tied for first place.



Piarist school represents East well

by Carissa Mulliken

Whether using the term east to refer to the exotic Far East of Japan or the remote mountains of eastern Kentucky, they were both well represented by a local school.

Nine students from The Piarist School represented Japan at the Kentucky United Nations Assembly (KUNA) in Louisville in early March. More than 50 schools from across the state were present, representing 73 countries of the world.

The Piarist delegation was awarded the Best Display Award by the State YMCA which hosts the event each year. The Piarist display consisted of each student dressed in traditional Japanese clothing gathered around an 18-foot tall pagoda.

The students had worked on the pagoda for weeks, constructing it out of PVC pipe, large blocks of material, and a lot of safety pins. It had red walls and black roofing, and was built level upon level until it reached its final height. The pagoda was ornamentally decorated with some authentic Japanese fans and scrolls.

The display also had several magazines and newspapers written in the Japanese script, as well as a vast collection of other literature about Japan.

KUNA is not just about displaying a country's culture and traditions. The delegates debate proposals as ambassadors from their respective countries. The proposal topics range from settling wars and providing disaster relief, to anything else necessary to insure safety and peace among member nations.

KUNA teaches students about fellowship and the rewards of working together for a common goal. The program is not all hard work, though. On Monday night there were games, a dance and a movie. This was also a time to relax, to have fun, and to meet with other students interested in the same things—from political thoughts to favorite music groups.

The Piarist students who participated in this program thank all those who assisted them. This wouldn't have been possible without the help of the parents who helped in the pagoda construction or the literature provided by the Japan Information & Culture Center. Also, thanks to the school for their continual support of participation in programs such as KUNA.



Lesley Stout (right front) with Centre classmates at the Maginot Line, underground fortifications.

Local student studies in France

Lesley Stout of Prestonsburg is currently studying in Strasbourg, France, as part of Centre College's study abroad program.

Stout is one of 20 Centre students chosen for the Strasbourg program this term, based on faculty recommendations and expectations of academic promise and social maturity. She will remain there for the entire spring term, completing formal classwork and taking advantage of travel opportunities in France and other European countries.

Dr. Eric Mount of the Centre faculty is assigned to live in France for the spring term, teaching classes and coordinating field trips and travel programs.

Stout is the daughter of James and Carolyn Stout of Prestonsburg and a graduate of Prestonsburg High School.

Centre considers international education to be important, and the college maintains residential overseas programs in England and Latin America, along with the program in France. Faculty members from Centre's main campus in Danville rotate the responsibility and opportunity of serving as on-site director for each program.

Students participate in band clinic

Stephanie Reeves, field commander of the Paintsville Marching Showmen, led a group of band students for a week of auditions, practice and concerts at the 46th annual Morehead State University Concert Band Clinic, February 10-19.

Heather Brown, Morehead music major and Paintsville graduate, practiced with flutists Elizabeth McKenzie and Stephanie Reeves.

Band director Everett Windland accompanied trumpeter Levi Castle and trombonist Sara Shafer, who made Top Honor Band.

To qualify for the band clinic, each student submitted a tape of music on his instrument for MSU professors to evaluate.

All students received certificates of participation in the band clinic.



Attending MSU's Concert Band Clinic in February were Paintsville High School students, from left, Levi Castle, Stephanie Reeves, Sara Shafer, Beth McKenzie and PHS Band Director Everett Windland.

Nikki Cole's kindergarten class from Mountain Christian Academy visited the Pikeville Fire Department for Fire Prevention Week. The students also visited with Sparky the fire dog.



The Floyd County Times Classifieds

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A class action settlement has been reached and you may be entitled to money for any damages you may have incurred presently or in the future.

If you are interested and would like more information concerning this class action settlement or if you want to participate in same, please call, Glenn Martin Hammond Law Office at 606-437-7777.

This is an advertisement.

The FLOYD COUNTY TIMES does not knowingly accept false or misleading advertisements. Ads which request or require advance payment of fees for services or products should be scrutinized carefully.

