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**briefs**

## Revenue receipts skyrocket

Receipts to Kentucky's General Fund jumped by 14.8 percent last month, according to figures released by the state budget office.

Receipts totaled \$658 million, an increase of \$85 million from January 2002, the report said.

The figures came with a disclaimer: Acting Budget Director Mary Lassiter said the unusually high growth was due almost exclusively to higher individual estimated income tax payments, making it a onetime event, not a sign of an economic turnaround.

Otherwise, "the month of January did not reveal any turnaround in the major tax sources," Lassiter said in a statement.

The increased income tax payments were known to the state's official revenue estimators and already have been incorporated into the latest General Fund forecast, Lassiter said.

A better indicator of the times is the sales tax, which declined 1.9 percent during the period. The Road Fund declined by 11.9 percent, the report said.

January receipts boosted the General Fund's total to \$4.1 billion and its growth rate for the year to 6.5 percent.

**inside**

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**3 DAY FORECAST**

**Today**  
Mostly cloudy  
High: 36 • Low: 21

**Tomorrow**  
Snow and wind  
High: 32 • Low: 13

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

Brenda Little, one of the four that will have criminal syndicate charges dropped in lieu of a testimony against Columbus and Donald Quillen, entered a plea of guilty to second-degree trafficking in a controlled substance on Friday.

photo by Loretta Blackburn



## Syndicate charge dropped for plea

by LORETTA BLACKBURN  
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — One of the six indicted May 16 for engaging in organized crime, Brenda Little, 35, was sentenced for trafficking on Friday, while a criminal syndicate charge against her was dropped in exchange for her testi-

mony against the "ringleaders." According to Commonwealth's Attorney Brent Turner, four of the six indicted on syndicate charges have been asked to testify against Columbus Quillen and his son, Donald Quillen, the first being dubbed previously by Turner as the "ringleader." In return for their cooperation, Turner said that the

class B felony syndicate charges would be dropped.

After pleading guilty to second-degree trafficking on Nov. 22, Little was sentenced to five years, and after receiving credit for the time she has already served, she was ordered to serve a year-and-a-half before

(See SYNDICATE, page three)

## WINTRY SCENE



photo by Loretta Blackburn

Although Eastern Kentucky received a bit of accumulation of snow on Thursday evening, by late Friday morning the roads were mostly clear in Floyd County.

## Nursing home to keep Medicare

by JARRID DEATON  
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid have rescinded a notification of termination for its services with a Prestonsburg nursing home.

Riverview Health Care Center had been previously notified that its agreement with the secretary of Health and Humane Services as a provider of Medicare would be terminated effective on Feb. 1.

A survey of the facility conducted on January 9, showed that Riverview was not in compliance

with the requirements of participation.

Riverview was required to submit a plan of correction that would be reviewed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid.

According to Joyce Lang,

(See RIVERVIEW, page three)

## Third trafficking suspect pleads guilty

by LORETTA BLACKBURN  
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Last is least, in terms of jail time, for the third man indicted on drug-related charges pursuant to a 2001 investigation by Kentucky State Police, when the three men were involved in trafficking

OxyContin and Lorcet.

According to Commonwealth's Attorney Brent Turner, Michael Isaacs, Keith Thornsbury and Jimmy Thomas were all arrested as a result of an investigation in which Thomas was caught on videotape making a transaction.

Turner said that the tape

showed Thomas selling an informant Lorcet for \$280, for which he was indicted on a class D felony count of second-degree trafficking in a controlled substance.

In circuit court on Friday, Thomas was sentenced to two

(See TRAFFICKING, page three)



photo by Loretta Blackburn

Catherine Evans, one of the three indicted on drug related charges pursuant to an investigation at Highlands Regional Medical Center in 2001, entered a plea in Floyd Circuit Court on Friday.

## Spencer 'raising integrity' of constable's position

by JARRID DEATON  
STAFF WRITER

Newly elected District 1 Constable James Brandon Spencer will not be resting on his laurels after taking office this year. Spencer will be leaving on Sunday to attend law enforcement training in Richmond for a period of four months.

"The training is not required by law, but I think it raises the integrity of my position and allows me to better serve my district and Floyd County," Spencer said.

According to Spencer, he has made approximately 10 arrests since taking the position in January.

"My basic duties include law enforcement and the serving of papers," Spencer said.

Spencer said that he plans to come home on weekends and will patrol during that time.



Brandon Spencer



photo courtesy Raymond Daniels, Martin Fire Department

Martin and Maytown firefighters responded to a house fire on Water Street around 6:45 a.m. Wednesday. Fire officials were unable to identify the residents of the home, but all escaped the home unharmed, Martin police said. The cause of the fire is unknown and remains under investigation.

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■ **MURRIETA, Calif.** — A proposal to put the squeeze on pet snakes has slithered by.

Some residents in this southern California community couldn't charm the City Council into restricting the size, type and number of snakes a resident can own. The board voted against the proposed law Tuesday.

"If it ain't broke, don't fix it," Councilman Brian Youens said. "We have no problem in our jurisdiction, so why do we expect there to be in the future?"

Councilman Warnie Enochs proposed the ordinance after receiving a few calls from residents concerned about several large snakes owned by a neighbor. The law would have limited snakes to 5 feet long, prohibited venomous snakes and outlawed a large number of snakes.

But council members said there was no way to enforce such an ordinance and the law

would unfairly target snake owners.

"You don't own a dog and then when it gets over a certain level, start chopping pieces off," Councilman Kelly Seyarto said. "You are asking these people to own a pet for a time, then have to get rid of it."

■ **LAS VEGAS** — Soon you won't have to place a bet to be a high roller on the Las Vegas Strip.

The Clark County Commission approved plans Wednesday for a giant Ferris wheel for the famed strip.

Developers want to build a 50-story hotel and a 12-story Ferris wheel around a man-made lake with 20 yachts.

The \$650 million project, proposed by Sahara Las Vegas Corp. and Voyager Entertainment International Inc., would include 3,250 hotel rooms and timeshare units, plus 78 suites on the boats moored on the lake.

It would be called the Voyagers hotel-casino, and would be built on a 27 1/2-acre site currently occupied by a water park south of the Sahara hotel-casino.

Publicly traded Voyager Entertainment has disclosed plans for the \$100 million Ferris wheel — a 560-foot-high vehicle with 30 individual cars. The tallest structure in Nevada is the

1,149-foot Stratosphere Tower.

Voyager Entertainment has proposed building two versions of the ride, the second in Shanghai, China.

■ **CHESTERFIELD TOWNSHIP, Mich.** — It's a flap over a flapping flag.

A man who installed a 50-foot flag pole after the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks was ticketed after a neighbor said the flag's flapping made too much noise.

Ray Saelens says the sight and sound of an American flag whipping in the wind has special meaning.

"To me, the noise of the flag is the voices of everyone who's died for this country," the 51-year-old mason told The Macomb Daily of Mount Clemens for a story Thursday.

But next-door neighbor Mark Grucz complained, saying the flapping of the flag bothered him, and police issued Saelens a

warning.

In response, Saelens switched to a polyester flag designed to be quieter. "Never in a million years did I think I would bother someone by flying a flag," he said.

On Monday, a police officer cited him for violating the local noise ordinance.

"He could hardly look me in the eye," Saelens said.

Township police spokesman Jim Gates said the dispute was unprecedented, and the department had no choice but to issue a ticket when someone complains about noise.

It is up to the court to decide between the neighbors, he said.

Meanwhile, Saelens says he will fight to keep the flag flying.

"You're going to have to pry it out of my hands," he said.

■ **MUNISING, Mich.** —

(See **ODDS**, page five)

## Dome over coal stockpile at Massey mine tears, deflates

The Associated Press

**SYLVESTER, W.Va.** — A nylon dome over a coal stockpile at a Massey Energy subsidiary that is the subject of a multimillion dollar dust lawsuit collapsed after some of the coal shifted.

State officials said a bulldozer operator may have caused the coal to shift.

About half of the football field-sized dome collapsed about 9:30 a.m. Thursday as

jurors hearing the lawsuit against Elk Run Coal Co. were preparing to resume deliberations in the trial.

State officials learned about the collapse six hours later when a Department of Environmental Protection inspector arrived at the Boone County mine for a routine inspection, Matt Crum, the agency's mining director, said Friday.

"The dome was part of their permit and they had an obligation to report," Crum said.

Elk Run was cited for allowing the dome to collapse and was ordered not to move any coal into the structure. The company will be allowed to take coal out of the dome so it can be repaired, said Bill Simmons, head of the DEP's Logan office.

The coal must be removed without allowing coal dust to leave the site.

Massey spokesman Jeff Gillenwater said Friday the company was still trying to determine how the dome failed and how long it would take to repair. Gillenwater could not immediately comment on whether Elk Run tried to contact state officials.

"A dozer was on the coal stockpile above the wall and apparently tore into the dome," Crum said.

A DEP inspection report said the dome failed after an attempt was made to move coal away from the dome's fabric. The report said Elk Run had allowed the pile to grow higher than a 15-foot retaining wall, allowing it to touch the fabric.

"This situation could have and should have been preventable," DEP inspector Lee Barker wrote. Barker noted that there was adequate room under the dome to allow for the proper stockpiling of the coal.

In allowing coal to build up against the fabric, Massey violated a Jan. 2, 2002, plan that called for a perimeter safety ring around the fabric, Barker wrote.

The DEP ordered Elk Run to

(See **DOME**, page five)

## Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Sunday, Feb. 9, the 40th day of 2003. There are 325 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 9, 1943, the World War II battle of Guadalcanal in the southwest Pacific ended with an American victory over Japanese forces.

### On this date:

■ In 1773, the ninth president of the United States, William Henry Harrison, was born in Charles City County, Va.

■ In 1825, the House of Representatives elected John Quincy Adams president after no candidate received a majority of electoral votes.

■ In 1861, the Provisional Congress of the Confederate States of America elected Jefferson Davis president and Alexander H. Stephens vice president.

■ In 1870, the U.S. Weather Bureau was established.

In 1933, the Oxford Union Society at Oxford University endorsed 275-153, a motion stating "that this House will in no circumstances fight for its King and Country," a stand widely denounced by Britons.

■ In 1950, in a speech in Wheeling, W.Va., Sen. Joseph McCarthy (R-Wis.) charged the State Department was riddled with Communists.

■ In 1971, the "Apollo 14" spacecraft returned to Earth after man's third landing on the moon.

■ In 1983, in a dramatic reversal from 50 years earlier (see above), the Oxford Union Society at Oxford University rejected, 416-187, a motion "that this House would not fight for Queen and Country."

■ In 1984, Soviet leader Yuri V. Andropov died at age 69, less than 15 months after succeeding Leonid Brezhnev; he was succeeded by Konstantin U. Chernenko.

■ In 2001, a U.S. Navy submarine collided with a Japanese fishing boat off the Hawaiian coast, killing nine men and boys aboard the boat.

### Ten years ago:

NBC News announced it had settled a defamation lawsuit brought by General Motors over the network's "inappropriate demonstration" of a fiery pickup truck crash on its "Dateline NBC" program.

### Five years ago:

The Pentagon said it was sending up to 3,000 U.S. ground troops to the Persian Gulf region to discourage what one official called "any creative thinking" by Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein. At the Nagano Games, German Georg Hackl won the men's luge for the third consecutive Olympics.

### One year ago:

Britain's Princess Margaret, the high-spirited and unconventional sister of Queen Elizabeth II, died in London at age 71. At the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, Jochem Uytendhaage of the Netherlands won the gold medal in the men's 5,000-meter speed-skating race in world record time of 6:14.66. Oakland's Rich Gannon led the AFC to a 38-30 victory over the NFC in the Pro Bowl.

### Today's Birthdays:

Actress Kathryn Grayson is 81. Television journalist Roger Mudd is 75. Actress Janet Suzman is 64. Singer-songwriter Carole King is 61. Actor Joe Pesci is 60. Singer Barbara Lewis is 60. Author Alice Walker is 59. Actress Mia Farrow is 58. Singer Joe Ely is 56. Actress Judith Light is 54. Rhythm-and-blues musician Dennis "DT" Thomas (Kool & the Gang) is 52. Actor Charles Shaughnessy is 48. Country singer Travis Tritt is 40. Actress Julie Warner is 38. Country singer Danni Leigh is 33. Actor David Gallagher is 18. Actress Marina Malota is 15. Actress Camille Winbush ("The Bernie Mac Show") is 13.

### Thought for Today:

"If your neighbor is an early riser, you will become one." — Albanian proverb.

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# State denies Left Beaver's plans to expand

by JARRID DEATON  
STAFF WRITER

FRANKFORT — The Left Beaver Fire Department and

Rescue Squad will not be extending coverage to all of Floyd County, after a ruling against the service's application for a Certificate of Need to

become a countywide ambulance service.

A public hearing was held on Dec. 2 at the Cabinet for Health Services in Frankfort to determine if the application would be accepted and if the Left Beaver organization would be allowed to cover the entire county.

Respond Ambulance Service and Transtar Ambulance Service appeared as affected parties in opposition to the application.

State Sen. Johnny Ray Turner and Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson both testified in support of Left Beaver's application. According to the court documents, Turner and Thompson both testified that they believed that all of the ambulance services would complement each other by being

countywide.

Daniel Gullett, director for Left Beaver, testified that the department had no intention of replacing any existing services but wanted to expand its coverage area to supplement the existing services.

According to the documents, Gullett said that a claim need existed for an additional ambulance service in the northern portion of Floyd County primarily because Left Beaver is occasionally called on to provide service outside of its current area.

Phillip Elliott, who owns an interest in Respond Ambulance Service, testified that introducing more competition in the northern half of Floyd County could result in financial instability for all services that could result in the gen-

eral quality of those services being reduced.

After hearing the testimony from both sides, the Cabinet for Health Services decided that the application by Left Beaver did not show that it would improve quality and increase access to health care in the area.

According to the documents, Left Beaver failed to provide evidence that a need exists for it to extend its service area to the

remainder of Floyd County. The application was disapproved by the Cabinet for Health Services on Feb. 7.

Left Beaver has the option of filing a request for reconsideration with the Cabinet for Health Services within 15 days of the decision date. They also have the option of filing an appeal to Franklin Circuit Court within 30 days from the date of the decision.

## Riverview

Continued from p1

spokesperson for the centers for Medicare and Medicaid, the plan of correction was submitted by Riverview and was accepted.

"After the plan for correction is accepted, another survey

is conducted to confirm that the plan is in place," Lang said. "If they pass that survey, then the notification is rescinded."

Riverview Health Care declined to comment on the situation.

## Jury orders Massey subsidiary to pay \$475,000 in coal dust case

by MARTHA BRYSON HODEL  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MADISON, W.Va. — A jury on Friday ordered a Massey Energy subsidiary to pay residents of a coalfield town \$475,000 in economic damages caused by coal dust falling on nearby houses, vehicles and other property. However, jurors did not award any punitive damages.

The six-person jury deliberated about 18 1/2 hours over three days before delivering its decision against Elk Run Coal Co. in Boone County Circuit Court.

The verdict came in a lawsuit filed by more than 150 residents of Sylvester who claimed Elk Run's operation, located no more than 750 feet from some of their homes, has destroyed property values, making it impossible for them to sell their homes and move.

Residents had submitted 110 damage claims seeking total economic damages of at least \$3 million. Jurors awarded \$475,000 in compensatory damages, said plaintiffs' attorney Brian Glasser.

Individual awards ranged from \$250 to \$10,000, he said. Residents may also receive four years of interest added to their awards.

One plaintiff, Mary Miller, said Sylvester residents have been "prisoners in our homes" because of coal dust falling from Elk Run's operations.

"I don't want money. My goal is to stop the coal dust so we can live our lives again," Miller said.

Jurors found that Elk Run had created a nuisance and had negligently harmed the plaintiffs. The jury also determined that Elk Run had failed to comply with federal and state surface mining laws by failing to control air pollution or failing to protect offsite areas from damage from its operations.

However, jurors declined to award punitive damages, saying Elk Run did not act with intentional or reckless disregard.

