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briefs

Police find meth lab in Lancer

Times Staff Report

LANCER — Prestonsburg police officers discovered the workings of a highly explosive methamphetamine lab in the Lancer area Friday afternoon, the first of its type to be seized in this region.

According to Kentucky State Police, the Prestonsburg Police Department located a device used in the production of meth. Officers with the Kentucky State police who are trained in removing clandestine labs were called into the scene, where they removed a five-gallon canister containing chemicals used in the production of anhydrous ammonia, a main ingredient of meth.

No arrests had been made in the incident as of Friday evening.

Detective Randy Hunter and officers with the KSP DESI East are continuing the investigation.

inside

The War on Poverty after 40 years

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2 DAY FORECAST

Today



High: 88 • Low: 64

Tomorrow

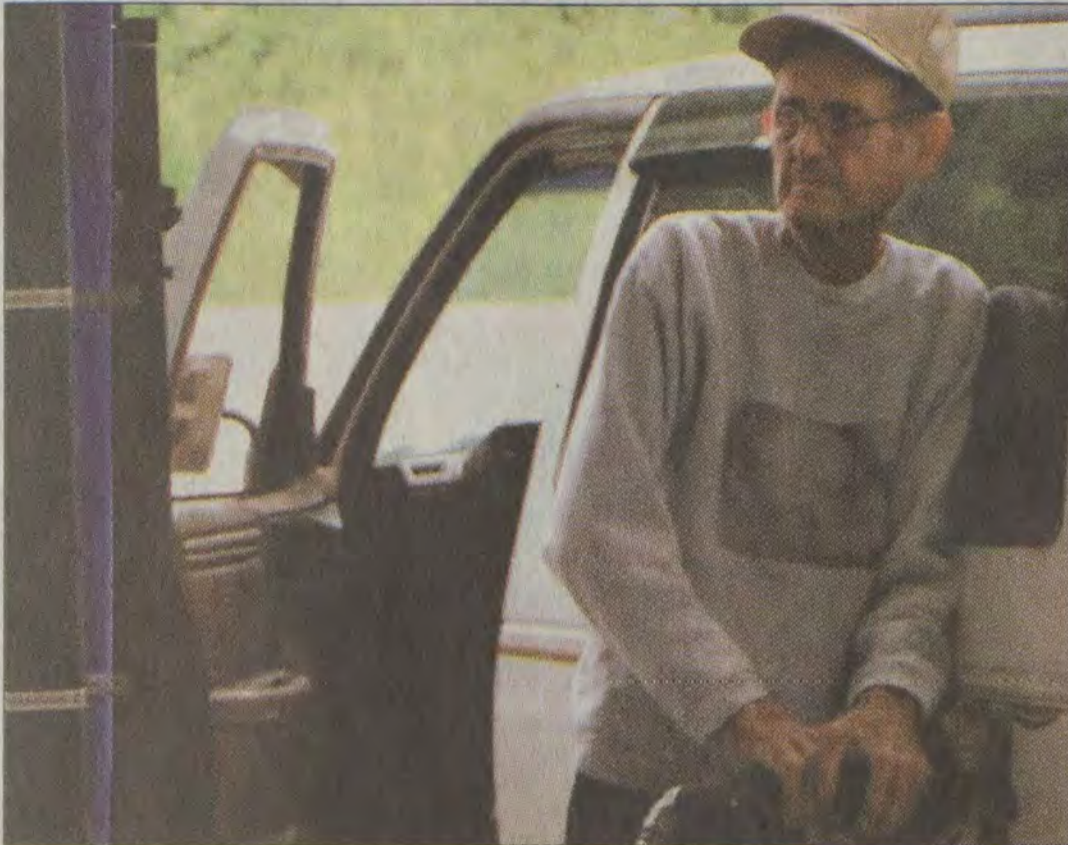


High: 86 • Low: 63

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

Gas prices & construction detours combine to create ...

ROAD RAGE



Freddie Osborne, 60, of Hunter in Left Beaver, says rising gas prices have strangled his budget. It's hard to keep food on his table, purchase medications and keep gas in his car, he said.

photo by Mary Music

High gas prices hit a new milestone

East Kentucky drivers fuming after price crosses \$2 for first time

by MARY MUSIC STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Rising gas prices are raising feathers in Floyd County and scrunching budgets of the working class.

Freddie Osborne, a diabetic who filled up on his way home from the grocery store Friday, says gas prices are keeping him thinner these days. The 60-year-old Hunter resident who survives on a fixed disabled Social Security income says increasing gas prices are keeping him "broke."

"Gas prices are far too high," he said. "The

U.S. can do a whole lot more about gas prices than what they're doing. It's hurting everybody, especially the working person. It costs so much for gas they have to give up other vital things they need or care for. It's keeping me broke. I can't buy the things I need."

Osborne said that the increasing prices are affecting his ability to buy his medical supplies, medication and food.

"I'm doing the very least I can do to eat and get by right now," he said. "I have to get everything on the list, and get nothing extra. I have to watch every penny I spend and I'm lucky to pay bills like the television and cable. I can't have any type of enjoyment, I can't drink any colas anymore. I want to see prices go down to a more

(See GAS PRICES, page three)

Road work hurting businesses

by MARY MUSIC STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Construction on University Drive in Prestonsburg has left Highlands Plaza businesses with a decline in sales and their customers with short fuses.

Managers and owners of several Highlands Plaza busi-

nesses reported Friday that the construction is driving their customers to other locations with less hassle.

The Dollar General Store and the Parkway Discount Tobacco Stores in the plaza both report nearly 50 percent decreases in business. Foodland officials say they've lost about a third of their cus-

tomers base since construction began last month.

"It's bad," said Mattie Boleyn, manager of Dollar General. "We have no customers, no business."

Boleyn said her store's customer base has dropped from 400 to 500 daily to approxi-

(See ROAD WORK, page three)

Drug case deluge taking toll

by TOM DOTY STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Judge Danny Caudill's motion hour ran for more than three hours Friday and was a microcosm of the drug problem in Floyd County.

Twenty-three cases were on the docket and 17 of them were

drug cases. Every drug case involved trafficking and it was a frightening tutorial on the scope of the problem.

The defendants cut across all age groups. There were senior citizens, disabled individuals, one severely overweight young man and one lady who looked like she belonged at the senior prom.

All were present to enter guilty pleas or get their sentences. The result was over fifty years of lost freedom that will, maybe, keep them out of the courts for a while and only definitely keep them off of the streets for a time.

The good news is that Floyd

(See COURT, page three)

Social worker shows up to be served summons

by MARY MUSIC STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A social services worker accused of making a false report against a Floyd County couple was served Friday with a criminal summons by the Prestonsburg Police Department.

Chris Newsome, charged with falsely reporting an incident, voluntarily reported to the Prestonsburg Police Department Friday afternoon, where he was served with the criminal summons by officer Fred Mynhier roughly two weeks after a complaint was filed against him by Richard and Kimberly Hardy, an Auxier couple. The Hardys have accused Newsome of lying to authorities in order to have them removed from a routine visitation session of their youngest son.

Prestonsburg Police Chief Michael Omerod said Friday that the sensitivity of the accusations against Newsome prompted the lengthy investigation, which was completed this week. The extra hours put into that investigation, he said, were utilized to insure the appropriate channels were considered in the case.

"If Newsome came in here with a tape on Richard Hardy, with all his criminal history, we

would have probably arrested him that day," Omerod said.

Newsome, 31, of Harold, could face a 12-month penalty if found guilty of the crime.

When contacted for a response, Mike Jennings, spokesperson for the Cabinet of Health and Family Services said he was unable to determine whether or not Newsome will be reprimanded in his position with the department.

In dealing with situations with employees facing criminal charges, he said, the Cabinet generally works toward insuring public safety by assigning the accused to a workstation that doesn't involve public contact.

"If someone is charged or indicted and the accusation behind the charge or indictment would, if true, pose a imminent risk of harm of any sort ... to clients, then we have, when such a circumstance exists, given people other duties to perform," he said. "For instance, if a social worker is accused of molesting a child, we might well reassign that worker to a desk job until the charge is resolved."

The charge against Newsome, based on a complaint filed May 6 by the Hardys, has prompted numerous people in Floyd and surrounding counties to make similar

(See SUMMONS, page five)



Prestonsburg and Stumbo elementary schools marked the end of classes by treating students to a visit from a hot-air balloon. Above, students helped pack away the balloon at the end of the visit. At right, the balloon soared over the hill-tops on its way to land at Stumbo Elementary.

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# Odds and Ends

■ **DEARBORN, Mich.** — Feeling sick as a dog? Patients at some Michigan hospitals may get comfort and a speedier recovery with a visit from their own pooch.

"We had a patient who kept saying she missed her pet so much," said Gail Daly, director of the Clinical Ethics Center at Oakwood Hospital and Medical Center. "So we arranged for her dog to visit. It was a wonderful thing."

The suburban Detroit hospital last year conducted a test program allowing patients to be visited by their dogs and cats.

The program has been expanded to Oakwood Healthcare System's four hospitals, and will run until April 2005.

The visits are meant to make patients feel at home with the comfort of their dog or cat at their side. Oakwood staffers say pets have proven medical benefits for patients, including decreasing blood pressure, anxiety and pain.

"We look for reaction on the patient, and we've seen a patient cry — happily crying," Ruston said. "You can see the vital signs have been improved."

■ **ATLANTA** — Tom Smith is suing his former employer, saying he was fired because he

couldn't pee under pressure.

The 55-year-old assembly line worker was suspended by Caterpillar Inc. a day after he was unable to urinate for a drug test in November, and fired on Dec. 5.

Smith, who is suing for discrimination, said Wednesday he suffers from paruresis, more commonly known as shy bladder syndrome, and was physically unable to urinate into a specimen cup, despite having drunk 40 ounces of water and being given three hours to complete the task.

"This is supposed to be a country where losing a job for a disorder like that shouldn't be a problem," said Smith, who worked at the company's Griffin plant for more than three years.

Smith says Caterpillar violated the Americans with Disabilities Act and that companies should offer alternate drug testing methods such as hair or blood tests. He wants his job back and unspecified monetary damages.

Peoria, Ill.-based Caterpillar says its drug tests are in place to protect employees' safety.

"We believe that our drug testing policy does not violate the Americans with Disabilities Act, and we intend to defend against the allegations," said spokeswoman Linda Fairbanks,

who declined further comment.

■ **NEW YORK** — David Fink might think he got a ruff sentence.

The lawyer who barked like a dog at a witness during a deposition has been fined \$8,500 for misconduct and harassment of opponents, according to a judge's 54-page decision published Thursday.

Manhattan state Supreme Court Justice Charles Ramos said Fink made false statements, failed to comply with court orders and engaged in frivolous conduct during a breach of contract suit over home furnishing designs.

Fink's client Carl Levine represents designers of home furnishings to manufacturers and other licensees. He sued a married couple, Laurette Angsten and Kit Kittle, alleging they did not pay him money they owed for marketing their products.

During a deposition in which Kittle was giving sworn statements on Jan. 16, 2002, he described letters he received from Fink as threatening, "mad dog lawyer" letters, said Kittle's lawyer, Samuel Friedman.

At the continuation of the deposition the next day, Friedman said, Fink started barking like a dog when Kittle was asked about the letters by Donald Creadore, the lawyer who had taken over Levine's case from Fink.

Friedman complained to Ramos about Fink's behavior.

A special referee reviewed Fink's behavior, and Ramos followed the recommendations.

Fink had already been assessed \$1,400 for previous misconduct in the case.

■ **ST. LOUIS** — It was Elephant Love at first sight for Raja and Sri, and now the St. Louis Zoo couple is expecting a baby elephant.

Raja, who was born at the zoo 11 years ago, and 23-year-old newcomer Sri are expecting their first born in October or

November of 2005.

"Every birth is exciting, no matter what the species, but with an elephant there is so much planning and waiting," said Martha Fischer, curator of mammals/ungulates at the zoo. "It is a wonderful thing when a 275-pound baby enters the world."

Tests indicate that Sri (pronounced See) is four months pregnant; elephants carry their calves for a term of 20 to 22 months.

Zoo staff is monitoring Sri's diet of hay and produce and will devise an exercise plan for the winter months. She will continue to roam her yard with friends Donna, Ellie and Rani. As for Raja, in typical bull form, he

sticks to himself.

"In Raja's mind, his work is done," Fischer said.

Sri arrived from the Woodland Park Zoo in Seattle in 2002.

"They seemed to hit it off from the get-go," Fischer said. "They ate side-by-side. And when she was in heat, they got along very well."

## Today in History

### The Associated Press

Today is Sunday, May 23, the 144th day of 2004. There are 222 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On May 23, 1934, bank robbers Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow were shot to death in a police ambush in Bienville Parish, La.

### On this date:

■ In 1430, Joan of Arc was captured by the Burgundians, who sold her to the English.

■ In 1533, the marriage of England's King Henry VIII to Catherine of Aragon was declared null and void.

■ In 1701, Captain William Kidd was hanged in London after he was convicted of piracy and murder.

■ In 1788, South Carolina became the eighth state to ratify the United States Constitution.

■ In 1937, industrialist John D. Rockefeller died in Ormond Beach, Fla.

■ In 1940, Tommy Dorsey and His Orchestra, the Pied Pipers and featured soloist Frank Sinatra recorded "I'll Never Smile Again" in New York for RCA.

■ In 1944, during World War II, Allied forces bogged down in Anzio began a major breakout offensive.

■ In 1945, Nazi official Heinrich Himmler committed suicide while imprisoned in Luneburg, Germany.

■ In 1960, Israel announced it had captured former Nazi official Adolf Eichmann in Argentina. (Eichmann was tried in Israel, found guilty of crimes against humanity, and hanged in 1962.)

■ In 1977, the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear the appeals of former Nixon White House aides H.R. Haldeman and John Ehrlichman and former Attorney General John N. Mitchell in connection with their Watergate convictions.

### Ten years ago:

Funeral services were held at Arlington National Cemetery for former first lady Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis. "Pulp Fiction" by American director Quentin Tarantino won the Golden Palm for best film at the 47th Cannes Film Festival.

### Five years ago:

Social Democrat Johannes Rau won election to Germany's largely ceremonial presidency. Professional wrestler Owen Hart, also known as "The Blue Blazer," died when he fell 78 feet from a cable as he was being lowered into the ring at a World Wrestling Federation show in Kansas City, Mo. "Rosetta," a Belgian film, won top honors at the 52nd annual Cannes Film Festival.

### One year ago:

By the narrowest of margins, Congress sent President Bush the third tax cut of his presidency — a \$330 billion package of rebates and lower rates for families and new breaks for businesses and investors. Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon agreed to submit the U.S.-backed "road map" for peace to the Israeli Cabinet. Annika Sorenstam ended her historic appearance on the PGA tour in the Colonial with a 15-foot par putt, missing the cut by four strokes.

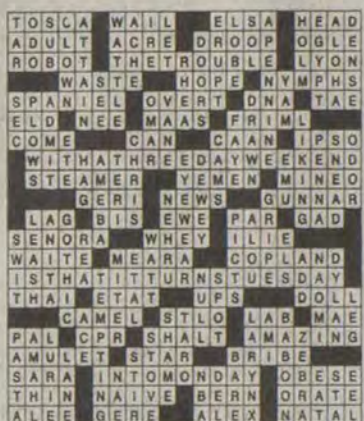
### Today's Birthdays:

Bandleader Artie Shaw is 94. Actress Betty Garrett is 85. Pianist Alicia de Larrocha is 81. Bluegrass singer Mac Wiseman is 79. Actor Nigel Davenport is 76. Actress Barbara Barrie is 73. Actress Joan Collins is 71. Actor Charles Kimbrough is 68. Rhythm and blues singer General Johnson (Chairman of the Board) is 61. Actress Lauren Chapin is 59. Country singer Misty Morgan is 59. Country singer Judy Rodman is 53. Singer Luka Bloom is 49. Actor-comedian Drew Carey is 46. Country singer Shelly West is 46. Actor Linden Ashby is 44.

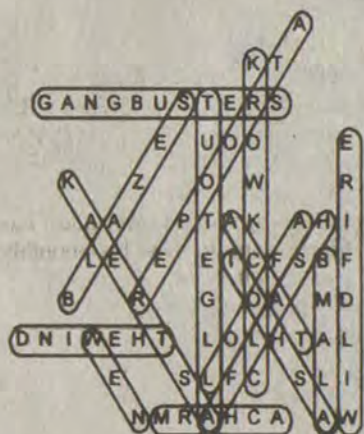
Actress-model Karen Duffy is 43. Rock musician Phil Selway (Radiohead) is 37. Singer Lorenzo is 32. Country singer Brian McComas is 32. Singer Maxwell is 31. Singer Jewel is 30. Actor Adam Wylie is 20.

### Thought for Today:

"When you shut one eye, you do not hear everything." — Swiss proverb.



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## VOLUNTEER TRAINING AVAILABLE

**In Kentucky 1 out of 9 adult women has been the victim of forcible rape sometime in her lifetime. (According to a study released in 2003: Rape in KY.: a Report to the Commonwealth, Dean Kilpatrick & Kenneth Ruggiero). "Believe me. Rape is a problem.....a problem we CAN talk about."**

**Victims of sexual assault and domestic violence who are being cared for in one of the Big Sandy Area Hospitals are asked by hospital staff, if they would like have to an advocate assist them during the emergency room visit. An advocate is a vital part of a team that is designed to aid a victim of sexual assault or domestic violence during the initial hospital visit. An advocate may assist victims by being supportive, providing information, making referrals, talking with the victim's family and friends or by just being there to listen.**

**The Victim Services Program of Mountain Comprehensive Care Center is offering a free 40-hour training program to prepare participants to become Volunteer Medical Advocates. This training program is one of the requirements a person must meet in order to qualify as a Volunteer Medical Advocate. You must also be at least 20 years of age, complete a criminal records screening and be available for calls as an advocate, usually 5pm-8am week days, and all day on weekends and holidays.**

**If you are interested in becoming a Volunteer Medical Advocate or if you would like to learn more about volunteer programs with Victim Services Program call our Volunteer Coordinator at 606-886-4323.**

PSA



## Road Work

mately 200 to 250, a decline which might force layoffs down the road if the lag in business continues.

"It's killing us," said Foodland manager Junior Curtis. "Business-wise, it's probably affected us by a third. I think they could do a lot better to assist people in getting in and out of this plaza."

Curtis said he's postponing layoffs because he wants to keep his employees working, but in order to compensate for the lack in business, he's had to stop replacing employees who quit working there.

"Thank God for good, loyal customers," he said.

The store operated two checkout lanes Friday, a practice Curtis said was unheard of a few months ago. He suggested that the state widen a private road near the dance studio in the plaza to allow a detour for traffic, a suggestion several business operators in the plaza want to see accomplished.

"The state could work something out, but it's like they don't care," Curtis said. "When tax time comes around, though, they sure like their money."

Curtis, along with several other business managers and owners in the plaza, says that customers are getting frustrated with the construction. Friday,

entrances on both ends of Route 1428 were closed, basically blocking in the plaza, which is now accessible only through back streets like Euclid Avenue. Detours on those access roads change on a daily basis, which adds to the stress for everyone involved.

"I never know which way to go to come to work," Tropical Isle Baywash and Video store clerk Pam Sword said. "It wouldn't be so aggravating if they would just put up signs. A lot of customers take forever to get here, they come late for appointments, that puts us behind. It's a big mess."

A-Plus Rent-to-Own manager Travis Sparks says the same things about how the construction is affecting his business and customers, many of whom travel from out of the county to get to the store.

"Customers will call on their cell phones on their way to an appointment and say, 'Okay, how do I get there today?'" said Angie Phillip, manager of the Brash and Sassy Hair and Spa. Construction, she said, affected her business during the first week, but it is more or less back to normal now, she says, because she allows customers to use the back entrance of the store.

Keith Humble, owner of

Parkway Discount Tobacco, said he visited the store a couple of weeks ago and spent at least a half day "policing" traffic through his drive-thru.

"Last week I went down on them," he said. "When they were working on the street right beside my drive-thru, they were diverting both lanes of traffic through my drive-thru area, completely shutting down my business. I raised total Cain with them ... I understand they gotta do what they gotta do, but they could plan a little better, at least plan with the business owners more. Surely they can do things on one end or the other instead of closing off both sides of the road."

Humble says his store has lost 45-to-50 percent in sales and he's now considering changing store hours to compensate for the decrease in profits.

With complaints increasing in the community and Highland Plaza businesses, workers at the site say they are not so thrilled themselves with the way they've been treated by the public.

"Everybody wants progress, but nobody wants to give up anything for it," foreman Oliver Maynard said.

Maynard says his workers are continually harassed by drivers experiencing road rage and that drivers aiming to get to their des-

tinations are ignoring closed road signs.

"The public shouldn't belittle my workhands like they do," he said. "They're workhands just the same as you and I. They [the community] are the ones that wanted the new street and new utilities. We just bid the job. We're doing the best we can do, that's all I can say. If the businesses got any questions, they can come and talk to me personally."

The Transportation Cabinet continues to request that the public remain patient with the project.

"We just need to make sure they are aware that it is a major reconstruction of a roadway," said Doug Wright, manager of the Highway Department's construction branch. "The job consists of a lot of work. It gets a little confusing when several different groups of contractors are doing different things. It's quite confusing to some people and aggravating to everyone, but it's a necessary evil that has to be done."

Business managers complain that workers at the site are rude to customers traveling the road, an accusation Wright said the department is trying to keep a handle on.

"We can't control all of the workers, but state department workers have definitely been told to work in a polite manner," he



photo by Mary Music

Several businesses affected by construction along University Drive have taken to using detour signs to post directions to their stores.

said. "We understand when we block traffic, it's stressful. Some people's tempers get out of whack and they holler out the windows. We're doing what we can do."

Wood said the department would consider making a different access road if the owners of the private driveway comply and if such construction would be "beneficial" to all entities involved.

"It's frustrating. A lot of work is being done right now. A lot of stuff is tore up and messed up. It's necessary to get the job done as fast as we can so we can get it paved before winter," he said.

The Highway Department began the project as a way to reduce traffic collisions. More than 150 accidents were reported on the stretch from 2000 to 2003,

officials reported.

The construction will widen the 10-foot stretch to 12 feet and provide a center turning lane.

"It has its pros and cons," Rocky Rowe, manager of Home Furniture, said. "There not as much walkthrough traffic in our store, but the plus is that now the people who come in, they're buying ... The fact of the matter is that it's going to be awesome business-wise down here when the construction is completed and that will help us tremendously. I can't really say a thing about how it's affected our business, but I can say that if you sell a good product, and you have a good price and a good financing program available, and you have good service with good people, they're gonna find you no matter what."

## Gas prices

realistic level. There's a lot of price gouging going on. I know those oil companies are making billions while we're sitting back here starving."

Osborne's concerns about the rising prices resonated throughout Prestonsburg Friday as people pulled in to fill up at stations where prices have surpassed the \$2 mark.

"We're going to have to go with bicycles after a while, or horse and buggies," Pikeville resident Michael Rogers said. Rogers, who hauls gravel, said he and his wife spend \$60 to \$80 per week in gas to get back and forth to work. Increasing prices, he said, has forced him to pay his monthly electric bill "a little at a time."

"Something's going to have to be done," he said. "It wasn't like that until Bush got in there."

East Point resident Damian Stepp, a teacher at Johnson Central who filled up at Speedway in Prestonsburg, says he and his wife, who average 100 miles a day, no longer have money to participate in leisure activities they once enjoyed. He says increasing gas prices are creating "an added frustration" for his family.

