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briefs

Mine deaths on track for record low

by ROGER ALFORD ASSOCIATED PRESS

PIKEVILLE — The number of miners killed on the job in the United States is on track to set a record low of 51 this year.

Preliminary figures from the U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration show 25 of the deaths occurred in coal mines and 26 in stone, copper and other types of mines.

Suzu Bohnert, spokeswoman for the mine regulatory agency, said that makes 2004 the least deadly year on record for the mining industry, barring any calamities on New Year's Eve.

Bohnert cautioned that the final numbers also could change based on an examination by an accident review board.

The preliminary numbers show total mining deaths were down by five from the previous record low of 56 set last year when 30 people died in coal mines and 26 died in other types of mines.

Industry representatives attribute the reduction in fatal accidents to increased emphasis on safety by companies and regulatory agencies.

"That's still too many fatalities," said Bill Caylor, president of the Kentucky Coal Association. "We want to see that number brought down to zero. It's doable. That's our goal."

West Virginia led the nation in coal mining deaths with 11 people killed on the job, up from 10 last year. That was

(See DEATHS, page three)

2 DAY FORECAST

Today



High: 63 • Low: 48

Tomorrow



High: 60 • Low: 48

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THE TOP 5 STORIES OF 2004

NUMBER TWO

Drugs epidemic keeps grip on county, region

by TOM DOTY STAFF WRITER

The war on drugs in Eastern Kentucky continued in 2004 and shined a harsh light that revealed the high levels of prescription drug abuse in the mountains.

Several arms of law enforcement came together for the battle, which saw rise to one new federal program for fighting the epidemic rise in the form of Operation UNITE. Area roundups often consisted of the Prestonsburg Police, the Floyd County Sheriff's Department, Kentucky State Police and Operation UNITE officers working in concert to execute arrest warrants.

The battles against area drug dealers saw four roundups executed in Floyd County this year. The first two were initiated by the Floyd County Drug Task Force, with the following two roundups based on tips gleaned from the Operation UNITE hotlines as well as evidence collected by the Floyd County Drug Task Force.

The task force brought solid cases to the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office, with each suspect caught on tape (audio and/or video) selling drugs to undercover officers and informants. Prosecutors presented the transaction evidence to a grand jury and came away with 30 or more sealed indictments for each roundup.

Currently the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office has prosecuted over 100 trafficking cases from the roundups, with only two cases going to trial. Both of those cases saw the sentences maxed out after evidence was presented to local juries by Commonwealth's Attorney Brent Turner and Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Wayne Taylor. The costs of prosecuting future cases plummeted, as many dealers canceled their trial options, preferring to take blind pleas than face juries that had sent a clear message of zero tolerance.

The latest drug to find its way into the county proved to be crystal methamphetamine. Early efforts to combat the homegrown drug, made from several toxic substances that are readily available to consumers, have been successful, with Sheriff John K. Blackburn closing down two labs that were manufacturing the substance.

Liz Goble received a 10-year sentence for trafficking in the drug, which Greg Stumbo termed "a scourge."

The war against drugs wasn't all about locking people up. Circuit Judges Danny P. Caudill and John David Caudill often handed down sentences from the bench which recognized the perils of addiction by making drug treatment and a good faith effort to obtain a GED a standard part of many punish-

(See DRUGS, page three)



photo by Mary Music

Damages from the Memorial Day flood caused widespread damage across the northern half of Floyd County. Middle Creek and Abbott Creek were the hardest hit areas.

STORY OF THE YEAR

Flooding slams county once again

by TOM DOTY STAFF WRITER

Words seemed inadequate to describe the damage and suffering that followed when flood waters tore through Floyd County on Memorial Day weekend. The rains that swept through the area appeared to stop and sit over the county and were not content to leave until every creek in the northern part of the county was over flowed.

It was the seventh flood in five years and came before the county

had received federal money to cover the damages from the last flood.

Flooding was concentrated in Levisa Fork and several of its tributaries and saw high water rampage through Middle Creek, Abbott Creek, Prestonsburg, Little Paint, Spradlin Branch, Auxier, Cow Creek, Prater Creek, Stratton Branch, Armory Road, Mare Creek and Tom's Creek among others. Homes were washed away instantly and families were displaced by the hundreds.

Jenny Wiley State Resort Park

also received extensive damages to its golf course and amphitheater which saw the first nine rows covered in mud as well as a wall of mud which broke through the dressing rooms destroying over \$10,000 in sound equipment.

The damage to roads, bridges and property was also devastating and left a hefty pricetag for the county to deal with. This led to several emergency meetings of the Floyd County Fiscal Court, which was still waiting on money to help

(See FLOOD, page three)

NUMBER THREE

Martin redevelopment begins

by TOM DOTY STAFF WRITER

MARTIN — The city of Martin had been flooded 36 times since it began recording such events in 1862. In 2004, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began a nearly \$100 million project to solve the long-term problem, but not without some controversy.

Under the ambitious project, much of the city will be raised between 12 and 16 feet. The first shovels of dirt began turning this year, and the entire project is expected to take approximately 10 years to finish.

The plan was greeted with much skepticism as well as angry merchants who fear that the extended project will

kill area businesses. But Mayor Thomasine endorsed the project, saying the city owes the sacrifices the project will cause to the children who will inherit the safer town.

"This will bring new jobs into our city," Robinson said. "The younger generation will be able to work and live here

(See MARTIN, page three)

NUMBER FIVE

Public outcry kills dump proposal

by TOM DOTY STAFF WRITER

IVEL — An abandoned coal ash dump at Ivel had been a problem for years.

After being constructed despite a three-year battle opposing it, the company responsible for it had gone bankrupt. Before that, they had stopped using liners for the coal ash they were dump-

ing when they got to the second stage of the project. The ash at that point was dumped right on the ground where it still sits.

Perhaps that experience was fresh in people's minds when a firm from Connecticut expressed an interest in claiming the site. Murphy Road, a Hartford, Conn.-based recycling facility and transfer station, wanted to

take over the site as a construction landfill and transfer station. The company offered to pay the county more than \$13 million over 15 years in order to use the property as a dump for construction materials.

A tour was arranged for Floyd County officials at one of the company's transfer sta-

(See DUMP, page five)



photo by Tom Doty

A large portion of the Rolling Acres subdivision resembled a war zone following a natural gas explosion in November.

NUMBER FOUR

Explosion rocks Ivel

by TOM DOTY STAFF WRITER

IVEL — The residents of the Rolling Acres subdivision off U.S. 23 at Ivel will certainly never forget the morning of Monday, Nov. 8, when a natural gas explosion leveled five

homes.

The explosion occurred after 9 a.m. and most of those who lived there were at work and the children had already left for school. A gas leak, which had formed and frozen

(See EXPLOSION, page six)

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Odds and Ends

■ **SPRINGFIELD, Mass.** — There's some unwanted dribbling going on at the Basketball Hall of Fame.

City officials say the \$109 million dome-shaped building has sprung some leaks since it was built about two years ago.

The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame, along with its parking garage and 18.5-acre site, are owned by the city. The property is rented to the hall in a 99-year lease.

The state put up \$42.5 million for the museum's construction, and about \$80,000 of that is left, said city economic developer Thomas McColgan. He

expects the remaining money to cover repair costs.

"I think it's minor. But before we go ahead and spend whatever balances are left in the various accounts, we want to make sure the problem gets addressed and corrected," he said.

■ **HARARE, Zimbabwe** — A man allegedly bit off and swallowed another man's finger during a bar brawl, authorities said.

Alex Nyarubakora, 39, appeared in court in the town of Chitungwiza on Wednesday charged with assault with intent to cause grievous bodily harm.

Prosecutor Isau Janhi said Nyarubakora was arguing with his wife in a bar last week when he allegedly became incensed by the second man's attempts to intercede.

After the two men began fighting, Nyarubakora is accused of biting off his opponent's finger and chewing and swallowing it. No remains of the finger were found at the scene, Janhi said.

■ **ST. LOUIS** — After briefly considering keeping \$21,500 he found in a shopping cart at work, 17-year-old Jeff Aitken fought the temptation

and reunited the cash with its rightful owner.

That honesty this month made his mother mighty proud, though she couldn't communicate it well. For the past three years, Lou Gehrig's disease had robbed 53-year-old Bev Aitken of her ability to speak.

So when she lost her fight the day after the Christmas, Bev Aitken left feeling quite rich about her son's conscience, relatives say.

"I think it gave her hope that everything was going to be OK once she left," Jeff's 20-year-old sister, Jen, said Tuesday from the family's home in Overland, a St. Louis suburb.

Jeff Aitken's life — and that of his family — could have taken a different path Dec. 11, when he spotted a bag full of \$100 bills in a cart at a Schrupps supermarket at the end of his shift.

All told, the bag held \$21,500 — cash Aitken knew could have had many uses, including covering some of the family's health-care costs.

Aitken admitted that the thought of pocketing the money crossed his mind. The only identification with the cash was a check made out to Aladdin Wireless.

He took the money to police two days later as businessman Kamal Abusharbin, having just reported losing the loot, was leaving the station.

Recognizing the bag, Abusharbin hugged the teen and gave him a \$2,000 reward, a

new cell phone and a job offer at a business where Aitken can learn how to sell and fix wireless phones.

■ **WINNIPEG, Manitoba** — It didn't take Winnipeg police long to solve the great Christmas tree heist — a trail of pine cones from the scene of the crime led directly to a suspect's living room.

"It's got to be the dumbest crime of the century," apartment caretaker Cindy Peterson said Wednesday. "You could see where they dragged it into the house."

The Yuletide theft happened early Dec. 23 when someone cut down an 18-foot blue spruce from in front of Peterson's apartment building. The tree wasn't sawed at the base of the trunk, but about six feet up.

Peterson said she only noticed the tree had been lopped off when she went out to shovel the walk.

"A neighbour asked me if I couldn't afford a real tree," she said. "She pointed and I looked and thought, 'What the ...?'"

Peterson and neighbour Ralph Mehmedov went to investi-

gate and found a small cedar tree apparently discarded in favor of the larger spruce. A trail of pine cones, needles and broken limbs led directly to a residence across the street.

Police questioned the 22-year-old occupant, who told them he had bought the tree from an unknown door-to-door tree salesman for \$5.

The man was charged with possession of stolen goods and released on a promise to appear in court at a later date.

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Sunday, Jan. 2, the second day of 2005. There are 363 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Jan. 2, 1900, Secretary of State John Hay announced the "Open Door Policy" to facilitate trade with China.

On this date:

■ In 1492, the leader of the last Arab stronghold in Spain surrendered to Spanish forces loyal to King Ferdinand II and Queen Isabella I.

■ In 1788, Georgia became the fourth state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

■ In 1921, religious services were broadcast on radio for the first time as KDKA in Pittsburgh aired the regular Sunday service of the city's Calvary Episcopal Church.

■ In 1929, the United States and Canada reached agreement on joint action to preserve Niagara Falls.

■ In 1935, Bruno Hauptmann went on trial in Flemington, N.J., on charges of kidnapping and murdering the 20-month-old son of Charles and Anne Lindbergh. (Hauptmann was found guilty, and executed.)

■ In 1942, the Philippine capital of Manila was captured by Japanese forces during World War II.

■ In 1960, Sen. John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts announced his candidacy for the Democratic presidential nomi-

nation.

■ In 1965, the New York Jets signed University of Alabama quarterback Joe Namath for a reported \$400,000.

■ In 1974, President Nixon signed legislation requiring states to limit highway speeds to 55 mph (however, federal speed limits were abolished in 1995).

■ In 1983, the musical play "Annie," based on the "Little Orphan Annie" comic strip, closed on Broadway after a run of 2,377 performances.

Ten years ago: Chechen defenders drove Russian troops out of the capital of Grozny. Marion Barry was inaugurated as mayor of Washington, D.C., four years after leaving the office in disgrace to serve a six-month sentence for misdemeanor drug possession.

Five years ago: Retired Adm. Elmo R. Zumwalt Jr., known early in his career for modernizing the Navy and later for ordering the spraying of Agent Orange in Vietnam, died in Durham, N.C., at age 79.

One year ago: Insurgents

shot down a U.S. helicopter west of Baghdad, killing one soldier. British flights to Washington and Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, were canceled as a security precaution. The NASA spacecraft Stardust flew through the halo of the distant comet Wild 2.

Today's Birthdays: Former television evangelist Jim Bakker is 66. Actress Wendy Phillips is 53. Actress Gabrielle Carteris is 44. Movie director Todd Haynes is 44. Actress Tia Carrere is 38. Actor Cuba Gooding Jr. is 37. Model Christy Turlington is 36. Actor Taye Diggs is 34. Rock musician Scott Underwood (Train) is 34. Rock singer Doug Robb (Hoobastank) is 30. Actress Paz Vega is 29. Country musician Chris Hartman is 27. Actress Kate Bosworth is 22.

Thought for Today: "There are no whole truths; all truths are half-truths. It is trying to treat them as whole truths that plays the devil." — Alfred North Whitehead, English philosopher and mathematician (1861-1947).

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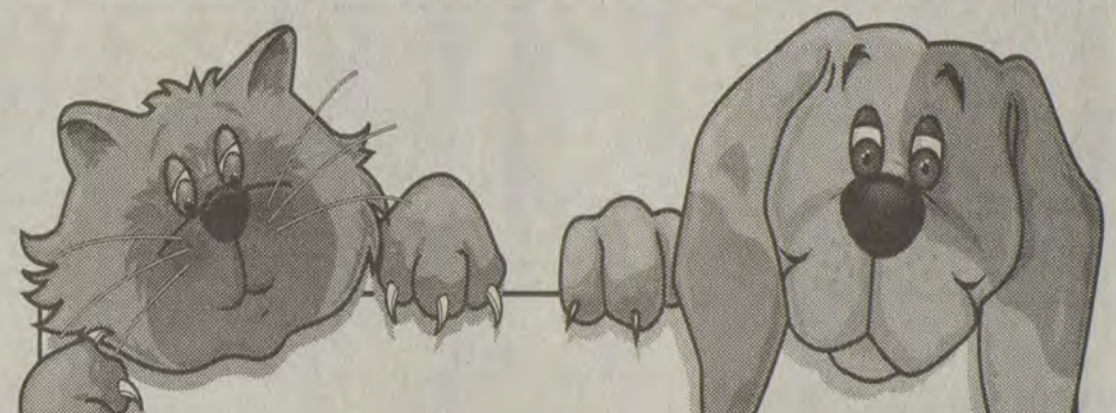
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— SPIDER



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Jan 19, 2005

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Drop Off: Deliver the form, your check in the appropriate amount (\$10 by Jan. 12) 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@floyd-countytimes.com. Please include a daytime number to be contacted for billing information, or call (606) 886-8506 and pay by credit card.

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Flood

pay for the last flood. Floyd County Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson explained that, "The county paid its share of the fees generated [\$160,000] and is now waiting on the balance from the state and the federal government." The total estimate for damages is \$1.3 million. Thompson explained that the county will need some of the funds to pay back a \$500,000 loan it secured to get the money quickly and is

depending on the balance of \$600,000 to be delivered by year's end. Another fiscal effect of the flood and past calamities is that it has stalled several projects that Thompson was pursuing. Water line projects and sewer lines are desperate needs for some sections of the county and the money to implement said projects has constantly been siphoned to pay the 13 percent of flood damage costs not covered

by state and federal funds. The events of Memorial Day weekend also served as a venue for Eastern Kentuckians to show that community spirit thrives in the mountains when tragedy strikes. Aid was immediate and came from all sides, with neighbors, church groups and nonprofit organizations springing into action. The fiscal court created a safe haven for all victims at Clark Elementary where victims could find aid, food, water,

lodging and counseling for the trying times ahead. The weekend also was a time for heroic works. Last month, two officers from the sheriff's department, Sgt. Steve Little and Deputy Will Holbrook, received medals of valor for their efforts to save rescue workers who were themselves put in danger by the rising waters at Meade Branch. The flood continues to have an impact on residents. Some families in David were just finishing repairs to their homes when more water rose last summer and again flooded some areas. Blocked culverts saw water stream out onto roads and cause more damage to roads and homes. Once again, several rose to the challenge, with many residents turning to St. Vincent's Mission for aid.

Deaths

more than twice the number of fatalities in other coal mining states. Kentucky was second with five deaths on the job, down from eight last year. That tied Kentucky's record low, set in 1990 and matched in 1997 and 2001. Nationally, more than 100 coal miners died in mine accidents each year through the 1970s, but the numbers have declined since then. Caylor attributed the decline to several factors, including increased training for miners, more conscientious oversight by regulatory agencies and more emphasis on safety by companies.

mine fatalities were Virginia with three, Alabama and Utah with two each, Indiana and Pennsylvania with one each. Most of those deaths were the result of rock falls and equipment accidents. Three miners were electrocuted. The non-coal fatalities were scattered broadly across the nation. Nevada had three. Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas each had two. Georgia, Iowa, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Wyoming had one fatality each.

"In addition, you've had a tremendous advancement in equipment that has made mining safer," Caylor said. "One example, the remote-controlled continuous miner, where the operator works from a distance, controlling the machine with a joy stick so he stays out of harm's way. Just as automobiles are being made safer, our industry is no different. The machines we operate are constantly designed to be safer and safer." Other states reporting coal

Paris Charles, executive director of the Kentucky Office of Mine Safety and Licensing, said he believes improved training for new miners is paying off. "A new miner is required to take 40 hours of classroom education before he ever attempts to go into an underground coal mine," Charles said. "He has to be within sight and sound of an experienced miner for 45 days after that." Charles said his agency trained and licensed more than 1,000 new miners over the past year.

Obituaries

Dorsie Wright Johnson

Dorsie Wright Johnson, 73, of Wheelwright, died Wednesday, December 29, 2004, at the U.K. Medical Center, in Lexington. Born June 17, 1931, at Lackey, she was the daughter of the late Thomas and Sylvania Johnson Wright. She was a homemaker and a member of the Joppa Old Regular Baptist Church, at Melvin. She was preceded in death by her husband, Estill Johnson.

Survivors include five sons: Danny Johnson (Pat) of Goodlettsville, Tennessee; Estill Johnson Jr., of Hazard, Paul Johnson, Ricky Johnson (Kathy) and David Johnson (Sheila), all of Wheelwright; seven daughters: Ruby Hutchinson of Prestonsburg, Julia "Faye" Smith of Hindman, Irene Harmon (Mike), of Vandalia, Ohio, Phyllis Boyd (Ronnie) of Wheelwright, Brenda Clements (Lee) of Daytona Beach, Florida, Debbie Sparkman (Vernon) of Topmost, and Marian Riley (Donny) of Martin; two sisters: Pearl Bentley of Langley and Jessie Lee Bentley of Mentone, Indiana; 30 grandchildren and 32 great-grandchildren.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by a brother, Billy Wright; eight sisters: Rosie McCall, Gracie Gilliam, Annie Wright, Gracie Sheffett, Mildred Burke, Nina Wright, Millie Avalos and Geneva Holbrook; one grandchild, Phillip Johnson; and one great-grandchild, Adam Blackburn.

