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briefs

Senators honor injured trooper

FRANKFORT — The Senate Democratic Caucus Tuesday joined state Sen. Johnny Ray Turner, D-Drift, in recognizing Kentucky State Trooper Rick Conn for his courage during the recent natural gas line explosion and fire in Inez.

"Trooper Conn deserves to be honored for his extraordinary acts during the gas line explosion," Turner said. "He really proved to the people in Eastern Kentucky that he will put his life on the line for them."

The senators signed a Senate Citation in Conn's honor, recognizing the trooper's bravery, skill and professionalism in serving and protecting the citizens of the Commonwealth.

"We are grateful to Trooper Conn. He is a hero," Turner said. "There are many brave men and women who serve our state, and Trooper Conn is one of the best."

Conn was driving into his subdivision when the first explosion occurred. He was burned and had to crawl out the passenger window to escape his burning vehicle.

The trooper then ran to a nearby burning house and helped Jeannie Newsome and her 2-year-old daughter Alexis get out. Conn suffered second- and third-degree burns on his hands and face.



Shoppers mobbed the Prestonsburg Wal-Mart Friday morning for their "Black Friday" shopping event. photos by Tom Doty

SHOPPING FRENZY

Crowds flock to retail outlets as holiday season begins

by TOM DOTY
 STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — "Black Friday" proved to be a shopper's bonanza despite predictions that a sagging economy would hurt holiday buying sprees.

The Wal-Mart at Prestonsburg Village saw shoppers lining up in the lobby at 3 a.m. for that store's holiday sale, which ran from 6 a.m. to noon and saw prices slashed on a host of items. The Radio Shack at the plaza opened early to invite shoppers for their holiday sales, which saw many electronic gadgets fly off the shelves by noon.

Wal-Mart manager Mike Hubert reported, "We had several hot items that are quickly disappearing. We had an arcade game system that plugs directly into your television on sale at \$20 and that was the first item to go. We saw a lot of interest in home entertainment items with two brands of DVD players selling quickly at under \$30."

Hubert reported that the big lines started forming at 5 a.m. and saw cars backed up to the Big Lots store looking for parking.

Over at Radio Shack, one manager reported that the big sellers



Kmart of Paintsville was still packed with shoppers late Friday afternoon for their Christmas sale, which ran through Saturday.

were small electronic gadgets. The most popular was a pen that also acted as a digital camera.

Nationally, the big seller at Wal-Mart was a 24-inch flat screen TV from Symphonic which is retailing for \$139.92 and was in stock at area stores. The chain was also offering big savings on DVDs to go with the bargain and was cutting the prices

of recent bestsellers like "Van Helsing" and "Dawn of the Dead" to half their retail price until noon.

The Wal-Mart of Paintsville had a similar day with all of their on-sale electronic items selling out before noon as well as the half-priced DVDs which were back to

(See SHOPPING, page three)

Guilty pleas expected in drug cases tomorrow

by TOM DOTY
 STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — The first of what are promised to be many drug roundups in the Floyd County area by Operation UNITE will move to the adjudication stage Monday, with three drug traffickers expected to enter guilty pleas.

The roundup, which was executed on July 1, saw 45 warrants issued. The effort saw UNITE team up with the Floyd County Sheriff's Office, Kentucky State police and Prestonsburg Police to issue the warrants for alleged drug trafficking, with many of the arrests based on evidence gathered by the Floyd County Drug Task Force.

The pleas on Monday will be entered by Homer New, of Mud Creek, and Foster and Paul Mitchell who were arrested in and near Mitchell's Grocery in Branham's Creek.

New was arrested without incident in July at his home. Sheriff John K. Blackburn conducted a thorough search of the premises and confiscated a loaded rifle which had the serial numbers scratched off.

Foster Mitchell was arrested while walking along the road that led to Mitchell's Grocery. He was spotted by the sheriff's convoy which was on its way to the grocery store. Blackburn radioed the last cars in the convoy to detain Foster and proceeded to the grocery, where they arrested Paul Mitchell and conducted a search and identification of everyone in the store to make sure they weren't on the roundup list.

Foster Mitchell is expected to take the biggest sentence out of this group, with a 10-year recommendation by the commonwealth.

New and Paul Mitchell will most likely see sentences in the 3-to-5 year range, with some of that time being probated.

Kimbler to be sentenced

by TOM DOTY
 STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Anita Kimbler, of Nippa, will be formerly sentenced in circuit court tomorrow for the January 2003 incident in which she drove her vehicle onto U.S. 23 and directly into the path of another car driven by Judge Daniel Sparks of Johnson County.

Kimbler was eventually charged with assault and driving under the influence when it was determined that she was under the influence of several controlled substances when she caused the accident.

The wreck occurred in Johnson County but was

moved to Floyd after Kimbler's attorney filed a motion for the change in venue since Sparks is a friend of the Johnson County judge who was adjudicating the case.

Kimbler complained to the Paintsville Herald at that time, saying, "We are the small fish in this situation."

After the case was moved to Floyd County, Judge John David Caudill presided over it and immediately ordered an evaluation of Kimbler.

When she appeared in court last month to enter her plea, Kimbler noted that she had been diagnosed bipolar disorder. She and her attorney

(See SENTENCE, page three)

2 DAY FORECAST

Today

 Partly cloudy
 High: 50 • Low: 33

Tomorrow

 Some rain
 High: 53 • Low: 37

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inside

Opinion.....A4
 Obituaries.....A6
 Sports.....B1
 Lifestyles.....B5
 Classifieds.....B6



State says lighter coal trucks are moving faster

by ROGER ALFORD
 ASSOCIATED PRESS

PIKEVILLE — A state crackdown on overweight coal trucks has had an unexpected side effect, a state

official said. Greg Howard, commissioner of Kentucky Vehicle Enforcement, said more trucks are exceeding the speed limit.

"We are beginning to get

some complaints on speed, and we're addressing those," he said. "Of course, speed is easier to enforce than weigh limits."

(See TRUCKS, page three)



The "Brothers of the Wheel," a charity group made up of area motorcyclists, raised money outside of Prestonsburg Village Friday for their fourth annual Christmas for local needy children and provided a trim Santa to wave at motorists.

photo by Tom Doty

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Odds and Ends

■ **KANSAS CITY, Mo.** — Missouri's oldest full-time state employee figures she's got 10 more years to go before it's time to retire. By then, her age will be in triple digits and she can "take four or five years off and party."

Virginia Arn, who turns 90 on Friday, said her job at the Division of Motor Vehicle and Drivers Licensing is "heaven."

"I love the people. I have a lot of fun with them. People are always asking me how old I am, and I don't mind telling them."

For the past five years, Arn has worked as a greeter at the DMV, helping people find the right line and making sure they have the correct paperwork. Office manager Dave Hostetler said she has the best attendance record in the office.

The job, combined with dancing at least four times a week, keeps her going.

"Just think about it, 90 years old and working with a smile every day at the DMV, one place most people don't like to go," said Raymond Hune, division

director for the department.

Arn, a widow, has two children, five grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, three great-great-grandchildren and another on the way.

■ **LOS ANGELES** — This just in: Los Angeles finally has something people in San Francisco want — money.

"We love people from Los Angeles; we love when they spend their money in our town. We love that!" says Diane DeRose, the San Francisco Convention & Visitors Bureau executive behind "Not in L.A.," a new campaign to lure winter tourists to the City by the Bay. As the campaign's name implies, whatever you can't find in L.A. you will be able to locate in San Francisco.

Links to the Not in L.A. Web site have been showing up in magazine ads, on coasters left in bars and on "mobile billboards" being moved around town. People who go to the site can find out more about places and

landmarks such as Union Square, the Golden Gate Bridge, Alcatraz Island and the Mission district.

So, just what does San Francisco have that Los Angeles doesn't?

That question can be answered in just two words, says S.A. Griffin, an actor who moved south to pursue a career in Hollywood.

"Is there anything they have up there that we don't have here? Yeah — San Francisco," laughs Griffin. "Few places in the world are as beautiful as San Francisco. But you couldn't pay me enough money to move back up there. I couldn't imagine living any place other than Los Angeles."

■ **COLUMBUS, Ohio** — Isn't it already "the incredible, edible egg"? Only if it's not

served up in an MRE.

The military discontinued using eggs in its "meals-ready-to-eat" pouches about 10 years ago after soldiers complained they were rubbery and had a grayish tint.

Now, defense officials want to dish up a tastier, tender egg to America's soldiers — and it's enlisted the help of three schools to do just that.

Researchers at Ohio State, Washington State and the Illinois Institute of Technology are experimenting with a way to preserve scrambled-egg patties by combining high temperature with high pressure. By applying pressure of 100,000 pounds per square inch, the process takes about six minutes.

The old way to preserve MRE eggs, which came in the form of an egg-and-ham omelet, used to cook eggs at high tem-

peratures for more than 90 minutes, said Patrick Dunne, senior adviser in the Combat Rations Directorate at the U.S. Army Natick Soldier Center near Boston.

"You've got thoroughly cooked eggs to say the least," said Dunne, a biochemist.

The researchers have been working on the project for the past 16 months with a \$250,000 grant.

"We're kind of going through tryouts," Ohio State food scientist V.M. Balasubramaniam said of the different recipes.

The scrambled-egg patties being tested contain about 20 percent cheese. The eggs have been taste-tested by a consumer panel at Washington State.

"They blessed it," Dunne said.

Next, the eggs will be taste-tested by food technologists at

the Massachusetts soldier center, who will rate the eggs for flavor and tenderness. The packaging system must still be finished, and the Food and Drug Administration must approve the eggs before they can be sent to soldiers for field tests.

Dunne hopes the new egg item can be introduced next year, but said it may not get into the hands of troops until a year or two later.

■ **SUFFOLK, Va.** — When Mike Kainrath found an extra \$1.8 million in his bank account last week, he had just one thought: "Oh, no! Not again."

Kainrath had found an extra \$115,661 in the account in April 2003, and \$2,700 in November 2002.

According to the notice

(See **ODDS**, page six)

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Sunday, Nov. 28, the 333rd day of 2004. There are 33 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Nov. 28, 1942, nearly 500 people died in a fire that destroyed the Cocoanut Grove nightclub in Boston.

On this date:

■ In 1520, Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan reached the Pacific Ocean after passing through the South American strait that now bears his name.

■ In 1919, American-born Lady Astor was elected the first female member of the British Parliament.

■ In 1925, the Grand Ole Opry, Nashville's famed home of country music, made its radio debut on station WSM.

■ In 1943, President Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet leader Josef Stalin met in Tehran during World War II.

■ In 1944, the MGM movie musical "Meet Me in St. Louis," starring Judy Garland, opened in New York.

■ In 1958, the African nation of Chad became an autonomous republic within the French community.

■ In 1964, the United States launched the space probe Mariner 4 on a course to Mars.