Jurors also answered an advisory question that gives Boone County Circuit Judge Lee Schlaegel the authority to place Elk Run's operation under the court's supervision. Jurors said "yes" when asked if Elk Run is creating a nuisance that is causing damage to any of the plaintiffs.

It will be up to Schlaegel to decide whether to order court supervision of Elk Run's operation.

The trial started in October and jury deliberations began Wednesday.

Because the jury found that Elk Run had violated the federal Surfacing Mining Act, residents will ask the court to order the company to pay an estimated \$2 million in legal fees and costs associated with bringing the case

(See MASSEY, page five)

## Manager

Continued from p1

According to the indictment, which was filed in Pike Circuit Court on Dec. 10, between Jan. 1, 2001, and July 31, 2002, Williams allegedly took \$43,397.59 while employed as store manager of Save-A-Lot grocery store in Pikeville.

According to John Karle, who is now store manager of the Pikeville Save-A-Lot and also worked under Williams during the six-month period, Williams had allegedly incorporated a scheme that enabled him to pocket varying amounts of cash at various times during the day.

At Save-A-Lot grocery stores, a system is in place that allows trainees to work registers throughout the store. This system is known as "training mode" and is essentially a means to train workers in a forum where sales aren't placed into the store's accounts, but customers are still given receipts as with a normal sale.

Karle said Williams' alleged scheme came to his attention when he found, on one of the store's computers, that several checks had been run in training mode.

"He was running orders in training mode," Karle alleged. "He had taken several checks in the training mode and it doesn't account for checks. After the customer would leave he would pocket cash out of the register in the amount the check had been written for, and the checks were left in the drawer of the cash register."

Karle said he took his discovery to store owners, who immediately contacted Williams for a meeting the following Monday.

The Sunday evening before Williams was to meet with store owners, Pikeville police responded to an alarm at Save-A-Lot and found Williams, who was still listed on their contact

lists for the store, according to Karle.

"Whenever they [the store owners] found out about the checks being run in training mode, they had changed the alarm code at the store," said Karle. "He had come back into the building and the alarm wouldn't shut off because his password wouldn't work. Police arrived and he [Williams] gave them some kind of story that allowed him to go ahead and leave, because I believe he was still technically left on their contact list."

Karle believes Williams may have entered the store after becoming suspicious about the meeting scheduled the following morning.

"I think he had great suspicion about what was going on," Karle said. "It was Sunday evening when he went in and he was supposed to meet with the owners the next morning."

The store's nightshift paperwork shows if any orders were run in training mode, Karle said, adding that Williams had been "tearing some of those off the paper before sending it into the offices".

As a result, the money amount being looked at for trial purposes does not match up with the original amount police first investigated, Karle said.

"What their pricing on is what they can definitely prove as far as the papers," Karle said. "There's some of it that's kind of sketchy and I'm thinking that's why the number is different than the number that was first looked at."

Karle did not disclose the amount of the original estimate.

Kentucky State Police officer Steward Howard of KSP Post 9 in Pikeville appeared as a grand jury witness in the case, but could not be reached for comment at press time.

## Guilty

Continued from p1

the medical center's policies, led to the indictment of three of the eight dismissed.

The first to enter a plea on a charge of first-degree theft of a controlled substance, was Rodney Holbrook, 31, who had worked in the laboratory at Highlands. Holbrook received a 12 month sentence to be pro-

bated for three.

Catherine Evans, who worked in nursing, was sentenced on amended charges of two counts of theft by unlawful taking and was given probation.

The third person indicted, John D. Byers, 33, pleaded guilty to two counts of theft by unlawful taking on Jan. 10.

## Trafficking

Continued from p1

years, which was the least sentence of the three.

Both Isaacs and Thomsbury had been indicted on class C felonies of trafficking in OxyContin. Isaacs and Thomsbury previously pleaded guilty to lesser charges and

received five-year sentences.

Turner said that Thomas' sentence was lighter because of the difference in the substances the men were trafficking. OxyContin trafficking warrants 5-to-10 years in prison, while Loreet is punishable by 1-to-5 years.

## Syndicate

Continued from p1

being probated for three.

Other family members who were indicted on the criminal syndicate charges are Burnett "Fred" Little, 34, who was also

charged with two counts of trafficking in a controlled substance, one class C and one class D. Ernest "Boogie" Little, 36, and Teresa Lynn Jackson, 28.



photo by Loretta Blackburn

A three-car accident slowed traffic on U.S. 23 near the Prestonsburg exit on Thursday night, where Donnie Roe, of Prestonsburg, stated that a woman driving a black Cavalier, above, pulled in front of his maroon Ford as he was coming off the hill going toward town. Dan Caudill, of Louisville, was behind Roe in a white Dodge Ram and tried to miss him, but ended up hitting him in the side.

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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

### Feds should do what state won't

There is reason to be concerned about whether the approach being taken by the Environmental Protection Agency is enough to keep pollution levels in Kentucky's rivers and streams from getting any worse.

Instead of proposing a clear, here's-the-way-it's-going-to-be-done approach, the federal agency would allow the state to come up with its own version of suitable guidelines to keep the level of pollution in 1,000 rivers, lakes, streams or portions of them from getting worse.

Normally, leaving issues in states' hands is preferable to federal involvement. In this case, however, Kentucky already has submitted two proposals in recent years that were rejected by the EPA because they were not strict enough.

That should have been a warning sign. If the state could not get it right on two specific proposals, what makes federal regulators think they will now implement and enforce effective policies?

While it does issue tougher water quality requirements that provide a higher level of protection to clean waters, the EPA's latest approach does not provide the same high standards that could keep waters that have even one kind of pollutant from becoming worse. Reducing pollution requires that the same high standards be applied to all Kentucky waterways. The EPA's own regulations require the state to determine whether decreasing a waterway's quality is needed for "important economic or social development in the area in which the water is located."

Groups such as the Kentucky Waterways Alliance are asking the EPA to strengthen regulations at least to the point that when someone wants to add pollution to some body of water, they be required to present alternatives and select the one least damaging to water.

And there seems to be an abundance of evidence that such a reduction is needed. The EPA itself estimates that 67 percent of Kentucky's waters contain factory or stormwater pollution.

The Clean Water Act was enacted 30 years ago not just to protect the water that's already clean, but to improve the quality of all rivers and streams. Writing off a waterway just because it exceeds the levels of pollution in one category was not the intention of the Clean Water Act.

— Daily News, Bowling Green



— Jim Davidson

### 'Natural' laws

As a motivational consultant, over the past several years, I've had the joy of helping many people achieve greater success and happiness in their lives. In each case I've simply supplied them with some information they didn't have and helped them see more of their God-given potential. While success is a relative thing and means different things to different people, I've changed my views over the years in terms of what success means to me personally. In my earlier years I viewed success as getting ahead financially and having more material possessions, as well as achieving greater prestige and standing in the community.

Now as I've grown older and hopefully a little more mature, I realize that many of my views, values and goals were misguided, as I was attempting to lay up treasure where "moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal." Today, I still desire many of those things, but they are no longer my first priority. Serving God, treating other people with dignity and respect and helping my fellow human beings to discover their hidden talents and abilities is far more important to me at this time in my life.

While working to achieve personal success should always be something that is possible in America, because that's part of the American dream, I believe our first priority should be to become good people and good citizens. God knows in today's violent society we really need to invest more of our resources to make America a better place for all of us.

When it comes to your personal success, regardless of what your goals happen to be, there are some things you have to know and, in a sense, have to become second nature, if you are to maximize the talents and abilities that God has given you. One of these areas of knowledge has to do with "natural laws."

It's my belief that many people do not truly understand natural laws and how they work, at least not fully. We all know about manmade laws that are enacted by Congress and signed into law by our nation's president and the state laws that are passed by the various state legislatures. As I heard a lawyer say in a TV commercial the other day, "There

are so many laws passed that even the lawyers can't keep up with all of them!"

But back to what I was saying about natural laws. A natural law has been defined as "a series of events in nature that has been observed to occur with unvarying uniformity." In other words, if the circumstances are exactly the same in all respects, then the outcome will always be the same.

For example, if you step or fall off a tall building you will always go down. You will never go up. It's the same with all other natural laws — they always work whether we understand or know about them or not. At this point, you may be saying, "How can knowing about natural laws help me?" Well, every natural law is like a two-edged sword. It cuts both ways.

If you operate or perform on the good side of the law, it will always work for you. If you operate on the wrong side, it will always work against you. In doing research over the past several years, I've discovered almost 50 natural laws and from time-to-time in the future, I will share them in this column. Why

(See DAVIDSON, page five)



— guest column

### Senate week in review

by SEN. JOHNNY RAY TURNER

Lawmakers returned to Frankfort and the legislative process swung into gear last week as members of the General Assembly started taking a closer look at proposed changes to our state's law books.

With more than 500 bills filed for consideration, there's no shortage of issues before us. But the current legislative session only lasts 30 working days. There's a lot of work to do in a short amount of time.

The biggest challenge before us will be crafting a state budget. Kentucky, like many other states, is experiencing shortfalls and faces the prospect of making cuts to programs and services or finding new revenue sources in order to balance the budget.

Last Wednesday, members of the Senate and House met in a joint session of the General Assembly to listen to Gov. Patton's budget address, in which he unveiled his proposal to plug budget holes through a \$573 million tax plan.

Revenue would be raised through a variety of methods, including an increased cigarette tax, a revision of the state's business taxes, and a sales tax on certain services, such as car washes, dry cleaning, and pest control services.

The governor's plan would cut taxes on low-income individuals, repeal taxes on non-tangible property, and get rid of the state property tax on motor vehicles.

The governor's proposal is just that — a proposal. And let me emphasize that

there seems no likelihood the General Assembly will approve any tax increases of the magnitude the governor envisions. Leaders from both chambers have said we will work to balance the budget through cost savings, efficiencies and frugal spending, while maintaining essential services. The governor's budget should mainly be seen as a starting point for lawmakers to begin working on the document and making the changes that are necessary to ensure the final document is one that will reflect the interests and concerns of the people we represent.

While much time will be spent working on a budget plan in the weeks to come, we'll also spend long hours working on other legislation.

I have introduced Senate Bill 4 to allow District Court to issue a hardship driver's license when violation of general traffic laws has caused a person's license to be suspended. Hardship licenses are issued to people whose licenses have been suspended because of violations of certain laws. To qualify for a hardship license, a person must demonstrate to the court that a hardship has resulted from the lack of driving privileges, for example inability to get to work.

I have also co-sponsored legislation, Senate Bill 96, to allow school districts to delay the purchase of high school textbooks and other instructional materials for one year, saving up to \$21.6 million statewide. This plan offers school districts an option to making more serious cuts, for example laying off teachers. Kentucky is facing a budget shortfall. Current estimates place the shortfall at a total of \$394 million for the budget years that end June 30, 2003.

In last week's committee action, the Senate State and Local Government committee approved a bill that would let Kentuckians vote on a Constitutional amendment that would give the General Assembly authority to place a limit on

non-economic damages awarded by juries in medical malpractice lawsuits.

Proponents of this legislation say that putting a cap on such awards would allow insurance companies to lower the rates they charge health care professionals for medical malpractice insurance. Opponents say the experience of other states that have imposed caps shows that caps do not lower malpractice insurance rates and, in any case, our doctors need legislation that will help them now, not several years from now.

In other committee action, the Senate Judiciary Committee approved a bill that would establish the crime of fetal homicide. Under the legislation, a person could be held legally responsible for injuring a pregnant woman in a way that causes the death of an unborn child. Current law doesn't recognize a fetus as a person. This bill would not allow prosecution of doctors who perform abortions.

The Senate Education Committee approved Senate Bill 37, which would establish the framework for a program in which school principals and assistant principals could take up to 6 hours worth of courses per term for free at any of the state's public colleges or universities.

There are many other issues we'll look at in the weeks to come. Though this is the busiest time of the year in Frankfort for lawmakers, it's still a crucial time for us to stay in touch with the people we represent. If there's an issue you have a comment on, I'll hope you will share your thoughts with me by calling the General Assembly's toll-free message line at 1-800-372-7181.

You can also stay involved with the legislative process by writing any legislator at: Legislative Offices, State Capitol Annex, 701 Capital Ave., Frankfort, KY 40601. If you have Internet access, the Kentucky Legislature's home page is at [www.lrc.state.ky.us](http://www.lrc.state.ky.us).

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## Massey

to trial, Glasser said.

He said residents also will ask Schlaegel to require Elk Run to implement a dust control plan the company outlined during the trial. A hearing on the company's dust control requirements could be held within two weeks.

The company's plan centered on a reduction in the tonnage of coal moved through the facility and the number of trucks unloading. The number of trucks hauling coal into the plant would drop from 35,000 to 7,000 a year. The tonnage would drop to about 4.4 million tons a

year.

Residents also want the judge to order that the trucks carry no more than 73,500 pounds, the legal weight limit on state Route 3 where the plant is located.

Residents also want Elk Run to cover coal conveyor belts and truck and rail loading points.

"If it's good enough for court, it's good enough for them to follow," said Glasser, whose firm has been working on the case for five years.

After the verdict, Glasser told about 50 plaintiffs: "This will provide some insurance that you won't have to put up with

this in the future."

Another plaintiff, Pauline Canterbury, said she was happy with the verdict but feared residents would have to continue to police Elk Run.

"I wish I can say no to that question, but they are people you just can't talk to, and they

have been from day one," Canterbury said.

Massey Energy spokesman Jeff Gillenwater said he had not seen the verdict and could not comment.

Sylvester residents in the audience applauded the verdict as the jurors were excused.

Continued from p3

## Faith Extra

## Presidents tangling with their religious denominations

by RICHARD N. OSTLING  
AP RELIGION WRITER

President Bush and his father each have been at odds with leaders of their Protestant faiths over a potential war with Iraq, recent examples of what academics say is an often contentious relationship between presidents and their clergy.

"It's relatively easy for presidents to get on the outs with their denominations," says Wake Forest University Divinity School dean Bill J. Leonard. In fact, it's hard to find a 20th century president who didn't butt heads with some in his faith:

■ The devout Woodrow Wilson upset fellow Presbyterians as he moved the nation toward entering World War I, including William Jennings Bryan, who quit as secretary of state.

■ Harry Truman, the first Southern Baptist in the White House, annoyed some in that denomination by spouting "HELLS" and "damns" in conversation. Jimmy Carter angered Baptist pastors by favoring abortion rights.

■ Richard Nixon, a nominal Quaker, was strongly opposed by that pacifist faith over the Vietnam War.

Last week, it was former President George H.W. Bush who

was in conflict with his church. In a televised speech, he recalled his polite dispute over the Gulf War with the former head of his Episcopal Church, Presiding Bishop Edmond Browning, then said he's "highly offended" by foreign policy statements from current Presiding Bishop Frank Griswold.

His son, George W. Bush, the first Methodist president in a century, disagrees with leaders of his denomination, too. In a TV ad sponsored by a group including the National Council of Churches, a prominent Methodist bishop preaches that the impending war with Iraq "violates God's law and

the teachings of Jesus Christ."

Twenty bishops and other Methodist officials joined an urgent religious plea against military action, and the Methodists' social issues spokesman headed for a gathering of ecclesiastical doves in Berlin.

The phenomenon isn't exclusively American, of course. Bush's chief international ally, British Prime Minister Tony Blair, has endured peace sermons from Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams, whom he chose months ago to head the Church of England.

The Bushes and Blair can commiserate with former President Clinton, who was repeatedly criticized by spokesmen in his Southern Baptist denomination. Baptist leaders eventually called for him to quit the presidency or be ousted by Congress during the Monica Lewinsky scandal.

What's unusual in the latest disagreement is that presidents and ex-presidents rarely make comments about dissenting clergy as pointed as those from the elder Bush.

Bush insisted he understands and respects those who oppose war. He said what offended him was Griswold's statement to Religion News Service that "I'd like to be able to go somewhere in the world and not have to apologize for being from the United States" because the nation is indifferent to human suffering.