Funeral services will be conducted Sunday, January 2, at 1 p.m., at the Joppa Old Regular Baptist Church, at Melvin, with Old Regular Baptist ministers officiating.

Burial will be in the Johnson Family Cemetery, (Golf Course Hollow), at Wheelwright, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation is at the church. (Paid obituary)

Viola Maebell Wilson

Viola Maebell Wilson, 76, of Tram, died Wednesday, December 29, 2004, at the Pikeville Methodist Hospital.

Born February 14, 1928, in Tram, she was the daughter of the late Nathan Shepherd and Nettie Inez Justice Rollins. She was a homemaker, and a member of the Church of Christ at Tram.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Pete Elmer Wilson.

Survivors include two sons: Pete Wilson Jr., and Mike Wilson, both of Tram; four daughters: Margaret Hall and Barbara Anderson, both of Tram, Sheila Kay Olinger of Hazard, and Juanita Carter of Lexington; and one brother, Robert Nathaniel Shepherd of Knoxville, Tennessee; one sister: Betty Smiley of Dayton, Ohio; 12 grandchildren, and 18 great-grandchildren.

In addition to her husband, and parents, she was preceded in death by one son, David Elmer Wilson; one daughter, Judy Ann Wilson; and one brother, Paul Meadows.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday, January 1, at 1 p.m., at the Church of Christ at Tram, with Robert Adkins officiating.

Burial was in the Wilson Cemetery, at Tram, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, Martin.

Visitation was at the funeral home, and later at the church. Services were held at 7 p.m. nightly. (Paid obituary)



Mollie Hughes Calhoun

Mollie Hughes Calhoun, age 95, of Greensboro, Georgia, formerly of Prestonsburg, passed away, Wednesday, December 29, 2004, at Portsbridge Hospice, due to complications from cancer.

She was born September 16, 1909, the daughter of the late George Hughes and Emma Ousley Hughes.

She was the wife of the late Troy Calhoun, who died May 2, 1964.

She is survived by nine of her twelve children: Troy (Don) Calhoun, Phyllis Calhoun, Kenneth Calhoun, Patty Burnette, Jay Calhoun, Bonnie Avila, Jean Carol Burton, Roy (Brownie) Calhoun, and Henrietta (Pet) Graham; 21 grandchildren, and several great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted Sunday, January 2, at 11 a.m., at the Carter Funeral Home, Prestonsburg, with Bob Avila officiating.

Burial will be in the May Cemetery, at Prestonsburg.

The family has entrusted arrangements to the Carter Funeral Home. (Paid obituary)

Martin

and not be concerned about flooding."

The effort brought about a less than optimistic editorial in the Lexington Herald-Leader which questioned the rationale behind sinking almost \$100 million into a town where total property values add up to only about 10 percent of that figure.

U.S. Rep. Hal Rogers, who helped push money for the project through Congress, saved his response to that article for the groundbreaking ceremony on July 10.

"What is it worth to live in peace and not have to worry about the creek flooding your home?" Rogers asked.

Another criticism leveled at the project was that it might never get finished. However it is actually the second such project to be initiated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, according to Corps secretary John P. Woodley.

"I can tell you that the Corps of Engineers has a very good track record," Woodley said. "There's not

been a single project, to my recollection, in the Huntington District that hasn't been completed."

Drugs

ments.

Operation UNITE included in its mandate a portion of funding to go toward counseling, drug treatment and the formation of civic committees to bring more resources to bear.

Judge Eric Hall spearheaded the formation of a Drug Court program for addicts after studying the effectiveness of the effort in Lexington, where an almost 50 percent success rate for reforming drug addicts was established. Currently a dozen addicts are enrolled in the effort which stands a better than average chance of reducing the

problem by curing the victims of drug addiction.

More efforts are underway for 2005 and promise no cease in hostilities. The 50 traffickers from the December roundup will be adjudicated this year with UNITE promising more arrests in the future.

Attorney General Greg Stumbo established a branch of his office in Prestonsburg that opens this week and has pledged to go after the problem from a new angle by investigating doctors who prescribe controlled substances to traffickers.

Happy 9th Birthday
Zack
 Tuesday, Jan. 4th
 Tuesday, Jan. 4th
 Happy Birthday!
 Happy Birthday!
 We Love You!
 Mom, Dad, and Kari

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"Share The Memories"
 On Wednesday, February 2, The Floyd County Times will publish **Prom & Bridal 2005**
 We're looking for the most interesting, funny, heartwarming stories our readers would like to share of their most memorable Prom or that special Wedding Story!
 Please keep your stories to a 500 word maximum and submit to: features@floydcountytimes.com
 Deadline: **Wednesday, January 26, 2005, 5 p.m.**
 Photos may accompany your story and must be attached jpeg, tiff or pdf format.
 We're looking forward to your writings, making this special edition one of our "most" special ever!
 Note: All submissions will be edited. Articles will include bylines. No fee required.

expression

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

Guest view Editorial roundup

The Daytona (Fla.) Beach News-Journal, on the tsunamis that devastated Southern Asia:

... So many deaths. So much devastation. So little warning. Aid is already pouring into areas affected by the giant waves that smashed into the coastlines of nine countries along the Indian Ocean. Much more will be needed. For every known death, authorities say, there are thousands more who have lost their homes and every possession.

The United States is contributing to early relief efforts, and should do more. Donations are also pouring in through the American Red Cross' International Response Fund.

But even as the immediate needs are met, the world's leaders should take stock of the early warning system for natural disasters around the globe.

The only international warning system currently operates in the Pacific Ocean. That system detected the underground quake that triggered the tsunamis, but frantic attempts to warn affected countries failed because there was no formal system of notification. Officials in some areas—such as Thailand—knew of the underwater earthquakes but didn't know about the giant waves they spawned. ...

Over the coming weeks and months, hundreds of billions of dollars in aid will flow to countries devastated by the tsunamis. But even as they plan to assist with disaster relief, nations should consider investing in a system that could help to prevent such tragedy in the future.

The Times-Picayune, New Orleans, on drug abuse:

More teenagers are turning their backs on cigarettes and illicit drugs, according to a federal study that looked at 8th-, 10th- and 12th-graders, and the decline in use is certainly encouraging. ...

But despite these positive trends, there's troubling data in the study that was done by the University of Michigan for the National Institute on Drug Abuse. The use of inhalants, such as glues and aerosols, increased in all three groups after years of decline. The survey showed a slight increase in underage drinking among older teens, and the drug Oxycontin was one of the only illegal substances that showed an increase in use. ...

While the high cost of cigarettes and stricter marketing controls get some of the credit, anti-smoking ads have had an impact, too. Nearly three-fourths of the 12th-graders surveyed this year said that they would prefer not to date a smoker—up from only a third in 1977. ...

If young people can be persuaded not to light up because of the risk of cancer, emphysema and heart disease, it's clear that more needs to be done to educate them about the considerable risk involved in using inhalants. ...

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.



"QUIT BEING SO MELODRAMATIC, DEAR. EVERYONE HATES RETURNING TO WORK AFTER THE HOLIDAYS."

From the Publisher's Desk

A matter of resolve

I wanted to take this opportunity to wish each of you a very happy New Year. May you all have a healthy and prosperous time throughout 2005. By this time, the ball has dropped, the party is over, and the tree is gone. Most of us have made one or more resolutions for the coming year. Some of you may have already broken one or more resolutions. Take heart if you can still get back on track! (Being an experienced resolution-maker myself, I always make sure my personal ones are structured in a manner that it takes several months before I have to officially declare them hopeless.)

When I first learned about New Year's resolutions as a kid, I thought they worked a lot like wishes. You know, you make the wish at the same time you blow out the candles, or at the exact moment you tug apart the wishbone from the Thanksgiving turkey. Obviously, the resolution must be made at the stroke of midnight. A few years later I discovered that a New Year's kiss certainly took precedent over a resolution, so I figured that as long as I made one any time on New Year's Day, it counted!

Well, let me tell you, you can make your New Year's resolution anytime in

January, or even February. For that matter, you can make a resolution at any time of the year if it works just as well. Having a goal is always the first step in making improvements or changes in your life, your work, your future. After all, if you don't know where you are going, any road will get you there; but if you have a specific destination, you have to plan for that and then continue to move in the right general direction.

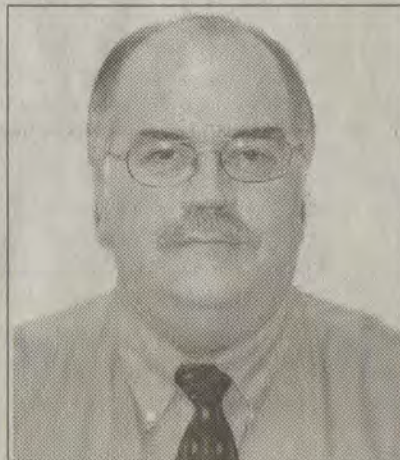
We've made some resolutions here at The Times, too. We resolve to be more "user-friendly" this year. We resolve to bring you thorough, accurate, and timely news, as well as the best darn sports coverage in the area. We resolve to continue improving our services, our quality, and our timeliness. We resolve to listen to you, the reader, and bring you the content you want to see. (Look for our reader survey in the next couple of months that will allow you to tell us the features you want, as well as the features you don't want.) Most importantly, we resolve to remain committed to Floyd

County and Eastern Kentucky, helping to improve our communities, and generally being good neighbors. Feel free to contact me when you feel we aren't achieving our resolutions. You can call me at (606) 886-8506, or email me at publisher@floydcountytimes.com.

So make those resolutions—it's not too late; then share them with your

friends, neighbors, and loved ones. The more support you can gather around you, the better your chances for success. Be sure to answer our online poll (www.floydcountytimes.com) later this week about resolutions. Be sure to also answer the one around the first of February telling us how you're doing with your resolutions. Send us your resolutions; we'll print the

best ones for all to see. (We won't use your last name!) You can send them by mail to "Resolutions, P.O. Box 390, Prestonsburg, KY 41653," by fax to (606) 889-0062, or by email to mailbag@floydcountytimes.com. Tell us how you are going to improve yourself, your family, your community. Come on Floyd County, be resolved in 2005!



DAVID BOWYER

beyond the beltway

The bright side of the news

by DONALD KAUL

A number of readers have responded to my fair, balanced, well-reasoned piece on the Religious Right—or "the Christian Taliban" as I call it—in a manner that did nothing to enhance the reputation of Christian gentleness. Some of the language was enough to make



Dick Cheney blush. Others, however, merely criticized me for being too relentlessly negative in my comments—about everything.

I take that to heart. Negativity is an occupational hazard for columnists and it can be wearing for a reader to be presented with nothing but the dark side of life.

So, in the spirit of the season I decided to search out the silver lining in the news of the day and serve it up as a holiday treat.

Here are a few of the things I came up with:

Our troop losses in Iraq now number 1,300 dead with several times that many wounded. In addition, experts last week predicted that tens of thousands of American men and women would return from the war with severe mental health problems caused by the stress of combat and occupation.

The good news here is that the figures prove that Iraq isn't Vietnam. The death toll in Vietnam was 56,000, with many more tens of thousands wounded. At the present casualty rate, it will take 100 years to reach those totals. So, except for the families of the dead, maimed or psychologically damaged, the war isn't all that bad.

And who knows, maybe sometime during the next 100 years, perhaps during the administration of George Bush IV, we'll be able to leave the place.

Our Maginot missile defense system flunked a test the other day when the interceptor rocket, which was supposed to strike a target rocket launched minutes earlier, failed to lift off. The Missile Defense Agency in charge of the test said the rocket had suffered "an unknown anomaly."

This program has cost the U.S. taxpayer \$80 billion so far and is budgeted for \$50 billion more in the next 10 years. It's nice to know that it's been an educational experience.

Does it matter that it won't protect us from incoming missiles from hostile rogue states? Not a bit. The chances that a rogue state would commit suicide by shooting off a missile at us are microscopic. The important thing is to keep feeding the military-industrial complex.

House Republicans took action on the ethics front recently. Faced with the possibility that House Majority Leader Tom DeLay might be indicted for influence peddling, they removed the rule forcing him to step down from his leadership position if the indictment takes place.

It then rescinded a law requiring House members to wait a year after leaving office to take up lobbying in Washington. Rep. Billy Tauzin, a principal author of the current Medicare drug law, coincidentally announced his retirement from Congress in order to become president of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, the drug industry's chief lobbying group.

Two things:
1. We keep complaining about the hypocrisy of politicians. With these rule changes, Congress throws off all artifice and announces to the world that it is a rental agency for special interests. If you need a politician to get a law passed, you will have no trouble renting one. I fully expect that we'll soon see Congresspersons wearing signboards advertising their corporate sponsors.

2. Anything that inspires Billy Tauzin to leave office can't be all bad.

There you have it—all the good news that's fit to print. Feel better?

Donald Kaul recently retired as Washington columnist for the "Des Moines Register." He has covered the foolishness in our nation's capital for 29 years, winning a number of modestly coveted awards along the way. Email him at donald.kaul2@verizon.net.

The Times

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Faith Extra

In new book, Moore describes his fight for display of commandments

by BOB JOHNSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Former Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore admits he was haunted by "doubt and fear" as he sat in his office awaiting delivery of the Ten Commandments monument he would install in the state courthouse rotunda.

In his new autobiography, "So Help Me God," Moore describes that night of July 31, 2001, as the completion of a life-long mission to use his position as the state's highest judge to publicly acknowledge God.

It was also the beginning of a two-year fight that would end with him becoming the first chief justice in the state's history to be expelled from office after he refused a federal judge's order to remove the 5,200-pound granite marker.

Moore wrote that he fully anticipated his installation of the monument would bring repercussions — particularly from the media and his fellow justices.

"I knew that this monument would be difficult for them to understand," he wrote. "And I wondered if I could stand the pressure of being sued and how my fellow justices would react to such a situation."

The book, scheduled to be released in March by Broadman and Holman Publishers of Nashville, Tenn., is written with John Perry. An unedited manuscript was released to some media organizations in advance.

Moore was removed from office in November, 2003, by a judicial ethics panel after he refused U.S. District Judge Myron Thompson's order to

move the monument. Since then, Moore has been working on the autobiography and giving speeches. He says in the book's final chapter that he has spoken in more than 30 states on his belief that the U.S. Constitution allows, and even requires, public officials to publicly acknowledge God.

In the book, the 57-year-old Moore talks about growing up poor in rural Etowah County, going to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and later serving as a company commander in Vietnam, where he said he tried to instill discipline into his troops, who nicknamed him "Captain America."

"They did not mean it as a compliment," Moore said.

He said some soldiers were on drugs and that his drive to have a disciplined, respectful unit made him a target for violence, but he said he did not let such threats intimidate him.

Moore also describes going to law school, working as an assistant district attorney in Etowah County, then spending time as a ranch hand in Australia after an unsuccessful race for a judgeship.

Much of the book details Moore's efforts to publicly display the Ten Commandments, first as a circuit judge in Etowah County in the 1990s with a hand-carved plaque and later as chief justice with a granite monument.

He said one of his first acts after being appointed circuit judge was to take a small wooden Ten Commandments display from his home and hang it in his courtroom.

"I knew there would be political and spiritual consequences,"

Moore said in the book. "On the other hand, I reasoned what a hypocrite I would be if I failed to acknowledge the God who was responsible for my new job."

Moore said he began speaking around the country about the Ten Commandments after his Etowah County display was challenged by the ACLU.

Much like the answers he often gives to questions from reporters, Moore mixes throughout his commentary quotes from historical documents and figures, such as Thomas Jefferson and James Madison, which he says prove his position.

Moore writes at length about organizations and individuals who he says fought his efforts, including the American Civil Liberties Union.

"The ACLU had singled me out as an example and was determined to make me back down. I was just as determined not to be intimidated," Moore wrote.

The former chief justice aims much of his displeasure at U.S. Circuit Judge Bill Pryor, who as Alabama attorney general led the prosecution of Moore when he was removed from office.

A Republican and former ally who had supported Moore's efforts to publicly display the Ten Commandments, Pryor said Moore was wrong to disobey the orders of a federal judge. In the book, Moore suggests Pryor was motivated by his efforts to become a federal judge.

The book includes 17 pages of photographs from various stages of Moore's life but does not address what he may do next in politics. Moore told reporters earlier this month he was considering a run for governor in 2006.

Study: TV entertainment casts negative image of religion

by DAVID BAUDER
AP TELEVISION WRITER

NEW YORK — Television entertainment programs mention God more often than they did in the mid-1990s but tend to depict organized religion negatively, a study released Thursday said.

The Parents Television Council watched every hour of prime-time on the broadcast networks during the 2003-04 season and logged 2,344 treatments of religion. They judged 22 percent of the mentions positive, 24 percent negative and the rest neutral.

The conservative group's last study, released in 1997, found far fewer mentions of the topic — an average of once per hour compared to three times per hour last season.

But any mention of a religious institution or member of the clergy was at least twice as likely to be negative than positive, the council said.

"Ninety percent of the American people believes in God," said Brent Bozell, the council's president. "It is

an important issue to most people. Hollywood is attacking the very thing that they consider important in their own lives. Perhaps Hollywood ought to be changing its world view."

Negative examples varied widely: from comic Jimmy Kimmel joking on the American Music Awards that winners should resist thanking God, to a Catholic priest admitting on "The Practice" that he had had sex with a woman who was later murdered.

Well-publicized scandals about pedophile priests made Catholics particularly vulnerable, the council found.

"Catholicism is in the bulls-eye of the entertainment medium," Bozell said.

His group singled out NBC, saying its mentions of religion were nearly 10 times more likely to be negative than positive. "Law & Order" episodes, which tend to have stories ripped from the headlines, helped skew those numbers, the group said.

Bozell noted, however, that one

of the negative NBC examples the PTC cited — Karen on "Will & Grace" quipping, "let's go by that historic church and turn it into a gay bar" — reflected as poorly on the character as on religion.

An NBC spokeswoman, Shannon Jacobs, said the network hadn't seen the study but rejected its conclusion. NBC's programming reflects the diversity of its audience, she said.

"It is never our intention to appear, nor do we accept the notion that we are, anti-religious," she said.

Among the positive examples, the PTC cites a "JAG" episode where a character prays to God to say hello to her dead mother, and an "American Dreams" episode where an actor playing a medical student says a surgery is partially in God's hands.

Bozell said he's not suggesting that all television programming "ought to be about St. Teresa" or even be all positive about religion, but that Hollywood should keep in mind the overall picture it presents to viewers.

Dump

Continued from p1

tions in Connecticut which would be similar to the one proposed for Ivel. There they observed how the site would sift through material for recyclables before crushing and shredding the matter twice for disposal.

The group was then taken to Springfield, Mass., where they toured a landfill. All were impressed with the company's performance, which resulted in an odor-free site.

Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson said at the time that he would leave the final decision to the Solid Waste Board and only expressed one concern. Thompson

noted that waiting for the state to find money in its "Superfund" to clean up the site could take up to 20 years. The Connecticut-based company would have the job done in two years and be a steady source of income for Floyd County for 10 years on top of that.