■ In 1975, President Ford nominated Federal Judge John Paul Stevens to the U.S. Supreme Court seat vacated by William O. Douglas.

■ In 1979, an Air New Zealand DC-10 en route to the South Pole crashed into a mountain in Antarctica, killing all 257 people aboard.

■ In 1990, Margaret Thatcher resigned as prime minister of Britain during an audience with Queen Elizabeth II, who conferred the premiership on John Major.

Ten years ago: Serial

killer Jeffrey Dahmer was murdered in a Wisconsin prison by a fellow inmate. Norwegian voters rejected European Union membership. Sixties war protester Jerry Rubin died in Los Angeles, two weeks after being hit by a car; he was 56.

Five years ago: Hsing-Hsing, the popular giant panda who arrived in America in 1972 as a symbol of U.S.-China detente, was euthanized at age 28. (Officials at Washington's National Zoo decided to end the panda's life because of his deteriorating health.)

One year ago: President Bush returned to his ranch in Crawford, Texas, after a secret, nearly 36-hour journey that took him to Iraq for a Thanksgiving visit with U.S. troops.

Today's Birthdays: Recording executive Berry Gordy Jr. is 75. Former Sen. Gary Hart, D-Colo., is 68. Singer-songwriter Bruce Channel is 64. Singer Randy Newman is 61. Movie director Joe Dante is 58. CBS News correspondent Susan Spencer is 58. "Late Show" orchestra leader Paul Shaffer is 55. Actor Ed Harris is 54. Actress S. Epatha Merkerson is 52. Country singer Kristine Arnold (Sweethearts of the Rodeo) is 48. Actor Judd Nelson is 45. Movie director Alfonso Cuaron is 43. Rock musician Matt Cameron is 42. Comedian Jon Stewart is 42. Actress Garcelle Beauvais-Nilon is 38. TV personality Anna Nicole Smith is 37. Rhythm-and-blues singer Dawn Robinson is 36. Hip-hop musician apl.de.ap (Black Eyed Peas) is 30. Actress Scarlett Pomers ("Reba") is 16.

Thought for Today: "I am not sure that God always knows who are His great men; He is so very careless of what happens to them while they live." - Mary Hunter Austin, American novelist and playwright (1868-1934).

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Trucks

Continued from p1

Howard said trucks can go faster when they're not bogged down with overweight loads, and some truckers may be taking advantage of that to speed up to haul more loads each day.

Bill Caylor, president of the Kentucky Coal Association, said speeding among coal truck drivers hauling lighter loads shouldn't have come as a surprise.

"We told them that would happen," Caylor said. "We were worried not just about truckers driving faster but potentially working more hours where you would have the fatigue factor coming into play."

The number of overweight trucks has been drastically reduced in eastern Kentucky since the crackdown began based on the number of violations officers are seeing, Howard said.

"At one time, if we weighed 100 trucks, 99 would be overweight," he said. "Now if we weigh 100 trucks, we might find 10 that are overweight."

Officers began strictly enforcing weight limits in June, sparking intermittent labor strikes by drivers who demanded more money per ton from coal

operators to offset financial losses that came with hauling smaller loads.

Truckers complained that they were caught in the middle, risking fines each time they hauled too much coal. Yet, they said they were unable to afford fuel and insurance unless they violated the weight limit.

As a result, coal companies increased the amounts they paid the truckers, and officers began writing citations to coal companies caught overloading coal trucks at their loading facilities.

Howard said the problem of overweight trucks hasn't been entirely solved.

"We have made a big dent in it," he said. "Everybody seems to be playing on the same field for a change."

He said officers are on the lookout for truckers who speed with their smaller loads.

Caylor said speeding in the huge rigs could have dire consequences on eastern Kentucky highways.

"You can't place that blame on the coal operator," he said. "This is something that falls solely on the shoulders of the truckers, and the law needs to be enforced, period."

New rule excludes students' test scores from school totals

The Associated Press

LOUISVILLE — Test results for more than 7,000 Kentucky students were excluded from their school's state and federal accountability scores this year.

It's the result of a new state rule requiring students to attend the same school at least 100 days during the academic year for their scores to be included in the school's score.

Although those students' scores still count toward the district and state scores, critics say excluding so many children from individual schools makes it harder to hold those schools accountable.

"No school is being held responsible for them," said Bob Sexton, director of the Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence, a statewide education group. "That lessens the schools' focus on those kids."

Before the change, prompted by a provision the federal No

Child Left Behind Act requiring schools to define a full academic year for testing purposes, Kentucky schools were held accountable for every student in their classrooms when spring testing began.

That requirement stuck no matter how long the student had been there.

Schools that fail to meet state and federal academic goals in two or more years must let students transfer to better-performing schools and face harsher penalties, including a state takeover, unless they improve.

Kathy Christie, an analyst for the Education Commission of the States, a policy research group, said the exclusion of mobile students from school scores is an "emerging issue" nationally that "people should be talking about." She said Kentucky's 100-day rule isn't unusually stringent compared with other states, which set varying definitions for a "full academic year."

Indiana, for example, requires students to attend 162 days in a single school, according to Indiana education officials. The minimum number of instructional days for Kentucky public schools is 175.

When Kentucky was making its decision, educators argued the old system was unfair. They persuaded Kentucky's Board of Education in December to set its "full academic year" as at least 100 non consecutive days attendance at the same school during the school year.

As a result, about 7,600 students, or 2.4 percent of the 323,000 students tested, had their results counted in district or state scores but not in any school's score, according to preliminary estimates from the Kentucky Department of Education.

State education officials, who plan a more detailed district-level analysis of those numbers, said they expect the change to have the biggest impact in urban districts where

more students switch schools. A February study by Louisville's Metropolitan Housing Coalition found that about 5,000 district students changed residences during the year, and about 30 percent moved more than once. They tended to be from poor neighborhoods and posted lower test scores, the report said.

Parent Traci Priddy, who leads Jefferson County's Parent-Teacher Association, said she's concerned that the state's attendance change could prompt schools to nudge failing students to transfer before they accrue 100 days.

But Leon Mooneyhan, director of the Ohio Valley Education Cooperative and former chairman of a group of superintendents that studied the issue last year, said what's important is whether districts use those students' results to improve instruction — even if they don't count toward that school's score.

Sentence

Continued from p1

ney, Bob Gainstine, noted for the record that her condition did not prevent her from understanding the proceedings. Nevertheless, Caudill went over the plea in painstaking detail and quizzed Kimbler on it to make sure she understood what rights she was giving up by entering a guilty plea.

Kimberly has agreed to a 12-year sentence that was negotiated by Commonwealth's Attorney Brent Turner.

Kimberly's remarks alluding to not getting fair treatment in Johnson County were dismissed by Turner, who said, "From the beginning, his [Sparks] only concern was that the community be protected."

Turner added that Kimbler had actually been convicted of two felonies before this incident and saw the charge of persistent felony offender added on to her case for that reason.

Kimberly's husband, Joey Kimbler, was also in the vehicle at the time of the incident and his injuries resulted in the second assault charge.

Shopping

Continued from p1

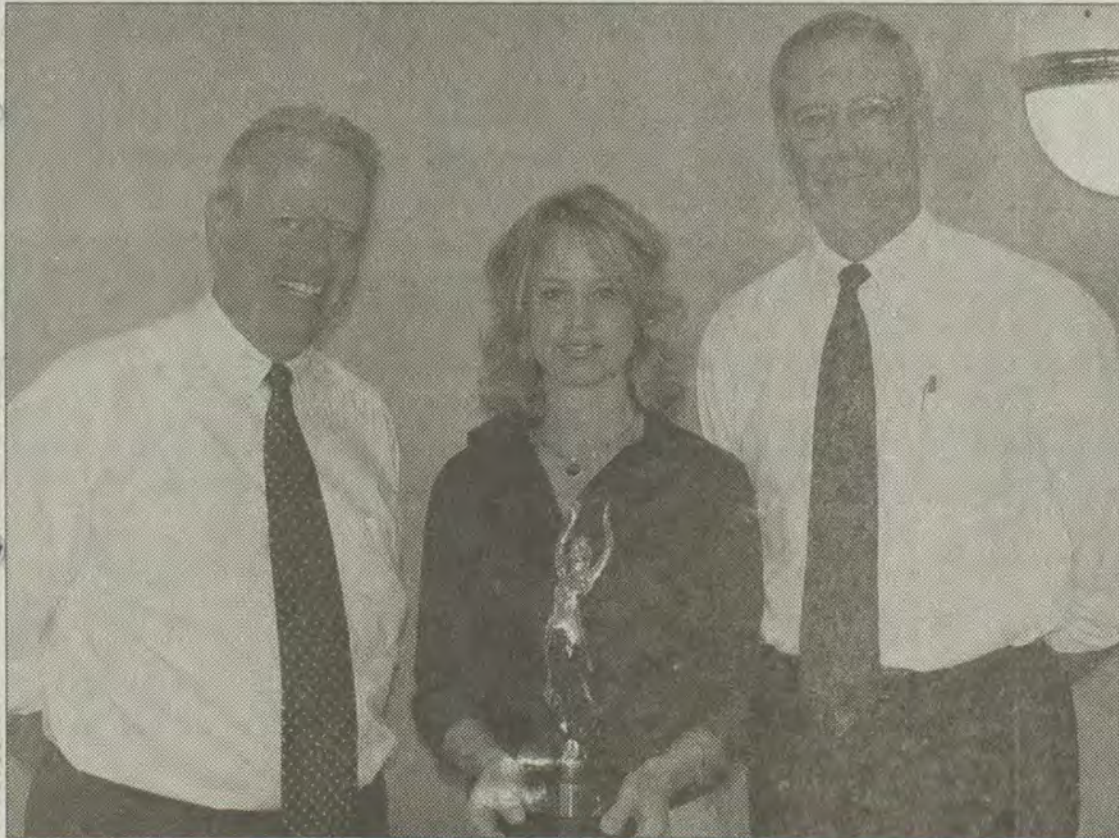
their original price of \$19.99 at noon. Store co-manager Calvin Stapleton said that all of the toy items on sale sold out and that the crowd began gathering when he got to work at 5 a.m.

The Paintsville Kmart tried a

different approach and held three sales. The first was on Thanksgiving Day, with an early morning sale starting Friday at 6 a.m. and ending at noon. They also introduced a third sale which ran through the weekend and saw the store still packed

with shoppers Friday evening.

Kmart prepared for the buying frenzy by having all but one of its registers open to handle the extra customers. Once again the big sellers featured were in electronics and toys, with many video games on sale running out.



George Rasmussen, the producer-director of the Envi Awards ceremony, presented the Aurora Award to Karen Engle, who was PRIDE's executive director during the 2003 Envi Awards and now heads Operation UNITE, and Richard Thomas, PRIDE's current executive director.

