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briefs

Police seek help solving burglaries

Times Staff Report

GOODY — Kentucky State Police is calling for community support in their investigation into burglaries in the Goody area of Pike County.

Burglars forced themselves into Papa John's Pizza and Mark's Auto Repair on Jan. 21. The subjects removed a safe, cash and various items from the restaurant and six remote control race trucks and accessories from the auto repair shop. The radio controlled race trucks are described as new in the box, approximately one-and-a-half feet long and valued at \$600 each.

Although these burglaries occurred in the same time frame, it has not been confirmed that they are related.

Trooper Luke Vanhoose is continuing the investigation. Anyone with information is urged to contact the KSP at (606) 433-7711. Anonymous calls will be accepted.

3 DAY FORECAST Today Morning snow High: 23 • Low: 14 Tomorrow Partly cloudy High: 37 • Low: 28 Tuesday Partly cloudy High: 45 • Low: 34 Get up-to-the-minute weather forecasts at floydcountytimes.com

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Victim's family testifies in Bishop trial

by TOM DOTY STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Testimony began on Friday for the Dwayne Bishop murder trial, with members of the victim's family testifying.

The case finds Bishop accused of the August 2000 murder of his wife, Carolyn. Jurors heard evidence from Carolyn Bishop's mother, sister, and the two children she and Dwayne Bishop had together.

The first witness to be called was Carolyn Bishop's mother Clara Tackett. Tackett, who raised eight children, spoke lovingly of her daughter and occasionally used the present tense when talking about her. She said that Carolyn Bishop was a good mother and loving daughter and recounted that she had moved back in with her with her children when she and Dwayne Bishop separated. She noted that Carolyn Bishop needed money and would clean people's houses for the extra income she needed to raise her four children, which included two from a previous marriage.

While being questioned by special prosecutor David Smith, she noted that Carolyn Bishop had begun seeing Dwayne Bishop again in 2000 and indicated that the

family didn't approve of Dwayne Bishop, which is why he would routinely rev his motorcycle outside of the residence to draw Carolyn Bishop outside.

"[The] family didn't want anything to do with him, and he wanted nothing to do with us," Tackett said.

Tackett recalled that Dwayne Bishop stopped by a lot in August 2000 and that he would go off with Carolyn Bishop.

"Sometimes she'd be beat up," Tackett said. "Several times I seen her with black eyes." When asked when this would happen, Tackett replied, "Always after she was with him."

The next witness called was Susan Reed, Carolyn Bishop's sister. Smith began his questioning by inquiring about the weekend of Carolyn Bishop's death. Reed replied that both of the children Carolyn Bishop had with Dwayne Bishop were born in the first week of September and that Carolyn Bishop had been planning a party for them.

Reed said that she was close to her sister and saw her every day. She also didn't approve of Dwayne Bishop and her sister seeing each other again and also noted that Carolyn Bishop would return from meetings with Dwayne Bishop looking like she had been physically abused.



Judge John D. Caudill handled over a dozen sidebar conferences on Friday as testimony began in the trial for accused murderer Dwayne Earl Bishop.

photo by Tom Doty

"Carolyn always had bruises, black eyes and scratches," Reed said.

Reed recalled seeing Dwayne Bishop with Carolyn Bishop on the night that her sister disappeared and remembered he was wearing black clothes and a heavy black leather jacket, which struck her as odd since it was hot and humid.

The next day when Carolyn Bishop didn't return home, Reed noted, "I knew something wasn't right." She tried finding her sister and eventually called the police who discovered the body of Carolyn

Bishop at a strip mine site off Route 979 near her home.

Reed also testified that she had a relative in a motorcycle club called "The Highwaymen" and that Dwayne Bishop was not accepted into the club. She also was asked if she knew a woman who in opening remarks was said to be having sexual intercourse with Dwayne Bishop at the time of his arrest, and replied that she was a woman that he had been seeing.

(See BISHOP, page three)



photo by Steve LaMaster

State road crews were kept busy Thursday night and Friday, clearing highways in the wake of the year's first substantial snowfall.

Yates receives 10 years for manslaughter

by MARY MUSIC STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Tracy Dean Yates, a Harold man convicted last year for the death of 2-year-old Stacia Collins, will serve 10 years in prison, Circuit Judge Danny P. Caudill ruled Friday.

Caudill adhered to the recommendations of the jury that convicted Yates in December for second-degree manslaughter, three counts of fourth-degree assault, driving on a suspended license and leaving the scene of an accident.

In conjunction with that sentence recommendation, Yates also received 12-month concurrent sentences on the other charges against him.

He was found guilty following a two-day trial last

year. Jurors deliberated for approximately 30 minutes before handing down the verdict.

The charges against Yates stem from a December 2002 accident in which he collided head on with the Collins family car on Route 2030, killing the child and injuring her parents and a sibling.

During the trial, Yates' oldest child testified that his father returned home after the accident on Dec. 12, 2002, and slammed his car into their house. Yates said he had been in a wreck and that someone may have been hurt, the adolescent said.

According to testimony, Yates then turned off all the lights in the house and asked the family to remain quiet. He had instructed the family to tell authorities that he had been home all night, the adolescent testified.

Manslaughter hearing delayed

by MARY MUSIC STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A Floyd County man charged with manslaughter is scheduled to

appear in court this week for a pretrial conference.

The pretrial deliberation, a hearing to determine whether or not Timothy J. Bellamy will accept a plea bargain offer from the com-

monwealth, was continued last week because the accused had to appear for mediation in federal court in London, court documents

(See HEARING, page three)

Cruelty charge to be filed after sheriff seizes horses

by RALPH B. DAVIS MANAGING EDITOR

MIDDLE CREEK — Responding to complaints that two horses had apparently been abandoned, Sheriff John K. Blackburn confiscated the animals Friday and plans to pursue criminal charges against the owner.

The horses are now being kept Conn's Stables, at Prater Creek, where they are being

kept inside a barn. They were examined by a veterinarian and are being nursed back to health.

Blackburn said his office had received complaints that the horses had been abandoned. After trying to contact the owner, John Mark McKenzie, without success, the sheriff said he obtained a court order from District Judge Eric Hall to confiscate the animals.

At noon Friday, Blackburn watched as the animals were loaded on a trailer and taken away.

The horses had been tied up — one to a guardrail, the other in the middle of a field — with no access to food or water. Blackburn said he believed they had been there for some time.

"From what I can tell, it

(See HORSES, page three)



Sheriff John K. Blackburn led one of two horses that were confiscated Friday due to alleged neglect. The animals are now receiving care at a stable and the owner will have to answer the allegations in court, Blackburn said.

photo by Ralph B. Davis

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Odds and Ends

■ **THOMPSON, Ohio** — A high school principal promises he's going to give the living skills curriculum an extreme makeover after a student skinned and cooked a Guinea pig and a rabbit during class.

The student, a 16-year-old boy, told the principal, Beto Gage, that he killed the animals at home before bringing them to Ledgemont High School. Gage said living skills teacher Diana Stevens lets students prepare a meal of their choice on Wednesdays.

Students who didn't want to watch were allowed to go into another room, Gage said.

The student had asked Stevens if he could catch and cook a wild rabbit and she approved, provided he gut the carcass before class, Gage said. He said the student, whose name was not released, is an active hunter.

The animals, however, apparently were purchased at a pet store.

Geauga Humane Society officials and the police said they received complaints from students and parents, and they are investigating the incident.

"Something irrational and wrong happened," said Geauga Humane Officer Sarah Westman.

Thompson is about 35 miles northeast of Cleveland.

■ **MILWAUKEE** — Sometimes saying please just doesn't work.

A man trying to rob Marine Land Pets got locked inside the pet store because of some fast action on the part of two clerks. The sisters, Wendy and Crystal York, triggered alarms that notified police and locked the store's front door.

The man can be heard on the store's security tape demanding that the clerk's open the door, only to hear them say, "We can't."

Then he asks again, "Open the door ma'am. Please open the door."

He finally found his way out a back door and fled. Police were looking for him.

■ **PRAGUE, Czech Republic** — It will be the most expensive keg of beer he's ever had.

A 32-year-old Czech man got himself locked up in a pizzeria in the town of Brno late Wednesday to have free access to beer overnight. When the restaurant's staff left, he broke into a cooling box containing a keg, disconnected the pipes leading to the tap, put

them in his mouth and drank as much as he could.

The man, drunk and fast asleep, was found by cleaners in the early hours of Thursday.

Police spokesman Vit Cvrcek said he will now have to pay for the beer he drank and faces prison time or a fine for the damage he caused to the cooling box.

■ **DUTCH MILLS, Ark.** — It's not as cold in northwest Arkansas as it is in Iceland, but a flock of Icelandic sheep doesn't seem to mind.

Dennis and Marilyn Miles say their Icelandic flock in southwest Washington County is the only one in the state and their sheep are among about 3,500 such animal found in the United States and Canada.

"We had some friends here a year ago in October," said Marilyn Miles. "Dennis told them how much time he spent mowing. Our friends said we ought to get some sheep."

The Miles did some research and were intrigued by what they found out about the breed from Iceland, the island nation in the North Atlantic Ocean. The breed is 1,100 years old, and Dennis Miles describes them as "maintenance-free."

"They're completely fed on pasture," his wife said. "They don't require any supplemental grain. Until last week we hadn't fed them any hay."

The sheep cost about \$700 to \$1,000 a head, she said.

■ **PRAGUE, Czech Republic** — Soviet-era compact TV sets, known for bad reception and low picture quality, are finally popular — as homes for bats.

A group of disabled workers in the southeastern Czech Republic produces bat boxes from the TV sets' sturdy plywood casing, which is hard to break and easily resists bad weather.

"The TVs had two outstanding features: an extremely bad picture and extremely solid plywood casing," said Mojmir Vlasin, an environmentalist whose company disassembles old TV sets.

Vlasin said about 50 boxes made of the TV sets that dominated Czechoslovakia's market in the 1980s have been placed in the woods near the city of Brno, 125 miles southeast of Prague.

Each box accommodates up to several dozen bats, depending on their size, Vlasin said.

Bats use the boxes in the

summer. In winter months, they hibernate in underground shelters.

■ **WAKARUSA, Ind.** — When the owners of The Dime Store order candy, they're not messing around.

This year, they ordered 30 tons of jumbo jelly beans.

The Wakarusa store ordered the tonnage for its 35th bean season — far more than the 5 tons of the candies it ordered in 1998.

The store in the town about 25 miles southeast of South Bend began selling jumbo jelly beans in conjunction with the Wakarusa Maple Syrup Festival 35 years ago. That first year, the store ordered 100 pounds and sold them all.

"When we first started selling jelly beans by the ton, people probably thought we had rocks in our head," store co-owner Deb McNally said last week.

This year, the store is featuring stone-shaped jelly beans, along with its popular "Love Potion Number Nine," a cherry-vanilla jumbo bean mix. There's also five flavors of smaller, sour jelly beans and a chocolate cherry dipped delight.

When Wilma and Etril

Leinbach stopped by the store, Etril gravitated toward the licorice jelly beans. "I'll take the black ones. That's my favorite," he said.

■ **CONCORD, N.C.** — Even though they are sanitation workers, Edwin Workman and Todd Little will be treated like VIPs at NASCAR's Nextel All-Star Challenge.

Both men returned 51 \$100 bills folded in a money clip in the pocket of a shirt tossed in the garbage Dec. 31. The cash was more than two months combined take-home pay for the two men.

"We were raised right and we immediately knew what the right thing to do was and that was to return the money back to the proper owner as soon as possible," Little said.

Humpy Wheeler, president and general manager of Lowe's Motor Speedway, was so impressed with the men's honesty he decided to reward them. Wheeler arranged for VIP tickets to NEXTEL All-Star Challenge on May 21, with reserved parking and a pre-race pit tour.

"NASCAR is a working man's sport and you guys are honest, hard-working people," Wheeler told them.

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Sunday, Jan. 23, the 23rd day of 2005. There are 342 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Jan. 23, 1973, President Nixon announced an accord had been reached to end the Vietnam War.

On this date:
■ In 1789, Georgetown University was established in present-day Washington, D.C.

■ In 1845, Congress decided all national elections would be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

■ In 1920, the Dutch government refused demands from the victorious Allies to hand over the ex-king of Germany.

■ In 1932, New York Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt announced his candidacy for the Democratic presidential nomination.

■ In 1943, critic Alexander Woollcott suffered a fatal heart attack during a live broadcast of the CBS radio program "People's Platform."

■ In 1950, the Israeli Knesset approved a resolution proclaiming Jerusalem the capital of Israel.

■ In 1964, the 24th amendment to the Constitution, eliminating the poll tax in federal elections, was ratified.

■ In 1968, North Korea

seized the U.S. Navy ship "Pueblo," charging its crew with being on a spying mission. (The crew was released 11 months later.)

■ In 1985, debate in Britain's House of Lords was carried on live television for the first time.

■ In 1989, surrealist artist Salvador Dali died in his native Spain at age 84.

Ten years ago: The Supreme Court ruled that companies accused of firing employees illegally could not escape liability by later finding a lawful reason to justify the dismissal.

Five years ago: The dark satire "American Beauty" won the Golden Globe for best film drama, while "The Sopranos" won best television drama. The Tennessee Titans advanced to the Super Bowl by beating the Jacksonville Jaguars 33-14 in the AFC Championship game. The St. Louis Rams defeated the Tampa Bay Buccaneers 11-6 to win the NFC Championship. NFL star Derrick Thomas was injured when the sport utility vehicle he was driving overturned on an icy road in Missouri; Thomas died more than two weeks later. (The crash also claimed the life of Thomas' friend, Michael Tellis.)

One year ago: The Illinois Supreme Court upheld former

Gov. George Ryan's powers to commute sentences, keeping 32 spared inmates off death row. The enduring situation comedy "Friends" filmed its final episode in front of an invitation-only audience. Bob Keeshan, TV's "Captain Kangaroo," died in Windsor, Vt., at age 76.

Today's Birthdays: Sen. Frank R. Lautenberg, D-N.J., is 81. Actress Jeanne Moreau is 77. Actress Chita Rivera is 72. Actor-director Lou Antonio is 71. Actor Gil Gerard is 62. Actor Rutger Hauer is 61. R&B singer Jerry Lawson (The Persuasions) is 61. Sen. Thomas R. Carper, D-Del., is 58. Singer Anita Pointer is 57. Actor Richard Dean Anderson is 55. Rock musician Bill Cunningham is 55. Rock singer-musician Patrick Simmons (The Doobie Brothers) is 55. Rock musician Danny Federici (Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band) is 55. Rock singer Robin Zander (Cheap Trick) is 52. Princess Caroline of Monaco is 48. Singer Anita Baker is 47. Reggae musician Earl Falconer (UB40) is 46. Actress Gail O'Grady is 42. Actress Mariska Hargitay is 41. R&B singer Marc Nelson is 34. Actress Tiffani Thiessen is 31.

Thought for Today: "There's no fun in medicine, but there's a lot of medicine in fun." — Anonymous.

Obituaries

Charles Jason Slone

Charles Jason Slone, 29, of Auxier, died Thursday, September 20, 2005, at his residence.

Born September 29, 1975, in Pikeville, he was the son of Charles Slone of Blue River, and Teresa Parsons Moss of Auxier. He was a telecommunications installer.

He is survived by his wife, Melisa Hubbard Slone.

In addition to his parents and wife, he is survived by a son, Jason Austin Lee Slone of Auxier; a daughter, Mariah Kate Hackworth of Auxier; his grandparents: Barbara Jones Slone of Prestonsburg and Ervin Slone of Blue River; his step-parents, Estalene Slone of Blue River and James Michael Moss of Auxier; a brother, Damon Michael Moss of Campbellsville; and a sister, Alicia Slone of Blue River; a brother-in-law, Delbert Hubbard and four nieces: Katelyn, Makinley, Alizabeth and Laura.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Allen Slone and Ina Shepherd Slone; and a brother, Toby Slone.

Funeral services will be conducted Monday, January 24, at 1 p.m., at the Nelson-Frazier

Funeral Home, in Martin, with Eugene Cook officiating.

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

Visitation is at the funeral home. (Paid obituary)

Charles Canterbury

Charles Canterbury, 78, of Pikeville, passed away Thursday, January 20, 2005, at Appalachian Regional Hospital, South Williamson.

Funeral services will be 1 p.m., Sunday, January 23, at West Funeral Home, Justiceville, with Donnie Hall officiating.