The solution to the dump site problem came apart shortly thereafter, when Thompson discussed the issue on WMDJ radio with Dale McKinney. McKinney had raised the possibility that Murphy Road could convert to a different type of landfill once the initial agreement expired.

Public response was immediate

and Thompson was forced to drop the issue as his office became flooded with calls. Responding to the will of voters, Thompson dropped the notion and vowed to keep it off the agenda of the fiscal court.

A spokesperson for the Murphy Road Company kept the doors for cooperation open, saying, "We'll continue to communicate that we'd be willing to sign a contract to assure anyone that we don't deal in hazardous waste or anything of that nature. Like we said from the beginning, if we don't have the support, we're not going to push anything."

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Code 15

Regional Obituaries

FLOYD COUNTY

Joyce Bradford, 66, of Farmers, a native of Prestonsburg, died Saturday, December 25, at St. Claire Medical Center, in Morehead. She is survived by her husband, Ellis Bradford. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, December 29, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Ecie Garrett Branham, 96, of Kodak, Tennessee, a Water Gap native, and formerly of Dwale, died Sunday, December 26, at her residence. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, December 28, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Mary Alice Collins, 89, of New London, Ohio, a native of Honaker, died Thursday, December 23, at the New London Health Care Center. Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 28, under the direction of Eastman Funeral Home.

Luther (Tootie) Crum, 51, of Martin, died Thursday, December 16, at Our Lady of the Way Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Monday, December 20, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

John C. Daniels, 61, of Antioch, Tennessee, formerly of Garrett, died Monday, December 20, at his residence. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, December 23, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Oma Josephine May Hughes, 88, of Prestonsburg, a native of Abbott Creek, died Saturday, December 25, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, December 29, under the direction of Carter Funeral Home.

Bonnie O'Neil Johnson, 65, of Price, died Sunday, December 26, at the McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital. She is survived by her husband, Leo Johnson. Funeral services were

conducted Tuesday, December 28, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Louise Slone, 49, of Hindman, died Friday, December 24, in the Hazard Appalachian Regional Hospital. She is survived by her husband, Elba Slone. Funeral services were conducted Monday, December 27, under direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Robert R. "Bob" Ward, 60, of Circleville, Ohio, formerly of Wayland, died Monday, December 27, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Pat (McGrath) Ward. Funeral services were conducted Friday, December 31, under the direction of the Hall Funeral Home.

LAWRENCE COUNTY

Billy Ray Pearson, 36, of Louisa, died Wednesday, December 21, in Pike County. He is survived by his wife, Beverly Maynard Pearson. Funeral services were conducted Friday, December 24, under the direction of Phelps & Son Funeral Home.

JOHNSON COUNTY

Lora Johnson Craft, 54, of Meally, died Sunday, December 19, at King's Daughters Medical Center in Ashland. She is survived by her husband, Ronney Craft. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, December 22, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

Thelma Fay Daniel, 74, of Thelma, died Tuesday, December 21, in Lexington. She is survived by her husband, Norton Daniel. Funeral services were conducted Friday, December 24, at the Thealka Free Will Baptist Church.

Loretta Thompson, 94, of Offutt, died Monday, December 27, at Paul B. Hall Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, December 29, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

KNOTT COUNTY

Wilma "Billie" Jean Collins, 66, of Fisty, died Thursday, December 16, at Mary Breckenridge Hospital, in Hyden. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, December 18, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Jessie Little, 58, of Kite, died Tuesday, December 28, at Our Lady of the Way Hospital, in Martin. He is survived by his wife, Martha Johnson Little. Funeral services were conducted Friday, December 31, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Allen (Pin-Ball) Patton Jr., 82, of Langley, died Sunday, December 19, at Appalachian Regional Hospital, Hazard. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, December 22, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Robert Disney Saylor, 87, of Mallie, died Monday, December 13, at Knott County Nursing Home, Hindman. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, December 16, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

Wilmer Slone, 62, of Hindman, died Wednesday, December 15, at Appalachian Regional Medical Center, Hazard. He is survived by his wife, Lovella Thacker Slone. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, December 19, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Eliza Mullins Young, 87, of Mitchell, Indiana, formerly of Knott County, died Monday, December 13, at Mitchell Manor Nursing Home. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, December 15, under the direction of Hindman Funeral Services.

MARTIN COUNTY

Jasper Maynard, 79, of Beauty, died Wednesday, December 15, at his residence. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, December 18, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

Mack Neal Maynard, 52, of Thelma, died Friday, December 17, at Paul B. Hall Medical Center, in Paintsville. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, December 21, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

Madge P. Maynard, 75, of Inez, died Monday, December 20, at Paul B. Hall Medical Center, in Paintsville. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, December 22, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

John B. Smith, 67, of Inez, died Friday, December 17, at his residence. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, December 21, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

PIKE COUNTY

Arnold Blackburn, 72, of Turkey Creek, died Monday, December 20, at the South Williamson Appalachian Regional Hospital Skilled Nursing Facility. He is survived by his wife, Barbara Ann

Allen Blackburn. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, December 23, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

Reatha Lucille Stiltner Chaffins, 71, of Mouthcard, died Tuesday, December 21, at Bristol Regional Medical Center, Bristol, Tennessee. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, December 23, under the direction of Shortridge-Ramey Funeral Home.

Buford Coleman, 82, of Kenosha, Wisconsin, a native of Regina, died Monday, December 20, at Brookside Care Center. He is survived by his wife, Imogene Stiltner Coleman. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, December 23, under the direction of Family Options Funeral and Cremation Services.

Stevie Damron, 82, of Pikeville, died Tuesday, December 21, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Sue Sexton Damron. Funeral services were conducted Friday, December 24, under the direction of Lucas & Hall Funeral

Home.

Deborah Lynn Chapman McCoy, 47, of Columbia, formerly of Belfry, died Monday, December 20, at the Russell County Hospital. She is survived by her husband, Perry McCoy. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, December 23, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.


MAGOFFIN COUNTY

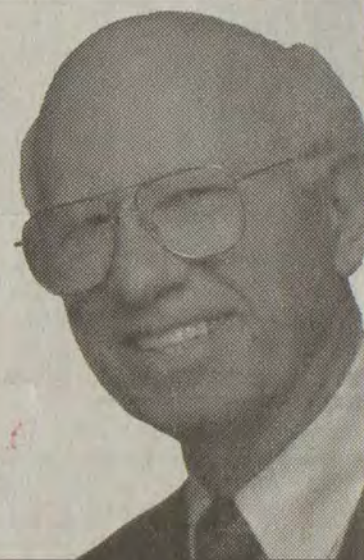
Bennie Conley, of Lake Odessa, a Magoffin County native, died Saturday, November 27, one day after celebrating his 90th birthday. He is survived by his wife, Edith Hale Conley. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, December 1, under the direction of Koops Funeral Chapel.

Gary Wayne Dudgeon, 48, of Salyersville, died Tuesday, December 21, at U.K. Medical Center, Marki Cancer Center, in Lexington. He is survived by his wife, Sandra Howard Dudgeon. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, December 23, under the direction of Magoffin County Funeral Home.

Join us as we say
Thank You and Best Wishes
to Burlin Coleman

Burlin Coleman will retire
as Chairman of the Board on
Friday, December 31, 2004.
Please join us in bidding him farewell
at a reception in our main office lobby
346 North Mayo Trail
Pikeville, KY
from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

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Explosion

overnight, ignited as the November sun heated it up.

Residents had no idea that the line, which had been buried there for 50 years, was in any kind of disrepair. Many of the homes there were built after the line was put through and many weren't even aware of the potential dangers.

News crews from Lexington were drawn to the scene, which also got some attention on CNN. The event received so much coverage that the nearby offices of Appalachian Wireless were transformed into a press conference/launching zone for dealing with the crisis, which left many of the Rolling ACres residents without entry to their homes for two-and-a-half days.

Once again a local disaster saw the best come out in mountain citizens. Two Kentucky State Police troopers who arrived at the scene, David Watkins and Bo Cure, helped residents evacuate and had to be treated for smoke inhalation. They returned to the scene immediately after treatment.

Trooper Rick Conn, who lives in the subdivision, was driving through the neighborhood when the explosions occurred. His car was burned badly and the only way to get out of the vehicle was to crawl out the window. This he did, sustaining second- and third-degree burns, and proceeded to alert residents to the danger.

"Trooper Conn's quick thinking and dedication to service, despite his own injuries, made a real difference in the lives of others," KSP Commissioner Mark Miller said after the disaster.

Conn was recognized for his efforts by Gov. Ernie Fletcher, who visited him at Cabell-Huntington Hospital. Fletcher issued a statement afterwards praising Conn and saying, "Conn exemplifies the character of

Continued from p1
Kentucky State Troopers. He put the needs of others ahead of his own and saved the lives of two people."

The event was another opportunity for the Big Sandy chapter of the Red Cross to render aid and they were on the scene quickly. President Peggy Bach used the press conferences to send a message to the displaced and scattered residents of the subdivision, letting them know that the Red Cross was available and could put people up at the Alpique Hotel as well as finding rental properties for those whose homes were destroyed with the agency picking up the first month's rent and security deposit.

Though nine people were injured in the explosions, there were no fatalities.

The next chapter in the Ivel story will undoubtedly involve recompense for those who lost their homes, as well as updates on the continuing recovery of Trooper Conn.

The story also generated interest outside of the region that will hopefully avoid similar disasters in the future. One homeowner contacted The Times to be put in touch with residents from Ivel because her community in St. Peters, Mo., had four 75-year-old pipelines running underneath approximately 140 homes.

The residents of that community met with government and gas company officials at a meeting in December. The residents came armed with stories about Ivel and other gas explosions that they had documented in an attempt to petition to have the lines removed or arrange a buy-out of their homes. They even were able to bring in a man from Washington who lost his son to an explosion in 1999. They are still waiting for action and living over four lines that have been carrying natural gas for 75 years.

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P'burg beats Greenup, avenges loss Blackcats host tourney, finish third

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG - In early-December, Prestonsburg traveled north to Greenup County and dropped a game to the host Musketeers. Greenup County won the early-December meeting between the two

teams. On Wednesday night, Prestonsburg returned the favor, beating Greenup County 81-70 in the Jenny Wiley Invitational. The win over the Musketeers gave Prestonsburg both a 2-1 record in the renewed Jenny Wiley tourney and a third-place finish.

Prestonsburg beat Western Hills and lost to Campbell County in its first two tournament games. The home-standing Blackcats jumped on visiting Greenup County early on Wednesday night, leading the 16th Region team 18-8 at the end of the first quarter. Prestonsburg junior guard Michael Stephens exploded

on offense for the Blackcats, scoring a team-high 20 points. Trevor Compton followed with 15 points, and Jesse Chaffin, next with 13 points. Prestonsburg led 40-26 at halftime and continued to maintain control of the game in the second half. Greenup County only outscored Prestonsburg in one quarter -

the final period. High-scoring senior guard Zach Gillum led Greenup County in scoring with a game-high 29 points. Codey Gillum added 10 points for the Musketeers. In the first Prestonsburg-Greenup County game, early-

(See BLACKCATS, page five)



photo by Jamie Howell
Prestonsburg junior guard Michael Stephens drove in for two during Wednesday night's win over Greenup County. Stephens was one of three Prestonsburg players named to the Jenny Wiley Invitational All-Tournament Team.

Bobcats end Jenny Wiley tourney 2-1

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG - Betsy Layne began play in the Jenny Wiley Invitational with a loss to eventual tournament champ Breathitt County. The Bobcats followed the tournament opener up with a win over 58th District/Floyd County Conference rival South Floyd. Betsy Layne returned to action in the 2004 tournament for the third and final time Wednesday afternoon against Western Hills. Fresh off its first win of the season, a triumph over Magoffin County, Western Hills couldn't keep up its winning Wednesday. Betsy Layne ended play in the Jenny Wiley Invitational with a 2-1 record and a 64-53 win over Western Hills.

In the win over Western Hills, Betsy Layne jumped out to a quick start and led 22-10 at the end of the opening quarter. The Bobcats (6-5) led at the end of every quarter.

Brandon Kidd paced Betsy Layne in scoring with a game-high 20 points. Brandon Thacker and Preston Simon each had 13 points.

The Bobcats fought tough and enjoyed advantages in the first round of the tournament before falling to Breathitt County, a team coached by Floyd County native Brian Hall and a squad that remains undefeated.

(See BETSY LAYNE, page five)



Brandon Thacker

Raiders finish P'burg tourney 0-3



photos by Steve LeMaster
Above: South Floyd junior Ryan Johnson handled the ball during the first-quarter. Right: Burnett Little, a South Floyd senior, took home the Jenny Wiley Invitational's award for the top rebounder.

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG - A pair of holiday tournaments weren't too kind to Coach Barry Hall and the rest of the South Floyd Raiders. South Floyd went 1-3 in Lexington last week in Bryan Station's holiday tournament. South Floyd followed the Lexington tournament up with an appearance in the Jenny Wiley Invitational. The Raiders began play in the Prestonsburg tournament as a strong contender, but after an opening round loss to 16th Region contender Greenup County, things went downhill for South Floyd. Greenup County beat the Raiders 76-71 Monday in the opening round of the Jenny Wiley Invitational. After the opening round setback, South Floyd went on to lose a couple more games and finished play in the tournament with an 0-3 record. Betsy Layne beat South Floyd 71-56 and, on Wednesday, Magoffin County,

a team that had just one win this season, doubled its win total Wednesday, beating South Floyd 75-70.

Magoffin County opened play in the tournament with losses to Campbell County and Western Hills. The Hornets that took to the floor Wednesday evening against South Floyd played with much more confidence.

Brandon Shepherd led Magoffin County offensively with 16 points. Shepherd also pulled down six rebounds. Bradley Marshall scored 15 points and pulled down 12 rebounds for the Hornets. Eric Arnett scored 15 points and jerked down six rebounds. Courtney Conley added 10 points and three rebounds.

Junior guard Ryan Johnson led South Floyd in scoring with 23 points.

Steven Stanley added 13 points and seven rebounds. Burnett Little aided the Raider attack with 14 points and 14 rebounds.

Following three losses in the Jenny Wiley event, South Floyd now rests with a 4-8 record.

South Floyd is scheduled to take part in this year's WYMT Classic. Play in the WYMT tournament will begin this week. The Raiders are slated to hit the floor Wednesday evening against Clay County. Tip-off for the South Floyd-Clay County game is set for 6:30 p.m.

Magoffin County is scheduled to return to action at home Friday against 57th District rival Johnson Central.

Ladycats level Holmes

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

GRAYSON - After beginning play Tuesday in the Queen of the Bluegrass tournament at East Carter with a two-point loss to Highlands, Betsy Layne bounced back in impressive fashion Wednesday. The Ladycats beat Holmes 66-37. Betsy Layne (6-4) grabbed an early lead and never faltered.

Senior guard Kim Clark led Betsy Layne in scoring with a game-high 30 points. Kristal Daniels followed with 14 points and Kristen Smith added 10. The Ladycats outscored Holmes in every quarter. Betsy Layne took a 19-12 lead out of the first quarter and led 34-19 at halftime.

Candice Meade just missed double figures for Betsy Layne, finishing with eight points. Breann Akers and Kaitlin Lawson each had two points.

Betsy Layne put an even bigger exclamation point on the win late, outscoring Holmes 15-7 in the fourth quarter.

Like region rival Highlands, Holmes is also considered a contender in the 9th Region.

Anette Hayes led Holmes with 11 points. She was the only Holmes player to score in double figures.

High school rules clinics set

TIMES STAFF REPORT

A high school baseball rules clinic has been scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 5 at Johnson Central High School. The rules clinic is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. A rules clinic will be held later this month in London at North Laurel High School on Jan. 23 at 5 p.m.

A softball rules clinic for high school coaches and officials has been scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 5 at 11 a.m. at Johnson Central. A clinic, at a site to be announced, has also been scheduled for London on Jan. 22 at 1 p.m.

A rules clinic for all track coaches and officials has been scheduled for Feb. 27 at Johnson Central. The track clinic is slated for a 3 p.m. start time.

It is a Kentucky High School Athletic Association requirement that each licensed official and head coach attend a rules interpretation clinic conducted by the KHSAA (ByLaw 26, Sec. 2). All track officials are required to attend a clinic every other year. Officials who have not met the requirement will not be permitted to officiate any post-season contest. Coaches who have not met the requirement will not be permitted to coach any postseason contest.

Currently, attendance by swimming coaches at clinics is not mandatory.

Rebels hang tough, fall to UHA

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PAINTSVILLE - After beating Middlesboro for its first win of the 2004-05 season, Allen Central took on state power University Heights Academy Wednesday night as play in the second annual Tiger Hoops Classic continued. Allen Central Coach Johnny Martin got a valiant effort from his team as the Rebels fell to UHA. University Heights hung on and turned the Runnin' Rebels back in the end, win-



ning 65-52. "We hung right with them," said Martin. "We just didn't have enough in the tank."

Allen Central, playing in its final Tiger Hoops Classic game, hung tough and were in contention after both the first and second quarters. The Rebels trailed by two points at the end of the first quarter and at halftime.

UHA, which has four regional basketball titles to its credit, made a run for the win in the third quarter, outscoring Allen Central 19-6 and ending the period with a 19-point lead.

The Rebels never gave up and made ground on the talented UHA team in the fourth quarter.

Nathan Collins led Allen Central with 14 points. Senior center Tim Griffith added 11 points and six rebounds for the Rebels. Nick Music and Wilfredo Dominguez added eight points apiece. Josh Martin tossed in six points and pulled down seven rebounds for the Runnin' Rebels. Ryan Hammonds chipped in five points.

UHA, which shot 51 percent from the field, committed 19 turnovers, while forcing the Rebels into 27 turnovers.

Allen Central shot 36 percent from the field. The Rebels finished the tournament with a 1-2 record.



