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- PAGE A3

briefs

Sex lawsuit continues in court

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — One lawyer's promise to "vigorously pursue" a civil case against Allen attorney Sheridan Martin began in circuit court this week, where a pretrial conference has been set in the case.

Pikeville attorney Darrell Sammons told The Floyd County Times in January that he would "vigorously pursue" the case against Martin, which was threatened to be dismissed after being routinely placed on an inactive docket by Judge John David Caudill earlier this year.

Caudill filed an order to allow the continuance of the case last month, upon Sammon's explanation that the case had been inactive because Charles F. Wilson, the attorney representing the woman who accused Martin of sexual abuse in 2002, had been suffering from a life-threatening illness.

Following that order, the alleged victim hired Prestonsburg attorney Ned Pillersdorf to represent her, who brought a motion

(See LAWSUIT, page eight)

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Auxier residents steamed by sewer service hike

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

PAINTSVILLE — Auxier residents disgusted with a proposed raise in their sewage bills voiced their concerns Tuesday night during a special called meeting of the Paintsville City Council.

The meeting, called in rebuttal to complaints about a recent proposal

to increase rates for Paintsville city utilities water, sewage and gas customers, turned out to be a "who-dunit" session, with residents and council members pointing blame on why nothing has been done to fix the financial woes of the utilities commission, which has been working in the red for about three years.

"We all need more than our hands slapped for letting this go on for so

long," said council member Ronnie Wells. "That's why we appoint boards to watch this stuff."

The commission realized it had a problem last August, officials said, when they found out they owed Kentucky West Virginia Gas Company nearly \$1 million for gas sold two or three years ago. The

(See AUXIER, page three)



photo by Mary Music

Angry Auxier residents voiced their concerns Tuesday about a proposed increase in their sewage bill. The rate increase doubles the amount residents say they were promised when they signed over easement rights to the Paintsville Utilities Commission in 2002.



Cub Scouts with Pack 802 in Prestonsburg competed March 13 in the Pinewood Derby at Fitzpatrick Baptist Church. Winners from the meet will move on to compete with other packs in the Lonesome Pine District tomorrow at Mullins Elementary. (See story, page A3.)

School board discusses drug testing students

by KATHY J. PRATER
FEATURES EDITOR

MARTIN — In a special-called meeting of the Floyd County Board of Education, held Wednesday evening at Opportunities Unlimited High School, members of the board began preliminary discussions on formulating and implementing a drug-testing policy for district schools.

"It's something that's needed," said board member Glenna Slone. "It's a problem, it's a big problem and it's just getting bigger. It certainly isn't going away."

With input from board personnel assigned to research and gather information on the district's students and their use, or nonuse, of drugs, alcohol and tobacco products, board members contemplated how best to put in place a

drug-testing policy.

According to Lola Ratliff, alcohol and drug prevention specialist for Floyd County schools, recent surveys show that Floyd County schools rank above the national average for student use of alcohol, marijuana and tobacco products. Ratliff also reported to the board that the majority of parents she had spoken with were in favor of student drug testing. Board member Mickey McGuire also said that he felt that the majority of parents would be in favor of a drug testing policy.

Slone mentioned during the meeting that perhaps the board should also consider testing employees for drug usage.

One factor discussed with great concern by board mem-

(See BOARD, page three)

Planetarium opens to the public March 27

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

PRESTONSBURG — Journey from tonight's sky to the edge of time, take a trip to Mars, and observe laser beams from outer space in the East Kentucky Science Center's planetarium Saturday, March 27, when the

Center opens for public programming.

The Center, which is located on the Prestonsburg Campus of the Big Sandy Community & Technical College in Prestonsburg, has three outstanding planetarium shows planned for this opening event, according to Raymond

Shubinski, center director.

The Science Center will open the Louisville Science Center's exhibit, The World We Create, for public visitation at 12 p.m. on Saturday March 27. The exhibit has been open weekdays to school

(See PLANETARIUM, page two)

Some charges dropped in cruelty case

by TOM DOTY
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Two charges of wanton endangerment against a Stephen's Branch man accused of shooting a dog were dropped Wednesday during district court proceedings.

Robert Bailey still faces a

charge of cruelty to animals which resulted from an incident last February when Bailey allegedly killed a neighbor's dog that had been chasing his chickens.

The case had a surreal tone that is no doubt tied to the name of the deceased canine — Michael Jackson. The transcripts of the court will make for some bizarre

reading as the victim is often referred to by his famous moniker and seldom cited as being a dog.

The witnesses to the incident, all children between 10 and 12 years old, related their accounts of the incident in simple terms. They all testified that Bailey shot at

(See CRUELTY, page three)

Park manager to appeal firing

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Jenny Wiley State Resort Park said goodbye to manager Julian Slone, who was fired Tuesday, following accusations that he exposed employees to asbestos during the unauthorized remodeling of his office at the May Lodge.

Slone, who was notified of the state's intent to dismiss him last month, defended his position in Frankfort during a hearing last week, but his

defense apparently wasn't strong enough to warrant the repeal of that dismissal notice.

Parks Commissioner George Ward issued a press release Wednesday, announcing Slone's dismissal and noting that the park system will "soon put into place strong leadership that will ensure that the staff at Jenny Wiley makes customer satisfaction its top priority."

Slone, 30, formerly of

(See FIRED, page three)

Knott native celebrates 109th birthday

by TOM DOTY
STAFF WRITER



Delilah Hayes

IRVINE — In 1895 many happenings of note occurred — Marconi sent the first radio signal to ever travel a full mile, x-rays were discovered in Germany by W.K.

Roentgen, the National Trust was founded and Delilah Hayes was born in Knott County.

Hayes turned 109 yesterday and will celebrate with all of her family Saturday in her Estill county home. The party will feature many floral decorations to honor Hayes' love of

gardening. They will be provided by Katherine Porter, owner of City Florist in Martin.

Hayes moved to Irvine in 1923 when her husband, W.O. Coburn, joined the railroad to put coal lines in through Appalachia. She has lived at the same home on High Street for

the past 81 years.

Though living to be 109 is quite an accomplishment, Hayes was pretty humble about it, saying, "Yeah, I've been here a long time."

When questioned about what

(See BIRTHDAY, page three)

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Odds & Ends

■ **FARMINGTON, Maine** — Perhaps it's no surprise that the wounded collie-shepherd and the disabled Vietnam veteran who rescued him forged a fast friendship.

They share a common bond: Each suffered injuries from a bullet to the head.

The tan and white dog is recuperating at Clearwater Veterinary Hospital, where Elwin Churchill shows up twice a day to walk him on a leash.

Churchill found the dog wounded and bleeding along a road and took him to the hospital. He named him Patterson — after veterinarian Dr. Robert Patterson, who performed emergency surgery Friday.

"This dog and I have a lot in common. I was in Vietnam in '67 and '68 and I still have part of a bullet in my head," said Churchill, who was 18 when he was wounded.

The Vietnam vet suffers from post-traumatic stress syndrome and lives in a secluded home not far from the spot on Mosher Hill Road where he found Patterson while driving into town Friday morning with his son.

"We found him in the middle of the road and when I pulled over, the dog crawled under the truck. He was looking for a place to die," Churchill said.

Churchill coaxed the dog out, gently lifted him up and placed

him on blankets in the back of his pickup.

The bullet entered on the right side of the dog's mouth, shattering several teeth and the jaw and tearing the tongue before exiting the throat. Police were investigating.

■ **LANCASTER, Calif.** — A 72-year-old woman was convicted of a felony animal cruelty charge for keeping 235 Chihuahuas in filthy conditions in her home.

After hearing Tuesday's verdict, Emma Harter of Acton broke into tears and collapsed at the Antelope Valley Courthouse. She was taken away by ambulance.

Although the charge carries a prison term of up to 5 1/2 years in

prison, Deputy District Attorney Stephen Heller said he won't seek to put Harter behind bars because of her age and lack of a criminal record.

Instead, prosecutors will ask that she get counseling, be barred from owning animals and pay restitution to Los Angeles County for the cost of keeping the dogs in

a shelter.

"I personally don't believe she is able to admit to herself that what she did was wrong," Heller said.

(See **ODDS**, page seven)

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Friday, March 19, the 79th day of 2004. There are 287 days left in the year. This is the date the swallows tradition-

ally return to the San Juan Capistrano Mission in California.

Today's Highlight in History:

One year ago, on March 19, 2003, President Bush ordered the start of war against Iraq. (Because of the time difference, it was early March 20 in Iraq; U.S. forces bombarded Baghdad with cruise missiles and precision-guided bombs aimed at Saddam Hussein and other Iraqi leaders.)

On this date:

■ In 1859, the opera "Faust" by Charles Gounod premiered in Paris.

■ In 1917, the Supreme Court upheld the eight-hour work day for railroads.

■ In 1918, Congress approved daylight-saving time.

■ In 1931, Nevada legalized gambling.

■ In 1945, about 800 people were killed as kamikaze planes attacked the U.S. carrier Franklin off Japan; the ship, however, was saved.

■ In 1945, Adolf Hitler issued his "Nero Decree," ordering the destruction of German facilities that could fall into Allied hands.

■ In 1951, Herman Wouk's war novel "The Caine Mutiny" was published.

■ In 1953, the Academy Awards ceremony was televised for the first time; "The Greatest Show on Earth" was named best picture of 1952.

■ In 1976, Buckingham Palace announced the separation of Princess Margaret and her husband, the Earl of Snowdon, after 16 years of marriage.

■ In 1979, the U.S. House of Representatives began televising its day-to-day business.

Ten years ago:

Talks between North Korea and South Korea collapsed, imperiling a U.S.-brokered deal to resolve the North Korean nuclear dispute. In his weekly radio address, President Clinton promised to tell people "all

across America about our health reform plan and what it really means."

Five years ago:

During a White House news conference, Clinton prepared the nation for airstrikes against Serbian targets following the collapse of Kosovo peace talks in Paris. A powerful bomb shattered an outdoor food market in Vladikavkaz, Russia, killing at least 53 people.

One year ago:

Tobacco farmer Dwight Ware Watson, who'd claimed to be carrying bombs in a tractor and trailer that he'd driven into a pond on Washington's National Mall, surrendered after disrupting traffic for two days; there were no explosives. Six men hijacked a Cuban airliner at knife-point to the Florida Keys to seek asylum in the United States. (The six were later convicted of federal hijacking charges.) Mahmoud Abbas accepted the position of Palestinian prime minister.

Today's Birthdays:

Former White House national security adviser Brent Scowcroft is 79. Actor-director Patrick McGeehan is 76. Theologian Hans Kung is 76. Jazz musician Ornette Coleman is 74. Author Philip Roth is 71. Actress Renee Taylor is 71. Actress-singer Phyllis Newman is 69. Actress Ursula Andress is 68. Singer Clarence "Frogman" Henry is 67. Rock musician Paul Atkinson (The Zombies) is 58. Singer Ruth Pointer (The Pointer Sisters) is 58. Actress Glenn Close is 57. Actor Bruce Willis is 49. Rock musician Gert Bettens (K's Choice) is 34. Rock musician Zach Lind (Jimmy Eat World) is 28. Actor Craig Lamar Traylor ("Malcolm in the Middle") is 15.

Thought for Today:

"History is always repeating itself, but each time the price goes up." — Anonymous.

Planetarium

Continued from p1

groups.

The World We Create exhibit was brought to the East Kentucky Science Center through a grant funded by BellSouth to the Floyd County School System for Floyd County student visitation. The exhibits are now open Saturdays for the public's enjoyment. Tickets to the exhibit are \$2 per person. Admission is free with the purchase of a planetarium ticket. Children under four are admitted free to the exhibit hall.

Planetarium doors at the Science Center will open Saturday at 1 p.m. with the program, "Hang On To Your Seats: A Journey Thru Space & Time," a non-stop planetarium experience that begins with a look at "Tonight's Sky." EKSC Director Raymond Shubinski will put the planetarium's technology through its paces as he gives visitors a personal tour of space and time. The session includes a trip to Mars with EKSC Assistant Director Eric Thomas and a brief demonstration of the planetarium's laser lightshow abilities. Show times are 1 p.m., 4 p.m., and 8:30 p.m.

Michael E. Bakich, associate editor and photo editor for Astronomy Magazine, will present a show especially prepared for the Center's opening. The show, "Views of the Universe from Astronomy Magazine," offers a spectacular look at deep space objects through the eyes of photographers whose works have been published in Astronomy Magazine. Bakich is

a recognized expert on planetariums, a consultant to the planetarium field, and one of only seven people in the world to hold a degree in Planetarium Education. He has written three astronomy books for Cambridge University Press. Presentations for "Views of the Universe from Astronomy Magazine" are at 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. March 27 in the planetarium.

Rock into the night with a 10 p.m. showing of Lasermania, a laser light extravaganza featuring soundtracks from such artists as The Immortals, Eiffel 65, Santana, Will Smith, Shania Twain, Celine Dion, Weird Al Yankovic, Sting and many others. The full-fledged laser show is a sneak peak at the Center's laser programming which will begin in mid April. Tickets for Lasermania are available only through WQHY, Q95 radio station. Tune to 95.5 FM to learn how to win a pair of tickets to a musical experience that will blast you out of your seat.

Tickets to planetarium sky shows are \$3.50 per person; \$2.50 for students ages 4 to 17 and for students with a college ID, and \$2.50 for people age 60 and older. Admission to laser lightshows, which begin in mid April, are \$5 per adult, \$4 for students ages 4 to 17 and for students with a college ID, and \$4 for people age 60 and older.

For additional information about the East Kentucky Science Center, call (606) 889-0303 or visit the Center's website, www.wedoscience.org.

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**Negative equity will be applied to new loan; see dealer for details.

Fired

Continued from p1

McDowell, was placed on administrative leave with pay in January while the state investigated the allegations, which could net nearly \$17,000 in penalties for the park for 10 violations, including the improper disposal of asbestos material and improper equipment or uniforms used during the removal of material containing asbestos from Slone's office, the storage closet and a storage room located above the front desk.

Since the investigation into the incident began, Jenny Wiley park employees have voiced their dissatisfaction with the situation, alleging that the state is "trying to cover up" the extent of dangers posed to employees at the park, which has since been deemed safe by Occupational Safety and Health Administration officials, who inspected the facility last month.

During an interview Wednesday, Slone said he wouldn't go down without a fight.

Represented by Paul Fauri, a Frankfort attorney, he's currently appealing his dismissal through the state's personnel board.

"I have retained council and we're fighting it," Slone said. "I'm going to clear my name, that's my intent. We feel that it's wrong ... A lot of things have been twisted and misrepresented."

As a merit system employee, Slone says the state can not fire him without due cause, something he says they have yet to prove.

He began working at Jenny Wiley in 1997, where he was the business manager. He transferred to Buckhorn Lake State Park in 2000, where he worked before replacing former Jenny Wiley manager Mark McLemore last year.

According to Sarah O. Hall, assistant general counsel with the Kentucky Commerce Cabinet, Slone has had no other disciplinary actions brought against him since he began working in the state park system.

Mike Paley, business manager at Rough River Dam State Resort, will temporarily replace Slone, with assistance from Ken Binder, the department's director of parks, until a permanent replacement is found for the position.

Auxier

commission agreed to a \$900,000 settlement with the company, and has incurred a monthly payment of \$79,000 because of that bill, which is compiled along with several millions of dollars owed for various other debts, according to general manager Larry Herald.

In addition to the ongoing construction of a new water plant at Paintsville Lake, which must be completed by 2005 in order to meet state compliance and deter the possibility of \$25,000 in daily fines when the current plant goes out of compliance, the utilities commission is currently locked into contracts with several projects, Commissioner John David Preston said.

To be eligible for funding for those projects, Herald said, the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority, which handles various loans through state agencies, requires that the commission adopt a universal system of accounting as well as minimum 1.3 percent increase in rates for its water, gas and sewer customers.

In order to correct the financial crisis, the commission suggested a trickle-down approach, by increasing usage rates to its customers.

Working against a July 1 deadline to meet the KIA requirements, the commission proposed an increase of 1.95 percent across the

board to each utility, a recommendation of a cost-based study done last year.

They proposed a 47 percent increase for water customers, a 57 percent increase for gas customers, and a whopping 130 percent increase for sewage customers, which flipped the lids of many Auxier residents who, receiving water and gas service from Prestonsburg, recently signed over easement rights to obtain sewer service from Paintsville.

"I will take this as far as we have to go," said Judith Hager, who showed up at the meeting with approximately 30 other angry Auxier residents.

Hager, who pointed out the proposed increase would raise her monthly water and sewer bill from \$25.72 a month to \$36.82 a month for two people, said that the commission has negated a written agreement they promised to Auxier when they were seeking customers to sign over easement rights for the sewer line in 2002.

Hager, says she went "door to door, begging" people to sign up for the service, at the request of the commission, who she says negotiated a verbal contract of a fixed rate of \$7.38 per thousand and \$15 per two thousand.

Now that construction for line placement is two-thirds complete in Auxier, Hager said it's unfair for the commission to back out on the previous agreement.

Utility commissioners respond-

ed by saying that there has been no water rate increase and no significant sewer or gas increase since 1987, while at the same time, they have been facing annual increases on expenditures such as necessary monthly bills, wages and health insurance coverage for employees,

a "fringe benefit" frowned upon by some meeting attendees, who suggested the commission "trim the fat" off some of their "white-collar workers" to take up some of the slack of the commission's

(See AUXIER page seven)

Board

Continued from p1

bers was the problem of drugs in the home. According to survey results, some students are first introduced to drugs, alcohol and tobacco products at home.

"Let's just say they have easy access," said Zenith Hall, representative of school principals.

Hall also expressed concern in regard to student access to detoxification products that may be purchased over the internet. With the use of such products, students could possibly cleanse their systems before drug testing in order to show negative results.

The board focused Wednesday evening primarily on those students participating in school athletic and extracurricular programs, though a new policy would not necessarily exempt other students from testing. With a new policy in place, parents would be asked to sign consent forms.

It was not clear if fees would be associated with testing, but board member Jeff Stumbo said that he would be in favor of any adopted policy including language to ensure that the board would cover any expenses incurred "for those families who can't afford it."

"I think we should look at having the board provide the funding for the testing," Stumbo said.

Though disciplinary measures would most likely be taken against

those students who tested positive for drugs, McGuire said that he would like to see not just punishment levied, but help offered, as well.

"What's the flip side to punishment?," McGuire asked. "What's the course, program, setup for help? Lots of kids who have drug problems are aware that they have a problem, but they're afraid to ask for help because they're afraid if they confide, they will be led to the detention center. We need to not just punish, but offer help, too."

Other members agreed with McGuire and both Ratliff and Bonita Compton, principal of Opportunities Unlimited, said that Mountain Comprehensive Care Center would be a good source for help and information.

"One problem, though," said Compton, "is that I know that it's very hard to get residential help for students, even if they're already involved with the court system. Even with parents trying to get them in, it's still almost impossible."

Members of the board agreed to continue to gather information about drug-testing policies and concerns and to look at those districts that already have such policies in place for guidance and assistance.

Cruelty

Continued from p1

Jackson and missed his target, which scampered away into a creek. They all remembered Bailey stopping to look at them before chasing after Jackson and fatally wounding him at the creek.

The children all testified that they feared for their lives, reasoning that anyone who would shoot a dog might come after them. The other witness who testified was an adult, however, and he said that the gun was never pointed at the children. This testimony was enough for the court, which decided that the endangerment charges were erroneous.

The adult testimony appeared to trump that of the children but it did not clear up some concerns which were raised earlier. Chiefly it did not clarify whether shooting a gun in a residential neighborhood should be ruled as wanton behavior and it clearly missed the point, which was raised by the judge, that a ricochet might have turned the whole incident into a tragedy.

Birthday

Continued from p1

she's learned in all of her time on earth, Hayes was adamant about respecting the rights of others.

"Tend to your own business and leave other people alone," she said.

Hayes is never alone now since a hip injury, at age 107, made her dependent on two of her daughters for care. The daughters, Glynna of Irvine and Katherine of Louisville, take turns looking after their mother for two-week spells. Each year the entire family gathers at the High Street residence to celebrate Thanksgiving, Christmas and Hayes' birthday.

Come Saturday, the family will gather again. Katherine says that her mother will regale them with hours of stories and remembrances. They will pass around the cards that she has received from four presidents and even a letter that Bill Clinton once wrote her.

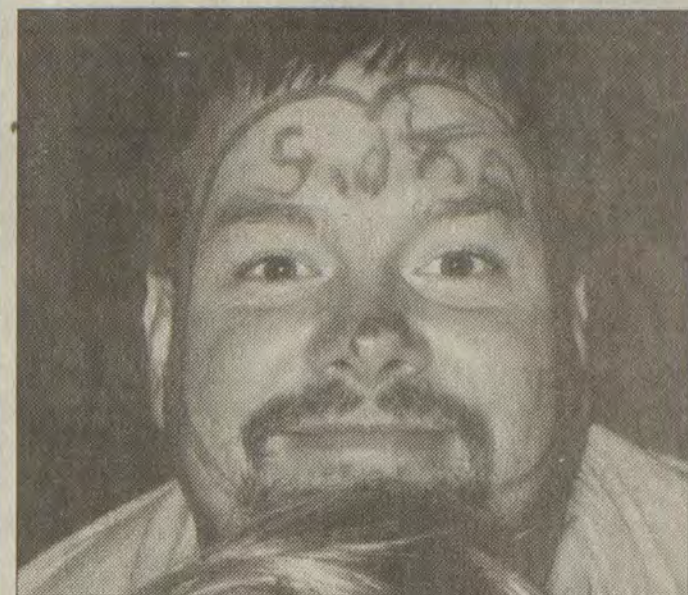
The Clinton letter is one of her favorites and reflects 80 years of voting for Democratic candidates. As Katherine points out, "Mom has always been a stout Democrat and never veered from the party. She also saw to it that we all got to church and she attended mass twice a week at Williams Memorial Baptist Church until her hip injury which has kept her home these last few years."

Those who are looking for the perfect diet to live as long as Hayes will be dumbfounded by her eating habits. Daughter Katherine pointed out that Hayes eats whatever is available and, though partial to greens, has never shied away from meats and sugars

"She'd always eat whatever she wanted and never worried a lick about cholesterol," said Katherine.

Hayes still lives in her own home in Irvine and has no intention of leaving the spot where she first set roots eight decades ago.

**Wanted!
Birthday Hugs For This Man**



Happy Birthday, Mark

Love Ya,
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Viewpoint

Amendment 1

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Worth Repeating ...

"Hearts that are delicate and kind and tongues that are neither — these make the finest company in the world."

— Logan Pearsall Smith

Guest View

Editorial roundup

The Sacramento (Calif.) Bee, on terrorist attack in Spain:

... In Sunday's parliamentary elections Spain's citizens ousted the right-of-center government, widely seen as punishment for backing the United States in Iraq. Now, the incoming Socialist prime minister says he will remove Spain's 1,300 troops from Iraq unless the United Nations assumes control there.

... But whether Spanish troops leave Iraq or not, the war on terror continues. ... The European Union says it will strengthen coordination of anti-terrorist measures.

But will U.S.-European cooperation also intensify? Huge majorities across Europe strongly oppose the U.S. role in Iraq.

... Many Europeans see the terrorist threat as greatest in countries most closely linked to U.S. policy, and the terrorists' strategy is to use terror to drive a wedge between America and its allies. To some extent it seems to have worked in Spain.

