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Section



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Volume 71, Issue 55

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Greg Crum gave a rousing address to his fellow graduates at PCC Friday evening



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Willie Conley

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Two Day Forecast...

Today	Tomorrow
Sunny to partly cloudy	Clouds and sunshine
High: 84 Low: 64	High: 80 Low: 54

For up-to-the-minute forecasts, see www.floydcountytimes.com/weather.htm

Inmate walks away from county jail

by RANDELL RENO
STAFF WRITER

Soon after a jailed prisoner is released from his sentence, he picks up his things, cleans his bunk, and walks out of the jail.

On Thursday, one of the Floyd County Detention Center's inmates did just that. The only problem was his term was not yet finished.

Jimmy D. Tackett of Mud Creek apparently carried his belongings through two electronically controlled locking doors down to the ground floor and then outside, where he promptly disappeared.

Despite the rush downstairs by the deputy jailers to locate the prisoner, the only thing they could find was embarrassment.

A warrant was issued for Tackett Friday for second-degree escape. He had been housed in the Floyd County jail since 1998 for violating his probation.

Tackett had originally received a five-year suspended sentence and five years probation after he pleaded guilty to taking mining cable in 1998. During his probation he was to make restitution of \$1,500.

His probation was revoked later in the year when cocaine was found in his drug test results.

Fugitive found in California

by RANDELL RENO
STAFF WRITER

A 19-year-old fugitive from justice will be returned to Floyd County next week after Sheriff John K. Blackburn travels to California to get him.

Richard E. Martin, 19, of Abbott Creek in Prestonsburg, was arrested on an alleged theft charge in Orange County and waived his extradition rights to return to Floyd County.

Martin has two separate cases pending in Floyd Circuit Court, one for attempted rape and one for theft by unlawful taking.

He was charged with the alleged attempted rape of a Prestonsburg High School student on February 23, 1999, between 3:10 and 3:50 p.m. just after the bell rang releasing the students for the day.

Prestonsburg City Police Officer Sergeant Mike Omerod sent blood and semen samples from Martin and the victim to the State Police Crime Lab in Frankfort just days after the alleged crime.

Originally charged with third-degree sexual abuse and fourth-degree assault, Martin was arrested March 1, 1999, and placed in the Floyd County Detention Center. He was released the following day after his bond was reduced from \$4,000 to \$2,000.

(See FUGITIVE, page three)

Super Saturday...



Anyone who had a boring week-end had only themselves to blame. The Shrine Circus, above, was in town to delight kids of all ages, while on down the road the third Battle of Bull Creek entertained crowds with songs from local musicians such as the Renegade Rebels, right, from Mud Creek, wrestling from the reborn Commonwealth Wrestling Association, below, stump speeches from political candidates and free hot dogs. To top it all off, there were rumors of a little horse race in Louisville later in the day.

photos by Randell Reno and Ralph B. Davis



Similar roads intersect in state Senate race

by WILLIE ELLIOTT
STAFF WRITER

"It's a small world, after all" could be used to describe the upcoming state Senate race for the 29th District between incumbent Benny Ray Bailey and challenger Johnny Ray Turner, as both are McDowell High School graduates, both began their careers as teachers, they have a common middle name — and they want to be your state senator.

The 29th District includes Floyd, Johnson, Knott and Breathitt counties.

Benny Ray Bailey

Bailey, who began his career as a teacher, teaching at Prestonsburg and Wheelwright, is executive director of East Kentucky Health Care, which he founded with Grady Stumbo in 1973. EKHC has clinics in Hindman, Hazard and Wayland.

This past legislative session, Bailey finished his 21st year as his district's senator, serving on such powerful committees as the Budget Subcommittee on Health and the Senate Appropriations and Revenue Committee.

Bailey said the legislature "runs on seniority." Of the 38 senators, only one, David Karem of Louisville, has

more seniority. He said major decisions are made by senior senators.

Bailey said that his 20 years of experience would be helpful in providing funds and projects for his district.

Given a chance to leave a final word with voters, Bailey said two things should stand out as reasons for returning him to the Senate — experience and effectiveness. He said his re-election would give his district an experienced and effective person in the legislature.

Johnny Ray Turner

Turner, who announced to his team and school personnel on Wednesday night that he would be retiring at the end of this school year, began his career as a teacher and has been a successful coach, with tenures in Magoffin, Floyd and Johnson counties.

Turner took his McDowell team to the regional finals in 1989 and went to the regional tournament three



Bailey



Turner

other times. And this past year his Johnson Central Eagles made it all the way to the state tournament.

Other than these two moments in his career, Turner said he was proud of the team that beat favored Pikeville in the Regional tournament in 1990 after he lost five players to graduation.

Turner has also been involved in business ventures over the years. Presently he and his wife Linda operate Turner's Country Village in Martin.

Turner said he would draw on his experience as an educator and businessman and his rapport with the general public to make decisions that would be best for all the citizens in his district. Turner said his leadership abilities as a coach would be put to good use in legislative work.

Turner said while he would take a broad perspective

(See ELECTION, page two)

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PCC graduates over 200 students

by RANDELL RENO
STAFF WRITER

Gregory Crum stood upon the stage of the Mountain Arts Center and powerfully addressed Prestonsburg Community College's graduating class of 2000 as the "gold ore" of the mountains.

The 4.0 High Distinction graduate

asked his classmates to leave the area if they must, but to bring their knowledge back to the mountains.

In a very stirring speech, Crum said that, as the potential for the area, the graduates must refine themselves to become "pure gold" and return to lead eastern Kentucky into prosperity. The constant barrage of negativism laid on the region should be

shrugged off and fall on deaf ears, Crum emphasized. Come back and create your own job, he said.

Crum, a local minister, was rewarded for his enthusiastic and inspirational message, receiving applause during and following his speech.

John R. Rosenberg followed Crum as the guest speaker for the evening. The German native spoke of his travel to the U.S. and the growth of the Big Sandy region and its potential in the near future thanks to PCC.

Rosenberg and his wife Jean have brought to the region affordable legal services for women and child birth classes, respectively. Mrs. Rosenberg worked with PCC in the community based program. Mr. Rosenberg continues to work with the college, bringing science and physics programs to the campus, effectively "bringing the space shuttle to the students," he said.

Joining Crum with a 4.0 High Distinction and an associate of arts degree were Mary C. Borders, Donna G. Church and Nan J. Dotson, who also received a 4.0 High Distinction associate of science.

Chrissy J. Abshire, Billy J. Coleman, Jill M. Horton and Christopher L. Wireman graduated with 4.0 High Distinction associate in applied science degrees.

PCC's class of 2000 had 89 students with associate of arts degrees, 36 with associate in science degrees, and with 87 associate in applied science degrees.



photo by Randell Reno

Co-Valedictorian Greg Crum gave a rousing address to his fellow graduates at PCC's graduation Friday evening. Crum asked that if his fellow classmates left the region that they would return home and apply the knowledge that they gain in their endeavors to improving the region.

**At a computer near you,
The Times is on the air**

Times Staff Report

On Friday, The Floyd County Times became the first newspaper in the state with its own soundtrack.

That's the day The Times unveiled the latest service upgrade of its web-

site, www.floydcountytimes.com.

Now, in addition to going online to read local news, sports and commentary or conversing with friends near and far in The Times' chatroom, visitors to the website can also listen to their favorite music.

Dubbed the Times Radio Network, the new service allows listeners to pick from 30 channels of digital stereo music through their computers. The channels include several varieties of rock and country, as well as other genres, such as classical, jazz, reggae and others.

In addition to providing a greater variety of music, the Times Radio Network also plays more music than most commercial stations, with about 50 minutes or more music every hour.

To hear the music, listeners must use the Windows Media Player, available in both Macintosh and PC formats. Visitors can download a free version of the software at The Times website.

It is also recommended that visitors use a 4.0 or higher version of Netscape Communicator, Netscape Navigator or Microsoft Internet Explorer.

In addition to listening to the music, visitors can also purchase albums of the songs they hear over the internet. As each song plays, a picture of its album cover appears in the tuner. By clicking on the picture, listeners are taken to a website where they can purchase the album.

The Times Radio Network also gives businesses a new medium in which to advertise their goods and services. The service is already being sponsored by several national advertisers and The Times will soon develop advertising programs geared toward local businesses.

Election

Continued from p1

of the needs for the area, he said he would look at getting more jobs for the students that graduate from local schools.

Turner cited an example of employment needs using his own daughters. Both live in Richmond and one works in Lexington while the other is seeking work in central Kentucky because there are no jobs available to them in this district.

Turner said he would like to see technology improved in the district. He was complimentary of the status of technology in Johnson County. He wants all the schools in the area to have technology on par with Johnson County.

Turner left voters with this reminder: "As a legislator I will use good common sense to make decisions that will benefit all the people in eastern Kentucky."

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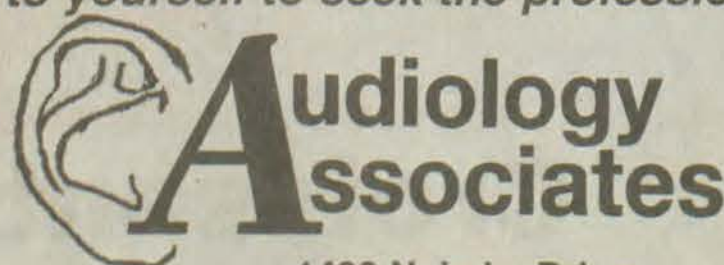
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Willie Conley

Name: Willie R. Conley
Birthdate: December 3, 1948
Hometown: Saltlick
Years of service: 31

The Times. He has primarily performed the same type of work since his employment. "The ever changing technology has kept the job interesting," he said.

Began employment: March 1969, as a Linotype operator
Position: Display advertising compositor
Willie was employed at The Times after graduating from Mayo State Vocational-Technical School Printing Department in 1969 with a degree in Graphic Arts. Career at The Times: Willie has worked most phases of the production department at

Memorable moment: "In the early 70's the newspaper office was destroyed by fire and we lost most of our equipment. We were able to publish the paper with the help of our friends at the Paintsville Herald. They temporarily set us up in their back shop until we could find a new building in Prestonsburg."

Damage control: Checking for household pests

(NAPSA)-If your walls could talk, they might tell you about the pests crawling around behind them. That's because many of these insects-termites, ants and cockroaches, for example-thrive by staying hidden from view.

Homeowners should be on the lookout for signs that such pests-which could contaminate food supplies, spread disease and damage the home-have taken up residence.

Fugitive

When the test results were received seven months later, County Attorney Keith Bartley amended the charge to first-degree attempted rape.

Martin was placed under house arrest and ordered not to leave his mother's home unless being transported by her to Prestonsburg High School to be picked up by a school bus.

He was banned from entering Prestonsburg High School and by restraining order cannot come within 500 feet of the victim.

He was charged with theft by unlawful taking when he allegedly entered the home of Delmar Johnson and took \$1,000.

For instance, termites leave such telltale indicators as mud tubes, bubbled paint or wooden surfaces that are damp and cool to the touch. Others don't leave such obvious signs.

Your best bet to protect your home and family against these pests may be to call a licensed pest control operator. These professionals have a vast range of knowledge of household pests and experience

with solutions that work. Some treatment methods require special equipment, and pest control operators can offer low-risk pest control options.

"Pest control operators know what they are doing. They are trained, they're regulated and they're insured," said Bob Rosenberg, director of government affairs for the National Pest Management Association.

One option is professionally applied Premise® Insecticide from Bayer Corporation. It provides immediate control of termites with no odor and sets safety benchmarks in many areas including the family, pets and the environment. Unlike traditional termiticides, Premise is not detected by the termite, and begins to protect immediately after application.

After treatment, ongoing pest management becomes an important part of home maintenance. Regular inspections by a pest control operator can help discourage future infestations. Other precautions to take include:

- Don't leave firewood in direct contact with the ground and store it away from the home;
- Rake, bag or burn leaves immediately;

- Remove tree hollows and stumps from surroundings;
 - Clean up any moisture immediately; and
 - Keep gutters, eaves and vents free of clutter and debris.
- Early detection and swift action can give homeowners the upper hand in pest management. For more information on controlling household pests, call the Bayer Product Information Center at (800) 842-8020 or visit the website at www.nobugs.com.

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Continued from p1

Martin failed to appear for his arraignment in circuit court in both cases, leading the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office to place him on the National Crime Information Center list and Law Information Network of Kentucky. NCIC and LINK are national and state computer networks accessed by law enforcement agencies. If Martin was arrested or had his social security number run through the system, he would have appeared on a computer screen as wanted in Kentucky.

He was discovered in California after officers investigating a shoplifting case ran his name through the system.

Sparks recognized for "power to change"

The power to change! Kathy Sparks graduated from Prestonsburg High School in 1969 and watched from the sidelines as her classmates did the one thing she had a desire to do-go to college!

The challenges she faced were secrets from her friends—a troubled childhood, the loss of her mother when she was nine and lack of resources to pursue her dream of getting a college education. She married and twenty-five years later her life changed.

She divorced the person who had provided financial support, found a job and began the challenge to support her daughter. The dream to attend college was always a nagging desire in the background. With encouragement from those close to her, she made a first step. She decided to enroll at Prestonsburg Community College.

On a Saturday-nearly two years

ago, she was standing in the Magoffin Building hallway waiting to take an assessment exam. She saw the younger students and doubts began to emerge. She descended the staircase, reached for the door and, as she did, saw her reflection in the glass. She decided running away was not an option.

She is glad she returned to the testing room. After four semesters as a Prestonsburg PCC student, she sports a 4.0 grade point average and is planning to continue her pursuit of a four-year degree in social work at Morehead State University.

Another accolade has come her way. Recently, the Ladies Home Journal sponsored a "Power to Change" writing promotion in connection with Naomi and Wynonna Judd's concert tour. Kathy was notified she had been selected as the first of the ten winners. As a result of her powerful 200-word essay

about the challenges she has faced and the struggles she had to overcome, she received a \$10,000 award. This included a \$5,000 shopping spree at Kmart and \$5,000 for travel/hotel accommodations for June 9-11, 2000 in Nashville, Tenn. for the Judds' final performance and backstage passes for their Power to Change concert tour. On Saturday, April 29, 2000, Sparks was interviewed via telephone for the Judd's radio program.

The power to change! Kathy realized she could make a difference in her life and she did something about it! Kathy said, "Enrolling at Prestonsburg Community College gave me the courage and ability to write the essay. Writing the contest has given me encouragement to obtain my degree, and I couldn't have done either without the Lord in my life."

A View from the Hill



by Chandra K. Arts

April showers bring May flowers, as well as May graduates donning somber black gowns and odd-looking mortarboard caps. At educational institutions across America, graduates are pausing to reminisce about their pasts and contemplate their futures. Things are no differ-

ent at Pikeville College. There is a definite buzz in the air as the college prepares to bid farewell to the Class of 2000, the first of the new millennium.

There are certain traditions to be recognized at the close of any school year, and those of us on the hill have already begun to participate in some of those events. Clubs and organizations have been holding farewell meetings, banquets, and induction ceremonies. The Student Government Association elected its officers for next year (congratulations to President Elect J.J. Walker and Vice-President Elect Amy Yates). The college choir and band showcased their talent in the annual spring concert. Faculty and staff fielded a softball team to challenge student groups. And, of course, both professors and students are busy preparing for final exam week.

Soon, these end-of-the-year events will culminate during Alumni-Senior Weekend. The col-

lege will recognize the graduates of the Elizabeth Akers Elliott nursing program during the annual nursing pinning ceremony. Graduates, families, alumni, friends, faculty, and staff will celebrate together during the annual Alumni/Senior Banquet. Finally, on graduation day, the college will host a special brunch and then the pomp and circumstance will play as the class of 2000 files into the Pikeville College Gym for commencement.

To add to the air of excitement around campus, the college re-instituted an old tradition, an Honors Convocation. This special program allowed the College to recognize individual student achievement as well as honoring student groups and organizations that represent academic excellence.

To a faculty member like me, it was a pleasure to see such wide support for academic achievement. Friends and families packed the Booth Auditorium to recognize students for their academic success. Professors presented special awards to students in the separate academic majors. Students marched to the stage and beamed at their achievement. Family members stood tall in pride. Members of the Dean's List were asked to stand and be recognized as were members of the academic team, honor societies, and Phi Beta Lambda.

In addition, professors had students stand who have already been accepted into graduate programs or professional schools. The class of 2000 boasts of many such students who are now headed to the University of Kentucky School of Medicine, Shenandoah Valley School of Pharmacy, University of Louisville School of Medicine, University of Kentucky Graduate School, Appalachian School of Law, West Virginia University School of Medicine, Pikeville College School of Osteopathic Medicine, and others.

Student achievement should be publicly recognized and applauded. The Honors Convocation is a welcome addition into the many activities Pikeville College practices at the end of every academic year. It is a newly found opportunity to stand proud as a peacock and relish in a job well done. Congratulations to all of the Class of 2000.

Web Watch

Here are some web sites you may want to click on to:

For information on current efforts to reduce tobacco use, visit the Center for Disease Control website at www.cdc.gov/tobacco.

For information on detecting and preventing colon cancer, visit www.preventcancer.org/colorectal.htm.

Irish-Americans can find out more about their ancestry. Visit Local Ireland at www.local.ie.

For information about the latest food trends, visit www.totalcereal.com.

For information on preparing for AP exams, SAT or college admissions in general, students can visit www.kaptest.com.

To learn how to make a company web site more user friendly, visit Logical Design Solutions at www.lids.com.

To find memorable last minute

gifts, visit www.thegift.com.

The GE Financial Network at www.gefn.com has financial products such as mutual funds, auto insurance, long term insurance, mortgage loans, and warranty plans.

For tips on how to design a site with superior customer service, visit Logical Design Solutions at www.lids.com.

For healthy, delicious recipes from T-fal cookware, you can visit www.t-fal.com.

For information on keeping information "in sync," whether it's on a cell phone, Palm or a laptop, you can visit www.fusionone.com.

For tips on railroad safety from Operation Lifesaver and the National Education for Agricultural Safety, visit www.oli.org.

The Arthritis Foundation is at www.arthritis.org.

VOTE THE RIGHT WAY - VOTE JOHNNY RAY ELECT JOHNNY RAY TURNER FOR STATE SENATOR

DISTRICT 29 - FLOYD, JOHNSON, BREATHITT, and KNOTT CO.

I would like to introduce myself to the voters of District 29. My name is Johnny Ray Turner. I am a 1967 graduate of McDowell High School, and a graduate of Morehead State University, receiving a B.S. in 1972, and a Masters Degree in 1981. I have been a teacher and coach for 28 years, and I know what our schools and young people need.

My parents are Ray Turner and the late Amy Lee Hall Turner. My stepmother is Berta Childers Turner. My dad and Berta live at Drift, Kentucky.

My wife of 28 years is Linda Hogsed Turner and we are the proud parents of two daughters, Margalee and Melissa Turner. Linda is the daughter of the late Clyde Hogsed and Margie Little Hogsed of Martin. Clyde's parents were James and Kathleen Johnson Hogsed. Margie's parents were John E. and Bessie Johnson Little.

I have one brother, Michael Hall Turner of Drift. My maternal grandparents were "Long" Johnny Hall and Nancy Gibson Hall, who was a 60-year member of the Old Regular Baptist Church of McDowell. My paternal grandparents were Ernest and Mae Burns Turner of Drift.

My maternal great grandparents were Henry "Hen" Hall and Amy Johnson Hall of Bevinville, and Ben Gibson and Agajane Jones Gibson of Knott County. My paternal great grandparents were W.J. "Big Bill" Turner and Cicely Robinette. Cicely's parents were Elbert and Betty Robinette.

I urge you to go the the polls on May 23, 2000, and cast your vote for the best candidate for State Senator in District 29 for the New Millennium, Johnny Ray Turner.

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Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people to peaceably assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

—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, May 7, 2000 A4

Editorial

Preschool initiative gives an early boost

America's 16 Southern states, long denounced for doing too little to educate children, have risen to become leaders in the effort to prepare students for first grade.

That was the message in a report released recently by the Southern Regional Education Board. The positive steps outlined in the report do not even include the huge gains Kentucky stands to make through its new early childhood education initiative, which was celebrated this week in Owensboro.

The SREB developed a list of 12 goals in 1988 it wanted achieved by 2000, one of which was having children prepared for first grade. In 1980, only three SREB states provided any funding for pre-kindergarten programs. By 1989, that number had reached six states, serving 80,000 children. This year, 14 of the states fund prekindergarten programs that reach 400,000 children, the report said.

The early childhood initiative that passed unanimously by the legislature this year goes boldly beyond simply funding education programs. It seeks an all-encompassing goal that by the year 2020, children are to have a chance at being healthy, to be given the opportunity to excel in school and to be nurtured in a family atmosphere.

With 65 percent of mothers with children 5 and younger working outside the home, ensuring high quality child care is exceedingly important, and the initiative provides for better training of workers, higher standards and more access for those with limited means, said Kim Townley, executive director of the governor's office of early childhood development.

But there is much more involved, in less high-profile but no less important ways.

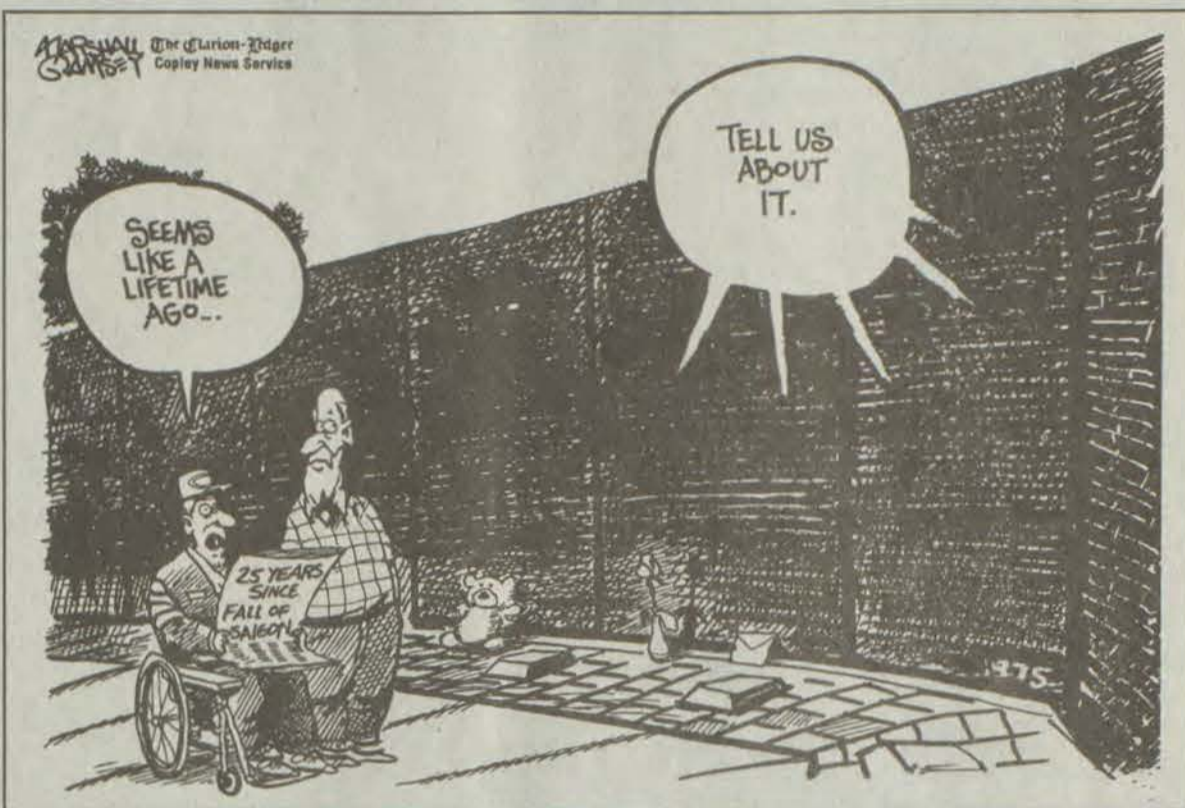
Kentucky leads the nation in its infant mortality rate and in cases of spina bifida. The infant mortality rate is linked to smoking, alcohol, substance abuse and other poor health choices made while women are pregnant. An educational campaign will blanket the state to warn the public about these dangers.

Caring for children with spina bifida will cost Kentucky taxpayers \$500,000 a lifetime. Spending \$4 to ensure that pregnant women have folic acid in their diet can eliminate up to 70 percent of spina bifida cases from occurring, Townley said.

Some were leery of relying on a portion of the national tobacco settlement to pay for early childhood development. Townley credited Rep. Brian Crall, R-Owensboro, with providing the impetus for passage by his fellow Republicans by stating that, should the money run out, the programs would either justify themselves to earn new funding, or would cease. "That's the way it should be," Townley said during a luncheon Monday.

If we support giving children the best chance in life, we must believe in starting even prior to their birth. If these efforts prove their mettle as we expect they will, Kentuckians owe their sacrifices to the children who will become our leaders.

—Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer



Letters to the Editor

Recent tragedies illustrate need for water safety

Editor: We would like your attention for a few moments to remind all citizens of Floyd County and the surrounding area that there are many dangers when outdoors, especially around water.

Over the past few days, our organization has been called out several times to assist with or lead drowning recovery operations. With a few precautions, you can avoid such an event.

Remember, when you are around water, whether it is a lake, pond or creek, always try to have someone

with you in case you need help. And, when boating, regardless of type of boat, ability to swim or depth of water, you should always wear a life jacket.

Most drowning victims have been around water for many years and are avid swimmers. You never know when an accident can happen. Don't let it happen to you!

The summer season is once again upon, and with the fun and sun goes responsibility.
Lt. Derek Calhoun, RN
Floyd County Emergency and Rescue Squad

Guest Column

Trust isn't built overnight

by WILLIE ELLIOTT
STAFF WRITER

I read many, many articles about the 25th anniversary of the fall of Saigon. I somehow felt that I was part of that history so I wanted to see how other people felt after all these years.

I have to admit my emotions fluctuated like a yo-yo during the reading.

Since coming home from the war, I have been part of another battle — confronting the inequities that existed (and may still exist) in the Floyd County School system. One writer wrote a letter about the Vietnam war that could very easily be sent to board members and administrators of the Floyd County school system.

See if you see the similarities. Here is the letter:

"Cheers for Edward Blum's opinion piece! He finally said in print what many Vietnam vets have known for years. For the nation to truly heal, those who protested, as well as those who silently sat on the sidelines, need to apologize for the way they treated vets upon our return. The vets need to hear and accept the apology.

"To those who have the moral courage and love to

apologize, a note of advice: You may need to say it several times to us before we accept it. Trust takes time."

Board chairman Terry Dotson is fond of saying that people should "trust" the board. Terry, reread the last line of the letter — "trust takes time."

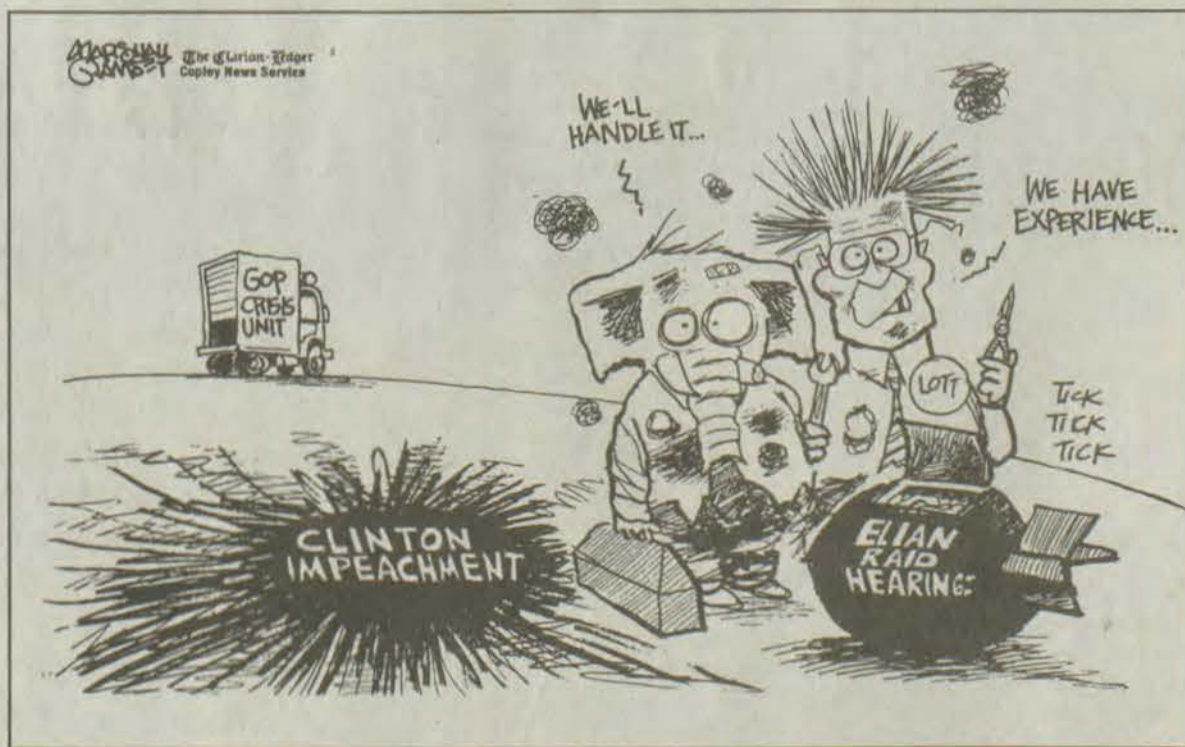
It would be futile to tell me that those inequities did not exist. They were thrust upon me many times and I did not like it — still don't.

Although there were many others, the most egregious example occurred two years into my teaching career: I was the only active Floyd County teacher in the whole system to be drafted. Try as you may to convince me that was a coincidence, I will not believe it.

The fact I had to go wasn't the problem, even though I thought the whole thing was a mess. It was the fact that I was singled out that was so disturbing. To this day I think the explanation is simple: I was a poor boy from up Frasure Creek with no money and no political connections, so I was expendable.

To add insult to injury, the system did not want to give me credit for my two years in the service for pay purposes.

(See TRUST, page seven)



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



Heads up, it's spring

Spring appears to be finally here for good, having gotten off to a shaky start with a few staggering steps. And while some look at blooming flowers or singing birds of the surest sign that winter is behind us, here in Eastern Kentucky we have a much more visible and dangerous sign — the collection of rockfalls along Route 321 between Prestonsburg and Paintsville.

Driving that way the other day, I see that the boulders have already begun blossoming. One particular stretch has numerous piles of rubble which appear to have stayed within the shoulder ... so far.

Of course, the annual arrival of spring begs one question — will anyone get killed this year?

In most other parts of the country, taking the scenic route usually does not engender putting one's life in jeopardy. Sadly, such danger to life and limb is necessary along 321. In fact, I think that's how the road got its numerical designation after new U.S. 23 opened — 3 ... 2 ... 1 ... impact.

What I would really like to know is why the problem has never been fixed. Of course, I've asked that question many times during my newspaper career in the Big Sandy, but I've never received a satisfactory answer.

Of course, some might say the project would be too expensive to undertake. Those same folks have no problem pouring millions of dollars into various and sundry tourism boondoggles and, as we all know, it is far more important to have nice facilities ready and waiting for when the flatlanders come slumming than it is to take action to correct a problem which poses a serious risk to the lives and safety of hillbillies.

The lack of effort in making making Route 321 safe speaks to the extreme prejudice which still exists toward this end of the state. Does Frankfort really care whether or not someone gets flattened along that stretch of highway? Apparently not.

You won't convince me otherwise until I see a few tons of earth moved.



Ducks can get the flu.

The Floyd County Times

Published Wednesday, Friday and Sunday each week

cnhi

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Speakers confirmed for Kentucky's Million Mom March

State Rep. Eleanor Jordan, D-Ky.; Sabrina Steger (whose daughter, Kayce, was killed at Paducah); and Marcie Christensen of the Snug Foundation will be the speakers at the upcoming Million Mom March in Louisville on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14, from 3 to 5 p.m. at Waterfront Park.

There will be a memorial ceremony to remember all the children you have lost their lives to gun violence and the Louisville Youth Choir will also perform.

Outraged by gun violence that has killed or wounded children, thousands of mothers across the country are organizing the Million Mom March in local communities to coincide with the national Million Mom March on Mother's Day in Washington, D.C.

According to organizers, the MMM will either celebrate the passage of sensible gun control legislation, now in Congress, or continue to crusade for the four L's — Licensing, Legal Registration, Locks and Laws — for all guns.

Local members of the Million Mom March organization will hand out information and speak about how moms and others across Kentucky can

get involved in this important effort to protect our children. The Snug Foundation, an organization that raises money to buy guns and turn them into sculptures, will have one of their pieces on display.

In Kentucky, organizers of the rally said that no major laws have been passed to ensure the safety of children. There is no Child Access Prevention (CAP) law, which means that in Kentucky firearms owners do not have to use locks or store guns away or keep them out of the hands of children. Also, in Kentucky, kids under 18 can sell and trade guns (although they cannot possess a handgun); you don't need a license or registration to own a gun; you don't need a permit to purchase a gun or to carry a shotgun.

Members of the Million Mom March are calling on Congress to enact common sense gun control legislation by Mother's Day. According to a press release, this means background checks and sensible 'cooling off periods'; license and legal registration of all handguns; safety locks for all handguns; limit purchases to one handgun a month; no-nonsense enforcement of gun laws; and enlistment of corporate America to sponsor

advertisements in pursuit of these goals.

