

The Times

FLOYD COUNTY REGIONAL NEWS

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briefs

Pipeline committee appointed

The Associated Press

FRANKFORT, Ky. (AP) — Gov. Ernie Fletcher on Friday formed an advisory committee to study how pipeline accidents affect Kentucky's public health and safety.

The 10-person panel, called the Kentucky Pipeline Safety Advisory Committee, is supposed to hold public meetings and gather recommendations on the matter. It would be responsible for suggesting improvements to the federal government, which regulates such interstate pipelines, according to a press release.

"I expect the committee to be diligent in its efforts to evaluate and identify opportunities to improve pipeline safety and help prevent future tragedies that could take innocent life or degrade the commonwealth's natural resources," Fletcher said in a statement.

In November, a natural gas pipeline exploded in Floyd County. Nine people were injured and five homes were destroyed in the explosion.

An oil pipeline ruptured in Carroll County in January, spewing 83,000 gallons of crude into the Kentucky River. Oil spilled into the Ohio River and reached the water intakes for the city of Louisville.

Fletcher said the committee would be a "proactive" move to improve the safety of pipelines in Kentucky.

Chase ends with grisly murder-suicide

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

PIKEVILLE — Kentucky State Police officials are investigating the death of a 9-month-old boy who was apparently murdered Thursday at the hands of a man believed to be his father.

Preliminary reports indicate that Randall A. King, 46, of Grayson, shot 9-month-old Landon King twice in the head and once in the torso before

turning the gun on himself during a pursuit along an approximate 20-mile stretch of U.S. 23.

Randall King, suffering from a gunshot wound to his head, was pronounced dead at the scene at midnight by the Pike County coroner.

Landon King, the son of Eva Daniels, was found in the front floorboard of the vehicle, authorities said. He was immediately transported to the Pikeville Medical Center,

where he died approximately 10 minutes later.

Kentucky State Police officials divulged circumstances surrounding the murder-suicide during a press conference Friday at the Pikeville Fire Department Training Center. They haven't yet established a direct motive for the shooting, but preliminary reports indicate that King and Daniels, who had a "prior relationship,"

(See SHOOTINGS, page three)



Kentucky State Police Information officer Scott Hopkins, right, hosted a press conference Friday in Pikeville about the murder-suicide. Randall A. King shot 9-month-old Landon King three times during a pursuit along U.S. 23, then shot himself, authorities said.

photo by Mary Music



Floyd County PRIDE discussed upcoming events during an organizational meeting Friday.

photo by Mary Music

Local PRIDE committee making plans for cleanup

by MARY MUSIC
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — With the PRIDE cleanup scheduled to begin in just a matter of weeks, Floyd County PRIDE is getting ready for the big haul.

Committee members held an organizational meeting Friday and named Tony Grubb, of the Floyd County Conservation District, as chairman and Margo Barber as vice

chairman.

This year, Floyd County PRIDE will provide necessary supplies to PRIDE cleanup volunteers. Committee members also plan to "lead by example" by adopting and maintaining a stretch of highway in Floyd County through the Adopt-a-Highway Program.

Members set goals to clear out at least one known illegal garbage dump in the county and to seek funding to clear out polluted water-

ways, like that readily seen along the Right Fork of Middle Creek.

Grubb asked members to bring in digital photographs of area dump sites and other litter-prone areas so that members can decide which areas need the most attention.

Currently, members are working to obtain tax-exempt registration and PRIDE grant funding for cleanup projects and educational ventures

(See PRIDE, page three)

Judge uses class to try to fill need

by TOM DOTY
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Area attorneys got a lesson on ethics Friday at the Floyd County Justice Center, as part of a seminar taught by Family Court Judge Julie Paxton.

The course, which gave the lawyers 2.5 of the 12 continuing education credits they need each year to maintain their practice, was sponsored by Volunteer Lawyers of Appalachian Kentucky, which asked that each attorney represent one indigent client this year.

"We had 18 lawyers take the course but that's not enough," said Will Snyder, of VLAK.

Snyder noted that Floyd County has been lagging in providing free services for the poor.

"It's a tragedy," Snyder said. "Today's class only accounted for 8 percent of lawyers in the county."

Judge Paxton echoed Snyder's statements during her lecture, when she observed that the legal profession provides a good living and that "it is important to give something back to the community."



photo by Tom Doty

Judge Julie Paxton taught a unit for area lawyers on Friday and each one present will pay for the course by offering free legal services to one needy client in Floyd County.

The course detailed the rising costs of litigation by focusing on a growing trend in the courts which is seeing 65 percent of clients trying to represent themselves. This is putting a strain on the system and gumming up the works by making it difficult for other attorneys who can't separate their opposing counsel from the litigants. It's also a problem for judges, who are not allowed to give legal advice.

Judge Paxton illustrated

(See CLASS, page three)

Court applauds Turner for extra road money

by TOM DOTY
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — State Sen. Johnny Ray Turner attended a meeting of the Floyd County Fiscal Court Friday and received a warm welcome from the court for securing an extra \$570,000 for Floyd County roads in the state budget during the General Assembly's regular session in Frankfort.

More funds might be coming the county's way in the future, Turner noted.

"We might be able to get ... more for roads, if we can show the need," Turner said.

Turner reiterated his commitment to the basics for Floyd County and said, "Education, roads and water



photo by Tom Doty

State Sen. Johnny Ray Turner addressed the Floyd County Fiscal Court on Friday to talk about the impact of funds being routed to the area from the state budget.

are what we need to keep working on. Ninety percent of the county has water lines and that should help

attract industry."

Turner also talked about plans to keep the Otter Creek Correctional Complex solvent after Indiana begins taking back the prisoners housed there. He said that he is meeting Gov. Ernie Fletcher on Monday and will bring state Rep. Chuck Meade along to talk to the governor about the possibility of using the prison to house female inmates.

Judge-Executive Paul Hunt Thompson thanked Turner for his efforts and said, "State government was good to us. Our representatives up there did excellent work."

Turner also mentioned a plan to build a new park at Mud Creek and

(See TURNER, page three)

Henderson pleads guilty to sodomy

by TOM DOTY
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — John Henderson, 31, of Hi Hat, was sentenced Friday to seven years in prison on a m e n d e d charges of sexually abusing a child on Christmas day 2003.

Henderson pleaded guilty to two counts of sodomy.

Henderson, who will have to serve two years

before seeing the rest of his sentence probated, will be eligible for parole soon, as he has already spent close to two years in prison.



Henderson

Henderson will have to complete a sex offender program as part of his sentence and will have to have no violations of law for five years in order to remain out of prison.

He is also ordered to stay away from the victim and the child's family.

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Odds and Ends

■ **MERCER, Pa.** — George Kaminski, who has spent more than half of his life behind bars, has one more reason to hate prison.

"There are no four-leaf clovers here," Kaminski, 53, told The Herald of Sharon for Friday's editions.

Kaminski, serving time for crimes including burglary and shooting at a police officer, has collected a world record 72,927 four-leaf clovers since 1995. He found all of them on the grounds of various Pennsylvania prisons.

But now that he moved to a

minimum-security facility with fewer clovers, he's worried about the competition.

Edward Martin Sr., of Soldotna, Alaska, claims to have collected more than 76,000 four-leaf clovers. The 73-year-old retiree has applied to Guinness to be recognized as the new record holder.

"I've got file cabinets full of clovers," said Kathy Dawson, Soldotna's mayoral assistant. "The mayor had kids from the schools counting all these clovers, and there are still more to be counted."

Kaminski complained that

the competition with Martin is unfair.

"The guy's got the whole world — I have two or three acres," Kaminski said from the visitor's room of State Correctional Institution-Mercer, about 55 miles north of Pittsburgh.

■ **AUSTIN, Texas** — The Friday night lights in Texas could soon be without bumpin' and grindin' cheerleaders.

Legislation filed by state Rep. Al Edwards of Houston would put an end to "sexually suggestive" performances at high school athletic events and other extracurricular competitions.

"It's just too sexually oriented, you know, the way they're shaking their behinds and going on, breaking it down," said Edwards, a 26-year veter-

an of the Texas House.

"And then we say to them, 'don't get involved in sex unless it's marriage or love, it's dangerous out there' and yet the teachers and directors are helping them go through those kind of gyrations."

Under Edwards' bill, if a school district knowingly permits such a performance, state funds would be reduced in an amount to be determined by the education commissioner.

Edwards said he filed the bill after seeing several instances of such ribald performances in his district.

J.M. Farias, owner of Austin Cheer Factory, said cheerleading aficionados would welcome the law. Cheering competitions penalize for suggestive movements or any vulgarity, he said.

"Any coaches that are good

won't put that in their routines," he said.

■ **DANA POINT, Calif.** — The mystery of the jumbo squid is deepening.

Dead Humboldt squid are again washing up along Orange County's coastline, baffling scientists who are trying to find out why.

The Ocean Institute in Dana Point has conducted some of the research, shipping specimens to the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History and Stanford University for further study.

Scientists at the institute this week dissected a 5-foot-long, 15-pound female Humboldt squid that was filled with parasites and sand. More than a 100 squid have been spotted since Sunday between Dana Point and San Clemente.

Still, there are no answers.

"We still don't know what's killing them," said Linda Blanchard, lab director of the Ocean Institute who has dissected about a dozen squid since they first washed up ashore in January. "All we have right now are theories."

Scientists believe the squid are swimming north from Mexico to follow food sources, forcing them to come closer to the surface and shore. Squid normally live and hunt 3,000 feet below the water's surface.

In January, about 1,500 Humboldt squid washed up on the Orange County coastline about a week after an oil spill from an undetermined source coated more than 1,000 seabirds off the Southern California coast.

(See ODDS, page six)

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Palm Sunday, March 20, the 79th day of 2005. There are 286 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On March 20, 1815, Napoleon Bonaparte entered Paris, beginning his "Hundred Days" rule.

On this date:

■ In 1413, England's King Henry IV died; he was succeeded by Henry V.

■ In 1727, physicist, mathematician and astronomer Sir Isaac Newton died in London.

■ In 1852, Harriet Beecher Stowe's influential novel about slavery, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," was first published.

■ In 1896, U.S. Marines landed in Nicaragua to protect U.S. citizens in the wake of a revolution.

■ In 1956, union workers ended a 156-day strike at Westinghouse Electric Corp.

■ In 1969, John Lennon married Yoko Ono in Gibraltar.

■ In 1976, kidnapped newspaper heiress Patricia Hearst was convicted of armed robbery for her part in a San Francisco bank holdup.

■ In 1985, Libby Riddles of Teller, Alaska, became the first woman to win the Iditarod Trail Dog Sled Race.

■ In 1990, Namibia became an independent nation as the former colony marked the end of 75 years of South African rule.

■ In 1999, Bertrand Piccard of Switzerland and Brian Jones of Britain became the first aviators to fly a hot-air balloon around the world nonstop.

Ten years ago: In Tokyo, 12 people were killed, more than 5,500 others sickened when packages containing the poisonous gas sarin leaked on five separate subway trains. Commentator Pat Buchanan formally launched his presidential campaign in New Hampshire.

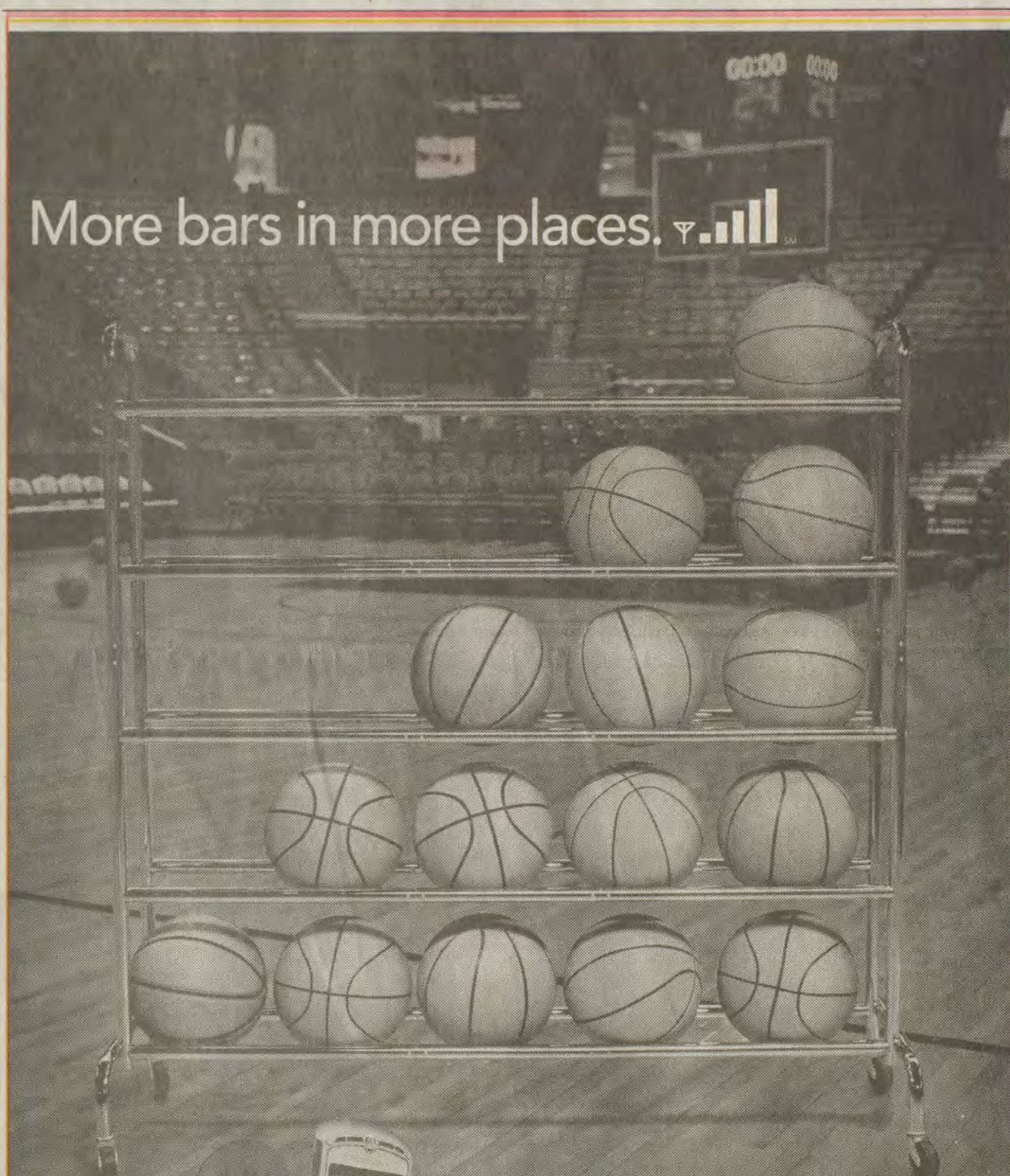
Five years ago: Pope John Paul II embarked on a strenuous and spiritual tour of the Holy Land, beginning with a stop in Jordan. President Clinton arrived in Bangladesh on the first such visit by an American

president. Former Black Panther Jamil Abdullah Al-Amin, once known as H. Rap Brown, was captured in Alabama; he was wanted in the fatal shooting of a sheriff's deputy. (Al-Amin was later convicted and sentenced to life in prison without parole.)

One year ago: Hundreds of thousands of people worldwide rallied against the U.S.-led war in Iraq on the first anniversary of the start of the conflict. The U.S. military charged six soldiers with abusing inmates at Abu Ghraib prison. The Rev. Karen Dammann, a lesbian Methodist pastor, was acquitted of violating church doctrine in a trial held in Bothell, Wash. Taiwanese President Chen Shui-bian narrowly won re-election. Former Dutch Queen Juliana died at age 94.

Today's Birthdays: Producer-director-comedian Carl Reiner is 83. Actor Hal Linden is 74. Singer Jerry Reed is 68. Former Canadian prime minister Brian Mulroney is 66. Country singer Don Edwards is 66. TV producer Paul Junger Witt is 62. Country singer-musician Ranger Doug (Riders in the Sky) is 59. Hockey Hall-of-Famer Bobby Orr is 57. Blues singer-musician Marcia Ball is 56. Actor William Hurt is 55. Rock musician Carl Palmer (Emerson, Lake and Palmer) is 55. Rock musician Jimmie Vaughan is 54. Country musician Jimmy Seales (Shenandoah) is 51. Movie director Spike Lee is 48. Actress Theresa Russell is 48. Actress Vanessa Bell Calloway is 48. Actress Holly Hunter is 47. Rock musician Slim Jim Phantom (The Stray Cats) is 44. Actress-model Kathy Ireland is 42. Rock musician Adrian Oxxal (James) is 40. Actress Liza Snyder is 37. Actor Michael Rapaport ("Boston Public") is 35. Actor Alexander Chaplin is 34. Rock singer Chester Bennington (Linkin Park) is 29. Actor Michael Genadry is 27. Actress Bianca Lawson is 26.

Thought for Today: "I am I plus my circumstances." — Jose Ortega y Gasset, Spanish philosopher (1883-1955).



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U.S. General Services Administration

Horses thriving in Appalachia on pastures that were once mountaintop mines

by ROGER ALFORD
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PIKEVILLE — Horses stand at attention in grassy fields, heads held high in a warm breeze, while colts prance about in a postcard-perfect scene.

What sounds like a description of central Kentucky's Bluegrass country is actually in the heart of Appalachia, where mining companies in search of coal have turned once-rugged mountaintops into prime grazing land for horses.

"The land is just so vast," said Brian Combs, a University of Kentucky agricultural agent. "Horses can just graze and graze and graze."

Through the mining process, thousands of acres that were once dense forests, mountain peaks and steep valleys are now grasslands that provide nearly perfect habitat for horses. The result is a fledgling equine industry in mountain communities where horses were once rare.

No one knows exactly how large the horse population is in eastern Kentucky's mountain region, but the American Horse Council estimates it is now home to about 12,000 of the state's 180,000 horses.

"People are running horses on some of these reclaimed strip mines by the hundreds," Combs said. "If reclaimed surface mines are properly maintained, they provide more than enough forage. In some places, you have free-range grazers."

Coal companies have long been criticized for taking the tops off mountains in eastern Kentucky and southern West Virginia to unearth the coal. Environmentalists say the practice destroys mountain vistas and creates "moonscapes," with all the trees and vegetation scraped away by bulldozers.

But it's the process of restoring the land after the coal is extracted that has made the mountaintops a grazing haven. Coal company crews plant various grasses on the land in hopes of preventing erosion.

In addition to horses, farmers are increasingly putting their cattle, goats and sheep on the mountaintop pastures. And among wild animals, coyotes, deer and elk have found a home there.

"I think when the critics of mining talk about what they call the destruction, they look only at the active operation," said Bill Caylor, president of the Kentucky Coal Association. "They don't look at the reclaimed product."

Chester Wireman usually keeps 15 to 20 horses grazing on his 100-acre pasture that was once a mountaintop mine in Magoffin County. He said the forage is as good on his farm as that in Kentucky's famed Bluegrass area surrounding Lexington, 100 miles to the northwest.

"I've got an old mare that will be 29 years old in June," he said. "She's been on a strip mine all her life. She's fat as a bear."

In Breathitt County, hundreds of horses roam free on some 6,000 acres of reclaimed coal mine land. People take their horses there, turn them loose, and let them graze wherever they wish. No fences limit their travels.

Horse owners from several counties in eastern Kentucky leave their animals on that land, called South Fork, for months at a time to grow fat on what has become essentially public grazing lands.

Every county in eastern Kentucky had increases in horse populations between 1997 and 2002, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service,

a branch of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Morgan County's horse population swelled from 598 to 1,467. Magoffin County's increased from 288 to 525, Knox County's from 302 to 422, and Johnson County's from 141 to 207.

Dr. Joey Collins, a Pikeville veterinarian who has built a practice around horses, said he believes the numbers have increased far more substantially since the last government count three years ago. Collins said he has seen the number of horses for which he performs blood tests for local competitions grow from less than 200 to more than 1,000 a year. He said he believes that is a direct result of the increasing acreage of grasslands on the mountaintops.

"It's made a lot of opportunities for people who want horses," he said.

Coal association president Caylor said companies are restoring most of the surface mines for use as wildlife habitat, with rolling terrain and lots of trees. However, many private landowners want flat land, seeded in grass, so that it can be used for agricultural purposes.

"Coal operators have an opportunity to leave the land dramatically better," he said. "When you have steep inaccessible hillsides, all you can do is grow trees on it. This gives them other options."

Combs said he believes eastern Kentucky will play a larger role in the horse industry in years to come.

"When you look at central Kentucky and what is happening down there, you have so many of the farms being sectioned off and sold in plots or being turned into subdivisions. Eventually, those farms are going to be pushed out into eastern Kentucky."