Burial will follow at the Sword cemetery at Joe's Creek. Visitation is at the funeral home.

Arrangements are under the direction of West Funeral Home (Paid obituary)

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Bishop

Defense counsel Harolyn Howard pressed Reed on not being present at any of the occasions where Carolyn was bruised and brought up a Lexington incident in which Carolyn Bishop was involved in a fracas and got her leg broken. David Smith got Reed to tell the story on redirect, during which Reed said that Carolyn Bishop was a bystander in that fight and got injured for being nearby. She did note that her account was based solely on Carolyn Bishop's telling of the story.

The afternoon ended with testimony from both of Dwayne and Carolyn Bishop's children. Each said that their father liked to wear black. Both identified a

spur that their father wore on his boot and one of the children also testified that a key-shaped zipper attachment introduced as evidence came from Dwayne Bishop's black leather jacket.

Each child had a recollection of seeing Carolyn and Dwayne Bishop riding along their hollow that night and never saw their mother again.

Some questions asked by Smith seemed innocuous and may hint at later evidence and testimony. He asked each child what brand of cigarettes their father smoked in 2000 and both replied that he liked Kool. The key on Dwayne Bishop's jacket was another item that may be important down the line of wit-

nesses, as well as the spur that he wore on his boot.

The day also saw many sidebars called as attorneys for both sides seemed content to clear up lines of questioning that may have led to the objections by opposing counsel. That said there were more than a few moments when objections were raised because witnesses interjected their accounts with opinions of other people they knew. Such evidence is termed hearsay and inadmissible. The way around it is to call in the people that witnesses allude to but in many instances on Friday that person was Carolyn Bishop.

Continued from p1

Hearing

say.

Bellamy, 26, was indicted in September for second-degree manslaughter, two counts of wanton endangerment and drunk driving.

He was arrested by Floyd County Sheriff Deputy Greg Clark last year for allegedly causing the death of Everett D.

Vanderpool in an automobile accident and for endangering the lives of two other individuals.

Bellamy was allegedly under the influence of alcohol and "another substance," officers in the case reported.

Bellamy, who holds prior convictions for drunk driving, was also charged as a persistent

Continued from p1

felony offender. Represented by Prestonsburg attorney Ned Pillersdorf, he posted a \$50,000 partially-secured bond shortly after his arrest.

Circuit Judge John David Caudill rescheduled the hearing for Jan. 28.

Obits

Pikeville, died Saturday, January 15, at St. Claire Regional Medical Center. Morehead. She is survived by her husband, Arvid Reynolds. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, January 19, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Willard Stone Sr., 74, of Raccoon, died Tuesday, January 18. He is survived by his wife, Nancy Jane Thacker Stone. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Thacker Memorial Funeral Home.

Ernest Smith III, 39, of McVeigh, died Tuesday, January 18, at Hatfield. He is survived by his wife, Janet Brugh Smith. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, January 22, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

Lexettie Bartley Stiltner, 94, of Grundy, Virginia, died Tuesday, January 18, at Mountain View Health Care Center, Elkhorn City. Funeral services were conducted Friday, January 21, under the direction of Grundy Funeral Home.

Bessie Marie Tackett, 99, a Pike County native, died Thursday, January 13. Funeral services were conducted Monday, January 17, under the direction of W.R. Milward Mortuary-Southland, Lexington.

Teddy Thacker, 62, of Regina, died Wednesday, January 19, in Lexington. He is survived by his wife, Patricia Ann Anderson Thacker. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, January 22, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

Mary Lou Webb, 65, of Lick Creek, died Thursday, January 13, in Owingsville. She is survived by her husband, Elmer Webb. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, January 16, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

Edith Lillian Weddington, 56, of Amelia, Ohio, a Canada native, died Tuesday, January 18, at her home. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, January 20, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

Margaret Louise Whitt, 61, of Shelbiana, died Thursday, January 13, at the home of her daughter, Kim Coleman.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday, January 16, under the direction of Thacker Memorial Funeral Home.

Rosetta Wolford, 69, of Phelps, died Saturday, January 15, at Good Shepherd Community Nursing Home, Phelps. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, January 18, under the direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

MARTIN COUNTY

Bertha Mills Booth, 91, of Inez, died Wednesday, January 12. Memorial services were held Saturday, January 15, under the direction of Richmond Callahan Funeral Home.

Palmer R. Fields, 85, of Pilgrim, died Monday, January 17, at Three Rivers Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, January 19, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

Mary Elizabeth Parsley, 71, of Columbus, Ohio, a Martin County native, died Wednesday, January 12, in Grant Medical Center, Columbus. She is survived by her husband, Albert (June Bug) Parsley Jr. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, January 15, under the direction of Woodyard Funeral Home.

Lilly Jean Pemberton, 77, of Inez, died Wednesday, January

12, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, John Morgan (Bill) Pemberton. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, January 15, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

Mary Music Perry, 92, of Tomahawk, died Monday, January 10, at Three Rivers Medical Center, in Louisa. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, January 12, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

Ella Mae Stepp, 73, of Inez, died Monday, January 10, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, January 13, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

Lee Anthony Whitt, 22, of Inez, died Sunday, January 9, at Paintsville. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, January 13, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

LAWRENCE COUNTY

Jeff Stacy, 68, of Ulysses, died Saturday, December 18, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Charity Mae Stacy. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, December 21, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

Floyd County's state highway garages set work schedule for week of Jan. 24-28

Superintendent Bud Akers and Acting Superintendent Jerry Todd of Highway District 12 today released this week's work schedules for the Allen and Minnie Maintenance Garages:

- Allen Garage
 - Monday, Jan. 24: Pothole patching on KY 1210 between mile points zero and seven.
 - Tuesday, Jan. 25: Pothole patching on Route 1750, Route 110, and Route 1427 between mile points zero and nine.
 - Wednesday, Jan. 26: Repair work on embankment

- failure (break) on Route 3386 between mile points zero and three.
 - Thursday, Jan. 27: Cleaning out ditchline on KY 3386 between mile points zero and three.
 - Friday, Jan. 28: Clean and service equipment; clean lot and garage.

- Minnie Garage
 - All week: Use slope mower and chipper to clear brush on Route 122 between mile points 19 and 26.
 - Friday, Jan. 28: Continue

work on KY 122; clean and service equipment and clean lot and garage (half day). Maintenance work is scheduled on a tentative basis and is subject to change, depending on weather conditions and emergencies. Motorists are urged to use caution in work areas, to be alert for flaggers, workers, and equipment. People also should pay attention to warning signs and obey speed limits at all times. Highway District 12 maintains almost 312 miles of roadway in Floyd County.

Despite dangers, miners still getting caught smoking underground

by ROGER ALFORD
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PIKEVILLE — The surgeon general's warning that smoking can be hazardous to your health takes on a whole new meaning inside a coal mine, where the flicker of a cigarette lighter could trigger a deadly methane gas explosion.

Despite the danger, coal companies have recently been finding miners smoking underground, a practice that has been illegal for more than half a century.

So far this month, three coal miners in Kentucky have been fired and turned over to the state for prosecution after searches turned up cigarettes and lighters. Two others were cited in November for smoking underground.

In Virginia, 13 coal companies have been cited in the past year for not searching coal miners for cigarettes and lighters as required by

state law. Most coal companies have taken a hard line against smoking — frisking miners, even searching lunch boxes in government-ordered pat downs. Miners found with cigarettes or lighters are fired on the spot and reported to authorities, who in some cases can impose fines and jail sentences.

And they don't get sympathy from their co-workers.

"A miner who smokes underground is not just endangering himself — he's risking the lives of everyone he's working with," said Todd Smith, a miner from Stone and a smoker himself.

But every time before he enters the mine, he takes his pack of USA Gold cigarettes out of his pocket and replaces it with a pouch of Lancaster chewing tobacco.

"If you're caught with cigarettes or a lighter, you're automatically fired on the spot," he said. "It's serious."

The U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration has found cigarette lighters or matches to be the cause of several deadly methane explosions in coal mines. One killed 13 people in Marion County, Tenn., in 1981. Another killed eight miners in Norton, Va., in 1992.

Miners caught smoking face jail time and fines of up to \$2,500 in Virginia, which strengthened its law after the Norton disaster. Coal miners convicted of smoking underground can get one to five years in prison.

"It's definitely a big no-no ... especially in mines known for methane," said Jeff Gillenwater, director of external affairs for Virginia-based Massey Energy, the largest producer of central Appalachian coal. "It's very dangerous."

Gillenwater said miners who smoke on the job also put their employers at risk of being fined by state and federal regulators. He said Massey has a policy that no smoking is permitted anywhere on its property, whether underground or on the surface. Violating that policy results in immediate dismissal.

"It will not be tolerated by our company," he said.

In Kentucky, Paris Charles of the state Office of Mine Safety and Licensing said miners found guilty of smoking on the job typically are put on administrative probation, meaning that if they're caught a second time the state revokes their mining licenses.

"Smoking is not as prevalent as it was in years past," Charles said. "We've not had any second offenses."

Bill Caylor, president of the Kentucky Coal Association, said miners working miles underground in some cases can't simply walk outside for a smoke break like office workers can. That's why some try to smuggle cigarettes underground.

"They don't fully appreciate the hazards," Caylor said. "They don't realize the potential harm they're causing their co-workers."

Horses

Continued from p1

had been a couple of weeks ... Blackburn said. "I feel it is a bad situation to find something tied up without being fed and watered."

Blackburn said McKenzie will now face a charge of second-degree cruelty to animals, a misdemeanor. The fate of the horses, meanwhile, will be determined by a judge at a later date.

Sandy Valley Transportation Services, Inc. (SVTS)

has the following important message concerning urgent care trips.

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expression

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

Guest view

Individual ownership

Breaking news: Eating less and moving more equals improved health and weight loss.

Yes, that's the latest advice from the government — the key component of the new dietary guidelines developed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the federal Department of Agriculture.

It's not hard to imagine many Americans giving a sarcastic roll of the eyes at this declaration. Of course people will shed pounds if they consume less food and drink and burn more calories. The real challenge is actually getting people to do as much. Let's hear the government's plan for actually motivating the people. What will Uncle Sam do to get Johnny out of bed early to exercise or to get Sally to choose a salad over a double burger with fries?

The answer is: Nada. And, frankly, it's not the government's job.

While the health risks of excess weight are serious, it's becoming increasingly apparent that the government is ill-equipped to make much of an impact on the nation's waistline.

"It's really common sense. Do you want to look better? Do you want to feel better?" said Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson in an Associated Press article. "You lower your calorie intake, you lower your carbs, your fats. You eat more fruits and vegetables, and you exercise. That's as simple as it can be. That is not too hard."

Actually, it's extremely hard. That's why so many Americans are considered obese and are afflicted with diabetes and high blood pressure and are at risk for heart disease.

Making smart food choices and getting regular physical activity is a foreign concept to many people. And to many others, it sounds like a good idea — but achieving it seems about as tough as climbing Mount Everest.

The new guidelines — which call for fewer calories, wise selection of fats and carbohydrates, more whole grains, five to 13 fruits and vegetables, reduced salt intake and 30 to 90 minutes of exercise a day — will be used in the next couple of months to give the government's food pyramid a makeover.

The government deserves some credit. It's trying its best to help improve the health of the nation. (The recommendations are the result of a 13-member panel of scientists and doctors reviewing Americans' diet and health over a year.)

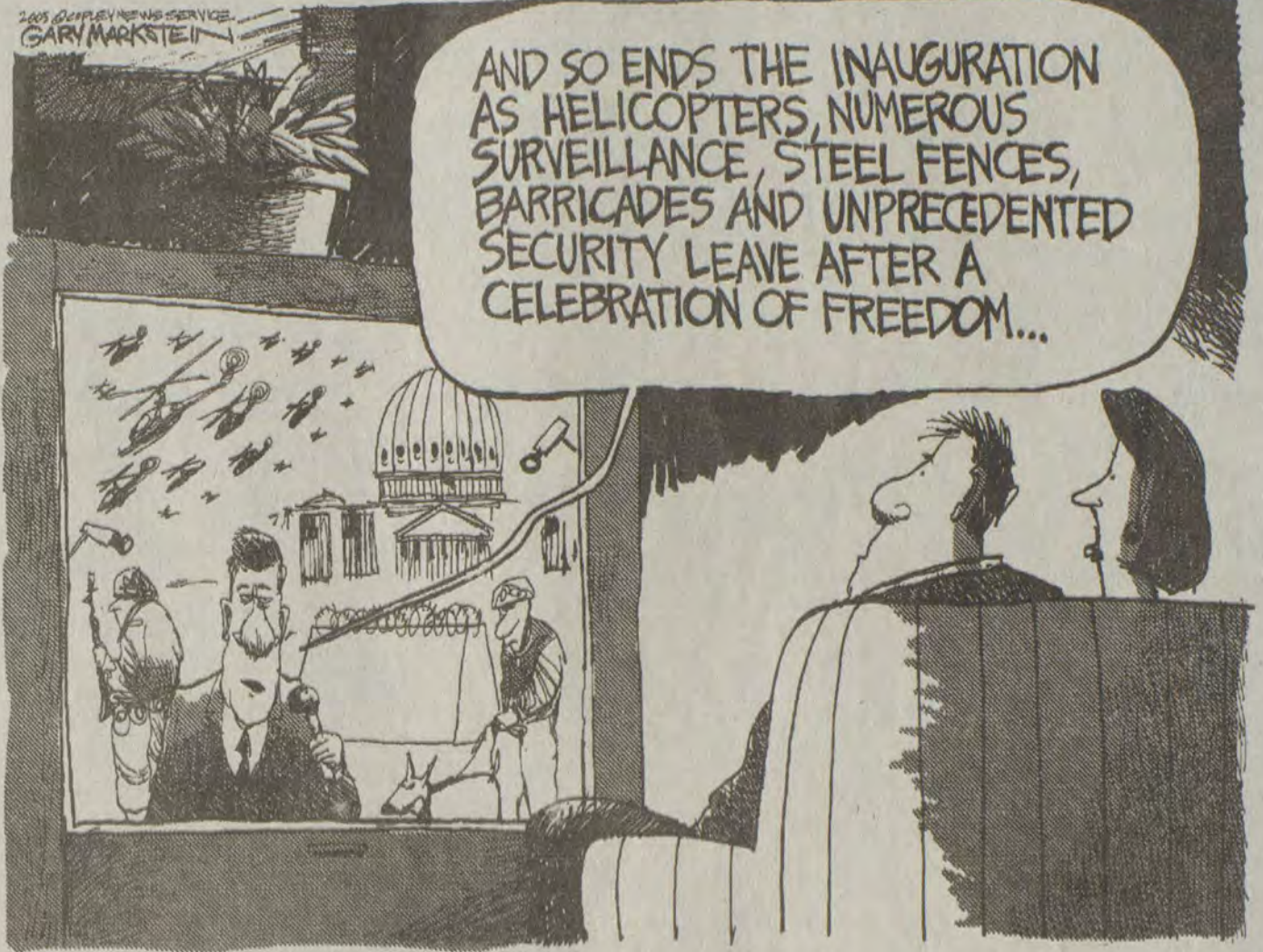
But it's hard to believe that Americans will suddenly take to using the food pyramid as if it were the gospel, posting it on their refrigerator and using it as a guide for their grocery list, just because the government says it's the right thing to do. Here's a hard dose of reality: It all comes down to people being responsible for themselves. Each individual has to want to make a change.

The government can spew out all the guidelines and programs and policy it wants. But if the majority of folks stuff their faces with a Big Mac, use water only for bathing and have trouble naming more than one fruit or vegetable, it's not going to make much of a difference.

Sometimes all it takes is one person with the willpower to achieve better health. That one person can create a domino effect, inspiring her family, friends and co-workers, who in turn inspire their circle of contacts. And, like magic, there are additional pockets of fit people all across the land.

So once people take "ownership" of their health, all of those guidelines and pyramids and pamphlets may just actually come in handy. Imagine that.

— Omaha World-Herald



—Rich Lowry Column—

The rise of reactionary liberalism

"Please, don't change anything." That bids fair to become the liberal slogan for the early 21st century. Who knew government programs circa 2004 would have achieved an equipoise of perfection such that disturbing them in the slightest way would represent liberal heresy? And who would have guessed that "progressives" would become opponents of change so thoroughgoing that they would make Edmund Burke blush?