Did you know:

■ American children under 15 are 12 times more likely to die from gunfire than children in 25 other industrialized countries combined.

■ In 1997 alone 4,223 young people aged 0-19 were killed by gunfire — one every two hours.

■ Since Congress enacted the

Brady Law in 1994, over 400,000 convicted felons have been prevented from purchasing firearms because of mandatory background checks.

Guns are already a theme in the 2000 presidential election and will play out in many congressional races. Since the killings at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado, last

(See **SPEAKERS**, page seven)

College to begin taking applications for science, math camp

It is time to start looking ahead to Pikeville College's annual Science & Math Day Camp.

This year, the camp will be held from July 24 through July 28 and will run from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. daily with the exception of the Friday field trip. Registration is open to students who will be enrolled in the fifth through the eighth grades in the upcoming 2000-2001 school year.

The cost of this year's camp is \$30.00, which covers all expenses including camp food, t-shirt and

field trip. Applications for the camp are taken on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Applications will be available for pickup at 8 a.m., Thursday, May 11. Applications will not be mailed or released to the public until that time. Only three applications will be released to each person/address. No exceptions will be made.

If you have any questions regarding Camp 2000, please contact the Math/Science Resource Center at (606) 437-3417.

Burn injury doesn't get in way of dream



Dr. Stephen Zeigler, member of Hasan Shrine Temple and a former Shriners Hospitals burn patient, shares a moment with his daughter Christine.

(NAPSA)—Many people are doing well by doing good. For example, one man's success story shows that determination can help overcome the emotional and physical scars of a severe injury.

The life of Stephen Zeigler, now a surgeon, changed forever when vapors from spilled gasoline were ignited by the pilot light of a gas dryer in 1971. At the age of 9, Zeigler, then living in Valdosta, Ga., was burned over 85 percent of his body in a flash fire. He was flown to the Galveston Shriners Hospital and

remained there for treatment for three months. His injuries required wearing pressure garments and a pressure mask, which can help flatten scar tissue as skin heals, for more than 18 months.

"A local Shriner, T.J. Luke, heard about what happened to me and put me in touch with the burn hospital," Zeigler said. Getting to the hospital was another challenge because air ambulances weren't used then. A C-9 Nightingale had to land at Moody Air Force Base to fly Zeigler, his parents and his doctor to Texas. "Within 12 hours, I had the best medical care I needed for the injuries I had sustained."

Becoming a surgeon was due in large part to the contact he had with doctors during his three-month stay and the years of reconstructive surgery and other operations at the Galveston Shriners Hospital, which he says became like a second home.

His injuries and physical appearance, Zeigler said, have never held him back. After receiving his medical training, he became a certified renal, pancreas and liver transplant surgeon and assistant professor of surgery at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. During medical

school, he was able to spend several summers in the research laboratories and part of his residency in general surgery in rotation through the burn hospital where doctors had saved his life as a child.

Today, Zeigler is a board-certified surgeon, with specialties in general, hepatobiliary, vascular, endocrine and transplantation surgery.

"I decided to do transplants because it is a very specialized field and I knew it could change someone's life dramatically," he said. "My experience at Shriners really led me into medicine. I was intrigued by what was going on there and the dedication of the staff."

Zeigler said he was also influenced by the encouragement of his grandmother's family physician. Zeigler and his wife, Lois, and daughters, Christine and Sam, moved back to Adel, Georgia, recently to be closer to family. He has a private practice and serves on the staff at both Memorial Hospital of Adel Inc., and Smith Hospital in Ahirra.

"I got to be where I am because of a lot of dedicated people, parents, teachers, healthcare professionals

and the Shrine fraternity," he said. "I'm not a self-made man. I had to do my part, but I'm a reflection of what is good in people."

The Shrine of North America is an international fraternity of about 500,000 members who support a network of 22 Shriners Hospitals for Children. The hospitals provide expert orthopaedic and burn care services and spinal cord injury rehabilitation to children up to their 18th birthday, free of charge. More information can be found on the Shriners Web site at www.shrinershq.org or by calling 1-800-237-5055.

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Rural Americans lag in access to view technologies

Americans in rural areas lag far behind those in urban areas in access to advanced telecommunications services, according to a new government report President Bill Clinton released here recently as part of his New Markets Tour.

The advanced services, commonly known as broadband services, provide high-speed Internet access and will be a key to the nation's future economic growth.

The report, prepared jointly by the Commerce Department's National Telecommunications and Information Administration and the Agriculture Department's Rural Utilities Service, responds to a request by the U.S. Senators on the status of broadband deployment in rural versus non-rural areas of the nation and the potential for new technologies to serve rural areas. It underscores the call by President Clinton and Vice President Gore to bridge the digital divide.

The report concluded that broadband services have been deployed in urban areas more than in rural communities.

It found that broadband over cable has been deployed in more than 65 percent of all cities with populations over 250,000, and that broadband over the telephone network has been deployed in 56 percent of all cities with populations

over 10,000, while less than five percent of towns of 10,000 or less have access to either technology.

The primary reason for the slower deployment of advanced services in rural areas is economic, the report said. The cost to serve a customer increases the greater the distance among customers.

Noting America's emergence as a leader in the Information Revolution, President Clinton said, "U.S. leadership in information technology illustrates the wisdom of public policies that encourage private sector investment, competition, and technological innovation."

"But the government also has a special obligation to ensure that all Americans, including Americans living in rural communities, have the opportunity to be full participants in the information age," the President said in calling for continued support and expansion of present government programs to ensure access of all Americans to new technologies.

"Faster deployment of advanced telecommunications services in rural America is needed to ensure that all Americans can derive the benefits of the digital economy," Commerce Secretary William M. Daley said.

"The rate of deployment of broadband services has implications for the welfare of Americans and the

economic development of our nation's communities, particularly those in rural areas which can greatly benefit from high-speed connections to urban and world markets," Daley said.

"This report underscores the fact that unless deliberate action is taken to provide support through universal service and develop new broadband technologies, rural citizens are at risk of falling on the wrong side of the digital divide," Daley said.

"Marketplace competition has shown to stimulate broadband deployment in many urban areas, but further action is necessary to ensure that all Americans will share in the benefits of the information revolution," he added.

"Access to modern telecommunications is the strength of this nation's future," Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman said. "We must make sure that small towns and rural areas have the modern information infrastructure that the cities and suburbs have, where entrepreneurship can flourish."

"This report shows the important work that is still to be done. Full deployment of broadband availability means full access to the economy of the future," Glickman added.

The report recommends a number of actions, including fulfillment of the statutory goals under the Telecommunications Act of 1996; the consideration of universal service support mechanisms to support broadband services; and continued support and expansion to such government initiatives as the E-rate program.

The E-rate program provides Internet access to schools and libraries at discounted rates to ensure access to new technologies such as broadband services. In addition, the report said that support for research on alternative technologies will be crucial to the deployment of advanced services in rural America. It also urged policymakers to implement regulatory reforms to stimulate private sector investment in broadband services.

LEGAL NOTICE

Sealed proposals will be received by the MIDDLE CREEK VOL. FIRE DEPARTMENT in the Fire Department Building at Prestonsburg, KY, by the Fire Department Chief until:

7:00 p.m., KY Time

May 15, 2000

And opened thereafter for the following:

One (1) NEW PUMPER FIRE APPARATUS.

Complete specifications are on file and available from the Chief, Michael Vaughan, 501 State Road Fork, Prestonsburg, Ky. 41653. Phone: 606-886-2941.

The Middle Creek Vol. Fire Department reserves the right to reject and/or waive any informalities or irregularities of any or all bids.

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REGIONAL OBITUARIES

Pike County

Edith Pearl Kimberlain Lawson, 83, of Pikeville, died Monday, May 1, at her home. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, May 4, under the direction of Lucas & Hall Funeral Home.

Dover May, 74, of Pinsonfork, died Tuesday, May 2, at the South Williamson Appalachian Regional Hospital Skilled Nursing Facility. He is survived by his wife, Lillian May. Funeral services were conducted Friday, May 5, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

Nellie Mae Collier Fleming, 92, of Pikeville, died Wednesday, May 3, in Louisville. Funeral services

were conducted Saturday, May 6, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Sally West, 80, Pike County native, of Williamson, West Virginia, died Wednesday, May 3, at the South Williamson Appalachian Regional Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, May 6, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

Perry T. Hall, 77, of Pikeville, died Wednesday, May 3. He is survived by his wife, Irene Stapleton Hall. Funeral services were conducted Friday, May 5, under the direction of Thacker Memorial Funeral Home.

Magdalene Crase, 68, of Matewan, West Virginia, died

Wednesday, May 3, at her home. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, May 6, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

Julia "Midge" Powers, 73, of Moneta, Virginia, died Tuesday, May 2, in Moneta. She is survived by her husband, Victor Powers. Funeral services were conducted Friday, May 5, under the direction of Chafin Funeral Home.

Darlies Juanita Carter, 21, of Belo, West Virginia, died Tuesday, May 2, at Kermit, West Virginia, the result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident. Funeral services were conducted Friday, May 5, under the direction of Chafin Funeral Home, Delbarton, West

Virginia.

Genoma M. Browning, 69, of Musick, West Virginia, died Wednesday, May 3, at Williamson Memorial Hospital. Funeral services will be conducted Saturday, May 6, under the direction of Chafin Funeral Home of Delbarton, West Virginia.

Magoffin County

Newton "Newt" Blanton, 70, of Salyersville, died Thursday, April 27, at his residence. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, April 30, under the direction of Dunn-Kelley/Prater & Dunn Funeral Home.

Roger Joseph, 32, of Royalton,

died Wednesday, April 26, in Magoffin County. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, April 30, under the direction of Dunn-Kelley/Prater & Dunn Funeral Home.

Betty Lou Howard Caldwell, 64, of Salyersville, died Tuesday, April 25, at the Salyersville Health Care Center. Funeral services were conducted Friday, April 28, under the direction of Salyersville Funeral Home.

Don Jackson, 77, of Roann, Indiana, died Wednesday, April 12, in Life Care Center, in Rochester, Indiana. He is survived by his wife, Gracie Conley Jackson. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, April 15,

under the direction of Hartzler Funeral Home.

Lizzie Howard Gamble, 85, of Salyersville, died Wednesday, April 26, at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center, in Paintsville. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, April 29, under the direction of Dunn-Kelley/Prater & Dunn Funeral Home.

Barbara Faye Salyers, 55, of Marion, Ohio, formerly of Magoffin County, died Tuesday, April 25, at the Luther Home of Mercy, Williston, Ohio. Funeral services were conducted Friday, April 28, under the direction of Dunn-Kelley/Prater & Dunn Funeral Home.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Calendar items will be printed as space permits

PES council seeks parent members

Prestonsburg Elementary School is accepting nominations for two parent members of its school council through May 8, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the school office. The term will expire June 30, 2001. Nominations need to be submitted in writing to Gwen Hammon, principal.

The parent election will be Tuesday, May 9, at 7 p.m. in the auditorium. This will also be the regular monthly meeting for PTA.

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. (walking track is closed during special event). 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.

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.

Social Security rep on Mud Creek

A Social Security Representative

will be at the Mud Creek Clinic, each Tuesday, during the month of May.

The Representative will be in the Clinic to assist people in filing Social Security claims and appeals.

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

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.

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

4-H judging teams to hold orientation

Orientation sessions are scheduled for Thursday, May 22, for the 4-H Horticulture Judging Team and for the Poultry Judging Team. Both sessions are at 6 p.m. at the Floyd County Cooperative Extension Office on South Lake Drive in Prestonsburg. All participants are to bring a parent or guardian. For more information, call 606/886-2668.

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 be discussed.

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

Child abuse prevention

When children witness the abuse of a parent, they are more likely to repeat the behaviors in their own relationships. If you are being abused, think of who may be affected the most by the abuse, you or your children? "Love Doesn't Have To Hurt," call the Big Sandy Family Abuse Center at 886-6025 or out-of-the-area 1-800-649-6605. There are options available to you to stop the abuse.

Floyd County 4-H programs 2000 summer camp

Floyd County 4-H'ers will be camping at the Diederich 4-H Camp, July 24-28. Fee is \$80. Camp applications have been distributed during club meetings, but can be obtained by calling the Floyd County Cooperative Extension Service at 606-886-2668. Registration deadline is July 15.

Little Rosa Church asks for yard sale items

Little Rosa Church of New Salem Association is asking for re-usable yard sale items, for their ongoing rummage sale. Benefits go to building a church building. Call 377-6887, 377-2056, 377-6418 or 377-6076.

Advisory council to meet

The Adams Middle School Youth Services Center Advisory Council will hold its next regular meeting on May 8, beginning at 7:30 p.m., in the center. The public is invited to attend.

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 Saltee, 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.

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.

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.

McDowell election

McDowell Elementary election of parent members to the SBDM council will be Wednesday, May 17, at 5:30 p.m., in the school library. Nominations must be submitted in writing to the school office by 3 p.m., on Monday, May 15. Parents may nominate themselves or another parent. Any parent of a child enrolled at McDowell Elementary or a parent of an incoming student, may vote to elect the parent council members.

Domestic violence

Domestic violence tends to be a pattern within a relationship, rather than something that only happens once. If you are being abused by an intimate partner, or if you know of someone who is, give them this number 886-6025 or 1-800-649-6605, call and discuss ways to break the pattern of domestic violence, don't become just another statistic.

Scottish night planned

The Floyd County Historical and Genealogical Society will present "A Scottish Night with Eddie Bailey" on May 15, at 7 p.m., at the Floyd County Library. For information, call 606/886-6308.

Pikeville Methodist Hospital

May 1-31—Free Speech and Hearing Screening all month long during Pikeville Methodist Hospital's celebration of "Better Hearing and Speech Month". Call 437-3507, ext. 3444 to schedule your appointment.

May 8—The ABC (After Breast Cancer) Support Group will be attending First Lady, Judi Patton's "Celebration of Hope," luncheon at the Governor's Mansion at 1:30 p.m. For more information, call 437-3500, ext. 3822. This will replace the regular meetings for the ABC Support Group.

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

May 15—The Colorectal Cancer Survivor's Support Group will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Pikeville United Methodist Church Annex. The speaker will be Monica Akers, PMH Dietician discussing the benefits of good nutrition. For more information, call 437-3500, ext. 3822.

May 16—"Sleep Well" Club will meet from 6:30-9 p.m. at the Mountain Arts Center in Prestonsburg. This annual meeting is for anyone with a sleep disorder. Dr. R.V. Mettu will discuss the medical management of Obstructive Sleep Apnea and Dr. Greg Hazelett will discuss surgical options. In addition, vendors will be on hand to display their equipment and supplies and answer any questions regarding them. For more information, call Pikeville Methodist Hospital's Sleep Lab at 606-437-3989.

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 23—Prepared Childbirth Classes

will be offered from 7-9 p.m. at the Education Center. Call 437-3938 to register.

May 25—Survivors of Suicide support group will meet at the Flat Iron Building, located on Hambley Boulevard, at 6 p.m. For more information, call 437-3963.

May 30—Pikeville Methodist Hospital will host an educational meeting for area Medicare beneficiaries addressing major issues such as health care availability, quality of care, Social Security issues, Long Term Care, durable medical equipment and other areas in which Seniors may be experiencing difficulty. The Medicare Partners meeting will begin at 10:30 a.m., include lunch for participants, and end at 3 p.m. For more information, contact Pikeville Methodist Hospital's health educator at 606-437-3525.

June 2—The Leonard Lawson Cancer Care Center would like to invite you to the National Cancer Survivor's Day celebration to be held in the Pikeville City Park from 2 until 4 p.m. A cancer survivor is anyone who is living with a history of cancer from the time of diagnosis through the remainder of life. For more information, contact the Leonard Lawson Cancer Care Center at 437-3500, ext. 3822.

June 6—Learn more about epidural anesthesia during an Epidural Class at 7 p.m. at the Education Center, located in the Wallen & Comette Building. Pre-register by calling 437-3938.

June 14—A Sibling Class will be offered from 6-7 p.m. at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. Participants meet in the hospital lobby. For more information on the Sibling Class, call 437-3938.

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 to schedule an appointment or for more information.

- Advisory Council Meeting—May 9, at 5 p.m. at the center.
- Parent Support Group Meeting—May 10, at 12 noon.
- GED Classes—Fridays, 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Carter renews membership in tree program

Carter Funeral Home of Prestonsburg has renewed its affiliation with Lofty Oaks Association, a New Hampshire organization dedicated to reforestation and conservation efforts in Kentucky.

The firm arranges to have a tree planted for each service that they perform to provide a living memorial in honor of the deceased and to renew the forest life of Kentucky.

The memorial trees are planted in the spring and fall. This program is part of a large endeavor, to restore the landscape and our environment with the eternal beauty of living trees.

After each service, close family members and friends are informed that the memorial tree has been arranged for by James J. Carter II of the Carter Funeral Home.

When the Lincoln Heritage Boy Scout Council has planted the tree, the designated people will receive a certificate of planting suitable for framing and keeping in the family's history.

OBITUARIES

William Michael "Billy" Rogers

William Michael "Billy" Rogers, 19, of Grethel, died Wednesday, May 3, 2000, at Grethel.

Born on March 17, 1981, in Pikeville, he was the son of Rick Rogers and Dorothy Hall Rogers of Grethel. He was unemployed.

Survivors, other than his parents, include one brother, Troy Rogers of Meally; and one sister, Rachael Rogers of Grethel.

Funeral services will be conducted Sunday, May 7, at 1 p.m., at the First Baptist Church of Jacks Creek, with ministers of the church officiating.

Burial will be in the Robert Hall Cemetery, at Galveston, under the direction of the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Martin.

Charles Ray Clark

Charles Ray Clark, 71, of Nicholasville, formerly of Wheelwright, died Wednesday, May 3, 2000, at Central Baptist Hospital, Lexington, following an extended illness.

Born on December 13, 1928, in Mt. Sterling, he was the son of the late Ed and Ella Hughes Clark. He was a retired US Army veteran of World War II and Korea, and was a member of the Church of Christ.

He is survived by his wife, Opal Johnson Clark.

Other survivors include three sons, Larry Ray Clark of Romulus, Michigan, Stevie Clark of Bevinville, Charles Ray Clark Jr. of Nicholasville; one daughter, Deborah Lynn Newsome of Nicholasville and seven grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted Sunday, May 7, at 11 a.m., at the Joppa Old Regular Baptist Church, at Melvin, with ministers of the Old Regular Baptist Church officiating.

Burial will be in the Buckingham Cemetery, at Bevinville, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Martin.

Lula Collins Turner

Lula Collins Turner, 82, of Wheelwright, died Thursday, May 4, 2000, at Hazard Appalachian Regional Hospital.

Born on May 8, 1917, in Jellico, Tennessee, she was the daughter of the late Ben and Sallie Dotson Collins.

She was preceded in death by her husband, William Howard Turner.

Survivors include one son, Daniel V. Turner of Glen Burnie, Maryland; eight daughters, Joyce Crisp of Wooton, Carol Mahoney of Point Pleasant Beach, New Jersey, Berneice Conley of Prestonsburg, Elsie Little of Weeksbury, Pamela Hall of East Bank, West Virginia, Teresa Meyers of Wheelwright, Billie Lou Mosley of Auxier; one sister, Callie Stidham of Jenkins; 24 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted Sunday, May 7, at 10 a.m., at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, at Martin, with Louis Ferrari and Bobby Isaac officiating.

Burial will be in the Buckingham Cemetery, at Bevinville, under the direction of

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Trust

es. I still have the Attorney General's ruling that forced the system to abide by the accepted rule of granting veterans that courtesy.

True or not true, the alleged situation with librarians gets this response from many of us: "Same old story, just different characters."

Speaker

year, followed by a series of episodes of gun violence at schools, offices and churches, President Bill Clinton has pushed a gun control agenda including background checks at gun shows, child safety locks, and licensing for gun owners. The Million Mom March is intended to make gun policy an issue in the 2000 elections.

New Jersey resident and mother Donna Dees-Thomases, founder of the grassroots organization, Million Mom March, applied for a permit to march in Washington, D.C., in

At the last board meeting, FCEA president Donna Collins reported that rumors were running rampant that a position and a person to fill such a position had already been decided.

One may be tempted to dismiss such talk, but when board member Johnnie Ross said he had heard the

Continued from p5

August, 1999, one week after the Granada Hills, Calif., day camp shooting.

Mother's Day originated during the Civil War to remind women to take care of each other's wounded sons. Today, march organizers say they will honor their wisdom and courage and continue to fight for the safety of all children.

Details about the movement can be obtained by calling 888-989-MOMS or go to www.millionmom-march.com to find out more.

Continued from p4

same talk, it caused more than one raised eyebrow. In the past we would simply have said this is the way business is done, but we thought (and hoped) we were beyond that.

If there is no basis to the allegations, we need to convince people that there isn't, and never was, anything to it. If it is true, shame, shame, shame. For we would indeed be back to square one, and I for one, am tired of fighting.

I sometimes feel like Chief Joseph who fought long and hard for his people until he had no more energy for it and said, "I will fight no more forever."

What are we to think when one of your own board members intimates that she is left out of the loop and decisions are made without her knowledge or approval?

Trust starts at home. Get it there and then you will have an easier time convincing the rest of us.

Trust takes time.

Coal-Fired computers?

(NAPSA)-Here's a surprising statistic: For every megabyte of information moved over the Internet, one study discovered, you need to burn a half pound of coal to create the necessary electricity.

The Internet currently accounts for about eight percent of the entire U.S. consumption of electricity, most of which comes from burning coal. What's more, every PC on the Internet is connected to a myriad of other electricity consuming devices, from printers to faxes.

According to some experts, the Internet will consume half the nation's energy supply in a couple of decades. There are already 50 million PCs in households, another 150 million computers in businesses and 36 million more are sold every year. Not only is electricity needed to power all these machines and their peripherals, making them is one of the most electric-intensive industries in the country. The \$50 billion a year semiconductor industry is now the nation's largest manufacturing sector, surpassing even the auto

parts sector. In addition to the sheer need for power, the very nature of the Internet and information age creates an unprecedented demand for reliability. Keeping a gigawatt-based network "up" 24 hours a day, seven days a week sets a new standard for high power reliability.

Some people have called for fulfilling our electricity needs with "green power," chiefly sun and wind generation. At current levels of technology, however, these fuels, unlike coal, cannot turn out the energy we need at a price we can afford.

While many Americans have been trying to save a few watts here and there through conservation, they've also been plugging in PCs and peripherals that gobble up a thousand watts at a time.

Over the next decade, economists predict, the search for "green" power will give way to the need for "smart" power to meet the Internet economy.

For more information on the role of coal in creating electricity, see the web site at www.greeningearth-society.org.



FOR THE RECORD

Restaurant, School, and Mobile Home Park Inspections

John M. Stumbo Elementary, Grethel, 96; Some utensils not being dried before storage, outside garbage containers do not have lids, garbage containers/dumpsters over filled, outside garbage area unclean due to full containers.

John M. Stumbo Elementary, Grethel, 89; Outside dumpster area unclean, dumpsters have no lids and are overrun with garbage, in gymnasium in boys' storage area there is a hole in the entrance door, not enough lighting in gymnasium - only 27 foot-candles - 50 foot-candles, low light in library only have 37 foot-candle need 50, almost all classrooms have lighting lower than required - most are at 30 foot candles and need to be 50, drain pipe that runs through right hand rooms in "little hall", with water draining from roof and ceiling is leaking lower than in Ms. Hall's room.

Osborne's Restaurant and Pizza, McDowell, 92; No lid in restroom, food not covered in refrigerator and one freezer in storage room, freezer in storage room needs gasket replaced, dumpsters need lids closed, area around oven need cleaned.

Marriage License

Linda Lou Shelton, 48, to Richard Golich, 43, both of Detroit, Mich.

Jaclyn Bryant, 21, of Wheelwright to Christopher Eugene Hall, 23, of Hi Hat.

Norma C. Newsome, 34, to Raymond L. Hall, 50, both of Melvin. Meranda Lea Hall, 17, Garrett to Brian Allen Lowe, 19, of West Van Lear.

Mary Jean Collins, 24, to Kermit Murphy Jr., 33, both of Hi Hat.

Jessica Maxine Kiser, 18, of McDowell to Jason Branham Stumbo, 22, of Hi Hat.

Stacia E. Howard, 25, of Auxier to Ronald E. Slone, 27, of Greenville, S.C.

Wanda Louise Meadors, 16, to Claude Isaac Samons, 21, both of Martin.

Suits Filed

Franceen Crum, et al vs. Alma Sammons, petition for compensatory damages due to personal injury due to personal injury.

Ruth Darlene Taylor vs. Alvin Butch Taylor, petition for dissolution of marriage.

Billy R. Conley vs. Royal Crown Cola Bottling Works, et al, petition for compensatory damages due to personal injury.

First Commonwealth Bank vs. Richard Sexton, et al, petition for debt collection.

Robert Miller vs. Cecil D. Jones, et al, petition for compensatory damages due to personal injury.

Danny Adams vs. Desiree Wallen, et al, petition for compensatory damages due to personal injury.

Steven P. Collins vs. Gloria May Collins, petition for dissolution of marriage.

Margaret D. Hall vs. Annie M. Tackett.

Shirley Calhoun vs. Jack Call, contract dispute and property damage dispute.

Methodist Hospital of KY, INC. vs. Christopher M. Eplin, petition for collection of debt.

Stevie Clark vs. Toni Michelle Clark, petition for dissolution of marriage.

Martha Brown vs. Steven Brown, petition for dissolution of marriage.

County of Floyd vs. R.M. Williams, petition for collection of taxes.

Greenpoint Credit Corp. vs. Donald R. Sturgill, petition for debt collection.

Sondra E. Lafferty vs. Charles E. Barber, et al, petition for compensatory damages due to auto accident.

Bee Bob Newsome, et al vs. William Akers, et al, petition for compensatory damages due to auto accident.

Commonwealth of Kentucky vs. Steven E. Brown, petition for Health Care Insurance.

District Court

James Mayes, 27, of Prestonsburg; theft by unlawful taking, burglary

3rd. Jeff Hall of Allen; theft by failure to make required disposition of property.

John W. Chambers, 33, of Teaberry; alcohol intoxication, disorderly conduct, drinking alcohol in a public place. Pleaded guilty. Fined \$50, \$93.50 court costs, seven days in jail.

Byron K. Rister, 20, of Garrett; possession of a controlled substance, prescription in improper container, public intoxication.

Roger Cartmell of Prestonsburg, alcohol intoxication. Pleaded guilty. Seven day in jail and court cost of 103.50.

Freddie E. Conn Jr., 24, of Printer; violation of emergency protective order.

Steven M. Gibson, 30, of Hueysville; alcohol intoxication. Pleaded Guilty. Fined \$25, \$73.50 court cost.

Thomas Hicks, 19, of Hueysville; alcohol intoxication.

Rebecca R. Clark, 21, of Garrett; possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia.

Merlin O. Conn of Printer; alcohol intoxication.

Tonya R. Walters, 19, of Prestonsburg; alcohol intoxication.

Tony R. Walters, 41, of Minnie; alcohol intoxication.

Christopher C. Helmondollar, 21, of Prestonsburg; possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia.

Rita K. Via, 42, of Prestonsburg; alcohol intoxication.

Ronnie J. Fannin, 20, of Allen; possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia, minor in possession of alcohol.

Stella M. Bryant, 48, of Prestonsburg; alcohol intoxication, drinking alcohol in public place.

Benita Connelly of Martin; harassing communications, third-degree criminal trespass.

Randy Hamilton, 41, of McDowell; terroristic threatening.

Charles M. Spears, 40, of West Van Lear; disorderly conduct, alcohol intoxication.

Danny E. Blackburn, 20, of Allen; possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia, minor in possession of alcohol.

Tonya Burke Branham of Prestonsburg; harassing communications.

Larry Castle of Hueysville; terroristic threatening.

James M. Davis, 41, of Prestonsburg; alcohol intoxication.

Harold Boyd, 41, of Banner; alcohol intoxication, prescription in improper container.

Gregory S. Pelphrey, 20, of Winchester; alcohol intoxication.

J.R. Jarvis, 45, of Auxier; second-degree cruelty to animals, harassment.

Carla Oney, 43, of Prestonsburg; harassing comments.

April Stewart, 43, of Martin; parent refuse to send child to school.

Brian Burke of Prestonsburg; terroristic threatening.

Joe Crace, 32, of Prestonsburg; third-degree criminal trespass, menacing.

Keith Jones of Auxier; parent refuse to send child to school.

Ronnie Bentley of Hueysville; parent refuse to send child to school.

Robert Flannery of Langley; harassment.

Rondell Hall of Hindman; fourth-degree assault.

Nettie Slone of Grethel; parent refuse to send child to school.

Jose Estrada, 46, of Boons Camp; terroristic threatening.

Michael Hunter of Hunter; harassment.

Agelina Adams of Beaver; parent refuse to send child to school.

Robin Hale Burchett of Prestonsburg; theft by deception.

Mabel Hall of Hindman; fourth-degree assault.

Michael Hunter of Honaker; theft by unlawful taking.

Blake J. Roberts, 18, of Harold; first-degree burglary.

Rick Estep, 41, of David; attempted murder, eight counts of wanton endangerment.

John D. Collins, 24, of Stanville; fourth-degree assault.

David B. Kinslow, 51, of Printer; theft by deception, two counts of second-degree criminal mischief, two counts of third-degree criminal trespass.

Property Transfers

Robert Stephens of Prestonsburg to James and Sharon Stephens, Middle Creek.

Gwen Cecil of Georgetown to Jackie and Wayne Scarbury Harold, Big Mud Creek.

Belinda and Darrell Newsome to

Gwen and Hillard Cecil and Darrell Newsome of Harold, Big Mud Creek.

David and Lois Ann May of Allen to Terry Kinzer of Pikeville, property location not listed.

Leonard and Bulavene Hall of Honaker to Larry Zachary and Alice Marie Willis of Honaker, Country Oaks Subdivision, Little Mud Creek.

Norcie M. Elliott and Henry Miller of Prestonsburg to Ralph B. and Barbara E. Wells of Prestonsburg, Meade's Branch.

Sylvia Ray and Greg Howell and Greg Ray of Harold to Roberta E. Cook of Harold, property location not listed.

Ronnie Dean Slone of Fenton, Mich., to Betty A. Schiffer of Lansing, Mich., property location not listed.

Brenda More and Rick Newsome of Virgie to Kennel Joe Dye of McDowell, property location not listed.

Carada and Norma Faye Hunt of Stanville to Gordon and Crystal Lynn Nichole Ray of Stanville, property location not listed.

Jerry and Barbara Hall of Beaver

to Christopher Hall of Hi Hat and Jaclyn Bryant of Wheelwright, Otter Creek.

Preston A. Carter of Johnson City TN to Preston Alver Carter of Johnson City, property location not listed.

Commonwealth of Kentucky to R & J Development of Warfield, Little Paint.

Denver and Claudia Hall of Martin to George Jr. and Irene Hale of Martin, Arkansas.

Kermit and Diane H. Collins of Lenoir, N.C., to Rodney G. and Donna Tackett of Weeksbury, Kaleb Fork.

Glema Gladys Spears Stevens of Harold to Mark Stevens of Harold, Toler Creek.

Hall & Hylton Development, Inc. of Ivel to Gerald W. and Peggy Jo Koontz of Boomer, W.Va.; Harold.

Clarification

The Mark Patton listed in last Sunday's For the Record is not the same person as Mark Edward Patton, 31, of McDowell.



On Monday, Don Pack took time out from his job as maintenance worker to donate blood. Opportunities Unlimited and Central Kentucky Blood Center sponsored a blood drive at the school with a goal of collecting 30 pints of blood. The final count was 41 pints according to Debbie Kidd, contact person for the drive. Personnel from CKBC complimented Debbie Kidd and her students for the superior job they did in organizing the drive. (photo by Willie Elliott)

LAWN & GARDEN SPECIALS

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<p style="text-align: center;">Premium Azaleas One Gallon, assorted</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">\$2.99</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">5' Wood Tomato Stakes 6 Pack</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2 For \$5.00</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">Greenbrier Valley Farms</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10-10-10 Fertilizer 50 Pound Bag</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">\$4.57</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Cypress Mulch 2 cu. ft</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">\$2.27</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Assorted Rhododendron One Gallon</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">\$5.77</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">G.S.O. Potting Soil 20 LB. BAG</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">79¢</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Assorted Evergreens One Gallon</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">\$2.99</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10" Assorted Flowering Hanging Basket</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">\$5.94</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Premium White Marble Chips 1/2 Cu. Ft.</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">\$2.88</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Assorted Fruit Trees Five Gallon</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">\$11.77</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Canadian Sphagnum Peat Moss</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2.2 cu. ft. \$3.94</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3.8 cu. ft. \$5.94</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Black Shepherd's Hook</p> <p style="text-align: center;">47" single \$1.94</p> <p style="text-align: center;">60" double \$4.94</p>

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Feature:
Godfather
 is all about
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BETSY LAYNE'S ADAM TACKETT (25) WENT DOWN for the ball on this swing at the plate against South Floyd. (photo by Ed Taylor)

by ED TAYLOR
 SPORTS EDITOR

The South Floyd Raiders baseball team has come close to winning in the conference this season, and they finally got a close win this week in a 6-5 win over the Betsy Layne Bobcats.