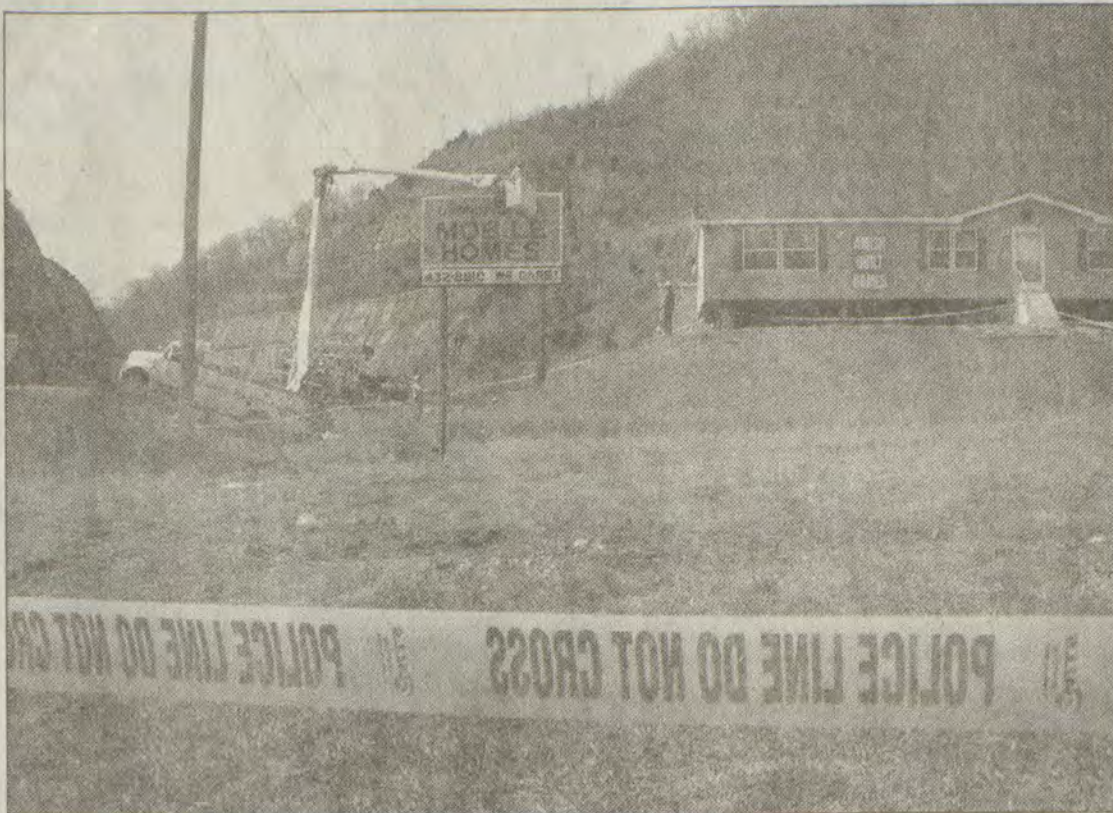


photo by Mary Musick

Kentucky Power employees worked Friday to fix a transformer and guy wire on this sign at Ford Branch. King's vehicle drove over the hill and through a rocky ravine before coming to rest in the front lawn of a neighboring home.

Chase

Continued from p1

were involved in a custody dispute involving Landon King.

The Harlan County Circuit Clerk's office said Friday that there are no custody cases pending between King and Daniels in Harlan County.

Laura Taylor, a family friend, told the Associated Press that King had apparently become angry after Daniels asked him to begin paying child support. King had previously been physically abusive to Daniels, Taylor said.

The Harlan County KSP post received a call at 9:30 p.m. Thursday from the mother of a 14-year-old who was babysitting Landon King at the Daniels home in the Everts community of Harlan County.

Daniels was shopping for Easter baskets, authorities said, when King came to her home and abducted the child at gunpoint.

Investigating officers said King came to the home and "had possession" of the child prior to the abduction. He left the premises, leaving the child with the babysitter, they said, and returned and forced his way back into the home a few minutes later with the .32 caliber H & R handgun (later used to shoot the child) and the shotgun that King later turned on himself. Both weapons were recovered at the scene, authorities reported.

Another 6-year-old child was also at the Daniels residence during the abduction, they said.

Harlan KSP officials relayed descriptions of King's vehicle, a 2001 Ford Expedition, to surrounding police agencies. The vehicle was spotted by Hazard police officers at the intersection of U.S. 23 and Route 805 in

Letcher County at approximately 10:50 p.m.

King, a railroad engineer for CSX in Russell, did not comply to attempts to stop the vehicle, they said.

The pursuit continued along U.S. 23 for approximately 20 miles, KSP information officer Scott Hopkins said, and ended about 20 minutes later when King's vehicle ran off the road near Ford's Branch, about three miles south of Pikeville.

Both occupants of the vehicle had already sustained gunshot wounds by the time the vehicle came to a rest on its side in the lawn of a home owned by Shannon Robinson, officials said.

Jerry and Sherry Adkins, owners of a neighboring mobile home business, heard the commotion outside their business between 11 and 11:30 p.m. Jim Adkins said the car veered off the road, crossed the southbound lane, tumbled through a rocky ravine and a rock-filled ditch before it landed sideways in Robinson's yard.

The Adkinses did not hear gunshots or the ultimate crash at the scene.

"You don't see something like this so close to home. It's horrific and hard to understand," Jerry Adkins said Friday.

KSP officials would not confirm whether alcohol or drugs were contributing factors in the abduction and subsequent murder-suicide. Toxicology reports are pending on King, who was scheduled to appear for a trial in Harlan County in May for a misdemeanor DUI offense.

The baby's uncle, John Howard, told the Associated Press that King had been drink-

ing when he came to the home. He also said that King, who officials said married another Grayson resident in December, "knocked the door down, grabbed the child out of [the babysitter's arms] and took off with it."

"If things didn't go exactly the way he wanted, he was demanding," Taylor told the Associated Press. "He'd take force to get his way. I knew he was capable of anything. We just want to wake up from this nightmare."

King was trying to "rekindle" his relationship with Daniels, the Associated Press reported.

Officers did not exchange fire or have any verbal or physical contact with King during the pursuit, Hopkins said.

King held out his hand during the pursuit and motioned for officers to approach the driver's side of his vehicle, authorities said, but officers did not comply.

Authorities were at the scene until approximately 3 a.m. Friday morning and were still struggling to make sense of the circumstances surrounding the incident Friday afternoon.

"I went home and kissed my little boy," KSP Lt. Lynn Cross said after the press conference.

Detectives Ken Crider and Kevin Newsome continue the investigation.

CSX officials would not release information about King Friday.

Both bodies are undergoing autopsies at the State Medical Examiner's office in Frankfort.

Associated Press reporter Roger Alford contributed to this story.

Pride

Continued from p1

throughout the community.

They discussed the possibility of "piggy backing" the Floyd County Service Project, headquartered in Turkey Creek, to obtain tax exempt status.

The organization is asking community schools, businesses and other organizations to "pitch in" during the annual PRIDE cleanup campaign, which is scheduled for April 9 through April 23.

Floyd County PRIDE representatives will be on hand during a Home and Garden Expo at the Jenny Wiley State Resort Park Convention Center on April 9, to sign up volunteers and offer information about upcoming PRIDE projects in Floyd County.

The community is invited to attend the next Floyd County PRIDE meeting, slated to be held at the Floyd County Courthouse Annex on April 7, at 10 a.m. Subsequent meetings will be held at various locations throughout the county.

To register your group or receive additional information, contact Floyd County PRIDE Coordinator Lon May at (606) 886-0498.

Class

Continued from p1

the ethical problems inherent in such a situation by explaining that she could give advice to a litigant but might then be more impressed by a point made by the opponent's attorney, which would put the person without a lawyer in a position to accuse the judge of misleading him or her.

Paxton also talked about the dangers of a lawyer helping a friend by writing motions for him or her when they are supposed to be representing themselves. She noted that "ghost-writing" is an ethical violation as it turns a lawyer into a silent partner who can be held liable later if his or her friend doesn't get his or her way in court and decides to report that an attorney handled some of their motions.

Snyder said that the underlying problem is that people who can't afford an attorney wind up on the losing sides of decisions and are thus robbed of any fair chance of justice.

Turner

Continued from p1

said, "We need places for our youth to be able to go to." He also mentioned plans to build a ball park for use by the teams at South Floyd and Allen Central.

Turner related that his experiences as a coach and teacher have impressed upon him the need for encouraging children's activities and said, "Athletics are an integral part of childhood development."

In other business the court approved that the jail reinstated Justin Stephens, who returned last week from military deployment in Kosovo and is ready to come back to work. Jailor Roger Webb said that he was happy to have Stephens back after his service.

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expression

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

— Félix Frankfurter

Guest view

They died for truth

A pause to honor 56 journalists who lost their lives so that others could be informed.

Freedom-loving people around the world owe a special debt of gratitude to 56 people who lost their lives in 2004, martyrs for their commitment to an informed public.

More than 100 other journalists, including one in the United States, were imprisoned.

The Committee to Protect Journalists, which reported the figures, said last year was exceptionally dangerous for people who gather and report the news. Of the 56 who died, 39 were murdered. Others died in combat.

Iraq was the most dangerous venue — 22 of the dead were Iraqi journalists. Another eight were local journalists in the Philippines.

People who are drawn to a career of reporting don't seek fame or fortune. They pursue, and are pursued by, an unquenchable commitment to seek out the facts and make them known.

In so doing, they provide an essential ingredient for democracy, or, as the case may be, democratic revolution. That ingredient is an informed public.

It can be dangerous. An informed public is a threat to tyrants (China and Cuba were first and second in the number of journalists imprisoned last year) and to others — drug syndicates, regional warlords and terrorists. Unchecked power, or the lust for unchecked power, cannot abide the bright light of truth.

Thus, we honor those who gave their lives to the cause of informing their fellow man.

A similar, though less violent, struggle goes on even in those parts of the world that are politically more stable. On one side are powerful people, in and out of government, who are dedicated to keeping their activities as far as possible out of the public gaze. On the other are journalists who work daily to report the news.

Even in the United States, reporting can entail a broader effort that includes monitoring legislation to be sure the forces of secrecy don't gain a new foothold. It can mean hiring a lawyer and going to court to defend the freedom of the press, such as this newspaper did when the American Civil Liberties Union tried to prevent publication of a key detail in a bit of public business.

It can mean unpleasant confrontation, long hours of research, extra legwork and the development of sources inside government. At some points, it can mean going public with formal objections to government policies, such as objections many of our fellow news organizations are voicing this week about the Bush administration's policy of foot-dragging on Freedom of Information requests.

Yes, we realize that none of this remotely matches the sacrifice of our brothers and sisters who gave their lives last year. Yet knowing that they died in the same cause merits the awe and respect of American journalists and the renewed commitment not to tire in the struggle against government secrecy.

— Omaha World-Herald



guest column

HRMC to challenge annexation attempt

SUBMITTED BY HIGHLANDS REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Highlands Regional Medical Center (HRMC) will legally challenge the annexation ordinance presented at the Prestonsburg City Council meeting on Monday, March 14. HRMC was unaware that the ordinance was to be presented and first learned about it on Tuesday morning. HRMC firmly believes the annexation attempt is an effort by the mayor to resolve many of the financial difficulties incurred by his administration.

Highlands Regional Medical Center opened in 1973 and since that time has purchased water from the Auxier Water Company, gas from the Auxier Gas Company, sewage services from the

City, electricity from Big Sandy Rural Electric, and fire protection from the North Floyd Fire District, who in turn sub-contracts with the city of Prestonsburg. Highlands pays premium costs for all of these services.

HRMC is the second largest employer in Floyd County and contributes significantly to the economic development of the community through its 400 plus employees that live in Prestonsburg and other parts of Floyd County. Payroll dollars go back into the local economy through purchases of goods and services and payment of property taxes. Many of Highlands' physicians and board members live in Prestonsburg, own homes, and pay premium property taxes. As a good corporate citizen, each year Highlands generously donates to the local schools, police and sheriff's departments, the rescue squad, the fire department, churches, Jenny Wiley Theatre, the Mountain Arts Center, StoneCrest Golf Course, and other organizations in Prestonsburg and Floyd County.

As a not-for-profit organization, HRMC turns no one away for care regardless of their ability to pay. Last year Highlands provided \$5.6 million to the community in uncompensated care, care that was provided for local people who had no insurance or ability to pay.

In addition, all Kentucky hospitals are forced to pay a provider tax to the state. Last year HRMC paid \$1.2 million in provider taxes. A very small portion of this amount is returned to the hospital to help offset the cost of uncompensated care.

Highlands is not part of a hospital chain with headquarters in another state. It is the only hospital in the four-county area that is not part of a chain. Highlands is an independent, community hospital with all profits made by the organization going back into the organization to provide new services, recruit new physicians to the area, and upgrade technology all toward continuously improving patient care for the community.

Highlands' position on the annexation is firm. It will be legally challenged. Highlands contributes significantly to the economy of Prestonsburg, is a good corporate citizen, and believes annexation is not in the best interests of the medical center. We ask for the support of all the people in Prestonsburg that we have provided care for, donated to, sponsored an event for, purchased services from, or helped in any way. Please contact your Prestonsburg City Council Members and urge them to vote no on the annexation ordinance at the next city council meeting on March 28.

— beyond the beltway

Bush on Social Security: No honesty, please

by DONALD KAUL

President Bush's efforts to sell his peculiar "privatization" remedy for the Social Security "crisis" haven't been going well. Recent polls show that Mr. Bush gets his lowest marks on his handling of that issue.

But, like any good snake oil salesman, he presses on. He's been crisscrossing the country telling people that Social Security is sick and that only privatization will make it well.



His sales pitch has been characteristically Bushian — dismissive of evidence and encased in syntax that is virtually impenetrable to logic. Here's what he said the other day: "I've been reading the newspapers and been seeing some folks saying 'There's not a problem, he's just exaggerating.'"

Well, I'm going to keep telling people we've got a problem until it sinks in, because we've got one. You can't dodge whether we have a problem or not. Because, see, the next follow-on ques-

tion to that is, if you've got a problem, what do you Republicans and Democrats and a few independents intend to do about it up there?"

He also said that, under his proposed privatization fix, income from personal accounts, goes to supplement the Social Security check that you're going to get from the federal government. "See, personal accounts is an add-on to that which the government is going to pay you. It doesn't replace the Social Security system."

That either means he doesn't understand the plan he's proposed (always a possibility) or that he is outright lying (more likely). You can't pay full Social Security benefits and have part of the payroll tax going into personal accounts at the same time. There's just not enough money to go around. The term "add-on" is generally used to mean a payment into a private account above and beyond what now goes into the retirement system. That's not what Bush is proposing.

It's always dangerous to assume that President Bush is as dumb as he sounds. He gets what he wants too often to be written off as a dunce. It's far more likely that he's deliberately trying to confuse and frighten people about Social Security so that they'll be stampeded into support for his cockamamie privatization scheme.

And I wouldn't bet against him. He's calling his shock troops into the battle. Business groups are ratcheting up multi-million-dollar lobbying efforts and the airwaves will soon be filled with stories of Social Security's peril. (Like they care.) And the people who gave you the Swift Boat veterans (remember them?) are joining the fight. They have been hired by USA Next, a big-money conservative lobbying group, to trash AARP as they did John Kerry.

They're trying to brand the seniors lobbying group as a left-liberal, gay marriage-loving cabal that is standing in the way of the brave president's efforts to save Social Security. You would think that absurd on the face of it, but this bunch managed to convince a lot of voters that Kerry's Vietnam credentials (three purple hearts) weren't as good as those of Bush, who hid from the fray. Maybe they can convince people that AARP is a bunch of hippies.

Personally, I doubt that Mr. Bush will get his plan enacted this time around but he might get a piece of it now, then push for more later. That's the way the Conservative movement works: patiently, relentlessly.

Conservatives have been talking about getting rid of Social Security for the past 35 years, ever since Barry Goldwater suggested it be made voluntary. He was laughed out of the election in 1968 but here, 37 years later, we've got a two-term president who's pushing privatization — voluntary Social Security by another name — and no one's laughing.

This so-called Conservative movement is not conservative, of course; it's reactionary. It looks longingly back on a time when retirement was the exclusive province of the rich.

For the rest of us, it was work 'til you die and if you couldn't, hope you died young. That's the golden sunset Captain Bush is steering us into now, or trying to.

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

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Faith Extra

Networks preparing for big story when new pope is selected

by DAVID BAUDER
AP TELEVISION WRITER

NEW YORK — With Pope John Paul II's health declining, CBS News executive Marcy McGinnis traveled to Rome to negotiate a 10-year lease for the rights to broadcast from the roof of a hotel overlooking St. Peter's Square when the pope dies.

That was nine years ago. "I thought I was very smart making a 10-year deal," she said. "It should have been 15."

Or more, judging by the 84-year-old pope's tenacity. A papal succession is one of those big stories that television networks can assiduously prepare for, and they have. They just don't know when those plans will be needed at a moment's notice, and must make sure they're not outdated when it happens.

The pope's death will be a major story across the world that will fill many hours of airtime, and will be the first such succession in the era of 24-hour news.

"John Paul II in some remarkable way embodies the human experience in our time in a way that perhaps no other figure has since Churchill," said George Weigel, one of the pope's biographers. "When a gigantic figure like this leaves the stage of history, that is an opportunity to reflect upon that history and what it meant."

TV networks shouldn't be so concentrated on history that they miss how the event will hit people in the heart, said ABC News President David Westin.

"There are a number of people who are connected

emotionally to the pope," Westin said. "We need to understand this."

ABC News was the only American network to have a full-time religion reporter, Peggy Wehmeyer, but the job was eliminated several years ago.

Now there are none. "I may be biased, but I think that's a mistake," said Jeffery Sheler, a contributing editor at U.S. News & World Report and president of the Religious Newswriters Association.

Yet even Sheler concedes that a papal succession is such a major story that networks know enough to have people study for it. To a large degree, the networks also outsource expertise, signing up commentators like they locked up retired generals for the Iraq war.

Weigel, for instance, signed an exclusive deal with NBC News six years ago. These experts are either on retainers where they already talk about religious issues, or make agreements that they will be on call at the appropriate time.

News organizations have also prepared a raft of material ahead of time. CBS News, for example, has largely completed an hourlong prime-time special on the pope that will air upon his death, McGinnis said.

"I have been interviewed for obituaries on the pope for the last 10 years and he's outlived everybody, even some of his biographers," said the Rev. Thomas Reese, editor of the Jesuit weekly magazine America and author of "Inside the Vatican: The Politics and Organization of

the Catholic Church."

For American networks, the coverage will likely resemble the aftermath of former President Reagan's death: several hours of live coverage when the news breaks, then occasional special reports on the broadcast networks. Expect cable news networks to be nearly wall-to-wall on the story.

"I think for the most part people have their plans in place," said John Stack, vice president of newsgathering for Fox News Channel. "Especially with (the pope's) health issues of the last month and a half, it was a case of people going over their plans."

The big challenge will be explaining the traditions and the conclave of cardinals that selects a new pope without making eyes glaze over, he said.

"Can you imagine what this is going to be like for 24-hour television?" Sheler said. "There's not going to be much news. The conclave is private. The cardinals when they come out of a closed event aren't going to be giving interviews. It will be journalists interviewing journalists."

Organizing coverage is a logistical nightmare for networks: they need to rent places with good camera views of St. Peter's, separate facilities for dozens of short-timers to work and hotel rooms at a moment's notice in a popular tourist town.

And woe to the network that misses the picture when a puff of smoke indicates a new pope has been chosen.

The level of attention will likely overwhelm the Vatican,

said Marjorie Weeke, who coordinated press coverage for the Vatican until her recent retirement. (Weeke's son is an NBC News producer based in Rome).

"I think it will all work out," she said. "This is Italy. It's the land of improvisation."

The selection of a new pope will be less a religion story than a political one, dependent on old-fashioned reporting, said Mark Lukasiewicz, chief of specials for NBC News.

When John Paul II was selected in 1978, the room where the cardinals met was swept for electronic bugs, Weeke said. Cardinals will

probably have to check their cell phones, pagers and computers at the door to guard against any leaks, Reese said.

"They take an oath and if they come out of the conclave and break the oath, the have to go in and ask for forgiveness," Weeke said. "It's a very serious thing."

In 1978, cardinals over age 80 weren't allowed to vote for a new pope but weren't sworn to secrecy, so they went out and told journalists what was going on, Reese said.

Now that loophole has been closed.

"Once the election is over, every monsignor in Rome will claim to know the inside story," he said. "The trouble

is, will they really know? Or are they just doing this so you'll buy them lunch?"

Reese has posted a primer for journalists covering a papal succession on the Internet. Since he hasn't signed an exclusive arrangement with any network — he said he's not interested in the money — he'll be one of the most visible faces on TV when that time comes.

There's one question he won't answer. He won't make any predictions on a new pope.

"Part of it is I don't want to look like a fool when it's all over," he said. "I don't think anyone in the world is going to know who is going to be the pope."

Minister's Moment

Why is Easter so early?

by PASTOR STEVE PESCOSOLIDO
COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The date for Easter Sunday changes each year. This special day is set each year as the first Sunday after the full moon after the spring equinox (usually March 21st). This year the moon is full on March 25th (Good Friday) and the Sunday right after that is March 27th ... Easter Sunday.

To help our community prepare for Easter, the Floyd County Ministerial Association has planned a series of Holy Week Services. These services will be held at 12:00 noon Monday through

Good Friday at the Irene Cole First Baptist Church in down-

town Prestonsburg. Pastors take turns offering a short message — one each day. A light lunch will be served at 12:30 P.M. Following is a schedule of the speakers for this Holy Week:

Monday, March 21, Pastor Tommy Reid

Tuesday, March 22, Pastor John Baker

Wednesday, March 23, Pastor Steve Williams

Thursday, March 24, Youth Minister Clayton Case

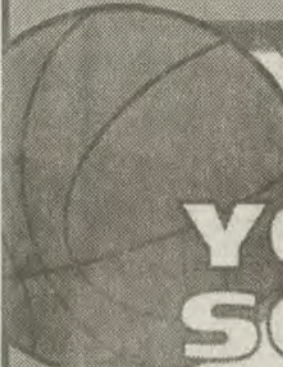
Friday, March 25, Pastor Floyd Price

The community might also be interested in an enactment and explanation of the Jewish Seder (Passover) Meal. A Christian Jew from the organization Jews for Jesus will lead a Seder Meal at the First

United Methodist Church on Good Friday, March 25th. For more information on this event, please call 886-8031.