Reactionary liberalism will be the order of the day in President Bush's second term. Take Social Security. The program was started in the 1930s. Back then, there were 41 workers for every retiree. Now, there are three. Back then, life expectancy was significantly shorter than its current 78 years. In other words, in 70 years the world has changed, but the structure

of Social Security hasn't — and liberals desperately want to keep it that way.

Never mind that dozens of countries have implemented some version of the Bush-proposed private retirement accounts. "It's just too dangerous" will be the mantra. We don't have the reform acumen of a Kazakhstan! No, no. We are Americans, and all we can manage is a defensive huddle around the status quo.

The same basic argument will apply to tax reform, tort reform, health-care reform and further education reform. No issue quite highlighted the left's reactionary impulse than when, during the campaign, Bush proposed redeploying American troops from their Cold War outposts around the world.

Liberals immediately reacted negatively, making the argument, basically, that the troops should stay where they are, because they've been there for 40 years, and everyone is comfortable with it.

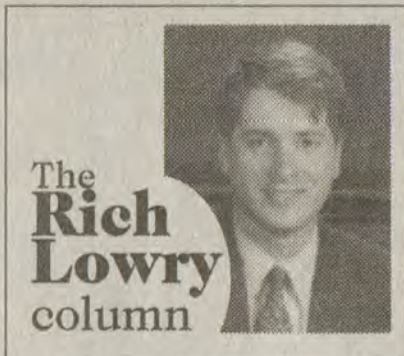
Why the migration of old-fashioned, status-quo conservatism from right to left? It is partly a function of the current political

dynamic. Republicans are on the offensive, so Democrats must play defense. It is also a hangover from recent political history. Conservatives, for decades, have told themselves that "ideas have consequences," and have set about through think tanks, books and magazines to find the best ones. During the period of richest conservative policy ferment, in the 1970s and 1980s, liberals could content themselves with relying on what was an increasingly sclerotic congressional majority. Liberalism was dependent on the fumes of the New Deal and Great Society, which were powerful, but bound to dissipate.

Some liberals realize it is imperative that Democrats re-brand themselves as the party of reform. But that will take some doing, as the party is simultaneously resisting every Bush-proposed reform. The Democrats will have to say "no, no, no and no" at the same time they try to rally the public around their innovative idea, say, to further erode the First Amendment with yet more campaign-finance "reform."

In Voltaire's classic "Candide," the character Pangloss insists, against all evidence, that it is the best of all possible worlds. Voltaire meant in part to skewer an impervious belief in the felicity of the status quo. In this sense, Pangloss is becoming the patron saint of 21st-century liberalism.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.



— beyond the beltway —

Does this attorney general reflect America?

by DONALD KAUL

Those of us less than enthusiastic about President Bush's re-election took what little solace we could in the resignation of John Ashcroft as attorney general. He had come to symbolize the utter disregard toward civil rights that characterizes this administration and his departure was greeted with a certain amount of jubilation in my sewing circle.



Whoever we got in his stead, we thought, would be an improvement. So whom did we get?

Adolf Eichmann Lite. Now hang on there, a minute. Don't go flying off the handle. I didn't call Alberto Gonzales, Mr. Bush's AG appointee, a Nazi, nor do I think he is one. I don't go around calling people Nazis much; it's a very heavy term.

Still, judging from the Senate hearings on Mr. Gonzales' confirmation, his patterns of thinking remind one of Mr. Eichmann.

Eichmann, for those of you too young to remember, was the mid-level Nazi bureaucrat charged with organizing and administering the "Final Solution" — the systematic annihilation of Europe's Jews. It was he who made the trains into the death camps run on time.

He escaped capture at the end of the war and was found by Israeli agents 15 years later, living a quiet life in Argentina. They kidnapped him and brought him back to Israel where he was tried as a war criminal and executed.

His defense was that he was only following orders. He bore no animosity towards Jews, he told the court, as a loyal officer in Adolf Hitler's army, it was his duty to ship them to their deaths.

Which brings us back to Gonzales. He is President Bush's former White House counsel and his name has been linked to the infamous "torture memo" produced at the request of the CIA.

The spy agency was trying to wring information out of captured al Qaeda operatives and wanted to know how far it could go in the wringing.

Far, as it turned out. After a series of meetings, often chaired by Mr. Gonzales, a memo was produced saying that torture was OK so long as you didn't carry it to the point of "organ failure." The president has since disavowed that memo.

In fact, nearly everyone has. Asked what his response to it was at the time, he told the Senate:

"I don't recall today whether or not I was in agreement with all of the analysis."

He doesn't recall. And as to the memo's authorship, he didn't have a clue, but he knew that it wasn't him. It was not his job as the president's lawyer, he said, to decide what was and wasn't legal interrogation technique. "That would be a job for the

Department of Justice and I never ... influenced or pressured the department to bless any of those techniques."

He ended his testimony with a ringing declaration of principle: "Torture and abuse will not be tolerated by this administration. I will ensure the Department of Justice aggressively pursues those responsible for such abhorrent actions."

Better late than never. He's almost sure to be confirmed as attorney general, which is frightening but not surprising.

Frightening, because he seems a man who brings nothing of his own conscience to his job as the nation's chief law enforcement officer. He will follow the orders given him.

Not surprising, because the revelations of our mistreatment of prisoners in Abu Ghraib and Guantanamo produced so little outrage in this country. Torturing prisoners? So what. It's a war.

Yet there's not a friend of the United States on the planet who did not shake his or her head in dismay at the pictures of those prisoners being treated like animals and worse by American troops. That photo of the hooded figure, his arms forming a cruciform, electric wires attached to his body, haunts our efforts to convince the Arab world we're not their enemies.

Is this what the Shining City on the Hill, the "last, best hope of mankind," has come to?

I wish I could say we're better than this but I'm not sure we are. And if we are, it's in spite of people like Gonzales, not because of him.

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 at donaldkaul2@verizon.net.

The Times

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Faith Extra

Global conference aims to help pastors' wives deal with stress, expectations

by **BOBBY ROSS JR.**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DALLAS — The list of names reads like a who's who in evangelical Christianity: Osteen, Jakes, LaHaye.

But the focus of a ministry conference in Florida next week isn't megachurch pastor Joel Osteen, or televangelist and filmmaker Bishop T.D. Jakes, or best-selling author Tim LaHaye of "Left Behind" fame.

Rather, it's their wives: Victoria Osteen, Serita Jakes and Beverly LaHaye. They're each planning to address more than 2,000 women, from all 50 states and more than 20 nations, at the Free to Soar pastors' wives conference in West Palm Beach, Fla. Thousands more are expected to watch parts of the meeting at 80 satellite locations across the nation.

Organizers bill the conference, set to begin next Tuesday, as the first-ever global event to help pastors' wives deal with a full-time job — typically unofficial and unpaid — that is often fraught with unrealistic expectations, constant demands and even loneliness.

"Most pastors' wives just don't feel qualified. That's really a sad situation," said Lois Evans of Dallas, president of the Global Pastors' Wives Network. "And the guilt that they feel can be immense, simply because they are expected to have it all together."

She's organizing the conference along with network founder Vonette Bright, who

started the international ministry Campus Crusade for Christ with her late husband, Bill Bright. Bright also founded the Global Pastors Network and the wives' network is an affiliate of that group.

Victoria Osteen, whose husband preaches to more than 25,000 worshippers each weekend at Lakewood Church in Houston, is a familiar face on the church's nationally televised services. For the mother of two, being a pastor's wife means never buying groceries without someone watching what you're putting in your cart — or what you're wearing.

"I do try to sneak out in my ball cap and a jogging suit on a Saturday," she said, chuckling. "It seems like I always get caught."

Osteen said her message to pastors' wives will be: "You can't do everything and you can't be everything to everyone, so prioritize your life. ... The first thing on my agenda is my relationship with God, then my relationship with my family, and then, of course, the congregation."

Evans — wife of Tony Evans, senior pastor of the 7,000-member Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship in Dallas — said training and mentoring have long been available to pastors, but are just now being offered to their wives.

Seminaries have held leadership training courses and retreats for women. Pastors' wives have started newsletters and Web sites to share the challenges and rewards of life "in the fish bowl," as the home page of www.pastorswives.org refers to it.

But the Florida conference marks the first broad-based effort crossing racial, cultural and denominational lines to reach out to pastors' wives, said Ted Haggard, president of the National Association of Evangelicals, which represents more than 50 denominations with 43,000 congregations.

"There's no one personality that everybody's gathering to hear," said Haggard, pastor of the 11,000-member New Life Church in Colorado Springs, Colo. "There are Baptists and Pentecostals, Americans and people from other nations. I think it's going to be incredibly powerful."

His wife, Gayle Haggard, has a new book, "A Life Embraced: A Hopeful Guide for the Pastor's Wife." In it, she maintains that ministry life shouldn't be about enduring challenges but about embracing joy. "It's really a wonderful role and not a pitiable, sad role," she said.

But often pastors' wives are thrust into the role without proper training, Lois Evans said. She recalled her own experience 29 years ago, when suddenly she was expected to be a gifted teacher, a perfect mother and a spiritual leader with all the answers.

She was unprepared for it. "I played the piano, so I was safe with that," Evans said. "But I did not fit into a whole lot of other roles. But my husband made a startling statement to me one day. He said, 'Lois, I want you to be yourself.' I think that's exactly what the Lord wants you to do as well."

Roughly 5 percent of senior

pastors in American Protestant churches are women — so there are pastors' husbands as well — but organizers consciously decided not to make the conference about pastors' spouses.

James Davis, president of the Global Pastors Network, said the reason wasn't that the network includes bodies such as the Southern Baptists, who believe the Bible prohibits ordaining women as pastors. Organizers simply felt that pastors' wives have different needs than pastors' husbands, he said.

"It's not that we're trying to neglect the husband whose wife is a pastor or a minister," Davis said. "But we had to make some fundamental decisions about this conference and what it would be about."

Stephanie Wolfe, whose husband, Jack, is senior pastor of the 700-member Calvary Christian Fellowship in Duluth, Ga., said she sees the conference as an opportunity to network.

Wolfe, who founded a ministry for pastors' wives called Mates in Ministry, said she can't always confide with people in her congregation. Sometimes, they're the reason she needs to vent.

"Like I always used to say, I had two children that were biologically raised by me, and I have now about 700 that I'm responsible for and that I shepherd and I mentor," Wolfe said. "I don't think people realize the weight of ministry. I love those people, so when their husband dies or their kids are in jail or they are sick physically, I carry that."

Minister's Moment

What are we afraid of anyway?

by **PASTOR JOHN A. BAKER**
PRESTONSBURG SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST CHURCH

"I don't know about you, but I'd rather fly than fry!" and "Paradise only has two sections, smoking and no-smoking."

While driving in another community here in Eastern Kentucky, I chanced upon two church signs that boldly proclaimed these words. My first thought was, it's amazing what some pastors do to motivate church members back in attendance. However, after additional thought, I was stunned to think, "Are most people beginning their first relationship with God under these proclamations?"

It was in a college theology class some years ago that I remember the story of a young man who comes to class on a Monday morning under the power of two crutches. Surprised to see the student in a cast, the professor questions him on what caused his misfortune.

The students sheepish reply was, "I went snow skiing on the Sabbath." Pausing with head down, he continued, "I suppose if I hadn't been breaking the Sabbath, the Lord wouldn't have let me break my leg."

In front of the whole class, the reply by the professor was thought provoking, for he responded to the question by asking one himself: "Are you telling me that God says, 'You break my Sabbath I break your leg?' Of course not!"

That classroom lesson in God's character I have never forgotten.

There is a country song by Conway Twitty entitled, "That's My Job". It's centers around a young man who finds himself torn between what he wants to do with his life and what aspirations his father has for him. Before he heads west to begin a life separate from his father and mother, he finds it difficult to separate the boy from the man he has become. He turns to his father and hesitantly asks this question, "What happens if my goals aren't realized and I lose direction, what if I don't have the means to make it back home?" The father replies tenderly and assuredly, "I'll always be there for you, that's my job."

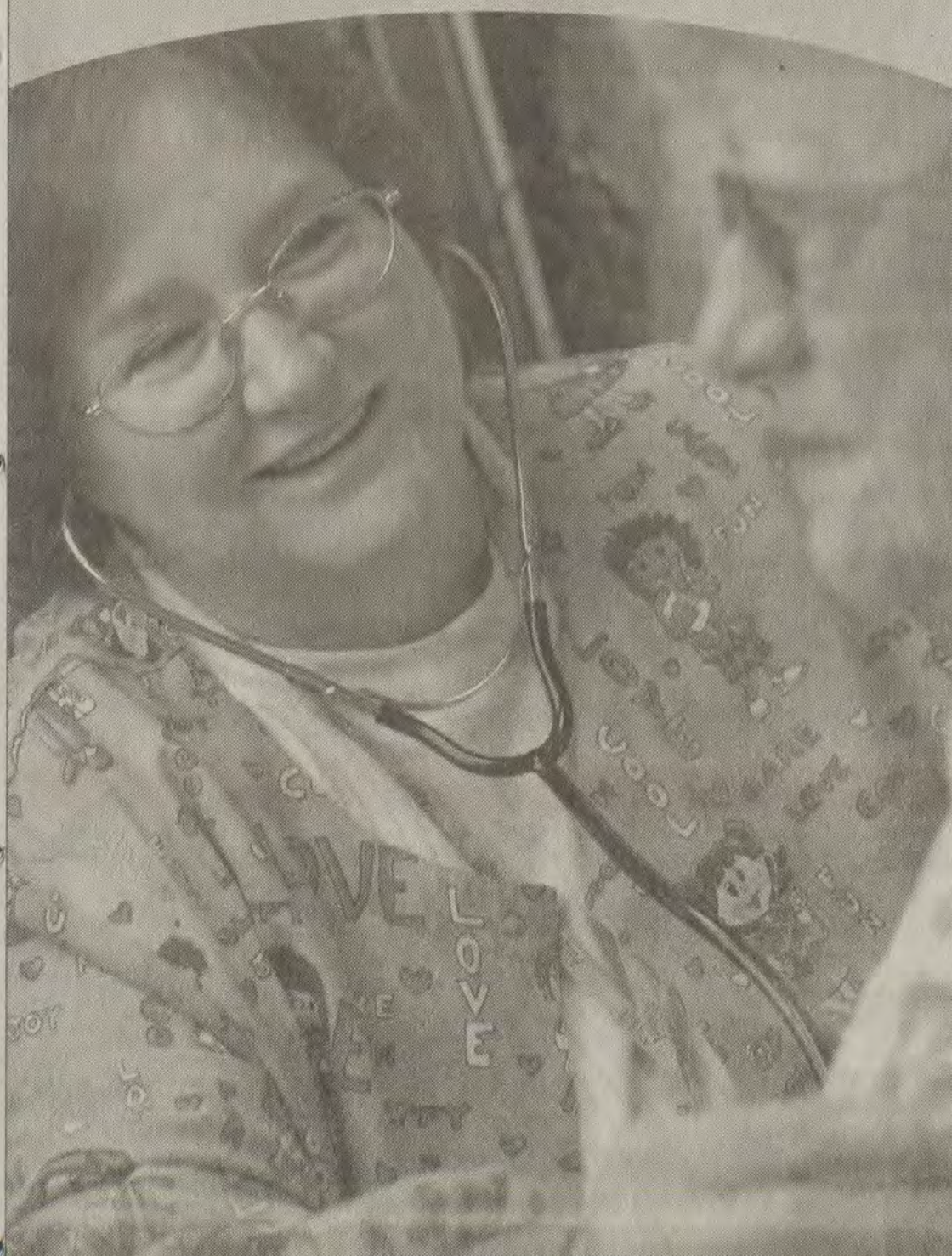
Following the crucifixion of Jesus, Peter and the other disciples, their future in shambles, conducted themselves the only way they knew how, they went fishing. (John 21:3) It was there on the shore of the sea of Tiberias after a long night of futility, Jesus presented himself to them, fed them and told Peter three times, "Feed my sheep."

Jesus knew at that moment Peter was not ready for God's full leading in his life, but by telling him three times to feed his sheep he is saying, I know you don't feel ready to do what I ask, but when you do, I will be there with you. Jesus was ready to walk him through his doubts. That's God's job. He does it because He loves us. That's proof we needn't be afraid of Him.

