



Special New Year's Section page A11

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State police say goodbye to one of their own

by ALEX SMITH STAFF WRITER

Kentucky State Troopers and law enforcement officials from as far away as Lexington were at May Valley Elementary School on Friday to attend the funeral of a detective who died at his home on Christmas day.

More than 50 state police cruisers encircled the entire school as fellow officers and family members came to pay their last respects to Stewart "Joey" Howard, a 16-year veteran of the KSP. Howard spent his entire career at the Pikeville Post.

Floyd County Sheriff John K. Blackburn said he worked with Howard on several cases over the years and said he was an excellent detective.

"He was a real good guy, and he's going to be missed," Blackburn said.

Howard was found at his home in Regina shortly before 2 p.m. Christmas day and was pronounced dead at the scene. The investigation is ongoing by the KSP.

"The Kentucky State Police mourns the loss of one of its family members," said KSP Commissioner Jack Adams. "Detective Howard was a tremendous asset to Post 9 in Pikeville."

Howard was the second state trooper from the post to die in a week span. Trooper Jonathan K. Leonard, a three-year veteran of the KSP who had also spent his entire career at the Pikeville Post, was killed on U.S. 119 near Sidney while attempting to perform U-turn on Dec. 19.

2 DAY FORECAST

Today



High: 67 • Low: 47

Tomorrow



High: 67 • Low: 47

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Watching the roads



photo by Alex Smith

Local police officers will expand their patrols this weekend by setting up speed traps and by having more officers on duty throughout the weekend. Officer John Dale of Prestonsburg Police Department said that in addition to local police forces throughout Floyd County having more officers on duty, people should realize that state police are not the only officers with the authority to pull them over on the highway.

Law enforcement out in force

by JESSICA HALE STAFF WRITER

Governor Ernie Fletcher along with the Governor's Highway Safety Program and Kentucky State Police are making sure that the beginning of the new year brings light to motorists and the decisions they will be making while driving during the New Year's holiday.

Beginning Jan. 1, 2007, law enforcement officers around the state will be handing out tickets rather than courtesy warnings to motorists not wearing their seatbelts. On that date, the six month grace period built into the primary seat belt law will end and violators will be subject to a fine not to exceed \$25. Previously, officers were only allowed to cite for this violation if motorists were pulled over for another traffic violation. Now, law enforcement can stop a vehicle solely for an occupant not wearing a seatbelt.

"Too many people, especially teens, young male drivers and pick up

drivers still take the attitude it will never happen to me", said KSP Commissioner Jack Adams. "But deadly crashes can and do happen everyday. That's why we are reminding everyone that seat belt use is the single most effective way to protect yourself as well as those you love in a crash," Adams said.

Preliminary statistics indicate that six people died in six separate vehicle accidents on Kentucky's roadways during the Christmas holiday period from 6 p.m. Friday, December 22, through 11:59 p.m. Christmas Day. Alcohol was a suspected factor in two of the six crashes. All five of the motor vehicle victims were not wearing seatbelts. Two of the crashes were in Johnson and Pike counties.

Through December 26, a total of 898 people lost their lives on Kentucky roadways. Of the 757 motor vehicle fatalities, 488 victims were not wearing seatbelts.

The Governor's Highway Safety Program advocates always designating a sober driver and don't allow friends to drive drunk.

They also encourage motorists to wear their seatbelts and promptly report drunk drivers to law enforcement.

KSP and local police and Sheriff's Departments will continue their increased activity on roadways throughout the state during the New Year's holiday period which began at 6

(See HOLIDAY, page three)

Coal experts hoping for a safer 2007

by SAMIRA JAFARI ASSOCIATED PRESS

PIKEVILLE -- This year Kentucky's coalfields were scarred by 16 deaths and the worst mining disaster in the state since 1989. Coal operators contributed to at least 13 of the fatalities by failing to meet safety standards, according to state and federal investigations.

A slew of new federal and state mine safety laws has both industry heads, lawmakers and safety experts casting a hopeful eye at 2007, though some plan to lobby for even tougher laws in 2007.

The laws enacted at the state and federal levels were an "improvement, but not wholly adequate," said Tony Oppgaard, a mine safety advocate in Lexington.

Kentucky's 16 mining fatalities this year were the most since 1993, when there were 18. The deaths of five miners at an eastern Kentucky mine in May -- just four months after the Sago disaster in West Virginia that killed 12 -- bolstered a national push for more stringent mine safety regulations.

Nationwide, 47 coal miners were killed on the job this year, compared to 22 in 2005, according to the U.S. Mine Safety

(See COAL, page three)

Stumbo ready for return to the bench

by ALEX SMITH STAFF WRITER

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

Part 5 in a seven-part series looking at the new faces in Floyd County government.

When the results started coming in on election night a month ago and Janet Stumbo began to build a sizable lead over David Barber, her opponent for a Court of Appeals 2nd Division judge seat in Eastern Kentucky's 7th District, Stumbo knew she would soon be back behind the bench doing the job she loves.

"I really missed the work, and I'm very excited to get back to work," said Stumbo, who will be returning to a judge position for the first time in two years after she was defeated in 2004 by Will Scott for a seat on

the Kentucky Supreme Court.

After a two-year hiatus, Stumbo handily beat Barber for the spot on the court, winning in 21 of 22 counties where she was on the ballot and capturing over 62 percent of all votes cast. Stumbo said it was no accident that she was victorious, saying voters looked past the negative campaigning and focused on her experience and qualifications, which include 15 years combined on the Court of Appeals and as a Supreme Court justice.

"I ran a campaign that I'm proud of," Stumbo said. "I ran a very positive campaign in terms of what I thought my strengths

(See STUMBO, page three)



Janet Stumbo

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Regional Obituaries

FLOYD COUNTY
Goldie Bullock, 58, of Prestonsburg, died Thursday, December 21, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 24, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Thurston Endicott, 73, of Endicott, died Monday, December 25, at Cabell-Huntington Hospital, in Huntington, West Virginia. He is survived by his wife, Delcie Jervis Endicott. Funeral services were held Thursday, December 28, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Hubert G. Frye, 75, of Martin, died Thursday, December 21, at King's Daughters Medical Center, in Ashland. He is survived by his wife, Glenda Mayo Frye. Memorial services were held Tuesday, December 26, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Valetta (Weedie) Osborne Halbert, 62, of Lexington, formerly of Floyd County, died Sunday, December 24, in the Hospice Care Center, in Lexington. She is survived by her husband, Donald Ray Halbert. Funeral services were held Thursday, December 28, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Pearlie Wallace Hicks, 84, of Garrett, died Monday, December 25, at the Mountain View Health Care Center, Elkhorn City. She is survived by her husband, Talt Hicks. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, December 28, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Stewart "Joey" Howard Jr., 45, of Regina, died Monday, December 25, at his home. Funeral services were held Friday, December 29, at May Valley Elementary School Gymnasium, in Martin, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home of Martin.

Wilma Jean Little, 59, of Melvin, died Thursday, December 21, at the Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 24, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Sarah Kathryn (Ann) Baldrige Moore, 65, of Prestonsburg, died Thursday, December 21, at her residence. She is survived by her husband,

Robert N. Moore. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 23, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Ray Virgil Prater, 80, of Allen, died Thursday, December 21, at his residence. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, December 24, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

Ershel Scutchfield, 81, of Prestonsburg, died Tuesday, December 19, at Cabell-Huntington Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Ruby Jarrell Scutchfield. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 24, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Alva Martin Spurlock, 73, of Printer, died Friday, December 22, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. She is survived by her husband, Kenneth (Buster) Spurlock. Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 26, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Walter "Pete" Turnmire, 66, of Prestonsburg, formerly of Kimper, died Friday, December 22, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 26, under the direction of Community Funeral Home.

Delbert Wicker, 60, of Ligonier, Indiana, a Floyd County native, died Wednesday, December 27, at Parkview Memorial Hospital, in Fort Wayne. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 30, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

PIKE COUNTY
Quinton Bailey, 48, of Burnwell, died Wednesday, December 20, at Williamson, West Virginia. He is survived by his wife, Julie Jude Bailey. Funeral services were conducted Saturday, December 23, under the direction of R. E. Rogers Funeral Home.

Hope Fields Blackburn, 71, of Millers Creek, died Monday, December 25, at Pikeville Health Care Center. Funeral services were held Thursday, December 28, under direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

Bobby Thurman Bowling, 71, of Hellier, died Sunday, December 24, at Pikeville Medical Center.

Funeral services were held Thursday, December 28, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

Fred "Brother" Branham, 76, of Pikeville, died Tuesday, December 26, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Thursday, December 28, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Clinton Bunch, 71, of Douglas Parkway, died Monday, December 25, at his home in the Carl D. Perkins Apartments. Funeral services were held Friday, December 29, under the direction of Roberts Funeral Home.

Helen Loraine Blackburn Chapman, 83, of Canada, died Wednesday, December 20. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 24, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

Jimmy Darrell "Magoo" Coleman, 64, of Phelps, died Saturday, December 23, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Brenda Layne Coleman. Funeral services were held Wednesday, December 27, under the direction of Phelps Funeral Services.

Danny Collins, 53, of Zebulon, died Monday, December 25, the result of injuries suffered in an ATV accident on Red Creek. He is survived by his wife, Brenda Kay Looney Collins. Funeral services were held Friday, December 29, under direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

Peter Gary "Peto" Daniels, 31, of Huddy, died Sunday, December 24, at State Highway 319, Hardy, the result of injuries suffered in an automobile accident. He is survived by his wife, Lois G. "Rudy" Doyle Daniels. Funeral services were held Wednesday, December 27, under direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

Pansy Sue Mullins, 65, of Elkhorn City, died Tuesday, December 26, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Friday, December 29, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

Ersel "Tom" Robinson, 78, of Pikeville, died Thursday, December 21, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy Hall Robinson. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 24,

under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

Wilmirth "Billie" Runyon, 91, of Phelps, died Thursday, December 21, at Appalachian Regional Hospital, South Williamson. Funeral services were conducted Sunday, December 24, under the direction of Phelps Funeral Services.

Shirble I. Belcher Sanders, 85, of Elkhorn City, died Friday, December 22, at Mountain View Health Care. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 30, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

Sandra Smith, 58, of Canada, died Thursday, December 21, at St. Joseph Hospital, Lexington. She is survived by her husband, Larry Thiel Smith. Funeral services were held Monday, December 25, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

James Bernard Walker, 60, of Lower Johns Creek, died Friday, December 22, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Blanche Runyon Walker. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, December 27, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

Delbert Wicker, 60, of Ligonier, a Floyd County native, died Wednesday, December 27, at Parkview Memorial Hospital. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 30, under the direction of Hite Funeral Home.

JOHNSON COUNTY
Clara Brown, 87, of Swamp Branch, a Johnson County native, died Monday, December 25, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Thursday, December 28,

under the direction of the Phelps & Son Funeral Home.

Keith Wayne Fitch, 46, of Meally, died Monday, December 25, at King's Daughters Medical Center, in Ashland. Funeral services were held Friday, December 29, under the direction of the Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

Deloris Stambaugh Hensley, 67, of Paintsville, died Wednesday, December 20, at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 23, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

Louis O. Kretzner, 74, of Meally, died Tuesday, December 19, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were held Friday, December 22, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

Amos Victor "Vic" Leslie, 88, of Titusville, Florida, a Pikeville native, died Tuesday, December 26, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Kathleen "Cat" Leslie. A memorial service was held Saturday, December 30, at North Brevard Funeral Home.

Tara Renea Porter, six days old, daughter of Rachel Renea Porter of Raccoon, and Tommy Stevens of Pikeville, died Wednesday, December 27, at the University of Kentucky Medical Center, Lexington. Funeral services were held Friday, December 29, under the direction of Community Funeral Home.

Glen Saylor, 83, of Oil Springs, died Monday, December 25, at his residence. Funeral services were held December 29, under the direction of the Preston Funeral Home.

James Henry Tackett, 87, of Paintsville, a Magoffin County native, died Saturday, December 23, at Mountain Manor Nursing Home, Paintsville. Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 26, under the direction of the Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

Rockie Dean "Dink" Williams, 22, of Flat Gap, died Saturday, December 23, at Flat Gap. Funeral services were held Thursday, December 28, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

Joyce Daniel Young, 65, of River, died Saturday, December 23, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. She is survived by her husband, Danny Young. Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 26, under the direction of the Preston Funeral Home.

MARTIN COUNTY
James Michael May, 34, of Debord, died Wednesday, December 20, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Roxanne Coffey May. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 23, under the direction of the Phelps & Son Funeral Home.

LAWRENCE COUNTY
Elder Charles A. Price, 82, of Ashland, a Lawrence County native, died Wednesday, December 27, in Ashland. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 30, under the direction of the Preston Funeral Home.

Magdalene Thompson Spears, 96, of Ashland, a Lawrence County native, died Sunday, December 24. Funeral services were held Wednesday, December 27, under the direction of the Preston Family Funeral Home.

Obituary

Clifford P. Childers
 Clifford P. Childers, 92, of 4851, Ky. Rt. 821, Prestonsburg, died Wednesday, December 27, 2006.

He was born October 15, 1914, the son of the late Arch and Berdie Vaughn Childers.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by Beatrice Wells Childers, his loving wife of 63 years;

two brothers; two sisters; and one granddaughter.

There are four surviving children: Mr. and Mrs. Paul Douglas Montgomery (Judy) of Mt. Pleasant, Tennessee; Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Childers (Carol) of Ypsilanti, Michigan; Mr. and Mrs. David Michael Childers (Vivian) of Concord, North Carolina; and Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Wedstel Shepherd (Patty) of Claypool, Indiana; and

five grandchildren.

He was a devoted and loving husband, father and grandfather.

Viewing was Friday, December 29, between 4-8 p.m.

Services were held Saturday, December 30, at 2 p.m., at Jones-Preston Funeral Home, Paintsville, with Rev. Bobby Joe Spencer officiating.