The bishop further accused the administration of "reprehensible" rhetoric and said "we are hated and loathed everywhere I go."

In response, Bush declared: "I do not - never have and never will - feel the need to apologize for this great country."

Griswold replied that during overseas travels he can achieve understanding with people "only when I apologize for, or explain, what they perceive as our unilateral and self-serving ways."

In his State of the Union address, the current President Bush appeared to recognize widespread clergy qualms that cite "just war" theology: "If war is forced upon us we will fight in a just cause and by just means - sparing in every way we can, the innocent."

Still, Bush's focus is on diplomatic and military developments rather than the alarms raised by Protestant leaders such as Methodists and Episcopalians, along with the Roman Catholic

hierarchy and Muslim organizations.

"I can't imagine a president sitting in his office poring over statements" from anti-war bishops, says David Kalvelage of The Living Church, an independent Episcopal weekly.

U.S. politicians have never been bound by pleas from their own or other religious groups and it is becoming easier to ignore them.

Protestants enshrine individu-

(See **TANGLING**, page six)

## Minister's Moment

## 'I love you'

by MARK D. WALZ  
PASTOR, FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"I love you," Matthew, my almost 5-year-old tells me. He tells me every day, several times a day "I love you, Da-Da". I am not sure where "Da-Da" comes from, but it is so good to hear and my wife Julie hears, "I love you Mama." How sweet it is to hear "I love you," from your child.

The words "I love you," are three small insignificant words when they are by themselves, but put them together to express your devotion to someone special and these three words combined become music to your ears. Words we each appreciate hearing not just once in a while, but many times. Each of us needs to hear those words from someone.

This month people will be saying these "I love you," to some without much meaning. To others those words will mean total, complete commitment and devotion. There will be cards with hearts, roses, candy, jewelry, dinner, perfume, telephone calls, cookies and many other ways. This week we will certainly hear these words and see these acts of expression of Valentine's Day.

What would it be like not to hear those words, "I love you," from someone that we love? Would we sit at our desks, at the kitchen table or on the sofa in our living room and wonder, "Do they really love me?" If we don't hear those words at least every once in a while, how do we know that we are loved?

What about God? Does he hear, "I love you, Lord."? Does God hear it from us? We say, we love God and God loves me, but how do we show our love to

God? Do we thank him for the blessings he gives us? Do we show our love to him? Do we give him gifts to show our love and devotion to him?

I Corinthians 13 tell us about that love and that quality we should have. This is the best quality we can have or show. In Colossians we are told to "put on love."

The chorus that we sing, written by Laurie Klein, is a song of love to our Lord.

"I love you Lord, and I lift my voice to worship You.

Oh my soul rejoices! Take joy, my King, in what you hear; May it be a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear."

What a wonderful way to show our love to our Lord, by saying "I love you, Lord!"

My son Matthew has something right, by telling his earthly parents that he loves them, and we are so grateful to hear those three little words. Without a doubt God also appreciates hearing those words, "I love you, Lord."

This week, tell those you appreciate and love those three little words, "I love you," but also let God know, too.

## Davidson

Continued from p4

not clip out this introductory column and those that will follow, and save them. As time goes by, I believe you'll come to appreciate what this information can do for you. You can also share a copy of the natural laws with other people who are special to you.

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

## Lawmakers push 'fetal homicide' bill

by BRUCE SCHREINER  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — Flanked by photos of babies killed in vehicle crashes, a group of legislators launched a new push Wednesday to create a crime of "fetal homicide."

They have bills under which Kentucky's homicide statutes would extend to fetuses, starting at fertilization. Under current law, a fetus is not considered a person until the live birth occurs.

An abortion-rights activist says the effort is part of a strategy to undermine women's access to abortion.

A bill in the House is titled the Caleb-Haley Act to memorialize two babies stillborn as a result of vehicle crashes. A companion bill is in the Senate, which has passed it in the past. The legislation has never gotten through the House.

"My happiness is gone, but to have this bill passed would bring a little peace of mind," said Troy Thornsby, whose pregnant wife and her fetus were killed when a man, who police said was impaired by drugs, ran a red light and rammed their car in Pike County.

The Thornsby's were head-

ed to a Pikeville hospital for the delivery at the time. The infant was later named Haley Natasha Thornsby.

Ralph Denham Jr., whose unborn baby also died in a car crash in Lincoln County, three days past the due date, said he believed photos on display in the Capitol Rotunda refuted the reasoning of Kentucky's courts.

"These are babies, I don't care what anybody says," Denham said, choking back tears. "They are humans."

Denham and his wife, Leah, were struck from behind by a driver allegedly under the influence of alcohol or drugs at the time of the crash. Their baby, Caleb, was delivered by Caesarean section but never took a breath.

Rep. Stan Lee, R-Lexington, said the families are "crying out for justice."

Lee also displayed a picture of a mare in foal to a champion stallion that brought \$4 million at a Keeneland sale. The mare's pregnancy was noted on a toteboard at the auction ring.

"The tragedy is, in this state, we as a society under current Kentucky law have placed a greater value on the lives of unborn horses than on the lives of unborn babies," he said.

Democratic Rep. Keith Hall of Pikeville, a co-sponsor of the bill, said 34 states have given legal recognition to the unborn, including five border states. He said support for the bill crosses party lines. "This is not a political issue, it's a moral issue," he said.

The bill would not allow prosecution of abortion doctors.

Still, an abortion-rights activist said the bill was part of a strategy to undermine women's access to abortion.

"It makes no logical sense to say that a fertilized egg is equal to a person in this part of the law," said Beth Wilson with the reproductive rights section of the American Civil Liberties Union of Kentucky. "It's just a small step, if we do it here, to move on to other things."

Wilson said lawmakers should instead toughen criminal penalties for people who harm expectant women and cause them to lose their pregnancies.

Such action would "recognize that the pregnant woman is the victim of this, that she's the one that suffers the loss," Wilson said.

The legislation also would offer exemptions to health care professionals and to the pregnant women themselves.

## Regional Obituaries

## Floyd County

Alvin Caudill, 95, of Melvin, died Tuesday, February 4, at the McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Terry Caudill of Somerset. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, February 8, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Harry Gambil Childers, 88, of Meally, died Sunday, January 19, at his residence. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, January 22, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Edgar J. (Ted) Collins, 87, of New London, Ohio, native of Floyd County, died Tuesday, February 4, at IHS of New London at Firelands, after a lengthy illness. He is survived by his wife, Mary Alice (Leedy) Collins. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, February 8, under the direction of Eastman

## Funeral Home.

Esta Lea Osborne Elliott, 69, of McDowell, died Friday, January 31, at Printer. She is survived by her husband, Pink Clines Elliott. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, February 2, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Edgar Hall, 51, of Harold, died Saturday, February 1, at McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Derlois Joan Hamilton Hall. Funeral services were conducted Monday, February 3, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Bill Lafferty Sr., 98, of Boynton Beach, Florida, formerly of Prestonsburg, died Saturday, December 14, 2002, in Florida. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, December 17, at the Tillman Funeral Home in West Palm Beach, Florida.

Lillie Mae Newsome, 68, of Hi Hat, died Monday, January 27, at her daughter's residence in Wheelwright. Funeral services were conducted Friday, January 31, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Memorial service for Fannie Salyer, 93, of the Masonic Home of Shelbyville, formerly of Floyd County, were held Saturday, February 8, at the Graefenburg Baptist Church, in Shelby County. She died Friday, January 24, at the Masonic Home, following an extended illness.

Frank Ed Stephens, 51, of Lexington, formerly of Prestonsburg, died Sunday, February 2, at Lexington. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, February 5, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

## Knott County

Isabel Sumner Combs, 92, of

Lotts Creek, died Monday, January 27, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, January 30, under the direction of Engle-Walker Funeral Home.

Drew Godsey, 93, of Bulan, died Thursday, January 30, at Appalachian Regional Medical Center, Hazard. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, February 1, under the direction of Engle-Walker Funeral Home.

Phillip Ray Short, 42, of Indiana, formerly of Knott County, died Saturday, February 1. He is survived by his wife, Violet Sue Slone Short. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, February 5, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Austin Jr. Slone, 59, of Gamer, died Friday, January 31, at

(See **OBITS**, page six)

## Odds

Continued from p2

The past year has been crunch time for Munising High School junior Alex Johnson.

He ate a bag of Cheetos every day at lunch, and collected

## Dome

Continued from p2

construct the dome in 2001 to keep coal dust from drifting to the nearby community of Sylvester.

About 150 of the town's residents have sued Elk Run claiming dust from the Massey subsidiary covers their homes and cars. They contend the coal company's operations, located no more than 750 feet from some of their homes, has destroyed property values, making it impossible for them to sell their homes and move.

The six jurors deciding the outcome of a multimillion dollar lawsuit were expected to resume their deliberations on Friday in Boone County Circuit Court.

empty bags from classmates. His locker eventually became stuffed with 3,500 bags from the cheese-flavored snacks — each of them worth one gift point.

One of Johnson's teachers sent an e-mail to Cheetos manufacturer Frito-Lay Corp.

"They liked it so much, they sent somebody here," said Johnson, 17.

That someone turned out to be Chester Cheeto, a costumed cartoon figure and the point character in Cheetos marketing and advertising.

Chester appeared at a pep rally for the basketball team, and presented Johnson with a scrolled declaration proclaiming him an "honorary deputy of cheese."

"I think it's unusual and funny that this has actually happened," Johnson said. "It's kind of cheesy."

Johnson hasn't decided what he would redeem his Cheetos gift points for. "Whatever the biggest thing is," he said.

## Obits

Continued from p5

Appalachian Regional Medical Center, Hazard. He is survived by his wife, Gretta Slone. Funeral services were conducted Monday, February 3, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Adam Sparkman, 69, of Pippa Passes, died Monday, February 3, at the Hazard Appalachian Regional Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Ellen Slone Sparkman. Funeral services were conducted Friday, February 7, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

**Pike County**

Julienne "Jean" Bailiff, 79, of Elkhorn City, died Wednesday, January 29, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. She is survived by her husband, Arnold Guy Bailiff. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, February 2, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

Ruby Bailiff, 83, of Elkhorn City, died Thursday, January 30, at her home. She is survived by her husband, Riley Bailiff. Funeral services were conducted Monday, February 3, under the direction of J.W. Call and Son Funeral Home.

Elder Berlin Ball, 78, of Pinsonfork, died Sunday, February 2, in Pataskala, Ohio. Funeral services were conducted

Thursday, February 6, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

Pearline E. Bowling, 82, of Elkhorn City, died Saturday, February 1, at Mountain View Health Care Center, Elkhorn City. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, February 4, under the direction of Justice Funeral Home.

Josephine Cantrell, 75, of Elkhorn City, died Friday, January 31, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. She is survived by her husband, Charles Robert "Red" Cantrell. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, February 2, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Thomas Theodore Childers, 92, of Pine Mountain, Georgia, a native of Pikeville, died Monday, February 3, at Hospice LaGrange. He is survived by his wife, Helen Childers. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, February 6, under the direction of Cox Funeral Home.

Sabrina Dale Coleman, 44, of Elkhorn City, died Tuesday, February 4, at Draffin. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, February 8, under the direction of Bailey Funeral

Home.

Bert Collins, 86, of Belcher, died Wednesday, February 5, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Ledna Damron Collins. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, February 8, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

Viola Mae Daniels, 89, of Pinsonfork, died Wednesday, February 5, at Guyan Valley Nursing Home, Logan, West Virginia. Funeral services were conducted Friday, February 7, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

Rev. Paul Fouch Sr., 65, of Williamson, West Virginia, died Monday, February 3, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Ocie Dotson Fouch. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, February 6, under the direction of Hatfield Funeral Chapel.

Billie Jo Fuller, 51, of Feds Creek, died Thursday, January 30, at Hazard Nursing Home. She is survived by her husband, Billy J. Fuller. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, February 2, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

June D. Hayes, 86, of Parkview Nursing Home, Robinson Creek, died Thursday, February 6, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, February 9, under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

Arlis Hickman, 84, of Ashcamp, died Sunday, February 2, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Gracie Blankenship Hickman. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, January 5, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

Bennie Carrol Estep, 50, of Paw Paw, died Tuesday, February 4, at his home. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, February 8, under the direction of Grundy Funeral Home.

Carl B. Higgs, 77, of Mayfield, died Tuesday, February 4, at his home. Funeral services were conducted Friday, February 7, under the direction of Brown Funeral Home.

Marcus Junior Lockhart, 31, of Phelps, died Wednesday, February 5, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Geraldine Lockhart. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, February 8, under the direction of Phelps

Funeral Services.

Henry "Todge" Maynard, 75, of Pikeville, died Tuesday, February 4, at the Veterans Administration Medical Center, Huntington, West Virginia. Funeral services were conducted Friday, February 7, under the direction of Thacker Funeral Home.

Danny Meade, 45, of Jackhorn, died Wednesday, February 5, at the University of Kentucky Medical Center, Lexington. Funeral arrangements were under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

Clyde L. Mullins, 83, of Myers Towers, Pikeville, died Saturday, February 1, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, February 4, under the direction of Thacker Memorial Funeral Home.

Cameron Lee Mullins, son of Sarah Katherine Bartley Mullins and Shannon Don Mullins, died Thursday, February 4, at the Whitesburg Appalachian Regional Hospital. Graveside services were conducted Thursday, February 6, under the direction of Hall and Jones Funeral Home.

Hollie Robinett Jr., 73, of Paw Paw, died Saturday, February 1, at Cabell-Huntington Hospital, Huntington, West Virginia. He is survived by his wife, Julia Fortney Robinett. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, February 5, under the direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

Ralph Robinson, 56, of Gillette, Wyoming, formerly of Pikeville, died Monday, January 27, at Campbell County Memorial Hospital, in Gillette. He is survived by his wife, Linda Robinson. Funeral services were conducted Monday, February 3, under the direction of Thacker Memorial Funeral Home.

Mary Evelyn Walton Rogers, 89, of Lexington, formerly of Pikeville, died Monday, February 3, at Central Baptist Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, February 6, under the direction of Kerr Brothers Funeral Home.

Franklin Wood Sanders, 73, of Lexington, died Monday, February 3, at St. Joseph's Healthcare, Lexington. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, February 8, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

Jimmy Roosevelt Smith, 61, of Claremont, North Carolina, formerly of Ransom, died Wednesday, January 29, at his home. A memorial service was held Tuesday, February 4, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

Denver L. Stewart, 85, of Pikeville, died Thursday, January 30, at Central Baptist Hospital, Lexington. He is survived by his wife, Mildred L. Stewart. A memorial service was held at the Pikeville-Pike County Airport, Sunday, February 2.

Charlie W. Wagner, 83, of Lexington, a native of Pikeville, died Monday, February 3, at St. Joseph Hospital, Lexington. He is survived by his wife, Gladys Spears Wagner. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, February 6, under the direction of Lucas and Hall Funeral Home.

David Lee Wright, 28, of Lick Fork of Beefhide, died Thursday, January 30, at Pikeville Methodist Hospital, the result of a mining accident. He is survived by his wife, Amanda Damron Wright. Funeral services were conducted Monday, February 3, under the direction of Lucas & Hall Funeral Home.

**Johnson County**

Bettie Sue Williams Franklin, 65, of River, died Tuesday, January 29, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Ernest Franklin. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, January 30, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

Aubrey Paul "Red" Harmon, 86, of Neon, a native of Williamsport, died Tuesday, January 28, at Central Baptist Hospital, Lexington. He is survived by his wife, Ruth Hillyer Harlow Harmon. Funeral ser-

VICES were conducted Thursday, January 30, under the direction of Polly & Craft Funeral Home.

Delbert Wallace Lemaster, 87, of Chillicothe, Ohio, died Saturday, January 25, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Nola Angeline Meade Lemaster. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, January 30, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

Martha Messer, 67, of West Van Lear, died Monday, February 3. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, February 5, under the direction of Paintsville Funeral Home.