PRIDE earns international recognition

SOMERSET — The PRIDE Envi Awards ceremony recently won an award of its own. The 2003 awards ceremony, as it was broadcast on WYMT-TV of Hazard and Kentucky Educational Television, earned a 2004 Gold Award in the international Aurora Awards competition.

The Aurora Awards recognize excellence in the film and video industries. The Envi Award ceremony competed in the category of external communications/public relations related to environmental protection.

"Great things are happening in our region, and this award shows that we are not hiding our light under a bushel," said Congressman Hal Rogers, PRIDE co-founder. "We are telling the world that our region is full of civic-minded, hard-working people who are taking care of our beautiful natural resources. We couldn't ask for better advertising than showcasing our people and environment."

"I want to thank George Rasmussen, our producer-director,

for putting together an incredible show," said Richard Thomas, PRIDE executive director. "I also want to thank WYMT and KET for broadcasting it."

"I enjoy working with the dedicated people involved with PRIDE and believe this program deserves recognition," said Rasmussen, an independent producer-director who operates Cedar Rose Pond Productions. He nominated the 2003 show for an Aurora Award and recently surprised the PRIDE Executive Committee with the award statue.

The 2003 Envi Awards ceremony was held April 21, 2003 at The Center for Rural Development in Somerset. The edited, one-hour version of the ceremony was broadcast by WYMT and KET that summer. The show included performances by the Kentucky Opry and a tribute to the late General James Bickford, co-founder of PRIDE, and the late Tony Turner, former chair of the PRIDE Executive Committee and WYMT-TV news director.

The Aurora Awards competition is open to programs and commercials created for a local or regional market. U.S. and overseas production groups, advertising agencies and television stations submit entries. A panel of film and video professionals judge entries for their effectiveness, creativity and production quality. About one in five programs entered in the competition receives the Gold Award, the second-highest honor. One in 10 nominees earn the highest award, the Platinum Best in Show.

PRIDE began the annual Envi Awards ceremony in 2001 to honor the individuals and organizations who excelled during the year at pursuing the PRIDE mission - Personal Responsibility In A Desirable Environment. The PRIDE initiative is dedicated to improving water quality, cleaning up illegal dumps and promoting environmental education in 38 counties of southern and eastern Kentucky. PRIDE is funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

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Gavin Wade Hunter, celebrated his 1st first birthday, on November 26, 2004, with family and friends. He is the son of Stephen and Elaine Hunter of Harold. Gavin's grandparents are Jeff Hunter of Wayland, Priscella Micochero, of Columbus, Ohio, Barbara Collier, and Gary and Judy Ousley, of Prestonsburg. Special thanks to all our family and friends for the wonderful gifts he received on his Special Day.

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expression

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

— Felix Frankfurter

Our view Basketball's thugs

Kudos to the National Basketball Association for coming down hard on thuggery. Reacting swiftly to the worst brawl among players and fans in NBA history, the league handed down tough suspensions to three members of the Indiana Pacers.

Ron Artest was suspended for the remainder of the 2004-05 season. Jermaine O'Neal will sit out 25 games, and Stephen Jackson was banned for 30 games. Two other Pacers received short suspensions for their peripheral role in the shameful, ugly spectacle of players fighting fans last Friday night.

Taken together, Artest, O'Neal and Jackson will forfeit millions of dollars in pay. Their seasons, and that of their franchise, are ruined. Civil suits and likely criminal prosecutions loom. Good. Players who charge into the stands and assault fans, whatever the provocations, break an inviolate rule of professional sports, or any sports. Violence in the form of criminal assaults directed at spectators is more than unacceptable. It should disqualify the perpetrators from the sport, at least temporarily if not permanently.

Neither professional basketball nor any other sport can tolerate pampered, multimillionaire athletes who imagine that no rules apply to them.

Poor security and boorishly unruly, probably intoxicated, fans contributed to the shocking sequence of events at the Palace of Auburn Hills, home of the NBA's Detroit Pistons. That's still no excuse for professional basketball players charging into the stands and throwing haymaker punches at spectators.

The specter of thuggish violence threatens other sports, as well. Last weekend's South Carolina vs. Clemson college football game was marred by a bench-clearing brawl that overwhelmed even state police and both schools' coaching staffs. Professional football, professional baseball and college football are plagued with players sidelined not by injuries or ineligibility but because they've been arrested for committing crimes.

Whether professional or college, American sports must not be permitted to succumb to the kind of violent mayhem that, for example, regularly produces bloody soccer riots in Europe. The immediate antidote is for officials who oversee these sports to take the sternest possible disciplinary action against transgressor athletes. The NBA has now done that. The larger answer is to reaffirm a code of character and sportsmanship that has waned badly in American athletics.

— The San Diego Union-Tribune

Letter Guidelines

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

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

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

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

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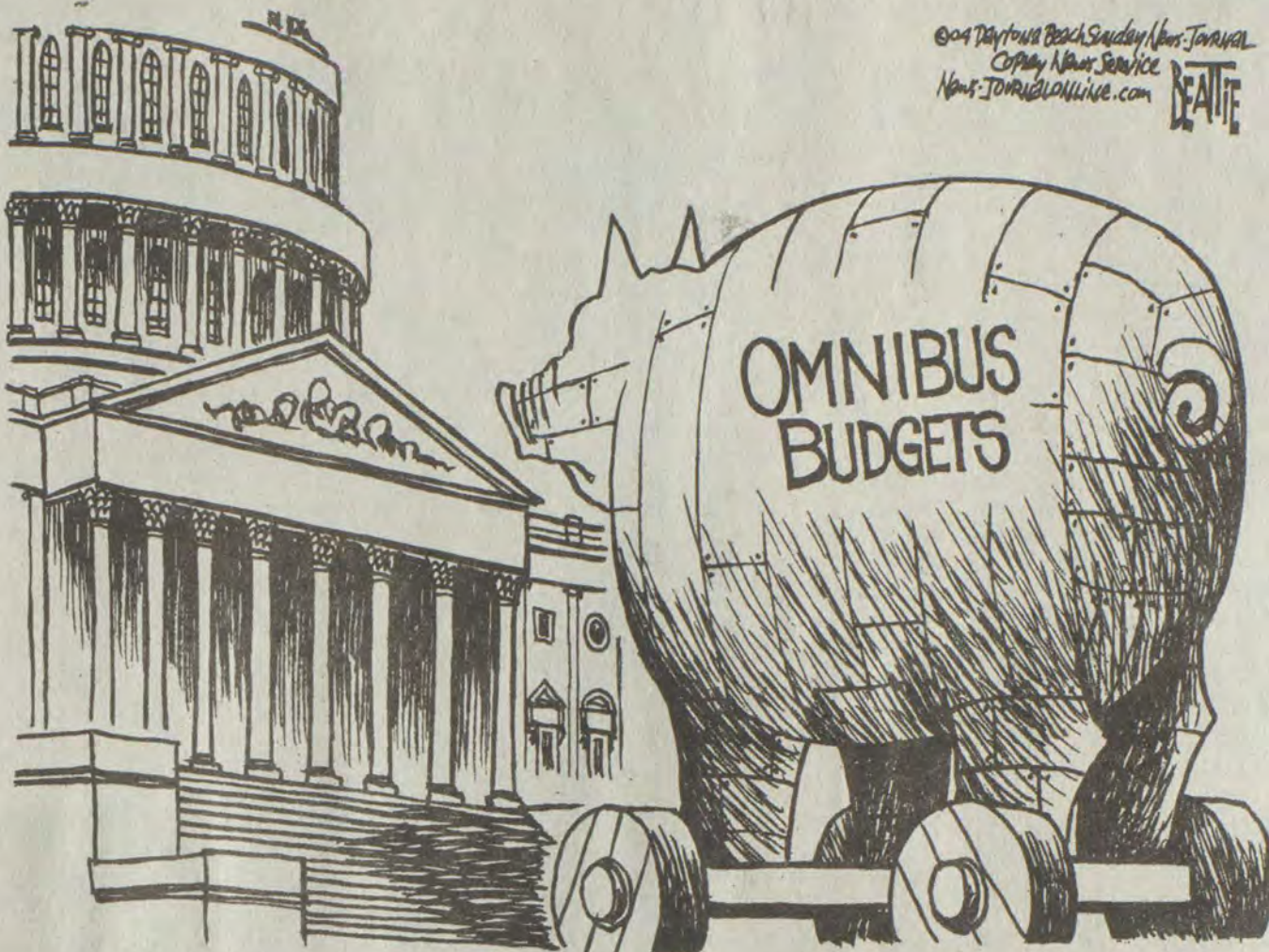
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— Rich Lowry Column

Where are the heroes?

You have never heard of Brian Chontosh. That's a shame. Not for Brian Chontosh, who I suspect couldn't care less. But for you.

In March of last year, Chontosh was a 29-year-old Marine lieutenant. He was leading his platoon on Highway 1, just outside Baghdad, when his troops came under heavy fire. He ordered his vehicle to head directly for the enemy trench, jumped out and began firing with his rifle and pistol, before running out of ammunition. The citation for Chontosh's Navy Cross picks up the narrative: "With complete disregard for his safety, he twice picked up discarded enemy rifles and continued his ferocious attack. ... When his audacious attack ended, he had cleared over 200 meters of the enemy trench, killing more than 20 enemy soldiers and wounding several others."

This is a battlefield exploit worthy of

someone you have heard of, Sgt. Alvin York. He almost single-handedly killed 25 Germans and captured 132 "enemy combatants" — yes, they existed before the Bush administration — in 1918. You might know of York because he was played by Gary Cooper in the eponymous movie about him. Or maybe because of the half-dozen books that are still in print about him. Or maybe just because he used to be a household name.

We have collectively lost our ability to make popular battlefield heroes like York. With a few exceptions — say, the extraordinary Pat Tillman, who left the NFL to join the Army Rangers —

people become famous in our wars by being victims or villains. Jessica Lynch was captured by Iraqis and rescued, an ordeal to be sure, but not the kind of fearless courage that has been celebrated by warring nations at least since Homer sang of Hector. Charles Graner has been pictured multiple times in most major papers in the country, appearing next to his inspiration — the stack of naked Iraqi prisoners. Lynch and Graner are each, in

their very different ways, anti-heroes, but they are more well-known than troops who have done much more notable things.

They are better known than Lance Cpl. Joseph Perez, who led his men to victory in a firefight in Iraq despite serious gunshot wounds. They are more famous than Marco Martinez, then a corporal, who launched a captured rocket-propelled grenade into a building full of Iraqis ambushing his platoon and then single-handedly captured the building. We know more about them than the more than 125 Americans who have been decorated with Silver Stars or other high honors for bravery in Afghanistan and Iraq.

In a brilliant piece in the United States Naval Institute's journal "Proceedings," Roger Lee Crossland identifies Vietnam as marking the break with traditional notions of battlefield heroism. Besides the prisoners of war, there were no heroes from that war.