"I just spent \$31 in a midsize. I've never done that before, until recently," he said. "For the most part, we're all still buying gas. We can pass up certain things, but we

need food and gas."

Stepp says the government should dip into oil reserves to compensate for the rise in prices, a suggestion also made by Prestonsburg resident Pauletta Burke.

"I just think the prices are really too high," she said. "People go to work, and don't make enough to drive to work."

To compensate for the rise in prices, Burke says she's stopped "making the trips to Wal-Mart" like she used to and she tries to get all her errands completed in one trip, a solution several people discussed Friday.

Releasing those reserves, she said, would "alleviate the burden on the working man."

Increasing gas prices are also adversely affecting convenience stores and businesses in the area. Several convenient store clerks and managers declined to comment when questioned about the situation Friday, but revealed their frustrations about becoming the target of frustration in the community.

"I just have to pay the same prices as everybody else," Belinda Case, manager of Tiger Mart on U.S. 23, said.

One employee with Guyan Heavy Equipment Company in Prestonsburg said that the rising

prices, if they continue, will be detrimental to employees.

"If a company's out 20 to 25 percent more in gas, they're not going to give out raises," he said. "It pisses me off every time I fill my tank. They charge what they want to charge, and it's affecting my company and me personally. It's destroying the bottom line and I don't know how much longer we can take it."

The Guyan Company, he says, spends \$6,000 to \$7,000 per week on gas. Friday, his fill-up — one of three he purchases each week — rounded the \$60 mark. Mechanical trucks owned by the company, he said, cost \$250 each fill-up.

"The most important thing that people should know is that our local people just don't have any control on the prices," said Tony Skeans, owner of the Marathon station at Bull Creek. "More and more, it's up to the higher and higher ups on top."

Skeans says he purchases gas for \$1.90 wholesale.

Several concerned citizens addressed concerns Friday regarding "price gouging" in the area, an accusation denied by the Marathon Ashland Petroleum Company, which supplies gas all

## Court

Continued from p1

County will have 17 fewer residents on the streets who can sell illegal drugs to others. The bad news is that drugs remain the primary portion of the docket and our court personnel spend more than 80 percent of their time working on drug related cases.

Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Wayne Taylor pointed out that drugs even played a part in other cases on the docket. Amanda Guess admitted that she would fail a drug screening during her sentencing, though she was in court on theft charges.

Floyd Countians are aware of the problem and sent their message last month when a jury gave Liz Goble the maximum sentence of 10 years for her first trafficking offense. Her formal sentencing was part of Friday's proceedings and Judge Caudill stuck to the prosecutor's recommendation.

The Commonwealth's Attorney Office has developed a strict policy on drug traffickers which Taylor summed up, "If you are dealing drugs, you're going to get a felony conviction and go to jail."

## Resident hits nerve at fiscal court meeting

by TOM DOTY  
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Friday's monthly meeting of the Floyd County Fiscal Court got a fair amount of resolutions passed despite a bumpy start that saw an irritated citizen disrupt the proceedings. The man, Jerry Banks, began by interrupting the calling of the role and eventually prompted an exasperated Judge-Executive Paul Thompson to proclaim, "One of us is going to run this meeting and it ain't gonna be you."

Banks was also upset that County Attorney Keith Bartley was late to the meeting. Bartley, however, was not surprised at this development.

"I prosecuted his daughter [Jerrica M. Banks] for impersonating a police officer," Bartley said.

That incident involved Banks using her phone to misrepresent herself as a state trooper named Vicki Eversole. She pleaded guilty to the charge and got a 90-day sentence that was probated for one year.

Banks claimed to be a representative of the taxpayers and directed most of his complaints to the community center in Martin. His stance, however, sprang from a false notion that it was paid for by Floyd County taxes when, in fact, the renovations were came from a state grant. Thompson's assistant,

Brett Davis, toured the center later with Banks, but couldn't find any evidence of faulty work done at the sight.

Business approved at the meeting included:

■ A staff person, Sandra Allen, who was hired for a short period to bring costs of solid waste management in line, was brought in as a full-time employee.

■ A resolution was passed to pay some bills on a monthly basis so that there would be none of the penalty cost attached to those bills, like telephone service, which automatically incur late penalties.

■ A resolution was passed to rehire a jail employee when he returns from active military service.

■ Several resolutions were passed to pay existing bills for services to the jail, with the most funds going to Highlands Regional Medical Center for bills generated by care for inmates.

■ Several staff members were hired for park service jobs for the summer season.

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Continued from p1

across the midwest and southeast portions of the country.

Rob Wood, manager of communications at the Finley, Ohio, company headquarters, said that rising gas prices are based on the rise in crude oil.

"Gas prices are principally driven by the rise in crude oil prices, which is the largest single cost factor in the price of gas," he said. "If our corn farmers who are raising corn to sell want to know what it sells for, they consult the commodities exchange to see what it sells for. Every refinery across the country does the same thing when it comes down to pricing their gasoline."

Crude oil reached an all-time high Monday, topping out at \$41.85 per barrel, as reported in the Wall Street Journal.

With trading for gas at \$1.47 per gallon wholesale, Wood said, consumers get the additional costs of approximately 60 cents for taxes, transportation, storage and a "modest" profit for the refinery companies.

The Saudi Oil Minister announced Friday that he wanted to increase production to 2 million barrels, a factor which would alleviate the problem, Wood said.

Still, the global economics of the oil industry matter little to ordinary people who are feeling the pinch in their pocketbooks.

"I'm going to have to start walking to work," said Sara Childers, a Tiger Mart clerk.

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# expression

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

## GuestView

### Fletcher gets win, but not carte blanche

Gov. Ernie Fletcher found a lot to like in the results of the primary elections. On the Republican side, losers included political rivals and those who questioned his tactics before falling in line, while the winners included GOP establishment candidates and those who helped Fletcher get elected last fall. On the Democrat side, voters shot down some of the more well-known candidates, suggesting Republicans may have an easier time come November. The danger to the state is that Fletcher and his followers will use Tuesday's results as an unbridled endorsement of his policies and strategies and proceed as they have been for the past few months, only now more determined than ever not to compromise on the budget and tax reform. That's the opposite of what the state needs. This election was more of a distraction than anything else. During crucial times it focused officials' attention on pandering to voters and weighing decisions based on the political ramifications instead of economic ones. Thankfully, it's time to get back to work. And there's a lot of it.

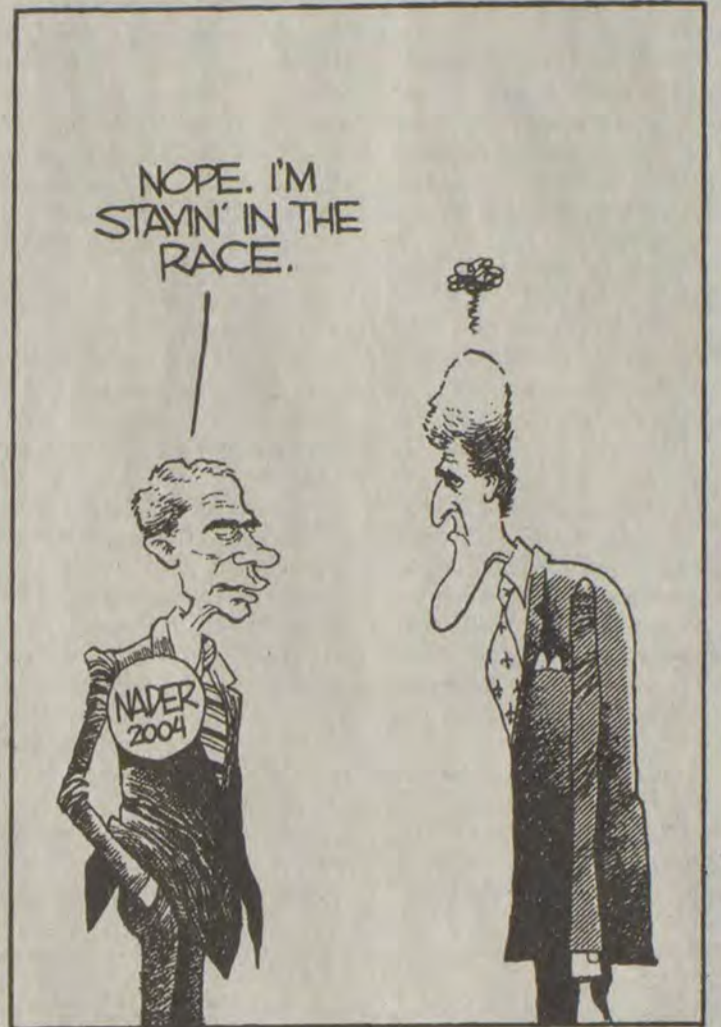
House and Senate leaders who failed to write a budget during the legislative session have until June 30 to make another run at it. This is especially important to northern Kentucky because if they fail and Fletcher is forced to run the state with an executive branch budget, the region will lose tens of millions of dollars and bonding authority set aside for a special events arena and buildings at Northern Kentucky University and Gateway Community and Technical College.

Sen. Dick Roeding of Lakeside Park won his primary in an impressive fashion Tuesday by touting his power as Senate president pro tem. We didn't endorse him in part because we don't think he has fully used that position to benefit northern Kentucky. We hope he uses this opportunity to prove us wrong. He can demonstrate his influence in a bold way by persuading the rest of Senate leadership to drop its pairing of the budget and Fletcher's tax modernization plan, a pairing that helped doom the prospects of both.

In return, House leaders must commit to discussing Fletcher's tax plan with an open mind — before November. At the same time, Senate Republicans and Fletcher's administration must be open to suggested changes. While bold, the tax plan isn't bold enough.

Contrary to what some might suggest, for the most part the public isn't sure and doesn't care who's to blame for the stalemate in Frankfort. They just want it fixed. With Tuesday over, let's get it done.

— *The Kentucky Post*



— Jim Davidson

### How 'Toad Suck' got its name

A few weeks ago I got a phone call from Dr. Dan MacMillan, president of Bluefield College in Bluefield, Va. I met Dr. MacMillan back on April 20, 2001, when I was the keynote speaker for the college's Annual Media Appreciation Day in Bluefield.

Dan told me that he and his wife Sandy were going to be attending an educator's conference in nearby Branson, Mo., and they wanted to drive down to Conway and take me and Viola out to dinner. It was a wonderful opportunity to renew our acquaintance and after spending some time together, we are now friends, because Dan and Sandy are definitely our kind of people.

Soon after sitting down at the dinner table, I learned that the MacMillans had never been to our state. The first thing Dan said to me was, "Tell me about Arkansas." Of course this was like saying, "Sic 'em," to a dog. I gave him a quick overview of the "Natural State" and told him that we were the 25th state to enter the union on June 15, 1836, and we had 75 counties with approximately 2.4 million people, with Little Rock being the capitol city. I also told him that Arkansas was pronounced Ark-in-saw, but spelled Ar-Kansas. This was

the result of a dispute that arose back in the 1800s and was resolved by a compromise in the state legislature.

Since the Arkansas River was only a few miles west of town, I told him about the tremendous economic impact it has had on our state. Back in the late 1960s I was involved as a volunteer in the Little Rock Chamber of Commerce and this was about the time the McClellan-Kerr Navigation Project was being completed at a cost of \$1.2 billion. What this project entailed was the Corps of Engineers constructing a series of 21 locks and dams from the confluence of the Arkansas River and the Mississippi River in extreme south-east Arkansas all the way to the Port of Catoosa, near Tulsa in eastern Oklahoma.

This created pools of water that could be regulated to always maintain a depth of nine feet or more to allow barge traffic to travel this waterway. The shipment of goods by water is one of the cheapest modes of transportation, so you can see what this has meant to our state and others all along the way.

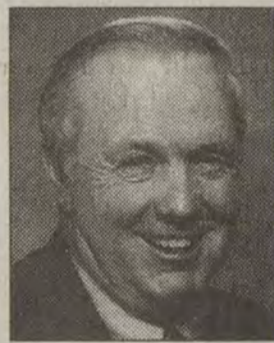
When I told Dan this, it reminded me of "Toad Suck," which is the name of

the lock and dam which is located on the river just west of Conway. I also went on to tell him about the great festival that is held here in Conway the first weekend of May each year, that draws up to 150,000 people, called "Toad Suck Daze." It's a big event with all the television stations doing live broadcasts and interviews, along with crafts, events and food galore. Our Lions Club raises money to help the blind, visually and hearing impaired by selling Sausage-On-The-Stick and you would not believe the people who line up four or five deep to get one of them. It's a fun time for all and getting bigger each year. This past year was the 22nd annual and lots of volunteers work hard to make it a big success.

When I mentioned "toad," Dan gave me some good advice that I had never heard before. He said, "If you have to swallow a frog, don't look at it too long and if you have to swallow a lot of frogs, always swallow the big one first." That's good to know and I'll keep it in mind in case I ever have to swallow any.

But on a more serious note, many people over the past several years have asked me how "Toad Suck" got its name. Now there are a lot of local peo

(See **DAVIDSON**, page eight)



### — beyond the beltway

### Congressional secrecy is costing us

by JILL LANCELOT

*Editor's note: Columnist Donald Kaul is on vacation this week.*

The control of classified government information is necessary to keep our nation safe and secure. However, over the last three years, the breadth and extent of secrecy in Washington has gotten out of control. Now many critical aspects of federal government operations are cloaked with an unprecedented level of secrecy. After a decades-long trend of increasing government openness, this Congress and administration are making increasing amounts of information unavailable to taxpayers. Some point to the different world we live in after the tragic events of Sept. 11 as justification for this lack of transparency. However, there are a number of well-reported examples, such as the Energy task force, that do not have a credible link to national security.

While the free flow of information is a hallmark of the Internet age, congressional committees are becoming known for closing hearings and bill mark-ups when there's even a whiff of national security or

issues of security clearance. A small portion of Capitol Hill legislation may deal with national security items, but the whole process is becoming more and more closed. For example, appropriations subcommittees have taken to meeting in tiny rooms that don't have adequate space to accommodate the number of people interested in watching the deliberations and decisions of their legislators.

Also, all too common these days is the regularity with which no one knows what is in the key legislation that is being debated by Congress. Republicans or Democrats, members of Congress don't seem to want their constituents to see what they're putting in the legislative sausage. Here are several ways legislation is becoming more secret and more expensive:

Rewritten behind closed doors — After the House and Senate have each passed legislation, conference negotiators are rewriting the legislation behind closed doors, and often in the dead of the night. The resulting bills wind up containing "sweetener" provisions that were never included in either of the two original versions. This undercuts the legislative process and gives undue influence to those who have friends in high places. Spending bills, energy, Medicare and the Iraq spending legislation are just a few examples of this phenomenon.

Massive bills aren't properly evaluated — Instead of following the normal legislative procedure, final versions of bills are only being made available a few days or even hours before the House or Senate

vote is scheduled to take place. Not only does the public not know what are in these bills, many lawmakers are forced to rely on "Cliff Notes" write-ups to determine whether or not to vote for the legislation. Congress has passed several massive spending bills with virtually no accountability and the sheer size of these thousand-page legislative tomes enable a lot of special interest pork to be hidden in plain sight.

Billions added at the last minute — In the recent transportation bill, more than \$390 million was added at the last minute for two Alaskan projects, which are represented by Rep. Don Young, chairman of the committee that wrote the legislation. Most lawmakers learned about these provisions after the legislation was passed and there was nothing they could do to fix it.

Limited Disclosure — In 1995, following up on a "Contract with America" promise, then-Speaker Newt Gingrich announced the creation of Thomas, an Internet site of Library of Congress that provides copies of bills and congressional records. While a significant advance over what was previously available — virtually nothing — there are still large gaps of information, such as the versions of legislation as it makes its way through the legislative process. Thomas includes versions of bills as they are first introduced and versions of them as they passed the chamber, but any interim steps are impossible to find unless the committee makes them

(See **BELTWAY**, page eight)

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# Faith Extra

## Minister's Moment: Drawing nearer to the Savior

by **RANDELL RENO**  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR  
LANCER BAPTIST CHURCH

"Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded". — James 4:8. In just a few weeks we will celebrate the 228th anniversary of the founding of the United States of America. With the passing of time and the aging of America we see a very different country now compared

to that which was born in 1776.

Despite what many cynics would have us to believe, the USA was truly founded by Christians who were fleeing religious oppression and were in pursuance of freedom of expression of their religious beliefs. This same country now rejects most or all of the primal beliefs and the values system which literally carved the U.S.

I believe if we put the modern day church under the same

microscope we would find that the membership of our churches are also vastly different from those who gave birth to our great nation and that fact creates a heavy sadness in me, a fellow shepherd of God's people. The original settlers of this country literally lived the gospel of Jesus Christ. They put God first, their families second and all else fell to third and so on.

In today's flock the majority of our members are putting themselves first, their jobs

second, their outside relationships third, and somewhere after comes the kids, maybe the spouse and then, "If I have time," God. And we wonder in our great pursuit of things why we can't find contentment.

As you go to services today (or not) I would plead with each of you to stop for just a moment and let the Great and Awesome God of the Universe, the very Creator, speak to you. Somewhere along your spiritual path you began a relationship with Him. Maybe now that relationship is cold or even lukewarm.

Isn't it funny when we get into trouble we ask "where was God?" The truth is He never left. Jesus said "I'll never leave you nor forsake you." So, if God is missing in your life, you moved, not

Him. Jesus described this generation of the church in Matthew saying "These people draw near to Me with their mouth, And honor Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me". — Matthew 15:8.

In my pursuit of God, I am learning that I cannot live a day without the comfort of knowing my best friend is beside me. If I do not stay close to Him how will I know Him when the time of troubles comes upon this earth? "And He said 'Take heed that you not be deceived. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am He,' and, 'The time has drawn near. Therefore do not go after them. Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.'" - Luke 21:8, 28

Jesus is waiting on you. He just wants to speak with you one on one, in the silence of morning, in the stillness of the night, in the rush of your busy day. Please take the time to give Him your time. "For the law made nothing perfect; on the other hand, there is the bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God. Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, and having a High Priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water." — Hebrews 7:19, 10:22.

## Regional Obituaries

### FLOYD COUNTY

William Jeffery "Billy" Dingus, 39, of Martin, died Wednesday, May 19, at his residence. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, May 22, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Bert Hicks, 84, of Silver Lake, Indiana, formerly of Garrett, died Monday, May 17, at his residence. Funeral services were conducted Friday, May 21, under the direction of Delaughter-McKee Mortuary, in North Manchester, Indiana.

Elder Ersel Huff, 81, of Drift, died Thursday, May 13, at Central Baptist Hospital, in Lexington. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, May 16, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Arnold Lowe, 91, of Eastern, died Monday, May 17, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, May 20, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Dockie Prater, 86, of Huesville, died Monday, May 17, at McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, May 20, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Kathy Ann Robinson, 48, of Allen, died Sunday, May 16, at her home. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, May 19, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

James Wesley Neal Slone, age 3 months, 23 days, died Wednesday, May 19, at UK Medical Center, in Lexington. He was the infant son of Jason Neal and Jacqueline Michelle Caudill Slone, of Lowmansville. Graveside services were conducted Saturday, May 22, at Combs Cemetery, on Big Branch, in Viper, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

### KNOTT COUNTY

Kenneth Adrian "Teddy" Collins Sr., 61, of Jacks Creek, died Tuesday, May 11, at Bellevue Hospital, in Bellevue, Ohio. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, May 16, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Carlesor Combes, 66, of Louisville, formerly of Knott County, died Tuesday, May 11, at the University of Louisville Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, May 15, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

Pauline Combs, 67, of Kite, died Friday, May 14, at Pikeville Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Monday, May 17, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Una Fields, 90, of Sassafras, died Thursday, May 13, at the Hazard Appalachian Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were con-

ducted Saturday, May 15, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

Robert Eugene Rucker, 74, of McRoberts, died Thursday, May 13, at Appalachian Regional Healthcare Center, in Whitesburg. Funeral services were conducted Monday, May 17, under the direction of Letcher Funeral Home.

### MAGOFFIN COUNTY

James Gipson, 72, of Salyersville, died Thursday, May 13, at Paul B. Hall Medical Center, in Paintsville. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, May 16, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

Erma Irene Lykins, 79, of Albion, Michigan, formerly of Salyersville, died Saturday, May 15, at her residence. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, May 19, under the direction of J. Kevin Tidd Funeral Home, in Albion, Michigan.

Harvey Salyer Jr., 61, of Bellefontaine, Ohio, formerly of Salyersville, died Sunday, May 16, at Ohio State University Hospital, in Columbus. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, May 19, under the direction of the Paintsville Funeral Home.

Susie Arnett Stephens, 91, of Rochester, Indiana, native of Salyersville, died Friday, May 14, at Woodlawn Hospital, in Rochester. Funeral services were conducted Monday, May 17, under the direction of Foster & Good Funeral Home, in Rochester, Indiana.

### JOHNSON COUNTY

Elizabeth Blevins, 63, of Paintsville, died Monday, May 3, at King's Daughters Medical Center, in Ashland. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, May 6, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

Irlene Faye Spears Johnson, 79, of Hager Hill, died Wednesday, May 5, at Riverview Health Care Center, in Prestonsburg. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, May 8, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

Marie Taylor, 79, of Fostoria, Ohio, formerly of Johnson County, died Monday, May 10, at St. Catherine's Care Center, in Fostoria, Ohio. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, May 15, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

Myrtle Ward, 74, of River, died Tuesday, May 11, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, May 13, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

Roger Williams, 87, of Williamsport, Ohio, formerly of Paintsville, died Saturday, May 15, at his residence.

Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, May 19, under the direction of Porter Funeral Home, in Mt. Sterling, Ohio.

### MARTIN COUNTY

Elma Ward Mosley, 84, of Inez, died Friday, May 14, at St. Joseph Hospital, in Lexington. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, May 16, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

### LAWRENCE COUNTY

Mary Ann Ison Maxie, 26, of Martha, died Wednesday, May 12, at her residence. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, May 15, under the direction of Eldridge Funeral Home.

Laura Mae Workman Adkins, 50, of Louisa, died Sunday, May 16, at King's Daughters Medical Center, in Ashland. Graveside services were conducted Tuesday, May 18, under the direction of Young Funeral Home.

### PIKE COUNTY

Joyce Bevins, 70, of Meta, died Thursday, May 20, at Mountain View Health Care Center, in Elkhorn City. Funeral services will be conducted Sunday, May 23, under the direction of Community Funeral Home.

Donna Greer, 59, of Pikeville, died Tuesday, May 18, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, May 22, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Gene Hale Sr., 79, of Parsippany, New Jersey, formerly of Pike County, died Wednesday, February 4. Memorial services were conducted Saturday, May 22, at Annie E. Young Cemetery, on Chloe Road, under the direction of Thacker Memorial Funeral Home.

Myrtle Ray, 92, of Pikeville, died Sunday, May 16, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, May 19, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Judy Riley, 66, of Huntsville, Alabama, formerly of Pike County, died Thursday, May 13, at her home. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, May 15, under the direction of Valhalla Funeral Home.

Luther Mart Smith, 68, of Williamson, West Virginia, died Thursday, May 20, at his home. Graveside services were conducted Saturday, May 22, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

## Camp Shawnee offers affordable summer fun

The Christian Appalachian Project's (CAP) Camp Shawnee is located on Dewey Lake at Jenny Wiley State Park in Floyd County.

The camp has been used to serve the youth of Appalachia since the early 1950s. Camp Shawnee was a Boy Scout camp during its first 30-plus years, and CAP took over the camp in the mid 1980s.

