

# The Times

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REGIONAL NEWS

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## Martin police chief apparently sent packing

by **SHELDON COMPTON**  
STAFF WRITER

MARTIN — Martin police officer James Slone has taken the reins of that city's police department for the time being, according to reports Friday. The appointment was made, according to Slone, in response to embattled Martin Police Chief Jeff Powell's recent removal from the position.

Powell is currently under investigation by the Kentucky State Police to determine what happened to 2,867 pills taken by Matthew Perkins during a burglary of the Downtown Drug Store in Martin and later recovered by his office. The pills, which Powell estimated in a statement just after the burglary in November had a street value of between \$11,000 and \$12,000, included OxyContin, Lorcet, Vicodin, Xanax and Percocet, were supposedly

destroyed by Powell without a court order. Slone told The Times Friday that he expects the temporary position of the city's top officer to become permanent. "I was put in [as police chief] a day before Christmas, and I'll probably be permanent in the near future," Slone said. Martin Mayor Thomasine Robinson declined to fully comment on Slone's appointment or Powell's

official standing with the city Friday, saying only that she was happy with Slone in as acting-chief. "I can't comment about personnel, I'm sorry," Robinson said, "but I will say that Jim Slone is an A-1 police officer and I'm proud to have him as acting chief." The recent examination into Powell's efficiency

(See **CHIEF**, page three)

### briefs

#### Repeat 911 caller arrested

by **JARRID DEATON**  
STAFF WRITER

MARTIN — A Martin man was arrested on Sunday and charged with alcohol intoxication, disorderly conduct and obstructing an officer after he allegedly called 911 repeatedly.

According to police, Stanley Ward, 43, called 911 several times, causing an officer to drive out to the residence twice. The second time that the officer arrived on the scene, Ward was in his yard and was allegedly intoxicated.

Ward was fined \$35 for the alcohol intoxication, \$100 for disorderly conduct and received 30 days probation with no violations for one year.



photo by Loretta Blackburn

Members of the 14581 United Steel Workers Union, who have been striking at Wayne Supply since Sept. 23, say that though it is getting "pretty cold out" and they hope to get a contract soon, they insist on job security.

## Though picket line getting cold, most strikers remaining resolute

by **LORETTA BLACKBURN**  
STAFF WRITER

PIKEVILLE — After being on strike at Wayne Supply since Sept. 23, members of the 14581 United Steel Workers' Union say that they hope to sign a contract soon, but they say they will not give up on seniority.

According to Roy Perry, of Prestonsburg, who has been at Wayne Supply for four years, the company wanted to raise the current \$75 a week

insurance rate to \$100 at the beginning of 2003. Perry said that the men agreed to accept the \$75 rate with the condition that the company put a freeze on the amount, but the company would not do so.

Although the men agree that the language in the contract needs to be changed regarding insurance and other financial issues, Perry and Kenton Nunemaker, of Marrowbone, who has been with the company for nine-and-a-half years, said that the

real issue is seniority. They propose that it doesn't matter how much money they make when they don't have job security.

Given the way that things are currently stated in the contract, Nunemaker said that it is possible for the company to get rid of men who have "broke their backs" and given the corporation 20 and 30 years of work in favor of younger less experi-

(See **STRIKE**, page three)

## Sister blames mental illness for brother's shooting

by **LORETTA BLACKBURN**  
STAFF WRITER

HUEYSVILLE — The horrors suffered by those afflicted with mental illness and the families that deal with them often go undetected by the general public, and when the manifestation of those illnesses lead to vio-

lence, it is often the family that suffers most.

Such is the case with Tamara Howard, who was faced with a situation on Christmas Eve that resulted in a holiday spent in grief and without her two brothers.

As previously reported on Friday, Colonel Lewis Bolen, 36, of

Hueysville, was arrested and charged with assault, disorderly conduct and terroristic threatening in connection with an incident in which he allegedly shot his brother, Jeffrey Bolen, in the leg.

According to Howard, sister of

(See **ILLNESS**, page three)

## Masked men rob Long John Silver's

by **SHELDON COMPTON**  
STAFF WRITER

MARTIN — A nightshift manager at Long John Silver's was robbed Thursday of over \$1,400 in cash as he was leaving the restaurant with the night deposit drop, according to state police.

During the robbery, police said the restaurant's night shift manager, George Banks, was leaving the establishment after closing when two men in a black Mazda pickup truck pulled into the parking lot.

According to state police reports, one of the two men pulled a handgun on Banks and demanded the deposit money, speeding away once Banks handed it over.

Police said the two left the parking lot driving west on Route 80.

Long John Silver's manager Marty Kendrick said on Friday the two unknown men pulled in behind Banks' truck in the parking lot and pushed a gun through Banks' window before demanding the deposit.

"They pulled in behind my night shift manager's truck and produced a gun through the window," said Kendrick. "He gave it [the money] to them and they sped away."

(See **ROBBERY**, page three)

## Paintsville 'pain clinic' doctor loses suspension appeal

by **CHARLES WOLFE**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — A doctor facing federal charges that he and a partner ran a "pill factory" prescribing thousands of painkillers a day lost an appeal Friday to regain his suspended medical license.

Dr. Yakov G. Drabovskiy, a Russian-born osteopath, was arrested in August 2001 and charged with drug trafficking and money laundering. Also arrested was his partner, Dr. Frederick Cohn of Albuquerque, N.M. Together, they operated a "pain clinic" in Paintsville for a year.

(See **DOCTOR**, page three)

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#### 3 DAY FORECAST

##### Today



High: 50 • Low: 32

##### Tomorrow



High: 56 • Low: 40

For up-to-the-minute forecasts, see floydcountytimes.com

## State unveils 'friendly' tags

The Associated Press

FRANKFORT — Kentucky motorists will get a new license plate next year, with a smiling sun reminding people that "It's that friendly."

The tourism theme is designed to highlight the state's third largest industry, which generated an estimated \$8 billion in 2001.

The plate, which features a sunrise over a Kentucky hillside, will become the standard for most of the estimated 2.1 million motor

vehicles, though there are more than 75 different plates in the inventory, from recognition for the Knights of Columbus to universities.

The first plates will be handed out in early January as people begin renewing their vehicle registrations during their birth months. The fee of \$15 is the same as a standard renewal.

State law mandates a change in plate

(See **PLATES**, page three)



Kentucky's new license plates, scheduled to be rolled out Jan. 6, are intended to convey the friendliness of its residents.

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# Odds and Ends

■ **NEW YORK** — The Yule Log — a TV broadcast of logs burning in Gracie Mansion's fireplace to a Christmas carol soundtrack — burned up the ratings this year.

The uninterrupted two-hour Christmas morning broadcast of the "Yule Log Christmas Special," a holiday tradition for fireplace-less New Yorkers, returned to the air in 2001 after a 12-year hiatus.

Wednesday's showing, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., boasted 284,012 viewing households, a 26 percent boost in viewership compared with last year, WPIX Channel 11 said. It smoked the 1 p.m. airing of the 1951 classic film version of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," starring Alistair Sim as Ebenezer Scrooge, by 29,000 households.

The rather bizarre Christmas tradition also burned up the airwaves every year from 1966 to

1989.

During the Yule Log's absence, WPIX, the local affiliate of the WB, was bombarded with letters and calls from viewers asking for the broadcast to be brought back.

For its triumphant return, the Yule Log tape was digitally remastered, but the soundtrack, including "Joy to the World" and "Winter Wonderland," was left unchanged.

■ **BLUFFTON, S.C.** — A woman was accused of stabbing her boyfriend after the two got into an argument over the volume from their television set, police said.

Nakara Sentrese Simmons, 24, has been arrested and charged with assault and battery with intent to kill after authorities said she stabbed Ron Gadson, 28, with a kitchen knife Wednesday.

"She was trying to go to bed and he was watching TV in another room," Beaufort County Sheriff's Master Sgt. Chris Sankowski said Thursday. "There was a verbal argument about the volume."

As the argument grew more heated, Simmons reportedly stabbed Gadson once in the upper torso, Sankowski said.

Gadson was in stable condition at Memorial Health University Medical Center in Savannah, Ga. Simmons was released Thursday from the Beaufort County Detention Center. Officials would not provide details.

■ **CHRISTMAS, Mich.** — Every day is a holiday in this Upper Peninsula community, but the Yuletide season is something special.

Staff at Christmas Mall and Cabins know that better than most, as each year they accommodate the throngs who come here to have their envelopes stamped with the town's unique postmark.

"Every year we get more and more," said Joe Beauchaine, part owner of the business. Over the past six years, more than 100,000 pieces of mail received the Christmas postmark.

Karen and Joe Beauchaine began marking mail in 1997, after they bought the business. That year, they stamped 11,218 pieces.

This year, nearly 20,000 postmarks were stamped by Christmas Eve, a new record for the outlying branch office of the U.S. Postal Service, The Mining Journal of Marquette reported.

"We have pickup twice a day now because of the amount of mail," Beauchaine said. "We have so much going out of here, we fill up crates."

Customers from as far away as Hawaii, Florida, California and Canada drop off cards and other correspondence to be post-marked Christmas.

After Thanksgiving each year, mail flow through the post office

runs up to 2,000 pieces per day, mostly holiday cards. Mail workers say postmarking creates a lot of extra work, but it's worth the effort.

"We do enjoy doing it," Beauchaine said.

■ **PANAMA CITY, Fla.** — Tales of Rudolph of red-nose fame, Dasher, Prancer and Santa's other tiny reindeer dominate at Christmas time, but have you heard of the strangest deer of all?

He's Robo Deer. The mechanical decoy helps Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission officers nab poachers and deter the illegal shooting of Rudolph's real-life cousins at night and from vehicles.

The stories of his exploits have multiplied since 1995 when the agency began using the devices. Robo Deer follows in the hoof-steps of a couple less realistic versions. The first was a cardboard cutout with some burlap on it.

"It was worth maybe \$2," commission Lt. Stan Kirkland said. "It was amazing how many people shot at it."

Next was a deer replica similar to those archers can buy as practice targets, but it had no moving parts.

Then came Robo Deer, which can turn its head and twitch its tail. The stories quickly followed.

"We had an officer report there was someone in a truck watching the replica," Kirkland said. "He took a long gaze and then floorboarded his vehicle. He ran through these pines and oaks, ran over the decoy, and destroyed it."

The motorist had to buy the state a replacement.

Another driver just missed running over it.

"Then the guy all of the sudden slammed on the brakes, vaults out of the truck, takes out a big sheath knife, tackles it, and knocks it to the ground," Kirkland said. "The head rolls off."

The man got up mumbling about game officers and drove off. No arrest was made because there's nothing illegal about tackling a deer.

Another man saw the deer and stopped his truck, got out and crawled on his belly across a ditch filled with water to within 20 feet.

"You'd think by now he'd get the message when this thing doesn't run that it's not real," Kirkland said. "He reaches back into his pocket, whips out this little pistol you couldn't kill a snake with, and plinks away at the decoy."

As the arrests grew, so did the legend. Officers get calls from people claiming they spotted Robo Deer, much like Elvis, in places he's never been.

"A lot of them want to us to know we didn't fool them," Kirkland said. "Then they want to know how we're able to get him to jump fences. That's when we just grin and bear it and say 'It's a secret, and we can't discuss that.'"

■ **KENOSHA, Wis.** — An 11-year-old boy had his Christmas wish for a pen pal come true, even without asking Santa.

All he did was write it on a balloon and let it fly.

Steven Tu Olson, 11, got a green balloon at a Christmas party Monday. He promptly wrote his address, phone number and a request for a pen pal before attaching a Pokemon card and letting the balloon fly.

"I saw this on television once," said Tu, who goes by his middle name. "I told them, 'I hope someone gets this and that I hope they have a kid.'"

His parents didn't find out about the wish until Tuesday morning, when a man called the

Olsons, saying he found something that belonged to them on his front porch — in South Bend, Ind., about 100 miles southeast of Kenosha across Lake Michigan.

"We think it's a Christmas miracle," said Sue Olson, the boy's mother. "It is just what we needed to give us the Christmas spirit."

The Indiana man's son, Nick Rynearson, 7, will be Tu's new pen pal.

■ **GIBBON, Neb.** — A sheriff's officer and other residents tried to save a man falling off a ladder as he hung Christmas lights — only to be politely told not to bother.

After all, Cathy Pierce explained, it's only a dummy she dressed up in her husband's coveralls, boots and gloves.

"It is really neat to see so many good people wanting to do the right thing," she said. "He really does look real."

Cathy and George Pierce have hung the dummy up every year for 10 years. He appears to be hanging from the roof with half a string of lights up and the other half trailing to the ground. A ladder looks as if it has fallen to the side.

Buffalo County Community Service Officer Clint Kirschner was on patrol when he saw what he thought was a man falling and ran to save him.

"I feel so bad for him," Pierce said. "We used to call the sheriff's department every year when we put him up so they would know what was happening if they got a 911 call, but we figured after 10 years, they would know."

Kirschner wasn't the only person who has tried to save the dummy. Pierce said almost two or three times a day, there is a knock on her door telling her that the man hanging lights needs help. Sometimes someone will

just set the ladder back up.

Pierce said if it gets really icy they take the dummy down so no one gets hurt trying to help him.

"Some people get mad and shake their fist at the house if they've been fooled," she said. "Others sit down in the yard laughing so hard."

She said sometimes youngsters are so worried their parents stop and show them that it is not a real person.

Most neighbors enjoy the joke and start asking about the dummy at about Halloween.

"My husband says he doesn't dare fall in the yard. No one would stop to help, they'd all think it was the dummy," Pierce said.

■ **PITTSBURGH** — Many people might see candy wrappers, paper towel tubes and dryer lint as trash. Cheryl Capezzuti sees them as art supplies.

The 33-year-old woman takes heaps of what most people discard and turns them into works of art that have been featured on ABC's "Good Morning America" and TNN's "Pop Across America."

"I've always been interested in the discards of our culture," Capezzuti said. "I like the idea of turning things that people throw away into objects of value. It can help make people look at the world in a different, more interesting way."

Capezzuti began sculpting with her trademark medium — dryer lint — while she was a graduate student at Penn State University in the early 1990s. What began as an experiment with nontraditional materials turned into a passion.

"Dryer lint is very personal," she said. "If you examine it under a microscope, you'll find that it contain(s) bits of human skin and hair. That aspect of it

(See ODDS, page eight)


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Attorney Eric C. Conn,  
 Marlow Tackett,  
 and  
 Floyd County Judge-Executive  
 Paul Hunt Thompson  
 at the  
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## Today in History

**The Associated Press**

Today is Sunday, Dec. 29, the 363rd day of 2002. There are two days left in the year.

**Today's Highlight in History:** On Dec. 29, 1890, the Wounded Knee massacre took place in South Dakota as some 300 Sioux Indians were killed by U.S. troops sent to disarm them.

**On this date:**

- In 1170, Archbishop Thomas Becket was murdered in Canterbury Cathedral in England.
- In 1808, the 17th president of the United States, Andrew Johnson, was born in Raleigh, N.C.
- In 1813, the British burned Buffalo, N.Y., during the War of 1812.
- In 1845, Texas was admitted as the 28th state.
- In 1851, the first American Young Men's Christian Association was organized, in Boston.
- In 1934, Japan renounced the Washington Naval Treaty of 1922 and the London Naval Treaty of 1930.
- In 1940, during World War II, Germany began dropping incendiary bombs on London.
- In 1957, singers Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme were married in Las Vegas, Nev.
- In 1975, a bomb exploded in the main terminal of New York's LaGuardia Airport, killing 11 people.
- In 1996, war-weary guerrilla and government leaders in Guatemala signed an accord ending 36 years of civil conflict.

**Ten years ago:**  
 The United States and Russia

**COSMETICS**

MAKEUP  
 EYELINER  
 FOUNDATION  
 MASCARA  
 RIMMEL  
 SHARON  
 TONY  
 WENDY  
 YVES  
 ZOE

SAIPAN PEACE WACO ALB  
 ACCUSE ORLON QSLQ FIA  
 WHENPILGRIMS AHAPSODY  
 NED GOOSE STEM COLA  
 JOHN NYMPH MARTEN  
 MAJORS CASABA STIDE  
 ELENA PAN PARTTIEDWHAT  
 LAE PLANTS EARL OBI  
 DIPLOMATIC DEEM EOBEL  
 DRONO ROOM OENITE  
 DAD SORTOFMUSIC EIS  
 CAMEL ALFA URIAN  
 ALENE SHEL INTANGIBLE  
 RAN TYKE NATTER RAV  
 OIOTHEYPLOY TOE ELATE  
 HALE AVAALON MEAGER  
 THRTUL OSAKA LADY  
 ROED DMIT ROTOR SAIO  
 ESCHERWAL PLYVOUTHROCK  
 SEA GENE SENOR HEIFER  
 SIAP ODER SIAOXN ARMIADA

**Thought for Today:**  
 "If a child is to keep alive his inborn sense of wonder, he needs the companionship of at least one adult who can share it, rediscovering with him the joy, excitement and mystery of the world we live in." — Rachel Carson, American biologist (1907-1964).

# Hatfield-McCoy case set for trial in January

by ROGER ALFORD  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PIKEVILLE — Descendants of the nation's most famous feuding families will face off in court next month in a trial to settle a dispute over access to an eastern Kentucky cemetery.

"I really hate that we have to go to the court system to settle this," said Bo McCoy of Waycross, Ga., one of the plaintiff's in the suit against a Hatfield descendant and his wife

who have blocked access to the family cemetery. "We wanted to be gentlemen about it. We felt like we had no other choice."

The cemetery, which holds remains of three McCoy boys who were tied to pawpaw trees and executed by the Hatfields in 1882, is too important historically to remain closed to the public, McCoy contends.

He and his cousin, Ron McCoy of Durham, N.C., filed the suit against John and Barbara Vance of Hardy, whose

property stands between the cemetery and the nearest road. John Vance, a Hatfield descendant, had posted "no trespassing" signs to keep people out of the cemetery until a judge granted an injunction earlier this year giving temporary access until a jury can decide the issue.

Bo and Ron McCoy, organizers of the annual Hatfield-McCoy Reunion Festival in Pikeville, want the cemetery to be part of a tour that would highlight points of interest related to the bloody Hatfield-McCoy feud. Economic development officials in Pikeville hope the feud sites and cemeteries where those killed were buried will draw tourists to the mountain communities.

Pike County Circuit Judge Charles E. Lowe Jr. has scheduled the cemetery trial to begin at 9 a.m. on Jan. 22.

"I'd love to get a phone call saying they've decided to sit down and negotiate a settle-

ment," Bo McCoy said.

Larry Webster, a Pikeville attorney representing the Vances, said the case pits an individual family that wants some privacy against the interests of tourism and economic development officials who want to turn the property into a national attraction. The attorney said he believes the suit was filed not so much to gain access to the cemetery as it was to promote tourism.

"This was designed to get national headlines, and designed as a way to get free advertising for people who hope to make a profit from these things," Webster said.

Tolbert, Pharmed and Randolph McCoy, who were killed in the pawpaw patch execution in August 1882, are buried in the cemetery. Local tradition holds that the three McCoy boys had been shot to death in retaliation for the death of Ellison Hatfield, whom they

killed in an election day fight.

Also buried in the cemetery are Alifair McCoy and Calvin McCoy, who were killed in an attack on their father's cabin in January 1888.

Bo McCoy said the cemetery is emotionally significant to his family because it holds the graves of five people killed in the feud.

The feud between the McCoy of Kentucky and the Hatfields of West Virginia is believed to have stemmed from a dispute over a pig. A court battle over timber rights escalated the tension in the 1870s. By 1888, at least 12 had died as a result of the feud.

(See TRIAL, page six)

## Plates

Continued from p1

every five years and the new version replaces the current one that displays the outline of Kentucky as a cloud.

The top line of the new plate contains the state slogan, "The Bluegrass State."

The next line is the state name and then the tourism slogan.

A smiley-faced rising sun separates the letters and num-

bers. By popular demand, the bottom line still includes the home county.

The top is a blue sky with a reddish tint around the sunrise above green hills.

Tourism officials said, "Kentucky — It's that friendly," was chosen as the new slogan after market research indicated most visitors ranked the state's hospitality as a primary factor.

## Doctor

Continued from p1

Drabovskiy, who lives at Lowmansville in Lawrence County, filed a handwritten motion in Lawrence County Circuit Court to challenge his suspension by the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure.

Judge Stephen N. Frazier said the appeal was not filed in time and dismissed it. Drabovskiy protested that he had been abandoned by his attorney and had to represent himself.

The Kentucky Court of Appeals agreed that Drabovskiy had appealed in time. However, there were "substantive grounds" for upholding the case, the appeals court said in an opinion by Judge David Buckingham of Murray.

Investigators alleged that Cohn and Drabovskiy churned out prescriptions for 45,000 pills per day. A consultant for the medical licensure board said Drabovskiy gave patients little or no physical examination and prescribed painkillers as the exclusive form of treatment.

Drabovskiy's assertion that he merely followed Cohn's orders was not enough to preclude suspension of his license, the appeals court said.

Drabovskiy "has an individual duty to abide by the legal and professional standards imposed on physicians," Buckingham's opinion said.

Judges David Barber of Prestonsburg and John D. Miller of Owensboro joined in the ruling.

In a separate case, the

appeals court upheld a jury's verdict for Heaven Hill Distilleries Inc. in its dispute with an insurer over damages from a spectacular fire that destroyed its Bardstown distillery in 1996. The fire also destroyed seven warehouses, each of which held 250,000 to 500,000 gallons of bourbon.

Hartford Fire Insurance Co. paid \$19.9 million for the damages. Heaven Hill contended, and a Nelson County Circuit Court jury agreed, that the Hartford should have paid \$22.5 million.

Miller wrote the appellate ruling, joined by Buckingham and Judge Sara Walter Combs of Stanton.

## Illness

Continued from p1

both men, the incident was the result of a manifestation of a mental illness that she is all too familiar with. She stated that Colonel Lewis Bolen has suffered from paranoid schizophrenia since he was 16 years old and has had to deal with his ever-changing personality that has often landed him in a mental hospital.

Howard proposed that Bolen had been doing really well and had progressed to a lower dose of two pills at night to keep his condition under control. However, he had been picked up on a bench warrant for a traffic violation and had spent time in jail where he went without sleep.

## Shepherd pleads not guilty to probation violation

by LORETTA BLACKBURN  
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — An Auxier woman was arraigned Friday on charges in Floyd Circuit Court, where she pleaded not guilty to crimes that could revoke her probation as well as result in an additional five year sentence.

Appearing without an attorney, Patricia A. Shepherd, 31, was appointed a public defender and pleaded not guilty to the charges of fourth offense operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs, second offense driving with a

DUI-suspended license, miscellaneous misdemeanor charge and a persistent felony offender charge.