**Martin County**

Robert Arrowood Sr., 72, of Beauty, died Tuesday, January 28, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Friday, January 21, under the direction of Richmond-Calliham Funeral Home.

Charlotta Sue Clevenger Jackson, 51, of Inez, died Tuesday, January 28, at King's Daughters' Medical Center, in Ashland. She is survived by her husband, Tommy Jackson. Funeral services were conducted Friday, January 31, under the direction of Richmond-Calliham Funeral Home.

**Lawrence County**

Gerald Brenton Branham, 57, of Fort Gay, West Virginia, native of Louisa, died Thursday, January 30, at Three Rivers Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Betty Bartram. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, February 2, under the direction of Young Funeral Home.

Janet Marcella "Marcy" Dixon, 59, of Columbus, Ohio, died Monday, February 3. Funeral services were conducted Friday, February 7, under the direction of Wilson Funeral Home.

Continued from p5

**Tangling**

alism, and many Catholic officeholders reject the Vatican's insistence that they follow the church's anti-abortion teaching. Nor is presidential hopeful Joseph Lieberman bound by Orthodox Judaism's beliefs on abortion.

In the case of Iraq, Leonard says some of the antiwar churches are arguing their case from a weakened position.

The Catholic bishops are "mortally wounded" by the recent spate of clerical sex abuse scandals, he says. Until the 1970s, mainline Protestants "were listened to, they

were in the corridors of power and the Rockefellers paid their bills." But their power has waned as that of conservative evangelicals has risen.

Ultimately, Southern Methodist University ethicist Robin Lovin says, politicians' moral judgments are influenced far less by today's church pronouncements than by their religious upbringing. The sermons, discussions and Sunday School classes in their home congregations many years ago may be their guide.

**Card of Thanks**

A special thanks to Dr. Scott Arnett and all of the staff at Highlands Regional Medical Center, and everyone who brought flowers, food, and kind words. And a special thank-you to Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

THE FAMILY OF  
MARY BELLE HALL

**Attention Current and Potential  
Floyd County School Vendors!!!!**

Kentucky Educational Development Cooperative are currently accepting bids for the next year bidding period of April 1, 2003 through December 31, 2003.

Current catalog vendors were mailed renewal contracts that they must respond to, to renew their contract for the next year's bidding period.

All the non prime vender line item bids are being re-bid at this time. Any new vendors wishing to submit a bid or needing information can contact:

Sharon Fields  
KEDC Bid Coordinator  
Phone 606-938-0205  
Fax 606-928-3785  
email: sfields@kedc.coop.k12ky.us

Line item bids will be opened February 12th and the Catalog Vendors will be opened February 26th.

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P.O. Box 390  
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# Regional SPORTS

Sunday, February 9, 2003

**Inside**

- ▶ Bears win • B2
- ▶ Middle school • B3
- ▶ College News • C1
- ▶ Classifieds • C7

TIMES Email: sports@floydcountytimes.com



Adam Blanton has been invited to play for the Huntington Hounds. The right-hander ranked as one of the 15th Region's most efficient pitchers last season as a freshman.

## JC sophomore will play for Hounds

— Blanton gets invite to play for elite team —

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

PAINTSVILLE — When June rolls around and warm temperatures fill the air while the high school baseball sea-

son has just been completed, one area baseball player will begin a second season with one of the East Coast's top rising traveling baseball teams.

Johnson Central sophomore Adam Blanton will play baseball this summer for the Huntington Hounds. He is the first player from Johnson County to play for the Hounds since former Golden Eagle Brandon Pack played

for the team a couple of seasons ago. Pack is now a member of the baseball team at Pikeville College.

Blanton led Johnson

(See HOUNDS, page three)

**COMMENTARY**

## March to March

by RICK BENTLEY  
TIMES COLUMNIST

It's not even Valentine's Day and I'm already dreading March. See, just like everyone else in this hoops-happy state who goes to sleep at night counting Jeff

Sheppard three-point baskets, I think March should be declared a state holiday.

But also, like most of my sports brethren who have been through the

wars a time or two, it also comes with a slight amount of dread. Its multiple games every night of the week can lead to burnout in a hurry, and can usually be revitalized only by four lovely days of "string music in downtown Lexington, K-Y," and if you're too young to remember that phrase, we do feel bad for you.

This year, however, all bets are

(See MARCH, page two)

**CHEERLEADING**

## Cheer event on tap for March

PIKEVILLE — The 17th annual Mountain Classic Cheerleading Competition will be held at Pikeville High School on Saturday, March 8. The competition will take place for high school squads and All-Star squads on both 2 1/2-minute routine and traditional formats. The competition will also feature three age groups — Pee-Wee, Elementary and Junior High. For more information or to register a squad, contact Lisa Wheeler at Pikeville High School by calling 606/432-0185 or via email at wheeler@pikeville.k12.ky.us.

## Pro-Fitness introduces spring calendar of events

TIMES STAFF REPORT

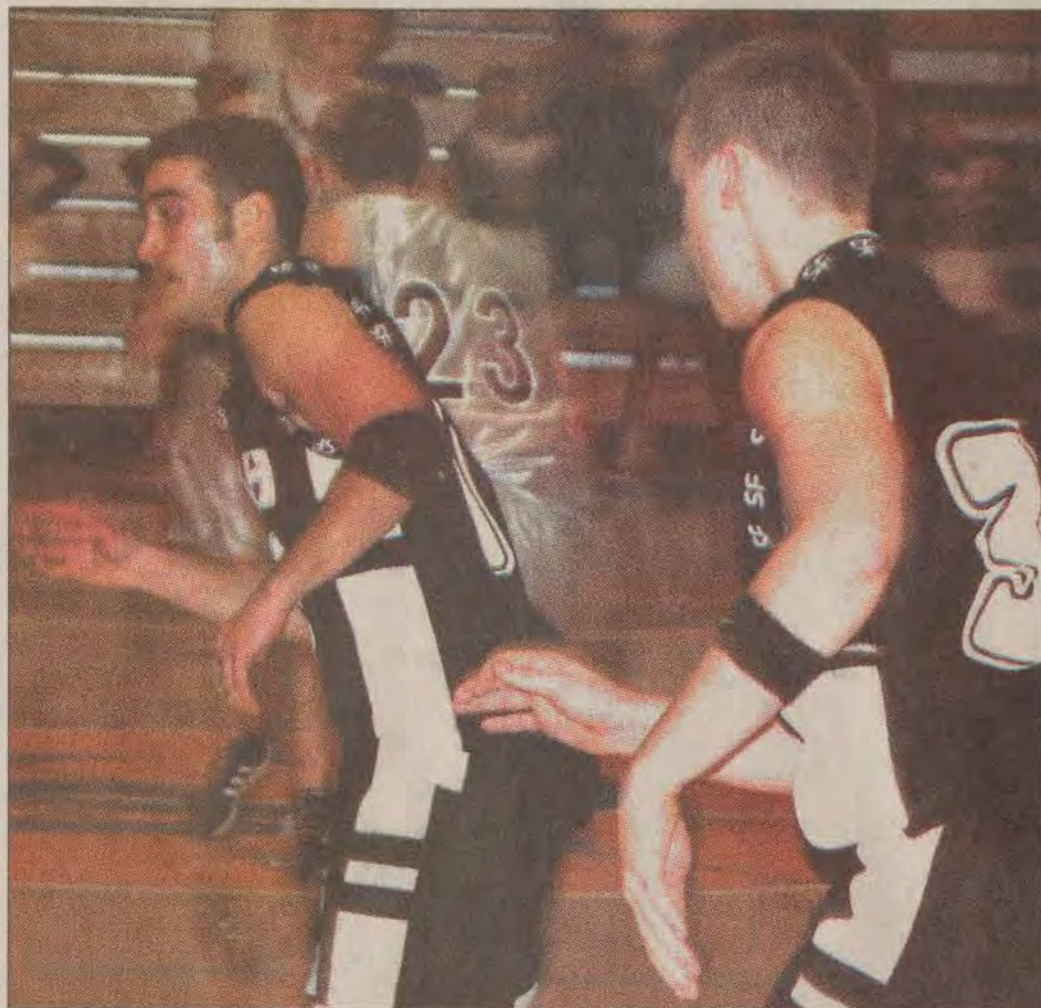
PRESTONSBURG — Pro-Fitness Multisports, the area's leader in fitness training, recently released its spring calendar of events. Details follow.

Available now by appointment, personal training on the bike. \$25/person, max three riders per class, approximately two hours. Someone will ride with all participants, answering questions and instructing the inexperienced rider on bike set-up, gearing, spinning, braking, drafting, bike handling, traffic, climbing, etc. Training will reduce the learning curve that cyclists must endure to truly enjoy riding the road or in the mountains. Bike rental available, \$15/class. Location may vary, based on student experience.

February 15 — Bike maintenance class. Will cover emergency repairs, cleaning, flats

(See EVENTS, page two)

## — MICHAEL HALL HONORED —



file photo

Michael Hall (left) headed up court during a game against Lawrence County earlier this season. Hall is the leading scorer in South Floyd school history.

# HALL NOMINATED FOR McDONALD'S GAME

## MICHAEL HALL ACHIEVEMENTS & MILESTONES

- 3-time All-Conference
- 2-time All-State honorable mention
- 3-time All-District
- Coca-Cola Classic MVP (2003)
- WYMT Classic MVP (2002)
- East Kentucky All Stars (Junior season)
- Executive Inn Junior All-Stars
- 15th Region All-Tournament Team (2001, 2002)
- AP Top 25 Players
- Jeffersontown Invitational All-Tournament Team (2002-03)
- Blue Chip High Potential All-Star (3 years)

TIMES STAFF REPORT

HI HAT — Michael Hall of South Floyd High School has been recognized as one of the finest basketball players in the country through his nomination to the 2003 McDonald's All American High School Boys' Basketball Team.

Hall is one of 1,600 male prep basketball standouts in the nation nominated by the McDonald's All American Basketball Team Selection Committee, a group of nationally prominent basketball experts.

(See HALL, page two)

## Sheldon Clark senior duo nominated

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

BLACKLOG — Two seniors from the Sheldon Clark girls' basketball team have been nominated for the McDonald's All American Game. The two nominees are Desiree Cassidy and Marshall University signee Kelli Jo Moore. Both players are coached by veteran mentor Robin Newsome.

A complete list of the girls' nominees from the state follows.

Sarah Beaty, Monticello; Angela Brown, Clinton

County; Krisha Byron, Sacred Heart; Desiree Cassidy, Sheldon Clark; Chelsea Chowning, Lexington Catholic; Megan Gearhart, West Carter; Kara Hamilton, Lafayette; Becca Kopple, Sacred Heart; Charlotte Marshall, Shelby County; Stephanie Mills, Greenwood; Kelli Jo Moore, Sheldon Clark; Lauren Parrish, Mercy; Jonna Patterson, Covington Holmes; Kellie Peyton, PRP; Krystal Redmon, Adair County; Sarah Schell, Lexington Catholic; Jenn Skaggs, Louisville Holy Cross; Toni Slaughter, Shelby County; Ashley Staude, South Oldham; Jessica Still, Apollo; Sarah Todd, Assumption.

Members of the Prestonsburg Junior Wrestling Club include — pictured in no particular order — Josh Slone, Nick Rowe, Andrew Hall, Kevin Johnson, Shawn Ousley, Zack Rowe, Jordan Baldrige, Chris Bostic, Shane Johnson and Kevin Burchett. Cody Hamilton, another member of the team, is not pictured.



**H.S. BASKETBALL**

## ACHS 94, Piarist 26

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

MARTIN — Allen Central (11-7) pounded Piarist 94-36 Thursday night to remain undefeated in the 58th District and Floyd County



■ Thomas

Conference. The Lady Rebels are undefeated in the district/conference and are headed this week for a couple of showdowns with Betsy Layne, the district leader with a perfect 6-0

district/conference worksheet.

Allen Central wasted little time in getting out ahead of Piarist Thursday

(See ACHS, page three)

**ALL 'A' CLASSIC**

## No holding O.J. Mayo

Rose Hill, eighth-grade star oust Paintsville

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

RICHMOND — Paintsville got its first introduction to O.J. Mayo Thursday night in the All "A" Classic in the form of 31 points, 12 rebounds, four assists and three steals. Mayo, an eighth-grader who scored his 1,000 career point against

(See MAYO, page two)

**COLLEGE BASKETBALL**

## Kentucky b'ball turns 100

by CHRIS DUNCAN  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

On Feb. 6, 1903 — 100 years ago Thursday — Kentucky played its first game before a capacity crowd in an on-campus gymnasium that is still used today. The loosely organized Kentucky State College team lost 15-6 to a more experienced team from nearby Georgetown College.

The opening loss aside, Kentucky has

(See UK, page three)

**H.S. BASKETBALL**

## Hornets fall prey to balanced Eagles

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

PAINTSVILLE — Magoffin County, after playing within five or six possessions of Johnson Central when the two teams met earlier this season, could have never imagined the type of balanced effort it saw from Johnson Central Thursday night. The Hornets traveled to Johnson Central and came away with a stinging 75-38 loss in the

(See EAGLES, page two)

# Rose's reinstatement still an uncertainty

by ED TAYLOR  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Major League Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig said he is in a very sensitive area right now concerning the possible reinstatement of baseball's all-time hits leader, Pete Rose. After six years, major league baseball has begun the consideration of Rose's possible reinstatement after the veteran player has been suspended because of accusations he betted on baseball, particularly the Reds while Rose was manager in Cincinnati.



So, Zimmer says put him back in baseball with a condition — that he be banned from ever managing a team again. Good advice.

Rose still contends that he never bet on baseball, although the commissioner's office says otherwise.

Why, even the judge who sentenced Rose to a prison term, says he should be reinstated. I really do not think his recent troubles will hinder Rose from joining the baseball family again. He should be in the Hall of Fame. However, like Zimmer, I don't think he should be permitted to step inside a dugout again as a manager.

## SPRING TIME

Ahhhh! For all the folks up north, take heart, spring training opens today as pitchers and catchers report to their respective camps. After a couple of weeks of working out the stiffness, the old Grapefruit League will tune up and before we know it they will be playing for real under some real sunshine. I cannot wait.

## REDS 1, CHEN 0

The Cincinnati Reds got a victo-

ry of sorts already and the baseball season has yet to begin. Pitcher Bruce Chen took his case to arbitration and lost. Reds 1, Chen 0. Chen, who was asking for a ridiculous

\$830,000 will receive instead the offer the Reds made, \$700,000. Hey, who can live on that? Even at that price Chen is overpaid. He was decent out of the bull pen but not

that impressive. He did not win a game for the Reds last year (0-2) and had an ERA of over four.

## 100 YEARS AND STILL COUNTING

On February 6, 1903, the Kentucky Wildcats (then Kentucky State College) walked onto a basketball floor to play their first ever basketball game. The result was a 15-6 setback at the hands of state school Georgetown College. I am sure they thought then was, this will not last. It is a fad now, but it will,

like other things, fade away. This past Tuesday night, Coach Tubby Smith's Wildcats took care of previously unbeaten Florida in the first half and held off a late comeback in the second half to become the only unbeaten team in the SEC (Kentucky played at Ole Miss yesterday). The Gators were ranked as the nation's number one team when the ball was tossed in the air to start the game. The old gymnasium where

(See ROSE, page three)

## Mayo

Lawrence County in January, carried his team to a 77-65 win over Paintsville.

At one point in the first quarter of Thursday night's game, Paintsville led by eight and showed no signs of slowing down. That's when Mayo & Co. woke up. Rose Hill went on an 18-3 run in the first half to battle back from eight points down and lead the Tigers 42-35 at halftime. At one point, the ruthless Mayo scored 14 straight points.

"That 18-3 run in the first half took us out of the ball game," admitted Paintsville head coach Bill Mike Runyon. "After that we had to play from behind."

Mayo wasn't alone in his triumph over the Tigers. Teammate Zach Gillum, a transfer from Greenup County, hit five-of-six three-point tries and scored 20 points to go along with three assists and three rebounds. Marques Dawson and Mark King each had seven points for the Royals.