(Paid obituary)

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Stumbo

Continued from p1

were." Tomorrow is the beginning of Stumbo's eight-year term, which she said she cannot wait to start. Her work will include reviewing decisions made in circuit court's statewide to correct any errors of law that were made, and to make sure every individual has received a fair trial. Most of the work on the Court of Appeals is done in writing, with judges listening to oral arguments and then releasing rulings and in document form. Stumbo said attorney's and judges help maintain the integrity of the Constitution, but she believes her job is especially important because it is a check system to make sure the law is properly applied and enforced. Priority number one for Stumbo will be to do everything she can to see that justice is done. She said her only

goal is to do her job to the best of her ability. "I have the experience you need for this kind of challenging work, I have the knowledge, I know how it works and how the system is supposed to run," Stumbo said. Before her time spent as a judge Stumbo served as a clerk for the Court of Appeals for two years following her graduation from the University of Kentucky School of Law. She served as an assistant county attorney in Floyd County under Arnold Turner for four years, during which time she also ran a private practice working personal injury, workers compensation and just about any other type of case imaginable. She was first elected to the Court of Appeals in 1989 and became the first woman elected to the Kentucky Supreme Court in 1993.

Tony Hawk aspirations



photo by Alex Smith

Tyler Lee, right, spent Friday afternoon skateboarding on the tennis courts at Archer Park in Prestonsburg. Temperatures peaked around 60 degrees at the park on Friday, making an afternoon of skateboarding possible just three days before the new year.

Coal

Continued from p1

and Health Administration.

The main changes to Kentucky's mining laws, which went into effect July 12, require mine managers to report within 15 minutes a serious injury or fatality to state officials; have two air packs available for each miner; and conduct escape drills every 90 days, among other new rules. The state also gained the power to fine mines in violation of the rules and increased the number of underground inspections from two to three annually. Under a separate law that went into effect at the same time, the state suspends miners' licenses upon being notified of positive drug test results. The law requires coal companies to report positive results, but doesn't regulate the types of drug tests used or how often they are conducted. The disasters also spurred federal legislation for miners to have more oxygen supplies and mine rescue teams to be within an hour's distance. Mine operators are also required to have new devices in place within three years to track and communicate with trapped miners. Opegard said the new laws place too much emphasis on rescue and not enough on prevention. He said more inspections are key to keeping miners safe -- he's pushing for six inspections a year.

Rep. Brent Yonts, D-Greenville, agreed, saying he's fashioning a bill that would call for mines to undergo inspections at least once every quarter. Yonts said issues including better training for miners and mandating the use of improved mine safety technology, including emergency air packs, should also be addressed. Opegard, who represents several widows who lost husbands in mining disasters, said his concerns arose from what happened to specific miners. He and the Appalachian Citizens Law Center in Prestonsburg intend to support legislation that would allow victims' families to observe accident investigation interviews and require pre-shift examinations at surface mines; two mine emergency technicians at every site; and all underground miners to carry methane detectors. The latter stems from the May 20 blast at Kentucky Darby Mine No. 1 that killed five miners. State investigators concluded that two of the victims accidentally ignited a methane leak. A protective seal, which should have blocked out naturally occurring methane, was "poorly constructed" and failed to meet federal guidelines, according to the investigation report released by the state Office of Mine Safety and Licensing.

The torch ignited the leaking methane May 20 as two miners were cutting away metal straps that intersected the top of the seal and were used as underground roof supports. They died in the blast; three others died from carbon monoxide poisoning and smoke inhalation while trying to escape. The report also said mine foreman Amon Brock and maintenance worker Jimmy Lee shouldn't have been allowed to use a torch at the site because ventilation current passed through the area on its way to the surface. "Because of the Kentucky Darby disaster, we're going to try to push a state law that would require all miners to be equipped with methane detectors so miners have a means of protecting themselves," Opegard said. State mining officials, on the other hand, don't anticipate any changes to Kentucky's mining laws next year. Natural Resources Commissioner Susan Bush said her department has hit a few kinks with the new legislation, especially backlogs from drug testing appeals, but nothing that warrants legislative changes. As far as new legislation for 2007, "there's nothing specifically that the cabinet is proposing," Bush said. "We're fairly new in the beginning. We may

hit a snag or two, but usually that can be addressed through changes in regulations or policy." Bill Caylor, head of the Kentucky Coal Association, said there is no need for more laws. "We're having a rash of fatalities," Caylor said. "New laws are not going to cure this. We need to enforce the laws we've got and train the miners with better work habits." Caylor said regulators should put more weight on the "behavior modification" of miners -- changing bad, unsafe habits to prevent future disasters. Caylor said government inspectors visiting mines should observe and train more -- and police less. He said inspectors typically enter mines looking for violations but don't spend enough time with miners to ensure that the mine is functioning properly. However, Bush noted that Kentucky already has a program in which state mine safety analysts regularly enter underground mines to work one-on-one with miners and encourage safe practices. She said the program would expand in 2007 to include face time with mine foremen. "When it comes to worker safety and mine safety, it's a continuing job," she said. "You can't rest on your laurels."

Holiday

Continued from p1

p.m. Friday and continues through 11:59 p.m., Monday, January 1, 2007. Traffic safety checkpoints as well as increased patrols will continue throughout this period with particular emphasis on seat belt violations, speeding and impaired driving. Research has shown that when seatbelts are used properly, they reduce the risk of a fatal

injury to front seat passengers by 45 percent. "It is my hope and belief that the new (seat-belt) law will save lives. When an unfortunate automobile accident occurs, sometimes the difference between life and death is a seatbelt", said Governor Fletcher. "I urge everyone to do their part, drive safely, watch out for others and buckle up. It may save your life."

Comair crash picked as Kentucky's top news story of 2006; patronage probe second

by JEFFREY McMURRAY ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON -- Minutes after 50 people boarded a jet in the pre-dawn darkness, 49 perished in a fiery crash when the plane departed from the wrong runway -- the deadliest commercial airline accident the United States had seen since 2001. The Aug. 27 crash of Comair Flight 5191 at Blue Grass Airport was a tragedy amplified in Lexington and surrounding Kentucky communities because of close ties to the victims. There was a baseball pitcher and his newlywed, a University of Kentucky faculty member, a horse trainer, a Habitat for Humanity activist and so many others. In a close vote, a panel of editors chose the plane crash as Kentucky's top news story of 2006, edging out the patronage probe that led to the indictment of Republican Gov. Ernie Fletcher. A special grand jury in Franklin County spent more than a year investigating whether the administration illegally rewarded supporters with jobs. Although 29 indictments came down, the charges against Fletcher were later dropped in a deal with prosecutors. Before the plane crash, one of the year's deadliest accidents in Kentucky involved coal mining. The May 20 explosion at Kentucky Darby Mine No. 1, which killed five miners, crystallized the need for better safety measures -- a story the panel selected as the state's third-biggest of the

year. In addition to the patronage story, three others from the political landscape made up the top six as voted by the editors. Lt. Gov. Steve Pence's decision to leave the ticket and Fletcher's choice of Robbie Rudolph as his running mate was fourth. In fifth was the election of Kentucky's Mitch McConnell to lead the Republican Party in the U.S. Senate -- albeit as minority leader rather than the majority post he had sought because Democrats won control of Congress in November. One Republican casualty of that election was U.S. Rep. Anne Northup of Louisville, who was unseated by Democrat John Yarmuth in what the panel selected as the year's sixth-biggest story. Rounding out the top 10 were a Jefferson County school desegregation case making it to the U.S. Supreme Court, the \$18 billion budget that cleared the General Assembly without the need of a special session, a judge-approved settlement between sex abuse victims and Covington's Roman Catholic Diocese, and a western Kentucky social worker found dead after taking an infant to his mother's house. Among others receiving votes were stories from business (expansion at UPS and hybrid production at Georgetown's Toyota plant); medicine (Fletcher's three-week hospitalization in Lexington and a third successful hand transplant in the United States performed in Louisville); crime (a father

charged with murdering his children and an ex-soldier accused of killing innocent Iraqis); and education (a gay student expelled from the University of the Cumberlands). But the plane crash, one of the deadliest tragedies in Kentucky history, remained a major story months after the accident -- not just because of the human loss but the chilling reality that many seemingly simple steps could have prevented it. Co-pilot James Polehinke, the lone survivor, lost a leg and sustained brain damage and other injuries. He was released from a Lexington rehab facility in December. The National Transportation Safety Board figures to wrap up its preliminary report as early as January, with a final one due by summer. It has already issued an emergency recommendation that pilots cross-check their runway location before taking off, and questions about control tower staffing, airport construction and the clarity of federal notices to airmen also have been scrutinized. The tragedy also put the spotlight on regional airports such as Blue Grass, which was undergoing a construction project -- ironically, to make the runways safer -- when the crash occurred. A series of lawsuits have been filed, most of them against Comair, which has in turn sued the FAA and airport to share in the costs. The legal battles figure to postdate the NTSB's final findings by many years.

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

— Felix Frankfurter

Guest view

In democracy, more is better

Kentucky Secretary of State Trey Grayson wants Kentucky to follow Ohio's lead and adopt "no-excuse" absentee voting.

It would increase the number of votes cast, especially in lower-profile races. Ohio set a state elections record this November with absentee ballots accounting for 15 percent of the total. That bests Ohio's previous record of 10.6 percent in 2004. The increase is credited to a new Ohio law that says any qualified voter may request an absentee ballot without giving a reason. About 14 percent of Hamilton County's voters this time voted absentee. Kentucky lawmakers should take up Grayson's early-voting plan. There could be negatives such as more risk of vote fraud or delayed vote counts, but those can be overcome. Public officials aren't the only ones dismayed at chronically low voter turnouts. States need to do all they can to make voting more convenient in an age of instant, electronic communications.

Healthy democracies depend on a citizenry energized enough to be heard decisively at election time.

Oregon voters in 1998 did away with precinct voting altogether. Vote By Mail saves the cost of voting machines and staffing the polls. Like a take-home test from school, mail-in ballots give voters more time to study the issues and candidates before choosing. Oregon's system with its nonpartisan traditions may not lend itself to bare-knuckle Kentucky politics, but some form of "no-fault" absentee voting could boost voter participation here.

"The biggest advantage is that people would be able to schedule when they vote," says Grayson, a Boone County Republican who filed on Tuesday as a candidate for re-election. The Secretary of State has pushed other election reforms in the legislature, including a stalled bill that would have prohibited automatic "straight-ticket" voting by party.

Current Kentucky law requires that voters seeking to vote early either "in-house" at county clerks' offices or by mail-in ballot must qualify for it by such reasons as advanced age, disability, military service or attending a school outside the county.

Some lawmakers will resist change for fear of increased vote fraud. A federal grand jury in October indicted a former Bath County Attorney, Donald "Champ" Maze, on charges of buying absentee votes in the primary. A "no-excuse" system might increase the opportunities for fraud. Other lawmakers may object that a surge in absentee ballots could slow reporting of election results. Ohio's Warren County Board of Elections found the crush of absentee ballots so great that they voted late on election night to go home, with many uncounted. Hamilton County Board of Elections avoided that embarrassment by readying absentee ballots in advance for scanning on election day and by buying additional scanners.

Kentucky county clerks could help lawmakers craft an early-vote plan that's more fraud-proof and less susceptible to counting delays. The General Assembly will need to fund the change, and not just dump an unfunded mandate on county clerks.

— The Kentucky Enquirer, Fort Mitchell



— Rich Lowry Column

Saving grace

It hasn't been a banner year. The United States is bogged down in a dispiriting war in Iraq, and North Korea and Iran continue to flout Washington's warnings and "red lines" with seeming impunity. But here are some things to be grateful for:

■ Democracy. We might be having trouble exporting it overseas, but it still works at home. If a political party becomes corrupt and ineffectual, the voters will find a way to force it from office, no matter how many institutional advantages it has stacked in its favor. The GOP just learned this lesson, and as soon as Democrats forget it, they will get a thumping of their own.

■ Milton Friedman. The late economist was one of the 20th century's most effective advocates for freedom, helping extend free markets here at home and spread them to places like China. He was a great scourge of inflation and helped provide Ronald Reagan with the intellectual ammunition to slay it in the early 1980s. His life — and his legacy — is an enduring testament to the power of ideas.

■ The Wounded Warrior Project. More than 20,000 U.S. soldiers have been wounded in Iraq. The Wounded Warrior Project provides services to the most grievously injured and their

families to help them return to civilian life.

■ Muhammad Yunus. He won the Nobel Peace Prize this year, which is not necessarily a recommendation, since the prize often goes to anti-American hucksters. But he deserved it. His idea of microcredits — giving extremely small loans to extremely poor people to help them start businesses — has been a revolutionary tool in fighting poverty.

■ YouTube. Politicians' gaffes, late-night comics' latest bits, inspired and zany clips from amateurs the world over — all a click or two away. Why didn't someone think of this before?

■ The anti-race hustlers. Bill Cosby famously has spoken out about the cultural problems that hold African-Americans back more than racism or other structural obstacles. National Public Radio's Juan Williams has added intellectual heft to Cosby's argument with his new book, "Enough." They are brave men.

■ The pope. Whatever your faith or denomination, you have to be grateful that the West has such a figure, concerned with reconciling faith and reason, and operating always in

the spirit of charity and love. Given other forms of religious expression the world has witnessed recently, this is a blessing indeed.

■ Mukhtaran Bibi. This young Pakistani woman was sentenced to gang-rape by her village elders after

her younger brother was accused of having a relationship with a woman of another tribe. She fought back and had — a rarity in Pakistan — her attackers prosecuted. She now is an interna-

tionally recognized voice for the rights of Pakistani women, who are often punished for being raped.

■ Marine Cpl. Jason Dunham. He was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously for falling on a grenade to save his fellow Marines from the blast. That sort of sacrifice and bravery is typical of U.S. troops in Iraq, but it is too often ignored. The New York Times didn't mention Dunham's incredible act, or his medal, even though he was from upstate New York. We should never forget.