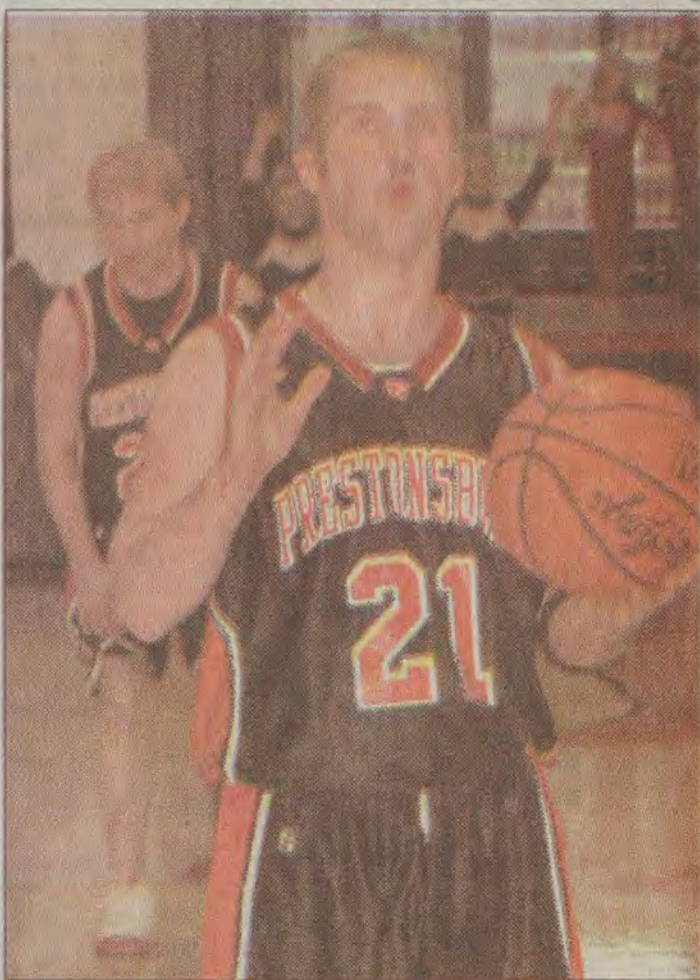
photo by Jamie Howell
Breathitt County, coached by Floyd County native Brian Hall, beat Campbell County 57-47 in the Jenny Wiley Invitational championship game. Breathitt County now owns a perfect 10-0 record.



photos by Jamie Howell
Betsy Layne senior guard Nathan Lafferty worked his way past a pair of Western Hills defenders en route to a basket.



Prestonsburg Coach Jackie Day Crisp gave instructions during a timeout.



Trevor Compton (21), Michael Stephens (5) and Jesse Chaffin were all named to the Jenny Wiley Invitational All-Tournament Team.



Prestonsburg senior Jesse Chaffin (11) scored 13 points in his team's win over Greenup County.



The Prestonsburg Blackcats finished third in the Jenny Wiley Invitational tournament.

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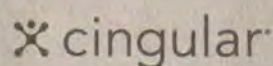
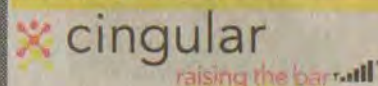


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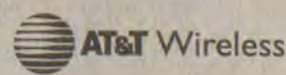
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No. 8 Kentucky 82, Campbell 50

by **MURRAY EVANS**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON — Tubby Smith was pleased that his Kentucky team took a 34-point lead into halftime after holding Campbell to just 11 points.

The second half was a different story.

"I think our players thought the game ended at halftime," Smith said after the eighth-ranked Wildcats won their fifth straight with an 82-50 romp over overmatched Campbell.

But a second-half swoon — which could be blamed mostly on ineffective play by reserves — should give Smith plenty of reasons to grouse.

"Practice probably won't be much fun this week," reserve guard Ravi Moss said. "It will be intense, and we'll have to do a lot of work. We deserve it for the way we played in the second half."

Freshman center Randolph Morris scored a career-high 25 points on 11-of-14 shooting as Smith recorded his 200th win at Kentucky.

The Wildcats (9-1) looked good early, sprinting out to a 24-4 lead against a team that is arguably the most lightly regarded squad they have played in the last 10 seasons.

Kentucky made 10 of its first 11 shots, while the Fighting Camels (2-7) started the game 2-of-21 from the field. Campbell shot 16.7 percent from the field in the first half and didn't reach double digits on the scoreboard until 1:05 before halftime.

Kentucky led 45-11 at the half. Campbell's point total

was the lowest by a Kentucky opponent in a first half since Dec. 20, 1983 — before the shot clock era began — when the Wildcats led Cincinnati 11-7.



Tubby Smith

"They simply did not let us see the basket," Campbell coach Robbie Laing said of the Wildcats. "It wasn't that we were off tonight. They made us miss. It's plain and simple."

But the Camels didn't quit. Campbell used a 20-3 run — highlighted by a four-point play by Anthony Atkinson — to pull to 51-33 with 10:36 left.

Kentucky's starters re-entered the game and gradually extended the margin.

The 6-foot-10 Morris, whose previous best outing was 14 points against Georgia State, matched the single-game high this season by any Kentucky player.

"I think he has had a fine first half of the season," junior guard Patrick Sparks said of Morris. "As a freshman, he's had a lot to learn and I think he's starting to get a hold of it."

Morris was unavailable for comment, as Smith will not allow the Wildcats' four freshmen — all of whom were heavily recruited — to be interviewed by the media.

Atkinson led Campbell with 14 points, going 5-of-10 from the field, and Comerlee Poole had nine points and nine rebounds. The Camels shot 28.6 percent from the field.

Kelenna Azubuike scored 14 points for Kentucky, while

Sparks had eight points and seven assists and Chuck Hayes added nine points and 11 rebounds. Each Kentucky starter had at least two assists, and the Wildcats recorded assists on 27 of their 33 baskets.

Smith is 200-53 in eight seasons at Kentucky and 324-115 in 14 seasons overall with the Wildcats, Georgia and Tulsa. He is the fourth coach to win at least 200 games at Kentucky, joining Adolph Rupp, Joe B. Hall and Rick Pitino.

"It's all about your passion for the game and love of the game every time you go out for practice," Smith said. "That's what I enjoy. Games are the byproduct of all of the things you do in practice."

The Camels, who play in the Atlantic Sun Conference, are 1-26 all-time against current SEC teams. Campbell has lost 39 of its last 40 road games, and the lopsided loss was its third of the season to a major conference opponent. The Camels lost by 55 to No. 17 North Carolina State and by 41 to Tennessee.

The crowd of 22,411 at Rupp Arena was the largest that a Campbell team had played in front of. Before Wednesday, the largest crowd to watch the Camels was in 1992, when they lost to Duke in the first round of the NCAA tournament before 15,800 in Greensboro, N.C.

"I think that playing in front of such a big crowd affected some of our guys," Atkinson said. "We have played in big arenas before, but nothing compares to Kentucky fans."

Winchester scores season-high 29, leads WKU to win

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

CLARKSVILLE, Tenn. — Anthony Winchester scored a season-high 29 points Tuesday, with 16 coming in the second half, to lead Western Kentucky University to an 87-80 come-from-behind non-conference men's basketball victory over Austin Peay at the Dunn Center/Dave Aaron Arena.

Elgrace Wilborn added his third consecutive double-double with 15 points and 13 rebounds, adding a season-best five blocked shots, as the Hilltoppers (9-1) earned their third straight win. It was Western's fourth victory in a row over the Governors, who fell to 2-8.

The 13-point first-half deficit was the largest that WKU has overcome this season.

WKU trailed by seven at the half and fell behind by 10 when Maurice Hampton opened with a trey in the first minute after the break. But, the Hilltoppers scored nine straight points with baskets from four players, eventually taking a 51-50 lead at the 16:34 mark on a Winchester three-pointer.

Winchester, who also added five rebounds and three assists, hit a career-high-tying seven

field goals from beyond the arc.

Courtney Lee followed with a jumper and Winchester hit another trey as Western opened up a six-point advantage, 56-50, with 15:16 remaining. The Governors answered with eight straight points, however, as the lead would change hands on four occasions until the Toppers took the lead for good with just under seven minutes to go.

After a William Durden three-point play gave APSU its last lead, 71-70, with 6:58 remaining, Winchester's three 11 seconds later started a decisive 12-2 run by the Hilltoppers. Two Lee free throws with 6:15 left gave Western the lead for good, 75-73, with Winchester adding a pair of free throws and Wilborn finishing a three-point play. The Toppers hit 5-of-6 at the free-throw line in the final minute to seal the win.

Lee added 15 points, a career-high six assists and three steals, while Danny Rumph chipped in with 11 points and three helpers.

The Toppers shot 51.7 percent from the field for the game — Wilborn was 7-of-8 while Winchester hit 9-of-14 attempts — including hitting a season-

high-tying 10 three-pointers. They outrebounded the Governors, 41-24, the fifth consecutive contest WKU has accomplished the feat.

Anthony Davis paced APSU with 18 points and 10 rebounds, while Hampton led the Gobs with 20 points after connecting on 4-of-8 from three-point range. Zac Schlader added 17 points and Durden had 11.

After three ties and a pair of lead changes, APSU took control of the opening half with a 10-0 run that left the Governors with a 29-17 advantage with 8:28 left. Back-to-back layups from Eric Young and Davis gave APSU a 25-17 advantage before Hampton followed with a tip and a dunk to close the spurt.

Three baskets by Wilborn cut the deficit to single digits, while a three from Rumph left Western down by eight, 36-28, with 5:44 remaining. The Gobs still held a 10-point advantage in the final minute until Winchester's three-pointer six seconds before the break made the score 46-39 at the half.

APSU shot 60.6 percent from the floor in the opening half, but was held to 11-of-27 (40.7 percent) shooting over the final 20 minutes.

Syracuse fires football coach

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Syracuse fired football coach Paul Pasqualoni eight days after a 37-point loss in a bowl game — and less than a month after giving him a vote of confidence.

Pasqualoni, who was unavailable for comment, departs after 14

years with a 107-59-1 record and a 6-3 mark in bowl games. He is the second-winningest coach in school history, behind Ben Schwartzwalder, who had 153 victories.

But the Orange struggled to break even after going 10-3 and finishing ranked No. 14 in 2001. They were 4-8 in 2002,

Pasqualoni's only losing season, and 6-6 the last two years.

Gross, a former assistant at Southern California who was hired only two weeks ago to replace the retiring Jake Crouthamel, cited several factors for his decision, including declining attendance and the team's inconsistent play.

No. 24 Ohio State 33, Oklahoma State 7

by **T.A. BADGER**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN ANTONIO — Justin Zwick hardly looked like a quarterback who had been on the bench for more than two months.

Zwick replaced suspended starter Troy Smith and threw for 189 yards and a touchdown in his first action for Ohio State since Oct. 16, and Ted Ginn Jr. and Lydell Ross each scored Wednesday night as the 24th-ranked Buckeyes defeated Oklahoma State 33-7 to win the Alamo Bowl.

"Justin did an excellent job and did what was asked of him," Ohio State coach Jim Tressel said. "I told someone that Justin was playing as best as he's ever played."

Zwick, who lost the starting job to fellow sophomore Smith after the sixth game of the regular season, completed 17 of 27 passes despite a mild hamstring pull.

"If any of you have played with a pulled hamstring, well, it's pretty painful," Tressel said. "Justin did an excellent job."

Zwick, who rode a stationary bicycle on the sideline so his hamstring didn't tighten, wasn't about to pass on the chance to end the season on a positive note.

"You've got to go back in," he said. "I just did what I had to do."

The Buckeyes went 3-3 under Zwick to start the season before he injured a shoulder in a loss to Iowa. Smith stepped in and led Ohio State (8-4) to victories in four of its last five games.

But Smith was suspended for the Alamo Bowl by the team last week after university officials said he accepted an unspecified gift from a team booster — a violation of NCAA rules.

Tressel declined to talk about what's next for the football program, which has been marred

this season by a series of arrests and allegations by former star player Maurice Clarett that players routinely took cash gifts from boosters.

"I'm happy for the team and excited for the future," Tressel said.

Ginn, a true freshman with dazzling speed, caught six passes for 78 yards and rushed for another 51 yards and a touchdown. Ross rushed for 99 yards on 12 carries, and Mike Nugent kicked four field goals for the Buckeyes to become the school's career scoring leader.

Ohio State took advantage of two early turnovers, and never let the Cowboys (7-5) get anything going offensively.

Oklahoma State quarterback Donovan Woods completed 15 of 34 passes for 137 yards and rushed for another 80 yards.

Vernand Morency, one of the nation's top rushers this season, was limited to 24 yards on eight carries.

On the first series, Woods underthrew receiver Chijuan Mack and the pass was picked off by linebacker Bobby Carpenter. Three plays later, Zwick hit a diving Anthony Gonzalez with a 23-yard touchdown pass.

After a 37-yard field goal by Nugent, the Cowboys were driving when Woods lost his grip on the ball near midfield while trying to run up the middle. Defensive lineman Joel Penton recovered and Nugent capped the drive with a 35-yard field goal to give Ohio State a 13-0 lead with nearly six minutes remaining in the first quarter.

"We could not move the football or protect our passer effectively," Cowboys coach Les

Miles said. "It was difficult for (Woods) to throw."

In the second, with the Buckeyes at midfield, Zwick threw to a screen pass to Ginn on the left side and the Cowboys cornered him for what looked like a modest gain.

But Ginn eluded three tacklers and broke back to the right sideline for a 42-yard pickup to Oklahoma State's 9. Ross capped the 78-yard drive by scoring from the 1 and making it 20-0.

"I try to make something out of nothing if I get trapped," Ginn said. "You've always got to keep your feet moving. You're always moving forward — that's what we've been taught."

When Nugent made the extra point following Ross' touchdown, he passed Pete Johnson as the Buckeyes' career scoring leader with 356 points.

Oklahoma State got into Ohio State territory for the first time on their final series of the half, but the drive ended with Jason Ricks missing a 42-yard field goal try.

Early in the third, Cowboys safety Jamie Thompson recovered a fumble by fullback Branden Joe at the Ohio State 34. A 17-yard run by Prentiss Elliott moved the ball to the 9, but the

Buckeyes defense stiffened.

On fourth-and-long, Oklahoma State tried a run off a fake field goal, but the play was staked six yards short.

The Buckeyes then marched 94 yards. Ross rushed for 45 on the drive, and Ginn had a 28-yard run before he took the snap in the shotgun and ran it in from the 5 to make it 30-0.

Oklahoma State scored its only points on a 4-yard touchdown run by Shawn Willis that capped an 80-yard drive midway through the fourth.



Jim Tressel



Randolph Morris



Justin Zwick

Colorado 33, Texas-El Paso 28

by **JOEL ANDERSON**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOUSTON — Texas El-Paso had the lead midway through the fourth quarter, the mostly orange-clad crowd was on its feet and Colorado was about to punt.

That's when Gary Barnett went deep into his bag of tricks.

Punter John Torp ran 22 yards on a fake punt for the first down and Joel Klatt followed with his second touchdown pass of the game, leading Colorado to a 33-28 victory in the Houston Bowl on Wednesday night.

"It seemed to be there," Barnett said of his rarely used trick play. "We have run them a couple of times, but not this year. We thought it would work."

Barnett was right, and the Buffaloes (8-5) went on to rebound from a humiliating 42-3 loss to Oklahoma in the Big 12 title game with its first bowl victory since the 1999 Insight.com Bowl.

Klatt finished 24-of-33 for 333 yards and directed a fourth-quarter comeback by the plodding Buffaloes (8-5), who tried to keep pace with UTEP, which ranks eighth in the nation in scoring offense.

Colorado led 3-0 midway through the first quarter and trailed until seizing the lead late in the game.

Facing a fourth-and-3 at its own 35 and trailing by two, Colorado benefited from a nifty call by Barnett. Torp, who holds four track records at his suburban Denver high school, hustled around the left end for the first down.

The play quieted the mostly pro-UTEP crowd of 27,235 and immediately swung the momentum in Colorado's favor.

"I guess we watched it too long because it worked," UTEP coach Mike Price said. "We should have maybe tackled the guy that was running."

Two plays later, Klatt threw a 39-yard touchdown pass to a wide-open Evan Judge for the go-ahead score with 8:43 left.

Klatt was flattened by UTEP defensive end Ibok Ibok as he released the ball and didn't see the touchdown. He got up off the turf slowly and wobbled off the field into the arms of cele-

brating teammates.

"I couldn't tell you happened," Klatt said. "The linemen told me (about the score), when they picked me up."

The Miners (8-4) still had a chance to win in the final minutes.

On third-and-4 from the UTEP 25, Jordan Palmer completed a 15-yard pass to Johnnie Lee Higgins, keeping a late drive alive. But Palmer misfired badly on his final four passes, and the comeback try fizzled.

Colorado coach Gary Barnett was doused with a cooler in the waning seconds, and dozens of players embraced their embattled leader.

Barnett's program was the target of sexual assault claims dating to 1997, followed by an investigation that discovered sex, alcohol and drugs were used as recruiting tools, although there was no evidence that university officials sanctioned it. Then, Barnett was put on three months of administrative leave for making insensitive remarks about two accusers, including a former kicker who said she was raped by a teammate in 2000.

Barnett was reinstated May 28, and began building the foundation for a turnaround from a 5-7 record in 2003.

Colorado won its last three games of the season to earn a share of the Big 12 North title, and Barnett was voted the Big 12 coach of the year.

"We sort of figured the way we started the season," Barnett said. "We were determined to fight and stay together. Every game has been a fight. Nothing has been easy."

The Miners put up quite a fight, but simply couldn't hold off the faster, stronger Buffs in the second half.

Palmer, the younger brother of former Heisman winner Carson Palmer of Southern California, completed his first eight passes for 120 yards as the Miners raced out to an early 14-3 lead.

But Palmer began to struggle, Klatt began to find his rhythm and UTEP began to wear down as Colorado tailback Bobby Purify (80 yards on 22 carries) began pounding away at the Miners' smaller defensive line.

"In the first half, we executed

our offense," Palmer said. "In the second half, I didn't pick up the blitzes and we didn't execute nearly as well."

Palmer finished 22-of-42 for 328 yards with two touchdowns and two interceptions — both to Colorado safety Tom Hubbard. Boyd had seven catches for 140 yards and Higgins also had seven for 122.

UTEP, which won two more games this season than in the previous three combined, has lost in all three bowl appearances since winning the 1967 Sun Bowl.

"Right to the very end, our guys were giving a big effort," Price said. "This is a team that was picked to finish last and these guys have been browbeaten for three years. I'm very, very proud of them."

COLLEGE FOOTBALL BOWLS

Monday, Jan. 3
Sugar Bowl
At New Orleans
Payout: \$11-14 million
Auburn (12-0) vs. Virginia Tech (10-2), 8 p.m. (ABC)

Tuesday, Jan. 4
Orange Bowl
At Miami
Payout: \$11-14 million
Southern Cal (12-0) vs. Oklahoma (12-0), 8 p.m. (ABC)

Saturday, Jan. 15
Gridiron Classic
At The Villages, Fla.
North vs. South, 11 a.m. (ESPN2)
East-West Shrine Classic
At San Francisco
East vs. West, 2 p.m. (ESPN)

Saturday, Jan. 22
Hula Bowl
At Maui, Hawaii
Aina vs. Kai 7, 7 p.m. (ESPN2)

Saturday, Jan. 29
Senior Bowl
At Mobile, Ala.
North vs. South, 4 p.m. (ESPN2)

Nutt withdraws from consideration for LSU coaching job

by JAY HUGHES
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LITTLE ROCK — This time, Arkansas football coach Houston Nutt ended any uncertainty quickly.

After LSU athletic director Skip Bertman was granted permission on Tuesday to speak with Nutt about the Tiger coaching vacancy, Nutt said, he spoke briefly with officials of the Baton Rouge, La., school.