Today our culture tends to look for "heroes" who can be portrayed, not as warriors, but as ordinary people who overcame a struggle — like the daytime TV guest who managed to beat anorexia as a teenager — while remaining ignorant of those extraordinary people who risk so much to defend our freedom. Men like Brian Chontosh.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

The Rich Lowry column

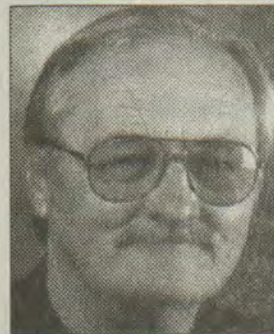


— beyond the beltway

Great Americans — there's no end

by DONALD KAUL

There's been a nice response to the "Great Americans Who Were Never President" Contest (if you can call something without a winner a contest). Here are some of the suggestions



readers sent along:

"Alexander Hamilton — Besides having fought for independence in the Revolutionary War, it was he who called for the convention that led to the U.S. Constitution ... He served as our first Secretary of the Treasury and in that capacity called for the establishment of a federal bank." — Richard Finn

He was the last name I took off my list. He saw the future of our nation as an industrial world power far more clearly than his more illustrious contemporary, Thomas Jefferson, who clung to a romantic, Arcadian vision.

"Put Elizabeth Cady Stanton at the top of

the list. Sweet Jesus in the cabbage patch! What a woman! You've noticed, I'm sure, that entries on Stanton in encyclopedias do not mention her battle for religious freedom, her effort to get the nation to break the chains of church dogma." — Richard Newby

Yes, I did notice that, which is the reason I've stopped reading encyclopedias. One of the reasons, anyway.

"Thomas Edison hobnobbed with Henry Ford ... holding salons at his mansion in West Orange, N.J., while standardizing the production of Portland Cement, modern concrete forms, concrete highways (for Ford's automobiles), storage batteries, commercial generation and distribution of electricity, the making and distributing of motion pictures and, of course, the light bulb. Among thousands of other things." — Deb Bledsoe

It makes you wonder how he had any time left over for hobnobbing, doesn't it? The only thing I've ever invented is excuses.

"Eleanor Roosevelt — she made her own contributions to social progress by virtue of her groundbreaking work in the still controversial areas of labor reform, civil rights, women's rights and the establishment of international peace." — J. Jordan

Yes, and I think she was the first American woman who was able to make a persuasive case to middle class women that a women's place was not necessarily limited to household duties. A first-class First Lady.

Then there were the Marshalls — John the first great Supreme Court Chief Justice; Thurgood the great civil rights attorney and, later, Supreme Court Justice; and George C., the general who got us up to speed in the early days of World War II and later, as Secretary of State, gave his name to the plan that reconstructed Europe.

The Harriets — Harriet Tubman, the for-

mer slave who became a powerful force in the abolitionist movement, and Harriet Beecher Stowe, author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," perhaps the most influential novel ever written by an American.

The Clever Ones — Sylvan Goldman who invented the shopping cart; Garret Morgan who gave us the stop light, and Thomas Crapper who invented the flush toilet.

The Entertainers — Walt Disney, Mickey Mouse's father, Jackie Robinson, much more than a baseball player, and Elvis Presley, the King.

Perhaps my favorite entry: "More than anyone in this country Jack Webb improved the image of police officers. With his TV shows such as 'Dragnet' and especially 'Adam 12,' he showed that police officers weren't just bullies in uniform, but they can be polite, dedicated ordinary people with an extraordinary responsibility." — Robert Meador

I love the idea of Jack "just the facts, Ma'am" Webb being up there with Ben Franklin, Thomas Edison and the rest of that crowd.

Many others were mentioned: Robert Moses, George Washington Carver, Adlai Stevenson, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Katherine Graham, all worthy. And some (in my opinion) not so worthy: Jefferson Davis, Rush Limbaugh, Robert E. Lee and George W. Bush.

It should have come as no surprise, I suppose, that no one mentioned George Mason, easily the most under-appreciated of our Founding Fathers. He was a seminal figure in the creation of our nation after the Revolution and can justly be called the author of the Bill of Rights. Still, I was surprised.

That's it. If you have any more candidates, keep them to yourself.

Faith Extra

Being Hindu in the Bible Belt

by **TONYA S. GRACE**
KENTUCKY NEW ERA

HOPKINSVILLE — Ketki Shah recalls the day that classmates at her daughter's school told the young girl she and her family were going to hell.

"That's when we started meeting every week," said Shah, a Hopkinsville resident and follower of the Hindu faith, as she spoke recently to students and staff gathered during an assembly at Hopkinsville Community College.

Featuring guest speaker Nandini Mahtani of Nashville, Tenn., the meeting was a part of the college's ongoing Religion and Philosophy Club speaker series and included a brief presentation from Mahtani followed by a panel discussion.

Serving on the panel, in addition to Shah, were Dr. Manoj Majmudar, a local pulmonary physician, and Ragini Chirravuri, a Hopkinsville resident who grew up in India and attended a Catholic school as a child.

All of the panel members are students of the Bhagavad-Gita, which contains the words of the Hindu god Krishna.

The local group meets regularly to discuss the thoughts and ideas of the late Rev. Pandurang Athavale Shastri, founder of a Hindu group called Swadhyay which encourages people to let divine presence guide their actions.

The Hopkinsville group also is part of a larger orga-

nization known as Devotional Associates of Yogeshwar.

"There's nothing peculiar or weird about our religion," observed Chirravuri, who said she wanted those attending the recent meeting to have a better understanding of Hinduism.

Describing her religion as a wholesome one, she noted that Hindus are accepting of other religions and believe that it is OK for each person to follow his own spiritual path because all paths lead to God.

"I like talking about Indian culture and our religion," added Chirravuri, who doesn't often find people in Hopkinsville who are familiar with her religion.

Known as Swadhyay Parivar, the local group of about 23 families has, however, discovered an acceptance among the people of Christian County and other areas.

"I love to be here in Hopkinsville," commented Dr. Prakesh Shah, who is a local physician and Ketki Shah's husband. "The community is very nice, and (we have) no problem."

Prakesh Shah said he's encountered "no obstructions in the Bible Belt," and he noted that Hindus tend to rely on the idea of putting sugar in milk to give it a sweet taste.

"That's how we are," he said. "We try to learn and accommodate everywhere we go."

The panelists noted that, although their children have encountered some questions and issues at school, for

instance, they have not really had a lot of challenges toward their worship.

And school has also been a boon, giving the families more exposure in the community and allowing people to get to know them, according to Majmudar.

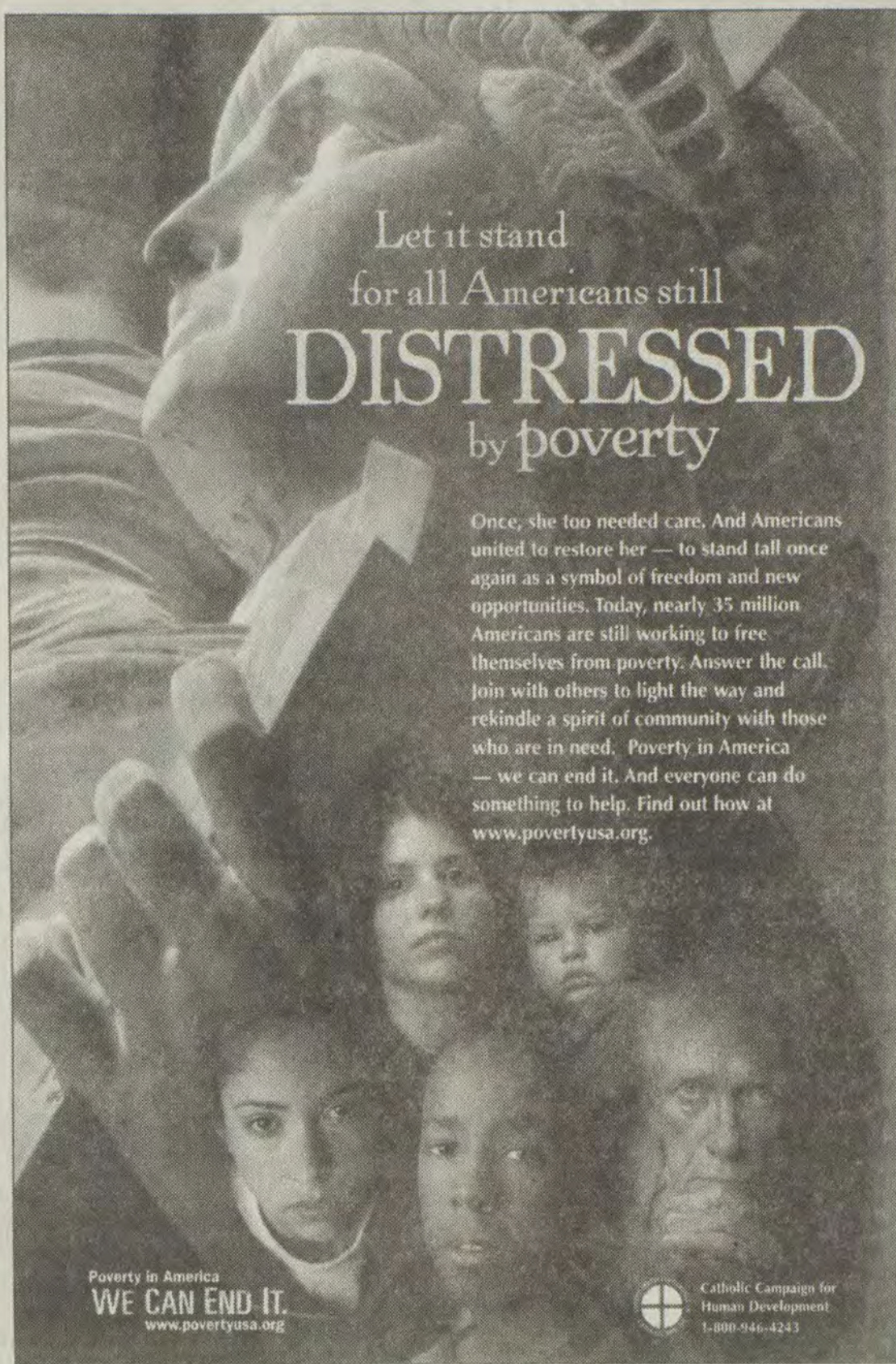
The doctor suggested that people need a lot more education about religions in general, which he believes could help foster a better understanding among the different beliefs.

He noted that Hindus usually consider every day a day of worship, for example, although the local group to which he belongs meets each Sunday afternoon because it is a convenient time for its members to study.

Followers of the religion generally have a temple in their home, and those living in Hopkinsville will also go on occasion to the Ganesh Temple in nearby Nashville, Tenn.