The camp is located on 300 acres of land belonging to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Camp Shawnee has a large swimming pool, hiking trails, lake front areas, dock, paddle boats, canoes, two large dorms, kitchen & dining hall, administration building, chapel, arts and crafts/environmental classroom, two large covered pavilions, a large deck and a baseball field.

Several different groups in the community use Camp

Shawnee. The camp hosts area church groups, scouting events, trainings and retreats.

In the summer CAP conducts camp at Camp Shawnee. This is an overnight Monday through Friday camp for children ages 6 to 15 years. The cost is only \$10 for an entire week of camp. This pays for everything — food, lodging, etc. The schedule for this summer is as follows:

2004 SUMMER CAMP SCHEDULE  
 ■ JUNE 14-18 BOYS & GIRLS CAMP, 6-8 years old (Limit 40 boys and 40 girls)  
 ■ JUNE 21-25 BOYS & GIRLS CAMP, 9-10 years old (Limit 40 boys and 40 girls)  
 ■ JUNE 28-JULY 2 BOYS CAMP, 11-12 years old (Limit 80 boys)

■ JULY 5-9 GIRLS CAMP, 11-12 years old (Limit 80 girls)

■ JULY 12-16 BOYS TEEN CAMP, 13-15 years old (Limit 80 boys)

■ JULY 19-23 GIRLS TEEN CAMP, 13-15 years old (Limit 80 girls)

■ JULY 26-30 OFF SITE DAY CAMPS, Weeksbury Day Camp (at the Weeksbury Community Center), Jones Fork Day Camp (at Jones Fork Elementary School). These two-day camps are from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. They are for boys and girls ages 6 to 13 years old (limit 80 at each site).

Anyone interested in any information concerning Camp Shawnee can call (606) 874-2091. Applications for the summer camp are available at any Family Resource Center in the elementary schools located in the Big Sandy region.



CAP Corner

## Summons

Continued from p1

based on a complaint filed May 6 by the Hardys, has prompted numerous people in Floyd and surrounding counties to make similar complaints about the social services.

Omerod said Friday that his office has turned over several such complaints to the state Inspector General's office for investigation. Some of those complaints seem valid, Omerod said, whereas others appear frivolous.

Omerod met with Inspector General Robert Benvenuti and

Michael Robinson, commissioner with the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, this week to discuss the ongoing investigation.

Neither returned calls of inquiry into the matter.

"We're not able to talk about this right now," their spokesperson, Gil Lawson said.

Repeated calls over the past few weeks to attorney Craig Davis, who is representing Newsome, have not been returned.

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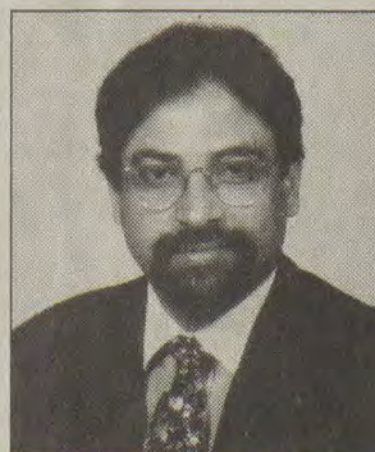
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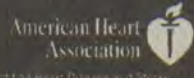


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# Forty years on, some places still fighting, recovering from, War on Poverty

by ALLEN G. BREED  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ECKMAN, W.Va. — Staring blankly from behind a curtain of bangs, Amanda Mullins has an outlook that's as black as the coal heaped in the railroad gondolas rumbling down the tracks behind her.

Childhood dreams of becoming a pediatrician died with the birth of a son and an education cut short after the 10th grade. At 18, unwed and on welfare, Mullins has set her sights on earning her high school equivalency diploma so she and her baby can follow that coal out of McDowell County.

"He's just going to follow right in my footsteps if he stays here," Mullins says over the squeal of the passing train. "Ain't no future here 'cause

ain't no jobs here."

Forty years after President Lyndon B. Johnson declared "War on Poverty," McDowell County seems more like an orphan — some would say victim — of that struggle.

Whether measured in miles of road paved or high school diplomas earned, there is no question that Appalachia has come a long way since it was famously called "The Other America."

The regional poverty rate has been slashed from 31 percent in 1960 to 13.6 percent in 2000, just over a point higher than the national average. And the percentage of adults in the region with a high school education or better has increased by more than 70 percent.

Nearly 2,300 miles of roads through Appalachia have been

completed at a cost of \$6.2 billion, and federal grants have given more than 800,000 families access to clean water and sanitation facilities.

But while many parts of this 13-state region that stretches from New York to Mississippi have reached parity with the nation as a whole, rural central Appalachia remains very much a region apart.

In its most remote, rugged stretches, the poverty rate remains about double the nation's. Per capita and family income in these areas are only about two-thirds of the U.S. average.

As metropolitan areas spread to include much of official Appalachia, and resources are directed at regional growth centers, the areas of entrenched poverty face an "outlook that is

still fairly grim," says Ohio University sociologist Ann Tickamyer.

"I think what we'll see in the near future is more of the same — sort of nibbling away at the edges," says Tickamyer, co-author of a soon-to-be-released study of the region's depressed areas. "And the persistence of severe poverty, the most severe poverty, in the most remote areas."

McDowell County is one such area.

From the time in the 1880s when prospectors spotted that first 12-foot seam of coal glistening like black gold from one of the region's innumerable, V-shaped valleys, McDowell County's fate was sealed, its fortunes seemingly tied to the boom and bust cycles of the

mining industry.

At one time, the county's population swelled to more than 100,000, a fifth of those employed digging the coal that forged the steel and generated the electricity that propelled the United States to economic dominance. Last year, more than 4 million tons of coal rolled out of this southernmost West Virginia county, but it took barely 700 people to produce it.

Of the county's remaining 26,000 residents, 37.7 percent live in poverty, the median household income is less than \$17,000, and more than 80 percent of the students in every McDowell school qualify for free or reduced-price lunches.

It ranks last in West Virginia in economic sustainability and general health; first for its rate of diabetes, low birth weights,

births to unwed mothers, suicide, homicide and sudden infant death. The life expectancy of 64.5 years for men is about 13 years less than the national average.

Some say the statistics arise from, and feed into, a generational cycle of apathy and hopelessness.

During coal's heyday, the mining companies supplied most people's needs, from jobs to housing to sewage to medical care. With the War on Poverty, the government replaced that "coal-camp mentality" with another kind of dependency, says Jo-Claire Datson, a program director with the Council of the Southern Mountains and president of the county's rural health advisory board.

"You're dealing with a population in which those who were raised with work ethics and who really want to work have left, for the most part," says Datson, who left an analyst position with Dun & Bradstreet seven years ago to give back to her native community. Those remaining here, she says, may not be against working, "but they don't know how."

Four decades after the nation's first food stamps were issued at a little grocery store in the county seat of Welch, McDowell suffers from what one local relief worker calls a "poverty of imagination ... a poverty of role models."

Outside the old train depot that serves as the War City Hall, a sign declares that "Children are our Future." But the stately cut-stone and ornate brick buildings that dot the streets of War and other former coal boom-towns stand as derelict, haunting reminders of a once-prosperous past.

Not far down the road, in a hollow overlooking a gently gurgling creek, Ralph Hagerman is a living monument to coal's place as both blessing and bane.

Hagerman left school in the eighth grade to work in the mines. At 16, he was "shooting from the solid" — packing a drilled hole with dynamite and blasting the coal from the seam.

Eventually, Hagerman signed up with the United Mine Workers union. He rose to roof bolter, earning \$14 an hour driving steel rods to secure mine ceilings. Once he had to be dug out of a roof fall; another time, a bucking auger hit him in the head, giving him what locals jokingly call a "coal miner's tattoo."

By 1986, after 14 years in union mines, Hagerman was used up. Years of breathing coal dust had fouled his lungs.

(See **SOLDIERS**, page eight)

(See **WAR**, page eight)

## Soldiers in 'War on Poverty' look back on lifetime in Appalachia; say fight is not over

by ROGER ALFORD  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

When former President Lyndon Johnson declared war on poverty, he issued a call for people who would fight to rid Appalachia and the nation of the paradox of poverty in the midst of plenty.

"Your pay will be low; the conditions of your labor often will be difficult," Johnson told the first wave of people who enlisted in the cause through Volunteers in Service to America, or VISTA. "But you will have the satisfaction of leading a great national effort, and you will have the ultimate reward which comes to those who serve their fellow man."

Since then, tens of thousands of people, including carpenters, plumbers, teachers, lawyers and doctors, have come to serve in impoverished communities in central Appalachia.

Some were derided as Yankee outsiders, liberal dogooders, revenueurs, communists or worse. Most went back home after fulfilling their minimum tour of service. Others stayed longer, but finally succumbed to the realities of the region.

Forty years after Johnson's declaration, those who stuck it out for the long haul are now reaching retirement age and looking back with varying degrees of satisfaction. These are a few of their stories:

**WHITESBURG** — More than anything else, Bill Richardson remembers the flimsy shacks.

The tarpaper structures that dotted the eastern Kentucky hillsides when he arrived in 1965 were hardly enough to ward off the cold of winter, even with coal stoves blazing inside. Basic plumbing was an oddity in many of the isolated communities he visited at the time. Outhouses were still the norm.

As a Yale graduate student in architecture, Richardson's vision was to improve the quality of life by designing a type of affordable house that could be built on the steep slopes, out of the reach of spring floods.

Called a pole house, the design was simple, sort of like a house on stilts. But mobile homes became the affordable housing of choice, and Richardson's vision survives today only as a museum-piece prototype, a relic to the kind of well-intentioned idealism that never took off.

Rather than give up and go home, Richardson kept at it, designing numerous homes and schools across Appalachia. With a federal grant in 1969, he organized a film workshop that he thought would be a fun, temporary aside to his real work. It turned out to be the means by which he would leave an indelible mark on the region.

That workshop involving a few high school students toting cameras around the mountains spawned the present day Appalshop, an arts and education center that has produced and distributed more than 100 documentaries that have given the nation a close-up look at Appalachian issues.

With an annual operating budget of about \$1 million

Appalshop also operates community radio station WMMT-FM that offers programming specifically for residents of central Appalachia. Billing itself as "the voice of the hillbilly nation," the station reaches parts of Kentucky, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia.

Now 60, Richardson sat in a corner table of his wife's cafe in this mining town of 1,200 and paused to reflect how he never intended to stay more than a couple of years.

"Every time we were about to wrap up our work here, then another project equally interesting would come along," he says. "I'm pretty pleased with the way things have worked out. It's hard to imagine any other way."

Today, he's proud of the mark he's made, and glad that a combination of jobs and public assistance has raised the standard of living enough to all but eliminate the tarpaper shacks he first encountered.

"We're still out on the edge here in many ways," he says. "But we've seen wholesale change since the mid-1960s. It's not the same place that it once was. It's nice to be able to look back and see that it really was worth it."

**MANCHESTER** — Judy Martin was born in Cincinnati. But, in many ways, she always lived in the mountains her parents had left during World War II in search of work.

The family lived in a section of the city derisively known as "Little Kentucky," where the Appalachian diaspora congregated in neighborhoods named after their home counties: Perry, Leslie, Jackson, Clay. Her parents had 36 siblings between them, and they went home any chance they got.

When it came time for college, Martin chose Berea College, an abolitionist-founded school with a tradition of service to the Appalachian people. She arrived just as the government was launching its "War on Poverty."

As part of the federally funded Appalachian Volunteers, Martin worked 20 hours a week, traveling to many of the region's 300 one-room schoolhouses. They put together science experiment kits, developed art projects and brought foreign students in to introduce isolated children to their folklore, food and customs.

"It was such an exciting, hopeful time," she says. "I mean, it was just like the sun coming out for the first time."

Martin became a paid staffer with the program following college. Before long, it was among the "Great Society" programs that fell to the wayside.

But Martin remained. For nearly the past two decades, Martin has been director of Appalachian Communities for Children, a community-based nonprofit organization that focuses on literacy. One goal is to give 16 new books a year to each child in each of the organization's 500 member families, and to have the older children read to the younger ones.

The way Martin sees it, the War on Poverty never quite overcame the local power struc-

ture in many mountain counties, where certain factions had an interest in continuing the status quo. Money was misspent, and the nation's attention became focused elsewhere.

"That excitement and that enthusiasm has all sort of soured," she says. "The light sort of went out. Dimmed, I should say."

Now, at 58, she looks around — at her area's high dropout rates, high unemployment, the three nearby factories that recently closed — and wonders what could be accomplished if the government dedicated just a portion of the money it's spending on the war in Iraq. She applauds the War on Poverty's goals, if not its execution.

"I just think it was a promise that didn't come true for a lot of people," she says. "Was it worthwhile? I would say, yes. Did it accomplish what it could have? I would say, no."

**PRESTONBURG** — As an attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice in the 1960s, John Rosenberg was on a track that could have made him one of the nation's top prosecutors, or led to a major firm in Washington or New York.

He opted instead to work in relative obscurity in a small town in eastern Kentucky, standing up in court for people who had no money to pay for legal services.

"Oh, I would absolutely do it again," he says. "I feel good about my work here. I'm happy

to have had the opportunity to help people who needed a hand."

Rosenberg, 73 and recently retired, looks back with a sense of accomplishment, pointing with pride to being a part of efforts to protect the poor from exploitation of coal companies, courthouse bosses and loan sharks.

"Very few lawyers who were here would take cases for people who couldn't afford to pay them and who had very little chance of winning," Rosenberg says. "But we knew the problems were real and that there was a lot of work to be done."

With federal funds devoted to the war on poverty, Rosenberg formed the Appalachian Research and Defense Fund and hired a small band of public defense lawyers to help with the work load.

When they began filing lawsuits on behalf of poor mountain residents, some called them outside agitators, even communists.

Most cases involved suing corporations that were exploiting the poor, whether by opening mines on their land without permission, selling defective mobile homes to the unwary or loaning money at such high interest rates that borrowers were pushed into financial ruin.

Rosenberg's lawyers joined other groups to challenge the "broad form deed," which allowed coal companies with century-old mineral deeds to dig coal with or without the landowners' permission. After

## Work of Appalachian agency unfinished; critics say distressed areas left behind

by NANCY ZUCKERBROD  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**WASHINGTON** — After nearly 40 years and almost \$10 billion in federal spending, only eight of the 410 counties in Appalachia are equal to or better than the national average on indicators such as per-capita income, poverty and unemployment rates.

Some say that shows the agency dedicated to lifting Appalachia out of poverty has fallen short of its mission and focused too much of its resources on the region's most populous areas rather than its most distressed.

But Appalachian Regional Commission chairwoman Anne Pope says the eight so-called "attainment" counties only tell part of the agency's story.

She noted that the number of counties in the region that are considered "distressed" have been reduced from 223 to 91 since 1965. Those are counties with poverty and unemployment rates that are at least one-and-a-half times the national average.

"We've come a long way, but we have a little bit more to go," says Pope, who grew up in the Appalachian town of Kingsport, Tenn.

The agency was formed under President Lyndon Johnson at the urging of Appalachian

governors in 1965, a year after the start of the War on Poverty. The two crusades were separate but linked in their bid to eradicate poverty. While the War on Poverty became a national program, the ARC's focus has been exclusively on Appalachia.

The commission defines the region as a 13-state area that loosely follows the spine of the Appalachian mountains from New York to Mississippi.

The governors of each of the 13 states help set the commission's policy and decide which projects to fund — a structure that some observers say is both a strength and weakness.

"ARC is such a political organization that it changes with the whim of politics," says University of Kentucky professor Ron Eller, an Appalachian scholar writing a book about the region. "A governor leaves and then a project gets de-funded."

Eller says the agency has made strides in recent years to focus on boosting homegrown businesses rather than just trying to lure industrial plant jobs, which tend to be low-paying and sometimes short-lived.

But he says the agency should be more strict about requiring regional planning in exchange for federal funds.

For example, he says the commission should look "holistically" at funding projects

throughout targeted distressed counties to really make changes in those hard-hit areas rather than funding scattered pet projects all over the region.

Critics have opposed the commission's historical emphasis on aiding the better off, more populous areas of Appalachia rather than the most distressed communities. Those are often rural and have greater needs but fewer people.

Examples of grants for urban projects that have sparked criticism include funding to lure an auto plant to Tuscaloosa, Ala., and build a football stadium in Spartanburg, S.C..

Ewell Balltrip, a former representative to the commission from Kentucky, says using ARC money to build the stadium in the relatively well-off community upset a lot of people.

"The question was why are we investing money in these centers that have their own economic dynamics?" Balltrip says.

Former ARC chairman Jesse White, who signed off on the stadium, says funding projects in the urban areas wasn't a mistake, but that not linking those urban centers into the surrounding, rural areas in a "thoughtful way" was a failure.

He noted the urban and suburban areas of Appalachia have been improved since the commission was formed. The eight

attainment counties in the region are either urban or suburban.

"The problem was it left the really isolated and distressed areas behind," White says of the old strategy.

In recent years, the commission's policy has been to spend 50 percent of the agency's money for economic development projects on distressed counties and areas. Pope says more than 60 percent of commission funding went to those communities last year.

In addition to funding economic development projects, the agency is building a new highway system throughout the region. The system is about 80 percent complete, and the agency spends about \$450 million on it annually.

That's compared with about \$66 million the agency spends yearly for economic development projects. ARC supporters say if the agency is falling short of its goals, a lack of money on the economic development side may be to blame.

"Sixty-six million isn't a lot of money when you look at the federal budget," White says.

During the early years, the agency often got about twice as much as it gets now for economic development. But getting more money anytime soon appears unlikely.

(See **AGENCY**, page eight)



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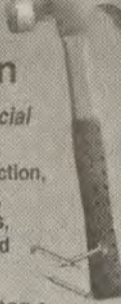


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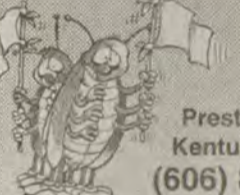
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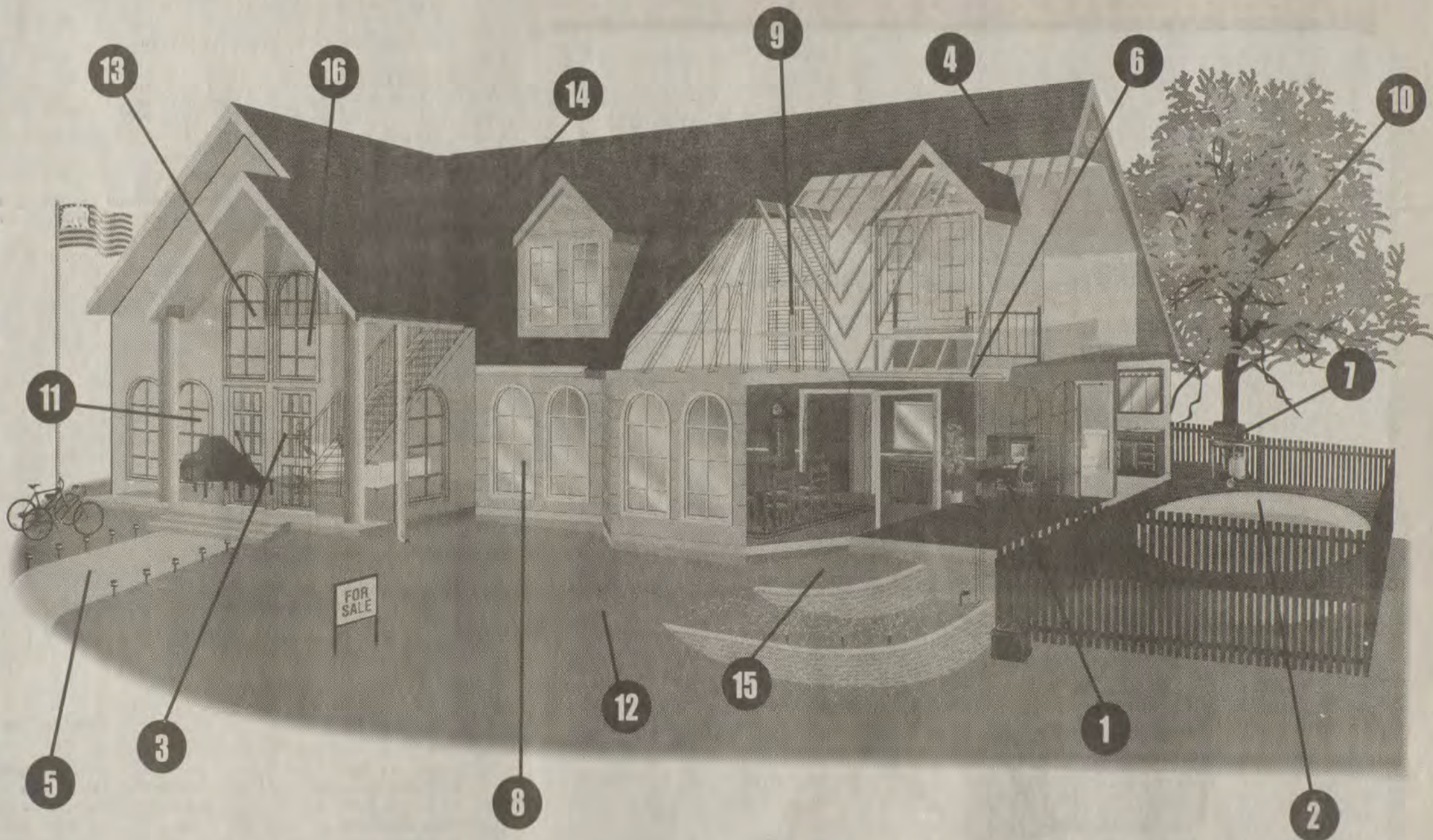
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War

though the government said he didn't qualify for black lung benefits. Years of crouching in dank coal seams had ruined his back, but the UMW said he didn't work long enough to earn a pension.

Hagerman's only income is his \$1,149 a month disability check. He has a medical card, but his wife, Kelly, has no health insurance.

"I suppose there's levels of poor," the 47-year-old woman says as she drags on a discount cigarette. "We're better off than some and worse than others."

Swinging on the porch of the couple's corrugated tin-sided singlewide, the 50-year-old Hagerman thinks things would improve if only the mines would expand again. But, he adds, "I don't ever expect it to come back like it was."

"I don't want you telling people we need another handout," his wife interjects. "We need a hand up."

Like the splashes of redbud and dogwood that signal the annual rebirth of these mine-scarred hills, there are faint signs of progress in McDowell County.

On a recent sunny day, downtown Welch was alive with the sounds of saws and drills. When the three-screen cinema is completed, it will be the first time in a decade that residents can watch a current-release film without having to drive an hour or more.

Work is under way on a state-funded, medium-security correctional facility, and a former strip mine is in the running for a new federal prison. There is talk

of a coal-fired power plant in the county, and officials are working to identify 200 miles of all-terrain vehicle, motorcycle and horse paths to link up with the popular Hatfield-McCoy Trail system.

And, in early May, officials broke ground on another leg of the four-lane "King Coal Highway" that will run through the heart of McDowell County.

But in this forbidding terrain that blocks out cellular phone signals and makes each mile of highway cost \$16 million, the road remains a distant promise that Geneva Goodson can't wait to be fulfilled.

Goodson grew up on welfare and quit school in the 11th grade to have a child. She was determined her daughter wouldn't end up the same way.

But her husband, Dennis, lost his carpentry job a year ago and hasn't been able to find steady work. The family went on food stamps to make ends meet.

Now, at 28, her plan is to get her high school equivalency, enroll in a two-year secretarial course at a nearby college and get out of McDowell County.

"I never wanted to leave McDowell, but it's coming to a point we've got to do something," she says. "We've got kids we've got to look forward to. ... We've got to raise them right ... even if it's away from here."