Lastly, the community is invited again to the Eastern Kentucky Prayer Conference on Substance Abuse tonight (Sunday) at 6:00 P.M. at the Mountain Arts Center.

The focus of this special Holy Week is the great sacrifice of Jesus Christ for the sins of the world. Why would God allow His Son to suffer? It was the only way to save people from the fires of hell and allow them entry into heaven. Christ suffered so we could be saved. But His Father didn't leave Him in the grave. On the third day ... He was resurrected from the dead! Thus, we celebrate Easter Sunday.



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Community Calendar

Calendar items will be printed as space permits

Editor's note: To announce your community event, you may hand-deliver your item to The Floyd County Times office, located at 263 S. Central Avenue, Prestonsburg; or mail to: The Floyd County Times, P.O. Box 390, Prestonsburg, KY 41653; or fax to 606-886-3603; or email to: features@floyd-countytimes.com. Information will not be taken over the telephone. All items will be placed on a first-come, first-serve basis as space permits.

2005

Home and Garden Expo

A 2005 Home and Garden Expo will be held at the Jenny Wiley Convention Center on Saturday, April 9, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. There will be no charge for admission.

This year's program will feature: Home and garden topics, booths, free herb, vegetable and flower seeds, and youth activities.

Seeds will be distributed on a "first-come first serve basis." Seed quantities are limited.

For more information, contact Ray Tackett, Theresa Scott, or Chuck Stamper at 886-2668.

Picking for the American Cancer Society

The Pike County Pickers will be presenting a Bluegrass benefit show at the Belfry Fire Department on April 2, 2005. The program is being presented in support of the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, and all profits from the program will go to the American Cancer Society. The show will begin at 6:00 p.m. and will feature, Lost Mountain, Blackberry Jam, Frank Hammond and Old Time Bluegrass, Swift River and other local performers. Anyone interested in participating in this event should call Mike Morley, at (606) 631-1688 or (606) 432-5848.

May Valley Elementary school-based decision making council to meet

There will be called meeting of the May Valley Elementary School-Based Decision Making Council on March 21 and 22, at 4 p.m., in the school library. The meeting is open to the public and everyone is encouraged to attend.

ACHS to hold SBDM council meeting

Allen Central High School will hold a called SBDM council meeting on Sunday, at 4

p.m., in the Library on Staffing Allocations for the 2005-2006 school year.

Adoptive parent Support group meeting

(A.S.K.) Adoption Support for Kentucky is sponsoring a support group for adoptive and prospective adoptive parents. The meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month in Pike County at the Department for Community Based Services Office, 131 Summit Drive, Pikeville, KY 41501, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Childcare will not be provided.

We have recently started a second meeting. This meeting will be held on the 1st Monday of each month in Floyd County at the Department for Community Based Services Office, 1009 North Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, KY 41653, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Childcare will not be provided.

For more information contact Dedra Slone, adoptive parent liaison, Adoption Support for Kentucky, 606-432-4110, 606-422-7927 - Cell, doslone@east-ky.net

Special presentation featuring a special Easter play

An Easter play, "Back to the Present," the events of the past, present and future of what was, is, and will be, according to the Bible. Join us Easter day, March 27th, at Trimble Chapel at the junction of 23 & 80, at 11:00 a.m.

Bring family and friends. Everyone welcome!

UNITE Drug Coalition

The Floyd County Drug Coalition of UNITE will host a prayer conference on Sunday, March 20, at 6 p.m., at the Mountain Arts Center. Clay County Pastor Doug Abner will lead the service, which will focus on garnering community support for a May 1st march against drugs. The community is also invited to join UNITE members each Saturday at 1 p.m., until May 1, in a prayer session. Prayer services will begin this Saturday, March 19, at 9 a.m., at the Allen First Baptist Church.

Worship/Youth center

There is now a Worship / Youth center in Old Allen, that meets on Tuesdays, at 6 p.m. Women's Bible study meets on Wednesdays, 2-6 p.m. (youth). Thursday prayer meeting is held at 7 p.m. All meetings are free and the center's sponsor is the Daniels Creek Baptist Fellowship Church of God, pastor Henry Lewis. For more information, contact Tina Hall at 874-0544.

Reunion

First Four Mile Reunion of Knott County will be held on Saturday, May 28, at 10 a.m., at the Corps Recreation area, Jenny Wiley State Park, Shelter #2. Bring covered dish, table service, pictures, etc. All welcome to attend.

Christ United Methodist Church

March 20 - "Joy Service" with special singing by "Voices of Faith."
March 24 - Maundy Thursday Service, 7 p.m.
March 27 - Sunday morning worship service - Chancel Choir will present "Easter Cantata "Behold the Lamb," at 11 a.m.

BLHS High School Reunion

Classes of the 1930's, 1940's, 1950's and 1960's. To be held Saturday, June 25. For info., call Joe Hinchman at 874-2821 or Marvin Williamson at 478-3310.

BLHS Class of 1955

Reunion to be held on Friday, June 24 and Saturday, June 25. For information, call Marvin Williamson at 478-3310 or Gene Davis at 874-2873.

Senior Expo

Sponsored by HRMC and area agencies. To be held May 4, at the Jenny Wiley State Park's Stumbo Convention Center. For those age 55 and older. Broad range of topics including Preventing Exploitation, Nutrition, Aging and Gardening Tips. For more info., contact Melissa Vance, Dir. of Comm. Dev. at HRMC, at 886-7468.

Diabetes Support Group

To meet on March 22, at McDowell ARH Hospital (Teled Room), at 4:30 p.m. Topic: Weight Management. Guest speaker: Dr. Debra Jacobs. For more info., contact Theresa Scott at 886-2668.

HRMC Comm. Calendar - March

Mar. 31 - Living Well with Diabetes, Meeting Place A&B, Highlands Medical Office Bldg., 5-6 p.m.
For more information, call 886-7424.

Attention: BLHS Class of '85

It's been 20 years! Reunion is being planned. If you are a classmate, or if you know of a classmate's whereabouts, please email addresses to Debbie Hall Parsons or Gwen Cecil at: dochallparsons@charter.net.

Belfry Class of 1970

Is planning a mini-reunion for May 28. Classmates will be responsible for their own

meal. Reservations are required by May 1. Contact Nancy Varney Bryan by calling 433-9200 or 433-0820. You may also write to: P.O. Box 101, Pikeville, KY 41502 or email to: nbryan@setel.com. It's been 35 years, classmates, let's have a little fun!

Big Sandy 4-H Club

Is seeking new members! Do you like to have fun? Meet new people? Help your community? Then join our club! For more info., contact Chuck Stamper at 886-2668.

Basic Computer Training

To be taught by Ray Tackett at the Martin Community Center, located on Route 80, at Martin, on March 18; and April 1, from 1-3 p.m. Cost - \$7. This is an 8-week training series designed for those who have little or no experience using computers. Space is limited - call 886-2668 today to register!

D.A.V. Chap. 18

The Big Sandy Chapter 18, Disabled American Veterans, of Auxier, is looking for honorably discharged veterans to join the Chapter, which meets at the Auxier Fire Dept., on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month, at 6 p.m. Those interested may bring their DD214 and join the Chapter and receive a D.A.V. ball cap.

Floyd County Democratic Women's Club

Meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 6 p.m., at Brenda's Restaurant, in McDowell. All invited to attend.

Free Body Recall classes

Free Body Recall Exercise Classes will be held Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at 9:30, at the Presbyterian Church in Prestonsburg. Classes are held Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, at 11 a.m. at the old R & S Building. Classes are offered by the Floyd County Health Department. Call the health department, 886-2788, for more information.

'Earn While You Learn'

The Big Sandy Area C.A.P. office is taking applications for its "Senior Training Program." You must be 55 or older to apply. In Floyd, call 886-2929; Johnson, call 789-6515; Magoffin, call 349-2217; Pike, call 432-2775; and in Lawrence, call 638-4067.

Age 55 or older?

If so, and you are also unemployed, and would like to make money while being trained in skills that will help you gain employment, or become re-employed, contact Bill Little, Senior Community Service

Employment Program, Big Sandy Area Development District, at 886-2374. "Area Employers are Looking for Dependable Workers like YOU!"

External Diploma Program

Kentucky residents age 25 and older can earn a high school diploma by demonstrating skills learned on the job or in raising a family. Flexible scheduling is provided and confidentiality maintained. Classes are held at the Carl D. Perkins Rehabilitation Center, in Thelma, Mon. thru Fri., with evening classes on Thursday, from 4:30-8:30. Contact Andy Jones at 800-443-2187, ext. 186, or Linda Bell, at ext. 160 to make an appointment.

PARENTS!

Are you in need of child care services? If so, contact the Big Sandy Area Community Action Program, Inc. The office is partnering with Eastern Kentucky Child Care Coalition. For more information on how we can help you, call Cheryl Endicott at 886-1280, or toll free at 888-872-7227.

Also, if your child is currently enrolled in a child care program, find out if your provider is a member of the STARS for KIDS NOW voluntary program for exceeding licensing standards.

And, learn about how you can stay home with your own children and still earn an income by caring for other children. Find out more by calling Cheryl Endicott at 886-1280, or 888-872-7227 (toll free).

Floyd County Extension Homemakers Club Meetings

Allen: 1st Monday, 11 a.m., at Christ United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

Cliffside/Prestonsburg: 3rd Wednesday, 12:30 p.m., at Cliffside Community Room.

David: 1st Monday, 1 p.m., at St. Vincent's Mission.

Martin: 1st Tuesday, 6 p.m., Martin Church of Christ.

Evening Quilt Group: 4th Thursday, 6 p.m., Extension Office.

Maytown: 3rd Thursday, 6 p.m., Maytown First Baptist Church.

Nimble Thimble Quilt Guild: 1st/3rd Wednesdays, 10 a.m., Extension Office.

Prestonsburg: 2nd Tuesday, 1:30 p.m., Extension Office.

South Prestonsburg: 3rd Tuesday, 7 p.m., Home of members (call 886-2668 for info.)

"Looking For a Support Group?"

Alzheimer's Association

Care-giver Support Group - Meets on the second Tuesday of each month at the First Presbyterian Church (near Jerry's Restaurant), at 6 p.m. For more info., call Dana Caudill at 886-0265, or Jane Bond at FCHD.

Alzheimer's Association, East-ern KY Regional Office - 24-hour Helpline, call 1-800-272-3900 for emotional support, local resources, and other information.

MS Support Group - Meets third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Seton Complex, Martin. Offers group support for MS patients and their caregivers.

Overeater's Anonymous (O.A.) - Meets each Monday, at 3:30 p.m., at the St. Martha Catholic Church, Water Gap Road. For more info., call 886-2513.

US TOO! Prostate Cancer Survivors Support Group - For all men with prostate cancer and their families. Group meets the 3rd Thursday of each month, at 6 p.m., at the Ramada Inn, Paintsville.

Community Weight Loss Support Group - Meets Thursday's at 6:30 p.m., at the Martin Community Center. For more info., call 377-6658. Those who have had gastric bypass surgery most especially welcome to attend. Meetings being offered as support to anyone needing extra support in dealing with weight loss.

Domestic Violence Hotline - 24-hour Crisis Line manned by Certified Domestic Violence counselors. Call 886-6025, or 1-800-649-6605. Remember, "Love Doesn't Have to Hurt."

Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children - Free, confidential assistance for unplanned pregnancy concerns. Talk with someone who cares about you and your baby. Call 1-800-928-5242.

Disabled? - You may be eligible for grant money to assist in your daily living. For an application or more information, call 886-4326.

A.S.K. (Adoption Support for Kentucky) - Support group for all adoptive parents (public, private, international, and kinship care), foster parents and all others interested in adoption. To meet the 2nd Thursday of each month, at Pizza Hut, in Prestonsburg. For more information, contact Nelva Skaggs, adoptive parent liaison, at Blueboy@foothills.net.

East Kentucky S.T.A.R.S. Homeschoolers - Will hold monthly meetings at the Paintsville Recreation Center. For more information, call Trudy at 889-9333, or 297-5147. Everyone welcome.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - Each Wednesday, from 7-8 p.m., in the Atrium Conference Room, 2nd floor, May Tower, Pikeville Methodist Hospital. For more info., contact Chris Cook at 606-433-1119 or christophercook@hotmail.com

Odds

HOLLIDAYSBURG, Pa. - A county judge refused to make an exception for two first cousins who want to marry, even though the couple assured the judge they don't want to have children.

Blair County Judge Jolene Kopriva on Thursday denied the marriage license application for first cousins Eleanor Amrhein, 46, and Donald W. Andrews Sr., 39, of Logan Township.

The couple say they have been together for several years, but Kopriva said state law bars first cousins from marrying because of an increased likelihood their children will have birth defects.

The couple petitioned for an exception after a court clerk rejected their license application earlier in the week. The couple told Kopriva their mothers are sisters.

Kopriva told the couple her ruling would not prevent them from being married in another

state that permits it.

About half of the states allow first cousins to marry, according to stateline.org, a research site on state laws.

MOORHEAD, Minn.

Having a vanity plate that reads "TIPSY" may not be such a great idea after all.

Josiah Johnson, 23, said his license plate might have tipped off the Clay County sheriff's deputy who pulled him over Friday after he left Coach's Sports Pub in Moorhead.

Now he faces third-degree drunken driving charges after his blood-alcohol level allegedly registered twice the legal limit.

Johnson said he bought the personalized license plate for his Jeep to describe the way it rode - then kept it as a joke when he got a Chevy Silverado because he likes to party.

"It doesn't mean I drink and drive," he said. "It just means I have a good time."

Johnson, who was slated to appear in court March 22, said he'll never drink and drive again.

"I feel really stupid," he said.

COLUMBUS, Ohio - A group of Girl Scouts had a very unhappy encounter with a Cookie Monster.

The girls stood in disbelief as a man came to their cookie booth at a supermarket and ran off with an envelope containing \$320.

One of the five girls from Troop 4180 had recommended a box of Thin Mints when the man reached into the cash drawer and grabbed the envelope. An adult with the girls chased the thief but couldn't catch him.

Troop leader Jeri Smith said the third- through fifth-graders were in disbelief.

"It was a bad experience. They were really shook up," she said.

The girls were working their

stand inside a Kroger store about 2:30 p.m. Saturday when the man came by and said he'd never bought Girl Scout cookies. He handed one of the girls \$3, then said he wanted a second box but only gave her \$2 more.

When the girl pointed it out, the man snatched the envelope.

Smith said the money would have paid for the girls to go to summer camp. Kroger employees took up a \$25 collection, but Smith said the girls won't sell from a booth anymore.

KINGSTOWN, St. Vincent - Earl Daniel and Joel Butcher will probably stay off their feet for a while.

The men from this Caribbean island walked for six days without sleep in a bid to set a world record for the longest nonstop hike.

The hike lasted 144 hours and seven minutes. They began March 8 and ended Monday as they entered the capital to a siren of horns. It was not imme-

diately clear how many miles they had walked.

"We said we were going to do this, and we have done it and have made all of St. Vincent and the Grenadines proud," Daniel said.

The duo got some bad news Tuesday: Guinness World Records won't recognize the feat. Guinness World Records Ltd. confirmed that the men had contacted the company but said the category would not be recognized, because it is "impossible to compare" one person's performance with another's.

"Individuals often walk at different speeds" and "some individuals may choose a more demanding course" while "the time people take for necessary breaks may vary," Guinness spokeswoman Laura McTurk said.

POOLE - A strange sight from Down Under startled residents of this western Kentucky community.

Members of the Poole

Homemakers Club were at a meeting downtown Tuesday when they looked out and saw what they thought was a kangaroo.

Nedra Wilson, first to spot the animal, said it hopped up a driveway and around a carport. He then headed south on U.S. 41-A, she said.

"I bet it was going 25 mph," she said. "He was really getting it. We haven't had that much excitement in Poole in a while."

Actually, the animal that club members saw was likely a wallaby, a small kangaroo that is native to Australia. There were two of them on the loose after they escaped their pen.

The animals belong to the family of Stephen and Betty Bell. The family moved to Poole about six months ago. Stephen Bell is from Australia.

The Bells said the animals escaped sometime Monday. One was later recaptured and the other returned on its own.

Regional Obituaries

FLOYD COUNTY

Donald R. Bentley Sr., 65, of Marengo, Ohio, died Sunday, March 13, at Grady Memorial Hospital. Funeral services were held Thursday, April 17, under the direction of Underwood Funeral Home, Marysville, Ohio.

J. E. Bentley, 57, of Teaberry, died Wednesday, March 16, at his residence. Funeral services will be conducted Sunday, March 20, at noon, at the Samaria Old Regular Baptist Church, at Teaberry. Burial will be in the Elliott Cemetery, at Beaver, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Joann (Kendrick) Burchett, of Aurora, Ohio, formerly of Prestonsburg, died Wednesday, February 9. Services were held at Kindrich McHugh Funeral Home in Solon, on Saturday, February 12.

Arnold Chaffins Sr., 84, of Garrett, died Wednesday, March 16, in the Cabell-Huntington Hospital in Huntington, West Virginia. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, March 19, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Emma Lou Clark, 68, of Betsy Layne, died Saturday, March 12, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, Adis Clark. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 15, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Orville "Porchie" Clark, 91, of Dana, died Monday, March 14, at the Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Fannie Edna Johnson Clark. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, March 17, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Henry Compton, 95, of Prestonsburg, died Friday, March 11, at the Prestonsburg Health Care. Funeral services were conducted Monday, March 14, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Oleen Castle Flanery, 77, of Martin, died Tuesday, March 15, at her residence. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, March 19, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

James Hall, 75, of Hi Hat, died Monday, March 7, at the McDowell Appalachian Regional Healthcare. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, March 10, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Samuel Hicks, 88, of Sharonville, Ohio, died Monday, March 14, at Hospice of Cincinnati in Blue Ash. He is survived by his wife, Yvonne Allen Hicks. Funeral services were held Thursday, March 17, under the direction of Webster Funeral Home, Fairfield, Ohio.

Agnes Ann "Tad" Kidd, 75, of Dana, died Tuesday, March 15, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, Harold Kidd. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, March 17, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Ruby M. Trimble Lewis, 91, of Ivel, died Sunday, March 13, at her residence. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, March 16, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Kellie M. Marshall, four-day-old daughter of Larry and Jennifer Brown Marshall of Langley, died Saturday, March 12, at Our Lady of the Way Hospital emergency room in Martin. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday, March 15, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Nora Schultz, 72, of Knoxville, Tennessee, formerly of McDowell, died Wednesday, March 16, at the University of Tennessee Medical Center in Knoxville.

Tennessee. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, March 19, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Macel Elizabeth Thornsberry, 78, of Topmost, died Tuesday, March 15, at her residence. Funeral services were conducted Friday, March 18, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

LAWRENCE COUNTY

Mary Emily Burchett, 70, of Ridgecrest, California, formerly of Louisa, died Tuesday, March 1, in Ridgecrest, California. Graveside services were conducted Saturday, March 19, under the direction of Wilson Funeral Home.

JOHNSON COUNTY

Matthew Endicott, 42, of Flat Gap, died Monday, March 7, at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center, Paintsville. He is survived by his wife, Cheryl Blanton Endicott. Funeral services were held Friday, March 11, under the direction of Paintsville Funeral Home.

Elizabeth Carter Jewett, 97, of Flat Gap, died Friday, March 11, at St. Joseph Hospital in Lexington. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 15, under the direction of Blackburn & Ward Funeral Home in Versailles.

Grace B. Jones, 86, of Paintsville, died Monday, March 7, at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center, in Paintsville. Funeral services were held Thursday, March 10, under the direction of the Paintsville Funeral Home.

Lelah Combs Litteral, 77, of Mobile, Alabama, formerly of Paintsville, died Tuesday, March 15. Funeral services were held Saturday, March 19, under the direction of the Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

Roy Bud Meadows, 93, of Nippa, died Wednesday, March 16, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Nancy Wallace Meadows. Funeral services were held Friday, March 18, under the direction of the Preston Funeral Home.

Willa Mae Meek, 89, of Lewisburg, died Sunday, March 13, at her residence. Funeral services were held Wednesday, March 16, under the direction of Gary's Funeral Home.

Martha Mae Lewis Pyle, 81, of Offutt, died Friday, March 11, at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center, Paintsville. Funeral services were held Monday, March 14, under the direction of Preston Funeral Home.

Wanda Lee Conley Tackett, 58, of East Point, died Saturday, March 5, at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center, Paintsville. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 8, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

Tommy Ward, 65, of Kennewick, Washington, a Paintsville native, died Friday, February 25, at his residence. Graveside services were held Friday, March 4, at Sunset

Memorial Gardens in Richland, Washington. Arrangements, under the direction of Einan's Funeral Home of Richland, Washington.

PIKE COUNTY

Edwin Aber, 84, of Robinson Creek, died Monday, March 14, at the Parkview Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, Robinson Creek. Funeral arrangements, under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home of Virgie.

Jesse Morgan Adkins, 93, of Elkhorn City, died Monday, March 14, 2005, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Eric Sanders Adkins. Funeral services were held Friday, March 18, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

Russell Cline Adkins, 62, of Dandridge, Tennessee, formerly of Elkhorn City, died Thursday, March 10, in Knoxville, Tennessee. Funeral services were held Monday, March 14, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

Elder Jayson Marvin Bryant, 71, of Virgie, died Tuesday, March 15, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Ardie Katherine Bryant. Funeral services were held Friday, March 18, under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

Ernest Coleman, 81, of Pikeville, died Sunday, March 13, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Wednesday, March 16, under the direction of Lucas & Hall Funeral Home.