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Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

The Rich Lowry column



— guest Column

The end of newspapers? Let's hope not

by JASON SALZMAN
MINUTEMAN MEDIA

More and more of us are skipping the daily newspaper and getting information from blogs, websites, and entertainment TV.

The newspapers' websites are more and more popular, but website surfers don't buy subscriptions, and so far, advertisers aren't paying nearly as much to place ads on newspaper websites as they do for the dead-tree edition that's delivered to doorsteps. So, as their ad revenue drops, newspapers are cutting back on the number of stories written, the breadth of coverage they offer, the features they include, and much more.

Some people hear about this and shrug. Who cares if newspapers die? We can get by without them. But here's the rub. Most of the alternative sources of news, including blogs and websites, rely on newspaper articles for information. It's usually newspaper stories that provide ideas for TV stations or create the basis for the controversy on talk radio or the commentary on a blog. It's often a newspaper story that inspires an angry citizen to dig for facts that contradict or

confirm a statement from a public official.

In other words, when you look at where local news comes from, it's almost always the journalists at the local newspaper who report the stuff people are talking about.

Sure, local TV news, radio, and other publications also produce local stories, but the number and breadth of stories from other sources don't hold a candle to what's generated by newspaper reporters. So, when people tell you that the local newspaper is no longer relevant in the Internet age, ask them what's going to take its place. Who, if not the newspaper reporter, is going to report on the mayor, the police force, the sports teams, and, of course, the weather — all in the same issue? Who's going to write the story that the blogger is going to trash?

That's why newspapers remain so important, even if you think they're biased, boring, or irresponsible. Most of them carry more fair and accurate information about local issues than you'll find anywhere else, even if newspapers are much smaller and more entertainment-oriented than they once were.

I mean, imagine if newspapers didn't exist. Information will become more and more fractured, with websites and bloggers keeping track of narrow bands of local information that will attract an audience just big enough to snag advertisers. Your average citizen will be able to find the information and news they want,

but the news they need to function in a democracy will likely slip through the cracks.

The discourse of our community, the news we share with each other, will be replaced by the discourse of interest groups, sports nuts, knitting clubs, liberal political junkies, conservative Christians, you name it. Everyone will have a lane on the information highway, but fewer of us will connect with each other. That's what's at stake as we watch America's newspapers struggle to survive over the next decade.

That's why the Federal Communications Commission should protect newspapers, to a reasonable degree, from being destroyed by the free market.

Because of their importance to our democracy, newspapers should not be treated like other products, like the soap you buy at the supermarket. One way to do this is to insist that newspapers are not swallowed by ever-bigger media conglomerates. Another possibility is for Congress to create incentives for private investment in newspapers.

The point is, we can help newspapers survive, without censorship, but we first need to recognize just how important they are.

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Jason Salzman is a media critic for the "Rocky Mountain News" and author of "Making the News: A Guide for Activists and Nonprofits."

Letter Guidelines

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

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

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

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

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INSIDESTUFF

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- Classifiedspage A15

CAR TALK:

High speeds possible, but bring many dangers

see pg. A6

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This Town, That World

Editor's Note: For years, Floyd County Times founder and former publisher Norman Allen wrote a weekly column that looked at Floyd County through his eyes. His columns are being reprinted due to request.

As soon as I get finished listening to another of these sure-fire, get-rich-quick schemes, I'll write this column, or have a try at it...Lest any of my friends become alarmed, I quickly add: I am not investing, for two reasons: 1. Funds are low; 2. A burnt child dreads the fire.

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One of the television stations explained that the network picture had gone haywire because of telephone company difficulties, so the story goes. Which drew from an oldtimer the comment, "It's that durned party line again!"

GO AND DO

Because we folks are, almost to a man, deeply concerned with the need for education, and of a junior college to reach our youngsters here at home, I hesitate to reprint this anecdote. It has to do with the illiterate salesman who wrote his boss:

Dear Bos: I seen this outfit which they ain't never bot a dime's worth of nothing from us, and I sole them a couple hundred thousand dollars worth of guds. I am now going to chawgo.

Two days later, a second letter arrived at the home office:

"Dear Boss: I cum hear I sold them half a million." It said.

Both letters were posted on the bulletin board with a note appended by the company president.

"We been spendin' to much time hear tryin' to spel, instead of tryin' to sel. Let's watch these letters from Gooch, who is on the rod doing a grate job for us, and you go out and do like he done."

SINGIN' THE BLUES

When it comes to singing the blues, newspaper owners have it all over Al Jolson. I missed out last week on that blues session popularly known as the Kentucky Press Association winter meeting, but along came Albert Moore, owner of the Salyersville Independent, Tuesday afternoon, and we had our own little songfest.

The visitor expressed the considered opinion that a man who would go into the newspaper business should have his head examined, and I rejoined that if the examination were made when he first started, he would be committed and kept there.

Then when I mentioned getting out of the racket, but admitted I knew nothing else to do, there was a silence. Finally, I remarked that I would like to be a gentleman farmer. To which Mr. Moore rejoined, "you could partially qualify—you could be a farmer."

That's what you get for complaining.



The band Mountain Heart is pictured in this promotional picture.

Mountain Heart set to thrill bluegrass fans Jan. 26 at Mountain Arts Center

Steep Canyon Rangers to open

The members of Mountain Heart have spent nearly a decade together pushing relentlessly at the boundaries of bluegrass. With a shared attitude of adventure, a fierce devotion to their mission and fire in their fingers, they've proven a genre steeped in tradition to be a living, breathing thing - a sound not only of the present but of the future.

The group's latest release "Wide Open" finds the band bringing more of that "energy, intensity and fire" to the recording studio than ever before on cuts like the tire-squealing title track and the blistering instrumental "Deadwood." But there's much more here than land-speed-record string-burning. From the sweetly romantic "I Remember You" to the chilling "Here I Am," and from the bitter "God and Everybody" to the peaceful "Down in the Valley," Wide Open is the sound of a group with a broad emotional range and no self-imposed limits.

With this new album, Mountain Heart demonstrates for anyone lucky enough to listen that their music, their minds, their hearts and their possibilities are indeed "Wide Open."

"Anchored securely in the traditions of bluegrass, they have added to that foundation layer upon layer of contemporary perfection..." Bluegrass Unlimited

"Mountain Heart is one of the most entertaining groups in bluegrass music today." - Ricky Skaggs.

Mountain Heart, with special guests Steep Canyon Rangers, will appear at the Mountain Arts Center on Friday, Jan. 26, 2007, at 7:30 p.m. For ticket information, call 886-2623 or visit www.macarts.com.



In this illustration, the band Mountain Heart shows its wild side.

Hey Kids! Plan to audition for The Little Mermaid

The Greater Hazard Area Performing Arts Series announces that Missoula Children's Theatre will bring The Little Mermaid to the stage on Saturday, Jan. 13, 2007 at 7 p.m. at the Forum, Hal Rogers Center. Admission is \$10 per person, those age five and younger will be admitted for free.

The show will consist of performers from the area. The week-long residency begins with an open group audition on Monday, Jan. 8, 2007 from 4 to 6 p.m. in the First Federal Center at Hazard Community & Technical College, room 123.

Around 50 to 60 students in grades 1-12 will be cast and well rehearsed throughout the week, learning lines, songs and choreography to perform as an ensemble in

producing a full-length musical. All MCT shows are original adaptations of children's stories and fairytales, a twist on the classical stories that you know and love.

Back by popular demand, Missoula Children's Theatre (MCT) is North America's largest touring theatre for young people.

A team of two professional actor/directors will arrive in our community at the beginning of the week with a set, costumes, props and make-up, everything it takes to put on a play, except the cast. MCT will conduct theatre workshops in area schools for any grade level.

School matinees will be held on Friday, Jan. 12, 2007 at The Forum at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Event sponsors are: Kiwanis Club of Hazard, Greg and Noreen Wells,

International Coal Group Inc., and Primary Care Centers of Eastern Kentucky.

Series Grand benefactors are: ARH Regional Medical Center, City of Hazard, Hampton Inn and Suites, Hazard Clinic, Peoples Bank and Trust Company, and Super 8 Motel. The Kentucky Arts Council, a state agency in the Commerce Cabinet, provides operational support funding for the Greater Hazard Area Performing Arts Series with state tax dollars and federal funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes a great nation deserves great art.

For tickets, group rates and more information contact Tammy Duff, performing arts series director at (606) 487-3067 or 800-246-7521, ext. 73067.

A thousand ways

by SUSAN TITUS OSBORN
submitted by Linda Evans
Shepherd
"CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE CHRISTIAN WOMAN'S SOUL"

Heavy snow fell outside the home of Dick Osborn's parents' home in Boise, Idaho. Dick sat quietly in his room brooding about a dating relationship that had ended. Reaching for his Bible, he read Proverbs 16:33. "The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the Lord."

Normally Dick wasn't the type to give God an ultimatum, but this particular evening he felt lonely and depressed thinking about his ex-girlfriend, Sandy. He reached in his pocket for a quarter and flipped it up in the air, saying: "Lord, if it lands heads up, I will get back with Sandy and marry her someday. If it doesn't, I know that isn't your will." The coin landed tails up.

"No, Lord," Dick said. "That's not the right answer. Let's go two out of three." He tossed the coin into the air once more, and it land-

ed tails up again. After the fourth time, Dick groaned, "Well, this is just a bunch of hokey anyway."

Glancing around the room, Dick's gaze fell on a magazine lying upside down on the rug. On the back was an advertisement for the book "Parables for Young Teens." He pleaded, "Lord, who am I going to marry, then?" Staring at the book's picture, he read the author's name and said, "Susan F. Titus?" Again, he flipped his coin up in the air, but this time it landed heads up.

"Well, that just proves that this really is a bunch of hokey. I don't even know anyone named Susan F. Titus, let alone what state she's in. How could I possibly marry her?"

He soon forgot the incident and tried to move on in his life.

Months later, Dick sat laughing and talking with his church group.

"The thing I miss most from my previous marriage is the baseball tickets to the California Angels," one young woman said.

"It happens that I've got season tickets to a box seat. Maybe we can go sometime," Dick said.

She whispered discretely, "I'd

like to, but I'm dating someone."

Dick smiled and responded glibly, "Let me know if you ever change your mind."

Several months later, Dick was disappointed to learn that his old girlfriend, Sandy, was engaged to someone else. The following Sunday he walked with his baseball-fan friend

from the church sanctuary to the parking lot. She stopped and said, "Dick, remember what you

(See SOUP, page six)



Coolness is in the eye of the beholder

by TOM and RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray,
I am 16 years old and drive a 1989 Ford LTD Country Squire. It's red and has wood paneling on the sides, with a luggage rack on the roof. My friends at school say that they would never be seen riding in it because station wagons are uncool. What do you guys think? — Coty

TOM: Oh, man. Your friends are so wrong on this one, Coty. They're totally missing the boat.

RAY: There are two kinds of cool, Coty. In high school, kids are worried about being different. So they define "cool" as "acceptable," and "what everyone else is driving/wearing/doing." But that's not really "cool" so much as it's "not uncool." You see what I mean?

TOM: But as kids get older, they understand that true coolness is about being an individual — being yourself. And confidently expressing your true self.

RAY: Think of all the people you know of — musicians, thinkers, athletes, artists — who you think are truly cool. They're unique, aren't they? There's no one who looks, thinks, talks or plays exactly like they do. For instance, when I was in high school, The Beatles defined cool.

TOM: Hmm. In my time, Stonewall Jackson was "the man."

RAY: Anyway, do you think The Beatles went to a group of kids in

TOM: If your gas cap isn't tight (if you haven't turned it until it clicks), gasoline vapors can escape. And since we — as a nation — have spent bazillions of dollars during the past 30 years trying to clean up our air, nobody wants YOU driving around releasing unburned hydrocarbons into the air and creating your own personal smog cloud. So the light is a warning that the fuel system is not properly pressurized, and that something needs to be fixed.

the high-school cafeteria and said, "Excuse me, do you think these shaggy haircuts and low-cut black boots are cool?" Of course not! They did what THEY thought was cool, and after a while, everyone else followed.

TOM: That's what you're doing, Coty. You have the courage to make your own decisions. And I happen to agree with you, that the Country Squire is a very cool ride. After all, nothing says "cool" like fake wood.

RAY: In a couple of years, other kids will be begging their parents to find them '89 Country Squires. But by then, you'll have already moved on to the next cool thing. Like a '75 AMC Matador.

Loose gas cap can cause lit check-engine light

Dear Tom and Ray:

You might be familiar with how our military has paid outrageous sums of money for items such as hammers and toilet seats. Did you know that an unsuspecting car owner can pay \$125 for a new gas cap to make the "check-engine"

light go out? It starts with the minimum \$99 diagnostic charge, followed by the \$24.99 golden gas cap. As a thinly veiled gesture of benevolence, the service manager graciously put the \$99 diagnostic fee toward the "labor" charge of some other work I had him do, so I only ended up paying for the gas cap. Is it true that an improperly fitting gas cap can cause the check-engine light to come on? The service manager said that there is an "escaped fume detection system" that causes this alarm. Did he really sell me a \$125 gas cap? — Saul

RAY: Yes, it's true, Saul. It's all true. A loose gas cap will trigger the check-engine light. In fact, it's one of the leading causes of illuminated check-engine lights.

TOM: If your gas cap isn't tight (if you haven't turned it until it clicks), gasoline vapors can escape. And since we — as a nation — have spent bazillions of dollars during the past 30 years trying to clean up our air, nobody wants YOU driving around releasing unburned hydrocarbons into the air and creating

your own personal smog cloud. So the light is a warning that the fuel system is not properly pressurized, and that something needs to be fixed.

RAY: Now, is the dealer within his rights to charge you \$99 to diagnose the problem? I'd say yes to that question, too. When you come in with the check-engine light on, that means your car's computer has stored a fault code. But in order to read the code, the mechanic has to hook up the scanner and input a bunch of information about your car. That's going to take him a good half-hour just to find out what the computer says.