Talk like that infuriates community advocate Datson.

"I get so damn mad at these people who are constantly negative," she says, her voice rising. "No, it's not going to be fixed overnight. But I'm sorry, as long as there are still people here,

there's still hope."

It's revival time on Big Jenny Creek, and a couple dozen hungry souls have turned out at the Pentecostal Full Gospel Church of God this Wednesday evening to hear Brother Woody Wyatt preach about the path to a better life.

"Christ is the one, amen, that brings the jobs back. ... We need to look to God, amen," he preaches. "We ain't got no money. Don't have any jobs. ... But spiritually, we're rich.

We're rich."

Swaying beside one of the pews, eyes closed and hand stretched heavenward, Roxie Hurt is a true believer.

She and her husband, Rex, raise their three children - ages 5, 6, and 7 - on the \$724 a month he brings home from his job as a coal company security guard. The children have Medicaid cards, but Hurt hasn't seen a doctor in years.

"It's been a lot of times that I didn't have things that I needed," she says. "And I would just

start praying, and God would send me people who gave me money when my kids needed diapers - people who helped me."

Looking back on her childhood, the 27-year-old woman didn't think she was poor. She remembers times when the lights and water would be shut off, but her mother would make an adventure out of going to the spring to collect water.

"We never had much money," she says, "but we had a lot of love."

Even today, Hurt doesn't consider herself poor.

Parked outside the church is her maroon Chevy. She's put 226,926 miles on it running errands for people she considers worse off than herself.

"The Lord has provided for me so much," she says, a beatific smile creasing her rosy cheeks, "I feel like He's my job."

Martha Bryson Hodel in Huntington, W.Va., also contributed to this report.

Continued from 6

Soldiers

homes."

Like others who came to Appalachia and stayed, Rockefeller says he wouldn't hesitate to do it again.

"I was going to stay for one year. I had no intention of staying permanently," he says. "I had my house in Washington, and planned to go back."

Over time, that changed, and the 6-foot-6 New Yorker was accepted in a town so small it had neither a doctor nor a police officer. His first effort was to get the children in the community to school. He organized a successful effort to get the school board to put a bus stop in Emmons for the children.

That was the start of his involvement in the legislative process in his adopted state that would eventually take him to the Statehouse, the governor's mansion and eventually the U.S. Senate, where he has served since 1984.

"All of the things I focus on now in some way relate to what happened to me as an individual and what I came to care about for those years in Emmons," says the now-67-year-old Rockefeller.

West Virginia, like all of Appalachia, has changed dramatically over the past 40 years, Rockefeller says. Poverty that was once so obvious has eased in many places, but is not gone.

Rockefeller says the people in the region still are plagued to some degree by issues such as unemployment and access to medical care.

"You never win that war," Rockefeller says. "You don't think in terms of winning the war on poverty. You fight the war on poverty."

BEREA — It was a sense of calling that brought Dr. David Greene to central Appalachia. It was the gratitude of the people

that has kept him here.

Greene, a Michigan native, was one of the reinforcements in the war on poverty, arriving in 1979, some 15 years Johnson's famous declaration. He looks back on the past 25 years with no regrets.

"I've had plenty of job offers, but, taking everything into account, I'd rather be here than any place else," he says. "I like the challenge. I enjoy taking care of people who have a lot of medical problems. I was trained to take care of the sick, not the worried well."

Trained through the National Medical Corps program, which requires its doctors to practice for a time in underserved communities, the 52-year-old Greene serves as medical director of Health Help Inc., a non-profit clinic for the poor. No one is turned away, regardless of ability to pay. The cost of an office visit is \$10 so that even people without medical benefits can see a physician.

"One of the nice things about

being a doctor here is that people are grateful," Green says. "You feel like you're doing something useful. It's more of a reward going where people really need a doctor."

Greene says improvements in medical care have been rapid in the region since he arrived 25 years ago. Small hospitals were fortunate to have a surgeon on staff in 1979. That shortage has passed, and hospitals in towns such as Pikeville, London and Ashland now perform even open-heart surgeries.

But Greene says the battle is far from over.

"Now the big challenge is access for the working poor and the partly working poor and the unemployed," he says. "There are more and more of those people who no longer have access to health care. Those problems are getting worse."

Southeast Regional Writer Allen G. Breed in Raleigh, N.C., contributed to this report.

Continued from 6

Agency

Congress rejected a bid by White to boost the agency's budget by about \$10 million to fund technology investments a few years ago. And the Bush administration attempted to cut the 2004 budget in half to a little more than \$30 million. Lawmakers from Appalachian states stopped that reduction, and the White House backed off when proposing next year's budget, but ARC supporters haven't been able to win new funding increases.

That effort has been hindered to some extent by competition from other agencies created in the ARC's image. The Denali Commission, which helps poor Alaskans, gets the most — \$55 million annually in direct appropriations. But the Delta Regional Authority, which aids the Mississippi Delta region, received just \$5 million this year. The Northern Great Plains

Authority got even less, just \$1.5 million.

White says the fight over money will always be a problem. "I think the ARC always has to make the case to the rest of the country why it's important for them to fund this, he says. "In hard times it's a challenge to make that argument. Our argument was that until ARC finishes its job, these areas are a drain on the economy rather than adding to the economy."

Pope says she hopes there will be a time when Appalachia won't have to make its case, not because everyone will agree on funding but because the money won't be needed.

"I long for the day when ARC will go out of business, when there is not a need for special assistance for the Appalachian region," she says.

Continued from 6

Davidson

ple who have been around a lot longer and know a lot more about this than I do, but if you have never heard this story it might be of interest to you. One thing for sure, the "Toad Suck" name makes our festival unique.

Here's the story. Back in the days before the 21 locks and dams were built, the water level of the Arkansas River would fluctuate dramatically, depending on how much rain we had and especially how much it had rained upstream. When a tugboat pushing barges would head up the river, they were literally at the mercy of the elements. During the summer months when the water was low, quite often a tugboat would make it as far as Conway, but could go no further until the rains came. Of course, when the tugboat was tied up at the bank, the captain and crew had to do something to

pass the time away.

Well, some enterprising fellow built a tavern on a high hill overlooking the river and these riverboat sailors would make their way to the tavern and partake of the local hospitality. The report came that over a period of several days these men would sit on a stool and "suck" on corn mesh whiskey or rum until they literally swelled up like "toads." Thus the name "Toad Suck."

This is not a name that I would want to give one of my kids, but as Paul Harvey would say, "Now you know, the rest of the story." Hope you have a great day.

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

Continued from 4

Beltway

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or any other matter has a disastrous impact on the public's trust in the federal government and simply adds to general cynicism about the political process.

Jill Lancelot is president of Taxpayers for Common Sense — a non-partisan federal budget watchdog. www.taxpayer.net.

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Regional  
SPORTS

Sunday, May 23, 2004

## Inside

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TIMES Email: sports@floydcountytimes.com

Special Olympics  
Ky. State Summer  
Games returning  
to Richmond

TIMES STAFF REPORT

RICHMOND – Special Olympics Kentucky athletes throughout the state are in final preparations for their most exciting weekend of the year. Locally, the Area 3 Games were held on May 1 on the campus of Prestonsburg High School.

More than 1,000 athletes with intellectual and developmental disabilities will converge at the Special Olympics Kentucky State Summer Games June 4-6 at Eastern Kentucky University. This will be the 10th consecutive year the Games have been held on the ECU campus, far and away the longest run at any location in the program's history. More than 1,000 athletes and 500 volunteers and coaches are expected to converge on the Richmond campus this year in the largest Special Olympics event on the program's annual calendar. More than half of the state's 120 counties will be represented at the event, with athletes ranging in age from 8- to 73-years-old.

The event kicks off early Friday with the beginning of the annual Law Enforcement Torch Run Final Leg. This year, the Final Leg has a new starting point and an all-new route. The Final Leg will kick off at 10 am at Stewart Home School in Frankfort, where Special Olympics Athletes who live at the facility will participate in opening ceremonies with law enforcement officials from across the state. The run will proceed to Georgetown College by noon, where the law enforcement volunteers will have lunch with Scott County athletes. Following a bus ride to Rupp Arena in Lexington, the group will run to Phoenix Park in downtown Lexington for ceremonies at the police memorial at that location. Those ceremonies will begin at 2 p.m. The final stop on the Final Leg is at Arlington Country Club in Richmond at 3:15 p.m. The group will run from the Club to the Stratton Building on the ECU campus where they will get ready to take part in the Summer Games Opening Ceremonies Friday evening.

The Games themselves do begin on Friday night with the Summer Games Opening Ceremonies, which will begin at 7:30 pm on the field at Roy Kidd Stadium. The Opening Ceremonies will include the Parade of Athletes, the Law Enforcement Torch Run escorting the "Flame of Hope" into the stadium and the lighting of the cauldron by Special Olympics athletes and Law Enforcement volunteers. The Opening Ceremonies will also include performances by the River City Drum Corps from Louisville.

The main action gets underway early in the morning on Saturday, June 5, with the opening of all competitive events. Athletes will be competing in track and field, swimming, soccer, gymnastics and powerlifting. Track and field, aquatics, soccer and powerlifting events will all be held on the ECU campus. The gymnastics events will be held at Kentucky Elite Gymnastics on Floyd Drive in Lexington. The public is encouraged to attend the

(See OLYMPICS, page two)

Prestonsburg begins  
frenzy passing scheduleby STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG – Chances are, the Prestonsburg Blackcats are passing on a high school field near you. Prestonsburg hosted Johnson Central Thursday evening and then turned around and took to the road Friday, traveling to Johnson Central to pass against

the host Golden Eagles and new head coach Jim Matney. Blackcat head coach John DeRossett is more than happy to stay local and pass with other area high school grid teams.

"For many years, you had to go down state to pass and now you don't have to do that," said DeRossett. "More teams

(See FRENZY, page two)

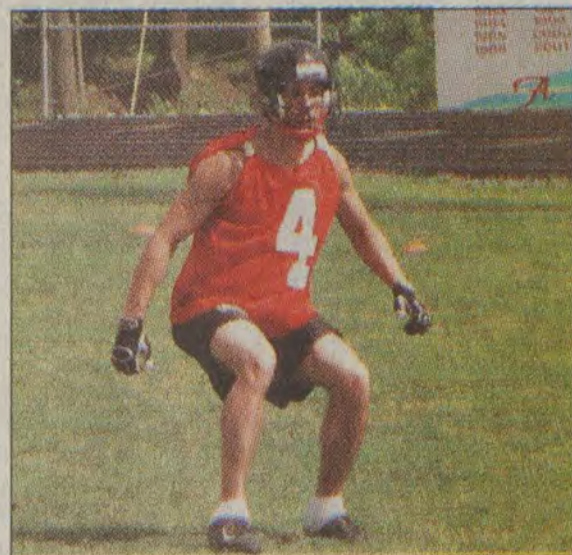


photo by Jamie Howell

Brandon Peters is one of the top returnees for the Prestonsburg High football team, making his way back to the Blackcat defensive secondary. A versatile player, Peters can also catch passes for the Blackcats.



photo by Steve LeMaster

The 58th District Baseball Tournament will see its first pitch Monday with the first game scheduled to get underway at 5 p.m.

ALLEN CENTRAL HEADS INTO  
POST-SEASON LOOKING TO  
REPEAT IN 58TH DISTRICTby STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

ALLEN – Defending 15th Region champion Allen Central is also the defending champ in the 58th District. With the month of May winding down, the 58th District Tournament will help usher in the high school baseball post-season Monday. Allen Central finished a perfect 6-0 in the regular-season in the 58th District/Floyd County Conference, but will take nothing for granted as it hopes to keep supremacy in Floyd

County.

"Despite going 6-0 in the conference, I would say the team is a little disappointed in their performance thus far," said Allen Central Coach Craig Kidd. "The guys know that they are capable of being very good or very bad every single time out."

According to Kidd, Allen Central's pitching and defense has held up against Floyd County foes, but has been less than adequate against other opposing squads.

"To me, pitching and defense are the key components for success at any

level in baseball," Kidd added. "We've had outstanding pitching and defense in the conference. Outside the conference has been a little different story. The only two error-free games we've had all season have been in conference games."

As with any post-season, the records can be thrown out the window. Kidd, in his first year at the helm of the Rebel baseball program, doesn't see a clear favorite in the 58th District.

"I don't think conference records

(See REPEAT, page five)

HIGH SCHOOL  
GAMES ON TAPDISTRICT  
TOURNAMENT  
GAMES

## BASEBALL

Letcher-Jenkins (53rd District)  
Jackson City-Riverside  
Christian (55th District)  
Owsley County-Lee County  
(56th District)  
Wolfe County-Powell County  
(56th District)  
Johnson Central-Magoffin  
County (57th District)  
Paintsville-Sheldon Clark  
(57th District)  
Allen Central-Prestonsburg  
(58th District)  
South Floyd-Betsy Layne  
(58th District)  
Shelby Valley-Pikeville  
(59th District)  
Phelps-Pike County Central  
(60th District)  
Menifee County-Bath County  
(61st District)  
Rowan County-Morgan County  
(61st District)  
East Carter-Elliott County  
(62nd District)  
Lewis County-West Carter  
(62nd District)  
Greenup County-Fairview  
(63rd District)  
Raceland-Russell  
(63rd District)  
Lawrence County-Boyd  
County (64th District)  
Rose Hill Christian-Ashland  
Blazer (64th District)

FAST-PITCH  
SOFTBALL

Fleming-Neon-Letcher  
(52nd District)  
Jenkins-Whitesburg  
(52nd District)  
Hazard-Buckhorn  
(53rd District)  
Cordia-Jackson City  
(54th District)  
Riverside Christian-Knott  
County Central (54th District)  
Lee County-Owsley County  
(55th District)  
Powell County-Wolfe County  
(55th District)  
Betsy Layne-Allen Central  
(57th District)  
Prestonsburg-South Floyd  
(57th District)  
Shelby Valley-Pikeville (58th  
District)  
Lewis County-Elliott County  
(61st District)  
Greenup County-Fairview  
(62nd District)  
Raceland-Russell (62nd  
District)  
Ashland Blazer-Rose Hill  
Christian (63rd District)

New coach Hager begins  
rebuilding Sheldon Clarkby STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

INEZ – When veteran head coach Jim Matney left the Sheldon Clark High School football program to take over the grid program at neighboring Johnson Central, school officials in Martin County wasted little time naming a new head coach to guide the Cardinals. Shawn Hager, a longtime assistant on Matney's staff at Sheldon Clark, took over and put the Football Cardinals

through spring drills. In the fall, Sheldon Clark will only return three starters – offensive linemen Jonathan Allen and Paul Schmidt and defensive lineman C.J. Lowe.

A rebuilding process? Yes, it could be called that.

A large graduating class of football talent took away a lot from the Cardinal program, a program that Matney helped take to the next level.

(See NEW, page two)



Tommi Sue Tussey, a senior at the Piarist School, was honored by the Three Rivers Conference by receiving the Barkley Moore Award. The award honors student athletes that show leadership on the playing field as well as in the community. Tussey was chosen by coaches and athletic directors of the Three Rivers Conference. She was very pleased to receive this award and will continue to give back to the community. She will be attending Morehead State University in the fall where she will pursue a degree elementary education.



Olympics

Opening Ceremonies and all competitions. All are open to the public and there is no admission charge.

Saturday's activities will also include the popular Olympic Town area, which includes several interactive activities for athletes between competitions and their families. Olympic Town is also the location of the annual Healthy Athletes Athlete Wellness Village. This year's Healthy Athletes program features a Special Smiles location where athletes can receive dental screenings and have minor dental work done; an Opening Eyes location where athletes receive vision screenings and glasses if needed; a Fit Feet location where athletes can receive podiatric evaluations; and FUN Fitness, which gives physical therapy evaluations. All of the services provided in the Healthy Athlete Village, including the glasses, are free to the athletes and provided by volunteers.

Saturday's activities conclude with the official Closing Ceremonies, which begin at 7:30 pm in the Alumni Coliseum parking lot and conclude with the athletes' victory dance, which

goes until 9:30 pm.

Games-related activities finish on Sunday with athletes given the opportunity to view and collect pictures of themselves taken at the Summer Games by members of the Creative Camera Club of Lexington. All photos are free to the athletes.

For information about the 2004 Special Olympics Kentucky State Summer Games or about the 2004 Law Enforcement Torch Run Final Leg, contact Special Olympics Kentucky communications director Mark Buerger at 502/695-8222 or via e-mail at mbuerger@soky.org.

The 2004 Special Olympics Kentucky State Summer Games are made possible through the generosity of Special Olympics Kentucky year-round partners Dow Corning, The Kentucky Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics, Kroger and Texas Roadhouse; as well as statewide sponsors The Kentucky Department American Legion and Legion Auxiliary and event sponsors McDonalds of Richmond, Eastern Kentucky University, Commonwealth Community Bank, Cumberland

Valley National Bank, Bankers Bank of Kentucky, O'Charley's, Kentucky Elite Gymnastics and Party Planet.

Frenzy

Continued from p1

around here are passing and that's a good thing."

The Prestonsburg High football team is beginning its summer program.

"Passing against Johnson Central this week was a good learning experience for everyone," added DeRossett. "We're starting our summer program and hope to get a lot accomplished."

The Blackcats were the superior team in both passing contests against Johnson Central.

Prestonsburg will pass against Whitesburg and other area teams in early-June before competing in some tournaments. With an extremely talented cast of players returning for the 2004 season, including a senior class that ranks among the best in Eastern Kentucky, Prestonsburg is again eyeing a long, successful season.

# Couch files grievance against Browns

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CLEVELAND

Quarterback Tim Couch has filed a grievance against the Cleveland Browns, who have banned him from working out with them even though he is still under contract.

Couch didn't participate in the club's voluntary quarterback school this week. He also missed minicamp earlier this month after the Browns told him to stop coming to their training facility while they tried to trade him.

The Browns have been attempting to work out a deal for Couch, a former No. 1 overall pick, since signing free-agent quarterback Jeff Garcia as their starter in March.

Team spokesman Todd Stewart said Friday that Couch had filed the grievance through the National Football League Players Association earlier this

week. Stewart had no other comment.

The NFLPA did not immediately return a message.

Couch, a former star player at the University of Kentucky, had

been working out at the team's training facility in Berea until Garcia was signed. Soon after, the Browns told Couch he was

(See COUCH, page five)

New

Continued from p1

"We will be replacing nine starters on offense and 10 on defense," noted Hager. "But, we have several potentially good players returning."

Among the players set to be thrust into the spotlight is quarterback Timmy Goble.

Talented running backs returning for the Cardinals are Alex Bobbitt, Marion Joiner and Ryan Robinette. Fullback Jamie Jarrett, a senior-to-be who also excels on the baseball diamond, returns as well.

"Our line will be much bigger than we have had in the past," said Hager.

The biggest lineman for

Sheldon Clark is Lowe, who stands in at 6-2 and weighs in at 365. Schmidt, Allen, Josh Schmidt and Danny Hinkle are other returning linemen.

The team Hager fields in his first season as head coach will be a young group.

"There's no doubt that we'll be young, but the players are working extremely hard," added Hager.

Sheldon Clark finished the 2004 season with a loss to Middlesboro. The Cardinals were runners-up in Class 2A, District Eight, finishing second to eventual state champ Belfry.

# History professor's film explores life story of Harold Dennis

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

LEXINGTON — Is there any good that can come out of the worst alcohol-related accident in the nation's history? The answer is a resounding "yes," when you begin to examine the inspirational life of Harold Dennis.

"The Phoenix" is a dramatic feature film in pre-production that explores the remarkable true story of Dennis, a young man who pulled himself away from a tragic, transforming moment and revived his life with moving courage and vigor.

A production of Phoenix

Films, Inc., "The Phoenix" authentically portrays Dennis' dramatic journey toward wholeness and self-esteem after surviving a 1988 bus crash near Carrollton, in which a drunk driver slammed into a bus full of adults and children, killing 27 of the 67 persons on board. Dennis, a young teenager at the time, not only had to confront the loss of his lifelong friend, who perished sitting next to him on the bus, but also the powerful fears that his life would never return to normal.

Despite his disfiguring scars and survivor guilt, Dennis not

only found true love with a beautiful young woman, but a few years later he garnered headlines when he made the University of Kentucky football team as a walk-on and later earned a full athletic scholarship. Bill Curry, the UK football head coach at the time, said, "Harold Dennis has a brutal situation, but the brutal situation doesn't have Harold."

Dennis won national awards, such as the Gene Autry award and Arete Courage award, the latter presented by boxing champion Evander Holyfield and former NFL star and network television sports personality Ahmad Rashad. His story was prominently featured on ESPN, CBS This Morning, People Magazine, and Sports Illustrated.

"The Phoenix" brings vividly to life the fascinating story of how one young man's near-death catastrophe turns into a courageous life-sustaining quest. The film is written by screenwriter and UK history professor Daniel Blake Smith, who recently was named chair of his department. Dennis serves, along with Smith, as executive producers of the project. Smith's previous screenwriting credits include "February One," a civil rights documentary that will air next February on PBS, and "Black Indians: An American Story," a film narrated by James Earl Jones that was broadcast nationally last year on commercial networks.

The production company currently is seeking financing for the independent film, hoping to begin production this fall. "We had a great meeting with the UK Athletics Department," Smith said. "They want to cooperate in every way they can to

help us shoot the film using actual UK locations."

Dennis said, "Even though there has already been a lot of interest from Hollywood producers in our project, we much prefer to make the film independently. That way we not only ensure authenticity, but we also get to take advantage of creative talent in this region."

Once completed, the producers plan to take "The Phoenix" to film festivals throughout the country, seeking distribution for national theatrical release. Anyone interested in the production can reach Phoenix Films at 859/509-6864 or 859/983-5460, and by e-mail: daniel@phoenixfilms.net.



U14 Warrior goalkeeper Jackson Osborne made a throw-out after saving the ball on a Belfry shot on goal, as defenders Christian Smith, Jarred Tackett and Rob Allen looked on during a game Saturday, May 15.

# Reds, Foster continue Reds Rookie Success League

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

CINCINNATI — The Cincinnati Reds Community Fund is kicking off year two of the Reds Rookie Success League with league commissioner and Reds great George Foster. The character development league debuted last year for 8- and 9-year olds.

With more than 100 participants last year, 40 coaches volunteered to teach values and ethics along with baseball skills. This year, as the league triples to approximately 360 participants and includes ages 8-11, 120 coaches will be needed. In addition to the league sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays, coaches are asked to participate in a preseason orientation session on June 19. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact the Cincinnati Recreation Commission's Athletic Office at 513/352-4020.

The Reds Rookie Success League will hold the games and practices on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Schmidt Field. There will be three sessions each day; 10 a.m.-noon, 12:30 - 2:30 p.m., and 3 - 5 p.m. The first two sessions are for the 8-9 year-olds and the last session is for the 10-11 year-olds. Coaches can volunteer for any or all of the sessions.

In addition to a structured weekly program, each participant also receives a free, initial health screening, as well as complimentary bus transportation from participating Cincinnati Recreation Centers.

The focus of the Reds Rookie Success League is character development. Baseball skills and drills will serve to reinforce the CI REDS (Cooperation, Integrity, Respect, Education, Determination, Spirit) theme throughout the course of the league.

# President Bush invites Little Leaguers to play games on White House South Lawn

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa. — President George W. Bush is inviting some Tee Ball players to have a ball in his back yard again, with Little League International organizing the events for the fourth consecutive year.

Nine Tee Ball games have been played on the South Lawn in the past three years, with President Bush attending each time and giving each player, manager and coach an autographed baseball and certificate. First Lady Laura Bush has also attended several games, as have various members of the president's cabinet, congresspersons, and notable athletes.

