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Briefs

Girl Scouts begin annual cookie sale

Giraffes and lions and pandas ... yum, yum.

Giraffes, lions and pandas are just a few of the endangered animals you'll find in every box of Animal Treasures, the latest addition to the Girl Scout Cookie line and the first introduced in celebration of the new millennium. A combination of shortbread and rich fudge, each Animal Treasures cookie is embossed with an endangered animal.

"We're very excited about Animal Treasures," said Wendy Henry, communications manager of the Wilderness Road Council. "We introduced this cookie last year and it was extremely popular. Imagine a large square of shortbread dipped in a luscious layer of fudge. It doesn't get much better than that."

(See COOKIES, page two)

Two Day Forecast...

Today
Party Sunny
High: 30 • Low: 20

Tomorrow
Party Sunny
High: 34 • Low: 24

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

Swearing-in ...



photos by Kathy J. Prater
Above, members of the Martin City Council were administered the oath of office Tuesday evening by Circuit Judge John David Caudill. From left are Dr. Mahendra R. Varia, Eulene H. Ratliff, Bruce Salisbury, Mike Robinson, Joe Hall and Charles Justice. At left, Thomasine Robinson is surrounded by family members and friends as her daughter, Rita Whicker, swears her in as mayor of the City of Martin at a ceremony held Tuesday evening at the Martin Senior Citizens Center.

Left Beaver cleanup will continue

by KATHY J. PRATER
STAFF WRITER

A major cleanup effort along the banks of Left Beaver Creek in recent weeks has held the attention of many, if not practically all, of the area residents.

So, when the work halted, people noticed. Many members of the community were "just a little upset," according to Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson. His office, he said, has received "many" phone calls from citizens who are concerned about the halt.

Thompson said funds allocated to the cleanup project were to be used toward "environmental enhancement." He said some disagreement occurred between his office and the Division of Water in regard to some trees and brush that were cleared from an intersecting area of Frasure's Creek and Left Beaver Creek.

According to Thompson, the trees and brush were cleared in an effort to prevent the collection of debris along the banks of the creek, along with aiding in the prevention of water backup.

Thompson said that no stumps were removed and that the area was re-seeded and re-planted with approximately

(See CLEANUP, page three)

Audit: Boyd owes \$195,000, is owed \$10,000

Times Staff Report

A state audit of the Floyd County Clerk's Office has been released, with some recommendations for the office, as well as a statement that a former officeholder both owes and is owed money.

The 1999 audit, conducted by State Auditor Edward Hatchett's office, examined the records kept by Floyd County Clerk Chris Waugh as well as records kept by former Clerk Carla Robinson Boyd.

The responsibilities of the county clerk include the collection of certain taxes, the issuing of licenses, and the

(See AUDIT, page two)

Stumbo tries, tries again on garbage bill



by RALPH B. DAVIS
MANAGING EDITOR

Picking up where he left off a year ago, state Rep. Greg Stumbo is resurrecting his fight to overhaul the way the state looks at garbage.

On Friday, Stumbo, the majority floor leader of the state House of Representatives, prefiled a bill which is virtually identical to a measure which was defeated during the 2000 General Assembly.

Stumbo's bill would, in part, require five- and 10-cent deposits on beverage containers in an effort reduce roadside litter and fund recycling programs

in all of Kentucky's 120 counties.

Under the provisions of the bill, a five-cent fee would be attached to each can and bottle of soda, beer, wine, liquor, bottled water, sports drinks and juice between four and 20 ounces. A fee of 10 cents would apply to all such drinks except juices between 20 ounces and one gallon.

Milk, infant formula, weight-loss aids, medical beverages and juices over 24 ounces would be exempt from the fee.

After paying the deposit, consumers would be able to recoup the fee by taking the empty can or bottle to redemption centers. Under the bill, each county would be required to provide at least one such center. The centers would be funded by deposits which go unclaimed due to littering or disposal by

other methods.

In addition to the deposit on canned and bottled beverages, the bill also would require non-refundable quarter-cent fee to be levied on drink cups and other fast-food packaging sold in restaurants.

It was the bottle deposit and fast food packaging fee requirements which caused the bill to run into stiff opposition, primarily from soft-drink bottlers,

who likened the deposit to a tax. But the so-called "bottle bill" also goes further by requiring mandatory garbage collection throughout the state.

If approved, counties would be required to either operate or contract garbage services, and those services would additionally be required to collect trash from at least 85 percent of the

(See TRASH, page three)

Damron proposes 'sales tax holiday' on back-to-school costs

Back-to-school costs for Kentucky families could be a bit lower if a bill prefiled by Rep. Bob Damron, D-Nicholasville, becomes law.

Books, backpacks and clothing are all among the items Damron wants to exempt from the state's six percent sales tax during the first week of August, a time when many family budgets are strained by back-to-school costs.

Damron's legislation - Bill Request 45 - also would remove the sales tax from purchases of non-business computers during the annual "sales tax holiday."

"School expenses can really add up quickly," Damron said. "Lifting the tax burden on school-related items for one week each year is a fairly modest way to directly help families getting ready for a new school year."

By exempting computers, the sales tax holiday could also help

close the "digital divide" by ensuring more Kentuckians have a chance to boost their technological skills, Damron said.

"Kentucky should have a goal to have a computer in every child's home," Damron said. "This is a step in that direction."

Sales tax holidays similar to the one Damron is proposing have boosted computer sales — especially among first-time buyers — in South Carolina and Pennsylvania.

A national survey conducted by the Consumer Electronics Association also indicated the benefits of sales tax holidays for computer purchases. The survey found that more 27 percent of families with household incomes of less than \$25,000 would be more likely to buy a home computer if they did not have to pay

(See HOLIDAY, page three)

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Audit

maintenance of county records, along with the provision of some other services.

The clerk's office is funded through statutory fees collected in conjunction with these duties.

The audit in question was conducted for the period of April 16, 1999, through December 31, 1999.

Summary findings include taking note that Waugh did not prepare a financial statement until the auditors arrived to do the audit. In addition, there were several material errors present in the statement. However, the clerk's private CPA was able to identify and correct the errors.

Also, the state auditor found that the clerk's financial statement did not

follow the Uniform System of Accounts, but the clerk was again able to correct the statement upon the auditor's request.

The state auditor recommends that the clerk should publish his annual financial statement within 60 days after the close of the calendar year.

Waugh was appointed to the office of county clerk on April 16, 1999, after the resignation of Boyd. Waugh told the state auditor that he was unaware that he needed to publish a financial statement and that he would do so the following year.

Additionally, the state auditor recommends that the clerk should prepare monthly bank reconciliation's on a timely basis.

The Auditor of Public Accounts requires monthly bank reconciliations and if the official fails to prepare the reconciliation, he or she may be subject to an audit comment relating to noncompliance with accounting and documentation provisions.

Waugh's comment on this matter was to explain that due to having one day's notice in taking over as county clerk, he was unable to prepare bank reconciliations on a timely basis. He further said that his office is currently in compliance with the statute.

In an overall review, the state auditor found Waugh to be in compliance for the calendar year 2000.

However, the findings of the audit conducted for the same time period for Boyd were not so favorable.

Findings show that for the calendar years 1992 and 1993, the fee audit reports that Boyd had a minimum deficit of \$195,126 in her official

bank accounts for the combined fee years.

The state audit report says that due to inconsistent, incomplete and inaccurate records, the office was unable to determine within normal auditing procedures that \$195,126 was the total deficit.

Upon conducting as complete an examination as possible, the state auditor determined that his recommendation would be that Boyd deposit her own personal funds in the amount of \$195,126 into official bank accounts in order to eliminate the deficit in the 1992 and 1993 fee accounts.

Boyd's officially recorded statement on this matter was to say that she "totally" disagreed with the recommendation.

The state auditor then went on to remind Boyd that she had said in the past that her own accountant or CPA

had done work that refuted the Auditor of Public Account's findings about the deficit. He then asked Boyd if the information could be made available to him.

Boyd replied that she would check with her firm to see what they had available.

The report continued to state that during the period of January 1, 1999, through April 15, 1999, the former clerk's office fee account expended \$10,781 more for allowable expenditures than it received in fees and other revenue receipts.

The report goes on to say that the then-current fiscal condition prevented Boyd from receiving her full statutory maximum salary in accordance with the salary schedule set out in KRS 64.5275, which states that the clerk shall receive a monthly salary of one-twelfth of the amount indicated by the salary schedule.

Continued from p1

The statute mandates that the former clerk is entitled to receive her statutory maximum salary, even if her office failed to generate sufficient fees and other revenues to cover all allowable expenses of her office.

Thus, because the former clerk's office had a revenue shortfall and was unable to pay all allowable expenses, the state auditor says that it is the responsibility of the fiscal court to provide funding for the former clerk's 1999 statutory maximum salary.

The state auditor recommends that the Floyd County Fiscal Court pay Boyd's salary for the period of January 1, 1999, through April 15, 1999, by covering the former clerk's office fee account shortage of \$10,781.

Boyd agreed with the latter finding. However, Thompson had no comment in regard to the matter.

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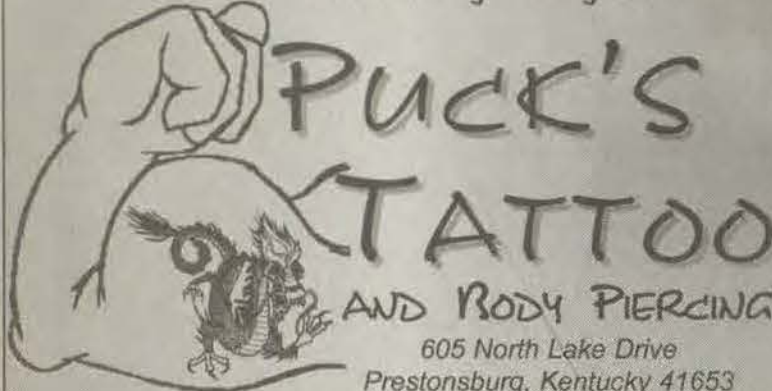
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Rep. Joe Barrows, D-Versailles (left), and Sen. Ernesto Scorsone, D-Lexington, announce their intention to file a constitutional amendment that would extend the hours voting booths remain open during elections.

