

Sunday, April 23, 2000

The Times

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Inside: Local News

Mel Hanka's portrayal of Simon Kenton Tuesday evening at the Jenny Wiley Lodge.



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Sports



Lady Rebels on a roll and are running for the district title this year

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Lifestyles

Suzanne Smith: Floyd youngster to attend Youth Summit



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Floyd man killed in wreck

A Hueysville man was killed Friday afternoon after he lost control of his car and crashed into a guardrail.

Randall Lee Shepherd, 22, of Brushy Fork Road was traveling Route 7 in Hueysville when the passenger-side tires of his vehicle slipped off road onto the shoulder.

The vehicle traveled 156 feet before striking the guardrail, overturning and finally coming to rest in a culvert.

Shepherd was extricated from the vehicle by the Left Beaver Rescue Squad and taken by ambulance to Our Lady of the Way Hospital. There he was treated for multiple injuries before dying.

The Floyd County Sheriff's Office, Kentucky State Police, Left Beaver Rescue Squad and Transtar Ambulance Service all responded to the accident.

State police Trooper Todd Kidd is in charge of investigating the wreck.

Tech center to hold open house on Thursday

The Floyd County Area Technology Center will be having an open house on Thursday, April 27, from 5 to 7 p.m. Community members and parents of the students who attend the center are encouraged to attend.

Easter egg hunt planned for state park today

Jenny Wiley State Resort Park will be sponsoring an Easter egg hunt for children 12 and under on Saturday beginning at 2:30 p.m.

Two Day Forecast...

Today	Tomorrow
Mostly sunny and milder	Sunny, breezy and pleasant
High: 70 Low: 48	High: 74 Low: 52

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Wheelwright council votes to pay center bills after fight

by Willie Elliott
STAFF WRITER

The Wheelwright Commission meeting turned into a debate Thursday night as Lowell Parker and commission members argued the merits of paying a portion of the utility bill for a group of agencies that will bring county services to Wheelwright and Left Beaver.

Carol Holbrook of the Floyd County Health Department, Don Sparkman from Community Based Services, Lanny Paul Hall from McDowell ARH, and David Bliss from Mountain Comprehensive Health came before the commission requesting help with utility bills for the various organizations that will share office space as different agencies bring services out to the people rather than people traveling to Prestonsburg.

Holbrook said as many as 15 agencies could offer services on a local rather than county level. Holbrook said a grant from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that would provide \$200,000 for services to needy citizens is in the process of being evaluated. Holbrook said some people had to drive as far as 50 miles to do something as simple as renew a driver's license.

According to Holbrook, Floyd County Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson has provided space for these organizations in the old Wheelwright High School gym.

Holbrook said all the funds from the grant had to be used for services to the citizens and none of the money could be spent on utilities.

Holbrook said the agencies would be ready to provide services as early as July 1. Some of the agencies involved in the project include the Floyd County Health Department, Mountain Comprehensive Health, Cabinet for Families and Children, Sandy Valley Transportation, Big Sandy Health Care, Big Sandy Area Development District and the Social Security Administration.

The three hospitals in the county and the banking community have also expressed an interest in providing services under the program.

The commission agreed to pay half of the utility bills if the city receives the money from Otter Creek Correctional Center that has been promised.

When the commission made this move, Parker questioned the action, saying that it was not good sound management to send city money to Mike

(See WHEELWRIGHT, page two)

Simulated stand-off...



Playing the part of a law officer, law enforcement instructor Mike Dixon trades fire with terrorists during an exercise at Prestonsburg Community College.

'Takeover' provides learning opportunity for officers, students

by WILLIE ELLIOTT
STAFF WRITER

Even though everyone concerned with the exercise said the drill was not connected in any way to the Columbine tragedy, the staged events at Prestonsburg Community College yesterday were reminiscent of the high school shooting one year ago in Colorado.

Even though calls were tagged with "this is a drill," the situation seemed tense and chaotic as calls for help went out to the different agencies. The presence of television stations WSAZ and WYMT and several print media personnel

added to the drama that was unfolding.

Students not involved with the exercise went about their business of going to class. Students would walk by seemingly unfazed by the activities going on around them.

Mike Dixon and his law enforcement students staged a takeover of the administration building hoping to accomplish three things: Give law enforcement students hands-on experience in this type of law enforcement and to give local law-enforcement units an opportunity to get valuable practice in responding to situations such as this. The drill also provided an opportunity for PCC

to assess its own domestic emergency plans.

The drill included law personnel from Johnson County, Floyd County, the Prestonsburg fire and police departments and Wayland Police.

Dixon and his students had worked out the parts that students and faculty would play in the event. Participants included people from all departments of the college, including President Charles Stebbins who was taken hostage in the event.

At the conclusion of the exercise, Stebbins praised the work

(See PCC, page two)

Recktenwald leaves behind years of improvement

by RANDELL RENO
STAFF WRITER



BSADD Roger Recktenwald and his Sandy Runyon, his replacement, celebrated Thursday the coming and going of the ADD's directional leadership.

For the last 15 years, area leaders of Floyd, Johnson, Martin, Magoffin and Pike counties have seen him head up a team of dedicated workers, constantly trying to make the Big Sandy Region a better place to live.

Water and sewer, industrial development, flood control, and better city budgeting have come underneath his direction.

He has been the quarterback, he has been the water boy but whatever the hat he has worn in his tenure, Roger Recktenwald has bore and promoted the colors of teamwork.

On May 1, Recktenwald will officially leave his seat as executive director of Big Sandy Area Development District to move into the executive

director's chair of the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority.

The Louisville native began his work at the BSADD in 1973 after extensive travel across the U.S., including a brief stint in Washington D.C. Working specifically with an outdoor recreational model in the spring, he would return to the ADD in June to be formally employed.

Recktenwald, who said he spent a lot of time with water and sewer in his early years, told his wife that if he ever got out of working with water and sewer, he would not go back.

When the region was decimated by the floods of 1977, Recktenwald was part of a team that dealt specifically with rebuilding the area's water and sewer plants.

Ironically, he will be working with the state's water and sewer problems

the KIA.

The ADD has worked closely with the area county governments to establish good drinking water and safe sewer systems under his watch. The consolidation of local water districts has kept the region at the front of the curve, said Recktenwald. The state is not universally combining systems nor providing good water to its residents, said Recktenwald, who will go on to lead the state's efforts in doing exactly that.

Good water was primarily restricted to the municipalities until the early 1980s, said Recktenwald. It was then that progress began in the counties' efforts to take the water to the citizens.

"Magoffin County has had a dramatic increase in water service," he

(See RECKTENWALD, page eight)

A look back at the 2000 General Assembly

by KARLA DOOLEY
and LISA CARNAHAN
KPA NEWS BUREAU

Although state House and Senate leadership agreed on few issues of importance during this legislative session, as their 60 days in Frankfort spun to a stop, they all managed to agree on at least one thing: this was a session like no other in recent memory.

"I've not seen one like this," said 10-year veteran Sen. David Boswell, D-Owensboro, alluding to the fact that the chambers were for the first time controlled by two different parties, the Republicans in the Senate and the Democrats in the House.

But though they agreed that the session was certainly different, there appeared to be as many takes on what the session means for the future of the state as there were legislators.

Sen. Vernie McGaha, R-Russell Springs, said he thought that the division of power had resulted in the legislature as a whole becoming more self-critical.

"(There) has been a more watchful eye," he said. "It bodes well for the future. I think that's what the public wants done, regardless of who's in control."

But on the other end of the hall, some Democratic House members foretold another picture of the future of the General Assembly.

"I think there's a bumpy road ahead," said Rep. Mary Lou Marzian, D-Louisville. "The people of Kentucky lose if we have a lot of partisan fighting."

Marzian said she was particularly concerned about the religious overtone that colored the legislature's debates on everything from civil rights to contraceptives, and most notably the posting of the Ten Commandments.

"It could set the state back if we continue to let the religious fundamentalists and the NRA run things," she said.

House Majority Floor Leader Greg Stumbo, D-Prestonsburg,

(See LEGISLATURE, page three)

Legislature overrides two Patton vetoes

By KARLA DOOLEY
KPA NEWS BUREAU

Of several pieces of legislation vetoed by Patton, the legislature voted to override the governor's veto on two bills.

The veto on House Bill 70, which exempts religious organizations from some of the state's civil rights laws, was overridden in the House on a vote of 82-16. The Senate override vote was 26-8.

Under the bill, which was sponsored by Rep.

(See VETOES, page two)

Veto

Thomas Kerr, D-Taylor Mill, churches and other religious groups can refuse to rent their facilities to groups with conflicting beliefs.

The debate to override the veto on the House floor was a fierce one.

"This bill, under the guise of religion, preaches intolerance," said Rep. Paul Bather, D-Louisville, who urged the body to accept the veto. "We're passing legislation that's ... feeding into the frenzy of the religious right."

But Kerr said the bill was necessary for restoring religious freedom.

"We haven't closed the church doors to anyone," he said.

The chambers also overrode Patton's veto on a bill that requires guns seized from criminals to be sold

at auction to licensed gun dealers.

Lexington and Louisville police had opposed the measure, which was originally adopted in 1998. Because of a loophole in the bill, they had been keeping the weapons.

This bill requires that the guns be turned over to Kentucky State Police within 90 days. The state police will then auction the weapons, and the proceeds will be used to buy body armor for local police departments.

"If I had my way, we'd sell them to the public," said Rep. Danny Ford, R-Mt. Vernon. "We can't let the police chiefs of the major cities of this state run over the Kentucky General Assembly."

Patton also said he would veto a

bill that has an amendment that would almost double legislators' retirement benefits.

The amendment was added to House Bill 389 by the Senate with no discussion. Although the governor said in a statement issued by his press office that he supports better compensation for members of the General Assembly, he does not support the way the measure was adopted.

"In an area as sensitive as this, the process of last-minute late night legislation is intolerable," Patton said. "The leadership of the Senate should have been more sensitive to this kind of backdoor attempt to increase legislative compensation without the knowledge of the people."

By Friday, however, Patton had changed his mind and signed the bill, saying it is up to the people to punish legislators for the amendment in fall elections.

The legislature sustained the governor's veto on House Bill 130, which would have prevented public agencies from selling or distributing private wage data and "any other information collected by the state from individuals and corporations." Patton wrote that the bill would have conflicted with the state's Open Records Law.

They also accepted his veto of House Bill 946, which would have made it easier for state employees to be reimbursed for overnight travel.

Patton's veto message said that the bill did not adequately accomplish that purpose.

PCC

Continued from p1

that Dixon is doing in law enforcement education and said he thought the exercise went very well. He said he had told Dixon earlier that he wanted this to be a learning experience for him and his staff as well as one for the law enforcement students.

"Although this was only a demonstration, I got a sense of what it would be like to be taken hostage," Sbebbins said.

Lon May from Disaster and Emergency Services was on hand to critique how well the different agencies reacted to the mock disaster.

"They're doing all right," he

said, and then made a note that one of the radios did not work during the drill.

Crystal Yates, a law enforcement student, served as media liaison. She said while the big events were planned, students ad-libbed their lines during the takeover.

She and Dixon stressed that the weapons used in the exercise were models and not real. However, there were rumors that one authentic weapon was discovered during the drill.

Yates said she would graduate in May with an associate in law enforcement. She said she would like to attend the state police acad-

emy and become a state trooper.

Dixon said he was thoroughly pleased with the results but added some tactical errors were made. He said those errors would be part of class discussion.

Dixon wanted to thank all the people who took part in the exercise. He said Prestonsburg Police Chief Darrell Conley was very helpful by assuming the duty of incident commander.

Dixon also was grateful to Wayland police officer Aaron Kidd for coming all the way from Wayland to take part in the activity. Dixon said the cooperation from District of Operation John Herald,

Wheelwright

Continued from p1

Little Gas Company when the city has its own gas wells.

Member Don "Booty" Hall said he and the commission were just trying to "reach out to the people."

At one point in the meeting, Mayor Marlee Samons told Parker, "You only come to the meetings when you want to raise a stink."

Parker said he had come to the meeting to ask about blacktop for Hall Hollow and had not intended to speak on the utility topic, saying he didn't want to intimidate the commissioners in running the city's business.

After some discussion, the commission told Parker that it could be worked out so that the money sent to the agencies would cover other things such as electricity and sewage and not pay any of the gas bill.

According to Parker, Mike Little Gas Company has contractual rights to provide gas to the building and city gas could not be used at the facility.

City Clerk Mary Anne Slone brought it to the commission's attention that four, not two, people had been involved in the cleanup. Commission members said they knew about the hiring arrangements for the cleanup.

Samons told the group that the money from the prison should be available in about a week. Hall facetiously remarked, "I know, the check's in the mail."

Slone said her husband could

repair the city's computer from spare parts that he has. She said he would do it for \$50.

The commission held two closed sessions. The first was to discuss Chief Charles Johnson per KRS 61.180 f, which deals with hiring, firing and dismissal of employees. Samons said no action was taken on the matter.

Later in the meeting, Johnson repeated his request for an office. Jimmy Little jokingly said, "Son, don't bring that up again."

After the meeting Johnson said someone had reported that he was working out of the city limits. Johnson said he had been outside the city limits to respond to a request from Kentucky State Police. According to Johnson, responding to such a request is part of his duties as a law official.

In the financial report, clerk Slone gave the balances of three accounts as of March 31: General fund, \$29,591.88; road aid fund, \$6,076.28; and petty cash, \$16.65.

Contingent of funds coming from OCCC, the commission voted to give \$2,000 to the Wheelwright Senior Citizens Center. According to Samons, the center is having a hard time feeding all the seniors in the area.

City attorney Tim Parker said that anyone who would like to donate to the center could send or bring those donations to the center.

In a second closed session, the commission listened to a complaint

from Hubert Foreman of the ethics committee regarding an employee. Parker said a non-elected citizen should not be privy to information about any employee. No action was taken concerning the member.

Several citizens asked that roads or streets be repaired and one man said the city was "going to the dogs" in reference to a large number of dogs that are reportedly running loose in the city.

Both Parker and Foreman said that the city should reclaim land they claim is near Glenn Thronsberry's property. Parker said the lack of adequate space is creating a dangerous situation at the mouth of Hall Hollow. Parker's wife recently had a minor accident at the site.

In answer to complaints about the conditions of city parks, Booty Hall said he was going to take a tour of the parks and order any items that are needed to upgrade the parks.

Samons asked commissioners to be thinking about what the city could do to finance a Kids Day in the near future.

The commission agreed to offer the vacancy on the utility commission to Doug Smallwood and see if he would accept. The utility has had this vacancy for about six months.

In other actions, the commission approved:

- Payment of \$88 to Dollar General Store.
- Warren Cole and Randy



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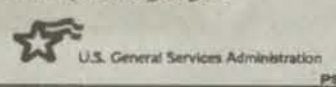
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200	268	341	409	506	608	699	842
208	269	342	413	508	609	705	846
215	271	344	415	512	613	707	854
219	272	351	416	513	614	712	858
220	273	352	417	514	618	715	865
221	275	356	419	516	619	719	866
222	276	357	421	518	620	721	873
223	277	359	422	519	621	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	903
231	286	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	295	375	448	541	643	749	914
236	294	390	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	664	771	937
244	312	386	472	556	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	962
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	493	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	



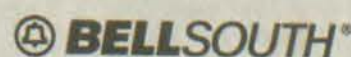
Lexington and northern Kentucky get a new area code April 1.

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.



Legislature

Continued from p1

however, said that he thought the 2000 legislature's legacy would be a budget filled with funding for hundreds of new community development projects.

"I think it's going to have a major impact," he said.

Stumbo complimented Senate President David Williams, R-Burkesville, for working to break the budget deadlock, but he said the Republicans suffered a blow to their credibility in approving a new tax on long-distance telephone calls.

But while Sen. Robert Stivers, R-Manchester, agreed that the budget was the crown jewel of the session, he disagreed on who was hurt more in the battle over it.

He said that the Democrats, rather than the GOP, took the blow since they had originally used an even larger tax increase to balance the budget and were then shown by the Senate that the document could be balanced without it.

Boswell summed the session up simply: "It's been a divisive session without a doubt."

Insurance

One of the most hotly-debated issues of the session was the creation of a high risk insurance pool for some of the state's most ill citizens.

Legislators and Insurance Commissioner George Nichols hope the plan, which will start on Jan. 1, 2001, will bring back competition to the state's individual insurance market. And Nichols has said the pool could lead to a 10 percent rate reduction for some citizens.

However, a number of legislators argued against the bill, saying it unfairly segregates some citizens, was drafted with too much input from insurance companies and could be setting the state up for an ever-increasing liability.

The state has appropriated \$38 million to start the program, which will offer \$2 million in lifetime benefits for anyone who has been denied insurance twice or more.

Early childhood development

Another bill that is expected to bring about major change is the early childhood legislation lauded by Gov. Paul Patton. The effort, which is funded through the Master Tobacco Settlement, will provide \$55 million for programs focused on improving the lives of children between the ages of 0 and 5.

"This is going to do more for us in the long run than we can even imagine now," Sen. Gerald Neal, D-Louisville, said when the measure was passed on the Senate floor.

It comes as a result of a year-long study by the governor's Early Childhood Task Force, which is chaired by Nicki Patton, his daughter.

"This is a historic first step toward the responsibility we have to helping families and communities make sure that each and all children reach their full potential in the first few years of life," Paul Patton said.

DUI

One of the most comprehensive reform packages to win final approval was a bill that makes substantial changes to Kentucky's drunk driving laws.

The new law, which takes effect July 1, lowers the blood-alcohol level for a DUI charge from .10 to .08. It also prohibits open containers of alcohol in the passenger areas of vehicles and makes it much tougher on repeat offenders and those with a blood-alcohol level of .18 or higher.

Judges and prosecutors will also now consider "aggravating circumstances" in DUI cases that translate into longer jail sentences that can't be probated. Those aggravating circumstances include causing a serious injury or death due to an alcohol-related crash, driving the wrong way on a highway, driving in excess of 30 miles per hour above the speed limit and having a juvenile passenger at the time of arrest.

Protection for women and children

The governor has signed a number of initiatives aimed at protecting women and children. Megan's Law was expanded to require that photographs and other information on convicted sex offenders be posted on a website immediately after their release from prison. The bill also changes the way sexual predators are required to register their addresses with the state and prohibits them from living within 1,000 feet of a school or daycare center.

Bills also bolstering the state's network of rape crisis centers, setting up local councils on domestic violence and developing children's advocacy centers for dealing with child sexual abuse have all been signed.

Teacher quality

Although it had appeared as though a bill intended to improve the quality of the state's middle school teachers was about to fail, it was altered significantly and passed in the last days of the legislative session.

House Bill 77, which started out as a broad-based bill addressing teacher recruitment and training in a number of ways, now includes provisions for grants and continuing education for middle school teachers. It also would allow school districts to offer more pay to experienced teachers who serve as mentors for young teachers.

Plans were removed during different stages of the legislative process that would have reconstructed a standards board to oversee teacher quality. Also taken out were provisions that would have allowed school districts to offer signing bonuses to teachers in shortage areas and would have taken funding away from districts that continued to have teachers instructing students in subjects that they were not trained to teach.

Ten Commandments

One of most debated and divisive issues of the 2000 General Assembly was the posting of the Ten Commandments.

The bill that won final approval from both chambers was a resolution sponsored by Sen. Albert Robinson, R-London, that allows local school districts to post the Ten Commandments as part of a historical display that would include other documents such as the Mayflower Compact and the Preamble to the Kentucky Constitution.

The resolution reads that the purpose of the display "shall not be to advance religion, but to advance the important secular purpose of illustrating how the Bible and the Ten Commandments have influenced the faith, morals and character of American leaders who, in turn, have shaped American law, public policy, and institutions."

The House amended it, requiring that a monument displaying the Ten Commandments be relocated to a prominent site on the Capitol grounds. The monument was donated to the state nearly 30 years ago but has been in storage. The House also added language to the bill declaring the Ten Commandments to be the "foundation" for many of Kentucky's laws.

Workers' Comp

With the old saying "something is better than nothing," legislators approved changes to the state's workers' compensation program but not the substantial revisions proposed by the governor and other Democrats.

Because the legislature failed to address one of the key components of the reform package sought by Patton, the governor has said he'll call a special session to address black lung.

The changes that were made include doubling the benefits paid in cases where the worker is killed, revising the adjudication process so administrative law judges can conduct benefit review conferences, decreasing from 90 to 60 days the time allowed for a final decision from an administrative law judge, increasing benefits to workers who have permanent but partial disabilities, and increasing the penalty payments from 15 percent to 30 percent where safety standards are intentionally violated.

Patton's proposal would have placed more emphasis on retraining and changed the way black lung cases are evaluated, making it easier for coal miners to qualify for black lung benefits.

Knowledge-based economy

The legislature appropriated \$55 million for preparing the state to participate in and benefit from changes to the economy of the 21st century. Of that, \$20 million will go toward projects aimed at creating high-tech jobs, while another \$20 million will be spent on projects for developing technology industries.

Bottle bill

Although a number of high-profile initiatives made it out of the session intact, the General Assembly spent much of its time arguing over issues that did not emerge from both chambers.

The most noteworthy of these was House Bill 1, or the "bottle bill" as it was commonly called. That legislation, as originally filed by Stumbo, would have required five- or 10-cent refundable deposits on drink containers, an advance disposal fee on food packaging sold at drive-thru windows and mandatory garbage collection.

In an effort to try and get some type of environmental cleanup legislation passed, Stumbo attempted to amend the bill by removing the container deposits and the fast food packaging fee, and replacing them with an environmental impact fee based on businesses' gross taxable receipts. The amendment would have retained the mandatory garbage collection provision.

The amendment passed but the bill was defeated in the House by a 56-38 vote.

But the debate didn't end there. The House passed Stumbo's bill that would have placed the issue of container deposits on the ballot in a referendum. The strong House vote, 62-27, wasn't enough, however, as the bill was sent to an unfriendly Senate committee and never called for a vote.

The Prestonsburg Democrat has led the charge for some type of comprehensive environmental cleanup package since 1998, when a group of Estill County High School students proposed the idea to him. Stumbo agreed to sponsor a bill in that session but it was substituted for creation of a task force to study the issue.

According to Stumbo, the task force concluded a container deposit program combined with mandatory garbage collection was the best method to clean up the state.

Stumbo has said he will file container deposit legislation in the 2002 session and plans to get the bill ready during the interim.

The death penalty

Efforts to abolish or place a moratorium on the death penalty in Kentucky also failed.

House Bill 880 and Senate Bill 325, both of which would have prevented executions for the next five years and required the Criminal Justice Council to make recommendations to the legislature concerning the imposition of the death penalty, did not make it out of the committees to which they were assigned. The bills were filed by Rep. Jim Wayne, D-Louisville, and Neal.

Another effort, House Bill 514, would have abolished the death penalty entirely. Anyone currently on death row would have had his or her sentence changed to one of life in prison without parole. That bill also failed in the House Judiciary

Committee, where it was debated but never voted upon.

Abortion

And despite repeated attempts, a bill to allow citizens to be prosecuted for causing the death of an unborn child did not pass.

A similar bill would have allowed mothers or representatives of their estates to sue for the wrongful death of an unborn child. It was also lost.

Anti-abortion advocates had said they would use the measures to chip away at the state's abortion laws, an effort that was vehemently opposed by the American Civil Liberties Union as well as a number of legislators.

Fairness

A bill to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation also got stuck in committee.

House Bill 7, sponsored by Reps. Kathy Stein, D-Lexington, Hoby Anderson, R-Flatwoods, and Marzian never made it out of the House Judiciary Committee. Employment, housing and financial or insurance transactions related to housing would have been covered.

An effort to prevent cities from passing "fairness ordinances" relating to sexual orientation also did not become law.

Labor issues

Though the governor focused much of his State of the Commonwealth address on labor issues, he failed to find much support for his plans in the legislature. Patton could not find a legislator to sponsor a bill to allow collective bargaining among state employees.

And the governor's wide-ranging program to increase wage equity among state workers also failed for lack of a sponsor. Under the plan, 79 percent of state employees would have seen an increase. The governor had said he hoped would make the state more competitive with the private sector and surrounding states in recruiting employees.

However, Patton did manage to get increases for some workers with the biggest pay inequities, including those in corrections and social work.

Minger Act

The governor has already signed into law a bill intended to help keep students at the state's higher education institutions safe.

The measure requires that campus police enter certain crimes in a public log within 24 hours of the offense. Violations will carry a \$500-\$1,500 fine and/or 30 days in jail. The state would also compile a yearly statistical report of campus crime.

A provision of the bill that would have waived the schools' right to sovereign immunity under certain circumstances was removed from the bill during its committee hearings.

House Bill 322 is named in honor of Michael Minger, a Murray State University sophomore who was killed in a 1998 dorm fire. Several members of Minger's family came to Kentucky to watch Patton sign the legislation.

Briefs

Large group insurers will be required to offer the same level of coverage for mental conditions as they do for physical ones under the mental health parity measure, which passed the Senate late in the session.

The bill, which was sponsored by Rep. Bob Damron, D-Nicholasville, had the support of mental health advocates including the Kentucky Psychiatric Association. It was opposed by the Kentucky Association of Health Plans.

Public schools will be required to close on Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday under a bill approved by both the House and Senate. School districts would have the option of taking the day as one of four holidays or simply not counting it in calculating the minimum days required for a term.

Prisoners in county jails will be held responsible for paying the cost of their incarceration. Senate Bill 332, which won final passage allows the sentencing court to order reimbursement up to \$50 per day and other expenses, including medical and any damages the prisoner causes while in jail.

Insurance companies will be required to cover the costs if public schools or agencies are sued for posting the Ten Commandments as part of a historical display. The governor has already signed House Bill 662, which takes effect July 1.

A resolution that could eventually limit the number of bills filed during a legislative session won final approval. The measure directs the Interim Joint Committee on State

Government to study the feasibility of setting a limit on the number of bills members of the General Assembly may request or may introduce in a legislative session. The resolution was filed by Rep. Woody Allen, R-Morgantown, who has said the legislature is not able to thoroughly consider the bills it passes because there are so many of them. There were 1,441 bills filed this session.

Every public elementary and secondary school will now be required to establish and maintain a school library media center that is staffed by a certified school media librarian. School councils could permit one media librarian to serve two schools in the same district. House Bill 324 was passed overwhelmingly by both chambers.

Shock probation for violent offenders will be a thing of the past under a bill passed by both chambers and already signed by the governor.

School board members will earn more money under a bill that won final approval. House Bill 142 raises the per diem of school board members from \$40 to \$75. It also increases the yearly maximum expenses and per diem of any member to \$2,000 from the previous \$1,000 cap.

What's next

Although this session has barely ended, Rep. Jim Wayne, D-Louisville, has already gotten a jump on the 2002 session. In press conferences at the Lexington and Louisville post offices, Wayne announced April 17 that he is introducing a House bill that would give a state tax credit to the working poor.

"We tax these families long before their income even reaches the poverty level," he said. "We need to help them, not hurt them."

Under the plan, families that receive the federal Earned Income Tax Credit would get an additional five and 10 percent of the credit back from the state in the first and second years. In the third year and every year after, the state would pay the families an additional 15 percent of the money they got back under EIC.

And though all is quiet in Frankfort for now, the excitement is expected to start up again later this year, when Patton calls the legislature back to take another stab at the worker's comp issue and possibly other topics as well.

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—First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution—

Viewpoint

QUOTE OF THE DAY...

Old age takes away from us what we have inherited and gives us what we have earned.

—Gerald Brennan

Sunday, April 23, 2000 A4

Editorial

Budget may have limited future resources

There was a famous Warner Brothers cartoon in which a sheep dog and a wolf met in the morning, said their pleasantries to each other, then went to work — the wolf trying to steal sheep, the dog trying to stop him. At the end of the day, they punched the clock, wished each other well and went home.

If that cartoon were remade today, the 2000 General Assembly could star in it.

With the defection of two Democrats to the Republican party, thus swinging control of the Senate to the GOP for the first time, the session began with wariness by Democrats. It moved at its normal pace for much of its 60 working days, spent an inordinate amount of time discussing the Ten Commandments and in the final two weeks became a hotbed for emotional rhetoric. Then, after a cooling off period, bitter political rivals tossed their arms around each other's shoulders and passed a \$14 billion budget nearly unanimously in both houses.

Call it the "Frankfort miracle" if you will, a budget that delivered many projects — especially to this area, for a change — while not substantially raising taxes. But we question whether the final deal is in the best interest of the state's future.

First, the Republican Senate's notion that this was a "revenue neutral" budget needs to be dismissed. The budget adds a 6-percent sales tax on interstate long-distance telephone calls that is expected to raise \$89 million over two years. It cuts taxes that businesses pay for unemployment insurance, a reduction of \$75 million. There is nothing neutral for those who make long-distance calls and do not pay unemployment insurance.