... All leaders - in Europe, America and elsewhere - understand the need to combat terrorism unrelentingly. But Europe and America have differing views of how best to do that.

Much blame for trans-Atlantic tensions can fairly be directed at the Bush administration for its detour in Iraq. Even so, bitterness over Iraq must not be allowed to undermine the common front against terrorism. ...

... No matter how hard the West tries to understand and accommodate the Islamic world, the terrorists will not relent. And Sunday's vote in Spain served the terrorist cause, even though that surely was not what Spanish voters had in mind.

The Patriot-News, Harrisburg, Pa., on increased fines for broadcasting indecent material:

... By the lopsided margin of 391-22, the House voted Thursday to increase dramatically the fines for airing indecent material. ...

And all largely because Janet Jackson suffered a "wardrobe malfunction" during the Super Bowl half-time. ...

Jackson's unexpected exposure of her anatomy may have taken a huge international audience by surprise, but most of the time viewers know what to expect. ... If you don't like it, there is a simple solution. Turn it off or turn the dial.

Isn't that the best protection against listening to or viewing unsuitable broadcasting? Or do we really want Federal

(See **VIEW**, page seven)



Letters

Forgotten by Frankfort

The University of Kentucky is a land-grant institution, employing 9,500 full-time staff and 1,200 faculty statewide, whose purpose is to serve the interests of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. In 1997 the General Assembly declared that the university would best serve those interests by becoming, by the year 2020, "a major comprehensive research institution ranked nationally in the top twenty (20) public universities" (KRS 164.003). The university community has embraced this challenge with enthusiasm and determination, but our ultimate success depends on more than just the concerted efforts of those who directly serve this institution. In the final analysis, UK will not become the university we all desire without adequate support from our leaders in Frankfort.

Under the leadership of President Todd, the university has taken the initiative in improving quality and efficiency. Our efforts include a campus reorganization that has consolidated redundant offices and programs and brought the UK Chandler Medical Center, to every possible extent, under the same administrative umbrella as the rest of campus. Our enrollment has increased to record levels, and we are recruiting more top scholars than ever before. But internal efforts alone will not help us attain our goal. There is simply too much disparity in resources between UK and the nation's top-20 research institutions. For one example, UK would need to

increase its average faculty salary by 8.5 percent (above the average for 2002-3) to equal the lowest average salary of our 19 benchmarks, and by 17.6 percent to reach the benchmark average. The situation is comparable for many staff, and even more dire for the 12 percent of the permanent, full-time UK employees who do not even earn a Kentucky living wage (\$20,800 in 2000).

The sad reality is that at the precise time that the number and quality of our students is increasing, the state's budget priorities prevent us from maintaining the proper environment in which to offer these students the best possible education. For each of the past three years UK has been given budget cuts, not increases. Our staff, which works harder than ever before to support the largest student enrollments in UK's history, often finds itself having to remove bulbs from light fixtures because our departments cannot afford the electricity. And at a time when transportation, parking, health care and other cost of living expenses are skyrocketing, we regrettably have to hope for 10 to 20 percent increases in tuition and fees so that we may be rewarded with a 3 percent "merit" raise.

If Kentucky does not want to seriously pursue the top 20, then perhaps we should rethink the mandate of KRS 164.003, because a half-hearted attempt to reach the goal may be worse than no attempt at all. Prior to 1997, the University of Kentucky was considered a good value for undergraduate education on a national level. If Frankfort continues to lock us into what amounts to an unfunded mandate, the citizens of the

Commonwealth may find themselves in 2020 saddled with a very expensive, mediocre institution. We will have sacrificed something we did well in the vain pursuit of something we could not realistically achieve.

On the other hand, if we are to continue to strive for the top 20, then the legislature's budget priorities must change now. It is not realistic to expect UK to make progress toward its goal without providing adequate funding. The legislature needs to have a vision of the benefits that a top-20 research institution could bring the Commonwealth; we need to look at this as a continuing investment in our future, an investment that will return tremendous economic and social benefit to the state. If we don't, 2020 will roll around all too soon, and some legislators will ask, "Whatever happened to our top-20 research institution?" Unfortunately, that will be a question to which only they held the answer.

Sheila Brothers
University of Kentucky
Staff Senate chair

How can a man kill the Son of God?

I saw the movie last night, "The Passion of the Christ." It is beyond human understanding. Mr. Gibson did the story so well. He has let us all see that no human hands could kill Jesus because he was the Son of God.

If you say He was God in the flesh, then how can a man or men kill God? No one took His life for He laid it down to save mankind.

Thank you, Mr. Gibson, for making this movie. It is the best tool ever made to explain what Christ did for us. He died for the sins of all men. He laid His life down for us and took it up again, to let us see that we, too, will live again.

Bishop Ralph Hall
Pastor, Church of God of Prophecy
Ligon

Hunter offers thanks for donation

I, Den Hunter, would like to thank Larry York, director of the Appalachian Research and Defense Fund of Kentucky, in Prestonsburg, for a donation for East Kentucky Black Lung Association trips to several places to get support for our coal miners' federal black lung benefits and widows benefits.

I hope there are others who will make donations. Working together really makes a difference. So if you would like to make a donation, make checks out to "East Kentucky Black Lung Association" and send them to Den Hunter, P.O. Box 267, Harold, KY 41635.

I hope we can get a message through to Washington, D.C., so they do more for America and stop sending our money and jobs to other countries. Charity starts at home, first.

I think we should change some names in our congressmen and senators and get a new president, someone that will be more for America, so I will just ask people to give me your support.

Den Hunter
Harold

Letter Guidelines

Letters to the Editor are welcomed by The Floyd County Times.

In accordance with our editorial page policy, all letters must include the signature, address and telephone number of the author.

The Times reserves the right to reject or edit any letter deemed slanderous, libelous or otherwise objectionable. Letters should be no longer than two type-written pages, and may be edited for length or clarity.

Opinions expressed in letters and other voices are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the newspaper. Send letters to: The Editor, The Floyd County Times, P.O. Box 391, Prestonsburg, Ky. 41653

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AT THE MOVIES:

'Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind'

by CHRISTY LEMIRE
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

Any film from the fertile mind of screenwriter Charlie Kaufman is going to be wildly imaginative, and "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind" is no exception. It would feel even more innovative, though, if Kaufman hadn't already written "Being John Malkovich."

Sitting through one of the two-time Oscar nominee's films is better than not sitting through one, since he exists in an industry that keeps pumping out sequels, remakes and comic book adaptations.

"Eternal Sunshine," like Kaufman's script for "Adaptation," is fearless and totally unpredictable. But it also feels a little like "Being Jim

Carrey," with the comedian playing against type as Joel, an uptight, jilted lover who tries to have flaky ex-girlfriend Clementine (Kate Winslet) erased from his memory.

As a decidedly low-tech medical crew (Kirsten Dunst, Mark Ruffalo and Elijah Wood, among the strong supporting cast) enters Joel's brain to hunt down his memories, he realizes too late that he wants to keep them.

The only reason he sought the services of Dr. Mierzwiak (Tom Wilkinson) at creepy Lacuna Inc. is because Clementine eradicated Joel from her brain first. She thought he was boring, we learn in startlingly candid audiotapes. She hated what she'd become with him.

In a childish attempt at revenge, Joel seeks to do the same to her, even though Dunst's character, Mary the receptionist, warns him that "pre-Valentine's Day is our busy time."

As Joel plays a frantic internal game of cat and mouse, director Michel Gondry — who also directed Kaufman's "Human Nature" but may be best known now for the Lego animation in the "White Stripes' "Fell in Love With a Girl" video — plays with some truly moving visual images.

Among them is the absurd yet heartbreaking juxtaposition of Mary and her co-worker, Stan (Ruffalo), smoking pot and jumping up and down on Joel's bed as he lies seemingly peacefully beneath them with a metal con-

traption on his head, but is really struggling to hold on to his time with Clementine.

Joel tries to hide Clementine in places he thinks the Lacuna crew can't find her — inside repressed memories of childhood humiliation and, literally, under the table in his mother's kitchen.

It's a fascinating exploration of the nature of memory, and our tendency to make past moments rosier, wittier, warmer than they actually were. Joel and Clementine are so diametrically different and so dysfunctional in their own ways, they should have been doomed from the start. (Carrey and Winslet develop them into complete, complex human beings that you want to see end up together.)

Because the erasure process works in reverse — sort of the romantic comedy equivalent of "Memento" — the early memories of their relationship are the last ones to go, and revisiting them makes Joel fall in love all over again.

At its core, "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind" (which is a line from an Alexander Pope poem) could have been just another love story. Refracted through Kaufman's wonderfully weird prism, it's something truly memorable.

"Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind," a Focus Features release, is rated R for language, and some drug and sexual content. Running time: 108 minutes. Three stars out of four.

Rental Central

by TOM DOTY
STAFF WRITER

The second week of March shaped up as a good week for fans of Japanese anime. "Mobile Suit Gundam" hit the racks with nine volumes of action filled episodes. The other big anime outing was "Jubei-Chan the Ninja Girl." This one follows the adventures of a perky high school girl who learns that she is the reincarnation of a fierce samurai from the 18th century. She then proceeds to continue the legendary swordswoman's vendetta against the clan that wronged her 300 years before.

Television fans might enjoy "Kung Fu." The complete first season of this chopsocky show hits DVD and includes the pilot film which launched the series. David Carradine stars as a martial artist who must flee China in the 1800s when he is mistakenly accused of murder.

Carradine, currently enjoying a resurgence in popularity from his appearance in "Kill Bill," is pretty good as the soft-spoken main character who tries to avoid violence but usually winds up pounding on a few cowboys before each episode is finished.

Horror fans will enjoy 10 episodes of HBO's 1980s show "The Hitchhiker." Each episode has a terror theme and is basically the forerunner of HBO's "Tales from the Crypt" show.

Kids might like two more volumes of "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles" that are out this week. The big release, though, is "The Cat in the Hat." Mike Myers (Austin Powers) stars, in a lot of makeup, as the title character from Dr. Seuss's books and helps two bored children wreck their house on a rainy day.

The week was also a good one for dramas. "The Commitments" is back with a two-disc edition which features extras on the mak-

ing of the film and a section on where the cast is now after 15 years. "Veronica Guerrin" is a true-life tale of a journalist who exposed many prominent drug dealers in 1995 Ireland and is a chilling example of the perils of reporting. Adventurous viewers might try "DEMON LOVER," which is a crime/horror flick that centers on a woman who investigates a website that offers live torture shows to its members. Gina Gershon ("Bound") and Chloe Sevigny ("Boys Don't Cry") star.

Bargain hunters should check the racks for a DVD two-pack of four 1970s westerns. "Western Heroes" features three spaghetti westerns starring Lee Van Cleef. Included are "Beyond the Law," "Death Rides a Horse" and "God's Gun." All are rated R and come on two discs for the ridiculous price of \$5.50 at Wal-Mart.

Big Sandy ADD board hears financial report

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — The financial standing of the Big Sandy Area Developmental District is moving along steadily, reported James Whited, financial director, during the organization's regular Board of Directors meeting yesterday.

A financial report submitted during the meeting by Whited compared the organization's annual budget with year-to-date actual revenues and expenditures obtained and spent by the company.

Big Sandy ADD's general fund

balance is up more than \$40,000 since Dec. 31, Whited said, with a current balance of more than \$100,000.

The year-to-date totals of the report included a comparison of the district's year-to-date actual revenues and expenses.

Big Sandy ADD has spent 56 percent (approximately \$3.8 million) in funds allotted in the annual budget. Ten percent of that amount, he said, was overspent.

The \$100,000 recorded as the total balance, Whited said, included funds from various revolving loan funds, which accounted for more than \$25,000 in funds loaned out for various projects. The EDARLA program, accounting for more than \$22,000 of that amount, currently has six active loans and one that closed in December (\$40,000) for the Atlantic India Rubber Company.

The Pike County Water Tap RLF accounted for more than \$30,000 in funds, with 92 loans currently outstanding and money available to cover 55 of those loans before additional funds would be required.

Noting that the RLF Program was "tapped out" a few months ago, Whited said that the organization would be ready to offer a few more loans by the end of the fiscal year.

An overview of internal departments with the ADD reflected that the organization has underspent on several contracts. Whited said a contributing factor to that underspending was because people "invoice slowly."

As of Feb. 28, Big Sandy ADD had \$3.8 million in total assets, \$1.5 million in total liabilities, leaving a total fund balance of nearly \$2.3 million, the report says.

Some of those assets, Whited said, that have "been on the books for years and years" will be cleared up before the next budget report is submitted.

In addition to accepting the financial report, the board of directors, accompanied by guests from Gov. Ernie Fletcher's office and U.S. Rep. Hal Rogers' office, also reviewed committee reports, presented by Burl Wells Spurlock.

Spurlock announced the appointment of Freddie Goble to work with a special committee to write the new "Scope of Work — FY 2005" for the Transportation Cabinet's Highway Safety Program.

Johnson County Judge-Executive Tucker Daniel, who chaired the meeting, congratulated Goble on the accomplishment.

"It's a way of recognizing credit to [his] work ethic that earned him this recognition," Daniel said.

Cub Scouts hold Pinewood Derby

"Gentlemen, start your racers..."

While these may not be the most famous words in racing, they certainly did kick off Prestonsburg Cub Scout Pack 802's Pinewood Derby Day with excitement.

The Pinewood Derby is Scouting at its best as the wooden model cars, created by the Scouts and their parents, vie for bragging rights and advancement to the Lonesome Pine District Derby which will be held Saturday at Mullins Elementary School in Pikeville.

Twenty-nine Scouts entered their cars and then surrounded the track last Saturday for an afternoon of racing and competition. Pack 802's Derby Day was held at their charter home, Fitzpatrick Baptist Church.

"We had a full house as Scouts, their families and even just spectators came out to our Derby," said 802 Cubmaster Norm Marcum. "It really is a lot of fun, and not just for the Scouts. Many of the adults and leaders made cars too to enter in the 'Outlaw' race."

The day ended with the father-and-son duo of Zachary and James Click taking top honors in the speed divisions.

"I think we saw the birth of

Click Racing," Marcum said.

Zachary Click, a Bear Scout and third-grader, had the fastest car on the track and took first-place honors. He was followed by T.J. Hager, a Wolf Scout and second-grader, and Jackson Reed, a Tiger Scout and first-grader.



Zachary Click



T.J. Hager



Jackson Reed

In the design category, Nathan Felty, a Webelo, took top honors, followed by fellow Webelo Austin Newsome and Tiger Scout Jordan Slone.

James Click, father of Zachary Click, won the "Outlaw" adult race. "We have a great program and a great group of boys, parents, and leaders," said Marcum, who also serves as Lonesome Pine District commissioner. "Anyone interested in getting their boy, first through fifth grade, involved in Scouting can go to the website www.lpscouting.net to find the Scout Pack nearest you.

The Pack 802 Pinewood Derby was sponsored locally by Food City, East Kentucky Beverage (Pepsi), Flowers Bakery, Dairy Queen of Prestonsburg, Snyder's, Messer's Department Store, Fitzpatrick Baptist Church and Hickory Creek Billing.

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Cinema Two • PG-13 STARSKY & HUTCH Mon.-Sun. 7:10-9:30; Fri. (4:30), 7:10, 9:30; Sat.-Sun. (2:10-4:30), 7:10-9:30	Cinema Seven • R OPENS FRIDAY 3/19 TAKING LIVES Mon.-Sun. 7:05-9:20; Fri. (4:20), 7:05, 9:20; Sat.-Sun. (2:05-4:20), 7:05-9:20
Cinema Three • PG-13 HILDAGO Mon.-Sun. 7:45; Fri. (4:45), 7:45; Sat.-Sun. (1:45-4:45), 7:45	Cinema Eight • R OPENS FRIDAY 3/19 DAWN OF THE DEAD Mon.-Sun. 7:00-9:15; Fri. (4:15), 7:00, 9:15; Sat.-Sun. (2:00-4:15), 7:00-9:15
Cinema Four • PG-13 TWISTED Mon.-Sun. 7:05-9:20; Fri. (4:20), 7:05-9:20; Sat.-Sun. (2:05-4:20), 7:05-9:20	Cinema Nine • PG-13 SECRET WINDOW Mon.-Sun. 7:10-9:30; Fri. (4:30), 7:10, 9:30; Sat.-Sun. (2:10-4:30), 7:10-9:30
Cinema Five AGENT CODY BANKS PG-Mon.-Thurs. 7:00; Fri. (4:15), 7:00; Sat.-Sun. (2:00-4:15), 7:00	Cinema Ten CONFESSION OF A TEENAGE DRAMA QUEEN PG-13-Mon.-Sun. 7:05; Fri. (4:20), 7:05; Sat.-Sun. (2:05-4:20), 7:05
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For the Record

Marriage Licenses

Glema Jean Yates, 29, to Derrick Wade Hoak, 29 both of Martin.

Stormie Lane Stevens, 31, of Columbus, Ohio, to Steven Douglas Frasyre, 32, of Pierston, Ind.

Shirley Lynne Elliot, 54, of Fredericksburg, Va., to Thomas Douglas Fraley, 47 of Shelbyville.

Jillian Marie Jones, 26, of

McDowell, to Mark T. Adams Jr. of Cincinnati.

Jamie Gaye Griffith, 25, of Pikeville, to Scotty Wayne Hall, 24, of Prestonsburg.

Civil Suits Filed

Genevive Williams vs. Mark Williams; divorce.

People's Bank and Trust Company of Hazard vs. Frank Rudder; complaint.

Kelly Wallen vs. Brian Wallen; divorce.

David Moore vs. Melinda Moore; divorce.

James Mullins vs. Linda Mullins; petition for child support and health care insurance.

Wanda Ousley vs. Anna Ousley; petition for health care insurance.

Lee Kendrick vs. Cheryl Kendrick; divorce.

Jannis Sue Wells and Paul B. Wells vs. Callie Salyers; verified complaint.

U.S. Bank vs. Eugene Crisp and Noma Jean Crisp; complaint.

Crystal Collins vs. Jarred Hagans and American Commerce Insurance Company; complaint.

Methodist Hospital of Kentucky vs. Phyllis Ann Adkins; complaint.

John Reynolds vs. Letha Reynolds; divorce.

Myrtie King vs. Jerry King; divorce.

Melinda Mosley vs. Carlton Mosley; divorce.

Johnny Moore vs. Terri Moore; divorce.

Steven Newman vs. Tracy Newman; petition for health care insurance.

Crystal Music vs. Michael Music; petition for child support and health care insurance.

Linda S. Johnson vs. David L. Johnson; divorce.

Sammy Prater vs. Latisha Prater; divorce.

Amanda Marie Rogers vs. Jeremy Rogers; divorce.

Mary Jane Osborne vs. Gilford Osborne; joint petition for divorce.

Wanda Lynn Justice vs. Kenneth Ray Justice; divorce.

Small Claims

Filings

Forrest Mitchell vs. Ted Hall; debt collection.

Charges Filed

Mike Whitaker, 50, Hueysville; alcohol intoxication.

Amanda S. Dockens, 27,

Langley; alcohol intoxication. Jack R. Wright, Jr., 42, Van Lear; alcohol intoxication.

Phillip Wallace, 18, Banner; harassment.

Linville Isaac, 42, Melvin; menacing, terroristic threatening.

Patricia Blackburn, 38, Bevinsville; third-degree criminal mischief.

Ashley Hancock, no age list-

ed, Printer; theft by deception.

Isaiaz Barcenas, 25, Wayland; alcohol intoxication.

Nicole Valerie Casey, 23, Prestonsburg; giving a false name and address.

Leroy L. Prater, 23, Prestonsburg; fourth-degree assault.

Amanda Rogers, 24, Grethel; fourth-degree assault.

Jeremy Rogers, 26, Grethel;

fourth-degree assault.

Jason M. Bradford, 28, Portsmouth, Ohio; third-degree criminal mischief, disorderly conduct, alcohol intoxication.

Steve Blanton, 49, Allen; alcohol intoxication.

Shawn Lee Meade, 26, Nippa; alcohol intoxication.

Sandra Lee, 41, Prestonsburg; hindering prose-

(See **RECORD**, page eight)

Obituaries

Ricky Dean (Redeye) Slone

Ricky Dean (Redeye) Slone, 44, of Hi Hat, died Tuesday, March 16, 2004, at the U.K. Medical Center, in Lexington.

Born July 18, 1959, in Martin, he was the son of the late Chester and Cornette Ward Slone. He was a disabled coal miner.

He is survived by his wife, Vicky Ousley Slone.

Other survivors include one son, Ricky Jason Slone of Hi Hat; one brother, Chester Slone Jr., of Grethel; two sisters: Diana Duncan of Lenoir, North Carolina, and Kim Tackett of Wheelwright.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one sister, Carol Ann Slone.

Funeral services will be conducted Friday, March 19, at 1 p.m., at the Drift Pentecostal Church, with Ted Shannon, Bill Slone, and Louis Ferrari officiating.

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

Visitation is at the church, where nightly services were held at 7 p.m. (Paid obituary)

Burnette Newsome Burge

Burnette Newsome Burge, 63, of Prestonsburg, died Thursday, March 18, 2004, at the Pikeville Methodist Hospital.

Born May 19, 1940, in McDowell, she was the daughter of the late Bert and Nellie Hamilton Newsome. She was a homemaker.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Billy Joe Burge.

Survivors include one son, Gregory Dean Isaacs of Taylor, Michigan; one daughter, Casandra Lomoko of Westland, Michigan; mother and father of the heart, Barbara and Kermit Newsome; one brother, Kermit Newsome of McDowell; special niece, Maxine Newsome of Hi Hat; and two grandchildren: Randy Scott and Stefanie.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by six brothers, Cecil, Chester, Ted, Azzie, Walker and William; and five sisters: Euggie Martin, Maxie Tackett, Draxie Justice, Elizabeth Newsome and Loretta Newsome.

Funeral services will be conducted Saturday, March 20, at noon, at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Old Regular Baptist ministers officiating.

Burial will be in the Newsome Cemetery, at Mink Branch, in Craynor, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation is at the funeral home. (Paid obituary)

Lou Ann Samons Hall

Lou Ann Samons Hall, 60, of Allen, died Wednesday, March 17, 2004, at Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital, in Ashland.

Born May 13, 1943, in Martin, she was the daughter of the late Alex and Ida Samons. She was a homemaker, and a member of the Arkansas Church of Christ, in Martin.

Survivors include a son and daughter-in-law, Lenard Jr., and Donna Hall of Martin; daughters and son-in-law, Diane and Ed Conley of Allen; and Barbara Hall of Wayland; three brothers: Namon Samons of Greenup County, Bennie Walk Samons of Martin, and Henry C. Samons of Prestonsburg; five grandchildren: Daniel, Joshua, Andrew, Natasha and Nathan; and ex-husband and friend, Lenard Hall Sr.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by three brothers: Seymore Samons, Noble Samons and Claude Samons; and a sister, Jenny Samons.

Funeral services will be conducted Saturday, March 20, at 11 a.m., at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Church of Christ ministers officiating.

Burial will be in the Adkins-Crum Cemetery, (Arkansas Creek), in Martin, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation is at the funeral home. (Paid obituary)

Genieve (Blankenship) Walker Litteral

Genieve (Blankenship) Walker Litteral, age 77, of Prestonsburg, passed away, Tuesday, March 16, 2004, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, following an extended illness.