Tennessee Sanders Collins, 95, of Salisbury, North Carolina, an Ashcamp native, died Tuesday, March 15, in Salisbury. Funeral services were held Saturday, March 19, in the Elkhorn City United Methodist Church under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Willie Damron Jr., 60, of Winchester, an Elkhorn City native, died Friday, March 11, at Central Baptist Hospital, Lexington. He is survived by his wife, Della England Damron. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 15, under direction of Scobee Funeral Home of Winchester.

Elmer Goff, 64, of Raccoon, died Tuesday, March 15, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Susie Marie Goff. Funeral services were held Saturday, March 19, under direction of Community Funeral Home.

Clyde Darrell "Peg" Hurley, 54, of Stopover, died Tuesday, March 15, at Williamson Memorial Hospital, Williamson, West Virginia. He is survived by his wife, Sherry Sullivan Hurley. Funeral services were held Friday, March 18, under the direction of Phelps Funeral Services.

Eugene Little, 78, of Pikeville, died Saturday, March 12, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Betty Jane

Ratliff Little. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 15, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Vicy Varney Maynard, 77, of Hurricane Creek, Pikeville, died Saturday, March 12, at her home. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 15, under the direction of Lucas and Hall Funeral Home.

Lou Verda Maynard, 74, of Pikeville, died Sunday, March 13, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Thursday, March 17, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Chester Newsome, 83, of Caney Creek, died Sunday, March 13, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Wednesday, March 16, under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

Delbert Puckett, 76, of Mount Sterling, formerly of Stone, died Monday, March 14, at the Veterans Administration Hospital, Lexington. Graveside services were held Saturday, March 19, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

Thomas Andrew Sanders, 64, of Ashcamp, died Saturday, March 12, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Coralee Johnson Sanders. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 15, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

Dewey Leroy Scott, 69, of Murrells Inlet, South Carolina, died Monday, March 7, at the Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston. A memorial service was held at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 19, in the Bollingers Chapel Methodist Church, Valdese.

Ruth Adkins Thacker, 76, of Shelby Dry Fork, died Friday, March 11, at Pikeville Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Danny Estil Thacker. Funeral services were held Sunday, March 13, under the direction of Justice Funeral Home.

Floetta "Flo" Thacker, 69, of Barberton, Ohio, an Pikeville native, died Monday, March 14, at her home. Funeral services were held Friday, March 18, under direction of Hahn-Hostetler-Silva Funeral Home of Barberton, Ohio.

Bernice Vanover, 49, of Jenkins, died Tuesday, March 15. She is survived by her husband, William Vanover. Funeral services were held Friday, March 18, under the direction of Lucas & Hall Funeral Home.

Herma Varney, 87, of Grassy Creek, died Sunday, March 13. Funeral services were held Wednesday, March 16, under the direction of Community Funeral Home.

Minuas Frank "Sug" Wright, 61, of Lick Fork, died Sunday, March 13, at the Veterans Administration Medical Center, Huntington, W.Va. Funeral services were held Wednesday, March 16, under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

Dollie Mae Doyle York, 73, of Belfry, died Monday, March 14, at her home. Funeral services were held Thursday, March 17, under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

MARTIN COUNTY

Ashley Bown, 68, of Louisville, a Martin County native, died Thursday, March 10, in Louisville. Graveside services were conducted Friday, March 11, at Bowen Cemetery, in Inez. Arrangements, under the direction of the Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

Warfield Collins, 80, of Naugatuck, West Virginia, a Martin County native, died Saturday, March 5, at Gainesville, Florida. He is survived by his wife, Minnie Black Collins. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, March 9, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

MAGOFFIN COUNTY

Annie Cantrell, 80, of Salyersville, died Thursday, March 3, at the Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center, in Paintsville. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, March 6, under the direction of Salyersville Funeral Home.

Joseph Phillip Bailey, infant son of Adam Phillip Bailey and Christina Edler, died February 19, at Saint Joseph East Hospital, in Lexington. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, February 23, under the direction of Salyersville Funeral Home.

Pansy Mae Arnett, 83, of Kingsbrook Life Care Center in Ashland, formerly of Salyersville, died Sunday, March 6, at her residence. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, March 9, under the direction of Salyersville Funeral Home.

Smith Howard, 76, of Salyersville, died Thursday, March 10, at Saint Joseph East Hospital, in Lexington. Funeral services were conducted Monday, March 14, under the direction of Salyersville Funeral Home.

Chalmer "Chad" Wheeler, 76, of Columbus, Ohio, died Monday, March 14, at Mt. Carmel West Medical Center. Funeral services were conducted Friday, March 18, under the direction of Graulich & Son Funeral Home.

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2005 Great Easter Egg Hunt

CLUE #9

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Lindsey Wilson favored for men's Mid-South golf title

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LOUISVILLE — Spring brings with it for some colleges the start of a new golf season. The men's golf coaches of the Mid-South Conference have selected Lindsey Wilson College as the solid favorite to win the MSC



Championship for the upcoming spring season.

Georgetown College was second in the pre-season poll, followed by Campbellsville University in third place, with Cumberland College coming in No. 4, with Pikeville College (5), and Lambuth

(6) completing the order.

Member schools began play earlier this month. The conference tournament for both the men's and the women's teams is scheduled for April 15-17 at the Stonecrest Country Club in Prestonsburg.

The following are the placing positions, total points and first-place votes. Coaches were not allowed to vote for their own team. Lindsey Wilson College — 25 points — (5 first-place votes); Georgetown College — 19 points; Campbellsville University — 18 points — (1 first-place vote);

Cumberland College — 14 points; Pikeville College — 9 points

Lambuth University — 5 points.

The women's golf coaches of the Mid-South Conference have selected both Cumberland College and Georgetown College as their favorites to win the MSC Championship for the upcoming spring season. Both schools finished with 22 points, with Cumberland getting one more first-place vote than Georgetown (3-2).

Lindsey Wilson College finished in third place, followed by Campbellsville University (4),

Pikeville College (5), and Lambuth (6).

A breakdown of the voting for the women's teams follows. Cumberland College — 22 points — (3 first-place votes); Georgetown College — 22 points — (2 first-place votes); Lindsey Wilson College — 19 points — (1 first-place vote); Campbellsville University — 11 points; Pikeville College — 9 points; Lambuth University — 7 points.

Dr. James Riley and Roland Wierwille coach the Pikeville College golf teams.

Charitable group reaches settlement with team in trademark dispute

by BRUCE SCHREINER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOUISVILLE — A trademark dispute pitting the Kentucky Colonels charitable group against a new basketball team with the same name has been settled.

The two sides reached a licensing agreement recently to let the minor-league team put "Kentucky Colonels" on merchandise sold to fans, as long as "basketball" also is prominently displayed, said Glen Bastin, senior ambassador for the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels, a decades-old charitable group.

Bastin said in an interview Thursday that the order was satisfied the agreement would prevent confusion between the group and the basketball team.

"They won't be able to put up 'Kentucky Colonels' and then in very fine print 'basketball,'" said Bastin, who didn't disclose the deal's financial terms.

U.S. District Judge John Heyburn II issued an order Wednesday dismissing each side's claims. He also dropped any claims contesting the order's trademark, and said the charitable group's mark and registration are "valid and strong."

"That was our position from day one," Bastin said.

Michelle Kaiser Bray, an attorney for the basketball team's owner, did not immediately return a call seeking comment. The team plays in the American Basketball Association.

At a hearing last year, Heyburn refused to temporarily block the team from putting its name on shirts and caps sold to fans.

The honorable order claimed it has a trademark giving it exclusive rights to put "Kentucky Colonels" on various merchandise. The order uses those sales to help raise money to support educational and charitable causes across Kentucky.

The order did not challenge the team's name.

Bastin said that giving the basketball team limited rights to the name spared the order from larger legal bills. Heyburn's order left both sides responsible for their attorney's fees, and Bastin said the order's legal bill ran into thousands of dollars — money that could have gone to charitable causes.

(See MEET, page two)

BETSY LAYNE LADYCATS



BETSY LAYNE LADYCATS vs. WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMANDERETTES
Girls' Sweet 16 State Tournament
Western Kentucky University
Bowling Green, Ky.
Thursday
2:30 p.m. EST
Tickets will go on sale Monday
\$7 at Betsy Layne High School
\$9 at the WKU Middle Arena gate

photos by Steve LeMaster
Reigning 15th Region Champion Betsy Layne is now less than a week away from a first game in this year's Girls' Sweet 16 State Basketball Tournament. Above: Senior guard Kim Clark moved for the basketball during a 15th Region Tournament game. Right: Kaitlin Lawson came in off of the Betsy Layne bench and helped the Ladycats to both the 58th District and 15th Region titles.
Betsy Layne will take on 5th Region Champion Washington County Thursday in the opening round of the Girls' State Tournament.



KDFWR casting for lapsed anglers

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

FRANKFORT — The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR) is practicing what it preaches by casting out a new advertising campaign this week to retrieve state fishermen who've gotten off the license-buying hook.

Close to 60,000 postcards will be sent to anglers who purchased fishing licenses in 2002 or 2003, but for whatever reason, elected not to fish in 2004. The agency wants to re-establish contact with some of those "lapsed" anglers, and encourage them to return to the ranks of the fishing public.

Kentucky is not unlike many other states who in recent years have discovered that the volume of fishermen who go fishing for a year or two, then don't, then do again is surprisingly high. Agency officials recognize that the key to maintaining quality fishing opportunities, and being able to sustain management of state fishery resources greatly depends on a consistent flow of revenue from license sales. The KDFWR is primarily funded by fishing, boating and hunting license fees. It does not receive a general fund allotment.

The actual "churn" of anglers over the past two years in Kentucky numbers almost 200,000. Out of a total of just over 650,000

(See CASTING, page two)

Kentucky students dominate in Archery in the Schools National Tournament

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

LOUISVILLE — Trigg County public schools made it a clean sweep yesterday, winning the elementary, middle and high school divisions of the third annual National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) in Louisville's International Convention Center.

Last year's top two individual shooters remained unbeatable, and repeated as this year's national overall champions. Trigg County junior Graham Cofield in the male division and Pulaski County freshman Ashley Rose successfully defended their 2004 titles against about 1,800 challengers from more than 100 schools from four states. Cofield was nearly perfect with a 298 score out of a possible 300. Rose fired a 283 to repeat as the overall female shooter.

(See ARCHERY, page two)

Leslie fits in for Horsemen

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

LEXINGTON — Nathan Leslie is back playing football. Leslie, a graduate of Prestonsburg High School who went on to play and made a significant contribution while a member of the Marshall University Thundering Herd football program, has settled in and now plays for the Lexington Horsemen of the United Indoor Football league.

Lexington made great strides as a franchise last season, winning a national championship.

The Horsemen opened their 2005 season last night in Tupelo, Miss., against the Tupelo Fireants. The Horsemen are scheduled to play their home opener on Saturday against their border-rival, the Ohio Valley Greyhounds. Start time in Rupp Arena is set for 7:30 p.m.

Leslie played some indoor football last season, playing for the same Ohio Valley team Lexington will face less than one week from today.

"We're excited about Nathan having the opportunity to play for the Horsemen," said Prestonsburg

Coach John DeRossett. "We plan to get together a group of people and travel to watch Nathan and the Horseman in their home opener March 26."

Leslie, who in college played along both the offensive and defensive lines, proved long ago that he adjust and feel comfortable playing any position on the gridiron.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: The Lexington Horsemen are looking for well-organized, responsible people to help with game day operations for eight home games.

Some of the opportunities include Program Seller, Kids Zone, VIP Room, Runners Setup/tear-down, Assisting with game promotions, Guest Relations and Will Call.

Each person will be supplied with a Horsemen staff shirt, pre-game meal provided by Famous Dave's along with complimentary tickets to give to family or friends.

For more information, call the Horsemen office at 859/422-7277 and ask for Carolyn Roysse or Eric Leach, or send an email o lv@lexingtonhorsemen.com.



photo courtesy of Lexington Horsemen
Jeremy Caudill (pictured) has moved on from the Lexington Horsemen and is now playing in the NFL Europe league. Nathan Leslie, another Prestonsburg High School graduate, now plays for the Horseman.

Caudill prepping for NFL Europe debut

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — Former Lexington Horsemen and University of Kentucky defensive tackle Jeremy Caudill is now playing in NFL Europe for the Amsterdam Admirals. Caudill was selected in the second round of the NFL Europe free-agent draft.

Caudill, who joined the Horsemen last season after being released by the Indianapolis Colts, continues to pursue a career in the NFL.

The former Prestonsburg Blackcat recorded three tackles and recovered one fumble after joining the Horsemen late last season, but made a big impact in the postseason by coming up with eight tackles and a fumble recovery.

A four-year letterman at the University of Kentucky, Caudill played at both the defensive tackle and defensive end positions, starting in every game during both his freshmen and junior years. Caudill is a graduate of Prestonsburg High School, where he was a four-year starter and first-team all-state selection as a senior, while earning Parade All-American status.

Amsterdam finished the 2004 season with a 5-5 record and a third-place league finish. Caudill and the Admirals begin their 2005 campaign on April 2 when they host the Rhein Fire.

University Heights, Corbin, Henry Clay and Warren Central advance in Sweet 16

by MURRAY EVANS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON — The shot by Lone Oak's Jarad Key rolled off the rim, allowing the Corbin Redhounds to reach overtime instead of heading home with a loss.

From there, the Redhounds knew what to do. Jordan Noble scored twice in the first minute of the extra session to give Corbin control, and the Redhounds pulled away for a 75-67 win on Thursday in a first-round game of the Boys Sweet 16 basketball tournament at Rupp Arena.

Other first-round winners Thursday were University Heights of Hopkinsville, 62-53 over Rowan County; Lexington Henry Clay, 69-38 over Shelby Valley of Pikeville; and defending champion Warren Central of Bowling Green, 57-55 over Covington Holmes.

In Friday's quarterfinals, Pleasure Ridge Park (30-5) will play crosstown rival Louisville Ballard (29-2), South Laurel of London (29-4) will play Elizabethtown (27-4), University Heights (31-4) will play Corbin (21-10) and Henry Clay (31-3) will play Warren Central (28-4).

Noble, eighth-grader Josh Crawford and Andrew Parks combined for 64 points and 33 rebounds for 13th Region champion Corbin, which won its first Sweet 16 game since 1997.

Lone Oak (23-10), the 1st Region champion from Paducah, was making its first Sweet 16 appearance. The Purple Flash rallied from a five-point deficit in the final three minutes of regulation and missed its chance to win when Key's 8-footer at the buzzer missed.

"When we got to overtime, we kind of perked up," Corbin coach Tony Pietrowski said.

After Noble's two quick overtime baskets, Corbin never trailed again. The Redhounds made 12-of-19 free throws in the final 2:17 as Lone Oak was

forced to foul.

"Getting a lead early was big in overtime," Pietrowski said.

Chase Denson scored 24 first-half points to stake Lone Oak to a 33-31 lead, but the Redhounds clamped down defensively on him after that. He didn't score for the first 13 minutes of the second half and finished with 30 points, 11 above his average.

Noble, a senior guard, had 27 points and six rebounds for Corbin. The 6-foot-4 Crawford added 20 points — making 10-of-12 free throws — and eight boards.

Parks, a 6-foot-4 senior, had 17 points, 19 rebounds, two blocked shots and three steals. Corbin, trailing by two in the rebound category at halftime, ended up with a 46-33 edge on the boards. Corbin had 17 offensive rebounds.

"That really got them the victory," Lone Oak coach Andy Poore said.

Key added 14 points and seven rebounds for the Purple Flash.

Warren Central's Troy McFarland scored the game's final seven points as the Dragons rallied to beat Covington Holmes. McFarland, the Dragons' only returning starter from last season, finished with 11 points, nine rebounds and seven assists.

Holmes (24-7) led 55-50 — matching the largest lead of the game for either team — after two free throws by Duran Jefferson with 3:37 left, but the 9th Region champion Bulldogs didn't score again, missing the front end of two 1-and-1s in the final 2:38.

Greg Rice, who led Holmes with 21 points and seven rebounds, fouled out with 2:28 left. To make matters worse for the Bulldogs, he fouled McFarland on a 3-point attempt. McFarland made 2-of-3 free throws.

McFarland then stole a pass and made a 3-pointer with 1:55 left to tie the game. After McFarland's free throws with 8.8 seconds left, Holmes had two chances to tie, but Austin Hill missed a 17-footer and

BJ. Avery was short on a desperation follow shot.

Jeremy Anderson scored 21 points to lead Warren Central. The Dragons committed only eight turnovers, Holmes only seven.

University Heights, the smallest school in the tournament with only 88 students, won in the Sweet 16 for the first time since 1995. The Blazers have won 24 of their last 25 games.

Joshua Mack scored 19 points for the Blazers. University Heights, the 2nd Region champion, rallied from an 11-point second-quarter deficit by shooting 59 percent in the second half. The Blazers shot just 33.3 percent in the first half.

Rowan County (27-6), the 16th Region champion, led 28-17 with 2:57 left in the first half, but the Vikings didn't score again before halftime. University Heights pulled within 28-26 by halftime, took the lead early in the third quarter and were ahead by nine points in the fourth quarter.

Rowan County, led by 14 points from reserve Matthew Daniel, pulled within 52-49 with 3:17 left, but consecutive buckets by Patrick Metcalfe and four free throws by Mack sealed the win for University Heights.

Freshman forward Aaron Boyd scored 16 points as 11th Region champion Henry Clay routed Shelby Valley.

Henry Clay trailed 15th Region champion Shelby Valley (26-6) only once, at 11-10 in the first quarter. The Blue Devils scored 17 of the next 19 points to go ahead 27-13, led 32-20 at halftime and gradually extended their lead to as many as 31 points.

Boyd also had six rebounds, four steals and three blocked shots, all team highs. Junior guard Aaron Dunaway added 15 points for Henry Clay.

Patrick Tackett led the Wildcats with 11 points and seven rebounds. Shelby Valley, which committed 24 turnovers, is 0-3 in its three trips to the state tournament.

South Laurel 77, Elizabethtown 56

by MURRAY EVANS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON — Junior center Walt Allen had 29 points and nine rebounds as South Laurel rolled past Elizabethtown 77-56 on Friday in a quarterfinal game of the Boys Sweet 16 high school basketball tournament at Rupp Arena.

South Laurel (30-4) is the first 12th Region team to advance to the semifinals since Wayne County in 1989. South Laurel will make its first semifinal appearance, although its predecessor, Laurel County, won the 1982 title.

The Cardinals were to play either Louisville Ballard or Pleasure Ridge Park of Louisville in the semifinals Saturday.

Allen, a 6-foot-4 junior center, has scored 47 points in the Cardinals' first two Sweet 16 games. Against Elizabethtown, he made his first seven shots and scored 22 first-half points as South Laurel raced to a 41-27 halftime lead and was never threatened in the second half.

The Cardinals, who committed only five turnovers, led by as many as 24 points.

Elizabethtown (27-5) struggled with its shooting and foul trouble. The 5th Region cham-

pion Panthers went 1-of-11 from the field in the first quarter and trailed 19-4.

Two Elizabethtown starters, center Steffphon Pettigrew and forward Warren Lively, had three fouls by halftime. Pettigrew, the team's leading scorer, played just 11 minutes before fouling out having scored only two points.

Lively and starting guard Quinn Harris also fouled out for the Panthers. Kentucky football signee Zipp Duncan led Elizabethtown with 14 points and 15 rebounds.

Forward Eric Fields added 14 points and seven rebounds for South Laurel.

Colonels

Continued from p1

"If we had continued through the process, we're certain we would have reached this same conclusion but it would have cost us a lot more money," he said.

Bastin said the case signaled that the order will closely guard its trademark.

"If these guys had won, anybody could have used the term

'Kentucky Colonels' without paying us a penny," he said.

Bastin said the order hopes to reach other licensing agreements allowing groups to pay for the right to use "Kentucky Colonels." Such agreements could become a lucrative fundraising source, he said.

Next week, the order plans to

announce nearly \$1.6 million worth of grants for educational and charitable causes statewide, Bastin said.

The honorary title of Kentucky Colonel is conferred by the governor, and the order's active membership totals about 150,000 reaching far beyond the Bluegrass State.

Casting

Continued from p1

anglers who bought fishing licenses for the 2002 or 2003 license years, over 200,000 of those people did not buy a license in 2004. No matter what kind of business, a fluctuation of that magnitude in customer base would be a major concern.

"We have some world-class fishing opportunities and an excellent number of places people can fish," said KDFWR's Marketing Manager Michael Gray.

"Licenses in Kentucky are very reasonable and fishing is one of the most enjoyable activities an individual, or family can do."

"We know today's lifestyle is busy and hectic and that leisure time is at a premium for many families, but fishing is one of the most inexpensive, fun and rewarding ways parents, grandparents and children can spend time that increases the strength of the family unit."

"When a youngster catches a fish, and his or her family is there to share the experience and applaud the achievement, that kind of interaction builds lasting ties and values."

"It teaches confidence, creates excitement and memories

of happy times, and instills a core level appreciation for natural resources that you just can't get inside a classroom or from watching television."

"Going fishing is more than just something to do. It's an activity that can make life better in many ways people don't realize."

"We hope to remind people of that, and at the same time, help solidify the agency's ability to provide a consistent level of resource management that results in high quality fishing," Gray said.