Shepherd was released from jail on probation during a sentencing hearing April 26 after pleading guilty to promoting prostitution and two counts of theft by unlawful taking. She was given a 210-day suspended sentence and ordered to comply with probation/parole for three years.

She was arrested in September for driving under the influence, driving with a DUI-suspended license, no insurance and no registration receipt.

These charges could revoke the three-year probation that Shepherd was ordered to submit to and the persistent felony offender charge carries a five-year sentence.

She said that his stay in the stressful environment had resulted in a need for more medication, but the jail could only give him the two pills at night as prescribed.

Howard believes that the events led to a schizophrenic episode that resulted in Bolen's alleged criminal behavior. She said he is a caring person when "in his right mind."

"If Colonel had been in his right mind, he would have never done that," said Howard in reference to the shooting of her brother Jeffrey Bolen.

Howard said that Colonel Bolen had taken care of his brother Jeffrey Bolen when he was recently suffering from a broken hip and arm. She said that Bolen had taken his brother to the hospital when he realized he had shot him and carried him into the hospital for help.

Floyd County Deputy B.J. Caudill said that he served the warrant with the charges resulting from earlier that day when Bolen had fired his gun from a hill, at which time Howard said she thought the neighbors were out to get him. Caudill said that the family and the jail had requested a mental evaluation that Howard said would be carried out on Thursday.

Howard stressed that she was in no way blaming the Floyd County Detention Center for Bolen's episode because they could only give him what he was prescribed and she was not saying that he should be exempt from facing the consequences for his behavior. She proposed that she is merely drawing attention to the emotional challenges for the families as well as the victims of such mental disorders.

She expressed concern and grief for the situation that her brothers are in, with one in jail and the other in the University of Kentucky Chandler Medical Center, proposing that the disease is hereditary and the fear that it may strike her is present.

"I praise the Lord that my mind has been okay through this," said Howard who must attempt to keep it together for herself as well as for her family.

Howard said that she has endured years of situations like this and expressed regret that her mother, who was residing with the Bolen brothers, will have to return to the nursing home due to the fact that she must work.

## Robbery

Continued from p1

Martin's acting police chief, James Slone, had another account of Thursday's robbery. Slone said Banks was approached as he was coming from the restaurant and that the two men were wearing ski masks at the time of the robbery. Slone also said that both of the robbers had guns.

"Two men in ski masks held up the assistant manager," Slone said. "They do a nightly drop and deposit whatever they made that day at the First Bank here in Martin, and evidently when he was coming out they robbed him

at the door."

Slone said the black Mazda truck driven by the two men had a gray stripe along the doors.

Kentucky State Police Det. David Maynard, as well as the Martin city police and the Floyd County Sheriff's Office, are investigating the armed robbery.

State police are asking the public to keep on the watch for anyone with an "out of the ordinary" amount of cash, and urge anyone with information about the two robbers or their vehicle to contact them at (800) 222-5555 or (606) 433-7711.

## Chief

Continued from p1

as police chief is the second time in the past year Powell has been questioned for misplacing evidence in a case.

Earlier in the year, the com-

monwealth had to dismiss a drug-related case only days before going to trial in which Powell admittedly lost key evidence.

## Strike

Continued from p1

enced men.

"We have been here so long, we feel like they want to bust the union," said Nunemaker.

Perry said that the original 95 workers who went on strike in September have dwindled to 80. A sign that states, "Go home scabs," referring to those who cross the picket line, is displayed in front of a camping trailer at the entrance of Wayne Supply, where strikers are seeking shelter from the cold.

The men said they are getting cold and would like to sign a

contract soon.

"We would love to go to work," said Perry.

The men said that they were offered a \$1.50-an-hour raise at the beginning of negotiations but refrained from accepting what seemed to be a generous offer, because they believe that the real issue is being in a position to protect their jobs.

"If the people of Eastern Kentucky want to kill themselves for \$10 an hour, just keep busting picket lines," said Nunemaker.

## False report made to miss work, police say

by JARRID DEATON  
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — An alleged attempt to find an excuse for missing work has led to charges against a Blue River woman.

Trista G. Hicks, 18, was charged with falsely reporting an incident after she went to Highlands Regional Medical Center and reported that she had been involved in an automobile accident in Pikeville and hurt her back. She allegedly told hospital personnel that a man named John Arnett was driving when the wreck

occurred and that he drove her to the hospital.

Hicks then told the hospital that it was a lie and that the accident did not occur.

The reason that she allegedly gave for the false report was that she wanted to get an excuse for work.

A similar charge was filed against a Mousie woman on Sunday for falsely reporting an incident.

Loretta M. Lewis, 27, allegedly staged a two-vehicle accident with injuries in order to get insurance money.

## Pike pharmacy target of burglary

by JARRID DEATON  
STAFF WRITER

ROBINSON CREEK — Kentucky State Police is investigating a burglary that occurred on Thursday at the Rite Aid Pharmacy in Pike County.

According to police, subjects forced entry through the front door of the pharmacy and proceeded to take various controlled substances, cigarettes and a safe containing an undisclosed amount of cash. The subjects

were allegedly selective in the type of drugs that they removed by only taking those that were marketable on the streets.

Kentucky State Police is asking for the public to watch for anyone with an out of the ordinary amount of cash, cigarettes or drugs. Anyone with any information is asked to contact the Kentucky State Police and may remain anonymous.

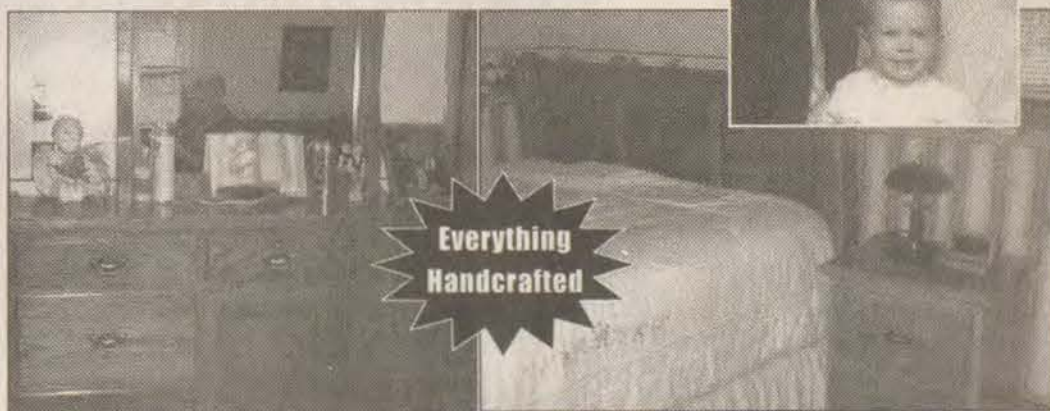
The incident is still under investigation by Kentucky State Police Detective Greg Roberts.

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203	Mission Bed	\$715/\$745
204	Gullet Antique Bed	\$880/\$880
205	Sleigh Bed	\$825/\$865
206	Pencil Shaker Bed	\$770/\$800
207	Wrap Around	\$1,050/\$1100
208	Windsor	\$700/\$725

For King size add \$100 to Queen  
Add \$300 for storage under bed

Number	Description	Price
	Double Hutch	\$1,320
	Triple Hutch	\$1,870
	Corner Hutch	\$1,210

Number	Description	Price
8072	Double Ped	\$825
4456	Single Ped. Round Oval	\$650
4848	Single Ped. 48" Round	\$595

Number	Description	Price
9070	5 Leg (turned) Two leaves	\$660
4456	4 Leg (turned) One leaf	\$605

Add \$10 per leg for fluted

Number	Description	Price
	Wheat Back	\$159
	Mission	\$185
	Windsor Rocker	\$225
	Glider Rocker	\$395

Number	Description	Price
	41" Cedar	\$330
	41" Oak	\$385
	36" Cedar	\$300
	36" Oak	\$340
	36" Toy Chest (pine)	\$209

Number	Description	Price
100	5 Drawer 32 x 42	\$590
101	4 Drawer 28 x 37	\$485
102	7 Drawer Triple 68 x 32	\$880
103	6 Drawer Double 50 x 30	\$750
104	1 Drawer, 1 Door N. S.	\$305
105	1 Drawer N. S.	\$275
106	3 Drawer N. S.	\$330
107	Lingene	\$645
108	Clothes Center	\$1,210
109	Armoire	\$825

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# expression

Freedom of the press is not an end in itself but a means to the end of [achieving] a free society.

— Felix Frankfurter

## GuestView

### A dangerous regime

North Korea's government is indulging in a temper tantrum that could hold very dangerous consequences. The United States and its allies will need to coordinate their efforts carefully in reacting to the North Koreans' decision to reopen a nuclear fuel processing plant that could make materials for nuclear bombs.

To understand what is at stake, it's necessary to briefly consider how things came to this point.

In 1994, North Korea signed an agreement with the United States by which the Pyongyang government pledged to close a nuclear facility that could produce weapons-grade plutonium. In exchange, the United States agreed to provide shipments of oil and pay for the construction of nuclear reactors that had no military use.

This fall, however, the United States confronted the North Koreans with evidence that they had secretly been producing weapons-grade nuclear materials, employing an alternative technology using enriched uranium. After North Korea admitted having done so (in clear violation of the 1994 agreement), the United States and other countries halted oil supplies to it. North Korea has responded by removing monitoring devices at its nuclear plant in apparent preparation for restarting it.

Reacting to this situation means first appreciating what the long-range dangers are if North Korea becomes a full-fledged nuclear power. There are three:

n Military tensions in Northeast Asia would escalate. If North Korea goes nuclear, South Korea would feel pressure to pursue a nuclear weapons program, too. Even Japan would consider becoming a nuclear power, says Henry Sokolski of the Nonproliferation Policy Education Center, a research group in Washington, D.C. In such a situation, China could well consider increasing its number of nuclear weapons.

n North Korea's action would heighten the chances that nuclear weapons technology would spread to other irresponsible governments. It was only a few weeks ago, after all, that a North Korean shipment of missile parts was intercepted on its way to Yemen.

n Efforts to persuade North Korea to disarm would become more difficult.

How should the United States respond to the current North Korean provocation? The Bush administration says, understandably, that negotiating with North Korea now would merely reward it for its duplicity and irresponsible behavior. True. But there seems little alternative to using some form of diplomacy, in conjunction with the threat of additional economic sanctions.

Making military threats, after all, would seem of little practical use. North Korea has 15,000 artillery pieces near the demilitarized zone, poised to devastate the South Korean capital of Seoul, only about 35 miles from the border.

The best option is a multilateral effort by which the United States would coordinate with North Korea's neighbors (South Korea, Japan, China and Russia) to put pressure, both economic and diplomatic, on the North Koreans. North Korea is likely to respond far more to the tightening of economic screws by its neighbors than it would to press conferences by U.S. officials.

The United States should also work with Pakistan, Russia and China to determine what weapons technologies North Korea has illicitly imported to help it produce nuclear weapons materials.

North Korea's uranium-based nuclear weapons program, kept hidden until this year, is a particular concern because it is easy to conceal and requires far less equipment than a plutonium-based program. (The uranium-enrichment program alone could allow North Korea to produce 18 to 36 nuclear bombs by 2009, Sokolski says.) U.S. and foreign intelligence agencies should cooperate to monitor that program.

Secretary of State Colin Powell has made a good start toward an international response by talking with many of his government counterparts abroad. Such consultation, over the long haul, provides the best practical tool for reining in North Korea's foolhardy regime.

— Omaha World-Herald



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"I understand you provided milk and cookies for Santa Claus... I'm Mr. Claus' attorney..."

— Jim Davidson

### The scars on the door

One time I heard a story about a little boy who crawled under a big tent, thinking he was getting into the circus free, but when he got inside it turned out to be a revival meeting. Life is filled with surprises and disappointments of various kinds, but this is one facet of life which makes it so interesting. When you think about it, I believe you will agree that much of the drama of life would be destroyed if this were not the case.

From my perspective, it would be wonderful if there was always something good, exciting and worthwhile waiting just around the next bend in the road or in the next days' mail or the next phone call, but we know this is not reality. Life is made up of good days and bad days, happiness and sorrow, and success and failure. Life is just this way.

We can, however, make personal choices to insure that the law of averages will work to our advantage to have more good days than bad days, more happiness than sorrow, and more success than failure. In other words, it's not what life does to us, it's what we do to life that counts.

The reason this is true is because of the natural law that controls everything in

the universe, called "cause and effect." If we take care of the causes, in most cases the effects will take care of themselves.

We read in the Bible in Galatians 6:7, "Be ye not deceived, God is not mocked, for whatsoever a man sows, that shall he also reap." Most of us believe this and know it's true, but unfortunately we do not always base our actions on this great truth. Rather, we permit other factors to influence our decisions and for the time being, forget that sooner or later we will reap the consequences of our actions.

Since most of our important values and habits are established when we are young, I felt the following story might be worth thinking about. It seems a farmer had a rebellious son. This youngster was forever getting into trouble. Not serious trouble, just things that were out of character for the way he was raised. Finally, one day the father suggested to his son: "Son, every time you do something that you know is not right, I want you to take a hammer and drive a nail in the front door of our barn."

Every so often during the next few weeks, the father would hear the tat-tat-tat of the hammer, as the son was driving nails in the barn door. This went on for several months, until the barn door was almost completely covered with nails. At

this time, the farmer made another suggestion. He said, "Son, now every time you do something that you know is right, I want you to pull a nail back out of the door."

At this point, the son took his father's suggestion and, little by little, the nails began to come back out of the door. However, they didn't come back out nearly as fast as they went in. Finally, one day when the nails were all out, the son said to his father, "Father, I see what you mean. I thought I would be happy when I got all the nails out, but I didn't realize all the scars that would be left on the door."

I hope you can see the point of this story, because while outside influences can help us change our values, attitudes and habits, in most cases the consequences of our actions will still be there. Everything we do in life has a consequence and there's always a price that must be paid.

If you really want to do something that will make a difference in the lives of some young people, why not sit down and explain this principle to them. It could make a world of difference down the road.

Jim Davidson is a motivational speaker and syndicated columnist. You may contact him at 2 Bentley Drive, Conway, AR 72034.



### — beyond the beltway

### The president is pretty smart after all

by DONALD KAUL

I got an email the other day from a person or persons unknown. "Breaking News!" it said in bold letters. Then: "A tragic and sad fire has destroyed the personal library of President Bush. Both of his books have been lost. The president is devastated, for he had not finished coloring the second one."

I hate stuff like that, making fun of the president (who is, you'll remember, the only president we've got — unless you count Dick Cheney). In the first place, the item is probably false. I'll wager there never was a fire or if there was it didn't destroy Mr. Bush's books and even if it did, he was probably finished coloring them and wasn't devastated.

In the second place, we of the liberal persuasion would do well to stop trying to portray President Bush as stupid. He often sounds stupid when he opens his mouth, I'll grant you that, but he sure manages to get his way a lot for a dumb guy.

Consider the evidence: The stock market is down, unemployment is up, the economy is staggering, much of the world hates us and he is pressing a war for which a majority of American people, according to the polls, have little appetite.

Yet nearly two-thirds of the American public think he's doing a good job and retain their faith in him. So much so that he was able to drag his party to a narrow victory in the recent off-year elections, a feat seldom accomplished by a sitting president.

He and his men have a genius for taking virtually any event and turning it to their advantage. Take last week, for example, not a stellar one for the president:

He'd had to fire his secretary of the treasury because the poor fellow couldn't help blurring out the truth every once in a while. (Asked at a congressional hearing whether he thought a tax cut would revive the economy, the secretary, Paul O'Neill, said no, thus causing a gnashing of teeth in the White House that could be heard in Pittsburgh.)

The leader of his party in the Senate was discovered acting the part of an end man in a minstrel show, thereby undermining the Republicans' effort to chat up African-American voters.

His choice to head up a committee investigating the 9/11 bombings, Henry Kissinger, resigned rather than reveal who the clients of his consulting firm are, raising questions as to which side of the street he's working (always a question with Henry).

We pulled over a North Korean ship that was carrying a shipment of SCUD missiles. For a moment it looked like the smoking gun that would trigger the war the president is aching for. As it turned out, the missiles were promised to Yemen, a country more or less friendly

to us and they told us in no uncertain terms to let their missiles go. Which we did, with a red face.

Actually, the Three Stooges have had better weeks. But did this faze the president? Not a bit.

He came out swinging and, by the end of the week, he had managed to portray himself as a committed civil rights leader who was ever-vigilant of the country's

security and could be trusted to right the economy when things went awry. He probably gained in popularity.

You could say, "Well, sure, he's got clever political advisers. It's not him doing it."

To which I say: "Nonsense." Having brilliant political advisers (and listening to them) is a talent, one that most presidents don't master. Credit and blame always go to the top guy.

Bush and his people have taken the disaster of 9/11 and fashioned a presidency from it — winning a difficult off-year election, reorganizing government, reordering our system of justice, justifying an unjustifiable tax cut, muffling his critics and even managing to blame the whole mess on Saddam Hussein who, while innocent of few things, is probably not involved in 9/11.

I don't know what you call that, but dumb it isn't.

Donald Kaul recently retired as Washington columnist for the "Des Moines Register." He has covered the foolishness in our nation's capital for 29 years, winning a number of modestly coveted awards along the way. For more information, email donaldkaul@aol.com.



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# Faith Year in Review

## Case of one predator priest sparks worst year in history of American Roman Catholic Church

by RACHEL ZOLL  
AP RELIGION WRITER

Other scandals had drawn national attention over the years — a pedophile priest in Louisiana, one in New England, another in Dallas.

But none of those cases, or hundreds of others in the past two decades, threatened to destroy the moral authority of the Roman Catholic Church in America like the clerical sex abuse crisis did this year.

What set 2002 apart was this: The most damaging revelations came not from alleged victims but from the church's own files.

Over the objections of the Boston Archdiocese, The Boston Globe persuaded a judge in January to unseal church documents regarding claims of molestation against priests. The files provided the most extensive evidence to date that preventing scandal in the church consistently took precedence over protecting children.

Those records alone — with letters from bishops expressing support for accused priests, not

victims — would have been enough to keep the scandal alive for months.

But as the year wore on, more damaging church documents were made public in Boston and dioceses from coast-to-coast. Each release undermined bishops' pledges that they had revealed all about their past mistakes, and gave hundreds of alleged victims the confidence to come forward.

The toll on the church — morally, financially, legally — is still hard for Catholics to grasp, though at least 325 of the nation's 46,000 priests have resigned or been removed their posts this year from Maine to California. Bishops in Milwaukee, New York, Lexington and Palm Beach, Fla., stepped down after being enmeshed in sex scandals.

Another round of disturbing revelations came in December, again in Boston. Plaintiffs' lawyers released documents that showed the archdiocese sheltering several rogue priests, including one clergyman who had failed years ago to immediately

call police when the mother of his children overdosed on drugs. Demands intensified for Boston Cardinal Bernard Law to resign.

"It's enough for any Catholic, for anyone at all, to send chills down your spine," said William Donohue, president of the Catholic League, an anti-defamation group. "Where is the empathy for the victim?"

Documents released in the case of former Massachusetts priest John Geoghan started what became the worst year in the history of the American church.

More than 100 people have claimed Geoghan molested them as church leaders moved him from parish to parish.

Five bishops who oversaw the priest while they worked in Boston for Law have gone on to lead their own dioceses, and the court files contained ample evidence of their inaction. Law, a leading American clergyman, acknowledged that he allowed Geoghan to stay on the job despite the accusations.

Soon, Catholics around the country demanded to know if

their bishops had also failed to punish offenders.

"Bernard Law has become the Richard Nixon of the Catholic church," said Jason Berry, author of "Lead Us Not Into Temptation, Catholic Priests and the Sexual Abuse of Children."

"This is the man who is continuing to bring the ship down."

Bishops at first felt the outrage was misplaced. In the early 1990s, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops developed a set of guidelines meant to improve dioceses' response to abuse claims and put victims first.

The prelates noted that most of the cases revealed this year involved claims from before the policy had been adopted. They blamed the media and church critics for ignoring the reforms.

But the bishops' protests rang hollow as parishioners learned about the depth of the malfeasance in some dioceses.

Bishops acknowledged that many abuse claims had never been forwarded to civil authorities and prosecutors convened

grand juries to learn why. Church leaders also revealed they had paid millions of dollars to quietly settle abuse cases, but few would discuss the source of the funding. Some parishioners responded by withholding donations.

"There are cases that endured into the '90s that weren't corrected in Boston and elsewhere," said Scott Appleby, a University of Notre Dame history professor who spoke at the national bishops' meeting in June. "The bishops have systematically mishandled the situ-

ation."

Church leaders took dramatic steps to regain their credibility. They met with the pope, approved a new policy that bars all abusers from church work, formed a lay National Review Board to ensure every diocese complies with the new standards and hired a former FBI investigator to lead their new child protection office.

But even as they took these actions, the crisis would not die. The Archdiocese of Boston is

(See REVIEW, page eight)

## State grew less than nation in year ending July 1

The Associated Press

FRANKFORT — Kentucky's population grew at about half the rate of the nation in the year that ended July 1, according to new figures from the Census Bureau.

The state gained an estimated 24,075 residents during the period, a growth rate of 0.6 percent. Forty-four percent of them came from other states or countries.

Nationally, growth was 1.1 percent, and 47 percent of new residents were foreign-born, according to census figures analyzed at the Kentucky State Data Center in Louisville.

"It raises the issue dramatically of international migration, even for Kentucky," Ron Crouch, the center's executive director, said Monday.

Kentucky's population is estimated at just under 4.1 million, having grown by 9.7 percent in the decade of the '90s.

Most of that growth occurred early in the decade, and the growth rate began slowing in 1995 or 1996, Crouch said.

At the same time, the foreign-born began accounting for a greater percentage of growth. In the last two years, Kentucky gained 13,000 international migrants — as many as the state had totaled in the seven years from 1992 through 1999.

"That has all kinds of implications for Kentucky school systems and for taxes," among other things, Crouch said.

Only eight states had lower rates of "natural increase" — births exceeding deaths — from July 2001 to July 2002, according to the data. Kentucky's death rate during that period — 10 per 1,000 population — was ninth highest in the country.

Of Kentucky's neighboring states, Tennessee and Virginia had higher growth rates. Missouri and Illinois also had 0.6 growth rates. Ohio, Indiana and West Virginia had lower rates.