She was born August 7, 1926, in Betsy Layne, a daughter of the late Mack and Maxie (Parsons) Blankenship.

She was twice married, first to Roma Lee Walker, and later to Charles Litteral; both preceded her in death.

She is survived by one son, Dennis Walker, of Prestonsburg; one daughter, Sharon Ann Scarberry of Columbus, Ohio; four brothers: Clinton Blankenship of Pikeville, Mack Blankenship, and Palmer Blankenship, both of Ohio, and Dee Parsons of California; five sisters: Irma Watts of Indiana, Dot Wolf and Ruby Radell, both of Wisconsin, Avanel Kinney of Louisville, and Kati Parsons of Lexington; seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted Friday, March 19, 11 a.m., at the Burke Funeral Home, in Prestonsburg, with Rev. Clifford Austin officiating.

Burial will follow in the Memorial Burial Park in Wheelersburg, Ohio, under the direction of Burke Funeral Home.

Visitation is at the funeral home. (Paid obituary)

Elmer Lafferty

Elmer Lafferty, 67, of Dwale, died Tuesday, March 16, 2004, at the Pikeville Methodist Hospital.

Born August 23, 1936, in Water Gap, he was the son of the late Walter Lafferty and Mary Ann Branham Gillespie.

He is survived by his wife, Doris Lafferty.

Survivors include four sons: Jarvey Dean Lafferty, Elmer (Butch) Lafferty and Rodney (Hot Rod) Lafferty, all of Dwale, and Jonathan Larry Lafferty of Somerset; one daughter, Debra Jo Williams of East Bend, North Carolina; 10 grandchildren; five step-children, one step-brother, Ed Gillespie of Dana and four step-sisters: Virginia Akers of Banner, Bonnie Manns of Indiana, and Goldie Mayhorn and Marie Daniels, both of West Virginia.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one son, Donnie Lafferty; one daughter, Norene Lafferty; one brother, Charles Lafferty; one step-brother, Ned Gillespie; and one step-sister, Emogene Davis.

Funeral services will be conducted Friday, March 19, at 11 a.m., at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Brother Bill Slone, and others, officiating.

Burial will be in the Hoot Shepherd Cemetery, at Dwale, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation is at the funeral home. (Paid obituary)

Donna Faye Hall Allen

Donna Faye Hall Allen, age 60, of Hunter, wife of James D. "Demp" Allen, passed away, Wednesday, March 17, 2004, at her residence.

She was born July 27, 1943, in Ligon, the daughter of Dorothy Stewart Hall of Hi Hat, and the late Earnest Hall. She was retired from the Department of Families and Children, a member of the Church of God of Prophecy, at Ligon, the McDowell Alumni Association, and President of the Drift Womans Club.

Survivors include her husband and mother; one son, James Grayden Allen of Hunter; one brother, Ted Hall of Prestonsburg.

In addition to her father, she was preceded in death by one brother, Phillip Hall.

Funeral services will be conducted Saturday, March 20, at 11 a.m., at the Hall Funeral Home Chapel, in Martin, with Clergyman Ralph Hall officiating.

Burial will follow in the Stewart-Newman Cemetery, at Hi Hat, under the professional care of the Hall Funeral Home.

Visitation is at the funeral home. (Paid obituary)

Ida Burchett Click

Ida Burchett Click, 89, of Banner, widow of Lummie Click, passed away, Monday, March 15, 2004, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, Prestonsburg.

She was born November 8, 1914, in Banner, the daughter of the late Mermon Burchett and Hannah Rice Burchett Meade. She was a homemaker, and a member of the Hope United Baptist Church, since 1975.

Survivors include one son, Richard Click of Banner; two daughters: Gloriana Layne of Langley, Anna Rose Collins of Oil Springs; one half brother, Robert Meade of Xenia, Ohio; eight grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by her step-father, Rhodes Meade; one son, Lummie Click Jr.; two brothers: John Burchett, and Richard Burchett; two half-brothers: James Meade, and David Meade; one sister, Anna Ramey; one step-sister, Mae Delong; and one grandchild, Paul Richard Click.

Funeral services for Ida Burchett Click were conducted Thursday, March 18, at 11 a.m., at the Hall Funeral Home Chapel, in Martin, with United Baptist ministers officiating.

Burial followed in the Gunnells Family Cemetery, in Banner, under the professional care of the Hall Funeral Home.

Visitation was at the funeral home.

Active pallbearers: Johnny Layne, James Layne, Gene Layne, Kevin Click, Tony Click, Ted Click, Larry Collins and Brad Collins.

Honorary pallbearers: Kyle Layne, Zach Layne, Scotty Layne, R.J. Layne, J.T. Layne and Ethen Layne. (Paid obituary)

I Wish You Hadn't Left
by Nancy Davis

I wish you hadn't left that day.
So many things were left unsaid,
So many things were left undone.
You were happy that day.
All your children who lived close
visited,
And your grandsons sang to you.
Your breathing was better,
You appeared to be in less pain.
We held hands and talked.
You promised to eat dinner,
I showed you the red roses,
And you were happy, they were silk.
I only looked away a moment;
Only glanced away while on the
phone;
And you were gone!
Your dinner left untouched,
Your flowers still remained,
But you were gone.
We had such a hard time making
arrangements.
We felt so helpless and lost.
We struggled with every decision.
We worried we made the right
choices.
It was such a comfort to hear,
"Your mother would be proud of what
you've done".
We hope you enjoyed the music we
chose.
We found comfort in the minister's
words,
And consolation in the company of
friends.
And your eulogy reminded us
Of times long past, and
Of what a wonderful and outstanding
mother you were.
Your send off to the cemetery
Would have delighted you.
But we miss you so much.
And there is such a void in all our
lives.
So many things I want to ask you,
But you are not there to answer,
I wish you hadn't left that day.
In loving memory of Minnie Warrix

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Auxier

Continued from p3

financial problems. "During the three years you all lost money, we've not seen any report that you all have cut back on any raises, or that you've cut back on anything," said council member James Meek, noting that he was from the "old school" of business. "Why didn't you make cuts at any time, rather than asking the customers to burden the raise in rates?"

Herald, explaining the extent of training needed for specific areas of certifications for workers, said the commission cut back all of the things they could control.

Council member Ronnie Wells suggested that an efficiency study on the commission would be "money well spent."

Council members and attendees at the meeting said an increase in rates would have been easier, particularly for elderly residents on fixed incomes, if implemented in "stair steps" when the budget crisis began three years ago, something the commission now has no time to do.

"You can't come in here and ask people on Social Security to cut down on their pocketbook to pay a sewer bill," said Jimmy Guess, a coal miner from Paintsville, who burned commissioners with his heated opinions on the matter. "I didn't go to Harvard or UK, but I can tell you one thing. In my house, if I don't have the money, I don't go buy things ... I drive a 1992 Nissan, not a 2003 Yukon ... A dollar is a dollar in my house."

Guess, reflecting the views of several in the audience, said that an increase in rates would lead to an increase in prices in area businesses who depend on those services, which would, in turn, lead to a cutback in employment and an eventual move for residents out of the city.

View

Continued from p4

Communications Commission Chairman Michael Powell and the four other commission members deciding what speech Americans are entitled to hear?

It isn't too far a leap to find that under a different political climate there would be those objecting to Rush Limbaugh as a polarizing force in the country.

The people already hold the ultimate sanction against indecent or obscene speech or performance. They don't have to watch it or listen to it. And that's exactly how it is supposed to work in a free country.

Odds

Continued from p2

Superior Court Judge Lisa Chung scheduled a hearing Friday to determine when Harter will be sentenced on the felony and three related misdemeanors. Her attorney, Robert Conaway, did not immediately return a message Wednesday.

Harter's dogs, along with some 60 birds, were seized in November 2002 from her five-acre property 30 miles northeast of downtown Los Angeles.

Animal control officers said the animals were raised in crowded, filthy conditions. Some were so ill they had to be euthanized.

RACINE, Wis. — The swings will be a little softer in softball games this summer, after the city outlawed new high-tech, lightweight bats that deliver hits so powerful they're downright dangerous.

Racine and other communities are banning the supercharged bats known as "lightning sticks."

Manufactured since 2000, the bats have delivered hits so strong that softballs have broken bones, caused deep bruises and even head injuries, said Jeff McDorman, Racine's manager of recreation and cultural services.

"It's a safety issue for us," McDorman said. "We just want to make sure that it doesn't happen here."

The bats, which sometimes sell for hundreds of dollars, have names right out of science fiction: The Mizuno TechFire Crush, the Anderson Rocket Tech, the Fury, the Rage, the Rawlings SBI X15 Silverback.

McDorman said the lightning sticks can add 100 feet to fly balls and many miles per hour to hard-hit infield balls.

"Bat companies are hiring MIT grads to design these things," he said.

"Can this city afford that?" he asked, noting that an employee making \$6.50 an hour would pay \$140 annually in city occupational taxes.

In addition to several angry comments and suggestions from meeting attendees, commission members battled allegations from council members.

Responding to negative feedback, Preston said that the proposed rate increase would only allow the commission to "break even" with its current budget, an opinion countered repeatedly by comments of city council members who said revenues for the commission would increase once the new prison, currently operating at half capacity with a current 45 to 50 percent loss in projected revenue for the commission, becomes fully operational. Additional revenues, they said, would come with the completion of the water plant, currently in a pilot testing phase, and the retirement of several bonds held by the commission. Money could also be saved, they said, if utilities workers were more adequate at fixing water leaks.

The council's biggest problem with the commission, Paintsville Mayor Doug Pugh said yesterday, is that the bond requirements currently owed by the commission could be met with dollar cuts, rather than increases. Pugh suggested that the commission find a way to earn 5 percent in cost sav-

ings, which would bring them nearly a quarter of a million dollars in revenue.

Council person Mark McKenzie spent the majority of the meeting asking the commission to recalculate the cost rate adjustments at a 1.5 percent increase, rather than the 1.95 percent proposed to meet the commission's needs, a suggestion later passed as a motion by the the city council.

Preston, who shook his head and rolled his eyes almost every time McKenzie suggested the recalculation, said cutbacks would lead to a decline in service.

"The medicine doesn't get any easier, doesn't taste any better ... We're proceeding as far as we can on someone else's nickel," he said,

noting that the commission would not be able to keep current operations and plant going without the proposed 1.95 percent increase.

Preston, who was ignored by the city council when he asked to adjourn before participating in the public comment session of the meeting, left, along with another commission member, before the public comment session was completed.

The Paintsville city council adjourned the meeting a few minutes later, as one man was walking toward to the podium to ask another question.

During an interview yesterday, Hager, secretary and volunteer of the Auxier Fire Department, said she'd accept a 1.5 percent

increase, as proposed by McKenzie, but that she didn't have to like it.

"We don't want to live with it," she said. "We want the rate we were promised, but, evidently, that's not possible ... This is not the end of it, that's all I can say, because they'll have to look at me if we don't reach some agree-

ment." Johnson County circuit court issued an order yesterday allowing the mayor the ability to override commissioners.

Even with the new suggested rates, the Paintsville Utilities will still be among the cheapest in Kentucky, Herald said yesterday.

What are you doing this weekend?

Sitting at home, watching TV, playing video games, hanging with your friends? Some of the guys you know will go hiking, camping, caving, rock climbing and learning leadership skills. They are Boy Scouts. Boy Scouts help develop tomorrow's leaders... are you one of them? You can be.

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Record

Continued from p6

cution or apprehension of a criminal, possession of marijuana, use or possession of drug paraphernalia.

Brenda C. Benton, 41, Stanville; alcohol intoxication, disorderly conduct.

Henry C. Sloan, 60, Prestonsburg; alcohol intoxication.

Adrian T. Goble, 48, Ivel; alcohol intoxication.

Cyril H. Coburn, 64, Garrett; alcohol intoxication.

Miranda Denise Hall, 36, Dana; theft.

Kim Gillespie, 38, Minnie; intimidating a participant in the

legal process.

Jerry Woods, 38, Minnie; intimidating a participant in the legal process.

Mika L. Castle, 22, River; alcohol intoxication, first-degree possession of a controlled substance, prescription in improper container.

Stephen Duane Howell, 33, location unlisted; flagrant non-support.

Troy Lee Branham, 56, Printer; harassment.

Christopher Pratt, 42, Hindman; third-degree burglary of a safe or vault, theft.

Inspections

Allen Kwik Mart, Allen, regular inspection. Violations noted: Thermometers not present in all refrigeration units, proper hair restraints not used, wiping cloth use unrestricted, floor tile chipped. Score: Food 95, Retail 99.

Martin Kwik Stop, U.S. 80 Martin, regular inspection. Violations noted: Many thermometers were hard to see, employee restroom door not self-closing, outside dumpsters not adequately closed or covered, ceiling in storeroom in disrepair, walk-in refrigerator light improperly shielded, employee coats stored in food prep area. Score: Food 94, Retail 94.

Campbell Grocery, Garret, regular inspection. Violations noted: Hot food unit with no thermometer, food contact countertop in disrepair, wiping cloth use unrestricted, no accessible towels near sink in food prep area, floors in disrepair. Score: Food 96, Retail 94.

Wayland Fountain, Wayland, regular inspection. Violations noted: Proper hair restraints not used, wiping cloth use unrestricted, no towels in restroom sink area. Score: 94.

Wayland Kwik Mart, Wayland, regular inspection. Violations noted: No easy-to-see thermometers in several cooling units, proper hair restraints not in use, wiping cloth use unrestricted, women's restroom wall in disrepair. Score: Food 95, Retail 98.

Redi-Mart #32, Lackey, regular inspection. Violations noted: Unlabeled food container in food prep area, several cooling units have hard-to-spot thermometers,

proper hair restraints not used, floor tile in food prep and storage area in disrepair, ceilings in disrepair. Score: Food 93, Retail 97.

Dollar General Store, McDowell, regular inspection. Violations noted: Hard-to-spot thermometers in cooling units, paper towels stored on the floor, mop head stored on floor. Score: 97.

Subway of Stanville, Stanville, regular inspection. Violations noted: Restroom doors not self-closing, countertop refrigerator had no conspicuous thermometer. Score: 95.

S and J Market, Rt. 979, Beaver, regular inspection. Violations noted: Hard-to-spot thermometers in cooling units, proper hair restraints not in use, soap not readily available at food prep sink, light in food prep area not properly shielded. Score: Food 95, Retail 98.

Property Transfers

Mildred Johnson to Pamela Tackett, property located at Weeksbury.

Ivanell Rice to Randy Tincher and Janie Tincher, property located, Little Paint Creek.

Clarence Pigman and Jean Pigman, and Ada Pigman Church to Audrey Pigman, Ora Lee Pigman, and Ethel Pigman, property location not listed.

Jo Neil Adams to Bluford Smith and Helen Smith, property located, Left Fork of Beaver Creek.

Ralph Moore and Nova Moore to Monica Hall and Meka Danielle Hall, property located, Turkey Creek.

Lawsuit

before the court to set a pretrial conference in the case.

The conference is scheduled for July 30 at 3 p.m., according to documents filed in circuit court Thursday.

The victim in the case claims that she was a "business invitee" at Martin's office, then located in Prestonsburg, where she alleges he sexually abused her.

Continued from p1

Martin, who completed a sexual abuse treatment program in Texas after entering an Alford plea (conceding that he was not guilty, but that the court may find enough evidence to convict him) to criminal charges brought against him relating to the alleged incident, has vehemently denied the woman's allegations.

Ralph Moore and Nova Moore to Monica Hall and Michael Doyle Hall, II, property located on Turkey Creek.

Nicole Lee Moore to Ralph and Nova Moore, property located, Lot No. 7 of Ralph Moore Estate.

Tommy Jones to Ralph and Nova Moore, property location not listed.

Larry Collins and Betty Collins to Larry Michael Collins, property location not listed.

Burnette Burge to Kermit Newsome, property located, Kentucky Highway 114, (Mountain Parkway).

Richard Burchett and Tabatha Burchett to Richard Brian Burchett Jr., property location not listed.

Rosalie Leslie Loretto and Geraldine Leslie, Charles R. Leslie to Ned Hall, property location not listed.

Bill Parsons and Nancy Parsons to Elery Parsons, property location not listed.

Marilyn Chaffins and Marvin Chaffins to Brian Hunter and Melesha Hunter, property location not listed.

Temphra W. Collins to James Vernon Collins, property location not listed.

In Memory of PETE MOORE

10/26/39 - 3/22/01

If Tomorrow Never Comes

If I knew it would be the last time that I see you walk out the door,
I would give you a hug and kiss and call you back for one more.

If I knew it would be the last time, I could spare an extra minute or two, to stop and say I love you,
Instead of assuming you would KNOW I do.

If I knew it would be the last time, I would be there to share your day.

Well, I'm sure you'll have so many more, so I can let just this one slip away.

For surely there's always tomorrow to make up for an oversight,
And we always get a second chance, to make everything right.

There will always be another day to say our "I love you's,"
And certainly there's another chance to say our "Anything I can do's?"

But just in case I might be wrong, and today is all I get,
I'd like to say how much I love you, and I hope we never forget.

Tomorrow is not promised to anyone, young or old alike,
And today may be the last chance you get to hold your loved one tight.

So, if you're waiting for tomorrow, why not do it today?
For, if tomorrow never comes, you'll surely regret the day.

That you didn't take that extra time, for a smile, a hug, or a kiss,
And you were too busy to grant someone, what turned out to be their one last wish.

So hold your loved ones close today, whisper in their ear,
Tell them how much you love them, and that you'll always hold them dear.

Take time to say "I'm sorry, please forgive me," "thank you" or "it's okay."

And if tomorrow never comes, you'll have no regrets about today.

Sadly missed by Your Wife, Sandra



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985003	AGENT CODY BANKS	985003	HELD OVER Mon.-Fri. 7:30; Sat.-Sun. 3:30, 5:30, 7:30 Rated PG
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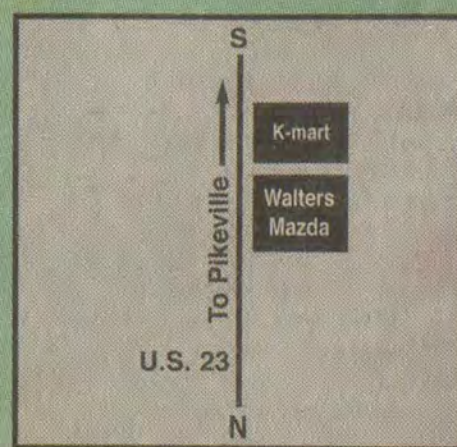
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COMMENTARY

Ridge fans rally around their team

by RICK BENTLEY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

LEXINGTON — It was difficult to be in Rupp Arena Wednesday night and not think about Jody Thompson.

Arguably the best player to come from the triumvirate that formed East Ridge High School — at least the best not named Todd Conley — the closest Thompson ever got his Feds Creek Vikings was the regional finals.

It was also hard not to think about Dillard Taylor, the terrific guard who dazzled Millard Mustang fans years ago and later coached the school's all-time leading scorer, Barry Hopkins.

And it wasn't easy to be there without wondering what Jimmy Kent Kerr thought. Kerr was a phenomenal guard that not only carried Elkhorn City for years but also had a hand in the powerhouses at Pikeville College in the mid-1970s.

Look, forget the final score Wednesday night. The fact that Caverna knocked off East Ridge 57-41 is insignificant. It was 16, could have been 36. The Colonels were that much better than the Warriors.

But on this night, that didn't matter. On this night, fans from across Pike County's eastern cusp came together to do something that they may never have accomplished with-

(See BENTLEY, page four)

BOYS' BASKETBALL

Caverna 57, East Ridge 41

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

LEXINGTON — East Ridge's stay in the 2004 National City/KHSAA Boys Sweet 16 was a short one. The Warriors, champions out of the 15th Region, met up with Caverna, one of the state's hottest boys' basketball teams. Caverna got out in front and stayed there, winning 57-41.

Caverna made a short stay in this year's Touchstone Energy All "A" Classic, dropping a close game to eventual champ Hazard in the first round of the small school tourney. Hazard beat Caverna 55-52 in the meeting, what is now just one of three losses for the Colonels.

Caverna (30-3) led East Ridge 14-4 through one quarter and got 17 points and 18 rebounds in the game from senior center Boris Siakam, a native of Cameroon. The Colonels outscored East Ridge in every quarter, leading the Warriors 28-15 at halftime. After falling behind early on in Wednesday's game, East Ridge could never recover.

"It was pivotal for us to get out early," said Caverna Coach Paul Childress. "We wanted to be able to get out to an early lead."

East Ridge Coach James Hurley knew the Caverna team he and his staff saw on tape was an athletic one.

(See GAME, page two)

HAP Little League announces final signups

Harold-Allen-Prater (HAP) Little League will hold its final signups Saturday from noon to 3 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 3 p.m. at Allen Park. Tryouts will be held. Returning players do not have to tryout.

INSIDESTUFF

- Lifestyles • page 6B
- Poison Oak • page 6B
- Classifieds • page 9B

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Lady Hawks capture second regional title

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

BUCKLEYS CREEK — Pike County Central will put some of the best young talent in the state on the E.A. Diddle Arena hardwood next week in the Girls Sweet 16. The

Lady Hawks earned the right to return to the state tournament for a second time by beating rival Belfry 53-44 Monday in the 15th Region Finals. It was the second time the two teams had met in the month of March. Pike Central (21-10) beat Belfry 61-53 in the 60th

District Finals back on March 6.

Pike Central, after seeing its offense struggle somewhat at times, got things going in the fourth quarter Monday night, outscoring Belfry 20-8.

(See CAPTURE, page two)



photo by Jamie Howell

Pike County Central freshman sensation Haley Ratliff tossed in 25 points in the regional championship victory over Belfry.

TIME WELL SPENT



photo by Jamie Howell

Betsy Layne senior Whitney Lykens scored 13 points in Monday night's season-ending contest against eventual 15th Region champ Pike County Central. The game was the last in the high school career of Lykens, who scored over 2,000 points as a Betsy Layne Lady Cat. It was also the last in the career of Betsy Layne senior Tabetha Witt.

BETSY LAYNE SENIOR DUO LEAVES LASTING MARK ON PROGRAM

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

Seniors Whitney Lykens and Tabetha Witt had many championships to celebrate during their basketball playing time at Betsy Layne High School. The senior

duo led Betsy Layne to 20-plus win seasons each of the last three years.

"Collectively they have led the team to a five-year record of 106 wins and 49 losses," said Betsy Layne Coach Cassandra Akers, who has watched each

player grow and prosper.

"When you consider that in their eighth- and ninth-grade years they lost 27 of those 49 games, it has been a truly phenomenal ride. They have both

(See DUO, page five)

Blackcats begin spring practice

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG — Coming off a season in which it knocked then defending Class 2A state champ Breathitt County out of

the playoffs, Prestonsburg returned to football practice this week. Spring football practice that is.

Prestonsburg has three weeks to get two weeks of practice in. However, according to head

coach John DeRossett, Prestonsburg will most likely only get five or six full practices in because of the upcoming Spring Break.

(See PRACTICE, page two)

Shamrocks win on St. Patrick's Day in first Sweet 16 appearance

by MURRAY EVANS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON — Louisville Trinity couldn't have picked a more appropriate day to make its initial Boys Sweet 16 basketball tournament appearance a success.

The Shamrocks, playing on St. Patrick's Day, broke open a tight game in the fourth quarter and pulled away for a 75-57 win over University Heights of Hopkinsville in a first-round game Wednesday at Rupp Arena.