Joe Skeans secured the win in going the full seven innings. He gave up five runs on nine hits. He struck out three batters while issuing one walk.

The loss was pinned on starter Justin Bartley who worked the first four innings. He

allowed all six runs on seven hits, striking out seven batters. Anthony Tackett came on in relief and hurled the final three innings allowing two hits. He had four strike outs.

Mike Hall, Nick Moore and Kyle Tackett collected two hits apiece for the Raiders. Moore doubled twice in the game.

Aaron Swiger and Josh Kidd had six of the nine hits between them. Each picked three safeties each.

South Floyd took a 1-0 lead in the first inning on two errors and an RBI single by Tackett. But Betsy Layne came back and tied the game at 1-1 on a one-out double by Josh

Kidd and a South Floyd error.

South Floyd threatened in the second but left two runners stranded at second and third. But in the third inning, South Floyd struck for three runs to take a 4-1 lead. Mike Hall walked, Skeans singled and both runners scored on Moore's first double of the game. Moore scored on Tackett's second RBI single.

Betsy Layne picked up one of the runs in their half of the third. Aaron Swiger singled with one out and scored when Bartley's fly ball to left was dropped.

Two walks and two safeties gave South Floyd two more runs and a 6-1 lead in the

fourth inning. Hall collected his second hit and Moore doubled home two more runs.

Betsy Layne chipped away at the lead and pulled to within one run. The Bobcats scored once in the third on a single by Swiger and a South Floyd error.

Two runs came across in the fifth for Betsy Layne for a 6-4 game. The two runs were scored with two out. Swiger and Kidd singled back-to-back and Bartley doubled both runners home.

In the seventh, Swiger collected his third

(See **SOUTH FLOYD**, page two)

■ Betsy Layne at Allen Central

Davis powers Allen Central past Bobcats

Rebels in drivers seat in Floyd Co. Conference race

by ED TAYLOR
 SPORTS EDITOR

The Allen Central baseball Rebels avenged an earlier loss to the Betsy Layne Bobcats and put a little more distance between them and the rest of the conference as they strengthened their hold on first place with a 8-4 win over the Bobcats Thursday night at Garrett Park.

The win left Allen Central with a 3-1 conference record with games against

Prestonsburg and South Floyd remaining. Betsy Layne lost for the second straight night dropping a 6-5 decision to South Floyd Wednesday night.

Catcher Tim Davis provided the power from the plate and the Betsy Layne hitters had a rough time catching up with the hard ball thrown by junior Brandon Sizemore.

Davis had a double and blasted a three-run home in the fourth inning when Allen Central scored five times.

Betsy Layne avoided being shutout by scoring four runs in the top of the seventh inning. All four runs came in on Anthony Tackett's grand slam home run.

Sizemore was in control of his pitches and seemed not to weaken until the sixth inning when he found trouble locating the strike zone. He allowed four runs while scattering five Betsy Layne hits. He struck out eight and walked two.

Sizemore had excellent defense behind him, especially in centerfield where Josh Yates made two outstanding catches. Yates also helped from the plate with two hits.

Davis got some support from Matt Bentley who drilled a solo home run in the second inning. Davis' two-bagger in the third was of the ground rule variety.

(See **DAVIS**, page two)

A Look At Sports

Coach Turner says goodbye to the game he loved



For most of us in the media, we encounter a variety of coaches. Coaches in basketball, football, baseball, track and a field, etc.

Some are arrogant, egotistical, and just plain hard to get to. But then, and I am glad to say of the majority, there are those who are accommodating and helpful. But I don't think there was one who was more helpful than Johnson Central coach Johnny Ray Turner.

I have to use the word "was" as it speaks in the past tense but that is the word that fits the situation with Coach Turner as he announced his resignation and retirement from teaching and coaching.

I remember in 1989 when I started here at the paper, one of the first games I covered happened at McDowell where Coach Turner was the head basketball coach. What a team he had. He was ranked number one in the region and was swamped with media request for interviews.

I have known Coach Turner for a number of years before taking this job, in fact I knew "of him" when he was at Salyersville High School.

In my very first encounter with him as coach of the Daredevils, I was made welcome, felt appreciated, and found him to be very, very accommodating.

Anything I needed that was related to his basketball program at McDowell, he saw that I received it. Interviews after the games, win or lose, he was cordial and did not let his frustration show.

It was always a pleasure (and in this job, some places are not a pleasure to go to) to go to McDowell. I found out that wherever Coach Turner went, everyone loved him.

I hated to see him leave Floyd County and go to Johnson Central and felt the administration had failed in letting a person of his quality and caliber out of our system. I was really upset with the regime of those days.

The continued delay in making a decision in hiring a coach for the new South Floyd school helped in his making a decision to accept the job at Johnson Central. Had the board not hesitated, maybe Coach Turner would be retiring from our system instead of the one in Johnson County.

I remember the last day of school in early June just outside the entrance to the McDowell gym and the last year for good old McDowell High School. The next year, there would be no more McDowell High School, and South Floyd would become a reality.

Johnny Ray and I talked about the situation and his hating to leave the

(See **SPORTS**, page two)

■ Allen Central at Betsy Layne



BETSY LAYNE'S HEATHER HAMILTON was not cheated on this swing against Allen Central last Wednesday. Allen Central posted a 16-8 win over the Ladycats. (photo by Ed Taylor)

Mullins perfect from plate as Allen Central rolls to 16-8 win

by ED TAYLOR
 SPORTS EDITOR

The Allen Central Lady Rebels took another step toward a conference championship last Wednesday by posting a 16-8 win over the Ladycats of Betsy Layne at the Allen Park.

It was high scoring affair as both ballclubs had their hitting spikes (shoes) on for a total of 27 hits in the contest.

Allen Central collected 17 of those and Terri Mullins was a perfect four-of-four from the plate and reached base all six times at the plate, walking twice.

Kristie Howard had three safeties for the Lady Rebels and picked up three RBIs. Jennifer Riser drove in three runners with her two hits. Howell, Shannon Sizemore and

Tiffany Turner had two base hits in the win.

Betsy Layne collected 10 hits but could not come up with the clutch hits they needed. Kim Tackett had three of the 10 hits and Brandi Bentley had two.

Tackett took the loss for Betsy Layne allowing all 16 runs and giving up 17 hits. She walked nine while fanning four.

Howell was the winning pitcher going the full seven. She struck out one batter and walked nine.

The big inning for Allen Central was the third when they sent 12 batters to the plate in scoring seven times.

Allen Central led 2-1 after the first inning. Mullins and Riser led off with walks from Tackett and came home on Howard's two-run double.

Betsy Layne picked up one of the runs in the bottom of the inning on a single by Heather Hamilton, two stolen bases, and a sacrifice fly off the bat of Bentley.

Three runners crossed the plate as Allen Central went in front 5-1 with a three-run second.

Mullins and Riser singled with one out in the inning after Amanda Tackett reached on an error. Riser's safety drove in one run and Howell singled home two.

The Ladycats scored once in the bottom of the second. Bentley singled home Hamilton with the run. Amanda Robinette had a base hit in the inning.

The third was drastic for the Ladycats although they themselves had a profitable third. But Allen Central pushed across seven runs to take a 12-2 lead, and it would have been a mercy game had Betsy Layne not responded with four of their own in the bottom of the frame.

Angie Green picked up an RBI by walking with the bases loaded. Mullins drove in a run with a single and Riser picked up her third RBI with a two-run base hit. Sizemore had an RBI base hit.

Betsy Layne batted around in scoring four times in the third. The Ladycats loaded the bases against Howell but an error at shortstop opened the gate for two runs. Jenny Parsons had an RBI single in the inning. Allen Central led 12-6 after three innings.

Neither team scored in the third or fourth innings but Allen Central plated two in the fifth for a 14-6 advantage. Both runners scored after two were out. Amanda Tackett singled home Barb Prater, who walked, and Turner,

(See **MULLINS**, page two)

Sports Calendar

■ ASTROS GOLF SCRAMBLE

The Allen Astros Little League team will host their annual Golf Scramble at the Allen Park (Beaver Valley Golf Course) this Saturday, May 6.

Registration begins at 8 a.m. with tee off time shortly afterwards.

You are urged to bring your own team and carts. First place will be worth \$1,000 while second place is worth \$700. The third place team will receive \$500.

A \$100 cash prize will be awarded to closest to the hole. Also, there is a guaranteed \$10,000 for a hole in one.

For more information, contact Tommie Layne at 874-9481 after 6 p.m.

■ BETSY LAYNE BOBCAT SCRAMBLE

The Beaver Valley Golf Course will also be the site of the upcoming Betsy Layne High School Bobcat Scramble on Saturday, May 13. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. and tee off time is set for 9 a.m.

Four man scramble, bring your own team format. A registration fee of \$50 and that includes lunch.

First place receives \$1,000, second place, \$600 and third place \$400. Also, awards for longest drive and closest to the pin.

For more information, contact Pam Brooks at 478-4012 or Randy Kidd at 478-2292 or sign up at the Pro Shop.



THE MARTIN PEE WEE BASEBALL league opened last week as this Pee Wee player was just wondering what the big crowd was all about. The Martin league one of the oldest in the county. (photo by Ed Taylor)



HIGH ON THE LADDER was the daring young man of Tim Johnson, Prestonsburg Fire Department. Johnson conquered the fire truck ladder to the amazement of spectators at Kids Day in the Park. He is a four year veteran on the fire department staff. (photos by Ed Taylor)

Sports

county. His home was here, his girls had attended school at McDowell and one was going, at that time, to South Floyd the next year.

Things were not all roses at Johnson Central as the school was looking and expecting the program to come back to the powerhouse it was in the early '80s. The Eagles struggled but did not panic as Turner began putting his system in place. Last year Central made a run throughout the region and with the 15th Region tournament on their home court, they faltered in the semifinals to Pike Central.

However, the Eagles would return eight seniors from that team and was an overwhelming pick as the number one team in the region heading into a new millennium.

The Eagle started early and

were impressive but slowed a bit toward mid season. With the personality of their coach, they never panicked, righted themselves and capture their first regional crown in 16 years (the last time being 1984). The Eagles won their first game in the Sweet Sixteen at Rupp Arena back in March.

At the beginning of the season I spoke with some of his players about the season and expectations. But all they wanted to talk about was their coach whom they "loved and respected." That is quite a tribute.

Coach Turner has entered the political arena for State Senator and has been very busy campaigning and seeing as many voters as he can.

I know that basketball and our educational system has lost a fine

individual and a great friend. If he were to be elected to office, then our political system will have received an outstanding individual.

Whatever happens and whatever Coach Turner does, he will be supported by those who have come to know him, respect him and hold him in high esteem as a person who made a difference in the lives of our young people whether they played for him or not.

Coach Turner, we wish you the best and thanks for all the wonderful years of coaching you have shared with us. We feel we are a better person because of knowing you as an outstanding individual.

Until Wednesday, good sports everyone and be good sports! See you in church today!

Continued from p1

Davis

Dustin Elkins started on the mound for Betsy Layne and took the loss. Keathley came on in the fourth with one out and relieved Elkins.

Elkins gave up seven of the eight runs in three and a third innings of work. He allowed seven runs while yielding five hits. He had one strike out, walked a batter and hit another. Keathley went the final two and two-thirds innings giving up a run on two hits. He walked no one and struck out one. He also hit one batter.

Neither team could dent the plate in the first inning when Matt Bentley drilled a fast ball out of the park for a solo shot and a 1-0 lead.

Allen Central scored their second run in the bottom of the third after Betsy Layne put a runner on but failed to score in the top of the inning. Aaron Swiger had a base hit, stole second but was left on base. Davis led off the inning with his ground rule double, moved to third on Yates first hit of the game, and came home when Josh Howell grounded into a 6-4-3 double play.

The Rebels sent across five runs in the fourth for a 7-0 lead. Elkins walked Patrick Martin to start the inning. On a steal attempt by Martin, Bradley Brooks throw to second went sailing into centerfield but no fault to the senior Bobcat catcher. There appeared to be some confusion as to who would cover the base. Bentley reached on a fielder's choice and Henry Napier was safe on an error at second base to load the

bases. Martin scored on Jeremy Hayes one-out base hit. Bentley scored on a wild pitch leaving Napier and Hayes at second and third for Davis' long drive over the centerfield wall.

Allen Central put their final run on the scoreboard when Dwight McKinney led off the fifth with a solo home run that gave the Rebs a 8-0 margin.

Sizemore worked out of a sixth inning jam after allowing the first two runners to reach base. Daniel Knausz reached on an error at third and Aaron Swiger picked up his second hit of the contest putting runners at first and second. Josh Kidd rocketed a drive to straight-away centerfield that Yates went to the wall, leaped and hauled in. Sizemore then got Justin Bartley and Bradley Brooks on strikes to end the threat.

Sizemore looked to have tired coming out of the sixth and into the top of the seventh. Designated hitter Adam Tackett greeted Sizemore with a base hit to right field and Bill Kidd drew a walk as did Keathley to load the bases. Anthony Tackett then unloaded the bags with is his towering drive over the left centerfield fence. Sizemore gave up a hit to Swiger, his second, but got the side out without any more damage done.

Swiger had three of the five Betsy Layne hits. The Bobcats left five runners stranded and committed two errors. Allen Central left three runners on base and they committed two errors.

Continued from p1

Sports In Kentucky by Bob Watkins

UK recruiting signals Tubby vision is more solid than Florida's Billy

In Gainesville last week, Florida soph-to-be Donnell Harvey decided to leave for the NBA. A thousand miles away, in Cincinnati, Erik Daniels, surrounded by family, signed to study and play basketball at Kentucky.

Events with parallels. Harvey arrived at Florida with much ballyhoo, touted for greatness by experts coast to coast. He showed signs of that potential in the NCAAs, but his commitment to Gator basketball and Billy Donovan turns out, like Mike Miller's, was cotton candy. Barely a taste of time spent here to enjoy.

Reality shows us a stark truth. Miller and Harvey signed with Donovan (not Florida) for the same reasons Jamal Mashburn, Antoine Walker, Ron Mercer, Nazr Mohammed and Jamaal Magloire signed with Rick Pitino (not Kentucky). A philosophy, plainly spoken: "I'm the guy to get you to the next level."

No school rah-rah, no Eddie Fogler corn about education and "let's win for State U." Donovan-Pitino fast talk appeals to young people attuned to instant gratification. Apparently Billy Ball has a two-season shelf life.

So, basketball purists see a promising roster and Gator basketball for the 2000-2001 struck a severe blow.

The flip side of Pitino-Donovan "I'll get you there" approach may have manifested itself at UK if not by design then by necessity. Tubby Smith recruited but failed to sign Miller and Harvey, and more recently Chris Duhon, Jannero Pargo and apparently Darius Rice. All have in common an implicit, "... guaranteed playing time. Get me to the next level."

No guarantees from Tubby. Smith and staff resorted to pursuing less heralded youngsters who, one likes to believe, are more enthusiastic about — learn, blend, mature, and pay dues. Prospects with promise, but who want to be in college, to learn and grow for, gee, maybe even four years.

To a man, Daniels, Michael Southall, Cliff Hawkins and Gerald Finch were rated second-tier by basketball's evaluation agents. Ratings which, I believe, amount to little or nothing since there is no

measure for heart and drive when the clock says :03 and it's one-plus-one at your end.

Recruiting experts? With a plethora of high school point guards drawing raves six months ago no scouting service mentioned Cliff Hawkins. By last week Brick Oettinger had Hawkins listed Hawkins among the nation's "top 11 point guards." Gee, how'd that happen?

I say it is a good thing, Miller's departure, along with Harvey and a growing list of other underclassmen and high school dreamers too. Clears the way for those who want to experience college, learn to extend themselves, meet challenges athletically, academically and socially.

Contrary to popular belief glamorized by Vince Carter PR reps, money will be there always. But time is a fleeting treasure.

As Florida's Miller and Harvey are about to discover, you get one chance to be a college kid.

KY REGIONAL SCHOOLS WILL FEEL RULES CHANGE

Eastern, Western, Morehead and Murray men's basketball may be affected more by rules changes passed last week by NCAA Division I board of directors than will UK and, to a lesser degree, Louisville.

• By 2002, D-1 men's basketball coaches will be banned from attending shoe company-sponsored summer basketball camps. The change would put emphasis where it belongs — youngsters playing summer hoops, improving skills by way of competition while eliminating meat market atmosphere when kids "go Hollywood" to impress bleachers full of college coaches trying to be seen "watching you, son." A dog and pony show.

Those you hear protest loudest against the rule will be coaches, forgetting the summer environment is one they, along with Nike and others helped create, encourage and maintain.

Facts are, mid-major D-1 coaches could be hit hardest by the rule since UK and UofL and the like have no need to show the flag and have adequate budgets to camp out

at high school regular season games and attend an ever-expanding tournament circuit to be seen and troll for players. Schedules, coupled with recruiting services, technology, video and blizzard of available information are ample ways for D-1 coaches to evaluate players they intend to recruit.

Programs chained to more modest recruiting budgets will no longer have summer camps to see and be seen by recruits they hope to sign. They must work harder, be more innovative.

Summertime basketball became a sewer pit when big shoe companies and agents took over "sponsorship," guiding budding superstars to a university "that wears our shoes and uniforms." Their agents have become AAU coaches with their hands out for a piece of the pie, a portion of which was apparently handed over to young athletes. Not until a breakout of suspensions to a handful of college stars last season

(See KENTUCKY, page three)

South Floyd

Continued from p1

hit of the game and scored on a base hit by Kidd. Kidd reached third with only one out, but Skeans got Bartley on a grounder to third and Bradley Brooks on a fly ball to centerfield.

Mullins

Continued from p1

who had singled.

Betsy Layne put three runners on base in the sixth but could not score. Allen Central added a single run in the sixth and two in the seventh.

Howell scored in the sixth on a lead off single and Turner's RBI base hit. In the seventh, Tackett and Green both scored on base hits by Mullins and Sizemore.

Betsy Layne put their final two runs on the board in the bottom of the seventh with the help of two Allen Central errors.

It was the second loss of the conference for Betsy Layne who went to 3-2 in conference play. Allen Central is 3-0 and leads the conference.

Bentley's COMMENTS

BY RICK BENTLEY

OWENSBORO All right, it's time. Enoughs enough and its time for a change.

Even the most casual readers of this space know that in the last few months I've stood up for John Rocker. It's not about agreeing with what he said; it's that he should be allowed to say whatever he wants without Bud Selig sticking his nose in it.

And for the record, I still feel that way. If Rocker wants to be the Ric Flair of his industry, that's his business. If he wants to be the bad guy, it's his call, not ours. I just say, and will always say, it's not for baseball to decide what someone should or should not say.

But its becoming harder and harder to support him.

Rocker spent the first nine games of his return in the friendly confines of Turner Field in Atlanta, but this weeks west-coast road trip has been

as abysmal off the field as it has been lucrative on it.

It seems that no one who has taken a vow of silence has done more talking in the history of mankind. Rocker refuses to talk to the media, whom he actually labeled to a fan "the lowest seum of American society."

Let's see. A list of the lowest form of American society:

3. Murderers.
2. Child molesters.
- Media.

Sounds about right to me. And while he's refusing to talk with them, on his first two days on the road he has managed to yell at a television cameraman, and had such an altercation with a newspaper photographer that the city's top paper had as its lead story a column accounting the incident.

"We're on a team-record winning streak, and all everyone wants to focus on is John Rocker," said Braves

announcer Skip Carey.

The streak had reached 15 wins heading into Wednesday's game at Los Angeles. Coincidentally, the Braves had played 15 games since Rocker returned. In those wins, Rocker had seven saves.

"One of the reasons for the Braves success is that Rockers a helluva pitcher," Carey told USA Today's Rudy Martzke. "Nobody can argue about the quality of his work. It's his judgment that concerns people."

Rockers attitude has started to draw the attention of the team's broadcasters, who normally all but ignore any action which may reflect poorly upon the company. They do so, right or wrong, for several reasons, not the least of which is regardless of which wing you say they're employed the team or the network its still the same company.

On a recent telecast, Don Sutton and Pete Van Wieren discussed the

more recent incidents; the consensus was obvious; Rocker needs to shut up and pitch, but only the latter is likely to happen.

Sutton, a member of the Hall of Fame, said Rockers actions, including that night, when he stayed in the bullpen until the umpire came out and beckoned him to the mound, go against the common grain for pitchers on any level.

"The goal is to make your job as easy as possible," said Sutton. "And John is just not doing that."

Things were put into fair perspective Monday night by a fan in Los Angeles, who ran onto the field during Rocker's appearance. He had no intentions of harming the pitcher,

however.

He hit the field, turned his back to the hurler, and dropped his drawers.

"He brought it on himself," Carey said. "The mooning was harmless. But if one of these objects hurts a player or an umpire, it's not so funny."

Atlanta manager Bobby Cox agreed. "He got mooned. I hope that's as bad as it gets," he said.

Somehow, you have a feeling it won't be. Brave third base coach Ned Yost, one of Rockers most outspoken critics, was hit in the back of the leg by marbles hurled at the pitcher.

Rocker seems to have turned his hatred away from the foreigners, gays, under-age mothers and New

Yorkers basically, anyone different from his white, male, rich self and toward the media.

Granted, I think we've all heard enough about this, and I fully realize this space is included in that. But in the end, the job of the media is to report the news, and as long as he continues to insult every member of it, it will continue to reflect poorly upon him.

The old saying is, "the pen is mightier than the sword." Combine that with the fact that the media always get the final word, and having a war with it is not good business.

But with Rocker, the only place he's doing good business these days is on the mound.



by Jason Blanton

Turner ends career in style with trip to Sweet Sixteen

Most high school basketball coaches dream of getting the opportunity to coach at Rupp Arena during a state tournament.

After 28 years in education and coaching jobs at three high schools, Johnny Ray Turner wants his last games at the 2000 KHSAA State Tournament to be his farewell.

Turner announced Thursday that he will retire at the end of the current school year and that will end his tenure as head coach at Johnson Central.

"I've given this a lot of thought and it is not an easy decision, but I think it is time," Turner said. "I want to thank every one here at Johnson Central for a great seven years."

Under Turner, Johnson Central won its first 15th Regional Tournament championship in 16 years when the Golden Eagles beat Pikeville, 66-54, at Allen Central.

This year's team captured the school's first win in state tourna-

ment play when Johnson Central edged Hopkins County Central, 62-60, in the first round.

The Golden Eagles lost to eventual state champion Elizabethtown in the quarterfinals and finished the season 26-7.

The 26 wins were the most by a Johnson Central since the 1977-78 club.

In his stay with the Johnson County school, Turner rebuilt the program.

Prior to his arrival, the Golden Eagles won only five games but little by little the program improved.

"I think we've the program back in the right direction," Turner said. "It was a lot of hard work by our staff (assistants Danny Johnson and Bryan Hall) and the kids that turned this thing around."

"I have been given just great support from Steve Trimble (Johnson Central High School principal) and Orville Hamilton (Johnson County Superintendent) and would like to thank them for that."

Turner will finish with a career mark of 383-345 in stops at Salyersville, McDowell and Johnson Central, including 46-18 in the last two years with the Golden Eagles and a pair of 57th District championships.

Turner will spend the rest of the month campaigning for the 29th District State Senate race, which he announced in January he will seek.

Sometimes nice guys finish first

I don't know exactly when I first met Johnny Ray Turner.

If I had to guess, it was back in my stint with a local radio station and had to travel to McDowell for a game against the Daredevils.

But I'm sure glad I did.

Over the past seven years, I have gotten to know coach Turner even better. Working with him, Steve Trimble and the rest of the staff at Johnson Central on the 15th Region Basketball Tournament in 1999 was a great thrill for me. To me, it's was one of the best put on by Johnson Central and will be hard to live up to the next time the Golden Eagles host the event.

Fans and friends have avoided any negative talk, if they had it, about his stint at Johnson Central around me. I may not be the smartest person, but I can say I am loyal to my friends and I consider Turner one of them.

It was a treat to cover the 2000 KHSAA State Tournament with Turner and his Golden Eagles involved. It was about an hour before the first game and I was in the back talking with him and it appeared that he had made a decision.

I got the feeling then that he might not come back.

To those who may not have even met Coach Turner, I tell people that I can sum him up in one word - CLASS.

Whether people agreed with his coaching or not, I haven't ever heard a bad word about the man. That's a very big thing, especially in the coaching ranks.

He's only got a handful of days remaining at Johnson Central then Johnny Ray will have fun on the golf courses and could be/should be in Frankfort.

When leaving a game or getting off the phone with him, Turner would always thank me for my help. Now it is time for me to say thanks to him for giving the media an opportunity to cover him and his teams. J.R. we'll miss you.

Continued from p2

Kentucky

for allegedly taking money from AAU Coach Myron Piggie, was anything done to stop it.

■ Important rules change: The NCAA will pony up \$3 million a year and pay up to 50 percent of costs to encourage incoming freshmen basketball student-athletes to arrive early and take six semester hours (two courses) during their first summer on campus.

Says here, summer school for incoming hoops freshman is the next best thing to eliminating freshmen-eligibility. It allows athletes to make a start toward a degree program and a leg up on adjusting to campus, dorm living and college life before practice begins.

UK'S IVY'S STAND NO SURPRISE

No surprise, UK director of athletics-in-waiting Larry Ivy taking issue with the NCAA board's rules change to eliminate summer recruiting by men's basketball coaches at shoe company-sponsored camps by 2002.

Nike Corp. pours thousands of dollars into UK athletics. Too, Ivy is no doubt mindful that Nike CEO Phil Knight recently cancelled an agreement by which he had already donated more than \$30 million to his alma mater Oregon State. Why? Because the school endorsed an on-campus protest group's condemnation of overseas "sweat shops" run by Nike.

The University of Kentucky has its own problem children, a student group protesting the same thing.

ABOUT UK RECRUITS...

Q. What will be the initial impacts of recruits Erik Daniels, Gerald Fitch, Cliff Hawkins and Michael Southall at Kentucky?

A. Depth and relentless defensive pressure.

Ideally, Daniels will keep a fire under Tayshaun Prince who sometimes drifts and give the willowy junior-to-be a breather. If Daniels is the medium-range shooter he's reputed to be, the 6-7 Cincinnati will create opportunities for Marvin Stone in the post by making defenders play honest.

Fitch adds a perimeter threat of course, but more, his presence can make J.P. Blevins be more the player he is, one with a bit of pizzazz who seemed forced to play "carefully" last season. And, competition for playing time always raises the bar.

Hawkins obviously makes UK better in an area in which it was impotent last season. Penetration. Perhaps Wildcat fans will see a budding platoon fans enjoyed with Wayne Turner and Saul Smith two seasons ago. Yet, Hawkins is a rookie and Smith is still turnover-prone so patience will be the watch word.

Marquiss Estill. If the red-shirt freshman is as effective as early as Melvin Turpin was following his Prop 48 sit-out season in 1981-82, then Michael Southall could be red-shirted.

FOUR STATE TITLES?

Kentucky state championships in as many as four high school sports. Since introducing the item three weeks ago, response has been interesting. This week:

■ Steve Traud, Louisville: "Trinity High School in Louisville has won a state championship in nine sports: Football (12), cross country (16), soccer (2), swimming (4), wrestling, tennis (4), golf (5), track, and volleyball (3)."

■ Doug Tabelaing, "As a proud alum, I thought I'd mention to you that the Saint Henry High School Crusaders (Erlanger) have won the following five state titles — Boys Cross Country (5): '75, '90, '93, '94, '96; Girls Cross Country (7): '86, '87, '89, '90, '93, '97, '98; Boys Track and Field: '96; Girls Track and Field: '96; Girls Volleyball: '81."

Anyone else?

PARTING SHOT

A proposal in the Missouri legislature to name a part of Interstate 70 in honor of late Kansas City Chief linebacker Derrick Thomas has drawn an objection from a Show-Me state senator.

Thomas was paralyzed in a car crash last winter and died in February. The objection? Thomas, unmarried, was father to seven children by five women.

The legislator who offered the proposed name change accused the senator of being "... too narrow minded."

And so it goes. NEXT WEEK: A personal tribute to the small town weekly newspaper.

Have a point of view you would like to share? Write to Bob Watkins at P.O. Box 124, Glendale, Ky. 42740 or on the internet at Sptsinky@aol.com. And visit our website www.bobwatkins.com



KIDS BASEBALL IS UNDERWAY around the county and this one is just one of the thousands who will one day feed into the high school ranks (photo by Ed Taylor)

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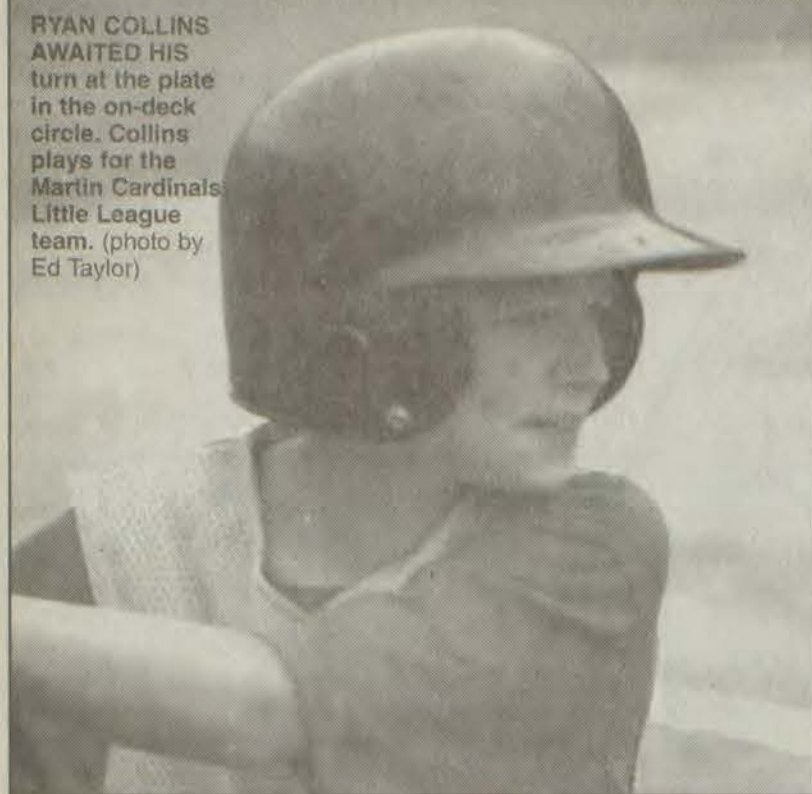
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NASCAR Connection

RYAN COLLINS AWAITED HIS turn at the plate in the on-deck circle. Collins plays for the Martin Cardinals Little League team. (photo by Ed Taylor)



Vanderpool gets 15k's in 4-3 Reds win over Cards

Slone gets game winning hit

by ED TAYLOR
SPORTS EDITOR

Robbie Vanderpool was throwing what appeared to be b.b.'s instead of baseballs but some of those b.b.'s turned into base on balls as well. However, Vanderpool struck out 15 batters as the Martin Reds defeated the Cardinals 4-3, to go 2-0 early in the Little League season. Vanderpool went to the extreme the other way as well walking 10 batters.

Vanderpool drilled a fifth inning home run that tied the game and later set the stage for the heroics of Tyler Slone, who got the game winning hit in the bottom of the sixth.

Cory Click started on the mound for the Cardinals but he went only the first two innings and left the game leading 1-0. Justin Jacobs came on in the third and he suffered the loss working the final four innings.

Vanderpool fanned the side in the first inning, although he did walk two batters in the inning.

Joshua Moore led off the top of the second for the Reds with a walk and John Burchett also walked before Casey Hayes struck out. Click walked Jeremy Pack and Casey Duncan to force in Moore for a one run lead.

The Reds went in front 2-0 with a

single run in the third. Josh Prater started the inning with a double and scored on Vanderpool's two-base hit. Moore also had a safety in the inning.

Still looking for a base hit against Vanderpool after three innings, they finally got it in the fourth and it was a big one.

Ryan Collins reached on an error leading off the inning and Vanderpool walked Tyler Turner and Landon Slone consecutively to lead the bases. Ben Reed then drew a walk forcing home Collins for a 2-1 game. With two out, Jacobs stepped to the plate and ripped a triple to score Turner and Slone to give the Cards a 3-2 lead.

The Cards put two runners on with no one out in the fifth, but failed to score.

In the bottom of the fifth, Vanderpool led off the fifth with a long home run to tie the game at 3-3.

The lead held up until the Reds came to bat in the bottom of the sixth inning. With Jacobs on the mound, he hit Duncan who reached second and stole third. Slone wasted little time as he lined the game winning hit scoring Duncan for the 4-3 win.

The win improved the Reds to 2-0 on the season while the Cardinals fell to 1-1.

Jacobs had the lone hit for the Cardinals.

This time last season, Tony Stewart was going about the business of showing everyone that just because you are a rookie in Winston Cup, you can still be competitive and even win races. The Home Depot driver raised the level for rookies to the point that it may be tough to duplicate, let alone try to top.

Stewart's stats at the end of the season were the envy of not only the rookies in the series but all but three of the veteran drivers. Stewart ended in fourth place in the points standings thanks to three victories and 20 top-10 finishes. He sat on the front row of the five races with two of those being on the pole on his way to winning

over \$3 million.