Constitutional amendment proposed to extend Kentucky's voting hours

Sen. Ernesto Scorsone announced Tuesday he will propose extending voting hours in Kentucky through an amendment to the Kentucky Constitution.

Speaking at morning press conference in the Capitol just hours before the General Assembly's 2001 legislative session convened, Scorsone announced the introduction of legislation today to keep Kentucky's polls open on Election Day at least two hours longer than they've traditionally operated.

Currently, polls open at 6 a.m. on Election Day and stay open long enough for people in line by 6 p.m. to vote.

Scorsone said his proposed con-

stitutional amendment would extend Kentucky's voting hours to ensure that people in line by 8 p.m. have the opportunity to cast their ballots.

"We should do all we can to encourage voting and to ensure that anyone standing in line to vote before the polls close isn't turned away," Scorsone said. "Adding a couple hours to the operating hours of our polling places would be a great convenience to thousands of Kentuckians, particularly the working parents juggling child care and work responsibilities."

Rep. Joe Barrows, who will introduce the legislation to extend voting hours in the House of

Representatives, and George Russell, former executive director of the State Board of Elections, also participated in the press conference to show their support for extended voting hours.

"More people than ever are commuting long distances to work each day and have difficulty finding the time to vote in their precincts," Russell said. "Extending the voting hours would give more people the opportunity to cast their votes on Election Day."

If lawmakers approve the legislation, the measure would have to be approved by Kentucky voters before the Kentucky Constitution could be amended.

Cookies

Continued from p1

Animal Treasures will be available through the Girl Scouts Wilderness Road Council beginning Friday, January 5, along with other perennial favorites: Thin Mints, Caramel deLites, Peanut Butter Sandwich, Shortbread, Peanut Butter Patties, Upside-Down Frosted Oatmeal Cookies and Reduced Fat Lemon Pastry Cremes. All varieties will be sold for \$3 a box.

"Although our annual cookie sale is an important fundraiser, it means much more to the girls than just selling cookies," said Henry. "The girls are involved in every aspect of the sale — from planning, to selling, to deciding how the money raised is spent. In the process, the girls learn some very valuable life skills."

Over two-thirds of the selling price of every box of Girl Scout Cookies goes directly to support Girl Scouting in the local area. The volunteer board of directors of the Wilderness Road Council budgets the remaining proceeds for expenses related to providing Girl Scout services to 25,000 girls and 5,500 volunteers in 57 central and eastern Kentucky counties.

If you need an excuse to satisfy the Thin Mint craving, just remind yourself that you are doing a good deed by supporting the Girl Scouts and all of the good things they do for the community. When you buy Girl Scout Cookies, you really are helping fund the future.

Cookies can be purchased by calling the Wilderness Road Council at (800) 475-2621.



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Alan Sublett

Community Calendar

Calendar items will be printed as space permits

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

Lawmakers unveil four bills targeting state's death penalty

Opponents of the death penalty renewed their efforts last week as state lawmakers unveiled four pieces of legislation targeting capital punishment in Kentucky.

At a press conference in the State Capitol, lawmakers

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Edith Lawson
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HE ONLY TAKES THE BEST
 God saw she was getting tired, and a cure was not to be.
 So, He put His arms around her and whispered, "Come with me."
 With tear-filled eyes, we watched her suffer and fade away.
 Although we loved her deeply, we could not make her stay.
 A golden heart stopped beating; hard-working hands put to rest.
 God broke our hearts to prove to us, He only takes the best.
 —author unknown
 Happy Birthday, Mother, we miss you, terribly.
 Janice, Gerry, Gail,
 12 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren

over the telephone.

SSI rep to visit Mud Creek Clinic

A Social Security Representative will visit the Mud Creek Clinic each Tuesday during the month of January.

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

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

Special meeting called

A special meeting of the board of commissioners of the Prestonsburg Housing Authority has been called for Wednesday, January 3, at 6:30 p.m., at the Green Acres office in Prestonsburg.

PCC testing announced

Prestonsburg Community College will hold orientation and assessment testing on the Prestonsburg Campus, according to the following schedule:

Orientation: Friday, January 5, 9 a.m. to noon.
 Assessment Testing: Thursday, January 4; Monday, January 8; Wednesday, January 10; and Thursday, January 11, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information, call 606/886-3863, ext. 249.

Mayo test slated

The Mayo Technical College

Garbage

households in their counties.

Those refusing to pay for garbage service would find the fee placed on their property tax bills.

Stumbo prefiled the garbage bill on the last day prior to this year's session, which began Tuesday.

Stumbo is also hedging his bets against an outcome similar to the one in last year's session. In addition to the measure filed last week, he has also filed a bill which would decide the bottle bill requirements at the voting booth, rather than in the legislature.

The session is the first of its kind because it marks the first odd-

Assessment Center will test on Friday, January 5, so that students who make a last-minute decision to start school may test in the morning and then register for classes. Those interested in taking the test should come to the center before 8 a.m.

Blood drive at Osborne

The Central Kentucky Blood Center will co-sponsor a blood drive at Osborne Elementary School on Tuesday, January 16, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the parking lot near the playground.

Vet rep available

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

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Earn while you learn

The Big Sandy Area Community Action Agency is taking applications for the senior training program. For information, call Tammy Jervis, 606/886-2929. 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.

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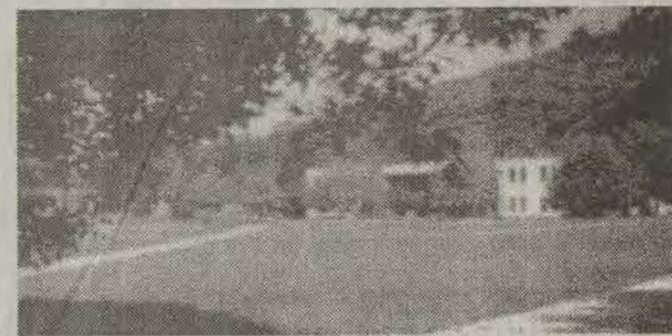


Card of thanks

The family of Goldie B. Vincent wishes to thank all those friends, neighbors, and family who helped them in any way upon the passing of their loved one. Thanks to those who sent food, flowers, prayers, or words of comfort expressed. A special thanks to the Clergymen Jimmy Hall, Clifford Williams, and Homer Howell, for their comforting words, the Steeles Creek Regular Baptist Church, the Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control and the Hall Funeral Home for their kind and professional service.

The Family of Goldie B. Vincent

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MSU slates local registration

Morehead State University will conduct registration on Thursday and Friday, January 11 and 12, for its spring 2001 classes, which will be held at MSU at Prestonsburg, 719 University Drive.

Students may register from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. both days, at the center, or by mail to Extended Campus Program, 215 Allie Young Hall, Morehead State University, Morehead, Ky. 40351. Current students, with an official checksheet on file, may register via MSU's web site (www.moreheadstate.edu) using their Personal Identification Number (PIN). Those who do not have a PIN are given the option to

choose on when they log onto the student user page.

Classes begin Tuesday, January 16.

More than 100 classes, including undergraduate and graduate offerings, will be available this spring. Among the disciplines represented are accounting, agriculture, art, biology, business information systems, computer information systems, communications, criminology, economics, education, English, finance, geography, government, history, health, human sciences, industrial education and technology, mathematics, marketing, management, music, nursing, physics, physical education, paralegal stud-

ies, psychology, real estate, science, sociology, social work, speech and vocational education.

Textbooks for the classes are available from the University Bookstore. Orders may be placed by calling (800) 786-7305 or via the Internet at bookstore.moreheadstate.edu. Materials will be sent to the student's home address.

The cost per credit hour for Kentucky residents and non-residents is \$105 for undergraduate courses and \$151 for graduate courses at the regional sites.

Additional information is available locally from Margaret Lewis, center director, at 606/886-2405, or toll-free at (800) 585-6781.

Cleanup

Continued from p1

200 small saplings. He attests that damage to the area was at best minimal and that care was taken to preserve the natural beauty and ecosystem.

Still, the county has been cited by the Division of Water and a formal violation is forthcoming.

According to Thompson, Division of Water officials were not happy with the trimming of vegetation, saying in essence that the garbage collecting in the brush was not the fault of the brush, but, rather, the fault of those who deposited the garbage into the waterways.

Although the formal violation is upcoming, Thompson said he has been given the okay to continue with cleanup work. The present delay in activity has to do with the fact that the weather has been much too cold for work crews. Thompson said workers have to actually "get in the water" in order to clear garbage from the area and that the temperatures have simply been "too cold" to expect workers to subject themselves to the frosty conditions.

Thompson said that as soon as the weather conditions improve, cleanup work will resume.

Holiday

Continued from p1

sales tax. In addition, almost half (49 percent) of all households who do not own a computer, but plan to buy one in the next year, say that a sales tax holiday would improve the likelihood of such a purchase.

The Kentucky General Assembly will consider Damron's legislation during the 2001 legislative session, which began Tuesday. Cosponsors of the bill include Rep. Jim Bruce, D-Hopkinsville, Rep. Carolyn Belcher, D-Preston, and Rep. Paul Marcotte, R-Union.

Damron represents Kentucky's 39th House District in Jessamine and Fayette counties.

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Viewpoint

QUOTE OF THE DAY...

"The secret of a leader lies in the tests he has faced over the whole course of his life and the habit of action he develops in meeting those tests."

—Gail Sheehy

Wednesday, January 3, 2001 A4

Editorial

Making legislative history

Tuesday marked a historic moment for Kentucky: the beginning of regularly scheduled annual sessions of the General Assembly. In November, Kentuckians voted to go modern — to believe that in this age of computers, lightning-fast communications and high expectations, state government should be capable of responding to public needs more often than once every two years.