Trinity (19-12) earned a quarterfinal matchup on Friday with defending champion Mason

County. The Royals (31-2) led all the way in a 71-57 win over Wayne County in another first-round game.

Also advancing to the quarterfinals were Caverna, a 57-41 winner over East Ridge, and Scott County, which beat Lexington Lafayette 71-58. Caverna (30-3) will play Scott County (27-6) on Friday.

Trinity is a football power, having won the last three Class 4A titles in that sport, but had never won the 7th Region basketball title before this season. Two players who starred on the football team

(See SHAMROCKS, page two)

Bears looking for way to negotiate Lewis-Clark

TIMES STAFF REPORT

When the Pikeville College Bears begin play in the 2004 Buffalo Funds NAIA Div. I Men's Basketball National Championship Tournament, they'll be hot on the trail of Lewis and Clark.

Make that Lewis-Clark State College, the No. 10 seed in the event that begins in Kansas City, Mo., next Wednesday. The Warriors and Bears will hook up on Thursday afternoon at 5:30 p.m. EST.

Lewis-Clark, located in Lewiston, Id., is 24-5 and champions of the Frontier Conference. The Warriors are one of two Frontier teams in the field, joined by Westminster, Utah.

The Warriors will bring a nine-game winning streak into the tournament, and are making their third trip in five years — all even years. Lewis-Clark was ranked 11th in last week's final poll of NAIA Div. I schools. They peaked at No. 10 in the Jan. 13 rankings.

Pikeville (26-7), ranked 18th last week, is in for the third time in four seasons.

Lewis-Clark averages 81.28 points per game, but that total is good for only fourth in the high-flying eight-team Frontier Conference. They shoot the

(See BEARS, page two)

Floyd native Hall among KABC coaches of the year

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — Prior to the start of the Boys' Sweet Sixteen State Basketball Tournament, the Kentucky Association of Basketball Coaches announced its players and coaches of the year for the 2003-04 season.

Brian Hall, a familiar name to many in Floyd County, took the 14th Region Coach of the Year honor. Hall, in his first season as head coach, guided Breathitt County to a 55th District title and a runner-up finish in the 14th Region. Perry County Central topped Breathitt County in the 14th Region Finals, but not before Hall's team wiped away a double-digit lead late and made an impressive comeback. Breathitt County trailed by 20-plus points before being edged by just two.

Hall, before taking over as head coach at Breathitt County, served as an assistant coach at Johnson Central High School where he coached under current State Senator Johnny Ray Turner.

(See KABC, page two)



photo by Jamie Howell

Betsy Layne junior guard Kim Clark held the ball over her head during Monday night's region tournament game against host Pike County Central. Clark scored her 1,000th point this past season and will return to the hardwood next winter as a senior.

Shamrocks

led the way for the Shamrocks on Wednesday.

Heralded quarterback Brian Brohm, a forward in basketball, had 13 points and 11 rebounds, while fellow forward Blake Nix had 14 points and nine rebounds.

Brohm said the Shamrocks' championship experience, albeit in another sport, helped them adjust to the state tournament atmosphere at Rupp Arena.

"It's a little different in basketball," Brohm said. "It's a little bit bigger, but I think we were well prepared for it."

The Shamrocks and University Heights were tied 28-28 at half-time. Trinity scored the first nine points of the second half, but University Heights (17-14) rallied to 45-43 on a 3-pointer by Nathan Owen with 1:38 left in the third quarter.

A 10-2 run, ignited by a 3-point play by Brohm off a put-back, put the Shamrocks ahead 55-45 with 6:35 left, and University Heights came no closer than eight points the rest of the way.

Trinity began the basketball season 3-6 but now has won six straight games heading into the quarterfinal contest against Mason County, which is trying to become only the sixth team to repeat as state champion.

"We want that shot" at Mason

County, Trinity coach Mike Szabo said. "No doubt about it, they're a great basketball team. We are going to have to play our best game of the year to beat them."

University Heights, which rebounded from a 1-7 start to win the 2nd Region title and qualify for its fourth Sweet 16 appearance, picked up 12 points from Owen. The Blazers shot just 38.7 percent from the field.

University Heights, which has an enrollment of 90, won the 1992 state title.

In Mason County's win over Wayne County, Chris Lofton had 34 points and 10 rebounds for the Royals.

Mason County jumped to a 12-0 lead and led all the way but never could shake the Cardinals, who came within seven points twice in the fourth quarter before Mason County closed with a 9-2 run.

Jarrod Litzinger added 22 points and eight rebounds for the Royals, who shot 51.7 percent from the field. The Royals played without second-leading scorer Wesley Jones, who was dismissed from the team after Mason County won the 10th Region title on Saturday.

Jerrold Gibbons scored 18 points for Wayne County (28-5), the 12th Region champion.

Tyrone Green had 17 points and 12 rebounds, while Steven Sexton added 15 points.

Boris Siakim and Jordy Maxey dominated inside to lead Caverna to its win over East Ridge. Siakim, a 6-7 senior foreign exchange student from Cameroon, had 17 points and 18 rebounds for Caverna.

Maxey, a 6-5 senior, added nine points and five rebounds for the Colonels from the town of Horse Cave, who are making their first Sweet 16 appearance since 1979.

Siakim and Maxey helped 5th Region champion Caverna out-rebound East Ridge 40-21 and prevented or altered many shots by the Warriors, who do not have a player taller than 6-2. East Ridge shot just 31.9 percent from the field.

East Ridge, located in the Pike County community of Lick Creek, closed at 24-8. The Warriors won the 15th Region title and made the Sweet 16 in the school's second year of existence.

Scott County used superior depth and free-throw shooting to beat Lafayette (19-13) for the second time this season. Tyler Hicks scored 21 points and Zach VanGuilder added 18 points, eight rebounds and three blocked shots for 9th Region champion Scott County.

Lafayette trailed only 29-27 at halftime, but eventually wore down against the Cardinals' high-intensity defense and up-tempo offense.

Scott County went 20-of-30 from the free-throw line, including 19-of-26 in the second half. Lafayette was 20-of-36 overall and 12-of-20 in the second half.

Troy Harris scored 16 points for Scott County and made four 3-pointers. Marcus Barron led Lafayette with 16 points. Senior center Darnell Dialls had 15 points and 13 rebounds for the Generals, who upset highly touted Lexington Catholic in the 11th Region final on Saturday.

Young Lady Hawks will only get better

by RICK BENTLEY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

BUCKLEYS CREEK - The 15th Region was put on notice Tuesday night in the waning moments of the girls' basketball championship game.

Want the title? You're welcome to try, but for the foreseeable future you'll have to deal with the Lady Hawks of Pike County Central to get it.

After senior Vickie Hall put Belfry on top 42-41 with a dot-dotted-line jumper and two free throws with 2:37 to play, Tammy Tussey's club scored the next seven points and finished the game on a 12-3 run to claim

the school's second regional title, 53-44.

A dynasty could have been born in those final 2 minutes for Tussey, a veteran coach who is both a winner and blessed with some unbelievable young talent.

How young? Consider that not only does she start a freshman - at the point, no less - but flanks her with (ital) two (ital) eighth graders.

For the next three, maybe four years, it could be Pike Central and then everybody else. They have that kind of potential.

"I certainly think we do," Tussey said.
"I think we could," said tour-

nament MVP Haley Ratliff. "We're so young and we're growing together."

"They have the talent, and obviously they're going to have the experience going this year," said Belfry's Mark Gannon. "I think they have the ability to try to make a run."

The three players in question - freshman Haley Ratliff and eight-graders Kayla Lowe and Paige Lowe - all were named to the all-tournament team Tuesday night.

"They're going to be great players before they leave here."

(See **HAWKS**, page five)

Bears

Continued from p1

ball exceptionally well, hitting 49.2 percent from the floor, which led the league.

But they're remarkably good from the arc, where they lead the nation with a 42.5 shooting percentage. And it's not because they limit themselves - the Warriors are 232-of-546 on the season. Also, they hit a solid 73.1 percent from the free throw line.

Martin Brothers leads the team in scoring, averaging 13.59 points per game. The 6-8 junior from Indianapolis also averaged six rebounds per game and hit 61.2 percent from the floor after joining the team in January and was one of two Warriors named all-conference.

He was joined on the team by Joey Ray, a 5-11 junior from Heltonville, Ind., who averages 13.41 points per game and hits

45.3 percent from the arc this season, which is 14th nationally.

Teammate Danny Allen, a 5-10 junior from Dallas who was an honorable mention all-league pick, shoots it even better: His 48.6 percent from the arc is sixth in the country. He averages 11 points and 2.66 assists per game.

The Warriors also defend well; they led the league in defensive field-goal percentage (42.3 percent) and defensive three-point shooting (31.5 percent).

While Lewis-Clark has won nine straight, all were within the conference and their league tournament was played at home. Away from the friendly confines of Warrior Gym, LCSC is 9-5 this year.

Pikeville will make its fifth appearance in the national tournament. The Bears are 3-4 in tournament games, having won

three games to reach the semifinals of the 2000 event in Tulsa.

Last year, the Bears lost the opening game of the tournament to defending champion Science & Arts (Okla.) 78-69.

Pikeville is one of three Mid-South Conference teams in the field and one of four from the Bluegrass State.

Lindsey Wilson (31-3) is seeded third and will play Martin Methodist (Tenn.) in the tournament's first game, Wednesday at 9 a.m. central time.

Georgetown (27-7) is the fifth seed and will hook up with McKendree (Ill.) Thursday at 6:15 p.m. in a meeting of 2003 semifinal teams.

The other Kentucky team is Brescia University. The Bearcats (24-9) will play Southern-New Orleans, seeded 14th, Wednesday at 10:45 a.m.

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



Chase Lyons, Pike Central, 15th Region Player of the Year



Whitney Lykens, Betsy Layne, 15th Region Player of the Year

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Practice

Continued from p1

"We've had a real good off-season," said DeRossett. "In the off-season we've had 60-70 kids working out. We've got 50 out for spring practice."

The Prestonsburg High boys' basketball team was eliminated from post-season play Friday when it fell short against Pike County Central.

The Prestonsburg grid team has had so many student-athletes working out in the off-season that two sessions are needed in order for everyone to begin and finish a complete workout.

During the spring practice sessions, it's back to the basics for the Blackcats.

"Right now, we're focusing on working on blocking, tackling, making proper steps and all the basic fundamentals," added DeRossett. "We've got a great group of kids out."

The Blackcats will run more plays as offensive and defensive units in the last days of spring practice.

Prestonsburg took Thursday off, but will return to practice today.

The Blackcats finished the 2003 season with a 7-5 record. Prestonsburg fell to eventual state champ Belfry in the Class 2A, Region 4 Semifinals.

Capture

Continued from p1

Freshman Haley Ratliff, who has already scored over 1,000 points in her prep career, paced Pike Central with a game-high 25 points.

Belfry led 12-9 through one quarter. Pike Central held a 26-21 advantage at halftime before the Lady Pirates came rallying back.

Belfry outscored Pike Central 15-7 in the third quarter and had momentum heading into the final quarter.

Many of Pike Central's strongest contributors are

younger players. However, the Pike Central team boasts a balanced attack with potent players from all classes pitching in.

The Pike Central starting five consists of two eighth-graders, Ratliff, the lone freshman starter, and two juniors.

Pike Central generally then counters with a reserve trio of two seniors and one junior.

In the regional championship win over Belfry, Pike Central's Mishay Weddington scored nine points.

Vicki Hall led Belfry with 14 points. Anna Bevins added 10 for the Lady Pirates.

Pike Central will meet 16th Region champ East Carter in the state tournament Thursday in a game that has been set for a start time of 6:30 p.m.

East Carter edged the Lady Hawks 60-58 back on Feb. 2 when the two teams met at the Hawks' Nest. The 16th Region team took the game in the final minute on a putback.

East Carter won the right to play in the state tourney when it defeated Boyd County for the 16th Region title.

"We hope for it to be a good game," said Pike Central Coach Tammy Tussey, referring to her team's looming state tournament game against East Carter. "We are young, but talented, and getting very experienced."

Game

Continued from p1

"It was tough to prepare for their athleticism," Hurley noted in a post-game press conference.

Hurley was particularly impressed with Siakam.

"He's the best athlete we've faced all season," Hurley added. "He worried me on film. He was everything I saw on film and maybe more."

Brandon Adams followed Siakam with 13 points.

Aaron Branham, the 15th Region Tournament Most Valuable Player, led East Ridge (24-8) with 13 points. Brandon Ratliff finished with 10.

The loss to Caverna ended Hurley's second season at the helm of the East Ridge High boys' basketball program.

Now an Elite Eight team, Caverna will take on Scott County today at 1:30 p.m.

KABC

Continued from p1

During his high school playing days, Hall played for Turner at McDowell High.

Coaches in each region cast votes for coaches and players in their respective regions.

East Ridge head coach James Hurley, who guided the Warriors to the 15th Region crown in just their second season as a team, earned the 15th Region Coach of the Year nod. Pike County Central senior Chase Lyons was named the player of the year in the 15th Region.

Perry County Central senior Al Holland Jr., who has signed to play football at Wake Forest, received the player of the year honor in the 14th Region.

A complete list of the KABC players and coaches of the year for each region follows.

KABC PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

- 1st Region - Brett Hoskins, Carlisle County
- 2nd Region - Ty Rogers, Lyon County
- 3rd Region - Jamie Jackson, Butler County
- 4th Region - Matt Maresca, Warren Central and David Byrd, Barren County (tie)
- 5th Region - Demetrius Guions, North Hardin
- 6th Region - Terrance Farley, Pleasure Ridge Park
- 7th Region - Jermaine Bentley, Eastern
- 8th Region - Eric McKee, Anderson County
- 9th Region - Matt Nestheide, Covington Catholic
- 10th Region - Chris Lofton, Mason County
- 11th Region - Demetrius

- Green, Lexington Catholic
- 12th Region - Tyrone Green, Wayne County
- 13th Region - Brian Griffin, Clay County
- 14th Region - Al Holland Jr., Perry County Central
- 15th Region - Chase Lyons, Pike County Central
- 16th Region - Tyler Clark, Lewis County

KABC COACHES OF THE YEAR

- 1st Region - Brian O'Neil, Carlisle County
- 2nd Region - Phil Gibson, Henderson County
- 3rd Region - Mike Orr, Owensboro Catholic
- 4th Region - D.G. Sherrill, Allen County-Scottsville
- 5th Region - Paul Childress, Caverna
- 6th Region - Tom Crews, DeSales
- 7th Region - Jeff Morrow, Jeffersontown
- 8th Region - Steve Simpson, South Oldham and Kyle Bennett, Walton-Verona (tie)
- 9th Region - Rob Detzel, Newport Central Catholic
- 10th Region - Buddy Briggs, Pendleton County
- 11th Region - Bart Fleenor, Lexington Catholic
- 12th Region - Rodney Woods, Rockcastle County
- 13th Region - Dinky Phipps, Barbourville
- 14th Region - Brian Hall, Breathitt County
- 15th Region - James Hurley, East Ridge
- 16th Region - Joe Hampton, Russell

SPORTS FAN OF THE WEEK

If you are the sports fan circled here... it's your lucky day!

Bring this photo to The Floyd County Times office at 263 South Central Avenue (down the street from the courthouse) to claim your Gift Certificate, which will entitle you to a free 8-inch ice cream cake of your choice, redeemable at **DAIRY QUEEN OF PRESTONSBURG**, and choice of a Times hat or coffee mug.

Some things to look for in NCAA tournament

by JIM O'CONNELL
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Every team has been broken down and every matchup has been analyzed. Still, there might be some things about the first round of the NCAA tournament that have been overlooked:

SENIORS

This is their last chance and, yes, there still are seniors left in college basketball.

■ Duke's Chris Duhon was a freshman on the Blue Devils' last championship team and he is the unquestioned leader of this group.

■ Memphis point guard Antonio Burks was selected player of the year in Conference USA but struggled to a season-low six points on 2-for-11 shooting when the Tigers were eliminated in the quarterfinals by Saint Louis.

■ Gonzaga guard Blake Stepp has been one of the keys to the Bulldogs' recent success, but he has to lead them as they try to prove they deserved their No. 2 seeding.

■ Seton Hall guard Andre Barrett finally gets a chance to play in the NCAA tournament. The former New York City star will have to go against perennial powers Arizona and Duke to play another weekend.

FRESHMEN

■ Duke's Luol Deng couldn't have lived up to his preseason billing, but the 6-foot-8 forward had a good freshman year, averaging 14.7 points and 6.8 rebounds.

■ Wake Forest's Chris Paul beat out Deng for Atlantic Coast Conference rookie of the year, and he did it by averaging 14.2 points, 3.2 rebounds and 5.8 assists.

■ Pittsburgh's Chris Taft stepped into a starting spot with the Panthers and was a force in the middle right away, averaging 11.2 points and 7.5 rebounds.

■ Connecticut's Josh Boone had a quiet freshman year until the Big East tournament when he picked up the slack for the injured Emeka Okafor and grabbed 29 rebounds in two games.

COACHES

■ Bob Knight of Texas Tech and Mike Krzyzewski of Duke each have three national championships, the only coaches in the field with more than one. Their recent success has been quite different, however. Krzyzewski has taken the Blue Devils to the round of 16 or better the last six years, and he won the 2001 championship. Knight has lost in

the first round in five of his last seven appearances, including 2000 when he lost to Pepperdine in Buffalo, N.Y., in his last NCAA game with Indiana.

BAYLOR FACTOR

Three players who transferred out of the troubled Baylor program last summer will have an impact on some highly seeded teams. Lawrence Roberts of Mississippi State was the Southeastern Conference player of the year; John Lucas of Oklahoma State was selected the Big 12's player of the year by the media; and Kenny Taylor led Texas with 58 3-pointers.

FREE THROWS

Two of the top free-throw shooters in the country are in the tournament: Duke's J.J. Redick (130-for-136, 95.6 percent) and Chris Hernandez of Stanford (96-for-105, 91.4 percent). Four teams in the field make at least 76 percent: North Carolina State (79.8), Arizona (78.6), Michigan State (76.9) and Manhattan (76.0). The five worst teams at the line: Virginia Commonwealth (60.4), Connecticut (61.6), Maryland (62.6), Illinois-Chicago (63.4) and Syracuse (63.6).

UNKNOWN STARS

■ Taylor Copenrath of Vermont, the two-time America East player of the year, had 43 points and 13 rebounds in the conference championship game after missing a month with a broken wrist.

■ Luis Flores of Manhattan, the two-time Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference player of the year, was third in the nation in scoring at 24.1.

■ Zakee Wadood of East Tennessee State. Besides having the best name in the tournament, he also was the Southern Conference player of the year.

■ Nevada swingman Kirk Snyder, who is projected as a first-round NBA draft pick if he leaves after his junior year, led the Western Athletic Conference in scoring and was its player of the year.

UNKNOWN TEAMS

■ UAB was one of the five teams to tie for the Conference USA regular-season title and the Blazers are in the NCAA tournament for the first time in five years under second-year coach Mike Anderson.

■ Richmond wasn't noticed much in the A-10 as Saint Joseph's dominated the league, but the Spiders won at Kansas and they have some tournament history, becoming the first No. 15

seed to win a game, beating Syracuse in 1991.

■ East Tennessee State has one of the most exciting players in 5-9 Tim Smith, and the Buccaneers, who have made all six of their NCAA appearances since 1989, upset Arizona in 1992.

■ The Mid-American Conference is always considered

the best of the mid-majors, and Western Michigan won the league title this year. It was led by player of the year Mike Williams and first-year coach Steve Hawkins.

LONG BALL

Three players in the field are shooting better than 44 percent from beyond the 3-point line:

Chris Hill, Michigan State (46.1), Nick Jacobson, Utah (45.3) and Ben Gordon, Connecticut (44.6). The most interesting long-range shooter is Vanderbilt's Dawid Przybyszewski whose 46 3-pointers this season are the most in the nation by a 7-footer. Four teams are shooting better than 40 percent from beyond the arc: Gonzaga (41.4), Saint Joseph's

(40.7), Michigan State (40.4) and Connecticut (40.0).

REHAB WARD

■ Connecticut center Emeka Okafor missed the first two games of the Big East tournament because of back spasms but

(See NCAA, page four)

PROFILE

Kentucky's Barbour a proven tournament player

by MURRAY EVANS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON — If not for postseason tournaments, the basketball world might not know about Kentucky swingman Antwan Barbour.

Once a lightly recruited senior at Elizabethtown High School, Barbour caught the state's attention on the final day of the 2000 Kentucky state tournament. Barbour had 42 points and 15 rebounds in the semifinals against Russellville, and later the same day, 31 points and eight rebounds in a title-game win over Lexington Catholic.



Barbour

As a junior college freshman, he led Wabash Valley (Ill.) College to the National Junior College Athletic Association Division I title in 2001, earning most valuable player honors in the national tournament in Hutchinson, Kan.

Barbour, who signed with Kentucky after receiving third-team JUCO All-America honors in 2002, is the only player on the Wildcats' roster who knows what it feels like to win a national championship. As No. 1-seeded Kentucky (26-4) prepares for its NCAA tournament opener Friday against Florida A&M (15-16) in Columbus, Ohio, Barbour is hoping for another postseason run.

"I know he's done it at the high school level and the junior college level at this time of the year," Kentucky coach Tubby Smith said. "That was one of the reasons we wanted him as part of

our program. I think he has big-play abilities. He has the ability to focus and he's feeling a lot more comfortable."

Barbour becomes emotional when talking about his childhood and being raised, along with two siblings, by a single mother. He said he never thought much about attending college.

Even as he grew (from 5-10 as a freshman to 6-5 as a senior) and his basketball skills developed, only one NCAA Division I school, Western Kentucky, showed interest.

Barbour wasn't even the best player on his high school squad, and he didn't

make The Associated Press' All-State team. But his state tournament outburst came at precisely the right time. In the crowd for the state final was Smith, who was watching his son, Brian, play for Lexington Catholic. Tubby Smith had traveled to watch the title game soon after the Wildcats had lost a second-round NCAA tournament game to Syracuse that day.

"He had flown in just in time for the second half," Barbour said. "He had come to see his son play. He just happened to see my play and I guess it was just a lucky break for me that (Kentucky) lost."

Smith immediately began recruiting Barbour. An academic detour sent Barbour to Wabash Valley, where his success caught the attention of numerous major programs. But Barbour said he wanted to remain loyal to Smith and Kentucky.

"When I went to junior college, he told me that he was

going to wait for me," Barbour said of Smith. "That was great."

As a junior, Barbour started four games but struggled with consistency and confidence after a broken hand sidelined him for more than a month. Those struggles carried into his senior season, as he missed two exhibition games and the season opener when Smith suspended him following an offseason traffic stop,

during which Barbour had marijuana in his car.

Barbour made his first start of the season against South Carolina on Feb. 7, after leading scorer Gerald Fitch suffered a hand injury. Barbour has started 10 of 12 games since and appears more relaxed in that role.

(See PLAYER, page five)

Kentucky gets team with losing record

by JOE KAY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DAYTON, Ohio — The first three NCAA tournament play-in winners didn't have what it takes to last very long. The latest one seems to fit the mold.

Florida A&M doesn't even have a winning record.