## Regional Obituaries

### Floyd County

Curtis Akers, 70, of Betsy Layne, died Tuesday, December 24, at the Pikeville Methodist Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, December 28, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Timothy D. Conley, 39, of Dwale, formerly of Hueysville, died Wednesday, December 25, 2002, at Maytown, following an automobile accident. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, December 28, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Lolariea Jacobs, 65, of Martin, formerly of Knott County, died Sunday, December 22, at her residence. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, December 26, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Jesse Laferty, 98, of Allen, died Friday, December 20, at the Highlands Regional Medical Center, Prestonsburg. Funeral services were conducted Monday, December 23, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Eugle Martin, 70, of Hilliard, Ohio, died Thursday, December 19, at her residence. She is survived by her husband of 50 years, John Lewis Martin. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 21, under the direction of Tidd Funeral Home, Hilliard, Ohio. Interment was in Kingwood Memorial Park.

Irene J. Reitz, 74, of Drift, died Sunday, December 22, in the McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital after an extended illness. She is survived by her husband, Belford Reitz of Drift. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, December 24, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Mallory Webb, 72, of Prestonsburg, died Wednesday, December 18, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, December 21, at the Old Log Church at Van Lear. Burial was made in the Webb Family Cemetery, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

### Knott County

Caleb James Slone, son of James Winford and M. Tiffany Ramey Slone of Garner, was stillborn at the Hazard Appalachian Regional Hospital, Tuesday, December 17. Funeral

services were conducted Friday, December 20, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Hindman.

### Johnson County

Helen Bond, 83, died Sunday, December 22. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, December 26, under the direction of Paintsville Funeral Home.

Phyllis Jean Daniels Castle, 64, died Tuesday, December 17, at Paul B. Hall Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Linzie Castle Jr. Funeral services were conducted Friday, December 20, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

Reka Collins, 90, died Tuesday, December 17, at Oakmont Manor in Flatwoods. Funeral services were conducted Friday, December 20, under the direction of Wright's Funeral Home.

Allen D. DeLong, 62, died Wednesday, December 18, in Community Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Clara Ann. Funeral services were conducted Monday, December 23, under the direction of Littleton and Rue Funeral Home.

Eual Fairchild, 55, Johnson County native, died Saturday, December 21, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Carol K. Fairchild. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, December 24, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

Samuel L. Wells Jr., 54, of San Antonio, Texas, a native of Paintsville, died at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Angie Wells. Funeral services were conducted Friday, December 20, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

Wilbert Lemaster, 71, died Wednesday, December 18, at his Flat Gap residence. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, December 21, under the direction of Preston Funeral Chapel.

Chester Lee Richmond, 52, Johnson county native, died Friday, December 20, in Pulaski, Virginia. Funeral services were conducted Monday, December 25, under the direction of Phelps & Son Funeral Home.

Lawrence "Bud" Shafer, 82, died Thursday, December 19, at his Paintsville residence. He is survived by his wife, Sara Ann

Dickenson Shafer. Arrangements were under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

Mallory Webb, 72, Johnson county native, died Wednesday, December 18, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, December 21, under the direction of Phelps & Son Funeral Home.

James Raymond Wells, 77, of Paintsville, native of Floyd County, died Monday, December 23, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Ivanell Willis Wells. Funeral services were conducted Friday, December 27, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

### Pike County

Joann Adkins, 60, of Shelbiana, died Tuesday, December 24, at her home. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, December 28, under the direction of Thacker Memorial Funeral Home.

Ruth M. Beeler, 85, of Pikeville, died Sunday, December 22, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, December 26, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Robert Langley "Bob" Brown, 77, of Raccoon, died Saturday, December 21, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Phyllis Brown. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, December 24, under the direction of Thacker Memorial Funeral Home.

Maudie Belcher Bentley, 98, of Burdine, died Friday, December 20, at the Whitesburg Appalachian Regional Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Monday, December 23, under the direction of Polly & Craft Funeral Home.

Braxie Blackburn, 77, of Feds Creek, died Sunday, December 22, at the South Williamson Appalachian Regional Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, December 25, under the direction of Justice Funeral Home.

Mary Rosalea "Rosie" Blankenship, 51, of Freeburn, died Monday, December 23, at her home. She is survived by her husband, Aaron Blankenship. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, December 25,

under the direction of Phelps Funeral Services.

Debra Fay Burke, 41, of McRoberts, died Wednesday, December 25, at her home. Funeral arrangements were under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

Thelma Justice Coleman, 55, of Bland, West Virginia, died Tuesday, December 24, at her home. She is survived by her husband, Marvin Coleman Sr. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, December 28, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

Mildred M. Dotson, 80, of Mingo Manor Nursing Home, Williamson, West Virginia, died Thursday, December 26, at South Williamson Appalachian Regional Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, December 28, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

Ralph Hensley, 76, of Bean Station, Tennessee, formerly of Freeburn, died Wednesday, December 25, at Morristown Hamblin Hospital, Morristown, Tennessee. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, December 28, under the direction of Phelps Funeral Services.

June Kidd, 65, of Lower Johns Creek, died Thursday, December 19, at her home. A memorial service was held in Massachusetts.

Ervin E. "Brownie" Lowe, 69, of Pikeville, died Tuesday, December 24, at the University of Kentucky Medical Center, Lexington. He is survived by his wife, Zetta Elkins Lowe. Funeral services were conducted Friday, December 27, under the direction of the Lucas & Hall Funeral Home.

Mary D. Halstead Miller, 67, of Pinsonfork, died Wednesday, December 25, at South Williamson Appalachian Regional Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, December 29, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

George Daniel Smith, 46, of Pikeville, died Wednesday, December 25, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, December 28, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Danny Tackett, 51, of Virgie, died Sunday, December 22, at Jenkins Community Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Friday, December 27, under

the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

### Martin County

Solon Chafin, 86, of Kermit, West Virginia, died Wednesday, December 18, following an extended illness. Funeral services were conducted Friday, December 20, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

Joe Fletcher, 71, of Inez, died Wednesday, December 18, at Martin County Health Care Facility in Inez. He is survived by his wife, Edna Moore Fletcher. Funeral services were conducted Friday, December 20, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

Luther Ray Hinkle, 68, of Inez, died Thursday, December 19, at his residence. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, December 22, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

Reford Marcum, 66, of Kermit, West Virginia, died Wednesday, December 18, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Wanda L. Marcum. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, December 21, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

Herman Marcum, 66, of Kermit, West Virginia, died Thursday, December 19, at Williamson Memorial Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, December 22, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

Cordellia Marie Morris, 57, of Prestonsburg, formerly of Inez, died Wednesday, December 18, at her home. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, December 21, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

Alex Salmons, 75, of Kermit, West Virginia, died Friday, December 20, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Myrtle Rose Salmons. Funeral services were conducted Monday, December 23, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

### Lawrence County

Mary Ann Hanson, 48, native of Fort Gay, West Virginia, died December 19, at her residence. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, December 22, under the direction of Wilson Funeral Home.

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# Forfeiture of motorcycle upheld

Trial

Continued from p3

by LORETTA BLACKBURN  
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A motion for forfeiture and destruction of contraband or evidence in the case against Arnold Mosley Jr., 39, was met with rebuttal from Judge John David Caudill on Friday, who proposed that Mosley's wife should make the request for her medication.

The motion made by Mosley's attorney, Lowell E. Spencer, requested that the court return a motorcycle that was

confiscated from Mosley's residence, due to the fact that he had failed to plead guilty to theft charges. The motion also proposed that hydrocodone seized during Mosley's arrest was prescribed to his wife, Billy Mosley, and should be returned to her. Spencer proposed that the property seized had no connection to the crime and should be returned.

However, Dwight Marshall, who represented the commonwealth, said that the property was confiscated in connection

with an investigation leading to trafficking charges and that officers had a right to seize any money or contraband. Marshall proposed that the commonwealth believed the property was in connection with the trafficking charges and the fact that the serial number had been removed from the bike led them to believe that the bike had been stolen.

Judge Caudill ruled that the motorcycle would not be returned to Mosley and, in regard to the medication, Billie

Mosley needed to come to court. "I don't see her," said Caudill.

He proposed that the motion was overruled because they had not proven that the medication belonged to her.

Mosley was indicted on two class D felonies, which are second-degree trafficking in hydrocodone and obscuring the identity of a machine or other property for allegedly removing or defacing the manufacturer's identification number from a 1995 650 Kawasaki motorcycle.

The current case, Webster said, shows "that these folks have learned how not to settle their problems."

The cemetery dispute involves whether a road leading to the graves is a public road, as the McCoys contend, or a private driveway, as the Vances claim.

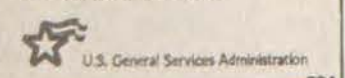
John Vance has said he doesn't want people to cross his property to get to the cemetery because of liability concerns.

"You've got here a little old mountain guy in his mountain house, and on the other hand you've got the tourism people,

economic development people and promoters inviting the nation to come to his house," Webster said. "And they're going to come."

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*Wishing Everyone a Safe and Happy New Year!*  
**The Times**  
FLOYD COUNTY



**The Floyd County Times**

wants to encourage and acknowledge excellence in the Floyd County Area. The Floyd County Times is conducting its annual ballot of readers so they can let us know whom they consider to be best in the county. Winners receive a certificate suitable for framing and will be featured in a **SPECIAL SECTION** in March titles...

# Reader's Choice

**BEST IN FLOYD COUNTY**

- Area Attraction \_\_\_\_\_
- Church \_\_\_\_\_
- Civic Club/Organization \_\_\_\_\_
- College \_\_\_\_\_
- Community Festival Event \_\_\_\_\_
- Dining Atmosphere \_\_\_\_\_
- Elderly Care Facility \_\_\_\_\_
- Elementary School \_\_\_\_\_
- Entertainment \_\_\_\_\_
- High School \_\_\_\_\_
- Hospital/Medical Facility \_\_\_\_\_
- Local Band \_\_\_\_\_
- Middle School \_\_\_\_\_
- Place to camp out \_\_\_\_\_
- Place to lose weight \_\_\_\_\_
- Place to meet friends \_\_\_\_\_
- Place to spend Saturday night \_\_\_\_\_
- Place to take out of town guests \_\_\_\_\_
- Place to work \_\_\_\_\_

**BEST FOOD**

- Barbecue \_\_\_\_\_
- Biscuits \_\_\_\_\_
- Brand of Soft Drink \_\_\_\_\_
- Burgers \_\_\_\_\_
- Catering \_\_\_\_\_
- Chicken \_\_\_\_\_
- Chili \_\_\_\_\_
- Chinese Food \_\_\_\_\_
- Decorated Cake \_\_\_\_\_
- Desserts \_\_\_\_\_
- Donuts \_\_\_\_\_
- Fish and Seafood \_\_\_\_\_
- French Fries \_\_\_\_\_
- Fresh Meat for Grilling \_\_\_\_\_
- Home Cookin' \_\_\_\_\_
- Hot Dogs \_\_\_\_\_
- Ice Cream \_\_\_\_\_
- Kid's Meal \_\_\_\_\_
- Mexican Food \_\_\_\_\_
- Onion Rings \_\_\_\_\_
- Pizza \_\_\_\_\_
- Roast Beef Sandwich \_\_\_\_\_
- Salad Bar \_\_\_\_\_
- Sandwiches \_\_\_\_\_
- Shakes/Malts \_\_\_\_\_
- Steaks \_\_\_\_\_

**BEST PEOPLE**

- Accountant \_\_\_\_\_
- Attorney \_\_\_\_\_
- Bank Teller \_\_\_\_\_
- Employed at \_\_\_\_\_

- Barber \_\_\_\_\_
- Employed at \_\_\_\_\_
- Boss \_\_\_\_\_
- Employed at \_\_\_\_\_
- Building Contractor \_\_\_\_\_
- Bus Driver \_\_\_\_\_
- Car Salesperson \_\_\_\_\_
- Employed at \_\_\_\_\_
- Chiropractor \_\_\_\_\_
- City Employee \_\_\_\_\_
- Club President \_\_\_\_\_
- Coach \_\_\_\_\_
- Employed at \_\_\_\_\_
- Dental Hygiene \_\_\_\_\_
- Employed at \_\_\_\_\_
- Dentist \_\_\_\_\_
- Electrician \_\_\_\_\_
- Employed at \_\_\_\_\_
- EMT/Paramedic \_\_\_\_\_
- Firefighter \_\_\_\_\_
- Funeral Home Attendant \_\_\_\_\_
- Employed at \_\_\_\_\_
- Furniture Sales Person \_\_\_\_\_
- Employed at \_\_\_\_\_
- General Physician \_\_\_\_\_
- Hairstylist \_\_\_\_\_
- Employed at \_\_\_\_\_
- Heating/Air Service Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Employed at \_\_\_\_\_
- Insurance Agent \_\_\_\_\_
- Employed at \_\_\_\_\_
- Jeweler \_\_\_\_\_
- Law Enforcement Officer \_\_\_\_\_
- Loan Officer \_\_\_\_\_
- Mechanic \_\_\_\_\_
- Employed at \_\_\_\_\_
- Nurse \_\_\_\_\_
- Employed at \_\_\_\_\_
- Optometrist \_\_\_\_\_
- Employed at \_\_\_\_\_
- Painter \_\_\_\_\_
- Paper Carrier \_\_\_\_\_
- Employed at \_\_\_\_\_
- Pastor/Priest \_\_\_\_\_
- Pastor of \_\_\_\_\_
- Pharmacist \_\_\_\_\_
- Photographer \_\_\_\_\_
- Physical Therapist \_\_\_\_\_
- Employed at \_\_\_\_\_
- Plumber \_\_\_\_\_
- Employed at \_\_\_\_\_
- Politician \_\_\_\_\_
- Principal \_\_\_\_\_
- Employed at \_\_\_\_\_
- Radio Announcer \_\_\_\_\_
- Employed at \_\_\_\_\_
- Real Estate Agent \_\_\_\_\_
- Employed at \_\_\_\_\_
- School Teacher \_\_\_\_\_
- Teaches at \_\_\_\_\_

- Secretary \_\_\_\_\_
- Employed at \_\_\_\_\_
- Store Cashier \_\_\_\_\_
- Employed at \_\_\_\_\_
- Sunday School Teacher \_\_\_\_\_
- Teaches at \_\_\_\_\_
- Surgeon \_\_\_\_\_
- Employed at \_\_\_\_\_
- Sunday School Teacher \_\_\_\_\_
- Teaches at \_\_\_\_\_
- Surgeon \_\_\_\_\_
- Employed at \_\_\_\_\_
- Waitress/Waiter \_\_\_\_\_
- Employed at \_\_\_\_\_
- Veterinarian \_\_\_\_\_
- Employed at \_\_\_\_\_

**BEST PLACE TO PURCHASE**

- Athletic Shoes \_\_\_\_\_
- Auto-Body Repairs \_\_\_\_\_
- Bath Towels \_\_\_\_\_
- Bed Linens \_\_\_\_\_
- Cabinets \_\_\_\_\_
- Carpet \_\_\_\_\_
- Dairy Items \_\_\_\_\_
- Dress Shoes \_\_\_\_\_
- Film Developing \_\_\_\_\_
- Frozen Foods \_\_\_\_\_
- Health & Beauty Aids \_\_\_\_\_
- Home Health Care Needs \_\_\_\_\_
- Home Mortgage Loan \_\_\_\_\_
- Kids Clothing \_\_\_\_\_
- Men's Clothing \_\_\_\_\_
- Perm \_\_\_\_\_
- Pet Supplies \_\_\_\_\_
- Produce \_\_\_\_\_
- School Supplies \_\_\_\_\_
- Seafood items \_\_\_\_\_
- Shoe Repair \_\_\_\_\_
- Snack Food \_\_\_\_\_
- Stereo \_\_\_\_\_
- TV-VCR Repair \_\_\_\_\_
- Used Automobiles \_\_\_\_\_
- Vinyl \_\_\_\_\_
- Women's Clothing \_\_\_\_\_

**BEST BUSINESS**

- Antiques/Collectibles \_\_\_\_\_
- Appliances \_\_\_\_\_
- Artwork/Framing \_\_\_\_\_
- Athletic Supply \_\_\_\_\_
- Auto Parts \_\_\_\_\_
- Bait/Tackle \_\_\_\_\_
- Beauty Salon \_\_\_\_\_
- Bookkeeping/Tax \_\_\_\_\_
- Building Supplies \_\_\_\_\_

- Car Dealership \_\_\_\_\_
- Car Wash \_\_\_\_\_
- Commercial Printer \_\_\_\_\_
- Concrete \_\_\_\_\_
- Construction/Remodeling \_\_\_\_\_
- Convenience Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Crafts \_\_\_\_\_
- Daycare Center \_\_\_\_\_
- Deli \_\_\_\_\_
- Dry Cleaners \_\_\_\_\_
- Electrical Supplies \_\_\_\_\_
- Electronics \_\_\_\_\_
- Eyewear \_\_\_\_\_
- Exterminating \_\_\_\_\_
- Farm/Agriculture \_\_\_\_\_
- Financial Institutions \_\_\_\_\_
- Financing \_\_\_\_\_
- Floor Coverings \_\_\_\_\_
- Florist \_\_\_\_\_
- Funeral Home \_\_\_\_\_
- Furniture \_\_\_\_\_
- Garage \_\_\_\_\_
- Gas Station \_\_\_\_\_
- Gifts \_\_\_\_\_
- Grocery Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Guns/Ammo \_\_\_\_\_
- Hearing Aids \_\_\_\_\_
- Home Decorating \_\_\_\_\_
- Insurance Agency \_\_\_\_\_
- Janitorial Service \_\_\_\_\_
- Jewelry \_\_\_\_\_
- Landscaping \_\_\_\_\_
- Laundromat \_\_\_\_\_
- Manufacturing \_\_\_\_\_
- Mine Supply \_\_\_\_\_
- Mining Company \_\_\_\_\_
- Mobile Home \_\_\_\_\_
- Motel/Hotel \_\_\_\_\_
- Motorcycles/ATV \_\_\_\_\_
- Music Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Newspaper \_\_\_\_\_
- Office Supplies \_\_\_\_\_
- Oil Changes \_\_\_\_\_
- Pawn Shop \_\_\_\_\_
- Pharmacy \_\_\_\_\_
- Plumbing \_\_\_\_\_
- Real Estate Agency \_\_\_\_\_
- Rental Items \_\_\_\_\_
- Restaurant \_\_\_\_\_
- Retail Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Security \_\_\_\_\_
- Sewing/Alterations \_\_\_\_\_
- Tanning Salon \_\_\_\_\_
- Tire Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Tools & Supplies \_\_\_\_\_
- Truck Dealership \_\_\_\_\_
- Upholstery \_\_\_\_\_
- Videos \_\_\_\_\_

**Ballot Rules:**

1. Only ballots from the Floyd County Times will be counted. No copies accepted.
2. Businesses nominated have to be in the Floyd County area and individuals nominated have to live and work in Floyd County.

3. Entries may be mailed to The Floyd County Times, P.O. Box 390, Prestonsburg, KY 41653 (Please allow 7 days for mail delivery) or drop off at our office at 263 South Central Avenue.
4. All entries must be at The Floyd County Times by Wednesday, February 12, 2002 (mailed or delivered)
5. Limited to 5 copies per person available for sale at front desk, up to normal press run copies. No extra forms will be printed.

**YOUR VOTE COUNTS!!!**

Schools, Churches, Clubs...anyone...do all you can do, see that your favorite people and places win! It's part of the fun! Remember, vote as many times as you wish using an original ballot. No copies of this ballot will be accepted. **Winners to be in the Wednesday, February 26, edition of the Floyd County Times.**

Odds

Continued from p2

has grown increasingly interesting to me."

While displaying and selling creations is important to any professional artist, Capezzuti prides herself on giving back to the community. She has taught art to students in after-school programs at St. Raphael School.

Steven Rudick, owner of Duds 'N Suds laundry in Pittsburgh, was skeptical at first about showing Capezzuti's work in his shop. Now Capezzuti holds free community art classes and has an installation called "Angels in the Laundromat" in the store.

"At first, I thought the idea was — it was extremely bizarre," Rudick said. "After all, this is a laundry. But when I saw what she did with the dryer lint, I thought it was unbelievable."

BERKLEY, Mich. — A car

repair shop owner here is pitching in to help with the city's roughly \$1.2 million budget shortfall projected for 2003.

Berkley — a city of 15,531 people — has cut jobs, put off repairing city hall and delayed buying a new police cruiser to cope with its shortfall.

But now, Jack Marwil, owner of Vinsetta's Garage, will help keep the city's fleet of public safety vehicles on the road.

The garage has pledged to help its struggling town by donating an estimated \$12,000 worth of work on the city's police cars in 2003. That's nearly half of what the city budgeted in 2002 for maintenance, City Manager Jane Bais-DiSessa told the Detroit Free Press.

"It's a wonderful gift," she said. The donation amounts to about 1 percent of the city's budget shortfall.

New judge appointed in Jackson murder case

The Associated Press

McKEE — A circuit judge from Bell County will preside over the murder trial of Jerry Dean, a local politician accused of slaying a woman after she accused him of sexual harassment.

Judge James L. Bowling

replaces Cletus Maricle who removed himself from the case without citing a specific reason.

Dean, who concludes his third term as Jackson County clerk next week, is charged with the murder of former employee Audrey Marcum, who had filed a \$30 million sexual harassment lawsuit

against him. Marcum, 31, was shot to death in her garage in November 2001, only days before she was scheduled to testify in her lawsuit against Dean. Marcum had worked in Dean's office from April 1995 to August 1999.

The Jackson County circuit court clerk's office also has removed itself from handling paperwork related to the case. Dean's wife used to work in the circuit clerk's office.

The Clay County circuit court clerk has been assigned to handle the case. No trial date is set for Dean.

Commonwealth's Attorney Gary Gregory had asked that the trial be moved out of Jackson County, arguing that Dean's position as county clerk made him well-known to almost every resident of the county. But Dean's lawyer, Doug Reece, opposed

that, arguing Dean has a constitutional right to be tried where he is charged.

Maricle, the former judge, had deferred ruling on the request until jury selection, saying the best way to determine whether an impartial jury can be seated is to try to seat one. Maricle said he wanted to keep the trial in Jackson County, even if it meant bringing in jurors from a neighboring county.

Dean pleaded innocent to the murder. He is free on \$750,000 bond pending the outcome of his trial.

Dean lost his bid for re-election in the May primary by 21 votes.

Dean, a Republican, received 1,200 votes compared with 1,221 for Donald Moore, a retired schoolteacher. No Democrats sought the office.

Review

Continued from p5

now considering bankruptcy as it faces millions of dollars in claims from sex abuse victims. About 200 abuse lawsuits are pending against the Archdiocese of Louisville alone.

And California dioceses are bracing for a flood of lawsuits next year because the state loosened its statute of limitations for abuse claims effective Jan. 1.