TOM: I suppose he could have guessed and checked the gas cap. And if he had found it loose, he could have sent you away and said, "That's probably what it was." But there are two potential problems with that approach. First, he could have been wrong. The check-engine light can be on for hundreds of dif-



ferent reasons. And in that case, you'd be writing to us complaining that your dealer didn't fix your car.

RAY: The second potential problem is that your check-engine light could have stayed on. In lots of cars, once a problem is corrected, the light will go off by itself after somewhere between 20 or 50 starts. But on other cars, like VWs and

Audis, the light never goes off until your mechanic scans the computer and resets the system.

TOM: So, Saul, I actually think it was a nice gesture of the dealer to waive the diagnostic fee. He didn't have to do that. So bake him some brownies, then go back and tell him you're sorry for overturning his tool box and trashing the waiting room.

What is the most cost-effective way to buy a car? Tom and Ray hash it all out in their pamphlet "Should I Buy, Lease, or Steal My Next Car?" Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Next Car, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk Web site at www.cartalk.com.

Lagoon

star here and he gets ample screen time after a slow opening. The creature is well rendered even if the continuity guy appears to be taking a nap which leads to some confusion at times as to how big this thing is supposed to be. In the water it appears to be the size of a Sherman tank, but on land it develops shrinkage (perhaps the water was very cold) and is only as big as a cow.

The actors do well with Charles Napier ("The Blues Brothers") playing another of his Southern tough guys and Max Perlich stepping up as his goofy deputy.

The best acting nods go to the newbies here, with Jane Longenecker and Matt Borlenghi as the couple whose flame is reignited by the croc hunt. Costas Mandalor does not fare so well as the outback croc

hunter. He never seems to get a grip on his accent and often sounds like one of those dopes who adopt an accent to woo the ladies. All in all this is a solid Corman effort, though die hard dinosaur fans would probably enjoy his "Carnosaur" series more.

Best line: "We don't need to open our private company to public scrutiny." 2004, rated R.

Soup

said about my telling you if I ever changed my mind about going out with you?"

"Yeah."
"Well, I'd like to."
A smile lit his face.

"OK."
They had lunch the following Wednesday, and soon their romance blossomed. Before long, they were engaged.

One day, while Dick was

carrying some of her son's things upstairs, he noticed a framed poster hanging on the hallway wall, which read: "Parables for Young Teens by Susan F. Titus."

He stared openmouthed, then turned to his fiancée.

"Sue, did you write that book?"
"Yes," she answered.
"Why else would I have it hanging on my wall?"

He didn't respond, but just stared incredulously.

Later, on their honeymoon, one evening Dick squeezed Susan's hand and said, "I have a story to tell you, and you're going to find it hard to believe."

Before he started the story, however, Dick took a coin from his pocket and flipped it. "Heads. I won," he said, and then he began.

Odds & Ends

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — It's no secret that Willis Welch loves pecan pie — someone has left one on his doorstep before Christmas for the past 25 years.

The identity of his Secret Santa remains a mystery, but it appears the 82-year-old Welch has more than one benefactor: The handwriting or typing on the Merry Christmas note has differed each year.

"When it's written by a female, it's a mushy-type thing," he said.

In some years, a disguised voice on the telephone has told him to look on his front porch for his pie.

Welch said many of his friends know he's addicted to pecan pie and anticipate his gift arriving each year.

"I've probably had 25 calls this week wanting to know if the pie fairy has shown up," said Welch, a retired power company executive.

He said he has watched out for his Secret Santa. "The only thing I didn't do was put up a camera," he said.

This year's pie arrived early on Christmas Eve and Welch said he had a piece for breakfast.

Some 1,300 companies so far have participated in the campaign.

South Korea has stepped up its crackdown on prostitution since 2004 when the legislature passed new anti-prostitution laws targeting human traffickers, pimps and prostitutes. The practice remains widespread, however.

NAPERVILLE, Ill. — A man who took out a home-equity loan to buy 1,600 teddy bears for children in local hospitals got some help playing Santa this year.

For nine years, Mark Brant, a computer salesman, has been playing Santa for children in pediatric wards. But this year he didn't have enough money so he took out a \$6,000 home-equity loan and borrowed another \$4,000.

However, after a story ran in the Chicago Tribune story ran about Brant's work with sick children, more than 60 people contacted him with offers to help.

With that money, Brant delivered teddy bears and provided Polaroid snapshots of children with Santa at seven hospitals.

One of the first to contact Brant was the Rev. Michael Bittel, an administrator with Monarch Landing, a Naperville retirement community.

"When he said, 'Hey, I want to pay for your home-equity loan.' I thought, oh, my Lord. It brought tears to my eyes," Brant said.

BERGEN, Norway — At first, Vidar Aarhus thought it was just an annoying local Christmas Eve tradition.

But after hearing the Salhus Church bells ring for five hours straight, he decided to make some telephone calls.

"I was worried that my children wouldn't be able to sleep," Aarhus said, accord-

ing to a story posted Monday on the Bergens Tidende newspaper's Web site. "It was pretty late. After talking to a few friends I knew something was wrong."

Aarhus, who lives just 100 yards from Salhus Church, moved with his family to Bergen in western Norway six months ago.

The church's priest, Arvid Andreas Fosse, apologized to the neighbors after the bells came to a standstill, saying they weren't supposed to ring so long.

"They're automatic," he said. "They were set for one hour, so I pressed the button to turn them off when I got back to church."

FERN PARK, Fla. — A 15-year-old boy has been sentenced to four years in a juvenile treatment program after deputies stopped him driving a stolen bus along a public transit route, picking up passengers and collecting fares.

A judge also sentenced Ritchie Calvin Davis last week to an additional four months in a treatment program for trespassing and theft linked to an unrelated break-in at a United Way office, the Orlando Sentinel reported.

Davis also lost his driving privileges for a year, though he doesn't have a license. The sentence means he won't be able to drive for a year after getting a permit or license.

He was already on probation for taking a tour bus and driving passengers around in January, authorities said.

Davis took the city bus on

Oct. 28 from the Central Florida Fairgrounds in Orlando, where it was parked awaiting sale at an auction, according to a Seminole County sheriff's report. The bus belongs to the Central Florida Transportation Agency, which runs LYNX public transit services in the Orlando area.

Passengers and deputies noted Davis drove the bus at normal speeds and made all the appropriate stops on the route. One passenger, suspicious of the driver's youthful looks, called 911.

BENNINGTON, Vt. — Eager to combat drunken driving during the holidays, police are distributing pint glasses embossed with the logo of the Bennington Police Department to bars and restaurants.

About 160 of the glasses, manufactured by Catamount Glass and donated to the department, are being given away in hopes that those using them will think twice about getting behind the wheel if they've had too many.

"It should give awareness to people and make them pay attention a little more," said T.J. Carmody, owner of Carmody's restaurant, which got three cases of the glasses last week. "We're not telling people they can't have a good time, just to be more responsible."

The glasses have one of four designs: a police patch, a special response team patch, a K-9 logo or a Bennington Police Department 150th anniversary badge logo.

Police Lt. Paul Doucette, who came up with the idea, said the department wanted to promote highway safety.

"One of the ways we let people know we're out there is through increased visibility," he said. "We don't want people driving impaired at all."

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — A man was arrested after driving a retired police car with its siren blaring behind an ambulance operating in emergency mode, authorities said.

Hai Hoang, 18, was arrested Friday on one count of impersonating a police officer, the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office said in a statement. Hoang had originally told an off-duty detective he was clearing traffic for the ambulance on Thursday evening. He was let go for the time being.

Just before noon Friday, Hoang was again observed driving the retired police

vehicle. Authorities stopped him, and also discovered he had in his possession a .22 caliber pistol, a 16 oz. can of pepper spray, a badge and a handheld scanner programmed to the frequencies of several local law enforcement agencies.

Hoang was also arrested on one count of carrying a concealed weapon and unlawfully transporting radio equipment with law enforcement frequencies.

WELLSVILLE, Ohio — Breaking into a home apparently creates an appetite.

The burglar who broke into David Palmer's house in this northeast Ohio town last week took coins, a camera and other items and then stopped to make a sandwich, police said. There was an empty cheese wrapper, and a loaf of bread had been opened.

Wellsville is about 70 miles southeast of Cleveland.

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BOBBY GAYHEART
Broken Heart
My heart was broke when you left me alone,
But I knew God had called you home.
I never got to say good-bye,
But I know we will meet again, in Heaven's sky.
You were standing there beside your son,
When both of your lives were taken by a gun.
The misery, heartache and pain,
But your heart in mine, will forever remain.
I miss you every day, and every night,
But I know where you're at, is a beautiful sight.
I'll see you when it is my turn to come home,
Then in each other's arms, we will never be alone.
Happy Birthday, Bobby Gayheart
We love you and miss you more every day.
YOUR WIFE AND SONS

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Russellville edges host Paintsville in Classic

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PAINTSVILLE — Looking to repeat as champion of its own tournament, Paintsville hit a stumbling block Thursday night in the nightcap of the fourth annual Tiger Hoops Classic. Russellville, a high-flying team from Western Kentucky, outscored the Tigers in both the first and fourth quarters Thursday night. After being tied 63-63 with Paintsville at the end of the third quarter, Russellville had just enough left in its tank to send the Tigers into the loss column. The Panthers outscored Paintsville 18-16 in the fourth quarter, winning 81-79.

Senior Jerrell Mayo led

Russellville with 20 points. Mayo shared game-high scoring honors with Paintsville's JD VanHoose.

Mayo was one of five players to reach double figures in the scoring column for 4th Region contender Russellville. Josh Kennedy followed with 16 points for Russellville. Tyler Meacham scored 14 points for the Panthers, while teammates Damian Elam and Donnie Bigbee tossed in 12 apiece. Daniel Pardue and Justin Rust rounded out the Russellville scoring with four and three points, respectively.

Russellville jumped out to an early lead over the Tigers, taking a 21-17 advantage out of the opening quarter. The two teams played even in the second quarter, leaving

Russellville with a 44-40 lead at halftime.

Paintsville evened the game back up in the third quarter, outscoring Russellville 23-19.

For the Tigers, VanHoose led the way with his 20 points. Van Ferguson followed with 17 points for Paintsville. Landon Slone and Shane Grimm each had 15 points for the Tigers. Daniel Meade came in off of the bench and added eight points for Paintsville. Blake Bundy, a member of the Tiger starting five, finished with four points.

Each team exited the tournament game with a 6-4 record.

The Paintsville Tiger Hoops

(See CLASSIC, page eight)



photo by Steve LeMaster

Landon Slone scored 15 points for Paintsville in Thursday night's loss to Russellville.

Rose Hill rolls over Piarist

TIMES STAFF REPORT

ASHLAND — The Piarist School Knights opened play in the David Games Memorial tournament on a down note Thursday evening. Piarist, facing the tough challenge of playing tournament host Rose Hill Christian, a contender for this year's 16th Region championship, played from behind throughout the game. Freshman Dakotah Euton (6-7) put together a double-double of 23 points and 15 rebounds as the Royals defeated Piarist 95-40.

Five different Rose Hill players reached double figures scoring. In all, 12 different Rose Hill players broke into the scoring column.

Rose Hill, four years removed from having the services of O.J.

(See ROSE page eight)

TOURNEY SETBACK



photo by Jamie Howell

Prestonsburg junior guard Jordan Hall eyed a free throw attempt during Thursday's Tiger Hoops Classic game against Heath.

Panthers outlast Menifee

TIMES STAFF REPORT

BELFRY — Pikeville sophomore Daniel Harmon scored 26 points and senior Robert Boyd pulled down 14 rebounds as the Panthers beat Menifee County 67-55 Thursday in the Appalachian Wireless Mountain Schoolboy Classic at Belfry High School.

Harmon, who was named football player of the year in Class A, District 8, showed a talented shooting touch in the 12-point win over Menifee County, a team out of the 16th Region.

Harmon was one of three Pikeville players to reach double figures scoring. Matt Clevenger followed with 17 points for the Panthers. Jacob Sword flipped in 11 points for the Pikeville boys' basketball team.

Menifee County enjoyed an early lead over the Panthers, taking an 11-10 lead out of the first quarter. Pikeville managed to outscore the Wildcats in each of the last three quarters.

Pikeville (4-1) led 26-21 at the half. The Panthers outscored

(See PANTHERS page eight)

Heath handles Blackcats

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

PAINTSVILLE — For a second straight Paintsville Tiger Hoops Classic game, Prestonsburg faced a solid boys' basketball team from outside of Eastern Kentucky. After falling to North Hardin Wednesday in its first pool play game, Prestonsburg didn't fare any better Thursday against Heath. A team out of the 1st Region, Heath broke open what was a seven-point game with just over three seconds remaining in the first half, tagging the Blackcats 82-53.

Prestonsburg dropped to 0-5 after its second straight tournament loss.

Seth Hart led Heath with a game-high 19 points. Andrew Baer scored 18 points, Max McConnell tossed in 15 and Eric Straub added 10 for the Pirates.

The two teams battled back and fourth in the opening quarter. Heath ended the first quarter out in front 16-12. Straub nailed a three-point just before the buzzer and put Heath ahead 35-25 at the end of the second quarter.

The Pirates blew the game wide-open in the third quarter. When the third quarter came to a close, Heath led 64-34.

Senior center Trevor Patton paced Prestonsburg with a team-high 14 points. Patton scored 12 points in the first half. After not scoring in the first quarter, Jordan Hall finished with 12 points for the Blackcats. Taylor Clark just missed double figures for the Blackcats, finishing with nine points. Mason Vance scored five points and Bobby Hughes added four in Prestonsburg's sixth loss in as many games. Hughes was sick and did not see action in Wednesday's game against North Hardin. The Prestonsburg junior guard saw limited action Thursday, still playing at less than 100-percent versus Heath.

Austin Gearheart scored three points, while Chayse Martin and Michael Burchett netted two apiece for the Blackcats.

The win was Heath's third straight victory. Heath defeated Ballou (Washington DC) 68-61 Wednesday in its first pool play game. The win

over Prestonsburg was Heath's fourth victory in six games. Heath improved to 9-4.