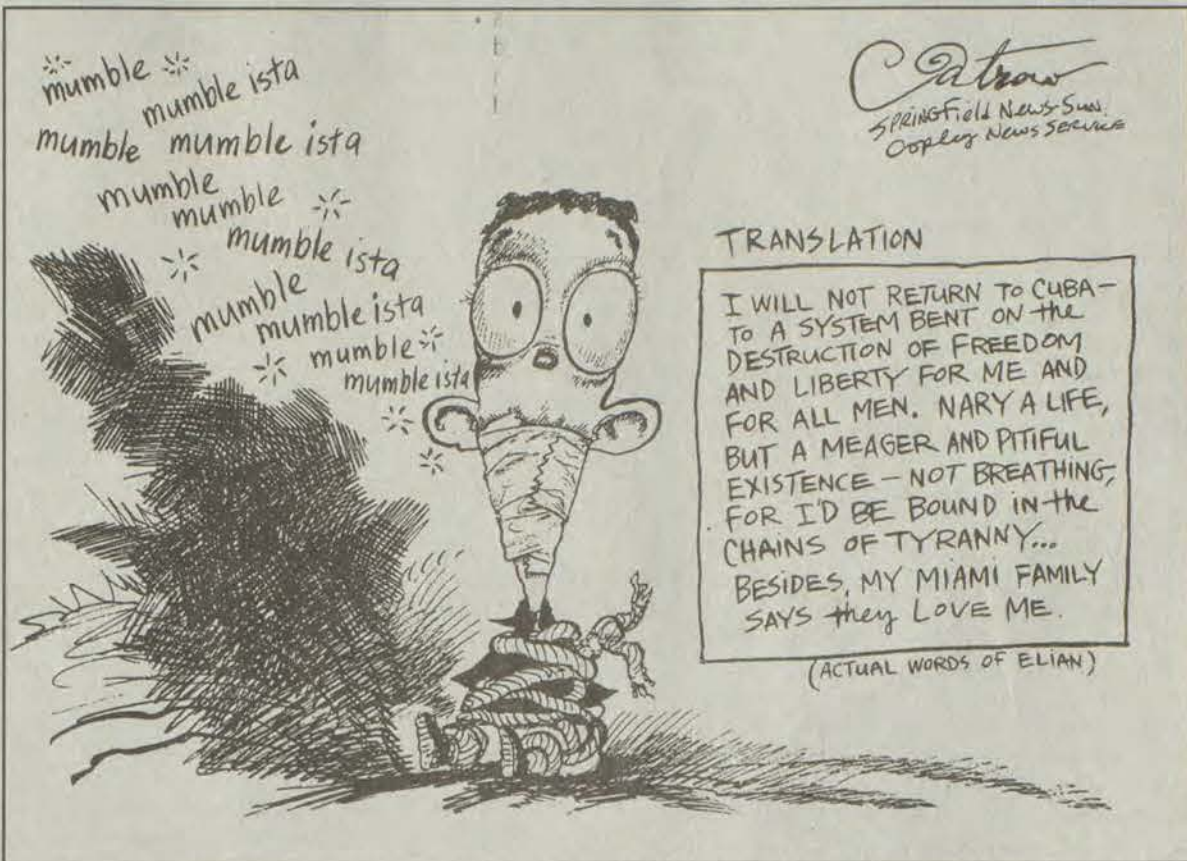
There had to be additional revenue to pay for everything the legislature wanted and this one tax did not cover it all. So the state will use its ability to float bonds to pay for its current projects, then send the bills to future legislatures, and thus Kentuckians.

Using bonds is nothing new and in many cases appropriate, as long as there is a future funding mechanism to pay the debts incurred. We question whether future legislatures will be saddled with huge debts, especially if there is an economic downturn, which at some point seems inevitable.

The 1998 legislators, flush with a huge surplus, were the proverbial kids in the candy store when doling out cash to their communities. Even when there is less money to spend, the 2000 assembly showed it is resistant to come home empty-handed.

The question remains, did this assembly ensure there will be empty pockets in the future by disallowing taxes that would pay off its debts?

—Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer



Letters to the Editor

Students are grateful

Editor:

At Osborne Elementary School we have been preparing for our end of the year CATS testing. We have studied really hard to make our teachers proud.

We, the students, would like to thank the teachers for all their time and effort in helping us and encouraging us to do our very best.

We would first like to thank Mr. Dale Pack and Mrs. Sherry Caudill. Their help in studying health should really help our scores.

Secondly, we would like to thank Mrs. Tammy Mullins. She really made learning, music fun. We really appreciate Mrs. Mullins. Without her we would not have had music. She also takes time to do a school

newspaper for us.

We feel our social studies scores will be really good thanks to Mrs. Susan Tackett. Mrs. Tackett has covered lots of interesting things with us. Thanks, Mrs. Tackett.

We would also like to thank Mr. Jeff Castle. He really worked us hard, but it should pay off in the end. Thanks to him we understand math much better.

In conclusion, we would like to thank Mr. Paul Tackett. He is our principal. We feel very proud and lucky to have Mr. Tackett. He makes our school seem like a family. Thanks to our teachers and staff for everything.

Jessica Bartley
Osborne Elementary

Congress: Rogue's gallery?

Editor:

Monroe, fifth President of the United States and one of the Founding Fathers of our country received a letter from another Founding Father, Thomas Jefferson, who said: "How little do our countrymen know what precious blessings they are in possession of, and which no other people on earth enjoy." This is even so true today!

Mark Twain once said, "We have the best politicians that money can buy." This is not true of all of them of course, but true of the majority. Both parties are corrupt to a certain degree and it's time the American voters dumped the parties and realized we are "American." We need God-fearing Statesmen/women to guide our nation.

Can you imagine working at the following company? It has a little more than 500 employees with the

following statistics: 29 have been accused of spousal abuse; seven have been arrested for fraud; 19 have been accused of writing bad checks; 117 have bankrupted at least two businesses; three have been arrested for assault; 71 cannot get a credit card due to bad credit; 14 have been arrested for shoplifting; 21 are current defendants in lawsuits. In 1998 alone, 54 were stopped for drunk driving.

Can you guess what company this is? Give up? It's the 535 members of your United States Congress. The same group that perpetually cranks out hundreds of new laws designed to keep the rest of us in line.

Since the dawn of civilization, there has never been another country with freedoms and blessings we possess here in our great Republic. Wake up voters—America is too young to die.

Col. Harold V. Walsh, USAF Ret.
Howardston

Guest Column

Political corruption is poisonous fruit of forced union dues

by Reed Larson

On May 3, a U.S. House panel will hold a special hearing to re-evaluate federal labor policy's pro-forced unionism bias.

The six provisions in the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) and Railway Labor Act (RLA) that authorize and promote the forced payment of union dues and "fees" as a job condition now directly curb the freedom of eight million employees nationwide.

But congressionally-imposed forced union dues' corrosive influence on the American political system harms every citizen who believes in representative government as our Founding Fathers understood it.

A large share of workers' forced dues are

commandered to pay for "in-kind" support for union boss-favored candidates such as phone banks, get-out-the-vote drives, and "volunteer" campaign organizing work by union staff who remain on the union payroll.

Rutgers University economist Leo Troy, a leading authority on trade unions, estimates Big Labor spent up to \$500 million from general funds, which consist mostly of forced dues, on "in-kind" federal politics in the last presidential election cycle.

That's far more than all 1995-96 nonunion PAC and "soft money" contributions to federal candidates and national party committees combined!

(See Guest, page five)

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.

Poison Pen

by Ralph Davis
Managing Editor



Simple reaction to Elian reunion

Elian Gonzalez is back with his father.

That's the way it should be.

And as Stan Lee always wrote, 'nuff said.

Well, maybe not.

A lot was made of the fact that it took Immigration and Naturalization Service agents three minutes to leave with the boy from the time they entered the Gonzalez home.

I suppose that is meant to be some type of reassurance that the operation went smoothly, with minimal trauma.

To me, though, three minutes of having camo-clad soldiers waving automatic weapons in the house would be about 180 seconds too long.

Not that I can really blame the government for the action which was taken. There's enough blame to go around on both sides for not wrapping up this torturous episode six months ago.

Meanwhile, back in Miami, folks upset with the government's decision to forcefully reunite the child with his father are busy setting their own neighborhoods on fire. I never did understand the logic of that form of protest.

Of course, what more can you expect from people who believe a 6-year-old is better off living with distant relatives he had never before seen, rather than with his own father?

While we're on the subject of irrational behavior, now is as good a time as any to turn our attention to the recently-ended session of the state legislature.

Did Floyd County make out like bandits or what?

Over the next two years, something like \$57 million will be spent within these boundaries.

Oops ... better make that \$58 million. Prestonsburg Mayor Jerry Fannin called the other day to say that it seems another million for the city's mountaintop golf course and development project was tucked away somewhere in the reams of paper which make up the state budget.

Easy mistake. After all, what's another million?

Then again, that overlooked line-item brings the total of state spending on the development project this year to \$4 million, not counting another \$9.5 million which is going to be spent to build a road up there.

Now, this is normally where I question the spending priorities of our elected officials. I usually might ask the question, how many waterlines and sewerlines could have been laid for \$13.5 million? How many industrial spec buildings could have been constructed? How many miles of fiber optic cable could have been strung up to bring Floyd County's technological infrastructure into the 21st century?

Not that those are bad questions. To me, it's always a good idea to ask if our government is serving us properly.

But Fannin had a good answer to that line of thinking. He pointed out that industry folks who make decisions

(See Poison, page five)

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Poison

Continued from p4

about where to locate new facilities look at the surrounding community to see what types of recreational facilities are available. They want to be assured that the employees they bring into a new region will be happy living there, that the quality of life makes the grade.

In short, Fannin said, the best way to develop our area to make it attractive to outsiders is to develop it so that it is attractive to us.

And it's not like the golf course is coming at the expense of more traditional infrastructural improvements. There is, after all, a million in the budget for waterlines and somewhere in the neighborhood of \$47 million for new roads and bridges.

Is the mountaintop project worth the money being spent on it? Only time will tell.

But, after talking with Fannin about the subject, I do understand the benefits of planning community development on several levels simultaneously, rather than concentrating solely on the basics.

In ending this week, I would just like to wish Chuck Culpepper all the best with his new job at the Oregonian. Today is the Lexington Herald-Leader sports columnist's last day covering the Bluegrass State.

Seems like the Lexington paper has lost some of its best writers recently, first with Bill Bishop and now with Culpepper.

Who's gonna fill those shoes?

FOR THE RECORD

Marriage License

Arlene Falestead, 29, of Martin to James Harold Nickles, 34, of Stark.

Cindy Sargent, 39, to Randy Johnson, 42, both of Hollidayburg, Penn.

Courtney Shea Layne, 18, of Matewan, W.Va., to Tommy M. Phillips, 24, of Canada.

Stacey Michelle Hall, 20, of Drift to Anthony George Castle, 23, of Hueysville.

Kathy Jo Stumbo, 23, to Marshall Jason Taylor, 22, both of McDowell.

Tiffany Renae Thacker, 17, of Shelbyana to Mark Lindsey Wellman, 23, of Meta.

Danita Risner Rowe, 40, to Jerry Miller, 42, both of Martin.

Rosine Giselle Mackay, 20, to William Jennings Bryan Taylor, 18, both of Prestonsburg.

Jewell Dean Adams, 33, to Marty Gilliam, 26, both of Harold.

Susan B. Branham, 36, to Jesse L. Green, 20, both of Bypro.

Imogene Wells, 50 to John H. Patton, 68, both of Weeksbury.

Suits filed

Gary W. Rose vs. Robert Stephens and Gov. Paul Patton, petition for compensatory and punitive damages for wrongful dismissal.

Banker's Trust Company of California vs. Shirley Newsome, et al, petition for debt collection.

Tareta Slone vs. Clifford McCoy, petition for compensatory damages for injury incurred due to accident.

Judy Lynn Craft vs. Andy Craft, petition for dissolution of marriage.

April Wells vs. Larry Wells, petition for dissolution of marriage.

Mountain Valley Explosives vs. Steve Bentley, petition for debt collection.

West America Insurance Company, et al vs. Lavonna Meade, et al, petition for compensatory damages due to accident.

Floyd County Kentucky, et al vs. Adams Construction, petition for tax collection.

Pamela K. Watson Terry vs. Marvin Davis Watson, petition for dissolution of marriage.

Juanita Bevins vs. Dwayne Bevins, petition for child support and health care insurance.

Elizabeth A. Blevins vs. Alonzo Bradley, petition for child support and health care insurance.

Nicole U. Caudill vs. Christopher M. Caudill, petition for child support and health care insurance.

Brenda C. Owens vs. Billy J. Owens, petition for health care insurance.

Zelda F. Wallen vs. Wayne Wallen, petition for child support and health care insurance.

Molly M. Rudder vs. Kenneth Rudder, petition for health care insurance.

Bradley J. Elswick vs. Billie R. Elswick, petition for child support and health care insurance.

Ernest E. Collins vs. Thomas Gibson, petition for health care insurance.

Arlene Bentley vs. Jerry Bentley, petition for health care insurance.

April L. Adkins vs. Steven A. Adkins, petition for health care insurance.

Wanda Burke vs. Chester D. Burke, petition for health care insurance.

Jessica L. Burchett vs. Leroy Burchett, petition for health care insurance.

Betty J. Yates vs. James C. Yates, petition for health care insurance.

Karen L. Ousley vs. Kenneth Perry, petition for child support and health care insurance.

Tammy D. Scott vs. Reggie Scott, petition for health care insurance.

Melissa S. Meade vs. David S. Meade, petition for health care insurance.

Shana Mitchell vs. Orville Mitchell Jr., petition for health care insurance.

Helen Stratton vs. Danny E. Stratton, petition for health care insurance.

Tri-State Outdoor Media Group, Inc. vs. Sam an Tomio's Restaurant, petition for debt collection.

Rodney Hall vs. First Mutual Insurance Co., petition for compensation for auto damages from accident.

FirStar Bank, NA vs. Ray Moore, petition for debt collection.

District court
 Patricia Hall, 25, of Martin, public intoxication.

Kimberly R. Lafferty, 33, of Prestonsburg, fourth-degree assault - spouse abuse.

Gerald V. Frasure, 34, of Prestonsburg, fourth-degree assault.

Sammy Meade, 38, of McDowell, fourth-degree assault - spouse abuse.

Danny Bays, 53, of Whitehouse, possession of police radio.

Jeff Elswick, of Jenkins, theft by deception, dismissed.

Alonzo Bradley, 27, of Prestonsburg, disorderly conduct.

Cornelius Spears, 44, of Prestonsburg, fourth-degree assault - spouse abuse.

Ricky Tackett, 22, of Wheelwright, alcohol intoxication.

Linda Mullins, 35, of Harold, fleeing or evading a police officer, public intoxication.

Lisa Hagans, 22, of Langley, illegal transportation of alcohol beverage in dry territory.

Ricky Joe Hall, 22, of Beaver, alcohol intoxication.

Terry Sturgill, 39, of Dema, alcohol intoxication, prescription in an improper container.

Dwayne E. Bishop, 40, of Harold, alcohol intoxication.

Thomas Hicks, 19, of Hueysville, alcohol intoxication.

Jamie R. Bailey, 22, of Salyersville, facilitation of theft by unlawful taking.

Gregory Tussey, 36, of Prestonsburg, alcohol intoxication.

Reed J. Stamper, 47, of Prestonsburg, theft by unlawful taking - shoplifting.

Eldon G. Hall of Hi Hat, theft by deception.

Paul DeRossett of Prestonsburg, two counts of terroristic threatening.

Scottie Wood, 33, of Allen, trafficking in marijuana less than eight ounces.

Dolly Wright of Martin, theft by deception.

Melissa Thornsberry of Dema, fleeing or evading a police officer in the second.

Toni Wheeler, 20, of Morehead, alcohol intoxication.

Larry J. Robinette, 21 of Tram, alcohol intoxication.

Guest

And union officials recently tacitly indicated that their federal "in-kind" political spending in the current presidential election cycle may far exceed \$500 million.

Union sources confirmed to Washington Post reporter Frank Svoboda in February that the \$40 million the AFL-CIO has admitted it is spending on "in-kind" support for 2000 campaigns "does not include any money spent by the federation's 68 member unions."

The biannual revenue of highly political AFL-CIO affiliates such as the Teamsters, the United Autoworkers, the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, etc., is more than 20 times larger than the AFL-CIO umbrella organization's.

If large affiliates of the AFL-CIO spend an identical share of their revenue on "in-kind" politics (a reasonable hypothesis), then the total 2000 campaign war chest for the AFL-CIO conglomerate is more than \$900 million!

Consisting as it does primarily

of involuntary contributions siphoned off from union dues and "fees" that workers are forced under federal or state law to pay, or be fired, the union bosses' war chest is the worst form of political corruption in America.

And Big Labor's power to swing elections with forced-dues money has already been demonstrated in the Democratic presidential primaries this year.

Having anointed Vice President Al Gore as their choice for president last October, AFL-CIO bosses reportedly sent some 40 out-of-state union organizers to aid the Gore campaign in Iowa prior to the state's party caucuses January 24.

That's in addition to the in-state union apparatus, with an estimated \$3 million monthly payroll.

As Iowa AFL-CIO President Mark Smith publicly admitted with regard to the electioneering effort, "The national (AFL-CIO) ... told us not to worry about the budget. We can spend what we need to."

First in Iowa, then in the criti-

cal New Hampshire primary, the AFL-CIO political machine propelled Mr. Gore to victory; yet the vast majority of it isn't subject to campaign spending limits or even reported to the Federal Election Commission.

The House Education and the Workforce Committee's oversight and investigations panel will examine federal labor policy's role in fostering corrupt union politicking at the upcoming Capitol Hill hearing.

In recent years, more and more concerned citizens have become aware of Organized Labor's political abuse of forced union dues and frequent violation of Supreme Court decisions (won by the National Right to Work Legal Defense Foundation) barring the expenditure of objecting workers' forced "fees" for politics.

Unfortunately, current proposals by some members of Congress that purportedly address the problem of forced-dues politicking fail to acknowledge that it is Congress, by and large, that puts the money in union political operatives' hands.

Such proposals effectively constitute a "paycheck protection" form of forced unionism that supposedly regulates its evil consequences, but actually provides far less protection for inde-

pendent-minded workers than existing case law.

However, 135 House members and 24 senators are now sponsors of a genuine paycheck protection measure.

The National Right to Work Act (HR 792/S.424), authored by Rep. Bob Goodlatte (R-Va.) and Sen. Paul Coverdell (R-Ga.), would expunge all federal labor-law provisions that authorize the firing of workers for refusal to pay union tribute.

The Right to Work Bill attacks forced-dues politicking in the most effective way, to wit: making financial support for a union purely voluntary. It would not otherwise affect Organized Labor's ability to participate in politics.

Because of the forced dues-fed power of union special interests, passing the Right to Work Bill will be an uphill battle in the current Congress.

But simply by bringing it up for recorded floor votes, congressional leaders can at a minimum show they are serious about eliminating the single most corrupting influence on our electoral system.

Reed Larson is president of the 2.2 million-member National Right to Work Committee, based in Springfield, Va.



Wedding Anniversary
 Russell and Alice Shelton of McDowell, Ky. will be celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary on April

22, at Mountain Christian Academy gymnasium. Everyone is cordially invited to celebrate this special occasion with them. Starting at 1 p.m.

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OBITUARIES

Anthony Howell

Anthony Howell, 95, formerly of the Millard, area died April 21, 2000, at the Mt. View health Care Center at Elkhorn City, he was born in Pike County, Kentucky on June 23, 2000. He was a section laborer for the C&O Railroad and a member of the Temple Baptist Church of Flatwood.

He was the son of the late Kentucky Ferrell Howell and the late Tandy Howell and the husband of the late Julia Preston Howell.

Surviving is 1 daughter - Sandy Branham of Pikeville; 3 grandchildren; John Robert Branham, Julie Elizabeth Branham and Frank Allen Branham; 1 great-grandchild - John Robert Branham.

The funeral will be held Sunday, April 23, at the J.W. Call Funeral Home Chapel. Minister will be Bob Norman.

Burial will be at the Howell Family Cemetery of Island Creek. Visitation in the chapel after 6 p.m. Evening services start at 7 p.m. on Saturday.

Elsie Bolen

Elsie Bolen, 89, of Hueysville, died Thursday, April 20, 2000, at Paul B. Hall Medical Center, Paintsville, following an extended illness.

Born on May 21, 1910, in Knott County, she was the daughter of the late Eli and Mollie Conley Hicks. She was a member of the Salt Lick United Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Troy Bolen.

Survivors include two sons, Benny Bolen of Auburn, Indiana, Jackie Bolen of Garrett; four daughters, Trilvy Collins, Lillie Shepherd, Devottis Crager, and Shirley Clay, all of Hueysville; 27 grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted Sunday, April 23, at 11 a.m., at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, with Carlos Beverly and Bethel Bolen officiating.

Burial will be in the Will Terry Cemetery, at Hueysville, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Forrest B. Montgomery

Forrest B. Montgomery, 68, of White Oak, Pennsylvania, formerly of Ada, Ohio, died Thursday, April 20, 2000, at the Oakland Aspinwall Veteran's Administration Hospital in Aspinwall, Pennsylvania.

Born on August 21, 1931, in Floyd County, he was the son of the late Dayrus and Lua Hale Montgomery.

He attended the High Street Free Will Baptist Church of Ada, Ohio, and was retired from Ford Motor Company of Lima, Ohio, in 1992 after 35 years. He was a lifetime member of the Ada Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9381 of Ada, Ohio. He also was a member of the Honorary Cootie Association of the V.F.W., served in the Korean Conflict in the United States Army, and was a prisoner of war for twenty-eight months.

He received two Purple Hearts, a Silver Star, a Bronze Star, the United Nations Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Prisoner of War Medal.

He was also a member of the U.A.W., Local 1219 of Lima, Ohio; a member of the Kenton Elks Lodge No. 157 of Kenton, Ohio; a member of the Fraternal Order of Police in Lima, Ohio; a member of the American Legion Post No. 185 of Ada, Ohio, and a member of the Versailles American Legion Post in Versailles, Pennsylvania.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Barbara Hall.

Survivors include two sons, Forrest Steve Montgomery of Rockford, Illinois, Roy Keith Montgomery of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; one brother, Roy Montgomery, and two sisters, Dorcus Music and Thelma Pruitt, all of Prestonsburg; three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted Tuesday, April 25, at 10 a.m., at the Hanson-Neely Funeral Home, Ada, Ohio, with Rev. James Webb officiating.

Graveside Military services will be conducted by the Ada V.F.W. Post No. 9381, and burial will be in the Preston Cemetery, Alger, Ohio, under the direction of Hanson-Neely Funeral Home.

Kathleen

Howell

Kathleen howell, 57 of Wayland, died Friday, April 21, 2000, at Our Lady of the Way Hospital following an extended illness. She was born on March 13, 1943 in Knott County. She was the daughter of the late Vertis and Ethel Sparkman Thornsberry. She was a homemaker.

Survivors included her husband Corbett Howell; 4 sons - Robbie Chaffins, Paintsville; Roby Chaffins, Wayland; Todd Chaffins, Louisville; Corbett Darron Howell, Wayland; 3 daughters - Peggy Wright, Wayland; Beverly Samons, Martin; Patricia Bode, Florida; 1 brother - Charles Thornsberry, Mousie; 2 sisters - Greta Fraley, Mousie; Yvonne Cox, Garrett; 18 grandchildren.

The funeral services will be conducted on Monday, April 24, 2000 at 2 p.m. at the Nelson Frazier Funeral Home with Jimmy Hall and others. Burial will be in the Chaffins Cemetery at Mousie, Kentucky under the direction of the Nelson Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation will be at the Nelson Frazier Funeral Home after 5 p.m. Saturday.

Vinettie Martin

Vinettie Martin, 77, of Beaver, died Thursday, April 20, 2000, at the Appalachian Regional Hospital in Hazard.

She was born on September 23, 1922, and was the daughter of the late Milford and Minnie Johnson. She was a member of the Zion Old Regular Baptist Church in Grethel.

She is survived by her husband, Joe Martin.

Other survivors include eight sons, Earl Martin of Albion, Michigan, Ballard Martin of Teaberry, Claude Martin of Jeffersonville, Kendrick Martin of Albion, Michigan, Joey Martin of Teaberry, Stallard Martin of Van Lear, Otis Martin of Teaberry, and Randy Martin of Beaver; two daughters, Lois Martin of Beaver and Beatrice Hackworth of Jeffersonville; one brother, Millard Johnson of Teaberry; four sisters, Dolly Akers and Dillie Hamilton, both of Teaberry, Lizzie Hamilton of Beaver, and Hamey Hamilton of Allen; 24 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren, 2 step-grandchildren and 4 great-step-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted Sunday, April 23, at 10 a.m., at the Zion Old Regular Baptist Church in Grethel, with Old Regular Baptist ministers officiating.

Burial will be in the Hamilton family cemetery in Teaberry, under the direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

Mary Elizabeth Woods

Mary Elizabeth Woods, 87, of Pikeville, passed away Friday, April 21, 2000, at the Pikeville Methodist Hospital. She was born October 1, 1912, in Dyer, Tennessee and was of the Baptist Faith.

She is survived by two sons - Raymond Bruce Clifton of Portageville, Mo. and Marion Clifton of Virgie; 12 grandchildren, a host of great-grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her husband Richard Woods, 2 sons -

Lawrence and Danil Clifton and 1 daughter, Betsy Clifton.

Funeral services will be held Monday, April 24, 2000 at 11 a.m. at the R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

Ministers will be Tony Bentley, Carson Wright, James Tackett and others. Visitation will be Saturday, April 22, 2000, after 6 p.m. at the Virgie Chapel. Burial will proceed to the Harrison Newsome

Word for the Week

by Dr. Dennis J. Prutow
Sterling Kansas

Hope confirmed...

God has a strange way of confirming hope within us. It is through trials and tribulation. God pushes us through knotholes. We squeeze through difficult jobs. We struggle through troublesome relationships. We wrestle with cranky kids. Storm clouds regularly gather over us. The future looks bleak. There is little hope. The Bible puts the silver lining of hope around the black clouds of despair.

"And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; and perseverance, proves character; and proven character, hope; and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us" (Romans 5:3-5).

We wonder if God has given us faith by the power of the Holy Spirit residing in us. How do we know? When we push through our trials, the difficulty produces perseverance. As we persist in our work or in overcoming adversity,

(See Word, page seven)

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Calendar items will be printed as space permits

Free lunch for seniors

Free lunches for senior citizens are planned for April 28 at the Auxier Lifetime Learning Center (Auxier School). The first lunch will feature a program by Christian Appalachian Project and the second by Floyd County Extension Service. Seating is limited to the first 50 persons who call 886-0709 for reservations.

Alice Lloyd College offers one stop program

The Kentucky Department for Employment Services and Alice Lloyd College have joined in helping both citizens of Kentucky and students of ALC find jobs, write resumes, and provide information on labor markets, career options, education and training programs, and much more. There are currently about 20 One Stop Program Offices statewide. The assistance received is free of charge and more information may be obtained through the Alice Lloyd College Career Development Office. Both the One Stop Program Office and the Career Development Office are located on the second floor of the Student Center on the campus of ALC. Call the ALC Career Development Office at 606/368-6136, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Support for former addicts

As recovering addicts, we have found it is possible to live without the use of drugs with the help of Narcotics Anonymous. If you are still using and can't stop, we can help. Give yourself a break. Call 886-6760, 886-9167 or 1-888-987-7700 for more information.

Martin High alumni

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

You or someone you know can't stop drinking

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

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

Depressed Anonymous

Are you feeling lonely, hopeless and trapped in a self-constructed prison and can't overcome it or get out? This support group is not for those people who need it but for those people who want it. We understand. For more information, call: Randall, 886-0483; Jim, 886-3027; Jane, 886-8219; Sue, 789-8712.

G.E.D. classes

Linda Bailey of the David School will teach GED classes at the James A. Duff Family Resource Center each Thursday from 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Classes are free. If you need more information, call Judy Handshoe, at 358-9878.

SF Youth Service Center

Walking track is open to the general public, 7 a.m. until 5 p.m. at South Floyd Youth Service Center. The Center is sponsoring several guest presentations. Contact the center for time and subjects. The center has a One-stop Career Station satellite. This is available to the community as well as to the students. Feel free to stop in Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Anyone interested in Adult Education contact the center.

The South Floyd Youth Services Center is located on South Floyd's campus in room 232. For more information, contact Keith Smallwood or Mable Hall 606/452-9600, ext. 242 or ext. 243.

Pikeville Methodist Hospital

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.

May 22—The Colorectal Cancer Support Group will meet at 6:30 p.m. at Pikeville United Methodist Church's fellowship hall. For more information, call 437-3500, ext. 3822.