Archery

Continued from p1

The event was the largest student archery event in U.S. history.

Cofield's younger brother, Grady, an eighth grader, fired a sizzling 290 to take overall runner-up honors to his brother, and won the middle school ranks' male division.

Somerset High School principal Tommy Floyd was exuberant afterward. "Archery is one of the best things for our students I've seen in 20 years," he said.

"We need to find things that let students feel good about themselves and you don't have to be the tallest, fastest or best athlete to excel in this sport. This was great."

Indeed, it was fourth grader Taylor Cundiff of Hopkins Elementary School in Pulaski County who placed third overall with a blistering 286.

"He stood right up there with the best of them, all of three and a half feet tall, and let his bow do his talking," said Floyd. "I couldn't be more proud."

Schools from as far away as Georgia, Alabama and Ohio along with students from all over Kentucky competed in the third annual Archery in the Schools

Program National Tournament March 16 at the Kentucky International Convention Center in downtown Louisville.

Team awards for individual states were given for the top three teams in the Elementary (K-6), Middle (7-8) and High School (9-12) divisions. These team scores were compiled from the sum of the top 15 scores for each team in each division. The top five boys and girls in each division for each state won individual awards.

National Championship awards were bestowed to the three highest scoring teams in each division. The five highest scoring boys and girls from each division received first through fifth place individual National

Championship Awards.

Complete tournament result listings, and other program information are available on the KDFWR website at fw.ky.gov.

The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR) manages, regulates, enforces and promotes responsible use of all fish and wildlife species, their habitats, public wildlife areas and waterways for the benefit of those resources and for public enjoyment. KDFWR, an agency of the Commerce Cabinet, has an economic impact to the state of \$4.8 billion annually. For more information on KDFWR, visit our web site at fw.ky.gov.

2005 National Archery in Schools Championship Winners: Overall Kentucky and National Champion Male: Graham Cofield, Trigg County High School Overall Kentucky and National Champion Female: Ashley Rose, Pulaski County High School

National Champion, High School Division (Gr. 9-12), Team:
1st Place: Trigg County High School
2nd Place: Lincoln County High School
3rd Place: Somerset High School

National Champion, Middle School Division (Gr. 7-8), Team:
1st Place: Trigg County Middle School
2nd Place: Henderson Co. South M. School
3rd Place: Northern Pulaski M. School

National Champion, Elementary School Division (Gr. K-6), Team:
1st Place: Trigg County Middle School
2nd Place: Northern Pulaski M. School
3rd Place: Charles Henderson Middle School (Troy, AL)

National Champion, High School Individual (Gr. 9-12), Male:
1st Place: Graham Cofield, Trigg County High School
2nd Place: Nathan Austill, Henderson County High School
3rd Place: Gentry Gray, Trigg County High School
4th Place: Corey Skaggs, Lincoln County High School
5th Place: Ronnie Carrier, Lincoln County High School

National Champion, High School Individual (Gr. 9-12), Female:

1st Place: Ashley Rose, Pulaski County High School
2nd Place: Mariko Nishimura, Somerset High School
3rd Place: Campbell Courtney, Meade Co. High School
4th Place: Tiffany Hicks, Lincoln County High School
5th Place: Rebecca Wesson, Somerset High School

National Champion, Middle School Individual (Gr. 7-8), Male:
1st Place: Grady Cofield, Trigg County Middle School
2nd Place: Dylan Baily, Henderson County South Middle School
3rd Place: Keith Phillips, Henderson County South Middle School
4th Place: Chris Muse, Northern Pulaski Middle School
5th Place: Matt Kennedy, Trigg County Middle School (Tie) Nathan Norris, Henderson County South Middle School

National Champion, Middle School Individual (Gr. 7-8), Female:
1st Place: Anna Knickelbein, Trigg County Middle School
2nd Place: Tiffany Dankovic, Trigg Co. Middle School
3rd Place: Danielle Reddick, Trigg Co. Middle School
4th Place: Hannah Robbins, South Laurel Middle School
5th Place: Brooke Boils, Clinton County Middle School

National Champion, Elementary School Individual (Gr. K-6), Male:
1st Place: Taylor Cundiff, Hopkins Elementary School
2nd Place: Ryan Russell, Trigg County Middle School
3rd Place: Rodney Holbrook, Lakeside Elemen. School
4th Place: Chris Hendrix, Charles Henderson Middle School (Troy, AL)
5th Place: Jordan Miller, Northern Pulaski Midd. School

National Champion, Elementary School Individual (Gr. K-6), Female:
1st Place: Kendra Harper, Isonville Elementary School
2nd Place: Cena Cherry, Monroe County Middle School
3rd Place: Kimberly Jones, Trigg County Middle School
4th Place: Ellen Shipley, Trigg County Middle School
5th Place: Amber Abate, Trigg County Middle School

Alabama State Champion, Male: Amber Oliver, Floyd Middle Magnet School
Georgia State Champion, Male: Haywood Baynor, Tri County High School
Georgia State Champion, Female: Britany Rigdon, Marion Middle School
Ohio State Champion, Male: Ben Sefton, Maysville School
Ohio State Champion, Female: Kernisity White, Maysville School

Patriot golf teams open season in Campbellsville

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

The Cumberland College Patriot women's and men's golf teams made their first appearances of the season March 7 in Campbellsville at the Campbellsville Spring Invitational.

The Patriot ladies finished third out of four teams with a score of 403. Elizabeth Bryant (Irvine) finished 18th, Shannon Schottelkotte (Greenfield, Ohio) came in 16th, and Trisha Price (Auburn, Ill.) was 15th place overall. Sophomore Jennifer Kieffer (Rockford, Ill.) shot a score of 85, landing her in first place overall. The win gave Kieffer her third career win and also put her in the lead

for career wins in women's golf at Cumberland College.

"Jenni played very well considering the conditions," Cumberland College Coach Bill Sergent commented. "I am so very proud of her for becoming the all-time leader in tournament wins. She can really set a high standard for anyone to catch."

On the men's side, there were nine teams competing in Campbellsville. The Cumberland "maroon" team finished fifth with a score of 321. Finishing just two slots away at seventh was the "white" team. Anthony Savage (Mt. Vernon, Ohio) led both the maroon and white teams with his tenth place finish. All tied

for 13th place were Baron Davis (Big Stone Gap, Va.), Justin Price (Somerset) and Willis Ring (Whitesburg). Eddie Parman (London) and Eric King (Ferguson) finished out the top 20 for the Patriots both tied for that slot.

"We played like we haven't practiced much, which we haven't," Sergent added. "None of our local driving ranges have been open much, so all we have been able to do is play which will only take you so far. Next week in Florida will really help being able to practice as well as play a great tournament."

Both teams are back in action this week in the Embry-Riddle Invitational in Daytona Beach, Fla.

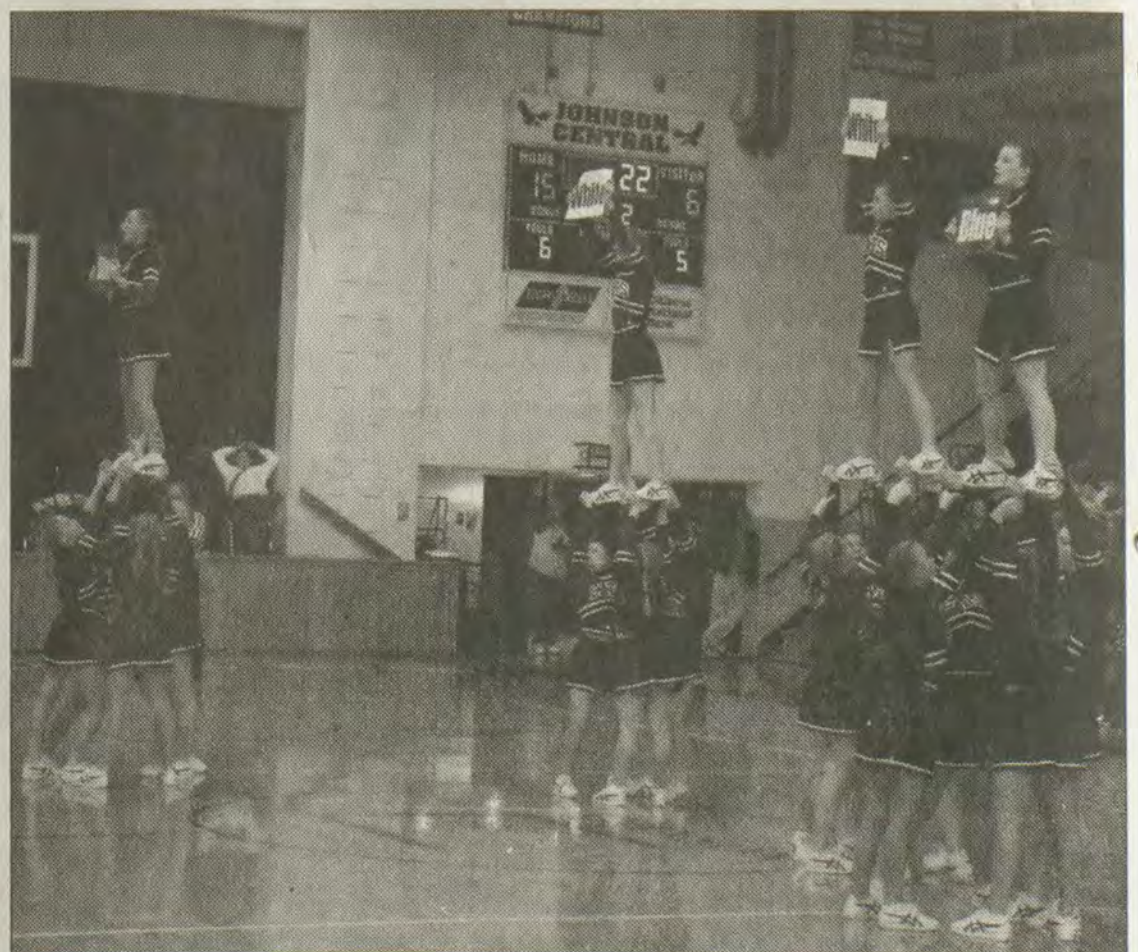


photo by Steve LeMaster

The Betsy Layne High School girls' varsity cheerleaders are also headed back to the Girls' Sweet 16 State Basketball Tournament.

Time to put the student back in student-athlete

by TIM DAHLBERG
ASSOCIATED PRESS

The numbers are depressingly familiar, probably because Richard Lapchick has been trotting them out every March for the last three years.

Like the bookies in Las Vegas, Lapchick spends the day after the NCAA tournament selections crunching stats and looking at possibilities. The oddsmakers are looking for point spreads, while Lapchick wants to see progress.

There's not much of that to be found in the latest numbers, which track the graduation rates of the 65 teams now caught up in the madness of March. Once again, they paint a bleak picture of athletes who chase balls instead of degrees and coaches who care more about winning games than graduating players.

Using the NCAA's latest data on graduation rates, Lapchick looked to see how the players in the tournament stack up against fellow athletes when it comes to

graduating with a degree within six years of entering school.

The answer? Not very good. The figures are fairly new, yet they show the same old thing. Juggernauts on the court, many teams are losers in the classroom.

Two universities — Louisiana State and Minnesota — are so inept at keeping players in class that they haven't graduated an incoming basketball freshman in 10 years. And 42 of the 65 teams — including No. 1 seeds Illinois and Washington — don't graduate half their players.

"There's a lot of scary stuff there," Lapchick said.

Lapchick studies these kind of things for a living as a sports sociologist who runs the Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sport at the University of Central Florida. But some of what he does is personal, driven by memories of his father, one of the NBA's early dominant big men and later a college coach himself at St. John's.

Lapchick remembers his

father, Joe Lapchick, coming from St. John's one day in 1956 and going upstairs, as was his custom, to change. When he didn't come down right away, his 11-year-old son went up to see what was wrong.

"He was crying and I hadn't seen him cry before. I hadn't seen any grown man cry before," Lapchick said. "He had found out his players weren't going to class and were being passed through the system. He was horrified on two levels, first because he was a devout Catholic at a Catholic school and second because he prided himself on a personal relationship with the players."

That relationship, Lapchick said, consisted mainly of his father talking to players about girlfriends and what kind of summer jobs they would have, not about academics. Those were days before television found college ball and before the hype of the NCAA tournament, but even then players still got a pass.

"He had total disconnect between himself and the academic institution," Lapchick said.

Joe Lapchick was so disturbed by what was happening that he set up what Lapchick believes was the first mandatory study hall in college sports. He and his assistant, a young coach named Lou Carnesecca, soon brought the university to a 100 percent graduation rate.

"When you put your mind to it, things can really change," Lapchick said.

One reason Lapchick isn't so down about this year's figures is that things may finally be changing for athletes on college campuses, just as they did nearly a half-century ago under his father at St. John's.

The NCAA announced last month it would begin applying sanctions against teams that don't have a 50 percent graduation rate, beginning next year. Teams who don't meet the mark will lose scholarships, and repeat offenders could be declared ineligible for postsea-

son play.

"It's the best decision the NCAA has made on this issue," Lapchick said. "I think we'll see a dramatic impact on who coaches take into programs to begin with. They're not going to risk losing scholarships or tournament spots."

That's precisely what NCAA president Myles Brand envisions. "The graduation numbers have been embarrassing to the institution, but have not caused any behavioral changes," Brand said. "What we have done is attach sanctions to poor graduation rates. We believe strongly that is going to change behavior over the years."

They're certainly listening at LSU, where athletic director Skip Bertman says a new emphasis in academics has every current player on track to graduate within six years. That includes forward Brandon Bass, this year's SEC scholar-athlete of the year.

"They make it so easy for you to study and get grades

here, it's almost impossible to fail," Bass said.

Lapchick was heartened when he spoke at LSU last fall and saw there was a new academic support center for athletes.

"I think they realized they had some issues they needed to correct," he said.

The issues go beyond academic support. The new rules mean universities will think twice about giving scholarships to players who have no intention of going to class or are planning to leave after a year for the NBA.

Coaches will now have to be more careful about who they recruit, and what they do to keep a player in school. Graduation rates will rise, and people won't snicker when athletes are referred to as student-athletes.

By then, Lapchick's numbers may stop being so scary.

Tim Dahlberg is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at tdahlberg@ap.org

No. 23 Cincinnati 76, Iowa 64

by STEVE HERMAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS — Cincinnati expects blocked shots and rebounds from Jason Maxiell. But 3-pointers?

The 6-foot-7 senior had 22 points, nine rebounds, six blocked shots, a pair of steals and the first two 3-point baskets of his college career Thursday in a 76-64 first-round NCAA tournament victory over Iowa.

The Bearcats (25-7) advanced to Saturday's second round of the Austin Regional against Kentucky (26-5), which won its opener 72-64 over Eastern Kentucky at the RCA Dome.

Maxiell had missed all five 3-point attempts he had taken in his first 127 games with Cincinnati. But in the closing minutes against Iowa, with the game already decided, he shot twice from long range and hit both.

"I just felt comfortable with my range and shot it," he said. "It went in, so I decided to take a second one."

The Cincinnati bench erupted. "I knew he had it in him," teammate Eric Hicks said, laughing. "One, maybe, but not two."

With the 250-pound Maxiell dominating the inside, Cincinnati showed a decidedly more physical game and threatened to run away from the Hawkeyes almost from the start.

His six blocked shots gave him 89 for the season, second

only to the school-record 107 by Kenyon Martin in 2000. With two other blocks by Hicks, the Bearcats are one short of the team-record 223 also set in 2000.

"Our guys did a real good job defensively," Cincinnati coach Bob Huggins said. "We got the shooters. We were disciplined enough to stay down most of the time. Eric and Max were very active, which we need them to be. ... They have to be active and fly around the ball."

With Maxiell repeatedly swatting away shots under the basket and Iowa unable to hit from the outside, the Bearcats limited the Hawkeyes to just one field goal and three free throws in the first 11 minutes of the game. Three-pointers by Nick Williams, James White and Armein Kirkland, meanwhile, sparked a 21-3 run that put Cincinnati in control midway through the first half.

Iowa, which shot 34 percent for the game, missed 13 of its first 14 shots before a basket by Jeff Horner and 3-pointer by Carlton Reed with less than 8 minutes left in the first half. The Hawkeyes finally started hitting late in the period, cutting their 18-point deficit to 32-22 at the break, and continued their rally early in the second half.

A 3-pointer by Greg Brunner, who led Iowa with 20 points and 10 rebounds, pulled the Hawkeyes to 34-29. Then, after Maxiell hit one of two

free throws, another 3-pointer by Horner made it 35-32.

That was as close as Iowa came.

"We thought we could get back in it," Iowa coach Steve Alford said. "We fought like crazy to get back in it, but to Cincinnati's credit they went on another big run and we just couldn't recover from there."

"We picked a bad day to have a not real good shooting day."

Williams hit two straight 3-pointers, Eric Hicks and Maxiell each scored a basket and, after an Iowa turnover, Maxiell completed a 12-point Cincinnati run with another basket for a 47-32 lead. Iowa never came closer than 10 points after that.

Another 3-pointer by Horner brought the Hawkeyes within 60-50, but they then went without a field goal for more than six minutes. Maxiell blocked two more shots and put the game out of reach with his two 3-pointers and a dunk.

"He was making a big presence in the lane," Iowa's Adam Haluska said. "He was throwing a lot of stuff out of there. He caused us to take some tough shots from outside and they weren't going down."

White added 15 points and Williams finished with 13 for Cincinnati. Horner had 12 points for the Hawkeyes, whose leading scorer for the season, Pierre Pierce, was kicked off the team in February after his arrest for assault.

Dirt Track World Championship tickets, website set to race

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

CHILlicothe, Ohio — Advanced presale tickets, reserved seats and pit passes for the 25th Annual Dirt Track World Championship (DTWC), which will celebrate its silver anniversary as one of dirt Late Model racing's premier 'crown jewel' races, will become available for race fans on Monday and may be ordered using several options. Additionally, promoters of the esteemed race will debut a new website on Monday. Carl Short and Dean Nardi will stage the mega-event at Jim Nier's KC Raceway in Chillicothe, Ohio, a 3/8 mile high-banked oval Oct. 13-15, 2005 culminating with a \$50,000 payoff to the eventual winner.

The 25th Annual Dirt Track World Championship kicks off on Thursday evening, Oct. 13 with an open practice session. Qualifying and heat races will be held on Friday evening, Oct. 14 with the consolation race, a non-qualifiers race and the 100-lap Dirt Track World Championship to be held on Saturday evening, Oct. 15. Sunday, Oct. 16 will serve as the rain date.

Presale prices for individual tickets are \$40 for adult general admission, \$10 for children gen-

eral admission ages 6-11 with children under age six admitted free for general admission. The deadline for ordering presale tickets is Oct. 1. All tickets pre-ordered will begin being mailed out on Sept. 15. A presale three-day pit pass will be offered for \$50.

After the October 1 presale deadline expires tickets prices will be \$50 for adult general admission, \$15 children general admission ages 6-11 with children under age six admitted free for general admission. Three-day pit passes will be \$60.

Special reserved seating is also being made available for the 25th Anniversary Dirt Track World Championship. The top five rows of the grandstands, including the main grandstands and the soon-to-be-constructed new grandstands in turn four, will be mandated reserved seating. Presale tickets for reserved seating are \$45 per ticket. After October 1 reserved seating will be \$55. Reserved seating ticket prices for children age 11 and under will be \$15 per ticket presale and \$20 per ticket after Oct. 1. A seating chart is available on the KC Raceway website (<http://www.kc-raceway.com>) and race fans may pick their preferred seats on a first-come,

first-served basis.

Driver entry fee will be \$100 if pre-entered by Oct. 1. After Oct. 1, the driver entry fee will be \$200.

To purchase presale tickets and pit passes and/or to pre-enter a driver, money orders, cashier's checks and credit cards may be used. The DTWC will accept presale credit card orders with Mastercard, Visa, Discover and American Express. To place your credit card order telephone the DTWC office toll free: 800-536-5277.

Tickets are also available via mail order by sending a money order or cashier's check to: DTWC, P.O. Box 349, Powell, Tenn. 37849.

Race fans will also be able to order presale tickets from the new Dirt Track World Championship website designed by Lynn Appleget of Appleget Associates that will debut on Monday. Fans will also be able to use PayPal to order presale tickets from the DTWC website. The new DTWC website will be located at: www.DTWC.net

For additional information about the 25th Annual Dirt Track World Championship contact: P. O. Box 349, Powell, Tenn. 37849. Telephone 865/947-0500.

White bass down but perhaps poised for rebound

by STEVE VANTRESE
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PADUCAH — There may be relief on the way to bolster sagging white bass fishing.

An important recreational fishing species for Kentucky anglers, white bass in most of the commonwealth's waters have been on the skids for a while. The trend is broader than Kentucky, however, with significant declines in fishing for at least a couple of years across most of the southeastern United States.

Kentucky managers anticipate relatively lean times for white bass again this spring when fishing for the native "stripes" typically picks up. But the wheels already may be turning to reverse white bass fortunes.

"Across the Southeast, everybody has been seeing declines in the white bass population," said Gerry Buynak, biologist and assistant director of fisheries for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. "We've seen the same thing here."

Buynak said department biologists have been involved in white bass population research for three years and findings suggest that the across-the-board sag in numbers of "keeper" fish is related to precipitation and consequential water conditions.

"White bass are one of the most highly fluctuating species, prone to either really good or really bad spawning classes of fish," Buynak

said. "There doesn't seem to be much in between the extremes."

"And what we've seen looks like some drought conditions and resulting low current flows have caused some bad year classes," he said. "The same conditions have affected a large area of the country."