The constitutional amendment that voters passed is a conservative one. It continues the tradition of a 60-day legislative sessions every two years, but adds 30-day session in the years in between.

This year's session will be the first of the 30-day variety. Almost everyone agrees on the strategy: to proceed conservatively.

As House Speaker Jody Richards says, "The General Assembly has a great deal at stake to make sure this new session is a success." Speaker Richards, Senate President David Williams and other legislative leaders worked hard to get Kentuckians to approve annual sessions. The last thing they want is for voters to regret going along. Lawmakers' pride is on the line. So is their credibility.

If this change had occurred at another point in history, lawmakers might have chosen a different strategy — for example, to dazzle voters by passing a collection of progressive programs and laws.

But at this moment, the smarter approach is probably to be cautious — to aim to get out of Frankfort without doing their reputations any harm. After all, relations between the branches, with a Democratic Governor and Democratic House but a Republican Senate, may be at an all-time low. Only two months ago, Gov. Paul Patton characterized Senate President Williams as being untrustworthy and a liar. Sen. Williams responded by describing him as having been "mouthy drunk."

Further, the Governor alienated the few Republican friends he had in the Senate by campaigning hard against them in November's election. He took a gamble that the Democrats could win back control of that chamber, and he lost. The result is that relations between the Governor and the Senate are even cooler.

This week, lawmakers will elect leaders, set rules, appoint committees and attend ethics sessions. Then they'll go home for a few weeks, returning to Frankfort only for occasional committee meetings, and then come back on Feb. 6 for the real work.

Don't expect much — maybe some adjustments to the worker's compensation system, which Republicans and Democrats agree need to be made; approval of gubernatorial appointments and executive orders; review of regulations; a look at how the budget enacted last year is holding up to the realities of the revenue coming in.

Then perhaps by the end of the session we might see a warming trend, if the two parties begin to trust each other again and the reality of having to work together settles in.

That might be the most Kentuckians should hope for in this historic session of 2001.

— Louisville Courier-Journal



A bigger and bigger surplus?

by ROBERT LINNELL

The Clinton administration has just announced new budget projections that increase the budget surplus to \$5 trillion over the next 10 years. This is an increase of \$800 billion, almost 20 percent, over the forecast last year.

Is this just a nice gift to President-elect Bush? Hardly. The fact that this number can change so drastically in just one year should make us suspicious.

Budget projections are made by the president, by Congress, by both political parties, and by others. Keep in mind that all of these different projections have political goals, use different assumptions and result in different numbers. Looking back on earlier projections we find that they all have been so far off the mark as to be meaningless, but each served a political purpose.

Clinton, in burnishing his record, points out that the senior Bush left office with a growing annual deficit of over \$200 billion and eight years later he leaves office with an annual surplus of over \$200 billion. A great record. President-elect Bush wants to have a large 10-year surplus to justify a major tax cut. Congress likes a large surplus because it gives them more freedom to curry voter favor with popular spending programs. All three, Congress, the outgoing administration and the incoming administration have a common goal — large surpluses.

But are these surplus projections realistic? The answer is no. To demonstrate this we need to understand the federal budget process and how surplus numbers are generated.

Congress passes an annual budget for the 12 months from October 1 of each year through September 30 of the next year. We are currently in fiscal year 2001.

The income side of this budget includes estimates of taxes (income, Social Security, Medicare, federal gasoline and airport) and a host of other revenues. On the expenditure side Congress makes annual appropriations for government departments (Agriculture, Defense, Housing, etc.) and agencies.

Because Social Security and Medicare benefits are specified by law, they are not part of the annual appropriations but the current taxes earmarked for these programs far exceed annual expenditures, creating large surpluses; as the population ages these annual surpluses will decrease and eventually become deficits. These two programs alone account for \$3 trillion of the new 10-year surplus, reducing it to \$2 trillion.

Proposed increases for defense (plus missile defense), domestic programs (education, drug benefits, etc.) and continuation of popular expiring tax benefits will easily use up another \$800 billion, leaving \$1.2 trillion. And if Bush follows through on his promise to help low income families obtain health insurance this could take another \$600 billion which would leave just \$600 billion before any new tax reductions. Add in the fact that these large surpluses over 10 years are highly speculative. These annual surpluses are real cash, money coming in and being paid out. There is another side to the government fiscal picture, total federal public debt.

Total federal public debt is now \$5.666 trillion, consisting of \$3.38 trillion marketable (held by the public) and \$2.286 trillion non-marketable (held by the government). Although this is the fourth year in a row we have had a cash annual surplus, the total debt has not been decreasing but is increasing.

How can this happen? The earmarked part of the surplus of income over expenses in the annual budget is put in the non-marketable government debt as IOUs (trust funds), increasing the total public debt. Social Security and Medicare are not the only surplus generators: Taxes collected on gasoline and airports, civil service retirement/disability (now with almost \$500 billion of IOUs), military retirement, and many others (over 150 funds). These are firm commitments that future taxpayers must honor and simply transferring bookkeeping surpluses to future obligations is a political move for current advantage and not a prudent move for the best interest of our country.

In reality this is a "sleight of hand" operation with a cash surplus (which can be used at the discretion of Congress for

(See **BIGGER**, page five)

Guest Column

No one runs the country

by SHELDON RICHMAN

Memo to pundits and politicians: You didn't need to say that we had to finalize the presidential election because it's important to know who's going to run the country beginning January 20.

The president doesn't run the country. This country comprises 284 million people who make billions of decisions every day. Among those decisions are the most important ones that get made: what to produce, what to buy, what jobs to create, what job to take, what investments to make, what house to buy or apartment to rent, what associations to join, how to raise the children, and on and on. The president doesn't make those critical decisions for us ... yet, thank goodness.

It's true that the president runs one branch of the federal government, which does much more than the Constitution authorizes. But let's not confuse the executive branch with the whole country. Presidential conceit may infect the chief executive, but let's immunize ourselves against such folly.

At least since World War II, the American people have been sold a bill of goods (apparently to make us forget the Bill of Rights). They have been told repeatedly by the Eric Sevareids and David Broders of the world, along with the various television court historians, that the federal government, especially the president and the chairman of the Federal Reserve, are the stewards of the economy. They can keep on dreaming.

The "economy" is so hair-raisingly complex that no one could possibly steward it. Anyone who thinks he can do so is delusional. How does that expression go? It would be like herding cats — only worse, because no one possesses the information that constitutes the "economy," much less the knowledge of what will happen in the future.

While the marketplace has no steward, and needs none, those who fail to understand this are capable of causing much mischief. For example, President Clinton and many members of Congress believe that the legal minimum wage should be raised. "The people making the minimum wage have not had a raise in many years," they are fond of saying.

That is patent nonsense, of course. No one who was making the minimum wage many years ago is still mak-

ing it today. That is entry-level pay for the least-skilled workers. Only someone who refuses to accumulate skills and experience would be stuck at the minimum wage. Moreover, in these days of labor shortages, many entry-level jobs pay more than the legislated minimum.

None of this means that a minimum-wage law is irrelevant. It is potentially devastating to its supposed beneficiaries. Wages are not set by employers arbitrarily. When hiring someone, an employer is bound by at least two considerations based on his estimate of the worker's productivity: if he pays the employee less than he is worth a competitor might hire the worker away; if he pays more than the employee is worth, the business will lose money and its existence (and the job) will be threatened.

It is not the boss who pays the wages. It's the consumers. They buy a product only if they believe it is worth more than anything else they can spend their money on. If an employer pays his workers more than is justified by their value to consumers, and tries to recoup the money by charging high prices, consumers have the power to veto his policy by buying elsewhere. The workers would then have to take a pay cut or lose their jobs.

If the law sets the minimum wage higher than what the market would have set, it will have the same effect as just described. Workers will lose jobs, and new jobs that might have been created won't be. Intended beneficiaries become victims.

The minimum wage is just one of myriad ways that presidents attempt to steward the economy. The results are always similar: The effects are contrary to the stated goals, and the most vulnerable members of society suffer.

The free-market economy is an example of something that may seem impossible at first glance: Undesigned order. It achieves incomparable cooperation and consumer welfare precisely because it has no steward. To the extent the president tries to run it, we are in for a heap of trouble.

Sheldon Richman is senior fellow at The Future of Freedom Foundation in Fairfax, Va. (www.fff.org), and editor of *Ideas* on Liberty magazine.

The Floyd County Times

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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.

Regional

Continued from p5

December 22, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Ollie Mae Scott Hite, 83, of Pikeville, died Tuesday, December 19, at the Riverview Health Care Center, Prestonsburg. Funeral services were conducted Friday, December 22, under the direction of Lucas & Hall Funeral Home.

Goldie Murphy, 86, of Belfry, died Monday, December 18, at the Parkview Nursing & rehabilitation Center, Pikeville. Graveside services were conducted Thursday, December 21, under the direction of Hatfield Funeral Home.

Shirley Fields Ball, 80, died Tuesday, December 19, at Norton Community Hospital, Norton, Virginia. Graveside services were conducted Thursday, December 21, under the direction of Sturgill Funeral Home.

Edna Johnson Akers, 99, of Louisville, died Wednesday, December 20. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, December 23, in the Schoppenhorst, Underwood & Brooks Funeral Home Chapel.

Grover Roy Bishop, 78, of Lorain, Ohio, died Tuesday, December 26. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, December 30, under the

direction of Thacker Memorial Funeral Home.

Paul Greer, 59, of Alexandria, Virginia, formerly of Beehive, died Tuesday, December 26, at his home. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, December 31, under the direction of Delinger Funeral Home.

Ellen Keene, 75, of Phyllis, died Thursday, December 28, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Monday, January 1, 2001, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Marie Wolford Mikoch, 64, of Pikeville, died Sunday, December 24, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. Funeral

services were conducted Saturday, December 30, under the direction of Thacker Memorial Funeral Home.