"No problem that has been happening for so long, kept in such secrecy, can be quickly remedied," said David Clohessy, national director of the Survivors Network of Those Abused by Priests.

"We desperately want it to be over but it's only over when the day-to-day behavior changes. We can't wish it to be over."

# YES!

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<b>\$159</b>	<b>\$169</b>	<b>\$178</b>	<b>\$187</b>
A MONTH	A MONTH	A MONTH	A MONTH

60 month lease  
1st Payment: \$159  
Sec. Deposit: \$0  
Down Payment: \$1,499  
Total Due At Signing: \$1,658\*



**2003 Toyota Tacoma**  
*Anit lock brakes, bed liner, AM/FM/cass, dual air bags, plus much more!*

<b>\$1,499 DOWN</b>	<b>\$999 DOWN</b>	<b>\$499 DOWN</b>	<b>\$0 DOWN</b>
<b>\$149</b>	<b>\$158</b>	<b>\$168</b>	<b>\$178</b>
A MONTH	A MONTH	A MONTH	A MONTH

60 month lease  
1st Payment: \$149  
Sec. Deposit: \$0  
Down Payment: \$1,499  
Total Due At Signing: \$1,648\*



**2003 Toyota Camry LE**  
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<b>\$218</b>	<b>\$227</b>	<b>\$236</b>	<b>\$245</b>
A MONTH	A MONTH	A MONTH	A MONTH

60 month lease  
1st Payment: \$218  
Sec. Deposit: \$0  
Down Payment: \$1,499  
Total Due At Signing: \$1,717\*

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No Payments 'Til March!

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# Regional SPORTS

Making money off Cinergy

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Sunday, December 29, 2002

Inside

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- ▶ AP honors • B2
- ▶ College News • C1
- ▶ Kids at Play • C8



TIMES Email: sports@floydcountytimes.com

COMMENTARY

## Lakers in disarray, astrologically speaking

by JIM LITKE  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

There's no shortage of blame to go around.

Answers are another story.

A few days after he finally reported for active duty, Shaquille O'Neal pinned the Los Angeles Lakers' slump on the "blankety-blanks that ain't doing nothing." A few days after that, he said he was just trying to get a rise out of his teammates.

Kobe Bryant had a different take. He blamed a lack of talent, not effort, for the Lakers' woes. Then Rick Fox argued that his teammates abandoned the triangle offense too quickly, but Brian Shaw took the other side. He said zone defenses are making the triangle difficult to execute.

As the spiral deepened, there were as many excuses as there are Lakers. That left it to coach Phil Jackson to find a unifying theory.

Asked why his six-time NBA champion Chicago Bulls never hit the

(See LAKERS, page three)

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

## A lot has happened since last time 'Canes, Buckeyes met

by RUSTY MILLER  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Miami and Ohio State last met on a hot August day in New Jersey more than three years ago, a game that looms large as the teams prepare for a rematch in this year's national championship game.

Miami's 23-12 victory in the 1999 Kickoff Classic hasn't been forgotten by either side heading into the Fiesta Bowl on Jan. 3.

"I remember it like it was yesterday, in that locker room everybody was rumping and raving together, 'Let us out of here, let us out of here!'" said former Miami running back James Jackson, now with the Cleveland Browns. "Then coach (Butch) Davis and the other coaches went out. And then once we got out, it was on, man. We started it, and we finished it."

Current Ohio State free safety Donnie Nicky played his first game that day.

"I was kind of a wide-eyed freshman," he said. "Now I've been around. I'm looking for some retribution."

Miami has won 34 consecutive games and is defending its national

(See BUCKEYES, page three)

RACING

## Thunder Ridge stock car highlights Video now available

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG — Thunder Ridge Racing Complex now offers a 2002 stock car highlights video for sale. The price of the video is \$10.

Included in the video are various highlights of the 2002 stock car racing season.

To purchase the 2002 stock car highlights video, contact Mary Beth at 606-886-Race Ext 303.

Thunder Ridge Raceway recently hosted its annual stock car banquet honoring all the drivers and fans. Several additions have been made to the stock car schedule for the 2003 season which promises to bring much excitement to the track and its stock car racing fans.

## - HOLIDAY CLASSIC -

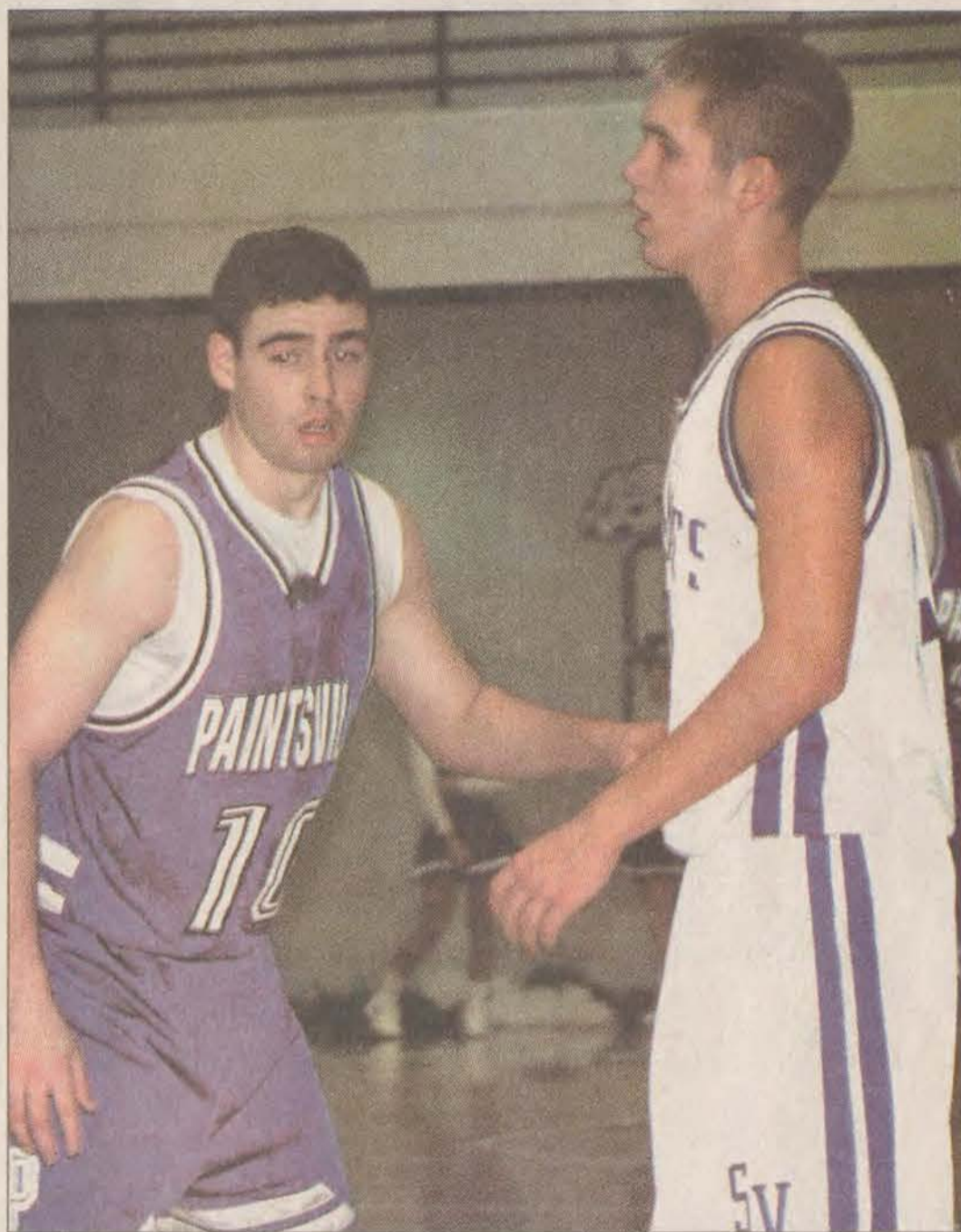


photo Steve LeMaster

After helping lead Paintsville to a come-from-behind win over Shelby Valley, senior guard Adam Rice scored just two points in a loss to Wayne County

# Wayne wears down Paintsville

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

LEXINGTON — Paintsville High School boys' basketball is no stranger to big games and big tournaments. Veteran coach Bill Mike Runyon in his tenure at Paintsville has taken boys' teams all across the country to play in various tournaments.

The Fifth Third Bank Classic, hosted by Lexington Catholic rolled up and this season's slate and Paintsville began play in the event Thursday, taking on Wayne County, another undefeated team. One

(See PAINTSVILLE, page three)

### Fifth Third Holiday Classic First round at Lexington Catholic

Mason Co. 76	University Heights 55
Madison Central 69	Pulaski Co. 46
Eastern 63	Grant Co. 47
Clark Co. 66	Lexington Christian 35
Wayne Co. 58	Paintsville 41
Lexington Catholic 81	Morgan Co. 56
Trinity 64	Lincoln Co. 50

LADY EAGLE HOLIDAY CLASSIC

## Fleming Co., Shelby Valley, Pike Central, Johnson Central win in opening round

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

PAINTSVILLE — Christy Orem, a former basketball player at Paintsville High School, returned to Johnson County and Johnson Central High School Thursday for the opening round of the Lady Eagle Holiday Classic. The Fleming County mentor, who is married to former Johnson Central basketball player, Robert Orem, guided her team to a 69-60 first round win over Prestonsburg. But the win didn't come without some strong resistance from a much-improved Prestonsburg team.

The two teams went into the half tied at 33. The score stood 18-18 at the end of the first quarter.

Prestonsburg, after outscoring Orem's team 22-17 in the third period, ultimately dropped the decision in the fourth quarter, getting outscored 19-5.

Two different players scored 22 points apiece for a balanced Fleming County scoring effort.

Senior center Abbie Shafer paced Prestonsburg with a team-high 15 points. Eighth-grade guard Meaghan Slone scored 12 points and Darcey Hicks flipped in eight. Amanda Webb and Taryn Harris each had eight points and Chanel Music finished with seven. Kelly Key chipped in one point in the loss.



### Shelby Valley 59, Paintsville 47

Through one half, Paintsville head coach Mark Baldwin saw his team lead Shelby Valley, perennially one of the top girls' basketball teams in the 15th Region. After leading 26-24 through the first two quarters, Paintsville was outscored 16-11 in the third

(See CLASSIC, page three)

## Blackcats top Tennessee team in McCreary tourney

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

STEARNS — Prestonsburg left for McCreary County earlier in the week looking to even its record and go above .500 on the season. The Blackcats met up with a Tennessee team in the first round of the Arby's/KFC Classic Thursday night and took the first step, beating Scott Co., Tenn. 69-52 and evening to 4-4 on the season.

(See TOURNEY, page three)



■ Meaghan Slone, Prestonsburg

# Powell County outlasts JCHS

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

MANCHESTER — One of the 15th Region's leading scorers, Brandon Wheeler, put up 38 points Thursday night, but his team, Johnson Central, was edged by Powell County, 89-88 in the first round of the Bobby Keith Classic at Clay County High School. The tour-

namment is named after the legendary boys' basketball coach.

Johnson Central led 26-20 at the end of the first quarter. The Golden Eagles were outscored 27-26 in the second quarter, but hung on to take a 52-47 lead into the half.

The third quarter saw Johnson Central stretch its lead out to double figures, but Powell County would not go

away. The Pirates actually battled back to match Johnson Central in points in the third quarter. Each team scored 21 points. Powell County made good on a free throw late to pull away for the win.

Senior guard Jeremy Jones led the Pirates in scoring with 34 points. Both he and Wheeler scored the majority of their points in the first half.

Mike Walters followed Wheeler in scoring for Johnson Central. He finished with 20 points. Justin Woods scored 11 and senior point guard Chris Hurt, before fouling out in the fourth quarter, added eight. Senior Jon Mollette and Clint Adams each scored three. Josh Stapleton and Nick Music both had two points apiece.

PIKEVILLE COLLEGE

## Music making most of red-shirt season

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

PIKEVILLE — Following a successful high school career, Prestonsburg product Ramanda Music moved on to Pikeville College. One of the 15th Region's top players her senior season, Music signed with Pikeville College after deciding to stay close to home to attend college and

(See MUSIC, page three)



file photo

Ramanda Music, seen in action during her junior season in high school, will take the floor for Pikeville College next season after she red-shirts this season.

## Woodford girls roll over South Floyd

TIMES STAFF REPORT

Defending 11th Region girls' champion Woodford County showed title form Thursday, winning its 10th straight game of the season, beating South Floyd 73-56 in

(See ROLL, page three)

S P O R T S B O A R D

# Schrader to race in Winternationals

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

GIBSONTON, Fla. — NASCAR star Ken Schrader has indicated to officials from East Bay Raceway Park that he plans to compete in the 27th Annual Winternationals at the semi-banked

one-third-mile oval.

Schrader made a commitment to Al Varnadore, who heads up 2VHL Promotions, Inc. the new owners of East Bay Raceway Park, during the Racing Promotion Monthly (RPM) Workshop in Reno, Nev. last week.

Checking his schedule the versatile Fenton, Mo. driver said he will probably be bringing his C.J. Rayburn Race Cars dirtcar to East Bay Raceway Park to compete in the February 4 UDTRA sanctioned and February 5 Renegade DirtCar Racing Series sanctioned

"Winternationals" events. Schrader's exact arrival date to East Bay Raceway Park depends on travel conditions following an appearance by Schrader at Manzanita Speedway in Phoenix, AZ the week-end prior to the six-night "27th Annual Winternationals".

"I went over to East Bay from Daytona one night last year to watch the races and I liked what I saw", said Schrader. "Those guys were really hauling ass. It looked like a lot fun!

(See RACE, page four)

HONORS

## Armstrong is AP Male Athlete of the Year

by JIM VERTUNO  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN, Texas — Lance Armstrong knows there's more to winning the Tour de France than just his muscular legs and amazing stamina. It takes some luck, too.

A crash, an ill-timed tire puncture and even sickness can doom a rider in the sport's most grueling event.

"Anytime you have three weeks of open road, you need some luck," said Armstrong, selected The Associated Press Male Athlete of the Year of Thursday.

"One night you get some bad food, you can't do anything the next day and you lose half an hour," he said. "Knock on wood."

If luck is the product of hard work, Armstrong should have plenty.

Armstrong has conquered everything in his path — including the cancer that spread from his testicles to his lungs and brain in 1996 — to four consecutive Tour de France titles.

He was given just a 50-percent chance to live and his amazing recovery and victories have earned him worldwide praise from sports fans and other cancer fighters.

Armstrong and Barry Bonds were

(See ARMSTRONG, page four)

HONORS

## Serena Williams is AP Female Athlete of the Year

by HOWARD FENDRICH  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Serena Williams personifies intensity on a tennis court, right down to her routine for the prematch coin toss.

Up at the net, most players are blank canvases, cradling a racket and generally standing still during the formality. Not Williams. She whips her arm in a service motion over and over, her racket slicing the air — Whoosh! Whoosh! — in a display that's akin to shadow-boxing during a referee's instructions in a ring.

Bringing that intimidation to every shot on every surface against every opponent (including, finally, her older sister) in 2002, Williams was simply dominant, winning three of the four Grand Slam titles.

(See WILLIAMS, page three)

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

## Bullitt East 54, Allen Central 43

TIMES STAFF REPORT

RYLE — No Allen Central player scored in double figures as Bullitt East (5-1) wonover the Lady Rebs, 54-43 in the opening round of the Ballin' at Ryle Challenge.

The two teams battled in the first period. Bullitt East eventually left the first quarter with a 12-11 lead. The Bullitt East girls led 28-21 at the half and outscored Allen Central in the final two periods of the game as well.

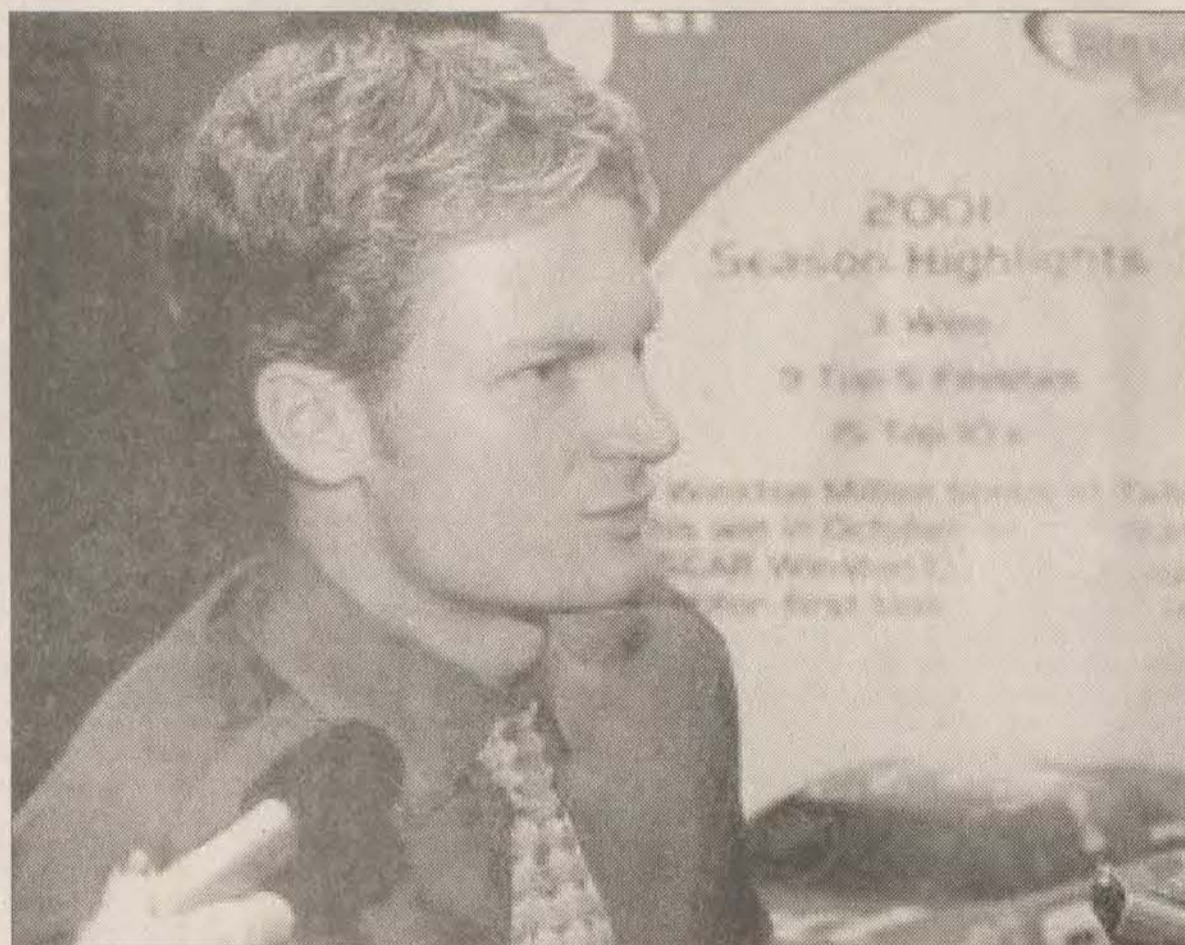
Senior Jackie Martin led Allen Central in scoring for the first time this season with nine points. Amber Scott scored seven and Tabettha Caudill chipped in six. Tiffany Turner and Terri Mullins each had five points apiece and Megan Harris and Jessica Isaac each had two.

Allen Central (5-3) managed just four points opposed to seven from Bullitt East in the third quarter.

Other scores from the opening round of the Ryle tournament follow.

Campbell Co. 65-Clay Co. 55; Powell Co. 46-Ryle 42; Conner 57-Estill Co. 38.

- NASCAR -



Dale Earnhardt Jr. will hope for a pair of wins to start 2003. He will race two races in Daytona to begin the campaign.

## All eyes on Dale Earnhardt Jr. in Koolerz 300

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DAYTONA, Fla. — It's only December, but everybody already knows who the driver to beat is in the Feb. 15 Koolerz 300 NASCAR Busch Series season opener.

Dale Earnhardt Jr., who captured back-to-back Busch Series championships in 1998 and 1999, returned to the Busch Series in last year's 300-mile, 120-lap event at the famed 2.5-mile tri-oval driving the No. 3 Oreo Chevrolet fielded in a joint effort

by Dale Earnhardt Inc. and Richard Childress Racing.

He turned the "World Center of Racing" into his personal playground as he whipped the competition, leading 62 laps, including the final 36. He capped off his victory by turning a couple of celebratory doughnuts in the tri-oval grass.

"It's my favorite race track to go to," Earnhardt Jr. said about Daytona. "It's my favorite track to race at. It was a good feeling to win the Busch race there. There's a big difference to me personally

between winning a race in February and winning the July race.

"During Speedweeks there's a lot of hype, a lot of build up for the season. To get a win there makes you a more prominent figure for the rest of the season. I'm only doing the Busch races purely for fun. So I picked one of the places I love to go to and that's Daytona."

This year, Earnhardt Jr. will be back to defend his title in the Koolerz 300 and also compete in the 250-mile nighttime July Busch Series event at Daytona driving the No. 8 Chevrolet.

Busch Series regular Bobby Hamilton Jr., who drives the No. 25 Team Marines Ford for Team Renzi, says everybody will have to do plenty of homework in order to outrun Earnhardt Jr.

"I'll guarantee you that (his car) is going to be right," Hamilton Jr. said. "It'll be the best of everything he can get. If you can beat him and outdraft him, you can go home and party

(See DAYTONA, page three)

BOYS' BASKETBALL

## AC boys face long layoff

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

EASTERN — With a record of three wins and three losses, the Allen Central boys' basketball team will now have to wait until the seventh day in January before it returns to the hardwood for a game. Normally, Allen Central would be in

a tournament the first week of January, but this season is different.

"We always play in a tournament the first week of the season, but this year, Shelby Valley didn't have its tournament and we couldn't get in another one," said Allen Central head coach John Martin.

A tournament, held in memory of Hobert Potter was normally held at

Shelby Valley High School the first week in January.

Allen Central began its season on December 7 with a 92-88 win over Lawrence County in the Warrior Classic at East Ridge High School.

A 93-87 loss on the road at Pike Central followed on Dec. 10 before

(See LAYOFF, page four)



photo by Steve LeMaster

Pike Central defenders applied pressure as Fleming-Neon's Ashley Hall called for the ball in the third game of Thursday's opening round of the Lady Eagle Holiday Classic at Johnson Central. The win was Pike Central's second over Neon this season.