White bass eggs are semi-buoyant and require a certain level of current flow to keep them moving and successful, Buynak said.

"The eggs need current to prevent them from settling to the bottom and getting silted in," Buynak said.

Light precipitation and resulting lower current flows may have scuttled the success of many white bass eggs, resulting in poor spawning classes of new fish for a few years.

"The problem only shows up when you get a few bad year classes of fish occurring back-to-back," Buynak said. "It's too early in our research to say, but that's our main theory about what's happened. It looks like a series of bad spring spawning conditions."

The silver lining, if there is one, is that Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources research on Barren River Lake shows good white bass spawns in the springs of 2003 and 2004. Not by coincidence, those springs were wetter and current flows were higher then.

Buynak said improved weather and water conditions

could well have sown the seeds of white bass rebounds over most of Kentucky.

"The white bass is a short-lived fish, only growing about six years," Buynak said. "They get to be the size that fishermen are interested in, 10 to 12 inches long, at about age three. The fish that were spawned in that first better class in 2003 should start getting that size sometime this summer."

Meanwhile, the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission has acted on biologists' recommendations to approve a reduction in the statewide white bass creel limit to soften the effects of angler harvest, particularly while the numbers are low.

The new limit, effective March 1, 2006, will be 15 white bass, yellow bass and/or hybrid striped bass in combination. Further, no more than five of the fish may exceed 15 inches.

The regulation will replace a straight 30-fish limit on white bass and yellow bass combined and a five-fish limit on hybrid striped bass and pure striped bass combined.

The new regulation will protect hybrids by allowing no more than five fish over 15 inches in the limit. White bass seldom attain that size.

"The new regulation will limit the harvest of adult white bass and hybrids, and it also will eliminate the identification problems between white bass and hybrids," Buynak said.

Labonte determined to make Bristol part of 2005 Schedule

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

BRISTOL, Tenn. — Terry Labonte walks toward his car in the infield during a test session for the Food City 500. The Food City 500 is one of 10 races Labonte will run in 2005.

Last year when Terry Labonte decided that he was cutting his 2005 schedule back to include only 10 races, he knew one thing for certain: Bristol was definitely going to be one of the stops.

Labonte, whose first start at Bristol Motor Speedway came on April 1, 1979, has always been partial to the half-mile oval. In that very first race he finished seventh and since then, in 52 starts, his 34 top-10 finishes are the most by any driver in the Speedway's history. He also has 20 top-five showings, second only to Rusty Wallace's 21. Toss in a couple of wins and you've got your answer as to why Labonte had to make Bristol part of his "Shifting Gears" tour.

"Bristol has always been one of my favorite tracks," said Labonte, during a Tuesday test session that also included Rusty Wallace, Kyle Busch, Brian Vickers, Jay Sauter and Michel

Jourdain, Jr. "This was a no-brainer. As soon as I decided that we were only running 10 races this year, I knew Bristol was going to be one of them."

After running a full schedule for 26 years, cutting back has been just what the doctor ordered, according to Labonte. While some might have thought that not participating in every race might be difficult for him to handle, he says it's just the opposite.

"Oh no, not a problem," he said. "It's actually kind of nice. It's a little funny not knowing exactly what I'm going to be doing every Sunday, but I really enjoy it. I'm really busy with other things, things I haven't been able to do over the years so I'm not missing it. My wife says this retirement is killing her because I'm busier now than I was before."

"It's just that now I decide what I'm doing. Like this Sunday, I might just go fishing or I might hang around the house and catch part of the race. I probably won't watch it all because I really can't stand listening to it on television."

The 48-year-old Labonte plans on running 10 races again in 2006 and then calling it quits for good. If he gets his way,

Bristol will again be on the list.

"I'm running the night race next year," he said. "I can't miss that. I would have liked to have run it this year but things just didn't work out so we could. But next year I'm doing it. I have to run that night race one more time."

"This has been a good track to me and the night race (where both of his wins came) has just always been one that I looked forward to. I mean, I love this race coming up or I wouldn't be in it. But there's nothing like that night race; there's nothing like the atmosphere here for that race. If I was a fan — and I'll be that one day — that fall race would be the one race I'd have to see."

Charter Communications Pole Day is Friday, April 1 at 5:40 p.m., with the Food City 500 slated to take the green flag at 1:15 p.m. on Sunday, April 3. The Sharpie Professional 250 gets under way at 2:05 p.m. on Saturday, April 3.

Charter Communications Pole Day tickets are available for \$15 while Sharpie Professional 250 tickets are also available, beginning at \$45. For tickets, please call 423/764-1161 or go to bristoltx.com.

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In baseball's day of extraordinary theater, McGwire won't say whether he took steroids

by HOWARD FENDRICH
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — In a room filled with humbled heroes, Mark McGwire bemoaned and hewed the most.

His voice choked with emotion, his eyes nearly filled with tears, time after time he refused to answer the question everyone wanted to know: Did he take illegal steroids when he hit a then-record 70 home runs in 1998 — or at any other time?

Asked by Rep. Elijah Cummings, D-Md., whether he was asserting his Fifth Amendment right not to incriminate himself, McGwire said: "I'm not here to talk about the past. I'm here to be positive about this subject."

Asked whether use of steroids was cheating, McGwire said: "That's not for me to determine."

To a couple of other questions, all he would say is: "I'm retired."

The dark clouds over baseball rained on Big Muc, whose powerful bat once captivated the nation.

"I know that he was in anguish yesterday just being there," baseball commissioner Bud Selig said Friday on NBC's "Today" show. "Everybody has to do what they

have to do. The other players were very outspoken."

McGwire was just part of Thursday's show at the House Government Reform committee's hearing on steroids in baseball, when lawmakers repeated threatened federal legislation to govern drug testing in not just baseball, but perhaps all U.S. sports.

Five current and former players, three of them among the 10 leading home run hitters in history, found themselves sitting biceps-to-biceps on Capitol Hill instead of a baseball field, wearing business suits instead of uniforms, forced by subpoena to testify before Congress about whether they cheated by using steroids.

Heads turned, strobes flashed and necks craned to get a glimpse of them on a day of extraordinary theater. The players bemoaned steroids as a problem for their sport but denied the drugs are widely used.

Jose Canseco, whose best-selling book, "Juiced," drew lawmakers' attention, said anew that he used performance-enhancing drugs as a player. Baltimore Orioles teammates Sammy Sosa and Rafael Palmeiro said they haven't.

McGwire in the past has denied

using steroids but under oath repeatedly declined to respond directly. Peering at lawmakers over reading glasses, his goatee flecked with gray, McGwire was pressed to say whether he had taken performance-enhancing substances or whether he could provide details about use by other players. Over and over, he said he wouldn't respond.

All of the players offered condolences to the parents of two young baseball players who committed suicide after using steroids. The parents testified, too, along with medical experts who talked about the health risks of steroids.

"Players that are guilty of taking steroids are not only cheaters — you are cowards," said Donald Hooton of Plano, Texas, whose son, Taylor, was 17 when he hanged himself in July 2003.

During a hearing that lasted 11 1/4 hours, lawmakers questioned baseball's new drug-testing plan, including a provision allowing for fines instead of suspensions. A first offense could cost 10 days out of a six-month season, or perhaps a \$10,000 fine.

"That's the best we could do in collective bargaining," Selig

said. "The penalties would be much tougher if I had my way."

He added that he would suspend anyone who fails a test, vowing: "There will be no exceptions."

Canseco's book included claims that he injected McGwire with steroids when they were teammates with the Oakland Athletics and that Palmeiro used the drugs. In a tense scene, they sat at the same table, never directly addressing each other. During a break, Canseco was left out while the other players huddled.

"Steroids were part of the game, and I don't think anybody really wanted to take a stance on it," Canseco said. "If Congress does nothing about this issue, it will go on forever."

Several congressmen gushed about the sport, recalling how as children they collected baseball cards and autographs and looked up to players. For the most part, members of the committee appeared deferential and unwilling to press the players, saving their harshest criticism for baseball officials.

"Why should we believe that the baseball commissioner and the baseball union will want to do something when we have a 30-year record of them not

responding to this problem?" asked Rep. Henry Waxman of California, the committee's ranking Democrat.

The paneled hearing room was full when the players appeared, with cameras crowding the walls and lighting the aisles. Much of the crowd cleared out when the players left, leaving empty seats for Selig's testimony.

He said the extent of steroid use in baseball had been blown out of proportion.

"Did we have a major problem? No," Selig said. "Let me say this to you: There is no concrete evidence of that, though, no testing evidence, there is no other kind of evidence."

Questions about steroids have intensified as home run totals increased. McGwire and Sosa were widely credited with helping restore baseball's popularity in 1998 when they chased Roger Maris' season record of 61 homers. McGwire's mark lasted only three seasons before being surpassed by Barry Bonds in '99.

Bonds and the New York Yankees' Jason Giambi were not called to the hearing. Both testified in 2003 to a grand jury investigating a steroid-distribution ring, and there were con-

cerns testimony to Congress could hinder the probe.

Boston pitcher Curt Schilling, a vocal critic of steroid use, sat at one end of the witness table, with Canseco at the other. Palmeiro, Sosa and McGwire were in between.

Schilling took a shot at Canseco, laying claims for the corner slugger's book should be seen for what they are: an attempt to make money at the expense of others. He even called him a "liar."

But Schilling backtracked from his earlier claims of rampant steroid use, saying "the issue was grossly overstated by people, including myself."

While boosting strength, steroids also can lead to dramatic mood swings, heart disease, cancer, sterility and depression, using most steroids without a doctor's prescription for medical purposes has been illegal since 1991.

Benchell banned steroid use in September 2002 and began testing for them with penalties in 2004. Several congressmen pointed out that other major U.S. sports leagues have stricter policies and suggested legislation might be needed to make the testing uniform.

McGwire faces history like a fidgety Mafia don

by JIM LITKE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — This is the price of all those home runs:

A hero shamed, diminished not just in size, but in stature, reduced to answering questions from Congress like some fidgety Mafia don, and the game he once dominated unable to crawl out from even that shrunken shadow.

"I'm not going to talk about the past," Mark McGwire replied on at least eight separate occasions, usually when asked about some of the most revered accomplishments in a game that's held the nation in its thrall for more than 130 years.

Though only five players and a handful of MLB executives appeared before the House Government Reform Committee, make no mistake. All of baseball — even Barry Bonds, made all the more notable by his absence — was called on the carpet.

Only one man, however, owned up.

"The most effective thing right now," former MVP and best-selling author Jose Canseco said, "is we've got to admit to certain things we've done. What I'm hearing is that I'm the only person in the major leagues who used steroids."

The hearings began with former star pitcher and current Sen. Jim Bunning saying, "maybe I'm old fashioned. I remember when players didn't get better as they got older. We all got worse." The day continued with the anguished stories of two families who lost sons to suicide because those kids believed the advice from coaches and scouts "to get bigger" meant by any means necessary, including the reckless use of steroids.

Then a few of those players who got bigger and better as they got older took the stage, and except for the disgraced — but still not discredited — Canseco, washed their hands of any responsibility. The voices

of McGwire and Canseco cracked when discussing the fates that befell young ballplayers Rob Garibaldi and Taylor Hooton. But it wasn't long before all of those who testified — again, with the exception of Canseco — began repeating what has become baseball's mantra whenever questions about performance-enhancers arise.

"I," said Red Sox pitcher Curt Schilling, who on Thursday backed off some of his most strident criticism of steroid users, "am not going to dwell on the past."

That was essentially McGwire's answer to whether he considered the use of steroids cheating.

And to the question of whether his magical 1998 home-run race with Sammy Sosa — the one commissioner Bud Selig credits with sparking the renaissance of baseball after a crippling strike four years earlier — was played "with honor and integrity."

And to the question of whether he ever used any performance-enhancers beyond the steroid precursor androstenedione, which an Associated Press writer noticed sitting on the top shelf of his locker in 1998.

And even to the question of whether all the home-run records of recent years should be wiped off the books.

"I'm not here," McGwire kept answering, "to go into my past."

None of the other players save Canseco were any more forthcoming. They saw no steroid use in the clubhouse, rarely discussed it, and never learned enough about any potential abusers to make confronting them worthwhile.

"It was as acceptable in the late '80s and the mid-90s as a cup of coffee," Canseco said.

Anybody who doubts that now should have spent a few hours in Room 2154 of the Rayburn House Office Building.

Rep. Henry Waxman recalled that he and Selig, then

the owner of the Milwaukee Brewers, were likely the only two people in the room who could recall Congress' first investigation of what was called baseball's "alarming" drug problem in 1973. He then reeled off a litany of failed chances that baseball failed to capitalize on ever since.

Fans in Boston chanting "steroids, steroids" when Canseco stepped to the plate at Fenway in 1988; former commissioner Fay Vincent's unilateral policy banning, among other drugs, steroids; a string of news reports; McGwire's andro admission; the arrest of a ballplayer with steroids in his car; and more.

"But as we know now from 30 years of history," Waxman said, "baseball failed to regulate itself."

The game's new drug policy, itself a product of pressure brought to bear in a previous congressional hearing chaired by Sen. John McCain, is full of loopholes. There are no tests for human growth hormones and amphetamines are not banned. But none of this apparently bothers fans — attendance is up across the board — and it hasn't cost baseball its special place in America's sporting life. Yet.

Not so with McGwire.

The redhead whose lightning swing and 20-inch arms captivated us all shuffled out of the room at the end of the day, his accomplishments now as deflated as his once Bunyanesque frame. A few minutes earlier, a congressman had asked McGwire what message he had for the half-million kids that medical experts believe have tried steroids trying to be just like him.

Just this once, McGwire didn't hesitate to answer.

"Steroids are wrong," he said. "Do not take them. They give you nothing but false hope."

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

Bunning testifies on steroid abuse in baseball before House panel

by HILARY ROXE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — U.S. Sen. Jim Bunning, a Hall of Fame pitcher, testified before a congressional investigative committee Thursday, saying stronger federal action may be necessary if Major League Baseball officials don't crack down on steroid abuse among players.

On a day when more than a dozen witnesses were lined up to appear before the House Government Reform Committee's hearing on steroids in baseball, Bunning was the first.

In a packed chamber, with media lining the hallways outside, he sat alone at the panel table, answered friendly questions, many of which included reflections on his pitching and his legendary perfect game in 1964.

Though he said he never used steroids during his 17-year career in the major leagues, Bunning said cheating players in his time were suspended. Penalties leveled against players in today's game are "really puny" in comparison, he said.

Committee members focused on what steps Congress could take to restrict the use of steroids, from forcing the league to impose tougher penalties on violations to creating a uniform drug-abuse policy for all levels of athletes. No legislation has been filed.

Bunning said he favored moving Major League Baseball's penalties closer to those enforced in professional

football, where players are barred from significant parts of a season for drug violations.

In addition, Bunning suggested, if record-setting baseball players are found to have used steroids, their records should be erased to preserve the sport's integrity.

"Wipe all of their records out. Take them away. They don't deserve them. Go ask Henry Aaron, go ask the family of Roger Maris, go ask all of the people that played without enhanced drugs if they would like their records compared with the current records," he said.

Some have criticized Congress for reaching into the ball park to look at the workings of the game. Bunning said he's not a fan of government intervention, but stressed that owners and players haven't done enough on their own.

"If baseball fails to fix this scandal, there are a lot of things we can do to get their attention — by amending the labor laws, repealing the outdated antitrust exemption that baseball alone enjoys, and shining the spotlight of public scrutiny," he said.

But some of the changes would be hard to make while players are working under an existing contract, said Bunning, who helped start the players union.

"It's tough collective bargaining. I know — I sat on the other side of the table," he said.

The northern Kentucky Republican's concern about steroids has been constant in recent months. His was among a

chorus of congressional voices denouncing scandals in Major League Baseball late last year. And at a January confirmation hearing of Health and Human Services Secretary Michael Leavitt, Bunning asked how the nominee would address problems of steroids in sports.

Among his concerns are the health effects of steroids and the fact that players are often seen as role models for young athletes.

Committee members pointed to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data showing one in 45 students reported usual steroid use in 1993, compared with one in 16 a decade later.

"By using steroids, they sent the wrong message to kids and the public," Bunning said of professional athletes.

But he was also nostalgic about the game, making ties to non-drug related reforms, including "smaller parks making it easier to hit home runs."

"Maybe it's because they knocked the mound down five inches, but I know one thing: players are much stronger and the ball is much more souped up than it was in the 50s, 60s and 70s," he said.

Bunning is a second-term senator whose playing career spanned from 1955-71. After retiring from the game, he spent time as a minor league manager and as a sports agent.

Often called "The Big Right-hander" by fellow Kentucky Republicans, Bunning was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1996.

Reds say RHP Paul Wilson will be opening day starter

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SARASOTA, Fla. — Paul Wilson's 11-victory season last year impressed the Cincinnati Reds enough that they designated the right-hander on Wednesday as the opening day starter April 4 against the New York Mets.

"It's an honor and a privilege," Wilson said.

He was 11-6 last season for the Reds with a 4.36 earned run average in 29 starts.

Reds manager Dave Miley said two offseason additions, left-hander Eric Milton and right-hander Ramon Ortiz, will follow Wilson in the next two regular season games.

Wilson was the first player chosen in the June 1994 free-agent draft. He was picked by the Mets, who let him move on to the Tampa Bay Devil Rays

before he went to Cincinnati.

He said pitching against the Mets doesn't hold any special significance for him now.

"It will be a well improved team. I have no bad feelings. Any feelings I had toward the Mets organization I let go of years ago," Wilson said. "It doesn't matter who it is. We have a job to do."

Wilson threw 73 pitches in a simulated game on Tuesday, an off day. He will next pitch against the Toronto Blue Jays in Dunedin on Sunday.

Cory Lidle, who pitched last year's Cincinnati opener, is now with Philadelphia.

There is still competition for the last two spots in the Reds rotation, with Brandon Claussen, Aaron Harang, Jeremie Robertson and Josh Hancock among the candidates. Luke Hudson fell out of the

competition because of tendinitis in his right shoulder that will require rest and rehabilitation.

"He won't throw until he has done all that we ask him to do without pain or stiffness," Reds trainer Mark Mann said.

The Reds on Wednesday optioned infielder William Bergolla, pitcher Dayton Childress and pitcher Brian Shackelford to Triple-A Louisville. They optioned pitchers Ben Kozlowski, Bubba Nelson and Elizardo Ramirez to Double-A Chattanooga.

Left-hander Phil Dumatrait and catcher Miguel Perez were optioned to Single-A Sarasota. Infielders Travis Chapman and A.J. Zapp, outfielder Kenny Kelly, catcher Brian Peterson and pitcher Jared Fernandez were assigned to the Reds' minor league camp.

Red Sox 9, Cardinals 3

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

At Fort Myers, Fla., Thursday, Boston beat St. Louis in the first game between the teams since the Red Sox swept the Cardinals for their first World Series championship in 86 years. Jason Marquis, hurt by homers in the series, was hit again, allowing six runs on 10 hits in three

innings, including four homers.

Pirates 9, Yankees 4: At Bradenton, Fla., Kevin Brown of the Yankees gave up seven runs and eight hits in 4 2/3 innings just hours after his wife gave birth.

Ty Wigginton drove in four runs with a homer and a double, and Rob Mackowiak, batting .377, homered twice and drove in three runs.

Phillies 6, Reds 3: At Sarasota, Fla., Franklin Perez worked out of ninth-inning trouble for Philadelphia.

Phillies starter Gavin Floyd allowed a walk and three hits in five innings, including a two-run homer to Joe Randa.

Aaron Harang shut out Philadelphia for 2 1/3 innings, but couldn't get out of the fifth, when the Phillies scored twice

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FLOYD COUNTY Lifestyles



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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.

April—time of changes, when even the names of things become something else. Then it is that hurricanes are known as spring zephyrs, downpours as showers, worms as bait, and plain laziness as spring fever.

You're grown up when you're old enough to know that a mirror is to prove to you that you can be dumb without being beautiful.



Norman Allen

THIS IS A RELIEF

April 1 has to this point — 4:40 p.m. — passed uneventfully for us. Nobody has tipped us off to a story that refuses to be pinned down. We haven't been tempted to kick any paper sacks loaded with bricks, or anything of that nature. Some of the boys might like to send me chasing after striped ink, but they know I'm too old for that one. And I didn't, of my own volition, expose myself to the vagaries of this day by going fishing.

PROMISE

Young Jack Hill is stage manager for the senior class-play which will be presented here next Tuesday night, and, intentionally or otherwise, he paid me and a couple of other fellows, who think they're fishermen, a compliment. He needs a fish, a good, big one, as a prop, and as innocently as you please asked me today if one of us could furnish him with what he needed. Some of those nearby snickered, but I gave him my word that I personally would see that the fish was made available.

CONFESSIONAL

The fact of the matter is, as some have heretofore suggested, I am not a fisherman. There was a

(See THIS TOWN, page six)

Women in History

Ruby Akers



Ruby, in younger years.



Ruby was surprised by a party put together by family and friends in recognition of her 85th birthday, September, 2003. "Why, it looked like a bonfire, there were so many candles on my cake," she joked.



Ruby, at home, among her many treasured gifts from family and friends.

Ruby Akers - Staying Active

by Kathy J. Prater
Features Editor

Well known throughout the county, Ruby Akers, 86 years young, is full of life, energy and history. Born in Floyd County, to Tom and Anna Martin Akers, Ruby has lived in the same house, at Drift, since she was in the second grade.

"Our first house burned, so Mother had this one built," she said. "I've been here since I was a little girl."

