

# The Times

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Volume 80, Issue 146 • 75 Cents



## HOOPS PREVIEW

— Section B

### briefs

## Son kills self after domestic

by JESSICA HALE  
STAFF WRITER

PIKEVILLE — A domestic violence incident between a mother and son has resulted in the death of a Pike County man.

Kentucky State Police post 9 received a call Wednesday at approximately 11:30 a.m. regarding a domestic violence assault that occurred in the Stone community of Pike County. The caller advised police that Ronnie Mullins, 51, had assaulted his mother Josephine Mullins at her residence and had fled the scene.

Trooper Jason McClellan responded to the scene and had the victim transported to the hospital to be treated for her injuries. Trooper McClellan then proceeded to Ronnie Mullins' residence located directly behind the home of the victim.

Upon approaching the residence, McClellan observed smoke coming from the trailer and contacted the Upper Pond Fire Department. Firefighters entered the residence and found Ronnie Mullins dead as a result of a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

An autopsy will be conducted by the State Medical Examiner in Frankfort.

### 2 DAY FORECAST

#### Today



High: 56 • Low: 25

#### Tomorrow



High: 45 • Low: 27

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

### inside

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# Tackett charged with murder

by ALEX SMITH  
STAFF WRITER

PRINTER — A 44-year-old Printer man was arrested Wednesday after an eight month investigation by Kentucky State

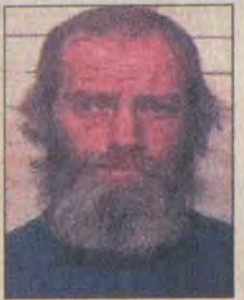
Police into the murder of a 56-year-old Tram woman.

Tony Ray Tackett was located outside of a Printer residence shortly after 9 a.m. and was arrested for the murder of Margaret Hall.

Tackett has also been charged with first-degree rape and first-degree unlawful imprisonment. He was arraigned Thursday morning and is currently being held in the Floyd County Detention Center on a

\$1,000,000 cash bond.

The remains of Margaret Hall were discovered April 1 off a strip-mine road near Big Branch at Harold. Hall had been reported missing March 30 and was last seen March 18.



Tony Ray Tackett

## ENVIRONMENTAL LESSON



photo by Jessica Hale

Students at May Valley Elementary spent part of Tuesday helping to beautify the campus for PRIDE Cleanup Day. Ms. Allen's first-grade students were enthusiastic about helping out. Several other schools throughout the county also participated.

# Caseworker, officer testify about sex abuse

by ALEX SMITH  
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A convicted sex offender accused of inappropriately touching two young girls while he was babysitting them in September had his case for sexual abuse sent to a Floyd County grand jury on Wednesday.

John Samuel Moore, 61, who was recently arrested in October for sex offender reg-

istry violations, had been serving time on home incarceration while the sex offender registry case is pending. He had been staying at his brother's home at the time of the alleged incident.

The case began when the Kentucky Department of Child Welfare received a complaint that a 10-year-old and a 12-year-old girl had been the victims of inappropriate sexual contact. Angela Nichols, a case worker who has worked on

cases of child abuse and neglect for the last three years interviewed both girls separately while they were at school the day the complaint was received and heard generally the same story from both girls.

The 10-year-old alleged that Moore touched her a few times in the genital area while she was fully clothed but did say she had changed her clothes in

(See ABUSE, page six)

# Cocaine case forwarded to grand jury

by ALEX SMITH  
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A former Prestonsburg Little League president and Adams Middle School basketball coach had his cocaine trafficking case sent to a Floyd County grand jury on Wednesday.

According to Trooper Brad Hamilton, of Kentucky State Police, Stephen Randy Gearheart, 46, swerved over the white line onto the shoulder while he was traveling east on Route 80 near Martin the afternoon of Sept. 17. Hamilton said when he witnessed the truck Gearheart was driving swerve over the line he pulled him over asked for his license and registration.

Gearheart explained to

Hamilton he had swerved off the road while he was reaching for his ringing cell phone.

During this exchange Hamilton said he thought he detected a slight smell of alcohol, so he gave Gearheart a breath test, which he passed, leading Hamilton to think he was under the influence of prescription pills. Further field sobriety tests were conducted, with him displaying trouble during the eye test and a slight imbalance while performing the one leg stand and the walk and turn test. When Hamilton's request to search Gearheart's vehicle was denied he said Gearheart's demeanor also changed dramatically, which he said was an immediate red flag.

(See COCAINE, page six)

# Grayson calls for changes in elections

by JOE BIESK  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — To streamline Kentucky's electoral process and ensure fair elections, state lawmakers should approve and fund early voting programs and equipment that would create paper trails, Secretary of State Trey Grayson said Tuesday.

Kentucky's general elec-

tion this month did not have any major problems, Grayson told a legislative elections panel. Voters, however, would have more confidence in the integrity of Kentucky elections and perhaps more would show up at the polls, Grayson said.

"We haven't had the problems here yet, at least

(See VOTING, page six)

# Display marks Little's final days as park director

by JESSICA HALE  
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A dazzling display of Christmas lights has brought people through Archer Park during the holiday season for nearly 20 years.

Although the tradition will likely continue for many years to come, a staple of the park will soon be leaving, but many agree his personal example of pride in his work throughout the years will leave a lasting impression.

Ralph Little has been overseeing Prestonsburg's Archer Park for almost 20 years and in that time he has worked tirelessly along with others to provide a Christmas lights dis-

play which many think is the most beautiful in the area. Before long, Little will be turning over the reins to someone else.

If you've had a chance to drive through the park after dark and admire the lights, you've probably noticed that nearly every structure in the park, with the exception of the playground equipment, is decorated with colorful lights. Obviously, the park's display attracts not only citizens in Prestonsburg, but also from surrounding communities.

Mayor Jerry Fannin agrees that the park has brought many to the area and expressed his appreciation for all the time and effort Little has put into

(See LITTLE, page six)



Archer Park's Christmas light display is attracting upwards of hundreds of visitors each night to admire the results of the hard work park employees have dedicated to the project this year.

photo by Jessica Hale

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## Obituaries

### Doris Anne Clark Hyden

Doris Anne Clark Hyden, age 76, of Prestonsburg, widow of Jesse Lee "Jack" Hyden, passed away Wednesday, November 29, 2006, at the Central Baptist Hospital, in Lexington.

She was born October 4, 1930, in Prestonsburg, the daughter of the late Curtis Clark and Judy Salisbury Clark. She was a retired elementary school teacher, a member of the First Baptist Church (Irene Cole Memorial), and a member of the retired teachers association.

Survivors include a son, Jack Clark (Rebecca) Hyden of Prestonsburg; a daughter, Judy Anne (Wayne) Combs of Prestonsburg; and six grandchildren: Warren D. Combs, Natalie Combs, Nikki Hyden, Jonathan Hyden, Heather Minix, and Austin Minix.

Funeral services for Doris Anne Clark Hyden will be conducted Saturday, December 2, at 1:00 p.m., at the First Baptist Church (Irene Cole Memorial), Prestonsburg, with Clergyman Jerry Workman and Arnold Turner Jr. officiating.

Burial will follow in the Hyden Cemetery, in Prestonsburg, under the professional care of the Hall Funeral Home, in Martin.

Visitation is from 5-9 p.m., Friday at Hall Funeral Home, and after noon on Saturday, at the Church.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the First Baptist Church (Irene Cole Memorial), Box 756, in Prestonsburg, or charity of choice. (Paid obituary)

### Barbara (Bobbie) Hurd

Barbara (Bobbie) Hurd, 66, of Prestonsburg, died Wednesday, November 29, 2006, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg.

Born July 29, 1940, in Majestic, she was the daughter of the late Cecil and Erma Oney Chaffins. She was a homemaker, and a member of the Town Branch Church.

Survivors include a son: James Flannery Jr., of Teaberry; two daughters: Cecilia Johnson of Melvin, and Cathy Hurd of Prestonsburg; six brothers: Richard C. Chaffins of Louisville, Jay B. Chaffins and Charles L. Chaffins, both of Dayton, Ohio, Albert R. Chaffins and Steve G. Chaffins, both of Prestonsburg, and Wallace C. Chaffins of Irvin; three sisters: Serena Streetman and Charolette Kidwell, both of Lexington, and Hazel Martin of Mansfield, Ohio; six grandchildren: Amber, Eleshia, Sandra Kay, Billy, Kelly, and J.R.; and a great-grandchild, Allison.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by four brothers: Milton Dee Chaffins, Earnest Ray Chaffins, Buster F. Chaffins, and Earnest Dale Chaffins.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, December 2, at 1 p.m., at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home in Martin, with Old Regular Baptist ministers officiating.

Burial will be in the Martin

Cemetery, in Wayland, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation, at the funeral home. (Paid obituary) [www.nelsonfrazierfuneralhome.com](http://www.nelsonfrazierfuneralhome.com)

□□□

### Clarisse Towslee

Memorial services were held for Clarisse Bailey Towslee on Saturday, November 18, at the Akers Cemetery, in Prater Creek.

Clarisse Towslee was born May 12, 1936, in Betsy Layne. She passed away October 14, 2006, at her home in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Gail E. Towslee of Columbus, Ohio; her parents George and Offie Bailey of Betsy Layne; her twin sister, Bernice Bailey; and a brother, Fred Bailey, of Betsy Layne.

Clarisse is survived by her companion, Sherman Craig; two children: Laura Hadfield and Michael Towslee of Madison, Indiana; two grandchildren: Joseph and Hailey; two brothers: Ishmael (Bonnie) Bailey of Harold, and Neil Bailey (Mary) of Prestonsburg; three sisters: Aquila Layne (Ronnie) and Deborah Bailey, both of Marion, Ohio, and Mona Mitchell (Tex) of Harold; a sister-in-law, Ronnie Sue Bailey of Lexington; and many nieces and nephews.

Clarisse's ashes were spread over her parents, and her twin sister's graves.

James Branham, an Old Regular minister held prayer at the cemetery. (Paid obituary)

### Geraldine Wright

Geraldine Wright, age 59, of Paintsville, died Wednesday, November 29, 2006, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg.

Born November 3, 1947, in Prestonsburg, she was a daughter of Emogene Baisden Whitt of Prestonsburg, and the late Frank Whitt. She was a homemaker, and a member of the Calvary Freewill Baptist Church, in Prestonsburg.

She is survived by her husband, Roy Dean Wright

Other survivors include a daughter and son-in-law: Angela and Brian Boyd of Prestonsburg; a son and daughter-in-law: Johnny Darrin and Rebecca Calhoun of Raleigh, North Carolina; two brothers: Franklin Whitt and Larry Michael Whitt, both of Prestonsburg; and two sisters: Christine Blair and Melissa Felty, both of Prestonsburg.

Funeral services will be held Friday, December 1, at 1 p.m., at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home in Martin, with Brother Shawn Blair officiating.

Burial will be in the Crider Family Cemetery, at Johns Creek, in Van Lear, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation, at the funeral home. (Paid obituary) [www.nelsonfrazierfuneralhome.com](http://www.nelsonfrazierfuneralhome.com)

**OPENING SERVICE**  
Sunday, Dec. 3, at 11 a.m.

Pastors Danny and Grace Curry  
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at our new location on US 23.

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### Faruque Ahmed, MD, DO General Surgeon

5230 Ky. Rt. 321, Suite 2  
Riverview Complex  
Prestonsburg, KY 41653  
Phone: 889-8895



Dr. Faruque Ahmed, General Surgeon, has joined the Medical Staff at Highlands Regional Medical Center and opened an office practice in Suite 2 of the Riverview Complex near the Medical Center. Dr. Ahmed is a graduate of the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine and served his Internship and Residency in General Surgery at St. John's Episcopal Hospital in Far Rockway, New York. As a General Surgeon, Dr. Ahmed will perform minor surgical procedures, laparoscopic procedures, and more complicated abdominal procedures.

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# For the Record

### Marriage Licenses

Leslie A. Harvill, 19, of Martin to Benjamin Samons, 19, of Martin.  
Linda Bernice Castro, 47, of Conway, Arkansas to Larry Donald Williams, 53, of Conway, Arkansas.

### Civil Suits Filed

Cash In Hand vs. Charles Centers; to collect debt  
Capital One Bank vs. Terry L. Williams; to collect debt  
Housing Authority of Martin vs. Christina Waller; to collect debt  
Dayton Hall vs. Timmy Hall; to collect debt  
Lowell Samons vs. Tilda Wakeland; eviction  
Asset Acceptance LLC vs. Brian K. Patton; to collect debt  
Capital One Bank vs. Floyd T. Compton; to collect debt  
Capital One Bank vs. Tony Kidd; to collect debt  
Capital One Bank vs. Jamilyn P. Willis; to collect debt  
Capital One Bank vs. Michael G. Wilson; to collect debt  
Judy Combs vs. Roger Blevins; compensatory and punitive damages  
Gwendolyn Justice vs. Aaron Derossett; compensatory and punitive damages  
Brandi Gamble vs. Jason W. Carroll; compensatory and punitive damages  
Patricia Francis vs. Shawn Francis; dissolution of marriage  
Pauline Bentley vs. Judy Parsons; verified petition and affidavits to declare results of Allen city elections void  
CS Collection Service vs. Billy J. Brown; to collect debt  
CS Collection Service vs. Alice Chaffins; to collect debt

### Small Claims Filings

Steven Jamie Moore vs. Jimmy Hall; to collect debt  
Housing Authority of Martin vs. Christina D. Wallen; to collect debt

### Charges Filed

Freddie H. Hunter, 46; theft services  
William Williams, 46; two counts first-degree possession of a controlled substance  
Freddie H. Hunter, 46; theft by unlawful taking  
Ella Renee Pennington, 34; second-degree assault, second-degree burglary  
Tina Huff, 28; public intoxication controlled substance, tampering with physical evidence  
Benjamin B. Akers, 21; theft by unlawful taking  
Latasha K. Tackett, 20; theft by unlawful taking

### Inspections

Billy Ray's, Prestonsburg, regular inspection. Violations noted: Lack of effective hair restraints, non food contact surfaces not properly maintained, operators not providing and using chemical test kits where chemical sanitization methods are employed, cloths used for wiping spills on food contact surfaces being used for other purposes. Score: 96  
Made From Scratch, Prestonsburg, regular inspection. Violations noted: Lack of accurate thermometers in all refrigeration and freezing units storing potentially hazardous

foods, lack of effective hair restraints, cloths used for wiping spills being used for other purposes, floors not in good repair. Score: 96

Prestonsburg Dairy, Prestonsburg, regular inspection. Violations noted: Food not protected during storage, lack of effective hair restraints, operators not providing and using chemical test kits where chemical sanitization methods are employed. Score: 96

Dollar General Store, Prestonsburg, regular inspection. Violations noted: Toilet room doors not self closing, toilet facility not in good repair, walls, ceiling, attached equipment not in good repair. Score: 97

El Azul Grande #4 Inc., Prestonsburg, regular inspection. Violations noted: Lack of accurate thermometers in all refrigeration and freezing units storing potentially hazardous foods, food not protected during storage, garbage and refuse containers not covered as required, floors not in good repair, employees personal

items not stored properly. Score: 93

Jerry's Restaurant, Prestonsburg, regular inspection. Violations noted: Lack of accurate thermometers in all refrigeration and freezing units storing potentially hazardous foods, food not protected during storage, lack of effective hair restraints, operators not providing and using chemical test kits where chemical sanitization methods are employed, floors not clean, walls, ceiling, attached equipment not in good repair, light fixtures not shielded as required, employees personal items not stored properly. Score: 91

Hometown IGA, Stanville, regular inspection. Violations noted: Foods from unapproved sources, lack of accurate thermometers in all refrigeration and freezing units storing potentially hazardous foods, garbage and refuse containers not covered as required, walls, ceiling, attached equipment not properly stored, over the counter medication expired. Score: 90

### Property Transfers

Darrell Akers to Leonard Jr. and Teresa Akers, property location undisclosed.  
Janet Akers to Leonard Jr. and Teresa Akers, property location undisclosed.  
Catherine Meade Baker to Bobby D. and Nikkila Adkins, property located at Toler Creek.  
Earl Baker to Bobby D. and Nikkila Adkins, property located at Toler Creek.  
Alta Fraley to Bill Fraley,

property located at Lancer.

Bill Fraley Attorney In Fact to Bill Fraley, property located at Lancer.

Gennell Hall to Rocky Boyd, property located at Prater Creek.

Kenny Hall to Rocky Boyd, property located at Prater Creek.

Lakin N. Hall to Teddy Hall, property location undisclosed.

Mary Hall to Donna G. and John Z. Bartrum, property

located at Goose Creek.

Ned Hall to Donna G. and John Z. Bartrum, property located at Goose Creek.

Brian Douglas Hamilton to John L. Hamilton, property location undisclosed.

Hamilton Industries LLC to Charlie Johnson Jr., property located at Whispering Oaks Subdivision.

Roger Harrington to Tracy Thornsberry, property located

(See RECORD, page seven)

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## HOLIDAY RENAISSANCE EVENTS

NEW MERCHANDISE !! NEW STORES !! NEW HOLIDAY DECORATIONS !!  
DOWNTOWN SHOPPING IS FUN AGAIN IN PRESTONSBURG !!

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1st

- \* Holiday Open House Weekend
- \* Extended Hours til 8:00pm
- \* Refreshments Served
- \* Special Holiday Events at Downtown Water Fountain (starts at 6:00pm!)
- \* Candlelight Processional
- \* Christmas Caroling
- \* Tree Lighting Ceremony

**SANTA CLAUS IS COMING !!**

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2nd

- \* Holiday Open House Weekend
- \* Extended Hours til 8:00pm
- \* Refreshments Served
- \* Holiday Retail Bingo
- \* No purchase necessary
- \* Visit the downtown stores & have a chance to win \$1000 in prizes!
- \* Meet & Greet with Santa ! (bring camera, located at Country at Heart, 1-5pm)

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3rd

- \* Holiday Open House Weekend
- \* Extended Hours 2:00 - 5:00pm
- \* Refreshments Served
- \* Last Chance to turn in Holiday Retail Bingo at stores (5:00pm)

Shop **SPF** Prestonsburg First!

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## ATTENTION,

All former Prestonsburg Community College Mountain Dew Festival Basketball Players!

You are invited to meet and welcome back former team coach, John Hanson, to a reunion visit, after 34 years.

John will be here in Prestonsburg December 1-2, 2006.

An OPRY Christmas show and a touring agenda has been set.

Call for details:

Fred James, 606-226-1160,  
Joe Porter, 606-789-3541, or  
Doug Kretzer, 606-478-9494

Also, inquire about next Spring's first ever Mountain Dew Festival PCC Reunion.



## Christ United Methodist Church

105 Methodist Lane, Allen, Kentucky

Annual

"The Hanging of The Greens Service"

Sunday,  
December 3, 2006  
at 6:00 p.m.

Kim Crisp, Coordinator





# Viewpoint

Worth Repeating ...

"Before God we are all equally wise — and equally foolish."

— Albert Einstein

**Amendment 1**

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people to peaceably assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

— Guest View —

## Editorial roundup

*Cape Cod Times, Barnstable, Mass., on global warming:* Two pieces of news on Monday — one on the local stage, the other international — are directly related.

In local news, Provincetown became the first on Cape Cod to endorse a national agreement among mayors to recognize the threat of global warming and advocate for less local use of fossil fuels.

In international news, the U.S. ranked 53 of 56 developed countries in efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The correlation between the two stories is that the poor U.S. ranking will not improve until more cities and towns follow Provincetown's action.

A grassroots effort to combat global warming is one of the most effective ways to convince Congress and the Bush administration that it must move toward adopting most, if not all, the standards of the 1997 Kyoto Protocol. ...

*The Dallas Morning News, on change in Congress:*

Did anybody on Capitol Hill notice that we just had an enormously consequential election?

And that voters said pretty clearly that they were sick and tired of Congress' corrupt ways?

From the looks of the congressional leadership balloting last week, you'd almost believe no one in Washington was listening.

The Republicans appeared the deafest. In the Senate, they elected Mississippi's Trent Lott as their No. 2, owing (some GOP senators said later) to his skills as a legislative tactician.

Forget for now the PR unwisdom of returning Ol' Strom's "podna" to leadership. Why is Mr. Lott such a staunch opponent of reforming "earmarking," the process through which legislators quietly fund pet projects? Because he's a pork procurer so ravenous that he puts Jimmy Dean to shame.

... Perhaps the House GOP is counting on Democratic bungling to return them to power. At the rate Speaker-elect Nancy Pelosi is going, they might have a shot. ...

*The Star-Ledger, Newark, N.J., on the Part D Medicare drug program:*

The law that created the Part D Medicare drug program has an onerous clause barring the federal government from negotiating directly with drug makers to get the best price for prescriptions.

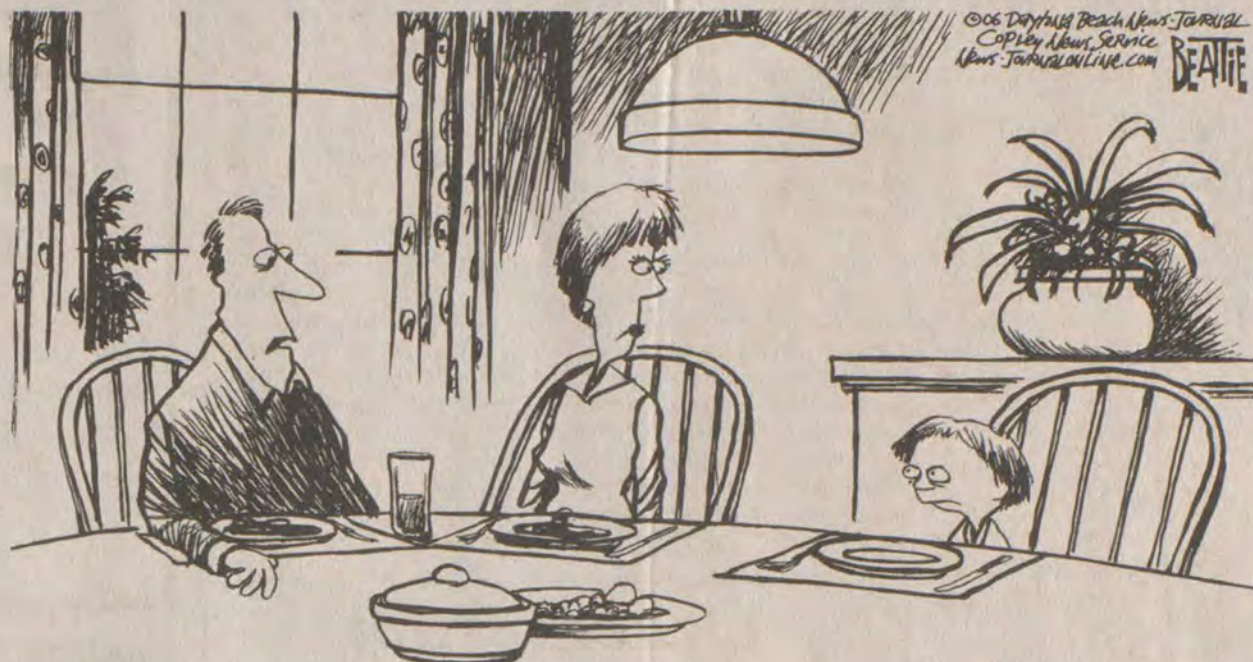
The Democratic leadership in Washington has promised to yank that prohibition in the first 100 hours of the new Congress.