Those numbers he put up his rookie year not only raised the level of expectations for incoming rookies in the series, it also raised the level of expectations that were being set for him. It should be noted that all though he was a rookie in the Winston Cup Series, Stewart had seat time in just about every other series that races.

Tony had an open wheel background that saw him compete in everything from midgets to Indy cars in the course of a season. Even last season with the grueling schedule that faces a driver in Winston Cup, Stewart still found time to race in

other series. His most famous excursion outside of Winston Cup occurred on Memorial Day when he competed in the Indy 500 that day and then flew immediately to Charlotte in time to run in the Coca-Cola 600 that night.

Looking back on last year, it is easy to see why Stewart became one of the favorites this year to be in the thick of the points battle as the series rolls into the month of May. His owner, Joe Gibbs, was able to keep his team intact during the off-season and even signed the key personnel on the team to long term contracts. Everything it seemed was in place for Stewart to start off the 2000 season where he ended last season.

Stewart hadn't won at this time last season, but he was showing signs of becoming a force in the series. A rookie wasn't expected to win that early in his career, but after posting three wins last year, he became one of the drivers who was expected to have posted a victory by this time.

To make matters worse, when Jeremy Mayfield crawled out of his car on the roof in victory lane at California Sunday, he was the 10th different driver in 10 races to take the checkered flag. Tony did finish in 10th, but really wasn't a threat for the win.

A closer look at the year that Tony has put together isn't that bad for the races that he has been around at the finish. The problem is that Stewart has already put three DNFs in the

record book compared to just one for all of last season. Out of the six races that he has been running at the end he has posted six top-10 finishes with three of them being top-fives.

Reasons why he hasn't made it to victory lane might be found in the six races that he was around at the finish. NASCAR awards five bonus points for every driver that leads at least one lap during a race and five additional points for the driver that leads the most laps during a race. Stewart's point totals from those six races do not show any bonus points.

Last season the Home Depot Pontiac became a common sight leading laps, thus making him a threat to win. Combine Stewart's failure to lead any laps this season along with the three DNFs and it becomes evident just why we haven't seen Stewart and his team do any celebrating in victory lane.

In Stewart's defense, more than one team has turned up the wick on Sunday afternoon. The series has gone from one that the winner usually came from a handful of drivers to one that could see the winner come from a list of 20 different drivers.

This Saturday night the series rolls in to Richmond for the first race of the season. It was on a Saturday night last September at Richmond when Tony made this first-ever appearance in a Winston Cup victory lane and who knows, maybe this Saturday night we will be treated to his first win of the 2000 season.

Seniors leading Bears in KIAC Tournament

The Pikeville College Bears opened their final appearance in the KIAC baseball tournament with a pair of wins.

The wins — a 17-11 slugfest with Asbury Tuesday and an 11-7 "upset" of No. 2 Indiana-Southeast on Wednesday — put the locals in the finals of the winners' bracket, meaning two more consecutive wins would give the Bears the crown.

Wednesday's win was a milestone of another magnitude, as it gave Pikeville 40 wins for the first baseball season in school history. The Bears are 40-17 on the season.

The four seniors are leading the Bears through two games. Frank Conley, Joe Pierson, Justin Royal and Alex Ward are hitting an unreal .548 (23-for-42) with 14 runs scored and 12 runs batted in.

Pikeville, seeded third in the nine-team tournament, opened with a 17-11 win over Asbury. Donnie Cox, a junior from Louisville, went the distance for the Bears, as five of the runs were of the unearned variety. He struck out four and walked only one.

Pikeville scored two in the first on an RBI single by Frank Conley and a sacrifice fly by Alex Ward. It went scoreless in the second and third, and then scored at least once in each of the final six at-bats.

The Bears scored three in the third and fourth innings before erupting for four in the sixth, thanks in large part to a two-run double off the bat of sophomore Gerald Giles. That put Pikeville on top 12-5, but the feisty Eagles continued to battle, forcing the game to go the full

nine innings.

Several Bears were offensive stars in the game, as all nine starters scored at least once — the top four in the lineup scored three times each — and all but one had a hit. Conley and Pierson had four hits each, with Conley having a double and three RBI while Pierson hit a home run and drove in two.

Giles checked in with three hits, including a double and home run, driving in four. Freshman David Castle had two hits, including a double, and three runs batted in. Three teammates Ward, Royal and D.J. Bogard had two hits each. Among Wards hits was a double.

Wednesday's 11-7 final score doesn't correctly indicate that the Bears dominated the game, as they took an 11-1 advantage into the bottom of the ninth in picking up their third win in four tries against the Grenadiers this season.

Giles went the distance, earning his 10th win of the season compared to only one loss. He scattered eight hits, recording 11 strikeouts and walking only three.

Pikeville scored single runs in the first, third and fifth, and led 3-1 before exploding for eight in the top of the eighth to put the game away.

The first big hit in the inning was a bases-loaded single by freshman John Mims, plating the first two runs of the inning. Two batters later, Conley put the game away with a monstrous grand slam, putting Pikeville on top 10-1. Ward followed with a single and scored from first when Royal tripled, putting the Bears on top by double figures.



AT THE TOP of the ladder was Prestonsburg fireman Tim Johnson. The local fire department had a truck on display at Kids Day in the Park. (photo by Ed Taylor)

Tackett gets rare start and makes most of it

by ED TAYLOR
SPORTS EDITOR

For Adam Tackett, being the team's designated hitter is a pleasing position to be in. After all, you don't have to field but you get to bat in every game.

But on this night at Elkhorn City, it would be different, very different. He was handed the baseball and pointed to the mound where he got a rare start, let alone getting to throw

the ball.

How did he respond? Well he had a no-hitter going entering the seventh inning. Get this! He had two out in the seventh inning. Then some player with the last name of Stacy spoiled things for the big righthander as he singled to centerfield for the first and only hit for the Cougars.

But there is more. Tackett was not only a star from the hill but he performed equally as well from the plate collecting three hits in the

game including two doubles.

While Tackett did not have them swing at air, just one strike out, he did have the Cougars popping and grounding out.

Bradley Brooks helped stake the Bobcats to an early lead in the first inning by blasting a three-run home run, his third of the season. Aaron Swiger, who walked and Justin Bartley, a double, scored ahead of Brooks.

Tackett went through the Elkhorn

City first like a veteran of the mound, retiring the first three batters he faced.

Daniel Knusz led off the Betsy Layne second with a double but was left stranded on the base path.

The Bobcats took a 5-0 lead with two run sin the third inning. Tackett collected his second two-bagger that drove in Bartley, who had walked. Tackett scored on Bill Kidd's RBI single.

Betsy Layne got their final runs in the top of the seventh. Bartley led off the inning with a solo home run and Brooks followed with a double. Tackett, his third hit of the game, singled him home and he later scored on an error.

Tackett walked two batters in fanning two. He gave up no runs on just the one hit.



BETSY LAYNE AND SOUTH FLOYD HOOKED UP in an close one at the Allen Park Wednesday evening. South Floyd posted a 6-5 win over the Bobcats. (photo by Ed Taylor)

Potter tosses 3-hitter in 11-1 win over Allen Central

by Ed Taylor
Sports Editor

The Allen Central Lady Rebels saw their modest three game winning streak come to an end this past Thursday night by dropping 11-1 decision to the Pikeville Lady Panthers at Pikeville.

Allen Central, first place in the Floyd County Conference, could only manage three hits of hard throwing Batrina Potter. Potter ran her personal record to 11-3 on the season in the victory. She allowed the Lady Rebels only one run on the three hits. She fanned three and walked three.

The top third of the Allen Central batting order accounted for the three Lady Rebels hits. Terri Mullins had a third inning double. Jennifer Risner and Shanna Howell had a safety each.

Howell pitched well but tired in the late innings when Pikeville scored the bulk of their runs. The Lady Panthers put three on the scoreboard in the fifth and plated five in the sixth.

Risner had a first inning single in the opening inning, but was left stranded. Barb Prater walked to start the Allen Central second but could not get home.

Howell retired Pikeville in order in the first and put two runners on in the bottom of the second but pitched out of a two on situation.

Mullins then doubled with one out in the third only to be left on base. Pikeville took a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the third on a double by senior Emily Johnson who eventually scored on a wild pitch.

Allen Central tied the game at 1-1 in the top of the fourth on a one out walk to Barb Prater. Prater came all the way around on three wild pitches.

In the Pikeville fourth, two hits and two walks led to two Pikeville runs for a 3-1 advantage. Alison Harris started the rally with a base hit and Howell walked Michelle Hall. Harris scored on Potter's one out base hit and she eventually scored on a fielder's choice play.

Three runners scored for Pikeville in the fifth as nine batters went plateward. Four walks and three errors helped the Lady Panthers take a 6-0 lead after five innings.

The final scoring for Pikeville came in the bottom of the sixth when they scored five times for a 10 run lead, evoking the mercy rule. Harris doubled home two runs for the Lady Panthers. Harris finished the game with three safeties and Potter had two.

Sports In PERSPECTIVE

Denis Harrington

Motivation. It's one of the standard buzzwords in the realm of organized sports today.

With each hiring and firing of a team coach, the term motivation, or a derivation thereof, is always a principal part of the verbiage accompanying the ceremony.

The newly-hired mentor invariably

possesses the most necessary attribute of being a great motivator. Some years later when he's being shown the door among the reasons for his departure is usually his inability to motivate the players.

Chuck Noll, who directed the Pittsburgh Steelers to four winning Super Bowl appearances during

the 1970s, once said, "The championships we won were due mostly to the talent we put on the field. But the other three or four titles we should've won and didn't could be attributed to my shortcomings as a coach."

Be assured Noll said this with tongue in cheek. He didn't believe that motivation came from anywhere but within the performer himself. If you're a pro, then you report ready to give it your best shot — all the time. That's what the check in your envelope is all about.

Oh, if it was only that simple.

Bill Parcells, most recently the field boss of the New York Jets, said, "The toughest part of coaching is getting the players to care, to put out their best effort on Sundays. It takes all the ingenuity

I've got to get the job done."

In the case of Parcells, as with other highly successful coaches such as Noll, Vince Lombardi and Red Auerbach, ingenuity took the form of instilling fear into their charges. Simply put, "it's my way or the highway".

Parcells was all over his players on the practice field, chiding and pushing them mercilessly.

"I'm gonna be in your ear, on your case, until you either concentrate and get it right, or you get so sick of me you'll throw up," he would bellow. "It's your call."

On the sidelines during a game, Parcells wouldn't hesitate to dress down an errant player for shoddy and lackluster technique.

"You don't wanna do the job then get out of here, get dressed," he could be heard to shout. "Nothing is better than what you're doing."

Lombardi and Auerbach made it clear that the players' careers were on the line day in and day out. And the paycheck for a halfhearted effort was pain, the agony of practice sessions and the grinding repetition

they promised.

John Havlicek, one of the Boston Celtics great stars, recalled, "Some days it was pure hell. Red created drills that kept you running and jumping up and down the court for what seemed hours. At the end of practice, we ran sprints and the winners got to sit out while the others ran again. Those days were really long."

As late as last year, there were grumblings in the St. Louis Rams camp about head coach Dick Vermeil. An emotional man by nature, he would scream and shout, demanding perfection from his highly-paid employees. Ultimately, the front office called him in and suggested he try a more sensitive approach. But a leopard can't change its spots and now the Rams are world champions.

Former Oakland Raiders field general John Madden said, "A lot of players nowadays are real prima donnas. Things don't go their way, they don't feel they're being used right or enough, so they pout. Go into a shell. Then you have to make a real effort to stroke them, get

them involved. Make them feel wanted. It's nothing like the old days."

When Hall-of-Fame linebacker Dick Butkus called it a day as a player, he had offers to coach but turned them down out of hand.

"The attitude of many players entering the league when I was finishing up bothered me," he said. "A lot of them always had this question. Why? Why do I have to do this? Why do I have to do that?"

It wasn't a question asked much in my time. I just didn't feel many of the players had the attitude and desire that I did. And I would've had a real problem coaching under those circumstances. I would have expected them to be like me. I really loved football, everything about it. I liked practicing just as much as the games."

New York Yankees manager Joe Torre said, "You have to do a lot of explaining now. In my day whatever the manager told you to do, you did it."

Apparently, millions of dollars aren't motivation enough. Hey, try me.

June Buchanan presents athletic awards

June Buchanan honored their athletes at their annual Athletic Awards banquet on Thursday, April 27 at the Estelle Campbell Center for the Arts auditorium on the campus of Alice Lloyd College.

"I am extremely proud of our athletic program this year and congratulations to all students receiving awards. We had a successful athletic year and the participation from JBS students was outstanding," said Gary Gibson, boys basketball coach and school athletic director.

The following students received awards during the ceremonies:

■ Golf: Carl Sode, coach - John Watson, Most Improved; Leyton Childers, Bright Future; Heath Scott, Senior Plaque; Zack Bentley, Coaches Award and MVP Award.

■ Cross-Country: David Huff, coach - Kara Caudill, Most Valuable Female Runner; Trevor Slone, Most Valuable Male Runner and Honorable Mention All-State.

■ Girls Varsity Basketball: Jamie Couch, coach - Jessica Maggard, 100 percent Award, Kara Caudill, Field Goal Percentage; Amber Scott, Scoring Award, Assists Award, Free Throw Award and Steals; Jonda Conley, Rebound Award; Megan Smith, Team Captain, Three-point Percentage, Three-point Made, Block Shots and Defensive awards.

■ High School Cheerleading: Camille Slone and Robin Hilpp, coaches - Haylee Combs Captain Award; Sally Oakes, Senior Plaque.

■ Boys Varsity Basketball: Gary Gibson, coach - Josh Thomas, Rebound, Block Shots awards; Jase Slone, Field Goal Percentage and Deflections awards; Todd Johnson, Three-point Percentage Award; Zack Bentley, second in the following: 2pt FG percentage, Free Throw percentages, three-point percentage; assists, Total Points, and the PPG award; Trevor Slone, Team Co-Captain Award, 100 percent Award; Leadership Award, Defensive Award, Steals Award, Charges Taken Award.

■ Megan Smith and Trevor Slone received the Big Dipper's All-mention Basketball Team Nomination, KHSAA Sportsmanship Award Nominations, Barkley Moore Award Nomination and the JBS Scholar-Athlete Award.

Fish and Wildlife Studying Elkhorn Creek Bass

Frankfort, KY, May 8, 2000 — Fishery biologists with the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR) will be tracking the movements of smallmouth bass in the Elkhorn Creek in Franklin County over the next year. This portion of the creek is one of Kentucky's premier smallmouth bass stream fisheries.

Biologists say 40 smallmouth between 12 and 16-inches long are being surgically implanted with radio transmitters so that their whereabouts can be followed using telemetry equipment. Biologists will track these bass through June of 2001 to determine how many fish in this size range remain in the Elkhorn Creek, and how many migrate to the Kentucky River. Presently, both smallmouth and largemouth bass in Elkhorn Creek are regulated with a 12-16-inch protective slot limit. This requires all bass in this size range be immediately released. Up to two bass over 16 inches and four bass under 12 inches may be kept daily. Harvest of smaller bass decreases competition for food and habitat, which helps meet the objective of

increasing numbers of quality-sized bass in the creek.

Elkhorn Creek flows into the Kentucky River, where a 12-inch size limit is in effect on bass. Biologists want to learn what percentage of bass are migrating from Elkhorn to the river, and if subsequent harvest of these bass in the Kentucky River is diminishing the angler benefits of the slot limit to the creek.

The study is also expected to reveal the habitat preferences of smallmouth, which when shared with anglers may help them be more successful, and may determine whether or not habitat improvement work needs to occur in the Elkhorn.

Signs will be posted along the stream to advise anglers of the research project. Any fish caught that has been implanted with a transmitter must be released immediately. Anglers will easily be able to identify fish tagged for the study by the 12-inch wire antenna protruding from the abdomen of test fish.

This project is a first of its kind in this area and is funded by Sport Fish

Restoration federal funds. These funds are derived by boat motor fuel taxes and excise taxes on fishing equipment. It is endorsed by the Elkhorn Trust and Canoe Kentucky has provided a kayak for biologists to

use as they monitor movements of the fish.

For more information on the project, contact Christy Van Arnum, KDFWR fisheries research technician, at (800) 858-1549, ext. 363.

16th Bluegrass State Games set for July 14-16

From water sports to bowling, chess to gymnastics, there's something for everyone in this year's lineup for the Bluegrass Summer Games.

This year's Games will offer 39 sports, which makes it Kentucky's largest amateur sports events. Approximately 20,000 participants are expected to compete over two weekends in July. The Games are held in Fayette and surrounding counties.

The Games will kick off on the weekend of July 14-16 with a limited schedule of events. Opening ceremonies will be held July 21 and most of the Games will follow on the weekend of July 22-23, Bluegrass State Games Chairman Scotty Baesler announced today.

"There's something for everyone in this year's Games," said Baesler, a Lexington lawyer and former U.S. Congressman and Lexington Mayor. "We've added sailing regatta and we're bringing back two other sports - canoeing/kayaking and cycling. This should be an exciting year for the Bluegrass State Games."

This will be the 16th year for the Bluegrass Summer Games. Nearly 9,000 amateur athletes from 109 Kentucky counties participated in last year's Summer Games.

Entry booklets for the 2000 Summer Games are already in the mail to past participants and are expected to be distributed statewide beginning this week. Booklets will be available to the public at a number of locations throughout the state.

If you wish to obtain a copy, call the Bluegrass State Games office at 1800-722-2474. You can also pick up booklets at the following locations: Valvoline Instant Oil Change locations in Louisville and Northern Kentucky. McDonald's Restaurants in Central/Southeastern Kentucky. Meijer Stores. Central Bank locations. GTE Phone Marts. GTE Wireless kiosks. Local parks and recreation departments. Public libraries.

Here is a schedule of events for the 2000 Bluegrass Summer Games:

July 14-16

Adult Basketball
Disc Golf

Adult Soccer
Softball/Class C-D Men; Class C-D Women
Volleyball
Wrestling

July 21-22

Opening Ceremonies
Archery
Youth Basketball
Bowling
Canoeing/Kayaking
Chess
Cycling
Equestrian
Golf
Gymnastics
Horseshoes
In-Line Hockey

Martial Arts
Power Tumbling
Racquetball
Shooting
Youth Soccer
Softball
Swimming
Table Tennis
Tee Ball
Tennis
Track/Field
5K Foot Race

August 26

Fencing

The Bluegrass State Games are a project of the Governor's Commission on Sports, Physical Activity and Wellness, and are designed to provide Kentuckians of all ages and abilities the opportunity to participate in statewide, family-oriented sports festivals styled after the Olympic Games.

The Games are co-hosted by the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government, the Commonwealth of Kentucky and the University of Kentucky.

Birding Weekend Coming to Jenny Wiley State Park

Have you always wanted to pick up the hobby of bird-watching, but felt you needed a little help getting started? Well, this weekend is for you.

Starting Friday, May 12 and carrying on through Sunday May 14, Ornithology Weekend will be taking place at Jenny Wiley State Park near Prestonsburg.

Co-sponsored by the Kentucky Departments of Parks and Fish and Wildlife Resources, participants will have a wide variety of activities to choose from to learn how to become a more accomplished birder. Those attending this special weekend pre-registered by April 30.

Activities planned for Birding weekend include bird identification programs, a presentation about the peregrine falcon restoration pro-

gram in Kentucky, and owl prowl, numerous field walks and a pontoon boat ride on Dewey Lake.

Additionally, the Natural History Education Company will present a program using live birds of prey on Saturday night.

To participate or for more information about Ornithology Weekend, contact Ron Vanover at (606) 886-2711 or email at rvanover(c)setel.com. The fee is \$10 for adults and \$3 for children 12 and under. Discounts are available for youth groups.

To book lodging at Jenny Wiley State Park, call (800) 325-0142 or (606) 886-2711. Remember to bring your own binoculars, field guides and journal. There will be door prizes and native plants on sale to spruce up your own yard for wildlife.



THIS RUNNER WAS CALLED OUT at the plate in the Prestonsburg Little League at Archer Park last week. The Prestonsburg Youth Baseball League opened last Monday (photo by Ed Taylor)

NASCAR this week

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

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

OnTV

All Times Eastern

- **Busch Grand National, Hardee's 250**
7:30 p.m. • Friday • ESPN2
- **Winston Cup, Pontiac Excitement 400**
7:30 p.m. • Saturday • ESPN
- **Trucks, Ram Tough 200 by Pepsi**
1:30 p.m. • Sunday • ESPN

2000 WINSTON CUP SCHEDULE

WINSTON CUP	BUSCH	TRUCK
1. Bobby Labonte, 1,516	Jeff Green, 1,443	Mike Wallace, 1,008
2. Mark Martin, 1,496	Todd Bodine, 1,404	Andy Houston, 969
3. Ward Burton, 1,443	Matt Kenseth, 1,370	Jack Sprague, 909
4. Jeff Burton, 1,396	Randy LaJoie, 1,328	Steve Grissom, 877
5. Dale Earnhardt, 1,384	Ron Hornaday, 1,241	Kurt Busch, 872
6. Dale Jarrett, 1,305	Kevin Grubb, 1,162	Joe Ruttman, 858
7. Jeremy Mayfield, 1,300	David Green, 1,145	Dennis Setzer, 846
8. Jeff Gordon, 1,279	Elton Sawyer, 1,112	Greg Biffle, 837
9. Rusty Wallace, 1,271	Jason Keller, 1,111	Rick Crawford, 752
10. Ricky Rudd, 1,251	Kevin Harvick, 1,092	Terry Cook, 749

TOP TEN

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

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. (2) Bobby Labonte | Back out front in points |
| 2. (1) Mark Martin | Had off-week in California |
| 3. (4) Jeff Burton | Only driver with 6 top-fives |
| 4. (3) Dale Earnhardt | Finished 17th |
| 5. (8) Ward Burton | Brothers in the top five |
| 6. (5) Rusty Wallace | Faded to eight after leading |
| 7. (6) Dale Jarrett | Finished a quiet ninth |
| 8. (7) Jeff Gordon | Big day never materialized |
| 9. — Jeremy Mayfield | Had been due for a while |
| 10. (10) Tony Stewart | What's with the qualifying? |

FROM LAST WEEK

THE WINSTON CUP SERIES

FONTANA, Calif. — Jeremy Mayfield became the season's 10th different winner, but a greater Cinderella story failed to materialize.

Rookie Matt Kenseth dominated the day but made a mistake consistent with his experience at the end of the NAPA Auto Parts 500. It was the same mistake Mayfield's teammate, veteran Rusty Wallace, made at Martinsville: Kenseth surrendered track position by changing four tires, not two, on his final pit stop. The decision buried him among also-rans, while Mayfield's decision to change two put his car out front.

"At the start of the day, I told Robbie (Reiser, the crew chief) to change four tires every time," said Kenseth. "Later on, I should have rethought my position."

"I don't have the experience to tell the difference between

what will work on a long and short run. At the end there, it took me a long time to get going."

Too long, as it turned out, but Kenseth did manage to finish third behind Mayfield and Bobby Labonte, who regained the point lead.

BUSCH GRAND NATIONAL

FONTANA, Calif. — Kenseth did manage to win the Auto Club 300, extending the mastery of Winston Cup regulars in the secondary series.

Driving a Chevrolet, Kenseth slipped past brothers Ward and Jeff Burton when Ward hit the wall, and Jeff, following closely, had to slow down to avoid the crash.

Kenseth became the second driver to win more than one BGN race this season. His mentor, Mark Martin, who did not compete at California Speedway, was the first.

FEUD OF THE WEEK

Jeremy Mayfield and Penske-Kranefuss Racing vs. NASCAR

It wasn't enough that NASCAR has still not revealed what it intends to do about the alleged fuel additive found in Mayfield's car at Talladega. The governing body confiscated the team's race-winning car at California, saying it would not overturn the victory but that the roof height was too low.

NASCAR This Week's Monte Dutton gives his opinion:

"This seems fairly petty. Even NASCAR officials admitted the problem may have occurred because Mayfield jumped all over the roof of the car in victory lane. If the car passed pre-race inspection, and no means of lowering the car during the race is discovered, this witch hunt ought to be abandoned."

THE WINSTON CUP SERIES

Coming up: Pontiac Excitement 400

Where: Richmond International Raceway (.75-mile track)

When: Saturday, May 6
Defending champion: Dale Jarrett

Format: 400 laps/300 miles
Qualifying record: Jeff Gordon, Chevrolet, 126.499 mph, May 13, 1999

Race record: Rusty Wallace,

Ford, 108.499 mph, March 2, 1997

Notable: Winston Cup champion Jarrett won the first of four 1999 races here last year and took a lead in the standings he would never relinquish.

BUSCH GRAND NATIONAL

What: Hardee's 250
Where: Richmond International Raceway (.75-mile track)

When: Friday, May 5

Defending champion: Mark Martin

Format: 250 laps/187.5 miles

Qualifying record: Jason Keller, Chevrolet, 124.907 mph, May 14, 1999

Race Record: Kenny Wallace, Ford, 104.928 mph, Sept. 8, 1995

Notable: Roush Racing drivers Mark Martin and Jeff Burton have won the last two spring events here.

PROFILE

Scott Pruett



John Clark/NASCAR This Week

Scott Pruett, right, chats with a crew member.

By Monte Dutton
NASCAR This Week

Scott Pruett is no ordinary rookie.

The Californian has won a Trans-Am title. He has competed in the International Race of Champions series and the Indianapolis 500. He won the Rolextona. He has twice won CART championship-car races.

But Winston Cup stock car racing is becoming the greatest challenge of Pruett's illustrious career. This season he has failed to qualify three times in a Ford owned by Cal Wells, like Pruett, a man associated with open-wheel racing in the past.

While driving in the CART series, Pruett gave Toyota its first pole in a race at Fontana, Calif. In 1990, he was seriously injured in a CART test session, suffering injuries that forced him to spend an entire year in rehabilitation.

Hometown: Sacramento, Calif.

Age: 40

Wife: Judy

Children: Lauren (11), Taylor Don (2)

Car: No. 32 Tide Ford Taurus, owned by Cal Wells

Career statistics: 7 starts, 0 wins, 0 top-five finishes, 0 top-10 finishes, 0 poles, more than \$340,286 in career earnings

First: Start (Feb. 20, 2000, at Daytona), pole (none), win (none)

Why have you been so successful at California Speedway? "First and foremost, it's a track we've been going to for quite a few years. ... It's the first track that I've been to where I've raced previously with Indy cars, so going out there and doing our first test was pretty interesting. One,

to really get a chance to see the differences between the two cars because that was the first time I had that, and then also trying to continue to make progress on those type of tracks where we've really showed well."

Were you worried coming in about the demands of NASCAR racing? "I think there was a big question mark for everybody, including myself, moving into this. I do think we've come a long way in a short period of time. First was just the fact that in an Indy car you run around there flat-out — you don't lift at all — so the speed is significantly higher. But, one of the biggest things I'm learning about the Winston Cup car is you have to be very critical with the car. Don't get me wrong, you have to be very critical with Indy cars as well, with the wing setting and shocks and so on, but because you don't have as many things that make big differences with the Winston Cup car. I mean you have a lot more adjustments than I think on an Indy car with a Winston Cup car, but you don't have those things where you can Band-Aid. You know, 'Oh, it's not handling quite right, so let's add a little more front wing, or the rear doesn't have enough grip so let's add a little bit more rear spoiler.' You don't get that chance in a Winston Cup car."

Are you having to work harder? "Physically no, mentally yes. I don't have enough experience yet to come in for a pit stop and say, 'We need to do a track bar change,' or 'We need to do a wedge change,' or 'We need a pound of tire pressure.' Those are things that, unfortunately, just come over time. We're learning, but it's just gonna take some time to get a better understanding about all those pieces."

Who's Hot... Who's Not

■ **HOT:** Bobby Labonte regained the point lead.

■ **NOT:** Terry Labonte finished a disappointing 33rd at California Speedway.

Trackside Trivia

1. What is the shortest distance ever run in a Winston Cup (then Grand National) point race?
2. What is the shortest track ever to host a Winston Cup (then Grand National) event?

1. 2.7 miles, at Bowman Gray Stadium in Winston-Salem, N.C., on April 23, 1962;
2. Islip (N.Y.) Speedway, one-fifth of a mile.

ANSWERS

AROUND THE GARAGE

Parrott joins Dale Jarrett with lifetime contract at Robert Yates Racing

By Monte Dutton
NASCAR This Week

FONTANA, Calif. — Todd Parrott now has a lifetime contract at Robert Yates Racing. Driver Dale Jarrett already had one.

"Robert told me it meant that if I ever left, he would kill me," said Jarrett.

"That's the same contract Todd's got now," cracked Yates.

California Speedway.

Irwindale opened in 1998 to rave reviews, and Stewart raced in a midget race at the paved track last November. Earlier this year, he announced he was giving up his short-track driving stunts but made an exception when Irwindale marketing vice president Pat Patterson called him recently.

Stewart started 17th and finished seventh.

BOYS WILL BE BOYS: Tony Stewart raced the on the night before the NAPA 500 in the Super Late Model Division at Irwindale Speedway, the state-of-the-art short track located only about 20 miles from

WELL, PILGRIM: Sterling Marlin's No. 40 Chevrolet, otherwise sponsored by Coors Light, has the late actor John Wayne's likeness on the hood. Apparently it is a one-race deal, although Wayne, who is, as has

been noted, dead, could not be reached for comment.

SO WHY DID HE BRING IT? Kenny Wallace calls the Chevrolet he brought to Fontana his "jinx car." The car has had its engine blow in both of its previous appearances this year, in Atlanta and Darlington.

"The car would run good, but then both times, about three-quarters of the way through the race, the oil would run hot and it'd knock the bearings out," said Wallace. "The oil system has been completely reworked. It's like a new car, so we'll see what happens."

"This car has really killed our season so far, so now maybe we can

salvage something with it."

He started 41st and finished 36th.

FORTY-NINE YEARS YOUNG: Dale Earnhardt turned 49 on Saturday, April 29. It was one year ago that Earnhardt, after winning at Talladega, said that, if he did not run well at California Speedway, it was his fault, not the team's.

Since then, Earnhardt has won three races and had 25 top-10 finishes in 34 races. He led the 1999 California race until running out of fuel on the final lap, thus losing a lap and finishing 12th.

IT'S NOT THE SAME: Kenny

Wallace thinks those who cite California Speedway's similarity to Michigan Speedway are greatly oversimplifying matters.

"To say California's like Michigan is totally misunderstood," said Wallace. "This track has very flat corners (14 degrees). Michigan, however, is banked (18 degrees) in the corners."

YABBA-DABBA-DOO! Robby Gordon's Ford carried a Flintstones paint scheme here, owing to sponsorship from Universal Studios and Burger King.

The neon-orange paint hyped the theatrical release of "The Flintstones in Viva Rock Vegas" on April 28.

CRAFTSMAN TRUCK SERIES

What: Ram Tough 200
Where: Gateway International Raceway (1.25-mile track), Madison, Ill.

When: Sunday, May 7
Defending champion: Greg Biffle

Format: 160 laps/200 miles
Qualifying record: Stacy Compton, Dodge, 133.093 mph, Aug. 19, 1999

Race record: Greg Biffle, Ford, 111.853 mph, Aug. 20, 1999

Your Turn

Letters From Our Readers

Dear NASCAR This Week,
Why is it broadcasters call the turns 1, 2, 3, 4 on a pure oval track? There are no straights in these turns like Indy!

Jack Wessel
Prince's Lakes, Ind.

Probably the best answer is that drivers refer to the turns this way, turn one being where they enter, turn two where they exit, etc.

Fan Tips

■ Over the next few weeks, NASCAR will assign Melling Racing (and driver Stacy Compton) a new number for the 2001 season. Owner Mark Melling gave up the current No. 9 so that Bill Elliott can use that number again in 2001, when he drives a Dodge Intrepid for Ray Evernham. A drawing will be held from among fans who guess the new number at the team's Web site (www.Mellingracing.com), where complete rules may also be found. One fan who makes the correct guess will receive a trip to a driving school (from www.racingschools.com), and another will serve as an honorary pit-crew member for the team in the Aug. 20 race at Michigan Speedway. Winners will be announced at the track on June 9.

■ During May, Amoco stations will offer 1:64 scale replicas of the cars driven in Winston Cup by Dave Blaney, in the World of Outlaws by Dale Blaney and in the NHRA by Allen Johnson. The miniature cars will be available at Amoco stations for \$1.29 each.

■ The grand-prize winner in the Aqua Velva Heart Pounding Sweepstakes will receive a two-day trip to the Richard Petty Driving Experience, along with a three-day/four-night trip to Charlotte, N.C., and \$250 in spending money. Entries must be postmarked by Dec. 30, 2000. To enter, complete an official entry form (available at your local retailer) or hand print your name, address and telephone number on a 3-by-5-inch card and mail to: Aqua Velva Heart Pounding Sweepstakes, P.O. Box 7073, Clinton, IA 52736-7073. Entries are limited to one per person per day, mailed in separate envelopes.

Correction

Last week's Top Ten should have had Terry Labonte at nine and Tony Stewart at 10.

CREW OF THE WEEK

■ **Embattled crew chief Peter Sospenzo, with possible disciplinary action hanging over him from a NASCAR investigation following the Talladega race, put driver Jeremy Mayfield in position to win the second race of Mayfield's career in Sunday's NAPA Auto Parts 500 at California Speedway.**

INSIDE THE PRO FISHING TOUR

Pros Consider Their Own Tour

Although it is shrouded in secrecy, there is a serious move afoot among a group of veteran bass pros to establish their own tournament trail as an alternative to the BASSMASTER and FLW circuits.