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FLOYD COUNTY
The Times

FLOYD COUNTY

Regional Obituaries

FLOYD COUNTY

Rose Anderson Floyd, 80, of Jeffersonville, formerly of McDowell, died Monday, January 17, in the University of Kentucky Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Friday, January 21, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Nancy Lou Hall, 54, of Hi Hat, died Sunday, January 16, at the McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, January 20, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Betty Ruth Myers Hunt, 73, of Stanville, died Thursday, January 20, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, Prestonsburg. She is survived by her husband, Rev. Virgil Hunt. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, January 22, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Aster Hunter, 92, of Prestonsburg, died Monday, January 17, at King's Daughters Medical Center, Ashland. He is survived by his wife, Amma Mae Blackburn Hunter. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, January 20, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Bertram Layne, 90, of Tram, died Tuesday, January 18, at the Riverview Manor Nursing Home. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, January 22, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Denzil (Stud) Martin, 50, of Drift, died Saturday, January 15, at the U.K. Medical Center, in Lexington. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, January 18, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Sam Martin, Jr., age 66, of Martin, died Monday, January 17, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, Prestonsburg. He is survived by his wife, Marguerite Hall Martin. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, January 20, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Walter Scott Slone II, 24, of Hueysville, died Sunday, January 16, at his residence. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, January 19, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Ernestine Wells Wells, 80, of Auxier, died Tuesday, January 18, at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Friday, January 21, under the direction of Carter Funeral Home.

JOHNSON COUNTY

Carl Francis Blair, 89, of Staffordsville, died Sunday, January 16, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Louise Horne Blair. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, January 19, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

Cleo E. Lee, 77, of Richmond, Virginia, a native of Van Lear, died Sunday, January 9. He is survived by his wife, Mariam Shear Lee. Memorial services were held Saturday, January 22, at St. John's Catholic Church in Richmond, Virginia.

Juanita Horne, 78, of Staffordsville, died Friday, January 14, at Mountain Manor Nursing Home, Paintsville. She is survived by her husband, Raymond Horne. Graveside services were held Monday, January 17, at the Lakeview Memorial Cemetery at Staffordsville. Arrangements were under the direction of the Paintsville Funeral Home.

Vonnie Kennard, 75, of Dayton, Ohio, a native of Johnson County, died Thursday, January 13, at the VA Hospital in Dayton, Ohio. He is survived by his wife, Lawanna Wells Kennard. Funeral services were held Sunday, January 16, under the direction of Phelps & Son Funeral Home.

KNOTT COUNTY

Claude Brewer, 64, of Hindman, died Monday, January 17, at ARH June Buchanan Primary Care Center, Hindman. He is survived by his wife, Lillian Brewer. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, January 20, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

MAGOFFIN COUNTY

Vertie Back Craft, 87, of Foraker, died Monday, January 17, at King's Daughters Medical Center in Ashland. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, January 20, under the direction of the Magoffin County Funeral Home.

Millie Louise Back Grimm, 62, of Bridgetown, Ohio, a Magoffin County native, died Thursday, December 9. Funeral services were conducted Monday, December 13, under the direction of Dennis George Funeral Home, Cleves, Ohio.

Venus Jones, 91, of Salyersville, died Monday, January 17, at Paul B. Hall Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, January 19, under the direction of Paintsville Funeral Home.

Ethel M. Fletcher Lawrence, 63, of Marion, Illinois, formerly of Royalton, died Monday, January 10, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, Edward Deon Lawrence. Funeral services were conducted Friday, January 14, under the direction of Salyersville Funeral Home.

PIKE COUNTY

Flo Ann Branham Bowling, 76, of Pikeville, died Sunday, January 16, at Pikeville Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Theodore Bowling. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, January 19, under the direction of Lucas & Hall Funeral Home.

James Douglas "Jim Doug" Charles, 24, of Pikeville, died Wednesday, January 13, in Las Vegas. He is survived by his wife, Crystal Beers Charles. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, January 18, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Rev. Bradley Coleman, 94, of McCarr, formerly of Vulcan, West Virginia, died Tuesday, January 18, at Williamson Memorial Hospital. Funeral services were conducted Friday, January 21, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

Bert Clinton Diamond, 74, of Floyd Virginia, formerly of Pikeville, died Sunday, January 9. He is survived by his wife, Bertha Dials Diamond. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, January 12, under the direction of Gardner Funeral Home.

Sheila Denise Dotson, 35, of McVeigh, died Tuesday, January 18, at Hatfield. Funeral services were conducted Friday, January 21, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

Carlos Andrew "Andy" Evans, 53, of Pikeville, died Friday, January 14, at Marrowbone Creek Road. He is survived by his wife, Cyndy Swindle Evans. Funeral services were conducted Monday, January 17, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

James Earl Hurley, 82, of South Williamson, died Saturday, January 15, at the South Williamson Appalachian Regional Hospital. Funeral arrangements, are under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

James Earl Hurley, 82, of South Williamson, died Saturday, January 15, at the South Williamson Appalachian Regional Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Sylvia Hager Hurley. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, January 18, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

Marvin Hunt, 53, of Vinton, Ohio, a Pike county native, died Saturday, January 15. He is survived by his wife, Kathleen Sloan Hunt. Funeral services were conducted Friday, January 21, under the direction of McCoy-Moore Funeral Home.

Jimmy Delzie "Josh" Johnson, 61, of Speight, died Tuesday, January 11, at his home. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, January 15, under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

Clinard "Bear" Justice, 81, of Millard, died Sunday, January 16, at Central Baptist Hospital, Lexington. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, January 20, under the direction of Thacker Memorial Funeral Home.

Vonda E. Matney, 80, of Elkhorn City, died Thursday, January 13, in Corbin. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, January 16, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

Dixie McCoy, 83, of Collins Highway, died Saturday, January 15, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Monday, January 17, under the direction of Roberts Funeral Home.

Walter Miller, 87, of Turkey Creek, died Saturday, January 15, at the South Williamson Appalachian Regional Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Beatrice Lowe Miller. Funeral services were conducted Monday, January 17, under the

direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

Daniel Mullins, 58, of Jenkins, died Wednesday, January 19, the result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, January 22, under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

Sarah Ellen Lee Ratliff, 86, of Pikeville, died Tuesday, January 18, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Friday, January 21, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Vicy Elizabeth Ratliff, 87, of Ft. Pierce, Florida, formerly of Pikeville, died Tuesday, January 18, in Stuart, Florida. Funeral services were held Monday, January 24, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

January 24, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Sarah Ellen Lee Ratliff, 86, of Pikeville, died Tuesday, January 18, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Friday, January 21, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Vicy Elizabeth Ratliff, 87, of Ft. Pierce, Florida, formerly of Pikeville, died Tuesday, January 18, in Stuart, Florida. Funeral services were held Monday, January 24, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Edna Reynolds, 83, of Wellington, formerly of

(See OBITs, page three)

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Lady Bears win league opener

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE — A 13-game losing streak in the Mid-South Conference ended for Pikeville Thursday night thanks to a 61-52 win over No. 18 Lindsey Wilson.

Pikeville (14-6, 1-0) had lost its final regular-season game at Lindsey Wilson in the 2002 season, and then were knocked off by Georgetown in the tournament that year. Last year, they became the first team to go 0-10 in the

league and then were eliminated in the first round of the MSC tournament.

All that is behind them now, thanks to a terrific effort against a game Lady Raider team for their ninth straight win on the season.

Pikeville built its lead to 11 (48-37) with 8:30 to play in the game thanks to a 6-0 run, keyed by back-to-back layups by all-conference senior Selena Williams.

Lindsey (14-4, 0-1) got as close as three (52-49) with 2:45 to play when

senior Tiffany Jones scored the last five in a 6-0 run. But Pikeville scored the next four on a jumper by Williams and free throws by sophomore Jessica Lovell to push the lead back to seven (56-49) with 1:32 left to seal the game.

Pikeville dominated the glass and shot the lights out, particularly in the second half. After hitting a respectable 48 percent in building a 40-24 halftime lead, they blasted the game with 66.7 percent shooting after recess.

Meanwhile, they dominated the

glass to the tune of a 20-board (44-24) edge, thanks to 11 by Williams, the senior who recorded a double-double with a game-high 21 points.

She was joined in double figures by sophomore Heather Dillon, who had 10 and grabbed eight boards.

Lindsey Wilson was paced by Jones, who flipped in 13 and grabbed six rebounds. That total matched junior Rebecca Husband for team honors. Husband and senior Suzanna Ashby had 11 points each.

Lindsey was 20-of-60 (33.3 percent) for the game and hit only 5-of-21 (23.8 percent) from the arc.

Neither team protected the ball very well; Lindsey turned it over 15 times, while Pikeville gave it up a whopping 26 times.

Pikeville was on the road this weekend, yesterday, against Lambuth University in Jackson, Tenn. Results from the Pikeville-Lambuth game were unavailable at press time.

Lindsey Wilson is off the entire weekend.

Final 10 minutes give Lindsey win

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE — Second-ranked Lindsey Wilson outscored Pikeville 25-6 in the final 9:42 to turn a close game into a 63-45 win Thursday night.

The win was the 12th straight for the Blue Raiders, who improved to 18-1 on the campaign, while the 14th-ranked Bears slipped to 17-3 in the Mid-South Conference opener for both clubs.

Pikeville took a 39-38 lead with 9:42 left on a layup by junior Chris Carroll. But from there it was all Raiders — an 8-0 run began with a three by senior Jared Barnes and closed with a layup and trey by senior Cetric Anderson to make it 46-39 with 7:04 to play.

Walter Harris scored inside for the Bears, but it proved to be only an interruption — Lindsey scored six more in a row to stretch the lead to 11 (52-41) with 4:12 remaining, and for all intents and purposes, the game was over.

The second half numbers tell the story of the game — while Lindsey hit 62.5 percent after the half (and 66.7 percent from the arc), Pikeville made only 29.6 percent from the floor.

Senior Jarell Jones led the Bears with 14 points, hitting 4-of-8 from the arc. He made all of Pikeville's three-point tries; the rest of the team was 0-for-6. Harris had 10 points and 10 rebounds for the Bears.

Senior John Spivey turned in a double-double, scoring 19 points and 11 rebounds for the Raiders. Junior point guard Scott Cook had 12 points and dished out five assists. Anderson followed with 11 points.

Pikeville was back in action on the road at Lambuth University in Jackson, Tenn.

Lambuth is also the next foe for Lindsey, as the Eagles will visit Columbia Thursday.

JUNIOR VARSITY: P'burg beats Breathitt

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PRESTONSBURG — Playing host to Breathitt County Thursday night, the Prestonsburg High School boys' junior varsity basketball team got off to a fast start and finished strong. The Prestonsburg JV squad outlasted visiting Breathitt County and claimed a 59-53 win.

James Michael Lafferty and Trevor Patton each had 16

points for the host Blackcats. Bobby Hughes, who sunk four three-point field goals, finished with 14 points, giving Prestonsburg three different players in double figures.

Prestonsburg raced out and led 18-11 at the end of the opening quarter. The Blackcats led 33-26 at halftime.

Prestonsburg outscored Breathitt in three of the game's four quarters and maintained pressure on

defense, limiting the opposing team's shot opportunities.

Justin Hollon led Breathitt County with 14 points. Daniel Carver added 11 points for the Bobcats and Daniel Lawson flipped in six.

Brooks Herrick added eight points for the Blackcats. Seth Moore finished with three points and Nathaniel Stephens chipped in two.

Prestonsburg shot eight-of-15 from the free throw line.

GIRLS' 15TH REGION ALL "A" CLASSIC



Above: The South Floyd Lady Raiders saw this year's 15th Region All "A" Classic opening round game slip away very early on.

Below: Pikeville senior Megan Harris (20) had 11 points in her team's win.

Pikeville ousts South Floyd

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

EASTERN — With the snow flying outside Thursday night, the Pikeville High Lady Panthers warmed up the hardwood inside the J.E. Campbell Arena as the opening round of the Girls' 15th Region All "A" Classic continued. Pikeville, coached by former Allen Central Lady Rebel head coach Cindy Halbert, defeated and eliminated South Floyd. Pikeville built an early lead and for the most part, cruised, en route to a 79-47 win over the Lady Raiders.

South Floyd entered play in this year's 15th Region All "A" Classic looking to make it back to the title game for a second straight season. The Lady Raiders fell to rival Betsy Layne in the 2004 championship game. On Thursday night, senior guard Samantha Howard led Pikeville with 15 points.

At one point in the first quarter, the Lady Panthers actually trailed. But Pikeville quickly grabbed the momentum early on and went on to win easily.

Pikeville took a 16-7 lead out of the first quarter. The Lady Panthers led 33-19 at halftime. Pikeville outscored South Floyd in every quarter. Halbert's team finished real strong, finishing off the Lady Raiders with a 27-16 scoring advantage in the final quarter.

Shawna Howard added 13 points for the Lady Panthers. Emily Colvin and Evan Shockey both had 12 points apiece. Megan Harris, who played at Allen Central before transferring to Pikeville, added 11 points. Nine different Pikeville players scored. Seven Lady Panthers had six points or more.

The slow start ultimately doomed South Floyd.

Senior Tab Trammell led South Floyd in scoring with a game-high 21 points. Trammell was the only South Floyd player to reach double figures in the points department. Heather Dean flipped in seven points for the Lady Raiders. Kayla Hall and Miranda Gregory each had six points apiece.

Play in the regional All "A" Classic continued yesterday with the championship game scheduled for last night. Results from the semifinals and championship game were unavailable at press time.



Belfry freshmen edge Allen Central

TIMES STAFF REPORT

BELFRY — A road trip to Belfry Thursday evening resulted in a slim loss for the Allen Central High School boys' freshman basketball team. The Rebels played from behind early and nearly recovered from a nine-point halftime deficit. Host Belfry, which led 34-27 at the end of the third quarter, held on to beat visiting Allen Central 40-38.

Belfry led 14-9 at the end of the opening quarter and took a 27-18 lead into the half-time intermission period. The Pirates were outscored 11-6 in the final period as Allen Central fell just short of the victory.

With the loss, the Allen Central freshmen dropped to 3-5.

For the homestanding Pirates, two players scored in double figures and combined for a total of 26 points.

Each team had five different players score points.

Clinton Turner led Allen Central in scoring with 13 points. Robbie Cole scored eight points for the Rebels while Alex Hammonds and Jan Michael Hicks each scored six apiece.

Corey Webb added five points for the visiting Rebels.

The Allen Central freshmen are coached by Rick Hancock.

South Floyd frosh rally to beat David School

TIMES STAFF REPORT

MARTIN — The South Floyd freshman team overcame an early eight-point deficit to defeat the David School Falcons Wednesday night at the Mountain Christian Academy Gym. The Falcons, who are winless this season, against the South Floyd freshmen, played their best three quarters of basketball thus far this season, according to Coach Ned Pillersdorf. The David School ultimately fell to defeat at the South Floyd frosh prevailed, winning 53-42.

The Raiders outscored the Falcons 17-7 in the final quarter to secure the victory. The Raiders were led by Wes Hall, who scored 30 points. The Falcons were led in scoring by Patrick Henderson, who had 17 points and six rebounds. James Stephens, one of the smallest players on the court, captured seven rebounds and scored five points. Joe Tiller and Justin Shepherd scored nine points each for the Falcons. Nathan Robinson added two points and played a turnover-free game at the point guard position.

The David School will play Betsy Layne on Monday at the Mountain Christian Academy Gym. Tip-off for the David-Betsy Layne game is set for 7 p.m. WPRG-TV will be televising the game. Rhodie St. Bernard will be in attendance to inspire the Falcons and provide security.

Horsemen coaching staff same as last season

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — Bob Sphire has returned for a second season as head coach of the National Champion Lexington Horsemen. Sphire was named Coach of the Year for his efforts in leading the Horsemen to the 2004 NIFL National Championship.

Sphire helped the Horsemen advance to the playoffs. The team won its first ever Atlantic Conference North Division title by defeating the defending Champions, the Ohio Valley Greyhounds. Sphire then ultimately lead the Horsemen to their berth in Indoor Bowl IV. The Lexington indoor football team went on to win the 2004 National Championship by defeating the Sioux Falls

(See HORSEMEN, page two)

photo by Jamie Howell

Prestonsburg player James Michael Lafferty spun the basketball prior to a free throw attempt during Thursday's home game against Breathitt County.

Reeves watching proudly as former team makes NFC championship game

by PAUL NEWBERRY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA — Dan Reeves put most of the pieces in place for the Atlanta Falcons to make another run at the Super Bowl, including the guy who wears No. 7 and runs like no other quarterback.