President Bush made the announcement via video on April 19 at the Little League International Congress in Virginia Beach, Va. In his taped remarks to more than 1,500 Little League volunteers in attendance at the Pavilion Convention Center, President Bush said: "Laura and I have really enjoyed working with Little League to host Tee Ball games on the South Lawn of the White House. ... We're looking forward to another successful season of White House Tee Ball in 2004."

No specific dates for the games this year have been set. Those leagues interested in having a team considered for this program should visit the Little League web site (www.littleleague.org) for more information.

Earlier this year, in a dinner at the White House to honor dozens of members of the Baseball Hall of Fame, President Bush spoke of his love for baseball, and his fondness

for hosting Tee Ball games.

"It's such a wonderful sport," he said. "There aren't any time limits, which means you can go and enjoy yourself. It's a great place to go and relax. It's a wonderful place to visit with somebody you love. ... It's an important part of our history. And we love to herald it here. We love to herald it so much that one of my favorite things to do is to host Tee Ball on the South Lawn, so that future Hall of Famers can come and say to one of their classmates, 'I love baseball, and I got to play at the White House.'"

President Bush played Little League Baseball in Midland, Texas, in the 1950s. His team was the Cubs, and he was known as a good defensive player. He also is the first Little League graduate to become President.

Little League Baseball and Softball is the world largest youth sports organization, with approximately 2.7 million players in all 50 states and dozens of other countries. Approximately 35 million people have played or volunteered for Little League since it was founded in 1939.

# Reds partner with Make-A-Wish Foundation

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

CINCINNATI - For the third consecutive year, the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Southern Ohio is partnering with the Cincinnati Reds.

Selected children will have the opportunity to visit Great American Ball Park during batting practice prior to Reds' home games. During each visit, the wish child will meet players, take pictures and get autographs. After batting practice, the wish child and their family receive complimentary tickets to the game.

The remaining visits are scheduled for May 21, June 4 & 25, July 16 & 30, August 13 &

27, September 10 & 17 and October 1.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation provides children and their families with positive life experiences in the midst of difficult times. During 2003, the Southern Ohio office fulfilled the individual wishes of 72 children diagnosed with life-threatening medical conditions. Since this chapter's inception in Southern Ohio in 1998, more than 400 wishes have been granted. More than 95 wishes are expected to be fulfilled in the coming year.

Contact: Kevin Manley, Make-A-Wish Foundation of Greater Ohio & Kentucky, 513/745-9474.

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# For Hutchinson, racing just runs in the family

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

BRISTOL, Tenn. — When Jonathan Hutchinson was just a toddler he would come to drag races at Bristol Dragway. After watching for a while he'd crawl under his mom's chair and fall asleep. At least that's what his parents tell him.

"I was too little to really remember it," said Hutchinson, "so I have to go by what they tell me. I just know that I've been around racing all my life."

Hutchinson's father, Johnny, always has been around racing, competing in Stock Eliminator action when the International Hot Rod Association was based in Bristol. At age 6, young Hutchinson pretty much knew that he would follow in his dad's footsteps.

"I would go with him and just take it all in," he said. "I loved it when I was a kid and I always knew that's what I would end up doing."

Indeed, Jonathan earned his driver's license at 16 and immediately headed to Bristol Dragway where he began his own career. In the early days, he was racing the truck his dad used to tow his own car. A couple years later, Hutchinson purchased a 1965 Ford Mustang and that's what he has raced since.

It's the same Mustang that propelled him to a pair of Sportsman wins this season at Thunder Valley and puts him atop the Bracket point standings. For only the second time since he's been racing, Jonathan, whose best elapsed time is 12.79 seconds at 104 mph, is leading the pack.

"It's definitely my best start ever," said the 27-year-old Bluff City resident. "I finished second in the points a few years ago but I'd really like to try to build on this. The points really don't matter until that last race, though. You can't worry about any of

that right now. You just have to do your best every time out."

The Hutchinsons are clearly a Mustang family. Johnny pilots a Mustang in the Super Pro class that he and his wife bought new in 1971. Jonathan says it's the only car for them.

"A lot of people seem to want to race with the Camaros," said Jonathan who estimates he spent nearly \$14,000 on modifications and upkeep for his ride. "But not us, we've always been into the Mustangs and they've worked pretty well for us."

Like his father, Jonathan isn't into drag racing for the money. He says if that's why you race, you're in it for the wrong reason.

"Only the professionals are going to make any money at this," he said. "We do it because we love to race, we love the people we race with and against and we really just like the camaraderie you get at the track. This kind of racing is something the

Average Joe can do and you don't have to have millions to do it. Not everybody can race in NASCAR but in drag racing, there's always some place the average guy can go to race and

have a good time doing it."

And then there's the desire to go for speed.

"Yes, there's the speed thing, too," he said. "You just love to go fast. There's also the fact that

it's man and machine going at it. You race yourself, the (Christmas) tree, the other guy, and his car. It's a personal chal-

(See RACING, page four)

## Shooting, archery opportunities to thrill enthusiasts at Elk Foundation's American Outdoor Experience

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

BRISTOL, Tenn. — The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation's American Outdoor Experience at Bristol Motor Speedway, June 11-13, will offer shooting and archery enthusiasts the ultimate shooting sports experience. At the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) Shooting Camp, visitors can test fire their pick of the newest rifles, pistols, shotguns and muzzleloaders — helping them choose the firearm that suits them best before they buy.

Youth and first-time shooters will enjoy two exciting venues in the NSSF Shooting Camp. The NSSF's Scholastic Rifle Program will offer beginning shooters a thrilling introduction to .22 rifles on its interactive range. Daisy Outdoor Products' ShatterBlast target range will make for fun air-gun excitement.

Archers need not feel left out. At RMEF's American Outdoor Experience, archers will get first-hand shooting experience with the latest in high-tech bows and accessories. Also sure to get hearts pounding will be the Bowhunter Challenge, an interactive, 3-D competition that is as close to real bowhunting excitement as you can get at a race-track; 3-D game targets electronically walk in and out from behind camo curtains, allowing archers only a few seconds to shoot before they "run back into the woods." Visitors are welcome to bring their own bows for the competition, or use ones provided by the Bowhunter Challenge.

Beginning archers will enjoy the Genesis Bow Program that introduces them to archery with high-tech, but beginner-friendly bows. In addition, Randy Oitker, a 17-year old competitive archer, will be on hand to thrill audiences with his trick shooting.

Shooting sports are a big part of the American Outdoor Experience to be sure. However, as the name suggests, visitors who venture away from the shooting and archery areas will literally experience everything about the outdoors. Participants can climb rock walls, learn to cast a fly, try out new Bass Pro Shops' fishing gear, drive 4x4s and ATVs on real test tracks, view mounts of the biggest whitetail deer and bull elk in the

world, and much more. Watch [www.americanoutdoorexperience.com](http://www.americanoutdoorexperience.com) for more details and the latest news.

The American Outdoor Experience celebrates the restoration of the magnificent wild elk to the Southeast. In the past decade, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation has spearheaded the return of these majestic animals to the mountains of Tennessee, Kentucky and North Carolina, where they haven't roamed for 150 years. Celebrating its 20th anniversary at Bristol, the Elk Foundation will unveil and launch a far-

reaching habitat enhancement and protection effort called the Appalachians Wildlife Initiative.

Founded and headquartered in Montana, the Elk Foundation has grown into an international conservation leader. Powered by volunteers, members, supporters and partners, the Elk Foundation has completed more than 3,800 conservation and education projects, impacting nearly 4 million acres of habitat for elk and other wildlife across North America. To help pass-on an elk country legacy for future generations, visit [www.elkfoundation.org](http://www.elkfoundation.org) or call 800-CALL ELK.

# CALENDAR

### BASKETBALL

#### Runnin' Rebel Basketball Camp

Dates have been announced for the annual Runnin' Rebel Basketball Camp. The camp will be held at Allen Central High School and is scheduled to run May 24-28. Sessions will begin each day at 9 a.m. and end at noon. Cost of the camp is \$60.

The camp is for grade school kids only. Free breakfast and lunch will be served daily and each participant will receive a T-shirt.

The camp will include instruction and competitions:

- Individual offense and defense
- Dribbling, shooting, passing
- One on one, three on three, league play
- Skills tests
- Hot spot, free throw, three-point competition

For more information call Coach John Martin at 358-9217.

#### Coach Crisp Blackcat Basketball Camp

The third annual Coach Crisp Blackcat Basketball Camp will be held May 24-26. The camp is for boys and girls ages 5-12. The camp will be held at the Prestonsburg High School Fieldhouse over three days with two sessions each day. The morning session for players ages 5-8 will run from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. The second session, for players ages 9-12 will begin at 1 p.m. and end at 4 p.m.

Cost of the camp is \$40 per player; \$70 for two players in the same family.

Camp participants will receive instruction from Blackcat head coach Jackie Day Crisp and the members of the current 58th District championship team. The camp will include drills, games and prizes.

Registration will be held at 8 a.m. on the first morning of the camp. At that time, a waiver must be signed by a parent/guardian of each participant. To pre-register for the camp, call Kim Compton at 5:30 p.m. at 886-1206.

#### Lady Blackcat Basketball Camp

The first annual Lady Blackcat Basketball Camp will be held at Prestonsburg High School June 7-10. The camp will run from 9 a.m. to noon each day.

Players ages 9-14 are eligible to participate in the camp.

Cost of the camp is \$45. For more information, call 886-0307 or 874-9558. Registration will be held the day of the camp. Checks should be made payable to Lady Blackcat Basketball Camp.

Pre-register by mail at the following address: 25 Blackcat Drive, Prestonsburg, Ky. 41653.

#### Les Trimble Basketball Camp

The Les Trimble Basketball Camp will be held June 7-11 at Johnson Central High School. For more information, call 606/789-2500.

#### Bobcat Basketball Camp

The Bobcat Basketball Camp will be held June 1-4 at the D.W. Howard Fieldhouse. The camp will be split into two sessions with morning and afternoon

For participants in grades K-3, the camp will be held each day from 8-11:30 a.m. Participants in grades 4-8 will participate in the camp each day from noon until 3:30 p.m.

Awards will be given for one-on-one, three-on-three and five-and-five competition winners.

Cost of the camp is \$40 per

camper. Discounts will be given for siblings. Refreshments will be provided. For more information contact any of the following people: Brent Rose, 478-2233 or 886-8091; Melissa Thacker, 478-8470 or Sharon Case, 478-4720.

#### Alice Lloyd College summer basketball camps

The dates for the Alice Lloyd College summer basketball camps for both boys and girls have been announced. The camps will include both group and individual instruction, 5-on-5 play and a variety of competitions. Each participant will receive a certificate, t-shirt and camp basketball.

The boys camp will take place from June 21-June 25 and is for grades one through eight. For more information, contact men's head basketball coach Gary Gibson at 606/368-6127 (Office) or 606/633-2651 (Home).

The girls camp will take place from June 28-July 2 and is for grades two through 12. For more information, contact new women's head basketball coach David Adams at 606/642-3299.

The camps will take place at the Grady Nutt Athletic Center on the campus of Alice Lloyd College.

#### Pikeville College Lady Bears Basketball Camps

The Pikeville College women's basketball program will hold camps in June and July. An individual camp will begin on Monday, June 28 and run through Thursday, July 1. The individual camp is for players ages 6-18. Cost of the camp is \$55 per camper. The camp will run each day from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m.

Family and group discounts are available.

All campers will receive a camp shirt.

A three-day high school team camp will be held July 13-15. Cost of the team camp is \$300 per team, \$550 for two teams; \$750 for three teams.

Each team is guaranteed eight games. Teams will also receive T-shirts.

For more information, con-

(See CALENDAR, page four)

## Pikeville College Softball Camp scheduled

PIKEVILLE — Pikeville College will hold its annual softball camp June 21-24. The camp will run from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. each day. Cost of the camp is \$50 per person.

For information, call Robert Staggs at 606/432-1807 (home) or 606/218-5357 (office) or Charlotte Shelton 606/218-4400 (home) or 606/218-5358 (office).

## Charges dropped against player; former teammate faces jail time

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MURRAY — Drug charges against a Murray State basketball player have been dropped.

The dismissal of the charges "validates" the school's decision to allow point guard Adam Chiles to play in the NCAA tournament in March, athletics director E.W. Dennison said Tuesday. Chiles was arrested just a few days before the Racers were scheduled to play in the first round against Illinois.

Chiles did, however, plead guilty to a disorderly conduct charge stemming from a March 13 search of his apartment. Teammate Kelvin Brown, Chiles' roommate, also was arrested. Brown, who pleaded guilty Tuesday to possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia, was dismissed from the team in April.

Chiles' 30-day sentence on the disorderly conduct charge was suspended, clearing him of any further legal trouble. Murray coach Mick Cronin said that Chiles "has been dealt with appropriately within the program" and his status with the team remains unchanged.

Chiles played 27 minutes in the Racers' 72-53 loss to Illinois.

Special Judge Charles

Ehlschide sentenced Brown to 10 days in jail but ordered that he serve only two days, starting July 11. He did not play in the Illinois game.

Information from: The Paducah Sun, <http://www.paducahsun.com>

### HIGH SCHOOL FAST-PITCH SOFTBALL

#### 14th Region

Team	Record
Breathitt County	17-6
Hazard	17-9
Whitesburg	14-3
Perry Co. Central	13-6
Fleming-Neon	12-10
Powell County	11-8
Owsley County	9-6
Letcher	9-7
Cordia	8-12
Lee County	6-10
Knott Co. Central	4-12
Jackson City	2-6
Jenkins	2-14
Riverside Christian	1-4
Wolfe County	1-9
Buckhorn	0-19

#### 15th Region

Team	Record
East Ridge	23-10
Shelby Valley	16-10
Belfry	15-11
Pikeville	14-11
Pike Co. Central	13-15
Magoffin County	12-12
Johnson Central	9-10
Paintsville	8-10
Sheldon Clark	8-19
Betsy Layne	7-7
Allen Central	7-8
South Floyd	4-8
Phelps	1-14
Prestonsburg	0-12

#### 16th Region

Team	Record
Russell	23-10
Rowan County	22-12
Fairview	18-3
Greenup County	18-11
Boyd County	18-11
East Carter	15-9
Raceland	15-10
Ashland Blazer	15-18
Morgan County	9-7
Lawrence County	9-22
Lewis County	8-7
West Carter	6-10
Bath County	6-10
Rose Hill Christian	3-9
Menifee County	3-15
Elliott County	0-16

### HIGH SCHOOL SCOREBOARD

#### BASEBALL

Scores from Thursday's games

Ashland Blazer	5	Rowan County	4
Bell County	1	Harlan	0
Cawood	6	Barbourville	4
Corbin	10	North Laurel	0
East Carter	8	Fairview	3
East Ridge	4	Sheldon Clark	2
Fairview	10	East Carter	7
Fleming County	9	Nicholas County	2
Greenup County	10	West Carter	0 (5 innings)
Harlan	7	Bell County	5
Knox Central	10	Clay County	6
Lawrence County	14	Morgan County	0
Pike County Central	4	Whitesburg	2
Rockcastle County	3	Hazard	0
Whitley County	6	Middlesboro	5
Williamsburg	11	Lynn Camp	8

#### FAST-PITCH SOFTBALL

Scores from Thursday's games

Belfry	2	Shelby Valley	0
Bell County	5	Whitley County	4
Bracken County	9	Fleming County	2
Fairview	4	Rowan County	3
Harlan	11	Williamsburg	3
Hazard	6	Jackson County	1
Lafayette	4	North Laurel	0
Lawrence County	10	Elliott County	4
Lawrence County	15	Elliott County	2
Oneida Baptist Institute	11	Riverside Christian	1 (5 innings)
Pike County Central	10	Betsy Layne	5
Pineville	16	Barbourville	1
Russell	10	East Carter	0
Sheldon Clark	17	June Buchanan	0 (4 innings)
Sheldon Clark	11	June Buchanan	4 (5 innings)
Somersat	6	McCreary Central	4
South Laurel	10	Middlesboro	1

## Northern Kentucky looking to add exhibition games with UK, Ohio State

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HIGHLAND HEIGHTS — Northern Kentucky is trying to schedule an exhibition game with Kentucky and has already landed a preseason matchup with Ohio State.

A recent NCAA rule change prohibits Division I teams from playing exhibition games with non-collegiate teams, such as Team Nike or EA Sports.

However, the rule does allow Division I schools to schedule Division II and other lower-level programs for preseason tuneups. Northern Kentucky plays basketball at Division II.

Kentucky sports information director Scott Stricklin said Wednesday that nothing has been finalized with Northern Kentucky.

Norse coach Dave Bezold said his school has sent a contract to Lexington and is awaiting a response.

"It's an unbelievable opportunity, an opportunity you're just never think you're going to have," said Bezold, who replaced retired Norse coach Ken Shields after last season.

Bezold said the Norse have not played a Division I team

since facing Toledo in 1994.

Northern Kentucky already has a five-year deal with Cincinnati. The school will get \$15,000 each from Ohio State and Kentucky, Bezold said. The games will be played between Nov. 1 and 15 on the opponents' home courts, Bezold said.

"Preparation-wise, there was no way we could ever have gotten anything like this for our regular season," Bezold said.

Northern Kentucky, which plays in the Great Lakes Valley Conference, went 16-15 last season.

## Date, time set for Kentucky-Louisville game

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOUISVILLE — ESPN will televise this season's Kentucky-Louisville game, scheduled for Sept. 5.

Kickoff for the annual opener for both teams is set for 3:30 p.m. EDT at Papa John's Cardinal Stadium.

The ESPN network is televising the rivalry game for the third straight season. Louisville is slated to play on ESPN or ESPN2 five times this season.

The Cardinals won last year's meeting 40-24 in Lexington. The Wildcats won 22-17 in Louisville in 2002.



# O'Brien tries for comeback, six years after his last decathlon

by BOB BAUM  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHOENIX — Dan O'Brien knows that 37 is ancient for a decathlete, that most grueling of track and field competitions — 10 events over two days with the Olympic winner earning the title "world's greatest athlete."

Even so, he is attempting yet another comeback, this one eight years after he won an Olympic gold medal and six years since he last completed a decathlon.

"I feel like I've still got something in this body," said

O'Brien, who lives with his wife just outside Phoenix but trains at Washington State University with longtime coach Rick Sloan.

Since winning the gold medal at the Goodwill Games in 1998, O'Brien has been plagued by injuries to the plantar fascia on the bottom of the foot.

"I just couldn't figure how to get over it," he said. "When I wasn't training hard, it wouldn't bother me. Then all of a sudden I'd get halfway through the spring running in track shoes and, oh, it would kill me."

He finally solved the problem with electric shock treatments.

In the meantime, though, O'Brien faded into the background, periodically announcing a comeback then succumbing to injuries. He made it through eight events at the 2002 U.S. championships, then withdrew, again citing foot problems.

O'Brien said he never gave up. Track and field, after all, had been his salvation after a troubled youth. He had been the best, and wasn't ready to quit.

"I don't know if everybody's forgotten about me as much as they just don't know what I'm doing," O'Brien said. "Everybody says, 'Oh, you're coming out of retirement.' Well, I never actually retired."

He still has the highest five decathlon scores recorded by an American, topped by his 8,891 points in Talence, France, in September 1992. A world record at the time, it marked a major comeback after he failed to make the '92 Olympic team because he didn't clear a height

in the pole vault. Four years later, he earned gold in Atlanta.

Reigning U.S. and world champion Tom Pappas, has the No. 6 score on the U.S. list with 8,784 points at last year's U.S. championships.

"You know, he's the guy to beat," O'Brien said. "I truly believe that if you beat Tom Pappas, you win the gold medal. Tom Pappas is a physical specimen. The guy can jump and he can throw, and that's the key."

Before he can think about the Athens Olympics, O'Brien has

to get into the U.S. Olympic trials in July. He would like it if his past success would allow him in automatically, but John Chaplin, executive director of the elite division of U.S. men's track and field, has indicated that his marks may be too old to get him in without qualifying this year.

Chaplin said O'Brien needs to make a written appeal, and the sooner the better, since the competition is less than two months away.

O'Brien has mixed feelings about having to qualify.

"I wish I didn't, but I probably am going to have to do a full one," he said. "And I'll do that in the middle of June or the first part of June to get the qualifying score out of the way. And it would be good training as well."

"If they let me through, then I would thank them for it. I think I have earned it, but rules are rules."

As always, the big concern is staying healthy.

"Handling the day-to-day grinding and pounding that takes place," he said. "Can I

(See O'BRIEN page five)

## Tyson gets Missouri boxing license; St. Louis, Louisville vying for bout

by JIM SUHR  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ST. LOUIS — With former heavyweight champion Mike Tyson expected to climb back into the ring for the first time in more than a year, St. Louis and Louisville, apparently have emerged as top contenders for the bout.

Tyson manager Shelly Finkel told FightNews.com that both cities are front-runners to host Tyson's next fight, perhaps July 31 against journeyman Kevin McBride.

Tyson, who turns 38 next month, last week got a boxing contestant's license from Missouri's regulatory Office of Athletics, its administrator said Wednesday. Tim Lueckenhoff said Tyson's camp did not specify a date for any fight, and McBride has not applied for a similar license in Missouri.

"All that I've heard about the date is what's been reported in the media," Lueckenhoff said.

In Kentucky, officials are keeping Louisville's Freedom Hall unbooked for July 31, pending a decision on the fight, the president of the Kentucky State Fair Board, which runs Freedom Hall, told The Courier-Journal of Louisville.

"This is a deal we've been working on for a very long time," Harold Workman told the newspaper.

Tyson and his advisers visited Louisville last summer to meet with the Chris Webb, a Louisville-based boxing promoter who heads Straight-Out Promotions.

Having led the charge for 10 months to lure the fight to Louisville, Webb said Wednesday revenue from the

bout "would be helpful at a time when we need it."

"This is not about Mike Tyson," Webb said. "It's about the city of Louisville, it's about getting Louisville back to its roots and making boxing a big part of Louisville's history once again."

Louisville is the birthplace and childhood home of three-time heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali, who now lives in Michigan. Greg Page and fellow former heavyweight champions Jimmy Ellis and Marvin Hart also were born in Louisville.

Messages left Wednesday at Finkel's office were not returned.

Webb said he expects a decision within a week.

The fight would be Tyson's first since Feb. 22, 2003, when he knocked out Clifford Etienne in 49 seconds in Memphis, Tenn. Tyson has just three fights under his belt since 2001.

Possible St. Louis venues for

a Tyson-McBride bout include the Edward Jones Dome — home to the NFL's St. Louis Rams — and the Savvis Center, where the NHL's St. Louis Blues play.

Representatives of both downtown arenas said Wednesday they have not been approached about a possible Tyson fight.

Jeff Rainford, St. Louis Mayor Francis Slay's chief of staff, said that while he had not heard about a possible Tyson fight in the Gateway City, "we love the idea of big-time events coming here."

But landing Tyson would play second fiddle to a bout involving St. Louis' own Cory Spinks, the undisputed welterweight champion and son of Leon Spinks, the former heavyweight champ, Rainford said.

"Generally we'd be interested in a big-time fight. But I think we're more interested in a fight involving Cory Spinks because he's from St. Louis and

we're very proud of him," Rainford said. "We're working with folks interested in getting a Spinks fight."

Missouri boxing licenses expire on June 30 of even-numbered years, meaning that Tyson would have to apply almost immediately for a two-year extension for a bout scheduled after that.