For years, the pros have talked and dreamed of a pro-owned tournament circuit in which they no longer had to pay entry fees to compete — like the PGA Tour. The concept seemed like a pipe dream, but it appears close to becoming reality. Although entry fees will be required the first year or so, plans ultimately call for their elimination.

The pros reportedly have lined up some major sponsors, including Mercury Marine, and fashioned a four-tournament schedule. About 100 pros will receive invitations to compete in these events based on a points system that counts performances on both the BASSMASTER and FLW circuits.

Tim Tucker's Tour Notebook

Brauer Hurting Missouri pro Denny Brauer, former BASS Masters Classic champion and the all-time BASS money-winner with more than \$1.5 million, is likely to skip the final BASSMASTER Top 150 event of the season in May to undergo back surgery. Brauer fished most of this season with pain and numbness in his feet and legs from a lingering back problem.

BASS Schedule Announced The Bass Anglers Sportsman Society recently released the 2000-01 schedule for the \$6.2 million BASSMASTER Tournament Trail's four circuits.

The BASSMASTER Top 150 schedule: Potomac River, Aug. 23-26; Mississippi Delta, Sept. 20-23; Alabama's Mobile Delta, Oct. 18-21; Florida's Lake Kissimmee, Jan. 17-20; Louisiana's Toledo Bend Reservoir, Feb. 21-24; Alabama's Lake Wheeler, March 28-April 3; and Tennessee's Douglas Lake, May 8-13.

The Eastern Invitational schedule: Tennessee's Old Hickory Lake, Sept. 14-16; Alabama's Lake Martin, Dec. 7-9; Florida's Lake Okechobee, Jan. 11-13; and Alabama's Pickwick and Wilson lakes, March 15-17.

The Central Invitational schedule: Louisiana's Red River, Oct. 12-14; Missouri's Lake of the Ozarks, Nov. 9-11; Texas' Sam Rayburn Reservoir, March 1-3; and Missouri's Table Rock Lake, April 19-21.

The Western Invitational schedule: Washington's Columbia River, Oct. 5-7; California's Lake Shasta, Nov. 2-4; Nevada's Lake Mead, March 15-17; and the California Delta, April 19-21.

Weekend Anglers' Championship When the nation's best weekend anglers roll into Hot Springs, Ark., May 10-13 for the Red Man All-American Bass Championship, \$250,000 cash will be on the line, including \$100,000 for first place.

Among the favorites is Gary Simpson of Gainesville, Fla., who qualified for his sixth All-American appearance. Other repeat qualifiers include Ray Barga of Gilbertsville, Ky. (five); Billy Bowen of Ocala, Fla. (four); Mike Gough of Gainesville, Fla. (four); Billy Schroeder of Paducah, Ky. (four); and Jeff Coble of Henderson, N.C. (four).

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	46	Denny Brauer, Camdenton, Mo. Runner-up in '99 Classic; Fla. Top 150 finals
2	2	46	Davy Hite, Prosperity, S.C. Won '99 BASS Masters Classic
3	3	29	Tim Horton, Spruce Pine, Ala. BASS Angler of Year; made four Top 150 finals
4	4	46	Larry Nixon, Bee Branch, Ark. Won BASS Top 150 opener; made Md. finals
5	5	46	Kevin VanDam, Kalamazoo, Mich. Won N.Y. BASS event; 1999 Angler of Year
6	6	46	Rick Clunn, Ava, Mo. Won Wal-Mart Ark. Open
7	7	29	David Fritts, Lexington, N.C. Two Top 150 finals; Millennium runner-up
8	8	24	Aaron Martens, Castaic, Calif. Calif. BASS winner; made last two Top 150 finals
9	9	10	Shaw Grigsby, Gainesville, Fla. Won last two Top 150s; MegaBucks finalist
10	10	46	Stephen Browning, Hot Springs, Ark. BASS Mich. Top 150 finals; FLW Fla. finals
11	11	16	Michael Iaconelli, Woodbury Heights, N.J. Won Vt. Top 150; runner-up in Fla. Top 150
12	12	43	Zell Rowland, Montgomery, Texas. Finals of Vt. BASS Top 150
13	13	43	Clark Wendlandt, Cedar Park, Texas. Won FLW S.C. event; MegaBucks runner-up
14	—	1	Skeet Reese, Cotati, Calif. BASS Angler of Year runner-up
15	15	36	Roland Martin, Clewiston, Fla. Runner-up in Vt. Top 150; 6th in Miss. FLW

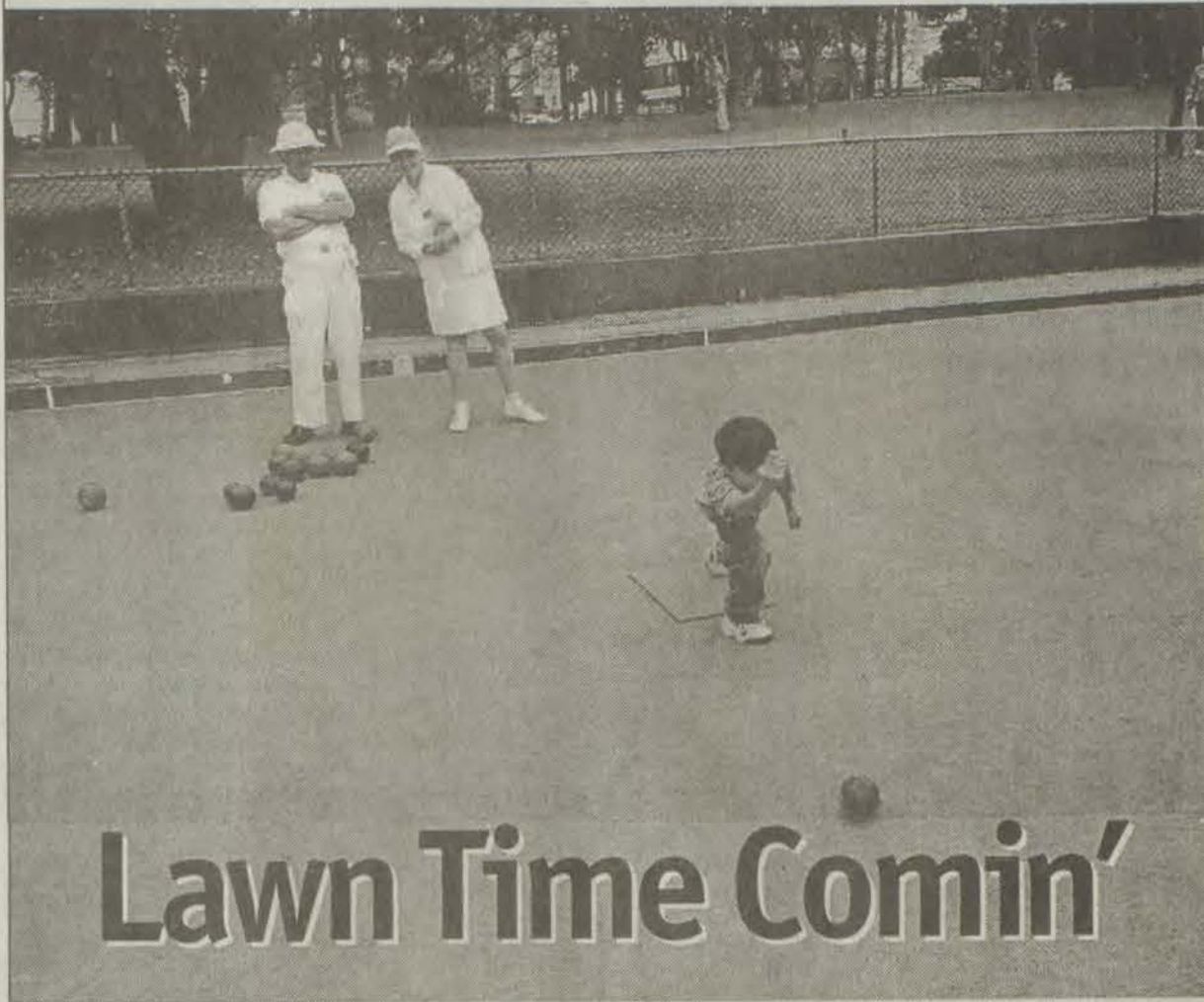
These ratings of America's top tournament bass pros are based on Tim's opinion of their talent, knowledge, experience and most recent tournament performances.

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

Outdoors

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

YOUR SPORTS



Lawn Time Comin'

PHOTO COURTESY AMERICAN LAWN BOWLS ASSOCIATION

Six-year-old Jonathan Burnoski bowls at a recent benefit tournament in California.

Ancient Sport Keeps Toehold in America

By STEVE GUST

Lawn bowling was among the first sports played in the American colonies, but few have even heard of it today.

And if you think it's just a matter of setting up 10 pins in your yard, rather than in a bowling alley, you'd be mistaken. Lawn bowling has very little connection with its distant cousin. Lawn bowlers don't wear flamboyant team shirts or order beers between frames. Instead, they are more likely to wear whites and sip tea. But that doesn't mean they don't love their sport.

Ian MacRae, 65, of Sarasota, Fla., discovered the game half a world away, in his native Australia. Fifteen years ago, when MacRae was a police officer on a tour promoting youth safety, his companions on the tour invited him out for a game of bowls, as it is commonly called.

Although the game is popular in Australia, MacRae had never before played. He was a last-minute substitute for a team needing a fourth. One of his teammates was an old farmer whose trousers were held up by a piece of rope.

While MacRae was bemused by the farmer's appearance, the farmer had the last laugh when MacRae's first toss went well off its mark.

"I'll never forget the farmer laughing and saying, 'I don't go that bloody far on my holidays,'" MacRae said.

Despite the somewhat embarrassing start, MacRae stuck with the sport and before long was hooked, as are an estimated 3 million other people worldwide.

Eventually he got out of police work and entered the travel industry. On a cruise to Greece he met his future bride, an American. She was from Chicago. The couple would move to America, but there was one requirement.

"We had to move somewhere with lawn bowling," he said.

And so he ended up in Sarasota. He gets out to the Sarasota rink as often as possible, and tries to drum up enthusiasm for his favorite pastime.

In California, Frank Ransome is also promoting the sport, serving as membership and instruction chairman of the American Lawn Bowls Association.

"Lawn bowling is a young person's sport that can be excelled at by seniors," Ransome said. "It's a great way to stay in shape, and the American Heart Association recommends it." Even the disabled can participate, Ransome said, and it makes an excellent family game.

Forget about renting shoes or trying to find a ball

with the right grip. Alley bowling is about as far from lawn bowling as soccer is from American football.

The rinks are 120 feet square, surfaced in finely manicured grass. Teams of two to four players compete. There are no pins to knock over. Lawn bowling is more akin to horseshoes or the Italian game of bocci. The object is to get your team's bowls closer to the target ball, known as the jack, than your competitors. A game can take up to three hours.

Team members are given roles that carry traditional titles, including Skip, Vice Skip and Leads Bowl.

Just like many a budding golfer, MacRae took lessons after his first encounter. Although it may look easy to roll a ball at a target, there's enough strategy involved to challenge a baseball manager. The official ALBA rule book is 40 pages long.

Just getting the ball to roll correctly is an art. The bowlers must make sure the ball doesn't wobble too much; if it does, it usually goes off target, and you won't get any compliments from the Skip.

That's the kind of sport it is. In basketball, competitors may get razzed at the free throw line, but this is an activity where good shots are praised and etiquette is a priority. One applauds a good shot, whoever plays it.

"A lot of lawn bowling is the social atmosphere," MacRae said. "I've made so many good friends."

The cost is low enough that it shouldn't prohibit anyone from playing, Ransome said.

There are both public and private rinks, with a private membership costing perhaps \$120 or so a year. Some rinks may charge a team \$10 to play.

In terms of equipment, a set of balls may cost \$265, Ransome said.

"But they will last forever," he said. "A stamp on one of mine said 1934. There's another on there that says 1921."

That's nothing in a sport that is 700 years old. The first lawn bowling club was formed in Southampton, England, in 1299.

Not only is Australia a haven for the sport, but so are most of the former colonies of the British Empire. Americans, trying to distance themselves from the Brits after the Revolutionary War, largely stopped playing the sport before it made a comeback in the 19th century.

Now, those who love the sport are hoping a new generation will carry it forward. Ransome and MacRae both said they would like to see more younger people take up the game.

"We need to keep it going," MacRae said.

Steve Gust is a writer in Edmond, Okla.

Tarpon Stage Annual Return To Fla. Hamlet

By TIM TUCKER, Outdoors Writer

Throughout most of the year, Homosassa is a sleepy hamlet on the Gulf Coast. But this tiny Florida town comes alive each May when the world's biggest tarpon show up.

Homosassa is a unique area, one of the most breathtakingly beautiful in Florida. The magical attraction for the enormous tarpon, most experts believe, is the large volume of fresh water that flows into a shallow bay from three springs and the Chassahowitzka River. Although there is disagreement even among the biologists as to whether the big tarpon go there to spawn, most agree that the fresh water is needed for some function involved in spawning.

"Homosassa is such a beautiful place to fish, with its gin-clear water and white sand bottom," said Billy Pate of Islamorada, the country's foremost trophy tarpon hunter. "And it seems to attract big fish. You go north of Crystal River and south of Tampa, and you don't find those big fish. There's no place else in this part of North America that has these big fish. I know. I've checked out Venezuela a couple of times looking for big fish, as well as Trinidad, Costa Rica, Panama, Nicaragua.

"Homosassa is just a magical place," Pate has clashed often with Homosassa's world-record-size tarpon in recent years. Unsuccessfully.

"I know I've had a 200-pound tarpon on a number of times at Homosassa," said Pate, who stumbled on a huge school of large tarpon on his first trip to Islamorada, in the Florida Keys, nearly 30 years ago. It was enough to draw him away from South Carolina and fly-rod fishing for bass and trout. Now the silvery kings of the Florida Keys are his favored quarry.

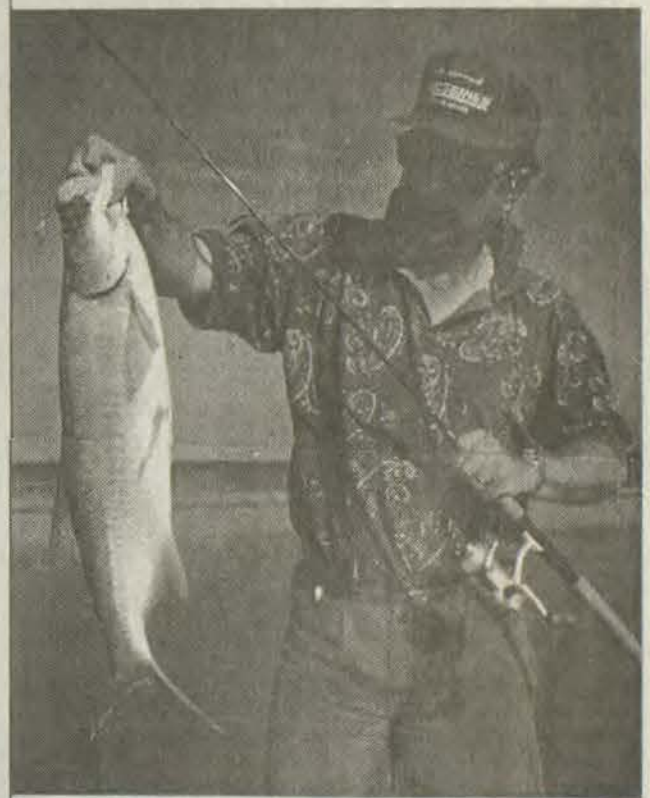
"Every year, I've had at least one on that I know was 200. I think I've seen enough of them to know a 200-pounder when I see it. I'd say probably 1 percent of the fish swimming around Homosassa would go 200. But you're only allowed 1 foot of heavy leader (80- to 100-pound mono) and those big tarpon take you down 20 inches in a gulp and they're right at your tippet. That's the way you lose most of them."

But even the battles that ended in defeat have spawned lasting memories. The excitement provided by the ocean's hardest-fighting species is the same whether the fish is landed or not.

Pate's favorite "war story" concerns the tarpon that he fought — armed with only a 10-pound tippet — for an incredible 12½ hours.

"I hooked him at 7:30 in the morning and fought him to 8 o'clock that night," Pate said. "We ran out of gas in the boat and we ran out of juice in four batteries (for the electric trolling motors), so we poled after it as far as we could, and he was still taking line. He just took it all.

"We had that fish within 2 feet of us the last five or six hours of the battle, but he learned how long that gaff was. We touched him once with the gaff, but we couldn't get him in. He could have been 200 pounds. I figured him at the time to be 180, but at that time I hadn't caught a 180-pounder. But now that I have caught a 180-pounder, I think that fish was probably 200."



Angler Gary Giudice displays a Florida tarpon. This is the best month of the year to catch them.

Tips From the Pros



MIKE AUTEN is a past qualifier for the prestigious BASS Masters Classic who lives in Benton, Ky.

In Praise of Spinnerbaits

"Like most bass fishermen, I own far more lures than I will ever be able to use. So I would hate to think that I would be limited to a single type of bait. But if that was the situation, I have no doubt about which lure I would choose.

"It would be a lure that would be versatile enough to work in different seasons, water clarity and weather conditions. It would also have to work over most of the water column, so that I could cover almost any depth.

"For me, that lure is a spinnerbait. It's the one lure that is always tied to a rod in my boat. A spinnerbait is more versatile than any other bass bait. In fact, it is almost a universal tool for catching bass in any corner of the country.

"The absolute prime times for spinnerbaiting are the early spring and fall, when the bass are shallow and active. When the water temperature is in the 50s and 60s, you can almost always count on a good blade bite. But I know from experience that you can catch fish with a spinnerbait throughout the year."

GEAR AND GOODIES

Leverage: A New Spin on the Spinnerbait

Veteran Florida pro Peter Thliveros, a winner on both the BASSMASTER and FLW circuits, isn't easily impressed by the new fishing lures and gadgets that enter the market each year. But he was instantly intrigued by the Leverage spinnerbait the first time he saw it.

"The Leverage design just makes sense," he said. "I could see immediately that it was designed so that fish don't get off once they grab hold of this spinnerbait."

Marketed by McGuinness Fishing Products of Georgia, the Leverage spinnerbait is different from other bladed baits on the market with its patented hook system that features a flexible but heavy-duty hook shank. When a

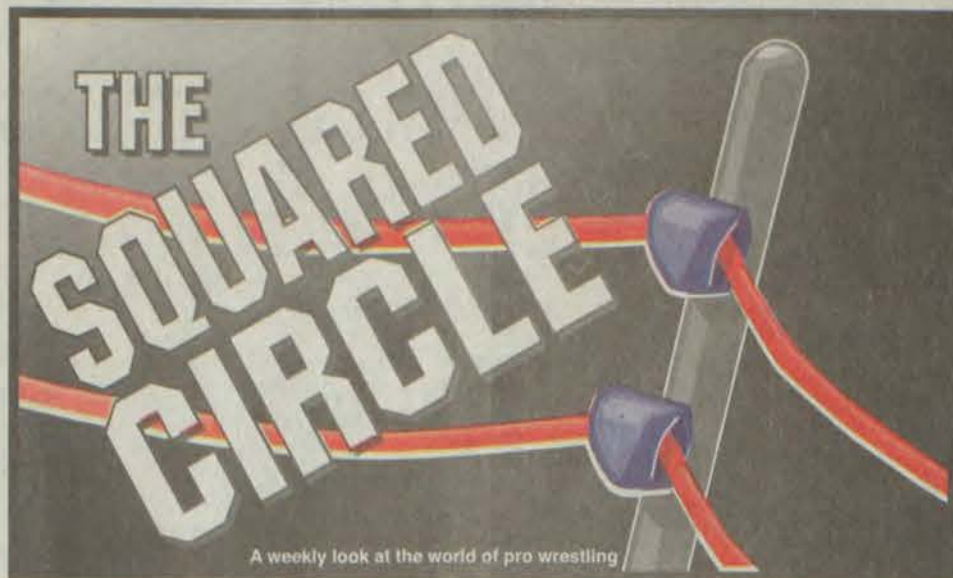
bass takes this lure and thrashes around trying to throw the bait, the flexible hook moves with the fish to prevent it from enlarging the penetration hole and dislodging the bait.

Thliveros says this flexible design eliminates the need for trailer hooks on the spinnerbait; the hook is positioned far enough back to get more fish.

In addition, any soft-plastic bait can be Texas-rigged on the hook and fished in the thickest of cover without becoming hung up.

— Tim Tucker

For more information, call McGuinness Fishing Products at (706) BAS-BAIT.



A weekly look at the world of pro wrestling

TOP 10

1. The Rock, WWF
2. Triple H, WWF
3. Justin Credible, ECW
4. Chris Benoit, WWF
5. Scott Steiner, WCW
6. Chris Jericho, WWF
7. Rhino, ECW
8. Tazz, WWF
9. Jeff Jarrett, WCW
10. Rikishi Phatu, WWF



■ STEINER



■ RIKISHI PHATU

Look for: D-Lo Brown to stay heel and get a big push in the WWF.

PAY-PER-VIEW

- WCW, Kansas City, Mo., Slamboree, May 7
- ECW, Milwaukee, Hardcore Heaven, May 14
- WWF, Louisville, Ky., Judgment Day, May 21

MAILBAG

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

Also, if you have a question or comment about a subject, write to us at The Squared Circle, c/o Sports, News Journal, 70 W. Fourth St., Mansfield, Ohio 44903. You can fax it to us at 419-521-7415 or e-mail to aconchel@thomnews.com. Please include your hometown along with this information.

Dear Squared Circle, I would like to know what happened to Brother Love, Doink the Clown, and The Bushwackers in the WWF? What are their real names?

—Richard Smith
Gautier, Miss.

A. Brother Love is Bruce Prichard, a WWF front-office employee. Doink was Matt Borne, and cousins Luke and Butch Williams are The Bushwackers.

Dear Squared Circle, My top five wrestlers are:
1. Goldberg
2. Sid Vicious
3. Sting
4. Scott Steiner
5. Booker

—Kristi Whiting
Chillicothe, Ohio

Dear Squared Circle, How long will Triple H hold onto the WWF title and how old is he?

—Donald J. Hale
Braintree, Mass.

A. It's hard to say how long Triple H will hold the strap. He's done a good job being the top heel in the company. No official age is available, but he's likely in his early 30s.

Dear Squared Circle, My top 10:
1. The Rock
2. Stone Cold Steve Austin
3. Chris Jericho
4. Mick Foley
5. Chyna
6. Edge
7. Rikishi
8. Triple H
9. Kane
10. The Godfather

—Megan Smith
Stoneville, N.C.

FEUD OF THE WEEK



Raven vs. Tommy Dreamer, ECW

CATCH PHRASES

"And they shall know me as the lord of darkness."
—The Undertaker

REAL NAMES

Curt Hennig

6-2, 235
Hometown:
Minneapolis

Birthday: March 28,
1958

Pro debut: 1979

MATMEMORIES

A look back at memorable moments in pro wrestling history:

■ 1972: Ken Patera represents the U.S. at the Olympic Games in super heavyweight weightlifting. He then goes on to a pro wrestling career.

■ March 28, 1985: Actor Richard Belzer is injured when Hulk Hogan drops him on the floor during a cable TV show, "Hot Properties." Belzer sued Hogan.

WHO'S HOT/WHO'S NOT



ON THE RISE
Prince Albert: Along with new partner, Test, he is getting a big push in the WWF tag team division. The team of T & A is managed by the lovely Trish Stratus.

TAKING A FALL
Sid Vicious: He has been over as a face, but he could be the odd man out in the New Blood vs. Millionaires' Club feud. He might not regain a belt for a while.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



■ The Godfather is a popular wrestler in the WWF.

GODFATHER IS ALL ABOUT FUN

By Josh Zartman
Squared Circle Correspondent

Going from Voodoo to pimpin' is something that only Charles Wright would be able to accomplish as a wrestling superstar.

Wright, now known as The Godfather, has had several gimmicks but has found national fame as the fun-loving conductor of the "Ho Train." Also known as The Soul Taker, Papa Shango, Kama the Supreme Fighting Machine, Kama and Kama Mustafa, the Godfather character finally took his popularity to new heights.

"I started out as the Soul Taker back in 1990, beating Jerry The King Lawler for my first victory," said Wright. "That was when the USWA promotion was still around."

Wright started wrestling in order to get his personal life back intact. Living in Las Vegas, Wright was constantly getting into trouble on the streets and needed something constructive to do with his life.

"I had a baby girl and needed to get my life straight," said Wright. "So I headed for the Monster Factory in New Jersey, and the rest is history."

Wright started out in the WWF as the mysterious master of voodoo, Papa Shango. Few wrestling fans will forget the time he made the Ultimate Warrior lose his lunch after casting a "spell" on

the legend. He also had stints with the Nation of Domination and as a "street-fighter" before settling into the Godfather role.

So just how did the Godfather come to be?

"That character out there that I'm portraying is just me being me," said Wright with a smile. "I wanted to be a crowd favorite and have some fun being myself."

Standing 6-6, weighing nearly 340 pounds and covered from head-to-toe in tattoos, the 38-year-old hopes he still has a couple more years left in him. But there are some people out there who aren't too thrilled with the character Wright portrays.

"For right now, my main focus is trying to stay on TV," said Wright. "There are a lot of people out there that are complaining about me, but I'm just going to go out there and do what I'm doing until somebody else tells me to stop."

The Godfather never ceases to amaze fans with his popular Ho Train that pulls to a stop on Monday and Thursday nights in millions of living rooms.

As fans sit back and watch the conductor give another thrilling match, remember that Charles Wright turned his life around to better himself and his family.

That alone is why we can call him one of the most electrifying (and colorful) men in sports entertainment history.

AFTER THE BELL

News and gossip from the wrestling world:

■ Mick Foley is going to be on the cover of WOW Magazine this month. An interview with Foley and plenty of photos are planned.

■ Vader reportedly underwent elbow surgery and will be out of action for a few months.

■ Former ECW wrestler Sabu is set to return to Japan All Pro Wrestling this week. Sabu showed up in XPW, but was still under contract with ECW. Because of Sabu's appearance with XPW, ECW is considering filing a lawsuit against either Sabu or the XPW promotion.

■ Edge and Christian want to wear the WWF tag team belts badly. They feel they deserve the shot for their years in the business. But rumors persist that Edge will turn on Christian and possibly join Degeneration-X, along with one of The Radicalz.

■ The WWF wants hardcore wrestler Vic Grimes, currently with ECW, to develop some wrestling holds and not rely so much on high-risk bumps before giving him another shot.

■ Diamond Dallas Page originally was against the idea of his wife, Kimberly, being involved in an angle where she dumps him for a younger wrestler. But DDP decided to go along with it, since it would help WCW improve in the ratings. His likely reward for being a good sport? A WCW heavyweight title before year's end.

■ Chicago Cubs first baseman Mark Grace is a big wrestling fan. His favorite wrestler while he was growing up? Iron Mike Sharpe.

■ Mark Henry has been sent to the Ohio Valley Wrestling promotion to work until he is re-evaluated and a spot opens for him on television. Injuries and weight control have been Henry's biggest problems.

■ Mike Awesome reportedly will make \$400,000 a year with WCW.

■ Look for Lita to become involved in the women's division after Backlash.

■ Joe E. Legend has received his visa and is prepared to make his WWF debut. I look for him to start at WWF Backlash.

■ Vince Russo is heavily involved in the current WCW writing, with Eric Bischoff helping out with many aspects. Russo makes the scripts and Bischoff approves them, but other than that, Bischoff has been dealing with Time Warner, standards and practices, and production matters. Bill Banks and various others are contributing as well.

■ In an Associated Press story, Vince McMahon comments on the New York Republican Sen. Thomas Libous' attempt to have mandatory drug testing for wrestling in the state. "We are performers, we are showmen; he'd be drug testing everyone on Broadway. He'd be drug testing the circus," he said.



COMING TO YOUR TOWN

A look at upcoming wrestling shows across the country:

- WWF...**
May 8, Uniondale, N.Y., "Raw"
May 9, New Haven, Conn., "Smackdown!"
May 13, Cincinnati
May 14, Columbus, Ohio

- WCW...**
May 8, St. Louis, "Nitro"
May 9, Springfield, Ill., "Thunder"



- ECW...**
May 18, Birmingham, Ala.
May 19, Atlanta
May 26, Toledo, Ohio
May 27, Columbus, Ohio

WRESTLING ON THE WEB

- www.wrestlezone.com
- www.wrestleScoop.com
- www.WWF.com
- www.WCW.com
- www.ECWwrestling.com
- www.wrestlingarena.com
- www.24-7wrestling.com



If you know of a new or hot wrestling Web site, share it with Squared Circle readers. Send it to aconchel@thomnews.com



Feature:
**Top 4-H
Club**

■ Youth News • C4



A special kind of guy

SFHS staff are going to miss Dougie Bryant

Story and photos by Pam Shingler
Lifestyles Editor

Bryant said, as he sat surrounded by many of the people who've made school a pleasant experience for the special student.

Another of his favorite things is working in the school's greenhouse, with instructor James Staggs. After graduation, he hopes to go to work at the Mountain Comprehensive Care Greenhouse, near Prestonsburg.

Bryant said he has enjoyed a class in which special students learn some elements of independence, such as how to shop and how to manage money. He particularly likes field trips to Wal-Mart.

The son of William and Margie Bryant of Price is an avid church-goer. He and his family regularly attend Pilgrim Rest Old Regular Baptist Church, and they go faithfully to the Association meeting every fall.

He has high praise for Preacher Jimmy Dye, who, Bryant said, is a good singer, as well.

The student also enjoys music, and he is building a collection of CDs as a result of his trips to Wal-Mart. He is a fan of bluegrass legend Ralph Stanley and particularly likes to listen to the song "Pretty Polly," Stanley's duet with Patty Loveless. He said he also likes Vince Gill's rendition of the song "Go Rest High on that Mountain."

He added that he looks forward every Saturday to going with his father to the Paintsville Stockyards.

Bryant's zest for life and his outgoing personality make him not just a special student, but also a special friend at South Floyd.

"Yes, we will really miss him," Turner said.

If smiles are contagious, then thank Dougie Bryant for being a carrier.

The South Floyd High School student is a natural sunshine spreader. "You can't feel bad around him," says head custodian David Turner. "He's always in a good mood and he puts you in one."

That was pretty obvious as members of the Dougie Bryant "fan club" gathered around Wednesday to talk about the special education student, who is truly special to them.

"I believe we'll really miss him," said Dan Collins, dean of students, who "more or less took Dougie under wing," when he moved up from the middle school four years ago.

Bryant will receive a diploma during South Floyd's graduation ceremonies on June 9.

During his six years at the middle school and high school, Bryant has endeared himself to students, faculty and staff.

English teacher Mary Slone pointed out that the tall, 21-year-old was recently named "Friendliest Student" by his peers in the senior class.

South Floyd Middle School Principal, Zenith Hall, said that when you talk about Bryant, "you have to talk about the cheers."

"Yes, he's the spiritual leader at pep rallies," Collins chimed in. "He can get students to cheering."

Collins added that Bryant got to sit on the bench with the basketball team this season, lifting players' spirit and drive.

Bryant is an A-Number One assistant to teachers and staff members. According to English teacher Bobbie Lynn Moore, he assists Turner with keeping the dining room neat and clean and helps Barry Hall monitor the mealtime activity.

He also helps Turner sweep the halls, change light bulbs and filters and check bathrooms, and he serves as a messenger. For Collins, he picks up daily attendance sheets.

"I also make sure Mr. Hall (Zenith) is in his office," Bryant said with a laugh, displaying a sense of humor that's never too far out of sight. He trades barbs with his friends and shares lots of inside jokes.

Principal Hall said Bryant is also quite accomplished at reading situations. "When I come to school with a tie on, he says, 'You're going to a meeting.'"

"My favorite thing is talking to people,"



Dougie Bryant tags a plant in the South Floyd High School greenhouse. He hopes to work in the Mountain Comprehensive Care Greenhouse after his graduation.

SFHS senior Dougie Bryant, second from left, poses with some of his mentors and friends, from left, Principal Henry Webb; SFMS Principal Zenith Hall, Dean of Students Dan Collins, and Head Custodian David Turner.



As part of a breast cancer awareness campaign, Brenda Kilgore, Dana postmaster, presented a plaque illustrating the postal service's special breast cancer stamp to Cletis Boyd on Thursday. Boyd's wife, Sandra, died of the disease in March at the age of 35. Also on Thursday, the Floyd County Health Department had a table at the post office to distribute information on the disease. Sandra Boyd was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1997, according to her widower. The Boyds have three children, Jennifer Lynn, 16, Tiffany Leann, 13, and Cletis Brandon, 11. The US Postal Service has raised \$11 million for breast cancer research from sale of the stamp and expects to raise a total of \$20 million. (photo by Pam Shingler)

Artisan center hosts workshop

Artisans in eastern Kentucky are invited to participate in a Pre-Jury Workshop for the Kentucky Craft Marketing Program.

The Craft Marketing Program is a division of the Kentucky Arts Council in Frankfort. The organization markets products of Kentucky Artisans, who are juried into their organization, to buyers all over the world. The next session for jurying will be June 7-8.