The Rattlers officially opened the tournament and moved within one game of the break-even mark Tuesday night by beating Lehigh 72-57 behind Terrence Woods, who overcame an assortment of injuries to score 21 points.

The only team in the tournament with a losing record, Florida A&M (15-16) advanced to a first-round game in Columbus against Kentucky, which has everything over the Rattlers except 3-point shooting.

"We've been criticized all year about our defense, but this is the third game in a row that

we've held a team in the 50s," coach Mike Gillespie said. "Now if we can hold Kentucky to 50 in a half, I'll be happy with that."

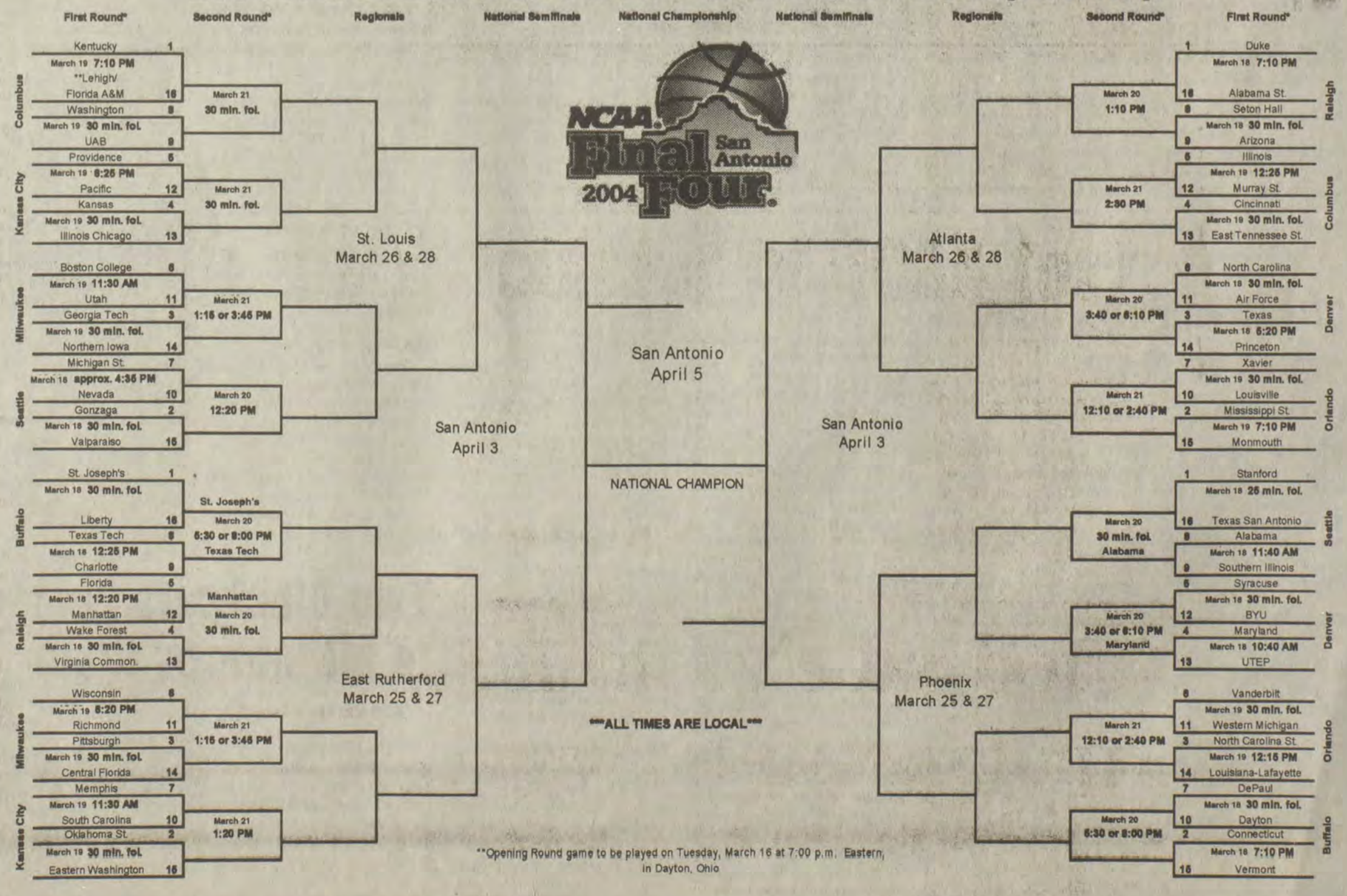
Like their three play-in predecessors, the Rattlers are just happy to be moving on to the real thing — an NCAA tournament game with all the window dressing.

Northwestern State, Siena and North Carolina-Asheville won the tournament's first play-in games, then went down hard in first-round games against top seeds. None of them could stay closer than 15 points, and they lost by an average of 26 points.

The Rattlers had a few encounters with high-profile teams during a season-opening 1-10 run, and those didn't turn out well at all. They lost to North Carolina State by 30 points, to Florida by 24, to Georgia by 18 and to Marquette

(See RECORD, page four)

2004 NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championship



NASCAR cracking down on obscene language

by JENNA FRYER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — When things are going wrong on the racetrack, it's not uncommon for Dale Earnhardt Jr. — or almost any other driver — to unleash a stream of obscenities over their in-car radio.

Any fan in the stands with a scanner can hear the chatter — foul language and all.

But as NASCAR attempts to put the brakes on cursing, drivers may soon have to muffle those candid moments of anger.

"What we say on our radio inside our race car is our own business and nobody else's," said Earnhardt Jr., a notorious curser. "Anybody else can tune in, but it's at your own risk. That's our office."

So far NASCAR isn't restricting driver language in the race car. But the sanctioning body has "reminded" drivers to make an effort to keep it clean.

The first warning came last month at North Carolina Speedway, when NASCAR president Mike Helton explicitly told drivers to watch their mouths on radio and television.

Just in case there was any question over his seriousness, the sanctioning body handed driver Johnny Sauter a stiff penalty for using the "s" word in a post-race radio interview at Las Vegas. Sauter was fined \$25,000, docked 25 Busch series driver points and put on probation until the end of the year.

The punishment didn't go unnoticed in the garage area.

"It's one of those deals where they've got to lay the law down and we've got to abide by it," said Kevin Harvick, Sauter's teammate. "It's not NASCAR cracking down, it's the government. It's time to clean it up."

It is in fact the government — actually the Federal Communications Commission —

that Helton cites every time he outlines the new ban on cursing.

Since Janet Jackson's breast-bearing halftime show at the Super Bowl, the FCC has cracked down on objectionable content and recently warned it could fine broadcasters up to \$500,000 for airing questionable material.

Should a NASCAR affiliate

be fined because one of the competitors cursed, Helton said the offender might be held accountable to pay the fine.

"This is a serious issue for us because it affects our perception to the public," Helton said. "But, more importantly, it has become a significant issue at the federal government level to the point where, there were a couple

of half-million-dollar fines handed out to some radio networks for a couple of words that were used on a live radio show.

"And I'll tell you, if it gets to the point that this happens in our sport, we're not going to pay those fines. We'll pass them on to somebody."

At least one of NASCAR's broadcasting partners has already taken protective measures against obscenity. Because affiliates complained about Sauter's bomb, the Performance Racing Network used an unprecedented seven-second delay during its radio broadcast of last weekend's race in Atlanta.

So far, the Motor Racing Network has not planned on using delays in its broadcasts.

"We're going to leave it to the radio stations," MRN president David Hyatt said. "None of our affiliates have come to us and asked for a delay to be put in."

In a sport where drivers routinely cut each other off and cause fender-benders, it's often difficult for an angry competitor to hold his tongue.

They'll have to from now on. "I don't think you should get out of the car and cuss, but I'm as guilty as anybody," Earnhardt said. "There is a time when you've got to sit down and remember there are kids watching. You forget. In the moment, that's not what you're thinking about. You're thinking about what's making you mad. You

want to vent and you can get out of hand.

"You don't want a little kid hearing his driver and wondering what is wrong with him. All the drivers go home and regret things they say from time to time."

National City scholarship winners announced

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — In conjunction with the National City/KHSAA Boys Sweet 16, National City Bank has announced the winners of the inaugural National City Scholarships.

One boy and one girl were chosen from each of the state's 16 basketball regions. The winners will be recognized at this week's National City/KHSAA Boys' Sweet 16 and next week's Houchens Industries/KHSAA Girls' Sweet 16.

Both winners from the 15th Region hailed from Pike County. Pikeville's Eric Johnson was a scholarship winner along with Tarryn Ray of Pike County Central. A complete list of the winners in each region follows.

BOYS: Region 1 - Courtney Amos, Paducah Tilghman; Region 2 - Benton Farmer, Hopkinsville; Region 3 - Jameson Mattingly, Whitesville Trinity; Region 4 - Derek Roberts, Logan County; Region 5 - Matthew Delaney, Nelson County; Region 6 - Aaron Bivens, Central; Region 7 - Q. Joseph Kent, Waggener; Region 8 - Cody Ryan, Walton-Verona; Region 9 - Adam Pfendt, Boone County; Region 10 - John Ross, Fleming County; Region 11 - Christopher Seals, Bryan Station; Region 12 - Michael Lane, Boyle County; Region 13 - Jeremy Bowling, Clay County; Region 14 - Jonathon Terrill, Wolfe County; Region 15 - Eric Johnson, Pikeville; Region 16 - Joshua McDermott, Bath

Record

by 20.

Next up is a team ranked higher than any of them.

"As for Kentucky, they put their shoes on just like we do," said Woods, who has trouble bending over to tie his shoes these days. "I feel we have a chance, just like we did against Lehigh."

Lehigh (20-11) had only one chance to get its first NCAA tournament win. The Mountain Hawks had to get a big game from Austen Rowland, the Patriot League's player of the year, and shut down Woods, the nation's most prolific 3-point shooter each of the last two seasons.

On both counts, they failed miserably.

Rowland went only 3-of-14 from the field for eight points, and Lehigh shot 29.5 percent overall. The Mountain Hawks stayed within striking distance until Woods found his touch midway through the second half.

"We knew we could get back in it if we played some defense, but Woods started making 3s," Rowland said. "We had hands in his face, but he kept making shots."

Gillespie didn't know whether Woods would be able to play. He bruised his thigh while fighting through a screen in the Mid-Eastern Athletic tournament title game Saturday,

NCAA

returned for the championship game. Connecticut forward Charlie Villanueva injured his leg in the semifinals of the Big East tournament and missed the championship game.

Duke guard Chris Duhon hurt his ribs in the Atlantic Coast Conference championship game against Maryland but returned and is expected to play.

Florida swingman Matt Walsh had a huge blister on his right foot, but he will wear a sheath and is expected to play.

Stanford forward Justin Davis, the Cardinal's top rebounder, returned for the last two games of the Pac-10 tournament after missing 10 games with a knee injury.

North Carolina State guard Scooter Sherrill, the Wolfpack's third-leading scorer, has missed four games with an ankle injury and is considered day-to-day.

MISSING PLAYERS

Kelvin Brown, Murray State's second-leading scorer, was arrested on drug charges last weekend and suspended indefinitely.

LeVar Seals, DePaul's sixth man, was ejected from the Conference USA championship

and wasn't able to practice leading up to the play-in game.

He had a stiff gait in warmups, but made most of his shots. When the game started, it was obvious he wasn't healthy — his missed his first three shots, all from close range. Woods also limped to the bench less than five minutes in.

His back started to tighten, adding to his problems. Once he finally got loose, his shot returned.

"In the second half, I felt a whole lot better," said Woods, who made four of his last six shots.

Woods came off a screen and made a 3-pointer between two

■ Continued from p3

defenders to spark a clinching nine-point run in the second half.

"He's got deep range," Lehigh coach Billy Taylor said. "In a game like this, you have to have your big men step up, and he did. He got off to a bit of a slow start, but he got 21 points in 29 minutes."

Lehigh's loss left the Patriot League 0-14 in the NCAA tournament. Florida A&M's win was its first.

"This is a monumental day for Florida A&M," Gillespie said. "One more time for all the people who say we don't belong here: I'm not going to apologize. We earned our way here."

H.S. BASKETBALL

Runyon to take place in KABC Court of Honor

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — Bill Mike Runyon recently completed his 22nd season as the head coach of the Paintsville High boys' basketball program. Runyon, who guided Paintsville to a state title in 1996, will take his place in the

KABC (Kentucky Association of Basketball Coaches) Court of Honor today when he and 15 other coaches from 15 other regions are honored during a presentation at the Boys' Sweet Sixteen. Runyon will represent the 15th Region. In his coaching career, Runyon has guided Paintsville High boys' basketball teams to seven 15th Region titles.

The KABC Court of Honor is made up of 16 veteran coaches, one from each region, all of whom are selected on a yearly basis. Nominations for one of the state's highest basketball honors were taken in January. The final selections were made by the KABC Awards Committee.

In addition to being honored today on the Rupp Arena hardwood, Runyon and the other KABC Court of Honor inductees will be recognized this morning at a reception at the Radisson Hotel's ballrooms 1 and 2 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

The inaugural class for the Court of Honor Program was inducted in 2002.

■ Continued from p3

game against Cincinnati for throwing a punch and will miss Thursday night's game against Dayton.

MAP QUEST

The pod system meant some schools didn't even need luxury buses for their quick rides to first- and second-round sites. Duke and Wake Forest are in Raleigh, N.C., while Kansas is in Kansas City, Wisconsin will play in Milwaukee and Air Force is in Denver, all trips of about an hour from the respective campuses.

Two Blackcats named to all-tourney team

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PRESTONSBURG — Prestonsburg senior Nick Jamerson and junior Trevor Compton were each named to the 15th Region All-Tournament Team. Sheldon Clark's Nathan Moore and Asher Maynard joined the Prestonsburg duo on the all-tourney team.

Tournament MVP Aaron Branham, East Ridge, was joined on the squad by fellow Warriors Robbie Spears and Paul Deese. Chase Lyons, Adam Prater and Brad Lowe were the honorees from Pike County Central. Allen Central's Rossi Samons, Belfry's Paul Howard and Shelby Valley's Patrick Tackett also made the team.

Telfair leads Lincoln to third straight PSAL championship

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Sebastian Telfair, the New York City point guard who has committed to Louisville despite being projected as an NBA lottery pick, added to his remarkable list of high school accomplishments Wednesday night.

Two weeks after gracing the cover of Sports Illustrated, the 6-foot point guard from Brooklyn led the Lincoln Railsplitters to a record third consecutive New York City public schools championship in Madison Square Garden.

He scored a game-high 25 points, including 17 in the second half, to lead Lincoln to a 74-65 win over the Cardozo Judges on the same court where his cousin, Stephon Marbury, plays for the New York Knicks.

"This makes me and my

teammates' legacy even bigger," said Telfair, who became the first boy in New York history to score more 3,000 points in a career. "This is history for me and my team. It's a great way to leave."

Although this was Telfair's last game in the PSAL, Lincoln advanced to the New York State Tournament where it captured the title last year. Telfair also has been named to the roster of three postseason All-Star games, including the McDonald's All-American Game on March 31.

Telfair is a projected lottery pick in the upcoming NBA draft but again insisted on Wednesday night that he plans to honor the letter-of-intent he signed with Louisville in October.

"My commitment is to Louisville," Telfair said.

Bentley

out consolidation.

They cheered as their team ran out onto the court at Rupp Arena, the same court that Richie Farmer and Rex Chapman and Tayshaun Prince played on.

And on Wednesday, they came out in droves.

"It was a great crowd," said Coach James Hurley, who molded this team together in two short years. "We were excited that that many people believed in us and believed in our opportunity."

"There was a whole lot of people out there; it surprised me," said junior guard Aaron Branham, who scored 13 points Wednesday night. "I thought we'd have one of the smallest

crowds down here. I just tried not to look out there so I wouldn't get scared."

Matt Mercer is an assistant coach at East Ridge who played at Phelps, a small school like the three that made the second-year school. He talked about it the emotions in the locker room after the game.

"I told them right now they're young and they won't appreciate what they've done, but 15, 20 years from now they'd look back and be proud of what they've accomplished," he said. "And they'll think about all the people that it means so much to just to come down here and watch them play."

Brian Milam, sports director at WYMT-TV, said he hopes the

entire mountain region would take a cue from the fans of East Ridge.

"This was a great showing by that contingent," he said. "The KHSAA people were impressed and they represented Eastern Kentucky well. The mountain fans ought to take note of East Ridge and come down, not just from East Ridge but from the entire 15th Region, and support their team."

Another impressed onlooker was O.J. Stapleton, the former sports editor of the News-Express who now serves in that capacity at the Bowling Green Daily News. Stapleton is a Mouthcard native who was proud of what he saw Wednesday night.

"It's great that people from those communities would come out and get behind them," he said, "even though they kind of had the odds stacked against them a little today."

Hurley said he reminded his team that this Sweet 16 trip was bigger than the people in the locker room Wednesday night.

"It's for everybody who ever coached at those schools," the coach said. "They laid the foundation. We owe them a big thank you. And all those players from the past that didn't have this opportunity. I told our guys that's what we were playing for: We were playing for everybody."

Time will tell how special this night turned out to be. But at this point it surely seems like the powers that be have been successful in molding three distinct, proud groups of people into one.

In the bowels of Rupp Arena Wednesday night, Mercer was ecstatic when thinking about the support the team received.

"That's the most special thing about this consolidation, to look up there and see all those people," he said. "They aren't worried about Millard or Elkhorn City or Feds Creek."

"They're just here enjoying East Ridge basketball."

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

East Carter, Perry Central advance to state

TIMES STAFF REPORT

MOREHEAD — East Carter is set to make a second straight trip to the Girls' Sweet Sixteen State Basketball Tournament. The Lady Raiders held off Boyd County Tuesday night in the 16th Region Tournament title game to earn their second state trip to the state tourney.

Ashley Baldwin tossed in 14 points and Molly Jackson flipped in 11 to lead East Carter (28-5) to a 47-49 win over Boyd County.

East Carter led at the end of every quarter, outscoring Boyd County in three of the four periods. East Carter outscored Boyd County 12-8 in the first period and 18-14 in the final stanza.

Kasi Galloway led Boyd County (23-9) in scoring with 13 points.

East Carter will meet 15th Region champ Pike County Central (21-10) in the first round of the state tournament on

Thursday at 2:30 p.m.

Perry County Central 61, Whitesburg 57:

HAZARD — Perennial state tournament participant Perry County Central trailed by 10 points with over five minutes remaining in the game, but battled back to beat Whitesburg in the 14th Region Tournament Championship Game, thus earning a return trip to the state tournament.

Senior center Brittany Baker led Perry Central (29-3) with 18 points and 12 rebounds.

Whitney Hogg tossed in a game-high 22 points for Whitesburg (28-6).

Perry Central will meet Lexington Catholic in the opening round of the Girls' Sweet Sixteen Wednesday in Bowling Green. The Perry Central-Lexington Catholic game is slated for a 7:30 p.m. start.

Covington Catholic 63, Carlisle County 40

by MURRAY EVANS
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON — Covington Catholic used its size advantage inside to beat Carlisle County 63-40 on Thursday afternoon in the first round of the Boys Sweet 16 basketball tournament at Rupp Arena.

The 6-6 Brennan Votel scored 22 points, while 6-5 Ross Votel had eight points and eight rebounds and 6-5 Stephen Muck added eight points and seven rebounds for the Colonels (28-3), who became the first 9th Region team to win a state tournament game since Fort Thomas Highlands in 1998.

Carlisle County (22-11), the 1st Region champion, didn't have a starter taller than 6-4 as it made its sixth Sweet 16 appearance.

Covington Catholic will play either Pleasure Ridge Park or Rockcastle County on Friday in the quarterfinals.

The Colonels shot just 40 percent from the field but had 19 offensive rebounds — leading to 15 second-chance points — and four dunks (three by Brennan Votel). Covington Catholic out-rebounded the Comets 42-34.

Covington Catholic recorded assists on 18 of its 26 baskets. Point guard Matt Nestheide had eight assists for the Colonels.

Covington Catholic led 27-22 two minutes before halftime,

but scored the final four points of the first half and the first 10 points of the second half to build a 41-22 lead. Carlisle County missed its first five shots after halftime and never seriously threatened after that.

Carlisle County's leading scorer, Brett Hoskins, entered the game with a 24.1-point average but fouled out with 5:25 left having scored only 11 points. Kris Kelley scored 13 points for the Comets, who shot just 28.3 percent from the field and committed 21 turnovers.

The teams combined to go 2-of-30 from 3-point range. Covington Catholic won despite missing all 14 of its 3-point attempts and going 11-of-24 from the free-throw line.

PRP 69, Rockcastle County 55
TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — The 13th Region champ has been eliminated by a team from Louisville.

Pleasure Ridge Park placed four players in double figures Thursday afternoon, beating Rockcastle County 69-55 in the first round of the Boys Sweet 16.

Junior guard JaJuan Spillman paced PRP with 16 points. Terrance Farley scored 15 points and pulled down 10 rebounds in the winning effort. Jazz Neal

and Phillip Morrison finished with 14 and 12 points, respectively.

PRP got out to an 8-0 led and led by five, 33-28, at halftime.

Rockcastle County got to within three points of PRP in the

second half, but could get no closer.

Aaron Cash led the Rockets (19-12) with 19 points. Blake Roberts added 17.

PRP (26-6) moves on to face Covington Catholic.

COMMENTARY

Pitching big surprise for Reds in Grapefruit League

by ED TAYLOR
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

It may not be the kind of pitching performances that would make Cincinnati Red fans to think of playing in the fall classic come October but Reds starter have looked rather impressive in the Grapefruit League thus far this spring.

Jose Acevedo has picked up where he was at before a season ending injury last year. Paul Wilson, tabbed as the opening day starter for the Reds, is pitching well after missing most of the second half last season.

Jimmy Haynes has yet to hurl a game in the spring but is slated to go to the mound against the Yankees.

Austin Kearns is anxious to get back on the field and catch some fly balls in right field. Kearns has been held back this spring, being used solely as a designated hitter against American League teams.

Will Ken Griffey, Jr. return to the Seattle Mariners? New Reds General Manager Dan O'Brien says not so. O'Brien contends that Griffey's name has not come up in trade talks. However, O'Brien was quick to

add that the possibility of a Griffey trade could develop if the hitter has a good season in 2004.

I have mixed feelings about a possible trade of Griffey. I was really excited when I heard the news in 2000 that the Reds had successfully completed a trade with the Mariners for Griffey. I thought if there was one player that could help turn the Reds around it would be Griffey. But that has not happen. When he has been able to play he has done well but being on the DL for most of his career with the Reds is not putting any runs on the board.

However, if a trade of the centerfielder would loosen up some money for a good starter, then I am for it. Larkin is not making the big bucks he was and that will help as well. Speaking of Barry Larkin, he says this is his final year even if he has a good season in 2004. Yeah! We hear that.

Until Sunday, good sports everyone and be good sports!

Duo

Continued from p1

been on the team since eighth grade, Whitney as a starter."

The numbers speak for themselves.

Betsy Layne's records for those five years with Lykens and Witt on the roster are 1999-2000: 14-16; 2000-2001: 16-11; 2001-02: 24-9; 2002-03: 27-6; 2003-04: 25-7. In that impressive span, Betsy Layne won five Floyd County Conference championships, two 58th District championships, three 15th Region Region All "A" championships, one 15th Region title, and finished runner-up once in both the 58th District and the 15th Region.

The two players, in addition to leading their team to championships, also racked up many individual honors over the past five seasons.