Comparing Hinduism to Christianity, Mahtani noted that just as there are many western religions that identify themselves as Christian, so too there are many different groups that make up the Hindu religion.

"Hinduism is a huge umbrella," observed Mahtani. "Under that umbrella, there are really many groups."



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Santa's Little Angels



Capture the holidays, by including a photograph of your child/children and or grandchildren in a Holiday Special Section that will publish Wed. Dec. 22, 2004

Deadline for entries: December 15, 2004

Photographs may be sent by:

Postal Mail:
Complete the form below by Dec. 15. Mail it, the photograph and your check for \$10 made payable to the Floyd County Times, to Santa's Little Angels, Floyd County Times, P. O. Box 390 Prestonsburg, KY 41653.

Drop Off:
Deliver the form, your check in the appropriate amount (\$10 by Dec. 15) made payable to Floyd County Times and the photograph to the Floyd County Times, 263 South Central Ave. Prestonsburg, KY.

Email:
Include all of the information in the form below in your e-mail. Photographs must be in JPEG format. Email to: composing@floydcountytimes.com. Please include a daytime number to be contacted for billing information, or call (606) 886-8506 and pay by credit card.

One form per child.
Please include a self-addressed envelope if you wish to have your photograph returned after publication.

Example:

Santa's Little Angel



Kennedy N. Little

Jan 16, 2002
Daughter of Scott & Cheryl Little
Prestonsburg Ky

Santa's Little Angel's

Payment and photo are enclosed with the following information:

Child's full name: _____

Child's date of birth _____

Parents, grandparents or guardian name _____

Address (required) _____

Daytime telephone number (required) _____ December 2004



Exp. _____

Signature _____

Obituaries

Calia Marie Hale Hicks

Calia Marie Hale Hicks, 81, of Morehead, passed away, Wednesday, November 24, 2004, at her residence.

She was born on January 31, 1923, in Floyd County, the daughter of the late Greene and Lilly Prater Hale.

She was a retired school teacher, having taught for 25 years in the Rowan County School System. She retired as the Senior English Teacher at Rowan County High in 1982. She attended Caney Jr., College (which is now Alice Lloyd), and was a graduate of Morehead State Teachers College. She was of the Baptist faith, and a member of the Kentucky Retired Teachers Association. She enjoyed reading, working in her flower garden, and the time that she spent at Lake Leuman.

Survivors include two sons: Tim Hicks of Morehead, and Ben Hicks Jr., of Frankfort; two daughters: Claudia Hicks of Morehead, and Terry Hale-Hicks of Hollywood, Florida; two brothers: Clyde Hale of Ohio and Wornie Hale of Floyd County; one sister, Gladys Lane of Dayton, Ohio; six grandchildren, three step-grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and four step-great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Benjamin Franklin Hicks Sr., who passed away on July 22, 1992.

Funeral services were conducted at 11 a.m., Saturday, November 27, at Lane-Stucky-Gray Funeral Home, in Morehead, with Rev. Mark Caldwell officiating.

Burial was in the Brown Cemetery.

Visitation was at the funeral home.

Pallbearers: John Scrafini, Charles Wilkerson, Jeff Pendleton, Dan Johnson, Jason Harrod, and Steve Bonney.

Contributions are suggested to the Rowan County Animal Shelter.

(Paid obituary)

Jacqueline Bolen

Jacqueline Bolen, 64, of Hueysville, died Wednesday, November 24, 2004, at the Mt. View Health Care in Elkhorn City.

Born December 22, 1939, in Garrett, and formerly of Bolyn, she was the daughter of the late Lewis Bolen Jr. and Unia Bolen. She was a homemaker, and a member of the Rockfork Christian United Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Colonel Bolen.

Survivors include two sons: Colonel Lewis Bolen, and Jeff Gordon Bolen, both of Hueysville; one daughter, Tamara K. (Jerry) Howard of Garrett; three brothers: Garth Dalmon Bolen, and Earnest Gordon Bolen, both of Garrett, and Phillip Garry Bolen of Whitewood, Virginia; one half-brother, Reecie Jay Combs of Manchester; one sister, Lois Davis of Stroh, Indiana; and two grandchildren: Jonathan Brandon Shepherd, and Starla Rene Sexton.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by one brother, Claude Amon Bolen; one sister, Stella May Bolen, and one half-sister, Edna Dean Combs.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday, November 27, at 11 a.m., at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Sterlin Bolen and Ollie Watts officiating.

Burial was in the Lewis Bolen Cemetery, at Rock Rork, in Garrett, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation was at the funeral home with nightly services at 7 p.m.

(Paid obituary)

Brenda Kaye Nelson Greer

Brenda Kaye Nelson Greer, 44, of Allen, died Thursday, November 25, 2004, at her residence.

Born February 25, 1960, in Floyd County, she was the daughter of the late Samuel and Mildred Steele Nelson. She was a homemaker.

She is survived by her husband, Dennis Greer.

Other survivors include two sons: Dennis Michael Greer II, and Jason Alan Greer, both of Prestonsburg; four brothers: Sammy Nelson of Prestonsburg, Grady Nelson and Doug Nelson, both of Auxier, and James Nelson of Louisa; and three sisters: Betty Lafferty of Catlettsburg, Zelda Wallen of Prestonsburg, and Nona Little of McDowell; and one grandchild: Kaitlen Allison Greer.

Funeral services will be conducted Monday, November 29, at noon, at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Arnold Turner officiating.

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

Visitation is at the funeral home.

(Paid obituary)

Don Fraley Sr.

Don Fraley Sr., 81, of Hi Hat, died Wednesday, November 24, 2004, at his residence.

Born February 6, 1923, in Ligon, he was the son of the late John D. and Virgie M. Reynolds Fraley. He was a retired coal miner and a World War II veteran.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Viola Juanita Ricker Fraley.

Survivors include one son, Don Fraley Jr. and wife, Priscilla, of Hi Hat; two daughters, Sheri Fraley, and Kimberly Fraley, both of Hi Hat, and Kimberli's boyfriend, Ronnie Little; grandchildren: Robbie, Jennifer, Edmand, Jessica, and Michael; and great-grandchildren: Stephanie, Stacy, Jacob, and Jaden.

Funeral services will be conducted Sunday, November 28, at 1 p.m., at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Martin, with Bobby Lawson, Louis Ferrari, and Dr. Denver Tackett officiating.

Burial will be in the Newman Cemetery, Hi Hat, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation is at the funeral home.

(Paid obituary)

Helen McCormick

Helen McCormick, 87, of Lexington, formerly of Allen, died Thursday, November 25, 2004, at the residence of a daughter in Lexington.

Born August 25, 1917, in Gladstone, Virginia, she was the daughter of the late Walter and Tiny Woody Proffitt. She was a homemaker, and a member of the Allen Baptist Church.

She is survived by her husband, I.W. (Mac) McCormick.

Other survivors include one daughter, Pat Garrett of Lexington, and one grandson, Darryl Garrett of Lexington.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one son, Michael (Mickey) McCormick; and three brothers, Mitchell, Claude, and Douglas Proffitt.

Funeral services will be conducted Sunday, November 28, at 2 p.m., at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Arnold Turner Jr., officiating.

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

Visitation is at the funeral home.

(Paid obituary)

Melissa Sue Rowland Akers

Melissa Sue Rowland Akers, 34, of Blue River, died Tuesday, November 23, 2004, in Ashland.

Born February 4, 1970, in Prestonsburg, she was the daughter of Cleaties (Howdy) and Carol Ann Stephens Rowland of Blue River. She was a homemaker and mother, and a member of the Pleasant Home Southern Baptist Church.


In addition to her parents, she is survived by one son, John David Akers of Paintsville; and one sister, Anna Marie Rowland Allen of Garrett.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday, November 27, at 1 p.m., at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin, with Tom Rowland officiating.

Burial was in the Gethsemane Gardens, in Prestonsburg, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation was at the funeral home.

(Paid obituary)



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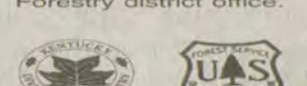
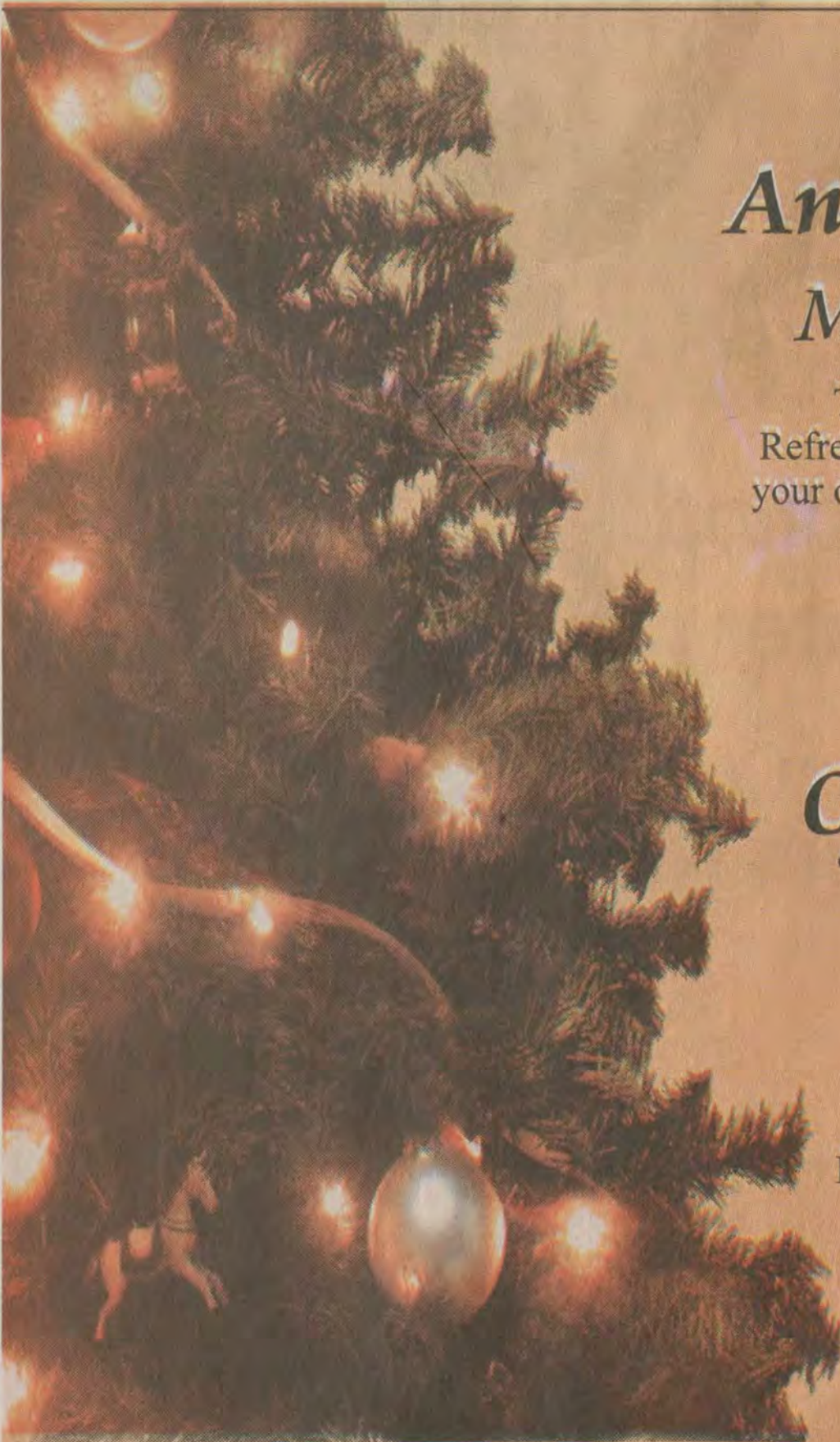
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Prepare your home, family & community for survival.