Missouri's Office of Athletics — part of the state's Department of Economic Development — regulates professional boxing, wrestling and martial arts statewide.

As part of Tyson's application, sent to Lueckenhoff's office by express mail, Tyson acknowledged his prior convictions and boxing-related disciplinary action taken against him, Lueckenhoff said.

Tyson's application is not public record, Lueckenhoff said.

AP Sports Writer Chris Duncan in Louisville contributed to this story.

## Bristol Nextel Cup dates set for first weekend in April, final weekend in August

TIMES STAFF REPORT

BRISTOL, Tenn. — Bristol Motor Speedway and NASCAR, last week, officially announced the Speedway's 2005 race dates. Bristol will host both of NASCAR's top touring series the first weekend in April and all three top NASCAR touring series the final weekend in August.

Because Easter falls on the final March weekend in 2005, Bristol's annual spring race weekend returns to the month of April for the first time since 1999 when Rusty Wallace grabbed his 50th career victory.

The 2005 BMS season opens with Charter Pole Day on Friday, April 1, featuring NASCAR Busch and NEXTEL Cup Series practice and qualifying for the weekend's races. On Saturday, April 2, fans can watch final NEXTEL Cup series practice, as well as 250 laps of action in the

Sharpie Professional 250 NASCAR Busch Series event. The Food City 500 caps off the weekend on Sunday, April 3.

"NASCAR's Most Popular Race," the Sharpie 500 runs under the lights on Saturday, August 27. The O'Reilly 200 NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series event will run Wednesday, August 24, and the Food City 250 NASCAR Busch Series race will run Friday, August 26.

"In a year of change on the NASCAR schedule, I know that fans are happy that Bristol keeps its traditional dates," said Jeff Byrd, president, Bristol Motor Speedway. "These two weekends impact many events in Northeast Tennessee and Southwest Virginia, and almost every resident. We thank NASCAR for releasing its 2005 schedule this early so that our fans and our community can make plans now for next year."

## Racing

Continued from p3

lunge to see how well you do every time out, how good you can make yourself and your car."

Since Johnny races in Super Pro and Jonathan is in the Sportsman class, they don't compete against each other. And that suits the younger Hutchinson just fine.

"My dad taught me a lot about racing. That's where I learned most of what I know," he said. "I like helping him out with his car but I don't want to run against him and it's not because he beats me. We've run against each other in Fun Ford and I don't like it. It's just that I'm more worried about how he's going to do because I've worked with him on his car so long."

Jonathan can't imagine a time when he's not racing. For him it's more than a hobby, more than just racing cars. His time at the dragway is his time to relax, enjoy friends and hang out with his family.

"Yeah, we've probably all got people we want to beat but it's just because we want to beat their time or speed," he said.

"It's natural that you want to beat whoever is running closest to you. But it never gets bad. Everybody tells everybody good luck in the staging lanes, gives them a thumbs up, talks and tells jokes."

"One of the best things about this is the friends you make. If you're out there getting mad over a race and you're in it for blood, then you're in it for the wrong thing. I get mad but only at myself for not doing as well as I think I can do."

Since he was raised in the sport, Jonathan has a true appreciation for the atmosphere it provides.

"This is a family-type of thing," he said. "My dad and I work different shifts now so about the only time I get to spend time with him is on Saturdays at the track and that's important for us."

"It's racing but it's not just about that. There are lots of families out there who have relatives and friends racing. They're cooking out, their kids are running around playing, and they're just having a good time. That's a big part of what it's all about."

## Calendar

Continued from p3

tact Pikeville College head coach Bill Watson at 606/297-6522 (home), 606/218-5356; or assistant coach Robert Staggs, 606/432-1807 (home), 606/218-5357.

### BASEBALL Coach-pitch tournament

An 8-and-under coach-pitch baseball tournament will be held in Paintsville on June 18-19. The tournament will be round-robin play. The entry fee is \$25 per team. The name of the tournament is the Future Stars of Baseball 8U Coach Pitch Baseball Tournament. Area teams to be recruited to participate. For more information contact Lance Daniels at 606/789-7211 (work) or 606/297-5514 (home). Send email inquiries to lanced@foothills.net

### GOLF Prestonsburg Touchdown Club Golf Scramble

The Prestonsburg Touchdown Club will host its annual golf scramble on Saturday, May 29 at Beaver Valley Golf Course in Allen. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Registration will be held from 7-9 a.m.

## Smarty Jones has another strong gallop

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BENSALEM, Pa. — Smarty Jones keeps giving trainer John Servis confidence heading into the Belmont Stakes.

The Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner had another strong gallop Thursday morning, with the undefeated colt going 1 1/4 miles accompanied by a stable pony on a closed track at Philadelphia Park.

"I can sum it up in one word: Super," Servis said. "He let out about four squeals in the middle of the gallop. I couldn't be happier with him. It's past good. We've passed that stage."

Smarty Jones will continue training at Philadelphia Park

Prizes for longest drive, closest to the pin, longest putt and worst score will be awarded.

The entry fee is \$200 per team.

The first-place prize is \$1,200. The second-place team will receive \$800 and the third-place team, \$400. Four-place will pay back the entry fee of \$200.

For more information, contact Ronnie Slone at 886-0006 or Gerald DeRossett at 886-6090.

### HORSE SHOWS

#### Benefit horse show

A horse show consisting of Tennessee Walking, Racking Horses, Rocky Mountain Pleasure Horses and many other Pleasure Horse classes will be held Saturday at 4 p.m. at Archer Park.

All proceeds from the event will benefit the American Cancer Society.

For more information, call Mike Tackett at 606/297-9113.

### CAR SHOWS

#### Pike County Central car show

The Pike County Central football team will hold a car show on Saturday, July 17. There will be classes for both cars and trucks. Entry fee for the show is \$15. A start time has been set at 8:30 a.m.

## Marshall, Virginia Tech agree to series

TIMES STAFF REPORT

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. — Marshall University Director of Athletics Bob Marcum announced Tuesday that Virginia Tech has agreed to a new three-game football series that will bring the Hokies to Huntington in 2011.

The new three-game series, beginning with a Sept. 12, 2009, meeting in Blacksburg, Va., has Virginia Tech scheduled to visit Marshall on Sept. 24, 2011. The final game of the series is slated to be a Sept. 21, 2013, matchup at Virginia Tech.

Marshall faced Virginia Tech in 2002 and the Thundering Herd will return to Blacksburg on Sept. 17, 2005, to close out a previous contract.

Lawrence County High product Michael West has reportedly left the Marshall football team and will not be returning to the Thundering Herd.

Below is a listing of Marshall's future non-conference opponents. Please note all games and dates are subject to change.

2004	
Sept. 4	vs. Troy State
Sept. 11	at Ohio State
Sept. 18	at Georgia
2005	
Sept. 10	vs. Kansas State
Sept. 17	at Virginia Tech
2006	
Sept. 9	at Kansas State
Sept. 23	at Tennessee
2007	
Sept. 1	at Miami, Fla.
Sept. 15	at Wisconsin
2008	
None announced	
2009	
Sept. 5	vs. Tennessee
Sept. 12	at Virginia Tech
2010	
Sept. 4	at Tennessee
2011	
Sept. 10	vs. Miami, Fla.
Sept. 24	vs. Virginia Tech
2012	
Sept. 22	at Miami, Fla.
2013	
Sept. 21	at Virginia Tech



Wes Halbert and Stephen Halbert were the winners of the Buddy Bass Tournament.



Cody Kinney won first place in the 7-10-year-olds division.

## Johns Creek Bassmasters hold Dewey Lake tournament

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PRESTONSBURG — The Johns Creek Bassmasters held a tournament at Dewey Lake earlier this month. Sponsors that helped to make the event possible included AL's Worms, Check Advance, Wal-Mart, Eagle Claw, Coca-Cola, Leatherman Tools, Daiichi Hooks, Hitchspotter, Terminator Spinnerbaits, Bullet Weights, Teco Coal, Cabin Creek, Bass Fishing USA, Edge Products, Eddy Lures, Seaguar Fishing Line, Bullet Boats, Green Head Hunters Hunting and Fishing Supplies, Food Source, Case Plastics Ranger Boats, Action Plastics, Glacier Gloves, Gudebrod, Hart Tackle, Plano Tackle, Culprit Products, Gary Yamamoto Custom Baits, Power Pro Fishing Line, AA'S Worms, Fish Formula, BNM Pole Co.,

Lurecraft, Lakeview Mart Lake Road of Prestonburg, and the Corp of Engineers of Jenny Wiley.

All the children in the event came away a winner with over 100 gift packs given away throughout the day.

First and second in the 7-10-year-olds division were Cody Kinney (1st) with 1-bass at 1.92 lbs Dalton Thacker (2nd) with five bluegill at 1.05 lbs. The 11-14-year-olds division's top finishers were Corey Bailey (1st) with 5 bluegill at 1.07 lbs Mickale Roberts (2nd) with five bluegill at .95 lbs.

The Buddy Bass Tournament winners were Wes Halbert and Stephen Halbert with three bass at 9.09 lbs. The duo also captured Big Bass honors 4.22 lbs. Second was the team Dennis Osborne and Wanda Osborne with three bass at 5.02 lbs.

# Hensley Enterprises 5th Annual Mopar Mania set for May 28-30

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

BRISTOL, Tenn. — Thunder Valley will transform itself into a haven for Mopar lovers for three big days, May 28-30, for the Hensley Enterprises 5th Annual Mopar Mania.

The show features plenty of drag racing, a car show, swap meet, Manufacturer's Midway and Slant 6 Club Racing. One of the highlights of the weekend will be an appearance by Ben "Cooter" Jones of The Dukes of Hazzard fame, who will also be bringing in a special friend — the General Lee, the infamous 1969 Dodge Charger which appeared on the show.

Jones, who will also appear at Bristol Motor Speedway and Dragway for Dukesfest, the 25th anniversary celebration of The Dukes of Hazzard, July 31-Aug. 1, is thrilled to once again

be part of Mopar Mania.

"We did that show last year and even the rain didn't stop people from coming out," he said. "After all these years they still love the General Lee. I think the folks at Mopar are proud to be associated with the General Lee and I think the General Lee is a great representa-

tive for them. It's just a natural fit.

"It's amazing how many people are still crazy about that car. I'm there but I know I'm really just the guy standing next to it. The General Lee is the real star."

Jones will be signing autographs and posing for pictures

from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. on May 29-30.

A three-day pass for Mopar Mania for spectators is \$35 while a two-day pass is \$25. Children under 12 will be admitted free with a paying adult. Gates open Friday at 9 a.m. and at 8 a.m. on both Saturday and Sunday.

## Couch

Continued from p2

no longer welcome.

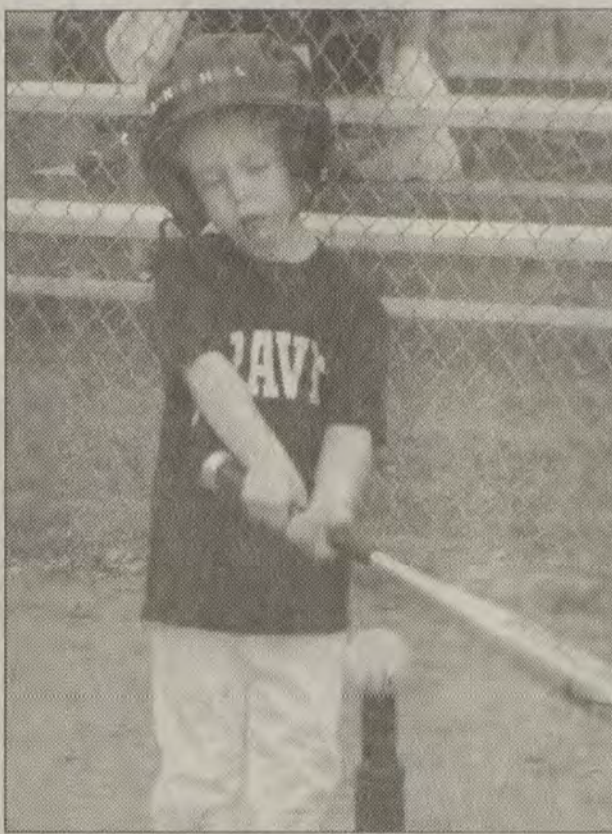
Before minicamp, the Browns went so far as to clean out Couch's locker and remove his nameplate.

Couch has been working out at his offseason home in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. He did not immediately return a phone message seeking comment Friday.

On Thursday, Browns coach Butch Davis said he has no plans to release Couch after June 1. Davis also said there was still a possibility Couch could return as a backup.

That seems to be unlikely, however, since Couch's contract is for \$7.6 million this season and \$8 million in 2005.

Agent Tom Condon has had talks with the Green Bay Packers about Couch becoming Brett Favre's backup but has so far been unable to work out a deal.



photos by Jamie Howell

Prestonsburg Little League T-ball teams were able to get games in this past week in between rain showers.

## Repeat

Continued from p1

are indicative of the balance in the conference. Any team in the upcoming 58th District tournament is more than capable of winning the championship and doing some damage in the 15th Region.

"I don't see a clear favorite in the tournament. If we play up to our capabilities, we have a shot at winning it. Believe me, we don't take any team lightly. We worry about all of them. Someone asked me who I'd rather play in the tournament and it stumped me. All teams have different strengths that worry me.

"There are some very talented players in the 58th District. For the most part, all of the teams are young.

With youth comes unpredictability. The upside to that is that the conference should be very strong and have parity for a very long time."

Monday's first game is scheduled to get underway at 5 p.m. The second game will follow 30 minutes after the complete of the first game.

## TREMENDOUS 26

Here is the list of the Tremendous 26 Seniors in the state of Kentucky as voted on by state football coaches.

- Chris Todd, Elizabethtown QB
- Brandon Logan Lexington Catholic, OLB
- James McKinney, Central, DE/TE
- Curtis Pulley, Hopkinsville, QB/FS
- Kelvin Turner, Danville, RB
- David Jones, Belfry, RB/ CB
- Michael Schwindel Hancock County, WR/ FS
- Tyler Sexton Pulaski County, DE
- Earl Heyman Ballard OL/DL
- William Lewis, Scott County, WR
- Brandon Smith, Boyle County, QB
- Lee Renfro, Pulaski Southwestern, SS/ RB
- JaJuan Spillman, Pleasure Ridge Park, WR/ FS
- Jesse Jones, Doss, FB
- Jordan Nevels, Highlands, RB/S
- Stephen Garr, Male, WR/ DB
- Lamar Austin Paducah Tilghman, DB
- Cory Zirbel Murray OL
- Zach Barnard Owensboro Catholic, QB
- Clint Miley, Mason County, OT
- Kenny Ray Turner, Trigg County, OT/ DT
- Kevin Bramblett Oldham County, RB
- Bobby Vyverberg Dunbar, RB
- Brandon Deadrick, Elizabethtown, DE
- Demar Shearer, Lafayette, DT
- Brandon Pennington, Ashland, OT/ DT
- Ron Hawkins Danville, DB/WR

# Pro basketball's first female coach stares down skeptics

by TERESA M. WALKER  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The new coach of the Nashville Rhythm has no experience and doesn't turn 23 until July.

But the first female coach of a professional men's basketball team isn't worried about critics who call her hiring a publicity stunt.

"I'm always going to have people that doubt me," Ashley McElhiney said.

The former Vanderbilt point guard's only coaching experience came from private lessons before she was introduced this week as the head of the new ABA franchise. Still, McElhiney says she can make it in a league made up mostly of former NBA players and others hoping to impress NBA scouts.

"I wouldn't have taken the job if I wasn't up for it," she said. "It will be a lot of commitment, and I want to win, so I'm going to do whatever it takes."

## O'Brien

Continued from p4

manage the training enough to get the work in but not overdo it and hurt myself?"

For O'Brien, just training for a decathlon is reason enough to stay in the sport.

"I really, really love the training," he said. "The decathlons are hard, they're stressful, but the training I can't really imagine doing anything else at this point."

He realizes that his body is not capable of what it once was, but he said his knowledge of how to prepare can make up for that.

"It's going to be hard work, and I think what's going to get me on the Olympic team is my mind," O'Brien said. "In '96, I did it with my body. This year I've got to do it with my mind."

down the Rhythm job two months ago because she felt rushed. Instead, she took an entry-level position analyzing video for Ohio State women's coach Jim Foster.

But she felt as if she was missing something.

"I was constantly thinking about what if, what if? I don't want to go through life passing up chances," McElhiney said. "That's the thing people regret — chances they don't take."

"And this is obviously a huge chance. It's going to be a challenge, and I look forward to it."

Randy Frazier, who has known McElhiney since she was in kindergarten and coached her in junior high and high school in Gleason, Tenn., said McElhiney won't be intimidated by being the only female in a male-dominated situation.

"In her heart, she believes she can do it," Frazier said. "Sometimes the best route to do anything is jump in the fire."

That competitive nature turned the 5-foot-6 point guard some people didn't think could play in the Southeastern Conference into a two-time all-conference performer.

McElhiney has been in a gym since she was 5, learning to dribble while her older sister, Kellie, practiced and played. As she grew up, the girl nicknamed "Tiger" would shoot thousands of shots, breaking only for dinner before returning for more practice at a school of 160 where the door was always open to the players.

"I have a passion for basketball," McElhiney said.

She became Gleason's all-time leading scorer with 2,073 points and led the team to a title in her senior year.

At Vanderbilt, McElhiney became the starting point guard 22 games into her freshman season. In her career, she handed out more assists (683) than any other player, male or female,

and holds several other school records, including playing every minute of 38 games.

She helped Vanderbilt win the 2002 SEC tournament, reach the NCAA tournament every year she was there and fell just short of the Final Four in 2001 with a loss to eventual champion Notre Dame.

She was drafted by the Indiana Fever of the WNBA, but never made the roster.

Rhythm co-owner Sally Anthony, a singer who also has her own record label and a Web site promoting female artists, said plenty of men were interested in the coaching job. But she was adamant about hiring a woman to help open more doors.

In 2001, Stephanie Ready became the first woman to coach in men's professional basketball as an assistant NBDL coach with the Greenville Groove. Two years later, Tennessee State athletic director Teresa Phillips became the only woman to coach a Division I men's game when her interim coach was suspended.

McElhiney hasn't yet had a chance to meet players on the Rhythm. In fact, the expansion team won't have any until November, when training camp opens. The season starts in late November and runs through March.

The Rhythm owners plan to support McElhiney by stocking the roster with players more interested in working their way to the NBA than worrying about the gender of their coach.

"If they're going to have an attitude, we've got her back," Anthony said.

McElhiney is eager to start watching film, studying players, talking with coaches and learning as much as she can before the Rhythm invites players to camp.

"This is an opportunity of a lifetime for them as well," she said.

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# FLOYD COUNTY Lifestyles



## INSIDESTUFF

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- More Meet Appalachia • page 6B

## TODAY'S FREEBIE

Look in your paper today and every day for a value worth more than the cost of the paper. **PAGE A3**

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### SPECIAL COLUMN

## This Town, That World

*Editor's Note: For years, Floyd County Times founder and former publisher Norman Allen wrote a weekly column that looked at Floyd County through his eyes. His columns are being reprinted due to request.*

### LAFFYNITION

**CRATER** (Appalachian style): A depressed area with no relief in sight.

### PREMATURE REPORT

There went another item for this column. The report that two of our hardier fishermen had gone to Elkhorn City to have a go at the walleye run, is pure rumor. Besides, I am told, if there is any walleye run in progress, those knowing about it are keeping it a deep, dark secret.

### LATER—MAYBE

My congratulations to those who worked for, earned and received their high school equivalency certificates. I should have joined them in those classes, but I'm so busy writing the little that I know and hear, that I haven't time to try to learn something.

### THE COLD FACTS

Almost any reputable statistician or observer will tell you

(See **WORLD**, page seven)

## 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 can 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!

## MEET APPALACHIA



photo by Mary Music  
Gwyen cuddles her grandson, two month old Nicholas Anthony, the son of Robert and Andrea Meade.

# Gwyen Meade, sub

by MARY MUSIC  
STAFF WRITER

### Gwyen Meade

**Age:** 43  
**Occupation:** Substitute Teacher  
**Education:** Associate in Arts, Prestonsburg Community College  
**Life quote:** "Don't sweat the small stuff."

### About 'Meet Appalachia'

The people portrayed in this section are people I've met as I walk along the road of my life. They were on a street, in a store or restaurant. They were recommended by a friend, or the friend of a friend, as the old trend goes. All of them see life as they see it. I am only here to tell their stories as I see them. These are their hopes and challenges. These are what they allow them to be.

— MARY MUSIC

The woman sits in a lawn chair, hair pinched back in a near French twist, holding her newborn grandson, her first, and she smiles. Beneath her is a stone porch, one obviously planted there years ago. Behind her, a wooden swing with oversized pillows.

A few minutes ago, she walked out of the front door of her small home, which now is cornered to her left. She had been rearranging furniture, she says, and, of course, keeping an eye on the little one.

The garden sits to her right. It's small, but heavily planted with rows of crisp vegetables. It's the first time her family has planted a garden in three years, she says, looking over stately rows of cabbage, green beans, corn, peppers, tomatoes, cucumbers, and potatoes.

Yes, it's going to be a busy canning season.

Meet Gwyen Meade, 43, of Caney Fork: wife, mother, grandmother, and substitute teacher for the Floyd County School system. She spent her early years in Indiana, where her parents moved to look for work in the late 40's or early 50's. When she was nine, the family fulfilled their wish to return home to Kentucky. They lived on Middle Creek for a spell, then moved to Caney Fork, where Gwyen lives now.

"A lot of things have changed,"

Gwyen says, recalling the days that she and her three brothers spent romping hill-sides, climbing trees, playing marbles, or wading in the creek beds. Nowadays, she says, children have other things to keep their minds occupied, and they don't enjoy playing like that anymore. This change has its "pros and cons," according to Gwyen, because the children have more opportunities but are also "missing out on the great things" their grandparents or parents learned those years ago.

But some things haven't changed. As a substitute teacher, Gwyen says she knows all too well the antics of the typical "class clown," children vying for attention who cut up a fuss in class. In dealing with such situations and with teaching, in general, Gwyen, who subs primary through fifth grades, says it's important to "get on the same level" with the children. She doesn't just read to them. She acts out the story. She doesn't just lecture the class. She's on the floor working the project with them. It's important to incorporate a variety of educational tools to address various learning styles, she says. In doing so, Gwyen's learned a bit about life herself.

"Don't sweat the small stuff," she said, when asked what teaching has taught her. "There's much more bigger things to worry about. When it comes down to it and you're worrying about the little things

(See **MEADE**, page seven)

### MOVIES FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

## EQUILIBRIUM-2002, Rated R

Here's one of those flicks that was made by some sharp folks but marketed by a roomful of Rhesus Monkeys. It's a smart movie but they sold it on the action elements which are admittedly good but secondary to the story.

In the not too distant future a third world war has marked a change in society. Emotion has been targeted as the enemy because it leads to crime and conflict. The result is a society addicted to an emotion dampening drug called "Prozium." Anything which enhances or stirs emotion (like art, movies etc.) is outlawed. An elite

police force, called Clerics, enforces these laws and make arrests for "Sense Offenses."

The story follows the growing disillusionment of a Master Cleric called Preston. This guy forgets to take his drug one day and slowly begins to start developing

feelings which make him doubt the righteousness of what he does. Soon he is questioning the natural order and behaving oddly. He starts doing things like rearranging his work desk, looking in on his kids while they sleep and even forgets to where his gloves which are standard issue for people trying to distance themselves from their senses. The final straw occurs when he wipes out a platoon of cops to save a puppy that is about to be incinerated. This act attracts the attention of the resistance fighters who live under the city and he is soon enmeshed in their plot to assassinate the father figure who rules the populace from the movie screens placed all over the city. It all leads up to a fiery finale where Preston dices his way through his fellow Clerics on a suicide mission to kill their fearless leader. It's a great coda and offers up a conclusion that could have been way darker but still doesn't offer any easy answers to putting things right.