We agree the arrogant clause must go. Government negotiation is not a violation of free-market principles, as President Bush and like-minded Republicans claim. Rather, using the bargaining power of 38 million Part D enrollees epitomizes the free-market philosophy that the biggest customer should get the best deal.

... The biggest hurdle for a Congress set on changing Part D is the Bush administration. The president is likely to veto any attempts at change. Even if Congress could override a veto, Bush and Human Services Secretary Michael Leavitt would have to implement those changes. Leavitt has said he does not want the power to negotiate Part D prices.

We, too, would rather he did not have it.

That power should be in the hands of someone who is not predisposed to make it fail — and that will take more than a change of Congress. It will take a change of administration.



"If James Baker can get President Bush to talk to the evildoers, we should be able to make him eat brussels sprouts."

— Guest Column —

### 'Moral values' turned out to be straw

by REV. TIMOTHY McDONALD  
MINUTEMAN MEDIA

The outpouring of unseemly and unchristian lies and distortions from the nation's self-proclaimed moral leaders that appeared in the days before the November 7 election was truly amazing. I'm no stranger to hardball politics, and as a minister of the Gospel with my own strong political opinions, I'd be the last to argue against anyone's right to be in the fray.

But I cannot bear to let go unnoticed that many of the candidates who were most closely associated with the Religious Right, those who proclaimed themselves the candidates of "values voters," abandoned the values of honesty and decency in the closing days of their campaigns.

A few examples among many: Ohio gubernatorial candidate Kenneth Blackwell — favored by the so-called "Patriot Pastors" — accused his opponent, a decent, humane man who served in Congress and as a United Methodist minister, of supporting sex between adults and children.

Senator Rick Santorum, declared by archconservative leader Paul Weyrich to be the most important senator in America at the recent "values voter summit," accused his opponent, a popular state treasurer, of aiding and abetting terrorism and genocide.

Virginia Senator George Allen, who will forever be known for his

ugly mocking of a young person of color to a chuckling all-white audience, attacked his opponent, a respected author whose military-themed novels have been praised by George Will and John McCain, by calling a few out-of-context quotes "obscene."

Colorado State Representative Dave Schultheis, a "traditional values" candidate, responded to news of a tragic car accident, which killed three children, not by sending condolences but by demanding to know the immigration status of the family involved. Presumably, Schultheis chose to focus on that particular accident because the driver had a Hispanic surname, and Schultheis was making a name for himself as a tough guy on immigration. (The children's parents turned out to be a citizen and a legal resident.)

It wasn't just the politicians. The American Family Association was so desperate to energize conservative Christian voters that it told its members that if Democrats won, they should expect attempts to make "polygamy legal in all 50 states."

And anyone who read the papers or watched television before the election could provide more examples of this unbecoming behavior.

The sad parade of smears and outright lies by those supposedly working on behalf of the Lord made me think of one of the most telling things I have ever read about George W. Bush and his political strategists.

After John McCain won the New Hampshire primary in 2000 and threatened to upset the carefully choreographed coronation of Mr. Bush as the Republican presidential candidate, GOP strategists went to work in South Carolina. They orchestrated a malicious campaign of phone calls and flyers whispering about ille-

gitimate mixed-race children, mental instability, and other falsehoods.

George W. Bush, the president who is so eager to wear his Jesus-changed heart on his sleeve, responded to a righteously angry McCain with the dismissive comment, "It's only politics." Mr. Bush and Karl Rove aren't the first or last politicians to adopt an ends-justify-the-means approach to winning elections, but there's a glaring disconnect between their proclaimed commitment to truth and biblical values and their willingness to shuck it all aside if it means getting enough votes to hang onto power.

But you won't hear Focus on the Family's James Dobson or the Family Research Council's Tony Perkins talking about that. They're too busy telling voters they've got to keep Republicans in power no matter what. Unfortunately for Dobson and Perkins, if the election results are any indication, Americans may finally be seeing through the cynical use of morality and religion for raw political ends.

Americans are beginning to demand a new direction in politics, a direction that holds up hope instead of fear, the common good instead of divisions, and aims at solving real problems that affect real American families rather than ideology. And that is a politics that is much closer to the good news of the Gospel than anything the so-called "moral values" crowd has offered.

□ □ □

Rev. Tim McDonald is the national chair of People For the American Way's African American Ministers in Action program and is pastor of First Iconium Baptist Church in Atlanta, Ga.



## Letter Guidelines

Letters to the Editor are welcomed by The Floyd County Times. In accordance with our editorial page policy, all letters must include the signature, address and telephone number of the author.

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

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

**The Times** FLOYD COUNTY  
Published Sunday, Wednesday and Friday each week

263 SOUTH CENTRAL AVENUE  
PRESTONSBURG, KENTUCKY 41653  
Phone: (606) 886-8506  
Fax: (606) 886-3603  
www.floydcountytimes.com

USPS 202-700  
Entered as second class matter, June 18, 1927, at the post office at Prestonsburg, Kentucky, under the act of March 3, 1879.  
Periodicals postage paid at Prestonsburg, Ky.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES PER YEAR:  
In Floyd County: \$59.00  
Outside Floyd County: \$76.00

Postmaster: Send change of address to:  
The Floyd County Times  
P.O. Box 390  
Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653

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# At the Movies: 'The Nativity Story'

by CHRISTY LEMIRE  
AP MOVIE CRITIC

If her name weren't at the top of the credits, you'd never believe Catherine Hardwicke directed "The Nativity Story."

Gone is the vibrant energy of her 2005 skateboarding adventure, "Lords of Dogtown," as is the visceral intensity of her debut film, the junior-high drama "thirteen."

Working from a thoroughly researched script by Mike Rich ("The Rookie," "Finding Forrester"), Hardwicke depicts the birth of Christ in such a lifeless, suffocatingly earnest manner, you'd swear she made the movie specifically to be shown in Sunday school classes — or perhaps on the Hallmark Channel.

It is an innovative approach, though, to portray Mary and Joseph (Keisha Castle-Hughes, the youngest person ever nominated for a best-actress Oscar for her performance in 2002's "Whale Rider," and Oscar Issac) as a confused, newly married couple trying to comprehend the fact that they're about to become parents of the Messiah. (Guess there wasn't a "What to Expect When You're Expecting the Son of God"



"The Nativity Story," a New Line Cinema release, is rated PG for some violent content. Running time: 93 minutes.

Two stars out of four.

book for them to follow.) The gospels of Matthew and Luke address Christ's infancy, but little has been known, or shown, about mom and dad before that night in the manger. Most in the audience will walk away feeling that they've learned a thing or two.

And the scenery in Southern Italy (the same town where parts of "The Passion of the Christ" and "The Gospel According to St. Matthew" were shot) can be striking in its bright, gritty realism. Much of the action also was filmed in Morocco, including Mary and Joseph's 100-mile trek from Nazareth to Bethlehem.

Hardwicke's history as a longtime production designer is evident in the film's attention to detail. But on a larger scale, her tone is too often didactic and just downright boring.

Shohreh Aghdashloo, Ciaran Hinds, Shaun Toub and Hiam Abbas are among the eclectic international cast that's been amassed.

"Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb," Aghdashloo says in an example of the film's clunkily literal dialogue as Elizabeth, Mary's cousin.

Both are surprised to learn in visits from the angel Gabriel (Alexander Siddig) that they're pregnant: Elizabeth had seemed too old and Mary had just become Joseph's wife in an arranged marriage to a man she barely knows and doesn't love (and had made a vow of chastity for their first year together).

While the very serious Mary is hiding out for a while with her cousin, King Herod (Hinds, singularly evil and scheming) has begun his para-

noid search for the Messiah, based on an Old Testament prophecy. He instructs his troops to kill anyone who might be this child, but also hopes to find him through the Roman census, which forces citizens to return to their birthplaces.

Having returned to Nazareth obviously pregnant, Mary has been ostracized by nearly everyone — except Joseph, who believes her, which makes her realize that maybe he's a good guy after all. She willingly agrees to accompany him to his hometown of Bethlehem on a donkey, across the desert, through Jerusalem, on the verge of giving birth. And of course once they arrive in town, there's — let's all say it together — no room at the inn.

Schlepping through the desert at the same time are the three Magi (Nadim Sawalha, Eriq Ebouaney and Stefan Kalipha), who ostensibly were meant to provide a touch of comic relief with their banter about the stars and planets aligning.

In their silken robes, the wise men — like everyone else in "The Nativity Story" — feel like participants in an elaborate high school produc-

## Rental Central

by TOM DOTY  
TIMES COLUMNIST

November closed out with a slew of great rental titles that were ideal for staying home and warm.

■ "Clerks 2" — Kevin Smith delivers a surprisingly potent sequel to his debut film, which focused on the nowhere lives of two young men in dead-end jobs. The sequel picks up 10 years later and announces that there will be changes right away by burning down the strip mall where Dante and Randall are still working. The pair take jobs at a McDonald's clone, called Mooby's (which should be a familiar feature to fans of Smith's films). The dialog is still ripe and the humor rib-

ald, but this one ups the ante by adding dramatic themes about growing up and moving on with life. There's a welcome reappearance by the Jay and Silent Bob characters and a guest turn by Rosario Dawson. Another reason to rent this is to see why prissy critic Joel Siegel walked out on the famous "donkey scene." Be warned, though, that the set up which scared Siegel out-grosses anything in "American Pie."

■ "The Ant Bully" — A young boy learns all about bullying in this animated effort which is must-see material for grade-schoolers. A young boy reacts to getting bullied by the new kid in school by taking out his frustrations on an ant colony in his back yard. The ants don't

take kindly to it and summon their version of a shaman to make the boy into a worker ant to help clean up the damage he has done to their hive. The film then adds another element when the boy must help the colony defend itself against a determined exterminator hired by the boy's human family to solve their bug problem. Thought provoking and smartly scripted with a killer cast that includes Paul Giamatti, Meryl Streep, Julia Roberts and Nicholas Cage.

■ "Superman 2" — Fans of Christopher Reeve's interpretation of the DC Comics legend will enjoy this DVD, which restores 20 minutes of footage to

(See RENTAL, page seven)

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<b>Cinema Two • G</b> <b>HELD OVER</b>  <b>SANTA CLAUSE 3: The Escape Clause</b> Mon.-Sun. 7:05-9:20; Fri. (4:20), 7:05-9:20; Sat.-Sun. (2:05-4:20), 7:05-9:20	<b>Cinema Seven • PG</b> <b>STARTS FRI., 12/1</b>  <b>THE NATIVITY STORY</b> Mon.-Sun. 7:00-9:25; Fri. (4:25), 7:00-9:25; Sat.-Sun. (2:00-4:25), 7:00-9:25
<b>Cinema Three • PG</b> <b>HELD OVER</b>  <b>HAPPY FEET</b> Mon.-Sun. 6:50-9:20; Fri. (4:00), 6:50-9:20; Sat.-Sun. (1:50-4:00), 6:50-9:20	<b>Cinema Eight • R</b> <b>STARTS FRI., 12/1</b>  <b>TURISTAS</b> Mon.-Sun. 7:15-9:30; Fri. (4:30), 7:15-9:30; Sat.-Sun. (2:15-4:30), 7:15-9:30
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**Voting**

we don't feel it," Grayson said. "Let's not wait for the problem and let's do it while people still trust the system."

Across the state, there were more than 4,000 races this year, including 247 judicial races, six congressional bouts

and 52 legislative contests. Following the election, some lawmakers complained of delays at the ballot box and in tabulating the results.

House Speaker Jody Richards, D-Bowling Green, has said that new eSlate voting machines in place across the state may stifle voter turnout by causing lengthy lines.

Senate President David Williams, R-Burkesville, is among the legislative leaders who have said they would support implementing an electronic paper trail.

At the federal level, U.S. Rep. Rush Holt, D-N.J., has proposed a bill in Congress that would require voter-verified paper records for all voting systems that could be used in manual audits.

While there were delays at some polling locations, they were likely caused by the unusually high number of races under consideration coupled with the fact that many

voters were using new machines they weren't used to, Grayson said.

Roger Baird, president of Harp Elections Services, said there were 3,300 of the new eSlate machines in place in Kentucky. While there may have been delays, education and practice will likely expedite the process, Baird said.

"Things are going to improve," Baird said.

State election officials are currently working on an approximately \$15 million plan to provide \$4,500 per precinct for each of Kentucky's 120 counties to spend on new election equipment or voter-verified paper trails, Grayson said. It would cost about \$1,000 to add a feature to electronic voting machines that would print out voters' ballot box decisions, Grayson said.

An elections committee is expected to vote on the plan next week, he said.

"We need to have the voters trust that when they go in to vote that the person for whom they voted, their vote will be recorded that way," Grayson said. "And that they accept the outcome."

Currently, more than 20 states have mandated a voter-verified paper trail, Grayson said. Meanwhile, more than 20 states also allow voters to cast their ballots early, a Grayson spokesman said.

Fayette County Clerk Don Blevins, however, said he opposed both ideas.

Allowing more people to vote before Election Day would overwhelm clerk's offices, Blevins said. And because of potential problems with printers, adding voter-verified printouts would not likely reduce delays at the polls, Blevins said.

"All you get at the end of it anyway is a warm fuzzy," Blevins said. "It doesn't do anything for the process."

**Little**

the park year after year.

"I hate to see him go," said Fannin. "He has done a great job over the years and it always gets better each and every year."

Each year, the park hosts a "Christmas in the Park" event for children where parents can bring children to the skating rink to visit with Santa and enjoy gifts and food. The park works in conjunction with the Prestonsburg Women's Club to provide gifts for each and every child who attends.

This year the event will be

held on Dec. 21 from 6 to 8 p.m. and is open to the public.

Little's retirement will of course leave the park missing an important piece that it's had for quite some time, but the tradition will likely continue for many years to come.

"It's been a pleasure to do this over the years," said Little. He also says it has taken more than just him to pull off the lights display each year and finds it hard to express thanks to all who have contributed.

**Cocaine**

Continued from p1

The KSP K-9 unit was called to the scene, and when that is done officers no longer need permission to search a vehicle.

The drug dog immediately picked up the scent of a narcotic and at this point officers began searching the vehicle. Hamilton found a shoe under the backseat which contained a plastic bag with what he estimated to be an ounce of cocaine in it. Detective Tim Dials of KSP was the arresting officer in the case, but he was unable to attend the preliminary hearing. When Hamilton was asked why he believes Dials charged Gearheart with first-degree cocaine trafficking instead of possession he said it was probably because of the amount of cocaine, which he said officers are taught that usually people do not buy that much cocaine for personal use at one time.

Gearheart was Prestonsburg Little League president four years ago and was previously a basketball coach at Adams Middle School, but has not been involved in coaching in any capacity for the last two years.

**Abuse**

Continued from p1

front of him. The 12-year-old girl reported the same thing when she was interviewed afterward.

Nichols said she believed the girls because they were both in shock that anyone other than them and their parents knew what had happened and because their stories were so similar.

After interviewing the girls, Nichols went to the girls' home and discussed the allegations with the girls' mother, who said she did not report it because she wanted to protect the girls by not making them go through repeated questioning about the incident. Nichols said after talking to the mother that the mother did not know Moore had been convicted of second-degree sexual assault in West Virginia years before. Nichols could not force her to press charges but she did get her to agree to a safety plan in which Moore was to have no contact with either girl.

The case was forwarded to the Kentucky State Police and Moore was arrested Nov. 15 on charges of first- and second-degree sexual abuse.

Trooper Scott Hazlette said after learning of the alleged incident, police discovered that Moore is a convicted sex offender who was arrested a month beforehand for failing to register his address and also for living within 1,000 feet of a day care center.

Moore remains in Floyd County Detention Center while his case was forwarded to the grand jury.

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# Fletcher files official papers for re-election

by JOE BIESK  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — For months, Gov. Ernie Fletcher has been raising money and saying publicly he planned to seek a second term at the top of Kentucky state government.

On Monday, Fletcher made it official. The governor, the first Republican elected for the job in more than 30 years, filed his candidacy papers with the secretary of state's office.

There were no surprises in the filing.

Fletcher filed with Robbie Rudolph as his running mate. Rudolph, secretary of Fletcher's executive cabinet, has been the governor's announced running mate since Lt. Gov. Steve Pence announced this summer that he was leaving the ticket.

Fletcher came under scrutiny in May 2005 when the attorney general's office began investigating the governor and his administration for alleged state hiring improprieties. A Franklin County special grand jury indicted Fletcher on misdemeanor charges that were eventually dropped after a deal with prosecutors.

The grand jury's report, which was released earlier this month, found that Fletcher approved a "widespread and coordinated plan" designed to skirt state hiring laws. In some cases, existing state employees were either fired or reassigned so Fletcher's supporters, some with fewer qualifications, could be installed — at times with higher salaries, the report found.

Fletcher maintained the investigation was politically motivated.

Despite being the incumbent governor, Fletcher may face opposition in next year's Republican primary.

Billy Harper, a western Kentucky businessman and Fletcher's former political ally, has said he plans to challenge the governor. Harper is already running television ads promoting his candidacy, although he has not filed official papers.

State Sen. Dan Seum, R-Louisville, has also said he is considering the possibility of getting into the race.

## Record

at Wheelwright.

Thomas R. Hicks to Anita H. and Johnny L. Martin, property located at Beaver Creek.

Brenda Holland to Lon M. Goble Jr., property located at Middle Creek.

Johnny Holland to Lon M. Goble Jr., property located at Middle Creek.

Donald Lee Howard to Jason R. H. Castle and Leah A. Castle, property located at Stonecrest Subdivision.

Lida M. Howard to Jason R. H. Castle and Leah A. Castle, property located at Stonecrest Subdivision.

Marsha Hall Johnson Guardian to Teddy Hall, property location undisclosed.

Gloriana Layne to Clifford and Darlene Blanton, property located at Right Beaver Creek.

Gloria Mayo to Henry L. Mayo, property location undisclosed.

Gloria Mayo to Ruth Mayo Goebel, property location undisclosed.

Gloria Mayo to Jane Lesley Mayo Meiser, property location undisclosed.

Genevieve McKinney to Billy Gene and Danny Adkins, property located at Toler Creek.

Andrea Meade to Bobby D. and Nikkila Adkins, property located at Toler Creek.

William S. Meade to Bobby D. and Nikkila Adkins, property located at Toler Creek.

Franklin Newsome to Michelle R. Travis and Samuel P. Waller, property located at Auxier.

Jeanette Newsome to Michelle R. Travis and Samuel P. Waller, property located at Auxier.

Theria M. Newsome to Lon M. Goble Jr., property located at Middle Creek.

Edward Ousley to Jennifer Howard, property located at

Middle Creek.

Peggy Ousley to Jennifer Howard, property located at Middle Creek.

Audrey Scott to Robert K. Scott, property located at Eastern.

Caroline A. Slone to Lon M. Goble Jr., property located at Middle Creek.

Charlene Slone to Lon M. Goble Jr., property located at Middle Creek.

Eugene Slone to Lon M. Goble Jr., property located at Middle Creek.

Gary G. Slone to Lon M. Goble Jr., property located at Middle Creek.

Jewellene Slone to Lon M. Goble Jr., property located at Middle Creek.

Joe Mayo Spradlin to Jason R. H. Castle and Leah A. Castle, property located at Stonecrest Subdivision.

Sarah Cobb Spradlin to Jason R. H. Castle and Leah A. Castle, property located at Stonecrest Subdivision.

Spurlock Development Corp Inc. to Jennifer Howard, property located at Middle Creek.

Patricia S. Warrix to Lon M. Goble Jr., property located at Middle Creek.

Continued from p5

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## Rental

Continued from p5

the film. The best part is the increased scenes of Superman's battle with the criminals from his home planet over the city of Metropolis.

■ "See No Evil" — Wrestling superstar Kane acquits himself well as an unstoppable killer in this horror effort. Promoter Vince McMahon produced this one, which casts the grappler as a seriously pumped up madman who torments a pack of delinquents charged with restoring a decayed building. Short on logic but big on gore.

■ "District B13" — We missed this one when it was released in early October and must apologize to action fans, because this is the best adrenaline rush of the year. Producer Luc Besson ("The Professional") takes the plot of "Escape from New York" and mixes it with incredible acrobatics and bone-crushing martial arts. The result is the best action film of the year and a throwback to the kind of movies John Woo made before he moved to the USA. A by-the-book cop must team with a vigilante when a neutron bomb is hijacked by thugs who live in the title district, which has gotten so bad that a wall has been erected around it. The two must learn to trust each other and take on an army of goons if they have any hope of surviving. Not much of a plot, but the execution is flawless and it moves like lightning. Check this one out.

Next week look for a pair of summer blockbusters with "Miami Vice" and "Pirates of the Caribbean 2" hitting local racks.

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# FLOYD COUNTY Sports

## INSIDESPORTS

- Late Models on TV • page A10
- Flips Invitational • page A11
- UK Basketball • page A12

## HAP LL meeting set for Sunday

**BETSY LAYNE** – Harold-Allen-Prater Little League will hold its next meeting Sunday (Dec. 3) at 4 p.m. at the Betsy Layne Elementary School Library. Officers for the 2007 season will be elected during the meeting. For more information, call Steve Roberts at 478-2712 or Chris Newsome at 587-1730.

## INSIDESTUFF

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- Toys for Tots • page A17

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## OBI defeats Piarist in TRC Tournament game

by **STEVE LeMASTER**  
SPORTS EDITOR

**MARTIN** – An athletic Oneida Baptist Institute team raced its way past host Piarist School Tuesday evening in the opening round of the Three Rivers Conference Tournament. OBI, playing on the road at the Mountain Christian Academy Gym in the opener, defeated Piarist 83-60.