FOR SALE

Auto

1996 TOYOTA TACOMA pickup, club cab, v-6, auto. 4x4, loaded with extras, tinted windows, sliding rear glass, etc. Asking \$12700. Call 874-9344 or 741-5955.*

1990 PONTIAC SUNBIRD LE 93,580 miles auto., a/c, excellent condition. Asking \$2,000 OBO. Also 265/75-16 factory rims and tires off a 1990 Z71 Pickup Asking \$550 OBO. Call 889-0647 or 886-5213 (Beeper).*

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'98 CHEVY BLAZER: 31,000 miles, Asking 18,500, likw new. 377-6881.*

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LEER CAMPERTOP: For Toyota shortbed pickup, like new, black in color, \$350 firm. Also Fender Strat. Guitar, rowland Blues Cube Amp. good condition, \$500 firm. Call 606-433-1000 ask for Rick.*

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KUBOTA TRACTOR: 18 hp, 4x4, 3 point hitch, 60" mower & gravelly tractor. Call 358-4291 after 5 pm.*

Sale / Misc.

ANTIQUE DINING ROOM SUITE, china cabinet, old dishes, glassware, cookie jars. 51 Buskirk, St., Thelma, Ky. 606-789-8313.*

JUDDS, CHILIPERS, N'SYNC Concert Tickets. Call 606-299-8986 from 9 to 7.*

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SECTIONALS, INCLINERS EACH END, \$700. 2-piece couch & chair, \$550. 3-piece, \$700. Recliners starting at \$229. Billy J's Furniture, Martin, Ky. 285-9488.*

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AKC REGISTERED PEMBROKE WELSH CORGI puppies. 3 male \$200 ea. 1 female \$250. Call 606-652-3539.*

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PROPERTY FOR SALE

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WE ARE MOVING: All homes must go! 10% to 15% off. You need no money down we can do dozer work for you. Call Calvin 1-800-510-7064.*

1990 14x60 MOBILE HOME 2 BR, 1 BA. Includes W/D, and all appliances. New underpinning & deck. Located in nice park in Winchester. Priced to sell. Call 606-358-9507 or 606-737-5880 leave message.*

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7 YR OLD HOME on left of Little Paint, East Point, KY. 3 BR 2 full BA, asking 95,000. Call 889-0780.*

HOUSE FOR SALE: 2100 sq. ft. and central H/A, 2 full BA, 3 BR, great room, kit. and dining ara. Call 789-3934.*

SLOW OR BAD CREDIT: Call 1-888-999-7410. See if we can help put you in a new home.

2 BR HOUSE: On S. Central Ave. 606-743-7979.*

HOUSE FOR SALE: 4 BR, 2 BA, family room. Gas heated, central air, city water. On Rt. 1428, across from Finance Hollow. \$38,000. 358-2292.*

HOMES FROM \$5000. Forclosed & repossessed, no or low down payment. Credit trouble okay. For current listings call 1-800-311-5048 Ext. 3908.*

2 BR, 1 BA with full basement and fenced in yard at Maytown. Call 285-9078. \$24,000 OBO*

HOUSE FOR SALE: Large yard, small field. Water and gas. Emma, KY. \$48,000. 874-2673 after 6 pm.*

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For Sale or Rent

HOUSE FOR SALE OR RENT. 886-2880.

PROPERTY FOR RENT

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LAWNBOY MOWERS Sales-Parts-Repair **SANDY VALLEY HARDWARE** 119-Main Street Allen, 874-0072 Small Engine Equipment Plumbing Supplies Hardware / Tools

Services

BACKHOE, DUMP TRUCK FOR HIRE: Culverts, bridges, mudslides, complete landscaping. Septic tanks, water & sewer lines installed. Fill dirt hauled. No job too large or small. 606-478-3039.*

FAITH BUILDERS All types of Carpentry at affordable rates. Small jobs welcome. Greydon Howard 606-358-2292.

Tree Service

TREE CUTTING AND TRIMMING: Topping, land clearing, etc. Free estimates. References furnished. Call 874-5333.

Upholstery & Sewing

NO JOB TOO BIG OR TOO SMALL: Vehicle, boats, house hold furnishings. Any or all alterations. Call Tracy Bobo at Village Sewing Inc. 285-1384.

PERSONAL

When responding to Personal ads that have reference numbers, please indicate that entire reference number on the outside of your envelope. Reference numbers are used to help us direct your letter to the correct individual.