On Sunday, Reeves will be one of millions sitting in front of a television set, eager to see how it all turns out for Michael Vick and the rest of the Falcons.

"He feels very responsible for a lot of these kids," said Joe DeCamillis, Reeves' son-in-law and the Falcons' special teams coordinator. "No. 1, he drafted the quarterback. I think he feels a serious responsibility to it in some regards."

But Reeves, who turned 61 on Wednesday, is merely a spectator. He was fired by Atlanta late in the 2003 season, his tenure snuffed out by the most common offense in coaching — not enough wins.

Reeves was replaced by Jim Mora, who guided the Falcons to snowy Philadelphia for the NFC championship game against the Eagles.

"I thought whoever came in would have a great opportunity," Reeves said this week. "I'm glad it was a guy like Jim. He recognized what he had and what he needed to add to it."

Of the 22 players expected to start against the Eagles, 17 are holdovers from the Reeves era. Vick is the most prominent, of course; but the list also includes Atlanta's other three Pro Bowlers: tight end Alge Crumpler, defensive end Patrick Kerney and linebacker Keith Brooking. Mora also kept nine members of Reeves' staff — most notably, his son-in-law.

"He deserves a tremendous amount of credit for setting the table for us," Mora said of Reeves. "My whole life, I looked up to him. Anytime I can pick his brain about things that might help the team, I do."

Reeves, one of only six coaches in NFL history with 200 wins, should also be remembered for perhaps the most significant move in Falcons history — the trade that landed Vick on the eve of the 2001 draft. Atlanta moved up to get the top overall pick when San Diego balked at the quarterback's contract demands.

"You've got to have that guy who gives you a chance every time you walk on the field," Reeves said. "You knew he was a special player. All you had to do was watch him play."

Reeves has called up Mora several times this season, most notably after a 56-10 loss to Kansas City in late October. The ex-coach recounted how the Falcons got whipped by San Francisco early in the '98 season, but bounced back to make the Super Bowl for the first time.

"I've been on several teams that got beat bad, but ended up making the Super Bowl," Reeves said.

He isn't surprised by the Falcons' success. They made the second round of the playoffs in 2002, but stumbled to 5-11 last season after Vick broke his leg in a preseason game. Reeves was fired with three games left, unwilling to hang around when informed by owner Arthur Blank that a change was coming at the end of the season.

"You always learn more about your players during adversity than when guys are playing well," said Reeves, who coached the Falcons for almost seven seasons. "Most of the guys really gave it everything they had last year. Those same guys are the ones who are playing real well this year."

In many ways, Reeves' tenure in Atlanta mirrored his first head coaching job in Denver.

He traded for a franchise

quarterback (John Elway, who also wore No. 7) and took the Broncos to three Super Bowls. But they didn't win the big game until he was gone, just as the Falcons came up short six years ago (against the Mike Shanahan-coached Broncos, no less).

Who's to say whether Reeves would have gotten the same results as the 43-year-old Mora. The new coach is a generation younger and clearly seems to have a better connection with the players. He also brought in new coordinators to install the West Coast-style offense and a four-man front on defense.

"He's done a tremendous job," Reeves said. "The key to being a good head coach is getting a good feel on the pulse of your football team. He's done that well. He doesn't dwell on negative things."

Reeves didn't attend any games at the Georgia Dome this season, saying it's easier to watch on television. And it's clear he didn't leave on the best of terms with Blank, who took over the franchise in 2002.

"Without everyone working together, it's a tough business," Reeves said.

He appears to have settled into retirement, staying in touch with the game through a morning gig on satellite radio that he does from his Atlanta home. He tore his rotator cuff in a fall almost three months ago, but has recovered enough to get back on the golf course.

"It actually was a good thing," he joked. "It slowed my swing down to a blur."

Reeves believes the Falcons can pull off an upset in Philadelphia, much as they did six years ago against heavily favored Minnesota to win their first — and still only — NFC championship.

If history repeats itself, would Reeves consider attending the Super Bowl?

"I think they've got a heck of a chance of going," he said. "Maybe Joe can get me a ticket."



Roethlisberger will try to beat Patriots barehanded

by ALAN ROBINSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PITTSBURGH — Ben Roethlisberger is issuing this warning to the Patriots: The gloves are coming off for the AFC championship game.

Roethlisberger is one victory away from becoming the first rookie quarterback to take a team to the Super Bowl. But since he threw two interceptions in a playoff victory over the Jets while wearing gloves, Roethlisberger's handwear has become Pittsburgh's No. 1 topic of debate.



To a city that grew accustomed to the tough-guy Super Bowl Steelers of the 1970s, who played in bare sleeves no matter the weather, it was unsettling to watch a quarterback in gloves.

With snow showers forecast for Sunday night and the likelihood of a wet, sloppy field, Roethlisberger plans to discard the gloves. That should please those Steelers fans who remember Hall of Fame quarterback Terry Bradshaw beating teams barehanded.

"I'm going to try to go without it," said Roethlisberger, who wore a glove on his left hand but not his throwing hand in practice Wednesday. "If it's wet, it makes it worse (to throw). We'll see if we can go without this week."

Maybe Roethlisberger is expecting, ahem, a bare-knuckle brawl against the Patriots, whose perplexing defenses throttled NFL MVP Peyton Manning of the Colts during New England's 20-3 second-round victory.

If a quarterback who threw a record 49 touchdown passes this season can't do anything against a Bill Belichick- and Romeo Crennel-designed defense, how can a raw rookie expect to do much better?

Actually, Roethlisberger already has, throwing for two scores — and no interceptions — during a nearly flawless performance Oct. 31 in a 34-20 Pittsburgh victory that ended New England's 21-game winning streak.

"I didn't think anybody could stop the Colts," Roethlisberger said. "Their offense is so powerful in what they do, but New England obviously finds a way. ... They do so many things, throw so many things at you. If they can slow down that defense, who knows what they can do to ours?"

To keep the pressure off Roethlisberger, the Steelers probably will try to pound the ball from the start with powerful backs Jerome Bettis and Duce Staley, who will split time in an effort to wear down the Patriots.

New England's run defense will be weakened if lineman Richard Seymour, perhaps its best defensive player, can't play. He didn't practice Wednesday because of a sore knee and is listed as questionable.

That's why the Steelers don't necessarily need Big Ben to win the biggest game of his life; instead, he might just need to make he sure he keeps from losing a matchup of streaking quar-

terbacks. Roethlisberger is 14-0 as an NFL starter; the Patriots' Tom Brady, the two-time Super Bowl MVP, is 7-0 in the playoffs.

"My rookie year, there is no way I could have done what he did," said Brady, who occasionally wears gloves himself to get a better grip on the new footballs used in every game. "I was awful. I couldn't do anything. I was hoping to show up and bring my playbook. He is out there and hasn't lost a game."

Roethlisberger nearly did Saturday, though, throwing one interception that was returned for a touchdown and another that led to Jets kicker Doug Brien's failed game-winning field goal try to end the fourth quarter. Roethlisberger recovered to lead a decisive scoring drive in overtime as Pittsburgh escaped with a that-was-close 20-17 victory.

Steelers coach Bill Cowher isn't necessarily treating his prized rookie with kid gloves, but he was careful to not be too critical despite the near-escape against the Jets.

"We wouldn't be sitting here today if he hadn't done some of the things that he's done, let's not lose sight of that," Cowher said. "I'm not going to overanalyze it. Certainly there were some choices he made he would like to have back, but we overcame it and we're moving on."

Gloves or no gloves. "If the guy's open, just throw it to him," Cowher said, passing on the advice he offered Roethlisberger. "Whatever that entails, you wear."



Dungy: Colts likely to focus on defense during offseason

by STEVE HERMAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS — Tony Dungy knows the Indianapolis Colts need to make some personnel changes, especially on defense. His approach to coaching, however, will remain the same.

"I don't know any different ways to do it," Dungy said. "We've got a very good offensive system in place, a very good defensive system and a good special teams system. We've got good players and good coaches, and we've just got to continue to grow on that."

The Colts lost 20-3 on Sunday at New England — Indianapolis' perennial nemesis — and it dropped the AFC South champions to 13-5. It was a disappointing finish for a team that many thought had a good shot at getting to the Super Bowl.

"When you don't win the ballgame, there's a little bit of an empty feeling," Dungy said. "We'll be able to, in another week or so, look at the season in total and realize that we did have a fine year."

Record-setting quarterback Peyton Manning, the league's MVP, and all of his top receivers — Marvin Harrison, Reggie Wayne and Brandon Stokley — will all be back, and owner Jim Irsay is ready, if nec-

essary, to designate running back Edgerrin James the Colts' franchise player and lock him in place at least one more season.

On defense, Dwight Freeney led the league with 16 sacks and helped the Colts produce an NFL-best turnover margin of plus-19. Punter Hunter Smith was second in the NFL in net yardage, and Mike Vanderjagt remained the most accurate field goal kicker in league history.

Dungy and the rest of the coaching staff will take some time off for vacations, watch the rest of the playoffs on TV and maybe attend the Senior Bowl on Jan. 29 in Mobile, Ala., to scout many of the top players coming out of college this year.

Then it's back to work, preparing for the combine at the RCA Dome next month and then the college draft April 23-24.

"You never know who's going to be available, but certainly when you've got an offense like ours you want to keep it tooled up and going well," Dungy said. "Obviously, defensively is where we would probably look in the draft, but I don't see any major philosophical changes. I think we just keep fine-tuning and keep improving and keep growing with a lot of the guys in our system already."

Among the Colts' potential free agents are linebacker Rob

Morris, cornerback Nick Harper and safety Idrees Bashir — all starters.

"We'd like to get everyone re-signed," Dungy said. "It's not an easy procedure, but hopefully we can get as many guys back as possible and then figure out where we go from there."

An unavoidable byproduct of the Colts' success, of course, is a spot toward the bottom of the draft order, but Dungy said that didn't necessarily mean the Colts would place greater emphasis on trades or free-agent acquisitions.

"I think you can find some guys (in the draft) that can help you — Robert Mathis has been a big help to us, and he wasn't a first-day choice. Raheem Brock was probably a really big part of what we've done, and he wasn't even one of our draft choices. So you can find guys in a lot of areas."

Whatever happens, he said, won't be dictated by a heat-of-the-moment desire for change while the loss to the Patriots is still fresh.

"I always like to focus in on the whole season," Dungy said, "and that's one of the things our coaches will do: make an analysis of every guy's performance throughout the season and kind of classify each player where we think they're going to be next year and look at it on an objective basis."

Teammates challenge Big Ben to upgrade play vs. Patriots

by ALAN ROBINSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PITTSBURGH — Alan Faneca must be trying to motivate Ben Roethlisberger again.

The offensive lineman said the Pittsburgh Steelers badly need Roethlisberger to upgrade his play for Sunday's AFC championship game against New England, after the rookie quarterback's errors nearly led to a playoff loss to the New York Jets.

"He's going to have to pick his game up," Faneca said Monday. "We're all going to have to pick our game up, and it's going to take our best effort of the season to win this week."

Roethlisberger, the NFL's Offensive Rookie of the Year, threw two interceptions — one for a touchdown and another creating Doug Brien's potential game-winning field goal try — and got nothing going as the Jets scored 17 consecutive points in the second and third quarters.

The Steelers came back to win 20-17 in overtime Saturday, but only after Brien missed two field goal tries in the final two minutes of the fourth quarter.

"He was off a little bit, but we were all off a little bit as an offense," Faneca said.

Faneca wasn't singling out the rookie, but said that kind of quarterback play won't be good

enough — not after the Super Bowl champion Patriots held NFL MVP Peyton Manning's high-output Colts offense to a field goal in a 20-3 win Sunday.

Still, Faneca's motivating words were reminiscent of those the day after former starting quarterback Tommy Maddox injured an elbow Sept. 19 in Baltimore, making Roethlisberger the starter by default.

Then, Faneca said he wasn't overly excited about going into a game with "some little young kid who's just out of college" rather than a veteran like Maddox. Roethlisberger went on to lead the Steelers to a 13-3 victory in Miami.

If Roethlisberger picked up a Sunday newspaper, and he insists he doesn't, he would have read fan comments calling for Tommy Maddox to replace him despite an unequaled 14-0 record as a starter.

"He had a rough game, people were really down on him and said he played bad, but he's a young quarterback and he has a lot in his face right now," linebacker James Farrior said. "But he's such a good player, he knows how to handle every situation like he's done it all year, and he's sure do the same this week."

Especially since the Patriots will likely try to be in the rookie's face all night, something they didn't do in their 34-20 loss

in Pittsburgh on Oct. 31. Roethlisberger threw two touchdown passes to Plaxico Burress as the Steelers opened a 21-3 lead in the first quarter and went on to end New England's 21-game winning streak.

Faneca thinks Roethlisberger will be just fine if he quickly moves on to the Patriots and doesn't keep replaying the mistakes against New York.

"Everybody always wants to know how he handles the pressure, the setbacks," Faneca said. "Just like everybody else, nobody likes it, but you've got to think about it for a minute, brush it off and move on to the next play. That's how Ben's been handling things all year."

The Steelers don't sound overly concerned that, unlike the other NFL division champions coming off a first-week bye — the Patriots, Falcons and Eagles — they struggled in their playoff opener. The Jets nearly won despite not scoring a touchdown offensively in either game against Pittsburgh this season.

The Steelers' message seems to be: This week, not last week, is the week they must play well.

"We have all the confidence in the world in Ben," cornerback Deshaun Townsend said. "We were 15-1 during the season because of him. He's a very confident guy, very poised for a rookie and I'm sure he'll do fine."

Western Kentucky 81, New Orleans 69

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOWLING GREEN — Anthony Winchester scored 22 points and Elgrece Wilborn had a career high 20 points and 11 rebounds to lead Western Kentucky to an 81-69 victory over New Orleans on Thursday night.

Courtney Lee added 11 points and 10 rebounds and Wilborn blocked eight shots for the Hilltoppers (11-4, 1-2 Sun Belt), who snapped a three-game losing streak. Freshman guard Ty Rogers, making his first career start, matched a career high with 17 points.

The Hilltoppers shot 49 per-

cent (29 of 59) overall, but went 11-of-22 from 3-point range (50 percent) to overcome a 45-38 rebounding deficit.

Bo McCalebb scored 25 to lead New Orleans (7-10, 2-2). The Privateers went 5-of-20 from 3-point range (25 percent) and 10-of-19 from the free-throw line (53 percent).

Lexington baseball team sold

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON — The Lexington Legends baseball team has been sold to Fun Entertainment, LLC, according to team officials.

Bill Shea, a Pennsylvania businessman, is the majority owner of Fun Entertainment. The South Atlantic League team's purchase price was not disclosed.

The Legends, who are entering their fifth season, are a Class A affiliate of the Houston Astros.

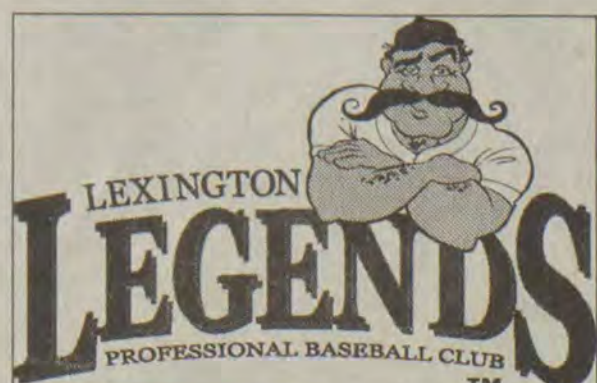
"This is one of the very best franchises in all of Minor

League Baseball and I'm so excited about the future of professional baseball in central Kentucky," Shea said in a statement released by the team.

The team's president and chief executive officer,

Alan Stein, will be one of the team's minority owners and will serve as the chief operating officer for Fun Entertainment.

Fun Entertainment also has signed a purchase agreement for Applebee's Park, where the Legends play their home games.



Clarett will get his chance – finally

by JIM LITKE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

The NFL is full of heart-warming tales about guys who came out of nowhere to make it big.

Maurice Clarett's story will not be one of those. He may wind up going late in the draft, but he is not going to sneak up on anyone.

The one-time Ohio State running back and cause celebre slipped into the shadows more than two years ago, being glimpsed only occasionally since inside a courtroom or at a rare workout, or else rattling out his former program in print and on TV.