May 27—Survivors of Suicide support group will meet at the Flat Iron Building, located on Humble Boulevard, at 6 p.m. For more information, call 437-3963.

May 29—The Diabetes Support Group will meet at 6 p.m. at the PMH Education Center, located in the Wallen & Cornette Building. For more information, call the diabetic educator at 437-3513.

Super Pantry offered

A Super Pantry for low-income persons is being held at the Auxier Lifetime Learning Center on Thursdays through 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.

"Start Smart"

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

(See Regional, page seven)

In Memory of James (Jim Ed) Allen

Aug. 31, 1948 - April 23, 1998

Should you go first and we remain

To walk the road alone,
We'll live in memory's garden of happy days we've known.

In spring we'll wait for roses red,
When fades the lilacs blue,
In early autumn when brown leaves fall, We'll catch a glimpse of you.

Should you go first and we remain,

For battles to be fought,
Each thing you've touched along the way,
Will be a hallowed spot.
We'll hear your voice,
We'll see your smile,
Though blindly we may grope,
The memory of your helping hand will buoy us on with hope.

Should you go first and we remain to finish with a scroll, no lengthening shadows will creep in,



To make this life seem droll,
We've had a lot of happiness;
We've had our cup of joy,
And memory is one gift of God,
That death will not destroy.

Should you go first and we remain,
One thing we'd have you do;
Walk slowly down that long, long road,
For soon we'll follow you.
We want to know each step you take
That we may walk the same,
For somewhere down that long, long road you'll hear us call you name.

See you soon; We love you.

Shawn, Phil, Jeff, Scott and Erelene

Saint James Episcopal Church

The Reverend Johnnie E. Ross, Rector
554 University Drive, Prestonsburg, KY 41653
606/886-8046 (church) 886-9820 (rector)

Holy Week Worship Schedule

Palm Sunday	April 16, 2000	11 AM
Wednesday Services (Mt. Tabor - Liturgy of the Hours - Sister Judy Yunker, OSB)	April 19, 2000	6:30 PM
Maundy Thursday (Supper & The Holy Eucharist)	April 20, 2000	6:00 PM
Good Friday, The Burial of our Lord	April 21, 2000	7:00 PM
The Great Easter Vigil	April 22, 2000	7:00 PM
The Feast of the Resurrection	April 23, 2000	11:00 AM

Church's Office Hours: M, W, & F 10:00 AM. - 3:00 PM



REGIONAL OBITUARIES

Pike County

Chris Hall, 89, a resident at the Mingo Manor Nursing Home, Williamson, West Virginia, died Monday, April 17, at Williamson Memorial Hospital. Private services were held and arrangements were under the direction of Weaver Mortuary of Williamson.

Alpha Fields, 95, of Phelps, died Tuesday, April 18, at the South Williamson Appalachian Regional Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Friday, April 21, under the direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

Harrison Dempsey, 80, of

Morrice, Michigan, died Tuesday, April 11, at Memorial Healthcare Center in Michigan. He is survived by his wife, Charlene Dotson Dempsey. Funeral services were conducted Friday, April 14, under the direction of Watkins Brothers Funeral Home.

Vilice Mullins, 76, of Dorton, died Tuesday, April 18, at his home. Funeral services were conducted Friday, April 21, under the direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

Buford Lonnie Wood, 74, of Pikeville, died Tuesday, April 18. He is survived by his wife, Virginia Burris Wood. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, April 21, under

the direction of Thacker Memorial Funeral Home.

DeAnna Faith Fronto, infant daughter of Deano Adam and Jackie Bush Fronto of Pikeville, was stillborn Wednesday, April 19, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. Graveside services were conducted Friday, April 21, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Gary Richard Hylton, 49, of Ashcamp, died Tuesday, April 18, on Elkhorn Creek, the result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, April 22, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home of Elkhorn City.

Regional

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.

Mission statement

The SBDM council of Clark Elementary School accept that all children can learn. We endeavor to make our school the focus of our community and to make our children the focus of our school. Through nurturing love of learning and respect for individuals, we hope to prepare our students to become contributing members for the community.

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.

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.

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.

Social Security rep on Mud Creek

A Social Security representative will be at the Mud Creek Clinic, on KY 979 at Grethel, every Tuesday, April through June to assist people in filing claims for Social Security retirement, disability Social Security and survivors benefits.

People can also apply for Supplemental Security Income, Black Lung and a Social Security number. The representative will also assist in filing appeals and answering questions.

Clark Family Resource Center

We are now scheduling appointments for physicals for children entering kindergarten in the next school year. Also, we have appointments available for 5th grade students entering 6th grade. Call the center at 886-0815 for more information.

Word

Continued from p6

God proves the character of our faith. There is actual fruit in our lives. Hope emerges. God is with us. We know the embrace of God's love in the most trying of circumstances.

The storms of life give way to the sunshine of grace and the smile of God's love. We bask in its warmth and give thanks for tribulation. God uses it for our growth.

Actor Brings historical figure alive

Senior travelers from Northern Kentucky enjoyed Mel Hanka's portrayal of Simon Kenton Tuesday evening at the Jenny Wiley Lodge. Hanka is part of a small group that travels the Commonwealth portraying Kentucky's historical figures. (photo by Randell Reno)

by Randell Reno
Staff Writer

With agonizingly slow, almost painful steps, aided by a long stick he moved. First his stick, then two small steps, the stick, then two more small steps led the aged Simon Kenton across the floor of the Jenny Wiley Lodge, where a large chair sat regally upon a buffalo hide.

Awaiting the senior citizen was a drink on a

small ancient table complete with a lit oil lamp, a box of snuff, and a decrepit old newspaper.

Gradually he made his way at length across the room, maybe 10 feet from his entrance. Finally arriving in front of the chair, Kenton shook loose his coat, threw it upon the back of the chair and ordered it to stay.

He deliberately straightened the tails of his period clothing, then flopped into the chair. He then grabbed his feigned snuffbox, sniffed it and put some between his gums and from there the story of one of the state's historical figures began.

Mel Hanka's dialect could trigger memories of grandparents and great grandparents from not long ago. Describing his jealous fight with Willie Leachman, Hanka said "All human mercy and sanity, hit left me."

Speaking with a southern tongue flavored with Irish tones, he played Kenton. Familiar sounds of the Appalachian accent flowed in his words of "hit, bufflers, bars, and Bayvers."

Hanka's portrayal gave Kenton a cantankerous personality and an almost lazy disposition because of his resistance to farmwork.

Feigning the ability to read in his act, Hanka said that Kenton could not read but in fact memorized what was read to him. Therefore he would pretend to read newspapers or other written materials. Evidence exists that Kenton couldn't sign his name until he was 63, said Hanka.

Kenton and his companions are said to have been the first to plant corn in the state by Hanka, effectively bring agriculture to the state.

His ornery characterization of Kenton told of his family, his loss of land, his friendship with Daniel Boone, and how he died.

The end of the exhibition saw the captive audience of northern Kentucky senior citizens from Newport, Covington, Erlanger and the surrounding suburban area applaud Hanka. Hanka's modeling of Kenton fascinated the group many of whom were from Kenton County or nearby.

Hanka is one of many Kentucky Chautauqua actors that travel throughout the state. His efforts are funded by the Kentucky Humanities Council.

For information on Simon Kenton please visit the local library.

The Kentucky Humanities Council can be reached at 606-257-5932 or at 206 East Maxwell Street, Lexington, KY 40508-2613. you may also visit them on the web at www.uky.edu/~vgsmit00/khc/khc.htm.

Nominating committee accepting applications

FRANKFORT — Nominations to university boards of regents and trustees and other higher education boards are being accepted.

The Postsecondary Education Nominating Committee will consider the following vacancies the last week in May:

- one position on each of the state's regional universities, Eastern Kentucky University, Kentucky State University, Morehead State University, Murray State University, Northern Kentucky State University, Western Kentucky University;
- one position on the University

- of Kentucky Board of Trustees;
- three positions on the University of Louisville Board of Trustees;

- one position on the Kentucky Community and Technical College System Board of Regents;
- two positions on the Higher Education Student Loan Corporation Board of Directors; and

- one position on the Higher Education Assistance Authority Board of Directors created by a resignation.

If you have applied for one of these positions during the Patton

Administration, you are not required to reapply.

However, you are encouraged to submit a new application through the Internet at this address: <http://www.state.ky.us/agencies/gov/boards.htm>. This form will provide comprehensive and uniform information to the Committee.

If you do not have access to the Internet, you may request a form by contacting Bill Beam Jr., director of Boards and Commissions at 502/564-2611. Completed forms must be received by May 16.

tion.

GED Classes: Fridays, 8 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Gala planned

The Pike County Domestic Violence Board announces the spring Gala 2000 "Hope Springs Eternal" and silent auction on Friday, April 21, at 7 p.m., at the Mark II in Pikeville.

Tickets are available at the Pike Chamber of Commerce, and Especially Yours on Second Street in Pikeville.

For more information, contact the Pike County Chamber of Commerce

Office at 432-5504.

All proceeds benefit victims of domestic violence.

Pikeville High School announces 85th reunion

The Pikeville High School Alumni Board has announced "Celebration 2000," the 85th Reunion for PHS Alumni and Friends. The 85th Reunion will be held on July 28-30, at Pikeville High School. The centerpiece of Celebration 2000 will be a musical depiction of the changes over the decades at PHS. If you are interested

in working in this musical production, contact Modena Sallee, Pikeville High School, 120 Championship Dr., Pikeville, KY 41501 or call 606/432-0185 and ask for Sandra Branham. Assistance in developing sets/costumes/music and acting parts is needed.

Computer classes offered

The Adams Middle School Youth Services Center and Clark Family Resource Center are offering free computer classes for any parent or community member who would be interested in attending. Call 886-9812 for more information.

Big Sandy Health Care, Inc. is pleased to announce**Dr. Tamara Lynne Knox, Psy.D.**

has joined the staff as a Licensed Psychologist

She is currently accepting new clients at the Mud Creek Clinic

To Schedule an appointment with Dr. Knox, call 587-2200 or 886-1242

BIG SANDY HEALTH CARE

Mud Creek Clinic
587-2200 or 886-1242

A proud tradition of providing access to quality health care.



**Oleika Trail 70's
&
Sons of The Desert**
29th Annual
**Shrine
Circus**
Saturday, May 6, 2000

**Prestonsburg High School
Field House**

\$6.00 advance sale tickets • \$7.00 at the door

Call 886-3083, 886-8765 or 377-6013

Proceeds from this Shrine Circus benefit Oleika Shrine Temple operations only.

PRIDE gains international recognition



LEXINGTON - The PRIDE environmental cleanup program, already a finalist for the coveted Silver Anvil award from the Public Relations Society of America, has received a Summit Creative Award in the "Public Service/Political" category.

Gaining national recognition from PRSA for the program's public education and community relations components, PRIDE is now being recognized internationally for its creative and multimedia component.

The bronze award-winning video entry was taped and edited by Video Editing Services, a video production company in Lexington.

"This video enabled us to have a lot of fun while working for a program that has both educational and environmental importance for Kentucky," said Arthur Rouse, president of VES.

The video depicts a teenage girl being led on an area tour by an animated frog, PRIDE mascot J. Waterford. The purpose is to highlight regional environmental problems and potential solutions. VES taped the live shots on location throughout Eastern Kentucky. VanHook Studios, California-based animators, contributed the shots of J.

Waterford. The two were merged at VES.

Also featured in the video were the Kentucky Opry Junior Pros, a musical group in eastern Kentucky. The group recorded an original song for the video at the Mountain Arts Center in Prestonsburg.

"The video component of PRIDE was an important part of the educational program for the 40 counties throughout eastern and southern Kentucky that PRIDE serves," said Ellen Gregory of Preston and Osborne, who served as the campaign's project manager.

"Of all the educational materials developed, the video enabled us to get the children's attention in a more meaningful way than simply having teachers tell them about the program."

PRIDE stands for "Personal Responsibility in a Desirable Environment." The three-year-old program was the collective product of U.S. Congressman Harold "Hal" Rogers and Kentucky's Natural Resources Secretary, Gen. James Bickford.

"This past year, PRIDE has shifted its primary focus to education," said Jeff Speaks, the organization's

executive director. "We feel this is where the program can have the greatest impact, and the video helps us to reach children of all ages in a way nothing else could."

In addition, PRIDE is encouraging individual schools to begin PRIDE clubs as a way to get children and volunteers involved on a local level.

The annual Summit Creative Awards recognize exceptional work for advertising agencies, video production companies, multimedia firms and other creative groups with annual billings of \$15 million or less. It is the only opportunity such firms have to compete on an international level. Executives from Ogilvy Interactive, The Marketing Deli and Saatchi & Saatchi judged this year's competition of more than 3,000 entries for 16 creative categories.

Preston and Osborne is a full-service public relations and marketing company based in Lexington. It has served as the communications consultant for the PRIDE program since its inception.

In addition to its headquarters in Lexington, the company also has offices in Nashville, Tennessee, and Tallahassee, Florida.

Recktenwald

said. The cities that had water and sewer plants made advances to the districts.

Unlike most of areas in the state, Recktenwald said the Big Sandy region has traditionally worked together beginning with the Big Sandy Council. Big Sandy ADD took those reigns, he said, and has continued the effort.

Although he said local leaders have not always agreed, friends

and enemies have worked together for the best.

That cooperation has to do with the quality of leadership, he said.

"By and large, the leaders have put aside their personal differences," Recktenwald said. It was this willingness to work together that has made the growth of the region possible.

The federal prison in Martin County is evidence of that cooperation, he said. With Pike and

Magoffin counties so far away and having the least to gain, they still want to be a part of it, he said.

Roger Recktenwald came to eastern Kentucky a foreigner. But he found many of the stereotypes about the region were false.

"The thing that has always intrigued me," he said, "with all the stereotypes, and I have visited every area, I never felt excluded." It was recently he was told he "doesn't talk like us."

"People treat you like they want to be treated. Outsiders are evil, I have never encountered that," he said.

Appalachia has gained a reputation for not being aggressive, not as good and not as smart, he said. Once people begin to believe the stereotype, they take on those characteristics.

"If we consistently push this stuff, then it starts putting you down," he said.

Sykes Enterprises of Pikeville shattered many of those beliefs, Recktenwald said. The company assumed the worst when coming into the area. They figured because they were building in Appalachia they would have to start their training with basic computer skills but when they opened "people walked through the door qualified," he said.

"If people aren't aware of their strengths, they will never change," said Recktenwald but added the region has changed.

The regional political arena has seen and used BSADD as a source for improving the area, said the exiting director.

"The area perceives it as a forum or a place to get ideas," he said.

"People show up at these meetings to get things done," he said.

Continued from p1

"And we have got a strong staff that is dedicated to seeing development in the area."

Under Recktenwald, the ADD has headed up or contributed to many community development projects, including improving the livability of communities through water and sewer projects, the cut-thru project in Salyersville, the Prestonsburg golf course and the construction of a new furniture factory in Pikeville.

"I see things going on right now and I am excited about the possibilities," said Recktenwald, who said the next generation of workers will take the region to a new level with their grasp of the e-commerce industry.

Recktenwald leaves the ADD for a new job in the Governor's office in Frankfort. His many traveled miles in the Big Sandy region will be magnified in his new position, as he will lead attempts to link water districts and sewer systems together across the Commonwealth.

Floyd, Johnson, and Magoffin counties have set a precedent for good water and sewer service, he said. Floyd County is in front of the curve, he said.

Following the governor's goal of having quality water in every Kentucky home by 2020, the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority will take the area's examples and present them to county and city governments across the state.

Recktenwald said although he has been the figurehead of the Big Sandy Area Development District for years he has done nothing on his own.

"Everybody is part of the process," he said.

It is this team atmosphere he hopes to take with him to the KIA.

National Ground Water Awareness Week celebrates valuable, plentiful resource

WESTERVILLE, OH — During May 7-13, National Ground Water Awareness Week 2000, the National Ground Water Association (NGWA) is asking people to consider that a vast supply of high quality water may lie in the ground beneath their feet.

Ground water is one of Earth's most precious natural resources. It is an ample and often underutilized source of fresh water, and NGWA encourages consumers to learn more about ground water and its role in their everyday lives.

"Ground water is one of our nation's, and the world's, most valuable natural resources," said Robert W. Reichart, president of the NGWA Board of Directors. "It is important that we all realize the crucial role it will continue to play in human water supply if we carefully manage and protect it."

Ground Water Facts

Ground water, the water that soaks into the soil from precipitation and moves downward to fill cracks and other openings in beds of rocks and sand, makes up about 90 percent of the fresh water on earth, not including polar ice caps.

Aquifers are underground layers of porous natural material that contain and easily transmit ground water. Water often moves from the ground into stream channels, providing a significant portion of the flow of many streams.

Through about 15.9 million wells, the U.S. withdraws an estimated 76.4 billion gallons of ground water each day, according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS).

Ground water makes up about 40 percent of the U.S. public water supply. About 52 percent of the U.S. population depend on ground water for its drinking water supply, either from public or private wells.

Irrigation, however, accounts for the largest use of ground water in the U.S.-about 49 billion gallons are used for agricultural irrigation daily, according to USGS figures.

Ground Water as Drinking Water

In many cases, private water wells tapping ground water resources can provide the highest quality water available to homeowners and businesses. Yet many people do not take this into consideration when making decisions that involve their own water supply, such as choosing a home or taking a stand on local water supply regulations.

According to a 1998 independent market survey sponsored by NGWA, 81 percent of private water well owners preferred receiving their drinking water from their own well, and 84 percent said private wells were their least expensive drinking water option.

In addition to often being the most cost-effective water supply, private water wells put the control of water quality directly into the hands of the owner. They have the ability to ensure the quality of their own water by protecting it from contaminants and hiring trained professionals to conduct regular maintenance checks and bacterial tests.

The National Well Owners Association Web site-www.wellowner.org-offers valuable, free information relating to owning a private water well, including:

- tips for developing a private water supply
- a well inspection checklist
- tips for finding qualified contractors
- facts about ground water.

A proposed bill currently before Congress would provide financial assistance to low- and moderate-income individuals seeking to install, refurbish or service individually owned household well systems.

For more information on this bill, the Affordable Drinking Water Act of 2000, or to lend your support, visit the NGWA Web site at <http://www.ngwa.org/pubaff/legis.html>.

NGWA is a not-for-profit, 16,000-member international organization dedicated to providing and protecting the world's ground water resources.

MDA seeks volunteer summer camp counselors

The Muscular Dystrophy Association is seeking applications from people who would like to volunteer to spend a week as counselors at the MDA summer camp in Hardinsburg.

Volunteers will act as companions to campers (ages 6-21) with neuromuscular diseases during the camp session, May 27-June 3.

Counselors must be at least 16 years old and able to lift a child. They will be called upon to push wheelchairs and assist with grooming, dressing, and feeding, plus helping kids participate in activities that come with summer camp, including swimming, horseback riding, arts and crafts, and canoeing.

"Camp is the highlight of the summer for the campers and volunteers. It's one week of the year when youngsters with muscle-wasting disorders are able to fully participate in a wide range of group outdoor activities that are tailored for their limited mobility," says Denise Durel, MDA

Regional Director.

"MDA summer camp has a relaxed atmosphere which allows campers to develop self-confidence and form lifelong friendships."

More than 4,000 campers are expected to attend MDA camps this year. With the help of one-on-one volunteers, campers will enjoy a wide range of sports, recreation and nature activities.

MDA is a national voluntary health agency dedicated to finding treatments and cures for neuromuscular diseases affecting more than a million Americans. The association receives no governmental grants, nor does it seek fees from the families it serves.

For details or to volunteer, call the MDA offices in Louisville at 502/585-4924, Lexington at 606/299-6760 or MDA national headquarters at 800-572-1717.

Information about MDA programs and research advances is also available on-line at www.mdausa.org.

Jefferson, Hazard students to serve on KCTCS board

LEXINGTON — Students in the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) have elected their representatives to the Board of Regents for the 2000-2001 academic year.

The 14-member Board of Regents includes eight regents appointed by the governor and six elected to represent students, faculty and staff. The faculty and staff regents will be elected soon for three-year terms.

The recently elected student regents, Donald Shuck of Jefferson Technical College and Tammy Stamper of Hazard Community College, were chosen by students from across the system. They will serve for one year on the KCTCS Board of Regents, which sets policy for Kentucky's system of two-year community and technical colleges.

"Our student members provide valuable insight on the Board of

Regents," said Martha C. Johnson, a Northern Kentucky resident who serves as board chair. "They keep us focused on what is truly important - ensuring the success of students. We look forward to working with Donald and Tammy over the coming year."

Shuck replaces KCTCS student regent Latasha Dobbs of Somerset Technical College. Shuck, a native of Oldham County, is studying machine tool technology at

Jefferson Technical College.

"I want to be a strong voice for the students and provide positive input to the board and all technical college students," Shuck said. "As the student representative, I want to ensure that the future technical colleges are in good shape and provide a foundation on which to build a strong workforce for the Commonwealth."

Stamper will replace Tom Underwood of Prestonsburg Community College on the board. At Hazard Community College, Stamper is taking courses toward her goal of receiving a bachelor's degree in education. She is president of the Kentucky Education Association Student Program and a member of the Kentucky all-academic team. Stamper is secretary of Phi Theta Kappa.

"I plan on being an active student representative, working hard to make our system a more effective one," Stamper said. "I believe in the vision for KCTCS to create, by the year 2020, a comprehensive community and technical college system recognized as the nation's best. I want to be a part of the team that works to ensure the vision will become a reality."

"Having student representatives on the Board of Regents provides inclusion of their perspectives on topics of policy and governance," said Dr. Michael B. McCall, KCTCS president. "Also, it gives students insight into the rationale of board decisions."



Workers prepare to launch the latest boat, the Lucky Lucy, to the growing list that are docked at the Jenny Wiley Boat Dock. (photo by Willie Elliott)

'Faces of Reform' to tour state

A photographic exhibit celebrating the 10th anniversary of the passage of the Kentucky Education Reform Act is touring the state.

"Faces of Reform: 1990-2000" features photographs by Rick McComb, the Department of Education's official photographer, and related narrative. The exhibit was unveiled at the 10th-year anniversary celebration at the Kentucky History Center in Frankfort on April 11.

- The dates and locations of the traveling exhibit are:
- April 20 - May 1: Western Kentucky University Library
 - May 2 - May 22: Barren River State Resort Park
 - May 22 - June 2: Dale Hollow State Park
 - June 2 - June 16: Lake Cumberland State Resort Park
 - June 19 - June 30: Murray State University
 - June 30 - July 14: Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park
 - July 17 - July 28: Eastern Kentucky University Library
 - July 31 - August 16: Gheens Professional Development Academy, Louisville
 - Aug. 17 - Aug. 27: Kentucky State Fair
 - Sept. 4 - Sept. 14: University of Kentucky Library
 - Sept. 15: Academic Showcase, Lexington
 - Sept. 18 - Sept. 29: Kenton County Public Library
 - Oct. 2 - Oct. 13: Natural Bridge State Resort Park

FLOYD COUNTY Sports



Feature:

Nine is Fine

Track and Speed • B6



Raiders back on winning track

by Karen Joseph
Sports Writer

Things have not gone South Floyd's way this season so far on the baseball diamond. But when they traveled to Whitesburg on Thursday evening, according to Coach Barry Hall, they looked like a different team.

"We hit the ball a lot better and committed only one error. And that error was questionable. They are starting to come together as a team," said the head coach.

The Raiders were a little late in scoring but had a big seventh inning, scoring four runs to get the win.

Joe Skeans allowed only five hits. Skeans walked three and racked up six Ks, as he went the distance for the Raiders. South Floyd left

nine runners stranded.

Ryan Shannon got the game started with a single. Michael Hall followed with a single, but was picked off of first by the pitcher for the first

This gave the Raiders a early 1-0 lead.

The Yellow Jackets put two runners on with two outs, but Skeans fanned the next batter for the third out and got himself out of the inning.

Raiders put three men on base but failed to score.

The Yellow Jackets, with two outs put a runner on to leave him on base when Skeans fanned the next batter.

In the fourth, the Raiders had one hit by Kyle Tackett, but failed to score when the next three batters made three outs. Whitesburg put one runner on base, but they too failed to score.

South Floyd got things going again in the top of the fifth. Ryan Shannon started the inning with a pop-out to the third baseman. Brown walked Michael Hall and Joe Skeans followed with a single. B. Hall then hit what would have been a double, but was thrown out at second. But Hall and Skeans both scored to give the

"We hit the ball a lot better and committed only one error. And that error was questionable. They are starting to come together as a team,"

out. Shannon had stolen second base and went to third base on Hall's single. Shannon scored when Joe Skeans hit back to the pitcher and the pitcher went to first for the fielder's choice.

The Raiders failed to get anything going in the second inning. It was three up and three down. The same held true for Whitesburg.

In the third inning, with two outs, the

(See RAIDERS, page two)

Follow these 10 tips for boaters

Spring is here — the perfect season to get your boat ready for that first big day on the water. To prepare your boat, Progressive Watercraft Insurance, one of the largest boat insurance companies in the country, recommends the following (be sure to refer to your Owner's Manual for specific maintenance instructions):

1. Change the engine oil and spark plugs. Many boat manufacturers recommend that you change the engine oil and filter twice a year — prior to storage and in the spring. During storage, the oil can separate causing a condensation buildup that may harm your engine.

While you're there, replace the spark plugs. Be sure to set the gaps to the recommended manufacturer's setting using a gap setting tool.

2. Prepare the outdrive. The outdrive has many parts that need your attention. Check or change the oil in the gear housing, inspect the seals for signs of deterioration, check the power steering oil level and grease the entire drive.

3. Check the battery. Clean the cables and terminals with a wire brush and reconnect. Depending on your battery, you may have to fill the cells with distilled water.

4. Flush the cooling system. If you drained the cooling system and filled it with a mixture of antifreeze and water to prevent freezing during storage, you need to flush it and replace with a proper coolant.

Be sure to check for cracks in all hoses and replace if necessary.

5. Check the fuel system. Replace the fuel filter and examine the fuel lines for cracks and make sure they are connected and supported with approved clips and straps. You should also inspect fuel tanks and pumps

(See BOATERS, page two)

— Howell has had 16 K's in last two games —

The Lady Rebels have been playing very good softball lately and are in the running for the district title this year. They defeated the Millard Mustangs and will face Magoffin County on Wednesday. (photo by Ed Taylor)



Shanna Howell continues to roll for Allen Central

by Karen Joseph
Sports Writer

The Allen Central Lady Rebels are playing very tough softball lately. They lost a game on Saturday to Elkhorn City, by a score of 2-0, but threatened three

Shanna Howell



In the first inning, the Lady Rebels had a little trouble hitting the ball. They actually hit the ball, but they hit it straight to the opposing team. Howell walked the first batter, but got the next three batters to go down swinging.

In the second inning, things went different for Allen Central. Shannon Sizemore led off with a single. The next batter hit to the pitcher for the first out. Sizemore stole second and third base and came home when Barb Prater walked. Tiffany Brown then singled. The next two batters were out, but not before Barb Prater came home to give the Lady Rebels a 2 - 0 lead.

Batting woes continued for the Lady Mustangs in the second inning. Howell walked one, but struck out three batters to end the inning.

In the third inning, the Lady Rebels struck again. Terri Mullins led off with a triple and scored when Jennifer Risner walked. Risner stole second and

third base and scored when Shanna Howell hit a sacrifice for the first out. The next two batters were out, but the Lady Rebels had extended their lead to four

(See LADY REBELS, page two)

Allen Central racks up 15 hits in win over Prestonsburg

by Karen Joseph
Sports Writer

In was a wonderful afternoon for baseball on Thursday evening when the Allen Central Runnin' Rebels traveled to Archer Park to take on the Prestonsburg Blackcats.

This was a big district match-up. This was the first meeting between these two teams this season and it was the Allen Central Runnin' Rebels, behind some very impressive pitching by Henry Napier, coming away with the win by a score of 13-2.

Hank Mullins suffered the loss for the Blackcats.

The Rebels had a very good day as far as hitting and committed no errors. Prestonsburg struggled at the plate. Their first hit didn't come until the fifth inning. The Blackcats left five runners stranded and Allen Central left only four runners stranded.

Josh Yates got things going for the Rebels when he drove the ball to left field for a double. Josh Howell followed with a single and Brandon Sizemore smacked one to left field to score Yates and give the Rebels a 1-0 lead with no outs.

Keith Crum hit the ball to right field, but was thrown out at the first base for the first out. Patrick Martin then hit a long ball to left field to bring McKinney home.