Visiting OBI led Piarist 26-16 at the end of the first quarter. The Mountaineers led the Knights at the end of every quarter. OBI, getting points from nearly a dozen players,

outscored Piarist in each of the first three frames.

Eleven different players provided scoring for OBI. Shawn Author entered the game in off of the bench and led OBI with a team-high 19 points. Jacob Hensley and Macky Moss each had 10 points for the Mountaineers.

Chris Baker led the Piarist scoring effort with a game-high 25 points. Josh Ousley added 12 points for the Knights.

Jake Moak flipped in nine points for host Piarist while Caleb Hoskins and Matt Doyle added seven apiece for the Knights.

OBI led Piarist 45-28 at the half. The Mountaineers picked back up right where they had left off in the second half, outscoring Piarist 23-12 in the third quarter.

OBI opened play in the Three Rivers Conference Tournament Monday with a 66-32 win over Riverside Christian. Others in the Three Rivers Conference Tournament include Red Bird and the David School.

The Piarist School Knights were back in action Thursday evening against the David School. Results from the Piarist-David game were unavailable at press time.



Caleb Hoskins put a shot up against the defense of an OBI player during the Three Rivers Conference Tournament game.

## It's already Christmas for fans of high school hoops

by **RICK BENTLEY**  
TIMES COLUMNIST

It's here. The time all of Eastern Kentucky seems to wait for all summer has finally arrived.

If you did a survey, regardless of exactly how you went about it, you could be guaranteed high school basketball would be voted the most popular sport in at least the mountains of Eastern Kentucky and probably in the entire commonwealth.

Folks follow it, are passionate about it. Some play it, or did once upon a time. Some have absolutely no ties to certain schools but follow them religiously. Thank goodness high schools don't schedule games on Sunday morning or we'd probably be a little disappointed at exactly how religiously some of us follow it.

The survey I suggest? It's never been done. I have no idea why, except that I'm pretty sure it's because we already know the answer. The only thing that could remotely come close to it would be the passion with which we follow the Kentucky Wildcats, but I'm pretty sure that wouldn't win right now. People seem a little more down on Tubby Smith's Cats with each passing year.

I personally still enjoy following them, but not with the zest of season's past. In fact, Tuesday night at the Pikeville College Gym may have been the first time we've ever played at the same time as the Cats without anybody asking for the score. I mean nobody. In fact, I never even heard the game mentioned, much less an inquiry about the score.

I also think high school football is gaining in popularity. Like it or not, Kentucky is much more

(See **BENTLEY**, page ten)

## A HOME WIN



photos by Jamie Howell

Seniors Amber Whitaker (12) and Meaghan Slone (4) led Prestonsburg's offensive charge in the home win over East Ridge.

## Lady Blackcats roll past East Ridge

by **STEVE LeMASTER**  
SPORTS EDITOR

**PRESTONSBURG** – After opening the season with a loss Monday night on the road at Paintsville, Prestonsburg got in the win column Tuesday in a home game against East Ridge. Prestonsburg outscored East Ridge 16-9 in the opening quarter and wound up defeating the Lady Warriors 66-47.

Amber Whitaker paced Prestonsburg with a game-high 21 points. Whitaker was one of three Prestonsburg players to reach double figures scoring. Meaghan Slone tossed in 19 points for the Lady Blackcats. Sophomore Linsey Fields added 13 points for host Prestonsburg.

The Lady Blackcats entered half-time leading 32-18. Prestonsburg exited the third quarter ahead 46-29.

Elizabeth Chaffin and Rikki Hughes each had four points for the Lady Blackcats. Hannah Fitzpatrick scored three points for Prestonsburg and Julianne Frye netted two.

Lucy Belcher and Brittany Swindall led East Ridge with nine

points apiece.

"I'm pleased with the effort we got in the two games," said Prestonsburg Coach Jack Pack. "The girls were a little tired and emotionally drained after the Paintsville game."

Prestonsburg was back in action Thursday on the road against Knott County Central in the Perry County Invitational.

More on the Prestonsburg-Paintsville game follows.

Paintsville 81, Prestonsburg 73: Playing on the road Monday, Prestonsburg found itself tied with host Paintsville as just three minutes remained in regulation of the season-opener for both teams. Paintsville, however, pulled away and posted the win over the Lady Blackcats. The matchup showcased two highly-touted 15th Region teams.

Kendra Carroll led Paintsville with a game-high 23 points. Carroll was one of four Paintsville players to reach double figures scoring.

Meaghan Slone led Prestonsburg with a team-high 22 points. Slone was one of three players to reach double figures for the Lady Blackcats. Amber

Whitaker scored 16 points and Linsey Fields added 14 for the Prestonsburg girls.

Elizabeth Chaffin and Rikki Hughes each had seven points for the Lady Blackcats. Whitney Bradley and Hannah Fitzpatrick rounded out the Prestonsburg scoring with five and two points, respectively.



## Winchester outlasts Garrett

TIMES STAFF REPORT

**WINCHESTER** – Garrett Christian Academy traveled to Central Kentucky on Friday, Nov. 24 and despite a spirited effort, fell short against host Winchester Baptist Academy. Winchester separated itself from visiting Garrett late in the contest, winning 80-73.

Winchester got off to a quick start and led the Warriors 14-9 at the end of the first quarter. Garrett then fought back and was able to take a 28-26 lead into the half.

The two teams traded leads several times in the second half. Winchester, however, was able to connect on 14 of 20 free

(See **GARRETT**, page ten)

## Former PCC coach returning to P'burg

by **STEVE LeMASTER**  
SPORTS EDITOR

**PRESTONSBURG** – Former Prestonsburg Community College men's basketball coach John Hanson is back in Prestonsburg and visiting for the first time in 34 years. Hanson will meet with former players, students and fellow PCC staff and faculty members today at the Mountain Arts Center, in the lobby, beginning at 7 p.m. Later on tonight, he'll take in a Kentucky Opry show. Hanson will tour the Big Sandy Community and Technical College Campus at Prestonsburg prior to tonight's get-together at the MAC.

Hanson was a physics teacher at PCC for several years during the 1960s. He taught at PCC until 1972. After leaving Prestonsburg, Hanson and his wife, Patty, moved to Louisiana

(See **COACH**, page ten)



photo by Steve LeMaster  
**READY TO RUN:** The Allen Central Runnin' Rebels will see their first action in the 2006-07 season Saturday against Harlan.

## Slow start dooms Bobcats in opener

by **STEVE LeMASTER**  
SPORTS EDITOR

**ROBINSON CREEK** – Host Shelby Valley vaulted out to an 8-0 lead Tuesday at home against Betsy Layne and never trailed in the boys' basketball season-opener for both schools. The Wildcats rolled to a 74-44 win over the visiting Wildcats.

Shelby Valley, the 15th Region runner-up last season, maintained a comfortable lead at the end of every quarter.

Freshman Ashley Hatfield, playing in his first high school game, paced

Shelby Valley with a game-high 18 points. Jacob Bryant pushed in 13 points for the Wildcats and Logan Bryant added 10, giving Shelby Valley three players in double figures scoring.

Shelby Valley's quick start allowed it to carry a 19-9 lead out of the first quarter.

The Shelby Valley scoring was very balanced. Toby Wright flipped in eight points and Taylor Newsome netted seven. Elisha Justice, Shelby Valley's point guard, aided the Wildcat scoring effort with five points. Thirteen different Shelby

Valley players provided scoring in the season-opener.

Junior guard Brennan Case led the way for Betsy Layne with a team-high 15 points. Samuel Keathley added 11 points for the Bobcats.

Shelby Valley led 31-17 at the half. Betsy Layne (0-1) is scheduled to host Magoffin County tonight. Tip-off for the Betsy Layne-Magoffin County game is set for 7:30 p.m.

Shelby Valley (1-0) will play host to Craig County, Va., Saturday in the Wildcat Classic. Tip-off for the Shelby Valley-Craig County, Va. game is set for 6:30 p.m.



## Bentley

of a football state when it comes to stand-out-level talent than basketball. There are many reasons for this — the teams having five times as many people on the gridiron is one — but when it comes to elite, Div. I talent, it's not close and hasn't been for many years.

But if you ask people, you'll quickly find out high school basketball is tops in their mind.

That said, there's been a serious decline in attendance at high school basketball games of recent years. There was a time tickets to events like the

All "A" Classic were scarce in the 15th Region; now, folks hardly bat an eye at it. And it's not just tournaments. Regular-season games have taken a serious hit.

The main reason? I couldn't say for sure, but if I guessed, I'd blame it largely on consolidation.

Consolidation has crushed attendance, and it has been running rampant throughout the mountains for the last 15 years. During my first season as sports editor of the News-Express in 1989-90, we had 10 high schools in Pike County.

Now there are only about 14 or 15 in the entire region.

And this has been devastating to the attendance of high school basketball. People don't feel as close to or as passionate about East Ridge, Pike Central and Shelby Valley as they were Dorton, Feds Creek or Mullins.

I feel certain the same could be said for the folks from McDowell and Wheelwright who formed South Floyd, although they have managed to maintain one of the largest fan bases in the mountains.

You may not think so, but it's an easy survey to take. Go

to any of these expansive arenas everybody has now and you'll most likely see crowds that would fit into all but the smallest gyms at the old schools.

There's not much of an alumni base, and the ones who have graduated from these schools just aren't coming out in droves as they used to. I speak from experience here, but believe if you ask 10 alumni from any of the seven Pike County schools consolidated in the last 15 years you'd get at least 8 and I'm betting average more than 9 who say they just

don't care as much about the new school as they did the one they actually attended.

And if you feel that way, odds are it'll be a lot easier for you to stay home on those cold Friday nights in the winter.

I'm sure there are other reasons, but in my estimation this is the biggest.

That said, the time has come for another season of high school basketball to begin. Who will be the best team in the region? Clearly there is no easy answer here, again, and that makes for a more exciting season in my opinion. While

■ Continued from p9

there's something to be said for having one huge Goliath for everyone to hate, there's more to be said for everybody having a decent chance come March.

And right now, I don't think there is a clear-cut favorite to cut the Expo Center nets in mid-March. Perhaps one will develop, but I'd be surprised.

It's high school basketball season again. Let's enjoy the next four months while they last, because spring will be here before we know it.

## Coach

■ Continued from p9

where they both recently retired from teaching. The Hansons have since moved to Bristol, Tenn., closer to their son and grandchildren.

Hanson played football — both on the collegiate and pro-

fessional levels. His interests in PCC students and athletics permitted him to play on an intramural basket ball team and later coach school teams to a pair of consecutive Mountain Dew

Championships in 1971 and 1972.

The renewed contact with Hanson has enthused many former PCC students to suggest a Mountain Dew Reunion in the spring. A committee is being formed. This would be the first-ever reunion ever for PCC.

# ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



Meaghan Slone,  
Prestonsburg  
Basketball



Brennan Case,  
Betsy Layne  
Basketball

## Garrett

■ Continued from p9

throws during the four quarter. The clutch, late free throw shooting allowed the Warriors to pull out a hard-fought victory.

Matthew Potter paced Garrett Christian with a team-high 20 points. Potter was one of three Garrett players to provide double figures scoring. Andrew Zabo netted 12 points and Kyle Green tossed in 12 for the Warriors. Wes Prater and Kyle Hamilton scored nine points apiece and Travis Scott netted eight. Jan Hicks rounded out the Garrett scoring with two points.

Garrett will have a chance to avenge last Friday's loss. The two teams will get the opportunity to hook back up against later this month in Lexington in the Bluegrass Tournament.

## SPEED announces Lucas Oil LM Dirt Series TV schedule

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — The Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series on SPEED Channel will begin its December broadcast schedule Saturday. There will be four Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series shows on SPEED Channel in the month of December. The events will air at 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time, immediately following the very popular Lucas Oil On The Edge program.

East Bay Raceway Park, located in Tampa, Fla., will open off the program schedule with the Winternationals, showing both Dec. 2 and Dec. 9. The Ralph Latham Memorial, taped from Florence Speedway in Union, will air Dec. 16. Winding up the December Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series broadcast schedule on SPEED will be The Masters from Cedar Lake Speedway in New Richmond, Wis., Dec. 30.

SPEED Channel is available to over 70 million homes in North America. SPEED is available through cable systems nationwide, DISH Network (Channel 150) and DIRECT TV (Channel 607).

The complete Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series SPEED Channel broadcast schedule is online at [www.lucasdirt.com](http://www.lucasdirt.com) and [www.speedtv.com](http://www.speedtv.com).

The 2006 Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series sponsors are Lucas Oil—Title Sponsor and Official Oil Products of the Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series; K & N Filters—Official Filters of the Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series; Sunoco Race Fuels—Official Race Fuel of the Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series; Hoosier Race Tires—Official Race Tire of the Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series; Arizona Sport Shirts—Official Souvenir Manufacturer & Vendor of the Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series.

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For more information on the Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series visit the series website at [www.lucasdirt.com](http://www.lucasdirt.com) or call the Series Office at 951-532-2503.

## Adams cruises past Stumbo

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PRESTONSBURG — Adams hosted Stumbo Tuesday evening and won convincingly in A- and B-team games.

In the A-team game, Alex Griffith scored a game-high 17 points and Adams defeated Stumbo 54-11. Wes Robinson was the second-leading scorer for Adams, netting seven points. Warren Blackburn and Nate Fraley each had six points for the Blackcats.

Landon Tackett and Donovan Salyer each had four points for the Stumbo A-Team. Austin Saddler flipped in three points for A-Team Mustangs.

Adams defeated Stumbo 38-11 in the B-team

game. Robinson scored a game-high 13 points and Joseph Jamerson flipped in 12 as Adams posted the win over the Stumbo B-Team.

Tyler Shelton netted six points while Blake Goble and Charlie Joseph netted two apiece for the B-Team Blackcats.

Four different players scored for the Stumbo B-Team.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL SCOREBOARD

THIS WEEK'S GAMES  
A-TEAM  
Betsy Layne 48, Adams 20  
Adams 54, Stumbo 11

B-TEAM  
Betsy Layne 30, Adams 25  
Adams 38, Stumbo 13

## Betsy Layne A-Team too much for Adams

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PRESTONSBURG — Betsy Layne knocked off another Floyd County opponent Monday evening when it defeated Adams 48-20. The Bobcats outscored host Adams 15-5 in the first quarter and cruised to the win.

Nathan Martin paced Betsy Layne with a game-high 14 points. Casey Adkins followed with 13 points for the Bobcats. Dylan Maldonado was a third player in double figures scoring for Betsy Layne, netting 10 points.

The Bobcats led Adams 27-12 at the half. Betsy Layne, then pulled further away in the second half.

Joseph Jamerson netted six points and was the leading scorer for the homestanding Blackcats. Seth Carter scored five points and Warren Blackburn spurred in four. Alex Griffith and Jaden Spurlock each had two points for host Adams.

Derek Tackett hit Betsy Layne's only three-pointer and added seven points for the visiting Bobcats.

Betsy Layne also won the B-team game, beating Adams 30-25. Andrew Roberts led the Betsy Layne B-Team with 12 points. Jamerson paced Adams with 12 points of his own.

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## SPORTS FAN OF THE WEEK



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Warren Blackburn (23) led the Adams A-team offense during a possession against Stumbo. photo by Steve LeMaster

## SFHS students compose team photos

South Floyd High School students, using Photo Shop, compiled the two SFHS basketball team photos in this year's basketball preview. The preview is included in today's edition. The students responsible for the girls' photo were Amber Tackett, Heather Dean, and Faith Little. The students responsible for the boys' photo were Billie Stumbo, Mary Williamson, and Wes Akers.



# Bears push No. 4 MSU to brink before falling

**TIMES STAFF REPORT**

PIKEVILLE — It was probably the most impressive game of the season for Kelly Wells' Pikeville College Bears. Too bad it'll go down in the record books as a loss. Pikeville (3-7), riding a three-game winning streak, pushed No. 4 Mountain State University to the brink before falling 72-66 Tuesday night at the Pikeville College Gym. The Bears, who led 32-28 at the half, stayed on top the first nine min-

utes of the second half before the Cougars took the lead. Once they did, they were never headed. The game was a shootout between two tremendous offensive players. Senior Paul Wright finished with 36 thanks to hitting six three-point baskets for Mountain State, and was nearly answered by senior Donnell Dobbins. The Mid-South Conference player of the week sank seven threes and finished with 33 markers. After MSU scored to open the

game, Pikeville put up eight straight, with Dobbins accounting for five of them for an 8-2 lead. The Cougars later went on a 14-4 run, with Wright accounting for eight of them to take a 19-14 lead with 9:07 left. But Dobbins went on his own personal 11-2 run, hitting three three-pointers, to push the Bears back in front 25-21 with 4:49 remaining, and they took the four-point lead to the break. Try as they might, the Bears just couldn't stretch the lead. A pair of

Dobbins free throws with 18 minutes left got it to 36-30, but that was as big as the lead would get. The lead was 48-44 when the Cougars went on a 10-1 run, getting five from junior Ralph Legg, to take a lead they would never relinquish. Each team put one additional player in double figures. Junior Paul Frazier had 16 for the Bears while Legg tossed in 15 for the Cougars. MSU (8-1) won the battle of the boards 44-42, getting 19 rebounds from the bench. Sophomore Ermin

Tarcin came off the pines for nine while senior Renardo Dixon pulled down eight. Freshman Rob Walker, who is fourth in the nation on the glass, had 11 boards for Pikeville. The Bears will be back in action on Friday afternoon, playing Spalding University in the Jim Reid Classic at Georgetown at 4 p.m. They will return home after Finals Week ends on Dec. 9, playing host to Brescia University at 4 p.m.

## Maysville to host Flips Invitational

**TIMES STAFF REPORT**

MAYSVILLE - The American Tumbling & Trampoline Academy, based in Prestonsburg, has once again selected Maysville to host its annual Flips Invitational USTA/AAU Trampoline and Tumbling Meet. The latest meet will be held Saturday, Jan. 20, 2007 at the Mason County High School Fieldhouse. This regional USTA/AAU sanctioned event will play host to more than 30 trampoline and tumbling teams from Kentucky, Tennessee, Ohio and Michigan seeking qualification to attend the USTA National competition to be held June 2007 in

Daytona Beach, Fla., and the AAU Junior Olympics competition to be held in August 2007 in Knoxville, Tenn. In 2006, the event moved to Maysville in an effort by club organizers to find a more central location for all teams participating in the invitational. The event drew more than 1,000 people, including 290 athletes. "We are anticipating a much bigger turnout this year than last year," said Henry Young, Director of American Tumbling & Trampoline Academy. "We have a team from Detroit coming - and one from Knoxville." The event will start at 8 a.m. and run through 5 p.m. The doors of the Mason County Fieldhouse will open at 7:30 a.m. to admit guests. The Mason County High School Fieldhouse is located in Maysville, on US Hwy 68, one-half mile north of the US HWY 68 and KY 9 (AA Hwy) intersection. For more information, contact Henry Young at 606/226-6300



**RIGHT BEAVER CLASSIC B-TEAM:** Allen Central (above) claimed the Right Beaver Classic championship, defeating Betsy Layne (below).

## Adams takes 2 of 3 from Allen

**TIMES STAFF REPORT**

ALLEN — The Adams Middle School Blackcats traveled to Allen Wednesday evening for three games. Adams won the A- and C-team games while the Allen Eagles took the B-team contest. In the A-team game, Adams won 42-15. Alex Griffith led Adams with a game-high 11 points, Joseph Jamerson added 10 points. Warren Blackburn pumped in nine points and Brandon Quillen netted four points. Corey Carter scored three points for the Blackcats while Jaden Spurlock and Seth Carter added two each. Storm Roop netted one point to round out the scoring for Adams. Nathan Slone and Boyd each

scored four points to lead Allen in the offensive department. The Adams Middle School A-team, following the win, improved to 4-1 overall. Allen defeated Adams in the B-team game. The B-team contest was a defensive struggle as Allen won 19-13. The Allen B-team was led in scoring by Austin Osborne with nine points. Austin Dillion added eight points for the B-Team 'Eagles. Kain Collins and Adam Crisp each scored one point and rounded out the Allen scoring. Joseph Jamerson paced the Adams B-Team with a game-high 11 points. Tyler Shelton added two points for the B-Team Blackcats (2-3). The Adams C-team defeated Allen and improved to 3-3. The Adams Middle School basketball teams played squads from Allen Central Middle School Thursday night. Results from the Adams-Allen Central games were unavailable at press time.



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  18. Montgomery County
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  20. Marshall County

## Lady Bears hold off host Alice Lloyd

**TIMES STAFF REPORT**

PIPPA PASSES — The 10-day lay-off did not seem to affect the Pikeville College women's basketball team. The Lady Bears traveled to Pippa Passes Tuesday evening and came away with a 71-64 victory over the rival Lady Eagles of Alice Lloyd College at the Grady Nutt Athletics Complex. Sloppy offense plagued both squads during the first half. The Lady

Bears shot 43 percent from the field during the half, while the Lady Eagles managed a mere 29 percent. With 12:30 remaining in the half, and the game tied at 10, Pikeville sophomore Camille Cook (Whitesburg) went down with a twisted ankle. For the next five minutes neither team would score. When Cook finally returned to the game at the 7:23 mark, she helped set up a jumper for senior Jessica Lovell (Belfry), and the Bears retook the lead.

The Lady Eagles would storm back and take the lead on a jumper from Kaylan Richardson at the 1:55 mark, putting Alice Lloyd up 23-21. But the Lady Bears would us a 9-0 run, capped off by a layup from senior Tonya Amburgey (Pinetop), to propel them into the locker room with a 30-23 lead at halftime. From the moment Lovell hit Amburgey for a layup at the 19:35 mark in the second half, the Lady Bears took control of the game. Powered by a defense that forced 17

Lady Eagles' turnovers, the Lady Bears retained the lead throughout the entire second half. A three from sophomore Alice Daniel (Meally) gave Pikeville its largest lead of the game at 62-50 with 3:35 to go. The Lady Eagles would battle but would get no closer than four points, as Pikeville cruised through the second half for the seven-point win. It was the first time this season that the Lady Bears held the lead for the entire second half.

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# Louisville seniors ready to finish what they started

by WILL GRAVES  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOUISVILLE — Bobby Petrino couldn't offer his players a shot at a national championship when he took the Louisville head coaching job four years ago, just the vision laid out by athletic director Tom Jurich that the Cardinals would one day get there.