But Clarett popped back into the news earlier this week when his name was included on Wednesday's list of underclassmen eligible for the April draft. And if he lets this chance slip the way he has so many others, what Clarett will find is that he's run out of rope.

"It's been a tough road, but that's behind him," San Diego

general manager A.J. Smith said.

"Whether you go in the first round, the seventh or walk into training camp a free agent, you're going to get your opportunity. This is his," Smith added, "and I, for one, wish him the best."

Clarett played his last football game more than two years ago, but the lack of college experience – or buzz, for that matter – is hardly his biggest obstacle. Patriots lineman Stephen Neal, breakout Charger tight end Antonio Gates and Colts tight end Marcus Pollard, to name just a few, were all late-bloomers who hadn't played even a single down in college.

Neal wrestled and the other two played hoops, but all patiently wended their way toward the NFL, stepped up when their chances came, and are now reaping the rewards. Whether Clarett has the skill and work ethic to do the same is anybody's guess. But for the measuring that goes on, that's exactly what the draft is – a guessing game.

"Every kid does what he wants to do in terms of showcasing himself – that's their prerogative – and we observe," Smith said. "Then we make our decisions."

"Personally, I think all guys should stay in school. But some individuals have to do what they think is best for their families."

Before drawing the wrong conclusion, understand this is how Smith and his counterparts do business – officially, anyway. Because the league bars a player from entering the draft until he's been out of high school for three years, GMs are supposed to wait for the NFL-approved list of underclassmen, then start studying them as thoroughly as they've been tracking the upperclassmen.

Clarett tried to change that in a much-publicized antitrust case against the NFL, and lost on appeal. In the process, he got used as a platform for some unscrupulous actors – remember Jim Brown calling Clarett selfless and a "pioneer" – and lost more goodwill than most people

can afford.

Clarett showed up for the league's scouting combine last February memorably overweight and unprepared. The private workout he staged two months later to dazzle those same scouts was anything but dazzling. In rare interviews since, Clarett has come off both evasive and vindictive, leaving teams to wonder about his conditioning and the company he keeps.

Clarett told ESPN The Magazine in November that he would answer all those doubts at next month's combine.

"I'm thinking, 'NFL GMs know college players take money,'" he said, not getting off to a good start. "It was nothing like I stole something. Nothing like I'm running from the law or I'm dragging a girl down the stairs. No domestic violence. No nothing. (But) I got to clear myself up now, because it's affecting the minds of the GMs."

Vince Marrow has been telling people back in

Columbus, Ohio, that his now 21-year-old cousin is in "spectacular" shape. "Better than ever," Marrow claimed, because Clarett hasn't taken any hits in a while and he's been weightlifting and running all the while. Clarett hasn't made himself available for confirmation, but there have been rumored sightings of workouts as far afield as Texas, Florida and California.

Certainly, few other people back at Ohio State would vouch for him. Clarett's hide-and-seek tales of handouts from boosters have already sent athletic director Andy Geiger into early retirement and the mess is still a long way from being cleaned up. NCAA investigators have been back there to check out Clarett's blasts more than once and they may have a satellite office up and running by the time the sanctions are being handed down.

But that's the beauty of the pros. They gave Barry Switzer a job and he had Oklahoma on double-secret probation all the time. More to the point, they

understand that not every kid is as lucky or comes to them as polished as USC's Matt Leinart, gifted with both talent and a supportive, well-off family, and able to delay launching his career until he's ready.

To the NFL, it matters only so much whether you were a wrestler in college, like Neal, or a budding career criminal, like Lawrence Phillips, or a troublemaker, like Clarett. It doesn't matter, either, that this draft is far deeper in running backs than last year's was – or next year's looks to be.

Clarett will get the chance to prove what he wanted to all along, that he is good enough to play on Sundays.

"He's so far off our radar right now that it will be a while before we get around to evaluating him. But he'll be treated like everybody else," Smith said. "I can guarantee that much."

Jim Litke is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at jlitke@ap.org

Bengals promote Bresnahan to defensive coordinator

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — Chuck Bresnahan hopes to give the Cincinnati Bengals a new look on defense: more understanding, fewer mistakes.

Bresnahan, 44, was promoted to defensive coordinator on Wednesday, the first major change in coach Marvin Lewis' staff. He replaced Leslie Frazier, who was fired two weeks ago.

Lewis made Bresnahan an assistant coach last May after he had served as the Raiders' defensive coordinator from 2000-03. His defense allowed the second-fewest points in the AFC in 2002, when Oakland reached the Super Bowl.

Lewis felt more comfortable with Bresnahan's teaching-oriented approach, prompting him to make the switch.

"Leslie worked his tail off and did a good job, but there were some things that he and I didn't see quite the same way, and it's uncomfortable for both of us," Lewis said Wednesday, discussing the firing for the first time. "It's my fault this occurred and my fault we're making this change, not Leslie's."

Frazier's defense had major problems stopping the run during his two seasons as coordinator. The Bengals also had problems tackling and playing the defense properly.

The defense finished 28th overall in 2003, Lewis' first season as head coach. It improved to 19th overall in 2004, but was only 26th against the run.

Lewis watched tape of the Raiders' defense from the last two years before deciding to hire Bresnahan, whom he has known for years.

"He has a great feel for what I want to see us do defensively and the direction I want to go," Lewis said.

Bresnahan plans to put more of an emphasis on fundamentals and teaching a young unit.

"It goes back to ground zero, where we're starting from scratch," Bresnahan said. "I think you'll see a smarter football team playing. That's the goal."

Injuries forced a lot of rookies into the lineup before they were ready this season, a major factor in the Bengals' slow start. Lewis got so frustrated with the poor performance that he took over defensive play calling from

Frazier during a 34-17 loss to Cleveland that left the Bengals 1-4. Lewis let Frazier handle the play calling the rest of the season, but a rift was revealed.

Lewis also had an uncharacteristic outburst on the sideline during a 27-20 loss to Tennessee two weeks later. He ripped off his headphones and started to throw them on the ground after the defense left tight end Shad Meier uncovered for a touch-down catch on the final play of the half.

Lewis was Baltimore's defensive coordinator in 2000, when the record-setting unit carried the Ravens to a Super Bowl championship. He and Bresnahan were the defensive coordinators when their teams met in the AFC title game that season.

"The relationship with Marvin started in 2000," Bresnahan said. "We knew each other longer, but I think that's where the respect level began, in the 2000 championship game."

Lewis persuaded Bresnahan to join his staff as an assistant last May, when he was out of a job. Bresnahan worked with the rookie linebackers as part of his wide-ranging duties.

No. 1 Illinois 73, No. 23 Iowa 68, OT

by JIM PAUL
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — Luther Head pulled Illinois through one of its worst games of the season.

The senior scored when his teammates couldn't Thursday night, finishing with 25 points and six steals to lead the top-ranked Illini to a 73-68 overtime win over No. 23 Iowa.

"Luther was huge," coach Bruce Weber said after his team shot a season-worst 33 percent. "He just did a lot of big things for us."

Head went on a 12-2 run against the Hawkeyes all by himself and his driving layup with 40 seconds left in overtime helped to seal the win. He played 42 minutes and spent the second half defending Iowa's top scorer, Pierre Pierce, who finished with 22 points.

"I'm really tired and I can't wait to go home," Head said. In other games involving ranked teams, San Francisco upset No. 11 Gonzaga, 73-70; No. 13 Arizona beat Oregon, 74-66; and DePaul knocked off No. 25 Marquette, 85-72.

It was the fourth straight game Head led the Illini (19-0, 5-0 Big Ten) in scoring, and it followed a 26-point effort against Northwestern last Saturday.

"He's a very intelligent player," said Iowa's Greg Brunner, whose drive to the hoop with 3.8 seconds left in regulation tied the score at 65 and forced the overtime. "He knows his strengths, he doesn't do anything outside of that. When you play to your strengths, it's hard to make mistakes."

Head took control after San Francisco 73, No. 11 Illinois' early attempts to attack

Iowa inside failed because of missed shots by big men James Augustine and Roger Powell Jr. They wound up a combined 3-for-21 from the field.

A 3-pointer with 9:03 to go in the first half triggered Head's 12-point run that put Illinois up 26-18. Another 3-pointer by Head gave the Illini a 47-34 lead with 14:41 left in the second half.

But the Hawkeyes (13-4, 1-3) battled back, reeling off 10 straight points during an 18-5 run that tied it at 52 with 9:16 remaining.

Another 3-pointer from Head stopped the run, but the Hawkeyes outscored Illinois 7-1 in the final 1:06. Illinois scored eight points in OT of six free throws and Head's layup.

"I thought our defense was outstanding, but in the overtime they made six free throws and we made one," Iowa coach Steve Alford said. "It really came down to the foul line."

Illinois was 23-of-31 from the free-throw line while Iowa was just 6-of-12, and the Illini won the rebounding battle, especially on the offensive end where they held an 18-9 advantage.

"They killed us on the boards tonight," Pierce said. "They had a lot of tip-ins at crucial points in the game and we couldn't finish at the free-throw line."

The Illini hit only 22 of 67 shots from the field and were 6-of-28 from 3-point range.

"Maybe we needed a game like this to get a little jolt of energy," Weber said. "If they don't learn a lesson, it's going to cost us. They got lucky this time, maybe it will cost us next time."

San Francisco 73, No. 11 Gonzaga 70; Jerome Gumbs

had 18 points and a career-high 13 rebounds, and San Francisco snapped a 12-game losing streak to Gonzaga.

The Dons improved to 9-0 at home this season behind 10 3-pointers, but they had to hold off a furious comeback attempt in the closing minutes. USF (11-6, 2-2 West Coast Conference) upset a Top-20 opponent for the first time since an 82-69 victory over No. 13 Xavier on Nov. 28, 1998, in the Puerto Rico Shootout.

Derek Raivio scored seven straight points in the final two minutes for the Zags (13-4, 3-2), who pulled to 72-70 on David Pendergraft's 3-pointer with 11.3 seconds left.

Raivio missed from the top of the arc moments before the final buzzer.

No. 13 Arizona 74, Oregon 66; At Eugene, Ore., Salim Stoudamire scored 27 points and Channing Frye had 17 to lead Arizona past Oregon.

Hassan Adams added 13 points, six assists and six rebounds for the Wildcats (15-3, 5-1 Pac-10), who beat the Ducks (11-4, 3-3) for the fifth straight time. Bryce Taylor led Oregon with 20 points, and Aaron Brooks added 15 points and six assists.

DePaul 85, No. 25 Marquette 72; At Rosemont, Ill., Sammy Mejia scored a career-high 26 points and DePaul used a tough defense and 21 offensive rebounds to beat Marquette.

Lorenzo Thompson added a career-high 17 points and Queмонт Greer had 15 for the Blue Demons (11-4, 3-1 Conference USA.) Dameon Mason's 24 points paced Marquette (14-3, 2-2) in a rough and physical 100th meeting between the schools.

Former Kentucky coach will chase wins in the desert

by PETE HERRERA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Hal Mumme has talked to Mike Knoll and Jim Hess. Both told him he'd love living in Las Cruces, N.M.

A good town to call home, a tough place to win.

Mumme, the former coach at Kentucky, was hired by New Mexico State last month. He's heard about the Aggies' legacy of mediocrity — four winning seasons over the past 36 seasons, no bowl bid since 1960 and a total of three wins from 1988 to 1990.

It doesn't matter to Mumme, who's no stranger to beating big odds.

"Every place on the face of the earth has some beauty marks and some wars," he says. "You just try to sell the beauty marks and get people to overlook the wars."

Knoll and Hess couldn't do it. Knoll coached the Aggies' from 1986 to 1989 and finished with a 4-40 record, including a winless season in 1989. Hess succeeded Knoll and was fired after seven seasons and an overall record of 22-55.

Fred Zechman, a former assistant at Ohio State, also couldn't turn the Aggies into winners during his three years (1983-85) in Las Cruces. Zechman's first NMSU team went 5-6, but the Aggies won only three games over the next two seasons.

Former Nebraska assistant

Tony Samuel had two winning seasons in eight years and the Aggies were more competitive, but it wasn't enough to keep him from getting fired last month.

The Aggies, who will join the Western Athletic Conference this year, felt a coaching change was necessary if they're to have a chance against scoring-crazed WAC members like Boise State,

Fresno State, Texas-El Paso and Hawaii, all bowl teams this past season.

"One of the reasons I chose coach Mumme is because he's a high-energy guy," said Athletics Director McKinley Boston, who was hired by NMSU in

mid-December. "I know what kind of football he's going to bring. He's going to come off the bus throwing it."

Mumme's coaching career took flight a decade ago at Valdosta State. He led the school to the Division II playoffs in 1994 and 1996, then was hired by Kentucky.

The good times rolled on in Lexington. In Mumme's first season there, the Wildcats beat Alabama for the first time in 75 years. Two years later they played Penn State in the Outback Bowl, the Wildcats' first bowl trip in 47 years.

Then Mumme's resume took a hit.

He resigned in February 2001 amid an NCAA investigation that uncovered recruiting violations and led to Kentucky being placed on probation for three years.

"You'd probably get mixed reaction on how well we did there," Mumme told the Albuquerque Journal this month. "We had some good wins ... but it all kind of ended in a train wreck."

Mumme takes responsibility for his problems at Kentucky.

"It's a changing world and nothing has changed more than the NCAA rules in the last 10 years," he said this week. "I didn't do a very good job of managing the program at the end."

Mumme, 52, spent the last two years at Southeastern Louisiana. That school hired Mumme when it restarted its football program that had been dormant since the mid-1980s. Southeastern Louisiana finished 7-4 this season and when Mumme expressed an interest in the New Mexico State job, Boston didn't hesitate to hire him.

"I stayed up until 1:30 in the morning (on the day Mumme was hired) with him and his agent trying to figure out how to make it work," Boston said.

Boston said the school and Mumme are still working out details of Mumme's five-year contract that includes a base annual salary of \$197,000 plus incentives. Boston said NMSU also will likely seek a clause that would protect the Aggies' financial interests should Mumme leave before his contract is up.

Mumme, who arrived in Las Cruces with a career record of 97-64-1 record, isn't making any promises.

"I don't think any football coach can promise you he's going to be there X number of years," he said. "It's too volatile a business."



Hal Mumme

Samford 56, Morehead State 51

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MOREHEAD — Jerry Smith scored 15 points on five 3-pointers on Thursday night to lead Samford to a 56-51 win over Morehead State.

The Bulldogs (10-6, 5-0 Ohio Valley Conference) came back from 10 points down with

9:42 left to secure their fifth straight win following three consecutive losses.

Smith's 3-pointer with 7:11 left capped a 9-0 run and drew Samford to within one, at 41-40. The Eagles rebuilt a six-point lead, but Samford finished the game with a 16-5 spurt.

Chad McKnight and Josh Reed had 15 points apiece for Morehead State (7-9, 1-4), which lost despite shooting 54 percent (22 of 41) and outrebounding Samford 24-20.

Samford shot only 45 percent (18 of 40) overall, but went 13 of 31 (42 percent) from 3-point range.

Eastern Kentucky 72, Jacksonville State 60

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RICHMOND — Michael Haney scored 17 points on 8-of-11 shooting and grabbed 12 rebounds to lead Eastern Kentucky to a 72-60 win over Jacksonville State on Thursday night.

Matt Witt and Jason McLeish added 15 points each

for the Colonels (11-5, 3-2 Ohio Valley Conference), who never trailed.

Anthony Wilson scored 15 and Tim Lewis added 13 for Jacksonville State (4-13, 0-5), which lost for the 11th straight game.

Jacksonville State cut a seven-point halftime deficit to

four in the first five minutes of the second half. The Colonels then went on a 16-7 run and led by double digits the rest of the way.

Eastern Kentucky outrebounded Jacksonville State 35-34, the sixth straight game in which the Colonels have outrebounded their opponent.

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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.

Here I am, looking out the same window that was used last week in search of an idea. Same window, same result.

THE GOOD EARTH SLIGHTLY DAMP

Got back on my feet again last night, since my No. 2 son had the car, and during the walk learned something, to wit:

Prestonsburg's sidewalks along Lake Drive from Branham Street past Friend Street are so deep in mud that pedestrians are following side paths. Sidewalks here, in the main, are poor excuses for walkways, and the lack of drainage along Lake Drive (U.S. 23) adds to our miseries as passing vehicles splash water and mud over them and all who may be walking thereon. Those who walk—and more of us should—demand in this space age and this era of nice, shiny cars room, lots of room to run for cover.