Timmy Davis kept the Rebel attack going by hitting the ball to right field. Jeremy Hayes got an RBI when he singled to left field and Brandon Sizemore came home. Patrick Martin was thrown out at third when he attempted a steal and Henry Napier grounded out to third base to end the inning for the Rebels. But before the inning was finished, the Rebels had

(See REBELS, page two)

Henry Napier had no-hitter going until fifth inning



Joey Willis plays first base for the Prestonsburg Blackcats. The Allen Central Rebels defeated the Prestonsburg Blackcats on Thursday evening 13-2. The next game for the Blackcats will be on Tuesday when they take on the South Floyd Raiders. (photo by Karen Joseph)

THE SCOREBOARD

■ Softball

Fleming-Neon 9, Elkhorn City 7
 Shelby Valley 1, Johnson Central 0
 Pikeville 9, Pike Central 0
 Allen Central 18, Millard 4

■ Baseball

Allen Central 13, Prestonsburg 2
 South Floyd 7, Whitesburg 3

Games on tap

■ Softball

Mon., April 24, 2000
 Knott County @ Allen Central
 Magoffin County @ South Floyd

Tues., April 25, 2000
 South Floyd @ Prestonsburg

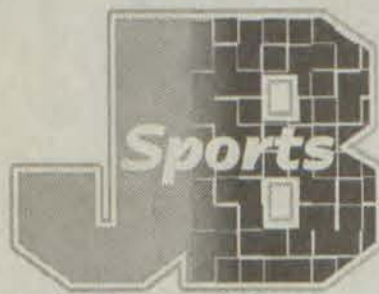
Wed., April 26, 2000
 Allen Central @ Magoffin County
 Betsy Layne @ Prestonsburg

■ Baseball

Mon., April 24, 2000
 Elkhorn City @ Betsy Layne

Tues., April 25, 2000
 Betsy Layne @ Pike Central
 South Floyd @ Prestonsburg

Will the UK connection help or hinder Ford at Eastern Kentucky?



by Jason Blanton

New Eastern Kentucky University basketball coach Travis Ford will probably just rent a house during his tenure with the Colonels. Why buy a house? Everyone knows that it is always more difficult to sell a home than it is to buy one. And Ford will probably not be in Richmond but a handful of years. Ford has always been nice to me. From his playing days at Madisonville to his stint with the University of Kentucky to his time as head coach at Campbellsville University. I bet if Ford wasn't a coach then he would probably be in the 'sell-

ing' game. I can picture him trying to sell me that 1969 Chevy that the little old lady just drove once a week to church on Sunday. To his credit, he sure can sell. He sold himself to Campbellsville University without any coaching experience. Not a single day. No coaching experience in pee wee, junior high, high school, junior college or college. After three seasons — and NAIA sanctions — he sold himself to the biggest non-Big Blue people in the world, Eastern Kentucky University.

Covering the All "A" Classic for the past nine years, I have come to know a lot of people at ECU. Most of the time, ECU officials do not like that Big Brother that is only 30 miles down the road.

If they accomplish a great feat, ECU feels that it will get overlooked because of the big bad school in Lexington.

I talked with an ECU official during the Girls' State Tournament and the feeling I got was that the school was trying to go a different direction than hiring an UK person.

They had some fine coaches apply but still I don't think had that outstanding person that stood out in front of the pack.

Ford, the ex-UK player, got the job. The 30-year-old will do a great job. He will work and work until he either builds a winner, quits the coaching ranks or the NCAA asks him to leave.

Ford said this week that he has had over 200 applicants for the assistant coaching positions. He hopes to hire his ECU staff within the next seven days.

His new school has doubled the recruiting budget (estimated \$40,000) and is hoping to get into the top of the Ohio Valley Conference.

Boaters

for leaks.

6. Perform other basic maintenance. Be sure to check the belts for signs of wear and tear. Inspect the bilge pump, adjust the steering cables and check all navigational equipment.

7. Prepare the Hull. Visually inspect the hull for signs of cracking and peeling paint. Seal any cracks with a marine sealant approved for your type of boat, wait for the sealant to cure and prepare the hull for painting below the water line. After painting, apply a high-quality wax to the hull above the waterline and deck, avoiding areas where passengers may walk.

8. Prepare the trailer. If you will be towing your boat, don't forget to inspect the trailer. Check the tires and spare for cracks, worn treads and correct tire pressure. Check and grease the hubs. The backup and taillights should be tested. If needed, replace the bulbs and cracked wires. You may also want to operate the winch to

be sure it is working properly.

9. Prepare the safety equipment. Even after all the mechanical components have been checked, you should never board a boat that does not have properly working safety equipment. Take the time to inspect personal flotation devices, check the expiration dates on fire extinguishers, replace old flares, test the radio and sound all warning horns.

10. Be sure you're covered. After making all the routine checks listed above, be sure to check your insurance policy and review your coverages to make sure they meet your current needs. If you have added any equipment, you'll want to make sure it is covered. It is also important to know how to report a claim to your insurance company.

Some insurers, like Progressive, offer policyholders in-person claims service 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Ask your insurance company about the level of service they provide.

Raiders

Raiders a 3-0 lead. T. Hall got on base with a single, but Kyle Tackett hit into a double play to end the inning.

For the Yellow Jackets, innings continued to go as they had in the previous innings. Three up and three down.

In the sixth inning, all three batters went down on strikes for the Raiders. But the sixth proved to be a fairly good inning for the Yellow Jackets.

Skeans walked the first batter and the next batter drove him home with a double to put Whitesburg on the scoreboard. The Yellow Jackets scored the second run of the inning on a sacrifice fly. And the score going into the seventh inning had the Raiders with a one run advantage 3-2.

The Raiders got the bats going in the seventh inning. Ryan Shannon started the inning with a single. Michael Hall continued the hitting with a single, as Joe Skeans did and B. Hall. B. Hall got two RBIs with his single and this put the Raiders up three, 5-2.

Skeans and B. Hall both scored on a single by Adam Ward. J. Thornsby grounded back to the pitcher for the third out, but the Raiders had padded their lead by four runs.

Whitesburg doubled to put the

first batter on base. Skeans fanned the next batter, but Chandler went to third base on a wild pitch. Skeans walked the next batter and Chandler scored on a sacrifice fly to give them a run. But with two outs Skeans got Brown to fly out to left field for the third out and to give the Raiders the game. The final score was 7-3.

The Raiders will be put to the test next week, when they have two big district games. They will play Prestonsburg on Tuesday and Allen Central on Thursday.

Lady Rebels

going into the bottom of the third inning. The bottom of the third inning continued the same for the Lady Mustangs, and they found themselves trailing 12-0 going into the bottom of the fourth inning.

Things started to look up a little for Millard in their half of the fourth. Howell walked the first two batters and the third batter of the inning reached on an error to load the bases. All three of these runners scored the give the Lady Mustangs three runs in the fourth inning. But in the fifth inning, the Lady

If Ford can turn this program around, then he has written his ticket to the next step — a big time program — and it will be well deserved.

Another college, which I won't name but for writing purposes, we'll call it Lessfeet State, has tried that University of Kentucky rub.

You know the rub. The one that sells 500 more season tickets, but no more people come to the games.

You know the rub. The one that you have to bow toward Lexington when you speak of the great Big Blue program and a NCAA championship in the late 1970's.

You know the rub. Signing about

eight players a year for the first four years of your coaching career. (Wait! That's 32 players, but still the roster is almost non-existent).

You know the rub. The head coach gets paid what the last entire staff was making and now your struggling school is paying out twice as much money for about the same number of victories.

For ECU's sake, I hope Ford works out.

For the other school, I leave you with an adage I was told about dog sled racing which put its entire athletic program in perspective.

Unless you are the lead dog, the view looks the same.

Rebels

put three runs on the scoreboard.

Henry Napier walked John Dixon to get the bottom half of the first inning started. Napier also walked Hank Mullins to put runners on first and second. Seth Crisp then grounded to second for the 4-3 play and the first out. Napier then fanned J. Hall, the designated batter, for the second out. Zac Bradshaw also grounded to second base for the third out.

Hank Mullins had a much better second inning. It was three up and three down for the Rebels. Brandon Hansford's fly ball was caught by the left fielder for the first out. Seth Crisp caught the fly ball hit by Josh Yates for the second out and Mullins fanned Josh Howell to end the inning for the Rebels.

But things went about the same for the Blackcats, three up and three down in the second. Napier had two strikeouts and Joey Willis flew out to right field.

The Rebel attack continued in the third with two hits and three runs. Brandon Sizemore started the inning with a walk and Keith Crum followed with a single. Sizemore came home when Patrick Martin got a double.

Timmy Davis went down on strikes and Jeremy Hayes grounded back to the pitcher for the second out. Henry Napier got a single which brought Martin home for the third run of the inning. Brandon Hansford grounded out to the pitcher for the third out to end the inning. But the Rebels had increased their lead to 6-0.

In the bottom half of the inning, again the Blackcats had little luck

in hitting the ball. Wallen started the inning with a ground out to second. John Dixon then hit a long ball to right field, but it was caught by Brandon Sizemore. Hank Mullins went down swinging for the third out.

For the Rebels, the fourth inning was pretty much a repeat of the second inning, three up and three down, as it was for the Blackcats.

In the fifth inning, the Rebels added to their lead by scoring two runs on two hits. Patrick Martin had his second hit of the game and scored when Jeremy Hayes doubled to right field. The score after five and a half had the Rebels on top 8-0.

The Blackcats finally got things going in the bottom of the fifth inning. With one out, John Hunt was hit with a pitch. Jacob Shepherd got the first hit for the Blackcats when he drove a long ball to left center field, which brought Hunt home. Shepherd scored on a sacrifice fly, but the Blackcats were unable to score again and continued to trail the Rebels.

The Rebels scored three more runs in the sixth and two more runs in the seventh to give them a total of 13 runs for the game. Prestonsburg only placed one runner on base in the last two innings and was unable to cut into the Rebel lead.

The Rebels will play South Floyd on Thursday, April 27, and the Prestonsburg Blackcats will play South Floyd on Tuesday the 25th.

Bentley's COMMENTS

BY RICK BENTLEY

Didn't get a ring? Here's one for ya

Trimmed up notes:

■ Look, I may be conservative, but I'm no idiot. And because you have to strike while the iron's hot, it's time to take action here.

In light of Myron Anthony's NCAA Championship ring being sold for \$7,100, I've decided to make a move of my own.

For those who didn't hear, Anthony's ring was for sale recently on the online auction site eBay. The ring had a minimum sale price of \$10,000, but the highest bid was \$2,900 shy.

However, the gentlemen selling the ring — who wasn't Anthony, by the way — agreed to the lower price this week and is selling the ring.

This has given me reason to think, something I normally avoid at all costs, but I have had some extra time on my hands this week, so I've given it a go.

And I've decided to sell my own championship ring. It's the 1998 KAC championship ring from the Pikeville College Lady Bears conference tournament title. It's gold with an orange stone, inscribed on one side with "S.I.D." (my title) and the number "11", and on the other with "BENTLEY" and a ball going into a hoop.

This ring is an original, a one-owner who was with the team the entire season, all the way to the tournament in Jackson, Tenn. It's size 12, somewhat heavy for everyday wear and is remarkably fetching.

And just like the gentleman selling Anthony's ring, I'll sell it for the bargain basement price of \$7,100.

Anyone interested may contact me at any time by any means. I'll ship immediately if paid with a money order, or when the check clears.

I'd say you're getting a deal. Think of all the great players in Lady Bear history, and of all of them, only 12 have one of these rings. You could be among the elite.

What's in it for me? Simple. I would be getting a deal too. I could probably buy about 30 more of them for \$7,100.

■ In case you missed the Cincinnati/San Francisco game Wednesday night, ESPN's Jon Miller gave one of the most amazing stats I've ever heard: Of all the players to ever play against the Reds, the person with the most home runs against them is Hank Aaron.

With 97. Think about that. He hit 97 home runs against one team!

And as Miller speculated, it's probably not the most he hit against a given opponent.

■ I once saw Hank Aaron in the flesh. I was in an arena, sitting right on the aisle, and he walked right past me. The event? Starcade.

■ Fox Sports had an online poll Wednesday night, and in it, a full 41.7 percent said they felt Charles Barkley's return for the season finale — and his career's — cheapened the game.

What? Think about this. Here's a sport where its top player right now (Shaq)

can hardly score unless he dunks, and can't hit a free throw for love or money (mostly money). And, its the sport which has given us Dennis Rodman.

Barkley has done a lot for basketball, both good and bad. He plays as hard as anyone who has ever played the game, and unfortunately, he talks just as hard.

But his wanting to end his career by walking off the court and not being carried is nothing to shame it.

■ I know the Reds' pitching staff is in need of help, but Norm Charlton?

In case you missed it, the Reds activated the former Nasty Boy Wednesday in another effort to improve its shoddy bullpen. Charlton has certainly had a fine career, but I would seriously doubt he's the same pitcher in 2000 he was in 1990.

Of course, he couldn't do any worse than the guys in the pen to this point.

■ And then theres this. According to the April 10 edition of the New York Daily News, a private school in Encino, Calif., held a celebrity auction as a fundraiser.

Clothing autographed by Muhammad Ali was sold for \$2,500. A limo ride with John Travolta to the premiere of his next movie went at \$3,000.

And... Dinner with professional wrestler Mick Foley — a.k.a., Cactus Jack, Mankind and Dude Love — went for \$31,000.

A sign of the times.



Runnin' Rebels

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Articles and photos to run in Sporting Times.

College athletes race to top of class with milk

From the "Big 10" to the "PAC 10," college athletes are heading the class when it comes to nutritious beverage choices.

A recently released survey of college athletes' drinking habits found nearly all college athletes surveyed (91 percent) drink milk daily. In fact, on average, college athletes drink two and a half glasses of milk a day, compared to non-athletes who barely drink half a glass.

With more than 70 percent of college non-athletes skipping milk on a daily basis, college athletes are getting more calcium (about 700 mg) from milk than non-athletes (less than 200 mg). This campus calcium crisis has some college athletic trainers pushing the whole student body to bone-up on milk. "Because mom and dad's refrigerator doesn't follow the athletes to school, most college athletic trainers take it upon themselves to make sure their athletes continue to get the calcium their bodies need," says Jerry Weber, head athletic trainer for the University of Nebraska. "We're now trying to spread the word to all students that they should drink at least three glasses of milk a day to help meet their calcium needs."

■ Milk-The Ultimate Sports Drink

Many college athletes are learning that milk is the ultimate sports drink because of the nutrient package it provides. In fact, according to the athletes surveyed, their athletic trainers recommend milk (74 percent) more often than sports drinks (47 percent).

Of the milk-drinking athletes surveyed, nearly 40 percent drink milk because it is a good source of protein and helps build muscle; 25 percent drink it to replenish fluids lost during a work out and because it provides essential nutrients.

"College athletes have to be concerned about what they put in their bodies, including protein and calcium for strong muscles and bones," says Weber. "Milk is one of the only beverages that

offers a comprehensive nutrient package including protein and vitamins A and D, and minerals like calcium."

■ No Calcium Control

Without the support of college athletic trainers, the regular student body tends to choose nutrient vacant beverages, like soda over milk. According to a "Rethink Your Drink" survey, college students rated soda as the top beverage "they couldn't live without" at school. As a result, eight out of 10 college-age women and more than half of college-age men don't get enough calcium in their daily diets, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

"Often times, college students don't pay attention to what they drink," says Weber. "They're on the run, need a quick energy boost, so they grab nutrient-vacant soda or coffee on the way to class. On the other hand, college athletes spend more time reviewing nutrition with their athletic trainers, who help plan out a healthy diet, which often

includes lowfat or fat free milk because of its power-packed lineup of nutrients, including calcium, protein and Vitamin D."

■ Take Note of Calcium

New milk mustache celebrity ads with college-age crowd appeal will complement a national milk college tour traveling to nearly 50 campuses this academic year, encouraging students to compete in a national contest for a chance to appear in a milk mustache ad in Rolling Stone magazine.

To find out about the milk college tour, students can call the 1-800-WHY-MILK hotline or log onto the milk Web site at www.whymilk.com for the 2000 got milk? college tour schedule. They can also receive a free "Milk 101: Meeting Core Requirements" brochure that offers nutrition facts and easy tips on how to fit milk into a student's busy schedule. The brochure folds out to a full-color, poster-size academic calendar featuring famous milk-mustache celebrities.

Video fun up at bat

(NAPSA)-It has been estimated that 50,000,000 people in the U.S. play softball and a new video game is expected to score home runs with many of these softball fans.

That's because the Sammy Sosa Softball Slam game features high-scoring softball excitement and action that adults and kids can enjoy on a PC or Playstation.

Designed to appeal to all ages and skill levels, this video simulation of the popular American game can be played in less than half an hour.

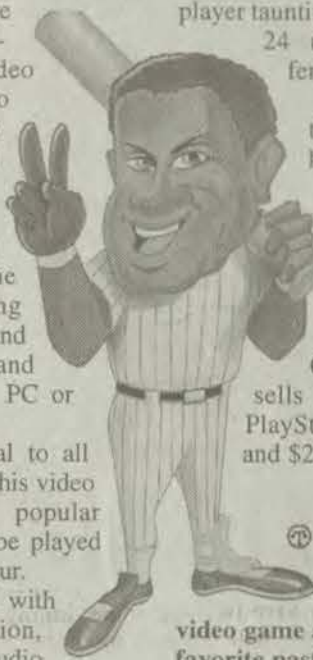
The game is filled with non-stop arcade action, plus such visual and audio

effects as flaming softballs and player taunting. Also, games feature 24 unique teams (male, female and co-ed).

Gamers can create their own character likeness, as well as their friends, for a completely original softball team or add Sammy Sosa to their roster.

Made by the 3DO Company, the game sells for \$39.99 for the PlayStation Game Console and \$29.99 for the PC.

Softball fans don't have to be a good sport to play along with a new video game all about their favorite pastime.



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insider golf

by t.j. tomasi

Director of the Players School at PGA National

TEERING OFF

Qualifying School Is Three-Month Final Exam

Most golf professionals are good players who compete in local tournaments on their day off. A few are really good players who play in national tournaments and occasionally even PGA Tour events, but that is in their "spare time."

Most golf pros don't have the time to work on their games, and many play a lot less golf than the amateurs they teach. But this is as it should be because if you're a golf professional, your students' games are more important than yours is.

It is very different for the

professional golfer; his whole life is consumed with practicing and playing. A PGA Tour player is someone who gets paid on the basis of the score he shoots. There are a number of proving grounds, mini-tours where you pay an entry fee into the tournament and receive a payout depending on your performance. But the goal of all the players is to compete in the "big show," the PGA Tour.

The most common way to get on tour is to go through Tour Qualifying School, but it's a grind. Qualifying happens over a three-month period each fall.

Based on scores, the field is cut after each stage. Miss the qualifying number in the first tournament, and you're done. The entry fee for "Q school" is \$3,000.

To give you some idea of what a golfer hoping to pass would have to shoot, last year's leader at

Q school was Blaine McCallister, with rounds of 70, 69, 68, 66, 61 and 66. He finished at 19-under-par for a six-round total of 401.

A total of 40 golfers received fully exempt status for the PGA Tour in 2000. Finishing tied for the last exempt spot was Brett Wetterich, who shot 70-70-69-73-65-65 (412), so only 11 shots separated the pack. A player needed to shoot at least 8 under to earn a place on the tour. Obviously, these guys can really play.



Blaine McCallister was this year's Q school medalist.

ASK THE PRO

Q: I think Brian Gay handled himself very well when he was penalized a stroke for waiting too long for his putt hanging on the lip to fall. But I don't agree with you. I think it's a good rule and they shouldn't change it.

—N.N., Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

A: I take it you read my page about that incident, so you know that I think it's the worst rule in golf. Here's another reason why: Remember the Volstead Act that outlawed drinking alcohol, the worst piece of federal legislation ever penned? Bad law encourages bad behavior, and this law created a nation of lawbreakers.

In my opinion, Rule 16-2 is much the same, encouraging all sorts of stalling antics that delay the start of the 10-second time frame. As Gay said, he could have avoided a penalty by walking more slowly to the hole, thus giving the ball more time to fall in before the 10-second rule took effect (it fell in 13 seconds after he arrived at his ball). Why have a rule that encourages law-breaking?

To Ask the Pro a question about golf, e-mail him at: TJInsider@aol.com.

IT'S GOOD FOR YOUR GAME

Powerful Swing Begins On Your Own Two Feet

Like many things in golf, the width of your stance (how far apart your heels are) is "negotiable," which is my term for swing mechanics that change from player to player. But while there is no one stance width that all players must adopt, there are some guidelines that you should follow. The width of your stance influences your stability, balance and mobility, all non-negotiable qualities of a good golf swing.

Too wide a stance limits your ability to turn your hips correctly and encourages excessive lateral motion. It is a major cause of sliding ahead of the ball during the downswing, a mistake that produces, among other things, weak slices and pop-ups.

Too narrow a stance also makes it difficult to get behind the ball during your backswing, an error that prevents you from making a good turn away from the ball. Players with excessively wide stances are thereby prone to picking the club up to the top of the swing with little if any coiling of the body. This leads to a weak, lunging swing lacking both grace and power.

Too narrow a stance is no bargain either because its legacy is often the dreaded reverse weight shift — your weight stays in your front hip on the way back and then, as the clubhead swings to the ball on the downswing, the weight shifts into the back hip, just the reverse of where it should be.

The correct stance width will allow the following: When the clubhead is moving away from the ball, you should be in your back or trail hip; when the clubhead is coming to the ball, you should be in your front or target hip.

Here is an easy way to develop the correct heel



Your feet are the proper width apart (above) if your knees are nearly touching when you finish.

width.

Check your stance width as you turn into your follow-through position; if your knees reach each other, your stance is the correct width. If your knees can't reach each other, your stance is too wide. If they overlap, your stance is too narrow.



If your feet are too close together (photo at left), you'll have coil and balance troubles, resulting in sliced shots. Too wide of a stance (right) will restrict your hip turn, causing you to sway and push your shots to the right.



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“There's something about a couple of years that makes a hell of a difference.”

—Arnold Palmer's way of saying no when asked if Jack Nicklaus had a chance to win the Masters after his 74/70 start left him tied for 18th and well within striking distance. The next day, in the icy winds, Nicklaus shot his highest score ever in a Masters — 81.

BIRDIES & BOGEYS

One Down and Three Left

There are three majors left this year, and two of them are at historic venues. The U.S. Open will be at Pebble Beach, June 15-18, where the defending champ, Payne Stewart, will be sorely missed. The British Open, July 20-23, will be at The Old Course, St. Andrews, Scotland, where last year's surprise winner, Paul Lawrie, will defend. Tiger Woods will defend his PGA Championship title at Valhalla Golf Club in Louisville, Ky., Aug. 17-20.

Worth Every Dime

The commissioner of the PGA Tour, Tim Finchem, receives compensation in the \$3 million range, which makes him one of the tour's leading money earners. Note the term "earner" because it is fairly well accepted that Finchem earns every penny. He's a savvy businessman with a low-key manner, but his competent hand has guided the tour to its most successful position ever in the world of golf.



Tim Finchem made \$3 million on tour last year and never hit a shot.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Dr. T.J. Tomasi is the director of the Players School at PGA National in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. He is a member of the elite Top 100 Teachers chosen by Golf Magazine

and is a Class A PGA teaching professional.



GOLF SPOKEN HERE

Jail

When your ball comes to rest behind trees or other barriers and you have to play it as it lies; in golf parlance, you're in jail.

DON'T MISS IT

Real Competition

It's called the Battle at Bighorn, and if you like that sort of thing, Don't Miss It. On ABC TV, Aug. 28, this event matches Tiger Woods against Sergio Garcia. It's a long way away, but if we all write to ABC, maybe they'll add Karrie Webb to the mix — now that would put a little pressure on the boys.

THE GOLF DOCTOR

Player Lets Momentum Finish His Swing

Gary Player is known for his unusual finish, where he appears to walk after his shot as part of his follow-through. He does this for a good reason. Not as simple as he once was, he can no longer arch his body in the so-called reverse C finish that characterized his swing as a young man.

While Player's unique finish has not hurt his game, it has hurt some amateurs who have tried to copy

him — not because what he does is wrong, but because they are not doing it the same way he does.

What many fail to notice is that Player is in a perfect position at the top of his swing, which allows him to come to impact in a perfectly balanced position. As his arms and club swing past his body (after the ball is on its way), he simply allows himself to be pulled along by the momentum of his arm swing until he steps across

his front leg and walks right after the shot. Basically, he can do this because of his excellent position at the top.

Golfers who start from a bad position at the top of their swing only make things worse by trying to force the "Player finish." My advice is to fix your position at the top of your swing (see your PGA teaching pro for help). If you do that you may not need the "step-over finish."



Gary Player in top form.

INSIDE THE PRO FISHING TOUR

Daniel Takes Third FLW Title

Veteran tournament pro and renowned Lake Okeechobee guide Steve Daniel moved into a tie for the most career victories on the Wal-Mart FLW Tour by notching his third FLW win Saturday in the circuit's \$500,000 season opener on the south Florida lake.

In Saturday's lucrative final round, Daniel battled unfavorable conditions to catch a five-bass limit weighing 12 pounds, 2 ounces, capturing the \$100,000 top prize. The victory ties him with North Carolina's David Fritts for career FLW wins. His latest victory automatically qualifies Daniel for the FLW Tour Championship in September.



Tim Tucker's Tour Notebook

Daniel's winning catch came on a topwater plug and Ninja Spin spinner-bait fished around the edge of grass beds at the south end of Lake Okeechobee near South Bay.

"It was just a great day today," Daniel said. "I had most of my fish before 8 this morning, but then I started getting nervous about competing for \$100,000. I'm just speechless. I don't know what to say."

Second place and \$35,000 went to Jeff Simes of Punta Gorda, Fla., with

four fish weighing 8 pounds, 14 ounces. Stephen Browning of Hot Springs, Ark., placed third and collected \$20,000 with a two-fish catch weighing 3-1. Craig Powers of Rockwood, Tenn., finished fourth with one fish at 3-0, followed by Marty Stone of Fayetteville, N.C., with one fish at 2-7.

Fantasy Fishing League You've undoubtedly heard of the fantasy baseball and football leagues (sometimes called rotisserie leagues) in which sports fans draft their own teams and follow their exploits of the real-life athletes for fun and profit. Well, fishing fans can now have a stake in the success and failure of their fishing heroes with the debut of the first such fishing league on the World Wide Web.

The Pro Fishin Report Web site broke new ground on the Internet recently with the first tournament (the Kmart BASSMASTER Florida Top 150) in its innovative Fantasy Fishing League. And it has already been eagerly embraced by fishing fans on the Web.

"We have had an overwhelming response so far, and it's getting even better," said Chad Potts, PFR president.

"People are starting to figure out that they can win more money when they get their friends to participate, so it's growing fast. It won't be too long before there will be over 100,000 participants, and a person that pays \$10 on the Internet to compete in the Fantasy Fishing League could actually win more money than the real-life angler wins."

Each Fantasy Fishing League event (BASSMASTER or FLW Tour) has a \$10 entry fee and a guaranteed first-place payback of \$250. One out of every 10 fantasy league participants receives a check, and first place is usually equal to the number of participants (for example 1,500 entrants means a first-place prize of \$1,500).

To play, all you have to do is go to the Fantasy Fishing League at www.profishinreport.com, select a particular tournament, choose your team of 12 pros, and enter your guess as to the overall winning weight of the tournament (to be used as a tiebreaker).

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	43	Denny Brauer, Camden, Mo. Runner-up in '99 Classic; Fla. Top 150 finals
2	2	43	Davy Hite, Prosperity, S.C. Won '99 BASS Masters Classic
3	3	26	★ Tim Horton, Spruce Pine, Ala. BASS Angler of Year; made four Top 150 finals
4	4	43	★ Larry Nixon, Bee Branch, Ark. Won BASS Top 150 opener; made Md. finals
5	5	43	★ Kevin VanDam, Kalamazoo, Mich. Won N.Y. BASS event; 1999 Angler of Year
6	6	43	Rick Clunn, Ava, Mo. Runner-up in Vt. BASS Top 150 and FLW event
7	7	26	David Fritts, Lexington, N.C. Two top-10 finals; Millennium runner-up
8	8	21	★ Aaron Martens, Castaic, Calif. Calif. BASS winner; made last two Top 150 finals
9	9	7	★ Shaw Grigsby, Gainesville, Fla. Won last two Top 150s; MegaBucks finalist
10	10	43	Stephen Browning, Hot Springs, Ark. BASS Mich. Top 150 finals; FLW Fla. finals
11	11	13	Michael Iaconelli, Woodbury Heights, N.J. Won Vt. Top 150; runner-up in Fla. Top 150
12	12	40	Zell Rowland, Montgomery, Texas Finals of Vt. BASS Top 150
13	13	40	Clark Wendlandt, Cedar Park, Texas Won FLWS.C. event; MegaBucks runner-up
14	14	23	Darrell Robertson, Jay, Okla. M-1 champ; won \$850,000 in two months
15	15	33	Roland Martin, Clewiston, Fla. Runner-up in Vt. 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.