Senior forward Stuart Rutledge led Paintsville in scoring with 17 points. Peyton Conley and Shane Simpkins each had 12. Adam Collins scored 11 for the Tigers. Ryan Jarrell and Adam Rice rounded out the scoring for Paintsville with seven and six points, respectively.

Rose Hill advanced to the second round of the Touchstone Energy Classic All "A" Classic with the win over Paintsville.

The Tigers return to regular season 57th District action on

Tuesday with a crucial contest on the road against top rival Johnson Central.

## NOTES:

■ Thursday night's meeting was the first-ever between the two schools. Rose Hill visits Paintsville in the Tigers' final regular season game of the year on later this month on February 28.

■ Rose Hill freshman Bill Walker — the team's sixth man — has apparently quit the team.

## ALL "A" CLASSIC SCOREBOARD

### FIRST ROUND

Bethlehem 67  
Corbin 60

Bishop Brossart 45  
Owen County 28

Frankfort 75  
Christian Aca.-Louisville 47

Mayfield 58  
Hazard 54

Monroe County 61  
Holy Cross (Louisville) 52

Rose Hill Christian 77  
Paintsville 65

Somerset 55  
Lyon County 47

St. Henry 63  
Trinity (Whitesville) 41

**NOTE:**  
Both the boys' and girls' finals take place today.

## March

off for a smooth March. Those who are fans of play in the 57th and 58th districts are no doubt casting a leery eye toward the 15th Region tournament, what with its new format. But for those in Pike County's 59th and 60th districts, the headaches may start a week early.

The consolidation of Elkhorn City, Feds Creek and Millard dropped Pike County down to six high schools, which has resulted in two three-team districts.

Three-team districts are no stranger to 15th Region fans; the 57th District girls' tournament was without Magoffin County for many years, and in the 60th, Feds Creek dropped its program for a while in the 1990s.

When this happens, it causes problems in two areas. For one, a team will often win the district title while sitting in the stands, or — just as likely — while some members of the team are home watching Friends.

The way it works is one team gets a bye, meaning the other two play in the first round. The loser of the first game advances — see, you thought losing in the first round of the district meant elimination — to play the team with the bye.

Here's where it gets even more muddy. If the loser of the first game wins in the second, it's over. The first-night winner is the district champ; the second night winner is the runner-up. The second-night loser is out of luck.

It's like playing the tourna-

ment in reverse.

What all this means is that the district tournaments run contrary to every other sporting event in the world. It's not a good thing to get the bye. If you play in the first round, you in effect get a do-over. Sure, you can't win the district if you lose the opener, but you can still make it to the region.

Of course, it could always work out that the same team loses both games. In that case, a third night is necessary with the two winners meeting for the title.

And worst of all, the KHSAA has an archaic rule that if a district only has three teams, it cannot seed and must draw for positions in the tournament.

All of which leads to the regional tournament, which has changed for the best, smoothest event around to a state of confusion. The old saying is that if it ain't broke don't fix it. I'm afraid they've taken something that was fixed and broke it.

Two years ago, the powers that be decided to do things (and be as Title IX compliant as possible) was to play the boys' and girls' tournaments at the same place at the same time. This meant instead of two schools needing four nights each to play the tournaments, one school would spend seven nights, and a full day of Saturday action.

In my estimation, the best thing of all our officials could do is to do something to learn exactly what Title IX is really all about. I'm not sure very

## TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE — No. 8 Pikeville College 5-of-7 from the arc before halftime to build a comfortable lead and got a phenomenal night from its junior point guard en route to a 72-54 win over No. 16 Lindsey Wilson College on Thursday.

The three were part of a 17-of-30 (56.7-percent) half, as the Bears ran out to a 42-21 lead at the break. For good measure, the home team made all three free throws. Meanwhile, Lindsey Wilson stumbled out of the gate, hitting only 9-of-30 (30-percent) from the floor and only one of its 11 three-point tries.

Senior Toni Anderson came off the bench to fire in 4-of-5 three-pointers on the game, hit both of his three-point tries, and senior Jason Robinson had 16 markers early as the BEars jumped out to a big lead at the break.

But junior Kevin Gaines was the story of the night. In 27 min-

utes of play, the point guard had seven points, five rebounds and a whopping 13 assists, all of which looks glowing compared to the zero in the turnovers column.

Robinson had 20 on the night, with Anderson adding 12. Junior center Teon Knox had 10 with eight of them coming in the second half.

Lindsey Wilson (18-5, 2-1 in the Mid-South Conference) couldn't match the intensity of Pikeville. Coming in off a double-overtime win over then-No. 1 Georgetown College, the Blue Raiders hit 22-of-64 from the floor (34.4-percent) and hit only five of their 25 three-point tries.

Speaking of Georgetown, the Tigers, at press time, were on deck for the Bears. The two teams were scheduled to meet yesterday evening. Results were unavailable at press time.

Pikeville, with the win over Lindsey Wilson, improved to 21-4 and remained undefeated in three league games.

■ Continued from p1

## H.S. BASKETBALL

# Rebels tag East Ridge

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

EASTERN — All season long, East Ridge — a first-year team out of Pike County — has steadily shown improvement. Tuesday night, East Ridge visited Allen Central. The Runnin' Rebels, in the first action since an All "A" Classic loss to district rival Betsy Layne, outscored East Ridge 19-14 in the first quarter and held on to win, 78-68.

Senior forward Mike Slone scored 32 points to lead Allen

Central to the victory. Junior Rossi Samons, a player who has started and come off the bench at times this season for the Rebels, added 17 points. Senior Neil Allen scored 14 for Allen Central and Kyle Webb ended the game with nine for the Runnin' Rebels.

A 19-10 third period essentially put the game out of East Ridge's reach.

Following the game, each team was left with identical 10-6 records.

## Hall

■ Continued from p1

As a nominee, the 5-11 point guard will be considered for one of the 24 positions on the final 2003 McDonald's All American High School Basketball Team that will compete in the 26th anniversary of the McDonald's All-American High School Basketball Game.

This year's McDonald's All American Games will be played Wednesday, March 26 at the Gund Arena in Cleveland, Ohio, home of the NBA Cleveland Cavaliers and WNBA Cleveland Rockers, and will be broadcast live on ESPN during primetime at 7 p.m. (EST). For the second time in the history of the game, a girls' game also will be played, and will take place at the Gund Arena, with tip-off at 4:30 p.m. (EST). Proceeds from both games will benefit Ronald McDonald House Charities Chapters of Northeast Ohio and Cleveland, Ohio. The Ronald McDonald House program has provided a "home-away-from-home" for millions of family members of seriously ill children since its inception in 1974.

McDonald's All American alumni include such current

and former NBA and NCAA superstars as Magic Johnson (retired) Michael Jordan (Chicago Bulls/Washington Wizards), Kobe Bryant (Los Angeles Lakers), Grant Hill (Orlando Magic), as well as Chris Duhon (Duke) and Nick Collison (Kansas).

As a starter for the Raiders, Hall as averages five assists, three rebounds and 27 points per game this season. Heading into the end of regular season play Hall has accumulated impressive figures during his basketball career at South Floyd, including 2350 points, 560 career assists and 500 career rebounds.

The son of Michael and Monica Hall, the senior Raider plans to continue his basketball career by attending Pikeville College. He has not yet announced a college major.

Bob and Tom Hutchison, owners/operators of local McDonald's, extend congratulations to the Raider.

McDonald's will make a presentation to the South Floyd senior on he and his team's final home game later this month on February 25 when South Floyd hosts Pike County Central.

## Events

■ Continued from p1

and more. Cost is \$5/person, limited to 15 students, 10 a.m. to Noon, outdoors weather permitting. Bring bike and tools. Plan on riding after class.

■ April 27: 100 mile (century) ride. Pike, Floyd and Johnson counties. 65 and 35 mile options will be available to allow more participation. Mountain bikers may choose the 35-mile route. Make arrangements for pick up in case of emergency or equipment failure. There is no fee. Meet at Pro-Fitness 8 a.m. to depart.

■ May 24/25: Benham Schoolhouse Inn at Lynch. Drive to the Inn, bike ride to the top of Black Mountain, the state's highest peak (eight-mile climb), on Saturday and hike/trail run to Bad Branch Falls and High Rock in the Pie

Mountain Nature Preserve (eight miles for all), on Sunday.

■ June 28/29: Seco Winery. Fleming Neon/Whitesburg. Distance is 64 miles from Prestonsburg, following US 23 to Jenkins and Rt. 119 to Seco. Leave on Saturday morning, return on Sunday for a total of 128 miles. Different groups may choose to ride together on different routes although back-road travel will be longer and more difficult. Participants must make their own arrangements to be picked up in case of emergency or equipment failure.

■ July 5-6 — Virginia Creeper Trail (70 miles if you complete all of it).

Sign up now for the bike maintenance class. For more information, contact Don Fields by calling 886-8604.

## ALICE LLOYD COLLEGE

# King edges ALC

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

PIPPA PASSES — After trailing 34-30 through one half, Alice Lloyd could get only one field goal closer to King. Visiting King led 34-30 at halftime and went on to 64-62.

Eric Ely led King in scoring with 14 points.

Tommy McKenzie paced

Alice Lloyd with 17 points. Nick Samons scored 11.

Hondo Hearne chipped in eight for the Eagles.

Alice Lloyd was able to control the boards, outrebounding King 35-23. Each team had 15 turnovers.

## GAME NOTE...

Officials for Thursday night's game were Daryl Smith, Chad Allen and Marvin Moore.

many truly understand it.

Many, however, say I'm off base here and Title IX has nothing to do with it. Either way, something caused the sudden tinkering of the system.

This year, however, things have changed again. Citing that it's apparently too taxing for one school to host the whole thing, this year first-round games in the 15th Region tournament will be played on the home floor of the district champions.

Let me walk you through a possibility.

The boys team at Phelps still hasn't won a game. But let's say March rolls around and it all comes together for the Hornets. They pull the upset and qualify for the regional tournament.

What is their reward? A game in front of the entire region's fanbase on a neutral floor?

No. They could win an expenses-paid trip to play Paintsville on the home court of the Tigers.

Is this fair? It's not even close.

Also what about folks like Hershel Conn, one of the nicest men I've ever met. I'm going to guess that he hasn't missed a 15th Region tournament game in decades, until this year. He's guaranteed to miss them.

## Eagles

■ Continued from p1

make-up affair.

"Obviously, it was a big district win for us," said Johnson Central head coach Les Trimble. "Coach (Danny) Adams does a great job, we got out early tonight and that really helped."

The game was the second game a doubleheader between the two schools. The Johnson Central girls scored a 62-36 rout of a win earlier in the night.

The host Golden Eagles doubled up Magoffin County in the first period, outscoring the Hornets 20-10. When the half-time rolled around, Johnson Central led 26-16 after the second period yielded just six points for each team.

Johnson Central got another spark early in the third quarter. The second half was all Golden Eagles. Central took the third period 23-12 and the final quar-

ter 26-10. Johnson Central got a very balanced scoring effort. Sophomore Nick Music led the Golden Eagles in scoring with 15 points. Junior Mike Walters and sophomore Tony Hatfield each had 11. Seniors Chris Hurt and Justin Woods flipped in eight each, and forward Brandon Wheeler added seven.

Pitt Connelley led Magoffin County with a team-high 13 points. Jason Arnett, Magoffin's leading scorer, finished with 12.

**MAGOFFIN CO. (38)** — Jayne 3, Barker 8, Helton 2, Arnett 12, Connelley 13.

**JOHNSON CENTRAL (75)** — Walters 11, Stapleton 2, Hatfield 11, Hurt 8, Callis 3, N. Music 15, Fairchild 2, Adams 4, Rice 4, Wheeler 7, Woods 8.





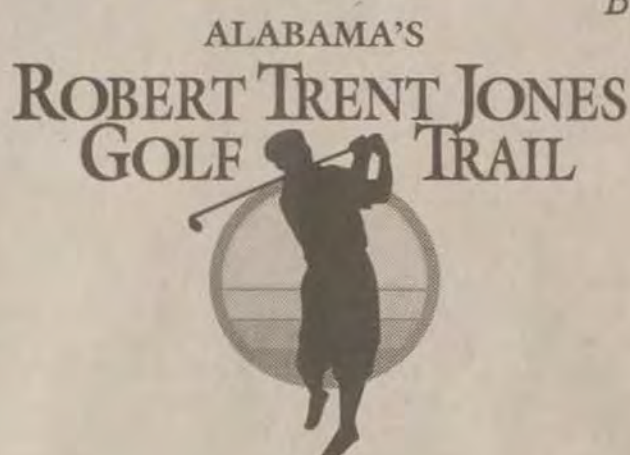
# “From Baja California to the French Alps, we pick eight perfect places to spend your winter holiday...”

—November 2002 MONEY® magazine

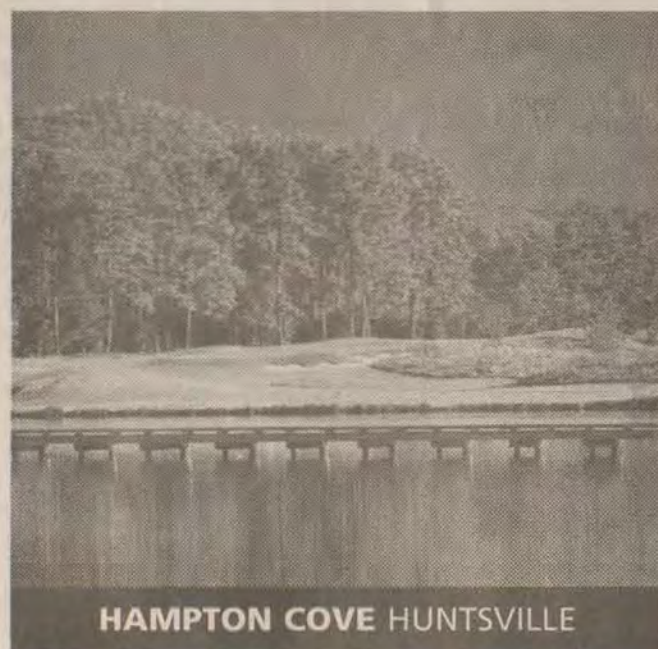
## [One of them might surprise you.]