Paintsville Tiger Hoops Classic
Heath 82, Prestonsburg 53
HEATH (9-4) — Baer 18, McConnell 15, Shidal 6, Hart 19, Poat 6, Evanko 2, Simons 2, Straub 10, Breese 2, Schall 2.
PRESTONSBURG (0-6) — Hughes 4, Hall 12, Patton 14, Martin 2, Clark 9, Vance 5, Gearheart 3, Burchett 2.

Tiger Hoops Classic Scoreboard

Thursday, Dec. 28
North Hardin 61, Ballou (Washington DC) 60
Seneca 95, Tate, Fla. 47
Moore 68, Bullitt East 57
University Heights 77, East Carter 62
Morgan County 72, Lawrence County 57
Heath 82, Prestonsburg 53
Russellville 81, Paintsville 79

Ladycats top Cawood for third straight victory

TIMES STAFF REPORT

MIDDLESBORO — Betsy Layne recorded its third straight win and second second consecutive victory Thursday as part of the First Priority Classic at Bell County. The Ladycats outscored Cawood in every quarter en route to a 53-33 win.

In its opener Wednesday, Betsy Layne beat tournament co-host Bell County 46-35.

Betsy Layne got a game-high 18 points from Megan Hamilton. Lindsey Martin followed with 15 points for the Ladycats. Kaitlin Lawson flipped in seven points for Betsy Layne.

The Ladycats led at the end of

(See LADYCATS, page eight)

Warriors upend Wabaco

TIMES STAFF REPORT

CHAVIES — The Garrett Christian Warriors traveled to Perry County this past week for a conference matchup against the Wabaco Lions. Each team struggled to produce offensively early in the contest. Garrett Christian, however, eventually broke through and played its way to a 63-47 win.

Garrett managed to take a 15-10 lead out of the first quarter. The host Lions cut into Garrett's lead in the second quarter. The Warriors led 24-22 at the half.

Garrett pushed its lead back out in the third quarter. The Warriors led 40-35 when the final quarter got its start.

Starting guard Kyle Green paced Garrett Christian with a game-high 27 points. Green was one of only two players in double figures for the Warriors. Andrew Zabo netted 16 points for visiting Garrett Christian. In other Garrett scoring, Matthew Potter added seven points and Jan Hicks scored five. Wes Prater contributed four points for the Garrett team in its conference victory.

Music City Bowl: Kentucky 28, Clemson 20

by JEFFREY McMURRAY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Andre Woodson conjured up memories of Tim Couch and made Kentucky a bowl winner for the first time in 22 years.

Woodson threw for three touchdowns and 300 yards as the Wildcats surprised Clemson 28-20 in the Music City Bowl on Friday.

The junior completed 20 of 30 passes to finish his breakout season with 31 touchdowns — more than five times his total from last year. He joins Couch, the former No. 1 NFL draft pick, as the only Wildcats to top the 30-touchdown mark in a season.

Behind Woodson, the game's Most

Valuable Player, the Wildcats (8-5) racked up their highest point total in bowl history. They won their sixth bowl game overall and first since beating Wisconsin in the 1984 Hall of Fame Bowl.

Kentucky made its first bowl appearance since 1999 in front of a huge contingency of Wildcats fans, many of whom made the 200-mile trip from Lexington.

Clemson (8-5) took the loss in its 18th bowl game since 1985. The Tigers hadn't ended their season in defeat in three years. Despite beating Wake Forest and Georgia Tech, the teams that played for the Atlantic Coast Conference title, Clemson went into a tailspin down the stretch, losing four of five.

While Kentucky's offensive fireworks weren't completely unexpected, a defense that came into the game ranked second-to-last nationally made the difference. The Wildcats held a 4-2 turnover advantage and limited Clemson to just six points until the final seven minutes when Kentucky used a prevent defense.

A large early deficit forced the Tigers, one of the country's best rushing teams, into passing situations. Running backs James Davis and C.J. Spiller combined for just 77 yards, and Spiller fell short of the 86 he needed to make the tandem the first in school history with 1,000 rushing yards each.

After four straight second-quarter drives ended with turnovers — two for each team — Kentucky coach Rich

Brooks sought a spark with a little razzle-dazzle.

Rather than punt from deep in Kentucky territory, punter Tim Masthay threw for the first down.

Woodson then lofted a deep pass over the Clemson secondary and found DeMoreao Ford streaking down the field for a 70-yard touchdown — the longest allowed all season by the nation's 12th-ranked defense.

Just over a minute later, Woodson threw a 51-yard pass to Steve Johnson but Lones Seiber missed a field goal to keep Kentucky's lead at 14-6 at halftime.

The Wildcats made it 21-6 early in the second half after a Clemson fumble. Woodson found Dicky Lyons Jr. on a sideline pattern for the 24-yard

score and then put the game out of reach with a touchdown pass to Jacob Tamme.

Clemson cut the deficit to eight points with 44 seconds left when Proctor threw a 12-yard touchdown pass to Aaron Kelly and added a two-point conversion. But, Kentucky recovered the onside kick and ran out the clock.

The Wildcats drove into Clemson territory on their first drive before Gaines Adams stormed through the line to strip the ball from Woodson. It was one of two sacks on the afternoon for the All-American, giving him 28 in his career to tie Michael Dean Perry for first on the Tigers' all-time list.

Phillip Merling picked up the loose

(See BOWL page eight)

Classic

Continued from p7

Classic has had a different champion each year. Last season, Paintsville captured its first Tiger Hoops Classic title, beating eventual state runner-up Owensboro Apollo in a championship game.

Paintsville Tiger Hoops Classic Russellville 81, Paintsville 79 PAINTSVILLE (6-4) - Ferguson 17, Slone 15, VanHoose 20, Grim 15, Bundy 4, Meade 8. RUSSELLVILLE (6-4) - Mayo 20, Meacham 14, Kennedy 16, Rust 3, Elam 12, Bigbee 12, Pardue 4. Paintsville.....17 23 23 16-79 Russellville.....21 23 19 18-81

Rose

Continued from p7

Mayo and its 16th Region championship run, led Piarist 22-4 at the end of the first quarter. The Knights held Piarist to just four points in each of the first two quarters. Rose Hill led 51-8 at the half.

The Royals outscored Piarist in each quarter. Rose Hill owned a 71-22 lead at the end of the third quarter.

After beating Piarist, Rose Hill improved to 6-2.

Caleb Hoskins paced Piarist with a team-high 14 points. Hoskins was the only Knight to reach double figures. Chris Baker and Matt Doyle each had nine points for Piarist, which featured six different scorers.

The loss was Piarist's ninth straight setback. Piarist, following the loss, dropped to 2-10.

David Garnes Memorial at Rose Hill ROSE HILL 95, Piarist 40 PIARIST (2-9) - Moak 2, Baker 9, Doyle 9, Parsons 3, Hoskins 14, Warrix 3. ROSE HILL (6-2) - Chad Jackson 10, Chase Jackson 2, J. Bush 4, K. Bush 12, Malloy 14, Arthur 8, Fuller 2, Euton 23, Barber 1, Quackenbush 12, Marsh 2, Davis 2. Piarist.....4 4 14 18-40 Rose Hill.....22 29 20 24-95

Ladycats

Continued from p7

every quarter. Betsy Layne exited the first quarter ahead 8-2. The Ladycats led 26-13 at the half.

Cawood didn't feature any players in double figures scoring. Emily Boggs paced the Lady Trojans with a team-high eight points. Two other players added six points apiece for Cawood.

Amby Tackett and Taylor Hott each had five points for Betsy Layne. Krista Flanery rounded out the Ladycat scoring with three points.

Betsy Layne (6-4) took some all-important momentum into the Bell County tournament. The

Ladycats edged 58th District rival Prestonsburg 56-55 before beginning play in Bell County.

First Priority Classic at Bell County Betsy Layne 53, Cawood 33 CAWOOD (4-5) - Boggs 8, Middleton 6, Hatmaker 3, Davenport 2, J. Hensley 4, Brock 6, C. Hensley 2. BETSY LAYNE (6-4) - Lawson 7, Flanery 3, Hamilton 18, Martin 15, Tackett 5, Hott 5. Cawood.....2 11 7 13-33 Betsy Layne.....8 18 12 15-53

Panthers

Continued from p7

Menifee County 18-15 in the third quarter.

Two players scored 17 points apiece for Menifee County (3-9).

In another Mountain Schoolboy Classic game played Thursday, host Belfry defeated Fleming County 81-63.

Jamie Case and Jordan Stelle scored 19 points apiece for the victorious Pirates. Dustin May was also in double figures for Belfry, finishing with 17 points. The Pirates outscored Fleming County 29-19 in the opening quarter. Belfry (9-3) led Fleming County 44-33 at the half.

Bailey Ellison paced Fleming County (1-7) with a game-high 24 points.

Bowl

Continued from p7

ball and seemed to give the Tigers prime field position, but a replay showed Woodson's knee was down before the ball came out.

Kentucky took advantage of the second chance and freshman linebacker Micah Johnson, the state's top high school football player last year, scored his first touchdown from a yard out.

Proctor threw for three touchdowns and 272 yards, but Jad Dean missed two first quarter field goal attempts and an extra point after Durrell Barry's 32-yard TD reception made it 7-6 Kentucky.

Cardinals getting their kicks out of Carmody

by WILL GRAVES ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIAMI - It's not easy kicking for Bobby Petrino.

The Louisville coach's obsession with scoring touchdowns is so consuming, Petrino almost looks defeated when forced to send the special teams out on the field when it's not for an extra-point attempt.

It's a look kicker Art Carmody has gotten used to over the years. More than a few times during the last three seasons, Carmody has heard his coach somewhat angrily call for the field goal unit after the high-powered Louisville offense has failed to reach the end zone.

Carmody's goal is simple: keep Petrino satisfied, if not exactly happy.

"I try to take every kick like it can be the outcome of a game, whether it's the first quarter, second quarter, whatever," Carmody said. "You never know when you're going to need the points."

Points have never been hard to come by for the Cardinals under Petrino, and when Carmody has been summoned from the sideline, rarely has there been anyone in school history as automatic.

The kid who was simply happy to be on scholarship three years ago has evolved into one of the nation's

best. Carmody won the Lou Groza Award as the country's best kicker this season after making 20-of-23 field goals and all 57 of his extra points for No. 5 Louisville (11-1), who plays No. 15 Wake Forest (11-2) in the Orange Bowl on Jan. 2.

The irony is that Carmody won the award while forsaking one dream for another. The Cardinals have been so good over the last three years Carmody has never been called on to win the game with one swing of his left leg.

Ask Carmody if any one kick stands out, and he points to a 35-yard kick midway through the fourth quarter against Cincinnati on Oct. 14 that gave the Cardinals a 13-point lead in a game in which they would hold on to win 23-17.

Not exactly the kind of dramatic, fist-pumping, storm the field moment that gets you noticed. Then again, Carmody knows there are worse problems than playing on a team so dominant late-game heroics are unnecessary.

And to be honest, all of this - the Groza Award, the first-team All Big East honors, the Orange Bowl berth - are just a bonus for player who simply hoped to make the team as a walk-on in 2003.

"When I first got up here, I never envisioned all this," Carmody said. "I knew they had a good football

team. Just to be on the team and to be a part of it is all I wanted."

It almost didn't happen. As a rule, Petrino doesn't give scholarships to kickers, instead putting them through a yearlong weeding out process to see who can deliver when the lights come on.

Getting the scholarship turned out to be the easy part for Carmody, who earned it in camp the summer before his freshman year in 2004. But the second Carmody won the starting job, the focus that helped him earn Petrino's trust vanished.

"That week after we put him on scholarship, I think he missed everything," Petrino said. "I was like 'Tony, what did we just do?'"

It was a mystery to Carmody too. "The uprights looked really narrow," he said. "Everything looked like a 50-yard field goal. I was struggling to get the ball through."

Carmody battled through the slump after hearing over and over from coaches and teammates to take it one step at a time. One miss didn't mean he would lose his scholarship, and one make didn't mean he could stop working.

"With kicking, you're going to have days like that where you're kicking the ball great and all of a sudden you might miss one or two and your swing feels a little off," Carmody said. "But I learned you can't get too high with the highs and too low with the lows."

There have been few lows for Carmody over the years, thanks in part to friend and wide receiver Harry Douglas, whose good hands helped him earn the holding job and whose work ethic has let him keep it. Even as he's developed into one of the Big East's top receivers, Douglas hasn't forgotten how he first got on the field. He's spent countless days during the offseason working with Carmody

"It's great because he takes it serious," Carmody said. "We have a good relationship if he needs to get on me or I need to get on him for certain things."

Having Douglas back there adds a certain unknown element to Louisville's kicking game, though sadly Petrino's wide-open play book doesn't have a chapter that asks for Douglas to run the ball.

"That's Artie's time to shine," Douglas said.

A junior, Carmody has no delusions of skipping his senior year to head to the pros. Only one kicker in NCAA history has won the Groza Award twice. Florida State's Sebastian Janikowski did it in 1998 and 1999, and the way the Cardinals have been playing the last three years, he knows he won't lack opportunities to do his thing.

"You can never get complacent," Carmody said. "You've got to just get the ball through the uprights and keep everybody happy, especially coach."

Court rules feds are entitled to baseball steroid testing data

by DAVID KRAVETS and PAUL ELIAS ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO - The government's already broad investigation into athlete steroid use appears to have widened even more, with the names of 100 baseball players who tested positive for illegal drugs now in the hands of federal investigators.

The information, which an appeals court granted to authorities Wednesday, could help the government pinpoint the source of steroids in baseball and also bolster the perjury case against Barry Bonds, who is under investigation for telling a grand jury he never knowingly used performance-enhancing drugs.

The ruling by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals gave investigators access to data from confidential drug tests by Major League Baseball in 2003.

It's unclear if Bonds' results are among those confiscated during the 2004 raids on two labs that conducted the tests.

Even so, the players who are found to have tested positive for steroids could be called to testify about how they obtained the drugs. If enough testify that they got them from Bonds' personal trainer, Greg Anderson, it could undermine the slugger's claim that he didn't know Anderson was supplying him with illegal substances.