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

Outdoors

©Longwing Publications Inc. Peter Gentile, Editor.



Bert Fischer prepares to launch his sailfish kite over Lake Okeechobee.

Go Fly a Kite

That's the Advice From a Successful Florida Bass Guide

By TIM TUCKER, Outdoors Writer

In the early-morning light, you don't expect to see somebody flying a kite out in the middle of Florida's vast Lake Okeechobee. After all, there are plenty of places to fly a kite that don't require the use of a boat.

Some might think that this guy flying a kite from his boat is a little crazy.

But the kite belongs to Bert Fischer. And Fischer is anything but crazy.

Unless you count the fact that he's crazy about catching big bass.

Which brings us to his kite.

Fischer, a veteran bass guide, has long been an avid saltwater angler. In fact, he guides inshore saltwater trips as well. As a bass fisherman, one of his biggest frustrations was one shared by countless other fishermen on lakes with heavy growths of vegetation — finding a way to effectively fish the dense cover where the trophy bass live.

Seeing how effectively the specially designed fishing kite worked in saltwater, Fischer asked himself, "Why wouldn't a kite work for putting live bait in the heaviest, nastiest cover on Lake Okeechobee?"

Fischer soon found the answer. Experimenting with the kite in the weed-choked waters of Lake Okeechobee, he began to hammer big bass in some of the wildest places a fish could hide, thick patches of grass in shallow water that conventional techniques couldn't solve.

Fischer began catching fish that had rarely, if ever, seen a lure before. "It's an exciting way to fish live bait," he said.

Today, Fischer contends that kite-fishing for big bass consistently surpasses conventional live-bait

fishing. All because he is able to fish in places that traditional bait fishermen can't penetrate.

"It goes places where no shiner has ever gone before," Fischer said of his kite.

For kite fishing for big bass, Fischer uses large shiners at times, as well as hand-sized bluegill.

With kite fishing in freshwater, the bluegill or large shiner is kept near the top of the surface. Fischer sometimes clips the tail fin of the bait to give it the added look of an injured baitfish (not to mention the smell). The slightly injured bluegill creates a disturbance on the surface that seems to attract bass from considerable distances.

The most important part of the system, the kite, is a light or medium Pompanette kite rigged on a stiff rod and large-spool reel. The reel cannot have a level-wind reel because the swivels near the release clip would get caught up in it.

Fischer never uses anything less than 20-pound line for this type of big-bass fishing. And 30-pound test isn't out of the question, depending on the cover. The actual fishing outfit is a traditional shiner rod and reel (fiberglass flipping stick and wide-spool reel).



Fischer hauls in a trophy bass as his kite hovers overhead.

The kite offers an advantage that no other type of live-bait fishing does: the ability to cover a great deal of water and fish openings in heavy vegetation that are out of the question for typical shiner fishing.

"Because the kite keeps the bait out in front of you and on the surface, you can cover so much more water than you could if you were fishing a shiner under a bobber," Fischer said. "It allows you to fish heavy vegetation so much better with live bait."

"And because the bait is out in front of you, the kite enables you to drift over shallow water without spooking the fish before the bait gets to them. The boat will often spook fish when you're drifting shiners behind the boat like some shiner fishermen do."

This is a deadly technique that takes advantage of the one weather factor bass fishermen love to hate — wind. There are times on big lakes like Okeechobee when the wind builds to such a frenzy that most fishermen choose to abandon ship and head for shore. Not Fischer, though. That just means it is time to send up the kite.

YOUR SPORTS

Snowshoes: '4-Wheel Drive For Your Feet'

By STEVE GUST

Snowshoeing is one of those sports people pursue for one reason only — the sheer enjoyment of it. There aren't big endorsement offers for snowshoers, and it will be a long time before ESPN covers the Super Bowl of snowshoeing. But there is just no better way to get around in the snow than with a pair of snowshoes.

"It's like having four-wheel drive for your feet," said Matt Sampson, 27, of Evergreen, Colo., who promotes the sport through his business, The Snow Leopard. "Snowshoes make it easy to get around."

Contrary to popular belief, "snowshoes don't let you float on the top of snow, but they keep you from sinking all the way to the bottom," Sampson said. "You can actually walk up a snow-covered hill."

And people have been getting around North America this way for a long time.

"It's been around for 6,000 years," said Ben Carr, who helps to run snowshoecenter.com. "It's an easy activity become involved in and an easy activity to perform for ages. Literally, in five steps you are an expert!"

"If you can put one foot in front of the other, you can snowshoe," Sampson said. There are other benefits that attract an estimated 5 million or more Americans and Canadians to snowshoeing.

First off, it is a low-impact aerobic activity. "Quite simply, snowshoeing promotes good health," Carr said.

And it doesn't cost a lot. Snowshoes run from \$120 to \$300, with the average pair costing about \$220, Sampson said. Snowshoes may be just about all you need.

"There are no special racks to carry the snowshoes, special footwear, and snowshoes are constructed to last long time," Carr said.

You don't need slopes or lifts, either. "A lot of people don't like paying \$60 a day for lift tickets for crowded ski areas," Sampson said.

But there is more than an economic reason to get on the slopes.

"There is a strong appeal to breaking your own trail and discovering the unseen outdoors during winter," Carr said. "This is the one activity where you can determine your direction."

That appeal appears to be growing. In January, Carr hosted Winter Trails 2000, and about 350 would-be snowshoers showed up. The event included hikes, seminars on snowshoeing, and a chance to mingle with others who like to be outdoors in the winter.

Although it is a slow-paced, low-impact sport, there is still danger in snowshoeing, although less than other winter sports such as skiing or snowboarding.

"This week there have been three people here in Colorado killed in avalanches, and one of them was a snowshoer," Sampson said.

He offered some safe tips for those who want to trek in the white stuff.

"The most obvious is use common sense," Sampson said. "Know where you are and be prepared for any kind of

weather. Wear the proper clothing and bring a beacon that can send a signal in case a search party needs to come looking for you."

It's also important to bring lots of water, he said, because it's easy to get dehydrated.

With a few precautions, snowshoeing is a safe activity that is drawing increasing numbers of participants during the prime snowshoe season from Thanksgiving to April.

"It just continues to grow," Sampson said. "It's an activity that can be enjoyed by kids 3 years and up. I lo to get out and snowshoe."



Even the youngest participants got into the spirit at Winter Trails 2000.

Tips From the Pros



STEVE McCADAMS is a celebrated crappie guide, lecturer and author who lives in Paris, Tenn.

Don't Give Up on Winter Crappie

"You shouldn't surrender your crappie rod when the coldest months of the year arrive. You can score on deep-water winter crappie by trolling over potentially productive spots. Crappie will be at their deepest level when winter arrives. I concentrate on depths of 18 to 22 feet.

"Depth becomes especially critical in the winter. The fish will school up real tight, and if you present a lure that misses their depth by 2 or 3 feet, they won't bite it. You can fish up on the ledges or on top of a shelf and miss them totally, even though they are right below.

"For example, I'll have the boat perpendicular to a ledge where the guy in the front of the boat is fishing in 12 feet of water. The person in the back of the boat is in 18 to 22 feet. The guy in the front can be catching fish after fish, while the other fishermen won't even get a bite. That should tell you how crucial presenting the bait at the right depth can be in the winter. The length of a fishing boat can be the difference between feast and famine."

GEAR AND GOODIES

Pork Flavor in a Soft Plastic Tube

Uncle Josh, the folks who have provided fishermen with pork lures and teasers for more than 75 years, recently entered the soft plastic bait market, and one of their first offerings should prove to be a big hit in the bass world.

The Wisconsin-based company came up with a unique new soft plastic tubejig — the HoneyComb Tube. The taste of pork is cooked into this tube, which features small body segments that enhance its suppleness, making it more flexible than many traditional plastic tubejigs. These segments also emit oxygen bubbles that give the tube a more lifelike appearance.

When the lure is compressed in the water, it gives a wiggling

movement that simulates the action of an injured creature. And to further increase the chances of it being seen, the HoneyComb Tube is said to reflect more light than standard hollow-body tubejigs.

The HoneyComb Tube features a solid strip that runs the length of the lure so that it can be easily rigged in the weedless Texas style. It is 4 1/2 inches in length and available in 12 color patterns.

— Tim Tucker

For more information, call Uncle Josh at (920) 563-2491.



Uncle Josh's HoneyComb Tube.

TRACKS

Stats and Standings
Through April 17, 2000

NASCAR Winston Cup Series through 9 races

Driver/winnings	Pts.	Wins
1. Mark Martin/\$1,033,561	1,370	1
2. Bobby Labonte/\$1,009,311	1,346	1
3. Ward Burton/\$839,251	1,293	1
4. Dale Earnhardt/\$791,766	1,272	1
5. Jeff Burton/\$2,870,209	1,236	1
6. Dale Jarrett/\$3,027,509	1,167	1
7. Jeff Gordon/\$783,021	1,149	1
8. Rusty Wallace/\$1,048,551	1,129	1
9. Jeremy Mayfield/\$568,346	1,120	0
10. Terry Labonte/\$741,089	1,118	0

Leading Stats (through 9 races)

Driver	Miles led	Times led	Races led	Miles run
1. Mark Martin	543	17	6	3,551
2. Ward Burton	370	12	4	3,549
3. Rusty Wallace	353	14	5	3,279
4. Bobby Labonte	318	12	5	3,548
5. Mike Skinner	308	12	4	3,515
6. Dale Jarrett	307	11	6	3,370
7. Jeff Gordon	238	19	5	3,515
8. Dale Earnhardt Jr.	234	11	3	3,158
9. Jeff Burton	185	10	5	3,151
10. Jeremy Mayfield	103	7	3	3,512

Next Winston Cup race:
Napa Auto Parts 500, April 30;
California Speedway

NASCAR BUSCH through 8 races

Driver/winnings	Pts.	Wins
1. Jeff Green/\$260,425	1,273	0
2. Todd Bodine/\$198,605	1,249	0
3. Randy LaJoie/\$238,895	1,208	1
4. Matt Kenseth/\$316,105	1,190	1
5. Ron Hornaday/\$199,955	1,135	0
6. David A. Green/\$181,080	1,102	0
7. Kevin Grubb/\$127,590	1,050	0
8. Elton Sawyer/\$176,240	974	0
9. Kevin Harvick/\$143,515	971	0
10. Jason Keller/\$185,380	965	0

Next Busch race: Auto Club 300, April 29;
California Speedway

NASCAR CRAFTSMAN TRUCK SERIES through 5 races

Driver/winnings	Pts.	Wins
1. Mike Wallace/\$189,075	848	2
2. Andy Houston/\$127,003	789	1
3. Jack Sprague/\$96,230	739	0
4. Kurt Busch/\$106,095	737	0
5. Steve Grissom/\$53,195	735	0
6. Joe Ruttman/\$106,998	731	1
7. Greg Biffle/\$60,700	708	0
8. Dennis Setzer/\$57,365	666	0
9. Terry Cook/\$66,985	652	0
10. Rick Crawford/\$52,980	597	0

Next Craftsman race:
Oregon 225, April 22;
Portland International Raceway

By the numbers

The first nine races of the 2000 Winston Cup season all have had different winners - a record for the beginning of the season but not an all-time record. Here are the longest streaks of different winners in NASCAR Winston Cup since 1972

Races - First race in streak - Last race in streak

11 - Sept. 22, 1985, Martinsville - April 13, 1986, Darlington
11 - Sept. 29, 1985, North Wilkesboro - April 20, 1986, North Wilkesboro
10 - Oct. 2, 1983, North Wilkesboro - April 8, 1984, North Wilkesboro
9 - Feb. 14, 2000, Daytona - April 25, 2000, Talladega
9 - June 16, 1981, Pocono - Sept. 1, 1991, Darlington
9 - May 24, 1984, Charlotte - August 12, 1984, Brooklyn, Mich.

TRACK & SPEED

The Week Ahead in NASCAR • April 23, 2000

Photos: ALLSPORT



Daytona 500: Dale Jarrett starts the season



Dura-Lube/K-mart 400: Bobby Labonte "rains" supreme



CarsDirect.com 400: Jeff Burton is victorious



Cracker Barrel 500: Dale Earnhardt Sr. does it again



TranSouth 400: Ward Burton takes the checkered flag



Food City 500: Rusty Wallace finally wins his 50th race



DirecTV 500: Dale Earnhardt, Jr. makes his papa proud



Goody's 500: Mark Martin makes it 8 winners in 8 races



Eat your words, Gordon doubters

You know what really amazes me? Jeff Gordon doesn't even have to win every week to break records set by Dale Earnhardt.

Did you hear about the latest one? No, not the fact that Gordon won his 50th race a year faster than Earnhardt did. The latest record had to do with Gordon starting from the 36th position at Talladega and still winning. That's the worst starting position ever for a Talladega winner. Earnhardt had set the record last fall by winning after starting 27th.

Earnhardt just can't get out of Gordon's shadow, can he?

OK, now I've got a few messages to return: To the hundreds who wrote in to tell me Gordon wouldn't win again, I guess you were wrong.

To the dozens who said I was crazy when I said Gordon would be in the top 10 soon, I guess you were wrong.

To those who said Gordon had only been successful because of former crew chief Ray Evernham, you obviously belong to be lumped in with the rest of the doubters, because you were wrong, too.

Gordon will become the first two-time winner of the season next week in California. That will put him in the top five of the overall standings. Then, everyone better watch out. With Gordon not winning everything, parity was the name of the game - kind of like when Michael Jordan left the NBA and the also-rans could win once in a while.

Well, the Michael Jordan of NASCAR is back.

Everything else, however, is the same.

Hey, Mark, a word of advice: Don't be looking over your shoulder too much these next few weeks. If you do, you'll miss Gordon passing you.

Parity is dead. The Rainbow Warrior dynasty is on its way back.

Care to disagree with The Lugnut? Write to him at: Track & Speed, 730 N. Franklin St., Suite 706, Chicago, IL 60610. Or e-mail him at: lugnut@ttmedia.com

Nine is fine (IF YOU LIKE VARIETY)

By HENRY MILLER

If your favorite driver hasn't won a race yet, don't be upset. The way this season is going, there's a good chance he might pull off a victory soon.

By winning Sunday's Die Hard 500 at Talladega, Jeff Gordon became the ninth different driver to take the checkered flag over the first nine races of the 2000 season. Never before in NASCAR history have the first nine races of a season had nine different winners.

Those nine winners combined for 28 of the 33 victories last season, but it took 13 races to get nine different winners in 1999, and it took 25 races before a 10th different driver claimed victory.

The only drivers who posted wins in 1999 but haven't won this season are Tony Stewart, John Andretti and Joe Nemechek.

The way the year is going, it wouldn't be surprising to see another first-time winner in victory lane April 30 in California. Already this season, Ward Burton made his first trip to victory lane in over four years, and Dale Earnhardt Jr. won in just his 12th Winston Cup race.

Dale Earnhardt Sr., who also has won this season, believes increased competition is the reason why so many different drivers are winning. "The racing continues to get closer and closer," said Earnhardt, who won in Atlanta a few weeks ago. "There used to be a dominant few who always were in contention to win every week. Now that list has grown to the top 25 or better. Look at how many races rookies have won in the past 12 months. Stewart

Tighter competition has produced a different winner in every Winston Cup race this season



Goody's 500: Jeff Gordon holds off Skinner for his 50th

has three, and Dale Jr. already has one under his belt. That just goes to show you that you always have to be 100 percent or it isn't going to be your day."

Jeff Gordon said the competition is as level as it has ever been, and especially so at Talladega.

"It's very competitive right now," said Gordon, who became the 11th driver in NASCAR history to reach 50 wins. "You've got to have things go your way. In Texas, it did for Dale Jr. Last week, it did for Mark Martin. There's a lot of guys capable of winning, especially here at Talladega. Anybody can win this race because the draft equalized

things so much. This whole season [it's] been tough to win, because there are so many guys capable of winning."

With NASCAR taking a week off while preparing for the Napa Auto Parts 500 on April 30, don't be surprised if you see a 10th different winner in victory lane. One of the leading candidates to become winner No. 10 - other than Stewart, who won three times last year as a rookie - is Mike Skinner, who finished second in Sunday's race at Talladega and is coming closer and closer to that elusive first Winston Cup win.

"It's the same old story; you've heard it a hundred times," Skinner said. "We should have finished second. That's all we had today. We should have won Atlanta. We should have won Martinsville. We should have finished second at Talladega."

Skinner has a chance to extend this remarkable streak of different winners, but the driver of the No. 31 Lowe's Chevrolet hasn't had a top-five finish at the two-mile California track in three years. Other possible favorites on the West Coast include Terry Labonte, who has a second and third in three races there, and Jeremy Mayfield, who finished second there in 1998. Stewart also has a top-five finish in California, taking fifth last year. Other drivers who have finished in the top five of at least one of the three races at California (and haven't won this year) are Ricky Rudd, Ted Musgrave, Jimmy Spencer and Darrell Waltrip.

Gordon is the defending champion and also won in California in 1997. Martin won in 1998.

Benson has grand plans for 'time off'

By HENRY MILLER

With the first nine weeks of the Winston Cup season completed, and with two weeks off before the next race, what is Johnny Benson going to do? Work, test and travel.

So much for some time off.

Benson, the driver of the No. 10 Lycos Pontiac, is like most drivers in that he's not using the first idle weekend of the season entirely as leisure time. But Benson knows this is his chance to do some things he couldn't do during the regular grind of the long and grueling Winston Cup schedule.

So, for Benson's "week off," he's going to

travel to Fontana, Calif., to do some testing for the Winston West series and an upcoming race in that series to be held the same week as the Winston Cup event on Sunday, April 30.

Benson's travel plans don't stop there. This coming Easter weekend, he's flying to Silverstone, England, to attend the British Grand Prix Formula One race.

"The Formula One race is all about having fun," Benson said. "I get to be a fan this weekend. Drivers never get a chance to go party the night before the race and hang out like the fans do, so this weekend is my turn."

"We finally get an off weekend, and it seems like I'm going to be jetting all over the world, either testing or watching racing. But

I'm looking forward to all of it."

Benson went to the Spanish Grand Prix F-1 race in 1998 and enjoyed himself so much that he had to go back and see another one.

"Those cars are amazing," Benson said.

"What I couldn't believe the last time we were there is how a Formula One car can go from almost 200 mph down to almost a complete stop in less than a second. Formula One is a lot different than what I am used to. I'm always going to prefer Winston Cup racing, but it's hard to argue against a series whose drivers make anywhere between \$10 million to \$25 million a season in salary. I keep telling (car owner) Tim Beverly about that, but all he does is look at me and laugh when I

mention (Michael) Schumacher's salary."

Benson is looking toward the Winston West race in Fontana with hopes that the extra seat time will help give him a shot at a third top-10 finish at that track.

"My crew chief, James Ince, thought it would be a great way to learn about the track and learn the car setups, since the Winston West cars are so similar to the Winston Cup cars," Benson said. "But we wanted to make sure we went out there and tested before we entered the race. It's a pretty competitive series, and we don't want to get embarrassed."



Johnny Benson

Coming up

May 6 - Pontiac Excitement 400 Richmond International Raceway Richmond, Va.

May 20 - The Winston Lowe's Motor Speedway Concord, N.C.

May 28 - Coca-Cola 600 Lowe's Motor Speedway Concord, N.C.

On the air

April 17 - 23 Craftsman Truck Series: Oregon/Grainger 225 Portland International Raceway Saturday, April 22, 3 p.m. ET; ESPN Radio: 8:45 p.m. ET; MRN

In Brief

Sim city

In a city where gridlock is a way of life, the chance to drive 200 mph would be pretty tempting, don't you think? Perhaps that partially explains why Silicon Entertainment has opened its 14th and latest NASCAR Silicon Motor Speedway racing center in the Los Angeles area, at the Universal CityWalk entertainment complex. The racing center features 12 stock-car simulators that give visitors the thrill of high-speed NASCAR competition. Racers are immersed to the point where they feel virtually every banked turn, bump and hard shift. Fortunately, the simulated concrete walls are far more forgiving than they are on the real Winston Cup circuit. The racing center also offers grandstand viewing for spectators and sells motorsports merchandise.

This Week's Track

California Speedway: Fontana, Calif.

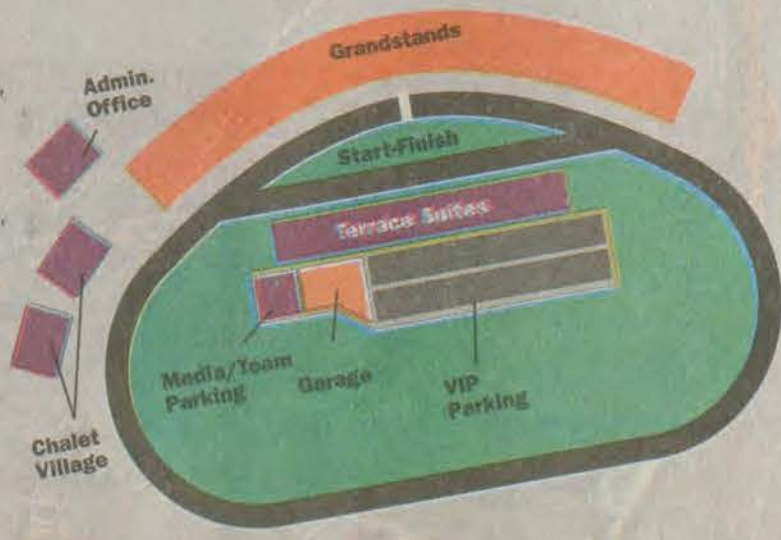
Length: 2 miles

Qualifying record: Greg Sacks, 183.753 mph, June 21, 1997

Race record: Jeff Gordon, 155.012 mph, June 22, 1997

Banking: 14 degrees

Last year: California 500, June 22, 1999; Won by Jeff Gordon



Listen up

I'm not very smart, as you can tell. I'm going to Boston (tomorrow) and try to run that marathon. Seventeen thousand people are going to be running, and I hope I finish somewhere around 16,000th or so. I don't want to bring up the last.

—Michael Waltrip



Regina Queen Ferrell and Jessica Hays have their artwork included in an exhibition, Renditions of Nontraditions, at the Prestonsburg Community College Art Gallery through May 4.

Renditions of non-traditions exhibit

An exhibition of artwork, titled "Renditions of Nontraditions," will be displayed at the Prestonsburg Community College Art Gallery from April 24 to May 4.

A reception honoring the painting students and their art will be held on Monday, April 24, from 5:30 p.m., until 8 p.m.

Works depicted in the show range in themes from conservative in nature to the world of surrealism (dreams and fantasies). "Art students of today are more interested in the now than the past. Many works deal with the isolated alienation of our society," said art professor Tom Whitaker.

The Art Gallery is located in the Magoffin Building. Gallery hours are from 9 a.m., until 3 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For additional information, call Brenda Miller at 606/886-3863, ext. 280.

Parents get chance to learn about schools

What parent doesn't want to know more about his/her child's school and the impact of education reform?

At the Parent Connection Workshop, set for May 12 at Hazard Community College, parents will be the learners, finding out what their children are learning and how they can help.

The free workshop proposes to give parents the "tools" to become successfully involved with their children's schools.

It is presented by the Kentucky Department of Education's Region 8 Service Center, the state PTA, and Prichard Committee.

Registration begins at 8 a.m. with a continental breakfast. State Sen. Benny Ray Bailey will speak on "Education in Appalachia" at 8:50 a.m.

A series of smaller group presentations are set for 9:40-10:50 a.m. and will be repeated at 11 a.m. Topics include introduction to computers, the parent's role in school-based decision making, communicating effectively with educators, accelerated reading, Commonwealth Accountability Testing System (CATS), and understanding the Primary.

Following lunch, another set of group presentations will address an introduction to the Internet, structuring the SBDM Council, the middle school parent, understanding today's KIDS, parents as conferencing partners, and special education. These sessions will run from 1 to 2:10 p.m. and 2:20 to 3:30 p.m.

A six-hour training program for newly elected parent members of Site Based Decision Making Councils will also take place that day.

Door prizes will be given away, including two computer systems.

To find out more about the all-day session, contact Nancy Price, Parent Liaison, Region 8 Service Center, 100 Resource Dr., Prestonsburg, KY 41653; telephone, 606/886-0205.

South Floyd student headed for 'New York'

by Willie Elliott
Staff Writer

Sometimes the extracurricular activities of a student have as much to do with his/her success as academic pursuits do. Such is the case with South Floyd senior Lance Sparkman.

This is not to say that Sparkman is not a good student for he is, but he has taken the knowledge he learned in class work to make a name for himself in music and forensics.

Sparkman's latest achievement involves forensics where he shared co-captain-captain position with Wendy Mullins, and Leslie Compton.

Other members of the team are Jessica Mosley, Brandon Lawson, Jessica Pack, Ronald Miller, Rachel Little, Shea Roberts, Amanda Isaac, Jequetta Parker, and Sonya Tackett.

In state competition, Sparkman finished in the top five in prose and poetry interpretation, which qualified him for a trip to the national competition, which will be held in Rochester, New York. Sparkman will spend a week in Rochester for the competition.

He said he hoped to take advantage of the trip to see a play and visit nearby Niagara Falls. His parents, Don and Liz Sparkman, and his coach



Lance Sparkman

Suzanne Smith

Floyd youngster to attend Youth Summit

Story and photos
by Willie Elliott
Staff Writer

Suzanne Smith, daughter of Janie Bailey of Langley and Ron Smith of Prestonsburg and a special needs student at Duff Elementary School, has been selected as one of 10 Kentucky students to attend a Youth Summit at Walt Disney World Resort in Florida, May 8-10.

To celebrate the occasion, Smith provided all the students in Suzanne's class with a party on April 17. The students made bubbles, played games and had a KFC dinner.

McDonald's has announced the names of 2,000 Millennium Dreams Ambassadors from around the world, who will represent their countries in one of the largest global youth summits ever held.

The young ambassadors range in age from 8 to 15 and are being recognized for their outstanding contributions to their communities in more than 90 countries worldwide.

Nane Annan, wife of UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, helped preside over the salute to children and their remarkable accomplishments.

Suzanne was in the Kosair Hospital in Louisville having heart surgery when the her mother saw a sign asking, "Are you a millennium dreamer?"

Smith checked it out and said, "Yes, there is something I would like to see, a children's hospital in eastern Kentucky."

On Valentine's Day, Smith asked Suzanne what she wanted and she said, "I want to make the hospital real and I want to fly."

On that same day, the material for the Disney Trip arrived in the mail.

Suzanne likes to sing, and her favorite singers are Faith Hill and Tim McGraw. She said she would love to hold the couple's two "babies" who are about two and three years old. She also said she likes to eat, and Pizza Hut is her special place.

Smith believes so intensely in the need to have

a children's hospital in this region that she opposed Hal Rogers for the 5th Congressional seat last election and is running against him again this election.

Implemented in association with UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), the Millennium Dreamers global children's recognition program featured one of the largest and most far-reaching searches ever conducted to seek out and honor young people who are making a difference.

Together with Disney, McDonald's restaurants worldwide helped distribute nomination forms and promote the program in their local areas.

"By showcasing these 2,000 young people and their truly inspiring stories, we are saluting children and their families everywhere as the true heroes of our society," said Jack M. Greenberg, McDonald's chairman and chief executive officer.

"We are proud to be partnering with Disney on this rewarding worldwide initiative that reinforces our joint commitment to kids."

"The glare of the headlines sometimes blinds us to the incredibly selfless acts performed daily by young people everywhere to make our world a better place," said Michael D. Eisner, chairman and CEO of The Walt Disney Co.

"Disney and McDonald's are proud to celebrate the millennium by honoring these leaders of the next century and showcasing their stories," Eisner said.

Nomination forms for the Millennium

See SMITH, page four



Suzanne had a "party" cake to celebrate her journey to Disney World.



Suzanne Smith took time out from her celebration party to pose with, from left, Delisa Howard, an aide at Duff Elementary who helps the student in her daily routine, Suzanne's mother Janie Bailey and teacher Michelle Hall.

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.

Comes now that time of the week when it's write something for this column, or cut line and go home...Wish it were that simple.

OH, WELL!

I could clip a few paragraphs that pass for jokes, but folks would say I'm too lazy to do something on my own, and those who don't like jokes would gripe about my being too frivolous. And if I inveigh against this or that, they'll want to know who I think I am to criticize. If I let the column go, somebody will want to know why; and now that I'm writing it, somebody will still wonder why.

HOW IT HAPPENED

We retell this one which comes from Allan Trout via Watt Hale: It was in the depths of the depression when the next meal was of deep concern to millions of Americans. Two elderly friends met in a town of the region, hailed each other heartily after a separation of many months. Finally, one asked, the other, "How's your pa?"

"Pa's dead," the other sadly informed him. "Hadn't you heard?" The other, of course, hadn't, and he inquired about the details.

"He was eatin' his dinner, and broke his neck," the bereaved son explained.