H.S. SCOREBOARD

December 26: Boys

Ashland Blazer 72	..... Elliott County 55
(Ashland Invitational Tournament)	
Breathitt County 65	..... Somerset 45
(Ashland Invitational Tournament)	
Cincinnati Woodford, Ohio 55	..... Wolfe Co. 40
(Arby's/KFC Classic)	
Clay County 110	..... Edmonson County 68
(Bobby Keith Shootout)	
Lafayette 76	..... East Ridge 41
(Ashland Invitational Tournament)	
Lee County 58	..... Augusta 54
(McDonalds Holiday Classic)	
Lexington Catholic 81	..... Morgan Co. 56
Fifth-Third Holiday Classic	
McCreary Central 81	..... Harlan 59
(Arby's/KFC Classic)	
Owen County 75	..... Letcher 57
(Gallatin Steel Invitational)	
Powell County 89	..... Johnson Central 88
(Bobby Keith Shootout)	
Prestonsburg 69	..... Scott County, Tenn. 52
(Arby's/KFC Classic)	
Raceland 50	..... Logan County 49
(A & W Holiday Classic)	
Ryle 52	..... Russell 43
(Ashland Invitational Tournament)	
Wayne County 58	..... Paintsville 41
(Fifth-Third Holiday Classic)	
West Carter 78	..... Jackson City 54
(McDonalds Holiday Classic)	
Whitesburg 86	..... Cloudland, Tenn. 78
(Hampton Holiday Classic)	

Girls

Ashland Blazer 64	..... Ballard 55
(Queen of the Bluegrass)	
Assumption 59	..... Russell 33
(Boyd County Invitational)	
Boyd County 77	..... Whitley County 69 (2OT)
(Boyd County Invitational)	
Bullitt East 54	..... Allen Central 43
(Ballin' at Ryle Challenge)	
Campbell County 65	..... Clay County 55
(Ballin' at Ryle Challenge)	
Conner 57	..... Estill County 38
(Ballin' at Ryle Challenge)	
East Carter 44	..... Pendleton County 36
(Queen of the Bluegrass)	
Fleming County 69	..... Prestonsburg 60
(Lady Eagle Classic)	
Huntington, W.Va. 74	..... Belfry 65
(Boyd County Invitational)	
Johnson Central 72	..... Jenkins 25
(Lady Eagle Classic)	
Paris 98	..... Lawrence County 43
(Queen of the Bluegrass)	
Pike County Central 61	..... Fleming-Neon 46
(Lady Eagle Classic)	
Powell County 46	..... Ryle 42
(Ballin' at Ryle Challenge)	
Shelby Valley 59	..... Paintsville 47
(Lady Eagle Classic)	

## Lafayette cruises past East Ridge

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

ASHLAND — It was not the way the East Ridge Warriors hoped to begin play in the Ashland Invitational Tournament. Going in, East Ridge knew a tough challenge lie ahead in the form of the Lafayette Generals.

The Generals remained unbeaten on the season with a 76-41 thrashing of East Ridge. Lafayette (5-1) took a 37-18 lead into the half and had four players in double figures en route to the win. Starters Darnell Dials and

(See RIDGE, page four)

NFL

## Bills buoyed by one thing: Bengals they're not

by JOHN WAWROW  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — As disappointing as it is missing the playoffs for the third straight season, the Buffalo Bills can draw satisfaction from one thing.

At least they're not the Cincinnati Bengals, who've endured 12 straight years of futility.

"I can't compare it to Cincinnati, but

(See BILLS, page four)

## Williams

On Friday, Williams was honored as The Associated Press Female Athlete of the Year in a vote that was about as close as many of her matches.

She received 53 first-place votes and 351 points from writers and broadcasters across the country. Golfer Annika Sorenstam was next, with 27 first-place votes and 193 points, followed by Olympic champion figure skater Sarah Hughes (12 first-place votes, 158 points).

"I can't become satisfied, because if I get satisfied, I'll be like, 'Oh, I've won Wimbledon, I've won the U.S. Open. Now can I relax,'" Williams said. "But now people are really going to be fighting to beat me."

It didn't do a lot of good to try to beat her this year.

Williams won 56 of 61 matches (a .918 winning percentage), claimed a WTA Tour-leading eight titles (out of only 13 tournaments played), and took home a

record \$3.6 million. She was a runner-up twice and never fared worse than the quarterfinals.

For comparison's sake, Sorenstam won 11 of her 23 events on the LPGA Tour, finishing out of the top 10 just three times, and set records for lowest scoring average (68.70) and earnings (\$2.8 million). She also won non-tour events in Australia and Sweden this season, bringing her total to 13 wins in 25 tournaments.

Williams went 21-0 on her sport's biggest stages, beating sister Venus — who was fifth in the AP balloting after finishing second twice in a row — in the finals of the French Open on clay, Wimbledon on grass, and the U.S. Open on hard courts.

She didn't lose a set at the All England Club or Flushing Meadows en route to becoming just the sixth woman to win tennis' final three majors in a year (she dubbed it a "Serena Slam").

It might have been a Grand Slam sweep, but an ankle injury forced her to skip the Australian Open.

Williams had a season-best 21-match overall winning streak and took over the No. 1 ranking in July. Perhaps most striking was her complete turnaround against two of the best in the sport and her predecessors atop the rankings: Jennifer Capriati and Venus Williams. Serena went 0-4 against that pair in 2001, 9-0 against them in 2002.

"The difference is I'm a bit more mature, and I'm more relaxed," Serena said. "I'm a better player, obviously. But I just have more fun with what I do. I'm not as stressed out there as I used to be."

Her game features impressive power (her 53 aces during the U.S. Open were more than twice as many as any other woman) and all-court coverage, along with an ever-improving ability to construct points.

Not everything went according to plan for Williams this year.

Her parents completed their divorce, and she had to deal with a stalker who followed her around the world, getting arrested during Wimbledon and the U.S. Open. But the 21-year-old Williams never let anything off the court distract her on it.

"I'm a strong person," she said. "I try not to let things like that affect me."

Her burgeoning fame helped land new endorsements (including a McDonald's commercial featuring her and Venus) and TV appearances (on "The Oprah Winfrey Show" with Venus, a role as a kindergarten teacher on "My Wife and Kids").

And then there were her tennis outfits, including a green-and-yellow getup with knee-high socks at the French Open, and a snug black cat suit at the U.S. Open.

Shy? Ask her. "I'm really exciting," Williams

said. "I smile a lot, I win a lot, and I'm really sexy."

Others agree. She and Tiger Woods were deemed the most attractive spokespersons among athletes, according to a survey of the public relations industry.

"I think Serena likes the attention," said Venus, who's 15 months older. "Everyone has their year, and this is her year, and next year could be her year, also — I don't know. But I'm glad she's done well."

## Cincy retailers making money off Cinergy

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — Hotel rooms with a view of the Reds' baseball stadium are booked and reservations are going fast on Ohio River touring boats for the ballpark's implosion Sunday.

Retailers downtown and across the river in Covington, say Cinergy Field's demolition has been a boon for business.

John Davis said his banquet facility along the river in Kentucky has 325 breakfast reservations for the 8 a.m. demolition.

The 32-year-old ballpark, formerly Riverfront Stadium, will be replaced for the Reds' 2003 season by the \$280 million Great American Ball Park that is nearly completed next door.

## Classic

period and 19-10 in the final quarter on its way to a 59-47 loss.

Three different players scored in double figures for Shelby Valley, led by sophomore Sha Howell's game-high 17 points.

Jerrica Dye scored 15 points and Ashley Tackett finished with 12. Beth Hall chipped in eight points and Esther Fleming added five. Kristi Taylor rounded out the scoring for Shelby Valley (4-3) with two.

Ashley Hall paced Paintsville (3-3) with 16 points. Stacy Music netted 12 and Whitney Reynolds netted seven.

### Pike Central 61, Fleming-Neon 46

Exactly two weeks after meeting in Letcher County, Fleming-Neon and Pike Central met again Thursday evening in the third game of the Lady Eagle Holiday Classic. In the meeting at Fleming-Neon, Pike Central (4-3) scored a blowout win. Thursday's game wouldn't go as smooth for the Lady Hawks, but

the final score would be much the same: Pike Central 61-Fleming-Neon 46. Pike Central won the first meeting, 78-55.

Fleming-Neon (3-6) was able to hold a 9-7 lead at the end of the first quarter. Pike Central, coached by Tammy Tussey, came alive in the second quarter, outscoring Neon 24-13 to take a lead into the half. A 16-9 victory in the third period paved the way for

LaTeisha Osley led Fleming-Neon in scoring, netting 16. Brittany Phipps added 14 for the Lady Pirates.

### Johnson Central 72, Jenkins 25

Too much Johnson Central is not good for any opposing girls' basketball team. Just ask Jenkins.

After leading 23-4 through one quarter Thursday night in the final game of its holiday tournament, the Johnson Central girls' team cruised to a 72-25 win. Jenkins was slow out of the gates, and never recovered from a 35-point (41-6) halftime

deficit.

The third quarter played out with Johnson Central (8-1), with mostly reserves in the game, taking the period 11-7. The host Lady Eagles also took the final stanza 20-12.

Brianne Daniels scored 20 points to lead Johnson Central. Melissa Murphy scored 11 and Rhonda Adams added 10. Michelle Music and Howard scored eight points each and Alice Daniel finished with six.

Ciera Pittman led Jenkins (3-5) offensively with 13 points. Beth Branham finished

## Buckeyes

championship against the Buckeyes. But in 1999, the Hurricanes were trying to escape the shadows of NCAA probation.

Ohio State was ranked ninth in the nation in the preseason and coming off one of the best seasons in school history. The Buckeyes went 11-1 in 1998 to finish No. 2 in the country, ending the season with wins over rival Michigan and against No. 8 Texas A&M in the Sugar Bowl.

"(The game) was probably a lot more important to the University of Miami's football program at that time than maybe it was for Ohio State," said Davis, who took over as Browns coach two years later. "They were ranked going into that year and for us it was an unbelievable opportunity to try to recapture a spotlight in college football."

Miami's storied program had churned out national championships, Heisman Trophy winners and off-the-field problems during the 1980s and 1990s under Howard Schnellenberger, Jimmy Johnson and Dennis Erickson.

After four national titles between 1983 and 1991, probation in 1995 ended the dynasty. Miami was still hurting from three years of NCAA-mandated sanctions that cost the program 32 scholarships.

The Kickoff Classic came along at an ideal time for the Hurricanes. In 1997, largely because of the probation, they had sunk to a 5-6 record. At one point, they lost four straight games, including a 47-0 beating by rival Florida State.

The Hurricanes went 9-3 in 1998, ending the season with a 49-45 upset of No. 3 UCLA and a rout of North Carolina State in the Micron PC Bowl.

The Kickoff Classic was the ideal forum to get back onto the national stage.

"The main reason we accepted it was that we needed more high-profile games," Davis said. "We had gone through all the sanctions and all the probation and the lack of being able to go to a bowl game and some of those kinds of things."

Davis' fondest memory of the preparations was taking some of his small-town kids on a tour of New York City. He said one stared up at the skyscrapers in awe and said, "Wow, there's not many buildings like that in Pahokey, Florida!"

On their first possession, the Hurricanes scored when Jackson bolted 44 yards for a touchdown.

Ohio State came back with Michael Wiley turning an off-tackle play into a 69-yard run. But even that play showed Miami's edge.

Continued from p1

with seven for the Lady Cavaliers.

### CLASSIC NOTES...

■ Floyd County resident Johnny Ray Turner, former Johnson Central boys' basketball coach, provided color commentary in the Prestonsburg-Fleming County game. The game was aired on WSIP.

■ Paintsville standout Desiree Haney is expected to return to the court in early-January. With Haney in the lineup, Paintsville automatically becomes a better team.

Continued from p1

"We had way more speed than them," Jackson said. "(Linebacker) Al Blades ran down Wiley from behind going in for a touchdown and I think that shocked everybody. Al wasn't slow, but he wasn't fast. We were surprised he ran down Wiley. That showed them."

Archie Griffin, Ohio State's two-time Heisman Trophy winner and now the school's associate athletic director, remembers it the same way.

"They dominated us in that game," Griffin said. "That game really got Miami started on their comeback."

Miami had speed all over the field. Jackson ran for 89 yards on 13 carries and Santana Moss had three catches for 115 yards.

"JJ ran like a rabbit all game. Santana made big plays and it was a straight domination by our defense," former Miami wide receiver Andre King said. "We spent all summer planning for that game. It was a big game for us, nationally televised, and we just wanted to start the season off right and get the program going. It was a chance for us to show that we were back, and we did."

Ohio State tight end Darnell Sanders, who takes ribbing from the many Hurricanes on the Browns roster, had two vivid memories of the game.

"They were cocky," he said. He also recalled how fast the Hurricanes were: "Their whole team could run, but I remember Santana Moss' speed."

Miami finished the season 9-4. The next season the Canes went 11-1 and finished second in the rankings to Oklahoma. A 12-0 national championship followed last year, in Larry Coker's first season as head coach.

"We were kind of hot at the time. We needed the exposure," Davis said. "All those guys were all really at the beginning of their career and we needed the opportunity."

Meanwhile, things began to unravel at Ohio State. The Buckeyes stumbled to a 6-6 record — just their second non-winning season since 1966. In 2000, they went 8-4 but lost to rival Michigan for the third year in a row and then were humiliated in the Outback Bowl by unranked South Carolina.

Head coach John Cooper was fired the next day and replaced by Jim Tressel. Now Ohio State says it has something to prove.

"Most of us came in 1998, the fifth-year guys," Nicky said. "In 1999 we were obviously terrible. Through the coaching change and everything, it kind of forced our senior class to come together. It forced our team to come together."

## Lakers

Continued from p1

skids the way the three-time defending champion Lakers have, this was Jackson's reply:

"I think it's kind of a seismograph energy coming from the Earth, that's what I attribute it to. Astrologically, we don't fit together as a team quite like that group did. And the conjunctions of certain planets have kept us apart."

On Wednesday, that conjunction of planets was named the Sacramento Kings.

Few teams will argue they've suffered more under the Lakers' dynasty. Los Angeles eliminated the Kings each of the last three years en route to a championship, including a Game 7 heartbreaker in overtime last season.

Shaq referred to the Kings as "the Queens" earlier this season, which may have been the beginning of a discussion between Fox and Sacramento's Doug Christie that ended with a fist fight at Staples Center in a pre-season game Oct. 25.

So when the Kings walked off the court Christmas Day in L.A. with a 105-99 win, adding one more welt to the collection the Lakers are amassing this season, some gloating might have been in order.

But Sacramento coach Rick Adelman passed on the opportunity to jab the Lakers, who fell to 11-19.

"I think the biggest difference is they are not making shots," Adelman said. "I still think they are a pretty darned good team and they're going to be back."

It really could be that simple. Or not.

As Wednesday night proved, Shaq and Kobe are still the NBA's No. 1 and 2 talents. O'Neal, still struggling to regain his fitness after surgery on his big toe, finished with 27 points, a season-high 17 rebounds and five assists. Bryant also scored 27, to go along with 15 rebounds and six assists.

But Shaq shot 8-of-19 for the game and just 2-of-8 after half-time, with both baskets coming after the outcome had been decided. Similarly, Bryant made only 7 of 24 shots and went 2-for-12 in the second half.

The odds their supporting cast

can make up deficits have been low so far this season and dropping. As a group, the rest of the Lakers are hovering around 40 percent.

But even if everybody's shots start falling, just making the playoffs is going to take some luck. At the start of the season, Jackson set 50 wins as the target for a team that will probably need home-court advantage in one or more series to claim a fourth title.

To get to 50 wins now, the Lakers would have to go 39-13 the rest of the way, a winning percentage of .750. Only Dallas has a better percentage so far this season.

Which brings us to another, more likely reason for the Lakers' problems. The Western Conference rivals the Lakers need to beat now — the same teams they've been beating the last few years — have been remodeled with the exact opposite result in mind.

Sacramento was already a deeper team last season, even if they had trouble backing up Vlade Divac's brash pronouncement on the eve of Game 7: "They have the two greatest players around, but we know overall we are a better team."

Perhaps now Dallas has more talent as well, and Eastern Conference rivals Indiana and New Jersey might claim a spot on that list.

Whether Jackson has a plan for overcoming those deficits is anybody's guess. He likes his players to solve most puzzles themselves. It's why Jackson turns his back on them during the occasional timeout, why he lets players stay in games with foul trouble and why he won't limit their shots, even when they come outside the triangle system he favors.

In the past, Jackson let wins and losses make his points for him. But only because he had so much more talent he could wait out his competitors. But the only thing the Lakers' record is proving is that he won't have that luxury this time around.

Jim Litke is the national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at [jlitke@ap.org](mailto:jlitke@ap.org)

## Music

Continued from p1

play basketball. In her freshman season she has been red-shirted but should contribute greatly next season.

"Ramanda has worked very hard, and we are very pleased with her attitude," said Pikeville College head coach Bill Watson. "She is also doing very well in classroom as well, which is always important. I definitely see her coming in next season and playing."

The Prestonsburg grad went into a Pikeville College program which featured some old friends, teammates and rivals from her past.

Music played with starting point guard Jessica Lovell when she spent a season at

Belfry High School.

As a red-shirt, Music was expected to still work hard, and according to Watson she has done just that.

"Ramanda has done just exactly what we expect every player who is red-shirted to do, she has worked hard both on and off the court," added Watson.

The Pikeville women's team was back in action this weekend in a tournament. Results were unavailable at press time.

■ The Pikeville College women's basketball program has announced that Amelia Conley is no longer a Lady Bear.

## Roll

Continued from p1

the first round of the Lady Eagle Classic at Ohio County.

South Floyd (1-5) was led by Tabetra Trammell's 17 points and 10 rebounds. Brandy Anderson chipped in 12 for the Lady Raiders.

Senior guard Mallory Kirtley scored 22 points and had five assists and five steals for Woodford (10-1). Woodford County, after losing its first game of the season, has went on to win its last 10 times out. Destiny Mattingly added 15 points for victorious Woodford. Megan Foster hit three three-pointers in off the bench and finished with 11

for the Lady Jackets.

Junior Ashley Johnson finished the setback with eight points for the Lady Raiders. Megan Ousley scored six points, and Valerie King added five. Amanda Johnson netted three for South Floyd and Sharee Hopkins and Tackett each finished with two points.

South Floyd was outscored in each of the four periods, but stayed close in the first half and into the fourth quarter, before Woodford pulled away. Woodford led 14-13 at the end of the first quarter and 38-29 after a 24-16 second period.

## Paintsville

Continued from p1

team would leave with the loss, and despite holding its own through most of four quarters, Paintsville would suffer the loss, a 58-41 defeat.

Wayne County, which came into the season ranked as one of the state's top 20 teams, led 18-11 through one quarter. Each team scored nine points in the second quarter, leaving Wayne with a 27-20 lead at the break.

Paintsville's big rally came in the third quarter when it edged Wayne County 14-13 to get within six points.

The fourth quarter spelled defeat for the Tigers. Wayne County, the defending 12th Region champ, has no seniors in its starting lineup. The Cardinals are coached by Rodney Woods.

Jerrod Gibbons led Wayne County in scoring with 21 points. Gibbons tossed in eight free throws in the fourth quarter for the Cardinals. Steve Sexton

added 12 points and eight rebounds, and Tyrone Greene added 10 points and eight boards in the win.

Senior Stuart Rutledge paced Paintsville with 14 points and five rebounds. Peyton Conley and Shane Simpkins, both underclassmen, were held to nine and seven points, respectively. Ryan Jarrell scored six points and Adam Collins managed three. Adam Rice, a player who was a leader in a win over Shelby Valley, scored two for Paintsville in the loss.

Paintsville pulled within three points of Wayne County, 42-39 with five minutes left, but could get no closer. Turnovers on the following three possessions led to a loss for Paintsville.

Play continued in the tournament on Friday and through yesterday. Results after the first round were unavailable.

## Tourney

Continued from p1

Prestonsburg got up early, leading the Tennessee team 26-11 at the end of the first quarter. The Blackcats also took the second quarter, 19-12, en route to the 17-point triumph.

The second half broke down with Scott taking the third period 15-14 and the last quarter 14-10.

Sophomore Kris Bentley and senior Justin Allen each had highly productive games for Prestonsburg, scoring 21 points

each. Another sophomore, Jesse Chaffin, scored 10, as did senior Joey Willis.

Joe Blackburn and Trevor Compton finished with four and three points apiece for the Blackcats.

Scott County (Tenn.) fell to 3-7 on the season with the loss.

In other first round action, Whitley County beat Casey County 63-46 and Harlan fell to host McCreary Central, 81-59.

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**Bills**

it definitely starts at the top. And in Cincinnati, their top guys have been the same guys for a while," Bills defensive end Chidi Ahanotu said. "Here, you've got some good people in (Bills president) Tom Donahoe, who've been around a lot of winning organizations. The same with (coach) Gregg Williams.

"They're consistent in what

they do and what they preach, and that is the foundation that you lay to start a winning franchise."

Two teams heading in opposite directions close out their respective seasons Sunday when the resurgent Bills (7-8) host the stumbling Bengals (2-13).

The differences are stunning. With the addition of several veteran free agents, a promising

crop of rookies and landing Drew Bledsoe in a trade last April, the Bills have made significant strides in rebounding from last year's 3-13 finish — the team's worst since 1985.

While the Bills were knocked out of playoff contention with last weekend's 10-0 loss at Green Bay, there remains a buoyant sense of hope that the worst is over.

"Obviously, I'm disappointed, in particular with the second half of the season and the way it's gone," said Bledsoe, referring to going 2-5 down the stretch. "But overall, I'm unwavering in my confidence that we're going to win here."

The same is not being said in Cincinnati, where the promise of improving over last year's 6-10 finish quickly evaporated

when the Bengals opened this season with seven straight losses.

Even with last weekend's shocking 20-13 victory over New Orleans, Cincinnati is one loss from solidifying its worst finish in franchise history. That's saying something for a team that has not had a winning season since 1990. As bad as the Bengals have been over that stretch, going 55-136, they've never won fewer than three games in a season.

"I've hit the wall, mentally," Bengals right tackle Willie Anderson said. "You never sit down and think about it week to week. But in the last week of the season, you look back and say, 'Man, what happened?'"

The answer is simple, as far as quarterback Jon Kitna is con-

cerned. And Kitna needs to look no further than the Bills to put the Bengals' troubles into perspective.

"We're almost at the opposite end of the spectrum," Kitna said. "You might go through a season where it's 3-13 and things are bad, but you don't have a legacy of 12 years to try to overcome like we are here."

So what do the Bengals need?

"We need an attitude change," Kitna said.

And it starts with the front office.