Anderson is currently in prison for refusing to

testify in the perjury probe. He was previously convicted of steroids distribution.

Bonds' lawyer questioned why the government continues to pursue Bonds when he doesn't believe the Giants' outfielder was among those who tested positive in 2003.

"If Barry is one of the players that did not test positive in '03 for steroid," I would hope that it would cause the government to rethink their continuing harassment they've engaged in for years," attorney Michael Rains said Wednesday.

The samples were collected in 2003 at baseball's direction as part of a survey to gauge the prevalence of steroid use. Players and owners agreed in their labor contract that the results would be confidential, and each player was assigned a code number to be matched with his name.

Quest Diagnostics of Teterboro, N.J., one of the largest drug-testing firms in the nation, analyzed more than 1,400 urine samples from players that season. Comprehensive Drug Testing of Long Beach, Calif., coordinated the collection of specimens and compiled the data.

The testing was part of baseball's effort to determine whether a stricter drug-testing policy was needed. Because 5 percent or more of the tests for steroids came back positive, it automatically triggered the start of testing with penalties in 2004.

Bonds has always maintained he never tested

positive for illegal drug use. However, federal investigators demanded to see the 2003 test results for Bonds, then-New York Yankees Gary Sheffield and Jason Giambi, and seven other players.

When they raided the testing labs for those 10 results, investigators also seized computer files containing the test results of nearly 100 other players not named in the government's subpoena and warrants.

The players' union sued to keep the government from accessing the records, saying the seizures violated the players' constitutional rights.

The appellate panel ruled 2-1 Wednesday against that claim, overturning decisions by three lower courts in San Francisco, Los Angeles and Las Vegas.

The key opinion, which says federal prosecutors are entitled to the urine samples and names of those who tested positive, overturns a ruling by U.S. District Judge Susan Illston. The San Francisco-based judge had quashed the subpoenas to seize the test results, saying they constituted harassment and were unreasonable.

"The district court rested its order on legally insufficient grounds, and abused its discretion in granting the motion to quash," Judge Diarmuid F. O'Scannlain wrote for the appeals court in the 120-page decision.

In dissent, Judge Sidney R. Thomas voted to

uphold Illston, writing that the government's action "suggests an abuse of grand jury process."

U.S. Attorney Kevin V. Ryan of San Francisco said the office is reviewing the decision "to determine what the next investigative step may be."

The players' union can ask for a new hearing before the full 9th Circuit or appeal the panel's ruling to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The union's general counsel, Michael Weiner, declined to immediately comment, saying he wanted to first review the decision.

Separately, the court also ruled that "the government's seizures were reasonable under the Fourth Amendment" and sent the case back to the district court to review what evidence can be used and what must be returned.

The government's investigation of the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative, a now-defunct Burlingame supplements lab at the center of the steroid scandal, already has resulted in guilty pleas from BALCO president Victor Conte, Anderson, BALCO vice president James Valente, chemist Patrick Arnold and track coach Remi Korchemny.

The case is United States v. Comprehensive Drug Testing Inc., 05-10067.

AP Sports Writer Ron Blum contributed to this report.

UNLV prevents Knight from breaking wins record

by JAIME ARON ASSOCIATED PRESS

LUBBOCK, Texas - Bob Knight won't be making any more history in 2006.

Having started this season third on the men's Division I wins list, Knight was ready to take over the top spot all by his sweater-wearing self Thursday night - except his Texas Tech Red Raiders hardly gave him a chance.

Tech got behind early and never recovered, losing 74-66 to UNLV and leaving Knight tied with Dean Smith at 879 career wins.

His next chance for the milestone comes on New Year's Day. Considering how much Knight detests the hoopla, there's no doubt his resolution for 2007 is to get this over with.

"I haven't been interested in it from Day 1," Knight said. "All I'm interested in is playing well. We've

got a lot of work to do." Steve Alford, John Havlicek, Jerry Tarkanian and Fuzzy Zoeller were among roughly 30 Knight pals who traveled to cotton country in hopes that he'd make history.

Instead, they saw him whiff on his first try - just like he did in chasing milestone wins 300, 400, 600, 700 and 800.

The good news? He got all of them on the second try. So if those guys don't mind sticking around for a few days, or flying back in, he might make it worth their while Monday against New Mexico.

Alford, who coaches Iowa, said he'll do his best to return. Havlicek seemed like he'll be in.

"Anything special that happens, we're there for each other," Havlicek said.

Just to be safe - and to be crusty, cranky Bob Knight - he told his buddies "they might have to stay here three weeks."

"That would be a boon to the economy," said Knight, who is in his sixth season living in Lubbock, the hub of the largest contiguous cotton-growing region in the world.

Knight came into this season with 869 wins. After getting to 875, he needed two tries to match Adolph Rupp for second (876), then passed the former Kentucky coach in his next game.

A couple wins later, he matched Smith, the former North Carolina coach, on his first try. Five days later, folks were so giddy about Knight possibly breaking eir bodies red and spelled out 8-8-0 in black on their chests.

But Knight's motion offense and man-to-man defense both let him down.

Tech (10-4) came in as the nation's most-accurate 3-point shooting team, but made only one of 12. UNLV (12-2) was 11-for-25 from behind the arc.

The Red Raiders were on the wrong end of a 13-2 run and trailed 32-23 at halftime. Their deficit peaked at 19 almost midway through the second half, prompting hundred of fans to start leaving before Knight's club made a pretty good comeback, one aided by UNLV failing to make a basket over the last 6:21.

Tech got to 66-55 on a layup by Jay Jackson with 3:54 left when Knight drew his first technical of the season. It seemed like he was arguing a non-call, but he said it was problems with the ensuing inbounds pass that set him off.

"I thought they stepped over the line twice - once when they threw it in and once when the guy caught it," Knight said, laughing and adding: "I (also) thought Jackson had been fouled on the play, but that wasn't my comment."

The Red Raiders eventually got to 68-62 with 1:38 to go, but the

Runnin' Rebels protected their lead by making six straight foul shots.

"We used a lot of really good energy at a time when we should've been tired," Knight said. "Where was our energy earlier?"

Led by former NBA coach Lon Kruger, who improved to 8-2 against Knight, the Runnin' Rebels obviously didn't want to be firsthand witnesses to history. Every big basket or exciting play was punctuated by guys jumping up off the bench, high-fiving and spinning around, as if this was an NCAA tournament game.

"I'm very happy for him," Kruger said of Knight's pending feat, "yet I'm not displeased that we delayed the celebration for at least a game or two."

Martin Zeno led Tech with 22 points and Jackson, who was 1-of-6 on 3s, had 20.

Kevin Kruger led UNLV with 21 points. Wendell White and Curtis Terry each scored 12 points.

Louisville Cardinals 76, San Francisco Dons 63

by MALCOLM C. KNOX
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOUISVILLE — Louisville overcame another poor shooting performance in the first half to beat San Francisco 76-63 Thursday night.

The Cardinals (9-4) have shot 32 percent in the first halves of their last six games but have won the last four.

"We rebound and we play defense," Louisville forward Terrence Williams said. "That's our identity."

Williams scored 21 points and David Padgett had 20 in the Cardinals' victory.

Williams scored 18 of his points in the second half, including three 3-pointers. He had made three from behind the arc in the Cardinals' last

four games combined. Williams also had three blocks, two steals and nine rebounds.

"I thought (Williams) was brilliant in the second half," Louisville coach Rick Pitino said. "It's not easy to keep shooting when his shooting percentage is like it is."

Antonio Kellogg scored 14 points and made seven rebounds for the Dons (4-11).

It was the seventh loss in a row for San Francisco, all but one on the road. Louisville was playing its ninth straight game at home.

"We hate to make excuses," San Francisco coach Jessie Evans said, "but facts are facts."

Both teams started using a full-court press, forcing a fast pace, but poor shooting kept the score low. San Francisco also wanted to confuse the Cardinals, who were playing their

ninth game in a row at home.

"You want to get them out of their comfort zone a little bit," Evans said.

The Cardinals and Dons combined for 18 field goals and shot 30 percent from the floor in the first half.

"The message I said at halftime was, 'I don't know why we're so down about missing shots,'" Pitino said. "You've got to keep shooting."

San Francisco got its first lead of the game, 18-16, on a 3-pointer by Danny Covic with 8:55 left in the first half, but the Cardinals (9-4) led at halftime 26-23.

"As bad as we played, we were still up 3," Williams said. "It says you're playing defense."

There were 10 lead changes in the second half before Louisville locked the lead for good, after a 3-pointer by Jerry Smith made it 58-56 with 7:17 left.

Evans knew his team would get tired.

"I told them in the locker room. 'It's what you do after you get fatigued,'" he said. "Fatigue sets in about the 30 minute mark. You see what happened."

The Cardinals scored eight points in a row, holding the Dons without a point for five minutes.

"I've got to give these guys a lot of credit," Pitino said. "They've been struggling with their shooting, but we played great defense."

Louisville also had 17 offensive rebounds, five by Padgett and four by guard Jerry Smith.

"We're rebounding the ball so well off the offensive glass it negates the missed shots," Pitino said.

Smith was one of three freshmen to start for the Cardinals, along with Edgar Sosa and Earl Clark. Sosa had

18 points and eight assists.

"I thought Sosa had his finest game," Pitino said. "He acted like a point guard tonight, with the exception of one or two plays. If he will play like a point, he is so clever, we could be terrific."

Alan Wiggins led the Dons with eight rebounds. Williams had nine rebounds for the Cardinals.

Freshman forward Derrick Character was back on the sideline with the Cardinals, but did not dress, Thursday night. Character's last game action, before being given an indefinite leave of absence by Pitino, was against Kentucky, Dec. 16.

Louisville guard Andr McGee missed his third game in a row, resting his injured right knee. McGee had arthroscopic surgery to repair torn cartilage, Nov. 21.

Louisville flourishing with Florida talent

by WILL GRAVES
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIAMI — Nate Harris remembers what his mother said when he told her he was going to play football at Louisville.

"She was like, 'Where?'" Harris said with a laugh. "A lot of my friends, a lot of my family, they were like 'Where's Louisville?' They didn't know about Louisville. All they knew about was the Kentucky Derby. I just told them to watch."

Two years, two New Year's Bowl games — including a date with No. 15 Wake Forest in the Orange Bowl on Jan. 2 — and over a dozen national television appearances later, a geography lesson is no longer necessary.

As Harris, a Miami native, and other high-profile Florida prospects that are choosing Louisville over traditional Florida powers already know, the mid-sized city in the middle of basketball country has become the place to go if you want to play, if you want to be seen — and just as importantly — if you want to win.

"I wanted to be part of something that's new, that's up and coming,"

Harris said.

Louisville's success on the field has led to success in the living rooms of prospects they only dreamed of getting when coach Bobby Petrino took the job four years ago. The Cardinals are no longer settling for the players Miami, Florida and Florida State didn't want, they're getting some — but as Petrino quickly adds, not all — of the players at the top of their wish list.

"We're recruiting in a different pool," Petrino said. "Of course that makes it a lot more difficult, and you take a lot more hits and don't win all the battles you're in."

"We can go up against anybody in the country," said recruiting coordinator and cornerbacks coach Joe Whitt. "We were going against schools when we first got to Louisville that we aren't going against anymore. We're going against the traditional powerhouses and we're beating them on kids."

The proof is both in the numbers and on the field. The Cardinals have 21 players from Florida on their roster, including six starters and at least another half-dozen players who made

a significant impact this season.

Senior running back Kolby Smith, who is from Tallahassee, said he doesn't have to defend his decision to play for the Cardinals rather than try to make it as a Seminole anymore.

"It's different now because they see me playing; they see my roommate William Gay playing; all the rest of the dudes from Tallahassee playing and we're producing. We're doing good," Smith said. "I don't have to campaign because they see what direction we're heading in. If you want to play and play early, this is the place to be."

Whitt called the players from traditional football hotbeds like Florida, Alabama and Georgia "the best recruiters we have."

"They're back home selling the program," Whitt said. "They go home and people want to know about Coach Petrino, about our offense, about how we do things."

Whitt knows enough to know the Cardinals still have some work to do before they reach the heights of a USC or Ohio State. But things have changed so dramatically in the last four years on the recruiting trail, the

gap is shrinking by the day.

"When I walk into a school now, it's 'Louisville is in here!'" Whitt said. "It's not 'Oh, Louisville's here but I want to go and talk to Auburn and Florida State first.' It's exciting the new respect we're getting from coaches and players."

That respect is resonating in places like Miami and Tallahassee. While Whitt knows he's going to have a hard time landing a Florida recruit whose heart is set on going to Florida State, he also believes the Cardinals are no longer under the radar if the player wants to broaden his horizons.

"It's hard to beat in-state schools because it's hard to beat mom and grandma," Whitt said. "But if a kid leaves that state, we feel we should get him. If a kid is in Florida and he decides to leave the state of Florida, I don't care whoever else is looking at him. We think we should get that kid."

And the Cardinals are getting more and more of them every year. Whitt made a list of his top eight players before last spring's signing day, most of whom were from Florida

and Alabama. He hoped to get two. He ended up with six thanks to the kind of fearless attitude Petrino urges his coaches to take with them out on the recruiting trail.

"We go for the top guy now," Whitt said. "The thing is you might strike out. We might have got zero of the eight. But if you don't go for the top guy, you're not going to get him. In my office, I have a poster with the word 'No' on it 100 times. I go read it, and I'm already told 'No.' So I'm not afraid to hear 'No.'"

Funny, the word heard more often these days by Louisville coaches and players is "yes."

Just ask Harris. The people were surprised when he chose Louisville two years ago are the same ones now begging him for tickets to the Orange Bowl.

"It's crazy how it's flipped," said Harris, who had to hold an impromptu lottery to give out his six allotted tickets. "But coaches go down there and they talk about TV and they talk about our ranking and they know Louisville loves players from Florida."