It was a vision that seemed a little blurry in those frantic weeks after Petrino's hiring in December 2002.

"We were really scrambling," Petrino said. "I remember I was down in Orlando coaching a bowl game (with Auburn). We'd practice in the morning, then I'd spend the rest of the day on the phone, talking to recruits, talking to coaches, trying to put a staff together."

One of Petrino's first calls during those head-spinning first days went to Kolby Smith, a running back from Tallahassee whom Petrino had been recruiting to go to Auburn.

"I just knew Louisville as a basketball school," Smith said.

Not anymore. Smith and the 14 other seniors who took a chance on Petrino will walk onto the Papa John's Stadium turf on Saturday against Connecticut as the winningest senior class in school history, going 39-9 over the last four years.

A win over the Huskies combined with a West Virginia win over Rutgers and the sixth-ranked Cardinals (10-1, 5-1 Big East) could end the day Big East champions and have a berth in the Bowl Championship Series.

It's not the national championship, but for a program that's been to all of two New Year's Day bowl games in school history, it's close.

"It's everything like I hoped it would be and how I envisioned it being when I first got here," said senior defensive tackle Amobi Okoye. "I saw the program and how it was rising and stuff and how I wanted to be a part of it. It's just a great blessing."

A blessing that didn't necessarily seem like one at the time. When Petrino took over Louisville was in the

process of moving from Conference USA to the Big East, a league that faced an uncertain future after Virginia Tech, Miami and Boston College bolted to the ACC. Hardly the kind of bedrock you're looking for to build a college football powerhouse.

Still, there was something about the no-nonsense coach with the high-powered offense and the unyielding work ethic that appealed to Petrino's first recruiting class, the one he forged on the fly.

Smith was surprised when he heard from Petrino after he left Auburn for Louisville, but the gesture made an impression that Smith would not forget.

"That kind of made me feel like he really cared about me when he called," Smith said.

Now, at the end of a career that has seen him become Louisville's version of duct tape — filling a variety of roles depending on the situation — Smith doesn't regret his decision to trust his future to the young coach that offered him nothing but a chance at a chance.

"It has been a great opportunity for me," Smith said. "That is why I came here all along. I have no regrets about what happened earlier. I just wanted to, when I get the opportunity, to make the best of it."

It's an opportunity Okoye thought he'd have to wait for. The Nigerian-born Okoye entered Louisville at 15, an age when most high school football players are taking their first tentative steps for the varsity. Instead, Okoye found himself playing alongside teammates six or seven years older, wiser and bigger than the shy kid who had only been playing football for a couple of years.

"I kept saying, 'Is he really only 15 years old?'" Petrino said with a laugh. "That was really hard to believe that he was that young."

It was even harder to believe when it took Okoye all of three days to become the team's second-best defensive tackle. Yet rather than redshirt Okoye to protect him and give him a little seasoning, Petrino played him in every game, a sign from Petrino to his

new team that the best players would see the field regardless of experience.

For Okoye, Petrino's decision to play him at age 15 was just the first in what has become a series of lessons over the years.

"I think he helps you learn a lot about life as far as just growing up," he said. "This program teaches you about life. The best thing I've learned all about here is it's not all about the situation, it's about how you respond to it. That's the one thing I'm going to carry with me all throughout my life."

Petrino knows there could be "better" classes at Louisville down the road, but there may not be another one more influential on the history of the program.

"They've been a great crew, especially this year," Petrino said. "The leadership we've had from them, they way they came back after the Rutgers game, the competitiveness they've shown has been a great example to our younger players and they'll be a special group for a long time."

## Kentucky Wildcats 77, College of Charleston 61

by JEFFREY McMURRAY  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON — Before practice this week, Kentucky coach Tubby Smith substituted pencils for basketballs as he subjected his players to a written test about defensive positioning.

"I aced it," point guard Ramel Bradley said.

Judging by Kentucky's performance Tuesday night, the whole team did.

The Wildcats got rid of most of the positioning problems that plagued them during the Maui Invitational with a defensive-heavy 77-61 victory over College of Charleston.

Guard Joe Crawford said if coach decides to stress something, it tends to resonate — and stopping dribble penetration was on the menu this week.

"Whether he's yelling or whatever

it is, he always finds a way to get our attention," Crawford said.

Ironically, it was a defensive specialist who provided the offensive spark.

Freshman Perry Stevenson came off the bench for the first time with a career-high 14 points. Although he missed his three free-throw attempts, he connected on all seven shots from the field.

"He's able to get use of his size when he jumps up that high," center Jared Carter said of Stevenson. "He's underweight for a post player, but that will come."

Randolph Morris led the Wildcats with 17 points and eight rebounds, but it was Stevenson who nailed the early shots with the game on the line.

The Wildcats (4-2), who dropped out of the Top 25 this week after losses in Maui against now-No. 1 UCLA

and Memphis, face another steep challenge Saturday. They'll head to North Carolina in a battle of the nation's all-time winningest programs.

Smith stressed defense so much in practice this week, he acknowledged the offense may have struggled a little out of the gate as a result.

The Wildcats missed their first nine shots and didn't hit a field goal until more than six minutes had passed.

The poor shooting sparked angry looks followed by massive substitutions from Smith. He briefly yanked all five starters and replaced them with four freshmen and senior center Lukasz Obrzut.

"After we got it moving, everybody was rotating, talking," Morris said. "We had fewer lapses."

That lineup didn't fare much better at first, but Stevenson — whose poor performance in Maui cost him the

starting job to Sheray Thomas — ignited the offense soon. In previous games, it was Stevenson's shot blocking capabilities that provided the spark, but this time it was his shot.

His dunk pulled the Wildcats to within three points midway through the first half and began a 17-0 run that buried the Cougars (3-3).

Seconds later, Stevenson showed off a new signature move — an under-the-basket hook flip that gave the Wildcats their first lead at 12-11. He did it again the next time down, drawing the foul — albeit missing the free throw — in the process.

Although the Wildcats shot only 37 percent in the first half, the Cougars were worse. They were only 1-of-11 from 3-point range and didn't score for 7 1/2 minutes as Kentucky built its lead.

College of Charleston also didn't

get a single first-half free-throw attempt because Kentucky stayed out of foul trouble, committing only three in the half and none in the first 16 minutes. The Wildcats led 27-15 at halftime.

Charleston's star guard Dontay Draper had only two points in the first half but found his shot in the second, leading the Cougars with 15 points. By then it was too late.

Joe Crawford's 3-pointer with 10 minutes left stretched Kentucky's lead to 20 points and extended the Wildcats' streak to 616 games with a long-range bucket. Only UNLV and Vanderbilt have longer streaks. Crawford finished with 15 points.

Freshman Mark Coury got his first four points of the season for Kentucky, scoring the last two baskets in the final minute.

## No. 24 Kentucky 79, Detroit 44

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON — Sarah Elliott scored 22 points and Jennifer Humphrey had 12 points and 15 rebounds to help No. 24 Kentucky beat Detroit 79-44 on Wednesday

night.

Kentucky (4-2), which never led in the first half, used a 35-6 run to open the second half, scoring the first 15 points.

Elliott scored six of the Wildcats' first eight points of the half. She also blocked a shot, moving her into a tie for third place on Kentucky's career list.

Both teams had trouble scoring early, with Detroit (1-4) missed 15 of

its first 19 shots and Kentucky connecting on only four of 16.

Detroit's Joyce Massey, a transfer from Massachusetts, scored 18 first-half points and finished with 29.

Kentucky, which outscored Detroit 54-16 in the second half, has won all eight meetings between the two schools.

The win was coach Mickie DeMoss' 100th at Kentucky.

## Hot-shooting Marshall holds off Eagles

TIMES STAFF REPORT

MOREHEAD — Marshall shot a red-hot 58.7 percent from the field, won the rebound battle and held off a determined Morehead State rally in the final moments to post an 81-80 win Wednesday evening in Johnson Arena.

Marshall, now 2-4 on the season, got 21 points from Travis Aikens, 19 points from Markel Humphrey and 10

points in a reserve role from Tre Whitted.

Morehead State freshman Maze Stallworth came off the bench to score a career-high 21 points, hitting five of eight three-pointers, and pull down a team-high seven rebounds. Quentin Pryor, the Ohio Valley Conference Player of the Week, scored 18 points. Brandon Callahan added 17 points, including a shot from beyond mid-court at the final buzzer. Cordaryl Ballard had 11 points.

Marshall outrebounded Morehead State 32-28. Herd center Jean Francois Bro Grebe led all rebounders with nine. He also blocked three shots.

"I was disappointed with our defensive effort and our rebounding,"

said Morehead State Coach Donnie Tyndall. "We played well offensively and shared the basketball. A ratio of 23 assists and only 11 turnovers is good. But, the staple of our program is going to be defense and rebounding, and tonight we just didn't get the job done."

Marshall led by 10 points, 40-30, at halftime, and spread the lead out to as many as 18 points on two occasions after intermission. The Eagles battled back to within one point on three occasions, including the final margin, but could never take a second-half lead.

MSU will take a 2-3 record to Western Illinois on Saturday (Dec. 2). Tip off in Macomb, Ill., is scheduled for 7 p.m. CST (8 p.m. EST).

## Western downs Morehead State

TIMES STAFF REPORT

MOREHEAD — Center Crystal Kelly scored a game-high 28 points and had 16 rebounds as visiting Western Kentucky was too much for the Morehead State women's basketball team Wednesday, defeating the Eagles, 71-52. MSU fell to 1-6, while WKU moved to 4-2.

Kelly sparked a WKU offense that shot 48 percent from the field and out-rebounded MSU, 45-29. Kenzie Rich added 11 points for the Hilltoppers.

For the Eagles, sophomore Brittany Bass scored a season high 11 points on 4-of-7 from the field. Senior Lakrisha Brown pulled down a team high 10 rebounds, but the eagles were held to 34 percent from the field. Junior guard Stacey Strayer led the passing game with four assists, while Bass added a career high three blocks on the defensive

end.

MSU trailed just 10-8 with 11:35 left in the first half, but WKU ignited with a 21-4 run — capped off by a Cammie Campbell free throw with 3:26 left — to lead 31-12. WKU ultimately led 39-21 at the half.

In the final half, MSU was able to trim the lead to 18, at 51-33, with 13:10 left, but WKU kept up the pressure and led by as much as 25 at one point with 8:45 left (63-38).

Morehead State will return to action on Saturday (Dec. 2) when it visits Xavier for a 4 p.m. game.

## Dobbins named MSC PoW

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE — Team success brings individual acclaim, and that has happened for one member of the men's basketball team.

Donnell Dobbins, a senior from Baltimore, was named player of the week in the Mid-South Conference after leading the Bears to three wins last week.

Dobbins, a 5-10 guard, averaged 19.7 points, 7.0 assists and 4.7 rebounds in Pikeville's wins over

Covenant, Bluefield and Ohio State-Newark last week.

"He's very deserving of this honor and we're proud of him," said Coach Kelly Wells, who also coached Dobbins last year at Hawaii Pacific, where he was first-team all-conference after averaging 14.4 points and 3.3 assists per game. "It goes to show that you should always put team success in front of individual stats. If you win, things like this take care of themselves."

The Bears had opened the season with six straight losses before sweeping their games in the Thanksgiving Classic. They knocked off Covenant 89-83 and Bluefield 80-73 in that event, played at the East Kentucky

Expo Center, and followed it up with a 78-50 win over OSU-Newark on Sunday.

Dobbins had 14 points and eight assists against Covenant and followed it with 25 points, four assists and four steals in the win over Bluefield. On Sunday, he just missed a triple-double after finishing with 20 points, nine assists and eight rebounds.

He shot 46 percent from the floor for the week, 22 percent from the arc and 79 percent (23-of-29) from the line, and averaged three steals a game.

For the season, he is averaging 17.8 points 4.1 assists and 3.8 rebounds per game.

## PIARIST BASKETBALL



Chris Baker (21) and Josh Ousley (12) were two of the most effective scorers for the Piarist School in its Three Rivers Conference Tournament opener against Oneida Baptist Institute.





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# FLOYD COUNTY Around Our Schools

## 2006 CHORAL FESTIVAL HELD AT MT. ARTS CENTER



The Floyd County All-County Choir



John M. Stumbo Elementary All-County Choir. Instructor, Walter Ord.



John M. Stumbo Elementary School Choir. Instructor, Walter Ord.



PES All County Chorus

The students pictured here participated in the Floyd County All County Chorus on November 8, 9, and 10th at the Mountain Arts Center. They performed 3 selections; Grandma's Feather Bed, Appalachian Dances and Accentuate the Positive under the direction of Mrs. Teresa Alzadon. The students are Macy Minix, Kaylee Collins, Allyson Derossset, Kierra Shelton, Taylor Hackworth (1st row) Haley Howell, Austin Bailey, Galen Greene, Summer Ousley (2nd Row) Jonathan Boyd, Grant Martin, Emma George, and McKenzie Collins (3rd Row).



Pictured are the Clark Elementary School students who achieved perfect attendance for the first nine weeks of the school year.



### Congratulations!

These Betsy Layne Elementary School Academic Team students all placed in the top 5 in content area testing at a recent academic meet. Keep up the good work, kids!



Clark Elementary School 1st nine weeks Honor Roll students.



Reading Night. The October meeting celebrated a Halloween theme.



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# Lifestyles



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### THROUGH MY EYES

## Pity party

by Kathy J. Prater  
FEATURES EDITOR

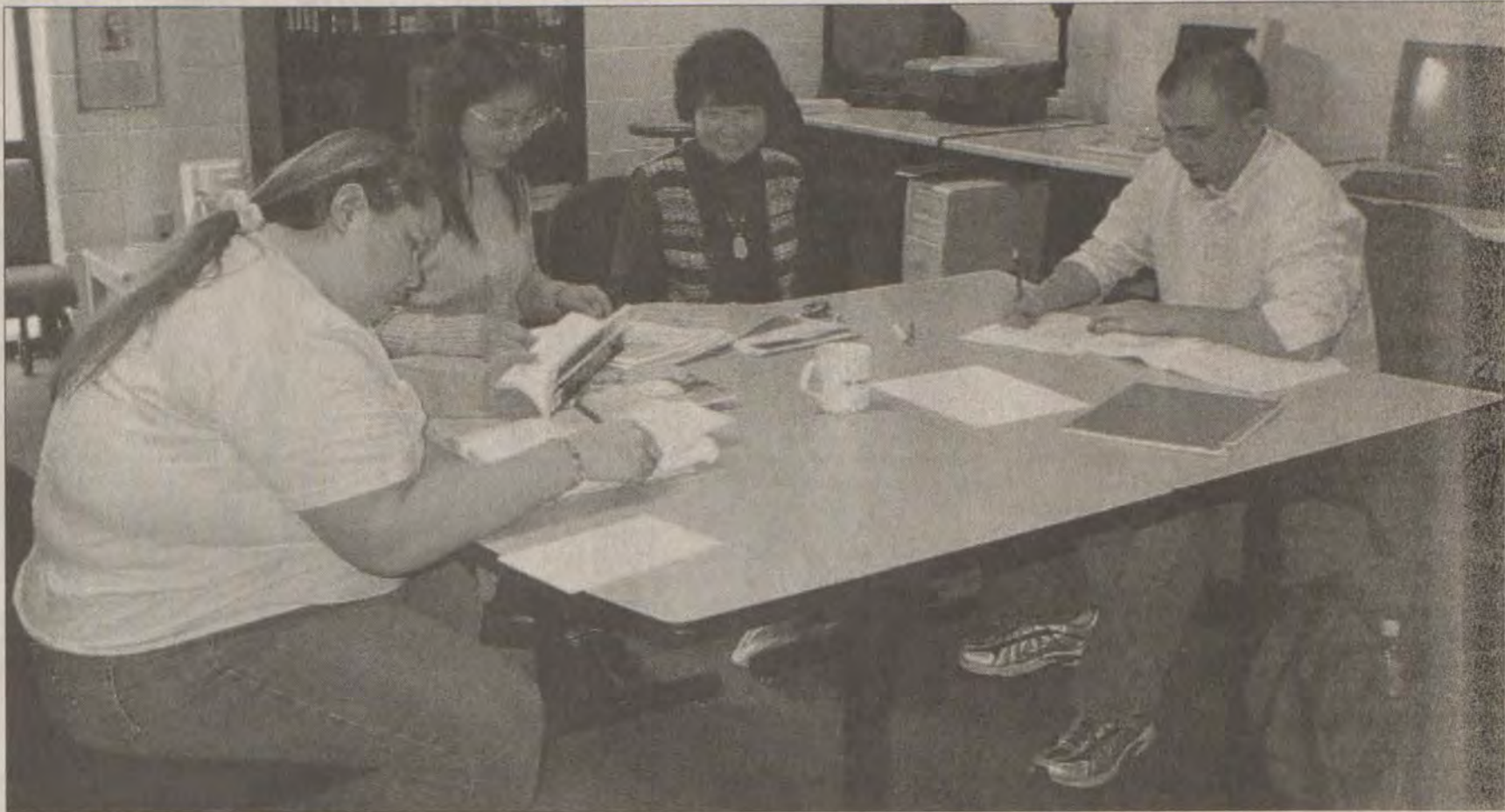
This morning, I tried to apply finishing powder to my face before I had even applied the foundation base. For you men out there (in case any men even read this column), you may not "get" what I'm talking about here, but for you ladies, who I know are dealing with the same stresses and pressure I am, I'm sure this lets you know that I have nearly "lost it."

Yes, I sat down to apply my makeup and at the same time, I was running about a million things through my head - "Don't forget the cupcakes and deviled eggs you're taking to work today; and don't forget the thermos of milk and stick of butter you promised Alex you'd bring for the mashed potatoes," and,

(See EYES, page seventeen)



Kathy Prater  
Lifestyles editor



The Chinese visiting teachers stay busy on the BSCTC campus where they teach a Chinese language class, as well as tutoring students in American language arts.

photo by Kathy J. Prater

### DINNER DIVA

## Avoiding holiday body clutter

by Leanne Ely

How do I love the holidays? Let me count the ways. First there is the decorating...tinsel, ribbons, wreaths and beautiful ornaments. Then there is the crackling fireplace, festooned in evergreens with traditional stockings "hung with care." And my favorite part? The cooking, of course! Christmas cookies and candies, cinnamon buns, eggnog and spiced cider...the tastes, the smells, it really doesn't get much better!

That is, until about January 3. The merriment of the holiday season can be dimmed big time by the reality check of the bathroom scale. Weight gain from holiday gorging varies, and is as variable as there are body types —some people can go up a full dress size while others notice their jeans are "just a little tighter." Either way, there are tactics to spare yourself the "after-the-holidays-regret!"

Here are five ways this Dinner Diva plans on spending the holidays to avoid the traditional holi-

(See DIVA, page fifteen)



Leanne Ely



Yali, foreground, and Huimin, background, have enjoyed visiting several area schools since their arrival in August. Here, they teach pre-kindergartners at the Baptist Learning Center some fun paper folding techniques.

photo by Kathy J. Prater



What's a visit to Prestonsburg without a stop at the Mountain Arts Center? Here, Huimin, left, and Yali, right, get up-close and personal with the entertainment center's resident comedian, Munroe (Fred Goble). The duo were treated to an evening of Christmas entertainment, courtesy of the arts center, when they attended the KY Opry's Christmas show last Friday evening.

photo by Kathy J. Prater

## From China to East Ky - scholars break cultural barriers

by Kathy J. Prater  
FEATURES EDITOR

Demure and soft-spoken, yet at the same time courageous and adventurous, the two scholars from Tianjin, China have come to Eastern Kentucky to learn of American culture and to dispel stereotypical notions others might have of them and their people.

"I have always much enjoyed American literature, reading about American culture," said Yali Li, a young woman who left a husband and seven year

old son behind to embark on her American adventure. "I wanted, also, to show people here something about the Chinese people and to show them that all is not like what they see in the Hollywood movies," she said. Yali shares that although she misses her son, she speaks to him every day via the internet. The opportunity to participate in the Chinese Visiting Scholar program, coordinated through a partnership between Bluegrass Community and Technical College, Lexington, and Big Sandy Community and Technical College,

Prestonsburg, was one the Chinese teacher and he family did not want her to miss. In China, at Tianjin University, in Tianjin, Yali teaches English and American Literature.

Her counterpart, Huimin Fang, a few years older also left behind a son and family, but her son is now a grown man, 25 years old. Huimin shares that she too, was interested in coming to Eastern Kentucky to experience a new culture and new ways of doing things. "I like it here," she said recently. "I would

(See CHINA, page seventeen)

### FLY LADY

## Holiday Blues

by Marla Cilley

The holiday season is always tough, but it is even more difficult when you are dealing with the pain of the death of a loved one, divorce or those awful words, "I don't love you, anymore!"

Many times, death takes us by surprise. Even though we know in our hearts that it has to happen to all of us; it is never easy on the ones that are left behind. This is why we need to take

very good care of ourselves during this holiday season. Depression slips up on us, too. Death of a spouse or a child is probably the toughest thing anyone ever has to face. My heart goes out to you who are mourning this type of loss. Please, get up and take care of yourselves.

The holidays bring out another type of loneliness and stress; Divorce! As perfectionists, we feel like failures because we just couldn't make it work, but boy, did we ever try. We put up with all sorts of things because we did not want to be considered a failure by our own standards or by the

rest of the world. So, in other words, we put ourselves and our children through a lot of stress because we feared what others would think. Those "other people" are not living in your home and have no clue of what you had to deal with. We have to dismiss those feelings of failure because if we don't, we will be stuck in that time warp forever. We all make mistakes and there are no perfect marriages. So forgive and get on with your life: Even if you have been hurt deeply. Forgiveness is the greatest healer.

Also, we tend to make the holidays even harder on ourselves by wanting

to have the "perfect" celebration. Well, let me tell you; "Make the most of your time with your family"; it doesn't have to be on that particular day; any day can be a celebration. Relieve the stress by letting go of the ideal "picture-perfect" holiday and turn whichever day you choose into your own special celebration. Actually, I think this makes the holidays last longer. No more "crash and burn" all in one day; we can have lots of mini-holiday get-togethers. Your children will actually thank you because they will not be pressured to

(See FLY LADY, page sixteen)



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# Family Medicine

**Martha A. Simpson, D.O., M.B.A.**  
Associate Professor  
of Family Medicine

In what has become an annual tradition, I'm doing something a bit different with today's column. This time of year — with the Christmas, Hanukkah and New Year's Day celebrations approaching — is busy for everyone. The students, faculty and staff here at the Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine are looking forward to taking a break from their regular work routine. I thought that you, my readers, might feel the same way and be ready for a break from my usual treatise on the diagnosis and treatment of illness.