I AM A MALE looking for a lady to help with upkeep with a home in return for free rent in a second home. If interested call 886-9297 anytime.

MISC.

Musical Instruments

J & J MAY MUSIC Guitars-Banjos. Buy, Sell and Trade. 605 N.Lake Drive Prestonsburg, KY 606-886-7010

Free

BECOME DEBT FREE! Cut payments without new loans. It's easy! 1 hr. approval. Call 1-800-517-3406.

FREE PALLETS: Can be picked up behind The Floyd County Times.

KOUNTY KEMMLE

DOUBLE CHOCOLATE OAT COOKIES

One 12-ounce package semi-sweet chocolate pieces, divided (about 2 cups)
1/2 cup margarine or butter, softened
1/2 cup sugar
1 egg
1/4 teaspoon vanilla
3/4 cup all-purpose flour
3/4 cup Quaker oats (quick or old fashioned, uncooked)
1 teaspoon baking powder
1/4 teaspoon salt (optional)
1/4 teaspoon soda
Heat oven to 375°F. Beat margarine and sugar until fluffy; add 1 cup chocolate pieces, melted*, egg and vanilla. Add combined flour, oats, baking powder, salt and baking soda; mix well. Stir in remaining 1 cup chocolate pieces. Drop by rounded tablespoonfuls onto ungreased cookie sheet. Bake 8 to 10 minutes. Cool 1 minute on cookie sheet; remove to wire rack.
About 3 dozen.

*To melt 1 cup chocolate pieces: microwave at high 1 to 2 minutes, stirring every 30 seconds until smooth. Or, heat in heavy saucepan over low heat, stirring until smooth.

OATMEAL APPLE COOKIES

3/4 Butter Flavor Crisco Stick (or 3/4 cup)
1 1/4 cups firmly packed brown sugar
1 egg
1/4 cup milk
1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla
1 cup all-purpose flour
1 1/4 teaspoons cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon baking soda
1/4 teaspoon nutmeg

3 cups quick oats (not instant or old fashioned)
1 cup peeled, diced apple
3/4 cup raisins (optional)
3/4 cup coarsely chopped walnuts (optional)
Heat oven to 375 degrees F. Grease baking sheet with Butter Flavor Crisco.
Combine Butter Flavor Crisco, sugar, egg, milk and vanilla in large bowl. Beat at medium speed of electric mixer at low speed until well blended.
Combine flour, cinnamon, salt, baking soda, and nutmeg. Mix into creamed mixture at low speed until just blended. Stir in, one at a time, oats, apples, raisins and nuts with spoon.
Drop rounded tablespoonfuls of dough 2 inches apart onto baking sheet.
Bake at 375° degrees F. for 13 minutes or until set. Cool 2 minutes on baking sheet. Remove to cooling rack.
About 2 1/2 dozen cookies

OATMEAL FLORENTINES

1/2 Butter Flavor Crisco Stick, divided (or 1/2 cup)
1 1/2 cups quick oats (not instant or old-fashioned)
2/3 cup granulated sugar
1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
1 egg, lightly beaten
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 teaspoon baking powder
1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
Melt 1/4 cup of Butter Flavor Crisco in large skillet. Add oats. Cook and stir on medium heat, about 10 minutes or until oats are golden brown. Cool to room temperature.
Heat oven to 350 degrees F. Grease baking sheet with Butter Flavor Crisco. Coat with flour. Shake off extra.

Place remaining 1/4 cup shortening in medium microwave-safe bowl. Microwave at 50% (MEDIUM) for one minute. Repeat until melted (or melt in small saucepan on low heat). Add toasted oats, sugar, flour, egg, vanilla, baking powder, and cinnamon. Stir until well blended.
Drop by level measuring tablespoonfuls 3-inches apart onto greased baking sheet.
Bake at 350° degrees F for 8 to 9 minutes, or until lightly browned. Cool on baking sheet one minute. Remove carefully to cooling racks with wide pancake turner.
About 1 1/2 dozen cookies