*Val D'Isere, France (French Alps)*  
*Alta, Utah*  
**The Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail, Alabama**  
*Phoenix, Arizona*

*Sanibel and Captiva Islands, Florida*  
*Antigua, Guatemala*  
*Martinique*  
*Baja California, Mexico*



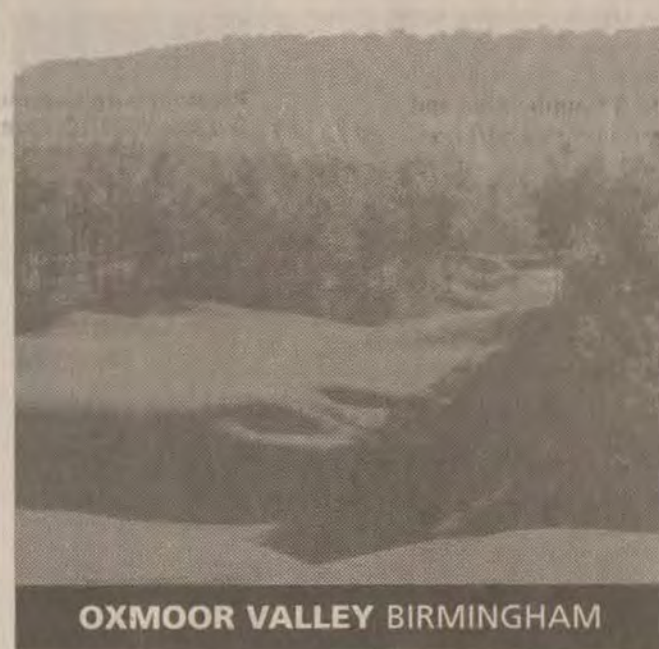
378 championship holes on eight sites in Alabama



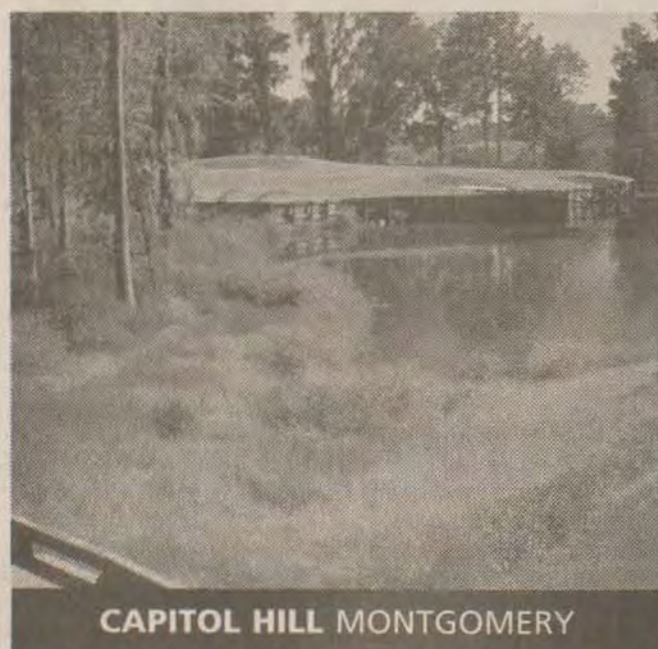
**HAMPTON COVE HUNTSVILLE**



**SILVER LAKES ANNISTON/GADSDEN**



**OXMOOR VALLEY BIRMINGHAM**



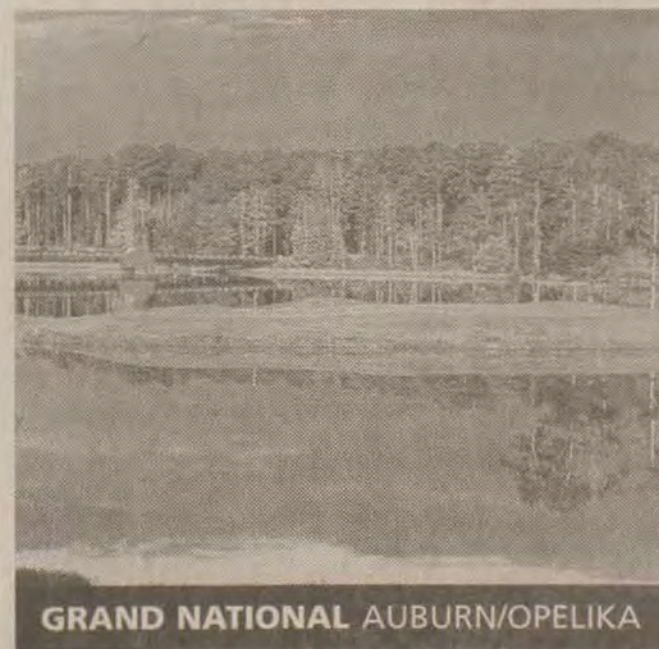
**CAPITOL HILL MONTGOMERY**

MONEY magazine called the Trail courses “stunningly beautiful and well maintained.”

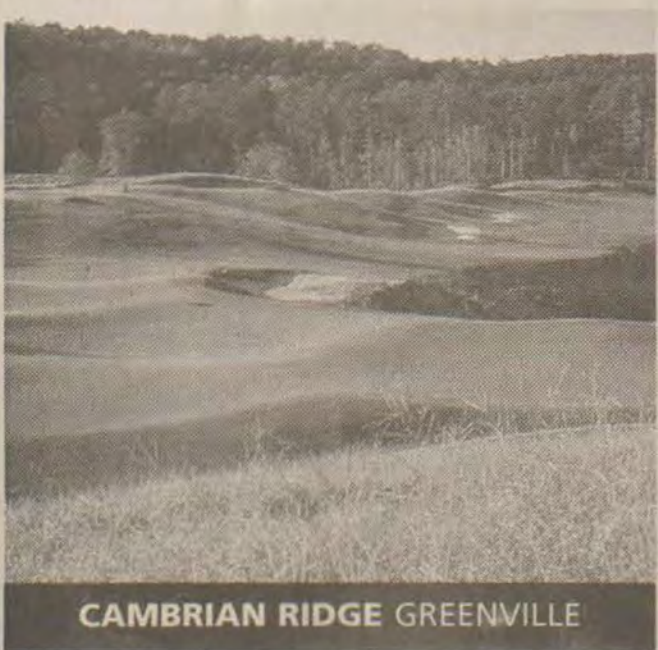
“For courses of this quality, the golf is strikingly inexpensive.”

Get the November MONEY magazine and read about the Trail or visit [www.cnnmoney.com](http://www.cnnmoney.com).

And you can call our Reservations Department at **1 800 949 4444** or visit [www.rtjgolf.com](http://www.rtjgolf.com).



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**CAMBRIAN RIDGE GREENVILLE**



**HIGHLAND OAKS DOTHAN**



**MAGNOLIA GROVE MOBILE**

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Regional  
**COLLEGE**

Sunday, February 9, 2003

## Inside

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TIMES Email: web@floydcountytimes.com

## Kentucky Chautauqua living history comes to PCC

Prestonsburg Community College is proud to sponsor the Kentucky Chautauqua living history portrayal of York performed by Hasan Davis. The performance is free and open to the public at Prestonsburg

Community College Pike Auditorium on February 20, 2003 at 10:50 a.m. If you have questions, you may contact Judy Bowen at 606-886-3863 Ext. 6216 or 6221.

In the expedition

Meriwether Lewis and William Clark led to the Pacific Ocean in 1803-1806, one man stood out from the rest. His name was York. He was distinguished by his black skin and by the fact that he had not volunteered for

this duty. York was a slave, the body servant of expedition co-leader William Clark. We don't know whether York wanted to be the first African American to cross the country, but he was. In the wilderness, many of the

usual constraints of slavery did not apply. Expedition journals make it clear that York pulled his weight and won the respect of his fellow adventurers. He was a major asset dealing with the Indians, who regarded his

blackness as "big medicine." But the return to civilization was bitter. William Clark refused to free York immediately. He had to wait five years, and little is known of his life as a free man.

## COLLEGE NEWS

## Artisan Center to hold quality review workshop session

The Kentucky Appalachian Artisan Center invites artisans in the 49-county service area to participate in the second annual Quality Review Session. Applications are available now and submissions will be accepted between April 15 and May 1.

In order to prepare artisans to participate in this process, the Artisan Center will be requiring a mandatory workshop at no charge called "Gearing up for Quality Review", on April 5 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Artisan Center. At this workshop Artisan Center Project Director Jenny Browning will review and assist with the application process, as well as basic elements of design and technique expected by the panel. This workshop is required as part of the application process.

Artisans choosing to participate in the Quality Review Process must complete the application and return it with a \$10 non-refundable application fee along with three examples of their artwork to the Artisan Center by 6 p.m. on May 1.

The Artisan Center is an affiliate of the Kentucky School of Craft and Hazard Community College.

If you would like to request an application or learn more about the upcoming Quality Review Session or the "Gearing up for Quality Review" workshop, you may contact the Artisan Center at (606) 785-9855, 16 West Main Street, Hindman.

## COLLEGE NEWS

## Scholarships: time to apply is NOW!

Hazard Community College's Financial Aid Office is now accepting scholarship applications for the 2003-2004 academic year. Students, prospective students, and high school seniors planning to enroll at HCC for the Fall 2003 semester should obtain a scholarship application. Scholarship applications will be made available at all campuses of Hazard Community College and at the Guidance Counselor's Office at local high schools.

HCC scholarships are intended for students planning to enroll full-time at Hazard Community College during the 2003-2004 academic year with scholarship funds being applied towards payment of tuition expenses. Factors impacting the awarding of scholarships include grade point averages and scores from entrance testing (ACT, SAT, COMPASS, etc.)

Students wishing to obtain a scholarship application may contact the HCC financial aid office at (606) 436-5721 or (800) 246-7521, ext. 372 or 615, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The deadline to apply for 2003-2004 HCC Scholarships is April 1, 2003.

## - KCTCS HONORED BENEFACTORS -



Prestonsburg Community and Mayo Technical Colleges and the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) recently honored their most valuable benefactors. Shown in this photo are, from left, KCTCS President Michael B. McCall, Mr. Joseph B. Sharp, III, Vice-President of Marketing, Mountain Enterprises, Inc., Prestonsburg Community and Mayo Technical College President/CEO Dr. George Edwards, and Governor Paul Patton. KCTCS and its colleges honored 37 of the system's major donors and volunteers at the 2002 President's Gala and Benefactors Awards Dinner. Mountain Enterprises, Inc., was honored for its support of Prestonsburg Community and Mayo Technical Colleges.

## Contact legislators about education plight

Evelyn Wood, Public Relations Director, Hazard Community College

The plight of education is at a critical stage because of the state budget situation and the public is urged to contact their legislators to tell them about the need to protect education in the Kentucky General Assembly.

"A better educated people attracts better jobs; better jobs means these folks will pay more in taxes helping to diminish the chance of a budget shortfall again," noted Dr. Jay K. Box, president and CEO of Hazard Community College, who is working with elementary to high schools, as well as the universities and other educators to let folks know how serious these cuts are in Kentucky.

Just at Hazard Community College, the budget situation means that two full-time faculty positions cannot be filled, one instructional assistant for students won't be hired, the business affairs office is without a worker, and three maintenance and operations positions won't be filled. The Kentucky School of Craft's

(See PLIGHT, page three)

## KCTCS holds honors ceremony

The Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) and its colleges recently honored 37 major donors and volunteers at the 2002 President's Gala and Benefactors Awards Dinner. At the System level, the KCTCS Foundation Inc. honored American Electric Power (AEP), which has given more than \$100,000 in contributions to the KCTCS Foundation and KCTCS colleges in Ashland, Prestonsburg, and Hazard. Shown in the attached photo are, from left, KCTCS President Michael B. McCall; Mary Begley, AEP Community Service Manager, Hazard; Frank Crockett, Community Service Manager, Ashland; and

(See KCTCS, page three)



## Alice Lloyd College spring semester underway

The Alice Lloyd College 2003 Spring Semester officially opened as classes resumed at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 15. Mr. Sean Damron, Director of Admissions, commented on ALC students. "We are so pleased with the number as well as the quality of new and returning students. Alice Lloyd College continues to offer a quality education and an unbeatable price". For more information about applying to ALC in the fall of 2003, please call 1-888-280-4ALC.

## CAMPUS CONNECTION

## Where does time go?

by RACHELLE BURCHETT

This week my son will be celebrating his 13th birthday and although he wants time to pass by faster, I keep wondering where it went to and how to slow it down.

I can remember when I was his age and couldn't wait to grow up, become an adult, be my own boss and do whatever I wanted to do, but somehow when I grew up and became an adult, doing what I wanted to do required something called — MONEY.

My son has big plans for his future. He is going to drive a Lamborghini, live in a larger-than-life house with a swimming pool, and have a maid to do all his cleaning and cooking. If



you would have asked him a few years ago just how he planned to achieve all of these, he would reply, "I am going to work at Wal-Mart" Needless to say now that he is a few years older his plans to make his

dreams come true are now focused on becoming a doctor or pharmacist.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if all of our childhood dreams had come true? Where would you be? What would you be doing today? Of course, reality strikes suddenly and sometimes harshly and we aren't able to go where we wanted to go or become what we wanted to be but as times have changed what used to be just our dreams could now become reality.

I was out of school 10 years before returning and although it took some adjustment I obtained my associate's degree and am working toward a bachelor's. No, it doesn't all happen at once but little by little I have made a dream become reality.

Being successful can be defined in many ways, but the best way to define self success is finding contentment with what you do, what you have accomplished and who you have become. If you

(See CONNECTION, page three)

## NEWS AND NOTES

## Have a poodle skirt? Wear it to see the Platters and Marvelettes at HCC

Hey ladies, have you got a poodle skirt? Guys, want to slick your hair back and put on a leather jacket? To feel a part of the 1950s, the Greater Hazard Area Performing Arts Series says some folks will be wearing that kind of garb when The Platters and The Marvelettes perform on Saturday, Feb. 15, with a 6 p.m. dinner and 7:30 p.m. concert at the First Federal Center, Hazard Community College.

Those attending just may feel transported back in time with images of 45 records, coke floats, and saddle shoes that will be on display. Of course, dressing for the year 2003 is always an option too.

If you don't already have dinner reservations, there is still room for to the concert only at 7:30. Admission for the concert is \$16 for adults and \$8 for students.

The Platters, formed in 1953 in Los Angeles, had the beginning of their stardom in 1955 with their hit "Only You," which also helped them become the most popular vocal group of the fifties. Rerecording songs by the likes of Jerome Kern and Rudy Vallee, as well as some original material, between 1955 and 1960, The Platters had four No. 1 songs and 16 gold records, most of which can still be

(See HCC, page three)

# Workforce Development Education Pays Scholarship

FRANKFORT - The Cabinet for Workforce Development's fifth annual Education Pays scholarship program is accepting applications. The scholarship is for clients of the cabinet's wide range of

employment and training programs

and services.

CWD Secretary Allen D. Rose said the scholarships help Kentuckians continue their education and prepare themselves for the workforce, while promoting the concept that "Education Pays."

To be eligible, applicants must be a

client of at least one of the cabinet's services, which include adult education, vocational rehabilitation programs, unemployment insurance, job placement, high school technical education, and Workforce Investment Act services and training, among others.

Applicants must also be Kentucky residents and enroll in a Kentucky post-secondary educational institution for the fall 2002 semester.

Applications and complete eligibility guidelines are available through adult learning centers; local offices of

the Department for the Blind, Department for Employment Services and Department of Vocational Rehabilitation; Kentucky Tech area technology centers; and Workforce

(See PAYS, page three)

## Medicare AND YOU



Donna R. Morton  
Medicare Beneficiary  
Outreach Coordinator  
AdminaStar Federal

### Q What is TRICARE for Life (TFL)?

TRICARE for Life provides expanded medical coverage for Medicare-eligible uniformed services retirees, including retired National Guard members and reservists.

Medicare-eligible family members and widow/widowers and certain former spouses may enroll with TFL if they were eligible for TRICARE before age 65. If eligible you get all Medicare covered benefits plus all TFL covered benefits.

### Q Do I have to be enrolled with Medicare to be eligible for TRICARE for Life?

Yes. You must have both Medicare Part A and Part B to be eligible for TFL.

### Q If I have both TRICARE for Life (TFL) and Medicare who pays first?

If you use a Medicare provider, Medicare will be the first payer for all Medicare-covered services and TFL will be the second payer. TFL will pay all Medicare copayments and deductibles and cover most of the costs of certain care not covered by Medicare.

### Q Where can I get more information about TRICARE for Life?

Two great resources for TRICARE for Life are 1-888-DOD-LIFE (1-888-633-4227) and the website www.TRICARE.osd.mil.

If you have questions about other military retiree eligibility and benefits you may call 1-800-538-9552.

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

## — OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEE AWARD —



NREPC Secretary Hank List, left, and Natural Resources Commissioner Hugh Archer, right, presented Roy Boggs an outstanding employee award for his work on GIS mapping.

## P'BURG MAN RECEIVES SPECIAL RECOGNITION

FRANKFORT — A Prestonsburg man was one of 17 Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet employees recently honored for their exemplary performance during the year 2001.

Roy Boggs is a geoprocesing specialist with the Division of Forestry's Betsy Layne regional office. Boggs' specialty is geographic information systems, and he has spent countless hours researching this technology and its applications.

Boggs designed applications that greatly increase the division's ability to locate forest fires. This technology also provides firefighters with mapping capabilities, allowing greater insight to the terrain, natural barriers and potential safety hazards.

In 2001, Kentucky experienced its worst fire season in a decade. Boggs worked tirelessly to provide firefighters and dispatchers with maps to some of the most "fire-prone" areas in Eastern Kentucky. His information and products pro-

vided greater efficiency during fire suppression activities in the district, while also providing for the safety of all involved.