So, the following is the recipe for a dish that is a special holiday treat.

Last Christmas I got a wonderful gift of homemade cake from my co-worker, Chris. It was a Moravian Sugar Cake. It was truly delicious and she shared the recipe with me, so I served it to my family on Christmas morning. It's not hard to make, but it's best to start the process on a day when you know you'll be home, since it's really a bread that rises several times.

This treat is so named because it is traditionally baked during the

## Holiday Rx from Chef Simpson: Moravian Sugar Cake

Christmas season by members of the Moravian Church. This Christian denomination, founded in 1457, had its origin in ancient Bohemia and Moravia, which are now parts of the Czech Republic. The Moravian Church is also known as the Unity of the Brethren and has members throughout the world.

### Ingredients for cake:

- 1 pkg dry yeast dissolved in 1/3 cup warm water plus 1/2 tsp sugar
- 2/3 cup shortening
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1 cup mashed potatoes
- 2 tsp salt
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup warm milk
- 6 cups all purpose flour

First, dissolve yeast in water and sugar and set aside — it will foam up. Mix sugar and shortening. Add

mashed potatoes, salt and two eggs. Add milk. Mix in about one half of the flour, then the yeast mixture and blend well. Add remainder of flour. Let it rise until doubled in size. Stir the dough; then let it rise a second time.

At this point you can make one large cake in an 11 x 17 inch pan, or several smaller cakes in pie plates or even small loaf pans. Smooth out the top with your hands covered in a little bit of oil. Sprinkle a little white sugar on the cake(s) and let rise again until about doubled.

### Ingredients for topping

- 2 cups brown sugar
- 2 tablespoon flour
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 stick butter or margarine

Blend these ingredients together. Make holes in the top of the cake —

I use my finger. Spread this mixture on top of the cake or cakes, being sure the holes are filled.

Bake for about 20 to 25 minutes at 350 degrees.

Enjoy.

*Family Medicine® is a weekly column. To submit questions, write to Martha A. Simpson, D.O., M.B.A., Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine, P.O. Box 110, Athens, Ohio 45701, or via e-mail to readerquestions@familymedicine.org. Medical information in this column is provided as an educational service only. It does not replace the judgment of your personal physician, who should be relied on to diagnose and recommend treatment for any medical conditions. Past columns are available online at www.familymedicine.org.*

## School Happenings

**\*\*"Parent University" to be held Dec. 7, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at Jemmy Wiley State Resort Park. KSP Trooper Scott Hopkins and Lola Rathliff, Title V, FCBE, will speak on the topic of "School Safety." A free meal and door prizes will be provided.**

### Adams Middle School Youth Services Center

**\*\*Canned food drive now going on. The homeroom that brings in the most canned food will win a party from the YSC. Food items will be donated to local food banks to help with the upcoming holiday season.**

**\*\*AMS is collecting Food City receipts! Receipts may be given to any AMS student or dropped off at the school office.**

**Book Club will meet on Thursdays, after school until 5 p.m. New members can still sign up in the YSC office.**

**Sponsors needed for the YSC Secret Santa program. Call 886-1297.**

**The Youth Services Center is open each weekday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Coordinator is Michelle Keathley. Center telephone is 886-1297. Please call for information on center programs and services.**

### Allen Central High School

**Center hours: 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Mon. thru Fri. Sharon Collins, coordinator. Telephone 358-3048. Center provides services for all families regardless of income.**

### Allen Central Middle School

**\*\*Collect Food City receipts and turn them in to homeroom teachers!**

**\*Can Food Drive going on now at school.**

**Career Decisions and Job Development videos available in YSC lending library.**

**The ACMS Youth Service Center offers services to all families, regardless of income. For more information, call Marilyn Bailey, center coordinator, at 358-0134.**

### Allen Elementary and Family Resource Youth Service Center

**Call Allen Elementary Youth Service Center at 874-0621 to schedule your child's Hepatitis B vaccina-**

tion, immunizations, and WIC appointments.

### Betsy Layne Elementary

**Lost and Found items will be located in the center. Items not claimed within two weeks will become FRYSC property.**

**Center hours are 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Mon. thru Fri. Center offers services to all families, regardless of income.**

**The Betsy Layne Elementary Family Resource Youth Service Center is located in the 7th and 8th grade wing. The goal of the FRYSC is to meet the needs of all children and their families who reside in the community or neighborhood by the school in which the center is located. For further information, please contact the center at 478-5550.**

**Brian H. Akers, Center Coordinator.**

### Clark Elementary

**\*\*On Sale Now: Clark ornaments and framed pictures (autumn and winter scenes). Contact a Clark student or the Resource Center at 886-0815 to purchase. Will make great Christmas gifts and mementos! Boxed ornaments - \$15; framed pictures - \$10.**

**Dec. 11 - KSP "Shop with a Cop" program.**

**Dec. 12 - Connect with Kids: "Internet Generation," 4 p.m., on WYMT.**

**Dec. 15 - Christmas Dance for Clark students.**

**Dec. 17 - Prestonsburg City "Shop with a Cop" program.**

**Dec. 18 - School Christmas program, 7 p.m., in gym.**

**F.I.T. Club meets each Tuesday and Wednesday after school, 3:15-4:15 p.m. (Fitness activities for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students.)**

**\*\*Fridays are "School Spirit" days! (All year long!) Wear Clark colors (green and gold) or Clark t-shirts. Students, staff, parents - show your support for CES!!**

**Dec. 8, 14 - Nurse services: Floyd County Health Department nurse will be in the Resource Center. Now taking appointments for 6th grade exams, WIC, and well-child exams for birth-18 years. Flu shots may also be scheduled. Call 886-0815 for an appointment.**

**Lost and Found located in Resource Center. Items not claimed by Dec. 7 will be donated to "One Warm Coat" program or become a part of FRC Clothing Closet (for Clark**

students).

**The Clark Elementary Family Resource Center provides services for all families regardless of income. We are located in the Adams Middle School building.**

### Duff Elementary

**\*\*School is collecting Food City receipts again this year! Please drop off your receipts at the school, or mail them to: Duff Elementary School, P.O. Box 129, Eastern, KY 41622.**

**Yearbooks on sale - \$22.**

**Christmas is fast approaching and needs are great while funds are few. Please call the FRC at 358-9878 if you would like to sponsor a child.**

**FRC is also in need of clothing, sizes 3T thru adult, for emergency clothing use and burnouts. If you have clothing to donate, please call the FRC.**

**Floyd County Health Dept. is on site three days per month. Services include 6th grade school entry physical; kindergarten, Head Start and well-child physicals (age birth-to-18 years); T.B. skin test; T.D. boosters; and WIC services. Please call 358-9878 for appointment if you are in need of any of these services.**

**The J.A. Duff Elementary Family Resource Center provides services for all families regardless of income. We are located in the tan metal building at the rear of the school. Contact persons are Judy Handshoe, coordinator.**

### May Valley Elementary

**Parent Lending Library is available to parents for video check-outs. A variety of topics are available.**

**Floyd County Health Dept. nurse at school every Wednesday. Services include Head Start physicals, kindergarten physicals, 6th grade physicals, well-child physicals, immunizations, TB skin test, WIC program, blood pressure checks, and more. Must call the FRC at 285-0321 for an appointment.**

### McDowell Elementary and Family Resource Center

**Dec. 12 - FRC Advisory Council meeting, 6 p.m.**

**Floyd County Health Department Nurse Joy Moore, is at the center each Monday to administer immunizations, T.B. skin tests, well-child exams, WIC, prenatal and post-**

partum services, and school physicals. Call 377-2678 for an appointment.

### Mountain Christian Academy

**Call 285-5141, Mon. thru Fri., from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

**MCA is an accredited non-denominational Christian school.**

### Prestonsburg Elementary and Family Resource Center

**The Family Resource Center is open weekdays 8 a.m.-4 p.m., and later by appointment. Office provides services for all families, regardless of income.**

**Call 886-7088 for additional information regarding the Prestonsburg Elementary Family Resource Center or its programs.**

### South Floyd Youth Services Center

**SFHS and SFMS will be participating in the Apples for Students program. Please save and turn in your Food City receipts.**

**Floyd County substance abuse counselor will be on the South Floyd campus each Tuesday. If you need to contact the counselor, please call the Youth Service Center.**

**Call center for: list of visiting speakers and presentations to be held throughout year; to make appointments to attend Parent Volunteer Training sessions; or for information in regard to Adult Education programs.**

**Walking track open to public (track closed during special events).**

**The center has a one-stop career station satellite that is available to the community as well as students.**

**All new students and visitors, stop by the Center, located on the South Floyd campus, Room 232, and see Mable Hall. Open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mon. thru Fri.**

**For more information call 452-9600 or 452-9607, ext. 243 or 153.**

### Stumbo

### Elementary/Mud Creek Family Resource & Youth Service Center

**Lost & Found located in Family Resource Center.**

**The Mud Creek FRYSC is locat-**

### W.D. Osborne "Rainbow Junction" Family Resource Center

**Lost & Found located in the Family Resource Center. Items not claimed within 2 weeks become the property of the FRC.**

**The FRC accepts donations of children's clothing, shoes, belts, book bags, etc. May be used but need to be in good condition. Donated items will be appreciated and utilized by OES students.**

**The Family Resource Center is located in the central building of W.D. Osborne Elementary. Those wishing more information about the center are welcome to visit, or call. Ask for Cissy (center coordinator). Center telephone and fax: (606) 452-4553.**

### Wesley Christian School

**WCS Learning Center accepts toddlers, preschool age (2-4). Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Mon. thru Fri.**

### BSCTC Adult Education & GED

#### 2006 Fall Schedule

**Mondays: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. - McDowell FRC, Martin Comm. Ctr., Auxier Learning Ctr., and BSCTC; 1-4:30 p.m. - Layne House, BSCTC; 4:30-9 p.m., Auxier Learning Ctr.**

**Tuesdays: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. - Mud Creek Clinic, BSCTC; 1-4:30 p.m. - Dixie Apts., Betsy Layne FRYSC, BSCTC; 6-8 p.m. - Auxier Learning Ctr.**

**Wednesdays: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. - Martin Comm. Ctr.; Auxier Learning Ctr.; BSCTC; 1-4:30 p.m. - David Craft Center, BSCTC; 6-9 p.m. - BSCTC.**

**Thursdays: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. - BSCTC, Mud Creek Clinic, Weeksbury Comm. Ctr.; 1-4:30 p.m. - BSCTC, Betsy Layne YSC., Weeksbury Comm. Ctr.; 4:30-9 p.m. - Martin Comm. Ctr.**

**Adult Education teachers are: Ron Johnson, Stephanie Conn, Lynn Hall, Nancy Bormes, Vanessa Adkins and Susan Stephens.**

**Program manager: Kay Hale Ross (886-7334).**

## Fly Lady

show up at your house on a day when they are so very busy themselves.

If you are going to be alone on Christmas Day, then get over yourself and get out there and volunteer somewhere. Plan a little celebration for your friends that have no place to go. Instead of feeling sorry for yourself, get up and do something to help others. That is the fastest way I know to get off your pity pot. Be thankful for what you have and bless others in whatever way you can! You can always find others who are in need if you will just take your eyes off of yourself for a few minutes and focus on someone else. When we are feeling sorry for ourselves, our homes fall to pieces around us, too. They become manifestations of at least one symptom of depression. When this happens in your life, set your timer and go get dressed to shoes, then do 15 minute in the kitchen, beginning with shining your

sink.

The holidays can be rough, but only if we wallow in our own self-pity. My step-grand mother told me on her death bed, "Marla, don't cry for me, because your tears are not really for me, they are because you will be feeling sorry for yourself. Celebrate my life!"

Let's commit to celebrating all of our days - not just the ones that are set aside as holidays. Make your home huggable and when you feel yourself starting to get down in the dumps; I want you to set a timer and go put on some decent clothes, fix your hair and face and take care of yourself. Nine times out of ten, when you start to feel this way; you have not gotten enough sleep, eaten a good balanced meal, had enough water or have allowed yourself to crash and burn by not taking breaks. If you feel yourself wanting to isolate and see that CHAOS is reigning in your home. Call someone to come

over; reach out and touch someone. If you know of someone that is hurting; pick up the phone and give them an invitation to do something with you: Even if it is just a snack and coffee. Many a heart has been poured out at a kitchen table. Open up your doors to some of those heart-to-heart talks with a friend. Don't assume that they are doing OK. On the other hand, to those of you that are in pain: People can't read your minds, either. You need to reach out and touch someone, too. Please, take care of yourselves right now, more than ever.

*For more help getting rid of your CHAOS; check out Marla's website and join her free mentoring group at www.FlyLady.net or her book, Sink Reflections, published by Bantam and her new book, Body Clutter. Copyright 2006; Marla Cilley. Used by permission in this publication.*

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### Veterans Day celebration

**On October 14, the Prestonsburg Health Care Center honored their military veterans with the help of the Monroe Vanderpool Memorial Chapter 128. Several members of the chapter visited the center to present a salute and heartwarming ceremony in honor of residents Arthur Collins, Fred James I, and James Bradley. Each of the men were presented with special plaques that stated a true meaning for all war veterans, "They Really Are True American Heroes."**



## New Arrivals

**HRMC**  
New  
Arrivals



Oct. 31, 2006 A son, Logan Dean Scragg, to Danielle Renee Blakeman, of Thelma

Nov. 1, 2006 A daughter, Lauren JoLee Collins, to Jamie & Jodi Collins, of Royalton

Nov. 1, 2006 A daughter, McKenzie Lynn Riley Montgomery, to Jillian Combs, of Salyersville

Nov. 2, 2006 A daughter, Dreama Marie Newsome, to Derrick & Jennifer Newsome, of Ligon

Nov. 2, 2006 A son, Damian George Newsome, to Derrick & Jennifer Newsome, of Ligon

Nov. 2, 2006 A son, Maxwell Tyler Vanhoose, to Larry & Lisa Vanhoose, of Paintsville

Nov. 2, 2006 A son, Kody Bryce Littleton, to Jesse & Janice Littleton, of Prestonsburg

Nov. 2, 2006 A daughter, Breonna Raelia Vanderpool, to Sharon Ashley Vanderpool, of Garrett

Nov. 3, 2006 A son, Evan Rydec Akemon, to Russell & Julie Rose Akemon, of Hazard

Nov. 3, 2006 A son, Westley Jacob Tipton, to Paul & Jessica Tipton, of Wittensville

Nov. 3, 2006 A daughter, Cloey Skye Mosley, to Christa & Phillip Mosley, Jr., of Hazard

Nov. 3, 2006 A daughter, Alexandria Paige King, to Anthony & Heather King, of Topmost

Nov. 3, 2006 A son, Zachary Ryan Ramey, to Teresa Lynn Ramey, of Garrett

Nov. 8, 2006 A son, Devin Joseph Thacker, to Kayla Griffith, of Blaine

Nov. 8, 2006 A daughter, Cheyenne Yvette Horn, to Cassandra & Johnathan Horn, of Louisa

Nov. 8, 2006 A son, Cole Alexander Skaggs, to Tiffany & Danny Skaggs, of Denver

Nov. 8, 2006 A son, Bailey Andren Keith Caudill, to Tiffany Triplett, of Allen

Nov. 9, 2006 A daughter, Porshe iason Leslie Reichenbach, to Rebecca & Jason Reichenbach, of Paintsville

Nov. 9, 2006 A son, Braxton Ryan Dylan Blackburn, to Brandie Blackburn, of Prestonsburg

Nov. 10, 2006 A son, Braxton Hunter Montgomery, to Tosya & Justin Montgomery, of Salyersville

Nov. 10, 2006 A son, Braydon Andrew Montgomery, to Tosya & Justin Montgomery, of Salyersville

Nov. 10, 2006 A son, Daxon Wyn Whiteherse, to Nikki Dallena Grigsby, of Ary

Nov. 10, 2006 A son, Noah Nathaniel Johnson, to Darlene & Larry Johnson, of Hazard

Nov. 10, 2006 A daughter, Marissa Miracle Jean Adams, to Brandie & Kenneth Adams, of Yeaddiss

Nov. 10, 2006 A son, Cody David Childers, to Diana & Jason Childers, of Jackson

Nov. 10, 2006 A daughter, Allison McKenzie Hamilton, to Sarah & Marlin Hamilton, of Teaberry

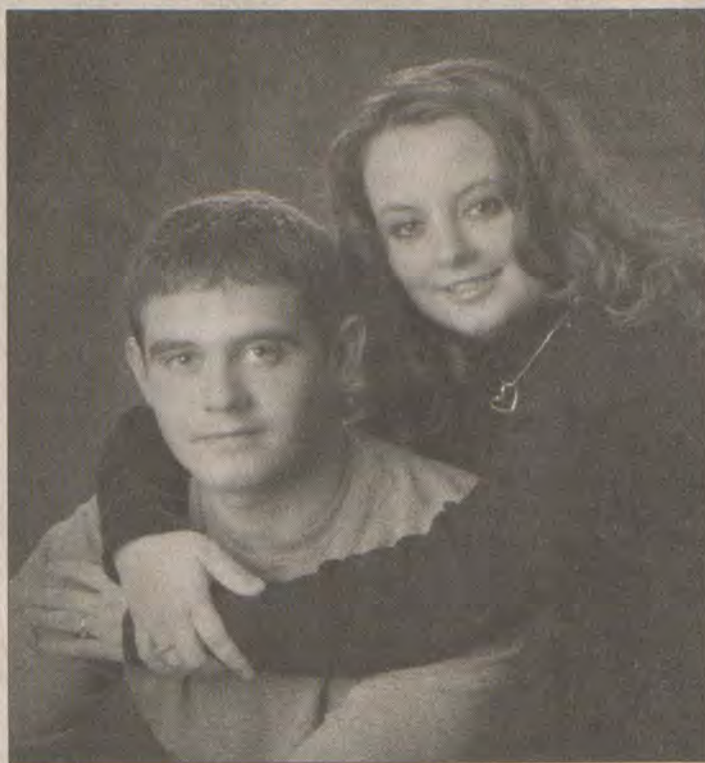
Nov. 12, 2006 A son, Christopher Clyde Spriggs, to Leanna Patton, of Wayland

Nov. 12, 2006 A daughter, Morgan Ann Lovely, to Tiffany Brown, of Salyersville

Nov. 11, 2006 A son, Robert Dason Burchett, to Sarah & Robert Burchett, of Gunlock

Nov. 11, 2006 A son, Joseph Parker Honeycutt, to Kelly & Jeffery Honeycutt, of Pine Top

## Wedding



### Vance-Calhoun

Kathy Vance and Robert Vance, of Garrett, are pleased to announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Brittany R. Vance, to Mr. Wallace "Junior" Calhoun, of Prestonsburg.

The bride-elect is a 2006 graduate of Allen Central High School. She is currently attending classes at the National College of Business and Technology. She is also employed at Care-A-Lot Day Care, in Martin.

The prospective groom is employed at East Kentucky Tire, in Martin, as a project developer for J. Strong Industries, a sister company of East Kentucky Tire. He is the son of Wallace and Connie Calhoun, of Prestonsburg.

The couple will wed in a ceremony that will take place on December 9, 2006, at half past the hour of three o'clock in the afternoon. The ceremony will be performed by Pastor Mabry Holbrook at the Trimble Chapel Freewill Baptist Church, in Watergap.

A reception will immediately follow. After a brief honeymoon, the couple will return to reside in Watergap.

## Eyes

Continued from p15

"Remember to take care of those financial things you need to get done today," (followed by a quick "Please, Lord, let me be able to take care of those financial things I need to get done today..."), along with "Make arrangements to get a photo of Yali and Huimin on campus for Friday's story," and "My gosh, that cat's gotta have a bath," and, "Did I remember to give Elliott lunch money?," followed by "Remember to peel that apple Elizabeth asked for," and, "Why did I dream that gruesome nightmare about blood and guts last night?" (Hmm, I wonder, indeed...)

Yes, dear readers, all those thoughts, plus many, many more. Is it any wonder, then, that I then sat down, applied a thin layer of moisturizer to my dry and flaking skin (which, by the way, is supposed to be a physical symptom of stress), followed by concealer (for the redness caused by the dry and flaking skin), followed by eye makeup (should have realized something was going wrong at this point), followed by attempting to apply the face powder after skipping the application of foundation.

As I patted the powder across my cheeks and nose, I thought to myself, "Man, lookin' a little rougher than usual this morning, old gal." (Followed by, "the pace is killin' ya, ain't it?") Fortunately, my wits snapped back into shape just in time for me to realize what I was doing, but, by then, I had to apply the foundation over top the powder and that didn't leave such a fantastic, or even remotely "beautiful" effect. Oh, well, the older I get, the less I care about such things. I wasn't out to win any beauty pageants in my youth, and I sure as heck have no such designs nowadays. I could have, however, cleaned my skin and started all over again, but as my daughters like to say, "that would take time and effort."

Time and effort. Seems these days, it's all effort and no time. Man, Samantha sure had it good, didn't she, when she'd just wiggle that cute little nose of hers and make time stop till she got it all figured out. Trouble with me is, I'd never get it "all figured out" and so, if I had that kind of power, it would end up being the end of time.

If some things don't give on my end of the world pretty soon, it's gonna be the end of me...



### Giving thanks

The Prestonsburg Health Care Center held its annual Thanksgiving dinner for residents and their families this past November 21. Several families attended and everyone enjoyed a wonderful holiday buffet of chicken and dumplings, baked ham, sweet potatoes, green beans, homemade rolls and their choice of strawberry, peach or blackberry cobbler. The day was one of fond reminiscing and family togetherness. The center is planning several upcoming holiday events to celebrate the Christmas season and the staff invites everyone to stop by and pay their residents a cheery visit.

### TOYS FOR TOTS 2006

The Carl D. Perkins Job Corps Center, in cooperation with the Marine Corps Reserve, will be hosting Toys for Tots 2006 for Johnson County residents on December 21, and Floyd County, on December 22, at the Perkins Gymnasium. Anyone interested in donating a new unopened toy can drop them off at the following locations:

Floyd County locations:  
All First Commonwealth Bank locations  
Big Sandy RECC  
Brad Hughes Toyota  
Cash Express  
Dollar Trees  
Honda of Prestonsburg  
East KY Tire  
IGA at Stanville  
Layne's Hardware  
Messer's Department Store  
Save-A-Lot  
WQHY

Johnson County locations:  
All Citizen National Bank locations  
Brown's Ford  
Fashion Bug  
Glenda's Little Nook  
Ramada Inn  
All toys collected will be distributed to local children. Anyone in need of receiving toys, for ages infant to 13 years old, need to contact your Family Resource Center at your local elementary and middle schools. For more information, contact Marsha Hackworth at (606) 886-1037, ext. 105, or Lisa Moore at ext. 127.