"Individual awards have also been plentiful, including both Whitney and Tabetha being named to this year's all-conference, all-district and all-regional teams," Akers noted.

Lykens has been named the 15th Region Player of the Year by the Kentucky Association of Basketball Coaches Association. She will be in Bowling Green at the state tournament next Friday where she will receive the award. She was notified of the honor by a letter she received in the mail. With the honor, Lykens also receives an automatic invitation to tryout in April for the Kentucky All-Star team. The same Kentucky All-Star squad that plays Indiana each summer.

Both players have the respect of their high school coach.

"We're very proud of them

both," added Akers. "They are quality human beings besides being quality basketball players."

Both players would make nice additions to any college women's basketball team.

The Betsy Layne coach went on to say that an announcement concerning the college choice of both Lykens and Witt would be made within the next two weeks.

FISHING

Taylor finishes first in Yatesville Lake tournament

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LOUISA — On Saturday, the Tug Valley Bass Anglers held its first tournament of the 2004 season on Yatesville Lake in Lawrence County. Thirty boats competed in the tournament. Brad Taylor finished first in the tournament with a catch of 7.65-pounds. He also had the Big Bass catch of 5.34-pounds.

As usual, the first event of the nine-tournament season began on Yatesville, but the fishing was anything but usual. In previous weeks the water had begun to warm up to temperatures around 48 to 52 degrees with the water toward the back half of the lake clearing to near perfect conditions. With any luck and some more stable weather the tournament would be a record-setter.

The week before the tournament several inches of rain and cold nights were present and the

lake cooled down and the water raised to summer pool. The new influx of water was cold and muddied up the entire lake. Water temperatures dropped about five to eight degrees. Around the middle of the week the Corps started pulling the water back down to winter pool, that combined with cooler muddier water destroyed the fishing.

The fishing in previous weeks had been positive, fish were being caught shallow on typical pre-spawn patterns. But, it was still a little slow, most of the fish were not moving shallow and were suspended in 10 to 15 feet of water on channel banks and impossible to catch.

The fishing for this event was extremely challenging. The few fish that were caught were caught shallow on the main lake and part of the way up in the creeks and cuts. Fish were caught several different ways including spinnerbaits, tubes, jigs as well as crankbaits.

The weather for the tournament was cloudy and cold with rain all day.

TOP FINISHERS

- Brad Taylor — 2 bass, 7.65-pounds, Big Bass — 5.34-pounds
- Brandon Staten — 2 bass, 6.72-pounds
- Ralph Taylor — 1 bass, 3.78-pounds
- Scott Daniel — 1 bass, 2.94-pounds
- Name withheld -1 bass, 2.06-pounds
- Johnny Webb - 1 bass, 1.77-pounds

Attention Anglers: The Tug Valley Bass Anglers club is still accepting new members for the 2004 season. For more information call 606-237-5907.

The next meeting for the Tug Valley Bass Anglers will be Thursday, April 1 at the Johns Creek Elementary School.

Player

Continued from p3

"Antwain is playing well lately and coming into his own," teammate Chuck Hayes said. "That makes it harder for other teams."

Barbour's troubles have helped him appreciate even more the sweeter moments, like when he scored the game-winning points in a one-point win over South Carolina, or when he had a career-high 23 points in a win over Alabama three days later.

"My momma always told me just because good things happen to you, you have to stay on the ground and never forget where

you come from or the things you went through coming up as a youngster," Barbour said. "I always try to be humble because nobody wants to be around someone who is arrogant and thinks they're above everything."

To top it off, the kid who thought he'd never attend college is only a summer term away from becoming the first college graduate in his family. Barbour wants to be a mediator.

"It's a dream come true," he said. "To graduate from the University of Kentucky, it's unbelievable."



photo by Jamie Howell

Candice Meade got out ahead of the Pike County Central defense during Monday night's 15th Region Tournament game.



photo by Jamie Howell

Betsy Layne junior center Kristal Daniels looked to make a pass over Pike Central's Tiffany Thompson.

Hawks

Continued from p2

their coach said.

Some would say they already are. Ratliff took top-player honors thanks to a 25-point, 11-rebound performance in the title game during which she hit 9-of-10 from the line — 3-of-4 in the final 32 seconds — while picking off four steals and three assists.

"It's very exciting to get that (honor)," said Ratliff. "To be so young and get that is a big thrill."

"I think she's the best player in the 15th Region," Tussey said. "She's smart and does all the things she needs to do. She handles the ball well and passes it well, and she's starting to think like a point guard should."

Now (ital) that's (ital) something Tussey should know about. In 1984 she was the floor general for Belfry on its run that to the state finals, and she helped build the solid program currently in place at Pikeville College.

Gannon thinks a trip to the Sweet 16 for a young player of Ratliff's caliber could be the thing that puts her on the map for the next few years.

"We saw that with our football team this year," he said. "To get her name out there this early in her career is going to do nothing but help her down the road."

"She's an excellent defensive player, and in tournament play she leads us in rebounds, free-throw percentage and scoring," Tussey added. "She plays hard."

The players around her aren't too shabby either. Eight-grader Kayla Lowe in an amazing story in her own right. Not only is she an eight-grader, but she was (ital) double-promoted (ital) from fourth- to sixth-grade, meaning she should only be a seventh-grader right now.

"She's got good size on her and shoots the ball well," Tussey said of her forward. "We're trying to develop her inside game to make her a better overall player. She's very talented, handles the ball well and passes it well. We need her to get stronger, but that's because she's just a grade-school kid."

Just what the region wanted to hear — an eighth-grader who should be in the seventh so good she was named to the all-tournament team but still with room for

improvement.

And that's not all. There's still the other eight-grader to consider.

"Paige Lowe is the best shooter on our team," Tussey said. "She shoots 43 percent from the three-point line this year."

On Tuesday, Paige had four points, three assists, two steals and two rebounds.

"The key is to keep improving," said Gannon. "Sometimes it's the case in girls' basketball: You hit that sophomore year and stop seeing the improvement. But she's got a fine bunch of young people."

I know what you're thinking. They can't be (ital) that (ital) good. They're too young, you say. Too inexperienced, you say.

Did we mention two other key players are old veterans — they're (gulp) sophomores.

Potential is an ugly word sometimes, and there's no more troublesome label to hang on young athletes. But we're talking about J.R. VanHoose and Todd Tackett level of promise.

Leave it to Ric Flair to sum

this story up. "To be the man," he'd say, "you gotta beat the man."

Right now, Tammy Tussey and the Lady Hawks? They're The Man.

Beaver Creek Little League continues signups

Signups for Beaver Creek Little League will be held again on Saturday at the Martin Community Center from 2 until 4 p.m. On Saturday, the league will also conduct signups for girls' softball.

Signups are for players ages 9-18. For additional information, contact Sarita Jacobs at 285-0668, Rodney Nelson at 358-4230 or Debi Bentley at 285-5070.

Louisville panel drops effort to land Colts' training camp

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOUISVILLE — After four months of work, Louisville officials have dropped their bid to bring the Indianapolis Colts' training camp to Kentucky.

"We just couldn't meet the demands" of the National Football League team, said Andy Jugen of the Greater Louisville Sports Commission.

The demands included a new training center with three adjacent football fields and a 160-room housing complex at an estimated cost of \$9 million.

The Colts have held their training camp the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in Terre

Haute for the past five years under a year-to-year arrangement. But the team has been considering new locations for the 2004 camp.

This year's camp runs from around July 20 to Aug. 20.

Colts spokesman Pete Ward said Wednesday that several cities "are in the running" as potential sites for the camp, but he declined to name them. He added, however, that the Colts would prefer to stay in Indiana.

Louisville businessman Larry Bisig, a sports commission board member, the commission estimated that having the Colts' training camp would be worth \$2 million to \$4 million a year in new tourism dollars.

VOLLEYBALL

Betsy Layne Elementary opens volleyball season on a winning note

TIMES STAFF REPORT

ALLEN — In season-opening volleyball play Tuesday night, Betsy Layne Elementary defeated Allen in both B- and A-team contests.

Betsy Layne took two of three games in the first match. The Lady Cats took the first game in the B-team match, winning 21-9. Allen edged Betsy Layne 21-19 in the second B-team game. The Lady Cat B-team took the third and deciding game 16-14.

The Betsy Layne A-team

defeated the Lady Eagle A-team in two straight frames, 21-13, 21-10.

Betsy Layne's top unit was led by the play of Jordan Jarrell, Stacy Lawson and Mercedes Neeley. The Lady Cats were also represented by Melissa Slone, Amanda Hollyfield, LeDeanna Kidd and Ashley Tackett. Other Betsy Layne A-team members were Danielle Adkins, Tashea Spears and Tara Case.

Betsy Layne was back in action last night, playing host to Stumbo. Results were unavailable at press time.

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THROUGH MY EYES

Thankful and eager

I just finished reading "Things to Ponder" which focused on the subject of communicating with teens. Since I have a couple of teens living in my household, I can fully relate to the difficulties of getting kids this age to share their thoughts and feelings. It's

kinda like trying to pull teeth out of a hippo to get them to tell me what's going on in their lives. Strangely though, I seem to have absolutely no problem



Kathy Prater
Lifestyles editor

in getting their friends to talk to me, which comes in very handy, if you know what I mean.

Around my house, unless someone is wanting something (like a new paintball gun, an expensive designer purse, or new paint for their bedroom walls) conversations between parent and child are often limited to such responses as "I don't know," "Don't ask me," or (my favorite) "Mom, you're so paranoid!" (So

(See EYES, page seven)

POSTSCRIPT

In for a long haul

November seems a long time away - too long, I'm afraid, in terms of politics.

With John Kerry the obvious choice for the Democratic nomination for US President and with George Bush the obvious Republican choice, already we're getting an inkling of what's to come.

And the picture is

sure to be ugly.

Here we are in March, eight months from the presidential election, and we're beginning to see TV advertisements for the two top candidates. The number of commercials will double by April, triple by May, quadruple

(See POSTSCRIPT, page eight)



photo by Kathy J. Prater

This family was caught in a happy moment following the awards presentation ceremony at the East KY Regional Science Fair, held last Saturday in Prestonsburg. According to officials, judging the science fair entries and choosing winners was a difficult task as the displayed great effort and good thought.

East KY Regional Science Fair promotes science and learning in fun setting

by **Kathy J. Prater**
Features Editor

Schools, community organizations and the East Kentucky Science Center all paired up to present the 2004 East KY Regional Science Fair this past weekend. The fair was held on the Prestonsburg campus of the Big Sandy Community and Technical College. Student registration and project set-ups were held in the college's Johnson Building with an awards ceremony being held in the adjacent Pike Building.

Student projects were first analyzed and judged, followed by individual student interviews. As judges made their final decisions, attendees were treated to lunch and tours of the new science center, along with special showings in the center's planetarium.

Raymond Shubinski, director of the center, along with Solomon Kilburn, Science Fair chair, presented opening remarks and welcomed everyone to the annual event. Local celebrities, "Dr. Don" (Donald Bevins, of WPRG-TV, and Jim

Caldwell, of WYMT-TV were on hand to present winning students with their awards and trophies and to name the winner of this year's Tony Turner Award, Josh Hill, of Cordia Elementary, in Knott County.

A listing of other of this year's winners follows:

Fourth grade - 1st place, Christopher Walsh, Carr Creek Elementary, Knott County; 2nd place, Joshua Hollan, Jackson Independent Schools, Breathitt County; 3rd place, Kristen Howell, Hindman Elementary, Knott County.

Fifth grade - 1st place, Morgan Sexton, Duff Elementary, Floyd County; 2nd place, Skyler Slone, Hindman Elementary, Knott County; 3rd place, Hannah Farmer, May Valley Elementary, Floyd County.

Sixth grade - 1st place, Cody Centers, Carr Creek Elementary, Knott County; 2nd place - Leandra Padgett, Wesley Christian School, Floyd County; 3rd place, Nehemiah Doderer, Paintsville Elementary.

(See FAIR, page seven)

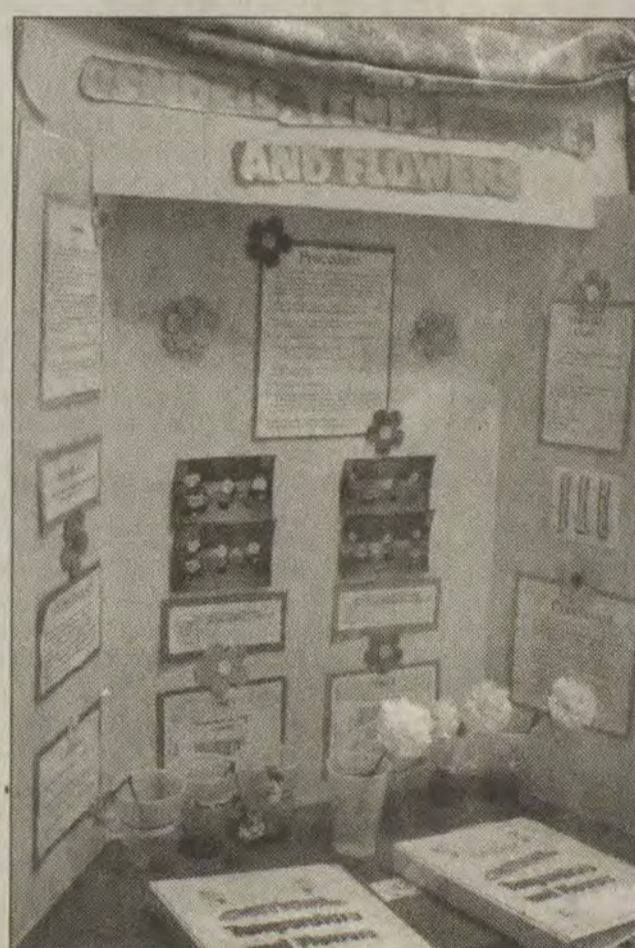


photo by Kathy J. Prater

This project display on the effect of temperature and osmosis on flowers was eye-catching, as well as informative.

THINGS TO PONDER

Things to ponder: Talking to teens

(The gift of time is greatly appreciated from a colleague and a friend that wrote today's article.)

If you have teens in your life, you might feel you cannot talk to them at all. You might feel you "talk" with them only when they're asking you for something or you and they are arguing about a limit you have set or a time when you have said "no." Talking with teenagers about important decisions in their lives is based on material available from Bright Futures in Practice (www.brightfutures.org) and

Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD - on the internet at www.saddonline.com).

If your teen has changed radically and suddenly, consider that they might be depressed. While many folks think depression means, "feeling gloomy and crying a lot" (which is often correct), teens may become agitated, snappier, and generally withdraw from friendships or family. These same behaviors may indicate the beginning of, or increased, use of various drugs, medications or alcohol. If

you can learn to talk to your teen, you'll be able to determine the problem and work with the teen for a solution. Yes, I did say, "work with the teen." Remember, one of the "jobs" of teen years is to become an independent individual. While we hope they respect us and seek our advice or approval or recommendations, the simple truth is that they have control of their behavior, often making poor decisions and mistakes. If you can open communication lines with your teen, you'll be able to "head off" major

destructive problems or help them correct errors they've made before they become too destructive.

First, I want to share a bit of wisdom from my father. I was in college during the "hippie revolution." As many of you my age know, there were an abundance of easily obtained drugs, sexual opportunities, and an expectation of peers that everyone would try all of it. When I was facing marriage and hoping that someday

(See PONDER, page seven)



Mable Rowe Lineberger, Ph.D.

School Happenings

ADAMS MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH SERVICES CENTER

■ Mar. 23 - "Magic Me" meeting (weather permitting), 3:30-4:30 p.m.

■ Apr. 17 - Community Baby Shower, Mt. Arts Center, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. FREE to all Floyd County expectant parents or parents with children up to 1 year of age. Mini-workshops, exhibits, door prizes, goody bags, refreshments. Sponsored by various community agencies.

■ Apr. 27 - "Give Yourself a Break Day" at Mt. Arts Center. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., program begins at 9 a.m. FREE to all Floyd County parents. Information, fun, door prizes, refreshments. Sponsored by Floyd County Family Resource and Youth Services Centers.

**School is currently collecting Food City receipts!

Please send them in now through March.**

**Recreation Room now open for students after school. Anyone who has items to donate to the rec room, please call the center.

■ The AMS Youth Services Center is open all year to assist students and families in need. Please drop by or call the center at 886-9812 for more information on any of the above activities, or to request assistance with a family need. Center is open from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., and later by appointment. Center coordinator, Michelle Keathley. Assistant coordinator, Sheila Allen. Center offers services to all students regardless of income.

ALLEN CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL

■ Mar. 19 - Report cards sent home.

■ Mar. 20 - Science

Olympiad trip.

■ Mar. 23 - Respect class, 7th grade.

NOTICE School is now collecting Food City receipts. Students may bring receipts to homeroom teachers, or parents/community members may drop off at office.

Lost coats have been turned in to the center office - please have your child come claim their coat.

■ ACMS Youth Service Center distributes school activity calendars on the first school day of each month to all students. Parents should be advised to watch for these informative materials as a means to staying informed on school happenings.

■ The ACMS Youth Service Center is open each day from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., or later by appointment. For more information about the center or any listed activities, call

LaDonna Patton, coordinator, or Marilyn Bailey, assistant, at 358-0134.

ALLEN ELEMENTARY AND FAMILY RESOURCE YOUTH SERVICE CENTER

■ Call Allen Elementary Youth Service Center at 874-0621 to schedule your child's Hepatitis B vaccination, immunizations, and WIC appointment.

BETSY LAYNE ELEMENTARY

■ The Family Resource Youth Service Center provides services and referral services to all families regardless of income. The center is located in the middle building of the Betsy Layne Elementary School. Office hours are Mon. - Fri., 8 a.m. until 3 p.m.

■ Open enrollment for After School Child Care is available through the Family Resource Center. Service hours are 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

■ Contact the center at 478-5550. Contact persons are Brian Akers and Charlotte Rogers.

MAY VALLEY ELEMENTARY

■ Mar. 23 - Lice prevention/information program for Mrs. Anna Shepherd's kindergarten class.

■ Mar. 22 - FRC Advisory Council meeting, 4 p.m., school library. Open to public.

■ Parent Lending Library is available to parents for video check-outs. A variety of topics are available.

■ Floyd County Health Dept. nurse at school every Wednesday. Services include Headstart physicals, kindergarten physicals, 6th grade physicals, well-child physicals, immunizations, TB skin test, WIC program, blood pressure checks, and more. Must call the FRC at 285-0321 for an

appointment.

■ Lending library available to parents for check out of videos of their interest.

McDowell Elementary and Family Resource Center

School is currently collecting Food City receipts to assist in purchasing equipment for the school. Please donate your receipts by dropping them off at the school office or sending them with a student.

■ GED classes held in the library on Monday and Wednesday of each week, 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Parent Support Group Calendar:

■ April 15 - No meeting. All parents invited to attend "Give Yourself a Break Day" at the Mt. Arts Center.

■ May 4 - Nutrition/Obesity.

■ Floyd County Health Department Nurse Joy Moore, is at the center each Monday to administer immunizations, T.B. skin tests, well-child exams, WIC, prenatal and post-partum services, and school physicals. Call 377-2678 for an appointment.

MOUNTAIN CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

■ Mar. 25 - Open House, 5-7 p.m., for parents of new students interested in attending MCA's Preschool thru 8th grades. Call 285-5141 for more information.

PRESTONSBURG ELEMENTARY AND FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

■ April 17 - "Fun Fair for Expectant and New Parents," 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at the Mountain Arts Center. For additional info., call the FRC at 886-7088.

■ April 25 - "Give Yourself

(See SCHOOL, page eight)

Eyes

help me out here kids, feed me some information so my "paranoid" mind won't run rampant.)

All in all, though, I have to admit that I count myself as one of the lucky ones when it comes to my children. Though they have vastly different personalities leading to vastly different means of expression, they are all really "good" kids. They think taking drugs, consuming alcohol and using tobacco products are all "stupid" things to do. They take their studies seriously (okay, semi-seriously). They are loyal to their friends and, for the most part, respectful of their family members.

Sitting in on this past Wednesday's meeting of the Floyd County Board of Education and listening to reports of how children are often first introduced to drug

abuse by using parents, I couldn't help but wonder how in the world any parent could do such a thing. To rob a child of a productive and successful future by handing them a cold beer, a marijuana cigarette, or worse, is simply beyond my comprehension.

Our board of education is currently looking into ways in which they can help students make the decision to stay, or become, drug-free, a very commendable action in my opinion. As parents and concerned community members, let's pledge our support in keeping our kids drug-free and healthy.

*** **** **
Springtime is approaching and I can't wait to get "down and dirty" with some heavy-duty spring cleaning and a little light

gardening. This spring, I want to once and for all, clear that "extra room" of mine of that pesky assortment of bags and boxes and turn it into a goshdogg "real" retreat for my harried soul.

I also am dead-set on growing my family some fresh veggies this summer season. Last year, I had to beg others for fresh tomatoes and corn and bell peppers and such - this year, I hope to give back a little of what I begged. Although I haven't engaged in it in the past couple of growing seasons, there's nothing better for relieving stress and working the kinks out of tired body than tending to a little vegetable or flower garden. I can't wait to get back to it. Ralph, Alice, Lila and the rest of you down there at the greenhouse (Mt. Comp. - Auxier), I'll be seeing you soon!

Continued from p6

Ponder

I'd be a parent, I asked my father how you parent a child such that when you're not there, looking over their shoulder, they'd make the right decisions. His response was some of the best parenting advice I've heard in my years of training and practice: "Set a good example and pray like h—." I've noticed over the years, that the "setting the good example" is one of the first failures parents make. Remember, your children watch you and know what you're doing, what you're like, how you live your values. If you want good behavior from them and good things for them, then setting the example is the foundation of all else. If you've made errors (and who of us hasn't?), you may wish to seek the advice of a professional counselor/therapist/psychologist to help your family set some problems right. Another personal note - I had boy children. It was a revelation to me that boys do not sit down at the table and tell you everything that's going on

in their lives and what bothers them! I learned that boys talk more easily when they're involved in an activity - so you may want to consider your talks with male children as you shoot hoops, play a game of cards, or take a ride together. The following information/suggestions are from the SADD website, and while it addresses talking with teens, the general communication suggestions are excellent to use in almost any relationship.

Today, teens face situations in which they could make potentially dangerous decisions, such as drinking and driving or trying some of the handful of pills offered by a peer. Studies have shown that in families with more open communication, teens are less likely to engage in less serious risk-taking behavior. There is a Contract for Life developed by SADD that can be used primarily as a tool for discussing critical issues, and one of its goals is to have parents and teenagers make a pledge that could be life saving.

Conversation Openers - DO: talk at a convenient time for both of you (set an appointment if needed); express your desire to hear each other's input or views; express your wish to relate to each other; and listen carefully. DON'T: lecture, give unwanted advice or use scare tactics; interrupt a leisure activity to have a serious talk; make your teen defensive by saying "Let's talk," or begin the conversation in a moment of anger. Remember to: HEAR what the other person has to say and acknowledge your understanding; SHARE your thoughts about what your life is like, but don't lecture or argue (this is a good point, if you've made mistakes in your life, to admit it and point out the problems you had as a result); LISTEN to each other's concerns; AGREE not to interrupt the other person; BE HONEST about your feelings, especially how much you care about each other and don't want bad things to happen; UNDERSTAND that the teenage years can be difficult for both of you (remember yours?).