"I'm not saying that they don't want to win," Kitna said, referring to management. "I'm just saying that if there's going to be a change of 12 years of losing, it has to start with them. They have to be the ones to instrument that change."

This could be Dick LeBeau's

last game as Bengals coach. Since taking over during the 2000 season, LeBeau has gone 12-32, the worst winning percentage in team history.

Owner Mike Brown has refused to talk to reporters the past few weeks. LeBeau said he's been busy with the holidays and preparing to play Buffalo to discuss his contract status.

"I'm taking it one step at a time and doing fine," LeBeau said. "You either believe in yourself and your teammates, or you don't. And we happen to believe in the situation. It's not a throw-your-hands-up-impossible situation here."

The only thing the Bengals have to look forward to is the potential of getting the first overall pick in next April's draft. Cincinnati has the NFL's worst record, just behind the Detroit Lions (3-12).

Continued from p2

**Race**

East Bay has the kind of surface I like. You can get a hold of something there," said Schrader, the excitement evident in his voice.

"On my dirt deal, I'll take a track that is heavy with some holes any day over one that is dry and slick. I get enough of that in my NASCAR racing," explained the owner of two GRT Race Cars dircars and the C.J. Rayburn Race Cars dircar as well as several open wheel modified cars.

On two previous occasions, Schrader raced at East Bay Raceway Park. He drove a Sprint Car in the late 1970s and then was behind the wheel of dircar (Late Model) in 1980 and 1981.

Monday, February 3 will be opening night for the Renegades portion of the "Winternationals" with a 40 lap feature event paying \$5,000 to win. The second night of action for the Renegades will offer a \$7,000 top prize to the winner of the Wednesday, Feb. 5 50-lap feature event. The final night will happen Friday, Feb. 7 featuring a 75 lap feature event paying \$12,000 to the winner.

All three nights main events will see 28 starters take the green flag with \$500 to start. Total purses for the three-nights of Renegade DirtCar Racing Series sanctioned racing exceeds \$120,000. The

February 4, 6 and 8 dates of the "Winternationals" will be sanctioned by the UDTRA Pro DirtCar Racing Series.

Single-day general admission tickets are \$30, \$35 and \$40 and pit admission is \$35.00, \$40.00 and \$45.00 respectively for the February 3, 5 and 7 Renegades events. A three-day general admission ticket for the Renegades events is \$100.00 and a six-day general admission ticket for all of the Renegades and UDTRA events is \$200.00. General admission tickets can be upgraded to pit admission for the difference of the pit admission.

For ticket, camping and lodging information phone East Bay Raceway Park at 813/677-7223, toll free at 877/457-5611 or visit the East Bay Raceway Park website located at www.eastbayracewaypark.com.

East Bay Raceway Park is located in Gibsonton, Fla. south of Tampa, FL on Interstate 75 to exit 250, then 2.0 miles west, then 1.2 miles north on U.S. Route 41, then northeast 1.3 miles on Old U.S. Route 41, then east on Burts Road.

**LOCALLY...**

Several drivers from throughout Kentucky make the journey to Gibsonton, Fla. each winter. Grayson driver Jackie Boggs is one such driver.

Continued from p2

**Ridge**

Marcus Barron as well as reserve Kevin Grantlin each had 12 points in the blowout.

Lafayette also won the rebounding battle, 42-16.

Brandon Bevins led East Ridge in scoring with 22 points. Brandon Ratliff chipped

in nine and Matt Belcher six for the Warriors.

Other first round scores in the Ashland Invitational follow.

Ryle 52-Russell 43; Ashland 72-Elliott Co. 55; Breathitt Co. 65-Somerset 45.

Continued from p2

**Layoff**

the Rebels got back on the winning track with a 70-55 victory over Knott Central.

Then came the rivalry game with South Floyd. The two teams met for the first time this season, the first of two regular-season games, and South Floyd went away with a 101-66 win.

Allen Central split a pair of games in last week's Jenkins Holiday Classic, losing to Whitesburg and beating Letcher.

Sheldon Clark transfer Brad Pack has added to Allen Central's attack, both on

offense and defense. Seniors Mike Slone and Neil Allen have been solid starters, as has Rossi Samons and Austin Francis.

Oliver Kilgore, Tim Griffith and Nathan Lafferty, among a couple of other reserves, have also logged valuable minutes this season.

Allen Central will return to action on Tuesday, Jan. 7 on the road at Johnson Central. The Rebels will then travel to Prestonsburg on Jan. 10 before returning home to host Betsy Layne on Jan. 17. Each meeting is a key 58th District game.

Continued from p2

**Armstrong**

the top two vote-getters for the AP award for a second straight year, only this time the San Francisco Giants' slugger finished second.

Armstrong received 45 first-place votes and 292 points from writers and broadcasters. Bonds had 31 first-place votes and 233 points.

"Uh oh, hopefully he's not mad," Armstrong said. "It's nice to be recognized."

Tiger Woods, the winner in 1999 and 2000, finished third for the second year in a row. He received seven first-place votes and 110 points.

Armstrong takes advantage of the platform his comeback has given him to drive cancer-fighting campaigns. He started the Lance Armstrong Foundation, which funds cancer research and fills his rare free time with hospital visits and speaking at fund-raisers.

While he has no stump

speech, his message is the same: Cancer made him the person he is today.

"When I came back, I said if I ever get a chance to do this, I'm going to give it everything. I'm going to train correctly, eat right. I'm not going to mess up," he said. "That's why I say all the time that the illness is the best thing that ever happened to me."

"I would never have won one Tour de France if I hadn't had it. No doubt."

Winning one Tour de France would have secured his place in cycling history. Capturing four in row put him among the greatest riders ever.

A victory in 2003 would tie the record of five. Spain's Miguel Indurain (1991-95) is the only champion of five in a row. Armstrong raced in three of Indurain's victories and holds the Spaniard in high regard.

"He was an incredible time trialist, the best that ever lived," Armstrong said. "I can win a time trial today, but I would do it by seconds. He could win by a couple of minutes."

Armstrong was a time-trial specialist himself before the cancer. It was during his recovery that he amazingly turned himself into a dominator in the punishing mountain stages, where his breakaways up steep climbs separate him from the rest of the pack.

Tour officials already have mapped out the course for the 2003 race, which will be the event's 100-year anniversary, with additional mountain stages but fewer really steep climbs. That still bodes well for the 31-year-old Armstrong winning No. 5.

While he's already eyeing a possible sixth title in '04, Armstrong won't be caught day-dreaming.

"As you approach the mid 30s, it's difficult to maintain a high level," he said. "But I don't feel weaker, I don't feel less motivated, and the team is strong."

"I know what I'm doing in 2003, and I think I know what I'm doing in 2004. But after that, I don't think about it."

Away from his bike and his cancer-related work, Armstrong is a proud family man.

He met wife Kristin while still taking chemotherapy. Son Luke was born in 1999, when Armstrong won his first Tour de France. Twin girls Isabelle and Grace came along last year.

It's his family, and the realization that he almost never had one, that drives Armstrong.

"Seeing your kids tomorrow isn't guaranteed," Armstrong said. "Look at this life like it's a gift. That's the way I try to view my life, my family — as a gift."

A downside to his riding dominance is that it raised suspicions among French media and officials that Armstrong and the U.S. Postal Service team were doping.

Heckled by fans during last year's race, Armstrong has repeatedly denied taking banned substances and has never failed a doping test. French authorities in September closed a two-year investigation because of a lack of evidence.

Cancer, however, ultimately gave Armstrong the thing he's maybe most proud of: the label of survivor.

"Sports will come and go and I will be forgotten," he said. "But something like the illness will never go. I'll always have that tag."

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Sunday, December 29, 2002

## Inside

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HERALD Email: hazardherald@setel.com

TIMES Email: web@floydcountytimes.com

**A view from the hill**

I can hardly believe it! I still vividly remember my first semester teaching on the hill. I was fresh out of graduate school, barely older than my students. I confess that one of them dubbed me "Most Improved Rookie" on my evaluations.

The entire Business Department was new that year so we were all rookies, at least with regard to Pikeville College. Now, as one of the veteran members of the faculty, I am constantly running into former students in town. Indeed, these days

some of my former students' children are taking my classes. Even some of my colleagues are former students of mine.

How could this have happened? I

(See **VIEW**, page three)



■ Pamela Pack Gilliam

**Bridget Hendrix Scholarship started at HCC**

The Bridget C. Hendrix Memorial Endowment Fund has been started at Hazard Community College by her parents, Larry and Gail Hendrix of Hyden.

Bridget was a freshman at HCC, and was in a car accident on Nov. 15, and passed away on Saturday, Nov. 16. Her untimely death has left a void in the community where she was dearly loved.

"We want to do something to honor Bridget's memory and we felt this was a great way to celebrate her life - by creating opportunities for others to obtain an education," noted Mrs. Hendrix.

"Bridget lived a wonderful life in the short time she was

(See **HCC**, page three)

**HCC TECH****HTC offers new miners classes**

The Hazard Community College Technical Campus will be offering New Miners Training on a monthly basis. Students can take either the initial 40 hour Underground training or the 24 hour Surface training class. Classes begin at 6 p.m. Next class is scheduled to begin on Monday, January 13, 2003.

For a complete schedule and pre-registration call Christina at (606) 435-6101 ext. 8347



■ Toufic Sadd

**PCC faculty member participates in workshop**

Toufic Sadd, recently attend a one day intermediate level hands-on training workshop focusing on Microsoft Excel. The workshop helped enhance the skills and concepts necessary to create charts and to use the list-management capabilities of Excel 2000. He also attended an advanced Microsoft Excel hands-on training workshop on where he learned various advanced techniques for analyzing and manipulating data in Excel 2000. Through the professional development workshop Sadd will now be able to host workshops of his own to pass on the knowledge he gained

**- CLASS of 2002 -**

Graduates of "Leadership East Kentucky," class of 2002.

**Leadership East Kentucky graduates fourth class**

On December 7, 2002, David Pelphrey, Director of Economic and Workforce Development at Prestonsburg Community College, was one of the 25 individuals that graduated from Leadership East Kentucky.

Since its inception 4 years ago, Leadership East KY has graduated 126 individuals. The participants

come from throughout east Kentucky and represent all walks of life, including private business, education, health, economic development, religion and many other fields. The class members participate in a 7 month program which focuses on strengthening leadership skills, understanding your own leadership style, team building, and many

issues important to East KY communities.

Applications for the Class of 2003 will be accepted beginning in January. All interested individuals should contact Linda Gayheart, Program Coordinator, PO Box 105, Hindman, KY 41822, Phone 606.785.0606, email: gayheart@tgel.com.

**COLLEGE NEWS****\$88,605 given to Hazard College**

The Kentucky General Assembly gives \$88,605 to Hazard Community College to promote economic development through the First Federal Center. Shown above, from left, are State Senator Daniel Mongiardo (who introduced the financing in the Senate); County Judge Executive Denny Ray Noble (the money comes through Perry Fiscal Court); HCC President Jay K. Box; and State Representative Brandon Smith, who sponsored the action in the House. Dr. Box thanked the legislators and Judge Noble for their support of the college and pledged the college's continued support of improving the economy in the region.

**Crider is "Ready to Work"**

Shawn Ann Crider has recently joined our staff and is located on the Mayo Campus serving as the Ready to Work Coordinator. Shawn Ann is the wife of David Crider and the mother of Shelby and Trenton Crider of Van Lear Ky. She is a 1989 gradu-

ate of Johnson Central High School and a 1993 graduate of Morehead State University. She obtained a BSW in social work and has since focused her goals on helping others. "I want to be an advocate for the students to make sure they can get every oppor-

tunity for success that they can get. Most of my students are non-traditional single parents returning to school and being a mother myself I can relate to the pressures and responsibilities that they must juggle while attending school."

**Campus Connection**

by RACHELLE BURCHETT

Christmas break at last! It seems the older that I get the faster time keeps passing.

There are only a few days left in the year 2002 and we, at Mayo Technical College and Prestonsburg Community College, will be welcoming the 2003 academic year. All of our campus locations will be



closed until Jan. 2, which will give you time to plan your class schedule for the spring semester. What's it going to be? Or should I say what do you

want to be? We offer a wide variety of classes, we have excellent instructors, and we have caring devoted staff — we just need you.

Each year most of us make a list of things that we would like to change about ourselves or in our surroundings. Usually, losing weight is on the top of most of our lists but I would like to challenge you with a new idea to place at the top of your list.

Why not make a positive change in 2003 and enroll in a college class? You will not only increase your knowledge but you will become an example to those around you, especially if you have younger siblings or children. I know that returning to school seems to be a difficult thing to think about but I know that one class would be all it would take for you to be hooked.

Learning is something that we were required to do in grade school and high school and we did without thinking because we had to. But learning has such a different taste when you are the one who is wanting to learn.

(See **CAMPUS**, page three)

**CONFERENCE****Youth Leadership Event a Success**

On Friday December 13th the Big Sandy Community and Technical College District, Prestonsburg Campus was host to the first ever Big Sandy Regional Youth Leadership Institute. The event was a tremendous success.

The purpose of this institute was to sow the seeds of regional leadership among juniors from local high schools. In this case, 5 students were selected for a scholarship to this event from all 11 of the 12 area high schools in the Big Sandy region. In all for this first event I am happy to report that we had 55 students in total attendance. Schools participating included; Allen Central, Belfry, Betsy Layne, Johnson Central, Magoffin County, Paintsville, Pike County Central, Pikeville Ind., Prestonsburg, Shelby Valley, and South Floyd.

The institute began with a general session that featured noted Appalachian Artist and Speaker Mitchell Tolle, as well as setting the tone for the day. Following the general session, the students were then divided randomly among 4 work groups representing 4 categories of discussion. Those categories included Building Civic capacity, Education Issues, Economic Issues and Cultural Issues which have impacted the economic and social growth of the area. Facilitating the individual areas included Linda Gayheart, Gayheart and Associates, Ewell Balltrip, Executive Director of the Kentucky Appalachian Commission, Dr. Wallace Campbell, Pikeville College, and Bruce Hopkins of Pike County Schools.

In the morning session the facilitators

(See **SUCCESS**, page three)

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# Regional BUSINESS

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TIMES Email: web@floydcountytimes.com

## Seasonally adjusted jobless rate goes up November

FRANKFORT - Kentucky's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose to 5.1 percent in November from 4.9 percent in October, according to the Department for Employment Services, a Cabinet for Workforce Development agency. In November 2001, the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 6.1 percent.

The U.S. seasonally adjusted jobless rate jumped to 6 percent in November from 5.7 percent in October.

"Kentucky's unemployment rate has been below the national unemployment rate for all 11 months of 2002," said Carlos Cracraft, the department's chief labor market analyst. "A

monthly survey of business establishments revealed that Kentucky's nonfarm payroll employment increased by 1,800 from October to November."

Six of the eight major nonfarm job sectors had employment increases in November, while two recorded decreases, Cracraft said.

According to the seasonally adjusted employment data, the services sector registered the largest job gain in November with 1,400 new positions.

Employment in business services, including

(See **JOBLESS**, page three)

### Medicare AND YOU



**Donna R. Morton**  
Medicare Beneficiary  
Outreach Coordinator  
AdminaStar Federal

**Q** What is a Medicare deductible?

**A** A deductible is the amount you must pay each year before Medicare begins paying its

portion of your medical bill. There are deductibles for both the Part A (Hospital Insurance) and Part B (doctor and other outpatient services) portions of Medicare. The Medicare Part A deductible for 2003 is \$840 per benefit period. The Medicare Part B deductible for 2003 is \$100.

**Q** I have been on Medicare for quite some time and do not recall paying an annual deductible. Is the Medicare Part B deductible something new?

**A** No. The Medicare Part B program has had an annual deductible since 1966. The current amount (\$100) has not changed since 1991. It is possible that your supplement insurance or a state assistance program like Qualified Medicare Beneficiary pays all or part of your Medicare deductibles.

**Q** How is the Medicare Part B deductible applied and how will I know my deductible has been met?

**A** The Part B deductible is applied as your claims are processed by Medicare, not the actual date you receive the service. As the first claims of the year come into Medicare (whether it be January, July, or December), the amounts that Medicare approves are applied to your \$100 deductible. Once you have \$100 in approved services, Medicare Part B will begin to make payment. There are certain services that are not applied toward your deductible. The Medicare Summary Notice that is sent to you after Medicare processes your claim will show any amounts applied to your deductible.

**Q** Can my doctor or other providers ask me to pay a portion of my deductible at the time I receive the service?

(See **YOU**, page three)

### CHRISTMAS DONATION



#### Highlands offers Christmas food pantry donation

Bud Warman, President and CEO of Highlands Regional Medical Center, presented certificates for 40 turkeys for holiday giving to Ms. Debbie Amburgy of God's Food Pantry East. The donation was made December 18, at Highlands. Highlands is an annual supporter of the Food Pantry's holiday giving program for needy families.

## Bankruptcy Filings

The following is a list of bankruptcy cases filed with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky in Lexington from Dec. 20 to 27.

### Pikeville Division

**Chapter 7**

Under Chapter 7 bankruptcy, a court-appointed trustee sells assets and the debtor is discharged of debts.

Donny G. Gibbs and Allie B.

Gibbs, of Meally.  
Leslie S. Taylor, of West Van Lear.

Dwayne Russell Justus, of Pikeville.  
James Ray Mollett and Angelique Marlina Mollett, of Inez.

James Dennis Shepherd and Wilma Jean Shepherd, of Prestonsburg.  
Christopher K. Horne and Betty Jewel Horne, of Falcon.  
James Henry Rowe and Judée Rowe, of Martin.

Susan Key, of Martin.  
John Neal Patton, of Prestonsburg.

Jamie Settles, of Prestonsburg.  
Juanita Shepherd, of David.  
Nannie Sexton, of Hindman.  
Jackie Jordan Jr. and Nanette Jordan, of Royalton.

James Burchett and Rosa Burchett, of Tram.  
Barry Mosley and Kim Mosley, of Weeksbury.  
Kathy Webb, of Auxier.  
Gregory Dale Scott and Cassandra Lynn Scott, of Belfry.

## High-tech firms fight for respect

by **ROGER ALFORD**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**HARLAN** — Sometimes eyebrows raise when Charleen Combs mentions that her software development firm is based in the Appalachian mountains.

Old stereotypes die hard, and some people think Eastern Kentuckians are too busy feuding or making moonshine whiskey to run successful businesses, especially high-tech ones.

"People especially don't expect to find businesses in southeastern Kentucky that operate nationally," said Combs, co-founder and chief executive officer of Data Futures, a

Harlan firm that develops software for a nationwide clientele in education and health care.

Douglas Thorpe, founder of a research and development firm in the tiny town of Irvine, said his former job as an engineer with NASA gave his company, Irvine Technologies, credibility that he couldn't have achieved starting from scratch in the region.

The unfortunate truth is that the handful of high-tech companies in Eastern Kentucky suffer from hillbilly stereotypes that have lingered since the days of the Hatfields and McCoys, said Ewell Balltrip, executive director of the Kentucky Appalachian Commission.

"An entrepreneur's ability to do business is based upon the perception of customers," he said. "If a customer perceives the area as being populated by workers incapable of performing high-tech tasks, that hurts business."

Television, Balltrip said, has been especially unkind to Appalachia by producing shows that "present rural residents as simple minded, as being locked in a time warp, as being generally out of step with contemporary business practices."

That all comes together to work against us," he said.

Bob Harris, co-founder and president of Data Futures, said his compa

(See **RESPECT**, page three)

**FRANKFORT**

## Labor market information now resides on CWD website

FRANKFORT — New Kentucky labor market information to assist in business decision making and economic development is now available through the Kentucky Cabinet for Workforce Development at www.kycwd.org.

Also available at the website is new career exploration information to assist students and job seekers.

A joint project of the Kentucky Workforce Investment Board (KWIB) and the cabinet, the information was compiled and analyzed by researchers at the University of Kentucky and University of Louisville.

The information on underemployment, fringe benefits, labor shortages, vacancies and educational credentials was previously unavailable. In addition to statistics, the Web site contains a comprehensive report and analysis of the information by the UK and U of L researchers.

Employers, individuals and state and local officials requested this information to supplement existing workforce statistics and to fill data gaps. Ken Oilschlager, chair of KWIB and president of the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, said the information is important to the business community.

"This new data will provide a valuable

(See **LABOR**, page three)

**CONSUMER NEWS**

## Retailers wonder when consumers will start spending again

by **ANNE D'INNOCENZIO**  
AP BUSINESS WRITER

**NEW YORK** — Given a holiday season that's shaping up to be the weakest in more than 30 years in terms of sales growth, the big question is: How long will consumers' penny pinching last?

Some analysts predict spending will pick up early in the New Year, barring a war with Iraq or a major terrorist attack. And stores will be ready, having kept their own merchandise orders in check this season so there isn't much surplus to unload. Instead they can focus on selling goods for spring.

"There's a silver lining ... Stores will be able to move into the newness of spring much faster. The old will be out of their hair," said Arnold Aronson, managing director of retail strategies at Kurt Salmon Associates.

But the uncertain economy and the prospect of war has others predicting business won't really pick up until fall.

"Customers are more inclined to save than to spend," said Kurt Barnard, president of Barnard's Retail Trend Report. He said many people are worried about their jobs, and he expects to see only a gradual slow improvement until at least September.

The holiday season was hurt by a number of predictable factors — a sluggish economic environment, a season that was six days shorter than a year ago due to the lateness of Thanksgiving, and the lack of any must-have items which could have helped drive more traffic to stores.

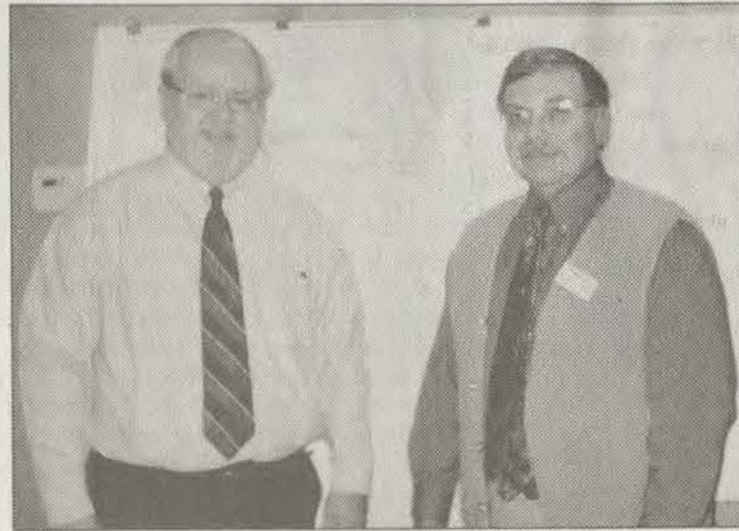
Still, it was worse than expected. Strong consumer spending had offered hope in a bleak economy, "but that notion has clearly subsided," said Richard Jaffe,

(See **RETAIL**, page three)



### Circle of Love project touches local children

The Phi Theta Kappa-Alfa Nu Zeta Chapter officers and members from Prestonsburg Community College collected more than 200 gifts for this year's "Annual Circle of Love Project." The gifts will be funneled to the local Social Services agencies across our community to provide children with a small treasure of joy during this special holiday season.