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- 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.

Join Pikeville Medical Center for the Annual Lighting Ceremony Monday, November 29 at 7pm

The event will take place in the front hospital parking lot. Refreshments, choral singing, visit with Santa & Mrs. Claus (bring your own camera) and other activities for children will be available.



Open House & Reception Monday, November 29 5-7pm & 8-9pm

Held in the main lobby of the hospital in celebration of Pikeville Medical Center's 80th Anniversary. Refreshments, door prizes and many of PMC's departments will have display booths to answer questions and provide valuable information on the services they provide. Tours of the hospital will be given.



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Regional Obituaries

FLOYD COUNTY

Vernon Flannery, 77, of Martin, died Friday, November 19, at the Prestonsburg Health Care Center. Funeral services were conducted Monday, November 22, under direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Debra Lynn Gillespie, 31, of Teaberry, died Friday, November 19, following an automobile accident on Rt. 979, at Harold. She is survived by her husband, Kevin Johnson. Funeral services were conducted Monday, November 22, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Mary Crum McKinney, 56, of Martin, died Monday, November 22, at the residence of her daughter at Staffordsville. She is survived by her husband, Jimmy McKinney. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, November 14, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Clarence Prater, 73, of Martin, died Tuesday, November 23, at his residence. Funeral services were conducted Friday, November 26, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Rosetta Crum Samons, 86, of Martin, died Saturday, November 20, in the Life Care Center in Morehead. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, November 23, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Otela Smiley, 89, of Lexington, formerly of Prestonsburg, died at Sayre Christian Village in Lexington, on Friday, November 19. Funeral services were conducted on Wednesday, November 24, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Tynan Layne Spears, 9, of Sarta Fe, Texas, died Tuesday, November 22, at Betsy Layne. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, November 24, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Babe (Glen Harold) Watkins, 72, of Garrett, died Sunday, November 21, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Kathy Jacobs Watkins. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, November 24, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Christine Watkins, 58, of Prestonsburg, died Saturday, November 20, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, James Watkins. Funeral services were conducted Monday, November 22, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Martin.

JOHNSON COUNTY

Clista Mae Cantrell, 91, of Flat Gap, died Saturday, November 22, at the Mountain Manor Nursing Home in Paintsville. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, November 24, under the direction of Paintsville Funeral Home.

Lucy Elizabeth Akers Carpenter, 73, of Stambaugh, a Floyd County native, died Thursday, November 18, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, William E. Carpenter. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, November 21, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

Herbert Castle Jr., 74, a native of Lowmansville, died Tuesday, November 16, at Three Rivers Medical Center in Louisa. He is survived by his wife, Kathleen Bevins Castle. Funeral services were conducted Friday, November 19, under the direction of Wilson Funeral Home.

Amber Lynn Collins, 5 months old of Boons Camp, a Johnson County native, died Friday, November 19, at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, November 21, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

Thornton K. "Chick" Haight, 77, of Paintsville, died Sunday, November 21, at his residence. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, November 24, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

Benny J. Kirk, 71, of Linn Valley Lakes, Kansas, a Paintsville native who passed away. He is survived by his wife, Benadine L. Wenke Kirk. Funeral services were conducted Monday, November 22, under the direction of Ryan Funeral Home.

Martha Faye Stafford, 60, of Van Lear, died Monday, November 16, at her residence. Funeral services were conducted Friday, November 19, under the direction of Phelps & Son Funeral Home.

KNOTT COUNTY

Rosa Smith, 91, of Carrie, died Monday, November 22, at the Hazard Appalachian Regional Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, November 25, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

MAGOFFIN COUNTY

Elizabeth Ann Rudd, 28, of Salyersville, died Friday, November 19, in Johnson County. Funeral services were conducted under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

Willard Wireman, 76, of Gunlock, died Tuesday, November 16, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. He is survived by his wife, Edna Wireman. Services were conducted Saturday, November 20, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

MARTIN COUNTY

Bobby Feller Cassady, 50, of Denton, formerly of Martin County, died Thursday, November 18, at King's Daughters Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Pamela Brewer. Funeral services were conducted Monday, November 22, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

Hayes Moore, 81, of Pilgrim, died Monday, November 22, at his residence. He is survived by his wife,

Flora Gauze Moore. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, November 25, under the direction of Phelps & Son Funeral Home.

Jesse Spaulding, 79, of Kermit, West Virginia, died Saturday, November 20, at Williamson Memorial Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Monday, November 22, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

Lucy Spence, 70, of Tomahawk, died Wednesday, November 17, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Roy Spence. Services were conducted Saturday, November 20, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

Benny Sweeney, 63, of Inez, died Sunday, November 21, at Paul B. Hall Medical Center, in Paintsville. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, November 24, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

PIKE COUNTY

Ermel Lynton Hunt Sr., 91, of Vansant, Virginia, a Pike

County native, died Monday, November 22, at Buchanan General Hospital, Grundy, Virginia. He is survived by his wife, Ama Lee Elliott Hunt. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, November 24, under the direction of Shortridge-Ramey Funeral Home.

Saul Johnson, 81, of Left Fork of Long Fork, Virgie, died Tuesday, November 23. Funeral arrangements were under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

Jenell Turnmire, 65, of Meta, died Wednesday, November 24, at St. Joseph Hospital, Lexington. Funeral arrangements were under the direction of Justice Funeral Home.

JOHNSON COUNTY

Amber Lynn Collins, infant daughter of Willard and Lynn Holt Collins, of Boons Camp, died Friday, November 19, at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, November 21, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

Lucy Elizabeth Akers Carpenter, 73, of Stambaugh, died Thursday, November 18, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, William E. Carpenter. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, November 21, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

Thornton K. "Chick" Haight, 77, of Paintsville, died Sunday, November 21, at his residence. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, November 21, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

Hayes Moore, 81, of Pilgrim, died Monday, November 22, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Flora Gauze Moore. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, November 25, under the direction of Phelps & Son Funeral Home.

Martha Faye Stafford, 60, of Van Lear, died at her home Monday, November 16. She is survived by her husband, Glenn L. Stafford. Funeral services were conducted Friday, November 19, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.



Members of the Chest Pain Unit team, from left Robin McDonald, R.N., Sonia Dent, R.N., BSN, Ryan Spangler, CMT, Stacy Patrick, R.N., Debbie Vanover and Debbie Dillon, R.N.



Zane Darnell, M.D., medical director, KDMC Chest Pain Center

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When you're having a heart attack, time is of the essence. Your heart requires expert medical care as soon as possible, because treatments are most effective in the early stages.

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Through this accreditation, KDMC's Chest Pain Center has demonstrated its expertise and commitment to quality patient care by meeting or exceeding a wide set of stringent criteria, and completing on-site evaluations by a review team from the Society of Chest Pain Centers. Key areas include assessing, diagnosing and treating patients quickly, having protocols that promote optimal patient care, ensuring personnel competency and training, and continually seeking to improve processes and procedures.

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Yards

24 passes for 631 yards and seven touchdowns. Splitend Kyle Ousley had 22 catches for 496 yards and seven touchdowns. Jesse Chaffins ended his senior campaign with 10 catches for 193 yards and four touchdowns. Compton and junior Brandon

Peters, an athlete who enjoyed a second season as a varsity Blackcat football player, each had three interceptions to lead the Blackcat defense. Many of the same athletes who starred on the gridiron for Prestonsburg will now turn around and play basketball for the Blackcats.

Continued from p1

Bobcats

with the Bobcats coming away with lopsided victories in each meeting. The Bobcats beat Magoffin County 79-49 to start the 2003-04 season. Betsy

Layne took the second in easy fashion, too, winning 75-59. Tip-off for Tuesday night's Betsy Layne-Magoffin County game is set for 7:30 p.m.

Continued from p1

BETSY LAYNE BOBCATS IN 2004

- Nov. 30 at Magoffin County, 7:30 p.m.
- Dec. 4 at Greenup County, 7:30 p.m.
- Dec. 7 Johnson Central, 7:30 p.m.
- Dec. 10 at Allen Central, 8 p.m.
- Dec. 11 Cawood, 12:45 p.m.
- (At East Ridge, Warrior Classic)
- Dec. 21 Knott County Central, 7 p.m.
- Dec. 22-23 (at Belfry) Wireless Mountain Schoolboy Classic
- Dec. 27 Breathitt County, 4:30 p.m.
- (at Prestonsburg, Jenny Wiley Invitational)
- Dec. 28-29 at Jenny Wiley Invitational

Dates

ment is traditionally on the weekend before the Labor Day weekend. Labor Day in 2005 is Sept. 5.

In all, 41 games in Little League Baseball and Softball will be televised nationally in August 2005.

For the third year, three games of the Little League Softball World Series (for 11-12-year-old girls), will be televised live on ESPN2 from Portland, Ore. That tournament is set for Aug. 10-17.

The championship game of the Junior League Baseball World Series (for 13-14-year-olds) will be televised on a tape-delayed basis on ESPN2. That World Series will be played Aug. 14-20 in Taylor, Mich.

The championship game of the Big League Softball World Series (16-18-year-old girls) will be televised on a tape-delayed basis on ESPN2. That tournament, played in Kalamazoo, Mich., will be Aug. 15-20.

The other four World Series dates and sites are:

Continued from p1

Senior League Baseball (14-16-year-olds), at Bangor, Maine, Aug. 14-20; Big League Baseball (16-18-year-olds), at Easley, S.C., July 30-Aug. 6; Junior League Softball (13-14-year-old girls), at Kirkland, Wash., Aug. 14-20; and Senior League Softball (14-16-year-old girls), at Lower Sussex, Del., Aug. 7-13. As of November 2004, these games are not scheduled to be televised.