NREPC Secretary Hank List presented the honorees with engraved plaques during a recent reception held at the Berry Hill Mansion in Frankfort. List commended the year's recipients for their unending dedication to the cabinet's mission, for addressing citizens' needs and monitoring environmental trends.

(See AWARD, page three)

## 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 Jan. 31 to Feb. 7.

### Pikeville Division Chapter 7

Under Chapter 7 bankruptcy, a

court-appointed trustee sells assets and the debtor is discharged of debts.

Jesse Blevins and Barbara Blevins, of Tram.  
Ronald Hampton, of Belfry.  
Jeffery W. Elswick, of Neon.  
Valerie Scott, of Pikeville.  
Cynthia Lynn Hall, of

Prestonsburg.

Ben R. Brown and Katherine Brown, of Lowmansville.  
Hassell Ratliff and Barbara Ratliff, of Kimper.  
Castle-Robinson Enterprises, of Pikeville.

(See FILINGS, page three)



### American Woodmark supports area arts

American Woodmark's human resource manager Keila Young presents \$500 on behalf of the company to Tammy Duff and the Greater Hazard Area Performing Arts Series, an affiliate of Hazard Community College. "We appreciate American Woodmark's gift for our performing arts programming," said Mrs. Duff.

## Workshop to show 'smart women finish rich'

ASHLAND — A free financial planning workshop for women, "Smart Women Finish Rich" will be presented from 1 to 3:30 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 10, by Morehead State University's Ashland Small Business Development Center and the Ashland Alliance.

This seminar will provide women with seven steps to help them achieve financial security and fund their dreams. Women will learn how to improve the quality of their monetary life and

(See SMART, page three)

## CONSUMER REPORT

### PSC warns of rising natural gas prices

FRANKFORT - Home heating costs for many Kentucky natural gas consumers will rise over the rest of the winter, the Kentucky Public Service Commission said today.

Consumers can expect to see rate increases from a few pennies to \$1.75 per thousand cubic feet (MCF) for natural gas used in the next several months. (A typical residential customer uses 10 or 11 MCF per month.) Depending on the company, the increases will take effect in February or March, and will be reflected first in March or April bills.

"The unusually cold weather over much of the eastern half of the country in recent weeks has driven up the demand for natural gas," PSC Executive Director Tom Dorman said. "That has led to increases in wholesale prices."

By federal law, natural gas prices are not regulated at the wholesale level. In Kentucky, natural gas retailers are allowed to adjust their rates every three months to reflect the cost of the gas they are providing to consumers. The gas cost adjustments must be approved by the PSC before they can be reflected in the retail rates.

"As always, we are working to ensure that Kentuckians are paying rates that are accurate, reasonable and fair," Dorman said.

The wide range of rate increases reflects the fact that some gas distribution

(See PSC, page three)

## EMPLOYMENT

### Jobless rates fall in 85 Ky. counties from Dec. 2001 to Dec. 2002

FRANKFORT - Unemployment rates fell in 85 Kentucky counties between December 2001 and December 2002, rose in 33 and remained the same in two counties, according to the Department for Employment Services, a Cabinet for Workforce Development agency.

Kentucky's seasonally adjusted jobless rate in December was 5.4 percent.

In December 2002, six counties had jobless rates at or above 10 percent, while 13 counties recorded double-digit rates in December 2001.

Woodford County's 2.1 percent jobless rate was the lowest in the commonwealth. Other low rates were recorded in Jessamine County, 2.4 percent; Kenton County, 2.6 percent; Franklin and Oldham counties, 2.9 percent each; Campbell and Fayette counties, 3 percent each; Henry County, 3.3 percent; Boone County, 3.4 percent; and Anderson, Mason and Shelby counties, 3.5 percent each.

Butler County recorded the state's highest unemployment rate - 14.1 percent. It was followed by Magoffin County, 11.7 percent; Harlan County, 11.5 percent; Letcher County, 11 percent; Russell County, 10.5 percent; Morgan County, 10.1 percent; Ohio County, 9.9 percent; Breathitt County, 9.5 percent; Clay County, 9.3 percent; and Lyon and McCreary County, 9.1 percent each.

Unemployment statistics are based on estimates and are compiled to measure trends rather than actually to count people working. Civilian labor force statistics include non-military workers and unemployed Kentuckians who are actively seeking work. They do not include unemployed Kentuckians who have not looked for employment within the past

(See JOBS, page three)

Filings

Continued from p2

- Michael Cure, of Elkhorn City.
Christine Forsyth, of Regina.
Norma M. Browning, of Hallie.
Billy N. Holbrook Jr., of Jackhorn.
Andrea Moore, of Jenkins.
Jesse Wayne Wright and Janice Esther Wright, of Jenkins.
James E. Johnson and Kimberly Johnson, of McRoberts.
Bryan H. Howard and Tracy R. Howard, of Mousie.
Donald R. McElroy, of Millstone.
Adam C. Bentley and Theresa A. Bentley, of Jeremiah.

- Chapter 13
Under Chapter 13 bankruptcy, the debtor arranges to repay debt.
Luther Hall and Letha Hall, of Neon.
John Lee Smith and Connie Smith, of Weeksbury.
Brenda Hall, of Deane.
Dennis Seals and Shelby Jean Seals, of Whitesburg.
James P. Polly and Melinda Polly, of Cromona.



Dwight Smith, math instructor at Prestonsburg Community College, has recently seen his textbook, "Lecture Notes: Intermediate Algebra 108", published. Smith will be using the text book in his Math 108 class this semester. His book was published by Houghton-Mifflin.

Plight

Continued from p1

opening is now on permanent hold for hiring a slate of instructors, the Knott County Branch and the Leslie County Center of HCC will have reduced class offerings and services, summer school classes can only be offered on a limited basis and construction work at the New Opportunity Center in Hindman, which would house HCC offices and classes, is being delayed.

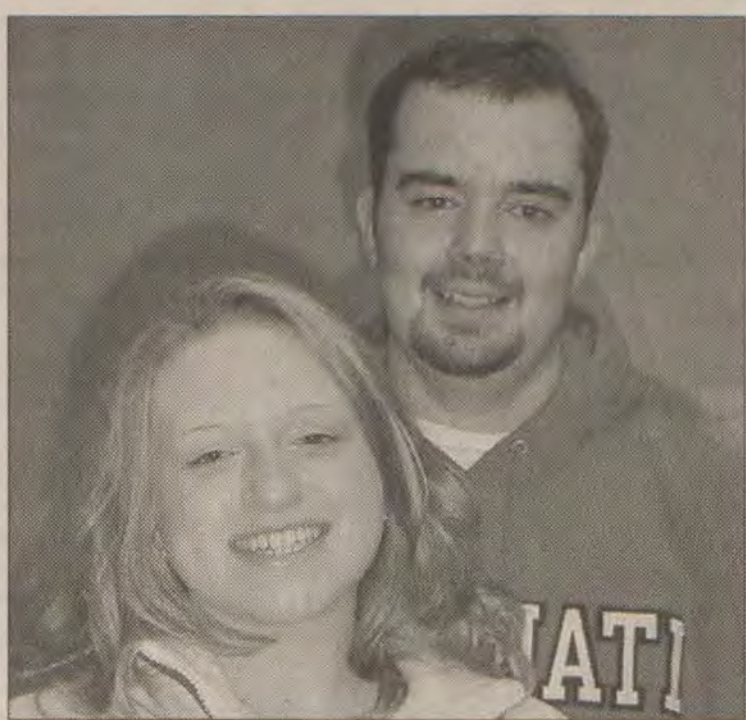
The public is urged to contact their legislators today by calling the Legislative Message Line in Frankfort at 800-372-7181. "Tell them education matters and they should avoid making cuts in education, from elementary to college and universities," Dr. Box said.

The Perry County School System could lose as much as \$3 million over a two-year

KCTCS

Continued from p1

Governor Paul Patton. In addition to AEP's monetary support, the volunteer leadership and commitment of Tim Mosher, President for AEP-Kentucky, as a founding chair of the KCTCS Foundation Inc. Board of Directors has been instrumental in the continuing success of the Foundation. American Electric Power is a multinational energy company with a balanced portfolio of energy assets.



Ashley Cook's experience at the Pikeville Campus of the Big Sandy Community and Technical College District helped convince her boyfriend, Tim Reed, to transfer from Morehead to Pikeville.

Couple finds classes in Pike better

PIKEVILLE - Ashley Cook and Tim Reed registered for classes this semester at the Pikeville Campus of the Big Sandy Community and Technical College District.

Cook is a 2002 graduate from Belfry High School and will be attending her second semester at the Pikeville Campus, while Reed, her boyfriend, is a transfer from Morehead State University.

Reed is looking forward to attending classes at the Pikeville Campus and feels that his education will not suffer from his transfer.

"I have seen some classes have as many as 100-plus students and I feel that the smaller class size and more one-on-one time with the instructors will

be a great benefit," Reed said. Cook's experience at the Pikeville Campus influenced Reed's decision to transfer.

"My experience here has been very pleasant," Cook said. "I have enjoyed the small class size and it has made the transition from high school to college easier."

Reed says that there always seems to be a lot of pressure to leave home and attend a four-year university and if he had it to do over he would have begun his classes in Pikeville.

Cook agrees, as she says, "It's not always best to go away to get an education. Start close to home, get adjusted to the college atmosphere, and then consider where you might go."

noted they have already cut two bus routes and "we just can't cut any more."

Dr. Box and Hazard Community College are part of "Partners for Kentucky's Future"—a group hoping to get the word out to the public about the value of education to Kentucky's future. "To ensure economic success and a high quality of life for its citizens, Kentucky must sustain its commitment to this continuum of education and build on the positive momentum created by its forward-looking actions of the past," is noted in their position paper.

the record is clear: We have made progress at all levels, and momentum is on our side. But much work remains to be done. Third, Kentuckians are rightfully proud of these accomplishments, and they recognize that the future of their state is at stake.

Research shows that for every dollar spent on high-quality early education programs, taxpayers can expect \$4 to \$7 in benefits. As for elementary and secondary schools, test scores are up. Kentucky is one of only three states to show continuous progress in fourth-grade reading in the National

Assessment of Educational Progress. As for Adult Education, there's good success. In two years, enrollment in adult education jumped by 35,000 students, or 69 percent.

The Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) is a major success story. Since 1998, enrollment in KCTCS has grown by more than 22,000 students, an increase of 49 percent. At Hazard Community College, which is part of KCTCS, enrollment hit an all time high of 4,100 students in the fall 2002 semester.

Other research shows that education is the answer for many social problems.

Documentation shows that education has an effect on crime rates, welfare costs, amount raised in taxes, and the amount of civic responsibility.

Call your legislators now.

PCC, Mayo name staff employees of the month



Ruth Perry

Brenda K. Miller, staff associate II at the Prestonsburg Campus of the Big Sandy Community and Technical College District, was selected by faculty and staff members as the January Prestonsburg "Staff Employee of the Month".

Miller is the wife of Ted Miller and they reside in Prestonsburg. She attended Prestonsburg Community College and Morehead State University, where she received her bachelor of business administration degree.

Staff council members Rachelle Burchett, William Fitzwater and Betty Hunt presented Miller with a certificate and a gift basket. She was over-

Smart

Continued from p2

how to build financial freedom.

George R. Snider III, financial consultant at A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc., will conduct the workshop that will be held at the MSU/Ashland campus, located at 1401 Winchester Avenue.

Pre-registration is necessary due to limited seating. Additional information is available by calling (606) 329-8011.



Brenda K. Miller

whelmed and very humbled to have received such an award.

"I am honored to be the recipient of this award and I want to express my appreciation to everyone who supported me," Miller said.

Ruth Perry, accountant III at the Mayo campus, was selected by the faculty and staff as the Mayo January "Staff Employee of the Month."

Perry has been an employee at Mayo for approximately 12 years. She is mother of four children, two boys and two girls, and the wife of Jack Perry. She and her husband reside in

Award

Continued from p2

Nominations for the NREPC outstanding employee awards are compiled from suggestions by coworkers and supervisors.

The outstanding employee recognition ceremony is usually held during the annual Governor's Conference on the Environment, which was cancelled in 2002 due to budget concerns.

Boonscamp

Perry is a graduate from Mayo Technical College, where she received a degree in medical secretary, and also a graduate from Prestonsburg Community College, where she received an associate in arts degree.

Staff council members Rachelle Burchett, Betty Hunt and Juanita Parsons presented Perry with and Employee of the Month certificate and a gift basket on Jan. 31. She was more than overwhelmed and felt very honored to receive such an award.

"It is a great honor to receive such an award and I would like to thank the faculty and staff who were a part of making this happen. I feel honored to work with such a wonderful group of people and for such a great institution."

Connection

Continued from p1

haven't found such contentment take a moment and reminisce about some of your childhood dreams. Maybe you wanted to be a cosmetologist, a truck driver, an accountant, an LPN or an RN. What about a dental hygienist, a business manager, auto mechanic, or maybe you just wanted to obtain your degree?

Whatever your dreams were, here at Mayo Technical College and Prestonsburg Community College, we are ready to make them happen. Give us a call at (888) 641-4132 or (606) 789-5321 and let us help you find the profession you always dreamed about. It doesn't matter how long you have been out of school or if you are just graduating, we want you to succeed and watching you succeed is what makes our dream come true.

Remember you can find us on the web at www.bigsandy.kctcs.edu. See you there!

PSC

Continued from p2

companies have the ability to store large quantities of gas that they purchase at times when demand and rates are lower. The stored gas can be withdrawn at times of high demand, reducing the need to purchase gas when wholesale prices are high.

"While weather will always affect demand for natural gas and thus affect prices, there are steps companies can take to minimize the impact of seasonal price fluctuations," Dorman said, noting that a recent PSC audit found that the major natural gas retailers in Kentucky are doing a good job of managing their gas purchases. "I think we're seeing the positive effects of some of those efforts this year."

Natural gas prices are higher than they were at this time last year, when unusually warm weather reduced demand for home heating fuels. But this year's prices are much lower than in the winter of 2000-2001, which saw prices rise sharply as the result of very cold weather and a tight wholesale gas market.

With below-normal temperatures forecast to continue into March, Kentucky residents can expect home heating bills to continue to be higher than they were a year ago.

"Unfortunately, it's a double whammy for consumers," Dorman said. "As the weather gets cold, we use more gas, which drives up the wholesale cost and retail rates. If it stays cold, we end up burning more gas at a higher price."

Pays

Continued from p2

Investment Act service providers. The completed application packet must be post-marked by April 15, 2003.

Applications and guidelines may also be accessed at the cabinet's Web page at www.kycwd.org. The \$500 scholarships may be used for tuition, books, lab and technology fees.

Cabinet for Workforce Development - Connecting Kentucky to employment, workforce information, education and training

Kentucky consumers can take a number of steps to soften the impact of higher gas bills in the coming months. They include:

Budget billing: This option, which is also known as an even-payment plan, allows customers to pay the same amount each month, based on their average monthly usage over the course of a year. Customers should contact their utility for more information.

Energy conservation measures: Simple steps such as turning down thermostats on furnaces (most people are comfortable at 68 degrees) and water heaters (120 degrees is hot enough for nearly all uses) can be big energy savers.

Energy audits: Many local utilities offer home energy audits at little or no cost to consumers. These audits can identify energy-wasting trouble spots and provide information on how to correct the problems.

Weatherization: Windows and doors are among the biggest energy wasters in a typical home. Windows, particularly those without insulated glass, can be covered with plastic. Doors should have adequate weatherstripping. Caulk or weatherstrip gaps around window and door frames. Insulating gaskets for electrical switches and outlets on outside walls also can help reduce heating bills. Crawl space vents should be closed in winter. Cover window air conditioning units in the winter.

HCC

Continued from p1

heard on any easy listening or oldies stations throughout the country today. With hit songs like "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes," "The Great Pretender," and "I'll Never Smile Again" The Platters were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1990, where they go rightly belong.