### Parke honored

Hindman Main Street Manager Jim Watkins, left, honors Hazard Community College Business Liaison Larry Parke for his assistance in writing the grant that resulted in the Silver Status for Hindman as part of Renaissance Kentucky.

### View

Continued from p1

suppose it was Founders' Week that gave me reflective pause ... I have been teaching at Pikeville College for 25 years! That is right; I have been on the hill since Elvis died.

Though rationally I am aware of this silver anniversary, it still seems impossible. I have never been bored, as there are always fresh faces in the classroom each semester challenging me to do my best. Likewise, there are always new courses to teach and new skills to master.

While the years do tend to run together, and I can't remember without checking my records which years I worked on a particular committee or with a certain student group, I do know that one of the most rewarding experiences I have each year is seeing those graduates walk across the stage at commencement. For 25 springs I have watched them, with faces beaming, step forward to receive their hard-earned diplomas. I always feel a sense of pride knowing that I have contributed to the learning experience that got them there. I believe that our entire Pikeville College faculty strives to see our students succeed, both in the classroom and beyond.

Many changes have occurred during my tenure at Pikeville, such as opportunities for participation in athletics, particularly for our women, where leadership and teamwork skills can be gleaned. Academic opportunities have increased as well with

the addition of new majors, revision of existing majors, and the offering of new courses. I am particularly happy to announce that we have recently added an emphasis in Management Information Systems to our Bachelor of Business Administration degree. Finally, numerous campus organizations give our students the chance to fellowship for a common purpose. Last year we organized a chapter of Sigma Beta Delta, an honor society for juniors and seniors in business.

As the fall semester comes to a close, another academic year will soon have flown by and many of those faces now gracing my classroom will be walking across that stage come spring. And that's why I'm still here.

Pamela Pack Gilliam is an associate professor of Business at Pikeville College.

### Campus

Continued from p1

Has anyone ever wanted you to taste a new food and because of the way it looks or an ingredient that's added to it you refuse, but they keep begging and pleading until you finally give in. You stand over the garbage can while you slowly introduce this new taste to your taste buds. Once it is in your mouth you pause for a moment — nothing happens — and then with the utmost surprise your

participation, we found their comments to be frank, candid and unencumbered by the skepticism that can often act as a barrier in this type of program. Ultimately however, this event would not have succeeded without the able assistance of Jackie Bowling, Harold Burton, Eugene Blackburn, Mylinda Burris, Karen Houston, and Virginia Williamson of the Community and Economic Development Departments of PRECC and MTC, John Herald, and most importantly Don Montgomery and the M&O staff here at PRECC.

Of course we gratefully acknowledge the assistance of the administrators, counselors, teachers, and transportation departments of the respective school districts. Without their interest and willingness to work with us absolutely none of this could have been possible.

### Retail

an analyst at UBS Warburg Securities.

Retailers count on sales to grow, not just hold steady. And Michael P. Niemira, vice president of Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi Ltd., now predicts sales at stores opened at least one year, known as same-store sales, in November and December combined will be up just 1.5 percent, the weakest increase since the index began tracking the data in 1970.

Even the nation's discounters, including Wal-Mart Stores Inc., which usually fare well during difficult economic times, faltered. Wal-Mart now expects same-store sales in December to rise from 2 percent to 3 percent; it had expected growth of between 3 percent and 5 percent.

"When Wal-Mart has a soft Christmas, then America has a problem because consumers are obviously not excited about buying anything — even at the lowest prices," said C. Britt Beemer, chairman of America's Research Group.

Tom Williams, a Wal-Mart spokesman, said consumers appeared to wait longer to buy holiday items, noting that even wrap-

ping paper and Christmas tree sales saw a surge in the third week of the month. Normally, a sales spurt occurs earlier in December.

On Main Street and in the nation's malls, shoppers monitored every markdown as if they were tracking the performance of their favorite stocks.

"I'm just looking for the sales on seasonal things ... Before Christmas, they had 40 percent off. Today, I found cards at 80 percent off. I have a good job, but I don't know if I will tomorrow so I'm trying to save money where I can," said Monique Davis, who on Thursday was at a Wal-Mart store in Sanford, Fla., where she resides. Some shoppers were already getting a head start on next year's holiday gifts.

"We've already gone to the car once," said Mary Beth Cox, who was browsing through racks of half-priced sweaters at Dillard's department store at McCain Mall in North Little Rock, Ark., where she lives.

"If you get 50 percent off now, next year you'll be paying full price for the same thing."

Still, many analysts put more of

the blame on the stores themselves, for pinching pennies and not creating enough excitement for shoppers.

The season featured several popular items, like FurReal cat, a robotic fluffy feline, and Bratz dolls. But it lacked the fervor of past toy-shopping fads like Tickle Me Elmo

or Furby.

"Stores have lost their 'Wow!' factor," said Beemer. "Manufacturers and retailers have to work together and create something new. Spending will come back when consumers have something they want to buy."

## State to take applications for extended payments

FRANKFORT — The state Department for Employment Services will take applications for extended unemployment insurance payments beyond their scheduled expiration on Saturday, the agency announced Thursday.

President Bush wants the extension program reauthorized, and the agency thinks Congress might act on his request in early January, according to a statement.

Unemployment workers who have exhausted their 26 weeks

of compensation have generally been eligible for up to 13 weeks of extended payments.

James F. Thompson, commissioner of the department, said the idea of continuing to take applications was to minimize delay of payments, should Congress authorize a retroactive extension.

Nearly 18,000 Kentuckians could be affected by termination of the extension program, the department estimated.

### Labor

Continued from p2

resource for businesses and economic development professionals as they make decisions about business expansions or site locations," he said. "From a business perspective, it is particularly exciting to now have figures at the county level for underemployment."

Most of the information is available by county, groups of contiguous counties, area development districts and workforce investment areas.

"The Cabinet for Workforce Development is committed to providing as much information about the Commonwealth's labor market as possible and will continue to help meet the business community's and individuals' information needs," said CWD Secretary Allen D. Rose. "We view this as an essential part of our overall mission."

A wide range of labor market statistics is available on the cabinet's website at [www.kycwd.org](http://www.kycwd.org). For more information about how the new data can help, business people can contact Alicia Crouch in the Office of Workforce Research and Analysis at (502) 564-6606.

### HCC

Continued from p1

with us," Mrs. Hendrix said. Those wanting to make donations can make checks payable to Hazard Community College and mail to Carla Seals, HCC, One Community College Drive, Hazard, KY 41701. Questions can be directed to Carla at 800-246-7521, ext. 8002.

### Jobless

Continued from p2

temporary supply agencies, added 500 jobs in November. Amusement and recreation services added 200 jobs.

In the government sector, positions rose by 1,000 in November. This increase was largely due to 700 jobs in local government, which includes public education.

The state's manufacturing sector recorded a gain for the first time since August by adding 800 jobs in November. The majority of those new jobs were in industrial machinery and equipment. Since November 2001, jobs in the sector have fallen by 2,300.

Employment in the construction sector jumped by 600 jobs in November.

General building contractors, including residential builders, added 400 jobs in November, while heavy construction contractors had 200 new positions.

The mining and quarrying

sector had 100 more jobs in November.

The finance, insurance and real estate sector also had 100 more positions in November.

On the down side, Kentucky's trade sector dropped by 2,100 jobs in November.

Retail trade jobs declined by 2,000 while wholesale trade positions dropped by 100. The job decreases were in eating and drinking establishments (-900), food stores (-400), general merchandise stores (-300) and miscellaneous retail stores (-300).

The transportation, communications and public utilities sectors recorded 100 fewer jobs in November. This sector has declined by 2,600 jobs in November 2001 with the majority of the losses (-1,900) occurring in the air transportation industry, Cracraft said.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics monthly estimate of the number of employed Kentuckians for November 2002 was 1,879,261 on a seasonally adjusted basis. This figure is down 9,574 from the 1,888,835 employed in October 2002, but up 29,103 from the 1,850,158 Kentuckians employed in November 2001.

The monthly estimate of the number of unemployed Kentuckians for November 2002 was 100,659. This figure

### You

Continued from p2

Yes. However, a provider cannot ask you to pay more than the amount Medicare approves for the service.

Have questions about Medicare? Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), TTY/IDD 1-877-486-2048 (toll free for the hearing impaired), or visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) on

### Respect

Continued from p2

ny has worked harder than others from more affluent regions to overcome the negative images.

"Honestly, I think we still fight that today," he said. "We have gone a long way toward proving ourselves over 20 years."

Data Futures started out developing administrative software for school districts, but secured a niche in the health care industry by developing cutting-edge software for harried health workers to use on home visits, said Elmer Whitler, director of research and planning for the University of Kentucky Center for Rural Health.

"These are some of the most talented persons with whom I have ever worked, and I have been doing this for 30 years," Whitler said. "These people had worked in firms much larger cities, but they preferred to live in small towns like Harlan. This was talent coming home, and we're beneficiaries of that."

Whitler said the Center for Rural Health needed software that would allow health care workers with no computer backgrounds to quickly and easily input information about clients on portable computers.

The touch-screen software that Data Futures developed for the Center for Rural Health just over a year ago already is being used by other agencies across the nation.

Data Futures now has 28 employees, more than 800 customers and annual revenues of \$2.5 million. The firm has also

opened satellite offices in Lexington and Kingsport, Tenn.

Duane DeBruyne, spokesman for the Appalachian Regional Commission, said mountains are no impasse for high-tech firms.

"The beauty of the Internet is that you can be located literally anywhere in the world and provide services," he said. "Clients could care less where you're located."

DeBruyne said the Appalachian region has made tremendous advances economically in just the past 10 years. He said the economy is increasingly diversified, roads have been widened and straightened across the region, and the telecommunications capacity is growing exponentially.

"That's a portrait of Appalachia that's gaining notice all over the country," DeBruyne said.

Linda Johnson, president of the Center for Information Technology Enterprise at Bowling Green, said some people still have difficulty thinking of Kentucky as high-tech.

"I certainly think that it raises eyebrows," Johnson said. "Outside of Kentucky, there is a perception of Kentucky as predominantly a manufacturing and tobacco farming state. People in general outside Kentucky have not thought of Kentucky as a high-tech Mecca."

Combs and Harris were working as computer programmers for Eastover Mining Co. in Harlan when they got the idea for Data Futures. Their

first major job was developing accounting software for school districts. They later developed additional software to track student attendance and food service records.

Combs said she and Harris wanted Data Futures to be based in Harlan because the small town, they said, is a great place to live.

"The difficulty lies in the geography and our distance from a major airport," she said. "That is a challenge at times. But I think the quality of life here, the atmosphere, and all the things that go along with living in a small town offset the negatives."

Thorpe, an Eastern Kentucky native whose company holds contracts with NASA to develop leak-proof valves and linear motors, agreed. He chose to move back to his home town to free-lance his engineering skills, hoping for the best but preparing for the worst.

"This has worked out beautifully," he said. "I consider this one of the most beautiful places in the country."

# Be an Angel.

Become a Kentucky organ & tissue donor. For information contact: 1-800-525-3456, or [www.trustforlife.org](http://www.trustforlife.org)

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## Donna's Day

Creative family fun  
by Donna Erickson

### Make 2003 Resolutions Special

New Year's resolutions aren't just for grown-ups! Our children can participate as well. Perhaps your child would like to learn how to ride a two-wheel bike, plant a vegetable garden, take piano lessons or join a soccer team at the neighborhood park. Or, perhaps someone in your family needs encouragement to work on areas that are particular-



DAVID LAROCHELLE

ly challenging, such as including younger brothers or sisters in games, making the bed regularly or putting away clothes. Illustrating special New Year's resolutions can make undertaking those 2003 improvements more fun.

Gather your markers, pens and crayons on the kitchen table and explain the idea of resolutions to your children. Give examples, share one another's ideas, and then encourage your kids to draw each of their own 2003 resolutions on a sheet of paper. Instead of making original drawings, your child might prefer cutting out pictures from old magazines to create an artistic collage of his or her resolution.

When the pictures are complete, write each resolution at the bottom in large letters (adults and older siblings can help little ones do this) and hang the papers on a bulletin board or bedroom wall. The drawings will reinforce the challenges your kids have set for themselves for the new year and serve as a reminder of their goals.

Add your artwork to the project, too! Your kids will be interested in knowing and supporting you with your resolutions for the coming year, such as: "I resolve to stop smoking — DAD," or "I resolve to run with the dog weekdays after work — MOM." Some families might like to create their own "Family Resolution" to focus on doing something together to serve neighbors and the community.

With some support from each other, your resolutions just might be realized this year!

Write Donna with your questions and ideas at [www.donnasday.com](http://www.donnasday.com). Donna's newly released book, "Donna Erickson's Fabulous Funstuff for Families," is now available in bookstores nationwide.



## ROASTED CAPON TASTES AS GOOD AS IT LOOKS

When you want something different and impressive for a festive dinner, think Iowa capon. Available smoked or fresh frozen, in 7- to 9-pound sizes, it's ideal for the small family or an intimate dinner party.

According to Marc Nichols of Wapsie Produce, America's largest grower of smoked and fresh frozen Grade A capons, it's the special care and feeding of its birds that give them tender succulence. Roasted to a golden hue and garnished with fruit, capon makes an especially attractive table centerpiece that is as delicious as it looks.

Here is a fruity rice stuffing, crunchy with sautéed celery and green onion — a tasty change from the usual bread dressing. Make and separately bake more than the bird needs because there will be calls for second and third helpings, I guarantee.

### CAPON WITH RICE STUFFING, PEACH AND GRAPE GARNISH

- 1 (7- to 9-pound) frozen Iowa capon, completely thawed
- 4 tablespoons melted butter or margarine, divided
- Salt and pepper
- 1/2 cup butter or margarine
- 1 cup diced celery
- 1/3 cup sliced green onion
- 4 cups well-drained cooked rice
- 1/2 cup seedless grape halves
- 2 tablespoons dry sherry, optional

- 1 (28-ounce) can California cling peach halves for garnish
- Green grape clusters, for garnish
- Watercress for garnish

1. Wash, drain and dry capon with paper towels. Brush all over with half the melted butter. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Sprinkle body and neck cavities with salt and pepper. Set aside.

2. Melt the 1/2-cup butter in large skillet. Add celery and onion; cook over low heat until vegetables are tender, stirring often. Cool; set aside. When cooled, fold in rice, grape halves, sherry and salt, if needed.

3. Fill cavities of capon loosely with stuffing. Skewer neck skin to back. Place capon, breast side up, in shallow open roast pan. Use no water in pan. Cover capon loosely with aluminum foil, crimping it to edges of pan. Roast in 325 F

oven, for about 30 minutes per pound. Remove foil 45 minutes before end of roasting time. Brush capon with remaining melted butter and continue roasting until leg joint moves easily.

4. To serve, place capon on platter and garnish with peach halves, grape clusters and watercress. Cover with aluminum foil and let stand 15 minutes before carving. Makes 6 servings.

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### THE CHOPPING BLOCK

by Philomena Corradeno

## What are you doing New Year's Eve?



by JoAnna M. Lund

If you're celebrating the New Year with a party, be sure to include this scrumptious cheesecake on the menu. It looks as festive as it tastes. What a way to start the year!

### HOLIDAY WHITE CHOCOLATE CHEESECAKE

- 2 (8-ounce) packages fat-free cream cheese
- 1 (4-serving) package sugar-free

- instant white-chocolate pudding mix
- 2/3 cup nonfat dry milk powder
- 1 cup water
- 1 cup reduced-calorie whipped topping
- 1 (6-ounce) purchased chocolate pie crust
- 1/2 teaspoon almond extract
- 4 to 5 drops red food coloring

(See FOODS, page five)

## Dear Diane... Auction addict

## DEAR DIANE:

My wife, "Greta," is a wonderful woman, a loving wife, a dedicated mother and my best friend. I love her with all my heart. So, why am I writing to you? Greta has just recently discovered the Internet — specifically, an extremely popular online auction site.

In the past three weeks, Greta has spent virtually every spare moment of her time online bidding. Often, she doesn't come to bed until 2 or 3 in the morning. I have no idea how much money she has spent online. I've tried to find out, but Greta won't tell me, and I since I do not know her password, I cannot access her auction account.

Diane, I am afraid Greta has become an auction addict. What can I do to help her?

— DISTRESSED  
IN DETROIT

## DEAR DISTRESSED:

The first step is to calmly sit down with Greta and tell her that you are worried about the amount of time she is spending online. Let her know that you don't mind if she shops online, but she should be careful not to get carried away.

You don't need to access her online account to find out how much she's spent. You can just call your credit-card company to find out. If Greta has been going wild with her spending, you can ask your credit-card company to block any Internet transactions. Most auction sites use a service for credit-card transactions (PayPal is one of the more popular ones). Just tell your credit-card company to block any requests coming from it — or whichever service the auction site uses.

If Greta is paying by check or money order, then get with your bank to find out what withdrawals have been made in the past three weeks.

If Greta has been overspending, you'll find out soon enough. If she doesn't want to accept the fact that she may have an addiction, you may need to seek professional counseling.

Also, don't forget that you can always take the stuff she's bought online and put it back up for auction to recoup your losses.

Send letters to Diane c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Or e-mail her at [DearDianeV@aol.com](mailto:DearDianeV@aol.com).

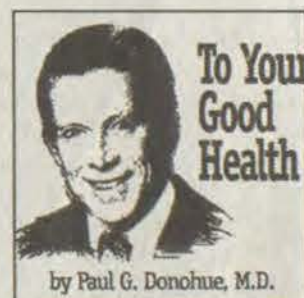
## Is it wrong to mix aspirin and alcohol?

## DEAR DR. DONOHUE:

I take an aspirin every day in the morning in hopes of preventing a heart attack. I come from a family where heart attacks occur at a young age. I am counting on the aspirin to be my salvation. I have just read an article that said it was a bad idea to take aspirin and alcohol.

At dinner, my wife and I have a glass of wine. We have been doing so for the past six months. We do it because we like it and because of its good effects on the heart.

Are we doing something wrong by taking both aspirin and alcohol? — W.J.



by Paul G. Donohue, M.D.

## ANSWER:

Taking an aspirin in the morning and a glass of wine in the evening causes no trouble. It takes about three or four hours for the stomach to empty. The aspirin is long gone from your stomach by the time you take alcohol. Taking them simultaneously could irritate the stomach and possibly provoke bleeding.

You could benefit from reading the newly prepared pamphlet on heart attacks. Readers can obtain a copy by writing: Dr. Donohue — No. 102W, Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-

(See HEALTH, page five)

## Chicken Soup for the Soul: Tiny and the Oak Tree

Dennis K. McIntosh, D.V.M.  
(FROM "CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE PET LOVER'S SOUL")

Reprinted by permission of Dennis K. McIntosh, D.V.M. (c)1997 Dennis K. McIntosh, D.V.M.

He was scary looking. Standing about 6 foot 6 inches tall, he had shoulders the width of my dining-room table. His hair hung to his shoulders; a full beard obscured half of his face. His massive arms and chest were covered with tattoos. He was wearing greasy blue jeans and a jean jacket with the sleeves cut off. Chains clanked on his motorcycle boots and on the key ring hanging from his wide leather belt. He held out a hand the size of a pie plate, in which lay a tiny, misshapen kitten.

"What's wrong with Tiny, Doc?" he asked in a gruff voice. My exam revealed a birth defect. Tiny's spine had never grown together, and he was paralyzed in his back legs. No amount of surgery, medicine or prayer was going to fix him. I felt helpless.

The only thing I could tell this big, hairy giant was that his little friend was going to die. I was ashamed of my prejudice, but I felt a little nervous anticipating the biker's reaction. Being the bearer of bad news is never pleasant, but with a rough-looking character like the man in front of me, I didn't know what to expect.

I tried to be as tactful as possible,

explaining Tiny's problem and what we could expect, which was a slow, lingering death. I braced myself for his response.

But the big fella only looked at me with eyes that I could barely see through the hair on his face and said sadly, "I guess we gotta do him, huh, Doc?"

I agreed that, yes, the best way to help Tiny was to give him the injection that would end his poor, pain-filled life. So with his owner holding Tiny, we ended the little kitten's pain.

When it was over, I was surprised to see this macho guy the size of an oak tree just standing there holding Tiny, with tears running down his beard. He never

apologized for crying, but he managed a choked "Thanks, Doc," as he carried his little friend's body home to bury him.

Although ending a patient's life is never pleasant, my staff and I all agreed that we were glad we could stop the sick kitten's pain. Weeks passed, and the incident faded.

Then one day the oak-sized biker appeared in the clinic again. It looked ominously like we were about to repeat the earlier scenario. The huge man was wearing the same clothes and carrying another kitten in his pie-plate hand. But I was enormously relieved upon examining "Tiny Two" to find he was absolutely, perfectly, wonderfully normal and healthy.

I started Tiny Two's vaccinations, tested him for worms and discussed his care,

diet and future needs with his deceptively tough-looking owner. By now, it was obvious that Mr. Oak Tree had a heart that matched his size.

I wonder now how many other Hell's Angel types are really closet marshmallows. In fact, whenever I see a pack of scary-looking bikers roaring past me on the road, I crane my neck to see if I can catch a glimpse of some tiny, little kitten poking its head up out of a sleek chrome sidecar — or maybe even peeking out from inside the front of a black, leather jacket.

Look for our latest books, "Chicken Soup for the Volunteer's Soul," "Chicken Soup for the Teacher's Soul" and "A Second Round of Chicken Soup for the Golfer's Soul."





# Books: Recipe books, reviewed by Ealish Waddell

**"125 Best Casseroles and One-Pot Meals"**  
by: Rose Murray  
(Firefly Books, \$18.95)

**"Delicious and Dependable Slow Cooker Recipes"**  
by: Judith Finlayson  
(Firefly Books, \$22.95)

Reviewed by Ealish Waddell

With all the holiday shopping and decorating and visiting

and preparing, sometimes it seems hard to find time to sleep, much less cook. And yet we all want to keep serving healthy meals for ourselves and our families — dishes that are hot and fast but keep us far away from the drive-thru. So it's a great time to try these two new cookbooks. They're chock full of time-tested, family-pleasing recipes that require a minimum of fuss but promise maximum enjoyment.