"Broke his neck? Did he fall out of his chair?"

"Nope. He was up in that persimmon tree, out back of the house, and he fell out."

MONEY-GRABBER

Ever try one of these pay-telephones around here? They're real moneymakers. You dial your number, don't deposit your dime till you get an answer—and if you get the dime in the box before it disconnects, you're quicker on the draw than Wyatt Earp or any of those slow-pokes. Moreover, there's no way to get your money back unless you care to take the phone apart, which might be a costly, though satisfying undertaking.

FISHING (?) REPORT

I am requested by a few hopeful spirits to record herein the latest fishing news. But why ask me? Raymond Copley on the first cast, the other day, hooked and landed a 24-inch walleye in the Big Sandy here... Irvin Harris came in from Dewey Lake with a six-pound bass taken on a darter... But you have to go back to a couple of weeks to the jiggling season to find many such catches. At the boat dock they have a list of the larger fish caught this year, and therein you'll find names of Heber Burke, Olin Elliott, John Warrix, Gordon Moore and others whom I cannot recall. They have some blank lines reserved for duffers such as I, but aren't laying any odds that these will be filled...The fish are on, or about to go on, their nests. Which gives us another excuse for failing to catch the pesky critters.

Recycling

Longtime readers know that the Our Yesterdays section (Wednesday's edition) has been a feature of the Floyd County Times for many years — a feature that's been adapted by many other area papers.

To do the 20 years ago and up, Hannah Adams pretty much looks at what was published before and type-set it.

For 10 years ago, we have to summarize the major articles on the front page and look up the obituaries to record the "There died..." entries.

Last week, while gathering the 10 Years Ago data, I ran across a column I wrote in 1990, (during a previous stint here) around this time of year, regarding Earth Day. In terms of recycling, I don't think I can come up with any better.

It's about my grandmother, Nannie Castle Ward, who died before Earth Day began, but who was the consummate recycler. So, I am going to recycle part of that 10-year-old column to pay homage to the Earth Mother, Mammaw.

The drawers (of her old treadle sewing machine) reflected her very essence. They stored buttons, zippers, pieces of lace, snaps and hooks and eyes. All

PostScript

by Pam Shingler
Editor



came from articles of clothing her children and grandchildren had worn out. When that happened, she stripped everything that could be used again.

She even recycled the worn cloth into quilt pieces, dust rags or pillow stuffing. Nothing that could be used was discarded.

There's something very special now about seeing a remnant of a favorite dress from fourth grade in a quilt that keeps me warm decades later.

She recycled food, too, as I remember. Food simply was not thrown out. Potatoes, for instance, that started as boiled potatoes on Monday became mashed potatoes on Tuesday and fried potato cakes on Wednesday.

Likewise, soup beans became bean cakes after most of the soup was gone.

She always had a garden, no matter where she lived. My job, when my turn came to be her assistant, was to pour a dipper of water into the hole she dug for a young plant (fun) and to pull weeds (drugery).

From her, I learned the unadulterated pleasure of picking fresh vegetables off the vine and eating them right there in the garden. Even today, few experiences equal the simple joy of plucking a warm cherry tomato (we called them tommy-toes) from the vine I have planted, popping it into my mouth and feeling it ooze inside.

Organizations

KFW Drift Woman's Club

by Celia Little, Secretary

The KFWC Drift Woman's Club met March 20, at the Viola Bailey Community Center Building.

President Alice Osborne opened the meeting with prayer, followed by the Pledge to the American Flag.

Celia Little gave the devotional, a poem, "Trust and Believe," by Helen S. Rice.

The secretary read the minutes. Treasurer's report was given by Roney Clark.

The program for March was on conservation.

Ruby Akers presented Eddie Patton, administrative assistant to Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson, who spoke on conservation projects in Floyd County.

The Kentucky Department of

Agriculture has committed \$75,000 to the new Century Aquaponics project to be located at South Floyd High School. Plans are for both high school students and adults to receive training in green house operations and entrepreneurial skills.

A white-buy-back is planned as a clean up project in our communities, \$5 will be paid for each item.

A PRIDE grant will supply money for the clean up of trash and river banks and streams on Right Beaver, Cow Creek, Mud Creek, Abbott Creek, and Hueysville, and to eliminate straight pipes, to improve water quality in Floyd County.

Pick up around your home. The items may be taken to USA Waste Management at Garth, before 4

p.m. Also, \$2 will be paid for your old tires at the landfill.

President Alice Osborne read correspondence from KFWC. The Convention will be April 18-22 at the Executive West, Louisville. Ruby Akers was elected Delegate. She will take the first place winners in art and crafts at the Seventh District Conference.

The next meeting was to be April 17, the annual membership dinner.

The hostess, Karen Hunt, served refreshments to Alma Mosley, Roney Clark, Celia Little, Donna Allen, Alice Osborne, Geraldine Ward, Ruby Akers, Ruby Damron and Mary Joyce Gash.

Plans were discussed for the Drift Woman's 32nd Horse Show, July 8, at Prestonsburg Archer Park.

Local physician recognized

Dr. Gan Maddiwar has been designated a Paul Harris Fellow, one of the highest honors for Rotarians.

Assistant district governor Lowell Keene of Pikeville presented the award during the April 13 meeting of the Prestonsburg Rotary Club at Jenny Wiley State Resort Park.

Maddiwar, a past president of the local Rotary Club, was recognized, among other things, for his volunteer work with the Remote Area Medical Corps of Knoxville, Tennessee, which provides medical aid to the poor, free of cost.

The local doctor joined other volunteers in December to fly to India, where they were hosted by Rotarians in Nagpur.

For 10 days, they set up camp and did more than 270 intraocular implants, 60 plastic surgeries and 38 general surgical procedures. In addition, 1,650 pairs of prescription eye glasses were given to the needy.

When the other RAMC volunteers returned home, Dr. Maddiwar stayed in India until February 25. During one week at SEARCH, a research center and hospital in Gadchiroli, he performed 32 hernia and hydrocele operations.

From February 3-7, he joined more than 40 Rotarians from Nagpur for the 15th annual Marathon Surgical Camp at Hemalkasa, a remote tribal village in Maharashtra. Maddiwar has been a part of the camp since 1992.

Some 235 major cases were handled this year. A 10.7 kg ovarian cyst was removed from a 35-year-old woman, who had been unable to have surgery for seven years. One



Lowell Keene, state assistant district governor for Rotary, presents a Paul Harris Fellow medal to Dr. Gan Maddiwar, member and past president of the Prestonsburg Rotary Club. (photo by Pam Shingler)

man was brought in for emergency repair of facial and extremity wounds after being attacked by a wild bear.

More than 400 patients and relatives were housed, fed and entertained for 10 days by the local hospital team, headed by Prakash Amte, his wife and two children, all MDs.

According to Dr. Maddiwar, the Amtes have spent more than 27 years serving tribals and forest dwellers for free. Dr. Prakash Amte maintains an award-winning wild animal shelter and protects injured and/or lost animals.

Route 680, go about three miles, and you will pass Culbertson's Chapel United Methodist Church. Just a short distance beyond the church, Route 680 intersects with 671, follow 680 and 671 about a half mile. Route 680 will turn left, so stay on Route 671 a very short distance. On your left will be the school. The total distance from Nickelsville will be about four miles.

Friends and relatives are invited to join the descendants of James Nickels Sr. and Robert Elam families.

Dr. Maddiwar performed reconstructive surgery on one such animal in 1994. Videos of that surgery and other expeditions are available.

Each year, Dr. and Mrs. Maddiwar distribute the equivalent of about \$5,500 in the Gadchiroli District.

Dr. Maddiwar indicates that the Remote Area Medical Corps needs doctors and nurses to volunteer for future expeditions. For information, call him at 606/874-9946.

Registration will begin at 10 a.m. Bring a picnic lunch and drinks for your family, and food will be shared, for the noon meal.

The first generation of the Elam family is represented by Robert Elam Sr. who emigrated from England about 1638, to the colony of Virginia, 362 years ago.

For more information about the reunion, motel accommodations and the activities planned for June 10 at the motel, or family history, contact Edwin E. Nickels, 682 Rocky Branch Rd., Blountville, Tennessee 37617 or call 432-323-2009.



Family Medicine

John C. Wolf, D.O.
Associate Professor
of Family Medicine



Uveitis needs both eye doctor's and family doctor's care

Question: I saw my eye doctor because I have been having eye pain, particularly when I'm in bright light. He said that I had uveitis and has treated me for it, but he also wants me to see my family doctor because he said the back pain I've been experiencing might be related to my eye problems. Are these doctors in cahoots, or could my back pain and eye problems really have the same cause?

Answer: It is certainly possible to have uveitis and back pain as a consequence of the same illness, but you might also simply have two different problems that are producing symptoms at the same time. I'm sure that your eye doctor wants to work with your family physician to find out the specific cause or causes of your symptoms so that the proper treatment can be used.

Uveitis, the particular type of eye trouble you have, deserves a bit of explanation. I'll start with the way the eye is built. The eye has a tough outer wall that is composed of three major layers, and a center that is filled with a clear and colorless fluid.

The tough outer layer of the eye includes the transparent cornea over the pupil as well as the white of the eye, called the sclera, around the remainder of the eyeball. The inner layer consists of the light-sensitive optic nerve. Between these two—in the layer called the uvea—is the location of your eye trouble.

The uvea contains the iris, that colored part that controls the amount of light entering the eye, the coroid plexus that is a collection of many small blood vessels, and an organ named the ciliary body that produces the fluid filling the eye.

Inflammation of the uvea is called uveitis, the condition you have. This causes general eye discomfort, as well as the pain you experience in bright light. As you know, bright light causes the pupil—the opening in the center of the iris through which light enters the eye—to contract.

The way light causes this automatic response is rather complex, but ultimately the pupil constricts because the small muscles of the iris make it do so. These muscles become inflamed and sore with uveitis. Therefore, it hurts

as they contract as an automatic response to being in bright light.

Now, your back pain poses an interesting dilemma. Back pain is a normal characteristic of the human species. More than 80 percent of the population will lose at least some time off the job during their work career because of back pain.

Perhaps your back pain is simply this common disorder involving a disturbance in the smooth coordination between the muscles, nervous system, bones and circulation of the back. However, your back pain may also be the consequence of a special type of arthritis that strikes from five to 500 out of every 1,000.

You may have what we doctors call a spondylarthropathy. (Yes, it's another terrible doctor name). Spondylarthropathies are specific types of arthritis that predominantly attack the joints of the spine.

Ankylosing spondylitis is the most prevalent of these, but Reiter's syndrome and psoriatic arthritis are also fairly common. These conditions attack about 1.5 percent of whites, 4 percent of American blacks, 18 percent of Pima Indians, 50 percent of Haida Indians in Canada and almost no one of Asian ancestry.

All spondylarthropathies can also cause uveitis. In fact, in some individuals the first symptom of these types of arthritis is eye pain, and it may take months or years for joint pain to "show up" and make the diagnosis possible.

I think your eye doctor is trying to take good care of you—not just your eyes, but all of you. He wants to be sure that your uveitis does not indicate a more serious underlying illness such as a spondylarthropathy.

Your doctors are not in cahoots, because that word indicates a questionable motive for their collaboration. Instead, they appear to be working together for an honorable goal—your good health.

"Family Medicine" is a weekly column. To submit questions, write to John C. Wolf, D.O., Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine, Grosvenor Hall, Athens, Ohio 45701. Past columns are available online at www.fhradio.org/fm.

HRMC adds high tech Lithotripsy Service

Highlands Regional Medical Center has upgraded its urological services to include the full time availability (seven days a week) of lithotripsy for the treatment of urinary (kidney) stones.

After an extensive review of lithotripsy machines, the Econolith unit, manufactured by MEDISPEC, Washington, D.C., was chosen. This is the same machine as used by Johns Hopkins Hospital, Georgetown University, and the Mayo Clinic.

The Econolith is the most technologically advanced machine offering state of the art treatment for urinary stones available almost anywhere, including eastern Kentucky.

According to Dr. Michael McDonald, urology surgeon and program consultant at Highlands, "When I was on staff at the University of California-San Francisco just three years ago, this type of technology was not yet available. Through scientific advancement and redefining technology, the treatment of stone disease has achieved new standards.

"This equipment allows for excellent stone clearance rates, requires only minimal anesthesia and is an

out-patient procedure. It can be performed in 15 to 30 minutes, requires no incisions, causes only minor discomfort, and allows the patient to return to normal activities quickly."

The pain of kidney stones is very significant and relief, through ESWL (lithotripsy), is almost immediate.

Dr. McDonald explained, "This particular ESWL unit works by emitting an electrical spark that vaporizes water transmitting a shock wave. X-rays aid in the visualization of the stone and focus the shock wave directly onto the calculus.

"After the procedure is completed, the patient stays in the recovery room for 30 to 60 minutes and is discharged home. This new equipment has a greater than 90 percent stone free rate which is, without a doubt, the best in the industry."

Highlands now offers lithotripsy availability 24 hours/seven days per week. Kidney stones diagnosed in Highlands Emergency Department can be treated almost immediately and the painful symptoms relieved. This new equipment is only the beginning of many new and improved services to be offered by Highlands in keeping with its mis-



Dr. Michael McDonald, Urologist and Lithotripsy Program Consultant, said that the technology available in the Econolith unit sets a new standard in the treatment of kidney stone disease. This is significant, because throughout the southeastern United States, including eastern Kentucky, kidney stones affect one in 10 people before the age of 70.

sion to help make our community healthier.

Reunion

Nickels-Elam

The twenty-second annual Nickels-Elam family reunion will be held on Sunday, June 11, at the Twin Springs High School near Nickelsville, Virginia (Scott County).

To get to the school, follow Virginia Route 71 to the west end of Nickelsville, Virginia; turn north on

Things to Ponder

by Mable Rowe Lineberger, Ph.D.

"Mirror, Mirror on the wall. Who is the fairest of us all? Can you see that we are pretty on the inside as well as on the out?"

In those early years of childhood, it was so nice and pleasant to fantasize about what kind of princess I might be. It was fun to think about how I would grow up, go off in the golden coach at midnight, and live happily ever after with the handsome, charming prince.

However, over the years, I have become aware, sometimes abruptly, that a difference is made between and among people based on looks.

But no one has been able to define exactly what that certain special appearance is that most of us are attempting to achieve. If we cannot hide and/or cover up a major body flaw with a secret formula from Elizabeth Arden or an 18-Hour Control device, then there is the BIG business of correcting Mother Nature's mistakes via surgical means.

As in most hospitals decades ago and now in doctors' flashy offices, there is the striving enterprise of carving unwanted body segments away via cutting and sucking procedures. I first became aware in the early 1960s that individuals would go to great lengths to make permanent changes in their appearance.

While working in the operating room or that first year of nursing school, I was amazed that anyone would add to one's chest with curved foreign objects, that felt similar to leather-like Jell-O. It seemed to me all that time and pain to go from an A to a B was just not necessary nor worthwhile.

That same year, a fellow scrub nurse assisted the No. 1 plastic surgeon of the Palm Beaches, a female who made fine stitches, do a complete facelift. It took about seven hours in all.

Then, lo and behold, my friend was on call that night and had to go back in the wee small hours of the morning for that same case. The female patient had begun bleeding and almost the whole procedure had to be undone and re-sutured.

Later, in the mid-1970s and while working the night shift, a little old lady, about 74, barely mouthed that, if she had known how it would hurt afterwards, she would not have made the choice to have plastic surgery.

Her husband had given her an "around the mouth" job so that a lifetime of wrinkles could be pulled away.

Furthermore, it had been money out of their pocket, because insurance does not pay for elective cosmetic surgery—not medically necessary.

A friend of my sister's had part of her face done, eyes and mouth, and I thought that it looked so unnatural. Sure didn't make \$4,000 difference in her looks, in my opinion.

Of course, not all plastic surgeries go sour or don't look right. Many marvelous things can be done now to help rehab a disfiguring injury so the person can be more functional throughout life.

No matter what we do and what we rub on, time, genetics, environment, and gravity join together to be beauty's No. 1 enemy, sooner or later. "The bones stay upright until you go permanently horizontal... As the soft tissue begins to sag off the bones, the rosy cheeks

of childhood become the sallow jowls of the elderly... a jaw line becomes a wattle. (Doesn't Mother Nature play a cruel joke, after so many years of hard work!)"

Basically, the "downfall" reflects the collagen and elastin, in the second layer of our skin, that begins to fragment. Skin loses its elasticity, then gravity steps in and all become baggy. Then the ads about plastic surgery, liposuction, and rub-on cremes are noticed even more. Making yourself beautiful "in one short step" is often too hard to turn down.

Whether it is unnatural, or right or wrong, it's the world we live in. What is the price we will pay to be one of the "bright and beautiful" or in hopes of any change that will make us be happy.

Of course, lots of people will do anything to get what they think they want. According to the American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery, "almost 3,000,000 cosmetic procedures were performed in the United States in 1998. Baby boomers (35 to 50 years old) accounted for 42 percent." (National Geographic January, 2000).

A world-famous, Brazilian plastic surgeon wrote that in the 1970s men were eight percent of his patients, while they were recently 25 percent. Another "trim-and-fix" surgeon wrote, "Plastic surgery is exciting. We're lifting, tightening, firming. We change people's lives (with a different type of laser for each procedure)."

In addition, these magic procedures are sought all over the world. Some folks in London and Sydney travel to Russia for their cut-price plastic surgery. An Australian magazine supposedly listed the six most popular cosmetic surgeries: penile enlargements with

men, nose jobs, eyelid lifts, liposuction, face-lifts, and ear corrections.

Plastic surgery is a booming business in China. In Brazil, women often prefer small breasts and big derrieres; "women get liposuction at 18 and breast reduction at between 16 and 22."

In contrast, Americans chose big "chesties." Get this—reportedly breast augmentation are given as graduation gifts in a Texas town. A New Jersey "shaping" surgeon said that most of his patients worked and were in a competitive world. Liposuction was the most popular request for him with the face—eyes and double chins being next.

What about Michael Jackson, who had the money, time, and desire, to create his own body image. A close associate responded, "It's no different from choosing your jewelry, your clothing, or your hairstyle." What do you think?

Thought these quotes were interesting: "Old age is not for sissies," one of Bette Davis' favorite lines; and the response was, "No, no. Old age is not for narcissists. If you are wrapped up in yourself, you have nothing but the potential for loss."

The story goes that Martha Graham, a powerful woman and possibly a great force in modern dance, grew bitter, as she grew old. She would call one of her dancers in the middle of the night, saying, "Die while you're young and still beautiful," and hang up.

Do you think about what you wish you could do to change the impact of a lifetime on your appearance? What's it worth to you? Would you have plastic surgery done, if you thought no one would be suspicious?

Beauty: the shape of it all!

WEDDINGS/ ENGAGEMENTS



Shepherd, Hunter to wed

Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Shepherd announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Janie Rachel Shepherd, and Greg Arnold Hunter, son of Phillip Hunter. The bride-elect is a graduate of Anderson County High School and Eastern Kentucky University, with bachelor's and master's degrees and Rank I in communication disorders. She is employed by the Franklin County Board of Education. The prospective groom is a graduate of Betsy Layne High School and EKU, where he received a bachelor of science in psychology. He is expected to receive a juris doctorate from the University of Akron School of Law and a master's degree in taxation from UA in May. He is employed by the university. The wedding will be June 17, 2000, at 1:30 p.m. at Anderson Christian Church, 1637 US 127 Bypass South, Lawrenceburg.



Garrett is wedding setting

Teresa Smith, daughter of John and Margaret Scalf of Pikeville, and Gary Wayne Little, son of Ethel Little of Weeksbury, and the late Joe Little, were united in marriage February 18, 2000, at the First Baptist Church in Garrett. The ceremony was performed by Larry Adams. The bride was given in marriage by her father. Matron of honor was Denise Thomas of Morehead. Bridesmaids were Leigh Anne Williams of Pikeville, and Kim Polly of Kona. Best man was Eric Thomas of Morehead. Groomsman were Rodney Newsome of Price, and Roger Duty of Salyersville. Flower girl was Celeste Hall of Wheelwright, and ringbearer was Cory Little of Eastern. A special member of the wedding party was J.D. Little of Eastern. Peggy Bradford of Weeksbury, served as vocalist and pianist. A reception was held in the fellowship hall of the church, with Rosemarie Sherman, Dawn Cline, and ladies of the First Baptist Church, serving refreshments.

'Eggin' on good cooks

Eggs are one of the most versatile foods around. Why not create an egg recipe that's better than any other in the state? What's the incentive? You could win the \$400 top prize in the 2000 Kentucky Egg Recipe Contest.

To encourage participation in our contest, the state is divided into three areas—I-75 and east, I-65 to I-75 including Louisville, and west of I-65. One adult and one junior from each area will be chosen to participate in the Kentucky State Fair cook-off.

Prior cook-off participants will not be eligible. Our total prize money is \$1,400.

To enter, send your original appetizer recipe to: 2000 Kentucky Egg Recipe Contest, P.O. Box 21829, Lexington, KY 40522-1829 by June 1. Your entry must contain at least 1/2 egg per serving.

Previously published recipes or past contest-winning recipes will be disqualified unless significant alterations have been made.

All entries become the property of the Kentucky Egg Council which reserves the right to edit, modify, adapt, publish and use the recipe in any way without compensation.

Be sure to include: Name, address, phone number, division (adult or junior—grades 6 to 12) and area number.

You must be a Kentucky resident. Food professionals are not eligible.

Your recipe will be judged equally on creativity, ease of preparation, taste, appearance and nutritional quality. If you are a cook-off finalist, you will be notified by July 30. The cook-off will be held at the Kentucky State Fair on Thursday, August 24. Prizes in each division are \$400 for first place, \$200 for second place and \$100 for third place.

Howard Helmer, the World's Fastest Omelet Maker, will appear on stage during the cook-off at the Kentucky State Fair.

ATLA Consumer News

The many faults of "no-fault" insurance

by Richard H. Middleton Jr. and Penny Gold

Accountability. It's a value Americans take seriously—so seriously that our civil justice system is based on the idea that justice is served only when people who act irresponsibly are forced to compensate those they hurt.

Unfortunately, one bill pending in Congress proposes to lighten the accountability of reckless drivers who cause auto accidents.

The "Auto Choice Reform Act of 1999" (H.R. 1475 in the House, S. 837 in the Senate) promotes "no-fault" insurance—an alternative to traditional insurance that some states experimented with in the 1970s.

The liability systems we have now apportion fault, hold negligent drivers responsible, and force reckless drivers to compensate innocent drivers for their losses.

On the other hand, no-fault systems require that both innocent and reckless drivers pay for damages resulting from accidents, regardless of who is at fault.

Under the federal bills' no-fault provisions, innocent drivers must ask their own insurance companies to pay for lost wages, medical expenses, and funeral costs—and leaves them unable to force reckless drivers to pay for other damages, such as the loss of a child or severe disfigurement.

Tim Ryles, former commissioner of insurance of the state of Georgia, describes it this way: "If a reckless driver runs a stop sign, hits your car, kills your child, destroys your ability to ever have another child, and leaves you a paraplegic, you can never hold the errant driver or his insurance company personally or financially responsible.

Ultimately, what you may get—perhaps after suing your own insurance company—are your medical expenses, lost wages, and funeral costs. Nothing for your child. Nothing for loss of fertility. Nothing for being left an invalid for life."

Supporters of the bill say that implementing no-fault systems would reduce insurance premiums for all drivers in part by eliminating the cost of seeking compensation for less tangible, non-economic damages.

In addition, they say, lowering the cost of premiums would allow more low-income drivers to buy insurance.

But the experience of two states that experimented with no-fault plans shows that rates won't necessarily go down. Insurance rates in Connecticut and Georgia both fell—7 and 6 percent, respectively—only after no-fault plans were repealed there.

Even if no-fault did lead to cost savings, there's no guarantee that

insurance companies would pass those savings onto their customers.

In addition, drivers in no-fault plans who wanted coverage for those less tangible, non-economic damages (which are taken care of in traditional systems) would have to buy extra insurance—thus raising the total cost of their premiums.

Consumers should take a close look when government entities consider no-fault insurance.

We all want lower insurance premiums, but bills like the "Auto Choice Reform Act of 1999" don't give good drivers much of a choice—it only makes it more likely they will pay for bad drivers' reckless behavior. That leaves the wrong people accountable.

For more information on auto no-fault insurance, see the web site of the Consumers Union (the non-profit organization that publishes Consumers Reports magazine) at www.consumersunion.org.

For more health and safety information and tips, visit ATLA's "Keep Our Families Safe" Web site at <http://familiesafety.atla.org>.

Richard H. Middleton Jr., president of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America, is a partner in the Savannah, Georgia, law firm of Middleton, Mathis, Adams & Tate, P.C.

Penny Gold is the executive director of the Kentucky Academy of Trial Lawyers.

Gifts for Mom that won't break the bank

(NU) - Thanking Mom for all she's done for you can be tough, especially for kids who are on a budget but still want to let their mom know how special she is.

Sons and daughters looking for an easy way to find quality gifts for Mom that won't break their bank accounts have a new resource—the virtual shopping center at www.mall.com.

A quick perusal of this Web site found a number of creative gifts that Mom will love, all of which cost \$35 or under.

Moms who enjoy reading thrillers will love John Grisham's latest, "The Brethren," which tells the story of three jailed ex-judges, who illicitly work from their minimum-security prison—until they take on the wrong victim and come head-to-head with a CIA conspiracy.

To order this book for only \$13.98—half off the cover price—simply go to www.mall.com, click on the "Books and Music" section and click on the Borders storefront.

Or help Mom pamper herself with the magnetic therapy roll massager, available through The Sharper Image storefront for only \$19.95. Perfect for easing a stiff neck or sore areas of the lower back and legs, this specially shaped support cushion is embedded with 20 therapeutic magnets

designed to naturally alleviate pain and stiffness.

The athletic Mom will appreciate the selection of sporty jersey separates available through the J.Crew storefront, and you'll appreciate the fact that these quality casual clothes come with an affordable price tag.

A racerback tank for \$12, a jersey drawstring knit shirt for \$34, a cross-stitch tank for \$20, and a layering crew for \$12.50 are available through this store in a variety of sizes and colors—mix and match to help Mom spruce up her workout wardrobe.

Mom can store her jewelry and

other small knick-knacks in the musical ring box, available through the Bombay Company storefront for only \$30. This 5-inch high, 4-1/2-inch wide dark teak wooden box with a brass handle opens to the tune of "Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend."

Plenty more affordable presents that Mom will love are as close as your mouse and computer screen. You can browse the entire mall from the comfort of your own desk, and you won't need to search for a parking space. So skip the flowers and the chocolates and shop at www.mall.com for Mom this season.

Birthday announcements

Put your little one in the news. Let the Times help you celebrate your child or grandchild's birthday. We'll print the youngster's picture and birthday information—free. Stop by 263 S. Central Avenue, Prestonsburg; send to PO Box 390, Prestonsburg, KY 41653; or email fctimes@eastky.net.

BIRTHDAYS



Celebrates first birthday

Bethany Renae Allen celebrated her first birthday on February 23, 2000. She had a Winnie-the-Pooh birthday cake, balloons and festive party theme. She is the daughter of Jimmy and Rita Allen of Stephens Branch. Her maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Windell Watson of Pyramid, and paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Gary Allen of Stephens Branch. Her maternal great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Watson of Caney Creek and the late Elmer and Ruby Reffett, formerly of Pyramid. Her paternal great-grandparents are Lucille Hundley of Louisville and the late W.D. Hundley, and Mr. and Mrs. Norwood Barker of West Liberty and the late Delmar Allen.



Turns five

Kayla Shea Nelson, daughter of David and Lisa Nelson of Auxier, celebrated her fifth birthday with a party at McDonald's in Pikeville on February 19. Her birthday was February 23, 2000. Celebrating with her were her maternal grandmother, Inez Lewis of Banner; paternal grandparents, Johnny and Lillie Nelson of Prestonsburg; Dawson Lewis of Banner; Margaret, Kelsey and Cody Preece of Columbus, Ohio; Ruth Jervis of Auxier; Samantha Davis and Kayla Carty, both of Prestonsburg. Those sending gifts who were unable to attend were Tim Lewis of Banner; John, Lecia and Wesley Nelson of Prestonsburg; Dave, Misty and Cody Francis of Banner; Linda Powers of Allen; and Clyde, Marlene and Rudy Endicott of Morgan County.



Is two

Ethan Clay Vanderpool, son of Jason and Jennifer Vanderpool of Lexington, celebrated his second birthday on February 10, 2000, with family and friends at Chuckie Cheese in Lexington. He was entertained with an early birthday party on February 5, at the home of his maternal grandparents, Cleve and Janice Shepherd of Briarwood. The party theme was "Thomas the Train." His paternal grandparents are Abe and Brenda Vanderpool of Lancer. His great-grandparents are Gardis and Maudie Ousley of Middle Creek; Juanita Shepherd of Prestonsburg and the late Bud Shepherd; Oma Hughes of Briarwood, and the late Arthur Hughes; and Abe Vanderpool Sr. of Call Creek, and the late Betty Vanderpool.