Houston Nutt

Nutt about leading the Cornhuskers. Not until three days later, on Jan. 3 — after a visit to Fayetteville by the Nebraska athletic director, and negotiations that resulted in a new contract for Nutt at Arkansas — did Nutt publicly announce he was staying with the Razorbacks.

LSU is seeking to replace five-year coach Nick Saban, who accepted a job as coach of the NFL's Miami Dolphins on Saturday. Nutt said Tuesday that he would not go through a lengthy selection process.

Broyles was in Augusta, Ga., on Wednesday and could not be reached for comment about Nutt's announcement. Nutt was at least the second coach LSU has contacted. Louisville football coach Bobby Petrino met with the school's representatives about the Tigers' job on Sunday but declined to

say if he expected further talks, saying he was focusing on the No. 7 Cardinals' Liberty Bowl game against No. 10 Boise State on Friday.

Auburn's Tommy Tuberville, the AP Coach of the Year, was rumored to be a candidate at LSU but has said he is not interested in the job. LSU has declined to comment on speculation about what coaches it hopes to talk to, but several other coaches are believed to be on the school's list of prospects.

Arkansas went 5-6 this season with a team ravaged by graduations and defections by talented juniors who sought their fortune in the pros. It was the first time in seven seasons the Razorbacks did not qualify for a bowl under Nutt.

In 2003, Nutt led Arkansas to a 9-4 record and a 27-4 Independence Bowl win over Missouri. After rejecting what he said was a \$2 million offer by Nebraska, he negotiated a new contract with Broyles that increased his yearly salary from \$800,000 to \$1.5 million.

Then, on Wednesday, he issued a statement saying he had removed his name from consideration, but was flattered to have been considered.

"At this time, I am very happy at the University of Arkansas. I plan on being the coach here for a very long time," he said.

At close of 2003 season, Arkansas athletic director Frank Broyles gave Nebraska officials permission on Dec. 31 to talk to

Bowling Green 49, Johnson Central 43

TIMES STAFF REPORT

COLUMBIA — In a low-scoring game in the Bankers Classic at Adair County, Bowling Green beat Johnson Central 49-43.

Bowling Green led 8-7 at the end of the first quarter and held the Golden Eagles to just six points in the second period. Bowling Green led 27-13 at halftime.

Johnson Central managed to outscore Bowling Green 13-5 in the third quarter, but surren-

dered the game in the final period.

Jordan Blann led Bowling Green in scoring with a game-high 15 points.

Josh Stapleton led Johnson Central in scoring with 14 points. Jamie McCarty finished with 12 points and Nick Music added eight.

Tony Hatfield and Tyler Whitaker ended the game with five and four points, respectively.

Girls' Basketball — Johnson Central 53, Southwestern 41: In

a consolation game played in the Boyle County Invitational Tournament, the Johnson Central Lady Eagles beat Southwestern 53-41.

Johnson Central led at the end of every quarter. The Lady Eagles put the game away by outscoring the Southwestern girls 12-7 in the last quarter.

Senior Alice Daniel led Johnson Central in scoring with a game-high 16 points. Jayme Dials, another senior, tossed in 12. Chelsey Salyers added nine points for the Lady Eagles.

Lady Colonels beat Southern; Longwood downs Morehead

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

RICHMOND — Eastern Kentucky's Lady Colonels (4-6) got the Comfort Suites Classic started in solid fashion Wednesday with a 80-64 dismantling of Southern University (2-6).

The Lady Colonels, shot a sizzling 58.3 percent from the field in the second half and 54 percent for the game. EKV was nearly as accurate from behind the arc, shooting 57.1 percent from long range in the second stanza and 52.9 percent for the duration.

Southern took an early 4-2 lead behind a layup from Ciara Shiggs, but EKV put together a 16-2 run that featured treys from Candis Cook, Pam Garrett, and Laura Shelton to jump out to an 18-6 advantage with 12:30 to play in the opening half.

Southern turned in a run of its own from that juncture, scoring six unanswered points to cut the lead to 18-12.

The Lady Colonels righted the ship, as a Shelton layup pushed the lead to 27-14, but the Jaguars spurted again, this time outscoring EKV 12-4 and cutting the lead to five with 43 seconds to go in the opening stanza.

Miranda Eckerle, who scored 12 points in the opening frame, put the lead back to eight with a trey as time expired in the half, sending the Lady Colonels to the locker room with a 36-28 cushion.

Southern started the second half with a pair of free throws from Rolanda Monroe to cut the lead to six, but Shelton answered

the bell with a trey to put the Colonels up nine at 39-30.

The Lady Colonels would muster a 19-4 run capped by an Ashley Caze three-pointer to take a 58-36 lead with just under 14 minutes left in the contest.

EKV would cruise from there, pushing the lead to as many as 25 on a pair of Shelton charity shots with 8:28 to play. The Jaguars cut the lead to 14 on an Ashley Blake layup at the 2:32 mark.

Shelton again canned two free throws to put the lead back to 18 with 1:12 remaining, and Blake tipped a ball into the basket with eight seconds left to put the final score on the board.

Four Lady Colonels finished the night in double figures, with Eckerle's 19 leading the effort. Eckerle was a model of efficiency in the game, going 7-of-10 from the field, including 3-of-4 from behind the three-point arc.

Shelton added 17, while Cook had 15 and Garrett pumped in 11. Eckerle led Eastern on the boards with six.

Blake led all scorers with 21 points, while the Jaguars got double-digit efforts from Monroe, who scored 15, and Tasha Dokes, who tallied 10.

Longwood 64, Morehead State 60: In the night's first action, Longwood (5-5) defeated Morehead State (2-8) 64-60 in a game that saw the Lancers hold double-digit leads on two occasions only to see the Lady Eagles rally back.

Longwood opened the game on a 9-1 run and led by as many as 13 points during the

opening period. Ashley Mason's layup with 3:57 left in the first half put the Lancers up by that tally, but Morehead State closed the stanza with a 5-0 run to send Longwood into intermission with a 28-23 advantage.

Morehead State stayed hot as the second half got underway, reeling off an 11-3 run and taking the lead for the first time in the contest at 32-31 behind an Anitha Smith-Williams trey. TaNeisha Johnson followed with a layup that put the Lady Eagles ahead by three, but the lead would prove to be the largest of the game for Morehead State.

Longwood answered with an 8-2 run that put the Lancers back in front 39-36 with 13:39 left. Longwood continued to rebuild its lead, sprinting out to a 13-point advantage with 5:20 to go, but Morehead State rallied once again.

The Lady Eagles put together a 7-0 run to cut the lead to 59-53 with 3:24 remaining. Johnson cut the lead to three with a tip-in with five seconds to play, but Marita Meldere iced the game at the charity stripe, canning one of two attempts to notch the final score.

Longwood got two double-doubles in the game, with Meldere dropping in 13 points and grabbing 13 boards, and Amber Mason scoring 14 points and pulling in 10 rebounds. Ashley Mason led the Lancers with 19 points.

Morehead State got 25 points from Smith-Williams in the losing effort.

A time of mourning incomprehensible death

by STEVE WILSTEIN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

It's in the nature of athletes to imagine themselves immortal, if not impervious to harm, as though they live by a different set of rules from ordinary people.

The rest of us often buy into that illusion, too, admiring these charmed lives blessed with luck and skill, strength and wealth, passions that drive them to succeed.

When something goes wrong — a serious injury or illness, an unexpected death — it feels doubly shocking, as if they were unfair victims of misfortune. Those who played with them, those who watched them, the millions who were touched by them, experience the loss in a personal way.

The death of Reggie White at 43 is one of those that seem especially incomprehensible. Here was a larger-than-life figure, a man of deeply religious principles, compassion and charity, an ordained minister who was aptly known as the NFL's "Minister of Defense."

That he should die so young and suddenly — a preliminary autopsy showed he might have had a respiratory disease combined with other health problems — strikes us as particularly undeserved.

At a funeral home in Charlotte, N.C., on Wednesday, former teammates, foes and fans mourned White while his family issued a statement of how he lived "the essence and the spirit of life by faith." A private funeral for White's family and friends will be held Thursday.

Former Green Bay Packers coach Mike Holmgren said a few days ago that what stood out about White was his sheer pleasure in the game. You could see it wherever he played — Philadelphia, Green Bay, Carolina — and in the way it propelled him to 198 sacks, making him the NFL's all-time leader at the time he retired in

2000.

"I've never seen a guy enjoy it more," Holmgren said. "It was contagious. He set the tone for the whole football team that way. You couldn't help but get caught up in it, players and coaches."



Steve Wilstein

Others spoke of how he brought that rapture to his evangelical Christian ministry, to his work with the poor and with schools.

"He was absolutely passionate about everything," said former Packers teammate Eugene Robinson, now a commentator for the Carolina Panthers, where White spent his final season. "That's what I loved about Reg; he was just so passionate. I always told him, 'Man, you've always got to have a cause.'"

The past several days have been a time of unspeakable grief around the world, death on a grotesquely grand scale. The earthquakes and tsunami waves in Asia have claimed more than 77,000 lives, and the Red Cross predicted the death toll could exceed 100,000. Neither war nor terrorism kill so quickly and sweepingly as this natural tragedy.

Among the stories that have emerged from the disasters in Sri Lanka, India, Thailand and other countries are the accounts of how some athletes and celebrities were among those who were killed or barely escaped death.

Swedish skiing great Ingemar Stenmark, winner of two golds at the 1980 Olympics and 86 World Cup races, ran for his life when he saw an immense wave roaring to shore as he lay sunbathing in Thailand.

"The water from the first wave disappeared, but then it came back with terrifying speed," Stenmark told Swedish media.

Australian Rules football player Troy Broadbridge, on his honeymoon in Phuket,

Thailand, was still among the missing after he and his bride were swamped as they stropped along the beach. Trisha Broadbridge survived.

Czech supermodel Petra Nemcova, who appeared on the cover of the 2003 Sports Illustrated swimsuit issue, was severely injured and her boyfriend, fashion photographer Simon Atlee has been missing, after a huge wave in Phuket carried them away.

Water swirled around Nemcova, 25, as she clung to a tree for eight hours. She is recovering in a Thai hospital from broken bones and internal injuries.

The catastrophe was an indiscriminate killer, claiming rich and poor, famous and anonymous, young and old. Thousands of children died, thousands of others were orphaned. Waterborne diseases threaten thousands more.

Every death is its own tragedy, and none is more or less significant owing to fame or wealth.

Reggie White, widely and deservedly mourned by American sports fans, understood better than most the singular dignity of individuals and, as his family said, "the essence and the spirit of life by faith." He saw a divine hand at work in everything and felt a calling to lend his own.

He helped rebuild churches that were burned. He took to the streets to aid the homeless and get work for the jobless. He and his wife Sara opened Hope Palace, a home for unwed mothers.

His faith led him down paths that alienated some and pulled in others, making a difference wherever he went.

As we watch the disaster unfold in Asia — none of us so far removed even from those distant shores — perhaps the memory of the good works of a man like Reggie White will inspire thoughts of how we, too, can make a difference in others' lives.

Steve Wilstein is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at [swilstein\(at\)ap.org](mailto:swilstein(at)ap.org)

Hawks win Pikeville Invitational

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PIKEVILLE — Playing on the home hardwood of rival Pikeville didn't hold the Pike County Central Hawks' back Wednesday night. Pike Central played and defeated Letcher 58-50 to win the Pikeville Invitational Championship.

The Hawks got off to a slow start, but quickly shook off the sluggish beginning and battled

back into the game.

Letcher led 16-7 at the end of the first period. Pike Central outscored Letcher 19-8 in the second quarter and also held the upperhand in each of the final two periods.

The loss was just the second of the season for the Letcher boys.

Pike County Central (6-4) got 15 points from Brad Lowe and 14 from Chase Snodgrass. Two other Pike Central Hawks added nine points apiece.

Alex Williams led Letcher in scoring with a game-high 22 points.

Meade County 61, Pikeville 47: Meade County (5-5) led 23-18 at the end of the first quarter and held off a couple of Pikeville runs.

Two different players scored over 20 points apiece for Meade County.

Jesse Parrish led Pikeville (2-5) in scoring with 14 points. Freshman Tim Honaker added 13 points.

Knott Central, Sheldon Clark win in Berea tourney

TIMES STAFF REPORT

BEREA — Knott County Central and Sheldon Clark each won third round games in the Berea Invitational tournament.

Knott Central beat tournament host Berea 76-60.

Adam Dials led Knott Central to its win. The junior guard hit for 17 points in the winning effort.

Senior center Josh Stacy added 16 points and senior guard Derrick Miller tossed in 10.

The Patriots led Berea 39-29 at halftime. Knott Central

outscored the host team 21-15 in the final quarter.

Sheldon Clark beat Clinton County 62-59. Jeremy Preece led Sheldon Clark to the win, scoring a game-high 20 points. Jamie Jarrett scored 14 points for Sheldon Clark and Brandon May added 13 points for the Cardinals.

Clinton County led 20-12 at the end of the first quarter. Sheldon Clark trailed by nine points at halftime. The Cardinals were able to gain an advantage in the game by outscoring Clinton County 22-12 in the third quarter.

H.S. BASKETBALL SCOREBOARD

Wednesday's scores

BOYS

Beth Haven 72, 69 Williamsburg OT
East Jessamine 90, Buckhorn 49
Estill Co. 69, Grant Co. 66
Knott Co. Central 76, Berea 60
Montgomery Co. 58, Henderson Co. 56
Newport 74, Leslie Co. 54
Pike Co. Central 57, East Ridge 47
Scott Co. 83, Cawood 47
Sheldon Clark 62, Clinton Co. 59
South Laurel 72, Mason Co. 50
St. Henry 74, Wolfe Co. 68
Summersworth, N.H., 49, Powell Co. 35
Warren Cent. 76, Paul Blazer 70

GIRLS

Betsy Layne 66, Holmes 37
Boone Co. 52, Somerset 37
Christian Co. 62, Boyd Co. 42
Clay Co. 65, Shelby Valley 50
East Carter 72, Mason Co. 61 OT
Harrison Co. 63, Rose Hill Christi. 53
Highlands 44, Russell 40
Ironton, Ohio 52, Pike Co. Cent. 49
Knott Co. Cent. 71, Allen Co.-Scottsville 29
McCreary Cent. 54, Pulaski Co. 45
Monroe Co. 73, Williamsburg 44
Monticello 43, Paintsville 40
Nelson Co. 41, Raceland 37
Paul Blazer 62, North Oldham 40
Pikeville 65, North Hardin 59
Scott Co., Tenn., 47, Knox Cent. 42

Today's NFL Games

Detroit	at	Tennessee	1 p.m.
Miami	at	Baltimore	1 p.m.
Green Bay	at	Chicago	1 p.m.
N.Y. Jets	at	St. Louis	1 p.m.
Cleveland	at	Houston	1 p.m.
Minnesota	at	Washington	1 p.m.
Pittsburgh	at	Buffalo	1 p.m.
New Orleans	at	Carolina	1 p.m.
San Francisco	at	New England	1 p.m.
Cincinnati	at	Philadelphia	1 p.m.
Atlanta	at	Seattle	4:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay	at	Arizona	4:05 p.m.
Kansas City	at	San Diego	4:15 p.m.
Indianapolis	at	Denver	4:15 p.m.
Jacksonville	at	Oakland	4:15 p.m.
Dallas	at	N.Y. Giants	8:30 p.m.

End Regular Season

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Betsy Layne

Continued from p1

Betsy Layne won two of three games in last week's Appalachian Wireless Mountain Schoolboy Classic. Against Western Hills, she and Bobcats led 39-23 at halftime.

Derek Case tossed in six points for the Bobcats and Nathan Lafferty netted five. Pat Stapleton flipped in four points and Trai Witt netted three.

Now preparing for 58th District/Floyd County Conference play, Betsy Layne is scheduled to host South Floyd in a key district/conference matchup on January 11.

Blackcats

Continued from p1

foul trouble and an extremely hot-shooting team of Musketeers plagued the Blackcats. In the latest meeting, Prestonsburg prevailed and in the process improved to 5-3.

Michael Morrison scored eight points. Kyle Ousley and Lewis Barnett each had six points apiece. Joe Blackburn had three points and John Mark Stephens rounded out the Blackcat scoring with a free throw.

Prestonsburg's next regular-season action is scheduled for Wednesday at Perry County Central High School in the WYMT Classic. In an opening round game, Prestonsburg is pitted against host Perry Central. Tip-off for the Prestonsburg-Perry Central game is set for 8:15 p.m.

The Blackcats will continue with tournament play next week.

JENNY WILEY INVITATIONAL ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAM

Ryan Johnson, South Floyd
Bradley Marshall, Magoffin County
Brandon Kidd, Betsy Layne
Johnathan Hood, Western Hills
Jesse Chaffin, Prestonsburg
Trevor Compton, Prestonsburg

Michael Stephens, Prestonsburg
Zach Gillum, Greenup County
Marcus Clines, Campbell County
Brett White, Campbell County
John Verst, Campbell County
Jacob Hundley, Breathitt County

Andrew Sewell, Breathitt County
Eli Warren, Breathitt County
Justin Lamb, Breathitt County
MVP - Andrew Sewell, Breathitt Co.
Top Rebounder:
Burnett Little, South Floyd

Rudi Johnson seeks record, extension

by JOE KAY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — Rudi Johnson needs 81 yards to set a Cincinnati rushing record, topping Corey Dillon's mark in his first season as the Bengals' featured back.



Rudi Johnson

After that, he's not even assured of coming back.

The throwback player who won fans' hearts last season can become a free agent after the Bengals (7-8) finish in Philadelphia on Sunday. If the team lets him leave, the burden would fall on Chris Perry, a first-round pick who played in only two games as a rookie and will have hernia surgery next week.

It seems like such a clear-cut decision that Johnson's teammates are lobbying the front office to get him signed.

"We've got to get him back here next season and get him locked up to a long-term deal," Pro Bowl offensive tackle Willie Anderson said Wednesday. "With his style of running, he's a perfect fit for this offense. He's a guy that loves being around his teammates. He adapts to coaching. He never pouts about anything."

Johnson emerged last season when Dillon got hurt, gaining 957 yards while sharing the position. The Bengals felt secure enough to trade the disgruntled Dillon to New England, leaving the job in the

hands of their fourth-round pick from 2001.

They weren't convinced enough to give him a long-term deal, instead tendering a one-year, \$1.8 million offer. They also took Perry with the 26th overall pick, bringing on board a complementary running back who could eventually replace him.

Johnson responded with one of the best seasons in franchise history. He needs 81 yards against Philadelphia to surpass Dillon's club record of 1,435 yards in 2000. Johnson is averaging 90.3 yards per game, which would be another season record.

He desperately wants the rushing record, which is one of the few things at stake in the final game.

"It's showing that all the hard work paid off," Johnson said Wednesday, after the local football writers honored him as the team's MVP. "We got something positive out of it: a franchise record. So it's something that definitely I've got my eyes on, and my teammates and my coaches got their eyes on."

He also would like to stay in Cincinnati, where fans love his team-first style. He never celebrates a touchdown, preferring to hand the ball to an official rather than call attention to himself.