Anyone who complains about action movies lacking plot ought to see this one. The inspiration here seems to come more from two great novels than THE MATRIX. The books that inspired this movie are the sci-fi classics 1984, by George Orwell, and FAHRENHEIT 451 (by Ray Bradbury). Here you get the kind of movie that those novels should have been made into rather than the dour and literal film translations that turned out to be. The idea for this film is that you can explore themes of thought police (here they are actually emotion police) and the power of art to evoke an emotional response and still have an entertaining movie. The fight scenes alone are worth a rental. These sequences focus on a blend of Martial Arts maneuvers

(See **LAGOON**, page seven)

### CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE SOUL

# Colonel Maggie and the blind veteran



I don't remember exactly when I first met Martha Raye, our Col. Maggie. Like so many veterans, as soon as I met her, I felt I'd known this woman forever.

One of our later encounters took place at the Bonaventure Hotel in Los Angeles in 1987 at an enormous veterans convention. Col. Maggie was there, every day, just "one the guys." She was the center of attraction in the lounge.

Day after day, I couldn't help but notice a blind man, quietly standing

outside the lounge, his dog stoically beside him. Many vets asked if he needed assistance. He always quietly declined. Finally, a group of nervous veterans asked me to intercede.

I walked up to this man and asked what he was waiting for all those days.

"I'm waiting for Col. Maggie to have a moment to see me, ma'am. I don't care to disturb her." Something about the guy got to me, and I sent Chuck, Maggie's escort, to go get her. Maggie strode right over to the man.

"What's up, soldier? You wanted to see me?" Even his dog stood at attention as he replied, "Yes, ma'am!"

Well, I'm here. What is it?" "I served in Vietnam in ..." Maggie finished his sentence by providing the place she'd met him -- once he'd mentioned the year.

While others standing around us showed pure awe at Maggie's capacity for memory of detail, I only smiled; it's her trademark.

While Maggie and the man (we

never asked him his name) reminisced, the blind soldier's face glowed with joy. Finally, he said what he'd waited 20 years to say. "Col. Maggie," he began, "when I was hit, you stayed in that fox-hole, holding me, singing to me till the medevac came. I wasn't so scared, with you there and all." They were staring deeply into each other's eyes. Somehow, we knew they were both seeing a time and place they'd shared long

(See **SOUP** page seven)



# My Papaw

By Frances A. Cantrell

Papaw, this is Abby - Can you come and pick me up? I want to come for a visit, and ride in your old truck.

And would you please leave Granny home so we can enjoy the day.

Gran always wants to hurry home and she spoils our fun that way.

Papaw, don't forget your cap or we won't have much fun.

'Cause your bald head will sure get fried when we're out in that hot sun.

Maybe I can help you drive and beep the horn real loud.

And while we're out we'll check the sky and shape of every cloud.

Will you let me roll my window down so the wind can blow my hair?

We'll stop by the lake and feed the ducks - if we see any there.

We'll dig a bunch of fishing worms so we can put them on our hook.

Then we can catch a big, big fish like they show in the picture book.

They have a park out at the lake, you can push me down the slide.

Tommy says they have horses there, and you can pay for

me a ride. We'll pick us some wild flowers and bring them to Granny Fran.

Then we'll pick us up a Happy Meal and some Pepsi in a can.

Papaw, I've missed you so much, I'll be waiting at the gate.

You hurry down and pick me up - and plan to stay out late.

I'll always be your little girl even when I grow up.

With great memories of my Papaw and his old Toyota truck.

I love you, Papaw!

## Account established to aid Guess family

First Commonwealth Bank has established an account for the Guess family who suffered the loss of 3 children and their mother in a tragic accident last Monday evening, May 10. Money placed into the account will be used for funeral expenses. If you want to contribute, please send donations to the David Guess Support Fund, 311 N Arnold Avenue, Prestonsburg, KY 41653 attention: LaDonna Arms.

## Soup

Continued from p6

ago; in this moment, his blindness was unimportant. It was suddenly quiet enough to hear footfalls 16,000 miles away.

"When the doc went to bandage my eyes, you stopped him," he continued, his voice choking. "You looked me right in the eyes and told me, 'Someday we'll see each other again.'"

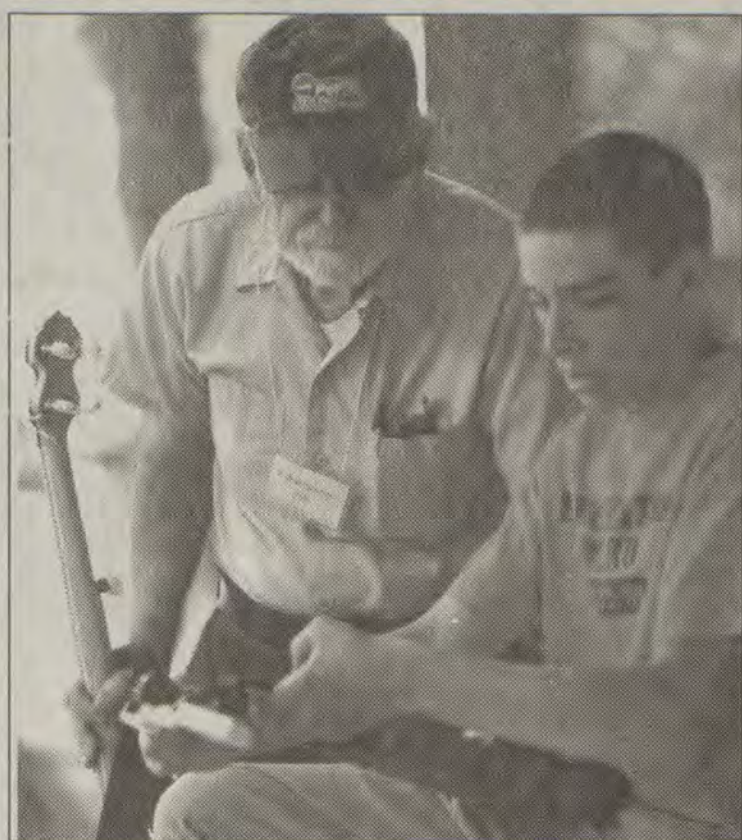
"Well, back in the world, when they unbandaged me, they told me I'd never see anything ever again. I wasn't depressed. I knew I could live with this" - he pointed to his sightless eyes - "because the last thing I ever saw was the most

beautiful sight I could ever live to see. You."

Maggie took him in her arms, and we onlookers had a good cry. The veteran? His eyes were glowing with a sight from within. And Maggie? Once again, she gave that man exactly what he needed - when he needed it.

Be a part of Chicken Soup's 10th Anniversary. Look for our 10th Anniversary Edition, "Chicken Soup for the Soul: Living Your Dreams." Visit [www.chickensoup.com](http://www.chickensoup.com) for more details.

Continued from p6



Rodney Sanders, left, of Pikeville, checks out a fiddle belonging to Norman Roark, 14, of Milan, Indiana, during an old-time jam session at last year's Cowan Creek Mountain Music School. (Photo by Shawn Poynter)

## Mountain Music School set for Letcher

The third annual Cowan Creek Mountain Music School, June 21-25, will bring together some of the country's finest old-time musicians, along with students of all levels, for a week of learning and fun.

The school offers courses in banjo (four levels), fiddle (four levels), guitar (three levels), singing, square dancing and storytelling.

The faculty includes Jimmy and Ada McCown, Art Stamper, Jamie Wells, John Harrod, Jesse Wells, Randy Wilson, Ray Slone, Roy Tackett, Rich Kirby, Ron Short, Donovan Cain, Charlie Whitaker and Angie DeBord.

Students will also be treated to in-class visits and performances by masters of Kentucky traditional music Paul Smith and Burt Hatfield, Lee Sexton, the Tri-City Messengers and George Gibson.

Each afternoon, students can take part in jam sessions for all levels or a singers circle. Each evening the faculty and students will gather for square dancing, jam sessions and fellowship.

The week wraps up on Friday

with a square dance, potluck dinner, student recitals and a grand finale concert featuring the faculty.

The school takes place at the Cowan Elementary School and the Cowan Community Center, just outside Whitesburg in Letcher County. It is open to youth 11 years old and older, as well as adults. Tuition for the week is \$100 for Kentucky residents and \$150 for out-of-state students. A limited number of youth scholarships are available for Kentucky students.

Class size is limited to 10 each, so early registration is encouraged. Cowan Creek Mountain Music School is produced by the Cowan Community Center with support from Appalshop and the Letcher County Board of Education.

For a brochure, contact music school coordinator Nell Fields at 606-633-3187 or email [nell\\_fields@hotmail.com](mailto:nell_fields@hotmail.com), or write to Cowan Community Center, 81 Sturgill Branch, Whitesburg, KY 41858. The brochure is also available on-line at [www.appalshop.org](http://www.appalshop.org)

## Meade

that really don't matter, address it and let it go."

Gwen adheres to a "get in there and do it" life philosophy. She, for many years, has felt and acted upon the need in herself to take care of life's little problems. This philosophy, however, changed the day she realized she could no longer care for her mother, who suffers with Alzheimer's Disease.

When Gwen's "get in there and do it" personality met the overwhelming needs of her mother, it floored her emotionally. In fact, she says, her biggest weakness in life is knowing her own limitations.

"I thought 'I can do it, I can take care of her,'" Gwen said, "and then you try so hard and find out you can't - I couldn't take care of her."

Gwen, who'd spent 8 months pacing the floor, watching her mother's mental capabilities decline, signed her mother over to the care of Prestonsburg Healthcare Center on Feb. 14, 2003.

It was tough, she says. For years, her mother had cared for her family. She was strong, worked hard, enjoyed reading, writing, cooking, doing needlepoint, and was a great story teller of yesteryear. But all that changed to confusion, and even violence, at times, when the disease came to the forefront.

After Gwen's father died from a massive heart attack in 1997, the family realized the hold this "devastating" disease has on its victims. The mother-daughter relationship that Gwen knew and loved dissipated. Her mother wasn't "Mom" anymore.

"She was always pittering back and forth from room to room wanting something to do," Gwen said. "She would walk up to me and say, 'Anything I can do, Mama?' and I would tell her, 'No, thank you, Doodles.' She was always piddling at something."

Though placing her mother in

a nursing home was the hardest decision Gwen ever made, she says today she is thankful that she can now go visit and "enjoy" her company.

Now, she says, she's learned her limitations.

"I'm learning that I'm not superwoman and I'm not going to be able to do everything," she said.

Today, she has mastered her mother's orange slice cake, a family favorite that brings back old memories.

Though Gwen says she lacks confidence in herself, she's strong enough to know what she wants and strong enough to work for it.

"Some things you wait on. Some things you just know," she said.

Roughly 27 years ago, when a handsome young man came pouncing into her church during a revival service, she fell in love. She knew right then and there he was the man of her dreams.

"It was love at first sight," she said, remembering how he looked the first time she laid eyes on him. Laughing, she recalls a lady, the local "go between" who sparked their interest in each other by asking her "What do ya think of him?" and then asking him "What do ya think of her?"

Gwen and her husband, Phillip, 42, will be celebrating their 25 wedding anniversary in June.

Successful relationships, she says, center around God, communication, and respect, qualities the couple have taught their own three children: Marshavie, 24, a manager at Prestonsburg McDonalds; Phillip Brian, 22, an employee at Raycon Landscaping Company; and Robert, 19; an employee at Music Carter Hughes in Prestonsburg.

"When we have an unconditional love for God and we get into his love and focus him as the main center of our lives, then it can't help but reflect back on our marriage. That love overflows into our marriage," she said, not-



Gwen says these rows of crisp cabbage will be canned as kraut in the fall. photo by Mary Music

ing how this love has "deep roots" in both her and her husband's families.

Phillip, a roof bolter, was devastated emotionally when he became disabled from the mines. He loved the work and the people he worked for, she said, but "a lot of years of wear and tear" took their toll on Phillip, who now suffers with an arthritic spine, among other ailments.

When he could no longer work, Gwen says Phillip felt "useless," but his frustrations led him to her side, where he expressed his feelings and strengthened the lines of communication between the two.

"No matter how little or how small an issue is, bring it up to one another and talk it out," she said.

In parenting, Gwen says she and Phillip always taught their children, raised with "strong" Christian beliefs, to have a "free heart to give" and to do the best at whatever task they tried to accomplish.

If you teach children this, she said, "They don't go too far from it that they can't come back to it." She describes herself as a giving person who loves her family "dearly" and who is willing to

give to help others in need.

"If I help someone else, then maybe somewhere down the road when I need that help it'll come back to me. It's the old adage: What goes around comes around. It's a strong belief of my husband and I. We strongly believe in the law of sowing and reaping the harvest."

This year, Gwen and her husband will tackle the garden together, raise their crops, and harvest many vegetables in the fall. She plans to can kraut, salt pickles, hot peppers, tomato juice, and of course, pickled corn.

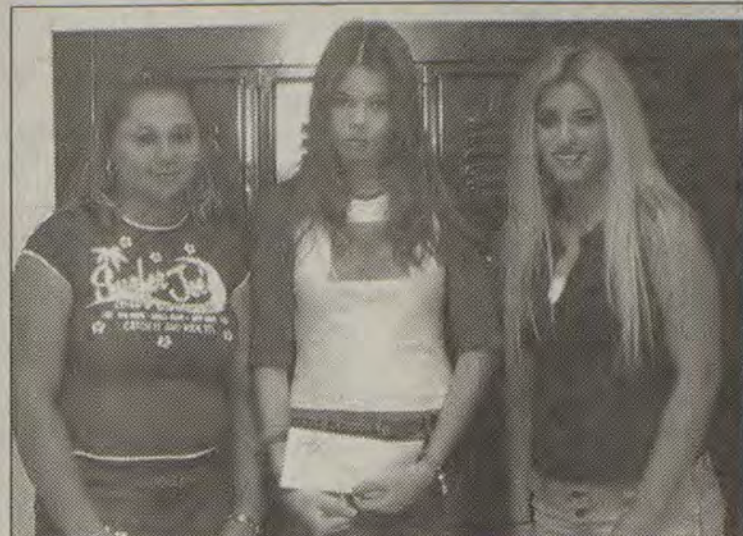
Gardening is therapy, she says, a way "to work out things" in life. It's healthier, she says, because "you know what you put in it," and, of course, she also enjoys it because you can't by the fresh-grown taste in any store.

Their garden is so abundant today, she said, because she and Phillip prayed over it before planting about a month ago.

When asked if she is successful, Gwen doesn't hesitate to answer.

"My kids aren't on drugs, I've got a very good marriage, and most of all, I put God first, so yeah, I'm a success," she said.

## Announcements



### PHS Month of May Perfect Attendance Awards

photo by Kathy J. Prater

Tabitha Jarvis, Malinda Lafferty, and Shalonna Hamilton all received Wal-Mart gift certificates in recognition of having perfect attendance for the month of May at Prestonsburg High School. Josh LeMaster, who also received a gift certificate, was not present for the photo.



### 2003-2004 Sumter County Fire Fighter of the Year

Neil Rice, of Sumter, S.C., formerly of Banner, was honored as "Firefighter of the Year" by the Bethel Fire Station during the Bethel Station 13th Annual Christmas Dinner. On April 14, 2003, the Sumter County Fire Association held a county-wide awards banquet, attended by members of the county's 19 fire stations. At the banquet, Neil was honored as "Fire Fighter of the Year" by the fire association council. Before moving to Sumter, Neil was a member of the Allen Volunteer Fire Department for seven years, as well as a member of the Floyd County Rescue Squad for three years. He now resides in Sumter with his wife and children who proudly congratulate him for his accomplishments.

Continued from p6

## Purple Flash weekend coming up

Plans are now being finalized for the Memorial Day Weekend, Purple Flash Reunion. At the Friday night reception, the Corp of Engineers will present a slide show depicting the "new" town of Martin, which will be relocated on top of the mountain. Also, we will be showing videos of past reunions and a memorial "trip" through all of the school annuals and senior photos.

The stage for Saturday will be decorated in purple and gold balloons and will be located outside the front of the old high school building. Ceremonies will begin at 1:00 p.m.

The 1954 Martin High class will be honored, since this year marks their 50th anniversary. Then, Jack Hutchinson, former assistant coach, will reveal the names and positions of the top 25 basketball players from years past. This will be based upon the total number of points recorded for each player of past

Martin High School Purple Flash teams. If anyone has a ball player in the family who lives away, please contact them so they can receive their commemorative plaque. There are three players on the list who are no longer living, hopefully, a family member will be present to accept their award.

After the ceremonies, there will be a "parade" through town. Back in the day, everyone used to go cruisin' round the "Y," so everybody is invited to join us. For those who do not want to parade, music will be provided on the school grounds by the "Gum Branch Heartbreakers." They will entertain the crowd with bluegrass music.

The Homecoming Dance will commence at 8:00 p.m., Saturday evening. The theme will be "Aloha from the Purple Flash." The entire event will be videotaped and will be available after about two weeks.

All Martin High School alumni and staff are encouraged to attend this very special event.

## Lagoon

Continued from p6

and twin pistol shooting and are visually exciting as well as something we haven't seen in a movie before. The other attraction here is a solid cast. Christian Bale (soon to be the next Batman) is fine as Preston and manages to evoke sympathy for the character despite his cold exterior. Solid supporting turns are offered by Sean Bean as Preston's partner, Emily Watson (BREAKING THE WAVES) as a staunch member of the resistance and the charismatic Tye Diggs as a Cleric who yearns for Preston's top dog position. Best Line: "You will tell me everything you know or I will have a wagon come here and take you to the Hall of Summery Combustion."

## World

Continued from p6

that if it rains on Monday, it will rain three days that week, usually three in a row; but how many know that if it rains on the first Monday after Easter, there'll be rain seven Mondays in a row?

Here's another fact that many may not know:

The Ladies' Birthday Almanac will hit the weather oftener than the U.S. Weather Bureau (if the newspapers, radio and television are getting their reports from the aforementioned bureau).



# Sunday Comics

## Amber Waves

SON, OUR NEIGHBOR, MR. GLASSON HAS PASSED AWAY.

I'M SORRY, DAD, HE SURE WAS A NICE MAN.

I'LL BET GOD JUST NEEDED A FARMER WITH HIM IN HEAVEN.

AFTER ALL, IT'S NOT AS EASY AS IT LOOKS. AMEN.

by Dave T. Phipps

## MAMA'S BOYZ

WWW.MAMASBOYZ.COM

## JERRY CRAFT

WATCH AND LEARN, NEPHEW. WHEN I'M SET LIKE THIS, I CAN DO ANYTHING...

... PULL AROUND TO THE RIGHT FOR A HOOK SHOT...

... OR PULL THE OL' OKEY DOKE AND GIVE YOU A HEAD FAKE, GET YOU IN THE AIR, THEN GO LEFT.

HE PULLED A MUSCLE!

FROM THIS POSITION, YOU'LL HAVE NO IDEA WHAT I'M ABOUT TO PULL!

... PULL UP FOR A JUMPER...

JERRYCRAFT@AOL.COM

I'M NOT WATCHING T.V. ANYMORE... IT'S TOO DEPRESSING!!

ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT TERRORISM, GAS PRICES AND IRAQ??

NO, MY FAVORITE PLAYER JUST GOT VOTED OFF OF SURVIVOR!!

## R.F.D.

by Mike Marland

IF I SPEND THE DAY TILLIN' THE GARDEN I WON'T GET TO MOW THE LAWN!

OR CUT SOME FIREWOOD...OR PLOW THE CORNFIELD!

~SIGH~ SO MANY TOYS, SO LITTLE TIME!!

# POPEYE

HEY EFSMAN

HARUMPH?!

IS SUMPIN' WRONG, OLIVE?

THIS IS NOT COMMUNICATING!

WE'VE BEEN HERE FOR TWO HOURS AND YOU HAVEN'T SAID A WORD!

YOU PROMISED IF I CAME FISHING WITH YOU THERE WOULD BE SOME CONVERSATION!...

...INSTEAD I SIT HERE IGNORED WHILE YOU JUST PAY ATTENTION TO YOUR LINE!

BUT YA KNOW I LOVES YA, OLIVE!

IF YOU REALLY LOVED ME, YOU'D ROW ME TO THE SHORE RIGHT NOW!

SURE, HONEY... OOPS!

...O'YA THINK YA COULD SWIM FER IT, SWEETIE

...I JEST GOT A BITE!

## MAGIC MAZE • LIKE

U F C C Z W T Q N K I F  
 W U R I P M J H E C K T  
 S G A N G B U S T E R S  
 J G E C Z A E X U O O V  
 P N K L J Z M H O E W C  
 W V T A A R P P T A K N  
 L K I L E G E E E T C F  
 C B B Z X R W U G S O A  
 D N I W E H T P L O L H  
 O M L J E I G S L F C E  
 D B A Y X N M R A H C A

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions, forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

- A cat
- A lamb
- All get-out
- A charm
- A shot
- Blazes
- A flash
- A streak
- Clockwork
- A fool
- A trooper
- Gangbusters

## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF



FIND AT LEAST 6 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS.

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Answers to Crossword Puzzle and Magic Maze can be found on page A2

# Henry

BY DON TRACHTE

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SINCE MOHAMMED'S WIFE REFUSED TO LET HIM GO TO THE MONSTER TRUCK SHOW, THE MONSTER TRUCK SHOW CAME TO MOHAMMED.