WHOLE WHEAT OATMEAL COOKIES

3/4 Butter Flavor Crisco Stick (or 3/4 cup)
3/4 cup firmly packed light brown sugar
1/4 cup molasses
1/4 cup honey
1 egg
1/3 cup apple juice
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 cup whole wheat flour
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/8 teaspoon nutmeg
3 cups quick oats (not instant or old-fashioned)
3/4 cup raisins
3/4 cup chopped walnuts
Heat oven to 350 degrees F. Grease baking sheet with Butter Flavor Crisco.
Combine Butter Flavor Crisco, brown sugar, molasses, honey, egg, juice, and vanilla in bowl. Beat at medium speed of electric mixer until blended.
Combine flour, cinnamon, baking soda, salt and

nutmeg. Mix into creamed mixture at low speed until just blended. Stir in oats, raisins and nuts with spoon. Drop rounded tablespoonfuls of dough 2 inches apart onto baking sheet.
Bake at 350 degrees F for 13 to 14 minutes, or until set. Cool 5 minutes on baking sheet. Remove to cooling rack.
3 dozen cookies

CHEWY OATMEAL COOKIES

3/4 Butter Flavor Crisco Stick (or 3/4 cup)
1 1/4 cups firmly packed light brown sugar
1 egg
1/3 cup milk
1 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
3 cups quick oats (not old-fashioned or instant)
1 cup all-purpose flour
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
1 cup raisins
1 cup coarsely chopped walnuts
Heat oven to 375 degrees F. Grease baking sheet with Butter Flavor Crisco.
Combine brown sugar, Butter Flavor Crisco, egg, milk, and vanilla in large bowl. Beat at medium speed of electric mixer until well blended.
Combine oats, flour, baking soda, salt, and cinnamon. Add gradually to creamed mixture at low speed and mix until blended. Stir in raisins and nuts with spoon.
Drop rounded tablespoonfuls of dough 2 inches apart onto greased baking sheet.
Bake at 375 degrees F. for 10 to 12 minutes, or until lightly browned. Cool 2 minutes on baking sheet. Remove to cooling racks.
About 2 1/2 dozen cookies.

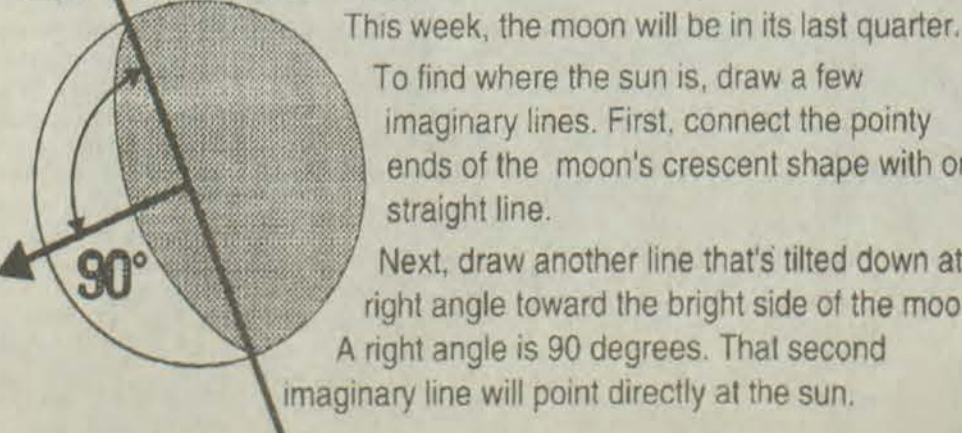
Tom wins a copy of the terrific book *The Best of Beakman & Jax.*



Dear Jax,
How can the moon be lighted with sunlight when it's on the dark side of the Earth in the Earth's shadow?
Tom Mason
Richardson, Texas

Dear Tom,
The moon is not in the shadow of the Earth – at least not usually. It's rare and wonderful when the moon does cross into the Earth's shadow. So rare it has a special name. We call it a lunar eclipse (ee-KLIPZ).
The moon is indeed lighted by the same thing that gives light to Earth, our sun. The moon seems to change shape in the sky because we see a slightly different side of the moon as it flies across the sky in orbit around the Earth.