Planning your wedding on the Web

(NUE) - So you're getting married—congratulations!

Although this is by far the most exciting time in your life, it is also hectic. So stop staring at your engagement ring and start planning your wedding.

Contrary to popular belief, weddings and other big family events can be quite difficult to plan. The trick is to start preparing the minute you get engaged; otherwise, you can wind up spending a lot more money than you bargained for.

Luckily, GeoWomen.com is here to help. Part of the GeoPortals.com family of Web sites for a more simplified and interesting life.

GeoWomen.com is the world's most practical Internet resource.

For women, the GeoPortals experts have compiled key information and links to other Web sites so you don't have to waste hours surfing the Internet just to find the nearest bridal shop in your area. You can do just about everything on this site from shopping for new lipstick to exploring the latest women's health issues.

For the busy bride-to-be, GeoWomen.com has a few recommendations to help you make the proper arrangements for your big day:

1. Take your time: Giving your-

self adequate time to plan will allow you to meet with plenty of representatives from catering services, florists, wedding coordinators and other vendors.

2. Do your research: Take advantage of wedding publications, such as etiquette books, magazines and Web sites, designed to help your wedding run smoothly. They've already done the research for you.

3. Beauty for brides-to-be: Check out the latest beauty and makeup tips for the perfect look on your special day by going to GeoBeauty.com, the sister site of GeoWomen.com.

4. Use the World Wide Web:

Visit GeoWomen.com for all kinds of helpful information and great links to Web sites for brides. Particularly for ethnic brides is a link to Brides of Color, which offers wonderful tips for traditional weddings and helps you find the perfect gown. Or simply click on WeddingChannel.com. They will help you with more than just planning.

5. Read up on reception halls: For a great outdoor wedding reception, why not rent a tent? Check out GeoWeather.com to get a weather advisory well in advance.

6. Register online: Aren't you glad you're living in the electronic

age? Now you can register online for all the great gifts on your wish list when you visit GeoWomen.com and click on bridal information.

7. Write it all down: You will run into so many good ideas while you're browsing through Web sites like GeoWomen.com. Be sure you don't forget to keep all of your information organized in one place. When you click on WeddingPages.com, you'll find the best A to Z online wedding planner that lets you store everything on your computer so you don't have to save thousands of pieces of paper.

To get started, log on to www.geowomen.com.

Smith

Dreamers were distributed via elementary and secondary schools throughout the United States; select national children's organizations including Junior Achievement, National Latino Children's Institute, and National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; McDonald's and Disney Web sites; and at participating McDonald's restaurants worldwide.

UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan said that "it is young people's hope and energy, their enthusiasm and willingness to experiment, that make society move forward; young people coming together to work out their own agenda, without waiting for governments to tell them what to do; succeeding generations making sure they do indeed succeed in more senses than one."

Postscript

And like her, I love to pick a thin, red pepper off the shoot and feel the pungent pleasure-pain on shocked taste buds.

No one ever had to fear pesticides on Mammaw's vegetables. She tended the crops so diligently, bugs never had a chance.

Mammaw canned, dried or pickled everything she grew that we didn't eat fresh. Nothing was wasted — not even the cabbage stalk for which I searched in every newly opened can of kraut and chowchow.

Every day I throw away things Mammaw would have saved, and I feel guilty.

She made footstools out of coffee cans, taping five or six together, padding them and wrapping them in a piece of fabric.

ing toward international goals. The 2,000 Millennium Dreamers ambassadors will gather in Florida to share their inspirational stories with the world at one of the largest gatherings of young people from around the world ever held.

While there, they will also participate in a global symposium presented by Disney Institute. McDonald's and Disney launched the Millennium Dreamers program in fall 1999 by inviting children around the world to complete a nomination form describing their community-service activities.

Independent judging panels from participating countries around the world selected the final 2,000 ambassadors, based on the creativity, inspirational value and impact of the contribution on the community and beyond.

McDonald's Corporation and The Walt Disney Company are global alliance partners in an exclusive 10-year multi-divisional,

multi-national relationship.

Suzanne will head out for Florida on May 6, but there may be another special meeting before, as Suzanne may be able to meet Gov. Paul Patton, Lt. Governor Steve Henry and his fiancée and Miss America Heather French.

Smith has suggested that it would be a good gesture if Suzanne could provide the officials at Disney World with a basket of items that depict the life and culture of eastern Kentucky.

She suggested something such as a lump of coal or anything that would represent the local area. Anyone who would like to contribute an item may send it to: Suzanne Smith Collection, Rebel Road, PO Box 193, Eastern, KY 41622.

Suzanne is the granddaughter of the late Sidney and Marcella Bailey, founder of the Red, White and Blue Day held in Martin each spring.

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Continued from p1

shared with anyone who admired her green thumb.

I don't have to wonder how she would have reacted to the waste her literal and figurative children have come to accept and practice. I know she would have been perplexed, disappointed and saddened.

Unlike her, I have not been a very good steward of the Earth's riches. But I've vowed to do better. It's going to be hard because I've grown far away from her example and I'm going to need help and encouragement from everyone else who had a mammaw like mine.

But I'm giving it a try for Mammaw — and Mother Nature.

Greetings to subscriber Cordelia Conley of Hueysville. Thanks for reading the Times.

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New York

Sherry Bailey will accompany him.

Sparkman gives Bailey and his teammates credit for much of his success. South Floyd's team as a whole did well also in forensics this year.

This success has created a tough decision for Sparkman — a decision more students should have the opportunity to make. He has been offered a scholarship to both Pikeville College and Western Kentucky University.

Pressed for a preference, Sparkman wisely says, "I'm looking at my options."

He uses the same approach to his ambition later in life. He says he will major in communications, saying there are so many things he could do after receiving a degree in communications. But it doesn't take long for him to get around to what he really wants to do — become an actor.

"People have lots of faith in me," he said, indicating he has faith in himself. "I think one of these days, I will be on the big screen."

Sparkman said it is a big honor to be the first person in Floyd County to go to a national competition in forensics. He said the four or five evenings of practice each week were worth the effort.

Following the stringent rules of forensics, Sparkman will read and interpret passages from "Sunday

Sermon" for his prose selection and a group of poems that contain a central theme.

He has his material prepared according to the rules, which oddly enough do not allow acting with total movement. According to Sparkman, the participants are not allowed to move their body from the waist down. That puts a lot of the emphasis on use of the voice to convey a mood or idea.

The gist of Sparkman's "sermon" is "What good is the opportunity, though, if you are unprepared to witness? That's why each of you should take our Friday night evangelism classes and get copies of this little booklet: 'The Four Spiritual Laws.'"

Sparkman also had a successful year in music, going undefeated as field commander in all the events the band took part and being chosen for all-county bands (first chair). He also found time to take part in the service-oriented Beta Club.

The South Floyd High School Forensic Team had a very good season this year. The team belongs to three different forensic leagues — the only team in the county to compete in three state tournaments. Nine seniors will be graduating from this year's team.

The team had the support of the principal, faculty, staff and parents as they competed throughout the

year. Don Sparkman, Karen Paige, Shirelene Hamilton, Shelley Ward, and Johnnie Mae Mosley served as judges for each of the tournaments while Connie Roberts and Elizabeth Sparkman chaperoned every trip for the year.

Some of the other highlights of the year include the following:

In the Montgomery Tournament, Sparkman took first place in prose interpretation while Leslie Compton and Brandon Lawson tied for seventh place in prose interpretation.

In the Pike County Tournament, Sparkman took first place for poetry interpretation and fourth place for declamation, and Compton took seventh place for poetry interpretation.

In the regional tournament South Floyd had these results: first place regional champions, first place in solo acting to Jessica Pack, first place in broadcasting to Leslie Compton, first place to Wendy Mullins and Leslie Compton for duo interpretation, second place to Shea Roberts and Rachel Little in duo interpretation.

Jessica Mosley had a third place award in original oratory. Lance Sparkman and Brandon Lawson received first place in prose interpretation. In poetry interpretation, Ronald Miller was first, Jessica Pack was sixth, and Lance Sparkman took first place.

NEW ARRIVALS

Highlands Regional Medical Center

March 25: A son, Christopher Ronnie, to Tameka Moore of Langley; a son, Robert Stephen Fox, to Dr. Amy and Thomas Doty of Paintsville.

March 27: A son, Ernest Keith Woods III, to Cassandra Manns of Salyersville.

March 28: A son, Jacob Austyr

Kent, to Marty and Sheila McKinney of Martin; a son, Cody Will Amyx, to Dawn Louise Helton of Salyersville.

March 29: A daughter, Dezeree LaShay Newsome, to Alta Ann Clark of Banner; a daughter, Taylor Lasha Hunter, to Rexie Jarvis of Tram.

March 31: A daughter, Samatha Nicole Bayrs, to Billie Workman of Whitehouse; a son, Kristopher Nathaniel, to Heather and Jackie

Howard Jr. of David; a son, Dalton Lee, to Tammy Jo and David Lee Tackett of Pikeville; a daughter, Sadee Morgan, to Kevin and Sherri Scott of Inez; a son, Nicolas Bryant, to Bryan and Rebecca Maynard of Pikeville.

April 1: A daughter, Lynsey Nicole, to Danny and Dottie Fairchild of Staffordsville.

April 2: A son, Andrew Charles, to Andy and Ada Faye Rowe of Royalton.

April 3: A daughter, Lynzie Shaylen, to Rebecca and Marcus Stephens of Salyersville; a son, Ezekiel Ryan, to Diane and John Wilson Owens of Mousie.

April 5: A daughter, Hallie Michelle, to Jonda and Christopher Habern of Pikeville; a son, Cameron Jacob, to Tony and Jolean Goble of Prestonsburg.

April 7: A son, Lakyn LaSha, to Paula Renee and Salen Benjamin Howard of Salyersville.

April 10: A daughter, Lindsay Rae, to Regina and Richard Pinson of Paintsville; a daughter, Steisha Elizabeth, to Stephanie Lynn and Bobby Wayne Smith of Hindman.

Organization helps select quality childcare

Summer is almost here, and that means children will be home from school. They'll need something to keep them busy and entertained while parents work.

Preschools and child care centers can help with fun summer education; yet choosing the right one for your child can be confounding.

The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) accredits infant-toddler centers, preschools and child care centers nationwide.

An accreditation from the NAEYC almost always can assure parents of high-quality child care, said Jaesook Gilbert, UK early childhood education professor and director of UK's Early Childhood Laboratory.

"The accreditation tells you the center is held to a standard recognized for its quality across the country," she said. "Typically, that standard is higher than state requirements for child care center licensing."

The Early Childhood Lab at UK is one of 12 centers and pre-kindergarten schools in Fayette County and 149 in Kentucky that carry the voluntary NAEYC accreditation.

Gaining the accreditation is a lengthy process that involves a hefty fee, a self-study which includes collection of parent and staff questionnaires, a visit by NAEYC validators and review by the National Academy of Early Childhood Programs Commission, a committee of early childhood education experts.

"The NAEYC looks for quality indicators such as child and adult interaction, heavy emphasis on safety and cleanliness," Gilbert said. "They also look at wages,

professional development opportunities and benefits for employees. They also look for low teacher-to-student ratios. It is a lot of work, but it's worth it to know this is a better center."

Many centers use the self-study as a tool to brush up on basics and help teachers bring innovation to the classroom. The study or its follow-up may show, for instance, that some teachers have forgotten to use paper towels when turning off water faucets or reveal cleaners that are not properly stored.

"It helps you look at the big things and the little things," Gilbert said. "The study makes you sit down and really look at your program and the direction it is taking."

In addition to accreditation, Gilbert said there are several other things parents should look for when selecting a child care program.

First check to be sure the program has the proper state licensing and that the license is displayed. Also ask about the qualifications and training of staff. Look into everything from teacher's degrees to their knowledge of CPR and first aid. Turnover rates in staff also can give parents an idea of a center's stability and quality.

Next, observe the center. Do the teachers work well with children? What are the student-teacher ratios? How well do the teachers and administrators work together? Are teachers interacting with children on an appropriate level and in a positive manner?

Also, if you have an infant, be sure there is a system in place that lets you communicate with teachers about the child's needs.

Curriculum can be evaluated by

observing the variety of materials available to the children, as well as whether the materials are age appropriate and encourage development. Schedules should be flexible to meet needs that arise daily and should include individual and quiet time for children.

Other things to consider are health and safety, guidance and visitor's policies. Review handbooks for all these policies and talk with teachers about them. Health and safety policies should be clearly stated. Parents should be welcomed at their child's center and be able to visit the center at any time.

Teachers also should be prepared to present their guidance policy. Gilbert recommended making sure teachers use positive guidance and redirection, focusing on what students can do rather than what they can't do and helping them solve their own problems.

Gilbert said parents should weigh the evidence, but not overlook their instincts.

"Your first impression is important. What is your gut feeling about the place?" she said. "If you feel uncomfortable about a center or a teacher, your child will pick up this feeling immediately. If you feel good about the center or teacher, your child will feel the same way. Trust your instincts."

For more information, about the NAEYC, visit www.naeyc.org. A listing of NAEYC-accredited centers can be found at http://www.naeyc.org/accreditation/default.asp.

For information about state standards and licensing for child care facilities in Kentucky, call the Cabinet for Health Services at 502/564-7130.

Entry deadline for 'Everybody's State Fair' is July 1

With 28 competitive entry departments, the 97th annual Kentucky State Fair, August 17-27, at the Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center, continues to offer a variety of opportunities to win.

However, the most important requirements for blue ribbon competition arrives now: don't forget to submit the entry before the deadline.

All open class competitive entries, with the exception of livestock (July 10) and rabbits (July 19), are due by July 1.

Entry forms, rules and guidelines for cooking contests and competitive entry departments are listed in the 2000 Kentucky State Fair entry catalog. The catalogs are free and will be available at all County Extension Offices in late May.

Additional requests can be made by writing to: Kentucky State Fair Entry Department, P.O. Box 37130, Louisville, KY 40233-7130, or by calling 502/367-5190.

E-mail requests can be sent to: mary.herbert@mail.state.ky.us. For more information, visit the Kentucky State Fair web at www.kyfairexpo.org.

Most entry fees are \$4 per department, but live-

stock entries vary by category. Entries in the dairy products, ham, homebrew and wine departments are free.

Since the majority of the categories are open competitions, anyone who is interested can compete in literally thousands of categories for ribbons, trophies and a share of \$240,000 in total cash awards given during the Fair.

New competitive categories in the Kentucky State Fair this year include additional classes of Antique Photography, Needlework and Handspun Fabrics. Furthermore, purchase award amounts for the fine arts have been raised from \$400 to \$500.

Special cooking contests will return to the 2000 Kentucky State Fair, including: the Archway@ Sweepstakes Cookie Contest, Evan Williams@ Bourbon Cooking Competition, john conti@ Coffee Cake Contest, National "Best SPAM@ Recipe" Competition, Pillsbury Refrigerated Pie Crust Championship, Shedd's Spread Country Crock@ Muffin Sweepstakes, Sure-Jell@ and the Holidays!, Fleischmann's@ Yeast Best-Ever Bread Competition and LAND O LAKES@ Margarine "Sweet Treat Team Championship."

5 solutions for your wardrobe

(NAPSA)-Did you realize it only takes five basic items to give your current wardrobe a brand new look? A variety of options can be created with simple pieces that express your personal style.

Choices are everywhere, with a dizzying array of advertisements and celebrity endorsements giving confusing options. With all this information, how do you make a smart fashion decision? Ask a few wise questions. What fabrics do you love? What colors give you a great feeling? How does your clothing reflect your personal style?

To help, the fashion experts at Silhouettes, a catalog and online retailer devoted to dressing women sized 12W to 34W, recommend the purchase of five basic items to update and restyle your wardrobe. In fact, personal style beyond size is the mantra of the design team at Silhouettes, offering everything to complete an outfit from shoes to sportswear, swimwear and special occasion apparel.

"Be aware of your existing wardrobe, and add items that can co-exist creatively," says Neil Mulhall, catalog director for Silhouettes. "An item that can be dressed and accessorized to provide different looks, can go a long way. To me, these five new basics are all it takes to update your wardrobe:"

- Chino-This season, you cannot go wrong with this timeless essential. Look for these different styles: pleated, plain front, cropped and capri.
• Canvas Deck Shoe-Always comfortable for walking, the canvas deck shoe is a fun and versatile option.
• Cotton Cardigan-Ultra-soft and flattering, the cardigan is perfect for layering. It is a great alternative to a jacket, and a super choice for a casual dinner.
• Denim-The denim jean is an old favorite. Updated from cropped to drawstring, stretch and detailed, the jean is an absolute necessity.
• Drawstring Linen-As a drawstring pant, skirt or short, linen is key to casual comfort. Linen looks best paired with a crisp white shirt.
All of these fun and functional items are designed especially with the 12W-34W customer in mind. Trained fashion consultants are available 24 hours a day at 1-800-579-2634 or online at www.silhouettes.com.



Family reunion? Share your family news. If your family has had a reunion within the last six months, the Times will publish a picture or two and basic information about the gathering. Stop by 263 S. Central Avenue; send to PO Box 390, Prestonsburg, KY 41653; or email fctimes@eastky.net.

Youth News

May Valley Elementary



Chase Inmon and Kelsey Blevins enjoy daily computer activities. They are students in Lisa Thornsberry's class at May Valley Elementary.



"Cat in the Hat" hats seem to suit the students in Lisa Thornsberry's class at May Valley Elementary School. They wore the hats on Dr. Seuss Day.



Thomas Jones and Josh Crum enjoyed making and wearing groundhog hats to celebrate Groundhog Day. They are students in Lisa Thornsberry's class at May Valley Elementary.



Students from Jamie Slone and Cindy Martin's Head Start classes at May Valley took advantage of a beautiful spring day to work out on the playground. They are Jasmine Chaffins, Tristan Reed, Amber Robinson, Megan Layne, Katerina Halbert, Deloris Stewart, Brandon Mosley, Caitlin Randolph, Tyshauna Robinson, Autumn Castle, Austin Hoover, Kasey Tackett, William Powers, Tara Collins, Taylor Tolson, Molly Thornsberry and Alex Carraway.



Jeremy Eaton and Morgon Sizemore enjoyed the treat left for them by the leprechaun on Saint Patrick's Day. They are students at May Valley Elementary School.



On Dr. Seuss Day, students in Lisa Thornsberry's class at May Valley Elementary School enjoyed a story read by Anna Watson, who also presented them with a new gold dollar coin. Watson works at Firststar Bank.

Youth News

How the internet can help you with homework

(NUE) - Kevin is a high-school senior enrolled in a U.S. history class. As a homework assignment, he and his classmates have been asked to write a report about the American Civil War. It can be on any topic.

He'd heard about the legendary Underground Railroad that helped fugitive slaves find freedom before the war broke out, and so chose that as his subject. But he needed to find out a lot more about the Underground Railroad before he could start writing his report.

Normally, the 17-year-old honors student would spend days researching the subject at the library. But because of the crush of academic and extracurricular activities at this particular time of year, he needed help in a hurry.

So, as thousands of others have done in similar situations, Kevin turned to the Internet where he found help was but a few clicks away.

GeoHistory, one of many GeoPortals.com sites, did much of the research for him. GeoPortals.com is a collection of free Web sites

on a variety of subjects ranging from education, arts and entertainment to home buying and selling.

For starters, Kevin learned that the Underground Railroad was neither a railroad nor was it underground. Rather, it was a loose and all but unorganized system in which citizens illegally helped black slaves reach safety in the free states or Canada in the period before the Civil War.

The slaves' freedom was made possible by courageous men and women who believed in the right of all humans to be free from human bondage.

As Charles H. Blockson wrote in a National Geographic article, the Underground Railroad was "a network of paths through the woods and fields, riverboats and ships, trains and wagons, all haunted by the specter of recapture."

The Underground Railroad probably took its name from the popularity of the new railroads that were beginning to thread their way across the country at this time. African American and white

"conductors" met and guided the escapees, or "passengers," to safe houses, or "stations," where they stayed until it was safe to leave.

To learn all of this, Kevin went to GeoHistory.com and clicked on "Go to Americas," then clicked on "Maps & Articles," and went to "A Period of Slavery" where he found a map of the Underground Railroad routes plus a lot more information. Thanks in part to GeoHistory, Kevin not only turned in his paper on time but also received an "A."

GeoHistory is a great resource for teachers, students and history buffs. Its historical database includes thousands of articles, images and maps dating from 2500 B.C. to the present.

Internet users can soon look forward to another 200 maps added to the GeoHistory Americas site. For more information, click on www.GeoHistory.com/Americas. Or to learn more European history, visit GeoPortals' other history Web site located at www.GeoHistory.com/GeoWorld.



Job Corps students visit Pikeville College

The business clerical class from the Carl D. Perkins Job Corps Center in Prestonsburg recently visited the Pikeville College campus to work in various offices in celebration of Volunteer Week. From left are Derrick Castle of Cincinnati, Ohio; FloAnn Young, Pikeville College librarian; and Clarence Gandy of Columbus, Georgia.



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.

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.

Meeting the challenge for better teaching

Most of the responsibility for improving student achievement performance rest with teachers. This has been true throughout much of our history.

But today's teachers are being called upon to teach in new ways that reflect the increased expectations of our educational system.

Many teachers entered the profession long before reform became a reality, and they have been asked to incorporate a mountain of new ideas into their teaching practices.

Helping them succeed requires professional development of the highest quality. It also involves changing the way teachers work and learn.

Question: What is found in a school environment that encourages

the right kind of learning opportunities for teachers?

Answer:

- Teachers are able to work with colleagues, both in their school and beyond it.

- Principals who understand the demands of reform offer support and advice to teachers.

- Someone other than a principal is available to observe trying new practices and to make non-judgmental comments and suggestions.

- Teachers are a part of a larger community of administrators, students, parents, school councils, school boards and business people who offer support and ideas.

- Teachers have a chance to observe teaching practices that help all students improve their academic achievement and to develop the abil-

ity to critically assess their own practices.

- Teachers are given the time and mental space they need to develop new understandings of the subject they teach and the roles they play in the school and community.

- To accomplish all the these things, professional development is defined as a central part of teaching, woven into teachers' daily work instead of being delivered in activities that are added on to a school day or week.

Source: "Realizing New Language for All Students: A Framework for the Professional Development of Kentucky Teachers." G. Williamson McDiarmid for the Partnership for Kentucky Schools.

Teacher tips

Looking for a way to bring Earth Day 2000 into your classroom? The Alliance To Save Energy is offering free educator lesson plans to help elementary, middle and high school teachers commemorate this event. Visit www.ase.org/educators to download the lesson plans, which offer an interdisciplinary exploration of energy efficiency issues. The site also offers a link which helps schools use energy efficiently through building retrofits, changes in operational and maintenance routines, and changes in the behavior of building users.



Future Leader

Belue Sturgill, an eighth grader at Allen Elementary School, has been accepted into Future Leaders of America. Only five percent of the students from the country's 22,000 schools are honored annually. He is a member of the Junior Beta Club and National Beta Club, and his other honors include Honor Roll and National Honor Society. He is the son of Michael D. and Sandy Sturgill of Prestonsburg.



Clark Elementary wins 3rd place in regional forensics

Clark Elementary School students won third place in regional forensic competition. The students are, back, from left, Pamela Stone, Allison Dye, Stephanie Prater, Brianna Stone, Seth Hackworth; front, from left, Jessica Conley, Beth Allen, Kristen Little, Coach Judy Bailey, Jennifer Belcher, Julie Ford. Not pictured are Erica Osborne and Karen Collett.

Student honored

Christopher Merritt of Salyersville, has been named an All-American Scholar by the United States Achievement Academy.

The Magoffin County High School student was nominated by Marci Kazee.

He is the son of Curtis and Karen Merritt of Salyersville, and the grandson of Clifford and Genaus Fletcher of Lima, Ohio, and Dean and Wilma Merritt of Emma.



Molly Thornsberry enjoyed Dr. Seuss Day at May Valley Elementary School.



Students in Gail Hall's primary class at Prestonsburg Elementary read many books by Dr. Seuss during Read Across America Week. Devin Clifton read the Dr. Seuss classic Fox in Socks to the rest of the class.

HOUSEKEEPER NEEDED: Cleaning / Cooking / Running Errands, etc. Experience necessary, references required, 20-30 hours or more, flexible/dependable person can get more hours, about 7-11 pm, M-Th, minimum 5 hours on week-end days, raise after probation. Only serious inquiries please. 886-6796, ask for Jaime.*

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The Floyd County Times

SELL



TOMORROW

American Profile



Home for Good

THE LURE OF HOMETOWN AMERICA AND WHY IT BECKONS US

Story on page 4

- INSIDE:**
- Sneeze-free summers
 - Country Doctor of the Year
 - Egg salad surprises, and more

SPOTLIGHT: Jonesboro, Georgia: The Real Road to Tara

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Home for Good

by BARBARA JENKINS



Phil and Dina Herald in one of Ohio's most livable small communities, where they intend to stay.

**Why the
lure of our
hometown
values
is changing
the face of
America**

America's population shifted away from metropolitan centers in the last decade three times faster than during the previous 10 years, and hometowns such as Mount Vernon, Ohio, are one of the reasons why.

Phil Herald left the tree-lined streets of this quiet town in 1981 for a high-paying, high-pressure career as an electronics salesman in Southern California, but through the freeways, smog, and stress, the memories of a simpler life in his hometown of 14,000 lingered on. Then in 1991, right after the birth of their second child, Phil and his wife Dina finally packed their belongings and their children — newborn Christine and 3-year-old John — and returned to Mount Vernon. Phil still sells electronics, but now it's from the appliance store founded by his father nearly 40 years ago.

"I'm the appliance guy in our small town," says Herald, 41, standing amid the Whirlpool and KitchenAid refrigerators at Herald's Appli-

ance and Electronics on South Main Street. "I left a high-paying job for a simpler lifestyle, making less money but enjoying the quality of life more. Money doesn't always equate to happiness."

Dina, 37, grew up in a metropolitan area of New Jersey, but visited Mount Vernon often with her college roommate—who happened to be Phil's sister. "I feel safe here," she explains. "I feel part of a community that looks out for my children. When my son started the sixth grade, the teacher said, 'I'm sure your dad is Phil Herald because you look just like (he) did when I taught him.'"

The Heralds are among millions of Americans who choose every year to remain with, or return to, a way of life involving neighbors, trust, a sense of community, county fairs, front porches, and Fourth of July parades. It's a life of first names and extended families.

"I know the banker, the doctor, the garbage man. I know everybody, and I even know their kids," Herald says. "In a small town you become connected to the entire community."

Even between strangers, this connection of faith helped net Mount Vernon the honor of being named Ohio's most livable small community by Ohio magazine in 1994. It seems an elderly lady was having trouble parking her car on Main Street just as a reporter from the magazine happened by. The reporter, who was checking out Mount Vernon, watched as the elderly driver finally gave up on her parking attempt and flagged down a complete stranger, gave him the keys, and asked him to park the car for her. He did, and returned the keys.

The reporter related this incident to his editor, concluding that, "Any town where you can give a stranger the keys to your (car), and expect to get them back, is a most livable town," according to Mount Vernon Mayor Dick Mavis.

Deep roots in Texas

Homer and Ruby Martin of Gilliland, Texas, know the stability of deep roots. Homer Martin

Photo by Jamie Sabau



Home on the range: Homer and Ruby Martin

has walked the same sagebrush-dotted soil every day of his 88 years; his wife has been there for 66 of those years.

"We wouldn't be satisfied anywhere else," muses the tough Texas rancher of the tiny windswept town 100 miles north of Abilene that's now little more than a grocery store and filling station.

"I love the wide open spaces and you can go anywhere you want and have yourself a big time," he notes, surveying the 193-acre homestead where the couple raised cotton and cattle for a half century.

"My granddaddy came here in 1908 and my family has been here ever since. Used to be a bigger-sized town, but we've still got about 100 folks scattered over the country," he says.

"And, we know 'em all," Ruby Martin adds.

Creating close ties

Hometown living—for natives and transplants—means focusing on the important things such as safety, caring about others, trust, and slowing down, says Lisa Rogak, a writer who left New York City in 1988 for a west central New Hampshire village of about 1,000.

She now can do the kinds of things unimaginable to her former city neighborhood.

"I leave my keys in the car so I won't lose them. They never leave the ignition," says Rogak, 37, who has authored 25 books including the guide "Escape to a Small Town", and concludes there's no better place to call home. "When I'm driving my car, I can stop in the middle of the road and have a conversation with someone."

Hometown living creates the kind of close ties that allow neighbors to do favors for each other without a second thought, Rogak says.