And I've been wondering why archeologists have to dig so deep to find those old cities!

A GOOD IDEA

The hula hoop apparently has done the vanishing act—helped probably, by various adults who came down with assorted sprains and fractures after venturing inside them. The hula hoop may be succeeded by a hook-'n'-hoop which has been recently patented, and about which you will hear more later. This addition to the world of play is along the lines of the old wheel and the hooked wire which boys used to chase literally for miles, jogging along like Indian runners.

We hail this idea. It offers me and others my age a certain amount of protection. We are too old or too lazy to run.

Report from a Newlywed:
"We have a very nice place. Wall-to-wall floors, period furniture, hand-carved by Barlow."

This epitaph is on a marker in a Tombstone, Arizona, cemetery:
Here
Lies
Lester Moore
Four Slugs

(See THIS TOWN, page six)



This is a photo of Ralph's "Aunt Del." She is holding his younger brother, Waco. This week, Ralph reminisces about Aunt Del's baptism.

Why Daddy Sold Old Betsy

The Village Church and the 'tater' patch

~ Chapter 8 ~

by Ralph Hall

The church at Melvin was called Gophy of the Old Regular Baptist.

They had services on the first Saturday and Sunday of each month, and anytime there was a funeral. I can still hear the singing that went on there ringing deep down into my mind. One person would sing out a line and all the members would repeat it in unison. You could hear that singing throughout the whole village. When I was a child, I didn't like that singing, because the songs seemed to sadden the soul.

Us young people never had to go to church. It was a more of a church for older people. Some of the best people I ever knew belonged to that church. Most of my family, and my grandfather, Elder Hiram Hall, was a preacher in the church for 51 years. My family had deep roots in that church. But when I was young, me and Mutt just liked to have fun playing in the creek while the singing and preaching were going on. As long as I live, I will always hear that singing and preaching in my mind.

There was this one time I went to church - it was a warm summer day. A big event was taking place, it was the day they put Aunt Del (Della) "under" (meaning she was baptized). People came from miles around to see them preachers put Aunt Del under. Aunt Del was a rather large woman with a big heart. She was a sweet old lady who loved her family in her own way. Most of her family was there that day to see her "go under."

Well, the preachers took Aunt Del by the hand and walked her out into deep water. It was a sight to behold. One preacher began to say, "Sister Della, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost." Then, they put her under. The water splashed into the air and the very second Aunt Della came up out of the cold waters of Beaver Creek, she started shouting. She shouted and praised Jesus, all the time splashing water with her hands, high into the air. It was one of the best dang things I have ever seen in all my born days!

People were laughing, crying, shouting and praising Jesus to the top of their voices. They began to sing "Amazing Grace." Why, I almost wanted them to put me under that day! For this song is not a song that saddens the soul, but lifts the spirit in man. What a day! Dinner on the grounds, kids laughing, everyone having a good time. My Aunt Del, on this one day in her life, turned old Melvin into a place where everyone forgot all their troubles for awhile and just had a lot of fun eating their fill of some of the best food they ever put into their mouths. There was another time I went to see someone being baptized, that being my grandmother, but that time was nothing like the day they put Aunt Del under.

Aunt Del was a great old lady, a lot of fun to be around. When you went to her house, she made sure you got for "a bite to eat," as she called it. Well, it was more like a feast than "a bite" at Aunt Del's house because the table would be filled with all kinds of good food.

Aunt Del was also pretty good at always finding work for me to do. This was good, because I liked to go to the movies and the jobs Aunt Del found for me helped me to make money so that I could. I loved movies for they taught me that I could live in a world of make-

believe. No one could stop me in that world.

So, Aunt Del let me work for her. She believed in having a clean house, a clean yard, a clean body, and, most of all, a clean creek bed. Aunt Del often hired me to clean the creek that ran in front of her house.

I would clean the banks of the creek, bagging up all the trash, and then leave it for Uncle James, Aunt Del's husband, to do away with. Well, after I got the creek clean, Aunt Del would always remind me, "Ralph, go wash your hands." After I got done washing my hands, I would walk into the living room to collect my fifty cents. When I got there, she would be there waiting - with a bottle of alcohol. Then, she would make me hold my hands out so that she could pour alcohol over them. She'd say, "Germs, you know."

Aunt Del had to be one of the cleanest women in all the world. She had this thing about the telephone - when someone called her, just to be safe, she would clean the phone with "disinfect" after she used it. She did this, "just in case the person on the other end had some kind of germs." That Aunt Del, she was one of a kind.

When I was eleven years old, my brother, Waco, was born. He was born with a birth defect that kept him bedfast for 46 years, although he could sit in a chair. Waco was never able to go on the trips that Mutt and I would take into the woods, but me and Mutt loved him very much. And so did Aunt Del, for she came to see him often. She would come through the yard carrying a big bag of food. Aunt Del had a lot of good in her. She was my daddy's sister, and a good old soul. She died a few years ago, but I will never forget her, or the day that they put her under.

My daddy owned a lot near the old church house. One spring, he decided

(See BETSY, page six)

MOVIES FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

'Dawn of the Dead'

by TOM DOTY
STAFF WRITER

It is never wise to mess with a classic, even an obscure one like George A. Romero's 1978 zombie opus. Hats off to first-time director Zack Snyder who has wisely ignored history and remade a classic which stands on its own and delivers a fresh take on what is rapidly becoming a popular premise - zombies.

In the wake of video game inspired dreck like "Resident Evil" (1 and 2) and "House of the Dead," Snyder delivers the kind of high octane action picture that those films wanted to be and still manages a wink towards other zombie fare like Lucio Fulci's 1979 film "Zombie."

Here are zombies for the new millennium. They are still the walking dead but now they can run too, and fast. These aren't the shuffling doofuses of Romero's film, but lightning quick killers as seen in recent fare like "28 Days Later."

The film deals with the onslaught of the zombie plague within its first 10 minutes where the audience is treated to the utter breakdown of civilization in Milwaukee, Wis. A suburban street quickly turns into an urban battleground as citizens wake up to find their streets overrun with blood-thirsty zombies.

By the time the cast meets up at a mall, the audience needs a respite from the action. Here the film really delivers as several characters gather to try and hash out what is happening but quickly realize that no help will be coming anytime soon. They do enjoy the benefits of a five-finger discount at the mall, but they soon wise up and figure out that they need to get away, possibly to an island, before they become trapped in the mall forever.

This leads to an exciting finale where they try to escape the mall in revamped school buses that now sport monster truck grills and slits for placing chainsaws out the side of the buses to discourage freeloaders. What follows is a hair-raising sequence that decimates half of the cast and goes to show audiences that you should never trust the yuppie character.

This remake works because it wisely goes the action movie route and avoids the social satire that was already done to perfection in the original film.

The film also opens up the possibilities by assembling a much larger cast than the original. You get a whole range of stock types which include Ving Rhames as a cynical cop, Jake Webber as an electronics salesman

(See LAGOON, page six)

The blessing of old age

by SHARON M. STANFORD

"CHICKEN SOUP TO INSPIRE A WOMAN'S SOUL"

My co-workers and I had lunch together every day. As with any group of women, our conversation ranged from our families and work to our female problems. One day, the conversation centered on our litany of complaints about getting older.

One co-worker described her hot flashes in detail, how in the middle of the night she got out of bed, got naked and lay on the cool tile floor in her bathroom to calm her night sweats. Another described dressing and undressing constantly depending on her body temperature. One woman commented that between her mood swings and

her arthritis, her family compared her to Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, never knowing what personality was going to show up next. They all bemoaned the fact that their behinds had spread and that they seemed to work harder to try to maintain a decent weight. Then there was the existential question: "My life is half over, and what have I done with it?"

Throughout this entire conversation, I remained silent, listening to their complaints. Finally, one woman turned to me: "You're going to be 50 this year. You must have some complaints."

I smiled and sipped my tea. "Well, I guess I look at age differently. Sure, I wish I was 20 pounds lighter, and I have hot flashes and bursitis

in my shoulder, but I can live with those things. But you know what? I can't wait to turn 50. I'm finally starting my writing career, and I feel great. I'm looking forward to getting my AARP card and never paying full price for anything anymore."

Everyone laughed, but I could tell by their curious looks that they thought I was just a little strange.

"My mother died of cancer when she was 48 years old. She never got to experience what I'm experiencing now," I said. My co-workers suddenly became quiet. "So I welcome old age

with all its aches and pains. Old age is a blessing, and that's just how I'm going to treat it."

"You know, I never thought of it that way," one woman said. "I guess you're right."

Suddenly, the conversation changed from the aches and pains of old age to older persons they knew who were still active, and how they hoped to be like them. Old age, they agreed, might have its aches and pains, but it was indeed a blessing. A blessing to be embraced with an open heart and mind.



Jim Davidson

A person with class doesn't use profanity

Have you ever heard someone say, "Get your mind out of the gutter?" I have. Many times. In fact, some people have said that to me, after I had told a dirty or off-color story. This was many years ago, but somewhere along the way I learned better and stopped.



Not long after I got in the "motivation" business, I was invited to speak to the West Little Rock Rotary Club and a few days after my presentation, an older gentleman by the name of D.A. Sparks, who is now deceased, said to me, "Jim, you make a good talk but it's not necessary to tell an off-color story." This has stuck with me all these years and I not only took his advice, I also

quit using any profanity at all. It took a little time, but finally, with God's help, I was able to do it. If I said even a four-letter word now, it would be like someone dropping a hammer on my head.

Thanks mostly to the media who are exercising their "free speech" but not "personal responsibility" rights, we have gutter language and profanity being used as commonly as someone asking the time of day. You may or may not see anything wrong with that, but I do, and a lot of other people agree with me.

Several months ago I got a very meaningful e-mail from the principal of the Cleveland

High School in Cleveland, Tenn. He was asking for permission to use one of my columns in the school's student handbook. The title of this particular column was "Language is a Factor in Success." He said many students used profanity in their regular conversations without giving it any thought at all. It has just become a part of their culture.

I might add, this is true in many, many other high schools as well, and it matters little what part of the country you care to name. The regular use of profanity has also dipped down into middle and junior high schools as well.

Now, let me pause here and ask you this question. Is this good and acceptable, and something we want to see continue and even get worse? If you agree with me that "language" is indeed a key factor in a person's success and wish to do

something about it, allow me to share these thoughts with you.

First, I am going to be so bold as to say, "A person with class doesn't use profanity." This comment is in no way meant to imply that a person who uses profanity cannot be a fine person, achieve outstanding success, be the kindest and most thoughtful person you can imagine. But having "class" is a little bit different in that this person's vocabulary is a little bit better and they don't need four-letter words to express themselves. I have many good friends and family members who use profanity and I am certainly not judging or condemning them. I will say that if they knew how it sounded to others, they wouldn't do it. In most cases it's just a habit, but it's a habit that can be broken and replaced by something better.

During the fall of the year I watch a good number of college football games on television. There is one particular announcer who used to be a

coach, who really irritates me. In the course of the game he will use one particular four-letter word a number of times. I might add, he is the only one of the three announcers on the broadcast team who does this. Even though he may use profanity in his private life on a regular basis, I don't guess he ever stops to realize there are thousands and thousands of impressionable young men listening to him, that he is influencing. On the other hand, I can name any number of other announcers who never use profanity and are very careful about the example they set for others. To say it simply, these people have class.

As you consider these thoughts, I hope you understand that I am not a preacher and that I am not putting anyone down. Like you, I just care about our precious young people and the direction our country is headed in this important area of life.

The use of our language is

the one thing we cannot hide. As soon as we open our mouth and begin to speak, we proclaim to others where we stand on the cultural and social pyramid. If you agree with me and believe we need to teach our young people "Language is a Factor in Success," let's do our best to set a good example for them.

When I received a copy of this past year's Cleveland High School Student Handbook, my column had been printed on the back cover. At least most parents and students will see it and hopefully will take time to read it. Who knows, maybe a few will even learn to speak without the use of profanity and, along with a lot of other important qualities, become a person who has real class. Feel free to contact me if you too, would like to use this column.

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

Betsy

Continued from p5

he would put that bottom lot full of potatoes. He planted 200 sweet potato plants and a hundred pounds of Irish potatoes. Or, we could say, that I did, rather, since he got me to do all the work. Yeah, poor ole me. It wasn't enough that Grandma had her hills full of corn and beans for me to hoe. Now Daddy had come up with the potato patch thing. Well, that's one summer I will never forget. Cows to chase, chickens, hogs, cats and dogs to feed, and fields to work, along with a whole bottom full of potatoes to take care of!

We planted those potatoes and then, one day, they came up. I heard my daddy talking to my mother one morning before he went off to work. He said, "Goldie, send Ralph down to hoe out those taters today." So, after breakfast, my mother said, "Ralph, your daddy wants those taters hoed today."

So, off I went to the potato patch with a hoe over my shoulder, and a dread in my heart. Mother had told me to put a good, large hill on them so that they would have room to grow. Well, I worked all day long in that potato patch and, finally, I got them all hoed. At the end of the day, I thought, "Oh, boy, I'm glad that job is over."

I lay in bed that night thinking about how glad I was to have that patch hoed out. Then, I heard my daddy say, "Goldie, send Ralph down to bug that potato patch in the morning." All I could dream about that entire night was how much I hated that potato patch. But the real nightmare was to come the next day.

Now, there are two ways to bug potatoes - you can collect them in a jar and close the lid and then, at the end of each row, take them back out and squash them with a flat rock. Or, you can put a little coal oil in an old can, collect the bugs and drop them into the coal oil, then, set the oil on fire and say good-bye to the bugs. No matter which way you do it, as you leave the patch for the day, you look at the plants and guess what? You see more bugs. I don't know which one I hated the most that summer, the potatoes or the bugs.

Well, as always, summer ended and there were no potato plants to hoe for awhile, but that won't be the end of the hard work because the hard work lies ahead in the fall when it's time to dig those potatoes up. Soon, the day came when Daddy said, "Ralph, it's time to dig those taters. Now, when you dig them up, try not to cut them up with the hoe." It took me three days to dig all those potatoes up and carry them home in a sack. You will never believe what I had to do once I got them home.

Once home, Daddy said, "Ralph, now you need to dig a big hole under the floor of the house to put the taters in." Well, here I had worked

three days getting them out of the ground, now it would take me three more days to dig a hole and bury them again! For the life of me, I will never understand potatoes.

But, this was the way we kept them through the winter, to keep them freezing rock hard through the cold weather. We would fill the bottom of the hole with straw, then put the potatoes in the hole and cover them with more straw. Then, we would cover the whole thing with a piece of tin or whatever else we could find to use.

My story about potatoes doesn't end here, however. For every time we ate potatoes, I had to go uncover the hole and get some of them out and carry them to Mother. At night, as we were sitting around the grate watching the fire burn and making small talk, Daddy would say, "Ralph, get the coal oil lamp, go under the floor and bring us some of those sweet taters up here." It would be snowing outside and bitter cold from the old north wind blowing so hard, but I would have to go get those "taters." I always hurried up and did it fast because I wanted to get back to the warm coal fire inside.

Daddy would take the potatoes I brought back and put them into the ashes under the grate. He'd use a poker to shake some cinders down from the grate to cover the potatoes as they lay under the fire. When they were well baked, Mother would bring fresh cow butter from the kitchen and we would eat our fill of those good old sweet taters. We would sing "She'll be Coming 'round the Mountain," and then before long, go off to bed. There is nothing more important than for a child to have a strong family to draw upon when times are hard.

I am glad I lived as I did as a child. I worked hard, but I also had a lot of good times because I came from a good family. I lived in a wonderful world that was good to me. I wouldn't trade my childhood for all the gold in Fort Knox. It was a great life in a great time in American history. There is never a time when I pass the old church house at Melvin that I don't think of Aunt Del and the day they put her under. And the spring, summer, fall and winter that I spent with those potatoes are full of memories. I look back now on that time and I see how wonderful life then really was, for I had Daddy, Mother, Aunt Del and all the potatoes a boy could ever want to eat.

When I think of those days, it gives me strength to draw from, and memories that will live with me all of my days. So, let me say just this: "Old tater patch, thanks for helping make my life so rich when I was a small boy." After all, everyone knows how good taters are.