Coach Marvin Lewis has been noncommittal about Johnson's future, saying he'd like to keep him but the team

was confident that Perry could replace him.

"We would like to have Rudi back, but we'll see how it works and go from there," Lewis said Wednesday.

Without Johnson, the Bengals would have a huge question at running back.

Perry appeared in only two games this season, gaining 1 yard, because of a strained hamstring and a sports hernia diagnosed last week. Doctors will insert mesh to repair the hernia on Jan. 6, leaving Perry with two or three months of recovery.

"According to the doctor, usually 97 percent of the people who have this procedure come out just fine," Perry said Wednesday. "Let's hope I'm part of the 3 percent. That's the only thing I'm worried about."

Former Cincinnati Reds shortstop Barry Larkin had the same surgery for a sports hernia during the 2001 season, when he was 36 years old. The mesh still bothered him the next season, forcing him to go slow in his return. Scar tissue built up and forced him to sit out six games in 2003.

Perry is only 23, so he has a better chance of making a full recovery. Even if he does, his teammates want Johnson back because he's a proven runner.

"This organization has been blessed with durable backs for a lot of years now," quarterback Jon Kitna said. "Corey was that way, and Rudi is that way. Those are the kind of guys you want back there. Not every back is like that."

Speedweeks '05: Dual Duel creates double the excitement

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — From the drop of the green flag to the checkered flag, the Daytona 500 qualifying races have produced some of the most exciting racing during Speedweeks as drivers scratch and claw for starting spots in the "The Great American Race."

During Speedweeks 2005, the qualifying races for the Daytona 500 will certainly bring that same excitement as in years past along with a new name and distance.

The Gatorade Duel at Daytona, which has traditionally been two 125-mile qualifying races, will now be a pair of 150-mile qualifying races. The extra 25 miles, equivalent to 10 laps, will force teams to re-think their pit strategy as they fight to make the field for the Daytona 500, NASCAR's biggest, richest and most prestigious race. In addition, there will be an extended break with live entertainment between the 150-mile Gatorade Duel qualifying races.

The Gatorade Duel at Daytona, scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 17, and the largest attended weekend sport

ing event in America, is unique in the nature that you have exciting tight racing no matter where you look. The driver's primary goal is to win the race but the middle of the pack is where the action as driver jockey for Daytona 500 starting positions.

The Daytona 500 uses a different qualifying procedure than any other race in the world. On Budweiser Pole Day on Sunday Feb. 13, only the fastest two cars solidify their starting spots for the Daytona 500. The fastest qualifier will earn the pole for both the Daytona 500 and the first 150-mile Gatorade Duel qualifying race. The second fastest qualifier earns the outside pole for the Daytona 500 and will start on the pole for the second 150-mile Gatorade Duel qualifying race.

Drivers qualifying in odd-number positions will compete in the first Gatorade Duel race while drivers that qualify in even-number positions do battle in the second Gatorade Duel race. The top-14 finishers, not including the pole sitter in the first 150-mile qualifying race, will line up behind the Daytona 500 pole sitter; while the top-14

finishers, not including the outside pole sitter in the second 150-mile Gatorade Duel qualifying race will line up behind the Daytona 500 outside pole sitter.

The next eight Daytona 500 starting positions (31-38) are awarded to the drivers with the fastest speed after pole qualifying. The final five positions (39-43) are given to teams that are entitled to a provisional.

Dale Earnhardt Jr. won for the second consecutive time as he held off Tony Stewart to capture the first Gatorade Duel, while Elliott Sadler survived challenges from Sterling Marlin and Jimmie Johnson to win the second Gatorade Duel and pick up his first victory at the "World Center of Racing."

"It's probably the most emotional win I've ever had in any type of racing and I think the reason why is my pit crew got me out first," said Sadler. "It put a big load on my shoulders by having to hold the guys off and to be able to hold off great race car drivers like (Kevin) Harvick and Sterling (Marlin) and really use the race track to my advantage to win. This is a big for us and our organization."

Mularkey facing former team with playoffs on the line

by JOHN WAWROW
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — Mike Mularkey grins when he recalls skimming the newly released NFL schedule last spring to see when Buffalo played Pittsburgh.

The Bills' rookie coach never circled the date, but allowed himself one thought in considering what it would be like to face his former team for the first time.

"It's funny, because you saw this game on the schedule and wondered what would be the implications," the former offensive coordinator for the Steelers said Wednesday.

Mularkey can stop wondering. Buffalo's season finale at home on Sunday means everything for the Bills, whose playoff hopes hang in the balance.

Having overcome an 0-4 start, the Bills (9-6) have won six straight and nine of 11 to stay in contention for an AFC wild-card berth. To secure a spot in the postseason, Buffalo needs to beat Pittsburgh and hope either the New York Jets (10-5) or Denver (9-6) lose.

"I don't know if you could write a script for the way it's unfolding," Mularkey said. "It's interesting the way both teams have gotten to this point. It's a good story."

Mularkey plays down his role and shrugs off questions about his Pittsburgh past.

"It's not about any of us. It never has been," Mularkey said. "This is another opponent, another must-win game."

The Bills have been playing must-win games ever since digging their early season hole,

showing great resilience for a team accused of lacking mental toughness following last year's 6-10 finish.

Buffalo is on its best run since winning eight straight in 1990 and have guaranteed its first winning season since 1999, the last time the Bills made the playoffs.

Buffalo also has an opportunity to match the 1992 Chargers, the only other team to reach the playoffs after an 0-4 start.

Mularkey deserves much of the credit for inspiring the turnaround.

He didn't allow the Bills to unravel early, protecting his players from outside criticism by urging them to believe in themselves. And he tinkered with his lineup, elevating running back Willis McGahee to starter — a move that has coincided with Buffalo's surge.

In fact, Mularkey has acted nothing like a rookie.

"Mike has never seemed like a guy who was doing this for the first time," quarterback Drew Bledsoe said. "Nobody saw that train coming down the tracks that hit us the first month of the season. But to his credit, he stuck to his guns. ... He's done a tremendous job, no question."

Not bad for a former NFL tight end who, following his retirement, spent a year selling computers before becoming Tampa Bay's quality control coach in 1994. Mularkey then spent eight years with the Steelers, the last three as offensive coordinator before being hired by Buffalo in January.

Bills quarterback coach Sam Wyche was head coach

for Tampa Bay when Mularkey got his first job. He's impressed by how his former assistant has handled himself.

"The most important thing when you are going through that kind of period is the guy standing in front of the team needs to remain a pillar," Wyche said. "He can't be blowing in the wind, and he didn't. ... He kept our eye on the ball. He was like a veteran coach."

The Steelers (14-1) present a big challenge, even though they have nothing to play for, having already secured first place in the AFC.

Mularkey knows Pittsburgh coach Bill Cowher too well to wonder whether the Steelers will take it easy on Buffalo.

"I have no doubts that he will have his team prepared, regardless of the situation," Mularkey said.

Cowher is not surprised by the job Mularkey has done.

"He's a strong guy and he did that here when we were going through some tough times," Cowher said. "I'm happy he was able to turn it around as he did. I mean, they're sitting there right now on the brink of the playoffs."

Mularkey is aware of the game's implications, but is sticking to the "one game at a time" approach he's maintained since the beginning. He added he's been too busy working on the game plan to consider what it will be like to face the Steelers.

"There's just not enough time to really put the emotional part into it," Mularkey said. "Maybe as we get closer. But not right now."

Attorney: Bengals player pleads guilty to DUI

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KETTERING, Ohio —

Cincinnati Bengals defensive end Justin Smith pleaded guilty to a drunken driving charge and his driver's license was suspended for six months, his lawyer said Wednesday.

Smith, 25, entered the plea Tuesday in this Dayton suburb in exchange for prosecutors dropping a separate charge that he had been driving outside of marked lanes when a Montgomery County sheriff's deputy stopped him Oct. 5, lawyer Jeff Helms said. The plea agreement

resolved the case in Kettering Municipal Court, Helms said.

Judge Larry Moore ordered Smith to attend a three-day intervention course for drunken driving offenders. The judge fined Smith \$300 plus court costs, Helms said.

Bengals coach Marvin Lewis declined comment Wednesday on Smith's case.

Earlier Tuesday, the judge had rejected a defense request to dismiss the drunken driving charge against Smith.

David Jablinski, another lawyer representing Smith, contended there wasn't

probable cause that Smith was impaired.

The sheriff's deputy said he saw Smith's truck weaving along the road. Smith told the deputy he had five beers, and he swayed while walking during a sobriety test, according to the arrest report.

A breath test found that Smith had a blood alcohol level of 0.152, the report said. The legal limit for driving in Ohio is 0.08.

Smith was the Bengals' first-round pick in the 2001 draft. He could have faced a maximum six months in jail and \$1,000 fine on the DUI charge.

Big Ben listed as questionable for today's game

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PITTSBURGH — Ben Roethlisberger's ribs are only bruised and Pittsburgh Steelers coach Bill Cowher listed the rookie quarterback as questionable for Sunday's regular-season finale at Buffalo.

The game is meaningless for the Steelers, who have

clinched home-field advantage for the playoffs in the AFC. The Bills are fighting for a wild-card playoff berth.

The Steelers are riding a franchise-record 13-game win streak, while the Bills are riding a six-game win streak that has put them in position to earn a playoff berth after an 0-4 start. The Bills need to beat the

Steelers and have either the New York Jets or Denver Broncos lose in order to clinch a spot in the playoffs.



Roethlisberger

Palmer's leg a problem during workout

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — Quarterback Carson Palmer practiced Wednesday for the first time since spraining his knee, but it's unlikely that he'll play in the Cincinnati Bengals' final game.



Carson Palmer

Palmer worked out with a brace on the left knee, which was

injured on a tackle during a 35-28 loss to New England on Dec. 12. Jon Kitna filled in for Palmer the last two games, making his first starts of the season.

Palmer, the 2003 Heisman Trophy winner and first overall draft pick, has spent the last two weeks trying to strengthen an injured ligament on the outside of the knee. He participated in some of the team's drills Wednesday for

the first time since he was hurt.

The knee and thigh are still too weak to let him play, but he's hoping to be closer to normal when the Bengals (7-8) play in Philadelphia on Sunday. The Bengals won't let him play if there's any chance he could further damage the knee.

He was listed as questionable on Wednesday's injury report.

"I'm pushing the doctors, and they're pushing in the opposite direction," Palmer said. "We're butting heads right now."

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FLOYD COUNTY Lifestyles



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Click and Clack Talk Cars

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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.

January, named for the Roman god Janus, he of the two heads, is said to look both backward and forward. One report says the view in either direction isn't too bright, right now.

A SAD MIXTURE

Ever try mixing clichés and realities? They make a mess that's

a lot worse than a mixed metaphor and more painful than either a split infinitive or a hanging participle.

For instance:

This wonderful area... unemployment. A great, courageous people... men forced to leave their homes to find work. Pure Anglo-Saxon blood... cheese. The Land of Tomorrow... flood and sorrow. Eastern Kentucky's rugged mountains, limpid streams... scarred hillsides and garbage dumps. A proud, free people... "how are you going to vote?"

MISSED ME AGAIN

The Floyd County Fish & Game Club this week announced the names of those who landed prize-winning fish last year. I've scanned the list, not once, but several times, and fail to find my name therein. I am not going to demand a recount, but I do think there should be a booby prize for the guy who catches the smallest fish... When you can throw a fish 35 feet and 11 inches behind you with nothing more than a flyrod, you're entitled to something.

NECROLOGY

For the last 23 years—gee, has it been that long?—Russell "Buck" Layne has compiled a year's end list of Prestonsburg residents, who have died within the year. The list for 1958 and the date of each death:

Phyllis Sue Marshall, Jan. 9; William H. Brown, Jan. 10; Virginia Chewning, Jan. 10; Henry Clay Mellon, Jan. 20; Grace Martin Wheeler, Feb. 5; Bishop Morrison, Feb. 11; Wilson Crum, Feb. 19; James L. Meade, Jr. Feb. 28; Arminta Horne, March 15; Fannie Laferty Childers, March 17; Madge Spradlin Hensley, April 22; Joe H. Cooley, May 15; Lois Stiles Taylor, May 19; Warren S. Hale, May 21;

(See THIS TOWN, page seven)



Ralph was getting accustomed to riding by the time he was barely old enough to walk. Here, he is about 15 months old.

Why Daddy Sold Old Betsy

by RALPH HALL

~ Chapter 5 ~ Time Spent Looking for Cows

Almost every family in Melvin owned a cow when I was growing up, and so did we. It was Mutt's and my job to walk to the top of the hill and get the cows every afternoon. I never could understand cows - they will pick grass all day in the low land, but when it's time to go get them, they always wander off into the woods. We would most always find them under a shade tree.

It was an every day job and my mother would say, "Boys, it's time to go get the cows." So, off Mutt and I would go, up the trail and out into the woods to look for the cows. One day, Daddy brought this very nice looking cow home. Her called her "Old Betsy." She was a very clean looking cow and seemed to be in good health, but I knew that very day that Old Betsy would make my life a living hell - she just had that look in her eye. It only took a day or two for Mutt and I to find out that Old Betsy was trouble to the third degree. Every day she would go far out into the trees and stand very still so that we couldn't hear her cowbell ring.

Once, for a little while, Mutt and I got lucky for we owned this old hound dog that loved to chase cows. We called him "Dog." We could say, "Dog, go get the cows" and off he'd go, up the path he would run. Mutt and I would watch as he disappeared into the trees. It wouldn't be long until we would hear Dog barking and cowbells ringing. In a short matter of time, we would see the cows as they came from among the trees with Dog barking at their heels. One day old Dog was chas-

ing a truck and as he barked and ran along, somehow one of the tires caught him and he never chased anything again.

So, Mutt and I were back on the trail everyday looking for those old cows once again. Betsy never seemed to change - always high on the hill, standing off by herself. She just didn't like the other cows, or for that matter, people either. She wouldn't move until we got behind her and swatted her with a stick. Then, down the hill she would go, running all the way to the barn. Sometimes she would just run around the side of the hill with Mutt and me running after her, cursing to the top of our voices, "Betsy! Come back, Betsy!" You could say that Old Betsy had a mind of her own - or no mind at all.

One day while chasing Betsy around the hill, I stepped on a five-foot long blacksnake. When I saw the snake, I forgot about Old Betsy and headed down the hill for home as fast as my skinny legs would carry me with that old blacksnake right behind me, sliding along in the grass. Then I remembered what Daddy had told me: "Boy, if a snake is ever chasing you down the hill, just run sideways and the old snake will just slide on by." I was ready to try anything so I started running sideways around the hill and Old Blacksnake kept right on going down the hill! I cried, "Go on, old snake! Go on!" Well, that day it was about dark by the time we got Old Betsy home and I never saw old blacksnake again, thank God.

That night as Mutt and I lay on the featherbed that Grandma had made, we talked by the light of the coal oil lamp. We were working on a plan on how to get rid of Old Betsy. That cow just had to go, we reasoned, and soon. Our first plan was to throw rocks at her all the way to the barn, hoping she would fall and break a leg and become a part of



Ralph and "Mutt," partners in crime. At the time this picture was taken, Ralph was about age 6 and his little brother, about age 3.

dinner. Well, we rocked her to the barn every day for about a week, and not once did she fall.

So it was time to work on Plan Two. Betsy was smart, but me and Mutt were smarter than any old cow, as you will see. Here was our plan: There was this small path that ran alongside this small cliff. Mutt would do about anything I ever told him to do, me being his bigger brother and all, so we came up with this great plan. How could it fail, we asked ourselves. I said, "Mutt, you rock Old Betsy down the hill like you always do and I will stand in the path and wave my arms and cry, "Shew, Betsy, shew!" and she will run over the cliff and kill herself. The next day, we figured, would be Betsy's last day on this earth. After all, how could a great plan like that fail?

So that next afternoon, old Mutt ran

(See BETSY, page seven)

MOVIES FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

'Craze'

by TOM DOTY
STAFF WRITER

London during the height of the swinging 1970s ("Austin Powers" fashion and all) is the setting for this gruesome tale of idol worship and wholesale slaughter set in the vicious world of antique collectors. You will be as surprised as I was to find that the antique world is a cesspool of idol-worshipping weirdoes who faithfully attend ritual bloodletting ceremonies to honor a pint-sized Africa spirit called "Chookoo."

Jack Palance ("Shane," "City Slickers") is cast against type here as a suave, though heavily indebted, antiques dealer who goes cuckoo for Chookoo. Palance kills the owner of the diminutive idol and is immediately rewarded with a cash windfall.

Palance is quickly hip to the fact that Chookoo wants more blood and is happy to fork over the cash as long as Palance keeps the statuette in blood. This poses no moral dilemma for Palance, who proceeds to cut through London's swinging single population with a vengeance. The sight of Palance, with his lizard-like face, putting the moves on young British lasses is a bit strange but takes a turn for the totally surreal when it turns out that he is a babe magnet. Could be all of that Chookoo mojo he gets from the idol, but anyway you cut it, this is one goofy mamajama.

All of this ritual killing, which gets pretty graphic at times, eventually invites the keen blokes of Scotland Yard to investigate the sudden drop off in night club attendance. The investigation eventually settles on Palance - I said they were keen - which leads to lots of scenes of undercover bobbies tailing Palance on his rounds which eventually leads to one of the most entertaining set pieces in the film.

Palance takes on a room full of cops and suddenly begins spinning around like a whirling dervish. He then proceeds to taunt the cops by bragging about his invulnerability. Unfortunately, for Palance, he finds out that although Chookoo may be generous with money, he is downright stingy in terms of granting invulnerability.

It's all a little goofy and dated, but this one delivers on the entertainment quotient. The director deserves the most credit. Freddie Francis honed his craft at Hammer Studios, which produced a slew of great low budget horror films in the 1960s and 1970s. He is still a talented cameraman and has directed the photography for several David Lynch films, most notably "The Elephant Man."

There are also several cameos by

(See LAGOON, page seven)

Goose Island

by TOM LUSK

"CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE NATURE LOVER'S SOUL"

My children call it Goose Island, although "island" is an obvious exaggeration. A little rock pile with a half-dozen scraggly shrubs, it doesn't even appear on most charts. At high water it measures less than 6 feet by 20 feet.

The goose part is accurate, though. Every spring for the past 15 years, a pair of Canada geese has chosen the rock pile for its nesting site. But not just any spot on Goose Island will do. Each year they form their nest in exactly the same location, a little indentation between a couple of flat rocks on the highest point above the waterline.

Mother Goose gathers small twigs and vegetation to frame the nest, then plucks down from her

breast to create a soft lining. Two flowering dogwoods provide a little camouflage, and by maintaining her perfectly immobile stance, she is able to escape detection. Fishermen regularly pass within yards of her hiding place, unaware that she is there.

One spring, I decided to visit Mother Goose regularly while she incubated her eggs. My early morning, five-minute paddle to the island was a great way to start the day. I always brought a few crusts of bread on these visits, which the nest-bound mama would hungrily devour. While she was busy filling up on the bread, she would allow me to examine her nest and its contents - six large white eggs.