"If I ask someone to come in and feed my cats while I'm gone, they do it," she says. "Recently, a neighbor needed me and I ran down to throw wood on the furnace so their house wouldn't be cold when they returned home."

Randy Owen is Down Home in Alabama

Hometown values are why Randy Owen, lead singer of the country supergroup Alabama, and his bandmates remain in rural Dekalb County near Fort Payne, Ala., a town of about

13,000, though their money and fame could take them anywhere.

The four-member band, recently named "Top Country Group of the Century" by the Recording Industry Association of America, has sold more than 60 million records singing about everyday life—country roads, the daily grind of mortgage payments, the minimum wage, and family relationships—with such down-to-earth lyrics as "down home a man's good word and a hand-shake are all you need."

"I am blessed to live today on the same land where I grew up and farmed as a boy. It's great to be able to stay where your roots are," says Owen, 50, who checks on his cattle from a pickup truck when he's not recording or touring.

They may be worldwide celebrities, but in Fort Payne, Owen and his bandmates are regular neighbors with their "just folks" humility and common-man work ethic.

Living in Fort Payne and away from the frantic entertainment world gives the band the time and space they need between their professional and personal lives, Owen says.

"When we're home, we're home and just doing day-to-day business like everybody else—the kids are in school and we're working," he says.

"Fort Payne is just home." ✨

Barbara Jenkins is a best-selling author and keynote speaker living in Nashville, Tenn.



Randy Owen offstage



Photo by Geoff Forester

Volunteer firefighters of Grafton, N.H., where trust matters

Tidbits

IN 1898, PHARMACIST CALEB BRADHAM created a delicious and quickly popular fountain drink in the cellar of his New Bern, N.C., drugstore. The beverage was called Brad's Drink, until he re-named it Pepsi-Cola.

CUMBERLAND FALLS STATE RESORT PARK near Corbin, Ky., has the Western Hemisphere's only waterfall that regularly displays a moonbow—a nighttime rainbow which occurs when a full moon rises behind the falls' mist on a clear night.

IN 1995, HEATHER WHITESTONE MCCALLUM of Dothan, Ala., became the first "Miss America" with a disability. She couldn't hear the announcer, so runner-up Miss Virginia cordially pointed to her to tell her she'd won.

THE WORLD'S LONGEST OVER-WATER BRIDGE is the Causeway Bridge over Louisiana's Lake Pontchartrain (pop. pelicans, shellfish, and ducks). About 30,000 cars cross the 24-mile bridge on a typical weekday.

DR. JOHN GORRIE OF APALACHICOLA, FLA., invented the first ice-making machine in 1845 to help cool patients' during an outbreak of yellow fever. This laid the groundwork for modern refrigeration and air-conditioning.

THE THOMAS HUGHES LIBRARY in Rugby, Tenn., (pop. 70) houses probably the greatest collection of Victorian literature in America. Hughes, a British author and statesman, founded the town in 1880 as a cooperative, class-free society where Britain's young noblemen could prosper. About 20 of the original Victorian buildings still stand.

IN 1776, GEORGIA'S POPULATION WAS 40,000. Today it stands at roughly 7.6 million.

AFTER A BLIGHT DESTROYED THE MULBERRY trees that fed silkworms for the silk industry in Jamestown (settled in 1607 as the first of 13 original colonies) the colonists turned to tobacco—which today is Virginia's largest cash crop.

AMERICA'S SECOND-HIGHEST BRIDGE, over New River Gorge in Fayetteville, W.Va., draws bungee jumpers, parachutists, and 250,000 onlookers on Bridge Day every October. It's the state's most popular event.

ARTIST PETER FREUDENBURG USED 50 gallons of paint to convert a million-gallon water tower in Gaffney, S.C., into a peach—complete with a 12-foot stem and a 60-foot leaf.

FOR TEN YEARS OR SO, PASSERS-BY have been tying together shoes, sneakers—even sandals and cowboy boots—and tossing them into a tree outside of Eureka Springs, Ark. Nobody seems to know why.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT, ON A 1902 Mississippi hunting trip, spared the life of a cornered bear. News of this spread, and two New York toymakers took advantage by stitching together the first of what soon became known as the "teddy bear."

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A Sneeze-Free Summer

by JACQUELINE TRESL

Glen Lightner loves yard work, but the price he pays—itchy skin, watery eyes, congestion—is almost enough to make him hang up his hoe for good.

Lightner is among 35 million Americans who suffer spring and summer allergy symptoms because their bodies are hypersensitive to foreign substances normally considered harmless. Each time they are exposed to “enemy” substances such as tree and grass pollen their immune system’s antibodies release histamine, the chemical responsible for itchy eyes and nose.

Spring’s worst allergy offenders are trees, particularly heavy pollen producers such as hickory, oak, elm, maple, alder, birch, juniper, and olive. Grasses — Bermuda, timothy, orchard and sweet vernal — are the culprits in late spring and early summer, while weeds such as thistle, ragweed, and plantain cause most of the misery in late summer. Some flowers and patio plants, particularly amaranthus, chrysanthemum, ceanothus, and juniper also aggravate symptoms for unsuspecting allergy sufferers.

The best defense, if you are plagued by allergy-related problems, is to simply avoid what makes you sneeze. Here’s how:

- Stay indoors when pollen counts are highest, especially between 5 and 10 a.m., and on dry, windy days when windborne pollens are blown around.
- If you long for a flower garden, choose poppies, azaleas, begonias, tulips and irises, whose sticky pollen, which is carried by insects rather than the wind, is least aggravating to allergies.
- Wear a pollen mask, available at most pharmacies, to do yard work or gardening.
- Keep home and car windows closed to keep pollen outside.
- Use the air conditioner to filter pollens carried inside and change the filter monthly.
- Shower and shampoo before going to sleep so you don’t take pollen to bed with you.
- Wear sunglasses to protect your eyes from pollen.
- Keep hands away from your face when you are outside.
- Never lie in the grass and avoid being present when grass is cut.
- Don’t smoke, and avoid second-hand smoke. Lungs compromised by tar and nicotine are more sensitive to allergies.

Over-the-counter medication can provide relief from most allergy symptoms. Antihistamines block histamine release to halt sneezing and itchy eyes, though they don’t clear nasal congestion. Use regularly rather than sporadically, and never operate machinery while the antihistamines are in your bloodstream because they cause drowsiness.

Decongestants shrink blood vessels in nasal passages, relieving congestion. Decongestant nasal sprays are effective for short-term use, but congestion “rebounds” worse than before with prolonged use. Use with caution if you have high blood pressure.

If allergy symptoms persist, see your doctor. ✨

Jacqueline Tresl is a registered nurse in New Concord, Ohio, who writes extensively about health issues.

Able County[®] by TOM MILNER



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it's the bloomin' allergy season

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Hometown Spotlight

by RON CHEPESIUK

Jonesboro, Georgia

The Real Road to

Tara



Stately Oaks, a vintage antebellum plantation house, survived the ravages of war to help inspire the grand novel of an age.

Near the end of his two-hour "Gone with the Wind" tour, Peter Bonner likes to surprise tourists with a delightful revelation: Prissy really lived.

"I searched the tax records and learned that she lived in Jonesboro, Ga., until at least 1890," Bonner explains.

Prissy, of course, is the famous slave character from Margaret Mitchell's "Gone With the Wind," perhaps history's most popular novel. Less well known is Jonesboro, a town of 4,000 about 20 minutes from Atlanta. As Bonner's historical tour shows, people are dead wrong if they trek to Atlanta hoping to find the road to Tara. For that they must visit Jonesboro where this novel was born.

As a child, Mitchell spent much of her time at the nearby Fitzgerald Plantation where her grandmother, Anne Ruth Fitzgerald, entertained her with stories of the Civil War and the genteel tradition that all but disappeared in the smoke of the country's bitter conflict. Later, at the Clayton County Courthouse in Jonesboro, Mitchell pored over old county records to research the historical background for her classic novel.

"It's easy to see why

this had such an influence on Mitchell's fertile imagination," Bonner says. "Our town and the surrounding county was the scene of some of the Civil War's heaviest fighting."

Historians consider the Battle of Jonesboro, fought on Aug. 31 and Sept. 1, 1864, to be of major importance to Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman and his famous "March to the Sea." The victorious Union soldiers were able to cut off Atlanta, forcing the city to surrender—a major turning point in the war. A Confederate cemetery just minutes from the downtown area contains rows of white rock pillars, a stark reminder of the war's legacy.

"Leave the cemetery and tour Jonesboro and you can quickly see the battle's impact," Bonner says. "The town couldn't avoid it."

A number of historic homes were, however, spared from the war's ravages.

One of them, Stately Oaks—with its Greek Revival architecture, white-columned entrance and picturesque Southern setting—is vintage antebellum South. The county records show that Union troops camped in the fields below the house and drew water from it while owner Robert McCord went off to defend the Confederacy.

Stately Oaks is impressive, but the most elegant house in Jonesboro is Ashley Oaks Mansion (no relation to the novel's character). Ashley Oaks, built in 1879-1880, boasts 14-foot ceilings, 10 fireplaces, and dramat-

"You can still see the bullet holes from the Battle of Jonesboro in the walls."

ic furnishings of antiques, crystal, silver, and oil paintings. It could easily have served as the setting for "Gone with the Wind."

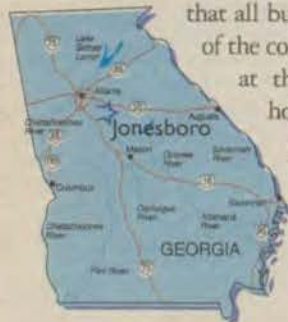
The Margaret Mitchell and Civil War associations simply abound in Jonesboro and Clayton County, and they're housed in more of the area's historic buildings:

The Warren House—Built in 1859, it served as the headquarters and hospital first by Southern troops and then by Union soldiers during the Battle of Jonesboro. Signatures of Northern troops are still visible on the walls. Mitchell visited the house several times in 1935 and 1936.

Lovejoy Plantation—Mitchell is believed to have drawn inspiration for her fictional Wilkes



Ashley Oaks, the most elegant



Hometown Heroes

by BRIAN COURTNEY

The kindness of strangers first brought Dr. Paul F. Maddox to the small Appalachian community of Campton, Ky., but his desire to make a difference in the lives of area residents is the reason he's stayed—for 47 years.

Maddox, a spry, 74-year-old physician, has devoted much of his life to treating the aches and pains of Campton's 541 residents, as well as many in neighboring communities. His years of service, which include treating the poor for free, have earned him tremendous respect from patients and peers. In fact, he recently was named Country Doctor of the Year by Staff Care Inc., a national temporary physician staffing firm. The award recognizes the dedication and life-saving efforts of rural physicians.

"The challenge is changing things and making them better," Maddox says, explaining why he and wife Pat have endured occasional primitive living conditions, such as a well that actually ran dry, to remain in Campton. "If you have everything already, then there's nothing to do."

The toils of country doctoring are plentiful. Maddox recalls deliver-

ing seven babies in 10 hours with only two delivery rooms, and the time his in-laws came to take his wife home with them because they were so dismayed by their living conditions. Fortunately for Maddox, Pat

Paul Maddox has repaid a \$2,500 loan with service and sacrifice for 47 years.

Dr. Paul Maddox, Country Doctor of the Year

refused to go with them. "If she'd gone, I would have been in trouble," he says.

Dr. Maddox moved to Campton from Lexington, Ky., in 1953 after a group of area residents loaned him \$2,500 to start his practice. This act of blind faith touched Maddox, and he's been repaying the community ever since.

When he arrived, the nearest medical facility was 50 miles away. He promised to treat everyone 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. He didn't require appointments. And payments? Well, they were optional too.

"We started out charging \$3 for an office visit, and we took everybody that came—money or no money,"

Maddox says, recalling the early years.

Records show that he has treated more than 1.5 million patients and delivered approximately 6,100 babies. While the numbers are impressive, they tell only a small part of the story of Maddox's dedication to others. Area residents willingly supply the rest.

"Whatever progress you see in Wolfe County, he's been a part of it," says Mary Bollinger, a 35-year volunteer at Bethany Christian Mission Center. Bethany, now a private school, was formerly an orphanage and

children's home. Maddox treated children and staff there for free.

"At one time, we had 130 children and Dr. Maddox would doctor us all," Bollinger recalls.

Finding Your Own Country Doctor

In America's smaller towns there are only 88 physicians per 100,000 people, compared to 304 physicians per 100,000 people in urban areas; a difference of nearly four to one. But small communities are successfully recruiting doctors, says Mark Smith of Merritt Hawkins & Associates, an Irving, Texas-based physician staffing firm. Here are some ways:

- Offer physicians a financial incentive, such as the loan Campton gave Dr. Maddox in 1953.
- Assume responsibility for the doctor's school loans in exchange for a three- to five-year commitment.
- Demonstrate to doctors how badly their help is needed and what they have to offer (the quality of life in a small town often outweighs the financial rewards of practicing in an urban area).



Photo by Tim Webb

Campton's former two-term mayor at work.

Campton Mayor Richard Jett credits Maddox with helping build the county's school system. The doctor served nearly 30 years on the school board and helped battle shrinking budgets by treating teachers and their families for free. He gave student athletes free physicals, and purchased band equipment and other necessities out of his own pocket.

He also served two terms as Campton's mayor, recently donated \$100,000 from the sale of his medical practice to help build a town library, gave another \$5,000 to construct a memorial wall for area veterans and established a \$20,000 educational trust fund for his one-millionth patient.

"No words could ever possibly describe what Dr. Maddox has meant to this area," says Nell Johnson, a longtime friend and patient. "There's probably not a family in all the contiguous counties that he hasn't touched in some way."

Maddox sold his practice several years ago but continues to work there. He was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in 1998 and astonished many by scheduling radiation treatments around his patients' appointments so he could continue practicing medicine daily.

Maddox plans to retire from his former medical clinic at the end of 2000, and health permitting will devote more time to the 98 elderly residents under his care at the county's only nursing home. ✨

Brian Courtney is a freelance writer and former newspaper reporter living in Nashville, Tenn.

■ Has someone you know inspired the lives of others?

Tell us about it in a one-page letter to: Hometown Heroes, American Profile, 701 Murfreesboro Road, Nashville, TN 37210



Photo by Tim Webb

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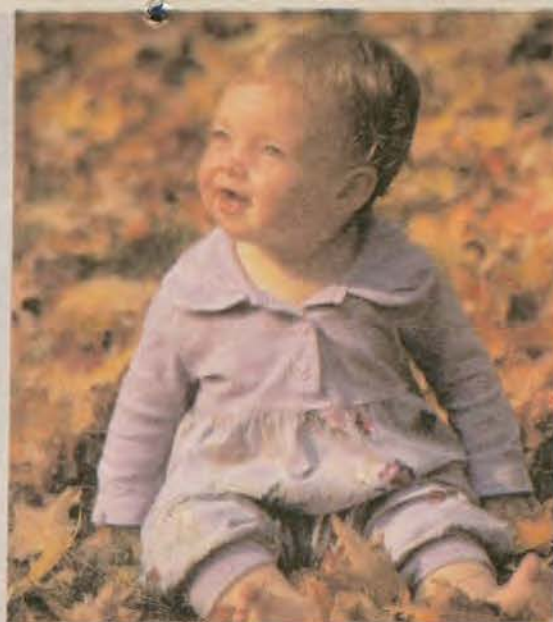
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1	\$3.31	\$6.62	\$9.93
2	3.41	6.82	10.23
3	3.52	7.04	10.56
4	3.63	7.26	10.89
5	3.74	7.48	11.22
6	3.86	7.72	11.58
7	3.99	7.98	11.97
8	4.12	8.24	12.36
9	4.26	8.52	12.78
10	4.41	8.82	13.23
11	4.56	9.12	13.68
12	4.72	9.44	14.16

Important notes
A Buyer's Guide to Life Insurance and a Policy Summary are sent with all policies. You can get them without applying for insurance by writing to us. In FL, NY, PA, & WI requirements vary somewhat. Before your policy is issued and depending on your state's regulations, you will either receive additional information or a different application to sign and return. Replacement of existing insurance is not intended. Benefits are subject to Gerber Life insurance limits. In NJ, any person who includes any false or misleading information on an application for

an insurance policy is subject to criminal and civil penalties. NJFD

WARNING: In AR, DC, KY, LA, ME, NM & PA, any person who knowingly and with intent to defraud any insurance company or other person files an application for insurance or statement of claim containing any materially false information or conceals for the purpose of misleading information concerning any fact material thereto commits a fraudulent insurance act, which is a crime and subjects such person to criminal and civil penalties. Once the first premium is paid, Michigan residents are sent a state-required endorsement to verify insurance is in effect. POLICY FORM SERIES GPP-861

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Proposed Insureds: LIST CHILDREN UNDER 13 TO BE INSURED:

Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial	Sex	Date of Birth Month Day Year

Yes No 1. Do any Proposed Insureds have any existing impairments, diseases, health or medical conditions?

If "Yes," please list names _____
Conditions _____

2. **BENEFICIARY:** Unless otherwise requested, the parents of the Proposed Insureds shall be the beneficiaries.

Yes No 3. Do you plan to cancel or change any other life insurance or annuity when ours is issued?

If "Yes," please give us the name of the other Company, and policy number so we can notify them. _____

4. **Applicant:** (must be parent or grandparent)

Name _____
(Last) (First) (Middle Initial)

Address _____ Phone () _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

I AGREE THAT: The information above is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief; this Application shall be the basis for and a part of the policy; no insurance shall take effect until a policy is issued and unless on that date the Proposed Insured is alive.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

Check one: Parent Grandparent

ALM-7

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ARKANSAS Festival of the Arts—

Eureka Springs, May 1-31

Static and performing arts daily; exhibits, demonstrations, concerts, workshops, gallery receptions, parade, adult and children's activities. 501-253-5366.

FLORIDA Hamilton County Rodeo—

Jasper, May 5-6

Professional cowboys vie for prize money in bull riding, steer wrestling, bronco busting and more. Rodeo parade will be held in downtown Jasper on May 6. 904-792-1300.

GEORGIA Cotton Pickin' Fair—

Gay, May 6-7

An old cotton plantation is the backdrop for Georgia's charming festival of antiques, arts and crafts. The event has been listed among the top 10 festivals in the U.S. 706-538-6814.

KENTUCKY Governor's Derby

Breakfast—Frankfort, May 6

Prior to the 126th Running of the Kentucky Derby in Louisville, everyone is invited to Frankfort for a free breakfast with the governor. Afterward, stroll the capital grounds for great entertainment and crafts. 800-960-7200.

LOUISIANA

Breaux Bridge Crawfish Festival—

Breaux Bridge, May 5-7

Enjoy crawfish cooked every way imaginable amid live Cajun and Zydeco music, parades, contests, arts and crafts. 318-332-6655.

MISSISSIPPI

Gum Tree Festival—

Tupelo, May 12-14

A juried art show with arts, crafts, live entertainment, and a 10K run. 800-533-0611.

NORTH CAROLINA

Annual Buggy Festival—

Carthage, May 13

Festival displaying buggies from the 1800s and early 1900s, along with entertainment, arts & crafts, antiques, food, and a car show. 910-947-2331.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Lobster Race and Oyster Parade—

Aiken, May 5

In this world's only thoroughbred lobster race and oyster party, lobsters race to the finish in a water-filled track called "Lobster Downs." Accompanied by beach music and gourmet seafood. 803-641-1111.

TENNESSEE Old Timers Weekend—

Townsend, May 5-6

Part of the 2000 Spring Festival. Bluegrass musicians come from all around to jam. Includes old-fashioned children's games, antique engine and tractor show, storytelling, and nature walks. The festival concludes with a Smokin' in the Smokies Bar-B-Que Contest and Old Timers Day. 800-525-6834.

VIRGINIA Annual Blessing of the Fleet and Parade of Boats—

Reedville, May 7

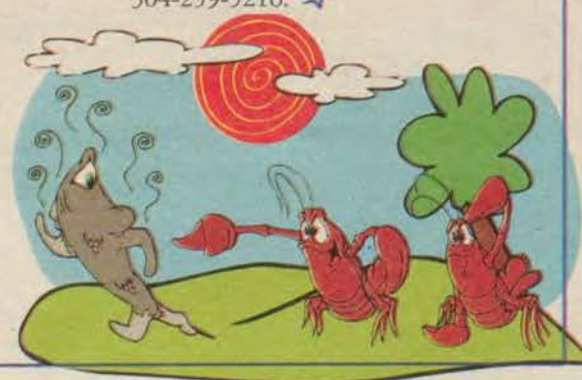
Traditional ceremony to kick off the fishing season. Commercial fishing boats and gaily decorated pleasure boats parade to the ceremony from the mouth of Cockrell's Creek. 804-453-6529.

WEST VIRGINIA

38th Annual Wildflower Pilgrimage—

Davis, May 11-14

Blackwater Falls State Park. This event includes tours to view wildflowers and other plants, bird walks, nature programs, and beginner wildflower and bird identification workshops. 304-259-5216. ✨



Ask American Profile

Q I hear that Wyoming-based country singer Chris LeDoux's family works for him when he tours. Who are they, and what do they do?

— Scott D., Colorado



Country singer Chris LeDoux at his ranch

Capitol Nashville recording artist Chris LeDoux says he is proud of his son, Ned, who is his drummer, and of another son, Clay, who until just recently helped out selling merchandise on the road. Other family members help Chris on the ranch.

Q Is it true that there is a museum dedicated to the long-running 1970s family show, *The Waltons*? Where is it and what's there?

— Patricia H., Virginia

Yes, Walton's Mountain Museum is located near you in Schuyler, Va., a small town of about 400 between Charlottesville and Lynchburg. Established in 1992, it is across the street from the boyhood home of *Waltons* creator, Earl Hamner. The museum is furnished to look like the set on the show and features some of the actual furniture used on *The Waltons*, says director Dee Davis-Wells. Ike Godsey's Store and Gift Shop is also there.

Q Can you tell me how Paul Harvey got his start in radio? He has that special knack to tell stories in a positive and interesting way, and his radio show seems to be a great piece of Americana.

— Becky H., Tennessee

Paul Harvey is possibly the most listened-to man on radio. Born and raised in Tulsa, Okla., Harvey began his career in 1933 while still in high school at KVOO in Tulsa. In 1944, Harvey moved to ABC affiliate WENR-AM in Chicago. He debuted his popular *The Rest of the Story* in 1976 and today the show, along with his *News and Comment*, can be heard by more than 19 million listeners on more than 1,200 radio stations.

Q I know that the multi-talented Brady Bunch mom Florence Henderson grew up in the Midwest. Did she come from a show business family?

— Cheryl E., Indiana

The talented Florence is from Southern Indiana and does not come from a family of entertainers, says NBC representative Lauren Perry. She is, however, the youngest of 10 children and could sing 50 songs note perfect by the tender age of 2. You can catch Florence weekdays on NBC's *Later Today*.



Florence Henderson, youngest of ten



Co-hosts Dean Johnson and Robin Hartl in their PBS workshop

Q My husband and I like to watch *Hometime*, the home improvement show on PBS. We never read anything about its host, Dean Johnson, and wonder if he is married, has a family, and would like to know anything else you can tell us.

— Kaylou L., Wyoming

Dean Johnson, 48, was born in Mankato, Minn., and grew up near Minneapolis. He attended the University of Minnesota, where he earned a bachelor's degree in accounting. Johnson worked as a cost accountant, a sales representative, and an independent builder before launching *Hometime* Video Publishing in 1984. In addition to his role as cohost, Johnson is executive producer of *Hometime* and remains president of *Hometime* Video Publishing. The father of two, he is married to his high school sweetheart, Kathi. An active parent, Johnson has been known to sneak out of work early to coach his kids' soccer teams. ✨

* Cover photo by Jamie Sabau

■ Want to know more about your favorite celebrity or public figure?

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Food

by MINDY MERRELL

egg Salad for the Epicure

Wondering what to do with the dozens of pink, blue-green, and orange hard-cooked eggs sitting in your refrigerator? Think of them not as a leftover dilemma, but as an opportunity to make a time-honored favorite—egg salad. In fact, this opportunity has proven so great that the U.S. egg industry declared Egg Salad Week starting the Monday after Easter.

A bowlful of chopped, hard-cooked eggs moistened with mayo is a purist's dream come true, but egg salad is more than a handy sandwich spread—it's a remarkably adaptable mixture that embraces a whole range of easy additions beyond the usual chopped celery.

Imagine egg salad made with roasted red peppers, black olives, and chopped fresh parsley or basil served open-face on crusty bread. Stir in a spoonful of salsa, scallions, and avocado chunks and serve

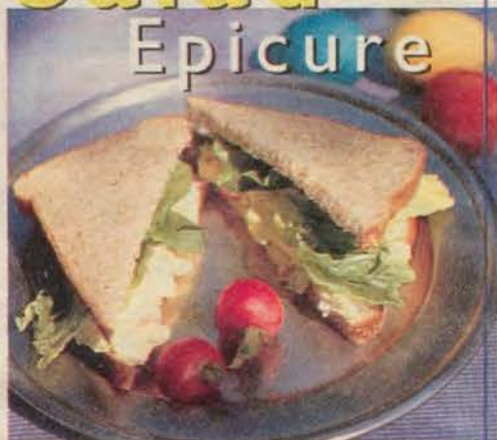


Photo by Dee Davis Photography

with tortilla chips or crackers. And chunks of your leftover Easter ham, chopped asparagus, and a spoonful of dijon mustard bring egg salad to yet another level.

You don't really need a recipe—just start with basic egg salad and use your imagination, with a little help from our list of easy additions. Keep in mind that The American Egg Board, in its (ahem) Eggyclopedia, recommends you use all those eggs within the week. ✨

Mindy Merrell is a Nashville-based food writer and cookbook author.

RECIPE:

Basic Egg Salad:

- 6 hard-cooked eggs, chopped
- 1/3 cup mayonnaise
- Salt and black pepper, to taste

Combine all ingredients in a medium bowl until well blended. Cover and refrigerate. Makes 4 to 6 servings.

Egg Salad additions:

- Crisp, crumbled bacon or chunks of baked ham
- Dash of curry powder
- A spoonful of yellow, dijon, or grainy mustard
- Chopped pimento or roasted red peppers
- Chopped green or black olives
- Chopped celery
- Chopped red or green bell pepper
- Chopped red onion, chives, scallions, fresh parsley, dill, basil, or cilantro
- Chopped leftover steamed asparagus
- Sweet or dill pickles, or capers
- Bits of shredded smoked fish such as salmon, catfish, or trout
- Cubed cooked potatoes
- Dash of hot pepper sauce, Worcestershire sauce, or lemon juice
- Spoonful of salsa, chopped jalapeno pepper

EASTER egg handling tips:

- Discard any cracked eggs and all that were unrefrigerated for more than two hours. Simply consider the Easter egg hunt and your colorful egg centerpiece as creative, inexpensive fun.
- Refrigerate all eggs after display within two hours.

Use all hard-cooked eggs within one week.



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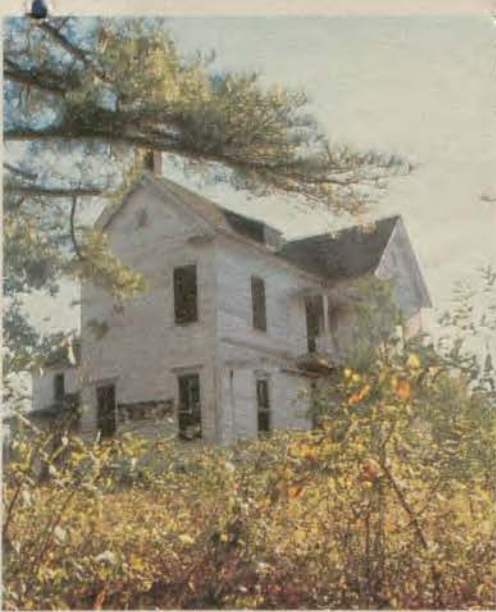
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The Fitzgerald Plantation where Margaret Mitchell spent much of her childhood listening to stories.

family of Twelve Oaks here. "You can still see the bullet holes from the Battle of Jonesboro in the walls," Bonner reveals.

Allen-Carnes House—Believed to be the oldest surviving building in town, many local residents fled to this former plantation home during the Battle of Jonesboro.

Visitors marvel that so much Southern charm, grace, and history remain amid the dizzying signs of booming, multi-billion dollar growth consuming the region. Note this anomaly to the locals and they only smile. "Margaret Mitchell would still recognize Jonesboro if she were alive today and returned to our town," Bonner says proudly.

For information, call the Clayton County Chamber of Commerce at 404-608-2770 or e-mail staff@claytoncham.org.

For information on Peter Bonner's Historical and Hysterical Tours, phone 770-477-8864 or e-mail bonners@bellsouth.net. ✨

Ron Chepesiuk is a freelance writer from Rock Hill, S.C. He has written three books on South Carolina and co-authored a forthcoming book on the Civil War.



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