For lots of traditional

favorites, pick up "125 Best Casseroles and One-Pot Meals" by Rose Murray, a mouth-watering compendium of comfort foods. From classic chicken pot pies and beef stews to party-ready paellas and pastas, you'll find plenty of cozy and filling suppers perfect for those long, cold nights ahead. A bonus: With one-pot preparation, there are fewer dishes to wash afterward!

For an even easier meal, let the pot itself do the cooking.

"Delicious and Dependable Slow Cooker Recipes" by Judith Finlayson features tummy-warming soups and chilies, saucy meat dishes and even breads and desserts that put that dusty old crockpot to delicious use. Coming home to a piping-hot meal ready to serve is an extra-special treat on these chilly days. And it saves a little more time out of a busy holiday schedule for the part we enjoy most of all — gathering the family together and eating!

## Sam & Dave explain it all to you

by Samantha Weaver and Dave Smith

### DEAR SAM & DAVE

About seven years ago, when I was still in high school, I briefly dated a girl named "Jill." After a month or so, we both realized that we'd be much better off as friends than as boyfriend and girlfriend, so we started dating other people.

We remained friendly, though; in fact, she's become my best friend. We have lots in common — we love the same movies and music, we have the same sense of humor, and we can talk for hours. We've both dated other people and have always been able to talk with each other about relationships and the inevitable pitfalls.

Here's the problem: For the first time, Jill's getting really serious about someone (she's even talking about marriage), and it's driving me nuts. A couple of weeks ago, I suddenly realized that I'm jealous of this guy. It's ridiculous — I don't want to date Jill, but I don't want her to be in love with someone else, either. I

## Put your jealousy behind you

know it's really selfish, but I don't know how to stop feeling this way. Should I just tell her how I feel and ask her to stop talking about him around me? I don't know how to handle this.

— SEEING GREEN IN GAUTIER

### SAM SAYS:

One of the most important things in any relationship is the ability to have open and honest communication. There are times when just opening up, putting yourself on the line and saying exactly how you feel is necessary. This is NOT one of those times.

I feel for you, Greenie. I really do. It's understandable that you're jealous of New Guy. You've been the primary man in her life for seven years, and suddenly you're not. You feel like you're losing your best friend, and that's never easy to take. Try to remember, though, that you're NOT really losing a friend. The relationship will be somewhat different, and you may spend less time together; but change is the only inevitable thing in life, so you'd better get used to it.

What you've got to do is suck it up and be happy for Jill — and

if you can't be genuinely happy for her, then do your damndest to fake it. True friends rejoice in one another's happiness, even if that happiness comes at a price.

Think about what would happen if you told her how you really feel. She, being a kind and sensitive friend, would probably stop talking about New Guy around you. She would feel guilty that she's found romantic happiness while you're still searching. And if she has to remember to censor her conversation when you're around and has vague feelings of guilt when the two of you are together, I'll bet you'll be seeing less and less of her — and then your friendship will really be over.

### DAVE SAYS:

Yeah. What Sam said. Suck it up. Ignore your feelings and LIE to your best friend (because, as Sam says, "open and honest communication" is the cornerstone of a healthy relationship). Don't say a word because it's all about HER, HER, HER. Jill's feelings are more important than yours, moron, don't you get it?

You have every right to feel like you got the fuzzy end of the lollipop. It's not that you're

begudging Jill a little happiness, but if this guy she's dating is The One, you have a right to feel a little poop. Not because Jill is happy, but because you had hoped to find Miss Right if not before Jill, then at least around the same time. Now, you're left out of the intimacy loop and your emotional support system has been hacked by some joker who doesn't know Jill half as well as you do.

And let's not forget that Jill isn't an idiot. She's probably already figured out that you aren't the happiest Cheeto in the bag right now. DO follow Sam's initial advice: Be open and honest with Jill. Tell her that although you are happy she's found someone, you feel bad because you won't be seeing your best friend as often as you are accustomed to. Also tell her that she shouldn't feel awkward about talking about Mr. Right in front of you. HE isn't the problem.

Lastly, think of this as a Good Thing. Chances are, the reason you haven't found Miss Right is because you've spent so much time with Jill. Now that she's found someone, you'll have more time to look for someone of your own.

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In areas with a decidedly British influence (Australia, Canada, Great Britain, New Zealand and some other former Commonwealth countries), Dec. 26 marks Boxing Day. The day has its roots in St. Stephen's Day, the day after Christmas, when churches would open their collection boxes to the poor. Also continuing the "box" theme, in the Middle Ages, merchants would box up food and deliver it to those in need.

Having ourselves just indulged in the largest of all giving and receiving holidays — Christmas — we could all use a day to encourage us to continue the spirit of service to others. But really, doing a service for

## A vacation that keeps on giving

others should last for more than just one day. Why not consider, as a New Year's resolution, taking a "volunteer" vacation? Here are a couple of companies to consider for a volunteer-vacation experience in the United States:

■ The American Hiking Society has long been involved in outdoor vacations that assist our national parks. Trips start at a mere \$80 and are available nearly year-round; they have many different destinations to offer, from California to Florida, so contact them at [www.americanhiking.org](http://www.americanhiking.org) or call (301) 565-6704.

■ High-school-age kids can become a Landmark Volunteer by giving up some time in the spring or summer to help out at a national landmark, cultural organization or social-service institution. Get in touch with the program at [www.volunteers.com](http://www.volunteers.com) or call (413) 229-0255. Opportunities are available for adults as well.

■ Amizade, meaning "friendship" in

Portuguese, is the name of an organization that is non-religious and non-political. Its only aim is to provide willing bodies with the means to help out somewhere. Although it sponsors programs worldwide, there is an upcoming opportunity in the United States in Montana's Greater Yellowstone Region. The program gives participants the opportunity to fix up a dude ranch purchased by the National Parks Service while staying in Montana's lush natural beauty. Call (888) 973-4443 or log on to [www.amizade.com](http://www.amizade.com) for information.

■ Finally, Global Volunteers, while mostly international, offers opportunities in eight states, including fixing up playgrounds on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation of Montana or assisting in the education of children of migrant workers during the Immokalee, Fla., picking season. Check out the many opportunities at [www.globalvolunteers.org](http://www.globalvolunteers.org) or call 1-800-487-1074.

## St. Nicholas/Santa Claus is also the patron saint of Russia

■ St. Nicholas isn't just Santa Claus — he's also the patron saint of Russia.

■ According to the Guinness Book of World Records, the world's largest shopping and entertainment center is located in Alberta, Canada. The West Edmonton Mall has more than 800 stores, but shopping isn't all it has to offer. Visitors can stay at the four-star Fantasyland Hotel, visit an amusement park or a water park, go ice-skating, play miniature golf, ride in a submarine (in the world's largest indoor lake), feed dolphins and penguins, climb a rock wall, visit a haunted castle or go bungee jumping — all within the shopping mall.

■ Torture wasn't outlawed in San Quentin until 1944, and Brazil waited until 1957 to make torture illegal.

■ It was a wise man, Will Rogers, who



observed, "Half our life is spent trying to find something to do with the time we have rushed through life trying to save."

■ Little Rock, Arkansas, was originally known as Arkopolis.

■ In ancient Sparta, warfare was emphasized heavily — even for children. At the age of 7, boys were taken from their mothers and until age 11 were raised in paramilitary training groups. Abuse was encouraged (to toughen them), and they were deliberately underfed and ill-clothed. At the age of 12,

they lived communally in order to prepare them to live in the military manner.

■ The name "Alice" means "noble kind"; "Amy" means "beloved"; "Angela" means "messenger of God"; and "Amanda" means "lovable."

■ Starting in 1872, you could buy Cracker Jacks, but the prizes weren't added until 1912.

■ China and India are the only countries in the world that have a population of more than 1 billion.

\*\*\*

### Thought for the Day:

"A little knowledge is a dangerous thing." That is why so many persons don't fool with it." — Dan Kidney

## INFOLINK Beat spam by giving up

It's funny how fast e-mail became irrelevant as a means of genuine communication. Irrelevant, because if you ask anybody, they'll tell you how inundated they are with spam, or unwanted, unsolicited e-mails.

When a person receives 30 or more e-mails a day from complete strangers, checking e-mail becomes a chore, and many times legitimate e-mails from family and friends are taken out with the trash.

What's a person to do? Give up! Don't waste time downloading or purchasing anti-spam software, it won't work in six months. Many spamees (those who receive spam)

now resort to "whitelisting," a practice of specifying permitted e-mail senders. So, instead of blacklisting troublesome spammers to filter e-mail, a user excludes everybody else. Hotmail has a whitelisting option, as does America Online.

While it may fly in the face of the democratic and free-spiritedness of the Internet, it's clear that many are ready to pay the price to defeat spam once and for all. Besides, instant messaging software is, for many, a more effective means of interpersonal communication than e-mail — without spam, some say.

But not for long. The spammers will catch up — especially as more people resort to whitelisting. A few spammers already use instant messaging effectively, so instead of getting your spam once a day, or however frequently you check e-mail, it will trickle in all the livelong day, forcing you to turn the sound off so you don't hear a little alarm every time you get an instant message.

Then, when the trickle becomes a torrent, you'll whitelist your instant messaging account.

But don't get completely disgusted. Yes, whitelist. But just to prove you're not a complete e-

mail elitist, get a "throwaway" e-mail account (Hotmail/Yahoo) for all your online purchases. When the spam starts to pile up, throw away the account and get another.

Keep your whitelisted ISP account for interpersonal communication. If you have a new e-mail address, then you can save yourself the necessity of whitelisting later by taking one simple precaution now: Never, ever make it public. Don't submit it in an online form, don't post it to your Web site, don't post it to Usenet, and don't use it for online purchases.

But if all else fails, win the game by giving up.

## Excercising after childbirth



Pace yourself and start off slowly. You may find walking with your baby for 20 minutes is all you can do for now. That's OK. Gradually increase your intensity level. The next step may be to try walking for 15 minutes twice a day. At the end of the day you'll have completed 30 minutes of aerobic exercise, and that's a great start.

The first several weeks after childbirth can be a hectic time of adjustment. Finding time to begin or resume an exercise program can become challenging, but the benefits — increased energy, stress-relief and aiding in the return to your pre-pregnancy body type — make the effort worthwhile.

Once your physician has given you the go-ahead, keep these post-pregnancy tips in mind when starting or re-starting your exercise program.

■ Get back in sync with your body. Over the past nine months, many changes have occurred in your body weight, body fat and center of gravity. As you begin to return to your pre-pregnancy condition, it is important to take your time and re-educate your muscles, joints and cardiovascular system.

■ If you followed an exercise regimen before and during pregnancy (after your physician's clearance), continue your exercise program at the same level as right before you gave birth. Slowly progress to your pre-pregnancy exercise routine. Let your body be your guide. Allow your body to get reacquainted with the increase in intensity. (If you did not have an exercise routine before or during pregnancy, consult your physician about an appropriate fitness regimen.)

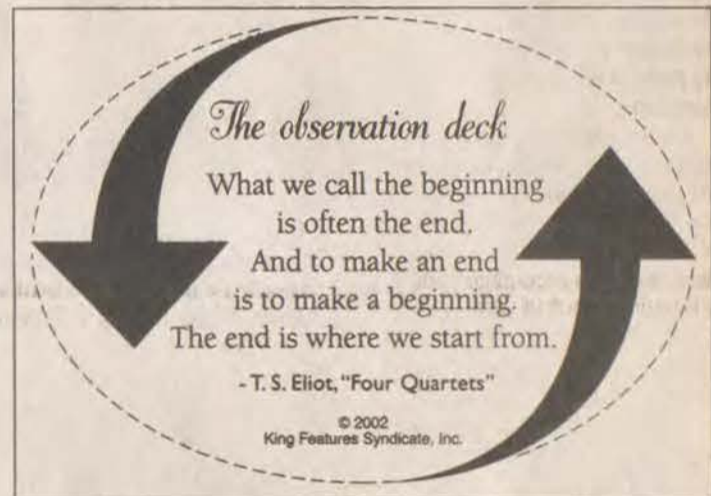
■ Don't exercise to exhaustion. Throw the phrase "No pain, no gain" out the window.

■ Wear supportive clothing. Uncomfortable workout clothes can discourage you from completing your exercise routine. If you are lactating, it may be necessary to wear a supportive bra — or possibly two. The changes to your breasts may make ordinary exercises more difficult. Take the time to find comfortable and supportive workout attire that works for you.

Have fun and remember to give your body time to respond and change. Allow your exercise program to enhance the happiness of you and your new baby.

Andrea Renee Wyatt, M.S.S., C.S.C.S., is a personal trainer with an extensive background in strength and conditioning as well as therapeutic recreation. If you have a fitness or training question, e-mail Andrea at [letters.kfws@hearstsc.com](mailto:letters.kfws@hearstsc.com), or write her in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

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## Foods

Continued from p4

1 tablespoon slivered almonds  
1 tablespoon mini chocolate chips  
3 maraschino cherries, quartered

mixture over set filling. Sprinkle almonds, chocolate chips and cherry pieces evenly over top. Refrigerate at least 30 minutes. Serves 8.

In a large bowl, stir cream cheese with a spoon until soft. Add dry pudding mix, dry milk powder and water. Mix well using wire whisk. Blend in 1/4 cup whipped topping. Spread mixture evenly into pie crust. Refrigerate while preparing topping. In medium bowl, gently combine remaining 3/4 cup whipped topping, almond extract and food coloring. Evenly spread topping

■ Each serving equals: 206 calories, 6 g fat, 11 g protein, 27 g carb., 641 mg sodium, 1 g fiber; Diabetic Exchanges: 1 1/2 Starch, 1 Meat, 1 Fat.

Visit JoAnna's Web site at [www.healthylifechanges.com](http://www.healthylifechanges.com) or call 1-800-766-8961 for more information about her "common folk" healthy recipes.

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## Health

Continued from p4

6475. Enclose a check or money order (no cash) for \$4.50 along with the recipient's printed name and address. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.

attack — which it sounds like you are having.

Doctors can detect sulfite sensitivity by challenging a patient with a small amount of sulfite and observing any reaction. They are prepared to terminate a reaction if one occurs.

### DEAR DR. DONOHUE:

Is it possible to develop an allergy to wine? I have drunk a glass of wine with dinner for most of my life. Now, after drinking it, I wheeze and am short of breath. What would you advise? — D.K.

### ANSWER:

I'd advise seeing the family doctor or an allergist. My hunch is that you might have developed a sensitivity to sulfites.

Sulfites are preservatives that are added to many foods. They occur naturally in other foods. They stop foods from spoiling or changing color.

About one person in 100 becomes sensitive to sulfites. When those people are exposed to sulfites in food or drink, they can have an asthma

If it turns out that you are sulfite-sensitive, you have to become a label reader. Look for these words on the labels: sodium sulfite, sulfur dioxide, sodium bisulfite, sodium metabisulfite, potassium bisulfite and potassium metabisulfite.

Many wines contain naturally occurring sulfites.

Dr. Donohue regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but he will incorporate them in his column whenever possible. Readers may write him or request an order form of available health newsletters at P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

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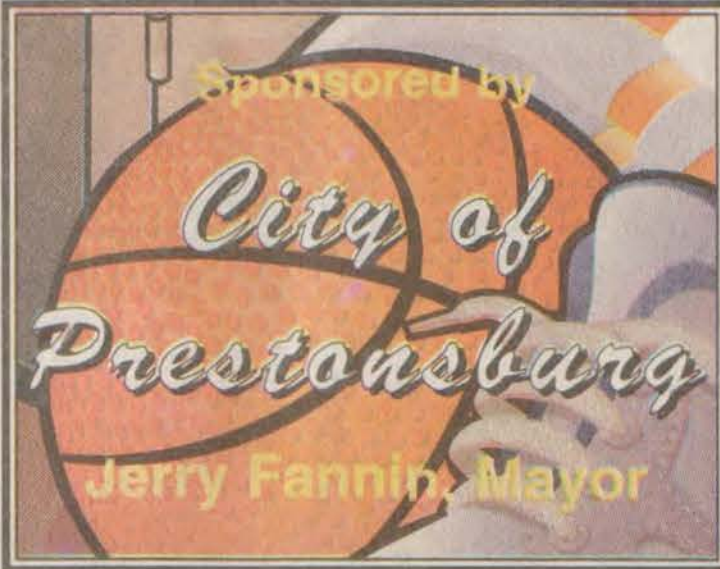
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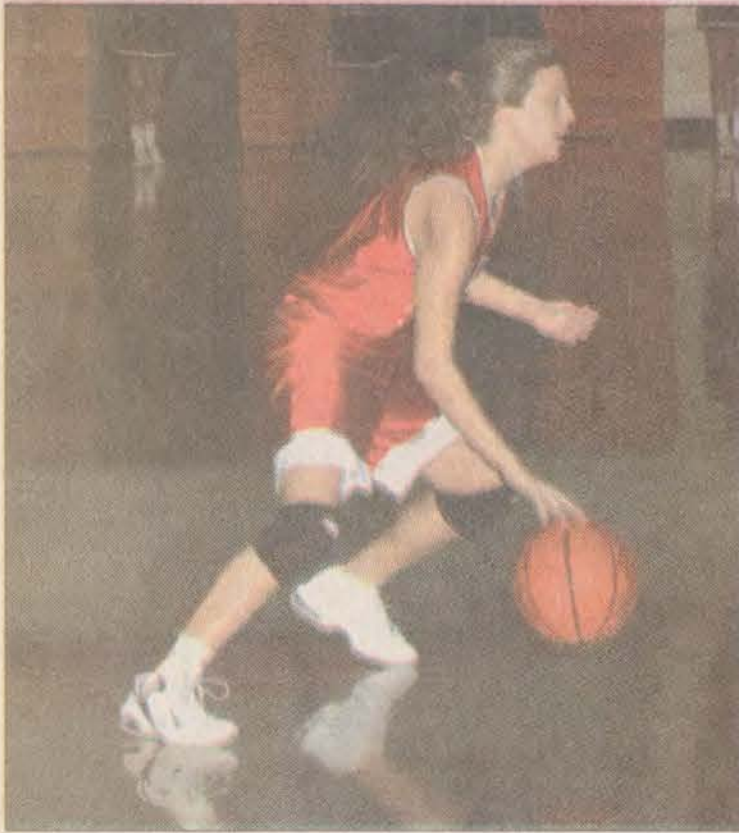
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**Good Luck To All Floyd County Teams Happy New Year to All**



file photo

Meaghan Slone went to the basket in this photo taken during the recent middle school girls' basketball season. Slone, an eighth-grader, is now a strong contributor to the P'burg High girls' basketball team.

# KIDS AT PLAY

photo by Jamie Justice

Members of the South Floyd High School boys' basketball team awaited the introduction of starters in a game against Allen Central earlier this season.

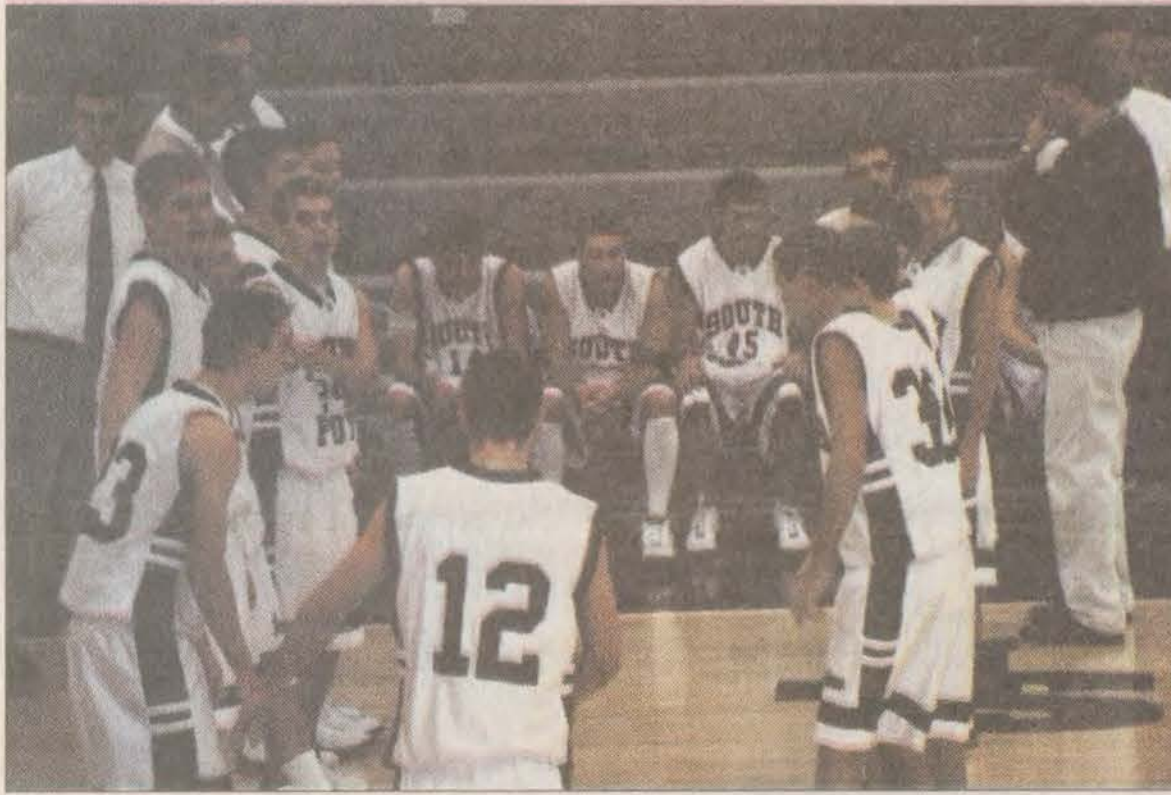


photo by Jamie Justice

South Floyd fan Tanner Tackett, son of Jamie and Trina Tackett of Minnie, took time away from the South Floyd-Allen Central ball game to look at the camera.



The Salyersville Grade School cheerleaders won first-place in the recent Magoffin County Grade School Boys' Basketball Tournament. Pictured above are Eagle cheerleaders Dalton Combs, Lakkan Minix, and Alyssa Adams in the first row, Amber Whitaker, Ashton Johnson, and Kiana Doderer in the second row and sponsor Theresa Miller, Elizabeth Howard, LeAnna Mullins, Hali Blanton, and coach Krista Minix in the back row. Not pictured is Adara Patrick. This victory celebrated a Triple Crown for Salyersville Grade School as the boys' basketball, and girls' basketball teams also took first place honors.



photo by Jamie Howell

Members of the Adams Middle School cheerleading squad mingled during a banquet held earlier this year.



**Good Luck, Blackcats!!**

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