SADD calls the Contract for Life a Foundation for Trust and Caring. If you and your teen can discuss the contract and

both abide by it after discussing it, you will have taken important steps in openly discussing difficult issues and establishing a foundation for future discussions about problems. Review the contract, knowing it is designed to facilitate communication between young people and their parents about potentially destructive decisions related to alcohol, drugs, peer pressure, and behavior. The issues facing young adults today are often too difficult to address alone. SADD believes that effective parent-child communication is critically important in helping young adults to make healthy decisions.

Young person: I recognize that there are many potentially destructive decisions I face every day and commit to you that I will do everything in my power to avoid making decisions that will jeopardize my health, my safety and overall well-being, or your trust in me. I understand the dangers associated with the use of alcohol and drugs, and the destructive behaviors often associated with impairment.

By signing below, I pledge my best effort to remain alcohol and drug free. I agree that I will never drive under the influence of either, or accept a ride from someone who is impaired, and I will always wear a seat belt.

Finally, I agree to call you if I am ever in a situation that threatens my safety and to communicate with you regularly about issues of importance to us both.

Signature of young person: _____

Parent (or caring adult): I am committed to you, and to your health and safety. By signing below, I pledge to do everything in my power to understand and communicate with you about the many difficult and potentially destructive decisions you face.

Further, I agree to provide for you safe, sober transportation home if you are ever in a situation that threatens your safety and to defer discussion about that situation until a time

(See PONDER, page eight)



Minnie postmaster hosts bingo games

Postmaster Betty King, Minnie Post Office, hosted "Bingo" at the McDowell-Minnie Senior Citizens Center on March 9. Seniors were treated to bingo prizes, a beautifully decorated and delicious sheet cake, refreshments and camaraderie. Some of those who were presented with prizes are pictured above, from left to right: Alma Tackett, Loretta Bolen, Ruby Damron, (Postmaster King), Bertha Ratliff, Alma Mosley, Anna Bentley, Brooksie Gearheart, Ocie Frasure, Lois Holmquist and (not pictured) Final Newsome. Postmaster King sends a very special thank you to Frank Salyer for his help in making the event a successful one.

Fair

Seventh grade - 1st place, John Ramey, Beckham Combs Elementary, Knott County; 2nd place, Pam Gibson, Adams Middle School, Floyd County; 3rd place, Luke Sode, June Buchanan School, Knott County.

Eighth grade - 1st place, Josh Hill, Cordia Elementary, Knott County; 2nd place, Nathan Ross, Betsy Layne Elementary, Floyd County; 3rd place, Keston Howard, June Buchanan School, Knott County.

Ninth grade - 1st place, Dylan Murphy, Pikeville High School, Pike County; 2nd place, Bren McIntosh, Knott County Central High School, Knott County; 3rd place, Autumn Campbell, June Buchanan School, Knott County.

Tenth grade - 1st place, Morgan Waddles, Pikeville High School, Pike County; 2nd place, Travis Cook, June Buchanan School, Knott County; 3rd place, Dustin Combs, Cordia High School, Knott County.

Eleventh grade - 1st place, Ben Hodson, Knott County Central High School, Knott County; 2nd place, Marci Cornett, June Buchanan School, Knott County; 3rd place, Jonathan Peay, Pikeville High School, Pike County.

Twelfth grade - 1st place, Shah Ashfaq, June Buchanan School, Knott County; 2nd place, Virginia Wachs, Pikeville High School, Pike County; 3rd place, Derrick Porter, Cordia High School, Knott County.

The East KY Regional Science Fair committee members were: Solomon Kilburn, chair; Raymond Shubinski, EKSC director; Eric Thomas; Carol Shubinski; Cathy Neeley; Pauletta Burke; Janice Shepherd; and Donald "Dr. Don" Bevins, celebrity chairman.

The East Kentucky Science Center wishes to extend a very special thanks to Dennis Dorton and Citizens National Bank, Kevin Hall and the Morehead State University East Kentucky Regional Gear-UP project, WYMT-TV (media sponsor) and Last Lap Racing Trophies and Monograms.

For more about the East Kentucky Science Center, visit their website at: www.wedo-science.org.

Continued from p6

Please, keep 'em coming!

Our pet photos file needs replenishing, and we know that you have lots of precious pics to share with us, so, please, send them along! And while you're at it, help Dr. Carol get her creative thoughts jumpstarted by sending along a few questions about "pet things you've always wanted to know but have been afraid to ask"! You can send both pictures and questions to: Kathy Prater at the Floyd County Times, P.O. Box 390, Prestonsburg, KY 41653, or you may e-mail to: features@floydcountytimes.com. You may also send questions only to Dr. Carol at: 1768 KY Rt. 7, Estill, KY 41666, or e-mail to: carolbcac@tusa.net. We'll be waiting to hear from you!



Family Medicine

By Martha A. Simpson, D.O., M.B.A.



Benign enlargement of prostate not a risk factor for cancer

Q My husband is a healthy 65-year-old. At his annual checkup, he was told he had an enlarged prostate. How concerned should we be about this? Can it lead to prostate cancer? What new symptoms would mean this is getting worse?

A Over 50 percent of all men have benign prostatic hyperplasia by age 60. Sometimes you'll see the word "hypertrophy" substituted for "hyperplasia," but it's still the same disease with the same abbreviation — BPH. By the time a man reaches 80, there's an 90 percent change that he'll have BPH. Men don't usually start having symptoms of this problem until

they have had it for a few years. Interestingly, African American men begin to have symptoms at a younger age than Caucasian men, by about five years.

Now, for a brief anatomy lesson: The prostate gland is just below the bladder and is only found in men. The prostate produces fluid that liquefies semen. This gland is about the size of a walnut and surrounds the urethra — the tube that carries urine from the bladder to the outside.

When the prostate enlarges, it presses on the urethra and causes difficulty urinating.

Some of the common symptoms of BPH include:

- difficulty starting to urinate,
- needing to urinate more frequently, especially at night,
- a weak urinary stream,
- a feeling of incomplete emptying of the bladder,
- dribbling after urination, and
- painful urination.

Sometimes, the obstructed urethra can back up urine and cause an infection. This can lead to blood in the urine. In severe cases, the man may find himself unable to urinate at all. This condition, called acute urinary retention, may be triggered by taking over-the-counter cold or allergy medicines that contain an ingredient that in men with BPH can prevent the bladder from relaxing and allowing urine to empty. Men with acute urinary retention usually seek immediate medical attention; however, it's important for men with even mild symptoms to seek an evaluation by a physician.

Several things can be done to mini-

mize the symptoms in the early stages of BPH. Some suggestions are:

- Avoid caffeine and alcohol in the evenings;
- Don't delay urination — when you have the urge — GO; and
- Avoid the over-the-counter medications mentioned earlier.

Also, some men are helped by taking Saw Palmetto extract. This herbal remedy can be found in pharmacies and health food stores.

When the symptoms are not relieved by these measures, it may be time to start some prescription medications. Your doctor has several to choose from. If medications fail, the prostate can be surgically "debulked." The most common procedure for this is called TURP (transurethral resection of the prostate). It is minimally invasive and has a high rate of success.

The great news is BPH does NOT increase a man's risk for developing prostate cancer. Also, many men never

require any medication for treatment for their mild BPH. As always, your husband should consult with his physician prior to starting any herbal remedies, and he should ask the pharmacist about any over-the-counter medication's potential for worsening his BPH symptoms.

Family Medicine® is a weekly column. To submit questions, write to Martha A. Simpson, D.O., M.B.A., Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine, P.O. Box 110, Athens, Ohio 45701, or via email to readerquestions@familymedicinews.org. Medical information in this column is provided as an educational service only. It does not replace the judgment of your personal physician, who should be relied on to diagnosis and recommend treatment for any medical conditions. Past columns are available online at www.familymedicinews.org.

School

a Break Day," sponsored by the Floyd County FRYSC's, 8:45 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at the Mountain Arts Center. Door prizes, fun workshops and FREE lunch!

**School is now collecting Food City receipts. Our goal this year is to collect \$400,000 in receipts.

■ The Family Resource Center is open weekdays 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

■ After School Child Care, 3-6 p.m., school days.

■ Call 886-7088 for additional information regarding the Prestonsburg Elementary Family Resource Center or its programs.

SOUTH FLOYD YOUTH SERVICES CENTER

■ Walking track open to public (except during special event).

■ The center has a one-stop career station satellite that is available to the community as well as students.

■ Anyone interested in Adult Ed may contact the center for information.

■ All new students and visitors, stop by the Center, located on the South Floyd campus, Room 232, and see Mable Hall.

■ For more information call 452-9600 or 9607 and ask for Mable Hall, ext. 243, or Keith Smallwood, ext. 242, or Donna Johnson, ext. 153.

STUMBO ELEMENTARY/MUD CREEK FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

■ Mar. 25 - Health Awareness program, 7th & 8th grades, Floyd County Health Dept.

■ Apr. 7 - 4-H Project Day, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

■ Apr. 17 - "Fun Fair for New & Expectant Parents," 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Mountain Arts Ctr.

■ Apr. 27 - "Give Yourself a Break Day," for all parents, grandparents & guardians, Mountain Arts Ctr.

■ Resource Center hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Parents and community members are welcome to visit. For questions,

call 587-2233 - ask for Tristan Parsons, Center Coordinator, or Anita Tackett, Assistant.

W.D. OSBORNE "RAINBOW JUNCTION" FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

■ "Lost and Found" located in the Center. Parents need to pick up their children's items within two weeks. Any items not claimed within two weeks, becomes the property of the FRC.

■ Rainbow Junction Family Resource Center is located in the W. D. Osborne Elementary School. Hours of operation - 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, or later by appointment. Call 452-4553 and ask for Cissy or Karen. Parents/community members free to visit any time.

FLOYD COUNTY ADULT ED CLASS SCHEDULE

■ Monday: McDowell Elem. - 8-11 a.m. - 377-2678; Wayland Comm. Ctr. - 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. - 358-3400; Wheelwright Comm. Ctr. - 12:30-4:30 p.m. - 452-2500.

■ Tuesday: Betsy Layne High School - 8-11:30 a.m. - 478-3389; Auxier Lifetime Learning Ctr. - 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. - 886-0709; Martin Adult Ed. Ctr. - 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. - 285-5111; PCC (Room J148) - 1:30-4:30 p.m. - 886-8374; St. James Episcopal Church - 5-8 p.m. - 886-8046.

■ Wednesday: McDowell Elem. - 8-11:30 a.m. - 377-2678; Wayland Comm. Ctr. - 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. - 358-3400.

■ Thursday: Betsy Layne High School - 8-11:30 a.m. - 478-3389; Auxier Lifetime Learning Ctr. - 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. - 886-0709; Martin Adult Ed. Ctr. - 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. - 285-5111; Wheelwright Comm. Ctr. - 12:30-4:30 p.m. - 452-2500; PCC (Room J148) - 1:30-4:30 p.m. - 886-8374; St. James Episcopal Church - 5-8 p.m. - 886-8046.

*All classes and materials free of charge. Feel free to contact any of the above numbers or the David School at 886-8374 for further information.

Ponder

when we can both discuss the issues in a calm and caring manner.

I also pledge to you that I will not drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs, I will always seek safe, sober transportation home, and I will always remember to wear a seat belt.

Signature of Parent/Caring Adult: _____

Contract: Students Against Destructive Decisions, 877-SADD-INC. Used with per-

mission.

Remember that you are important in your child's well-being and safety. When they keep their part by calling or talking with you, remember to praise keeping the contract.

Courtney Spear, M.A., is a Certified Psychologist with Autonomous Functioning who has a private practice, Valley Hope Centre, in Vanceburg, Kentucky.

Births



It's a Girl!

Layne Alexandra Maitra was born February 13, 2004, to proud parents Dr. Ranjan and Terra Clark Maitra, of Gastonia, North Carolina. She weighed 7 lbs., 12 oz. She is the granddaughter of Eddie and Rosemary Clark, of Harold, and the first grandchild of Dr. S. and Wendy Maitra, of Bloomfield, Michigan.

Postscript

by June, and on and on. You do the math, as they say.

We will no doubt hear and read incredible accusations. We'll learn things we didn't want to know and, in fact, did not need to know.

We will witness molehills being made into mountains and true mountains ignored like molehills.

We will see enough money spent to feed and clothe all the needy children in Appalachia, to provide jobs for thousands of people, to set up treatment centers for substance abusers throughout the region, to set up hundreds of day care centers, to pay for medication for those who can't afford it.

The money will pour in from

those who see the expense as simply an investment. It will go out with no thought as to how it could be better spent.

I think I've probably hopped up on this soapbox before, but I do believe that our presidential campaigns last far too long.

My common sense tells me that stretching a campaign over five, six, seven, eight or more months is counterproductive. Some of us diehards will form an opinion early and will not likely change it. Most, however, will despair of the battling and elect not to vote at all.

The time allotted for the candidates to get down and dirty, I'm convinced, diminishes the importance of the election. By the time all the charges have been made and all the mud slung, many people have begun to lose respect for everyone involved. Most of us tend to turn away or take a potty break or flip the channels when the 200th political ad of the day comes on the tube or on the radio. We glide over the ads in newspapers and magazines, after we get an initial idea of where they're going.

Of course, there are always those folks who revel in the adversity. They jump and cheer either out of adoration for their candidate or out of glee that the battle has turned so dirty and their negative faith in humankind has been vindicated.

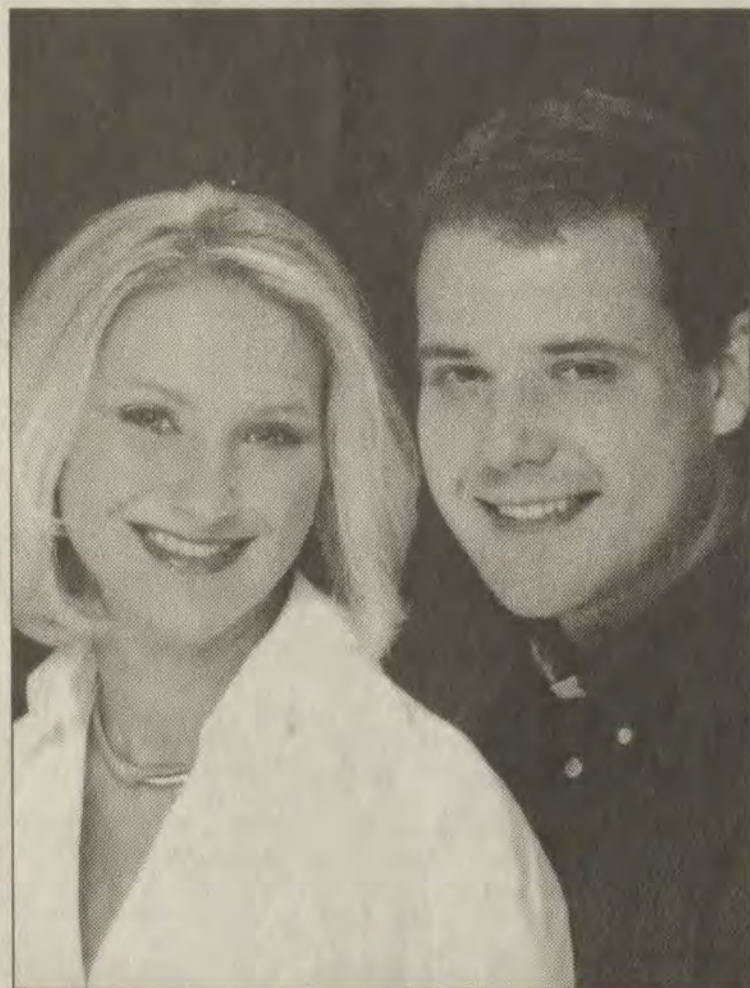
In many of the recent Democratic primaries, record numbers of voters went to the polls. This was surprising to everyone because voter turnout has been going steadily downward. I think the primary reason for the high numbers of voters was the higher tone of the campaigns.

I don't think that higher tone will continue as the field narrows to two predominant candidates. And I think the percentage of registered voters who take the time to vote this fall will be in direct proportion to the tenor of the campaign. The dirtier it is, the fewer people will vote.

I wonder if the candidates and their high-paid advisors ever consider this. Or maybe the tide is too forceful to turn around. Maybe they are swept up in a whirlwind to which there is no alternative.

I don't know about you, but already I'm training myself to look away.

Weddings



Nelson-Caldwell

Mr. and Mrs. Orvil and Sandra Nelson, of Winchester, formerly of Paintsville, are pleased to announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Leslie Nicole, to Christopher Nicholas Caldwell, the son of Norman Caldwell and Karen Rowe, of Mt. Sterling. The bride is the granddaughter of Arvel "Mush" Nelson, of Tutor Key, and Virginia Nelson, of Prestonsburg, and the late Rick and Ruby Richter, formerly of Garrett. She is a 1996 graduate of Johnson Central High School. She attended Lexington Community College and is currently employed Spoonamore Realty & Auction Co., in Mt. Sterling. Christopher is the grandson of Nick and Eula Caldwell, of London, and Adren and Maggie Couch, of Ohio. He is a 1994 graduate of Menifee County High School and is currently attending the University of Kentucky. He is employed by Cooper Standard Automotive. The couple will wed in a ceremony that will take place on Saturday, April 24, 2004, at the First Church of God, in Winchester, at half past the afternoon hour of four o'clock. The gracious custom of an open church wedding will be observed.

Announcements



Spreading cheer

Kelby Kisor, age 9, and little brother Tyler, age 4, visited the Prestonsburg Health Care Center at Christmastime to distribute gifts to residents of the center. Kelby attends Allen Elementary. He is the grandchild of Angie Mullins, who visits center residents each week for ministry and song.

**FLOYD COUNTY, KENTUCKY
ORDINANCE NO. 03-007**

**AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE CREATION OF A COUNTY
CEMETERY BOARD FOR FLOYD COUNTY, KENTUCKY**

WHEREAS, it is the express interest and desire of the members of the Floyd County Fiscal Court to assist in preserving the history of Floyd County, Kentucky, and is in the best interests of the citizens of this County to preserve that history; and

WHEREAS, one way of preserving the history of this great County is the restoration, preservation, and conservation of older nonprofit cemeteries that receive little or no funding for perpetual care; and

WHEREAS, the County of Floyd, acting by and through its Fiscal Court, is authorized, pursuant to KRS 67.680(1), to "create a county cemetery board that may apply to the Department for Local Government for grants to restore and maintain nonprofit cemeteries" in Floyd County, Kentucky "that do not receive perpetual care funds pursuant to KRS 367.952."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE FISCAL COURT OF THE COUNTY OF FLOYD, COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY, AS FOLLOWS:

CREATION OF COUNTY CEMETERY BOARD

1. By this Ordinance No. 03-007, there is hereby created a county cemetery board which shall be known as the "FLOYD COUNTY CEMETERY BOARD" and which shall operate, function, and conduct business pursuant to all applicable laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, presently in effect and as from time to time amended.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY & PURPOSE

2. The statutory authority and purpose for the creation of this county cemetery board by the Floyd County Fiscal Court is set forth in those powers granted by KRS 67.680, et seq., as presently in effect and as from time to time amended, including but not limited to the restoration and preservation of nonprofit cemeteries in Floyd County, Kentucky, and the receipt of grants for such purpose, for those nonprofit cemeteries that do not receive perpetual care funds pursuant to KRS 367.952.

EFFECTIVE DATE

3. This Ordinance, Floyd County Ordinance No. 03-007, shall become effective upon its Second Reading, adoption and passage, as required by law.

Motion by: Gerald DeRossett
Seconded by: Alan Williams

INTRODUCED, SECONDED, AND GIVEN FIRST READING AND APPROVAL at a duly convened meeting of the Floyd County Fiscal Court, held on this the 20th day of February, 2004.

PAUL H. THOMPSON,
FLOYD COUNTY JUDGE/EXECUTIVE

Motion by: _____
Seconded by: _____

GIVEN SECOND READING AND ADOPTED at a duly convened meeting of the Floyd County Fiscal Court, held on this, the 19th day of March, 2004.

PAUL H. THOMPSON,
FLOYD COUNTY JUDGE/EXECUTIVE

ATTEST:
CHRIS WAUGH, FLOYD COUNTY CLERK
BY: Peggy Compton, D.C.

**PUBLIC NOTICE
ORDINANCE 03-008
AMENDMENT #5**

Notice is hereby given the following proposed Ordinance was given its First Reading at the Regular Meeting of the Floyd County Fiscal Court, held on Friday, February 20th, 2004.

**FLOYD COUNTY, KENTUCKY
ORDINANCE 03-008
AMENDMENT #5**

An ORDINANCE relating to the annual budget and amendment thereof: Whereas the County of Floyd has signed an agreement with Affordable Housing Trust Funds, and needs to increase the receipts and expenditure accounts that pertain to KY TECH and the estimated revenue in 2003-2004 Budget.

Be it ordained by the Fiscal Court of the County of Floyd, Commonwealth of Kentucky:

SECTION ONE: The Budget for the fiscal year 2003-2004, is amended to:
A. Increase the receipts of Federal Grants fund by 70,000.00, to include under budgeted receipts from:

Account Code	Description	Amount
07-4510	KY TECH	70,000.00

B. Increase the expenditures of Federal Grants account:

Account Code	Description	Amount
07-8001-742	KY TECH	70,000.00

SECTION TWO: The amounts added to the revenue and expenditure accounts in Section One are for Government Purposes.

Approved by the Fiscal Court of Floyd County, Kentucky, this the 20th day of February, 2004.

Motion by: Alan Williams
Seconded by: Gerald Derossett

Paul H. Thompson
Floyd County Judge/Executive

Approved as to Form and Classifications this the 26th day of February, 2004.

Cordell G. Lawrence
State Local Finance Officer

This Budget Ordinance amendment was duly adopted by the Fiscal Court of Floyd County, Kentucky, this the _____ day of _____, 2004.

Motion by: _____
Seconded by: _____

Paul Hunt Thompson
Floyd County Judge/Executive

**NOT
RESPONSIBLE**

ATTENTION: As of today's date, I Paul T. Combs, will not be held responsible for anyone's debt other than my own in any way shape, manner, form or fashion. Some restrictions may apply. Your mileage may vary. Void where prohibited by law.
KA5020

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an
Angel.**

Become a Kentucky organ & tissue donor.
For information contact:
1-800-525-3456, or
www.trustforlife.org

PSA



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Let it stand
for all Americans still
DISTRESSED
by poverty

Once, she needed care. And Americans united to restore her as a symbol of freedom. Today, nearly 35 million Americans are still working to stand tall and free themselves from poverty. You can help light the way and rekindle a spirit of community with those in need. Find out how at www.povertyusa.org.