Charles Wayne Long, 60, of Marrowbone, died Friday, December 29, at Cabell-Huntington Hospital in Huntington, West Virginia. Funeral arrangements were under the direction of Lucas & Hall Funeral Home.


Howard Godfrey Blankenship, 72, of Edgerton, West Virginia, died Friday, December 29, at St. Mary's Hospital in Huntington, West Virginia. He is survived by his wife Phyllis Sanson Blankenship. Funeral services were conducted Monday, January 1, 2001, under the direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

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 Evening Worship — 6 p.m.
 Wednesday Evening — 7 p.m.
 Call 886-3165 for transportation.
 Pastor: Steven V. Williams

Card of Thanks
 The family of Virginia K. Meade would like to extend their appreciation to all those friends, neighbors, and loved ones who helped comfort them during their time of sorrow. Thanks to all who sent food, flowers, prayers or spoke comforting words. A special thanks to Clergyman Bob Cunningham, for his comforting words, the Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control and the Hall Funeral Home for their kind and professional service.
 The family of Virginia K. Meade

AUXIER FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCH
 Mike Blanton and Singers
 will be appearing
 Sunday, January 7th, at 6 p.m.
 THE FLOYD COUNTY
 FREEWILL BAPTIST CONFERENCE
 will be held at the
 AUXIER FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCH
 Saturday, January 13th, at 10 a.m.
 EVERYONE WELCOME TO ATTEND!


 As the New Year begins, we would like to send Greetings to our many friends. As we pause and reflect on the value of friends like you, we wish to restate our continuing policy of service to the public. Our first consideration is to the family—their wishes, their desires, their convenience. It has always been our main purpose to help ease the burdens of the family in sorrow—friends helping friends. Because of your confidence and loyalty, our company has grown and prospered over the past 55 years. In a spirit of appreciation, we pledge ourselves to continue our best efforts to serve you. With deepest gratitude we wish you prosperity in the New Year.
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Obits

Continued from p5

Mathew Watkins
 Mathew Watkins, 60, of Teaberry, died Saturday, December 24, 2000, at his residence.

Born on May 16, 1940, in Salyersville, he was the son of the late Enoch and Julia Barnett Watkins. He was a retired factory worker.

His wife, Edith Marie Watkins, preceded him in death.

He is survived by one son, Gary Dale Watkins of Teaberry; two daughters, Vicki Lynn Adzic of Hillsdale, Michigan, and Vicki Marie Watkins of Teaberry; one brother, James Watkins of Muskegon, Michigan; five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted Thursday, December 28, at the Samaria Regular Baptist Church at Teaberry, with Regular Baptist ministers officiating.

Burial was in the Denzil Hall Cemetery, at Grethel, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home, Martin.

Pallbearers were Clyde Hamilton, Chris Rudd, Randall Robinson, Greg Bowling, Glendale Osborne, Brad Hamilton, Kenny Hamilton, and Gary Kiser.

Palmer Frasure
 Palmer Frasure, 65, of Teaberry, died Saturday, December 30, 2000, at his residence, following a sudden illness.

Born on January 17, 1935, in Galveston, he was the son of Verlie Hamilton Frasure of Galveston and the late Troy Frasure. He was a disabled coal miner.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Dollie Blankenship Frasure.

Survivors include one son, Harm Frasure of Paintsville; one daughter, Diana Burchett of Ivel; six brothers, Ed Frasure of Pikeville, Tom Frasure, Glen Frasure, Charles Frasure, and Garrett Frasure, all of Galveston, Eddie Frasure of Collinsville, Virginia; one sister, Geraldine Blankenship of Galveston, and four grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted Wednesday, January 3, 2001, at 11 a.m., at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Martin, with Monford Howell and other Old Regular Baptist ministers officiating.

Burial will be in the Davidson Memorial Gardens, Ivel, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Claude Hall
 Claude Hall, 58, of Logansport, Indiana, formerly of Betsy Layne, died Wednesday, December 27, 2000, at Memorial Hospital, Logansport.

He was born August 6, 1942, at Betsy Layne, the son of the late Langley and Roxie Workman Hall. He was a die-cast supervisor at SUS Die Cast Products; a member of the Calvary Baptist Church; and had worked at Alpha Industries for 29 years.

He is survived by his wife, Patricia Hall.

Other survivors include one son, Michael David of Logansport, Indiana; two brothers, Lloyd Hall of Warsaw, Indiana and Bill Hall of Betsy Layne; one sister, Orma Jean Holbrook of Betsy Layne; and two grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted Monday, January 1, 2001 at the Hall Funeral Home Chapel, Martin.

Burial was in the Davidson Memorial Gardens, Ivel, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were Jordan Compton, William Layne, Bryan Layne, Eddie Clark, Justin Kidd and William Holbrook.

Hubert Clayton Gambill
 Hubert Clayton Gambill, 81, of Paintsville, died Friday, December 29, 2000, at the V.A. Medical Center, Huntington, West Virginia.

Born December 9, 1919, in Pike County, he was the son of the late Lawrence C. Gambill and Oma Drago Gambill. He was self-employed at Gambill's Electric. He was a U.S. Air Force veteran.

He is survived by his wife, Martha Leona Painter Gambill.

Other survivors include one son, Michael Gambill, and one stepson, James G. Prater, both of Prestonsburg; two daughters, Virginia L. Gambill and Kathy Kirk, both of Paintsville; two brothers, Frank Gambill of Berea, Marvin Gambill of Cincinnati, Ohio; 12 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted Monday, January 1, 2001, at the Jones-Preston Funeral Chapel, Paintsville, with Rev. Wayne Fields and Rev. Jimmy Jennings officiating.

Burial was in the Highland Memorial Park, at Staffordsville, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

Andrew Granville Childress
 Andrew Granville Childress, 96, of Banner, Ky., died Friday, December 22, 2000, at his residence, following an extended illness.

Born on January 22, 1904, in Grundy, Virginia, he was the son of the late Sparrell and Martha Owens Childress. He was a retired electrician, a veteran of the United States Army and Merchant Marines, and was a member of the Baptist Church in Mississippi.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Kelsy Childers Childress.

Survivors include two daughters, Janet Sue (Gregory) Hall of Banner, Betty Jane Arrington of Augusta, Georgia, five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday, December 23, at 2 p.m., at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, with Tracy Patton officiating.

Burial was in the Davidson Memorial Gardens, Ivel, Ky., under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

D.A.V. funeral was conducted by Chapter 169, Betsy Layne, Ky. Paid obituary

Genetta Mullins, 86, of Pikeville, died Friday, December 29, 2000, at her home. Funeral services were conducted Monday, January 1, 2001, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Anna Ruth Tackett, 51, of Caney Highway, died Friday, December 29, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. She is survived by her husband, Clovis Tackett. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

Janet Sue Whitten
 Janet Sue Whitten, 62, of Prestonsburg, died Friday, December 29, 2000, at Highlands Regional Medical Center.
 Born on May 5, 1938, in Emma, she was the daughter of Hope Sherman Whitten and the late Denzil Keith Whitten. She was a former office manager of Prestonsburg City's Utilities, an announcer for WDOC Radio/Prestonsburg, secretary/treasurer for Whitten's Taxi, Inc.; she was a member of First United Methodist Church, Prestonsburg and a member of Miriam Rebekah Lodge No. 31.
 Survivors, other than her mother, include one sister, Judith (Judy) Irene Garrett of Ypsilanti, Michigan; two brothers, Philip Keith Whitten and

Denzil (Denny) Curtis Whitten, both of Prestonsburg.
 Funeral services were conducted Monday, January 1, 2001, at 11 a.m., at the Carter Funeral Home Chapel, Prestonsburg, with Rev. Wayne Sayre officiating.

Burial was in the Davidson Memorial Gardens, at Ivel, under the direction of Carter Funeral Home.

Active pallbearers were Bryan Whitten, Chris Whitten, Clinton Vernon Garrett, Darrell Prater, Bryan Whitten Jr., Scottie Hamilton, Danny Hamilton and Granville Meade.

Honorary pallbearers were Philip Whitten, Denny Whitten, Vernon Garrett, "Little" Philip Whitten, Jeff Whitten, Cory Prater, Jackie Wright, Roger Wright, Greg Shepherd and Bill Potter.



Card of Thanks
 The Family of Abbie Gail Akers Shultz would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their help in the loss of their loved one: Those who sent food and flowers, or just spoke comforting words. We deeply appreciate you all. A special thanks to Clergyman Bennie Blankenship for his comforting words, the Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control and the Hall Funeral Home for their kind and professional service.
 The Family of Abbie Gail Akers Shultz

Card of Thanks
 The family of Beulah Stapleton Allen wishes to gratefully acknowledge the thoughtfulness and kindness of friends, relatives and neighbors in the loss of their loved one. Thanks to those who sent food, flowers, prayers, or spoke comforting words. We are especially grateful to Clergymen Bob Varney and Roy Harlow for the comforting messages, Tom Martin, Van and Susan Ramey, for the beautiful songs, the Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control and the Hall Funeral Home for their kind and professional service.
 The Family of Beulah Stapleton Allen

Card of Thanks
 The family of Louise Adkins Hicks would like to take this time to express our gratitude and appreciation for the flowers, food, and prayers; for the kind words of comfort, or just your presence by being there during our difficult time; also to the family and friends that helped dig the grave. A special thank you to Pastors Roy Harlow, Jerry Manns, James "Red" Morris and Paul Rice. Also to the singers, Tom Martin, Mable Morris and Valerie Warrix. We would also like to thank the staff of Hall Funeral Home for their kind and efficient services, and also the Floyd County Sheriff's Department. May God bless each and everyone of you!
 The family of Louise Adkins Hicks

Card of Thanks
 The Family of Marion Yates wishes to thank all of those who were so kind and considerate during our time of grief. We want to thank those who sent food, flowers or just spoke comforting words. A special thanks to Clergymen Denver Meade and Harold Damron for their comforting words, the Sheriff's Department for their assistance in traffic control and the Hall Funeral Home for their kind and efficient service.
 The Family of Marion Yates

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All "A" Brackets B2
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 Louis and the Ladies B3
 Sports in Kentucky B4
 District Standings B4

FLOYD COUNTY Sports



DANIEL SAZARO (52) locks over the opposing team's defense in recent high school basketball action.