For the ninth consecutive year, ESPN and ESPN2 will televise all of the U.S. Regional final games in the Little League Baseball Division. The eight championship games will be played over four days, Aug. 12-15.

Specific times and dates for all televised games will be announced in June 2005.

Little League Baseball and Softball is the world's largest organized youth sports program, with nearly 2.7 million players and 1 million adult volunteers in every U.S. state and scores of other countries.

Hoops

Tackett, guard Seth Kiser and guard Kris Bentley.

Kiser is considered by many to be the 15th Region's top boys' basketball.

Shelby Valley has been a leading contender for the 15th Region title each of the last five seasons. The Wildcats

sophomore guard Daniel Pugh (6-0, 170) will not return for a second season in the Tiger backcourt. Also a stand-out in both football and baseball, Pugh will take a year off and away from the hardwood. He just finished up a second season under



had their season end early last season, falling to Prestonsburg in the 15th Region Tournament at the home of the Blackcats.

Shelby Valley is the defending 15th Region All "A" Champion.

Paintsville (6-16) is led by one of the most talented group of underclassmen in Eastern Kentucky.

Paintsville's junior class includes forward/center Kevin Williams (6-4, 200 and guard Aaron Penix (5-9, 150). After a breakthrough season as a freshman,

center at quarterback for the Tiger football team.

J.D. VanHoose (6-1, 170) and Blake Bundy (6-0, 160) both started as eighth-graders and return as freshmen. Other freshmen entering the storied Paintsville basketball program who will play key roles include Shane Grim and Landon Slone. One of the 15th Region's most promising basketball players, Slone enters the Tiger basketball program after a successful career at Mountain Christian Academy.

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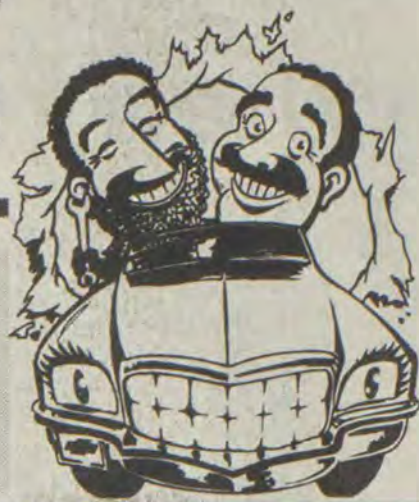
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This Town, That World

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.

Prestonsburg's Christmas lights, extended this year to Lake Drive, are worth seeing.

AN OVERSIZE MODEL

The old serpent got into the private Eden, that was Robert Anderson's, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and after aforesaid Anderson, had told the judge his story, a divorce was promptly granted. Said the court:

"It is cruel and inhuman for a wife to allow a boa constrictor to share a bedroom with her and her husband."

He didn't allow the woman any alimony. But he did grant her custody of the snake.



Norman Allen

FIGMENT OF THE IMAGINATION: A Beatle haircut.

A GOOD 'PACKAGE'

State Police Director "Ted" Bassett outlines a four point package which his department will push at the coming session of the General Assembly. The points:

1. Compulsory vehicle inspection;
2. Periodic reexamination of drivers;
3. Driver education in the schools;
4. Drivers without insurance to pay an extra fee for license tags, thus creating a pool to reimburse persons for damages caused by such drivers.

I'm for this "package," even if Point 3 may ground one of the most moon-eyed drivers in these parts.

Which reminds me that it says here: By the time a man can afford to lose a golf ball, he can't hit it that far.

NOTE TO S...

This father was trying to put his foot down on the idea of his daughter joining the Peace Corps, and his daughter was countering with the inevitable why.

"Why?" Because I don't believe you can do those people any good. They don't need being taught how to make phone calls."

PROFESSIONAL REVENGE

Watt Hale was by this week, to comment that politics gets plumb serious with some people, then illustrated the point.

This child was sick, and the

(See TOWN, page six)



Miriam Moyer, left, and Debbie Hodson, both native eastern Kentuckians, have joined creative spirits to produce the book, "A Mountain Rainbow," which tells the story of Nellie, a young Appalachian girl growing up in the 1930s.

'A Mountain Rainbow' speaks to Appalachian hearts, both young and old

by Kathy J. Prater
FEATURES EDITOR

If you're anything like me, you can't seem to get enough of books that beautifully, and accurately, illustrate life growing up in the Appalachian mountains. If so, then you should love "A Mountain Rainbow," by Debbie Hodson, who partnered with Miriam Moyer, illustrator, to share the heartwarming story of Nellie, a young Appalachian girl who was transplanted to the north in the late 1930s when her parents moved there to find work - only to return years later to her beloved hills and valleys.

Both Hodson and Moyer are native eastern Kentuckians who now reside in Knott County. Written for the enjoyment of all generations, this book will speak, especially, to those generations of children who moved with their parents to northern cities in search of employment. Nellie, like many of whom her story represents, never forgot her Appalachian mountains, creeks, fields or relatives. Like a song in the night, her memories never stopped calling her home, and, as the book plays to its end, we find Nellie once again enjoying life so sweet in the arms of Appalachia.

"I wrote this story about four years ago," Hodson said. "For a long time, I wasn't sure if anything would come of it other than a story for grandchildren some day. Last fall, as I began to explore the idea of having it become available to others, I wanted someone who was also from the mountains to do the illustrations. I felt Miriam, who I've known for a long time, would be just the right one to capture the spirit of the story in her pictures. Together we hoped to find a regional printer and Jay Nolan and his staff at

J. Frank Publishing, in London, were so helpful in fulfilling that goal. We are very pleased with how the book has turned out."

While both Hodson and Moyer have practiced their respective crafts for quite some time, this book is a first for the both of them, as well as a first joint effort for both. The heartwarming words and lovely watercolor illustrations paint a picture of life that can only be drawn upon by those with deep Appalachian roots.

Hodson's essays have appeared in both the Troublesome Creek Times and the Lexington Herald-Leader, as well as in such publications as Berea College's Appalachian Heritage, M Magazine, and the nationally circulated Grit Magazine. Moyer's paintings and art pieces have been sold for several years through the Appalachian Artisan Center, Yoder's Bulk Foods, and at several state parks and various other outlets across the region.

Currently, "A Mountain Rainbow" may be found at Yoder's Bulk Foods, in Hindman, the Appalachian Artisan Center, Hindman Floral and Gifts, and, in Floyd County, at Jenny Wiley State Resort Park, Country at Heart, and Readmore Bookstore, for \$10.95.

Though the book was written with children in mind, Hodson says that it "is not exclusively a children's book." "Actually, we're finding it is being bought quite frequently by adults to give to other friends and family members as a gift book. Anyone who has roots or heritage in the mountains of Appalachia will identify with Nellie, the main character, and her love for this region," she continued.

In addition to the locations mentioned above, "A Mountain Rainbow" may also be purchased by mail, for \$14, from Ivy Stone Press, P.O. Box 50, Emmalena, KY 41740. Price includes costs of shipping by first class mail.



Illustration by Miriam Moyer

Generations of Appalachians, both young and old, enjoy spending summer evenings on the porch sharing old memories, and making new ones.

MOVIES FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

'Boa vs. Python'

by TOM DOTY
STAFF WRITER

Two low-rent franchises combine monsters, if not budgets, in this giant snake wrestlemania actioner that originally premiered, sans gore and nudity, on the Sci-Fi Channel.

This film is another in the new-found trend of teaming up monsters which has become popular again due in no small part to the high box office gross of "Freddy vs. Jason." This cycle of films is a real treat for monster buffs and shows no sign of stopping with the success of "Alien vs. Predator."

This film starts off cleverly with a ring announcer shouting out the match of the century which will pit the Python against the Boa. Turns out they are wrestlers, but it's a decent gimmick which offers the playful attitude that's on display here.

The wrestlers work for an Atlantic City showman named Broddick who spends his spare time arranging hunting expeditions for rich weirdoes. His latest gimmick goes awry when the giant python he ordered gets loose in Philadelphia. This doesn't stop him from packing up his hunters for a trip to the city of brotherly love, but it does put a cramp in his action when the group winds up hunting their prey while government forces converge on the same area with a whole other plan to stop the enraged python.

The FBI decides to bring in its most arrogant official, Agent Sharpe, to put things right. Sharpe brings in a guy who has grown a huge mutant boa constrictor - hey it's a legitimate hobby - and plans to use it to hunt the python. The scientist responds by saying, "That's the stupidest idea I ever heard," but quickly gives in.

Forgetting the fact that snakes are lousy trackers, they decide to descend into the sewers and let loose the boa, which promptly takes off and sniffs out the python. Here things take another skewed turn when the two snakes take a liking to each other and turn their first go-around into a love match.

Everything comes to a head when the hunters accidentally shoot one of the agents. Lots of chaos ensues and my favorite bit occurs when a character, who has been built up as the greatest hunter alive, mistakes an FBI agent for a 60-foot snake and fills him with enough lead to open a pencil factory.

It all ends up at a downtown disco, where the giant snakes finally deliver

(See LAGOON, page six)

O holy night

by JEAN CALVERT

"CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE COUNTRY SOUL"

The International Country Music Fan Fair in Nashville, Tenn., is always a zoo-like affair, with 300 or more people waiting in line at John Berry's booth for autographs, to take pictures and to buy memberships and T-shirts. Fans often climb over the stanchions trying to get a picture and yelling at John to get his attention.

Last year, John and his wife, Robin, had a great idea for the theme of his booth. They felt it would be nice to have people come and visit them on their front porch, so they had the booth made as an identical replica of the porch on the Berry house. The display kind of depicts how John feels about his fans - almost like they're family. Coming onto his front porch at the show was a very comfortable thing for people.

Fan Fair began on Tuesday with a full day of interviews followed by more than four hours of autographing at the booth. John's fan-club party didn't close down 'til 2:30 the next morning.

John started Wednesday with the Capital Nashville Showcase. After that, it was back to the booth, where the autograph line began in front of the picket fence leading to the porch. A separate handicapped area fed into this line. At one point, I spoke with a woman who explained that she was deaf. She told me how she listened to John's music by laying her fingertips on the speaker in her home. Now she just wanted to be face to face with John. She asked if she could touch him to really feel what she had been "hearing" through the speakers with her hands.

I was impressed by the woman, who seemed like a kindly soul with a gentle spirit. In spite of her handicap, she was independent, positive and confident. Although I

knew John was already exhausted, I was certain he'd want to meet this special fan. I took the woman over to John, let him know she was deaf and explained that she had a special request. John had her sit down next to his rocking chair and got very close. Everyone around kind of stepped back, and things quickly got very quiet. The woman reached up and put her fingertips to John's throat. At that point, she asked him to sing. Without hesitation, and in the middle of June, John broke into "O Holy Night."

You could see a total transformation on the woman's face; and then the tears began streaming out of both of them. Everyone in the surrounding booths stopped talking, walking and taking pictures. All of

us just watched. It was as if everything in the room had frozen except the two of them.