Poverty in America
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www.povertyusa.org

Catholic Campaign for Human Development
1-800-946-4243

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Winner:
Terminex



Farm Agriculture
Winner:
Country Boys



Financial Institution
Winner:
Citizens National



Financing
Winner:
US Bank



Florist
Winner:
Add-A-Touch



Funeral Homes
Winner:
Nelson-Frazier



Furniture
Winner:
Maggard's



Garage
Winner:
Woods Bros. Auto Clinic



Hearing Aids
Winner:
Rite Aid



Insurance Agency
Winner:
Kentucky Farm Bureau



Janitorial Service
Winner:
King's Supply



Jewelry
Winner:
Jewelry Box



Landscaping
Winner:
Shepherd's



Laundromat
Winner:
Sunshine Coin Laundry



Manufacturing
Winner:
SGS Service



Mining Supply
Winner:
Mountain Valley Explosives



Mining Company
Winner:
Knott-Floyd Land



Mobile Homes
Winner:
Hylton Homes



Hotel
Winner:
Comfort Suite



Burgers/Restaurant
Winner:
Billy Ray's



Catering
Winner:
Bob's Catering



Chicken
Winner:
Kentucky Fried Chicken



Chili
Winner:
Wendy's

We would like to extend
a Special Thanks
to the Citizens of
Floyd County
for voting us:



Best Accountant
David Garrett, CPA
Best Bookkeeping & Taxes
Jones, Pack & Associates

*We will continue to do
our best for our clients!*

234 Thornsbury Drive, Martin, Kentucky

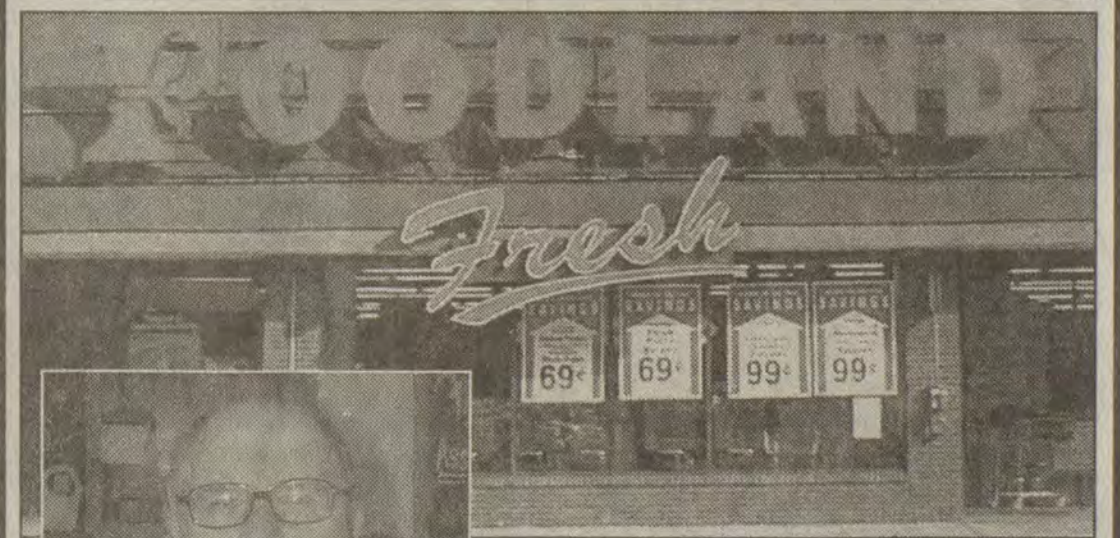
285-3958

PRESTONSBURG



886-1028

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Jr. Curtis, Manager

*We enjoy providing
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great savings
and
friendly service!*



U.S. No. 1 Wisconsin
Russet Potatoes
10-Lb. Bag **97¢**



Gallon
1%, 2% or Skim
**Broughton
Milk**
\$1.77

Best OF THE BEST

Chinese
Winner: Pekings

Best OF THE BEST

Milk Shake, Desserts, Decorated Cake
Winner: Dairy Queen

Best OF THE BEST

Donuts, Fresh Meat, Seafood Items.
Winner: Food City

Best OF THE BEST

Fish and Seafood
Winner: Long John Silvers

Best OF THE BEST

French Fries
Winner: McDonald's

Best OF THE BEST

Mexican Food/Restaurant
Winner: El-Azul

Best OF THE BEST

Pizza
Winner: Hobert's

Best OF THE BEST

Roast Beef Sandwiches
Winner: Hardees

Best OF THE BEST

Salads
Winner: Pizza Hut

Best OF THE BEST

Sandwiches
Winner: Subway

Best OF THE BEST

Best Attorney
Winner: Johnny Ray Harris

Best OF THE BEST

Bank Teller
Winner: Amber Marslett (1st Guaranty Bank)

Best OF THE BEST

Car Salesman
Winner: Stuart Isaac

Best OF THE BEST

Car Salesman
Winner: Larry Huff

Best OF THE BEST

Chiropractor
Winner: Chip Salyers

Best OF THE BEST

Motorcycles/ATV
Winner: Honda Shop

Best OF THE BEST

Music Store
Winner: ADD Sound

Best OF THE BEST

Oil Change
Winner: Fast Change

Best OF THE BEST

Pawn Shop
Winner: McDowell Pawn Shop

Best OF THE BEST

Plumbing/Tools Supplies
Winner: East Co Supply

Best OF THE BEST

Rental Items
Winner: A-Plus

Best OF THE BEST

Security
Winner: Abco Security

Best OF THE BEST

Sewing/Alteration
Winner: Janice Caudill

Best OF THE BEST

Truck Dealership
Winner: Music Carter

*Thank You For
Choosing My Mom,
GWENDOLYN S. HALL, P.T.,
As The Best Physical Therapist
In Floyd County*



P.S. I already knew she was the best!!!!

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PAGER—(606) 482-2561



**Attorney
Johnny Ray
Harris
along with
Secretary
Pauletta Lafferty**

*extend their appreciation
and gratitude for
voting them*

**Floyd County's
Best Attorney**

**Floyd County's
Best Secretary**

Our Thanks To All!!

 Videos Winner: Video Magic	 Linen Winner: Wal-mart	 Interior Decorating Winner: AB Interior Design	 Deli, Grocery Store Winner: Foodland	 Kid's Clothing Winner: Lad-n-Lassie	 Trucks Winner: Prestonsburg Auto Mart
 Pet Supplies Winner: Penelopes Pets	 Shoe Repair Winner: Cobbler Shoes	 Stereo, TV Repairs Winner: Mikes B&W	 Used Automobiles Winner: Discount Auto	 Vinyl Winner: Wright Lumber	 Women Clothing Winner: Catos
 Antiques/Collectibles Winner: Country at Heart	 Appliances/Furniture Winner: Tackett Furniture	 Auto Parts Winner: Prestonsburg Auto Mart	 Beauty Salon/Barber Winner: Hair-It-Is Sherry Shepherd	 Book Keeping Winner: Jones & Pack	 Building Supplies Winner: Van Hoose Lumber
 Car Dealership Auto Body Repair Winner: Music Carter Huges	 Commercial printing Office Supply Winner: Statewide Press	 Concrete Winner: Ousley Concrete	 Construction/ Remodeling Winner: Roger Rowe	 Crafts, Gifts Winner: Kathy's Gift Shop	 Daycare Winner: Linda's Carousel

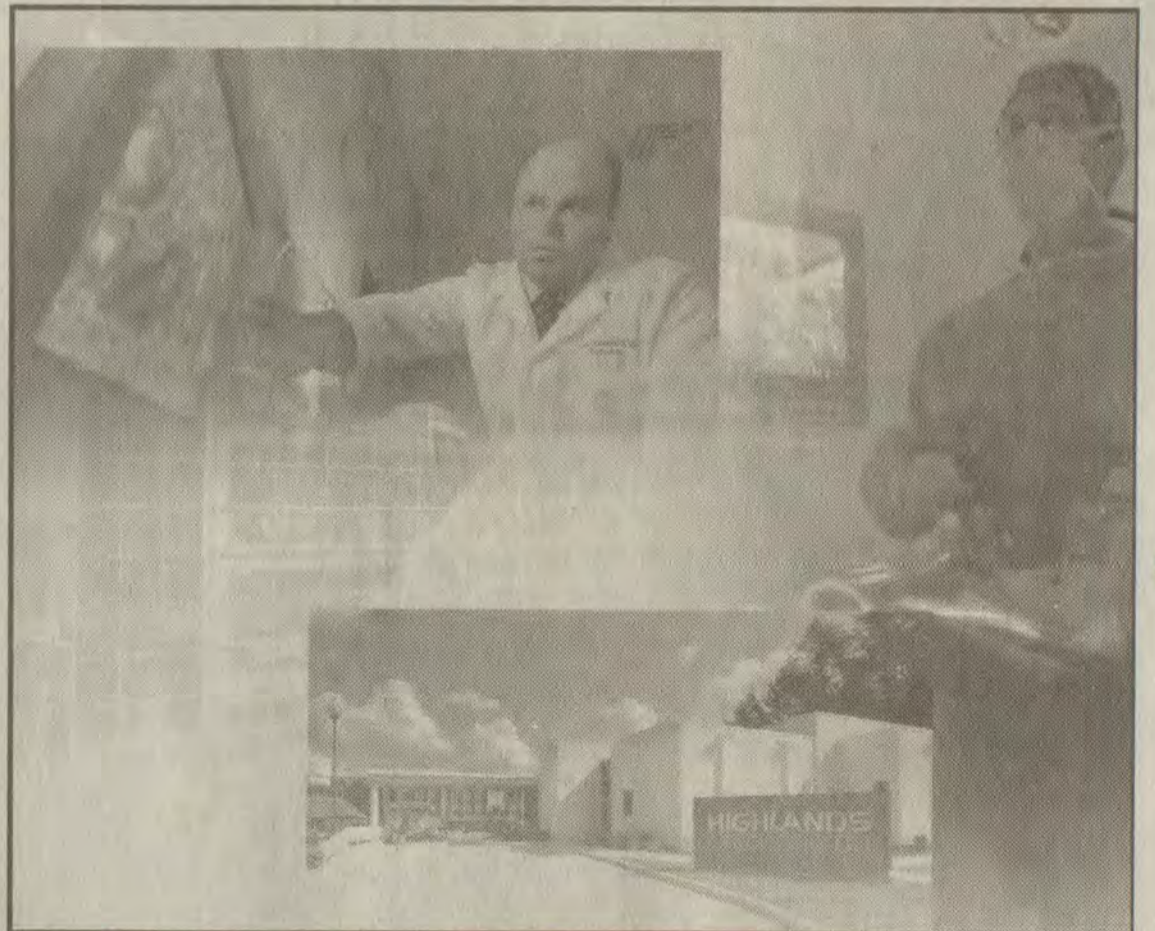


Seafood Festival

Floyd County's Best Steak Is Now The Home Of The Best Seafood!

Enjoy a delicious treat from the sea...at Reno's! Choose from four awesome appetizers, or go straight to the good stuff like our huge Seafood Platter, just loaded with seafood. You'll be singing sea ditties in no time!

Limited Time Only.



"THANK YOU" to everyone who voted and named Highlands Regional Medical Center as the best hospital in Floyd County. We sincerely appreciate your confidence and support.

"THANK YOU" for naming Debbie Conn, RN in Highlands Emergency Department as the best nurse. Debbie is a good nurse and a caring person. We are very proud of her.

Highlands Regional Medical Center is your community hospital. We're open 7 days a week, 24 hours a day to provide care for your minor or major illnesses and we're expanding our services to provide you with even better care. Effective April 1, Highlands will be offering all new ER services. New OB/Gyn physicians and new Radiology services are scheduled to begin this summer. Watch for additional information about these new services in future issues of the Floyd County Times.



"Think Healthy. Think Highlands!" • 886-8511



Dry Cleaning
Winner:
Custom Cleaners



Best Coach
Winner:
David Gearheart
Betsy Layne Elem.



City Employee
Winner:
Heather Conley



Dental Hygenist
Winner:
Pam Ray



Dentist
Winner:
Kevin Moore



Electrician
Winner:
Larry Adkins



EMT
Winner:
Mike Lafferty



Fire Fighter
Winner:
Greg Akers



Funeral Attendant
Winner:
Greg Nelson



Sales Person
Winner:
Randy Porter
Tackett Furniture



General Physician
Winner:
Alan Hyden



Hair Stylist
Winner:
Mitzi Burke



Heating/Air Service Room
Winner:
Philip Spencer



Insurance Agent
Winner:
Kimber McGuire



Jeweler
Winner:
Earl Castle



Law Enforcement Officer
Winner:
James Spencer



Loan Officer
Winner:
Tyrone Martin



Mechanic
Winner:
Curtis Webb

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Always.™

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ALLEN, KENTUCKY

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Thank you, Floyd County, for your Confidence in us.

From John, Patsy, Jason, Gary and all the Staff

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Best Nurse
Winner:
Debbie Conn
Highlands Regional



Optometrist
Winner:
Richard Salisbury



Painter
Winner:
Bill Carroll



Area Attraction
Winner:
Mountain Arts Center



Church
Winner:
Highland Avenue



Civic Club
Winner:
4-H



Best College
Winner:
PCC



Dining Atmosphere
Winner:
Jerry's



Elderly Care Facility
Winner:
Prestonsburg Health Care



Elem. School
Winner:
Allen Elem.
Linda Gearheart



High School
Winner:
Allen Central High



Hospital
Winner:
Highlands Regional



Local Band
Winner:
Full House band



Middle School
Winner:
Allen Central Middle



Place to camp
Winner:
Jenny Wiley



Place to lose weight
Winner:
Weight Watchers

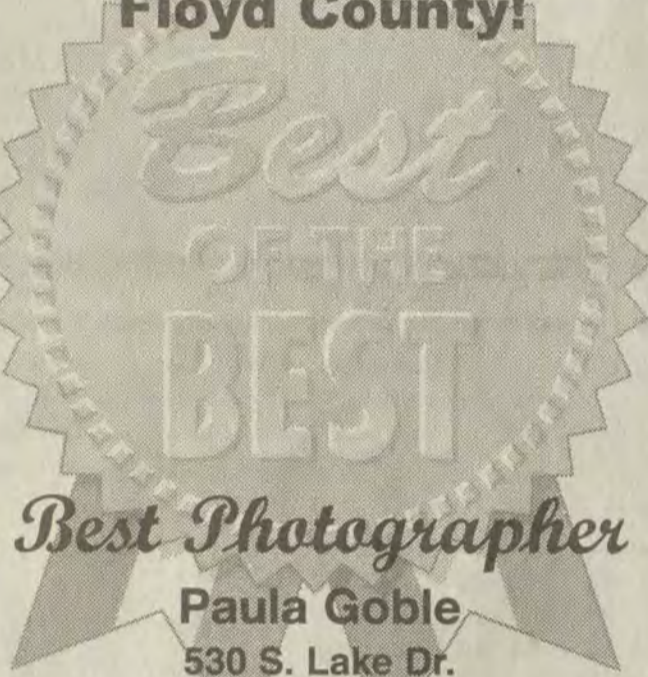


Spend Saturday night, Steaks
Winner:
Reno's



Place to Work
Winner:
Eric C. Conn

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Martin, Kentucky

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Cheryl Leslie

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Thanks, Floyd County

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Best Homemade Onion Rings and Barbeque Sandwiches



of Prestonsburg
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Home of the Smashburger

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Thank You!

AB Interior Design
Allen, Kentucky 41601
874-9611



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Insurance & Financial Services

Thank you for allowing **Nationwide** to service your insurance needs.

Kimber McGuire, agent and staff.
Best Insurance Agent

Thanks, Floyd County, for Voting for me as Best Dentist



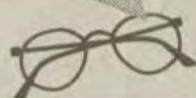
Kevin Moore, D.M.D. and Staff
Garrett, Kentucky
358-9135



Best Optometrist

Dr. Salisbury would like to extend his appreciation to Floyd County for this Honor.

Richard Salisbury, OD
11477 Main Street
Martin, Kentucky
285-0005



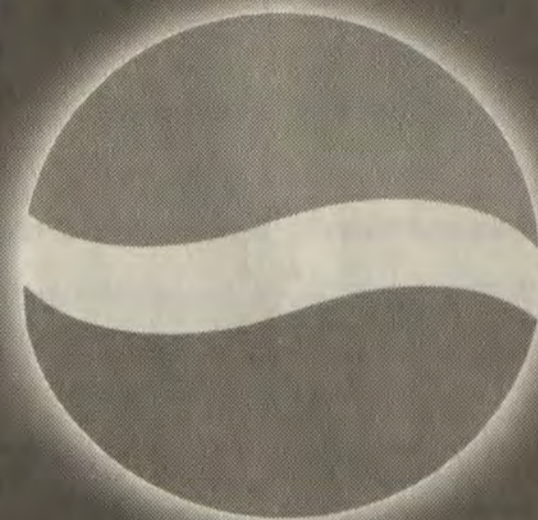
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We think our Mommy's the Bestest and you guys do too!



Thank you, Thank you, Thank you
Floyd County For Voting our Mommy Cheryl Little

**Floyd County's
Best Pharmacist**



Don't Forget Shop Med-Zone
(Just past Highlands Regional on the right.)



**Photographer,
Frame Work**
Winner:
Paula Goble



Physical Therapist
Winner:
Gwen Hall



Plumber
Winner:
Forrest Porter



Politician
Winner:
Jerry Fannin



Preacher
Winner:
David Garrett



Nurse
Winner:
Debbie Conn



Real Estate
Winner:
ReMax



**Sunday School
Teacher**
Winner:
Gloria Moore



Surgeon
Winner:
Chandra Varia



Veterinarian
Winner:
Mark Green



Real Estate Agent
Winner:
Sheila Crockett




Proof Reader
Winner:
Jim Goble



Carpet
Winner:
Ky. Carpet



**Dress Shoes/ Mens
Clothing**
Winner:
Messers



Perms
Winner:
Pro-Hair



Allen Elem.
Winner:
Linda Gearheart



Athletic Shoes
Winner:
Shoe Show



Cabinets
Winner:
Troy Cabinets



Radio Announcer
Winner:
Dr. Don (WXXZ)



Teacher
Winner:
Pam Combs-Teacher

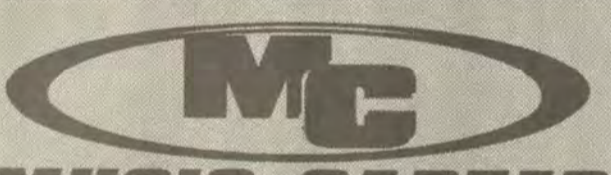
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FLOYD COUNTY'S
"BEST FURNITURE STORE!"
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Downtown, Court St. Harold
Near Pikeville

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We would like to take this
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for their votes in the
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Thank
You,
Floyd
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Sherry Shepherd
Barber
of
Hair It Is
Banner, Kentucky



Wishes to thank all those
who voted her as
Floyd County's
"Best Barber"
With 28 years in Business
Sherry appreciates
one and all...

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HOMES**

Serving the area for over 27 years.

We would like to thank the
people of Floyd County
for voting us
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Thank you for your business
and support!

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U.S. 23, between Prestonsburg and Pikeville

Thank you to all the Citizens
of Floyd County for voting
Prestonsburg Dairy Queen



for
* Decorated Cakes
* Milk Shakes
* Desserts



We Treat You Right®

We look forward to serving
you all year round.


DR. MARK E. NORDIN
DR. KIMBERLY WELLS NORDIN

Would like to
Thank Floyd County
for voting us as
Best Place
To Buy Eyewear.

NORDIN EYE CENTER
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886-6774

Winner! Best Car Salesman

Stuart Isaac would like to extend his appreciation
to Floyd County for choosing him as Best Car
Salesman in the Reader's Choice Awards.



Stuart Isaac • Best Car Salesman Winner

Stop by and see Stuart Isaac in Downtown
Prestonsburg, Today!

Discount Auto Brokers
453 N. Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, KY
886-3100



Barbecue
Winner:
Dairy Cheer



Biscuit, hot dogs, car wash, gas station
Winner:
Action Express



Soft Drink
Winner:
Pepsi



Paper Carrier
Winner:
Kenny Music




Pharmacy
Winner:
Cooley Apothecary
Harold Cooley

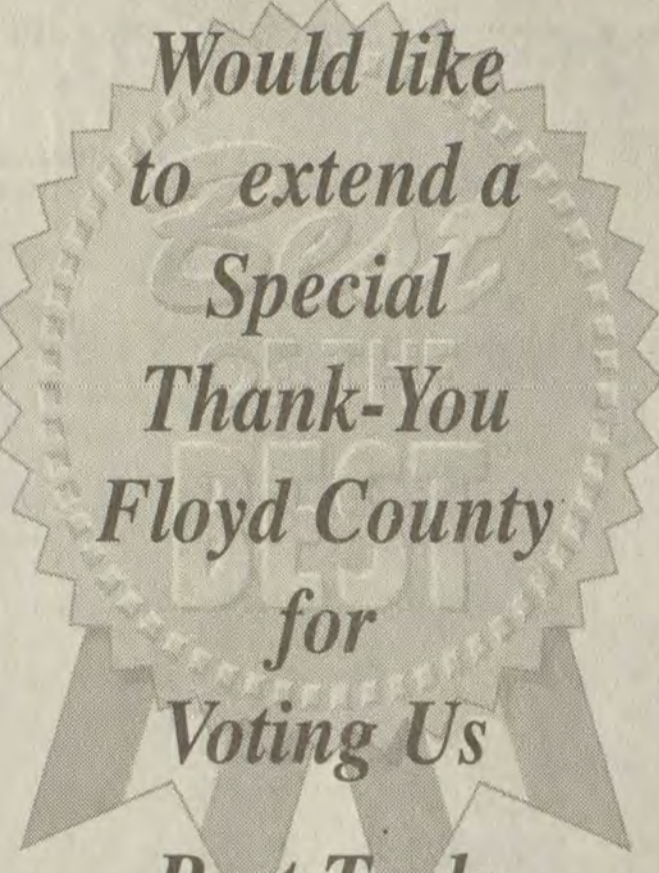


Pharmacist
Winner:
Cheryl Little
Med-Zone

AUTHORIZED DEALER



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Across From Duff Elementary
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Magoffin Co. (606) 349-8800 Pike Co. (606) 432-7188
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#1




Add-A-Touch Florist
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We promise to continue providing the best service possible for all our customers, both old and new!
Bill and Teresa Carroll

**FRESH AND SILK FLOWERS
BALLOON BOUQUETS**
Weddings • Proms
Special Occasions
Call early for Memorial Day!







WITH 11 LOCATIONS TO BETTER SERVE YOU:


Rt. 321Paintsville	Rt. 32Louisa
Rt. 40Paintsville	Rt. 23Ivel
Rt. 114Salyersville	Rt. 23Pikeville
Rt. 460West Liberty	Rt. 80 & 460 ..Shelbiana
Rt. 122Minnie	Rt. 979Grethel
Rt. 1428Prestonsburg	

Thanks to all of our loyal customers and friends for voting us the Best Convenience Store Chain in eastern Kentucky.
Special thanks to Edna Lewis for being voted the best cashier.

Thanks, again, from the management of Action Express Mart

When minutes count, you can count on us for fast, friendly service!




EL AZUL GRANDE
MEXICAN RESTAURANT
1332 N. LAKE DRIVE
886-8300 or 886-8388
Floyd County's only totally authentic mexican restaurant



El Azul Grande would like to thank the public for their support and voting us Best Restaurant Best Mexican Food

SERVING YOU IN 4 LOCATIONS:

- Prestonsburg
- South Williamson
- Pikeville
- Hazard

HOURS:
Monday Thru Friday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Saturday, 12 to 10 p.m.
Sunday, 12 to 9 p.m.

Authentic Mexican Cuisine • All legal beverages • Carry out

Congratulations

*to all the winners of
Floyd
County! You
are all
appreciated!*



#1

The Times / FLOYD COUNTY



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Floyd County,
for voting
us the
Best of the
Best in
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