Full of tales about hickory nuts, childhood teachers and friends and "how things used to be," Ruby is a delight. Well educated, with a sharp mind, Ruby likes to share stories of riding the train from Drift to Martin to attend high school and of later years

spent attending Caney Creek College, now known as Alice Lloyd College.

"Caney Creek was, and still is, a wonderful place," she said. "Why, what would Floyd County have done without it," she pondered as she looked over a long mailing list of Floyd County alumni. "They're preparing for their annual banquet," she continued. "And this is a list of all the people I'm supposed to call. It's a long one," she said, shaking her head in awe. Ruby, herself, was recognized as "Alice Lloyd College Alumna of the Year" for the year 1998.

"The best thing, the very best thing," she said, "about Caney Creek, or Alice Lloyd as they call it now, is that when you are there, you are a name and not a number. They get to know

you there. I'm tickled to death when I see a young person preparing to attend school there."

Ruby left Caney Creek to begin teaching in the Floyd County School System, for which she worked for 34 years. In that time, she attended both Eastern Kentucky University and Morehead State College. She graduated from Morehead with a degree in home economics.

After finishing up 34 years with Floyd County schools, she continued to work for four more in a federally funded health program. "I worked as a nutritionist," she said. "I went out to people's homes and showed them how to prepare balanced meals. And in the

(See WOMEN, page six)

MOVIES FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

'He Knows You're Alone'

by TOM DOTY
STAFF WRITER

The late 1970s/early 1980s may have revitalized the horror film with pictures like "Halloween" and "Friday the 13th," but it also doomed moviegoers to a seemingly endless cycle of hack-and-slash films which strictly followed a new formula: Teens attend a party at a remote location and are hunted down and killed by a faceless maniac who is finally defeated by the sole surviving female, with a door to a sequel left open. It got tired fast, but once in awhile, a director would manage to make that formula work and that is the case with this effort, which focuses on a killer who strikes at brides to be.



Tom Doty
Staff Writer

The film opens with a clever sequence copied by "Scream 2," which finds a girl cheating on her boyfriend in a parked car. The couple hear a noise and the boy investigates, only he doesn't return. The girl eventually leaves the car only to find the boy dead and a killer waiting for her.

The camera pulls back at this point to reveal that we are seeing a movie. A pair of women are watching the film and one leaves for the restroom. There she admires her engagement ring. Once in a stall, she hears someone enter the restroom and freaks out when she instinctively realizes it is someone who means her harm. She escapes back to her seat, where her friend assures her she is reacting to the film.

This rationalization means nothing to the figure which settles in the seat behind them. He waits until a scream in the film provides a perfect opportunity for him to stab the girl right through the back of her chair with no one noticing her yelp over that of the film's victim. It's a chilling sequence which at once identifies the killer as meticulous and cruel.

The film then splits into two stories. One follows a detective who is

(See LAGOON, page six)

Journey to the depths of my purse

by RHONDA RHEA

"CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE CHRISTIAN WOMAN'S SOUL"

I carry the basic essentials of life in my purse: aspirin, lipstick, hand lotion, credit card. You name it, it's in there. If it's not, it will be. I seem to have some sort of purse reflex. I can stuff things in there without even knowing it.

On the positive side, I found a \$5 bill in a sneaky secret pocket last week. Even better, I found a candy bar. Now that was interesting. It was squished — almost liquefied — but it was still inside the wrapper.

Unfortunately, there are other encounters now and then that aren't exactly positive purse experiences. The other day, for example, I was making a return and I had to do an emergency receipt search at the customer-service counter. My purse stuff

started piling up. I pulled out five loose LifeSavers, an old Valentine card, sunscreen, one mitten, six kids'-meal toys (including a minitractor with only one wheel), three keys of unknown lock origin and a dead cricket. But no receipt. There were 12 tissues (none I would actually use), last year's Christmas list, a ticket stub to the junior-high spring concert and the backs from four adhesive name tags.

I also found two gummi worms stuck in a hairbrush, a Denny's coupon that expired in 1997 and a plastic Easter egg. I was pretty sure that the egg was older than the coupon. I shook it to see if it rattled. It did. I think I made it angry.

There was also enough purse fuzz in there to stuff a sofa pillow. How embarrassing. Inside the purse fuzz, something green and squishy caught my eye, and it frightened me. I gained courage by

tossing the dead cricket and drinking the candy bar.

Just before I dove into the fuzz, I got to the heart of my purse: my mini-Bible. It had all my family pictures tucked inside. That's when I realized that everything important in life could be found in my purse.

OK, if you want to get technical, I didn't exactly find Jesus in my handbag. But I could pull out the pictures of my husband and my children and see reminders of His gifts to me. And His word was there. Granted, it smelled a little like Juicy Fruit, but it was a great reminder that there's really no place I can go where I won't find the Lord's presence. Not one fuzz-covered place!

Psalm 139, verses 7 through 10, says it beautifully: "Where can I go from Your Spirit? Where can I flee from Your presence? If I go up to the heavens, You are there; if I make my bed in the depths, You are there. If I rise on the wings of dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there Your hand will guide me, Your right hand will hold me fast."

There's no place I can go without Him — not the heavens, not the depths, not the far side of the sea. I climb all the way inside my purse, and He still finds me there. I'm rejoicing in His love — even though I never found the receipt.

For the record, I think that green squishy thing used to be a jelly bean. I guess we'll never know. One of the kids ate it.



In Honor of Women in History Month

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"The history of all times, and of today especially, teaches that...women will be forgotten if they forget to think about themselves."

-Louise O'Ho, 1849

Jim Davidson

Our obsession with celebrities

The United States of America is known as the Land of Opportunity. Anything or anyone who takes away or diminishes the opportunities we as Americans enjoy, should be of concern to all of us. While you may not view it in the same light, there is a modern day phenomenon that is robbing millions of Americans of their opportunity to achieve outstanding success or to make a real difference during their brief stay here on earth. I'm referring to something that has come to be known as "Celebrity Sickness." The reason it is so devastating for the person who is obsessed with a celebrity, is that they lose too much precious thinking and



planning time for their own career. This is truly a shame because they are forfeiting their opportunity for great success in some field of endeavor. On a recent airplane flight into Dallas, I had this confirmed in a way that caused me to do some serious thinking. At this point you might be saying, "This is a free country and it's none of your business if someone wants to be obsessed with a rock star, athlete, movie star, singer or other well known person." Granted, I will give you that, but it's one thing to be merely obsessed, and it's an entirely different matter if that obsession leads a person to harm

themselves or others in the name of their idol. The most famous obsession case of all took place in March 1981, when John Hinckley shot President Ronald Reagan and three others outside a Washington hotel. Hinckley later said he shot the president to impress actress Jodie Foster. There have been countless other cases where some person was stalking a celebrity and had to be restrained. Here is the reason I wanted to share this with you and at least give you something to think about. You may have children, grandchildren or friends who fall into this category and you may be able to help them. Of course, there is a possibility this person could be you. According to research at DeVry University and the Southern Illinois School of Medicine, 10 percent of the American public is developing

an unhealthy obsession with celebrities that can lead to depression, anxiety and psychosis. Now I'm not that great at math, but with 290 million people in our country, if we divide that number in half to discount for the very young and the very old, we still have 145 million people. When you take 10 percent of that number, you have over 14 million people who fall into this most unfortunate lifestyle. This research also discovered that 1 percent of the American public has such an unhealthy obsession with celebrities that they are prepared to harm themselves or others in the name of their idol. Obviously John Hinckley was one of these. In the past few days I have done quite a bit of thinking about why this has become a real problem. One of the basic reasons is because of increased technology we now have more time and money and most people do not have to work from sunup till sundown just to make a living.

When people are dead tired, they go to bed a lot earlier. Another reason is the proliferation of the media. First, the silver screen gave us access on a regular basis to beautiful people, and it was easy to fall in love with them. This also gave those with less beauty and physical strength a way to fantasize and to see themselves actually playing the parts or roles of the various actors. Then the clincher came along in the form of television. Television not only brought us beautiful and talented people, it also brought the games, right into our living rooms. This allowed us to see with our own eyes the World Series, the Masters, the Super Bowl, March Madness, the Stanley Cup and various other sporting events. We now have so many choices of those who can be our idols and our heroes. When they come to our town or city and even if we have to travel long distances, we can go see them in person. If we are lucky, we may even get to meet them up close and personal

with a handshake or a hug. We can buy their CDs, tapes, books, videos, and hang their pictures on our walls. That's the choice and the right we have as free Americans. What I'm saying here may not make any difference to you at all, but I just wanted to make you aware that many people are in danger of an unhealthy obsession with some celebrity and the pitfalls that may result. Personally, I admire many people and respect many others, but I am not obsessed and do not worship any of them. Here is the real question. Is this celebrity a good role model for young people? If they are not, I will not support them or their career. Young people are the future of our country and they need good role models and celebrities they can look up to. *Jim Davidson is a motivational speaker and syndicated columnist. You may contact him at 2 Bentley Drive, Conway, AR 72034.*

Women

meantime, if they needed to go to the doctor or get to the grocery store, I would take them. That's what I loved so much about that job, visiting people and helping them. I really enjoyed those four years." Taking her knowledge of home economics and nutrition, Ruby has been active for many years in the General Federation of Women's Clubs, an international organization, serving in many roles in their Kentucky chapter. Currently, Ruby is serving as chairperson of Conservation Resources for the Kentucky Federation of Women's Clubs, helping to organize activities and keep track of the records of local records statewide. "Why, it keeps me busy," she said, "very busy." Among the activities of the women's club, Ruby has helped oversee an annual horse show for the past 35 years, art contests in local community schools and the granting of annual scholarship monies to local students. Currently, she is helping to raise funds for the club through the promotion of a club cookbook, "The East Kentucky Hospitality II Cookbook." "I love the recipes in this book," she said. "There's a recipe for a breakfast casserole that you prepare ahead of time the night before and then let sit in the refrigerator all night. Then, all you have to do the next morning is get up and pop it in the oven. It's so good, too. A complete meal in itself."

"Almost better than the recipes, though," she said, "is the food history included. There's a whole history on how people used to cook and why. And a complete section on common folk beliefs. Anyone that likes to read will enjoy this book." Ruby is also active in service with the Floyd County Conservation District, serving as vice-chairperson of their board, as well as supervisor. Ruby also enjoys travel, remaining committed to "getting out" as much as she can. She enjoys telling of the adventures she had, some years ago, when she volunteered to take an elderly Floyd County woman to California, to visit her son - not once, but twice - and by automobile. "She was in her 70's," she says of her traveling companion. "I was young then and I had a new car. Why, I didn't think anything of taking off for California and I told her I would take her. We had a good time, no complaints about anything, except for this one time when we had a blow-out in Nevada. A man stopped to help us on the road and he told us what gas station to go to after we got back on the road and of a little restaurant across the street from the service station. So, while the car was being worked on, we went to eat lunch at the restaurant. Well, we walked in and, honey, it was a casino! Why, people were playing blackjack and poker and there were slot machines all over the place. The restaurant was in the

back of the building. Well, we walked back there, sat down and had just a real good lunch. The food was really good...on the way out, I asked Hattie (Patton) if she enjoyed her lunch. "Right away and real quick, she said, 'No.' Just like that, 'no.' I didn't know what to think because the food had been real good. I asked her, 'Well, what was wrong?' She told me, 'Well, I couldn't enjoy my food for thinking the whole time about how I'd feel if the Lord was to come back and find us sittin' in a place like that.' "I said, 'Well, Hat, we wasn't doing anything wrong, we were just eating!' "Funniest thing ever was," she finished. "I've had a good life," Ruby said, "Lots of memories and so many nieces and nephews and cousins and, why, just people everywhere that are so good to me. They bring me lots of presents and I keep every single thing that anyone gives to me. I put it out where I can enjoy it, whatever it is." Floyd County's own - Ruby Akers. Living life and loving every minute of it.

Editor's Note: The Eastern Kentucky Hospitality II Cookbook may be purchased at Messer's Department Store, in Martin, from any KFCW member, and at selected locations throughout the area, for \$20.

Continued from p5

Lagoon

determined to catch the killer. His obsession is tied to the first victim of the mad man, a girl he was supposed to marry. The audience learns via flashback that the killer knew the cop's fiancé and felt that she rejected him by getting engaged to the cop. This is more than the detective knows and it is a clever device that gives the audience a link to the madman. The film also veers off to follow a young lady named Amy who is scheduled to get married in a week. It is no surprise that our killer soon shows up and begins stalking her. When he kills the owner of a bridal shop after Amy gets a fitting, the murder brings our detective to town. Now he must find out which bride is next on the list, but all he knows is she is in the city somewhere. Meanwhile Amy keeps catching

glimpses of a man following her but her fiancé is out of town. Her ex sees this as the perfect opportunity to win her back but nobody really believes her and all assume that she just has the pre-wedding jitters. The conclusion finds all of these characters winding up at the morgue, where they finally get the chance to compare notes, but the killer is on the site, too, and he has escalated to killing anybody who gets in his way. This film manages to put together all of the elements of a slasher film but goes the formula one better by offering a plausible scenario that Alfred Hitchcock would have had a field day with. The final scene is a shocker that manages to offer a plausible reason why there will be more killings for a sequel that never materialized. The director has fun with the

genre and still manages to follow its rules. The cast is also up to the task with fine performances by mostly unknown stage actors from the New York area. The film also boasts the first screen appearance by Tom Hanks, who drops in as a psychology student with a mess of theories about how Freud would see Amy's stalker as an expression of her fear of marriage. He's only on screen for about 10 minutes but does a fine job and demonstrates a flair for comedy in his brief appearance. Director Armand Mastroianni would return with several more thrillers ("The Killing Hour" and the Civil War zombie pic "The Supernaturals") but this one, his first, is still his best. Best line: "How about the time he beat me up and took my yo-yo?" 1981, rated R.

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This Town

time when I made a great show of being one, driving off, pell-mell, 200 miles cross-country, invariably accompanied by a young tempest, to fish the big lakes; or braving the worst weathers here at home. But now I am nothing more than a casual follower of the sport. These days, even a little chest cold will deter me. I have stopped consulting the barometer to see if

fishing conditions are right; instead, have taken to trying gauge wind, weather and a lot of other things that afford excuses. A sunny afternoon, with time on my hands, no longer sends me pacing the house like a caged tiger; I can miss those delectable hours now without feeling that some of the best of life is slipping past, and is gone forever. Here it is April 1, and not a line

have I dampened. That hasn't happened before, man and boy, in thutty year. I've even taken to staying home on the strength of weather forecasts, which I know are as spurious as a Russian promise. But shed no tears for me. Wait till I do go fishing. Then let your sympathy flow unrestrained.

Continued from p5

Click and Clack Talk Cars

TOM & RAY STAND BY THEIR WORDS ON SUV ADVERTISEMENTS

by TOM and RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray: I've enjoyed both your radio show and your columns, until I read today's criticisms of sport utility vehicles. I understand your position that most people don't need them, and I agree that some people drive them recklessly, but to suggest that accident victims or their families sue the manufacturer is totally irresponsible. Almost any product can be used inappropriately. McDonald's says its hamburgers are good, but eaten exclusively or in inappropriate amounts, they'll make you fat. The answer is not to sue McDonald's; the answer is to be responsible for your own actions. The same logic applies to SUV drivers. There are pages of cautions in the owner's manuals about how to drive the vehicles. Many of the cautions should be obvious, but the manufacturers are forced to put the obvious in the manuals as a defense against people like you. You are welcome to your opinions, and you are fortunate enough to have a forum in which to air them, but you should use good judgment in expressing them. To suggest that manufacturers be sued for the irresponsible actions of their customers only invites frivolous lawsuits that will drive up the cost of automobiles for all of us. You should be ashamed. — Kenneth RAY: We're not that good at "a s h a m e d," Kenneth. It's something we should probably work on.



TOM: We got a lot of hate mail about this, Kenneth, but we're going to stand by our comments. You are absolutely right that there's a personal-responsibility component when a moron drives his SUV at 70 mph in a snowstorm and takes out a family of four when he spins into a ditch. But we think the manufacturer, through its advertising agency, bears some responsibility, too. RAY: Television is absolutely plastered these days with video of SUVs barreling through snowdrifts at high speeds — throwing snow in all directions as they move unstopably through arctic conditions. The message is clear: If you buy our vehicle, you'll be able to drive like this. TOM: And so when someone DOES drive like that, is he entirely at fault for the results? Isn't the manufacturer also responsible for telling the guy that his vehicle is designed to be driven that way — even when it's not safe to do so? RAY: If McDonald's ran advertisements that said, "Eating nothing but McDonald's day and night is good for you," wouldn't you hold McDonald's at least partially responsible for the health of people who followed that advice — and then had to buy SUVs because they couldn't fit into normal cars anymore? TOM: And hamburgers are easier to understand than SUV handling. Most people know that if you eat nothing but Big Macs, you're going to wind up in stretch pants 30 days from now. But most people DON'T know what the limit of an SUV is. It's complicated technology. So, people take their cues from the images provided by the manufacturer. RAY: They don't know that on snow, once you exceed the limit of the tires' grip, it doesn't matter if you have eight-

wheel drive — you're going off the road, and taking with you whoever is in your path. TOM: So, we're all for personal responsibility. But it's our opinion that a number of manufacturers are deliberately misleading people. They're suggesting through their ads that SUVs can overcome the basic laws of physics — and they can't. RAY: Since people are dying as a result, we feel that these irresponsible ads — and their misleading messages — need to be stopped. And in America, like it or not, a successful lawsuit — which hits companies in the pocketbook — is the fastest way to stop irresponsible corporate behavior.

Finding the perfect car for a pizza-delivery guy

Dear Tom and Ray: I recently left a career as a pizza-delivery driver to work for an architectural photographer. It involved changing cities and giving up what little social life I had. In short, I'm rethinking the decision, and thinking about going back to the pizza business. My question for you folks is this: The vehicle I bought for my new job is much too nice to use for delivering pizzas. It is a 2003 VW GTI VR6 (vroom vroom). Plus, I won't be able to afford the payments on the pizza salary. So, if I'm going to return to the night shift at my old job, I'm going to need a cheap car that gets reasonable gas mileage (low 20s to high teens is OK) and is relatively easy to work on. I can spend about \$5,000, and I'm

pretty handy with a wrench. I was thinking about a Toyota, because I hear they are very reliable. Any help you can offer would be appreciated, and if you're ever in Gainesville, Fla., and get hungry, give Five Star a call and tell them Bo sent you. — Bo TOM: What happened, Bo? Not as many women answering the door in their nightgowns in the architectural-photography business? RAY: You definitely need something much more pathetic-looking if you want any chance of getting decent tips. If the pizza-delivery guy is driving a nicer car than the guy who's buying the pizza, you're going to have tough time getting sympathy. TOM: You certainly could buy a Toyota Corolla. They're easy to find, reliable and economical. And you can probably get a 5- or 6-year-old one for \$5,000. You really can't go wrong with one of those, and it meets all of your requirements. RAY: But why not really go for the sympathy, Bo? I see you in a 1987 Hyundai Excel, blue smoke belching out the back from bad rings ... one headlight working. TOM: Plus, it's got vinyl seats, so you can just wipe up the melted mozzarella and spilled tomato sauce. Try doing that with your beautiful Toyota velour! Good luck, Bo.

What is the most cost-effective way to buy a car? Tom and Ray hash it all out in their pamphlet "Should I Buy, Lease, or Steal My Next Car?" Send \$4.50 (check or money order) to Next Car, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk Web site at www.cartalk.com.

Choose Health Choose Healthful Foods PSA American Heart Association. Fighting Heart Disease and Stroke

The Floyd County Times Classifieds

Classified Rates: for 20 words or less
Sunday, Wednesday, Friday, only \$12.00
Sunday, Wednesday, Friday & Shopper \$13.00
 An additional charge of .25 per word for every word over 20
Classified Manager: Jessica Luman, ext. #19

DEADLINES:

- **Wednesday Paper, Noon Mon.**
- **Friday Paper and Shopper, Wed. 5 p.m.**
- **Sunday Paper, Thurs. 5 p.m.**

CONTACT US AT: (606) 886-8506

Send Us Your Ad
(606) 886-3603
 24 HOURS

100 - AUTOMOTIVE

- 110 - Agriculture
- 115 - ATVs
- 120 - Boats
- 130 - Cars
- 140 - 4x4's
- 150 - Miscellaneous
- 160 - Motorcycles
- 170 - Parts
- 175 - SUV's
- 180 - Trucks
- 190 - Vans

- 210 - Job Listings
- 220 - Help Wanted
- 230 - Information
- 250 - Miscellaneous
- 260 - Part Time
- 270 - Sales
- 280 - Services
- 290 - Work Wanted

300 - FINANCIAL

- 310 - Business Opportunity
- 330 - For Sale

- 350 - Miscellaneous
- 380 - Money To Lend
- 380 - Services

400 - MERCHANDISE

- 410 - Animals
- 420 - Appliances
- 440 - Electronics
- 445 - Furniture
- 450 - Lawn & Garden
- 460 - Yard Sale
- 470 - Health & Beauty
- 475 - Household

- 480 - Miscellaneous
- 490 - Recreation
- 495 - Wanted To Buy

500 - REAL ESTATE

- 505 - Business
- 510 - Commercial Property
- 530 - Homes
- 550 - Land/Lots
- 570 - Mobile Homes
- 580 - Miscellaneous

- 590 - Sale or Lease

600 - RENTALS

- 610 - Apartments
- 620 - Storage/Office Space
- 630 - Houses
- 640 - Land/Lots
- 650 - Mobile Homes
- 660 - Miscellaneous
- 670 - Commercial Property

- 690 - Wanted To Rent

700 - SERVICES

- 705 - Construction
- 710 - Educational
- 713 - Child Care
- 715 - Electrician
- 720 - Health & Beauty
- 730 - Lawn & Garden
- 735 - Legal
- 740 - Masonry
- 745 - Miscellaneous

- 750 - Mobile Home Movers
- 755 - Office
- 760 - Plumbing
- 765 - Professionals
- 770 - Repair/Service
- 780 - Timber
- 790 - Travel

- 830 - Miscellaneous
- 850 - Personals
- 870 - Services
- 890 - Legals

800 - NOTICES

- 805 - Announcements
- 810 - Auctions
- 815 - Lost & Found

The FLOYD COUNTY TIMES does not knowingly accept false or misleading advertisements. Ads which request or require advance payment of fees for services or products should be scrutinized carefully.