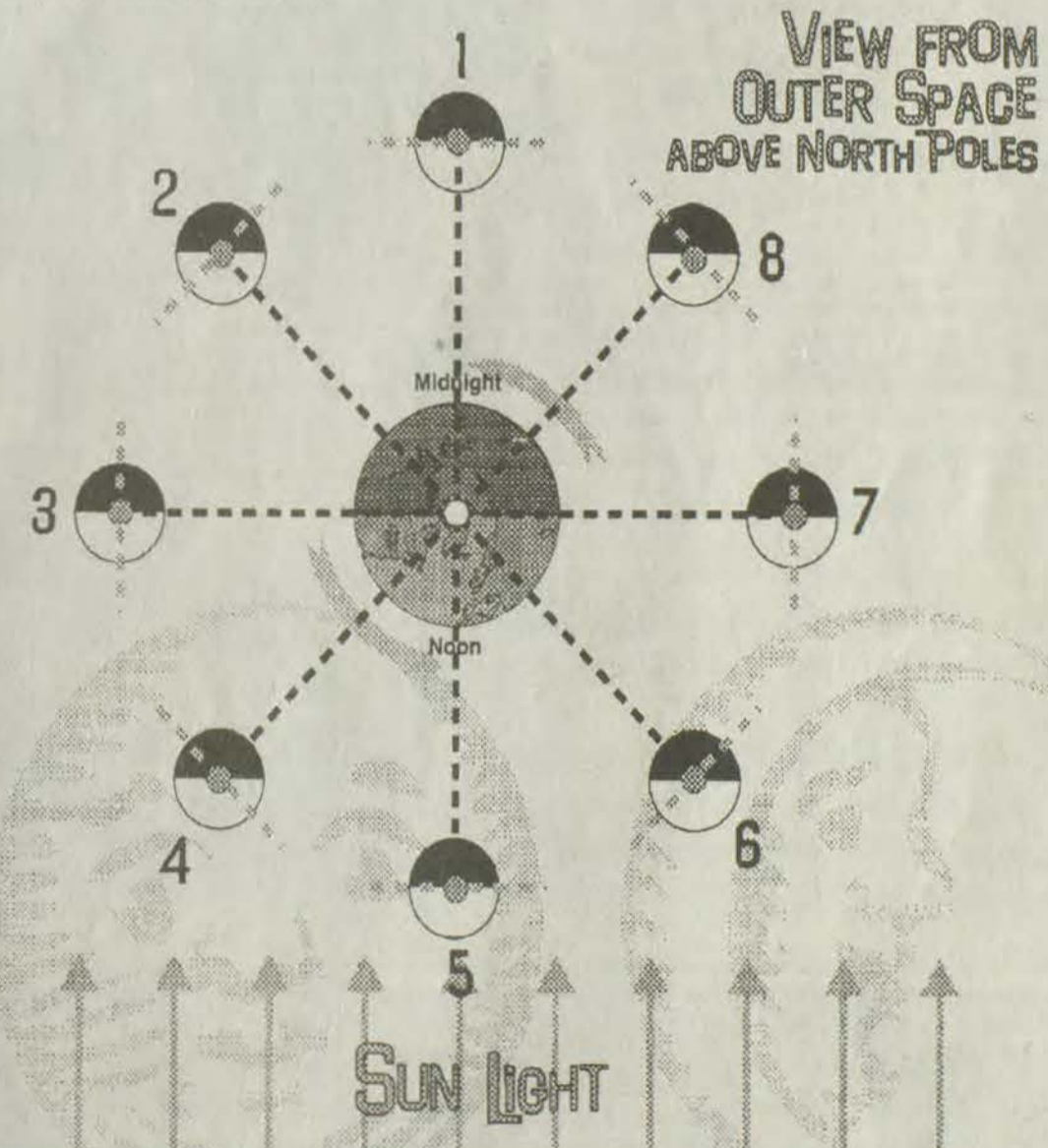
WHERE'S THE SUN?



JUST A PHASE

The shapes of the moon are called phases (FAZSES). On our drawing, the white dot is Earth's North Pole. The gray dot is the moon's north pole as it orbits the Earth. The black dotted lines connect the poles. The Earth-side of the gray dotted line is the part of the moon we see on Earth. Match up the numbers from the moon's orbit with the views we see from Earth. Our Web site, beakman.com, can figure out what phase today's moon is in every day!

VIEW FROM OUTER SPACE ABOVE NORTH POLES



VIEW FROM EARTH

- New Moon _____
- First Quarter Moon _____
- Full Moon _____
- Last Quarter Moon _____