## Diva

Continued from p15

day body clutter I've been known to put on.

1—Burn More. You might want to consider adding a few more minutes to your cardio workout. Your body is smart and will step your metabolism up as a thank you, helping you become more efficient using calories.

2—Eat Less. No, I'm not talking radical diets here. Just being mindful to the fact that there will be more food everywhere I go and chances are, I will be trying some of it. Taking a little less food at mealtimes will help me out in the long run.

3—Just One. Let's face it: saying no to all the goodies out there is next to impossible. So I am giving myself permission to say yes to ONE (a small one, too). That doesn't mean one of each if there is a gi-normous spread in front of me! It means carefully choosing which goodie I am going to indulge in and then going for it, guilt-free.

4—Drink up. With water that is! When so much holiday cheer comes in a drinkable form, body clutter can creep on even if your eating habits haven't changed. Keeping in mind that almost everything that goes in your mouth counts, drinking lots of water instead of hot cocoa, spiced cider and mulled wine makes sense.

5—Don't Starve. That's right! A lot of people "save up" for a big holiday party, starving themselves so they can pig out at the buffet line. This is a big mistake and will undo all good intentions. Keeping your metabolism stoked (by eating several times a day) will help keep the body clutter at bay...even during holiday time!

Of course, there is always more. But for this Dinner Diva, this list of Five is very doable and something I know I can do. I hope to report back in January (after our newest book, *Body Clutter* (Fireside)) comes out that I was successful! Stay tuned and let me know how you do, too!

For more help putting dinner on your table check out Leanne's website, [www.SavingDinner.com](http://www.SavingDinner.com) or her *Saving Dinner Book series*, published by Ballantine and her new book, *Body Clutter*. Copyright 2006: Leanne Ely. Used by permission in this publication.

## Birthday



### Maddie turns 1!

Madelyn Grace Combs will turn one year old on December 9, 2006. Madelyn will celebrate her special day with her big sister, Katie, and her parents, Katrina and Steven Combs, of Winchester. Her grandparents, Dennis and Janice DeBoard, of Prestonsburg, and David and Mary Ann Combs, of Whitesburg, along with her Aunt Bina and cousin Jack, of North Carolina, have plans to visit "Maddie" and bring along lots of birthday surprises.

## China

Continued from p15

like to come again for another year when this one is over," she said with a laugh. In Tianjin, at the university there, Huimin teaches a course in American Studies.

On the Big Sandy Community and Technical College campus, both women teach a Chinese language course, as well as tutoring students in English and language arts. "At first, I had a little trouble with understanding them," said Ethan Anderson, a BSCTC-Prestonsburg, student. "I was worried that they wouldn't be able to understand me, but then I realized they had no problem with that and they understood everything I was saying. Now, we have no trouble at all communicating. I really like the individual attention I receive from them," he said.

"This is a once-in-a-lifetime experience that Yali and Huimin will not soon forget," said John Carroll, associate professor and interim associate dean of academic affairs, BSCTC. "It's also a once-in-a-lifetime experience for all of our students, faculty, staff and administrators at the college."

Yali and Huimin first learned of the Chinese Visiting Scholar program through BSCTC professors Tom and Chenzhao

Vierheller. Chenzhao is also from China and she and her husband, along with their two sons, visit Chenzhao's family in China on occasion. During one of these visits, the Vierhellers became acquainted with Yali and Huimin.

Once approved for participation in the program, Yali and Huimin soon found themselves, in early August, settling into a new residence in Prestonsburg. Locals have likely seen them bicycling or strolling through town, cameras in hand, as they capture photographs of Eastern Kentucky and her people to share with family and friends at home.

Since their arrival in Prestonsburg, Yali and Huimin have visited Paintsville, Martin, Pikeville, Berea, Lexington, Ashland, and Huntington, West Virginia. Huimin also embarked upon a solo visit to Chicago, Illinois during the college's week-long fall break. "I rode the buses and the rail trains and went to many museums, went shopping and visited Chinatown," she said. "I enjoyed my trip there very much."

In Eastern Kentucky, the teachers have enjoyed visiting area schools, churches, art

centers, and local shopping centers. They are eager to learn about American and Appalachian culture and greatly enjoyed a recent trip to the Mountain Arts Center to attend the KY Opry Christmas show. The women shared that they enjoyed the show "very much" and that they think that Munroe (Fred Goble) is a "very funny man." While at the show, the women were treated to a backstage tour by Ken Carriere, of Goodtime Productions, where they got to meet several of the performers and the arts center founder, "Miss" Billie Jean Osborne.

"We here at Big Sandy Community and Technical College are grateful that dedicated people like Tom Vierheller and our president, Dr. George Edwards, have given of themselves so freely in order to bring these wonderful visiting scholars to our campus so that we can all share in and benefit from the exposure of this wonderful cultural exchange program," said Carroll.

To find out if Yali and Huimin might be available to visit your school or to speak to your organization, contact John P. Carroll at 886-3863, ext. 64717, or email to: [john.carroll@kctes.edu](mailto:john.carroll@kctes.edu).



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 1996 Dodge Grand Caravan And a 1982 Volkswagon Rabbit Convertible stored since 1991 call 874-2421 if no answer please leave message.

**FOR SALE**  
 1998 5 Speed Toyota Tacoma, 2006 Commercial Scag Mower, 51" Mitsubishi big screen TV, 2002 Honda Recon, V3620 Motorolla Phone, LG VX6000 Camera Phone. Lots of yard sale items. 1 price. 889-0592.

**EMPLOYMENT**

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

**210-JOB LISTINGS**

**HELP WANTED**  
 Front Desk Clerk Please apply in person at Hotel Best Western (formerly Prestonsburg Inn)

**JOB OPENING**  
 Mountain Manor of Painstville is taking applications for a LPN (7a-7p) position. Excellent wages and benefits. Apply in person at 1025 Euclid

Avenue, Painstville, Ky from Monday thru Friday between 8a to 4:30p.

**HELP WANTED**

The City of Martin is now accepting applications for a part time police officer. Applications may be picked up at Martin City Hall on Mainstreet or you can mail a resume to: City of Martin P.O. Box 749 Martin, Ky 41649. The deadline for accepting applications is Monday, December 4 2006. City of Martin is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**JOP OPENING**

Receptionist needed at HT Hackney Company. Apply in person, drug test required. 3wks 10/11

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Big Sandy Area Development District is seeking a Computer Systems Manager. This person must have: Complete working knowledge of Server 2003 Active Directory and MS Exchange Mail Server. Must have the ability to troubleshoot and repair all server and desktop hardware. Must have working knowledge of (LAN). Must be able to install and operate a variety of network related software programs, including MS Access and in tractive communications via the web, and other Microsoft Office Applications. Must be able to work with a variety of people including the ability to establish and maintain effective personal and consultative relationships with staff members as well as private business, federal, state, and local governmental agencies. This person is central point of contact for all computer related issues. Helpful to have. Sequel Server, internet information server, DNS Server, and DHCP Server experience. Asp/Java experience. Router and switch experience. Nortel phone experience. A Bachelor's degree and two years related experience required. May take an additional years experience in lieu of degree. Salary commensurate with experience. If you fit this description and want to work for a great organization with excellent benefits, send resume to Ms. Terry Trimble, 110 Resource Drive, Prestonsburg, Ky. 41653 by December 1. BSADD is an EOE.

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**JOB OPENING**

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**MERCHANDISE**

**445-Furniture**

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**450-Yard Sale**

**YARD SALE**  
 Prestonsburg Elementary PTA sponsored yard sale in the PES school cafeteria on Saturday, December 2 9A - 3P.

**480-Misc.**

**FOR SALE**  
 1 BURIAL PLOT LOCATED ON RICHMOND CEMETERY. CALL 886-3394.

**FOR SALE**  
 Windows for sale. Five 36x62 Double Pane insulated windows. Never been used. Windows open from the inside for easy cleaning. Call 606-226-0913 Leave message.

**485-Musical Instruction**

**Leslie studio** of music has recently relocated to downtown Prestonsburg. Call David Leslie for piano lessons after 12:00pm. Limited opening available. 8 years old and above. Call 889-8979. No adults please.

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**530-Houses**

**HOUSE FOR SALE** Located at Wells Edition in Pikeville. Asking \$210,000. Call 478-5403.

**HOUSE FOR SALE** A-frame 3 BR 1 bath well maintained convenient location, great neighborhood, above ground pool, 2 car garage. \$125,000 Call 606-478-1156 or 606-477-5887.

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**RENTALS**

**610-APARTMENT**

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**APT FOR RENT**  
 Applications are now being accepted for 1,2,3, and 4 bedroom apartments for low and very low income households at the Housing Authority Of Martin. These

apartments are located at the Grigsby heights, Town Center plaza and Pageant Hills in Martin, KY. Rent is based on the household's gross monthly income. The housing Authority of Martin has a maximum rent of \$360.00 for qualified applicants. Air conditioned units are available. Please apply between 1:00 pm and 4:00 pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, at the office located at Grigsby Heights on Route 80, in Martin. You may call 285-3681 for more information. The Housing Authority Of Martin does not discriminate, in admission or employment in subsidized housing on account of race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, age, familial status or disability.

**FOR RENT**

2 BR Apt accommodating only 1 or 2 people. 612 N. Arnold Ave, Prestonsburg. \$600 per month plus utilities. Appliances furnished including W/D. Lease and deposit required. No pets! No smoking! 886-6460.

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Townhouse for rent, 3 BR 2 1/2 bath, 1600 Sq. Ft. \$1100 Monthly, plus utilities, 1 year lease required. 606-874-1660 ext. 24

**FOR RENT**

Branham Heights Apartments, Wheelwright, Ky is accepting applications for one bedroom apt. Rent is based on income. 452-4777 E.H.O

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2 BR central heat and air. Excellent condition. Located on US 23 1 mile from prestonsburg. Call 886-9007 or 889-9747. NO PETS.

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**AFFORDABLE SPECIAL**

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**630-House**

**HOUSE FOR RENT** 2 BR 2 full bath, living room, dining room, kitchen, 2 car garage. Large lawn. Asking \$700 month. Call 886-3662.

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2 BR house for rent. 3 miles from Prestonsburg on David road. Highway 404. Quiet neighborhood. Call 886-3902.

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3 BR 2 Bath Log Home in Oaklawn, Hager Hill. Central H/A low utility bills. Large covered-deck, Large storage barn. Acres of privacy. Open Oct 31. \$1090.00 month or best offer. 850-222-2226. Leave message.

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1600 Sq ft house 3 BR 2 bath, kitchen, utility room, 1600 sq. foot house, heat pump, built in vacuume. Gated community, references and deposit required. Located in Knott County. No pets, available 10/23 call 438-6104.

**650-Mobile Home**

**FOR RENT**

Lots for rent. New mobile home park. Allen-Dwell area Floyd Co. All sizes. Black top streets, parking pads, all lighted area. Some restrictions. Call 377-2357

**FOR RENT**

One Mobile Home lots for rent 1/2 mile on right from Prestonsburg on Town Branch Road. Lots have city water, gas, sewage, and AEP electric. Call Karen 874-7155.

**FOR RENT**

Trailer for rent. Call 874-9790.

**FOR RENT**

2 BR MH, total electric, 3 miles from Prestonsburg. No pets. 886-9007 or 889-9747

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Mobile Home for rent at Allen, call 874-2805.

**FOR RENT**

2 BR MH for rent, call 874-0262.

**FOR RENT**

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Large 3 BR mobile home 2 bath on large lot. Room for outside pets. Call 886-8366.

**FOR RENT**

2 BR 1 bath mobile home at

Ligon. Deposit and references required. Call 377-0068 or 794-4360.

**850-Personals**

**WHITE MALE**  
 Would like to meet White female in Prestonsburg area. Must be non smoker, non drinker. Age 55+ if interested call before 10:00 pm. 886-0355.

**LEGALS**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that Ernie and Yvonne Gullett, 83 Bosco Tipple Rd., Hueysville, Ky. 41640, has filed an application with the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet to placement of fill, 82°51'6.42", 37°29'46.03. The property is located on Bosco Tipple Road. Any comments or objections concerning this application shall be directed to: Kentucky Division of Water, Water Resources Branch, 14 Reilly Road, Frankfort, Office Park, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. Phone (502) 564-3410.

**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE**

Pursuant to

**Application Number 836-5422 Operator Change**

In accordance with 405 KAR 8:010, notice is hereby given that MATT/CO., INC., 439 Meadows Branch, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653 intends to revise permit number 836-5422 to

change the operator. The operator presently approved in the permit is Matt/Co., Inc.;439 Meadows Branch; Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. The new operator will be Cheyenne Enterprises, Inc.; P.O. Box 2767; Pikeville, Kentucky 41501. The operation is located 1.0 mile

**ATTENTION!**  
 The Prestonsburg Park Commission is now accepting applications for the full time position of Park Manager. The position offers attractive salary and benefits. Applicants should send confidential resume to Prestonsburg Park Commission, P.O. Box 911, Prestonsburg, Ky 41653. Applicants should have experience managing people and have a knowledge of facilities management. College degree is a plus, but not requirement. We are an EOE.

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**625 James S. Trimble Boulevard**  
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**(606) 789-3511, Ext. 1229**



north of Dana in Floyd County. The proposed operation is approximately located 0.2 miles southeast from Johnson Fork Road's junction with Cecil Branch Road and located in Johnson Fork. The latitude is 37°33'57" and the longitude is 82°41'13".

The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. Written comments or objections must be filed with the Director of the Division of Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. All comments or objections must be received within fifteen (15) days of today's date.

**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE Pursuant to Application No. 836-0330 Amend. No. 2**

1) In accordance with KRS 350.070, notice is hereby given that Wolverine Resources, Inc., P.O. Box 77, Ivel, KY 41642, (606) 889-8440, has applied for an amendment to an existing surface coal mining and reclamation operation, located 1.0 mile southwest of Brainard, Kentucky, and in Floyd and Magoffin counties. The amendment will add 386.77 acres of surface disturbance, making a total area of 632.67 acres within the

amended permit boundary.

2) The proposed amendment area is approximately 0.75 mile southwest from KY 114's junction with Prater Branch, and located 0.92 mile southwest of Middle Creek. The latitude is 37°39'26". The longitude is 82°54'44".

3) The operation is located on the Ivyton U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 minute quadrangle map. The surface area to be disturbed by the amendment is owned by Kenzie Carpenter Jr., & Ron Cooley, Debbie & Phillip Ousley, Luther Miller Estate C/O Kathleen Miller, Fork Farm Inc. C/O Della W. Burke, Osie Dunn, Green Holbrook Heirs C/O Charles Bays, Bill England Heirs C/O Glen Allen, Jamie & Lisa Powell. The operation will use the area mining method of surface mining. The operation will affect an area within 100 feet of Puncheon Camp Creek Road and Rough and Tough Road. The operation will not involve relocation of the public road.

4) The application has been filed for public inspection at the Division of Mine Permits, Department for Surface Mining, Reclamation and Enforcement's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653, phone (606) 889-1746. Written comments or objections must be filed with the Director, Division of Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, KY 40601.

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ANNUAL PLAN**

The Housing Authority of Martin is developing its 2007 Annual Plan. The plan is available for review and comment at the Grigsby Heights office, located at 109 Raymond Griffith Drive #1101, Martin, Ky. 41649.

The Authority's office hours are 8 a.m. to noon, and 1 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., except for being closed Wednesday afternoon.

In addition, a public hearing will be held at 3 p.m., on Thursday, December 7, 2006, at the Grigsby Heights Community Room, 109 Raymond Griffith Drive #1101, Martin, Ky. 41649. Anyone requiring assistance for sight or hearing impaired individuals may contact the agency at (606) 285-3681 (voice), or 1-800-648-6056 (TDD).

If you require special accommodations or translation services, please advise the Housing Authority of Martin, 72 Hours in advance. The Housing Authority of Martin is an Equal Opportunity Agency.

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# **HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL PREVIEW**

- **Allen Central**
- **Betsy Layne**
- **David School**
- **Piarist School**
- **Prestonsburg**
- **South Floyd**

**The Times** / FLOYD COUNTY

**Friday, December 1, 2006**



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## Interest renewed in storied Lady Rebel program



by **STEVE LeMASTER**  
SPORTS EDITOR

**EASTERN** – During the 1990s, it was hard to find a 15th Region Girls' Basketball Tournament without the Allen Central Lady Rebels in the mix. Jennifer Hopkins had the opportunity to play in a few tournament games for the Lady Rebels. Now, Hopkins finds herself calling the shots as the Lady Rebel head coach. The 2005-06 season was her first campaign as head coach and despite posting a 5-25 record, Allen Central was in contention for a 15th Region title come March. The Lady Rebels finished runner-up to Prestonsburg in the 58th District. Behind senior Alanna Cline, Allen Central pushed host Prestonsburg for the district title. Cline and Allen Central's two other captains from last season - Mara Bilitier and Amanda Mills - all graduated. One goal for the Hopkins-coached Lady Rebels is to win the 58th District championship. Allen Central will look to do that this season with three starters and the sixth man from last season back.

Allen Central played a tough schedule last season and Hopkins feels her team benefited from playing the talented competition.

"After playing eight teams in the Mountain Top Ten during the 2005-06 season, the returning girls are battle tested," Hopkins confided.

The Lady Rebels ended the 2005-06 season

with a loss to Belfry in the opening round of the 15th Region Tournament held at the Eastern Kentucky Exposition Center.

The lone senior returning is shooting guard Amanda Thacker (9 ppg). She will have two starters and the sixth man back to go with her. Juniors Sara Johnson (10 ppg, 6 rpg), Elizabeth Dingus (9.5 ppg, 4 rpg), and Kim Bilitier (5 ppg, 4 apg) will be in the starting lineup along with Thacker. Johnson has returned to play the four spot.

The Lady Rebels will compete during the 2006-07 season without Cline, last season's Floyd County Conference Player of the Year. At the end of last season, Cline ranked as one of the 15th Region's top players.

"Sara has improved her game around the basket this summer," said Hopkins. "Elizabeth is an all around player, doing whatever we ask of her. Kim will run the team from the point guard position. Her ballhandling has improved greatly over the summer. Freshman Brandy Brown and Jamie Mullins along with three transfers have been battling for the other starting position. I believe by the end of the season this team will be ready for postseason play. The preseason went well; the girls worked hard. The number of girls wanting to play this season has increased. I'm hoping to build this program back to prominence."

## More experienced Rebels back in district title contention

by **STEVE LeMASTER**  
SPORTS EDITOR

**EASTERN** - Veteran Allen Central Coach John Martin isn't accustomed to not coaching a basketball team during the month of March. The chances for his Rebel basketball program returning to the postseason during the 2006-07 campaign are good.

Five seniors are back to lead the Rebels. The senior class includes guards Ryan Collins (6-0, 165), Farley Joseph (5-9, 140) and Justin Robinson (5-9, 145), center Josh Martin (6-2, 180) and forward Tyler Slone (6-1, 170). Collins and Martin have the most playing experience of any of the returning Rebels. Joseph is considered the top outside shooter of the group. Collins, Martin and Slone started games most of last season.

Allen Central finished the 2005-06 season 5-21, falling to Floyd County Conference regular-season champion Betsy Layne in the opening round of the 58th District Tournament.

Guard Alex Hammonds (5-8, 150) is the top junior back for the Rebels. Joining Hammonds in the junior class are guards Clifton Turner (5-10, 165) and Robbie Cole (5-8, 140).

Sophomore forward Josh Prater (6-4, 175), a three-sport standout who also plays football and

baseball, also returns. Prater - the team's tallest player - is the lone sophomore for the Rebels.

"This is a hardworking bunch, one of the hardest working ones I've had," said Martin. "They just come to practice and work hard every day. We'll be able to play some different players at different times. The talent level is even for the most part. We won't lose a whole lot when he have to go to the bench and substitute players."

Allen Central, which will look to get back to the 15th Region Tournament, features two of Floyd County's top young athletes in brothers Hunter (6-1, 205) and Logan Crowder (5-11, 195).

"The Crowder boys have worked hard and played well during the preseason," Martin confided. "They'll be able to help us some this season."

Chris Stumbo - fresh off of a successful football season - is another freshman for the Rebels.

Allen Central will again face a competitive schedule. During the Christmas Break, Allen Central will travel to Clay County and play in the Bobby Keith Classic.

ADD ADDITIONAL PARAGRAPH IF POSSIBLE



by **JAMIE HOWELL**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

**BETSY LAYNE** - After stumbling through much of the 2005-06 season, the Betsy Layne Bobcats enter the new season, fresh off a regional semifinal appearance. Coach Brent Rose's team caught fire late last season and advanced to the 15th Region Tournament semifinals before falling to eventual champion Johnson Central. The Bobcats finished last season 12-16.

Betsy Layne will look to replace one of the best players in the 15th Region in Brandon Kidd, who was lost to graduation and has since moved on to nearby Pikeville College. The Bobcats return two players with varsity experience in senior Trai Witt (6-6) and Brennan Case (5-10). Both Witt (8 ppg, 4 rpg) and Case (4.5 ppg, 3.2 apg) started last season. The two will be looked upon to provide scoring for the Bobcats.

Betsy Layne will take part in the First National Bank Holiday Classic at Bracken County Dec. 27-30. Sixteenth Region contender Greenup County is also on the Bobcat schedule.

Betsy Layne will take on Big Creek W.Va. in a home-and-away series on Dec. 21 and Jan. 6. Juniors Justin Collins, Samuel Keathley, Michael Lafferty and Brandon Blair also played well this summer and are expected to give the Bobcats plenty of needed depth. Rose seems excited about the upcoming season.

"We are young, but I expect us to improve as the season moves along," Rose commented.

Another newcomer expected to add size for the Bobcats inside is Tyler Newman (6-7)

Betsy Layne will look to Case and Collins for outside shooting threats. The Bobcats will depend on Witt to be an inside force. Betsy Layne will also compete in the All "A" Classic near the end of January.

District foe Prestonsburg defeated Betsy Layne last season in the 58th District championship game.