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## Super Crossword TIME WARP

- ACROSS**
- 1 Puccini heroine
  - 6 Keen
  - 10 Actress Lanchester
  - 14 Be in charge
  - 18 Fully developed
  - 19 Farm measure
  - 20 Sag
  - 21 Inspect too closely?
  - 22 Automaton
  - 23 Start of a remark by Doug Larson
  - 25 Sue of "Lolita"
  - 26 Squander
  - 28 Clinton's hometown
  - 29 Woodland deities
  - 31 Sporting dog
  - 34 Manifest
  - 36 Heredity letters
  - 37 — kwon do
  - 38 Antiquity, archaically
  - 39 Born
  - 40 "Serpico" author
  - 41 "The Donkey Serenade" composer
  - 43 — "September" ('61 film)
  - 45 Fire
  - 46 James of "Misery"
  - 47 — facto
  - 51 Part 2 of remark
  - 58 Kind of clam
  - 59 Dhamar's locale
  - 60 "Rebel Without a Cause" actor
  - 61 Rocker Halliwell
  - 62 "Man bites dog," e.g.
  - 63 Myrdal or Nelson
  - 64 Fall behind
  - 67 Encore exclamation
  - 68 Flock female
  - 69 Norm
  - 71 Move, with "about"
  - 72 Spanish title
  - 74 "... some curds and —"
  - 75 Tennis pro
  - 77 Ralph of "The Waltons"
  - 78 Stiller's partner
  - 80 "Appalachian Spring" composer
  - 84 Part 3 of remark
  - 88 Siamese
  - 89 Coup d'—
  - 90 Good
  - 91 Chucky, for one
  - 93 Yellowish brown
  - 95 WWII site
  - 97 Room for research
  - 100 Ginnie —
  - 101 Friend
  - 104 EMT's skill
  - 105 Commandment word
  - 106 Remarkable
  - 108 Talisman
  - 110 Galaxy glitterer
  - 111 Buy off
  - 112 Writer Paretsky
  - 113 End of remark
  - 117 Too heavy
  - 121 Mix with water
  - 122 Inexperienced
  - 123 European capital
  - 124 Talk really big
  - 125 Away from the wind
  - 126 Richard of "Inter-section"
  - 127 Rocker Van Halen
  - 128 Birth-related
  - 3 Fill in
  - 4 Circus performer
  - 5 Reach
  - 6 Fowl feature
  - 7 Feel sore
  - 8 Wrath
  - 9 Permit
  - 10 Act like
  - 11 Stud site
  - 12 Impresario
  - 13 Italy's —
  - 14 Celeste or Ian
  - 15 Tut's turf
  - 16 Maui greeting
  - 17 Obtuse
  - 20 "Light My Fire" rockers
  - 24 Big bird
  - 27 "I told you so!"
  - 30 Tasty tuber
  - 31 Wine word
  - 32 Deere things
  - 33 Fess up
  - 34 Poet
  - 35 Windmill part
  - 36 — butter
  - 41 Actress Dunaway
  - 42 Fondness
  - 44 Printemps follower
  - 45 Comic Elliott
  - 46 Machine parts
  - 48 Neighbor of 116
  - 49 "Slammin' Sam"
  - 50 Bouquet
  - 52 Crone
  - 53 Simple life form
  - 54 Garr of "Mr. Mom"
  - 55 Glasses
  - 56 Loser to Truman
  - 57 Big bird
  - 62 Jawaharal's jacket
  - 63 Bellyache
  - 64 Terrier tether
  - 65 A Pointer sister
  - 66 Like Notre Dame
  - 69 Early Brits
  - 70 Baseball family name
  - 72 "M\*A\*S\*H" Emmy winner
  - 73 Actor Stephen Power
  - 74 Power unit
  - 76 Urban transport
  - 78 Carpenter's corner
  - 79 List ender
  - 81 Postfix
  - 82 Cover girl
  - 83 Poet
  - 85 Seductive
  - 86 Without value
  - 87 Detect
  - 92 Triangle part
  - 94 Tennis term
  - 95 Ignominy
  - 96 Starch source
  - 97 It's down in the mouth
  - 98 "— Blue?" ('29 song)
  - 99 Zoo attraction
  - 101 It's tossed with sauce
  - 102 Menotti title character
  - 103 Novelist Alison
  - 105 Place for pots
  - 107 Striped sprinter
  - 109 Path
  - 110 Move a bit
  - 111 Unadorned
  - 114 Dundee denial
  - 115 Hoopsters' org.
  - 116 Newark's st.
  - 118 Put away a pastry
  - 119 Police hdqrs.
  - 120 Sniggler's quarry

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125																		



# The Floyd County Times Classifieds

**Classified Rates: for 20 words or less**  
**Sunday, Wednesday, Friday, only \$12.00**  
**Sunday, Wednesday, Friday & Shopper \$13.00**  
 An additional charge of .25 per word for every word over 20  
**Classified Manager: Pauline Branham, ext. #19**

**DEADLINES:**

- **Wednesday Paper, Noon Mon.**
- **Friday Paper and Shopper, Wed. 5 p.m.**
- **Sunday Paper, Thurs. 5 p.m.**

**CONTACT US AT: (606) 886-8506**



Send Us Your Ad:  
**(606) 886-3603**  
 24 HOURS

<b>100 - AUTOMOTIVE</b>	<b>200 - EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>300 - FINANCIAL</b>	<b>400 - MERCHANDISE</b>	<b>500 - REAL ESTATE</b>	<b>600 - RENTALS</b>	<b>700 - SERVICES</b>	<b>800 - NOTICES</b>	
110 - Agriculture 115 - ATV's 120 - Boats 130 - Cars 140 - 4x4's 150 - Miscellaneous 160 - Motorcycles 170 - Parts 175 - SUV's 180 - Trucks 190 - Vans	210 - Job Listings 220 - Help Wanted 230 - Information 250 - Miscellaneous 260 - Part Time 270 - Sales 280 - Services 290 - Work Wanted	310 - Business	330 - Opportunity 350 - For Sale 360 - Money To Lend 380 - Services	410 - Animals 420 - Appliances 440 - Electronics 445 - Furniture 450 - Lawn & Garden 460 - Yard Sale	470 - Health & Beauty 475 - Household 480 - Miscellaneous 490 - Recreation 495 - Wanted To Buy	510 - Apartments 520 - Storage/ Office Space 530 - Houses 540 - Land/Lots 550 - Mobile Homes 560 - Miscellaneous	570 - Commercial Property 580 - Wanted To Rent 590 - Property	610 - Masonry 620 - Miscellaneous 630 - Mobile Home Movers 640 - Office 650 - Plumbing 660 - Professionals 670 - Repair/Service 680 - Timber 690 - Travel

The FLOYD COUNTY TIMES does not knowingly accept false or misleading advertisements. Ads which request or require advance payment of fees for services or products should be scrutinized carefully.

**AUTOMOTIVE**

**115-ATVs**

**For Sale 2004 Honda 350 ATV** electric shift 371 mi. Red \$4,000 extended warranty call 606-358-8743

**120-Boats**

**For Sale 1972 Pontoon** for sale 26 ft. Rivera Cruiser, 50 Horse power with 84 Johnson motor asking \$2,500 call 606-587-1183

**130-CARS**

**For Sale 1994 Chevy Corsica**, 3.1, V6 Automatic asking \$1,500.00 606-358-0347

**\$500! POLICE IMPOUNDS!** Hondas/ Chevys/ Fords/ Jeeps. Cars, trucks, SUV's from \$500! Listings: 800-366-0124 xA919

**For Sale 1993 Ford Escort Station Wagon (Red)**, runs good. New Tires, New Brakes and Rotors. Asking \$2,000. Buy as is call 606-886-9662

**For Sale 1994 Trans Am Red T-Tops**, 350 LTI Automatic Leather Interior asking \$4,200.00 call 606-358-0347

**For Sale 1969 Plymouth Barracuda** parts car only \$500.00 call after 5pm call 606-889-9091

**150-Miscellaneous**

**Will pick up and remove old junk cars** for free. Quick change engine and transmission repairs call 606-886-6672, 24 hour record service for night service call 606-889-9095, email qcgoodwrech@yahoo.com

**160-Motorcycles**

**For Sale 1998 YAMAHA YZ80** New tires, pro-circuit pipe. \$1600. Call 606-452-9599 for more info.

**170-Parts**

**HEAD GASKETS.** Fixed, or FREE! Repair it Yourself for Under \$100.00. Visit www.RXAuto.com

**Save Money Buy Rebuilding Appalachian Repair Inc.** Phone 606-478-9517 Radiators (new cores - Aluminum Radiators with plastic tanks) Starter Domestic, Imports and Heavy Duty) Alternator (Domestic, Imports and Heavy Duty)

**175-SUV's**

**For Sale 1994 Chevrolet Blazer** (Khaki color) asking \$1,500. Buy as is call 606-886-2844. Leave message if interested.

**180-Trucks**

**1995 Ford F 600 Flat Dump Truck** 350 motor with 4 barrel, 5 speed with 2 speed axle, day call 424-2828 and night 285-9704

**For Sale 2001 Ford Escape**, 57,000 miles 1 owner \$11,500 call 606-285-1233 after 5pm

**EMPLOYMENT**

When responding to Employment ads that have reference numbers, please indicate that entire reference number on the outside of your envelope. Reference numbers are used to help us direct your letter to the correct individual.

**210-Job Listing**

**Experience Welder needed** apply between 8:30 am and 3:30 pm call 606-377-2032

**Window Installer** experience only must have own truck and tools. full time work year round, apply in person, 6509 Route. 1428, Allen, Ky 41601 or call 606-874-3004

**Wright Lumber Company** is taking applications for the positions of truck driver. must be energetic, neat in appearance and willing to work. Apply in person at the Martin location. No phone calls please....

**AVON** Earn your own money. \$10.00 sign up fee. Free gift. Call Jancy at 886-2082.

**220-Help Wanted**

**Experience Contractor** to repair House Foundation and Level Floors, References Required call 889-0033

**Large Service company** in the Prestonsburg area looking for Top Notch customer service professional who likes to be challenged and thrives on being busy, and meeting new people. Applicants must have about average business / computer skills, ability to deal with the public, exercise good judgement, and be able to learn quickly and handle multi - tasks with ease. Prior HR, and marketing experience a real plus. Please forward resume with salary requirements to District Manager P.O. Box 385 Huntington, West Virginia 25701-0385

**Manpower is seeking applicants** for basic and advanced General Office assignments in Floyd and surrounding counties. Excellent phone skills, a basic knowledge of office equipment, knowledge of Work and Excel. Data Entry, and Accounting are some of the skills needed. Qualified applicants need to contact us at 606-889-9710

**FINANCIAL**

**205-Business Opp.**

**Business / Commercial funding** available for LOC/ startups /cash flow. \$10k-\$10m. Low%, flexible /credit, quick results. Apps 866-661-2070

**MERCHANDISE**

**410-Animals**

**For Sale Boston Terriers puppies** AKC Reg. available June 1 call 606-377-9755

**For Sale Dalmatian Puppies** \$100.00 each call after 6.00 pm 606-478-9026

**440-Electronics**

**Care giver needed** to live in with elderly lady, no hard work or heavy lifting required call 606-886-9814 after 6pm

**Wanted Experience Auto and Tire Technicians.** Great benefit package including medical, vacation and holiday pay. send resume to p o box 157 Wittensville, Ky 41274

**\$\$\$ Top Quality Sales Personnel**

\$\$\$ Does recognition of your efforts and the potential for an extremely high income with a financially secure, rapidly growing company motivate you? We are West Virginia's largest retail manufacturing housing sales organization, consisting of 11 retail operations in West Virginia and Kentucky, and due to our tremendous growth, we are seeking sales personnel for our Louisa location. If you are The Best & want to be with The Best, send resume to The Home Show-Central Office 300 D. Prestige Park-Hurricane WV, 25526

**290-Work Wanted**

**Lawn Service** in Prestonsburg, and Allen areas. 20 years experience in mowing and Land scraping, weed eating call 606-886-1495

**FINANCIAL**

**205-Business Opp.**

**Business / Commercial funding** available for LOC/ startups /cash flow. \$10k-\$10m. Low%, flexible /credit, quick results. Apps 866-661-2070

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**Wanted Experience Auto and Tire Technicians.** Great benefit package including medical, vacation and holiday pay. send resume to p o box 157 Wittensville, Ky 41274

**\$10.00 DVD PLAYERS** from \$10.00! Police seized for more information call 800-366-0307 exten. P 620

**445-Furniture**

**RAY'S BARGAIN CENTER** New & Used Furniture & Appliances @ unbelievable prices. Come in today for incredible savings. Shop At The Little Furniture Store & Save!! Route. #122, McDowell. Call 606-377-0143.

**450 -Lawn & Garden**

**For Sale Decks**, treated, size 4x4's \$125.00 call 606-587-2958

**460-Yard Sale**

**Sat. May 29th 37 Ramey Fork**, East Pointe across from Surplus Products Weedeater, leaf blower, wheelchair, tool boxes, tools, lamps, office equipment, camping supplies, bicycle and much more

**5 Family Yard Sale**

May 22 up Prater Fork 1/4 mile call 358-9312

**Yard Sale 1 1/2 miles on Abbott Creek Rd.**

May 8 June 3 Boys and Men clothes, shoes, Knives, Pens, Home Interiors, 2 Sega Dream cast with games, boom Boxes, Game Boy with games, 13 inch T.V. wallpaper, Borders and more...

**480-Miscellaneous**

**For Sale 5x8 Box Trailer** Great for Gospel Groups- 1986 Chevy Truck great condition - new paint job, 1986 Mercedes, Peavey PA System with Mic's all kinds of Musical equipment electric Guitars, Recording Equipment. Ect. call 606-37-9844 ask for Rick

**EXPERIENCED OIL FIELD EQUIPMENT OPERATOR NEEDED FOR LOCAL GAS COMPANY**

Salary commensurate with experience.  
 For more information, call (606) 433-0107, Ext. #57 or 43 Village Street Pikeville, KY 41501 Ask for Tammy

**REAL ESTATE**

**510-Comm. Property**

**For Rent: Beauty shop** equipped with 3 stations, and tanning bed, located 1 mile south of Martin on Route. 122. Call 606-285-4826 or 606-285-9112.

**530-Houses**

**A-Frame home** for Sale, 2 bed room, 1 bath, located in Prestonsburg call 886-1598 or 304-235-5306

**For Sale Custom-built brick home**, city limits, Prestonsburg, approx 3400 sq. feet 4 bed rooms, 3 baths, 2 car garage, 1/2 acres lot, 90 percent complete. Have \$180,000.00 invested, will take less, make reasonable offer. call 606-432-1985 or 606-422-2888

**For Sale: 3/4 karat diamond ring**, Asking \$500. Call 606-874-4981 or 606-791-2167.

**For Sale: 8 ft' refrigerated deli case**, \$1000, small pizza oven, \$400, small juice cooler, \$150, washer & dryer, \$150 pair. Call 606-886-2367.

**For Sale: 8 ft' deli cooler**, \$950 and Gas convection oven, \$450. Call 606-886-2367.

**For Sale: 8 ft' deli cooler**, \$950 and Gas convection oven, \$450. Call 606-886-2367.

**Kay's Wallpaper 205 Depot Road Paintsville, Ky** Hundreds of Patterns of Wallpaper & Borders All under \$10.00. Open Tues - Fri. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sat. 10 a.m to 3 p.m. Closed Sun. & Mon. 606-789-8584.

**Available Now** foreclosed homes! buy for only \$4,900! for listings call 800-319-3323 extension. B 183

**570-Mobile Homes**

**For Rent or Sale** 1999, 14x 72 ,2 bed room ,2 bath with Island Kitchen call 304-252-8638 home located at left fork of Abbott

**Mobile Homes for Sale or Trade** call 358-4524

**Brand new program** that, with land equity or cash down payment met. we can get 90 percent of applications pre-approved. Poor credit situations urged to apply call to day before the programs ends. call 606-353-6444 or toll free 577-353-6444

**For Sale: 12 X 60 Mobile Home.** Under pinning & steps included, needs repairs, excellent for or storage \$1000. OBO Call after 5.30 call 606-874-4604

**4 bed room 28x 80** 2 living areas, spacious master bed room with glamour bath. Limited time special pricing program, call today (606) 353-6444 or toll free 6444

**610-Apartments**

**For Rent 2 bed room** central Heat and Air with washer and dryer hook ups excellent condition located 1 mile north of Prestonsburg on U.S. 23 No Pets. call 886-9007 or 889-9747

**For Rent 1 bed room** Apt. Kitchen furnished at Sugar Loaf 606-874-9174 or 606-874-2644

**Extremely nice apartment** Near college (University Drive). References, lease & security deposit required. No pets. Call 886-3565.

**For Rent 1 bed room** partially furnished APT. utilities paid has washer and dryer. No pets \$ 395. per month plus \$150.00 deposit call 606-874-5577

**ENTHUSIASTIC DENTAL HYGIENIST NEEDED!!!**  
 Busy dental office would like to add another team member, who enjoys dentistry and his/her work. Exceptional working environment, excellent pay for an eager and hard-working individual.  
 Send résumés to:  
 P.O. Box 390  
 Prestonsburg, KY 41653  
 Attn: P.B. Dental

**Mine: Extract useful resources**

It has taken the richest resource of all - people - to make Drummond Company what it is today: a global mining and real estate company with an entrepreneurial spirit. We seek top professionals that are willing to relocate, share their talents, and pursue the following challenging mining careers at our Shoal Creek Mine in northwest Alabama located near the cities of Birmingham, Tuscaloosa, and Jasper. We are launching a new CM Supersection and are looking for skill!

**Both short- and long-term opportunities and company-paid relocation available.**

**Foremen**  
 Miner Section, Longwall, and Belt Foreman positions available! 8 openings!

**Certified Underground Electricians**  
 8 openings!

**Continuous Miner Operators Bolter Operators**  
 Must be able to run CM or Bolter, PLUS Scoop, Shuttle Car, AND Ram Car. 30 openings!

Union-scale pay and benefits! Our employees are represented by the United Mine Workers of America.

Representatives from Drummond Co. will be holding 3 separate group sessions at the following location to discuss these opportunities with you in person:

**Tuesday, April 20**  
 Dept for Employment Services office (near the new Library in Pikeville)  
 138 College Street • Pikeville, KY 41501  
 Ph: 606-433-7721 • Ask for John Gates upon arrival.

**Group Session 1 starts at 9:00 AM**  
**Group Session 2 starts at 1:00 PM**  
**Group Session 3 starts at 5:00 PM**

Please note that each group session will start promptly at the appointed time.

Tap into a great career at Drummond. We offer a progressive workplace, competitive salaries, a generous benefits package and an environment conducive to growth.

**DRUMMOND COMPANY, INC.**  
 www.drummondco.com  
 CALL OUR TOLL FREE JOB HOTLINE: 1-877-MINE NOW  
 Mine. Yours. And Ours.

**NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS**  
 IN THE  
**FLOYD COUNTY TIMES CIRCULATION DEPT.**  
**ASSEMBLING NEWSPAPERS**

Part-time:  
 Day and night shifts

APPLY AT 263 S. CENTRAL AVE.  
 No Phone Calls, Please!  
 E.O.E.

**OFFICE / RETAIL SPACE AVAILABLE**

Great location, near downtown, in the PHS, BSCTC, and the new Food City area of Prestonsburg.

**Call Today:**  
**886-0111, x16**  
**or 226-2266**

- up to 4,200-sq ft for lease -



**Townhouses**  
**Apartment for rent:**  
 2 Bed room stove, refrigerator, central h/a, w/d hookup, city limits at US 23 & 80. \$435.00 mo. + utilities and \$250 deposit. 1 year lease, no pets. Call 606-886-7237 or 606-237-4758.

**Greetings from Lighthouse Manor,**  
 Terry & Sharon Smith. We have apartments for rent that are efficiency apartments, all utilities paid. For more info call 606-886-2797.

**Furnished 1 bed room Apt.** Central heat & air. Rent starting at \$375. month, + \$300. deposit water included. Located near HRMC. 606-889-9717.

**For Rent 1 bed room** efficiency Apt. up stairs, furnished clean, well maintained elect, heat and air. Deposit required call 606-886-6208

**Dell Wood Town houses** has 1 bed room with carpet and hard wood floors \$500. per month call 606-886-0893

**630-Houses**

**For Rent 3 bed room** House 2 bath with Hard wood floors call 886-0893

**House for Rent 5** bed room 1 bath, large yard, call after 6pm \$500 per month plus deposit call 874-6700

**Nice House near college** in Prestonsburg 2 bed room central heat and air, carpet, kitchen furnished, carport and building for storage, big front porch with private fence. rent \$500.00 Deposit \$500.00 lease and references required call 606-886-3154

**House For Rent 3** bed room 2 bath new home. Down town Prestonsburg, zoned residential or professional, starting at \$650.00 call 606-297-6136 or 321-481-1791

**3 bed room 1 bath** House for rent in Allen, Ky. fenced yard private setting \$550. per month, plus utilities available June 1 call 285-1888

**Stop Renting** Fore closed for \$4,900! for listings 800-366-0142 EXT. B 930

**A forecloser!** buy for only 9,900! for listings call 800-366-0142 extension. B 183

**640-Land/Lots**

**For sale 1.9 Acres** behind Porter School Johnson County, 2 or more houses sites, asking 27,000 call 285-9396

**Trailer lot for rent** on old U.S. 23 between Prestonsburg and Paintsville call 606-886-9007 or 889 9747

**650-Mobile Homes**

**281-538-4405 or 606-886-6219**, 14 x 76 3 bed room 2 baths \$350.00 plus \$350.00 location 686 Fitchpatrick Rd. old 114 road Clark School Area

**For Rent 1 bed room** with Add on \$350per month utilities included will be a deposit call 606-889-0363

**3 bed room Mobile Home** for rent references required call 606-886-8366

**3 bed room 1 bath** trailer for rent in Allen, Ky. \$350.00 per month, plus utilities available June 1 call 285-1888

**670-Comm. Property**

**For Sale or Lease Large Building** Great for offices spaces call 606-478-5403

**SERVICES**

**705-Construction**

**ALL TYPES:** Remodeling & additions, garages, decks, etc. Also concrete work. Robbie Johnson, Jr., call anytime, 606-886-8896.

**NOTICES**

**805-Announcements**

**Attention Surface & Under ground Coal Miners:** There will be a MET class for persons wanting to become MET'S Class will start on May 31st at 7pm in Garrett. For more information call 606-434-0542 or 606-358-9303

**810-Auctions**

**Magoffin County Auction** every Sat. 7:30pm, located 6 1/2 miles west of park way exit 72, on Highway 30, every body welcome call 606-349-1570

**812-Free**

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

**900-Legals**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE**

The following item will be offered at public sale on May 28, 2004 at 11 a.m., to satisfy the unpaid balance of an installment contract signed 02/23/01.

2000 Chevy X-Cab 4X4 S/N 1033

All items are sold "as is where is." Seller reserves the right to bid and to reject any or all bids. Items are to be paid following the sale, or satisfactory arrangements made with the seller. Announcements at the sale take priority over ad. Purchaser to pay all taxes and transfer fees.

Call Mike Haney for location, 606-886-2321.

First Commonwealth Bank 311 N. Arnold Ave. Prestonsburg, KY 41653

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE**

The following item will be offered at public sale on May 28, 2004, at 11 a.m., to satisfy the unpaid balance of an installment contract signed 06/18/01.

1997 GMC Jimmy 4X4 S/N 2686

All items are sold "as is where is." Seller reserves the right to bid and to reject any or all bids. Items are to be paid

**ATTENTION Surface & Underground Coal Miners;** There will be a MET class for persons wanting to become MET'S. Class will start on May 31st at 7pm in Garrett. For more information call 606-434-0542

**Wildfire**  
**Beware & Prepare**  
 Prepare your home, family & community for survival.

- Keep flammable vegetation and leaves at least 30 feet away from your house.
- Keep dry grass and brush cut short.
- Clean roof and gutters of flammable materials and leaves.
- Have an evacuation plan ready.
- Remember backfiring is illegal.

In a wildland fire emergency, call 9-1-1, your local Fire Department, or your local Division of Forestry district office.

following the sale, or satisfactory arrangements made with the seller. Announcements at the sale take priority over ad. Purchaser to pay all taxes and transfer fees.

Call Mike Haney for location, 606-886-2321.

First Commonwealth Bank 311 N. Arnold Ave. Prestonsburg, KY 41653

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE**

The following item will be offered at public sale on May 28, 2004 at 11 a.m., to satisfy the unpaid balance of an installment contract signed 11/24/03.

1979 International Dump Truck S/N 6061

All items are sold "as is where is." Seller reserves the right to bid and to reject any or all bids. Items are to be paid following the sale, or satisfactory arrangements made with the seller. Announcements at the sale take priority over ad. Purchaser to pay all taxes and transfer fees.

Call Mike Haney for location, 606-886-2321.

First Commonwealth Bank 311 N. Arnold Ave. Prestonsburg, KY 41653

**WANTED!!!**

**ADVERTISING ACCOUNT REPRESENTATIVE**

If you enjoy a fast-paced work environment, are highly motivated with a positive mental attitude, and play well with others, we may have a position for you on our award-winning sales team!

This full-time, salary plus commission opportunity offers unlimited earning potential, health insurance, paid vacation, holidays, 401k, and much, much more.

Apply in person, only, to:  
**FLOYD COUNTY TIMES**  
 263 S. Central Ave.  
 Prestonsburg, KY

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