Lagoon

Continued from p5

who comes into his own during the crisis, Sarah Polley as the aforementioned nurse and Mekhi Phifer as an expectant father whose wife may just be about to deliver an undead child.

Whereas the first film included a battle with invading bikers, this version offers instead three underpaid mall security guards who don't feel too inclined to share their newfound consumer paradise.

The makeup effects are also top notch and feature the requisite exploding heads because, as fans of the series remember, "You must shoot the head to kill the ghoul."

There are also plenty of cool cameo appearances by members of the original film's cast. Ken Foree appears as a TV preacher who blames the crisis on the decay of family values, while Tom Savini (who did the make up for the original) has a brief bit as a sheriff who

laments having to put down people who voted for him.

All in all this plays like a cross between "Die Hard" and the "Living Dead" films (of which Romero just completed shooting a fourth, "Land of the Dead").

The DVD is a must have for anyone who enjoyed this one in theaters. The extras offer deleted scenes as well as a complete version of the newscasts which were only featured in the background during the film. There is also a video diary that gives more screen time to a character who didn't even have dialogue in the theatrical version.

Look out, folks, because a remake of Romero's third zombie film, "Day of the Dead," is also poised to hit video shelves this year.

Best line: "Put another round in that woman over there. She's a twitcher."

2004, unrated edition.

This Town

Continued from p5

From a .44
No Les
No Moore

Sign on the rear of a station wagon jammed with youngsters; "That's Right—There's 12 of us."

Somebody has said that if you want to create chaos, give four women one luncheon check. I've known the same situation among men to create what might be called the Big Stall.

HOW DEEP?

That item about muddy sidewalks reminds me that maybe, we should slip

out and slide along some of these country roads. When I think of a real country road in the winter time I recall the old one about the mudhole and the sign of the side of the road. There was no semblance of life around, but the placard read:

"Stop, wait Till My Team Gets Out—This Mudhole's Only 12 Feet Long."

Add Drop-in-the-Bucket Department: Highway Department will hire 500 men in eastern Kentucky, to relieve unemployment situation.

Support the Girl Scout Cookie Sale

Girl Scouts
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800/475-2621

Click and Clack Talk Cars

Price gouging is unscrupulous — shop elsewhere

Snow tires are useful on all cars

by TOM and RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:

I have been trying to buy a new Toyota Prius. Recently, two Southeast Florida dealers have told me they're in short supply. They both say they'll put me on the waiting list if I give them a deposit of \$1,000 and agree to pay \$5,000 above the sticker price. Frankly, that ticks me off. Why is doing right by the environment becoming so difficult? I do need to buy a car soon. Please answer before I do something crazy, like buy a Hummer! — Nurgun

RAY: This is what's known as price gouging, Nurgun. It's done by short-sighted dealers who don't realize that someday they might have more cars than customers, rather than the other way around. And the manufacturer can't legally prevent its dealers from doing this. It's only allowed to "suggest" prices (hence, the manufacturer's suggested retail price).

TOM: You know those dealers are only going to use your \$5,000 to buy a bigger power boat, which will only further add to the pollution in South Florida.

RAY: So, if you really want to help the environment, here's what I'd suggest: Buy a regular Honda Civic, which gets 30 mpg anyway.

TOM: Then take that \$5,000 and do the following: Put aside \$1,000 to pay for the difference in gasoline costs throughout the life of the Civic versus the Prius.

RAY: Then take \$1,000 and donate it to your favorite environmental organization.

TOM: And then, with the remaining \$3,000, hire a picketer to walk outside each of these dealerships with a big sign that says "This Dealership Gouges Its Customers. Shop Elsewhere."

RAY: At the rate of \$7 an hour, you can put someone at each dealership for a half a year's worth of Saturdays, marching back and forth in front of the parking lot with that sign.

TOM: You'll be helping to punish an unscrupulous dealer, and you'll be providing employment for some poor man or woman who needs it.

RAY: Alternatively, you could shop for a Honda Civic Hybrid, assuming your local Honda dealer isn't pulling the same kinds of tricks. Or wait until fall for the Honda Accord Hybrid to come out.

TOM: Or, you can go to www.cartalk.com and use the new-car-search feature to look for another Toyota dealer within driving range who will sell you the car at sticker price.

RAY: If you buy it that way, you can still take it back to these other rip-off artists to have the free warranty work done — and drink their waiting-room coffee. Good luck, Nurgun.

Dear Tom and Ray:

My wife said she heard you say that snow tires are useless on rear-wheel-drive cars. Your Web site seems to say the opposite, but it isn't specific enough about rear-wheel-drive cars to satisfy her. I need an answer fast, since we've just moved to Cleveland and have a very heavy rear-wheel-drive car (BMW 7 series). Should I get snow tires, or rely on the snow-driving skills I honed as a Boston driver some 20-plus years ago? Help! — Chris

TOM: Nah, it must have been one of her boyfriends who told her that, Chris. We never said that.

RAY: Snow tires are useful on all cars. Some cars are inherently better than others in the snow —

heavier cars, all-wheel-drive cars, front-wheel-drive cars — but every single car can benefit from snow tires. And we recommend that you get four of them.

TOM: In your case, you have a rear-

wheel-drive car, so the two snow tires you put on the rear wheels will help you go. They'll give you starting traction and accelerating traction, so you'll be less likely to stop moving and spin your wheels. But snow tires on your front wheels will help you do other important things, like ... stop. And turn. These are often underrated functions, but we're very much in favor of them.

RAY: The same is true for front-wheel-drive cars. Two snow tires on the front wheels will help you go and stop, but won't keep the rear end from sliding out on turns.

TOM: In addition, having four similar tires on your car makes the car's handling more predictable in non-snowy conditions. So your best bet — if you really have to drive in the snow — is four good snow tires.

RAY: So, first decide whether you really need to drive before your local roads are cleared. If you're a doctor or a loan shark, the answer is obviously yes. But if you're like most of us, you can consider saving the \$400 on snow tires and take the bus, or stay home and catch up on "Judge Judy." That's by far the safest thing to do.

Auto repairs can be costly! Save money by ordering Tom and Ray's pamphlet "Ten Ways You May Be Ruining Your Car Without Even Knowing It!" Send \$4.50 (check or money order) to Ruin, 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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210 - Job Listings

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- 280 - Services
- 290 - Work Wanted

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400 - MERCHANDISE

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- 530 - Homes
- 550 - Land/Lots
- 570 - Mobile Homes
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590 - Sale or Lease

- 600 - RENTALS

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- 620 - Storage/Office Space
- 630 - Houses
- 640 - Land/Lots
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For additional information, please send resumé 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, or contact Marilyn Hamblin, ARH Human Resources at: mhamblin@arh.org; 1-800-888-7045, Ext. 532. EOE

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

All Drywall, Dutch with 2x6 walls, and 5/12 roof pitch, ultimate kitchen package, glass block window, and many more extras. Set up for viewing. For details call 606-353-6444 or toll free 577-353-6444 the home show

580-Miscellaneous

FOR SALE: 50 acres of coal in Laurel Fork of Quicksand in Knott County, KY. Call 260-347-0259.

RENTALS

610-Apartments

FOR RENT: Apartments in Downtown Martin. Newly Renovated & Furnished. Call Between 9am-5pm 285-3025

APARTMENT FOR RENT: 2 BR 2 Bath All Appliances & Utilities Included. Between Prestonsburg & Pikeville. \$695 per Month. Also, 1 BR Fully Furnished, All Appliances & Utilities Furnished. \$650 per Month. Call 478-5173

1 BEDROOM FURNISHED APARTMENT, LR, Kitchen, Large Bathroom. Clean, Must be Quiet. Suitable for Working Man. Ready to Move Into, Near Prestonsburg. Call 886-3941

Apartment For Rent. Fully Furnished & Downtown Prestonsburg. Call 889-0634

For Rent: 1 Bedroom Apartment between college and Hospital. \$300 per Month + Deposit. 886-9291

FOR RENT: Spacious 1BR Apt. in Town. Paved Off Street Parking. \$375 + Deposit. Cable, Water Furnished. Walking Distance From Downtown Prestonsburg. References Req. 886-2444, 9am-6pm

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

1 bed room Apt. utilities paid, w/d furnished, No Pets available Oct. 1 \$425.00 per month \$150.00 Deposit, phone 606-874-5577 or 606-226-0999

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

NEW APARTMENTS 2 Bedrooms with Walk-in Closets, 2 Full Bathrooms, Custom Cabinets, Large Living Room & Dining Room. Conveniently Located on US 23 at Stanville. Call for Pricing (606)478-8100, After 5pm Call 478-5377

NOW RENTING: Park Place Apartment's in Prestonsburg, available for immediate occupancy .2 Bedroom \$345 Call 886-0039

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 OR SALE: 2 BR House Land Contract. Bevinsville, KY Call 478-9623

FOR RENT: Near college, nice 2 BR, kitchen appliances, furnished, central heat & air, large front porch, large back yard & storage building, privacy fence. \$500 mo. rent or lease & utilities. Lease & references required. Call 859-523-1511 or 606-434-6516.

HOUSE FOR RENT in Prestonsburg, central heat & air, yard, no pets, references required \$550 mo. Call 886-0226.

640-Land & Lots

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

For Sale: 2 Large Lots on Stone Crest Golf Course. Call 886-3313, 886-3314, 226-2468

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

650-Mobile Homes

FOR RENT: 3 BR, 2 BA doublewide. Central heat & air, fenced in yard. Located between Pikeville & Prestonsburg. \$550 mo, \$550 dep. 874-8459.

1 Bedroom Trailer For Rent. Call 874-9790.

FOR RENT IN McDOWELL Partially Furnished 3 BR Mobile Home. \$300 + Utilities, \$200 Security Deposit. References Required, No HUD. Please Call 377-6881

TRAILER FOR RENT: 2 Bedroom \$375 + Utilities. Call 874-0262

FOR RENT: Small Furnished Trailer. Suitable for Couple or 1 Person. Just Off Mountain Pwy. on Old 114. Call 886-8724

HOUSE FOR RENT: 2 BR, Furnished w/Appliances, Gas Heat, Private Lot. No Pets! Real Nice! 3 Miles Up Arkansas Creek. Call 886-6665 or 226-1054

EXCELLENT 3 BR 2 Bath Mobile Home. New 3" Insulation in Roof. Water, Sewer & Garbage Furnished. About 2 Miles From PCC. \$475 per Month Call 874-2162

670-Com. 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.

815-Lost & Found

LOST CAT: Lost Cat 1/1/05 from 6361 Spurlock Rd. Yellow tabby cat named Presley. No collar, poor vision, approximately 10 years old. \$200 reward. Call early morning or night 889-6437. Call daytime 434-2622.

900 - Legals

NOTICE OF BOND RELEASE Pursuant To Permit No. 836-0257

(1) In accordance with the provisions of KRS 350.093, notice is hereby given that Locust Grove, Inc., Box 958, Hazard, KY 41702, has applied for Phase III bond release on increments 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, on Permit Number 836-0257, which was last issued on 4/26/99. The application covers an area of approximate-

ly 296.8 acres, located 1.5 mile east of Wayland, in Floyd County.

(2) The permit area is approximately 2.0 miles east of the intersection of KY 1086 and KY 7, at the headwaters of Steele Creek and Doty Branch. The latitude is 37°25'50". The longitude is 82°46'00".

(3) The bond now in effect for the Increment 1 is a surety bond in the amount of \$40,900. Approximately 100 percent of the original bond amount of \$40,900 is included in the application for release.

The bond now in effect for the Increment 3 is a surety bond in the amount of \$10,700. Approximately 15 percent of the original bond amount of \$70,800 is included in the application for release.

The bond now in effect for the Increment 4 is a surety bond in the amount of \$44,500. Approximately 15 percent of the original bond amount of \$355,000 is included in the application for release.

The bond now in effect for the Increment 5 is a surety bond in the amount of \$29,200. Approximately 15 percent of the original bond amount of \$220,000 is included in the application for release.

The bond now in effect for Increment 6 is a surety bond in the amount of \$12,300. Approximately 15

percent of the original bond amount of \$95,600 is included in the application for release.

The bond now in effect for the Increment 7 is a surety bond in the amount of \$5,300. Approximately 10 percent of the original bond amount of \$59,300 is included in the application for release.

The bond now in effect for Increment 8 is a surety bond in the amount of \$3,400. Approximately 15 percent of the original bond amount of \$22,400 is included in the application for release.

(4) Reclamation work performed includes: backfilling, grading, topsoiling, and seeding, completed in February 1998, for Increment 1; April 1997, for Increment 3; April 1997, for Increment 4; September 1997, for Increment 5; September 1997, for Increment 6; November 1997, for Increment 7; and February 1998, for Increment 8.

(5) Written comments, objections, and requests for a public hearing or informal conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Field Services, #2 Hudson Hollow, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, by March 14, 2005.

(6) A public hearing on the application has been scheduled for 9:00 a.m., March 15, 2005, at the Department for Surface Mining

and Reclamation and Enforcement's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. The hearing shall be canceled if no request for a hearing or informal conference is received by March 14, 2005.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE

Pursuant to Application Number 836-5396 Amendment #3

In accordance with KRS 350.070, notice is hereby given that McCoy Elkhorn Corporation, 1148 Long Fork Road, Kimper, Kentucky 41539-9703, has filed for an amendment to an existing underground coal mining and reclamation operation, located approximately 1.00 mile north of Broad Bottom, and approximately 1.00 mile east of Betsy Layne, in Floyd and Pike Counties. This amendment will add an additional 4.86 acres of surface disturbance, but will not add any acres of underground mine area, making a total area of 3,750.25 acres within the amended permit boundary.

The proposed amendment area is located approximately 3,700 feet due east of Pike/Floyd Hollow County Road's junction with U.S. Route 23 and/or U.S. Route 460, and located in Pike/Floyd Hollow. The proposed amendment is located on the Broad Bottom and Harold U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 minute quadrangle maps. The surface area to be disturbed by the amendment is owned by East Kentucky Energy Corporation. The currently approved operation will use the underground method of mining. This Amendment Application proposes to add Ventilation Access Roads "7" and "8" and the associated ventilation areas. This Amendment Application also proposes to bring under permit an area that was shown as a no

mining zone that has been mined, and also to address underground pillars areas through a subsidence protection zone.

The amendment application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Natural Resources, Pikeville Regional Office, 121 Mays Branch, Pikeville, Kentucky 41501-9331. Written comments, objections, (or requests for a permit conference), must be filed with the Director of the Division of Mine Permits, No. 2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601-4321.

ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR CLINICAL SERVICES

Appalachian Regional Healthcare, a not-for-profit, integrated health care system serving Kentucky and West Virginia, is seeking candidates for the position of Assistant Administrator for the 308-bed ARH Regional Medical Center complex located in Hazard, KY.

This position, reporting to the community CEO, is accountable for providing the leadership necessary for clinical services to meet the facility's goals and for the operation, administration, coordination and evaluation of hospital clinical services, assuring that the highest level of quality and service is provided.

Candidates who have a degree in one of the clinical allied health sciences with at least three years of experience in a hospital clinical services environment and health care administration will be given priority consideration. A Master's degree is preferred. Strong communication skills and interpersonal relationship building skills are necessary as this highly visible position has frequent contact with patients, physicians, nursing and other clinical staff and with facility and system leadership.

ARH offers a very competitive salary and a comprehensive benefits plan including health insurance, vacation, sick and holiday leaves, TSA programs, non-contributory retirement plan, life insurance, etc.

For additional information or to apply, please submit resume with cover letter to: Marilyn Hamblin, ARH System Professional Recruiter, Appalachian Regional Healthcare, Inc., PO Box 8086, Lexington, KY 40533; e-mail: mhamblin@arh.org or fax: 859-226-2586. EOE www.arh.org



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FREE ESTIMATES

STOP!
You've cleaned out your attic, your basement, your garage and now you're ready to host a garage sale. Before you proceed, follow these signs for placing the type of classified ad that will help turn your event into a best-seller.

Be sure to include in your Garage or Yard Sale ad...

- 1 WHAT.** Describe the type of sale you're hosting. Is it mostly household goods? Nursery furniture? Apparel?
- 2 WHEN.** Give dates and time of sale, and rain date information.
- 3 WHERE.** Where the sale will be held, with directions or phone number for directions.
- 4 WHY.** Reason for sale, especially if it is a "moving" sale, since these tend to attract more customers.

Let one of our "ad-visors" help you with your ad. Call 886-8506

The Floyd County Times