Louisville AD Jurich receives two-year extension

by WILL GRAVES
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOUISVILLE — Louisville athletic director Tom Jurich never said he wanted to leave the athletic program he helped build into one of the nation's best.

Louisville president James Ramsey simply said it that much harder for Jurich to go.

Ramsey and the board of directors for the University of Louisville Athletic Association approved a two-year contract extension for Jurich on Friday that will make him one of the highest paid college athletic administrators in the country.

The new deal increases Jurich's base salary to \$440,000 a year, a \$75,000 boost over his current contract and raises his annual deferred compensation by \$15,000. The contract runs through 2016, then automatically renews each year until 2024, when Jurich will turn 67.

"I came here to do a job," Jurich said. "I really want to make sure we follow through with it and do every-

thing that we think we're capable of. I've said from the beginning that this is going to be a long road, it's going to be a long haul."

Jurich took over the Louisville program in 1997 and has spearheaded an unprecedented level of growth, including new facilities for baseball, softball and soccer. A new practice facility for the men's and women's basketball team will open next year and Jurich led the push for a new riverfront basketball arena that will open in 2010.

Jurich also hired Rick Pitino to coach the men's basketball program and football coach Bobby Petrino, who led the fifth-ranked Cardinals to their first Big East title this season and a berth in the Orange Bowl.

Ramsey said he felt the contract extension was well-deserved and even a bit necessary after several schools made overtures about Jurich's availability.

"There are schools that are constantly making contacts, so that's always an issue," Ramsey said. "We

wanted to indicate to Tom and his family that he's wanted here at Louisville. We appreciate the tremendous progress that he's made, not just on the field but with the academic success of our students, our commitment to gender equity and the financial integrity of the program."

Ramsey credited Jurich's "think big" philosophy with revitalizing a program that had grown stagnant. The football team went 1-10 the season before Jurich arrived, and Hall of Fame men's basketball coach Denny Crum was nearing the end of his career. In a sign of aggressiveness that has become part of his trademark, Jurich went after Pitino — who won an NCAA title at archrival Kentucky in 1996 — to succeed Crum and has made sure Petrino is among the highest paid coaches in the country.

"I've always been a visionary," Jurich said. "I've always dreamed of great things here at Louisville. ... We want to be a 23-sport school that does everything the right way."



photo by Steve LeMaster
Morgan County defeated Lawrence County 72-57 Thursday evening during the Tiger Hoops Classic.

Strayer proves hard work pays off

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

MOREHEAD — When Stacey Strayer joined the Morehead State women's basketball team three years ago she was a walk-on with hopes of becoming a starter. Today, she is not only the starting point guard for the Eagles, but has set new career highs in assists and has proven herself a leader both on and off the court.

With the graduation of last season's veteran point guard TaNeisha Johnson, the Eagles had a hole to fill. Through a process of trial and error, Eagle head coach Matthew Mitchell decided Strayer would fill the vacant point position.

"Going into the season we had some plans for the point guard position," said Mitchell. "Stacey (Strayer) was part of those plans and as we went through some games and practices, it became obvious that she was the most consistent player at that position."

Since becoming the starting point guard, the 5-foot-9-

inch junior from Germantown, Ohio, has set new career highs for herself, and is a league leader in assist to turnover ratio. Strayer set a new career high in assists with seven against Austin Peay on December 7. Her leadership at the point helped propel the Eagles to a 66-61 victory against the Lady Gobs. Strayer tied her career high in assists the very next game against Murray State.

She has averaged 5.7 assists in the last four games.

For Strayer, being a starter is not as important to her as helping the team.

"I didn't care so much that I didn't start," said Strayer. "I just wanted to contribute."

But contributing also means working hard on and off the court; something that Strayer excels at. Off the court she holds a 3.5 GPA with a major in biology. When she graduates, Strayer wants to be a physical therapist.

On the court, Mitchell has been impressed by her intelligence and perseverance.

"To me, her best asset is

dependability," said Mitchell. "She rarely makes mistakes. She's intelligent and runs the floor well. I have a lot of respect for her because she played a lot her freshman year but didn't play much last season. She didn't let that get her down and some players wouldn't have fought for their positions as hard as she did."

"In practice I just try to give it my all," said Strayer. "I don't feel a lot of pressure being the starter, but I do know that I need to continue to work hard."

Strayer is excited about the prospect of another run in the Ohio Valley Conference.

"Samford should be pretty tough this season because they bring a lot of players back," said Strayer. "I think we're a good team. Our record may not show what type of team we are, but we still haven't played our best game yet."

With solid leadership at the point guard position, the Eagles chances at an OVC crown are looking better every day.



Betsy Layne guard Megan Hamilton looked to pass the ball off Wednesday against Bell County.

photo courtesy of Pinnacle Sports View

Bengals' swoon could cost them playoff spot

by JOE KAY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI (AP) - Coach Marvin Lewis insists that a botched extra point wasn't responsible for the Cincinnati Bengals' season-turning loss.

He's right. A lot of very bad things have happened during a two-game meltdown that turned the Bengals into a long shot for the playoffs.

A bad snap on an extra-point attempt with 46 seconds to play left the Bengals with a 24-23 loss Sunday in Denver, costing them their lead position in the AFC wild card race. Now, they need a lot of help to reach the playoffs.

"I would have bet my life savings that we would have made that one," receiver T.J. Houshmandzadeh said. "It is just a microcosm of our season."

One that could very easily end on Sunday.

To keep playing, the Bengals (8-7)

have to beat Pittsburgh at Paul Brown Stadium. The game will have special significance for the defending Super Bowl champion Steelers, given that coach Bill Cowher is mulling retirement.

A victory wouldn't get Cincinnati into the playoffs by itself.

The Bengals have fallen a game behind Denver (9-6) and the New York Jets (9-6) for the wild card berth. In order to Cincinnati to move ahead, the Jets would have to lose Sunday at home to Oakland, which is tied with Detroit for the NFL's worst record at 2-13 and hasn't won on the road all season.

The other way in: Denver loses at home to San Francisco (6-9), and Kansas City (8-7) beats Jacksonville (8-7), giving the Bengals a wild card berth by virtue of the tiebreakers.

That's a lot to ask.

The Bengals can blame themselves for their predicament.

They won the AFC North champi-

onship last season because they played well consistently. They didn't lose consecutive regular-season games until the last week, when they rested their starters for most of a loss at Kansas City left them 11-5.

This year, they're a team of extremes.

They opened 3-0, branding themselves as a force. Then, they dropped five of six and were on the verge of imploding. Star players questioned the play calling and teammates' toughness.

They regrouped during the most favorable stretch of their schedule, beating New Orleans, Cleveland, Baltimore and Oakland to get back into contention and move to the front of the pack of wild card contenders.

With a chance to clinch a playoff spot, they've played two of their worst games back-to-back - a 34-16 loss in Indianapolis, followed by the stunning defeat in Denver. In both games, they let the pressure get to

them.

"You cannot come out tense and tight, and we need to get away from that," Lewis said.

Their biggest stars have made the biggest blunders. Carson Palmer has played his worst back-to-back games of the season, throwing for a combined 385 yards with six sacks, two touchdowns and two interceptions. His passer ratings for those two games were 69.9 and 63.4, way below average.

The Bengals had a chance to take control of the game in Denver early when safety Dexter Jackson intercepted Jay Cutler's first pass and returned it to the 5-yard line. Palmer overthrew an uncovered Houshmandzadeh on third-and-goal, setting up an interception that set the tone for the game.

Palmer later overthrew Chad Johnson and Chris Henry after they'd beaten defenders downfield.

"We are beating ourselves,"

Palmer said.

Johnson had a particularly miserable game. He let a pass bounce off his chest on third-and-21, and fumbled to stop another drive.

"It could have been my worst first half ever," said Johnson, who has a total of six catches for 69 yards without a touchdown in the last two games. "I dropped the ball, I fumbled, and it just didn't play out the way it should have."

Running back Rudi Johnson lost a fumble for the second time this season - he lost only one fumble all last year - and the Bengals played loose with the ball again. In the last two losses, they have fumbled nine times, losing three of them.

Penalties were another clue that the Bengals were distracted by the pressure. They had eight penalties in Denver, one of which wiped out a 75-yard touchdown pass.

"We continue to hurt ourselves," Lewis said.

Downcast Steelers, Bengals looking for upbeat finish

by JOE KAY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI - When the NFL schedule was released last April, the top two teams in the AFC North quickly scanned down the list to find the final game. Then, they smiled.

Perfect.

There was no better way to end than with Pittsburgh making another visit to Cincinnati. The defending Super Bowl champs against the defending division champs. The team that knocked Carson Palmer and the Bengals out of the playoffs coming back to town to try to do it again.

It has turned out too good to be true.

The Steelers (7-8) are already out of playoff contention heading into their final game Sunday at Paul Brown Stadium. The Bengals (8-7) are all but out, needing a victory and a helping hand to get a wild-card berth.

Instead of ending the year with a high-stakes showdown, this one has turned into a letdown.

"Coming into this year, we were supposed to be the two teams battling

it out," said Super Bowl MVP receiver Hines Ward. "It didn't work that way."

Instead, it's about endings.

Will this be Bill Cowher's final game as Steelers coach? Will the Bengals recover from a botched extra point in Denver and prolong their season for at least a few hours? Or will it end on the same field for the second season in a row?

It's all so bittersweet.

"We've underachieved and let games go by the wayside that have put us in the position we're in right now," Bengals right tackle Willie Anderson said. "It's not a terrible position, but it's not a great position as well."

At least the Bengals still have a little hope.

They had a chance to lock up an AFC wild-card berth by winning at Indianapolis or Denver the last two weeks. Instead, they got beaten by Peyton Manning's precise passing, then fell in Denver with one of the most exasperating endings in franchise history.

After Palmer led the Bengals to a touchdown with 46 seconds left, a bad

snap aborted the extra-point try and handed the Broncos a 24-23 victory.

Now, the Broncos and the New York Jets are in line for those two wild-card berths.

"If I play my best football, I can put us in position to win those games, and I didn't do that," said Palmer, who has played his worst back-to-back games of the season. "It's frustrating and disappointing and a lot of negative feelings going toward that. It's been tough to get over and tough to get past."

The Bengals have to beat Pittsburgh to stay in contention, then have at least one other game go their way. The Jets would have to lose at home to lowly Oakland. Or the Broncos would have to lose to San Francisco, and Jacksonville would have to lose to Kansas City.

The topsy-turvy last few weeks in the NFL provided some solace that Cincinnati might yet make the playoffs for a second straight season.

"You have to keep thinking that way," Anderson said. "You keep thinking that way, keep pushing, keep fighting. But it is disappointing. I think that we have underachieved."

Just as they did last season, the Steelers could bring the Bengals' hopes crashing down on their home field. Kimo von Oelhoffen's low hit blew out Palmer's left knee on his first pass of their playoff game, and Pittsburgh's 31-17 win started its run to the Super Bowl title.

There will be no playoff run for the Steelers this time. Instead, the motivation is to make sure the Bengals can't have one, either.

"You try to win every football game you're in, and you want to end on a good note," linebacker Joey Porter said. "And there'd be no better way than knocking them out. If we can't go, they can't go."

Things started going badly for the Steelers long before the season started. Quarterback Ben Roethlisberger's serious motorcycle accident in June was the first of his setbacks; he also would have an emergency appendectomy and a concussion during the season.

Safety Troy Polamalu got hurt, the running game lost its sting with Jerome Bettis retired, and a 2-6 start doomed Pittsburgh to also-ran status.

The overriding question heading into Sunday is whether it will be Cowher's final game. After 15 seasons, Cowher is mulling retirement. He plans to announce a decision soon.

"I want to get through this week and when the season is over, we'll address it at that time," said Cowher, who is 160-99-1 overall. "So, I understand that everyone has to ask those questions, and I've tried to be honest with everyone. I want to make sure I have a clear mind before I make any final decision, and I can't do that objectively during the season."

His players won't be surprised if he leaves after a season that's been disappointing in every way.

"In this business, you learn and know that year-in and year-out, nobody's job is guaranteed or secure," Ward said. "If somebody wants to walk away at any time, it's their right and their prerogative to do that."

"For us, we would love to have him. If not, if he chooses to go and be with his family, we have to respect that and move on as an organization and as a team. Move on and get ready for the new head coach."

Rich Braham retiring after 13th season

by JOE KAY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI - Center Rich Braham will retire after the Cincinnati Bengals' final regular season game Sunday, ending a career that spanned 13 seasons and had him snapping to six starting quarterbacks.

Braham, 36, has the longest tenure of any current Bengals player. He hasn't played since suffering a knee injury during the second game of the season.

He is not expected to play Sunday when the Bengals (8-7) finish their regular season against Pittsburgh. Coach Marvin Lewis said Braham will be honored on the field before the game.

"It gets to a point: Do you want to walk someday?" Braham said Wednesday. "You can play with one bad knee. This injury, it's going to be tough to come back from. It's some-

thing the doctors couldn't tell if it's going to heal in a week or a year. So what do you do?"

"If it's your time, it's your time."

Braham is one of only six players with at least 13 seasons in Cincinnati. He was a walk-on at West Virginia, where he developed into a starting left tackle, and was taken in the third round by Arizona in 1994. The Bengals claimed him off waivers during his rookie season, and he has played the rest of his career in Cincinnati.

Braham moved from left guard to center in 1999, when the Bengals were in the process of switching quarterbacks from Jeff Blake to first-round draft pick Akili Smith. Braham snapped the ball to six starting quarterbacks in his seven seasons as a center, and helped Carson Palmer develop into one of the NFL's top passers last season.

"Defenses can't confuse Carson

because they couldn't confuse Richie, point-blank." Pro Bowl right tackle Willie Anderson said. "He's a guy that's held his team together for a long time. I think his value to this team has been long underrated."

Since Braham moved to center in 1999, the Bengals have used Blake, Smith, Scott Mitchell, Jon Kitna, Gus Frerotte and Palmer as their starting quarterbacks.