AUTOMOTIVE

130-Cars

Hicks Auto Sales
 David Road
 1998 Toyota Camry, 96K Miles, Loaded, \$5,995. 1999 Toyota Corolla, Auto, CD, 80K Miles, \$4,595. 1998 S 10 Extra Cab, \$3,995. Call 886-2842

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

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

FOR SALE: 1988 Pontiac Bonneville, no title, good for parts. \$600 obo. Call 874-4094.

140-4x4's

FOR SALE: Honda '93 Fourwheeler. Honda '97 300 Fourwheel drive. Looks good and runs good. Call 886-0875.

150-Miscellaneous

GRAVELY TRACTOR FOR SALE, electric starter & plow. Call 358-3416

160-Motorcycles

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

180-Trucks

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

EMPLOYMENT

When responding to Employment ads that have reference numbers, please indicate that entire reference number on the outside of your envelope. Reference numbers are used to help us direct your letter to the correct individual.

205-Business Oppt.

SALE PROFESSIONALS 3K-5K WEEKLY, FIRST YEAR POTENTIAL. CALL 1-800-294-8654 (EX:9477)

210-Job Listing

SALESPERSON NEEDED, Must Have Sales Experience. Call for Appointment between 8-5 Mon-Fri, Overhead Door of East KY. 478-3000

ALLEN TO HAROLD AREA- PRESTONSBURG AREA
 The Lexington Herald-Leader has 2 morning paper routes available in the Floy Co. area. Routes take about 2-3 hours daily with an approximate profit potential of \$800-\$1,000 monthly. Dependable transportation and ability to be bonded required. Call 1-800-74-7355 (EXT 3368)

OUTSIDE SALES- Retail, restaurant or prior sales required. \$28-\$30 + package. Fax 304-529-3391 or kpwz@hotmail.com

EXCELLENT INCOME-National Capitol Funding Group Now Hiring Court House Researchers. Will Train to Work From Home Using Your Computer, No Experience Necessary. Call 1-800-440-7234

WELDING POSITIONS AVAILABLE, call between 8am-5pm M-F for an appointment to fill out application. Call 285-9358

Prestonsburg Health Care Center has an opening for Full Time C.N.A.'s. We offer competitive wages and excellent benefits. If interested please send a resume to 147 N. Highland Ave., Prestonsburg, KY, 41653 (behind Prestonsburg Elem.) or call 886-2378

220-Help Wanted

NEEDED-Truck Driver, must have CDL and Maintenance Men. Call 478-9501

WORKERS NEEDED-Laborers with CDL License Needed. Contact Mary at Star Construction, 874-1263

OIL FIELD COMPANY

has openings for hard working responsible drivers. Must be of age 21 or older. Must have CDL with HAZ-MAT and tanker endorsements, good driving record and some mechanical aptitude. Please apply in person at: Universal Well Services, Inc., 5252 Rt. 1428, Allen, KY 41601 606-874-3487, Accepting applications Mon. thru Fri. between the hours of 8am and 4pm.

TAKING APPLICATIONS for CDL Driver's, must be at least Class B. Apply in person at Waste Management, 200 Garth Hollow Rd., Martin, KY.

MEDICAL SECRETARY Needed to work Mon.-Fri., 9:30-4:30, alternating between Prestonsburg and Martin Office, prefer some Secretarial and Billing Experience. Call 886-1714 or 285-9000

MERCHANDISE

410-Animals

RABBITS FOR SALE. Mini Rex & Holland Lops, 6 weeks old. Call after 4pm or leave message. 377-9290

FULL STOCK WOLF PUPPIES For Sale, 6 Weeks Old \$300, Call 859-806-2188

445-Furniture

Solid Wood Office Desk For Sale. Call 789-6320 or 367-1506

RAY'S BARGAIN CENTER

New & Used Furniture & Appliances @ unbelievable prices. Come in today for incredible savings. Shop At The Little Furniture Store & Save!! Route. #122, McDowell. Call 606-377-0143.

470-Health & Beauty

WOLFF TANNING BEDS

Financing available, Free delivery & set up within 75 miles of London, KY. Bulbs, Parts, Lotions at Wholesale Prices. Call 888-554-0058

475-Household

MARCH MADNESS SALE!

All Instock Carpet, Vinyl, Harwood & Ceramic Tile on Sale While Supplies Last. Select Style & Color Plush Carpet In Stock Starting at \$10.95 per yard installed with Pad. Select Style & Color Berber Carpet In Stock Starting at \$12.95 per yard installed with Pad. Select Style & Color Vinyl Floor In Stock Covering Starting at \$10.95 per sq. ft., Cash & Carry. Porcelain Tile Starting at \$1.99 per sq. ft., Cash & Carry.

REAL ESTATE

505-Business

Kay's Wallpaper 205 Depot Road Paintsville, Ky. Hundreds of Patterns of Wallpaper & Borders. All under \$10.00. Open Tues - Fri. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sat. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Closed Sun. & Mon. 606-789-8584.

SMALL BUSINESS FOR SALE. Grocery, Deli, Carryout & Tanning. Great Investment Opportunity, Located at Banner, KY. Serious Inquires Only. Call During Business Hours 9am-7pm 606-874-9190

550-Land/Lots

2 Lots For Sale on Stonecrest Golf Course. Approximately 3 1/3 Acres each. Call 886-3313

1 1/2 Acre Lot For Sale, Level House Seat, Hunters Branch Rd., Martin, KY, \$11,000 Call 763-566-4025

480-Miscellaneous

STEEL BUILDINGS-Final Clearance All Must Go. Repo's, Damaged, Cancellations! Use Your Tax Returns to build your dream building. Call 800-405-7501 ext. 1558.

FOR SALE: House

Furniture, Washer & Dryer, Miscellaneous Yard & Farm Equipment. Grocery Store Furnishings also will Rent House and Grocery Store in Pippa Passas. Call 270-358-8837.

For Sale: 8 ft refrigerated deli case, \$1000, small pizza oven, \$400, small juice cooler, \$150, washer & dryer, \$150 pair. Call 606-886-2367.

For Sale: 8 ft deli cooler, \$950 and Gas convection oven, \$450. Call 606-886-2367.

Adult Education Teacher Opening

Job Description: Teach (part-time) students age 16 and up basic education, reading, math, GED prep., college prep, parenting, job skills, etc., at various locations throughout Floyd County.
Requirements: 4-year College Degree. Teacher Certification and experience preferred.
 Send cover letter, resumé, and references to The David School, PO Box 1, David, KY 41616. Qualified applicants will be contacted for interviews.

MEDICAL POSITION REGISTERED NURSE

Day Shift and On-Call Positions Available

Hospice neither helps nor hinders death Which is a part of living. Would you like to help someone to Live their last days as pain free As possible and offer support to the family? We believe that people should live as They wish and try to enjoy their time

Registered Nurse, practice your medical skills as you have never practiced them before,

Join the caring team at Hospice of Big Sandy.

Call for an interview at 606-789-3841 Office located at 1420 Ky. Hwy. 1428 Hager Hill, Ky. 41222

Classifieds Work!

Carl D. Perkins Job Corps Center
 has an opening for a
Career Development Services Director
Education and Experience Requirements:
 Bachelor's degree in education with five years of related experience, three of which must be in supervisory capacity.
Responsibilities:
 Responsible for Career Preparation Services, Career Readiness and Transition Services.
 Competitive benefits package including Medical, Dental, Sick Leave, Paid Vacation, Tuition Reimbursement, Paid Holidays and 401-K
 Qualified candidates should submit resumé to:
 Human Resources Department
 Carl D. Perkins Job Corps
 478 Meadows Branch
 Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653
 Fax: (606) 886-6073
 Equal Opportunity Employer
 M/F/V/D

Carl D. Perkins Job Corps Center
 has an opening for a
Career Transition Specialist
Education and Experience Requirements:
 Bachelor's degree, three years experience in Counseling, Human Resources or Social Service
Responsibilities:
 Developing Career Employment Opportunities and Coordinates Placement/Career Transition Services for Program Participation.
 Competitive benefits package including Medical, Dental, Paid Sick Leave, Paid Vacation, Paid Holidays, Tuition Reimbursement, and 401-K Retirement
 Qualified candidates should submit resumé to:
 Human Resources Department
 Carl D. Perkins Job Corps
 478 Meadows Branch
 Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653
 Fax: (606) 886-6073
 Equal Opportunity Employer
 M/F/V/D

PREMIER ELKHORN COAL COMPANY
JOB FAIR
Monday, March 21, 2005
 Now is your opportunity to work for one of the leading coal companies in Eastern Kentucky! Premier Elkhorn Coal Company — a subsidiary of TECO Coal Corporation is seeking experienced applicants for underground coal mining jobs in Pike and Letcher Counties. Positions are available on all shifts for section supervisors, continuous miner, roof bolter, ram car, and scoop operators, electricians, repairmen, beltmen, and general inside laborers. MET/EMT, Foreman certifications and electrical certifications are a plus.
 Competitive wages and benefits include:
 • Excellent Medical Plan
 • Dental, Vision, and Prescription Coverage
 • Up to 3 weeks paid Vacation
 • Nine paid Holidays
 • Four paid Personal Days
 • Company paid Basic Life insurance plus Supplemental Life Options
 • Long Term Care Insurance
 • Short and Long Term disability benefits
 • 401(k) Savings Plan with company match
 • Company funded Retirement Plan with Retiree Medical and Life Insurance
 • Employee Assistance Program
 • Safety Bonuses
 Qualified persons should apply during the Job Fair at the Department of Employment Services, 138 College St., Pikeville, KY, Monday, March 21 (8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.)
 Premier Elkhorn Coal Company subscribes to a drug free work environment and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

570-Mobile Homes
NEW 3 BR, 2 BATH SECTIONAL HOME. Heat pump, skirting, w/d, zone 3 insulation, glamour bath, dishwasher. Less than \$289 per month. Call 800-405-5274. (WAC)

LIKE NEW 16X74 NORRIS. Vinyl & Shingles, Whirlpool Tub, W/D, C/A, skirting, SBS, dishwasher.

Your ad could be here!

ARH
 Appalachian Regional Healthcare
 The Medical Centers of the Mountains
NURSING OPPORTUNITIES
 ARH Home Health Services
 Hazard, KY
STAFF NURSES
 Appalachian Regional Healthcare is accepting resumes for Registered Nurse positions available with the not-for-profit healthcare system's Home Health Services in Hazard, KY. Positions are also available in McDowell, KY.
 Requirements include graduation from an accredited school of nursing, unrestricted Kentucky Registered Nurse licensure, valid driver's license and at least two years of nursing experience. As an ARH Home Health nurse, you will practice your chosen profession as a member of a multidisciplinary team assisting with the preparation of and interpretation of the client's plan of care, systemic client assessments/reassessments with appropriate interpretation of the findings and performance of nursing treatments, procedures and total client care in accordance with established agency and nursing care standards.
 These are full time day shift positions (8:00 am. - 4:30 p.m.) with minimal weekends; an average of 5 patients per day; automated documentation; mileage reimbursement at the rate of 40.5 cents per mile; and stand-by or call is minimal including hourly pay even if visit is not required.
HOME HEALTH NURSE CASE MANAGER (OASIS/QUALITY COORDINATOR)
 This nurse management position is accountable for evaluating admission, Resumption of Care and 60 day recertification OASIS data and analysis to ensure consistent documentation and evidence-based practice; to assure compliance with federal and state regulatory accrediting agencies; to ensure optimal quality, clinical and cost outcomes, and to assist in coordinating services and resources needed by the patient by assuming a leadership role with the multidisciplinary team.
 ARH offers a very attractive salary based on education and experience and benefits include very low cost single or family plan health insurance coverage; 3 weeks paid vacation and 9 paid holidays annually; sick leave allotment; life insurance at group rates; Tax Sheltered Annuity programs; non-contributory retirement plan, etc.
 Please submit resume to or contact: Lana Smith, ARH Director of Home Health, ARH Division of Home Services, 100 Airport Gardens Road, Hazard, KY 41701; e-mail: lsmith@arh.org Telephone: 606-439-6955; or contact: Marilyn Hamblin, System Professional Recruiter at 1-800-888-7045, Ext. 532; e-mail: mhamblin@arh.org EOE
 www.arh.org

ARH
 Appalachian Regional Healthcare
 The Medical Centers of the Mountains
STAFF REGISTERED NURSES
 Hazard ARH Home Health Agency
 Hazard, KY
 Appalachian Regional Healthcare is accepting resumes for Registered Nurse positions available with the not-for-profit healthcare system's Home Health Services in Hazard, Kentucky.
 Requirements include graduation from an accredited school of nursing, unrestricted Kentucky Registered Nurse licensure, valid driver's license and at least two years of nursing experience. As an ARH Home Health nurse, you will practice your chosen profession as a member of a multidisciplinary team assisting with the preparation of and interpretation of the client's plan of care, systemic client assessments/reassessments with appropriate interpretation of the findings and performance of nursing treatments, procedures and total client care in accordance with established agency and nursing care standards.
 These are full time day shift positions (8:00 am. - 4:30 p.m.) with minimal weekends; an average of 5 patients per day; automated documentation; mileage reimbursement at the rate of 40.5 cents per mile; and stand-by or call is minimal including hourly pay even if visit is not required.
 ARH offers a very attractive salary based on education and experience and benefits include:
 • Very low cost single or family plan health insurance coverage
 • 3 weeks paid vacation and 9 paid holidays annually
 • Sick leave allotment
 • Life insurance at group rates
 • Tax Sheltered Annuity programs
 • Non-contributory retirement plan
 Please submit resume to or contact: Lana Smith, ARH Director of Home Health, ARH Division of Home Services, 100 Airport Gardens Road, Hazard, KY 41701; e-mail: lsmith@arh.org Telephone: 606-439-6955; or contact: Marilyn Hamblin, System Professional Recruiter at 1-800-888-7045, Ext. 532; e-mail: mhamblin@arh.org EOE
 www.arh.org

Final clearance 2004 lot models and 2005 models now available! If you are serious about purchasing a new home you need to be with experienced staff to get the right home at a great price. The Home Show-South William son, Inc. US 119, Belfry, Ky. 41514 606-353-6444 or toll free 877-353-6444

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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

RENTALS

610-Apartments
DUPLEX FOR RENT: 2 BR Central Heat & Air, Total Electric, Excellent Condition. On US 23 North, 1 Mile From Prestonsburg, No Pets. Call 889-9747 or 886-9007

RENOVATED APARTMENT'S, Like New, Furnished in Downtown Martin. Call between 9am-5pm daily. 285-3025

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March Madness! First Month's Rent Free with Security Deposit Paid in Full! Through 3/31/05. Park Place Apartments in Prestonsburg, Elderly, Handicapped & Disabled Available for Immediate Occupancy. Rent 1 BR/\$309, 2 BR/\$345 Call 886-0039

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 RENT: 2 Office Suites, New Construction. 900 sq. ft. each. Ample Parking, Can be Combined for Total of 1,800 sq. ft. Convenient Location, New Office Behind Sav-A-Lot in Prestonsburg. Call 886-1515 for info.

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

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MEDICAL OFFICE FOR LEASE: Medical Office in McDowell directly adjacent to Post Office, Dollar Store, bank, pharmacy and shopping complex. 1250 sq. ft. with 3 exam rooms, 2 offices, waiting room, triage room, 2 bathrooms and accessories. Reasonable Lease rates. Ready for immediate occupancy. For further information or to view property please call 606-377-2006 or 606-377-1088 Monday thru Friday.

FOR RENT: 900 Sq. Ft. Office/Commercial Space located next to Reflections beauty salon, 3 quarter miles south of Martin on Rt. 122 across from the Garth Tech. School. Call 285-9112

630-Houses
HOUSE FOR RENT: 239 Francis Court, Prestonsburg. 2BR 2 Bath 1400 Sq. Ft., Suitable for office, small business or residence. Not suitable location for children or pets. \$500 per month + utilities. 886-8362

3 BR HOUSE FOR RENT. Utility Room, LR, DR, Built in Vacuum Cleaner, Heat Pump. Very Nice Home Located at Kite on State Rt. 7 Call 447-2200 or 438-6104

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

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

640-Land/Lots

TRAILER LOT FOR RENT on old U.S. 23 between Prestonsburg and Paintsville call 606-886-9007 or 889 9747

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

650-Mobile Homes

2 BR TRAILER, 1 Bath Located at Left Fork of Bull Creek. For More Info Call 874-2836

TRAILER FOR RENT: On Rt. 7 at Salt Lick, No Pets, \$250 per Month, Call 358-4524

TRAILER FOR RENT on the Left Fork of Abbott. Call 886-9479 or 886-9076

SMALL FURNISHED TRAILER For Rent Just Off Mtn. Pwy. on Old 114 Call 886-8724

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NOTICES

812-Free

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

900-Legals

INVITATION TO BID SALE OF '91 FORD EXPLORER
BIG SANDY COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE KENTUCKY COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM PRESTONS-

BURG, KENTUCKY
Sealed bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m. EST, Friday, April 8, 2005, at the Kentucky Community and Technical College System, Office of Facilities Management, 300 North Main St., Versailles, KY, for the purpose of the sale of a '91 Ford Explorer at Big Sandy Community & Technical College. Bid forms and other

information may be obtained by calling Ron Carter at 606/886-3863 ext. 6225, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The bid(s) will be awarded to the party offering the best and highest bid. All items sold "as-is." The Kentucky Community and Technical College System reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS IN THE FLOYD COUNTY TIMES CIRCULATION DEPT. ASSEMBLING NEWSPAPERS

Part-time: Day and night shifts

APPLY AT 263 S. CENTRAL AVE. No Phone Calls, Please!

Wildfire

Beware & Prepare

Prepare your home, family & community for survival.

- Keep flammable vegetation and leaves at least 30 feet away from your house.
- Keep dry grass and brush cut short.
- Clean roof and gutters of flammable materials and leaves.
- Have an evacuation plan ready.
- Remember backfiring is illegal.

In a wildland fire emergency, call 9-1-1, your local Fire Department, or your local Division of Forestry district office.



The Floyd County Board of Education is currently accepting proposals for Financial Audit Services for the contract period of July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2007. Proposals are subject to the terms and conditions of the Request For Proposal. Copies of this Request For Proposal may be obtained in the Finance Department at the address below, Monday through Friday, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., prior to the time and date specified for bid opening, or on the internet at http://www.floyd.k12.ky.us/Public_Notice.html

Proposals must be mailed or delivered to Matthew C. Wireman, Director of Finance/Treasurer/CIO, Floyd County Board of Education, 106 North Front Street, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. All envelopes must clearly be marked on the outside of the envelope, "FINANCIAL AUDIT PROPOSAL."

Proposals will be accepted until 1:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 23, 2005, Eastern Standard Time, and will be opened at 1:05 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, Wednesday, March 23, 2005. All proposals must be received by the time designated in the invitation, and none will be considered thereafter. The Board of Education cannot assume the responsibility for any delay as a result of failure of the mails to deliver bids on time. Proposals will be opened and read at the time and location stated above. Advertisements for this Request For Proposal are/have been in March 13th, 16th, and 18th editions of the Floyd County Times, and on the internet at http://www.floyd.k12.ky.us/Public_Notice.html

Proposals are scheduled to be awarded at the Regular board meeting, held at 6:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, March 28, 2005, at Adams Middle School, 2520 S. Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky.

The Floyd County Board of Education is currently accepting sealed bids for Bank Depository for the contract period of July 1, 2005, or the board approval date (whichever is later) through June 30, 2007. Sealed bids are subject to the terms and conditions of the invitation to bid. Copies of this invitation to bid may be obtained in the Finance Department at the address below, Monday through Friday, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., prior to the time and date specified for bid opening, or on the internet at http://www.floyd.k12.ky.us/Public_Notice.html

Bids must be mailed or delivered to Matthew C. Wireman, Director of Finance/Treasurer/CIO, Floyd County Board of Education, 106 North Front Street, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. All envelopes must clearly be marked on the outside of the envelope, "BID: BANK DEPOSITORY BID."

Bids will be accepted until 1:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 23, 2005, Eastern Standard Time, and will be opened at 1:05 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, Wednesday, March 23, 2005. All bids must be received by the time designated in the invitation, and none will be considered thereafter. The Board of Education cannot assume the responsibility for any delay as a result of failure of the mails to deliver bids on time. Bids will be opened and read at the time and location stated above. Advertisements for this invitation to bid are/have been in March 13th, 16th, and 18th editions of the Floyd County Times, and on the internet at http://www.floyd.k12.ky.us/Public_Notice.html

Bids are scheduled to be awarded at the board meeting, held at 6:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, March 28, 2005, at Adams Middle School, 2520 S. Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky.

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