Feature:

page 2B



A Look at Sports

Happy New Year!



by ED TAYLOR
SPORTS EDITOR

From the first column of the New Year, let me wish everyone of you the very best in 2001.

With the holidays behind us, it is time

now to return to a normal schedule. Certainly things are hectic at a newspaper when all the deadlines are changed and take you out of your routine.

But, I enjoyed the holidays as Nancy and I celebrated our 42nd anniversary. My, how time flies.

There will be some sort of sanity returning to the basketball season as we head toward district tournament time next month, and it will be upon us before we know it.

However, we still have several tournaments to be played in the next three weeks.

Tournament-wise past, four of our teams were in action over the holidays and Coach Johnny Martin's Runnin' Rebels

suffered their first loss of the season to a good Counsel, Va., team in the Hobert Potter Classic at Shelby Valley. The Rebs won two of their three games and finished third in the tournament.

It was the first time I had seen Shelby Valley this season and I was impressed with Coach Rodney Rowe's ballclub. They have all the ingredients for a regional championship team.

The Wildcats like to shoot the treys and they scored with them as well in putting the points on the board.

Shannon Akers reached a milestone in his career when he scored his 1,000th point of his career in the tournament. Play was halted as he received recognition for

his feat.

But watching Akers on the court, he is more than a scorer. I watched as he passed up wide open shots, dishing off the ball to a teammate who perhaps had a better shot. The kid is tremendous on the boards, scoring and playing unselfishly.

More and more as I watch this Allen Central team, they just keep impressing me. This is a legitimate contender for a regional championship.

Coach Harold Tackett's Prestonsburg Lady Blackcats won one of three games

they played over the weekend beating Lewis County in their third encounter. Coach Tackett said his team played against some tough competition.

"We learned a lot from the losses," he said. "We will go back home and see how we do against county teams.

We got beat by some good teams. Paul Dunbar is a big team with three



(See SPORTS, page two)

■ Prestonsburg Lady Blackcats

Prestonsburg salvages third game of tournament

by ED TAYLOR
SPORTS EDITOR

It wasn't a good road trip for the Prestonsburg Lady Blackcats basketball team over the holidays as Coach Harold Tackett's ballclub dropped two of three games, salvaging a 52-41 win over Clark County in the final round Friday afternoon.

"We played well," said Prestonsburg. "We should have beaten Russell and did beat a good Clark County team."

Prestonsburg posted a 52-41 win over Clark County behind Ramanda Music's 20 points. Amelia Conley tossed in 14 for the winning Lady Blackcats, who improved to 6-4 on the year.

Megan Hyden, who was injured in the game, finished with 11 points.

"We don't know the status on Megan right now," said Coach Tackett last Friday. "She may be out for a couple of weeks."

Hyden led a first quarter charge for Prestonsburg that netted them a 12-10 lead. She hit a three-point basket and scored five points in the opening period. Music had four in the quarter as Prestonsburg hit five of six free throws.

Clark County struggled in the second period with Music scoring six of her 20 points in the stanza that gave Prestonsburg a 22-16 half time lead.

Clark County picked up their pace in quarter three with a 16-11 run, narrowing the Prestonsburg margin to one, 33-32. Jenny Stewart, who led all scorers with 23 points, pumped in nine in the third including a three-point basket. Sibbie Marsh hit a three-point basket that made it a one point game.

Prestonsburg defense picked up in the fourth quarter when Prestonsburg made a 16-9 run to put the game away. Prestonsburg hit 12 of 17 free throws in the final quarter in winning by 11. Conley scored six of her 11 points in the final quarter hitting eight of 11 free throws for the game.

From the charity stripe, Prestonsburg was 25 of 36 attempts. Brook Coleman finished with five points while Heather White netted two.

Prestonsburg opened the tournament against a tall Paul Dunbar team. Dunbar was too much inside for Prestonsburg in a 78-42 win.

"Dunbar is a legitimate team and they were bigger than we were," said Coach Tackett. "There are not too many teams going to beat them. You will see them in the Sweet Sixteen this year."

Prestonsburg failed to put a player in double figures for the game with Music leading the Lady

(See TOURNEY, page two)



photo by Ed Taylor

MATT CLAY (12), of Prestonsburg, skies high for a layup. Clay, a senior, netted 11 points in a losing effort as the Blackcats fell to Lloyd Memorial.

GAME NOTES:

■ Prestonsburg Coach Jackie Day Crisp hasn't gotten the scoring production the past couple of games like he had in the first six or seven games. Just six Blackcats scored against Prestonsburg, whereas eight or nine players have been doing the scoring in previous games.

■ Lloyd Memorial junior Michael Hopkins is one of the best of the best players in the 9th Region. Coach Bryan Gillis' Lloyd Memorial squad was a 34th District runner-up last season and has a legitimate shot at winning the district this season.

LLOYD MEMORIAL (69) - M. Hopkins 21, Mullins 10, Fox 11, Hollencamp 9, B. Hopkins 9, Quinn 5.

PRESTONSBURG (55) - Justice 13, Clay 11, Branham 10, Powers 10, Music 8, Allen 3.

Prestonsburg falls 69-55 to Lloyd Memorial

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS WRITER

The Prestonsburg Blackcats took to the Shelby Valley High hardwood last Friday night for a second round Hobert Potter Classic game against Lloyd Memorial.

The Blackcats had the unenviable task of facing 15th Region favorite Shelby Valley in their first game. It was a tall task to say the least, as the Blackcats fell hard, losing by 36 points to the Akers brothers and company.

The Blackcats would fare somewhat better against Lloyd Memorial, as they would play Lloyd Memorial close through three quarters, before being outscored 20-7 in a final fourth quarter that ultimately decided the basketball game. The lopsided fourth quarter of play gave Prestonsburg a loss and gave Lloyd Memorial a 69-55 win.

The Blackcats played good sound defense in the first period, but lagged behind a little bit on offensive end. Prestonsburg went into the second quarter trailing by just four points, 16-12. It was

there, in the second quarter, where the offensive continued and worsened for the Blackcats. Lloyd Memorial equaled their first quarter point total of 16 points.

Prestonsburg totaled 11 points in the quarter, just one point shy of their first quarter total. Although the victims of a slow-start and a stingy Lloyd Memorial defense, the Blackcats trailed by just nine points at

the break.

Coach Jackie Day Crisp saw his team of Prestonsburg Blackcats play a much-improved brand of basketball in the third quarter of play, following the halftime break. Coach Crisp got a big third quarter effort from seniors Matt Clay and Brandon Branham. Both seniors stepped up big on both ends of the court in the second period.

The Prestonsburg defense handled and contained Lloyd Memorial for most of the third quarter, before a series of runs put momentum back on Lloyd Memorial's side.

Lloyd Memorial regained some of the momentum they had going for them in the first quarter, and ventured into the fourth quarter with some renewed confidence despite being outscored. Prestonsburg (2-7) outscored Lloyd Memorial 25-19 in an up and down third quarter and went into the final period trailing by a slim, three-point 51-48 margin. The three-point deficit was the closest the Blackcats had been to a lead since the midway point of the opening quarter.

Some individuals, in this case, some teams, often save their best for last. Lloyd Memorial (7-3) did just that, they saved their best for last against Prestonsburg. Lloyd Memorial played stellar defense in the final quarter and put up a huge fourth quarter offensive on defense, holding the Blackcats to just seven points.

(See PRESTONSBURG, page two)



► Hobert Potter Classic at Shelby Valley

Allen Central drops first game of season to Council, VA.

Hayes tosses in 23 as Runnin' Rebs fall

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS WRITER

A team with a perfect undefeated record makes for a good target, just ask the Allen Central Runnin' Rebels.

The Runnin' Rebels went into Friday night's second round of the Shelby Valley High School's Hobert Potter Classic against Council High School.

Council, a small Class A school located in Virginia, has a small enrollment of just 160 students, and like Allen Central, is located on Route 80.

Oh, yeah, the Council boys' basketball team is pretty good, too.

Allen Central went in against Council, the No. 1 ranked Class A team in Virginia, knowing they were in for a battle. It was a battle the Runnin' Rebels got, as they

were defeated 76-58.

The Cobras of Council were slow coming out of the gates and struggled against a good Allen Central first quarter offensive team. Allen Central came out of the first quarter of play with a 16-14 lead. It was in the second quarter where things began to come undone for Allen Central as the Cobra offense struck often.

Council netted 21 second quarter points, opposed to just nine from the Allen Central contingent.

The Runnin' Rebs were taken out of their game as Council executed well on offense and played a stingy style of defense that had Allen Central second guessing. The Cobras limited Allen Central to few open shots. The Runnin' Rebs went into the halftime break trailing 35-25.

Being behind at halftime was an unfamiliar position for this year's Runnin'

(See ALLEN CENTRAL, page two)

photo by Steve LeMaster

JEREMY HAYES (35) goes up for a basket against a Trimble County defender. Hayes tossed in a team-high 23 points as Allen Central fell 76-58 to the Cobras of Council High in the second round of the Hobert Potter Classic.



STEVE'S SIDELINE SHOTS

A toast to a bright New Year!

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS WRITER

Happy New year!
Out with the old, and in with the new.

By now, everyone has rung in the new year, and sports fans are anxious to see what the year 2001 has in store.

I sincerely hope that everyone enjoyed the recent holidays, I know I did.

I had a virtual smorgasbord of sports from the beginning of last week, through the weekend, and up until now when the action is halted somewhat with the recent snow that has blanketed the area.

For five or six days last week, I spent the majority of my evenings at Shelby Valley taking in the Hobert Potter Classic and watching college football bowl games.