By the second Saturday in May, she had been sitting on the eggs for 24 days. She greeted me

with less civility than usual and was especially protective of her nest area. As she reached for a piece of bread, I discovered the source of her newfound surliness - a number of grayish-yellow fluffballs peeked out from beneath their mother's breast.

Five adorable baby geese filled the nest, but it was the egg that caught my attention.

Normally, all the eggs in a clutch hatch within hours of each other. While Mama gave me suspicious glances, I slowly lifted the remaining egg from the nest and held it to my ear. No sounds came from within, so I gave the egg a gentle shake, expecting it to be empty.

To my surprise, I could feel something inside. I realized that the gosling had not been strong enough to break from its shell and had probably exhausted itself in the effort.

Carefully, I cracked the egg on a rock, not knowing what to expect. Inside was a wet mess of down, with a bill at one end and two gangly gray feet at the other. There was no sign of life.

Using my shirt, I lightly patted the pathetic creature dry. The head hung limply. There was no response to my coaxings, so I placed the unfortunate bird in

(See SOUP, page seven)



Jim Davidson

Have you ridden a milk cow lately?

We have a television station in nearby Little Rock that has a feature each week on the 10 o'clock news titled, "Everyone has a story." If you will think about it, you have one too. Each week this attractive young lady reporter interviews some person from around our state and they get the opportunity to tell their story on television where thousands and thousands of viewers can see and hear it. Many of these are very good and I always enjoy the variety that comes with the territory.

I just love people and think we are the most interesting creatures that God has placed on this earth. It's also interesting how the participants are

selected. After the interview, this person has a dart and a map of the state placed behind them.

The person who has been interviewed, then flips the dart over their shoulder and where it lands on the map, is where next week's story comes from. When the reporter gets to this new town, she takes the local telephone directory and opens to a page at random and then places her finger on that page. Where her finger lands is covering the name of next week's "Everyone has a story" participant.

This is an interesting and neverending way of bringing common ordinary people into



the limelight. Most of us like that and, like I said earlier, we all have a story. With regard to this, some of my happiest times are just talking to people and hearing interesting things that have happened to them.

We have an excellent opportunity for this each month at our church. The first Sunday of each month we have a prayer breakfast and about four or five of us men are the cooks. I don't know how I got roped into this because I am sure not much of a cook, but once you fix bacon and biscuits in a good stove several times, it's downhill from there. We get there at 6:15 a.m. in order to be ready to serve at 8 o'clock when everyone else shows up. You can probably see the picture, four men in close quarters with two hours to talk about everything and everybody. I found out later that I was invited to be on the team is

because I know so many one-liners.

To protect the guilty I am not going to give full names here, but I have heard some dandy stories. One of the fellows told about when he was a young lad growing up that he lived on a farm and they had a horse and a milk cow. Now horses are to ride but milk cows, usually no. However, on this particular day this man said he and several other boys were out riding horses and someone suggested they ride the milk cow. For young boys, say from 7 to 10 years of age, usually a suggestion is as good as done. If you don't know, in some parts of the country for young boys to ride the milk cow is almost a staple. I don't know this for sure, but I bet there are girls who have ridden a milk cow, too.

Later when I told this story to a man who is on staff at our church and originally from Oklahoma, he said, "When I was a young boy there were four of us kids on a milk cow

and I was the one on the tail end. When this cow started up a steep bank I fell off and broke my arm." Needless to say, he has very vivid memories of riding a milk cow when he was growing up.

There is a purpose in my sharing this, but first I want to tell you the funniest story I have heard since I became a part of the cook team several years ago.

One of our men, whose name is Richard, has two brothers by the names of Ralph and Ronnie. When they were very young, around 4, 5 and 6, they used to all take a bath in the same tub. Ronnie was the youngest and one night after they all got out of the tub, one of the other brothers got the bright idea of putting the commode plunger on Ronnie's stomach. It was funny till they tried to get it off, but when it wouldn't release; this prank became a very serious matter. Richard said for some time they pulled Ronnie all around the kitchen floor, holding on to the commode

plunger handle, trying to get it off, but it wouldn't budge. At this point they got scared and started crying. Finally their mother came in to find out what was going on and she sized up the situation. Like most mothers who can fix everything, she took her finger and ran it up under the edge of the plunger to break the seal and it came right off. Richard said he and Ralph were greatly relieved.

The point I want to make is this. Back in the days when I was growing up, kids were kids and we did some foolish, mischievous and even dangerous things. Of course there were mean kids, especially boys, back then too, but parents and society had a way of dealing with them. Somehow we must stop teenage violence in our country.

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

Cooking up a family treasure

(NUE) - When families gather, you often find most people in the kitchen. That's because the kitchen is where the food is!

All families have favorite foods that are served on special occasions. But all too often, treasured recipes are lost forever when a family member passes away. That's why many families are taking the time to create a family cookbook.

"When my grandmother passed away, we lost a lot of the great recipes I grew up with," said Bill Rice, founder of the Family Cookbook Project, an online tool that helps families create and share their own fami-

ly cookbooks. "My family has created a collection of recipes to ensure that doesn't happen again. Now we're sharing the Web site used by my family to preserve our recipes to help other families do the same."

Collecting, organizing and printing family recipes can be easy and fun with the right tools. The Family Cookbook Project was launched to help families simplify and automate the process.

To learn more about creating a family cookbook, log on to www.familycookbookproject.com/usa or send an email to info@familycookbookproject.com.

Betsy

Betsy down the hill, throwing rocks at her and cussing all the way. I was ready. Standing in the path, I hollered, "Shew, Betsy, shew!" I see Betsy coming down that narrow path - 800 pounds of speeding dynamite looking me straight in the eye. I was doing everything that I was supposed to do, waving my arms and crying "Shew, Betsy, shew!" But that stupid old cow didn't understand one word I was saying. She hit me like a speeding locomotive and I went sailing over the small cliff intended for Betsy. When I landed, I hit hard. And boy, did I ever hurt. Nothing was broken but I sure was in a lot of pain for the next few days.

On Saturday afternoons, Mutt and I always went to the movies. The shows started at 2 p.m. Most of the shows were cowboy movies and Mutt and I just loved cowboys. The movies would star either Roy Rogers or Gene Autry. Sometimes the cowboys would ride bulls in the movies. That gave me yet another plan. Betsy hadn't won yet, you see, for I am one who never gives up. No one could ever get me to say "Uncle" and no cow was going to beat me.

So I told Mutt, "Here's what we will do." I planned it all. I told Mutt that I would get on top of the barn and that he should run Old Betsy out through the barn door. "As she comes out the door," I said, "I will jump on

her back and ride her into the ground."

Mutt said, "Ralph, do you think you can do that?"

I said, "Sure, I can."

Well, I climbed up onto the barn roof and readied myself. Then I called out, "Okay, Mutt, let her rip!"

Out the door came Old Betsy sailing straight away. I leaped off the roof and landed right in the middle of her back! Away we went - down through the barnyard, out through the gate and into the backyard of our house. As Betsy and I were headed straight for Mother's clothes line, Betsy decided to take me right into it. I caught the line full in the middle of my neck - the darn thing almost took my head off! As I fell, Betsy went one way and I went the other, landing on the ground square on my butt. Yep, some cows just never learn and I was lucky that I didn't get killed that day.

Betsy eventually got so mean that Mother had to tie one of her hind legs to a tree just to milk her. She would also kick the boards off the walls of the barn. It even got to the point that she would chase us if she got the chance. That Betsy was the meanest cow I ever saw - or could it have been that Mutt and I were just awful mean little boys?

Betsy will always have a place in my life because she made my life a living nightmare by just being what she was - an old milk cow that Daddy called Betsy.

Soup

amongst its brothers and sister and resigned to let nature take its course.

The next morning, I awoke early. It was Mother's Day.

As my daughters and I prepared a special breakfast for my wife, I couldn't help but think about the gosling that hadn't been strong enough to escape its shell. I decided to paddle over to the islet after breakfast and

bring a Mother's Day breakfast for Mother Goose to help her celebrate the birth of her quints.

As I headed toward the canoe, bread in hand, I was greeted by a marvelous sight - Mama Goose and all six of her goslings lined up behind her.

She had come to show off her brood and, just maybe, to let me know my efforts had not been in vain.

Lagoon

Continued from p6

British stars who obviously needed a few quid. You get small bits from acting legends like Trevor Howard and Dame Judith Anderson, who seem happy to ham it up for a few bob.

The witchcraft angle is fun too. The scares are well crafted here and that goes double for the gyrating disco birds who dance so spasmodically under disco lighting that you may find yourself hitting the pause button to hunt up some dramamine.

Even the wardrobe choices are scary as we get to see Palance decked out in a fashionable three-piece suit that he finishes off with a pair of \$2 tennis shoes.

The only drawbacks here are Palance's lack

of an appropriate accent and his useless assistant. This character is so lame that we have to sit through watching him get roughed up by the police only to see Palance pound him even worse when he gets home late from his beating.

This film has changed titles over the years and is also out on tape as "The Demon Master" and "The Infernal Idol."

The best line in this one belongs to one of Scotland Yard's finest, who puts it altogether by noting, "What we have here is a pattern. Two mutilated bodies fished out of the river, neither robbed, both very dead."

1974, rated R.

This Town

Continued from p6

Amos Gray, June 8; Vernon Blackburn, June 8; Fred Saunders, July 16; Josie Clark, July 19; Ruth Burchett, Aug. 8; James Ervin Ramey, Aug. 8; William C. Rimmer, Aug. 26; A. J. Wilson, Oct. 11; Belle Smith Nelson, Oct. 11; Josh Gray, Oct. 15; Cordelia Stewart Whittier, Oct. 23; Martha May Poe, Nov. 7; Thomas Sherrid Spradlin, Nov. 19; Virginia Patton, Nov. 26; Charles Alley, Nov. 30; Amanda Pigman Ford, Dec. 8; and Fanny Hall Collins, Dec. 9.

LOW MAN ON THE TOTEM POLE

Heard the one about the wages and hours investigation? We hadn't till we saw Bob May this week. The investigator was welcome; the employer had every employee listed, the number of hours he worked and how much an hour, "Is that all who work here?" the man wanted to know.

"No, we have one man not listed. But he's sort of a half-wit and we hardly pay him

anything."

"But how much do you pay him?"

To tell you the truth," the employer replied, "he's what might be called one of those dollar-a-year men."

"All right, all right, bring him out—I'd like to be hearing his version of the matter."

"You are," said the employer.

Then there was the one about the two fishermen who had struck it rich—a strike every cast. One of the two fished around in his pocket, came out with a piece of chalk and made a huge "X" in the bottom of the boat.

"What are you doing?" his partner wanted to know.

"Don't want to lose this place, I'm marking it."

"But," said his buddy, "we might not get the same boat, next time."

They've got this small business loan matter in reverse. It should be loaning business.

Click and Clack Talk Cars

Idling won't hurt your car

by TOM and RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:

We have a '95 Toyota Camry LE with a V-6 engine. I just got off the phone with my husband, and he told me he parked the car at his office this morning, removed something from the trunk and walked away with not only the key left in the ignition, but the car still running! The parking attendant came into the office with his car key — six hours later! I am bringing the car in on Wednesday for new brakes and an oil change, but I'd like to know beforehand what potential damage could have occurred while it was idling for six hours. I don't necessarily want to tell the Toyota mechanic, for fear that he will use it as an excuse for some major repair.

So, please let me know if I should bring it in for repairs, or push it off a cliff. Many thanks. — Vivienne

RAY: The car will be fine, Vivienne. But you might want to push the husband off a cliff.

TOM: No damage was done at all, if we exclude your husband's ego. As long as the cooling system is working like it should, a car can idle practically forever without sustaining any damage.

RAY: After all, if you drove the car for six hours, you wouldn't push it off a cliff, would you? And idling is a lot easier on the car than actual driving.

TOM: So, it's your husband who needs the attention, Vivienne. He needs less stress in his life. Sign him up for a yoga class. But when he goes, remind him to take the car key in with him.

Free 25-point inspection not so free after all

Dear Tom and Ray:

At my last oil-and-filter change, the service department at the local Subaru dealer did the "free 25-point inspection" and came back with the following diagnosis:

1. Replace valve cover gkt @ \$320
2. Rear oil seal @ \$620
3. Frt cam seal @ \$450
4. Lft frt axle @ \$270

(I've reported the acronyms verbatim, because I'm not sure what they mean.) I've made an appointment to have these done next week, but I am wondering if this is for real. What is the probability that so many items would fail all together, nearly all at once? My husband thinks that at 50,000-70,000 miles, one should EXPECT to put in a couple thousand dollars in repairs. The car is a 1998 Subaru Legacy Outback wagon and has 63,000 miles on it. It was driven in flat and humid Houston for the first 30,000 miles, and in hilly, very dry Tucson since then. At the previous oil-change visit, I was told about a non-urgent small leak related to the "frt cam seal," but no other problems.

Thanks for your analysis! — Renee

RAY: Well, that 25-point inspection wasn't so free after all, was it, Renee? That's more like "25 chances to find stuff we can fix for you!"

TOM: These are all separate jobs, Renee. There's no advantage or "discount" if you do them all at the same time. So, let's look at each one individually.

RAY: The lft frt (left front) axle is a wear item, which means it's something that wears out over time. Its failure can be hastened by tearing one of the CV boots, which can be a result of age, kicked-up road debris or driving over a petrified Barry Goldwater lawn sign.

TOM: But if the axle is already failing, there's no rush. You'll hear a clacking noise during acceleration on turns as it gets worse. When that starts to drive you nuts, you can replace it then.

RAY: The frt (front) cam seals (there are two of them on this car) leak a lot on Subarus. We replace them all the time. So, it makes sense to me that one or both would leak at 60,000 miles, and you might as well replace both of them.

TOM: But while they're doing that, they should absolutely replace the timing belt and the water pump, too. Both of those will need to be done soon, and the timing belt has to come

off anyway to replace the front cam seals. It'll cost you a little more than \$450 to have all that done (maybe \$650), but you'll save a lot on labor by doing them all at once.

RAY: Up top, there are actually two valve cover gkts (gaskets) on this engine. We've had very good luck just tightening the valve cover bolts — that often stops the leak. So, they should certainly try that before they replace the gaskets for \$320.

TOM: And in terms of the rear oil seal, in all my years of working on Subarus, I have never replaced a rear oil seal. My guess is that oil is leaking somewhere else (like the front cam seal) and blowing to the back of the engine, where your mechanic is mistaking it for a rear-seal leak. So I'd leave that one alone for now, pending further evidence.

RAY: What you can do is, after the valve covers are tightened and the front cam seals are replaced, you can have your engine steam-cleaned. Then have someone look at it again in three months. On a clean engine, any additional oil leaks will be much easier to spot and locate.

TOM: So how's that, Renee? Figure \$650 for the cam seal, timing belt and water pump, and another \$50 to steam clean the engine. We just saved you almost a thousand bucks!

RAY: Send us half, and we'll call it even, kid.

Tom and Ray share secrets on how you can save tens of thousands of dollars on your cars over the next 20 years in their pamphlet "Should I Buy, Lease, or Steal My Next Car?" Send \$4.50 (check or money order) to Next Car, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk Web site at www.cartalk.com

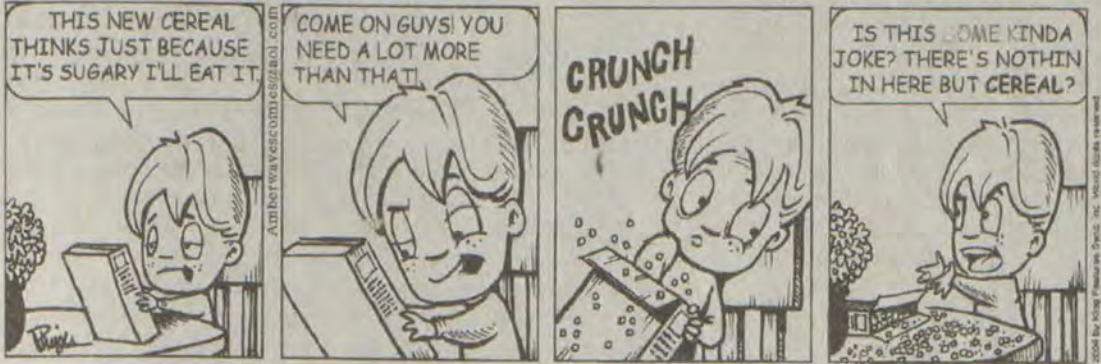
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Sunday Comics

Amber Waves



MAMA'S BOYZ

WWW.MAMASBOYZ.COM JERRY CRAFT



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



MAGIC MAZE • — SPIDER

E Q N K H D A R X U R P M J G
 D A X V S Q E F N K I F D A X
 V H T Q O C M U J H R F C A Y
 W U O R L P A N N L O J H F D
 F B J U M P I N G Z O X V T R
 Q L S O S N K E A M D K I H F
 D E O B Z E L L Y N P W W V T
 R Q O W O D I W K C A L B N L
 K I H F E R S E S T R B D C A
 Z X W R V A R B E Z T A U S R
 Q O N M K G N R A B J I B H F

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

- Banana
- Barn
- Black Widow
- Crab
- Funnelweb
- Garden
- House
- Jumping
- Red
- Sea
- Silk
- Trap-door
- Water
- Wolf
- Zebra

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

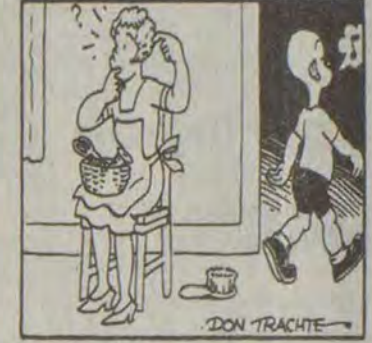
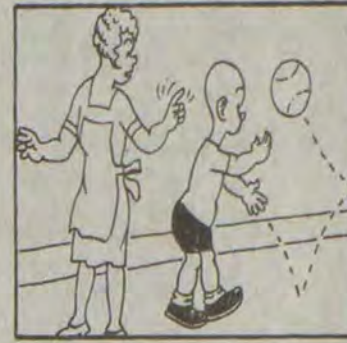


FIND AT LEAST 6 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS.

Differences: 1. Vase is missing. 2. Lamppost is missing. 3. Arm is missing. 4. Flame is different. 5. Hair is different. 6. Sleeves are shorter.