The Marvelettes occupy an esteemed place in the history of American popular music as the group that caused Motown, and most notably Berry Gordy, to change the label's focus from single bluesy soul artists to a smooth orchestrated harmonic sound that transcended the prior

Weatherization programs for low-income families are available in Kentucky. Many local utilities offer weatherization assistance. A state program is administered by the Kentucky Cabinet for Families and Children and uses local agencies to provide weatherization assistance. Many local utilities also offer weatherization assistance.

For general information about cutting heating costs, utility issues or for assistance with resolving consumer disputes with utilities, contact the PSC by calling 800-772-4636 or go to the PSC Web site at: http://www.psc.state.ky.us/site map.htm#CI

For information on weatherization assistance, call 502-564-7536, Extension 146, or go to:

Jobs

Continued from p2

four weeks.

Kentucky's statewide unemployment rate is seasonally adjusted. Employment statistics undergo sharp fluctuations due to seasonal events, such as weather changes, harvests, holidays and school openings and closings. Seasonal adjustments eliminate these influences and make it easier to observe statistical trends. However, because of the small sample size, county unemployment rates are not seasonally adjusted.

Make your reservation now! For more information, contact Tammy Duff, performing arts series coordinator, at 800-246-7521, ext. 8067 or at Tammy.Duff@kctcs.edu

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# at HOME

Sunday

Sunday, February 9, 2003

## Inside

- Family Fun • C4
- Avocados • C4
- Books • C5
- This is a Hammer • C5

TIMES Email: [web@floydcountytimes.com](mailto:web@floydcountytimes.com)

## Donna's Day

Creative family fun

by Donna Erickson

### Send a garden of Valentine wishes

Send a lovely garden of wishes this Valentine's Day with these whimsical paper hearts covered with seeds ready for planting this spring. Garden-seed paper makes planting seeds easier for children and their friends, plus the idea is a charming way to bring loving wishes to others. Here's how:

Purchase a package of flower seeds dated for 2003, or if you have harvested seeds from last fall's harvest in your



DAVID LAROCHELLE

own garden, use some of them for this Valentine gift.

Draw a 2-inch heart shape on an index card and cut it out. This will be your pattern. Use a black marker to trace the pattern onto a sheet of construction paper to make approximately 20 hearts. Squeeze 1 tablespoon nontoxic white household glue into a bowl, and dilute with a few drops of water. Lightly "paint" the glue mixture over the paper. While still wet, sprinkle flower seeds with your fingers inside each heart shape. Let dry.

Cut out "seed" hearts using the black marker lines as your guide.

Tuck hearts into little Valentine cards to give to classmates and teachers at school, your bus driver, librarian and special neighbors. Include instructions to plant paper hearts in the garden this summer or to grow indoors this spring in a container of potting soil: Cover with soil, water regularly and watch for sprouts to appear.

If you wish to send a special Valentine to grandparents, make your own card with a sheet of construction paper folded in half. Decorate with cutouts, doilies and stickers. Write a verse on the outside, such as "My love for you grows and grows." Tuck seed hearts inside. For extra fun, draw a picture of the type of flower that will grow from the enclosed seeds, such as a bright yellow sunflower! Place in a large envelope and send.

Extra tip: If you saved a standard heart-shaped Valentine chocolate box from last year, fill it with paper candy cups or small cupcake papers. Make a sheet filled with 1-inch seed hearts, cut them out and tuck them in the paper cups. Replace lid, decorate, and add a message such as "Sprinkle seeded hearts in a warm sunny spot to grow a Garden of Love!"



## AVOCADOS AREN'T JUST FOR GUACAMOLE

We've been waiting for them for almost a year. Now they're in the produce market, and in abundance — the Mexican Hass variety of avocados. We must take advantage of their availability now, as the season wanes in May.

I think of them as the Jekyll and Hyde of fruits.

Because inside that not-so-pretty, rough, pebbly, dark green exterior lies a beautiful, velvety smooth, light yellow-green flesh that is not only full of flavor but is also full of nutrients — vitamin E, folic acid, other B vitamins and potassium. And the fats are the "good" ones recommended for a heart-healthy diet.

Mexican Hass avocados are so good because, for the American market, the USDA has stringent standards for growing, harvesting, grading and even packing. They must be grown in certified orchards and pass USDA inspection in the packinghouses and at U.S. ports of entry.

Avocados are ripe when they yield to gentle thumb pressure at the bottom. If not, you may keep them on the kitchen counter, or to hasten ripening, put them in a paper bag. Don't refrigerate them.

And don't limit them to the guacamole bowl. Try

these dishes. What makes the salsa unique, in addition to the avocado, is the wee bit of tequila. And the Tortilla Spirals mixture could very nicely make a delicious sandwich or filling for a wrap.

### AVOCADO-TEQUILA SALSA

2 fully ripened Mexican avocados  
1 cup diced plum tomatoes  
2 tablespoons chopped cilantro  
1 to 2 tablespoons lime juice  
1 tablespoon tequila  
1/2 teaspoon salt

Cut avocados lengthwise around middle; twist avocados to separate halves; remove pits with a knife blade; scoop out pulp with a spoon; dice. In a medium-sized bowl, combine avocados, tomatoes, cilantro, lime juice, tequila and salt; toss gently. Cover surface with plastic wrap; chill until ready to serve.

Spoon salsa into a small bowl. Or, if desired, rub a lime wedge around the rim of a margarita glass or bowl; dip rim in kosher (coarse) salt; fill glass with salsa (refill as needed). Garnish with lime wedge or cilantro sprig and serve with tortilla chips, jicama slices or sweet red

(See **BLOCK**, page five)



by Philomena  
Corradeno



by JoAnna M. Lund

You get a lot of grilled taste from just a few ingredients when you whip these up. My husband, Cliff, has always been partial to Reuben

## Grilling indoors

Sandwiches, and as I'm partial to Cliff, I created these with him in mind.

### REUBEN GRILL

2 tablespoons fat-free Thousand Island dressing  
4 slices reduced-calorie rye bread  
2 (3/4-ounce) slices reduced-fat Swiss cheese  
1 (8-ounce) can sauerkraut, rinsed and well-drained

1 (2.5-ounce) package 90 percent lean sliced corned beef

Spread 1 tablespoon Thousand Island dressing on 2 slices of bread. Top each with 1 slice Swiss cheese, half of sauerkraut, half of corned beef and remaining slice of bread. Lightly spray tops with butter-flavored cooking spray. Place sand-

(See **FOODS**, page five)

## Dear Diane...

### Shocked and repulsed

#### DEAR DIANE:

I am 27 years old and have been dating "Janine" for more than three months. Janine is 34 years old, slender, with vivid blue eyes and raven-black hair. She is absolutely stunning. She is also one of the greatest conversationalists I've ever met. All things considered, she is, for me, the perfect woman.

Perfect, that is, until last weekend.

On Friday night, Janine and I decided to take our relationship to the next level, if you know what I mean. I'd wondered why Janine always wore pantsuits. On Friday night I found out.

Janine has a fake leg.

Diane, I honestly do adore Janine. But when I got a look at her stump, I nearly lost my lunch. I don't know what to do. It was obvious to Janine that I was shocked and repulsed by her infirmity. I feel so horrible.

I want to continue my relationship with Janine. If it weren't for this one problem, I think I would've asked her to marry me by now.

What should I do?

- A WRECK  
IN WILKES-BARRE

#### DEAR WRECK:

I don't think the fact that Janine has one leg is really the issue here. I think you were just surprised by the fact that your "perfect" woman has one sock too many.

She should have given you some kind of notice before the two of you became intimate. If she had done that, I don't think you would have been so shocked or repulsed.

Give your relationship more time. Give Janine a second chance and don't rob yourself of the romance of a lifetime because you were caught off-guard.

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).

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## Scarred lungs have symptoms similar to Emphysema

#### DEAR DR. DONOHUE:

My husband died at age 62. He had been treated for emphysema for a number of years. An autopsy showed that he did not have emphysema but pulmonary fibrosis. Would he have lived longer if this condition had been discovered and treated? — K.S.

#### ANSWER:

Pulmonary

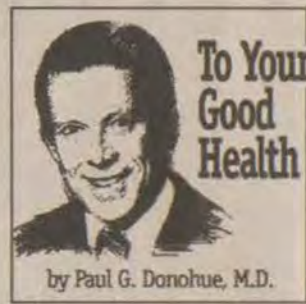
fibrosis is a strange illness whose cause is not known. It usually surfaces between the ages of 50 and 70. Its hallmark

symptom is struggling to get enough air. Breathing is labored. A dry cough is another prominent symptom.

It behaves enough like emphysema that it is often mistaken as that more-common lung problem.

Scar tissue ("fibrosis") fills the lungs. Oxygen cannot pass through the barrier of scar tissue to reach the blood. That is why patients are breathless at all times.

The treatment of pulmonary fibrosis is as vexing as not knowing why it occurs. Cortisone drugs are often prescribed, but they have far less than 100 percent effectiveness.



by Paul G. Donohue, M.D.

(See **HEALTH**, page five)

## Chicken Soup for the Soul: Bonehead

Larry Terherst

(FROM "A 3RD HELPING OF CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE SOUL")

Reprinted by permission of Larry Terherst. (c)1995 Larry Terherst.

As long as I live, I won't forget when I met Alvin C. Hass for the first time in 1991. The other inmate in the prison class didn't use the name "Alvin Hass" when he introduced us — not even close! He introduced Alvin as "Bonehead." Immediately, I felt uncomfortable with Alvin's nickname. The tall, soft-spoken inmate wouldn't look at me as he shook my hand. Needless to say, "Bonehead" was bald-headed. The hair that he had

on the sides went way down past his shoulders. I felt as though I was staring at him, and I tried not to look. But there was a large (and very intimidating) tattoo on top of his bald head. (Yes! A tattoo on his head!) The tattoo was of Harley-Davidson wings, and it covered the entire top of his head.

As a teacher, I try to maintain excellent composure during stressful times, and I made it through that first day of class. At the end of the period, "Bonehead" slipped me a note while

he was filing out of the classroom. I thought: "Oh, no! He's telling me that I'm going to be 'taken out' by his other 'Harley' buddies if I don't give him a good grade or something like that." A little later, I had a chance to read the note. It said, "Teach (he always called me 'Teach'), breakfast is an important meal and if you're not in by then, you're in big trouble! — Bonehead, the Mountain Hippie."

Bonehead completed a series of six classes with me over many months. He was an excellent student who seldom

spoke. However, he handed me a note nearly every day with some type of saying, tidbit, anecdote or otherwise advice for life. I looked forward to receiving them and became a little disappointed if by chance he didn't give me one. I still have them all today.

Bonehead and I clicked. Somehow, I knew that each time I opened my mouth to teach, he understood me. He silently soaked up everything I said. We were connected.

At the conclusion of the course, each student received a certificate. Bonehead had completed the course doing excellent work the entire way through, and I was excited to give him his certificate.

We were alone when I presented his certificate of completion. I shook his hand and briefly told him what a pleasure it was to have had him in my classes and that I appreciated his hard work, excellent attendance and superior attitude. His response stayed with me and continues to make a deep impression on my life. In that soft voice of his, Bonehead said: "Thank you, Larry. You're the first teacher in my life that ever told me I did anything right."

As I walked away, I was awash with emotion. I could hardly hold back the tears thinking that in all of

(See **SOUP**, page five)







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**\*24 HOURS\***

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 Walt Robertson, Ryan Mahan, Tom Blederman, Auctioneers

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**LAND FOR SALE:** at McDowell 5 Acres. Approved septic system, city water, 200 AMP electric service. \$14,000 377-2035.\*

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**For Sale 3 bedroom Doublewide** at McDowell. No land contract. 377-2073.\*

**BEST OFFER: 1994, 14X76, 2 B.R. 2 BATH, WITH DECK & OUTBUILDING** located across from Highlands Regional on 156 Oakwood Drive, 886-0973 after 5 p.m.\*

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 Appalachian Wireless has an immediate opening for a Retail Sales Associate in your area. The successful candidate will have good computer skills, previous sales experience, superior oral communications, a professional appearance and the ability to handle cash in a responsible manner. A high school degree or equivalent is required. This job is the first line of customer contact in our retail locations. Superb company paid benefits and compensation package. Send your résumé to Human Resources, P.O. Box 405, Prestonsburg, KY 41653.

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Water line repair, drain line repair, floors, walls, ceilings, doors, window repair.  
For all emergency repair and remodeling needs, call  
(606) 478-3039  
(606) 899-6854 (cell phone)  
All service calls, C.O.D.

## Hall's Landscaping and Lawn Care

Honest, Dependable and Insured  
Commercial or Residential  
Call Stacy Hall  
**606-587-2908**  
or  
**424-5931**

## PRATER Construction

36 Maple Lane, Pikeville, KY 41501  
(606) 631-9740  
Install Septic Systems.  
We have Excavator, Dozer, Backhoe, Dump Truck Work For Hire, and Mack Truck Loads of Dirt for \$50, in Pikeville area.  
Also do Hydroseeding.  
Free Estimates!

## Remodeling and Building Electrical Wiring and Upgrades

**285-9011**  
or  
**434-5935**

To advertise your business in this space,  
Call Jenny at  
The Floyd County Times  
**886-8506**

**3 BEDROOM APARTMENT:** Bathroom, Kitchen, Living Room, next to doctor's office in good neighborhood. Call 886-1714.\*

**630-Houses**  
5 Room House, at Cardinal Estate. Abbott Creek exit. 886-2535.\*

**3 Bedroom House For Rent:** 31 Auxier Heights Lane, 886-3552.\*

**HOUSES, APARTMENTS, & TOWNHOUSES,** No pets. Call **B&O Rental Properties** 606-886-8991.

**2 BEDROOM HOUSE IN PRESTONSBURG.** equipped kitchen. No HUD. 886-0825.\*

**HOUSE FOR RENT ON THE LEFT FORK OF LITTLE PAINT,** 3 bedrooms, kitchen and dining room, 2 full baths, utility room, double car attached garage, front porch, central heat and air conditioning, all appliances furnished, approximately 1 acre lot, \$550 monthly. References required. Call 886-9860.\*

**LAKEVIEW VILLAGE:** A-Frame house, 2 Bedroom, 1 bath, living room, kitchenette, \$500 month. Deposit required. 432-2584 or 791-4116.\*

**3 BEDROOM HOUSE,** 1 bath, 1st and last month's rent up front, or will accept HUD. \$400 month. Ask for Martha. 285-3713.\*

**HOUSE FOR RENT:** Located in Betsy Layne area, 478-5403.\*

**2 Bedroom Mobile Home,** central air, near Prestonsburg. 874-0011.\*

**2 B.R. MOBILE HOME: PARTIAL FURNISHED,** all electric, W&Dryer, with nice yard. Also 1 Bedroom Apartment in Martin Area. 285-3980.

**2 B.R. MOBILE HOME:** total elect. Located between P'burg & Paintsville. No pets. 889-9747 or 886-9007.

**FOR RENT: 1 BEDROOM TRAILER,** near Clark Elementary. 478-9993.\*

**2 B.R. 2 BA. Mobile Home,** located at Minnie. Appliances included. \$375 rent, \$375 dep. Also **Two, 2 B.R. 1 BA. Mobile Homes,** \$350 rent, \$350 dep. 606-478-5173.\*

**1 & 2 B.R. TRAILERS: PARTIAL FURNISHED VERY CLEAN** suitable for 2 working men. Private, AC, & Cent heat. Near P'burg. No Pets. 886-3941.\*

**3 BEDROOM, 1.5 BATH. MOBILE HOME** in Harold area, HUD Approved. Deposit and reference required. 889-0073.\*

## SERVICES

**705-Construction**  
ALL TYPES: Remodeling & additions, garages, decks, etc. Also concrete work. Robie Johnson, Jr., call anytime, 886-8896.

## NOTICES

**812-Free**

**FREE PALLETS:** Can be picked up behind The Floyd County Times.

**890-Legals**

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**March 1, 2003 • Noon to 3 p.m.**