The high school basketball up at Shelby Valley was great. The Wildcats continue to impress with each passing game.

The Allen Central Runnin' Rebels stumbled in the tourney, losing to a very good Council

Valley quietly. Coach Johnny Martin's bunch played hard in a third-place consolation game and scored a win over Lloyd Memorial, one of the top teams in the 8th Region.

Allen Central junior Shawn Newsome continues to impress everyone. Newsome is averaging over 20 points per game.

The college football bowl season, if you haven't heard by now, is one of my favorite times of the year. This college football bowl season has been a good one.

Marshall's Thundering Herd, with Prestonsburg High alumnus Nathan Leslie, battled back to beat the University of Cincinnati Bearcats 25-14, in this year's Motor City Bowl; The Thundering Herd obviously like the Motor City Bowl, they've fared quite well there in recent appearances over the past three or four years.

The Louisville Cardinals came out on the losing end of things in the Music City Bowl against Coach Sonny Lubick's Colorado State Rams. The Cards fell 22-17, in a hard-fought contest.

U of L fans: Don't pack and junior-to-be gone returns next season Allen Central didn't leave Shelby

this season. Did anyone catch the Snow Bowl, I mean the Independence Bowl?

If not, you missed a rare site. It was snowing in Shreveport, Louisiana, of all places. The game pitted the Mississippi State Bulldogs against the Aggies of Texas A&M in what played out to be a classic. The 2000 Independence Bowl was the best football game played in snowy conditions on any level that I have ever seen. MSU battled back and tied that game at 35, forcing an overtime period. The Aggies scored first in the extra period, but had their field goal attempt blocked. The Bulldogs scored on the return of the blocked kick and then in two plays found touch-down paydirt, posting a 43-41 win.

The win was sweet for State Head Coach Jackie Sherrill, considering he coached the Aggies for seven seasons. Sherrill's record in bowl games as head coach of Mississippi State now stands at 2-4. He is 8-6 overall in postseason bowls. Sherrill is beloved by his players and is respected by other coaches across the nation.

Staying in the SEC, South Carolina capped off a miraculous

season with a 24-7 Outback Bowl win over Ohio State. Former Notre Dame Coach Lou Holtz and his USC staff have done a tremendous job with the Gamecocks football program.

And just think, we have local ties to the University of South Carolina football program right here in our area. Current Pikeville College coach Zak Willis spent the 1999 college football season at South Carolina as an assistant coach under Holtz. Coach Holtz was very instrumental in helping Coach Willis land the Pikeville College job.

Tonight's the night

Well, tonight is the night when all college football fans will have their eyes peeled as the No. 1 Oklahoma Sooners will do battle with the No. 3 Florida State Seminoles in the Orange Bowl. The 'Noles are an 11-point favorite coming into the game although the top-ranked Sooners boast an undefeated record. Is it just the fact that Florida State has been on top for so long, or is it because the 'Noles are simply better? Well, in this case, it's probably the latter. Oklahoma, led by quarterback Josh Huelpe, will have to play a near-perfect game in order to pull off an Orange Bowl win and a national championship. It's possible, and if the Sooner offense out and plays well against the FSU defense their first couple of possessions, it could be very probable. If you like me, and you can't make it to Miami for the game, be sure to tune-in or set the VCR. The 2001 Orange Bowl, like most Orange Bowls before it, promises to be a dandy.

Random Notes

■ How can a 2-9 college football team get caught up in a \$1400 worth money orders recruiting scandal? Answer-Kentucky.

■ A Paintsville-Allen Central, or a Pikeville-Allen Central match-up will make for a good game if either or both come to be in the upcoming All "A" Tournament. Paintsville and Pikeville have met twice this season, each beating the other on their home court.

■ The recent snowfalls have me wishing for the first pitch of any upcoming baseball season, be it youth league, high school, college or pro. I just want some Spring-like conditions. It's cold, we all have to deal with it. Take a quick retreat this week, to a nice warm gym. High school basketball will be played in the comfort of a warm gymnasium near you all this week. The Madness of March is now less than two months away.



CLOSELY GUARDED was Allen Central senior Jeremy Hayes (35) in a game last week with Trimble County.

Tourney

Continued from p1

Blackcats scoring with nine points. Angie Howell and Conley tossed in seven each with White scoring five. Coleman finished with five and Hyden totaled six points. Chrissy Nelson hit a three-point basket in the fourth quarter and finished with three.

Dunbar used their quickness and inside game in building a 20-7 first quarter lead. Brooke Monitz, who led Dunbar with 22 points, scored nine of those in the first period. For the game, Monitz buried three of her team's seven three-point baskets.

Prestonsburg trailed 33-19 at the half but never could get any closer to Dunbar.

Prestonsburg got 12 points apiece from Coleman and Hyden in a 72-52 setback at the hands of Russell. Music finished with 10 points. Conley netted eight before fouling out.

Russell lived at the free throw

line where they hit 27 of 40 attempts. The Lady Red Devils hit 12 of 17 attempts in the fourth period, a quarter they outscored Prestonsburg 22-14.

All-State candidate, Samantha Nester, pumped in 29 points for Russell with nine of those coming in the first quarter and eight in the fourth.

The game was close through the first two quarters with Russell leading 17-16 at the first stop and took a 36-28 lead to the locker room at the half.

It was the final two quarters that did the Lady Blackcats in as they were outscored 36-24 in the second half.

Nelson finished with four points for Prestonsburg while Amanda Webb scored two. White added four.

Prestonsburg will host Betsy Layne tonight in an important conference game, weather permitting.

Prestonsburg

Continued from p1

The second loss in as many games in the Hobert Potter Classic moved the Blackcats into a fifth and sixth place game with Trimble County.

Josh Justice led the way for Prestonsburg. Justice finished with 13 points. Clay turned in a strong performance, finishing with 11 points. Branham and another senior Ricky Powers finished with 10 points apiece. Dustin Music tossed in eight points and Josh Allen made

good for three points to round out the Prestonsburg scoring.

Junior Michael Hopkins led Lloyd Memorial with a game-high 21 points.

The loss to Lloyd Memorial was the third loss in a row for the Blackcats. The losing skid began back on Friday, Dec. 22 against Sheldon Clark, a game which the Blackcats hosted.

Allen Central

Continued from p1

Rebels to say the least. Allen Central has very rarely trailed in ball game this season, let alone been behind by ten points at half-time. Adjustments need to be made and Allen Central Head Coach Johnny Martin was the one to make them, and make them he did.

Allen Central came out of the halftime break and played with the elusive mixture of intensity and poise they had played with in the first quarter. Senior Jeremy Hayes played big in the quarter, as did the other four Allen Central starters who graced the third quarter floor for the majority of the period. Council found themselves trying to combat a serious Allen Central comeback attempt throughout the fourth quarter. The Runnin' Rebels outscored Council 21-16 in the third period and went into the final period trailing by just five points. Momentum was definitely on Allen Central's side going into the final eight minutes, but it was all for naught as the Cobras turned it up a notch in the final quarter and fended off any comeback the Rebs had mounted.

Council standout Brandon Knuckles continued his strong play in the fourth period. Council outscored Allen Central 25-12 in the final period en route to the 76-58 win.

Hayes paced Allen Central with a team-high 23-point performance.

Allen Central's leading scorer for the season, junior Shawn Newsome, finished the Council game with 15 points. Senior point guard Larry Mullins tossed in 12 points. Another Allen Central senior, Travis Francis, chipped in with four points, while Daniel Sazabo and Josh Yates contributed

two points each.

The loss marked the Runnin' Rebels first setback of the season. At 7-1, the Runnin' Rebels went into a third-place consolation game against Lloyd Memorial, a team that began the tournament with a loss to host Shelby Valley, then rebounded to beat Prestonsburg.

With the win over Allen Central, Council moved into a Hobert Potter Classic championship game with the host Shelby Valley Wildcats.

GAME NOTES:

■ Allen Central guard Shawn Newsome's 15 points in the

Council game was one of the lowest point totals he's produced this season. Newsome is averaging around 26 points a game for Allen Central.

■ The Runnin' Rebels remain a perfect 7-0 against in-state talent.

■ Many Allen Central fans are looking forward to the upcoming All "A" Tournament. The Runnin' Rebs are favored to take the 15th Region All "A" crown.

COUNCIL, VA. (76) - Raznick 24, Knuckles 20, Harmon 13, Ratliff 12, Jackson 5, Tiller 2.

ALLEN CENTRAL (58) - Hayes 23, Newsome 15, Mullins

Sports

Continued from p1

players over six-foot. We should have beaten Russell but we did beat a nice Clark County team."

The weather hasn't been that great, but it could have been worse, and that has dampened the interest in basketball over the holidays. Several of the Lady Blackcat fans made the trip to East Carter to watch the Prestonsburg team play.

Up at Louisville, veteran coach Denny Crum seems to be in a hot seat as his Cardinals are 4-8 (not counting last night's game with Kentucky) and fans, as well as columnist, are calling for the head of Crum.

Billy Reed, in his Herald-Leader column Tuesday, said, "It's time for Crum to go!"

Well, Billy has gotten himself in trouble before with such calling's. True, Crum has not recruited the caliber of players he has become accustomed to getting. True, the

Cardinals, once one of the nation's top teams, have not played well nor advanced as before.

But he is still a quality coach and has proven he can put a winner together. Fans are calling for a change, as UK fans are calling for at UK.

SPORTS OF SORTS

■ The 13th top national sports story for 2000 was the Reds signing of Ken Griffey, Jr.

■ UK football fans are wondering if Mumme is all that clean at UK.

■ What was it, a \$1,000 Emery sin when Eddie Sutton was at UK?

The Betsy Layne at Prestonsburg game was canceled last evening but will be made up tonight at Prestonsburg.

Until Friday, good sports everyone and be good sports!



DANIEL SAZABO (52), looks over the opposing team's defense in recent high school roundball action. Sazabo is a force on the inside for Allen Central.