The Bobcats knocked off Pike Central in the first round of the 15th Region Tournament before losing to Johnson Central in the semifinals. Johnson Central, after beating Betsy Layne, went on to defeat Shelby Valley in the region tournament finals.



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*Good Luck, All Area Teams!*



## Youthful Betsy Layne girls' team without seniors

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

**BETSY LAYNE** - Whatever the Betsy Layne girls' basketball team does during the 2006-07 season will be done without the help of any seniors.

Veteran Coach Cassandra Akers - who has enjoyed much success at the helm of the Ladycat program, including winning two 15th Region championships and back-to-back-to-back 15th Region All "A" titles - now coaches a team with no seniors and just three juniors.

"We're real young, but we do have some players back with experience from last season," Akers said.

As an eighth-grader last season, Megan Hamilton ranked as one of the 58th District's top players. Hamilton averaged 13.8 points per game out of a starting role for the Ladycats. As a freshman, Hamilton is expected to again provide a lot of the scoring for the Ladycats. She is a pair of a four-player Ladycat freshman class. The Betsy Layne girls' roster, showing its youthfulness, features three eighth-graders. The younger players in the Ladycat program know what it takes to win, having already excelled and accomplished much in the Floyd County grade school ranks. Betsy Layne High feeder schools - Betsy Layne Elementary and John M. Stumbo - each produced a Floyd County Conference Player of the

Year during the recently-completed 2006 season.

Junior guard Kaitlin Lawson is back for Betsy Layne after going out of action last winter with a season-ending injury. Prior to her injury last season, Lawson averaged 11 points and seven rebounds per game for the Ladycats.

Joining Lawson in the Ladycat junior class are forward Rachel Hamilton (5-7) and forward/guard Krista Flanery, both of whom enjoyed a considerable amount of playing time for Betsy Layne during the 2005-06 season.

Guard Andie Meade (5-6), center/forward Stephanie McKinney (5-8) and forward Kendra Case (5-7) are sophomores back for the Ladycats.

Joining Megan Hamilton in Floyd County's most talented freshman girls' basketball class are guard Lindsey Martin (5-6), forward/center Faith Reynolds (5-7) and Amby Tackett (5-4), all of whom made valuable contributions last season.

The eighth-graders on Betsy Layne's varsity roster are forward Courtney Burgess (5-5), guard Taylor Hott (5-4) and guard/forward Emily Stanley (5-4).

The Ladycats averaged 45.4 points per game last season. From the free throw line, Betsy Layne shot 64.1 percent. Betsy Layne played well at times last season. The Ladycats were able to knock off eventual 58th District Champion Prestonsburg during the regular-season.



## Blackcats look to defend district title in 2006-07

by JAMIE HOWELL  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

**PRESTONSBURG** - After being hit hard by graduation in 2006, the Prestonsburg High School boys' basketball team is faced with the task of defending the 58th District title - without the services of four of five starters from last season's team.

Gone from the Blackcat basketball program are accomplished starters Michael Stephens, Sean Leslie, Brooks Herrick and Nick McGuire. The only players returning with much game experience are junior guard Bobby Hughes and Jordan Hall. Prestonsburg will look to 6-8 senior center Trevor Patton to anchor a solid backcourt that also includes 6-3 forward Nathaniel Stephens. Patton and Stephens have each returned to the hardwood following a successful football season.

Prestonsburg Coach Jackie Day Crisp will depend on a solid backcourt that includes Hughes and Hall as well as senior Lincoln Slone and junior Taylor Clark. Prestonsburg finished last season as the 58th District Champion, but fell to Belfry in the first round of the 15th Region Tournament held at the Eastern Kentucky Exposition Center.

Senior Chayse Martin has decided to return to the hardwood for the first time in three years. The 6-1 forward - also fresh off of a season on

the high school gridiron - is expected to give Prestonsburg some quality minutes.

Seniors Michael Hernandez and Mason Vance are two other Blackcats that should see time as well.

Prestonsburg is paired with South Floyd, Allen Central and Betsy Layne in a very well-balanced 58th District. The Blackcats have been one of the 15th Region's most solid teams come tournament time for the past several years. Crisp's team had advanced to the regional semifinals three straight years before falling in the opening round last season. An up-tempo style of play would seem to be a good fit for Prestonsburg with the athletic guards that dot the roster. Prestonsburg will look to replace most of the points per game from last season, but so will Betsy Layne and South Floyd. Allen Central returns the most varsity players of any 58th District team.

Prestonsburg will take part in the fourth annual Paintsville Tiger Hoops Classic which runs from Dec. 27-30. The Blackcats will take on North Hardin in the opening round of the Paintsville tournament. Other opponents on the Prestonsburg schedule include 14th Region contenders June Buchanan, Wolfe County and Hazard, the region's defending champion.

Prestonsburg will open the regular-season Wednesday Dec. 6 at home versus longtime rival Magoffin County.



## Lady Blackcats favored to repeat in district

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

**PRESTONSBURG** - Veteran coach Jack Pack is in elite company when it comes to the 58th District coaching ranks. He's won 58th District titles as head coach in both the boys' and girls' basketball ranks. This past March, Pack guided the Prestonsburg Lady Blackcats to the 58th District championship. He has the Lady Blackcats at the top of the 58th District. The Prestonsburg girls' basketball team is also pushing for consideration as one of the 15th Region's top-five teams.

Four starters return for the Lady Blackcats. Seniors Meaghan Slone and Amber Whitaker, junior Julianne Frye and sophomore Linsey Fields are all back for the Lady Blackcats after enjoying starting roles last season. The lone senior lost via graduation was Darcey Hicks.

As a junior last season, Slone led Prestonsburg in scoring, averaging 14 points per game. Whitaker was right behind Slone in the scoring department, finishing the campaign with a scoring average of 13 points per game.

"Meaghan and Amber lead us, there's no doubt about that," said Pack. "They are two of the region's top players and they play well

together."

Fields started for the Lady Blackcats last season and is expected to take on an even bigger role for the Prestonsburg girls this year.

"Linsey will take on a bigger role for us," Pack commented. "She's proven that she can handle taking that on."

Senior Elizabeth Chaffin will round out the starting-five for the Lady Blackcats.

Rikki Hughes is another player who'll take on a key role for the Prestonsburg girls' team. Brittany Collins, Prestonsburg's leading long-range shooter one year ago, suffered an injury before the start of preseason practice and as a result was lost for the season.

Prestonsburg only dropped one game to a district opponent during the 2005-06 season. Betsy Layne was the only Floyd County team to deal the Lady Blackcats a loss, beating Prestonsburg 55-54 in double overtime during the regular-season.

The Lady Blackcats are playing in this year's Perry County Invitational. Prestonsburg will participate in a post-Christmas tournament Dec. 27 when it begins play in the Boyle County Invitational.



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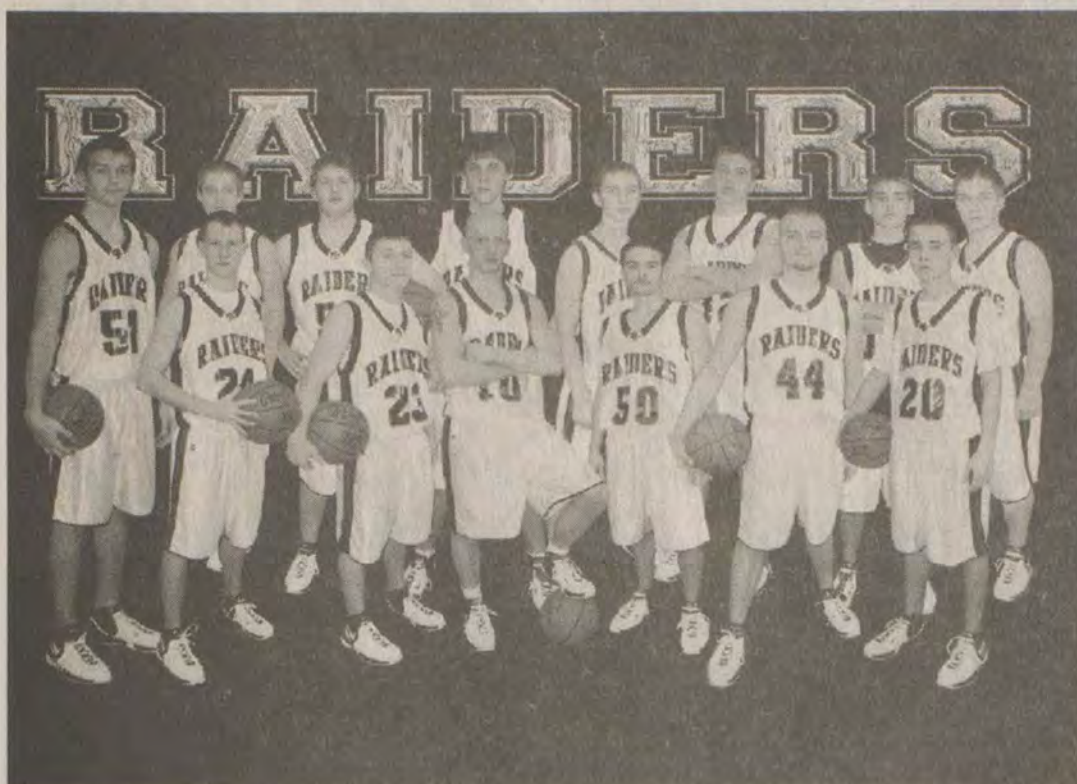


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## South Floyd Raiders return minus four starters



by STEVE LeMASTER  
 SPORTS EDITOR

**HI HAT** – Two-time defending 15th Region All “A” Classic Champion South Floyd may have been hit the hardest of any region boys’ basketball team. Four starters – Ryan Johnson, Ryan Little, Mason Hall and T.J. Hall – moved on as members of the Class of 2006.

The lone returning starter for South Floyd is senior Ethan Johnson, one of the 15th Region’s top players.

Those four starters will be missed.

In 28 games last season, Ryan Johnson scored a total of 481 points and ranked as the team’s third-leading three-point shooter.

Little ranked as the team’s leading rebounder, pulling down an average of just over 10 boards per game.

Mason Hall led the team in both three-point field goal and free throw shooting percentages.

Ethan Johnson (6-0), who averaged double figures scoring last season, made the most three-pointers of any South Floyd Raider last season, knocking down 77 of 208 attempts. Coach Barry Hall’s South Floyd team will rely heavily on the senior standout.

Other leading players back for the Raiders are

senior guard Lyle Johnson (6-0), junior guard Wes Akers (5-7), sophomore guard Adam Slone (6-1) and senior center Kyle Brown (6-2).

Center Devin Collins (6-5) and guard Richie Crum (5-5) are two new seniors for the Raider basketball program.

Sophomore guard Tyler Mitchell (5-10), junior forward Kory Henry, junior forward Kyle Howell (5-10), sophomore forward Chad Patrick (6-1) and junior forward Richard Bentley (6-3) are also on the South Floyd boys’ varsity roster.

South Floyd played its best basketball prior to the month of March last season, finishing the campaign 14-15. The Raiders, under the guidance of head coach Barry Hall, lost four seniors to graduation.

South Floyd ended its season short of vying for a 58th District championship. Host Prestonsburg dismantled the Raiders in the opening round of the 2006 58th District Tournament, winning 92-55.

South Floyd will open the 2006-07 season at home in Raider Arena Friday, Dec. 1 versus defending 15th Region Champion Johnson Central. The two teams are quite familiar with one another. South Floyd opened the 2005-06 season at home on a winning note following an 89-81 win over Johnson Central.

## Lady Raiders are a year older, but still young

by STEVE LeMASTER  
 SPORTS EDITOR

**HI HAT** – At the end of any given season, most coaches have the chore of replacing players lost via graduation. South Floyd girls’ basketball coach Tony Isaac didn’t have to bother with that during the offseason. No Lady Raiders were lost to graduation. Some of Isaac’s players from last season – including Bre Jackson – moved with their families. Still, Isaac returns a good nucleus of a young team that’ll feature just one senior during the 2006-07 season.

Center Heather Dean (5-10) is the lone senior for the Lady Raiders. Dean definitely did her part last season while playing out of a starting role for South Floyd. She established herself as one of the state’s top rebounders and shot blockers. Dean finished the season tied for 14th in the state in rebounding and averaged over three blocks a game.

Making a young roster even younger, South Floyd features just two juniors. Faith Little – who also started at forward last season for the Lady Raiders – is one of two juniors for the Lady Raiders. Forward Jerri Jones is another South Floyd junior.

Guards Danielle Tackett (5-7) and Lindsey Dye (5-6) and center Jesse Tackett (5-10), all

three of whom logged many minutes last season for the Lady Raiders, make up South Floyd’s sophomore class.

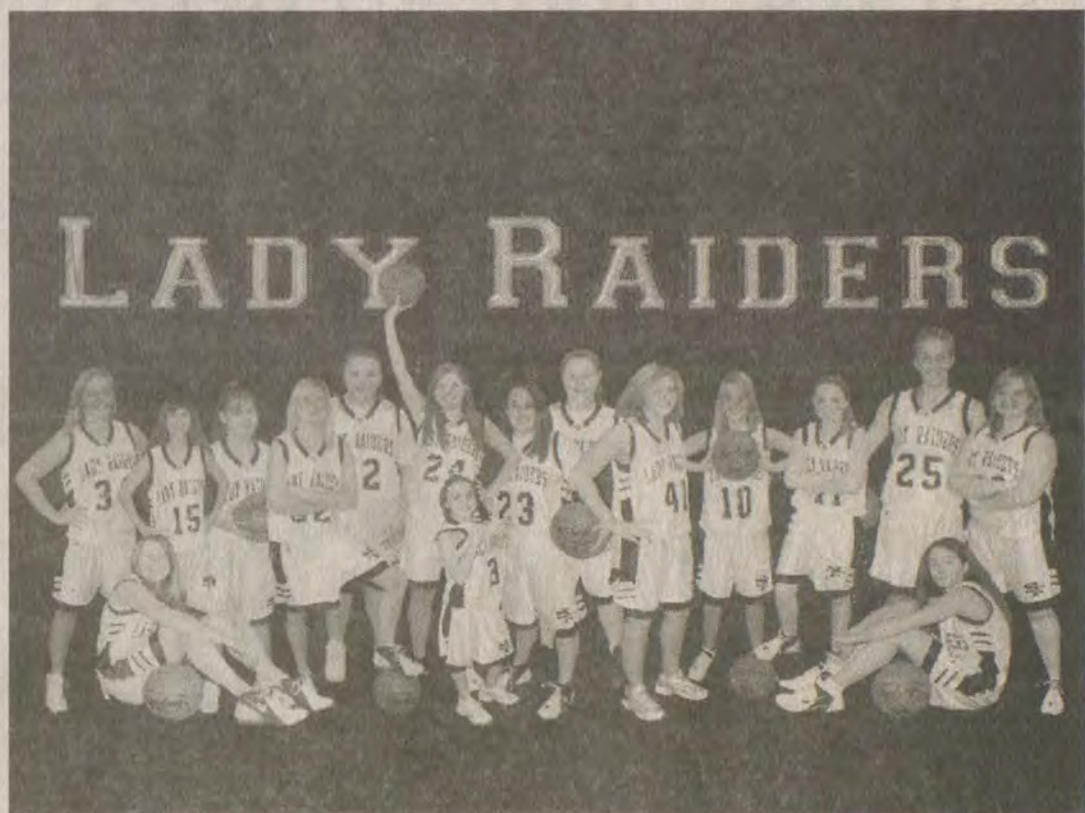
Freshmen Kayla Hall (G), Andrea Conn (G) and Laken Hall (C) all saw playing time for the South Floyd girls’ varsity program last season as eighth-graders.

Kayla Hall was a starter for South Floyd and ranked as one of the team’s leading scorers.

One eighth-grader and three seventh-graders round out the South Floyd roster. Chelsie Tuttle is the lone eighth-grader for South Floyd, but possesses a lot of potential. Tuttle, one of Floyd County’s top eighth-grade girls’ basketball players, helped the Lady Raider varsity program out in the scoring department last season.

Isaac feels his team will steadily improve. The Lady Raiders struggled last season, posting a 1-23 record that ranked them last in the 15th Region. South Floyd defeated Jackson City 61-36 in its season-opener during the 2005-06 season, then didn’t return to the win column again. Prestonsburg dealt the Lady Raiders a season-ending loss in the opening round of the 2006 58th District Tournament.

“These girls have worked hard,” said Isaac. “Our feeder teams have had a lot of success and we expect that to carry over into our program.”



## Piarist made significant progress during ‘05-06 campaign



Under head coach Greg Friend, the Piarist School basketball team made huge strides last season, finishing 7-21. The Knights’ seven wins last season rank as the most single-season victories in school history.

Chris Baker, Caleb Hoskins, Jake Moak, Josh Ousley and Matt Doyle are the top players back for the Knights.

Piarist plays out of the 60th District along with Belfry, Pike County Central and Phelps. Pike County Central is the defending 60th District champion.

Piarist defeated David five times during the 2005-06 season.

The Knights also defeated Riverside Christian.

David School: Ned Pillersdorf is guiding the David School basketball team in its second season as a member of the KHSAA (Kentucky High School Athletic Association).

Blake Stumbo is the top returnee for the Falcons. Joe Tiller is another player back from last season’s team. Josh Dingus and Kasey Ousley are other talented performers for the Falcons.

The David School competes out of the 59th District along with Shelby Valley, Pikeville and East Ridge. Shelby Valley is the defending 59th District Champion.



During the preseason, Piarist entertained David in a scrimmage. The Knights defeated the Falcons 51-36 in the preseason contest.

David went winless last season, finishing 0-28. Before joining the KHSAA and playing varsity competition, David played a junior varsity schedule.

Piarist will meet David in the opening game of this year’s 15th Region All “A” Classic. – TIMES STAFF REPORT

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## FLOYD COUNTY BASKETBALL SCHEDULES

### Allen Central Boys' Basketball 2006-07 Schedule

Dec. 5 at Pike County Central, 7:30 p.m.	Jan. 2 Coca-Cola Classic, TBA	Feb. 2 at Betsy Layne, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 8 Betsy Layne, 7 p.m.	Jan. 9 at Johnson Central, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 3 Oneida Baptist Institute, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 15 at South Floyd, 7:30 p.m.	Jan. 12 at Jackson City, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 6 Prestonsburg, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 22 at Prestonsburg, 6 p.m.	Jan. 16 Sheldon Clark, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 9 South Floyd, 7 p.m.
Dec. 30 at Clay County, 5:45 p.m. (Bobby Keith Classic)	Jan. 19 David School, 7 p.m.	Feb. 13 Belfry, 7:30 p.m.
	Jan. 23 at 15th Region All "A" Classic, TBA	Feb. 20 at Pikeville, 7:30 p.m.
	Jan. 30 East Ridge, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 23 Magoffin County, 7:30 p.m.

### Allen Central Girls' Basketball 2006-07 Schedule

Nov. 30 at Cordia, 6:30 p.m. (Cordia Lady Lions Tip-Off Tournament)	Jan. 2 at Phelps, 8 p.m.	Feb. 2 at Betsy Layne, 6 p.m.
Dec. 8 Betsy Layne, 8:30 p.m.	Jan. 6 TBA Ashland Blazer (Ashland Kitten Shootout at Ashland Blazer)	Feb. 5 at Shelby Valley, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 11 at Johnson Central, 7:30 p.m.	Jan. 13 Powell County, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 9 South Floyd, 8:30 p.m.
Dec. 15 at South Floyd, 6 p.m.	Jan. 15 TBA	Feb. 12 Cordia, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 18 Pikeville, 7:30 p.m.	Jan. 22 Morgan County, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 16 at Greenup County, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 22 at Prestonsburg, 7:30 p.m.	Jan. 27 Prestonsburg, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 17 at Buckhorn, 7:30 p.m.
	Jan. 29 at Paintsville, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 19 Pike County Central, 7:30 p.m.
		Feb. 22 at Sheldon Clark, 6 p.m.

### Betsy Layne Boys' Basketball 2006-07 Schedule

Nov. 28 at Shelby Valley 44-74 (L)	(First National Bank Holiday Classic at Bracken County)	Jan. 30 at Magoffin County, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 1 Magoffin County, 7:15 p.m.	Jan. 5 South Floyd, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 2 Allen Central, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 8 at Allen Central, 7 p.m.	Jan. 6 Big Creek, W.Va., 7 p.m.	Feb. 6 at South Floyd, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 12 Phelps, 7:30 p.m.	Jan. 9 at Piarist School, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 9 Prestonsburg, 6 p.m.
Dec. 15 Piarist School, 6 p.m.	Jan. 12 at Greenup County, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 13 Paintsville, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 19 at Prestonsburg, 7:30 p.m.	Jan. 16 at Phelps, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 16 Pike County Central, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 21 at Big Creek, W.Va., 7 p.m.	Jan. 18 Riverside Christian, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 20 at Sheldon Clark, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 27 Deming, 4:45 p.m.	Jan. 25 at 15th Region All "A" Classic, TBA	Feb. 23 at Pikeville, 7:45 p.m.

### Betsy Layne Girls' Basketball 2006-07 Schedule

Nov. 30 at Cordia Lady Lions Tip-Off Tournament	Jan. 4 at Shelby Valley, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 9 Prestonsburg, 6 p.m.
Dec. 4 at Paintsville, 7:30 p.m.	Jan. 5 South Floyd, 6 p.m.	Feb. 12 Johnson Central, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 8 at Allen Central, 8:30 p.m.	Jan. 10 Letcher County Central, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 15 at East Ridge, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 14 Belfry, 7:30 p.m.	Jan. 16 at 15th Region All "A" Classic, TBA	Feb. 19 at Jenkins, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 16 at Perry County Central, 2:30 p.m.	Jan. 22 Sheldon Clark, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 23 at Pikeville, 6 p.m.
Dec. 19 at Prestonsburg, 6 p.m.	Jan. 26 at Phelps, 7:30 p.m.	
Dec. 27 at First Priority Tri-State Basketball Classic (Bell County/Middlesboro)	Jan. 30 East Ridge, 7:30 p.m.	
	Feb. 2 Allen Central, 6 p.m.	
	Feb. 6 at South Floyd, 6 p.m.	