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Answers to Crossword Puzzle and Magic Maze can be found on page A5



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



Super Crossword PUBLICATIONS

- ACROSS**
- 1 Move like a mouse
 - 5 Neighbor of Java
 - 9 "Medicine" ('88 hit)
 - 12 Corpulent
 - 15 Early computer
 - 17 TV's "Heroes"
 - 19 Campbell of UB40
 - 20 Poorly
 - 21 Restaurant critic's zine?
 - 23 Librarian's journal?
 - 25 Explosive initials
 - 26 Column
 - 27 Max — Sydow
 - 29 Bunch of ballplayers
 - 30 Solidify
 - 31 Weber's "Freischutz"
 - 32 Prepared to drive
 - 33 Let up
 - 36 Arthur or Pons
 - 38 — carrier
 - 42 Snapshot
 - 43 — Lama
 - 45 Strained
 - 46 DEA officer
 - 48 Browning's bedtime?
 - 49 Gardener's monthly?
 - 53 — jongg
 - 54 Hymns of praise
 - 56 Viper
 - 57 Milne creature
 - 58 Digression
 - 60 Gouda alternative
 - 61 — River, NJ
 - 63 Tenor
 - 64 Like Simon
 - 66 Groovy Austin
 - 68 Pugilistic poke
 - 69 Stephen King book
 - 70 Mutiny
 - 71 Produce a parka
 - 72 — fide
 - 73 Byzantine art form
 - 76 Pants parts
 - 77 Ram's ma'am
 - 78 Directional suffix
 - 79 Sock style
 - 81 Feign
 - 82 Tree
 - 83 surgeon's periodical?
 - 87 Middling mark
 - 88 Whippet's wagger
 - 90 Enormous
 - 91 Terpsichore's sister
 - 92 104 Down, e.g.
 - 94 Broadway arrangement
 - 96 Kennel feature
 - 97 Kitten gear?
 - 99 Petite pie
 - 100 Sprite
 - 102 —
 - Buttermilk Sky" ('46 song)
 - 103 Classify
 - 106 Maestro de Waart
 - 107 "Electric" ('83 hit)
 - 111 To and —
 - 114 Sallor's reading?
 - 116 Depression era magazine?
 - 119 Icelandic epic
 - 120 Capek play
 - 121 Bring to light
 - 122 Goatish gamboler
 - 123 Have unpaid bills
 - 124 "Hiver" opposite
 - 125 "to Order" ('87 film)
 - 126 Highflying agcy.
 - DOWN
 - 1 Adroit
 - 2 Ever's partner
 - 3 Crowdburst?
 - 4 Lincoln son
 - 5 Pipe part
 - 6 Turkish title
 - 7 Den
 - 8 "Newhart" setting
 - 9 Holstein's home
 - 10 Flagon filler
 - 11 Patois
 - 12 Beat
 - 13 Felipe, Jesus, or Matty
 - 14 Little one
 - 16 South African port
 - 17 Cholesterol letters
 - 18 Golfer
 - 20 Nigerian city
 - 22 "Alda" river
 - 24 Forest ruminant
 - 28 Ciceronian speech
 - 30 "GoodFellas" gun
 - 31 Place to pontificate
 - 32 Correct
 - 33 Forward
 - 34 Rover's review?
 - 35 Presidential monogram
 - 36 Sanctify
 - 37 Tombstone lawyer
 - 39 Shake-spearan heavy
 - 40 Wholesome biker's publication?
 - 41 Carpentry or printing
 - 42 Monsieur Le Pew
 - 44 Patriot Samuel
 - 47 "Evita" character
 - 50 — Park, CO
 - 51 Uninteresting
 - 52 Subdue
 - 53 Simba
 - 55 Pavarotti's love
 - 59 Bit of parsley
 - 62 Northwestern st.
 - 63 Mouth piece?
 - 64 Anger or envy
 - 65 Composer
 - 67 Siender trace
 - 68 Be a wise guy
 - 69 French impressionist
 - 70 Chingach-gook's son
 - 71 Nailed a gnat
 - 72 Boltano or Blessed
 - 74 New York city
 - 75 Require
 - 76 The Kit — Club
 - 77 In addition
 - 78 Stocking shade
 - 80 Antsy
 - 83 Opera feature
 - 84 Future of the present
 - 85 Medieval menial
 - 86 — de plume
 - 89 One of the Jacksons
 - 93 Gobbled up
 - 95 Apparel
 - 98 Debtors' letters
 - 101 Stud site
 - 103 Lhasa —
 - 104 Cabbage concoction
 - 105 Philosopher
 - 106 Bronte heroine
 - 107 Where to find an onager
 - 108 "Veni, vidi, —"
 - 109 Markey or Bagnold
 - 110 Fisherman's snare
 - 111 Chalky cheese
 - 112 Skates
 - 113 Gumbo thickener
 - 115 Absent
 - 117 City on the Danube
 - 118 Ashen

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14							
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119												120							122	
123												124								126

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: Tammy Conn, 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
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 24 HOURS

100 - AUTOMOTIVE	210 - Job Listings 220 - Help Wanted 230 - Information 250 - Miscellaneous 260 - Part Time 270 - Sales 280 - Services 290 - Work Wanted	350 - Miscellaneous 360 - Money To Lend 380 - Services	480 - Miscellaneous 490 - Recreation 495 - Wanted To Buy	590 - Sale or Lease	690 - Wanted To Rent	750 - Mobile Home Movers 755 - Office 760 - Plumbing 765 - Professionals 770 - Repair/Service 780 - Timber 790 - Travel	830 - Miscellaneous 850 - Personals 870 - Services 890 - Legals
110 - Agriculture 115 - ATVs 120 - Boats 130 - Cars 140 - 4x4's 150 - Miscellaneous 160 - Motorcycles 170 - Parts 175 - SUV's 180 - Trucks 190 - Vans	300 - FINANCIAL 310 - Business Opportunity 330 - For Sale	400 - MERCHANDISE 410 - Animals 420 - Appliances 440 - Electronics 445 - Furniture 450 - Lawn & Garden 460 - Yard Sale 470 - Health & Beauty 475 - Household	500 - REAL ESTATE 505 - Business 510 - Commercial Property 530 - Homes 550 - Land/Lots 570 - Mobile Homes 580 - Miscellaneous	600 - RENTALS 610 - Apartments 620 - Storage/Office Space 630 - Houses 640 - Land/Lots 650 - Mobile Homes 660 - Miscellaneous 670 - Commercial Property	700 - SERVICES 705 - Construction 710 - Educational 713 - Child Care 715 - Electrician 720 - Health & Beauty 730 - Lawn & Garden 735 - Legal 740 - Masonry 745 - Miscellaneous	800 - NOTICES 805 - Announcements 810 - Auctions 815 - Lost & Found	
200 - EMPLOYMENT							

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

130-Cars

FOR SALE: '93 Olds Ciera. Runs good, needs grill & bumper. \$800. Call 285-0742.

For Sale 1993 Ford Crown Victoria. 138,000 miles. \$1,200. call 606-874-0467

For sale 1991 Toyota Corolla needs work \$800 firm call 606-886-8339 after 5 pm.

Classified ads work! Call 886-8506

HICKS AUTO SALE 404 DAVID ROAD 01 Chevy Blazer LT 4 door 34,000 miles **REDUCED \$9,500, 1998 Town and Country Chrysler** all wheel drive loaded \$6,000 **1998 Camry LE** black loaded 95,000 miles \$6,200 **1996 ED Explorier** moon roof loaded, \$6,500 call Hicks Auto Sales at 606-886-2842 after hours 886-3451

140-4X4s

Will trade 4 wheel drive pick-up for a 4 wheel drive 4 wheeler call 606-874-2703

160-Motorcycles

1995 Honda CVR 900RR Cobra and Yoshi pipes-slip on with 2 matching helmets. Runs great call 606-226-1577 or 606-889-9283

For Sale 1998 YAMAHA YZ80 New tires, pro-circuit pipe. \$1600. Call 606-452-9599 for more info.

180-Trucks

Wanted used full size pick-ups 1998 thru 2003, will pay cash call 800-789-5301

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

CLASS A CDL DRIVER/WORKER NEEDED. Holiday, insurance, vacation, etc. Some experience helpful but not necessary. Labor positions available, rate of pay to be discussed at interview. Call Mary at Star Construction. 606-874-1263.

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.

480-Miscellaneous

\$7.99! Stereo Speakers Seized property TV, Computers & More! from \$10.00! for more information call 800-366-0307 ext.P620

FIREWOOD FOR SALE:

\$70 per load. All Hardwood Split Call: (606) 358- 9616

STEEL BUILDINGS

Prepare for Almanac's harsh winter forecast! Garages and Equipment Storage 20X30, 20X26 and 30X52. Fast and easy assembly! Call for details 1-800-405-7501.

WOLFF TANNING BEDS

Affordable Convenient Tan at home Payments from \$29 month
 FREE Color Catalog Call today 1-800-781-5173
www.np.etstano.com

ANTIQUES FOR SALE:

Furniture and dishes also like new leather recliner. 1997-2004 Mustang gt - new tires and wheels 606-434-5551

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.

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.

REAL ESTATE

530-Houses

A foreclosure 3 bed 3 bath only \$29,000! for listings call 800-391-5228 extension. B 183

540-Land/Lots

LAND FOR SALE LOCATED AT WAYLAND, KY known as Glow Hill. Estate of the late Jack and May Ratliff. Some flat and some hillside property. Approx. 14 acres plus 606-422-9034 ask for Becky. Serious inquiries only

For Sale 9 acres more or less on Samson fork at Dana, Ky. call 440-967-4088

570-Mobile Homes

3 BR DOUBLEWIDE FOR SALE: 3,000 obo. Call 874-4478.

FOR SALE: 1994 14x70 Fleetwood, 3 BR, 1 BA, outbuildings, and 2 porches. Good condition. Prestonsburg area. Call 606-889-2033

FOR SALE: 98 14X70 Fleetwood mobile home. Simulated stone underpinning, 2 porches. Located at Bear Hollow. Asking \$12,000 Call 889-0414

For Sale 3 bed room 2 full bath, Double wide, 3 years old for more information call 606-889-0937 or 606-889-9654

RENTALS

610-Apartments

FOR RENT Small furnished bachelor apartment just off Mtn. Parkway on old Rt. 114. Call 886-8724.

FOR RENT: 2 BR Duplex, Auxier. New carpet, fenced yard & private drive. \$350 plus utilities and \$200 deposit, 6 month lease required. Call 285-0742.

2 BR DUPLEX 624 A

N. Arnold Ave., Prestonsburg. LR dining room, kitchen, full bath, washroom w/ washer/dryer hookups. Large front porch. Kitchen appliances furnished including w/d. Central heat & air. \$550 rent & utilities. Deposit & lease required. Call 606-886-6460.

FOR RENT: 1 2 BR, 2 BA apartment, eat in kitchen, all major appliances included, utilities included. \$695 per mo., plus dep. Call 606-478-5173.

1 BR APT FOR RENT \$300 mo. plus dep. Located PCC and Highlands on Old 23. Call 886-9291.

1 BR APARTMENT in Harold. \$450 per month, utilities paid, references & deposit required, very nice. Call 437-1997

First Month's Rent FREE with Pd. Security Deposit through 12/25/04
 Park Place Apartments in Prestonsburg. Disabled, Elderly. Handicapped & Available for immediate occupancy. Rent 1 bed room/\$309; 2 bed room/\$345 call 606-886-0039

For Rent Studio Apt furnished, clean, nice suitable for 1 person
 Deposit Required \$225.00 per month utilities extra 886-6208

FOR RENT: 2 BR apt. Fully furnished, \$100 per week includes utilities. 886-8366.

For rent or lease Town House 2 bed room 2 1/2 bath Kitchen appliances furnished, washer/dryer furnished nice deck \$500.00 per month plus utilities located at Timberline Estates call 606-886-1997

2 bed room 1 1/2 bath

Townhouse also 1 bed room furnished or unfurnished located in Prestonsburg, NO PETS call 606-886-8991

Furnished 1 bed room Apt. Central heat & air. Rent starting at \$375. month, + \$300. deposit water included. Located near HRMC. 606-889-9717.

620-Storage/Office

For Lease Finished Office Space for lease in prime location near BSCTC, (PCC) and the new Food City -- **2100** -- sq. ft. Ground floor location with up to five private offices, conference room, kitchen, bath, parking lot call Today 606-424-2690 or 226-2266

FOR LEASE: Retail or office space. Starting @ \$325 per month Call 886-8366.

630-Houses

FOR RENT 3 BR 1 Bath house with large yard no pets 3 miles from Prestonsburg 889-9747 or 886-9007

FOR SALE OR RENT: 3,000 sq.ft. brick house in McDowell. Call 859-881-9149 or 377-2026.

FURNISHED HOUSE FOR RENT nice and clean. Near Prestonsburg, couple preferred, central heat and air. Call 606-886-2474.

FOR RENT 3 BR house. Newly remodeled, references required. 886-8366.

640-Land/Lots

For Rent : newly constructed Mobile Home Lots in new Allen, reference required call 606-874-2212

Trailer lot for rent on old U.S. 23 between Prestonburg and Paintsville call 606-886-9007 or 889 9747

670-Comm. Property

For Rent: Beauty shop equipped with 3 stations, and tanning bed. located 1 mile south of Martin on Route. 122. or would consider remodeling for office space Call 606-285-4826 or 606-285-9112.

NOTICES

812-FREE

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

Classified ads work!

Call Tammy today!
 886-8506

Subscribe To The Floyd County Times, 886-8506
 Call Patty today!!!

REGENCY PARK APARTMENTS

One, Two and Three Bedroom Units
 Kitchen Appliances Furnished
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For Applications call or write:
 Regency Park Apartments
 61 Regency Park Dr., Box 17
 Prestonsburg, KY 41653
 PHONE: 606-886-8318
 or 1-800-686-4447



(TDD for speech & hearing impaired 711)

AVON

Earn your own money, \$10.00 sign up fee. Free gift. Call Jancy at 886-2082.

220-Help Wanted

POSITION AVAILABLE Seasonal receptionist for a major company. People skills a must. Call 886-3685

GET PAID TO SHOP!

Mystery Shoppers needed to pose as customers in local establishments. Valid email required. PT/FT AVAILABLE. (800) 290-7955.

FINANCIAL

380-Services

CARPENTRY WORK all types. New construction or remodeling. Garages, decks, etc. Concrete work & siding. Free estimates. Call 886-8896.

MERCHANDISE

445-Furniture

ALMAR FURNITURE
 Big Selection of Living Room, Dining Room, Bedroom, Washers, Dryers and much more 606-874-0097

Ring in the New Year with a New Career!

PATIENT CARE COORDINATOR

West Liberty, KY


The ARH West Liberty, KY HomeCare Store is seeking qualified candidates for the position of Patient Care Coordinator.

This position is responsible for the management and supervision of all HomeCare Store Respiratory programs within the assigned area.

Qualifications include: CRTT required with a minimum of three (3) years of CRTT experience preferred with KY licensure required.

ARH offers a very competitive salary range and an outstanding benefits package which includes very low cost single or family plan health insurance coverage; very generous paid time off including vacation, sick and holiday leaves; life insurance at group rates, etc.

For additional information, please send resume to or contact: Dana Henry, West Liberty HomeCare Store, 520 Prestonsburg Street, West Liberty, KY 41472, telephone: 606-743-3630, e-mail: dhenry@arh.org, EOE www.arh.org



Appalachian Regional Healthcare
 The Medical Centers of the Mountains

PREMIER ELKHORN COAL COMPANY

Myra, KY

is now accepting applications for the following position:

Welder/Pipefitter/Repairman with 3 years prep plant repair experience. Must be able to cut, fit and weld pipe. Requires KY Surface Mine Certification. Must have Welder/Pipefitter Certificate.

Applications will be accepted at:

Kentucky Department for Employment Services
 138 College Street
 Pikeville, KY 41501

Premier Elkhorn Coal Company is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

MAINTENANCE DIRECTOR

Salyersville Health Care Center is now accepting applications for a Maintenance Director. This individual should possess extensive knowledge of building maintenance and repair, have excellent organizational skills with the ability to oversee an extensive preventative maintenance schedule and be familiar with commercial equipment, including boilers, washers, dryers, kitchen equipment, HVACs, and other general equipment. Must be motivated to work in a rewarding but challenging environment. If you are interested, in applying, please submit an application to...

Salyersville Health Care Center
 571 Parkway Drive
 Salyersville, KY 41465
 E.O.E./A.A.P.

Office Space for Lease

in the heart of downtown Prestonsburg. Entire first floor of the historic Harkins Law Office building, located on corner of W. Court Street & S. Arnold Avenue. Approximately 2,000 sq. ft.: 5 offices, including 1 with a private entrance, 1 reception/lobby, 1 walk-in safe, 1 storage room, and 2 baths. Contact: Robert R. Allen (606) 886-6460 or 226-6460.

CNA's / CMA's

We are currently hiring for open CNA and CMA positions. We offer an excellent benefits package and competitive wages. Call or stop by for a tour and interview to join our caring team.

Salyersville Health Care
 571 Parkway Drive
 (606) 349-6181
 E.O.E./A.A.P.

Ring in the New Year with a New Career at:


ARH's REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER HAZARD, KY

The ARH Regional Medical Center, a 308-bed facility of the Appalachian Regional Healthcare system, is accepting applications for the following positions:

- REGISTERED NURSES - CVU; Med/Surg; ICU/CCU & OR
- LPN/SCRUB TECH
- ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR CLINICAL SERVICES
- STAFF MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIST
- MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONISTS
- RESPIRATORY THERAPY TECH
- REGISTERED NURSE - Radiology Department - Part Time
- REFRIGERATION MECHANIC

Requirements include applicable licensure/certification with related experience. ARH offers a highly competitive salary based on education and experience. Benefits include very low cost single or family health insurance coverage; generous paid time off including vacation, sick and holiday leaves; life insurance at group rates; non-contributory retirement plan; tax-sheltered annuity programs, etc.

For additional information on these opportunities, please send resume to, or contact: Human Resources Department, ARH Regional Medical Center, 100 Medical Center Drive, Hazard, KY 41701; telephone: 606-439-6843 or 606-439-6841 or contact: Marilyn Hamblin, ARH System Center, PO Box 8086, Lexington, KY 40533; e-mail: mhamblin@arh.org; fax: 859-226-2586. EOE



Appalachian Regional Healthcare
 The Medical Centers of the Mountains
www.arh.org

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

IN THE
FLOYD COUNTY TIMES
CIRCULATION DEPT.
ASSEMBLING NEWSPAPERS

Part-time:
Day and night shifts

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No Phone Calls, Please!
E.O.E.



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When was the last time someone tacked a television ad to their refrigerator?

Words on paper. They will always be the most powerful communication tool we have. They place no limits on what we can say and the brilliant reason is the imagination we have to think on what we can say. They have the power to make complex ideas simple and simple ideas powerful. We do more than read them, we hold them. And, from the advertising we see in print, we learn in the letters we receive in the mail, the things we do do. Today, there are thousands of ways to say it.

Say It In Print.

Where there's a hurricane. Where there's a forest fire. Where mother nature is at her worst, we're there.

Where there's a search. Where there's a rescue. Where there are citizen's in need, we're there.

And now, when our country needs us most, the Air Force Reserve is there to defend freedom around the world.



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AROUND THE WORLD

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email: pwilson@floydcountytimes.com

HAVE A SPECTACULAR YEAR!

Code 15