15th Region Girls Tournament Paintsville High School January 8-13, 2001

Elkhorn City		
Wed., January 10, 6:30 p.m.		
Allen Central		
South Floyd	Fri., Jan. 12, 6:30 p.m.	
Wed., January 10, 8:15 p.m.		
Paintsville		
Feds Creek	Sat., January 13, 7 p.m.	Champions
Thur., January 11, 6:30 p.m.		
Pikeville		
Fri., Jan. 12, 8:15 p.m.		
Piarist		
Tues., Jan. 9, 7 p.m.		
Millard		
Thur., January 11, 8:15 p.m.		
Phelps		

ALL "A" CLASSIC

LOUIS AND THE LADIES

Girls' Basketball - Ky.'s No. 1 Fan

by LOUIS MEADOWS

Accolades to Lexington Catholic's coach Greg Todd and the whole LC community.

The Prime Time Classic (PTC) was superb. The quality of the teams, facilities, and parental support to carry off such a gigantic endeavor were top-of-the-line.

Basketball-wise, I get around as much as anyone from Kentucky and have for several years, including regular season and summer basketball. I can tell you that Coach Todd's influence is felt statewide. He coaches AAU in the summer, coaching teams that have players from all over Kentucky. Also during the summer, he forms teams from statewide players to compete nationally and internationally. He runs a successful summer camp that attracts players from across the state. Last summer, he was assistant coach for the Kentucky All-stars and is head coach this summer. Any given year, if you look at the top 40 players in Kentucky, you will find

Coach Todd's influence somewhere in most of their backgrounds. I know he gets a special joy out of competing against these players when they play Catholic (or when he coached at Berea).

Hats off Greg to your insight, ingenuity, leadership, personality, and hard work.

If you are a true fan of Kentucky high school girls' basketball, and you attend an event such as PTC, the great games hit you in such a rapid-fire motion that, after a couple, your brain can become numbed to what is going on. Games that you would ordinarily drive 150 miles to see during regular season, you take for granted because there are so many of them in such a short period of time.

Coach Todd indicated that he would probably continue the format he established for this, the first year for the PTC. That format includes inviting the very top teams and players, all from Kentucky, to give everyone a chance to see where they stand against the other best early in the sea-

son.

Not only did Jackson Co. win the PTC the week before Christmas (beating Lexington Catholic in the championship game), they also won the prestigious Pickerington Tournament (Ohio) the week after Christmas. This is the first time a Kentucky team ever won the event. Lexington Catholic took third place honors in the Ohio Tourney.

When I predicted a few months ago that I thought Jackson Co. was number 1, I had dozens of nay-sayers. They said Jackson had a history of bickering among themselves; that they could not take the pressure; that the players would not follow Coach Greg Parrett's game plans. So far, I have seen none of that. Keep up the good work, Jackson. My hat's off to you. I love good movies, songs, and basketball teams (and players).

359 days (leap year) and 38 wins: That is what happened between West Carter's last 2 losses. Their next-to-last loss was to Hart Co. in the finals of the Lady Invitational of the South on Dec. 30, 1999. Then came a 38-0 run, including a state championship, that ended exactly a week short of a year when WC loss to Lexington Catholic on Saturday morning, Dec. 23, 2000.

To be fair to West Carter, one of their early-season starters is out of the line-up and one could tell that their team chemistry was not the same.

Brooke Mullis, who slid into the starting line-up off the bench from last year, went down with a knee injury in a game against Raceland before the PTC.

At the time I talked to the coaches, it was undetermined how long Brooke would be out. The doctors had scheduled more tests. If it is an MCL, then it might be a few weeks. If it is an ACL, she will be out the rest of the season.

Interesting Christmas Tournament moment 1: Actually, West Carter's win streak almost came to an end 2 days earlier. They are down by 4 points against Clinton Co. with 20 seconds to go. WC point guard Megan Gearhart drives the length of the court and gets off a desperation 3-pointer with one second to go. She is fouled on the shot by a Clinton Co. player. The 3-pointer goes in. She makes the foul shot. Overtime. West

Carter wins.

If you want to talk about pressure players, I would just as soon have Megan Gearhart as anyone in the state. I have seen it too many times. Example: Last year, in the second round of the State Tournament, Hart Co. is playing WC. At one point, Hart's Leslie Logsdon goes flying out of bounds and tips a loose ball back toward her own Krystal Gardner. But in steps Megan, hanging over the sideline herself, to intercept the ball before it can reach Krystal's hands. That was the play that broke Hart's back and WC went on to win by a few points. Example: One day later, in the championship game against Shelby Co., Megan drives for a hook lay-up that bounces high off the glass and into the basket. A crucial play that helps break Shelby's back.

But talking about Clinton Co., you had better get them now. Coach Gary Abbott has eight players platooned. He starts juniors and seniors along with his 6-4 pivot, Angel Brown. And some of them can shoot the lights out. But then he brings in 4 different players, (leaving Angel in). These include twin 8th graders Amber and Paige Guffey (daughters of boys' coach Ronnie Guffey) and Coach Abbott's own 8th grade daughter, Brittany Abbott. They can also shoot the lights out and all will work your tails off to keep up with them. Look for Clinton Co. to take over Queen of the Hill when Jackson Co. finally falters.

Interesting moment 2: Male vs. Henderson Co. in the Lady Invitational of the South: In the first half, Male's point guard Nickie Fahey hits 3 of 4 three-pointers, guard Connie Neal hits 5 of 7 threes, and pivot Sharell Shardon hits 6 of 7 two-pointers. To close the first half, Henderson's PG Princess Wimsatt hits a desperation shot from the mid-court line. But Male is up by 16. Second half, Male falls apart and loses the game by 1 point.

Other interesting moments: In the PTC, Holmes is behind Shelby Valley by 6 points with a minute to go. Holmes' Erica Hallman scores 2 three-pointers and a 2-pointer to win the game. In the PTC, Clinton Co. is down to Boone Co. by 12 points with 4 minutes to go. Clinton comes storming back to take the game into

overtime and win it. Angel Brown with 43 points and 19 rebounds. In the LIS, Campbellsville shoots over 80% field goals the first half and goes on to beat Knott Central. Campbellsville's Tasha Phillips ends up with 35 points.

Tournament winners: Presentation won the Lady Invitational of the South. Marshall Co. won its own tournament, as did Male. Assumption won the Queen of the Bluegrass and Garrard Co. won the Berea Christmas Tournament. Henry Clay won a tournament in Florida. Sacred Heart also won a tournament in Florida and its freshman pivot, Crystal Kelly, was named MVP.

One more Christmas tournament winner: All the pre-season talk was that the 15th region was going to be a 2-team race between Sheldon Clark and Shelby Valley. Not so. In winning its own Christmas tournament, Johnson Central ran its record to 13-1. I saw JC play in the Berea Christmas Tournament. Some of the best team play I have seen all year. Every player handled the ball, filled

the lanes, and knew where each other was on offense and all played that nice position, man-to-man defense as well as I have seen team-wise for awhile. No big stars. Just a bunch of hard workers. Their only loss was to Rockcastle Co. in the Berea Tournament. I am predicting look out for Phillip Wireman's team come district and regional tournament time.

Jim Underwood, as he was last year, has again been empowered by the Kentucky Lions Eye Foundation to form the sophomore and junior all-stars teams. Underwood, manager of the Blue Chip Camp and Blue Chip Tournament, will be in charge of getting players and coaches and will be games' director. There will be at least 2 soph and 2 junior teams. They will play a full schedule of games this summer against each other and will also include games with this summer's Kentucky All-stars (including the junior-senior all-star games).

Louis Meadows, 43 Warsaw Ave., Apt. 205, Dry Ridge, Ky. 41035



photo by Steve LeMaster
GIMME THE BALL was the call of Allen Central's ZW Chaffins (50) as he posted up against a Trimble County defender in the recent Hobert Potter Classic at Shelby Valley High School.

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NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF INTENT TO REQUEST A RELEASE OF FUNDS
 January 3, 2001
 Kentucky Housing Corporation
 1231 Louisville Rd.
 Frankfort, KY 40601
 F. Lynn Luallen,
 Chief Executive Officer
 TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS:

On or about January 12, 2001, Kentucky Housing Corporation (KHC) will request the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to release Federal funds for the following project:

Project:
 Low Income Housing Coalition of Floyd County, Inc., Houses of Hope Project.

Purpose:
 This Project will rehabilitate and/or reconstruct the homes of four low and moderate-income families in Floyd County, Kentucky.

Location:
 Unspecified locations in Floyd County, Kentucky.

Approximate HOME Funds in Project:
 \$134,968.

An Environmental Review Record respecting the within project has been made by KHC which documents the environmental review of the project. The Environmental Review Record is on file at the above address and is available for public examination and copying upon request during normal business hours.

All interested agencies, groups and persons disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by KHC to the Chief Executive Officer, Attention: Michael Dant. Such written comments should be received at the above address on or before January 10, 2001. All such comments so received will be considered and KHC will not request the release of Federal funds or take any administrative action on the within project prior to the date specified in the preceding sentence.

KHC will undertake the project described above with HOME funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under Title II of the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990. KHC is certifying that KHC as State Participating Jurisdiction consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental reviews, decision making, and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect of the certification is that upon its approval, KHC may use the HOME funds and HUD will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and other related laws and authorities. HUD will accept an objection to its approval of the release of funds and acceptance of the certification only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) That the certification was not in fact executed by

KHC's Certifying Officer; or (b) that KHC has failed to make one of the two findings pursuant to 24 CFR Part 58 Sec. 58.40 or to make the written determination required by Secs. 58.35, 58.47 or 58.53 for the project, as applicable; or (c) KHC has omitted one or more of the steps set forth at subparts E of 24 CFR Part 58 for the preparation, publication and completion of an Environmental Impact Statement, if applicable; or (e) KHC has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before release of funds and approval of the environmental certification by HUD; or (f) A Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality.

Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedure (24 CFR Part 58) and may be addressed to: Mr. Ben Cook, Director, Office of Community Planning &

Development, U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development, P.O. Box 1044, Louisville, KY 40201-1044. Objections to the release of funds on bases other than those stated above will not be considered by HUD.

No objection received after January 26, 2001, will be considered by HUD.

NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF INTENT TO REQUEST A RELEASE OF FUNDS

January 3, 2001

Kentucky Housing Corporation
 1231 Louisville Rd.
 Frankfort, KY 40601
 F. Lynn Luallen,
 Chief Executive Officer

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS:

On or about January 12, 2001, Kentucky Housing Corporation (KHC) will request the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to release Federal funds for the following project:

Project:
 HOMES, Inc., Home Owner Rehabilitation

Project Purpose:
 This project will rehabilitate and/or reconstruct the homes of six low and moderate-income families in Perry County, Kentucky and provide safe, decent and sanitary housing.

Location:
 Unspecified locations in Letcher, Knott, and Floyd, Counties, Kentucky.

Approximate HOME Funds in Project:
 \$367,251.

An Environmental Review Record respecting the within project has been made by KHC which documents the environmental review of the project. The Environmental Review Record is on file at the above address and is available for public examination and copying upon request during normal business hours.

All interested agencies, groups and persons disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by KHC to the Chief Executive Officer, Attention: Michael Dant. Such written comments should be received at the above address on or before January 10, 2001. All such comments so received will be considered and KHC will not request the release of Federal funds or take any

administrative action on the within project prior to the date specified in the preceding sentence.

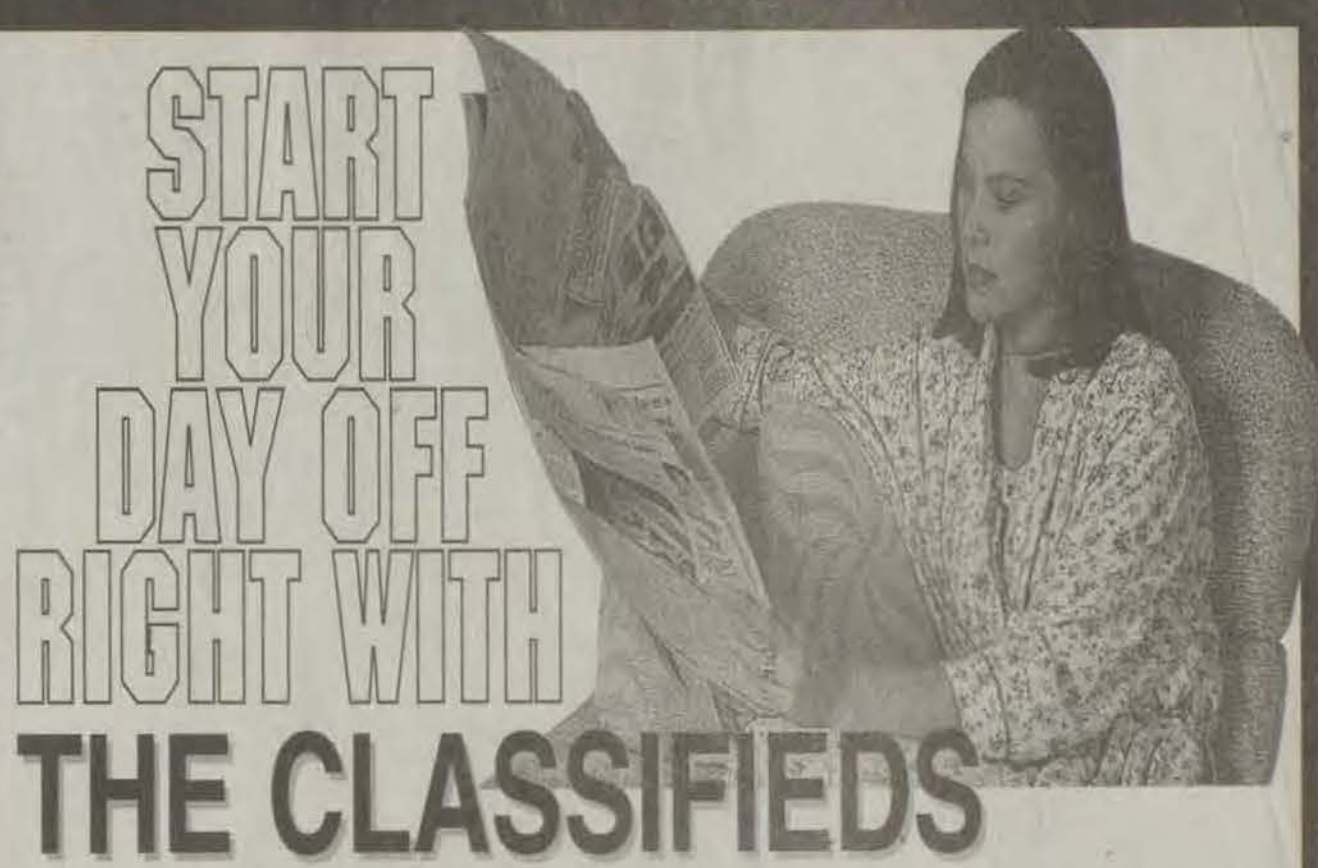
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mental reviews, decision making, and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect of the certification is that upon its approval, KHC may use the HOME funds and HUD will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and other related laws and authorities. HUD will accept an objection to its approval of the release of funds and acceptance of the certification only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) That the certification was not in

fact executed by KHC's Certifying Officer; or (b) that KHC has failed to make one of the two findings pursuant to 24 CFR Part 58 Sec. 58.40 or to make the written determination required by Secs. 58.35, 58.47 or 58.53 for the project, as applicable; or (c) KHC has omitted one or more of the steps set forth at subparts E of 24 CFR Part 58 for the preparation, publication and completion of an Environmental Impact Statement, if applicable; or (e) KHC has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before release of funds and approval of the environmental certification by HUD; or (f) A Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality.

Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedure (24 CFR Part 58) and may be addressed to: Mr. Ben Cook, Director, Office of Community Planning & Development, U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development, P.O. Box 1044, Louisville, KY 40201-1044. Objection to the release of funds on bases other than those stated above will not be considered by HUD.

No objection received after January 26, 2001, will be considered by HUD.



CLASSIFIED LINE AD RATES:

(4 line minimum)
 \$1.50 per line for Wednesday and Friday paper.
 \$1.75 per line for Wednesday and Friday + Shopper.
 \$2.00 per line for Wed., Fri., and Sun. + Shopper.
 (\$1.50 per line for single insertion)

Border Ads: \$3.00 extra per week
 Reverse Ads: \$4.00 extra per week
 Shaded Ads with a Border: \$4.00 extra week
Attention Lines,
Centered/Bold Ads, 12 Pt. Type, 14 Pt. Type, etc:
*****NO EXTRA CHARGE*****

CLASSIFIED DISPLAY RATES

\$5.50 Per Column Inch.
 \$110.00 Spot Color.

Real Estate Section is available on Wednesday's Paper only.

Visa or MasterCard are accepted over the telephone or walk-in.

OUR DEADLINES INCLUDE:

Wednesday's Paper: Line Ads, Mon. at 12 noon;
 Display Ads, Fri. at 2 p.m.
 Friday's Paper and Shopper: Line/Display Ads, Wed. at 5 p.m.
 Sunday's Paper: Line/Display, Thursday at 5 p.m.

***The Floyd County Times Reserves the right to change or modify these rates and/or deadlines without prior notice, at their discretion.**

- Automobiles
- Appliances
- Electronics
- Books
- Apparel
- Computers
- Sporting Goods
- Furniture
- Tools
- Kitchenware
- Collectibles
- Musical
- Instruments and More!!!



EDWARD B. HATCHETT, JR.
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNT

To the People of Kentucky
 Honorable Paul E. Patton, Governor
 John P. McCarty, Secretary
 Finance and Administration Cabinet
 Mike Haydon, Secretary, Revenue Cabinet
 Honorable Paul Hunt Thompson, Floyd County Judge/Executive
 Honorable Chris Waugh, Floyd County Clerk
 Members of the Floyd County Fiscal Court

Independent Auditor's Report

We have audited the accompanying statement of receipts, disbursements, and excess fees of the County Clerk of Floyd County, Kentucky, for the period April 16, 1999 through December 31, 1999. This financial statement is the responsibility of the County Clerk. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the Audit Guide for County Fee Officials issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts, Commonwealth of Kentucky. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1, the County Clerk's office is required to prepare the financial statement on a prescribed basis of accounting that demonstrates compliance with the cash basis and laws of Kentucky, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles. This cash basis system does not require the maintenance of a general fixed asset group or general longterm debt group of accounts. Accordingly, the accompanying financial statement is not intended to present financial position and results of operations in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the receipts, disbursements, and excess fees of the County Clerk for the year the period April 16, 1999 through December 31, 1999, in conformity with the basis of accounting described above.

Based on the results of our audit, we have presented the accompanying comments and recommendations, included herein, which discusses the following areas of noncompliance:

- The Clerk Should Publish His Annual Financial Statement
- The County Clerk Should Prepare Monthly Bank Reconciliations On A Timely Basis

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued a report dated July 25, 2000, on our consideration of the County Clerk's compliance with certain laws and regulations and internal control over financial reporting.

Respectfully submitted,

 Edward B. Hatch
 Auditor of Public Accounts

Audit fieldwork completed - July 25, 2000
 The above transmittal letter accompanied the audit report presented to the fiscal court. KRS 43.090(2) requires that this letter be published in this newspaper. Copies of the complete audit report, including the accompanying financial statements and additional information, are available in the reports section of the Auditor of Public Accounts' website at www.kyauditor.net or upon request by contacting the Auditor of Public Accounts, 144 Capitol Annex, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

Contact Sandra Bunting, Classified Manager at:
(606) 886-8506

FLOYD COUNTY
The Times