The Kentucky Appalachian Artisan Center, in Hindmar, is

See WORKSHOP, page two

It's about time

The Auxier dump officially evolved this week into its natural, pre-historic — that is to say, pre-garbage — state.

If you're up to a walk, I think you'll like what you see at the old dumpsite that was a source of embarrassment for many of us for years.

Just drive through the community, following the road around the hill until you come upon the concrete gate, which now closes the area to would-be dumpers.

You'll have to park there and prepare to indulge your sense of sight — and of well-being. What was once an eyesore is now a sight for sore eyes.

In place of rotting mattresses, rusting appliances and animal carcasses are rye

PostScript

by Pam Shingler
Editor



grasses, swaying gracefully in the breeze and showing off a lovely bluish-green color that looks tough and fragile at the same time.

Over the slopes, green replaces the brown and gray of decay. Chunks of stone spread over vertical curves in the earth to keep the soil from washing into the river.

If you go, stop long enough at a spot where you feel particularly serene and offer a prayer that people will stop defacing the earth, as they once did here.

If you do walk around the old dumpsite, you'll see the mossy stonework that was the subject of some speculation last summer, when workers with Enviro-Pro, the dump cleanup company, first uncovered it.

There was talk that the large cut stones might be the base of a Civil War bastion on the hill. It did not take a wild imagination to envision a structure where soldiers could sit and look down upon the river bend across from Blockhouse Bottom, aiming heavy cannons at unsuspecting enemies.

Alas, that was a romantic vision for history buffs that is not borne out in fact.

Jack Music is one of several history-keepers in the village of Auxier, which has a wealth of sages. A retired teacher in his early 60s, Music grew up in the village and remembers playing in the hills and around the stonework.

He says he always heard that the stone is what's left of the foundation of a house that was started by a Rice man, a bachelor whose first name was something like Arban — Music was never sure of the spelling.

Rice, who Music always heard described as "an eccentric-type person," abandoned the project before he got very far along and started another house near his brother's place, a short distance from the stone remnants.

The brother, Roy Rice, owned all the land in that area, Music recalls.

The stories were oft-told when Music was

See POSTSCRIPT, page two

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.

MOSTLY UNFILLED

Jailer Prock Hayes has had several "public housing" units vacant this week. Last Saturday there was only one occupant. Over the weekend several were jailed but were soon out on bond, and by Tuesday the number of prisoners had dropped to two.

THIS IS (Hi!) TAVERN MONTH

This is National Tavern Month, this merry, merry, month of May. What that means, we are not certain. Does it mean that we are all to hie ourselves away to the nearest beer joint to hail the proprietor as a benefactor of mankind, or to write letters to the newspapers extolling the virtues of old Possum-Trot and the maker thereof? Or does it mean that we shall join in a mighty paean of praise for those laws which permit private clubs to be taverns of a sort while penalizing some half-pint bootlegger.

Oh, well... This month of May also has Memorial Day. Perhaps it would be better for our souls if we leave off the Tavern Month observance and take off on May 30 to visit several cemeteries and read the names of those who sleep there, because they or somebody else was free with a gun or knife because of tavern products.

HOW GRANDMA DID IT

If the automatic washer doesn't work to perfection or if that new soap preparation doesn't make washing the la-da-da operation television depicts, you might try this which is labeled, "Grandmother's Recipe for Washing Clothes."

1. Build fire in back yard to heat kettle of rain water.
2. Set tubs so smoke won't blow in eyes if wind is pert.
3. Shave 1 hole cake lie sope in bilin water.
4. Sort things, make 3 piles, 1 pile white, 1 pile cullord, 1 pile work britches and rags.
5. Stur flour in cold water to smooth then thin down with bilin water.
6. Rub dirty spots on board, scrub hard, then bile. Rub cullord but don't bile, just rench and starch.
7. Take white things out of kettle with broom stick handel then blew and starch.
8. Spred tee towels on grass.
9. Hang ole rags on fence.
10. Pore rench water in flower bed.
11. Scrub porch with hot soyp water.
12. Turn tubs upside down.
13. Go put on clean dress—smooth hair with side combs, brew cup of tee—set and rest and rock a spell and count blessings.

SUPERLATIVE PERFORMANCE

An acquaintance of ours and his frau are dieting. The other day, he entered the house, faced the missus across a plate filled with cookies.

"Eat any of 'em?"

"Ha! That shows how superior I am to you."

"You didn't eat any, darling?"

"Two—I'm twice as superior!" he told her."

HOW THOUGHTLESS!

Then there is the one told about the noted "Flying General" who during World War II was flying with the pilot of a hydroplane in the Pacific theatre of war. The general took over the controls, zoomed around a bit, and came in for a landing. He circled over a landing field and was coming down when the pilot finally spoke.

"Begging your pardon, General, but this is a hydroplane."

"How thoughtless of me! Thank you, thank you very much," the general acknowledged, gained altitude, left the field and made a perfect landing on the water.

Then he stepped out into the sea.

Things to Ponder

'Hey Junior—Hit It for Daddy'

by Mable Rowe Lineberger, Ph.D.

Like other sports seasons of the year—football, track, soccer, etc., it has come that time for the "old ball game," baseball, especially for the young, beginning athletes.

Nothing beats the pride that is created the first season when the wee players are given their "uniform" of a T-shirt with a local company's name on one side and the team name on the other.

Having had one boy, needless to say, our household has been down the path of Tee Ball and Little League. It seemed that the most important parts of Tee Ball were just signing up on a team with friends, wearing the team's T-shirt for the first time, posting the team schedule on the fridge, as it would be controlling the family's life for more than two months, and finally getting ready to go to that first ball game.

In contrast, nothing was more disappointing for the child than when his turn ended. It was too bad that the "star" of so many families would have to share the spotlight with various other uncoordinated and, of course, not as talented players as ours.

Even though the kids get some thrills at the moment, there are some longer-term "good and bad" aspects of youth being active in organized sports.

Consistent major outcomes have been found in research evaluating the physical, social, and psychological impact of physical activity and organized sports on young people. We all have heard repeatedly how everyone benefits from physical activity when the cardio-vascular system is stimulated. Then there's the glory of being outdoors and breathing, hopefully, good, clean air.

Of course, muscles develop better and become stronger when they do what they were made to do. Besides the increase in brute strength, the body learns to work more efficiently, such as improvement in hand-eye coordination.

A professor of sport and exercise psychology did more than 60 studies in the 1990s looking at how participation in physical activity and sports affected youths' social and psychological development.

"Physical activity and sports have tremendous potential to enhance children's self-esteem and motivation." (Weiss at the University of Oregon) Her results repeatedly showed that self-esteem and perceptions of physical ability could predict achievement behavior, motivation and positive effect.

For instance, children who underestimated their abilities in a specific sport were less motivated and experienced more anxiety than those who made an accurate estimate of their capabilities.

As expected, whether the child had a positive or negative experience in a sport directly related to self-esteem and motivation for future involvement.

Another researcher surveyed 18 professionals—social workers, law enforcement officials and educators from across the U.S.—as to their opinions about how participating in school sports affected students.

The overall outcome was, "Across the board, they all said that participants in sports earn better grades, behave better in the classroom, have fewer behavior

problems outside the classroom, drop out significantly less, and attend school on a regular basis with fewer unexcused absences."

A sport psychologist felt that her results supported the likelihood that youths learning to achieve in sports also learned important life skills, such as how to communicate with others, make a commitment, and collaborate.

However, parents and coaches must be supportive. The children must have opportunities to keep practicing what they learn and be reinforced for doing so. "Youth need to understand why commitment will take them to the top of the talent domain so they will link what sports does for them to the rest of their lives." (Scanlan, UCLA)

Also, using those skills learned in sports in other areas tends to increase their confidence. Many theories of psychology identify children's elementary time of life as a stage where the major activities pertain to learning how to get along with others and how they can fit into the world in an effective manner.

Now for some "bad" in regard to young children playing organized team sports, such as Tee Ball and Little League. There is no doubt that most everyone who has attended a youth baseball game has been upset, disappointed, and embarrassed by a few parents' behaviors. At times, I have felt ashamed for parents who act inappropriately while their child is playing.

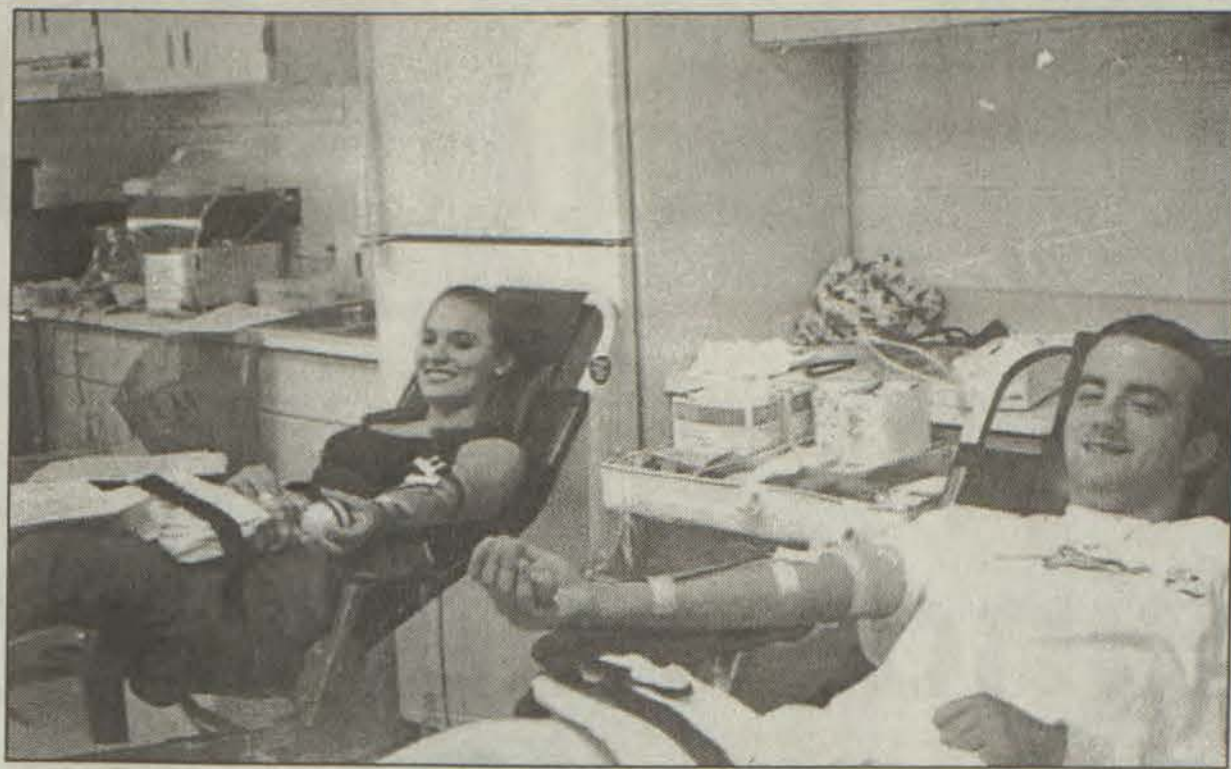
An impression has been that this type of parent appears in every neighborhood. These are the tall individuals, not necessarily adults, who yell unsoberable comments at the umpire's decision about their child's play and toward the child not doing it "just right."

When you hear a parent putting a child down in this way in public—a form of emotional abuse—you just wonder what is happening at home behind closed doors. It seems these parents lose all perspective of the supposed value of the children being there—to play for fun and learn things such as getting along with team members and good sportsmanship.

It is also disappointing when dad is the coach of the child's team. It is great for dads and moms to be involved, but children need as many, safe opportunities as possible to learn to get along with other adults. That's how the world goes and that's another little way that the child can learn to separate emotionally in an appropriate way from parents.

If these organized sports activities can be so positive for children, how do you think parents could learn to be more reasonable in their behaviors at the games? In some areas of the country, parents are required to attend workshops on good sportsmanship before they can sign their child up for the league.

What are you willing to do to help so your child is not viewing these irrational behaviors? Could seeing adults acting inappropriately counteract the benefits of children participating in organized sports? Do these behaviors give the messages that you want your child to receive?



Preparing for the drawing

Margaret Morgan of Bevinville and Scottie Stumbo of Price get ready to give blood during the Central Kentucky Blood Center's blood drive at South Floyd High School on May 3. For Stumbo, a junior, this was his first time to donate blood, but Morgan, a senior, has done it before. (photo by Pam Shingler)

EKU's 38th annual Creative Writing Conference scheduled

RICHMOND — Whether you're a fledgling writer looking to hone your craft or a more advanced writer longing for support and inspiration, the place to be June 19-22 is Eastern Kentucky University's 38th annual Creative Writing Conference.

The conference, which recently was cited by Poets and Writers magazine as one of the top such conferences in the nation, will feature lectures, workshops, conferences and readings by visiting poets and writers Kentucky Poet Laureate Richard Taylor, James Baker Hall and Mary Ann Taylor-Hall, and ECU faculty members Hal Blythe, Charlie Sweet, Dorothy Sutton and Harry Brown. "We believe the conference will improve the participants' writing skills in poetry or fiction," said Dorothy Sutton, director. "Writers sometimes need the support or inspiration that comes from being in a group."

Besides learning from group discussions, participants will have the chance to discuss their work in private conferences with the visiting writers.

Participants can audit the class or receive one hour of credit. In-state fees are \$100 for undergraduates, \$145 for graduates. The fees

for out-of-state participants are \$268 and \$391, respectively. A manuscript of three to six poems (eight-page limit) or 10-15 pages double-spaced fiction (omitted parts summarized in brackets) must be submitted by May 20 before the participant enrolls. Air-conditioned residence hall rooms are available.

For more information, or to receive a brochure, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Creative Writing Conference, 471 Case Annex, Eastern Kentucky University, 521 Lancaster Ave., Richmond, Ky., 40475-3102; or call 859/622-3076. The conference's web site is at www.english.eku.edu/conferences.

The three visiting writers bring diverse credentials to the conference.

Richard Taylor began his two-year term as Kentucky's Poet Laureate in April 1999. A professor of English at Kentucky State University, where he received the Distinguished Professor Award in 1992, Taylor has published numerous books. They include the novel "Girty," "The Palisades of the Kentucky River," and three collections of poetry, most recently "In The Country Morning Calm."

The Louisville native holds graduate degrees from the University of Louisville and the University of Kentucky. He and his wife own Poor Richard's Books in downtown Frankfort.

James Baker Hall's fifth book of poems, "The Mother on the Other Side of the World," was published in 1999. His work has appeared in numerous magazines, including The New Yorker, The Paris Review, Poetry, The American Poetry Review and The Kenyon Review. He has received a National Endowment for the Arts fellowship in poetry writing and has won both Pushcart and O'Henry prizes.

He was educated at the University of Kentucky and Stanford University, where he was a Stegner Creative Writing Fellow. He then taught at Stanford, New York University and UK, where in 1994 he received the Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Teacher.

Mary Ann Taylor-Hall's second novel, "How She Knows What She Knows about Yo-Yos,"

was published to high acclaim in 1999. Her short fiction has appeared in The Paris Review, The Sewanee Review, The Colorado Quarterly, The Kenyon Review, Shenandoah and Plowshares. She has received an Individual Artist Award grant from the National Endowment for the Arts and an Al Smith Award from the Kentucky Arts Council. Taylor-Hall also has won a PEN/Syndicated Fiction Award and her work has been anthologized in Best American Short Stories.

Her first novel, "Come and Go, Molly Snow," was published in 1995 and received favorable reviews in The New Yorker and The Washington Post Book World, among others. She lives on a Scott County farm.

EKU faculty members bring similarly impressive credentials to the conference.

Sutton's book of poems, "Startling Art: Darwin and Matisse," was published in 1999, when she received the Al Smith Award from the Kentucky Arts Council. Sutton's poems have been published in such magazines as Virginia Quarterly Review, Antioch Review, and the Southern Review.

She was awarded a 1995 residency at the Arts Centre in County Monaghan, subsidized by VCCA and the Arts Councils of Ireland. She gave readings in Ireland and has taught Irish literature in Dublin, Galway, and Sligo. She also is a previous Robert Frost Scholar at Bread Loaf Writer's Conference and Grolier Prize winner.

Brown has published two books of poetry, "Paint Lick Idyll and Other Poems" and "Measuring Man and Other Poems." He also co-edited "God's Plenty: Modern Kentucky Writers."

Hal Blythe and Charlie Sweet have recently published three books, "Private Eyes: A Writer's Guide to Private Investigation," "The Writer's Digest Character Naming Sourcebook" and "It Works For Me." Collaborators on fiction and non-fiction for 26 years, their short stories have appeared in such magazines as Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine.

Postscript

Continued from p1

growing up, but he doesn't remember talk of time frames.

It's possible, he says, that Rice abandoned his stone house around the time the road was built. Perhaps the road was too close to the house for the builder's liking.

Music says the road that goes around the hills from Auxier to East Point (and which made dumping easy) was built in the late 1920s and early '30s and was known as the Stumbo Trail, in honor of Dr. Walk Stumbo.

The road was cut out by mule power, Music has been told, and miners with Northeast Coal were asked to give a day of free labor toward the project.

I suspect Rice would have been proud to have his house here and now in this clean, peaceful spot.

My cousin, Lorraine Ward Prater, brought in some old family pictures the other day for the picture history book.

Most of them are of her parents, Walter (Wardie) and Elizabeth (Lizzie) Moore Ward, who lived in and around Auxier and David most of their lives, and of her and her siblings, Janet Goodman of Harrodsburg, Eddie Ward of Van

Lear and Charles (Chuck) Ward of Auxier.

I wasn't here when Lorraine brought the pictures in, but when I came back, one of my co-workers started going on and on about a "beautiful" picture that was in the pack.

She was talking about a picture of me in high school, which had been saved by my late uncle and aunt and inherited by Lorraine.

"It's beautiful," the co-worker said, spreading the word out, and urging others to look at the image.

"You were so pretty," she said to me, and, though embarrassed, I lapped it up.

But lest I get the big head, she stuck a pin right into it. "I never would have guessed it was you, not in a million years," she said. (I know she didn't mean it in a bad way.)

Now I know why I don't linger at mirrors, why I walk around doing other things while I brush my teeth, and why I hate having my picture made.

It's all about time.

Greetings to subscriber Ed Music of Prestonsburg. Thanks for reading the Times.



First basket

John Hunter of Printer, celebrated Easter with his first Easter basket — at the age of 84. The basket was given by his children and grandchildren. He is the husband of the late Virgie Hunter, and the son of the late Ben and Maudie Hunter.

The search is on for Ageless Heroes with extraordinary qualities

BCBSA launches its 3rd annual ageless heroes awards program

Harriett Smith is an Ageless Hero. Wiending powerful qualities such as desire and faith, she is a living testament to the motto "Never give up."

For more than 70 years, she longed to understand the words printed in books and newspapers. However, at the age of 7, family circumstances precluded Harriett from continuing her education. Charged with a strong desire to learn, she defeated her fears, and, at the age of 75, she began to learn to read. Today, at age 82, she reads at a seventh-grade level.

Last year, the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association (BCBSA)

honored Harriett and five other seniors from around the nation with Ageless Heroes awards for their remarkable accomplishments.

"Harriett Smith is a hero and an inspiration to everyone who has a dream," says Scott Serota, BCBSA interim president and CEO. "As a leader and innovator in health care, the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association and member Plans want to recognize other inspiring seniors like Harriett. I encourage everyone to nominate their own Ageless Hero—someone who has inspired them to continue learning and growing."

The program, now in its third year, seeks nominations for seniors who seize ways to fuel the mind, body and spirit for themselves and others. Seniors, age 65 and older, will be recognized for their passion and commitment in five categories. New to this year's program is the Business Champion category,

added to recognize businesses that have taken special efforts to promote healthy aging.

Vigor & Vitality (demonstrates extraordinary physical or mental talents or abilities)

Community Involvement (shows strength in commitment to a community and its members)

Love of Learning (pursues or shares knowledge gained through study or experience)

Bridging the Generations (earns the special admiration of a grandchild or other young person)

Against the Odds (overcomes all obstacles, whether disability or hardship)

Business Champion (fosters healthy, active aging through business practices, products or communications)

"The Blue Plans are committed to encouraging good health at every stage of life," says Serota. "The decisions we make as youngsters

live with us and affect our health and quality of life for years to come. Ageless Heroes are role models who demonstrate to both young and aged the value of learning and staying active."

All local winners will advance to compete in the National Ageless Heroes program within their categories. Six national honorees and their guests will be invited to Chicago to participate in the national awards ceremony to be held on December 5. During the ceremony, winners in each of the categories will be individually recognized for their achievements and presented with a special award.

Nomination forms and additional information can be obtained by calling 888/440-9988 (toll-free) or by visiting the BCBSA Web site at www.bluecares.com. All nominees will receive an Ageless Heroes certificate. Nominations must be received by June 30, 2000.

Workshop

Continued from p1

sponsoring the workshop to help eastern Kentucky artisans pass the jury process for this prestigious program.

"It will be valuable experience for our artisans and will help us to promote the quality work that eastern Kentucky has to offer," said Carla S. Coburn, executive director of the Kentucky Appalachian Artisan Center.

Knott County, home of the new Kentucky Appalachian Artisan Center, had three new artisans successfully jury with the craft marketing program last year. The artisans are Michael Ware, pottery maker; Sam Gilmore, woodworker; and Dan Estep, knife maker.

These artisans were invited to participate in the Kentucky Craft Marketing Program annual market

fair in Louisville this year. This event hosted the work of more than 200 Kentucky Artisans and attracted the attendance of more than 13,000 wholesale and retail buyers.

The Pre-Jury Workshop will be held at the Hindman Settlement School on Tuesday, May 16, from 1 p.m.-4 p.m. The workshop will explain the jury process, and a representative from the Craft Marketing Program will be available to review artisans' wares and make suggestions for qualifying for the jury.

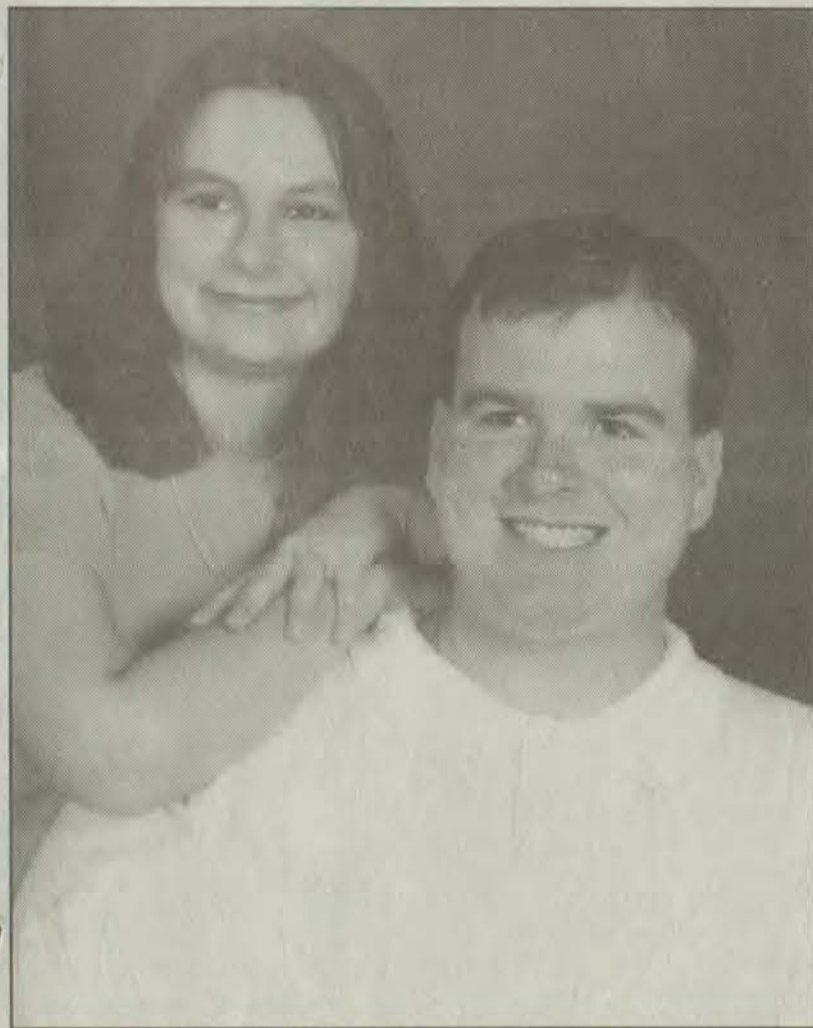
The workshop is free and open to all artisans. Because of space limitations, pre-registration should be made by contacting the Kentucky Appalachian Artisan Center in Hindman at 606/785-9855.

WEDDINGS/ ENGAGEMENTS



Bryant-Hall to unite

Billy and Yvonne Bryant of Wheelwright announced the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Jaclyn Bryant, and Christopher Hall, son of Ruben and Delonda Hall of Hi-Hat. The garden wedding is set for Saturday, May 20, 2000, at 3 p.m., at the residence of the bride-elect's grandmother, Peggy Holbrook. The traditional custom of an open ceremony will be observed. A reception will follow at the residence.



Park wedding planned

Joey and Debbie Johnson of Volga announce the forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Melissa Rae, and Matthew Eric Blankenship, son of O. Sam and Jeanne Blankenship of Prestonsburg and the late Cathy Blankenship. The prospective bride and groom were both graduated from Johnson Central High School, she in 1997 and he in 1995. The wedding will take place on Saturday, May 13, 2000, at 1:30 p.m. at The Pines at Jenny Wiley State Resort Park, near Prestonsburg. The gracious custom of open ceremony will be observed.

ANNIVERSARIES



Celebrating 20 years

Hubert and Carolyn Goble of Daniel's Creek were celebrating their 20th wedding anniversary on May 7, 2000, with a trip to Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

NEW ARRIVALS

Highlands Regional Medical Center

April 11: A son, Andrew Jerome Vogeler II, to Jill Ann and Andrew Jerome Vogeler of Pilgrim.

April 12: A son, Brandon Allen, to Billie and Gregory Moore of Oil Springs; a son, Timothy Michael Cordell, to Rita Cheryl Blair and David Michael Blair of East Point.

April 13: A daughter, Kaitlyn Ella, to Elijah and Leona Stepp of Inez.

April 14: A son, Micah Ross, to Darryl Robert and Barbara Sue Biallas of Emmalena; a son, Johnny

Darrel, to Jammie and Gracie Jenkins of Royalton; a son, Michael Drane Farrar II, to Nicole and Michael Farrar, of Prestonsburg; a son, Saun Deklan, to Anthony and Carla Osborne of Tomahawk.

April 15: A daughter, Nikki Mae, to Wilma Gipson of Salyersville; a son, Joshua Ryan, to Michelle and Jimmy Carroll of McDowell; a son, Sidney Tracer, to William and Sherry Helton of Salyersville.

April 17: A son, Gage Dalton, to Tracy Ann and Ronald Howard Reed of Paintsville; a son, Bryce Kendall, to Kenneth Lee and Cheryl Lynn Dameron of McDowell.

April 19: A son, Austin Bryant, to Jennifer G. and Wesley Howard of Salyersville.

April 20: A daughter, Whitney Renee, to Denise and Ronnie Collins of Topmost.

April 21: A son, Simon Paul, to Lisa Faye Lauterwasser, of River.

April 22: A daughter, Haleigh Elise, to Lisa and Phillip Hunt of Prestonsburg; a son, Collin Daniel, to William and Allison Noud of Stanville.

April 23: A daughter, Hannah Marie Rose, to Julie and Peter Moore of Inez; a daughter, Emma Leigh Grace, to Julie and Peter Moore of Inez; a son, Braxton Wayne, to Timothy and Helen Johnson of Melvin; a daughter, Bailee Madysen, to Keisha Thornsby of Wittensville; a son, Christian Edward, to Amber and Chris Tackett of Allen.



Corey Tyler Bias

Eula Jean and Chris Bias of Betsy Layne announce the birth of their third child, Corey Tyler, born in December 1999, at Highlands Regional Medical Center at Prestonsburg. His sister is Kennedy and his brother is Christer.



Double delivery

Logan Alexander Dotson and Lauren Alexis Dotson were born November 18, 1999, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, to Bill J. and Michelle Dotson of Prestonsburg. Their grandparents are Pamela Allen and Willie Joe and Mary Alice Dotson. Great-grandparents are Willis and Vonnice Ousley and Minty Crider. They join sisters Kayla and Brittany and brother Devin.

Here are a few tips on the best gifts for mom

There is only one sentimental gift to give mom this year that will last from now until the next millennium a gift of fine jewelry. Fine jewelry is a sentimental, long lasting gift that stands the test of time, and can be passed down from generation to generation.

Here are a few tips for buying the perfect gift for mom this year from America's leading jewelry retailer, Service Merchandise.

- Look for jewelry items that fit your mom's personality and lifestyle. The latest trends in fine jewelry are jewelry wardrobe basics like gold bangle bracelets, diamond pendants and bracelets and colorful gemstone earrings.

- For the active mom, look for sporty wristwatches or diamond stud earrings. For the hard working career mom, consider cultured pearl bracelets, drop earrings or pendant necklaces. Simply choose something that is from the heart, and given with love.

- When buying gold jewelry, look for a karat mark and a manufacturer's trademark which is required by law.

The karat mark is a confirmation of the karatage of the gold, 10K gold, 14K gold (580) or 18K gold (750). Sterling silver jewelry will be stamped 925 or SS. Platinum jewelry has the markings PLAT, 850PT, 950PT, etc.

The manufacturers trademark is required by law and exists to

insure that the manufacturer stands by the quality of the piece.

- Go to someone you trust. Always buy fine jewelry from a well-established jewelry retailer, someone who you feel comfortable with and who will help you make the right purchase, in the right price range.

- Get it in writing: Make sure that you clearly understand the return policy and ask if the company offers a 100 percent customer satisfaction guarantee. Always get a receipt with your purchase, and make sure a description of the purchased items is clearly listed.

- Enter your mom to win a Mom's Day Out Diamond Shopping Spree. Many retailers, like Service Merchandise, offer special promotions to celebrate Mother's Day. Service Merchandise's Mother's Day promotion rewards mom with a \$50,000 Grand Prize Diamond Shopping Spree. There is no purchase required, and family members can enter their moms at any Service Merchandise store, by phone, or www.servicemerchandise.com/mom.

For more information on gift ideas for mom, consumers can log on to the Service Merchandise website (www.servicemerchandise.com) or 1-800-JEWELRY for the Service Merchandise store nearest you.

BIRTHDAYS



Turns eight

Ronnie A. Blevins Jr. celebrated his eighth birthday on April 27, 2000. He is the son of Ronnie and Teresa Blevins of Martin. His grandparents are John and Lorraine Branham of Wheelwright and Audrey and Lon Blevins of West Virginia.



Is six years old

Chawanna Rae Prater celebrated her sixth birthday on April 27, 2000, with a trip to the circus in West Virginia with her father Johnnie Prater and stepmother Kay Prater. She also had a party at the home of her grandparents, Arnold and Allene Prater. She attends Duff Elementary School.



Turns 12

Brittany RaeAnne Carroll of Martin was 12 years old on April 27, 2000. She celebrated her birthday with a sleepover party. She is the daughter of Margaret Ann Carroll and the late Bennie Ray Carroll. Her grandparents are the late Milton and Letha Humble and the late Trimble and Mary Carroll. She has a sister, Letha Carroll.



Salisbury is two

William Jeffery Ellsworth Salisbury celebrated his second birthday on March 17, 2000, with family and friends. He is the son of John and Alicia Salisbury of Ivel. His grandparents are Lorene P. Salisbury of Ivel, Herbert Gene Salisbury of Wheelwright, and Henry and Shirley Setser of Prestonsburg.



Turns three

Cameron Lester Johnson celebrated his third birthday on April 6, 2000, with family and friends. He is the son of Lester Jr. and Tammy Johnson of Bevinville. His grandparents are Lester and Lillie Johnson of Bevinville and Phyllis Amburgy, also of Bevinville. He is the great-grandson of Velva Johnson of Bevinville.

Love poems sought

The New York Poetry Alliance is sponsoring Poetry 2000, a free contest open to everyone.

A \$1,000 cash prize will be awarded to the winner, with 28 prizes in all. The entry deadline is May 22.

To enter, send a poem of 21 lines or less to New York Poetry Alliance, Box 1588, New York, NY 10116-1588. Or enter on-line at www.freecontest.com.

Breathe clearly without preservatives

(NAPS)-Colds and allergies are nothing to sneeze at. So when congestion catches you, here are some steps to take:

- Don't ignore it. When your eyes are watery and your nose is stuffed, you may be less effective on the job and less safe behind the wheel. Numerous over-the-counter products are available to help relieve symptoms.

- Read the label. You may be surprised to see that most nasal spray decongestants contain chemical preservatives. These preservatives are necessary in large part because traditional nasal spray delivery systems can draw bacteria from nasal passages back into the packaging, threatening to contaminate the remaining product.

- Benzalkonium chloride, the most widely used preservative in currently available nasal sprays, has been shown to be toxic to the fine hairs of the nasal passages, at concentrations ordinarily found in nasal sprays. Other negative effects of these decongestants can include irritation and swelling of nasal membranes when the products are used frequently or when the products are used for long periods.