### Prestonsburg Boys' Basketball 2006-07 Schedule

Dec. 5 Magoffin County, 6 p.m.	Jan. 20 at Lawrence County, 6 p.m.	Feb. 20 at Paintsville, 6 p.m.
Dec. 15 Shelby Valley, 6 p.m.	Jan. 23 at Johnson Central, 6 p.m.	Feb. 21 at Magoffin County, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 19 Betsy Layne, 7:30 p.m.	Jan. 26 at Pike County Central, 6 p.m.	Feb. 2 Belfry, 6 p.m.
Dec. 22 Allen Central, 6 p.m.	Feb. 2 South Floyd, 7:30 p.m.	
Dec. 27 North Hardin, 4:30 p.m. (at Paintsville Tiger Hoops Classic)	Feb. 3 Morgan County, 7:30 p.m.	
Jan. 9 at Sheldon Clark, 6 p.m.	Feb. 6 at Allen Central, 7:30 p.m.	
Jan. 12 at East Ridge, 6 p.m.	Feb. at Betsy Layne, 6 p.m.	
Jan. 13 at South Floyd, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 16 East Ridge, 6 p.m.	
Jan. 16 at June Buchanan, 8 p.m.	Feb. 17 Hazard, 6 p.m.	
Jan. 18 Wolfe County, 6 p.m.		

### Prestonsburg Girls' Basketball 2006-07 Schedule

Nov. 27 at Paintsville, 7:30 p.m.	Dec. 19 Betsy Layne, 6 p.m.	Jan. 22 Phelps, 7:30 p.m.
Nov. 28 East Ridge, 7:30 p.m.	Dec. 22 Allen Central, 7:30 p.m.	Jan. 26 Paintsville, 7:30 p.m.
NOV. 30 Knott County Central, 7:30 p.m. (at Perry County Central Invitational)	Dec. 27 at Boyle County Invitational, TBA	Jan. 27 at Allen Central, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 4 at Pikeville, 7:30 p.m.	Jan. 5 Pikeville, 6 p.m.	Feb. 2 South Floyd, 6 p.m.
Dec. 11 Shelby Valley, 7:30 p.m.	Jan. 8 at Lawrence County, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 3 at Phelps, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 14 at East Ridge, 7:30 p.m.	Jan. 11 at Leslie County, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 9 at Betsy Layne, 6 p.m.
Dec. 15 Leslie County, 7:30 p.m.	Jan. 13 at South Floyd, 6 p.m.	Feb. 15 at Shelby Valley, 7:30 p.m.
	Jan. 18 at Perry County Central, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 1 Perry County Central, 7:30 p.m.
		Feb. 22 Lawrence County, 7:30 p.m.

### South Floyd Boys' Basketball 2006-07 Schedule

Dec. 1 at Johnson Central, 7:30 p.m.	Tournament	(at 15th Region All "A" Classic)
Dec. 5 at Cordia, 7:30 p.m.	Jan. 5 at Betsy Layne, 7:30 p.m.	Jan. 30 at Sheldon Clark, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 9 Jackson City, 6 p.m.	Jan. 12 Breathitt County, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 2 at Prestonsburg, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 15 Allen Central, 7:30 P.M.	Jan. 13 Prestonsburg, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 3 Clay County, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 21 at Boyd County, 9:15 p.m. (Town Square Tournament)	Jan. 16 at Perry County Central, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 6 Betsy Layne, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 28 Sheldon Clark, 6 p.m. (at Letcher County Central)	Jan. 19 East Ridge, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 9 at Allen Central, 7 p.m. (at 15th Region All "A" Classic)
	Jan. 20 Commercial Bank Showcase, 4:30 p.m. (at Morgan County, TBA)	Feb. 13 Phelps, 7:30 p.m.
	Jan. 23 Paintsville	Feb. 16 Shelby Valley, 7:30 p.m.
		Feb. 20 Pike County Central, 7:30 p.m.

### South Floyd Girls' Basketball 2006-07 Schedule

Dec. 2 at Jackson City, 2:30 p.m.	Dec. 22 Jackson City, 4 p.m. (Whitaker Bank Classic at Wolfe County)	Jan. 30 Hazard, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 6 at Hazard, 7:30 p.m.	Jan. 2 at Prestonsburg, 6 p.m.	Feb. 2 at Prestonsburg, 6 p.m.
Dec. 7 at Pikeville, 7:30 p.m.	Jan. 2 at Pikeville, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 3 Jackson City, 2:30 p.m.
Dec. 11 Phelps, 8 p.m.	Jan. 5 at Betsy Layne, 6 p.m.	Feb. 6 Betsy Layne, 6 p.m.
Dec. 15 Allen Central, 6 p.m.	Jan. 8 at Jenkins, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 9 at Allen Central, 8:30 p.m.
Dec. 19 Jenkins, 7:30 p.m.	Jan. 13 Prestonsburg, TBA (Whitaker Bank Classic at Wolfe County)	Feb. 12 at Cumberland, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 20 at Wolfe County, 3 p.m. (Whitaker Bank Classic at Wolfe County)	Jan. 15 Pikeville, 5 p.m. (15th Region All "A" Classic)	Feb. 15 at Perry County Central, 8 p.m.
Dec. 21 Owsley County, 3 p.m. (Whitaker Bank Classic at Wolfe County)	Jan. 20 Cumberland, 2:30 p.m.	Feb. 19 at Phelps, 8 p.m.
	Jan. 27 at June Buchanan, 4:30 p.m.	Feb. 21 June Buchanan, 7:30 p.m.

### Piarist School Boys' Basketball 2006-07 Schedule

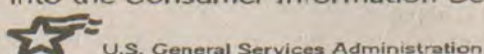
Nov. 28 Oneida Baptist Institute, 6 p.m. (Three Rivers Conference Tournament)	Dec. Belfry, 6 p.m.	Institute, 7:30 p.m.
Nov. 30 David School, 6 p.m. (Three Rivers Conference Tournament)	Dec. 11 at Menifee County, 7:30 p.m.	Jan. 12 at Pike County Central, 6 p.m.
Dec. 1 Riverside Christian, 7 p.m. (Three Rivers Conference Tournament)	Dec. 14 Phelps, 7 p.m.	Jan. 13 Burgin, 4 p.m.
Dec. 2 Red Bird, 8 p.m. (Three Rivers Conference Tournament)	Dec. 15 at Betsy Layne, 6 p.m.	Jan. 19 at Phelps, 6 p.m.
Dec. 5 at Riverside Christian, 7:30 p.m.	Dec. 21 at June Buchanan, 7:30 p.m.	Jan. 20 at Pikeville, 7:30 p.m.
	Dec. 23 Breathitt County, 2 p.m. (David Games Memorial Tournament)	Jan. 22 David School, 7 p.m. (at 15th Region All "A" Classic)
	Jan. 2 David School, 6:30 p.m.	Jan. 29 at Everts, 6 p.m.
	Jan. 5 at Red Bird, 7 p.m.	Feb. 2 Pike County Central, 6 p.m.
	Jan. 9 Betsy Layne, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 9 Riverside Christian, 6:30 p.m.
	Jan. 11 at Oneida Baptist	Feb. 10 Red Bird, 3 p.m.
		Feb. 16 at David School, TBA
		Feb. 17 at Belfry, 8 p.m.

### David School Boys' Basketball 2006-07 Schedule

Nov. 28 at Riverside Christian, 6 p.m. (Three Rivers Conference Tournament)	p.m.	(15th Region All "A" Classic)
Nov. 30 Piarist School, 6 p.m. (Three Rivers Conference Tournament)	Dec. 9 Everts, 6 p.m.	Jan. 25 at East Ridge, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 2 Oneida Baptist Institute, 5 p.m. (Three Rivers Conference Tournament)	Dec. 12 Shelby Valley, 7:30 p.m.	Jan. 26 Riverside Christian, 7 p.m.
Dec. 5 at Red Bird, 6 p.m.	Dec. 15 at St. Francis, 7:30 p.m. (St. Francis Invitational)	Jan. 29 at Shelby Valley, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 8 at Riverside Christian, 6 p.m.	Jan. 2 at Piarist School, 6:30 p.m.	Feb. 3 at Burgin, 3 p.m.
	Jan. 6 at Pikeville, 7 p.m.	Feb. 10 at Pikeville, 7 p.m.
	Jan. 9 at East Ridge, 7:30 p.m.	Feb. 12 at Kentucky School f/t Deaf, 7 p.m.
	Jan. 13 Red Bird, 6 p.m.	Feb. 13 at Oneida Baptist Institute, 7 p.m.
	Jan. 19 at Allen Central, 7 p.m.	Feb. 16 Piarist School, TBA
	Jan. 20 at Everts, 6 p.m.	
	Jan. 22 Piarist School, 7 p.m.	

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## Rivals Paintsville, Johnson Central join Shelby Valley as top 15th Region contenders

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

When the 15th Region Tournament came to a close last March at the East Kentucky Expo Center, Johnson Central was left standing alone. The Mark Starns-coached Golden Eagles, runners-up out of the 57th District, flirted with losing in each of their three region tournament games before battling back and defeating Shelby Valley for the championship. Still, crosstown rival Paintsville is a slight preseason favorite over Johnson Central in the 15th Region race. In the 14th Region, upstart June Buchanan is ready to push defending region champion Hazard and all others.

Here's a closer look at some area teams from the 15th and 14th regions.

**PAINTSVILLE (21-10):** Region favorite Paintsville returns the nucleus from last season's 21-win team. Juniors Landon Slone (20.8 ppg, 5.1 rpg), J.D. VanHoose (15.2 ppg, 7.0 rpg), Shane Grimm (10.9 ppg, 4.7 rpg) and Blake Bundy (7.9 ppg) are the top returnees for the Tigers. Paintsville also added a talented newcomer in transfer Van Ferguson, a player who will help the Tigers — both inside and out.

Slone and VanHoose have over 1,000 career points apiece.

Paintsville tied Belfry for most wins in the region last season.

**JOHNSON CENTRAL (19-12):** Senior Jamie McCarty (16.7 ppg, 3.6 rpg) will lead defending region champion Johnson Central into the upcoming season. Other players returning for the Golden Eagles include Jesse Meek (5.8 ppg, 2.7 rpg), Justin Murray, Ian Welch, Justin Blanton, Joe Whitaker, James Blankenship and Zach Sargent.

Junior guard Jaryd Crum has

transferred to Johnson Central from district rival Sheldon Clark and will make a quick Golden Eagle team even quicker.

The Golden Eagles will have to replace three starters from last season's regional championship team as Tyler Whitaker, Kyle Rice and Ryan Fannin all graduated.

**MAGOFFIN COUNTY (10-17):** The Hornets continue to show signs of a program on the rise.

Senior forward Devin Rice (15.1 ppg, 7.7 rebounds) and guard Eric Arnett (13.5 ppg), both three-year starters, lead the way for Magoffin County.

Two-year starters Clay Fletcher (6.2 ppg) and Tyler Hunley (4.3 ppg, 3 app) also return in the starting lineup for the Hornets.

Center Nathan Arnett (2.2 ppg, 2 rpg) provides a lot of upside inside.

Three players were lost to graduation.

**LAWRENCE COUNTY (10-18):** Returning seniors for the Bulldogs include Chet Pelphrey and Tyler Brewer. Sophomore Chandler Thompson, a player who saw a considerable amount of playing time in his freshman season, also returns in the mix.

Sharpshooter Shawn Thompson and teammates Kyle Bradley and Mitch Copley were lost to graduation.

**SHELDON CLARK (10-16):** Losing Crum — a proven floorleader — to Johnson Central could hurt the Cardinals. Losing leading scorer Brandon May to graduation could also hinder the Cards' chances during the upcoming season. Sheldon Clark Coach J.R. Hammond appears to have a big rebuilding job out in front of him.

Junior Damon Hensley is the top

returnee for the Cardinals. Daniel Harless is a newcomer for Sheldon Clark and will help lead the Cards out of the backcourt.

**SHELBY VALLEY (18-13):** The youth movement continues on the Shelby Valley hardwood. Last season's young Shelby Valley basketball team nearly pulled off a regional championship performance. These Wildcats are no doubt ready for another shot at a regional title.

Players lost to graduation were Mitchell Riddle, Cade Riddle and Gary Thomas, all three of whom had productive careers in Wildcat basketball uniforms.

Shelby Valley does return three starters. Sophomore Logan Bryant, (5-9), Jacob Bryant (6-2) and senior Jeremy Jackson (5-11) return in starting roles for the Jason Booher-coached Valley team. Junior Jonah Justice and freshman Elisha Justice also played pivotal roles in Valley's region runner-up campaign. Shelby Valley has won three of the last five region championships.

**EAST RIDGE (12-14):** Denny Paul May has stepped away from the East Ridge boys' basketball program. Eric Ratliff is the new head coach.

Mark Bartley, Anthony Coleman and Jordan Mullins lead East Ridge's list of returning players.

The late addition of a new head coach could slow East Ridge's progress.

**PIKEVILLE (12-16):** In Bart Williams' first season as head coach, Pikeville's boys returned to the regional tournament. Now comes Williams' second season, one which is full of promise for the defending 59th District champion.

Three starters return for the Panthers. Sophomore guard Matt Clevenger (12 ppg), junior forward

Tim Honaker (11 ppg, 7 rpg) and senior guard Jacob Sword (7 ppg) helped lead the Panthers last season. Six-foot-nine sophomore center Deven Adams (3 ppg, 3 rpg) and senior forward Robert Boyd (6-3) will provide size inside.

**BELFRY (21-9):** Matt Maynard and Zack Bowman are the only two players gone from Belfry's regional semifinalist squad of one season ago. Senior shooting guard Jamie Case, one of the region's top shooters, returns to lead the Pirates. Junior small forward Dustin May (6-4) emerged during his sophomore season as a proven starter for Bucs, leading the team in rebounding.

Brodie Reed, the team's most improved player last season, also returns.

Justin Steele will likely start at point guard for the Pirates. Aaron Warren, Adam Bowens, Andrew Elkins, B.K. Farley and Ivan Lee will also contribute for the Belfry boys' team.

**PIKE COUNTY CENTRAL (20-10):** Senior guard David Hess (6-0, 185) will lead perennial region championship contender Pike County Central during the upcoming season. Junior forward Tyler Hamilton (6-2, 200) came on strong for the Hawks last season.

Pike County Central lost three players to graduation, including Brad Lowe, one of the school's top all-time players.

**PHELPS (15-11):** The Phelps Hornets annually make some sort of waves in the 15th Region. Phelps, however, continues to look to break through and get past district rivals Belfry and Pike County Central. This just might be the breakthrough season for the Hornets.

Players due back for Phelps

include seniors Robert Gannon and Ryan Dotson and junior Charlie Hunt. All three players return with starting experience.

**JUNE BUCHANAN (23-6):** This could be the year for the June Buchanan boys' basketball program. June Buchanan lost in overtime to Hazard in last season's 14th Region Tournament. Over the summer, June Buchanan finished second in the state AAU tournament and in the process made its case for being a legitimate 14th Region title contender and one of the state's top rising boys' basketball teams.

Junior point guard Clark Stepp (24.5 ppg, 8.5 apg) ranks as one of the state's best players. And he's got some talented teammates, too.

Freshman Tate Cox (17 ppg), a 5-10 guard, showed he could shoot the basketball last season as an eighth-grader. The Crusaders also return 6-9 sophomore center Garrison Collins (8 ppg, 5 rpg).

Senior forward Ryan Conley (7 ppg), sophomore forward Brent Hall (3 ppg, 5 rpg), freshman guard Clint Stepp (4 ppg) and 6-6 junior forward Trey Short also return for June Buchanan.

**KNOTT COUNTY CENTRAL (12-11):** Justin Amburgey is the new Knott County Central boys' basketball coach and he inherits a Patriot team that is far from being short on talent.

Freshman guard Stuart Stamper (14 ppg, 6 apg), senior point guard Scott Mosley (14 ppg) and senior forward Michael Lindon (10 ppg, 7 rpg) are the top players for the Patriots.

Knott County Central also returns 6-3 sophomore forward Jarrod Amburgey and 6-5 junior center Sam Sturdivant.

## Magoffin ranks as area's top girls' team

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

Magoffin County has reloaded and is back for more. Fresh off of the first 15th Region championship and State Tournament trip in school history, Magoffin County is now looking to repeat last season's success. The Lady Hornets enter the 2006-07 season as the preseason 15th Region favorite.

Here's a closer look at the area girls' high school basketball teams.

**MAGOFFIN COUNTY (26-6):** Senior guards Ashley J. Howard, Michaela Howard and Brittany Mann lead the way for the defending region champion. The Lady Hornets (26-6) posted a near-perfect 17-1 record versus 15th Region opponents one season ago. District rival Johnson Central was the only 15th Region team to hand Magoffin County a loss last season. The Lady Hornets played a tough schedule versus statewide competition, claiming two wins in both the Fifth Third Bank Classic and the Lady Invitational of the South tournaments.

Ashley Jade Howard showed her versatility during the run to the regional championship, recording a pair of quadruple-double performances, one of which came versus region rival Belfry.

Junior guard Megan Powers and sophomore guard/forward Ashley Hall are two additional proven players for the Lady Hornets.

**PIKE COUNTY CENTRAL (17-14):** Pike County Central returns all players from last season's 15th Region runner-up squad. Leading the way for the Lady Hawks is senior Haley Ratliff, who is on place to

become the school's all-time leading scorer. Ratliff, the region's top player, averaged a team-high 22 points per game and also led the Lady Hawks in assists. Junior Kayla Lowe averaged nearly 17 points and seven rebounds per game last season. Holly Harris, now a freshman, played out of starter's role for Pike Central as an eighth-grader, ranking as the team's third-leading scorer. Ratliff, Lowe and Harris were All-15th Region Tournament performers last March.

Additional experienced returnees include Kayla Pennington (So.), Abby Coleman (So.), Hannah Thompson (Fr.), and Kayla Ratliff (Fr.).

**JOHNSON CENTRAL (19-11):** Only one senior was lost to graduation from last year's Johnson Central team. Ironically, this year's Johnson Central team also features one senior — Brianna Ritz. Four starters — Chelsey Salyers, Emily Wireman, Celena Conley and Hayley Meek, all sophomore — return for the Lady Eagles. Another sophomore who will see varsity playing time is Breanna Salyer.

Other players expected to see varsity playing time are junior Christine Burton, a junior, and freshmen Destiny Blackburn, Christina Robinson and Ashley Young.

Johnson Central (19-11), under the guidance of veteran head coach Phillip Wireman, annually contends for a regional championship.

**BELFRY (24-6):** There's a new coach at the helm of the Lady Pirate basketball program. After six years as head coach, Mark Gannon stepped away from Belfry High girls' basketball. Amanda Collins, who had

coached for the Belfry Middle girls' team for one season and been a Pike County Central High assistant two seasons before that, got the call to lead the Belfry High Lady Pirates. Collins was a former standout player at both Pike County Central High and Pikeville College.

Collins inherits a Belfry program that lost six players to graduation. Belfry, however, returns junior forward Shae Deskins (12 ppg) and senior guard Amanda Moon (11 ppg).

The Lady Pirates ended last season with the 15th Region's second-best record.

**SHELBY VALLEY (16-14):** One year removed from the 15th Region Tournament Semifinals, Shelby Valley will enter the upcoming season with guard Esther Fleming again leading the charge. Fleming, a senior, returns along with junior guard Sally Roberts and sophomore guard Kayla Cantrell.

Fleming, who has already scored 1,500 points in her prep career, led Shelby Valley in both scoring and rebounding last season, averaging a team-high 16.8 points and 7.5 rebounds per game. Roberts (10.4 ppg) and Cantrell (10.4 ppg) ranked second and third, respectively, in scoring last season.

Shelby Valley (16-14) lost only two players to graduation.

**PAINTSVILLE (19-10):** Playing in the very competitive 58th District, Paintsville managed to find success during the 2005-06 campaign. Coach Mark Baldwin guided the Lady Tigers to the 15th Region All "A" title. Paintsville reached the All "A" Classic state tournament semifinals before falling to Johnson Central in the 57th District Tournament.

Five-foot-eight senior guard Kendra Carroll (16.2 ppg) leads the way for the Lady Tigers. Carroll has already signed to play NCAA Division I basketball next season at Western Carolina University.

Chelsee Jarrell, voted the 15th Region Player of the Year last season, graduated. Jarrell's presence inside will be missed.

**LAWRENCE COUNTY (10-17):** Tom Holbrook is the new coach at Lawrence County, taking over for Erin Evans. Lawrence County took some lumps last winter during its first season back in the 58th District.

Seniors Bree Frazier, Charley Adams, Karen Marcum and Megan DeLong are leading players back for the Lady Bulldogs.

**SHELDON CLARK (15-14):** Veteran Sheldon Clark head coach Robin Newsome and the Lady Card basketball program are no strangers to 15th Region success, having won multiple titles. Sheldon Clark (15-14) returns four starters. Renee Jude, Kristy Cornette, Ashley Sumpter and Candace Preece all return for the Lady Cardinals.

**PHELPS (14-11):** The Lady Hornets made some noise during the 2005-06 season, but still missed out on advancing to the 15th Region Tournament, Pike County Central defeated Phelps in the opening round of the 60th District.

**EAST RIDGE (14-14):** The Lady Warriors lost five seniors to graduation. Four of the five seniors were starters. Juniors Sarah Adkins, Jamie Baldrige, Lucy Belcher and Katelyn Ratliff

are the top players back for the Lady Warriors. East Ridge lacks size. The tallest Lady Warrior is only 5-8.

**PIARIST SCHOOL (2-23):** The Piarist School will not be fielding a girls' basketball team for the 2006-07 season.

**KNOTT COUNTY CENTRAL (16-14):** The Lady Patriots are less than two years removed from a 14th Region championship. After winning 16 games last season, Knott Central is expected to rank as one of the 14th Region's top-five teams during the upcoming campaign.

Junior point guard Megan Mosley (19 ppg) is one of the region's very best players. Others who have returned for Knott Central include Lindsay Gibson (5 ppg), Kendra Thomas (7 ppg), Amanda Terry (2 ppg) and Beth Bates (2 ppg).

Knott Central fell to eventual 14th Region champion Letcher County Central in the 53rd District championship game last season. The Lady Patriots bowed out of the postseason following a loss to Perry County Central in the first round of the 14th Region Tournament.

**JUNE BUCHANAN (11-9):** Larry Haynes is the new head girls' basketball coach at the June Buchanan School. Haynes takes over a June Buchanan Lady Crusader program that features a promising group of freshmen. Cody Centers, Kayla Short, Sheena Slone and Maris Hovee are leading freshmen back for June Buchanan. Ashley Ervin started at guard last season and also returns for the Lady Crusaders.



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