At the end of the song, there was a poignant pause followed by tumultuous applause and a standing ovation for the special moment that all had shared. John reached over and gave the woman a very tender hug. All of us felt the energy pass through them. The woman didn't say much after that. Within a moment, she found her friend and was gone.



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The background of the cover features a bokeh effect of colorful lights in shades of red, yellow, green, and blue. In the foreground, several white gift bags with ribbons are scattered across the bottom half of the page.

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A

to

Z

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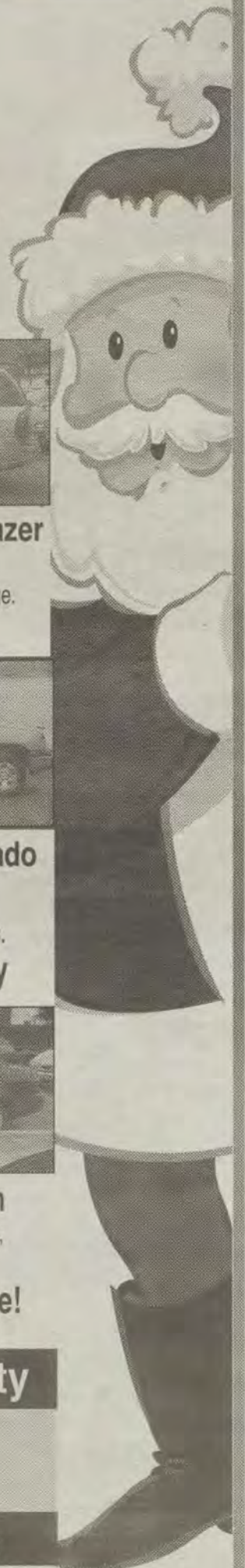
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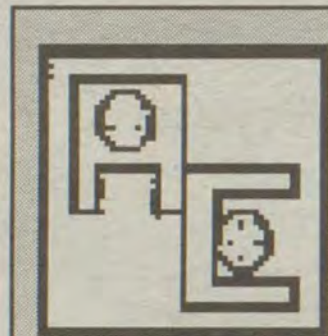


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
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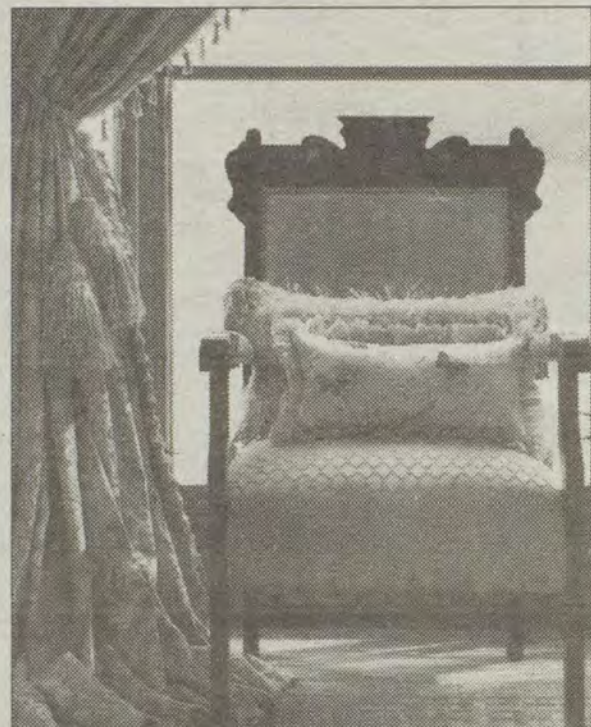
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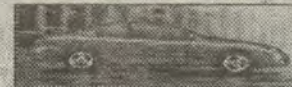
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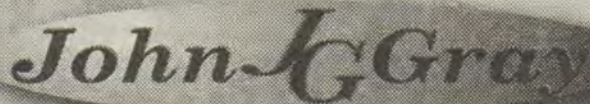


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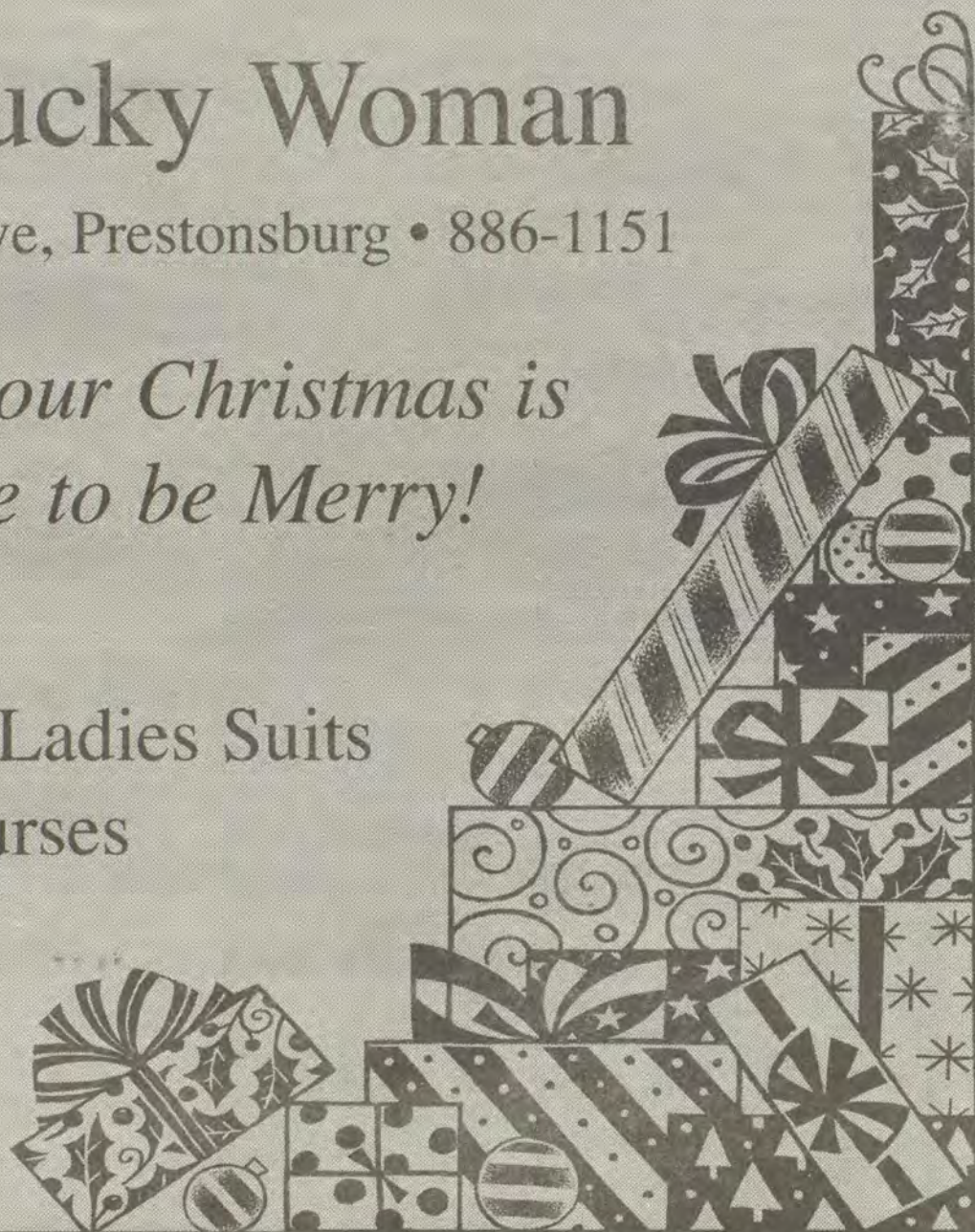
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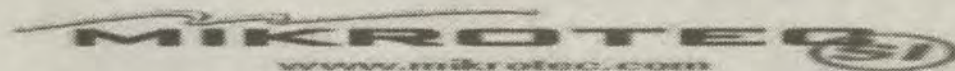
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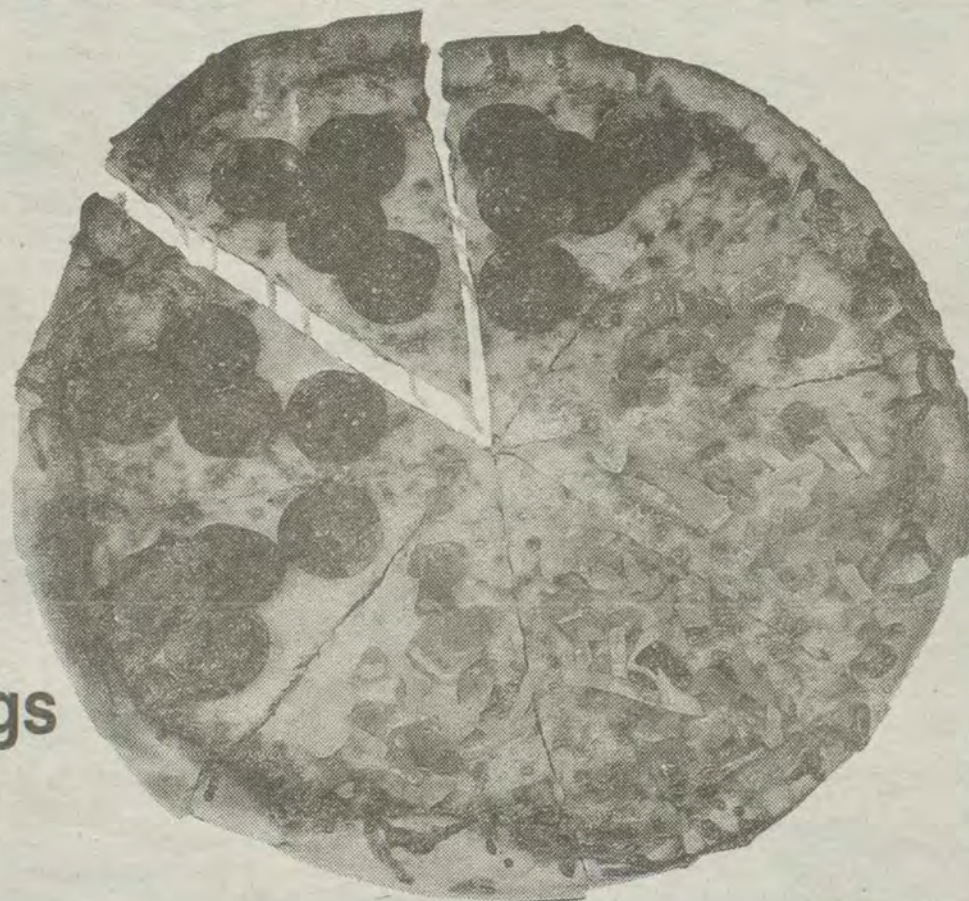
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