- "Many of my patients are interested in reducing their exposure to unnecessary chemicals in their medications or foods," says Dennis E. Doherty, MD, a practicing respiratory specialist who is a Professor of Medicine and Chief of the



Pulmonary and Critical Care Division at the University of Kentucky.

There is, in fact, a preservative-free nasal decongestant spray new to the market. Called Natru-Vent, its unique delivery system prevents bacteria from being sucked back into the bottle, making preservatives unnecessary. Available in adult and children's strengths, it is the first and only preservative-free nasal decongestant spray commercially available in the United States.

"For the first time, cold and allergy sufferers who want to avoid chemical preservatives have a logical choice when choosing a nasal spray decongestant," says Dr. Doherty.

If problems persist, see a doctor. The symptoms could be caused by a more serious condition, and may require stronger treatment.

Natru-Vent adult and pediatric decongestants and saline nasal sprays are marketed by Boehringer Ingelheim Consumer Healthcare Products, and are available in food and drug stores without a prescription. For free information, call 1-888-285-9159.

Youth News

Pikeville College honors students during convocation

Pikeville College recently held an honors convocation recognizing several of its outstanding students. After nearly 20 years, this special event was revived to acknowledge the academic achievements of those students.

President Hal Smith shared in his opening remarks, "In many ways, this is perhaps the most important function I've been asked to perform in my time as president here at the College. Pikeville College exists for students and you are the academic 'crème de la crème' of our students. Being here and being honored signifies that you have achieved at a very high level."

Dr. Wallace Campbell, dean and vice president for academic affairs, expressed his appreciation to the parents and family members for their support and encouragement.

Students in each academic major were individually recognized. Members of academic teams, Who's Who Among American College and Universities, Phi Beta Lambda, and the students placed on the Dean's List were honored as well as the members of the honor societies Sigma Zeta-Beta Xi Chapter and Lambda Sigma-Beta Chapter.

Those individuals honored for outstanding academic achievement in their field of study were:

- Paula Cool, middle grades education.
- Barbara Williams, secondary education.
- Layla Slone-Fugate, art.
- Genesia Kilgore, communication.
- Crystal Moore, English and psychology.
- Jacqueline Layne, religion.
- Kelly A. Curry, biology.
- Melissa Ann Kelly, chemistry.
- Rebecca Smith, nursing.
- Lisa Knisley, business administration.
- Letha Bailey, criminal justice.
- Elizabeth Thacker Adkison, history/political science.
- C.J. Robinson, human services.
- Laura Bates, sociology.

• Carolyn May, elementary education.



Primary students of Anita Vanover, Linda Wallen and Judy Halbert at Allen Elementary School enjoyed a field trip to Brandeis Machinery recently. They learned about different kinds of mining machinery and equipment and how it is used.



Chuck Stamper, Cooperative agent for Floyd County Extension Agency, recently presented Sheila Ratliff, second grade teacher at Duff Elementary, a plaque for being the leader of the 1998-99 Floyd County 4-H Club of the Year. The plaque is being displayed in the school showcase.

Osborne Elementary's third nine weeks honor roll

Robin Hall's Fourth Grade—A Honor Roll—Danielle Bates and Faith Little; B Honor Roll—Matthew Crittendon, Elena Fouts, Ashley Hall, Jordan Hall, Westley Hunt, T'Kiah Jackson, Jeri Ann Jones, Ethan Meade, Samantha Tackett, and Stephanie Slone.

Colleen Johnson's Fourth Grade—A Honor Roll—Ryan Johnson; B Honor Roll—Maria Curry, Martha Hall, Tonya Johnson, Terri Slone, Amber Tackett, Whitney Tackett, and Brittany Thornsby.

Sherry Caudill's Fourth/Fifth Grades—A Honor Roll—Wesley Akers and Ethan Mullins; B Honor Roll—LeeAnn Day, Brandi Hall, Mark Helton, Austin Johnson, Kyle Ray, and Tia Salisbury.

Tammy Mullins' Fifth Grade—B Honor Roll—Casey Anderson, Jacob Couch, Erica Hall, Morgan Johnson, Amanda Lindemuth, Bessie Maynor, and Katie Spears.

Dale Pack's Fifth Grade—A Honor Roll—Bianca Bailey, Christopher Hamilton, and Tara Little; B Honor Roll—Jessica Bartley, Kim Elkins, Kortney Hall, Tiffany Hall, Sarah Harris, Ethan Johnson, Alena Little, Tobie Little, Heather Newsome, Brittany Puckett and Brian Williams.

Jeff Castle's Sixth Grade—B Honor Roll—Sarah Bakay, Tiffany Hamilton, Ashley Johnson, Scott Johnson, Brooks Letterman, Ryan Little, Stephanie Slone, Megan Tackett, and Sunni Williams.

Susie Tackett's Sixth Grade—A Honor Roll—Stephen Blanton, Chrissy Blocker, Meagan Castle, and Sandra Hunter; B Honor Roll—Eva Cook, BreAnna Daniels, Cassie Elkins, Leslie Holbrook, Matthew Johnson, Ryan Johnson, and Christal Ramsey.

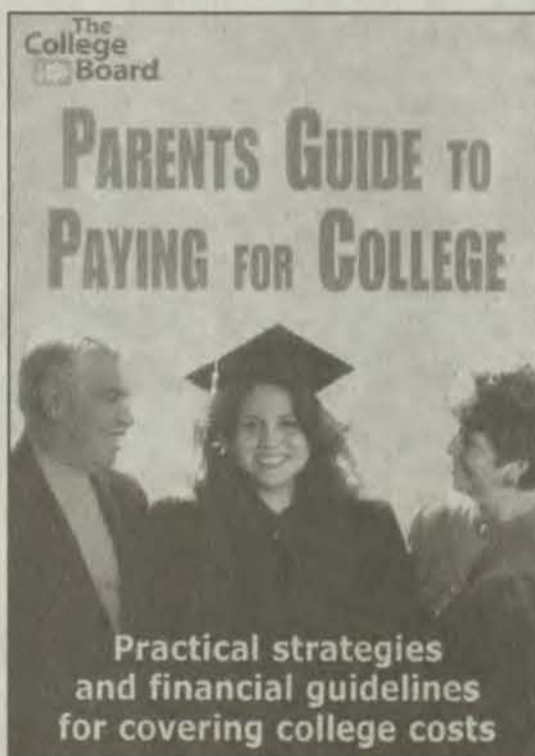
Tips on paying for college

(NAPSA)—Parents looking for some practical strategies and financial guidelines for covering college costs are finding them in the College Board's newly updated book entitled Parents Guide to Paying for College (\$14.95) by Gerald Krefetz.

The book takes parents through the maze of savings options starting with the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997, perhaps the most significant educational assistance from Washington in a generation. It includes two new tax credits created specifically to ease the burden of paying for college:

- The Hope Education Tax Credit for college tuition offers up to \$1,500 a year for the first two taxable years that a child is in college. Because it's a tax credit, not merely a deduction, the government will in effect match you dollar for dollar for the first \$1,000 in tuition and related expenses and 50 percent of the next \$1,000 in college tuition and fees incurred in the first and second years of college.

- The Lifetime Learning Credit is available to parents after they're no longer eligible for the Hope Education Tax Credit. Through 2002, it provides students with a maximum annual credit of \$1,000 per family for tuition and fees. Starting in 2003, the credit increases to \$2,000.



Besides the "tried and true" methods for paying for college, there are many non-traditional ways that parents may not know about.

In addition to tax credits, Parents Guide to Paying for College points out there are other non-traditional ways to pay for college that parents might not know about. These include:

- Personal Gifts—under the current tax code, a gift is not income and therefore has no tax consequence for the recipient. However, any amount given to one individual in excess of \$10,000 a year is subject to a gift tax.
- Business Gifts and Leasebacks—as long as there is a legitimate business or investment need, there is a legitimate way of transferring equipment or items to a child's trust and leasing it back from the trust for business use.
- Hiring Your Child—the simple step of employing your child in some work capacity is perfectly legal and a deductible expense.
- Borrowing From Your Retirement Plan—in many situations employees can borrow from their own retirement in the form of a loan.

According to College Board President Gaston Caperton, "It is important for parents to get sound advice about options available for college financing including financial aid, grants, scholarships or tax advantages. Early and long-term planning can significantly ease the burden of paying college costs."

For additional information visit the College Board web site at www.collegeboard.org.

Wins award

Letha Carroll of Martin has been named a United States National Award winner by the United States Achievement Academy for her achievements in science.

She is a student at Allen Central High School and was nominated for the award by her teacher, Patricia Huffman. She will appear in the Academy's official yearbook.

Carroll is the daughter of Margaret Carroll of Martin and the late Bennie Carroll. She is the granddaughter of the late Milton and Letha Humble and the late Trimble and Mary Carroll.



As part of a unit on Appalachian culture Mike Rogers and Angel Thacker worked on their special project — making a quilt — in Debbie Kidd's class at Opportunities Unlimited located in the city of Martin. (photo by Willie Elliott)

Wins scholarship

Jennifer Suzanne Shepherd, daughter of David L. and Emma Lou Shepherd of David, has been awarded the trustee scholarship at Pikeville College, a full tuition scholarship. She will graduate seventh in her class from Prestonsburg High School in June. She is the only student at Prestonsburg High School this year to receive a distinguished rating on her English portfolio. She plans to attend Pikeville College in the fall of 2000 and begin work on a degree in biology.



In April Rhonda Tackett's P3 social studies class at Betsy Layne Elementary enjoyed learning about the 50 states. A family project involved the students in baking state cookies and sharing them with the class.

The Floyd County Times Classifieds

DEADLINES: WEDNESDAY PAPER, NOON MONDAY - FRIDAY PAPER, WEDNESDAY 5 P.M. - SHOPPER and SUNDAY, WEDNESDAY 5 P.M.



RATES: (4 lines minimum)
 \$1.25 per line for Wednesday and Friday Paper
 \$1.60 per line for Wednesday, Friday Paper, and Shopper
 \$2.00 per line for Wednesday, Friday, Sunday Paper, and Shopper

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CONSTRUCTION COMPANY DRAFTSMAN ESTIMATOR NEEDED
 Computer skills, CAD knowledge a plus. Salary open depending on experience.
 Send resumé to:
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Director of Finance/Treasurer
 Salary Range: \$44,902 to \$56,742
 Job Description: Plan, organize, control and direct the Board's accounting and reporting system in conformance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and Board of Education policies. Other duties as assigned.
 Minimum Requirements: A bachelor's degree in business, finance, accounting or related fields and three years progressively responsible professional accounting or related experience. MBA or CPA and experience in school or governmental agency setting preferred.
 Additional Job Requirements: Must pass criminal records check.
 Applicant must submit an updated, signed application to Director of Human Resources, 106 N. Front Street, Prestonsburg, KY 41653, as soon as possible to be considered for an interview. Best qualified applicants will be notified of an interview.

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 Prestonsburg/Stanville, KY Areas
 If you are interested in working in a professional sales environment which provides:
 * Part-time hours
 * Opportunity for personal and professional growth
 * Opportunity to meet and work with people
 * Then we have an opportunity for you.
 We are a leading manufacturer of household, health and beauty care items and are looking for a highly motivated individual to work part-time, 24 hours per week as a Retail Account Representative. We will train you to sell, service and merchandise products, such as TIDE, PAMPERS, CREST, PRINGLES, and PANTENE. Your territory will consist of retail grocery, drug and mass merchandiser stores in your area.
 We offer:
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 * Mileage allowance
 * Paid vacation
 We are looking for a good communicator who enjoys the challenge of selling and problem solving. A reliable car, proof of insurance and a valid driver's license are a must. Previous sales and/or merchandising experience is preferred, but not required. THIS POSITION WILL NOT LEAD TO FULL TIME EMPLOYMENT.
 To learn more about this rewarding opportunity, send resume to:
Procter & Gamble Distributing Co.
 Attn: Prestonsburg/Stanville Recruiter
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 NO PHONE CALLS, FAXED OR INTERNET RESUMES ACCEPTED
 Qualified candidates only will be contacted within 21 days
 Equal Opportunity Employer m/f

The FLOYD COUNTY TIMES does not knowingly accept false or misleading advertisements. Ads which request or require advance payment of fees for services or products should be scrutinized carefully.

FOR SALE

Autos

'99 CHEVY S-10: Auto, AC, 15,000 miles, excellent condition. \$7,950. 478-5808.*

'89 PONTIAC GRAND AM: New engine, good condition. Also, '88 Dodge Truck 4 WD, good condition. \$2,000 each. Also, '89 Chrysler New Yorker. New tires, new engine, transmission, new paint job. \$3000. 874-8020.

1990 TOYOTA 4X4 TRUCK: Red, 5-speed, 214,335 actual miles. *Excellent condition. Price \$4,500. Serious inquiries only. (606)377-6886, call after 5 pm, if not home leave message.*

1981 CHEVY TRUCK: Excellent condition. Call 285-1692 or 285-9011.*

1988 FORD BRONCO: 4 wd, cass. player. Runs good. \$2,800 firm. 886-1237

1991 CHEVY S-10 PICKUP Excellent condition, new tires, runs great. \$3,500 firm. 886-1237

Boats

1978 FISHING BOAT: 15', 115 Johnson Motor, 4 yrs old. \$2,500. 358-4890.

1987 GLASS STREAM BOAT 120 HP Inboard Engine, new upholstery, seats & carpet, walk-thru window. Asking 2500. Call 478-4065 or 478-3427 after 5 p.m.*

Books

WORDS 'N STUFF Call 606-789-3592 or visit us at: The Intersection of KY. RT. 1107 & 302 at Van Lear, KY. Specials This Week: Creeker - \$23.38, Atlas of KY - \$33.95, Guinness World Records 2000 - \$19.44*

Construction Equipment

1 FIAT ALLIS LOADER, 1 International TD 15 Dozer, 1 Mack Truck. All three for \$30,000. OBO. Call Ivan Stumbo @ 606-424-7657 or Pager # 482-8184.*

Sale / Misc.

COMPTON'S MARKET Wholesale & Retail Huge selections of Memorial flowers at Great Prices! Bushes, hanging baskets, wreaths, easels, headstone & side vases & more. We also have ceramics, concrete lawn ornaments & bird-houses. Located 5-1/2 miles west of P'burg on 114. Phone: 886-6041

NEW UP-RIGHT FREEZER: 4x6. \$300. 874-0112.

WASHER & DRYER good condition. Asking \$250. Call 285-3223 if no answer leave message.

SEARS ELECTRIC TREADMILL: Call 886-3303, after 4 pm.*

POP-UP CAMPER: All fiberglass. 874-4693.

WHIRLPOOL APPLIANCES 1 upright side by side refrigerator, 1 dishwasher, 1 microwave oven, 1 electric oven, 1 Down Draft Cooktop. 606-478-4450.*

CEMETRY PLOTS (2) FOR SALE: Middle section at Davidson Memorial. 570-628-5066 or e-mail: bhandy@ptd.net.*

EPSON 700 PRINTER: Used only 2 months. Asking \$100. Call 886-1237

Furniture

RAY'S BARGAIN CENTER Remodeling sale, now in progress. NEW bedroom, living room & dining room furniture at incredible savings. USED large selection of furniture & appliances such as stoves, refrigerators, washers & dryers. SHOP AT THE LITTLE FURNITURE STORE & SAVE!! RT. #122, McDowell. Call 377-0143.

Pets and Supplies

FREE MIXED BREED PUPPIES: Call 8 am-5 pm only 886-2896.

2 REGISTERED MALE CHINESE PUG PUPPIES 7 weeks old, 1 black, 1 fawn, first shots given. \$250 ea. Call 889-9993 after 5 p.m.

FOR SALE: Full stock Golden Retriever puppies, \$75 each. Mother & Father both on premises. 874-1800.

YARD SALES

GARAGE SALE: Rain or shine. Monday, May 8. 2 miles off Mtn. Parkway on Rt 404.

PROPERTY FOR SALE

NEW 14X50: \$900 down, \$205 per month. Call 1-888-999-7410.

NEW 14X60: \$1200 down, \$275 per month. Call 1-888-999-7410.

12X60 MOBILE HOME \$1500. Also lots for rent at Dwale, \$100 per mo. 874-9790 or 886-6694.

REPO'S IN STOCK: Save thousands...Call for more information... 1-888-999-7410.

LITTLE'S MOVERS Located at Highway 80, Martin. Insured. 285-0633, 886-5514 or 285-5116.

LOOKING FOR A USED MOBILE HOME call 1-888-999-7410.

NEW 2000 16 WIDE: Never lived in. \$1625 down, \$340 per month... Call 1-888-999-7410.

Real Estate

MOREHEAD/CAVE RUN - homes, cabins, farms. Call today for free information. DeRossett Realty, Inc. 606-780-4848.*

3 BR HOUSE with 2 1/2 acres. 1/4 mile up Mare Creek Road at Stanville. Call 606-478-4450.*

HOUSE AT MARTIN: For more information Call 358-9468.

HOUSE FOR SALE: 3 BR, 1/2 acre lot. Near Prestonsburg. 886-2818 after 4 pm.*

3 BR BRICK, LR, lg. F-room, kit., Dining area combined, new carpet, lg. lot. 886-8791.

1 & 1/2 ACRE LOT at Wilderness Heights. Restricted. Stanville, Ky. Call 606-478-5600 days or 606-478-4450 evenings.*

2 BR, 2 BA HOUSE: Located on Rt. 194, Cow Cr. Central heat/air, city water & gas. 874-9910.*

HOUSE FOR SALE: At 591 N. Central Ave. 4 BR, 1-1/2 BA. Price \$87,500. 606-498-4659.*

16 ACRES HILLSIDE with one lot developed with road & city water on property. Call 606-478-4450.*

3 ACRES FLAT LAND, + house, mobile and buildings. 1 mile from US 23, Harold. 606-478-1949.*

4-5 ACRE LOT on Salyers Br. Rd. City water, paved road. Asking \$10,000. Call 419-657-2204.

COMMERCIAL OFFICE BUILDING for sale by owner. 1800 sq. ft., single story, located on North Lake Drive. Call 886-3929 (days) for information and/or floor plan.

7 YR OLD HOME on left of Little Point, East Point, KY. 3 BR 2 full BA, asking 95,000. Call 889-0780.*

There's a better way to move those old items... Advertise In The Classifieds! 886-8506

PROPERTY FOR RENT

For Rent

RENT OR LEASE 4 BR, 2.5 Ba in Allen, partially furnished. Finished basement, ceramic tile, DR hardwood floors, LR, new kit. appl. indoor-inground pool, hot tub, security system. 1200 mo. 500 dep. Call 874-1242.*

Office Space

OFFICE BUILDING FOR LEASE: 1100 sq. ft., private parking lot, located Rt. 23 half-way between Prestonsburg & Paintsville. Call Bob at 789-3904 or 886-3358.*

RETAIL OR OFFICE SPACE No. Lake Dr. Prestonsburg. \$300 mo. Call 886-8366.

Commercial Property

BUILDING FOR RENT: Located at Banner, 2-1/2 miles off US 23. Good location for any type business. 874-4230, after 5 pm.*

Apartments

Apartments for Rent: 1 & 2 BR. Executive suite also available. Call 349-5135 or 349-7285, leave message.

2 BR TOWNHOUSE APT.: Stove, ref., Central heat/air. City limits at US 23 & Rt. 80. \$380 per mo. + util., Dep. \$380. 1 yr. lease. No pets. 886-6551 or 886-3431.

FURNISHED: 2 BR duplex. DW, w/d, ALL UTILITIES PAID, Conveniently located off Rt. # 23. 1150 sq. ft, \$650 per month, \$300 dep. 606-477-2783, leave message.*

APT. SIZE HOUSE: 1 BR, kit., BA, LR. Rent \$300/month. Located near Dana Post office (Rt. 1426). 432-0531 or 432-5364.*

2 BR TOWNHOUSE: Partially furnished, one year lease required. Call 606-478-9593 or 874-9033.*

FANTASTIC 1 BR APT.: Brand new, central heat and air, Berber carpet. Located at Quiksilver. Call 606-447-2192, leave message.*

TOWNHOUSE: 2 BR, w/d hook-up, water fur. with 1 car garage. 950 sq.ft., \$575 per mon. \$300 dep. Conveniently located off Rt. 23. 606-477-2783, leave message.*

2 BR APT.: HUD approved, \$380 per mo., all utilities paid, 874-9056.

EXTRA NICE 2 BR APT.: At Wayland, near Consol Coal Co. Large, central heat & air. \$300 monthly. Call 606-447-2192, leave message.*

Houses

3 BR HOUSE: Sauna, carport. \$550 mon + util., dep. req. Ref. req. 478-2518.*

3 BR HOUSE: One mile from P'burg, \$400/month. 889-9991.

EFFICIENCY, 1 BR APT.: Central heat & air, carpeted, stove & ref. \$350 month + utilities. 886-1032.

FURNISHED 1 BR APT.: \$400 month + \$100 deposit. Furnished sleeping rooms, \$300 month + \$100 deposit. All utilities paid. Located near hospital at Martin. 285-0650.

R & L APARTMENTS, Under new management: We now have coin laundry for tenants. We have apts. available. One easy payment, all utilities & cable included. Call 886-2797.

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 Start at 33¢ a mile. Flatbed hauling. Based out of your own home. Beautiful freightliners. Small family business expanding. Friendliest dispatchers in America.
ASAP Trucking Company
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 Tired of dead-end job? The largest manufactured home corporation needs you! High energy - self motivated person - 401 k - insurance - and more. Earn up to \$100,000 per year.
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 606-874-7280 (fax)

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 Full-Time, Benefits.
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 263 S. Central Avenue,
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 ASK FOR ED TAYLOR.

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SALES POSITION
 With a reputable 50-year-old company
 Freedom Homes is searching for a highly motivated person with a great personality and willing to advance with company. Will train.
 Sales people have potential to make \$30,000-\$60,000 year
Freedom HOMES Apply in person at:
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 Benson Manufacturing, a well established, growing truck body manufacturer is seeking qualified applicants for its Pikeville, Kentucky, facility. Qualified applicants will have one or more years of aluminum welding and fabrication experience. If you are qualified and seeking potential long-term employment with a company providing above average benefits, including medical, dental, vision, life insurance, paid holidays, company paid vacation and a company paid retirement plan, please apply by completing an application at the Pikeville plant located in the Mossy Bottom Industrial Park on May 9th and 10th, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

YARD SALE PACKAGE \$10
 Includes: 20 words or less (each extra word is 15¢), 2 consecutive insertions of Ad in the paper + 1 Yard or Garage Sale Sign.



Write Your Own Yard Sale Ad!
 Drop it off to us (with payment), here at The Floyd County Times Pd. _____

Name _____ Phone _____

YOUTH NEWS

3 BR BRICK HOUSE: Prestonsburg. Partially finished walk out basement, large family room, 2 fireplaces, 2 car garage, fenced back yard, close to town. Pets OK. \$950 month. 889-0339.*

Mobile Home Lots

TRAILER LOT FOR RENT: On Cow Creek, \$80/mo. Call 874-2802, J. Davis.

Mobile Homes

14X70, 2 BR: Furnished. Located on Spurlock Cr., 2 miles from Mtn. Parkway. \$350 per month + utilities & deposit. 886-1997.*

2 BR TRAILER: In Auxier. Partly furnished. Central air/heat. \$275 per mo., dep. req. & ref + util. 886-6895.*

3 BR TRAILER: Call 874-2818.*

Rental Properties

B & O RENTAL PROPERTIES
1 BR APTS.: At Briarwood. 2 BR house at Lancer on Greer St. 886-8991.*

WANT TO BUY/RENT

Wanted

CASH PAID FOR OLD MILITARY ITEMS / war souvenirs. Call Steve at 886-8808 leave message if no answer.

EMPLOYMENT

When responding to Employment ads that have reference numbers, please indicate that entire reference number on the outside of your envelope. Reference numbers are used to help us direct your letter to the correct individual.

Job Listing

EXPANDING PUBLISHING COMPANY requires nature individual for travel and racing magazine. Salary and commission. Send resume to Travel Magazine, P.O. Box 260, Huntingburg, IN 47542.*

POSITION AVAILABLE FOR LICENSED PET GROOMER: Please bring resume and apply in person at Country Hills Veterinary Clinic, 235 Little Point Rd., East Point, Ky. 606-886-3467.*

FAST GROWING COMPANY looking for self-motivated, career minded individuals with prior management experience to fill positions in Southeast Ky. area. Good pay and benefits. Send resume to: 6251 N. Ky. Hwy 15 #108, Hazard, KY 41701.*

JOB OPPORTUNITY: Jerry's Restaurant in Prestonsburg is now taking applications for waitresses, cooks, dishwashers, and busboys. Jerry's offers BC/BS insurance, paid vacations, meals and uniforms. Apply in person, only! No phone calls, please. Applications may be obtained Mon.-Fri. 3-4 p.m. only.

FAST GROWING RENTALCOMPANY is seeking aggressive, hard working individuals to fill account manager positions and grow with us. If you have a drive to succeed, apply in person at: A-Plus-Rent-to-Own, Highland Plaza, University Dr., Prestonsburg, Ky.*

KENTUCKY BAPTIST HOMES FOR CHILDREN is seeking a foster care specialist to assist in case management and foster parent recruitment and training. Masters degree in human services or related field preferred or bachelors degree with a minimum 2 years relevant experience. Send resume to: Corner Stone Family Center, P.O. Box 425, Harold, Ky. 41635.*

SAM AN TONIO'S Now **HIRING ALL POSITIONS:** Apply in Person between 11 and 3. 886-3600*

Help Wanted

OWN A COMPUTER? Put It To Work! \$25-\$75/hr part/full time www.makemoney24.com 1-888-468-3649

PART-TIME: Enthusiastic, outgoing Samplers needed to promote sales in large local retailer. Flexible, Sat. and/or Sun. work, 6 hours \$43.50/day ProDem 1-888-547-3366. Debbie.*

NEEDED: Experienced Salesperson. Clayton Homes, Harold, KY (606)478-9246.*

AVON
Be an Avon salesperson. 285-9486 or 886-8737. Buy or sell.

Wanted

BABYSITTER NEEDED IMMEDIATELY: Mon., Tues., & every other Wed. Ref. required. 946-2612, leave message.*

SERVICES

Classes Offered

EASTERN KY. BARBER SCHOOL Classes now forming! School loans available. Located in Paintsville. Call (606)789-7277.

Concrete Work

TOP DOG CONCRETE 15 yrs experience. Building floors, basements, driveways, pool decks, parking lots, etc. You have one chance to get concrete right! Personal satisfaction guaranteed. 377-6354.

HOWELL'S CONCRETE Do driveways, sidewalks, garage floors, basement floors, patios, small walls, pools, and footers. FREE estimates, affordable prices. 8 yrs. experience. 606-377-6937.

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RICE LAND DEVELOPING INC. Ponds, baements, grading, landscaping, land clearing, hauling. Dozer, Trackloader, backhoe, dump truck. 874-2870.*

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WILL DO WEED EATING, Yards, Banks, Cemetery, Small repair, Painting. Handy man jobs. Call 886-1048.

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CLASSIC LOCKSMITHS, INC Certified & Bonded Commercial, Residential & Vehicle Locks, Safes, Keys and Lockouts. 4660 Hwy 321 South Hager Hill, Ky 41222 Days (606-789-1399) Nights & Weekends (606-874-9530)

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WE DO ANYTHING IN STONE, ANYTHING! Chimneys, walls, pool decks, planters, etc. 889-0903.*

Repair Services

LAWNBOY MOWERS Sales-Parts-Repair **SANDY VALLEY HARDWARE** 119-Main Street Allen, 874-0072 Small Engine Equipment Plumbing Supplies Hardware / Tools

Tree Service

TREE CUTTING AND TRIMMING: Topping, land clearing, etc. Free estimates. References furnished. Call 874-5333.

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FREE PALLETS: Can be picked up behind The Floyd County Times.

Seven students selected for Duke program

Seven Floyd County students have been recognized through TIP, the Duke University Talent Identification Program, which sponsors a series of recognition ceremonies for seventh graders. Local students include Edie Lackey and Alex White, both of Prestonsburg, Adams Middle School; Gordon Chaney and Nicholas Tackett, both of Dana, Betsy Layne Elementary School; and Molly Burchett and Mary Clark of Prestonsburg and Sarah Hall of Pikeville, all of Mountain Christian Academy. Students invited to the TIP ceremonies earned high scores on standardized tests. Local students have been invited to participate in recognition programs at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green on May 26. "The gifted youngster is arguably America's most precious natural resource," said TIP's executive director and professor of psychology, Dr.

Steven Pfeiffer. "TIP plays a critically important role — to the student, her/his family, school and community — in identifying America's most academically talented students. All too often, gifted students go unrecognized or overlooked by their teachers. This is particularly true in the case of certain minority group and less economically advantaged and more rural families, as well as among students in which English is not a primary language spoken in the home." TIP sponsors both State Recognition Ceremonies and a Grand Recognition Ceremony, for the very highest scoring students. Students attending the state ceremonies scored as well or better than the average college-bound high school senior on either the SAT or ACT. TIP's Talent Search identifies seventh graders

in 16 states in the Southeast, Midwest and Southwest who have scored in the top five percent on a national achievement test. Talent Search participants receive a variety of materials and publications. A results summary and counseling guide help students interpret their scores and provide suggestions for using their ability more effectively. TIP publications help students find out more about academic opportunities and about the needs and interests of people like themselves. The publications include a guide to educational opportunities, a newsletter, and a magazine on college choices mailed to TIP students in the 10th grade. Parents and students interested in TIP's Talent Search should contact the Duke University TIP office for more information, 919/684-3847.

Mountain Christian Academy students excel in Duke University Programs



Fourth Grade
Fourth grade students who qualified for the Duke MAP Program are Case Bradley, Taylor Clark, Hannah Fitzpatrick, Vincent Ganzon, Jonathan Jones, Zachary Parsons, Shilpa Sachdeva, Jarred Tackett, Robyn Warrix and Courtney Gullett (not pictured).



Fifth Grade
Fifth graders qualifying for the Duke MAP Program are Kayla Anderson, Myranda Elliott, Jacob Moak, Joshua Ousley, Lincoln Slone and James Warrix.



Seventh Grade
Qualifying for Duke University's Talent Identification Program are Sarah Hall, Samantha Farthing, Caitlin Clark and Molly Burchett.



Teresa Campbell's Head Start class at Allen Elementary celebrated Easter with an egg hunt and treats afterward. They put the eggs they found in baskets that the class made.



Students in Donna Collins' Primary class at Allen Elementary wore "Crazy Shoes" to school to celebrate Dr. Seuss' "The Foot Book."

Student honored

The United States Achievement Academy has announced that Stephanie Baker of Lackey has been named a United States National Award winner for Honor Roll and an All-American Scholar. The Academy recognizes fewer than 10 percent of all American high school students. Baker, who is a junior at Allen Central High School, was nominated for the award by Laura R. Kidd, a guidance counselor at the school. She will appear in the Academy's official yearbook and in the All-American Scholar Yearbook.



Listed in Who's Who Among American High School Students, she is the daughter of Walter and Charlotte Baker of Lackey. She is

the granddaughter of D.C. and Jennie Baker of Lackey and of James and Leona Hall of Topmost.



Spring planting
The week of March 20-24 was celebrated by the children at Karen's Kare on Armory Road by planting seeds. Now they wait impatiently for the seeds to grow. Taking part were, from left, clockwise around table, Alex Campbell, Cheyenne Clifton, Megan Ward, Evan Ousley, Garrett Hammonds, Austin Blanton, Adam Castle, Zack Blanton and Erin Castle.

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Read your own Ad the first time it appears. The Floyd County Times is only responsible for one incorrect insertion!

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MAY 7-13, 2000

The Times FLOYD COUNTY

SOUTHEAST
EDITION



American Profile



REDISCOVERED 10 Family GETAWAYS

Story on page 4

INSIDE:

- 7 Tests for Antiques
- Money Saving Travel Tips
- A grist mill since 1790

SPOTLIGHT: Zydeco Cajun music byway in Eunice, Louisiana

Hometown Heroes

Story and Photos by
ELAINE HOBSON MILLER

At Sciple's Water Mill in Kemper County, Miss., the price of grinding corn and wheat has not changed since 1790. Edward Sciple, fourth-generation owner, still charges a one-eighth toll, or a gallon of product for every bushel milled. "Why not?" quips Sciple, with a wink and a grin. "The price of fuel hasn't gone up."

That fuel—water power—links seven generations of Sciples like a thread of liquid yarn, and it's kept the charity 72-year-old at

the grinding wheel for 55 years. Edward's sons, grandsons, and 10-year-old great-granddaughter all help bag and weigh the mill's products whenever they can.

"When you're raised up in something like this, you just don't think about it," he says, when visitors ask why he's still grinding. "It's all you've ever known. It's a part of you, that's all I can say. Besides, I have to eat."

Many water mills operated in the hills and hollows of Kemper County during the 19th century, but only Sciple's Mill remains. It may be the oldest in the U.S. still grinding for profit. Water from a spring-fed pond in a hollow at the end of Sciple Mill Road turns a large water wheel which in turn powers a massive, 1,600-pound grinding stone. This stone turns atop an even heavier

Milling Through Generations

stationary stone beneath it, and the corn or wheat are ground between them. A tornado destroyed the original mill in 1973, but friends and neighbors helped rebuild on the original floor and foundation.

"Grandpa bought the water wheel in 1880," Sciple recounts. "It'll grind 32 bushels per hour and develops 250 to 300 horsepower. The only maintenance we've done on it was in 1946 when we put a homemade bushing in a wallered-out hole."

People from miles around bring their corn and wheat to Sciple's for grinding. Bob Koehn from nearby Macon traded with Sciple for years, and while he no longer grows corn he still stops in to buy Sciple's products. "I just enjoy talking with him."

Sciple uses the toll he collects to produce meal, grits, whole-wheat flour, and fish-fry mix. He supplies walk-in customers, five grocery stores in nearby Philadelphia, and ships to individuals across the country. "A woman in Maryland wrote wanting prices," Sciple says. "I shipped her 10 pounds and told her I'd send her the bill when I figured out the postage."

Sciple's mill is open weekdays and Saturday mornings. He has a stand outside where off-hour customers can pick up a bag of grits or flour and leave their money in a box. Sciple doesn't know if the box ever comes up short. "I don't keep up with it."

Inside, rushing water trickles audibly as Sciple pulls a lever that opens the turbine gates. Nineteenth-century tools and farm implements dangle from the rafters, a hand-cranked telephone hangs by the door, and an ancestral portrait peers from the walls. Bar-

rels, bins, and baskets of corn occupy one corner, stacked grain sacks another. Wheat and corn dust covers it all.

Countless hours in the mill have led Sciple to find inventive ways of keeping up his sense of humor—and keeping customers on their toes.

"Watch for snakes," the droll Sciple cautions unsuspecting visitors. He chuckles when they jump at the sight of a rubber snake in their path, and loves reactions to his cages of "bats" and "spotted baby rattlers" (miniature baseball bats and infant rattle toys).

A scale that has been in the mill as long as Sciple can remember was tested recently by the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce. "It's still 100 percent accurate," Sciple boasts. "I always go two or three ounces over, though, to be sure people get their money's worth."

Call Sciple's Mill at (601) 743-2295, or send orders to Sciple's Mill, Route 4, Box 119, DeKalb, MS 39328. ✨

Elaine Hobson Miller writes about people and places across the Southeast from her home in Birmingham, Ala.



Edward Sciple's millstones, cased in wood (far right), run as they did in 1790.

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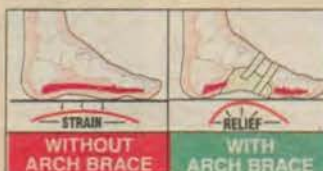
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10 *REDISCOVERED* Family GETAWAYS

by RON CHEPESIUK



Family rafting in New River Gorge, West Virginia; enough to whoop and write home about.

Before the interstate system zipped us from one state line to another, travelers rode the two-lane highways that meandered past green fields, through downtowns and into some of the most unique, memorable vacation destinations in America. Those choice, out-of-the-way places are still out there on our country's back roads waiting for your family to come spend a day, or in some cases a week or so. Here are 10 diverse destinations worth considering.

Canyon de Chelly National Monument, Ariz.

Majestic vistas and sheer cliffs provide the backdrop to a lesson in Southwest Indian history, from the earliest Anasazi basketmakers to the Navajos who still live in northeast Arizona near Chinle. The ruins of villages dating back 1,500 years and an abundance of rock drawings are still visible at the base of the canyon's cliffs.

Visitors can learn more through interpretive exhibits and talks, or simply enjoy the park by horseback, auto tours, or hiking. (Note: Hiking within most of the canyon requires a U.S. Park Service permit and an authorized Navajo guide.)

Canyon de Chelly National Monument, P.O. Box 588, Chinle, AZ 86503; (520) 674-5500.

Great Camp Sagamore, Raquette Lake, N.Y.

"Great Camps" are grand, rustic, vacation estates built by wealthy entrepreneurs in the Adirondack Mountains around the turn of the 20th century. One of them — the former Vanderbilt family summer retreat — is now a National Historic Site open to the public for residential programs and tours. The camp features 27 of the original buildings and 20 miles of pristine hiking trails, among other treats.

Check out talented folk artists demonstrating the local arts and craft tradition, take a cruise on Raquette Lake, or sign up for workshops in chair caning, boat building, fly fishing, outdoor weekends, or Adirondack history, among other things.

Great Camp Sagamore, P.O. Box 146, Raquette Lake, NY, 13436; (315) 354-5311.

New River Gorge, W.Va.

Thousands once trekked here for what they hoped would be the natural healing power of the local mineral springs. Water remains the

attraction but now it's for the thrill of riding the New River. The Lower New is known for world-class whitewater rafting and kayaking, while the Upper New is gaining a reputation for gentle family float trips, with rapids exciting enough to whoop about but not too frightening for youngsters or active senior citizens.

Canoeing, boat cruises, jet boat excursions, interpretive history walks, nature hikes, and smallmouth bass fishing also are popular along the Upper New.

New River Convention Bureau, 310 Oyster Ave., Oak Hill, WV 25901; (304) 465-5617.

Voyageurs National Park, Minn.

Recreate the birch-bark canoe journeys of the rugged French Canadians 300 years ago for an adventurous family vacation just a stone's throw from the Canadian border. Voyageurs provides free canoes and rowboats for several interior lakes. Guided canoe and kayak trips are available, from day trips to longer journeys, including Kabetogama Peninsula, which can be circumnavigated in about a week.

Park naturalists offer interpretive walks, evening programs, children's activities, and a junior ranger program.

Voyageurs National Park, 3131 Highway 53, International Falls, MN 56649; (218) 283-9821.

Texas State Railroad State Historical Park, Rusk, Texas

Many state parks are described as the "biggest." But the "skinniest?" This park, 25.5 miles long and 50 to 200 feet wide along the Neches River, includes two trains that deliver a nostalgic, scenic look at turn-of-the-century rail travel through the piney woods of East Texas. Visitors also can fish, camp, and hike in nearby Rusk/Palestine State Park or shop for antiques, tour historic downtowns, or visit the



Twin spires, Chinle, Arizona

Museum of East Texas and a zoo in neighboring towns.

Texas State Railroad State Historical Park, P.O. Box 39, Rusk, TX, 75785; (903) 683-2561.

Oconee County, S.C.

This northwest South Carolina county lying in the shade of the Blue Ridge Mountains offers the serenity of the mountains along with an abundance of activities and attractions — golf at five choice courses, water sports on three large lakes, whitewater rafting on the Chattooga River, and the country's largest trout hatcheries which restock local mountain streams to make this a top fishing destination.

Sightseers can also travel the Cherokee Foothills Scenic Highway, visit historic districts, and visit Issaqueena Falls, a 200-foot cascade named after a legendary Indian maiden.

Seneca Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 855, Seneca, SC 29679; (864) 882-2097.

Buffalo Bill Historic Center, Cody, Wyo.

One of our nation's finest exhibits of life in the Old West is named in honor William E. "Buffalo Bill" Cody — prairie scout, Wild West Show entertainer and one of the world's most recognizable men at the turn of the 20th century. The center, about 50 miles from Yellowstone National Park's east gate, features a library and four internationally acclaimed museums: the Buffalo Bill Museum, Plains Indian Museum, Cody Firearms Museum, and the Whitney Gallery of Western Art. Memorabilia and interactive exhibits bring to life such legends as Annie Oakley, Sitting Bull, Wild Bill Hickock, Wyatt Earp, and the other icons from one of our nation's most captivating and romantic periods.

Buffalo Bill Historic Center, 720 Sheridan Ave., Cody, WY 82414; (307) 587-4771.



World class roller coastering in Spirit Lake, Iowa



Cody, Wyoming, where a captivating era comes alive again.

Tishomingo County, Miss.

This northeast Mississippi county bills itself as the best kept secret in the South, understandable given its 25,000 acres, six marinas, and two state parks open to the outdoor enthusiast for boating, fishing, camping, biking, hiking, golf, canoeing, horseback riding, or simply lounging on a Tennessee River beach. Stay in a cabin or at any of 250 campsites. The locals boast that if you love boating and fishing, it doesn't get any better than this.

Tishomingo County Development Foundation, 203 E. Quitman, Lula, MS 38852; (800) FUN-HERE.

Baker County, Ore.

The Gold Rush is history, but this county offers a real feel for the period at Cracker Creek Mining Camp, where modern day Forty-niners can keep any gold they find. If that sounds like too much sweat visit Baker City, which has more than 110 buildings and homes on the National Register of Historic Places. Here you may ride a narrow gauge railroad or experience frontier life at the unique Oregon Trail Interpretive Center, which uses exhibits, sound effects, and video presentations to tell the story of westward migration.

For a little more action you can raft or jet ski in Hell's Canyon, North America's deepest river-carved canyon (7,800 feet, top to bottom).

Baker County Visitor and Convention Bureau, 490 Campbell St., Baker City, OR 97814; (800) 523-1235.

Spirit Lake, Iowa

Grab a thrill a minute at Arnold's Park, the oldest amusement park west of the Mississippi River, which boasts one of the world's Top 10 wooden roller coasters and more than 30 other rides — or simply enjoy the beauty of spring-fed Lake West Okoboji, whose clear depths have become a Mecca for Midwest scuba divers. This Iowa Great Lakes Region is known for its scenic splendor and recreational activities such as sailing, fishing, golf, riding stables, collegiate summer theater, and art galleries. Kids will find plenty to do at an 18-hole mini-golf course and go-kart track next to Arnold's Park.

Spirit Lake City Hall, 1803 Hill Ave., Spirit Lake, IA 51360; (712) 336-1871. Arnold's Park Amusement Park, P.O. Box 609, Arnold's Park, IA 51331; (800) 599-6995. ➤

Ron Chepesiuk is a Rock Hill, S.C., writer who has written travel articles while on assignment in 30 countries.

Tidbits

IN 1903, MARY ANDERSON, a young woman from Alabama, was touring New York City on a streetcar whose driver had to keep stopping to wipe snow and ice off the windshield. She made a quick drawing in her sketchbook, and later patented a device which is now standard on vehicles — the windshield wiper.

DIAMONDS REALLY ARE FOREVER—in Arkansas, anyway. The state flag features a diamond on a red field, designed so because Crater of Diamonds State Park, near Murfreesboro, is the only place in North America where these gems have been discovered and mined. The diamond is, understandably, the state gem.

IN 1970 FLORIDA LAWMAKERS passed a bill adopting the moonstone as the official state gem to commemorate the landing of U.S. astronauts on the moon. Apollo 11 had blasted off from the Kennedy Space Center.

GEORGIA'S VIDALIA ONION is truly a state specialty. So sweet it can be eaten like an apple, the Vidalia is a natural phenomenon that can't be duplicated anywhere because unique soil and climate conditions in Vidalia and nearby counties are key to its sweet taste.

IN KENTUCKY, BOURBON COUNTY IS DRY, Christian County is wet, and Barren County is known for having the most fertile land in the state.

IN SEPTEMBER 1999, A CHANCE DISCOVERY of human remains was made in a rural part of Louisiana's Bienville Parish. Researchers found them to be 5,630 years old—or 3,000 years before the pyramids of Egypt.

DAVID HARRISON, OF COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI, owns the patent on the soft toilet seat. More than one million of these cushy items are sold every year.

THE WORLD WAR II BATTLESHIP North Carolina is permanently berthed and open for tours in Wilmington, North Carolina. She was saved from the Navy's scrap heap in the 1960s with citizen donations totaling \$330,000, including pocket change from schoolchildren.

CLAYTON "PEG LEG" BATES LOST A LEG in a childhood cotton gin accident, but the Fountain Inn, South Carolina, native became a famous dancer, appearing on "The Ed Sullivan Show." His signature step was the "Imitation American Jet Plane," in which he'd jump five feet through the air and land on his peg leg, his good leg sticking out behind.

NORTH AMERICA'S MOST DEVASTATING TREMORS—the New Madrid Earthquakes—occurred between December 1811 and February 1812. Land on either side of the Mississippi River sank, and the river flowed backward into a sunken area to form beautiful Reelfoot Lake, now a popular resort in Northwest Tennessee.

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION ENDED with the surrender of Britain's General Cornwallis in Yorktown, Virginia, on October 19, 1781. General Washington had a combined Allied army of 17,000 men, too much for the 9,000 Brits. Yorktown's population is less than 400 today, as it was then.

WHEN CHUCK YEAGER BROKE THE SOUND BARRIER on Oct. 14, 1947, he did so with two broken ribs caused by a fall from a horse. The Myra, West Virginia, native kept his injury secret so flight surgeons wouldn't ground him that day.

Food

Snacking in the Back Seat

by MINDY MERRELL

It often seems you've barely hit the road when the questions start: How much further? Can we stop soon? When are we gonna eat?

A family road trip can be both fun and stressful. Diversion is the trick for keeping peace in the car and making time pass pleasantly, and one of the best diversions is a bag of snacks. The following ideas are particularly good for car travel, but can also hold true for trips by plane, boat, train, bus, or any time food and drink may not be readily available for kids.

Instead of a car load of junk food, pack a combination of fun and healthy snacks that are satisfying, not too filling, and most importantly not too messy. Nothing's worse than tired, sticky kids sitting in spilled drinks and crumbs.

On the healthy side, fresh fruits such as apples and pears are easier to eat in the car than a juicy peach, orange, or overripe banana that leaves you with a peel. Dried fruits such as raisins, apples, and apricots are natural munchies. Roasted nuts and individu-

Photo by Dee Davis



ally wrapped packets of string cheese are convenient and can complement the fruit. In the vegetable category, don't forget celery sticks and baby carrots which are available in pre-cut, snack-size packets.

Throw in a few real treats, too. Hard candies, gum, gummy bears, cookies, and animal crackers are on the "A" list since they aren't too messy. Satisfy salt cravings with a bag of pretzels, which result in far less mess than popcorn. And be careful with chocolate. It melts quickly in a hot car, not to mention on small hands and faces.

Whatever you choose, get the kids involved in the snack planning, shopping, and packing. Give each his or her own bag to pack for the trip, letting them select a few favorite special treats for the journey.

Also pack a cooler for drinks and items that require cooler temperatures. Freeze bottled water for instant ice packs; as the ice melts, everyone can enjoy the icy cold water. Save the sodas for meal-time stops. Juice boxes are convenient and popular kid-pleasers, but are also notorious spillers. One squeeze and the juice is splattered all over the seat and clothes.

No matter how well you've planned, eating and drinking in the car means the inevitable clean-up, so be sure to pack a roll of paper towels, a few plastic garbage bags, and plenty of wet-naps. Then buckle up, enjoy the ride, and pass the gummy bears. You're almost there. ✨

Mindy Merrell is a Nashville, Tenn.-based food writer and cookbook author.

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Second Annual 250-Mile Antique Alley— Gadsden, May 19-21. On Highway 11, explore 250 miles of antiques and bargains stretching from Birmingham to Knoxville, Tennessee. Sunrise to sundown. (800) 320-1692.

ARKANSAS

Picklefest— Atkins, May 19-20. The home of the fried dill pickle, this town's celebration includes the World's Champion Pickle Juice Drinking Contest, a pickle tasting booth, the Pickle Pageant, arts and crafts, and live entertainment. (501) 641-7210.

FLORIDA

Florida Folk Festival— White Springs, May 26-28. Celebrating Florida's folk heritage with dance, music on six stages, and stories on Florida's diverse culture. This year's theme is "Swamp Culture." (850) 488-1484.

GEORGIA

Rhododendron Festival— Hiawassee, May 19-21 & May 26-28. Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds. Take a walk through the beautiful Rhododendron garden and listen to some great tunes on these two weekends filled with country music. It's an open invitation to participate for all solo or band performers. (706) 896-4191.

KENTUCKY

Mountain Laurel Festival— Pineville, May 25-28. This festival celebrates the mountain laurel's first bloom and the beginning of summer with crafts, food, and entertainment. (800) 988-1075.

LOUISIANA

Jambalaya Festival— Sorrento, May 26-28.



The main attraction of the festival, one of the largest in the state, is the 40 cooks who toil over their cast iron pots, competing to be the "World Jambalaya Cooking Champion." Also features live music, stage shows, and arts and crafts. (225) 622-1998 or (225) 647-9556.

MISSISSIPPI

Heart of Mississippi Fun Fest 5K Run/Walk— Carthage, May 20. Sasser Park, downtown. Includes a 5K run, 5K walk, and one-mile fun run on a fast and flat course. Also features a three-on-three basketball tournament, arts and crafts, a free concert with the Blues Boys, and food. (601) 267-9231.

NORTH CAROLINA

North Carolina Blackbeard Festival— Morehead City, May 19-20. Pirates roam the streets, market vendors offer their treasures, and music, food, and sea stories of the 18th century abound. Take a boat ride between Morehead City and Beaufort where the conserved artifacts of Blackbeard's flagship "Queen Anne's Revenge" are on display. Reenactments of 18th-century life take place at the Beaufort Historic Site, and the North Carolina Maritime Museum will focus on pirate history. (252) 808-0440.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Catfish Festival 2000— Ware Shoals, May 26-27. A dance starts off this festival which includes arts and crafts, rides, live entertainment, children's activities, a bicycle parade, and of course, all sorts of catfish dinners. (864) 456-7664.

TENNESSEE

Gatlinburg Scottish Festival & Games— Gatlinburg, May 20-21. Celebrating the area's Scottish heritage, the festival features Highland Dancing, Scottish heavy athletics such as weight tosses for beginners and pros, music, pipe bands, border collies, more than 50 clan tents, and Scottish vendors. (865) 457-8242.

VIRGINIA

Shenandoah Valley Music Festival Big Band Concert— Orkney Springs, May 28. You can swing dance in the moonlight or just relax under the stars while listening to the sounds of Big Band hits. Celebrate and anticipate summer with this fabulous night of music and dancing in the open air. (800) 459-3396.



WEST VIRGINIA

Traditional Appalachian Mountain Music— Fairmont, May 20-21. Prickett's Fort State Park. A weekend of Appalachian mountain music with many of West Virginia's best-known banjo pickers, fiddle players, and ballad singers. (304) 363-3030.



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Family Finances

20 Money-Saving Travel Tips

by MARY HANCE

Travel can be expensive, especially when you are talking about a whole family. But with a little time, creativity, and persistence, you can easily keep costs down. Here are some tips that might help:

1. Be flexible about when you travel. Every destination has a peak and a non-peak season. Obviously non-peak is cheaper. This works great if you have pre-school children and can travel when you want to.

2. Be adaptable about where you go. If you can pick and choose between destinations, you can land the most inexpensive one.

3. Start saving early. Designate coupon savings or a portion of your paycheck each pay period for the trip. If your children are old enough, involve them in the clipping.

4. When making lodging reservations, ask for the lowest rate available, and use every discount available — corporate, senior, AAA, military, and AARP rates. It sometimes is cheaper to make reservations directly with the hotel, instead of the chains' 800 number.

5. At check-in, verify the rate. Make sure it still is the lowest possible rate.

6. Consider staying in a hotel or motel on the outskirts of the city you're visiting. These places usually are cheaper.



Illustration by Malcolm Wells

7. Travel with another couple or family. You can share child care and rent a place big enough for all of you to split rental and grocery costs.

8. Stay in condominiums and eat most meals in.

9. Take a cooler at all times for snacks along the way.

10. Check out travel books from the library instead of buying them.

11. Get coupons from the chamber of commerce or visitors' bureau in your destinations to save big bucks on food, attractions, and events.

12. Get coupons and information off the Internet.

13. Shop for souvenirs at thrift and discount stores.

14. Visit relatives (briefly; leave while you're still welcome). They can offer day trip ideas, and may provide some welcome home cooking. Bring a house gift, and be sure you leave their home better than you found it.

15. Go by car if possible. Obviously, if there are many of you, this beats any airline price.

16. Use pay telephones or your credit card if your hotel charges for direct dial calls from your room.

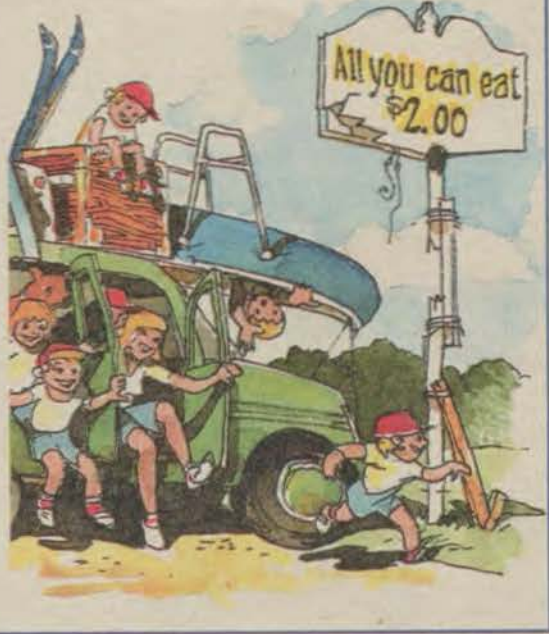
17. Stay in hotels that offer a complimentary breakfast.

18. Check if colleges and universities rent out dormitory rooms in non-school times. Not only can you get a cheap room, but you may get access to their laundry, pool and fitness facilities.

19. Consider a trip to a state park. Rates are almost always reasonable and there is a lot to do, with lakes, tennis, swimming, hiking, biking, and horseback riding. Many have cabins and of course camping is even cheaper.

20. Take advantage of the concierge or other services available wherever you are staying. Ask them where to find the deals, where a good reasonable place to eat might be, and where to get coupons and discounts. ☆

Mary Hance is known as "Ms. Cheap" to readers of *The Tennessean* in Nashville, Tenn., where she writes a column on saving money.



Topical (4 designs)



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Horse Play (4 designs)



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Feelin' Froggy (4 designs)



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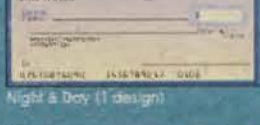
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Ask American Profile

Q In a sport where racing seems to run in families — the Pettys, Earnhardts, and Jarretts, for example — how did NASCAR champion Jeff Gordon get interested in the sport?

— Cal B., Minnesota



Jeff Gordon, a racer at age 4

Jeff Gordon started racing BMX bikes when he was 4 years old. His mother thought it was too dangerous for him so his stepfather brought home two quarter-midget (undersized) racecars — one for Jeff and one for his sister, Kim. Kim was not interested, but Jeff took to it immediately. Upon graduating from high school, he decided to make racing his career. Before his NASCAR success, Gordon logged more than 600 victories in 15 years of driving in open-wheeled competition. And the rest, as they say, is history.

Q Rocker Sheryl Crow is from Kennett, Mo., a small town tucked away in the state's boot heel. Being so far from the mainstream, who were her musical influences while growing up?

— Ross H., North Carolina

Sheryl Crow, 38, was born into a world filled with music and raised just up the Mississippi River from Memphis, Tenn., home of the blues. Her parents, Wendell and Bernice, played piano and trumpet in an amateur jazz band. Sheryl had her first music lesson at 4, could play songs by ear at 6, and composed her first

song at the age of 13. By then she was listening to Christine McVie, Elton John and Bob Dylan, all of whom have influenced her music.

Q When we watch reruns of "The Andy Griffith Show," we never hear Thelma Lou's last name. Can you tell us what it was?

— Tim H., Tennessee

Several things about Barney Fife's girlfriend, Thelma Lou, are a mystery to this day — including her last name, according to Allan Newsome at The Andy Griffith Show Rerun Watchers Club. The only thing we know about what she did for a living is that she worked in an office in town. We don't know exactly what Thelma Lou's address was but we do know that her house number was 830. Her phone number at work was 596 and her phone number at home was 247.



Barney Fife and Thelma Lou, whose last name was...

charity. The country artist, whose hits include "This Kiss" and "Breathe," founded the project in 1996 to help others like her father, who never learned to read. He was one of 14 children, and quit school at an early age to help support his family. For information on the project, contact Faith's fan club at P.O. Box 24266, Nashville, TN, 37202.



Faith Hill, champion of literacy

Q When Faith Hill and others collect charitable items at their concerts, how are these distributed? Do they have people there to haul off all of the books and canned goods?

— Laurena D., Colorado

Faith Hill can't speak for other charities, but books collected at concerts for her Faith Hill Family Literacy Project are distributed locally by representatives of the

Q Rebecca Kolls, star of the syndicated television show "Rebecca's Garden," is so knowledgeable about plants and gardening. Does she have a garden of her own, and if so, what is in it?

— Kelly S., Minnesota

Rebecca Kolls, lives near Minneapolis with her husband Jay, an investigative reporter, and children Taylor and Madison. She developed an early love for both the weather and gardening. She has a degree from the University of Kansas in atmospheric science, and a Master Gardener designation from Utah State University. "I wanted to learn as much as I could about gardening," says Rebecca, a former television meteorologist. Her new garden includes a grove of quaking aspen, containing Yarrow and Russian sage, crystal palace lobelia, and lemon drop marigolds. Near a pond, there are Korean lilac, fernleaf buckthorn, alyssum, lobelia, dahlberg daisies, creeping Jenny, tickseed, daylilies, delphiniums, and vicia vine. The garden also features a rock wall, with sedum, Kenilworth ivy, petunias, lavender, borage, daisies, purple coneflower, and monkshood. ✨

* Cover Photo by David Fattaleh, WV Div. of Tourism

Want to know more about your favorite celebrity or public figure?

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A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME MUSICAL CELEBRATION



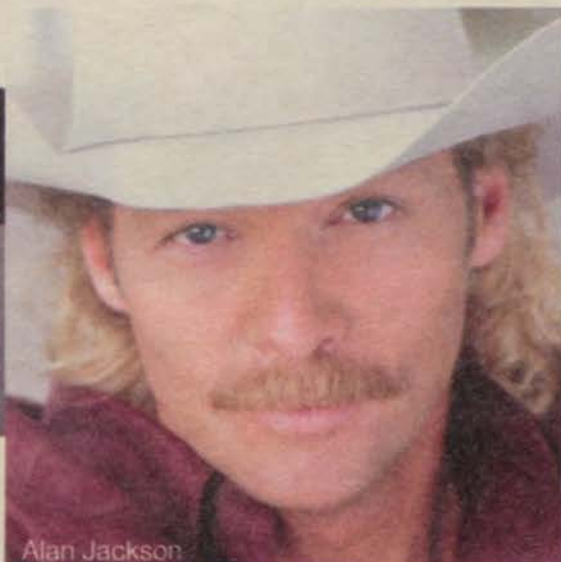
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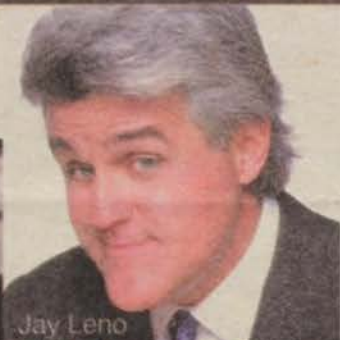
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Around the Home

7 Tests for Antiques

by WAYNE MATTOX

Hunting for antique furniture requires more than simply discovering a captivating table or dresser. If you're interested in the value as well as the beauty of the antique, the key to protecting your investment is to confirm that it is authentic.

Furniture experts frequently flip a piece over and use a ruler and flashlight to test its pedigree. Here are other easy tests of authenticity.

- **Narrow boards**—Olden-day cabinetmakers, with virgin timber at their disposal, used wide planks. Multiple, narrow board construction is evidence of furniture made after 1840 when, regrettably, most of our ancient forests and trees had been felled.

- **Knotty wood**—Authentic antique furniture was built for beauty and to last for centuries; knot-laden lumber was used only in areas like back and bottom boards. Knots frequently pop out, leaving unsightly, unwanted holes.

- **Circular saw marks**—Furniture displaying curved saw marks on an unfinished surface almost certainly was milled after 1840, when circular saw blades were introduced to sawmills. Hand-dressed boards milled prior to that will have straight ripples (formed by up-and-down sawing). This is evident particularly on the furniture's underside. Test the saw marks by holding a ruler on edge. Crescent-shaped ripples will appear alongside the ruler on wood that was circular-sawn.

- **Stain**—Unfinished wood surfaces exposed to air darken over time, which can be simulated by applying stain. Dealers test for chemical agents by scratching backboards and other non-visible "secondary-wood" surfaces with a fingernail. White marks produced will quickly disappear in falsely aged wood because recently applied stain permeates the surface. This whitish scratch will not disappear in oxidized antique lumber because the brownish patina exists only on the surface. Stain-free wood is also whiter underneath.

- **20th century screws and nails**—Round-headed, machine-cut nails became prevalent in the mid-1800s, supplanting hand-wrought square nails of the 18th and early 19th centuries. Genuine antiques will have fasteners of the period, unless repair work was done later. Screws have been around since the early 18th century, and pre-industrial era (circa 1830) examples generally have narrow, off-centered slots.

- **Absence of cracking and gapping**—Wood shrinks in a direction opposite the grain (reducing a board's width, not its length) and the degree of shrinkage varies with a wood's denseness (dense mahogany or oak shrink less than pine). Open fissures caused by this drying are evidence of age. Likewise, an authentic 18th century circular table top always will measure greater in a direction with the grain than against it.

- **Sideways woodworm holes**—Woodworms and boring beetles eat their way to the center of a piece of furniture wood and then travel sideways, leaving tunnels inside, not on the wood's surface. A tabletop displaying the woodworm's path, rather than just the hole, probably was made from a piece of planed and sanded lumber—an old floorboard, for example—and is not a genuine antique (though the wood itself may be old). ✪

Wayne Mattox, of Woodbury, Conn., is an appraiser who has been in the antiques business for more than 10 years.



Photo by Dee Davis

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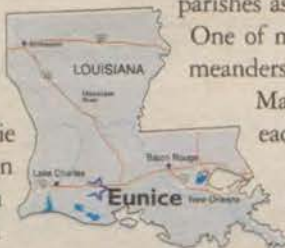
Hometown Spotlight

by ELAINE HOBSON MILLER

It's Saturday morning, and the weekly jam session at the Savoy Music Center in Eunice, La., is well underway. Milton Adams, 81, is squeezing a Cajun accordion. Adner Ortego, also 81, plays a fiddle he made himself. An elderly woman with a scarf around her curlers keeps rhythm with a triangle, or "tee fer" (little iron), as it's called in Cajun French. In the background, younger guys pick flat-top guitars and soak up the music's soul from their elders.

Topsoil runs 6 feet deep around this prairie town of southwest Louisiana. Farmers grow rice in the spring and summer, then flood their fields in early fall so the hibernating crawfish will swarm up, providing the region's favorite feast. The town's most abundant crop, however, is its musicians. About 11,000 people live in Eunice, and Mayor Kenneth Peart says only half-jokingly that 90 percent play an instrument.

"It's the dirt," says Marc Savoy, owner of Savoy Music Center and a world-renown Cajun musician and accordion maker. "The dirt is so rich, people could come here and prosper. If you prosper in a place, that's going to create



Eunice, Louisiana's Greatest Crop:

permanence. When you have permanence, that's where you have deep roots and heritage and everything that follows along with that, including tradition and folk music."

This rich cultural heritage led the state to designate the rural roadways of St. Landry, Acadia and Evangeline parishes as the Zydeco Cajun Prairie Scenic Byway.

One of many scenic byways in the state, this one meanders through towns like Eunice, Opelousas, Mamou, and Ville Platte, where folks greet each other with a hearty, "Et toi?" (pronounced eh twa) and eat boudin (cajun sausage) for breakfast.

Cajuns are descended from the French-speaking Acadians who settled here after the British forced them out of Acadia (now Nova Scotia) in the 1700s. Their fiddles and squeeze boxes (small accordions) produce lively jigs and jitterbugs, plaintive waltzes, and smooth two-steps.

Zydeco, with its syncopated, eight-count beat, is the music of Louisiana Creoles, the French-speaking blacks descended from the melding of the French,



Photo by Terri Fensel

A Zydeco Cajun musical gumbo can gather steam at Savoy

African and Caribbean peoples of colonial days. Zydeco centers on a frottoir, a rub board of corrugated metal hooked over a musician's shoulders and worn like a vest. The frottoir is scratched with spoons or forks to provide rhythm.

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Louisiana. Musicians play for pay-at-the-door dances, and jam regularly at Savoy's, at the Prairie Acadian Cultural Center in downtown Eunice, even in Mayor Peart's office.

If you miss a scheduled session, don't worry. You can drop by the home of just about any musician and jam in his living room or on his front porch. Even professional entertainers welcome friends and fans into their homes—found lining the roads of the Zydeco Cajun Prairie Scenic Byway—often treating them to a steaming bowl of crawfish étouffée and inviting them to stay the night.

"Cajuns are hardworking, fun-loving people known for their music, their friendship and their hospitality," says Mayor Peart, who plays a mean triangle himself. "They're the most giving people you'll find. Playing music is something we all enjoy doing and we enjoy having other people enjoying it with us."

Geno Delafosse, leader of the popular zydeco band French Rockin' Boogie, holds an annual party for his fans at his Double D Ranch just outside Eunice. He often treats visitors to a ride around the pasture on one of his American Quarter horses.

"I love people, and I don't look at myself as some big star or nothing," says Delafosse, known as the "Creole cowboy" because he performs in a white hat and boots. "My fans are my friends, and that's just the way I want it. I don't want to be hard to reach. If you see me somewhere, come grab me by the hand, come talk to me. I want you to, and I would do the same with you."

For more information about the Zydeco Cajun Prairie Scenic Byway, contact the St. Landry Parish Tourist Commission at (877) 948-8004 or visit www.cajuntravel.com. ✨

Elaine Hobson Miller writes about people and places across the Southeast from her home in Birmingham, Ala.

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