Braham also is known for his toughness. During his career, he has played with a broken toe, torn knee cartilage, a herniated disc in his neck, a balky elbow and various knee injuries that required surgery. He had two operations on his right knee in 2000, but played in nine games despite the pain and limitations.

"He's been kind of like (Mike) Webster was," offensive line coach Paul Alexander said, referring to the center on Pittsburgh's championship teams. "He was the toughest guy on

the field, setting the huddle, breaking the huddle and leading us to the line of scrimmage. He's a great inspiration."

Braham privately told several players last week that he had decided to retire after the final game. The club announced his decision on Wednesday.

Lewis has tried to keep the severity of Braham's knee injury secret, describing it only as a deep bruise. Braham revealed on Wednesday that it was more serious.

Braham said part of the top of his tibia - the bigger of the bones that make up the lower leg - broke off and slid down, causing bleeding and bruising below the knee. Braham said the piece of bone was crushed.

"So technically, coach Lewis was right by saying it was a bruise," Braham said. "He just didn't put the broken bone part in there."

NFL GAMES ON TAP

Today's Games

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

National Guard joins General Motors Acceptance Corporation to sponsor 25 car

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

CONCORD, N.C. - Beginning in 2007, the Army National Guard will join forces with longtime Hendrick Motorsports partner GMAC to sponsor the No. 25 Chevrolets driven by Casey Mears in the Nextel Cup Series.

Casey Mears joins championship driver Jimmie Johnson at Hendrick Motorsports in 2007.

"This is a fantastic day for our organization," said Rick Hendrick, owner of Hendrick Motorsports. "We

take an enormous amount of pride in welcoming the men and women of the National Guard and continuing our time-honored relationship with GMAC. These are two incredible groups that share our vision for the No. 25 team and its bright future."

Mears, 28, will drive the new-look No. 25 National Guard/GMAC Chevrolet Monte Carlo SS in the car's on-track debut this February at Daytona. In 2006, Mears became the first full-time NASCAR driver to be part of a winning Grand American Rolex 24 team and was runner-up in

the prestigious Daytona 500.

"The National Guard is looking forward to joining the No. 25 Hendrick Motorsports team," said Col. Mike Jones, chief of the Army National Guard's Strength Maintenance Division. "NASCAR continues to be a vital component of our recruiting and retention programs, and we believe this new relationship will further enhance our involvement in the sport."

GMAC's association with Hendrick Motorsports is one of the longest and most successful sponsor-

team relationships in NASCAR. Headquartered in Detroit, the company joined Hendrick in 1993 and has since been featured in some form on 10 championship-winning racecars, including two as a primary sponsor.

"GMAC remains committed to Hendrick Motorsports and NASCAR racing as an important part of its overall marketing strategy," said Barbara Stokel, GMAC executive vice president for North American Operations. "Teaming with the National Guard, we expect to develop a branding partnership that will truly

leverage the success of the No. 25 Chevy and its new driver, Casey Mears."

The red, white and blue No. 25 Chevy design will make its first public appearances during activities surrounding the Jan. 7 GMAC Bowl at Ladd-Peebles Stadium in Mobile, Ala. New enlistees of the Alabama National Guard will be sworn in on the field prior to the game featuring Ohio University and the University of Southern Mississippi.

Financial terms of the agreement were not disclosed.

Stein re-elected to MiLB Board of Trustees

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON - The South Atlantic League of Professional Baseball Leagues recently announced that Alan Stein, President and CEO of the Lexington Legends, was re-elected to Minor League Baseball's Board of Trustees representing the South Atlantic League.

Stein, who was elected unanimously, will serve a three-year term.

"I am very pleased to serve a second term on Minor League Baseball's Board of Trustees," Stein said. "It's an honor as well as a tremendous responsibility because I, along with my fellow board members, will help shape the future of our industry."

The South Atlantic League elected Stein in October of 2005 to fill the unexpired term of Ron McKee of the Asheville Tourists.

"We are very happy to have Alan Stein serve another term on the National Association's Board of Trustees," said John Moss, President

of the South Atlantic League. "We feel that he represented the South Atlantic League at an outstanding level and will continue to do so using his tremendous business, communications and public relations experience."

The Board of Trustees serves as the governing body for Minor League Baseball. The Trustees determine policies and enact rules and regulations to accomplish the objectives of Minor League Baseball. The 17-member panel includes a representative from each affiliated league and one at-large member selected from the Triple-A level.



RETURNING TO THE TRACK: Defending Battle of the Bluegrass Champion Mike Jewell is one of several Late Model drivers getting ready for the 2007 dirt track season.

photo by Thomas Hendrickson



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in 2007, and beyond.*

“What will your New Year’s resolution be?”



Rachel Newsome, Wheelright
“To be a better mother.”



Gloria and Beacher Shepherd, David
“Be a better Christian and do more than I’ve ever done before for the Lord.”



Billie O’Quinn, Garrett
“Become more involved with my church and become more dedicated.”



Crystal Gayheart, Eastern
“To be a better wife and mother.”



Sarah Bartley, Prestonsburg
“Lose some weight and maybe earn a lot more money this year.”



Linda Wright, Prestonsburg
“To be kinder to people.”



Lee Collins, Auxier
“To go to church more.”



Ashleigh Dotson, Prestonsburg
“To control my complex carb intake.”

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2007 NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS
As we look back, we recall the goodwill of the many friends we’ve made this year, and as we look ahead, we’re excited about all the people we’ve yet to meet in the year to come. No matter which category you’re in, we wish you the best and look forward to the privilege of serving you well in 2007.
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- Site construction for gas company wells

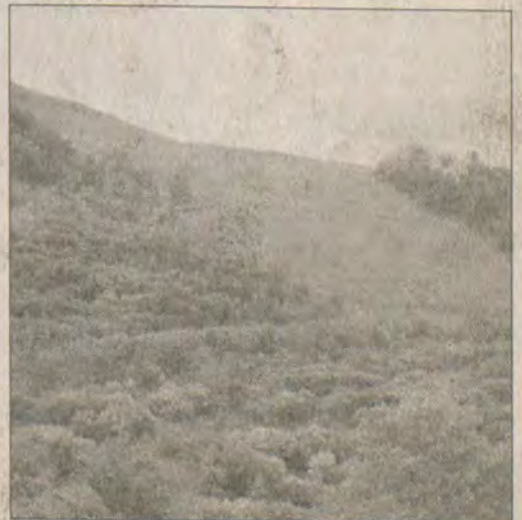
Ranger Contracting has the equipment and workforce to complete the largest of reclamation jobs. We worked in the cleanup of the Martin County Coal Corporation Slurry Spill in Inez, Kentucky and recently we have been involved in the cleanup of the mudslide closing KY 699 at Leatherwood. We offer by the hour rates or contract labor bids.

Ranger Contracting is highly qualified and ready to assist in your reclamation project.

For detailed information on how we can assist you, contact:

Rondal Reed
President

Tadge Childers
Project Coordinator



FLAVOR OF THE NEW YEAR

LEAN GREEN

BACK-TO-SALAD FAVORITES

FAMILY FEATURES

Ready for the fresh crunch of a green salad? Join the club. Following an indulgent holiday season, most of us welcome a return to healthful eating as our main New Year's resolution. Admit it: Amidst the eggnog and cookies, mashed potatoes and prime rib, you've missed the appealing crunch of a colorful green salad and "good-for-you" benefits that make this year's resolution easy to swallow!

Inspiration for fresh, delicious meals abounds in the produce aisle. A multitude of lettuce blends means your family can enjoy greens every day without palate fatigue. Since nutritionists remind us to eat a wider variety of produce, that's added incentive to keep salad blends on the menu daily, or even twice a day. Nutritionists also say that many weight loss resolutions fail because of simple boredom. Thank goodness salads in 2007 are a far cry from the "rabbit food" that used to make us cringe. Today, ready-to-eat lettuces and greens are an ultimate convenience food and the foundation for balanced and appealing meals that truly satisfy. Make a fresh blended salad mix the centerpiece of the meal or add protein such as chicken, beef or seafood for a great way to satisfy hunger and manage cravings. Use a light hand with dressings — not only to control calories but to make sure the fresh flavors and crunch of the greens come through.

A Simple Glossary of Greens Eating

Eating green means never being in a rut. Thanks to breakthrough fresh salad technology, fresh produce experts like those at Fresh Express deliver fresh, wholesome lettuces, dark greens and blends using up to 25 different lettuce varieties for distinctive salad inspiration. Fresh is best, so always opt for these super-fresh blends.

Hearty Romaine Mixes

- Pair crunchy, sturdy mixed greens including hearts of romaine blended with other lettuces with fruit — dried cranberries or apricots, or fresh pears and grapes — sliced red onion, blue cheese and toasted nuts like pecans. Toss everything together with your favorite vinaigrette.
- Serve your own twist on a classic Caesar salad with a hearty romaine blend tossed with a low-fat Caesar dressing and topped with a few slices of a grilled pork chop or steak.

Baby Lettuce Blends

- Delicate Baby Lettuce Blends make a great lunch salad, so bring a bag to work with your favorite raspberry vinaigrette and some croutons.
- For dinner, toss a Baby Blends salad with low-fat garlic dressing and top with grilled or roasted salmon and a few toasted almonds.

Mediterranean Lettuce Mixes

- Accompany a light pasta dinner with the bold flavors of Mediterranean-inspired mixes that include colorful radicchio, then finish the salad with a drizzle of Italian vinaigrette and a bit of Romano cheese.
- Toss an Italian blend with cooked and cooled penne, diced roast pork or shredded chicken and no-fat garlic vinaigrette for a simple but classy entrée.

Crispy Lettuces

Iceberg and Carrot Blends, Iceberg and Romaine, Carrot and Red Cabbage

- Use these sturdy mixes as a "bed" for fajita meat or your favorite turkey chili; garnish with shredded cheddar or a dollop of guacamole or fat-free sour cream.
- Use these crunchy lettuce blends for tucking into pita pockets with shredded rotisserie chicken; or layer onto French bread halves, top with roast turkey or prosciutto, a drizzle of vinaigrette and top of loaf for a continental sandwich.

Tender Lettuce Mixes

Field greens, sweet butter lettuces and tender baby spinach

- Toss these mixes with wine vinegar, extra virgin olive oil and a touch of Dijon mustard; serve alongside a rotisserie chicken and roast potatoes.
- Use this lightly dressed salad as a bed for broiled shrimp.

Ultimate Convenience and Freshness — With Food Safety First

The No. 1 producer of prepared salad blends, Fresh Express is considered an industry leader in food safety. With a major commitment to both food safety and quality, Fresh Express has spent almost two decades creating cutting-edge food safety standards in the leafy green industry. Using the latest and exclusive techniques — from growing operations to delivery to store shelves, this industry leader uses nature, science and innovation to make its salad blends consistently fresh and wholesome.

For the freshest salad ideas around, visit www.FreshExpress.com.

SPINACH IS BACK

If Americans love salad, they're crazy about spinach. Nothing satisfies quite like a hearty, deep-green spinach salad. Rich in vitamins, minerals and anti-aging antioxidants, spinach has become a staple in U.S. crisper drawers. Its assertive flavor is an ideal carrier for smoky, salty and sweet flavors — hence, the classic favorite spinach salad with warm bacon dressing, a spinach salad garnished with blue or feta cheese or one with honey roasted nuts. It's time to treat the family to their favorite spinach salad again. And while spinach salads promise to remain in style, don't forget other satisfying spinach dishes that are welcome additions to any menu.

- Sauté fresh spinach with onion in a little olive oil, just until wilted.
- Boost flavor, nutrition and color to any pasta dish by tossing fresh baby spinach leaves with hot cooked penne or rigatoni, olive oil, crushed garlic, red pepper flakes and Parmesan cheese.

- Add fresh spinach leaves to boost flavor, texture and nutrition to any deli sandwich.
- Stir chopped fresh spinach into chicken noodle, minestrone or bean soup.

Elsie's Spinach Salad

This classic features family favorite flavors. Toss, serve to four hungry people and enjoy.

Serves: 4

- 2 10-ounce packages Fresh Express Spinach
- 2 hard cooked eggs, quartered
- 6 slices bacon, cooked crisp and crumbled
- 4 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 to 1 1/2 cups of your favorite Caesar dressing, reduced fat or nonfat

Place spinach, eggs, bacon and Parmesan in large bowl; add dressing and toss. Serve immediately on chilled salad plates. For extra flavor, add mushrooms and red onions.

Downtown Simmered Spinach

This is sure to become a favorite side dish. Fresh spinach, mushrooms, garlic and green onions are sautéed in olive oil and simmered briefly in a dried tomato-boosted chicken broth.

Serves: 4

- 2 teaspoons olive oil
- 1 cup sliced mushrooms
- 1/2 thinly sliced leek or 4 sliced green onions
- 1 clove garlic, finely chopped
- 1/4 cup reduced-sodium chicken broth
- 1 10-ounce package Fresh Express Spinach
- 1 tablespoon thinly sliced sun-dried tomatoes, drained
- 1 teaspoon soy sauce

In large skillet, heat oil over medium heat; cook mushrooms and leeks about 5 minutes, stirring, until tender. Add garlic; cook 30 seconds. Add broth, bring to a boil; add spinach, cover and reduce heat to medium. Simmer 3 to 5 minutes, until spinach wilts and is tender. Stir in tomatoes and soy sauce. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Serve warm.

Chicken and Veggie Lover's Salad

A gourmet blend of lettuces — romaine, curly endive, frisée and radicchio — and shredded carrots is a great jump-start for this colorful, healthful entrée salad.

Serves: 4

- 1 8-ounce bag Fresh Express Fancy Field Greens
- 1 cup cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1 cup broccoli florets
- 1 cup radishes, thinly sliced
- Fat-free ranch dressing, to taste
- 1 9-ounce package cooked chicken breast strips, thawed
- 1 ounce colby cheese, cut into thin strips

In large bowl, toss together greens, tomatoes, broccoli and radishes with dressing. Portion onto four dinner plates; top each salad with chicken and cheese. Serve immediately.



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sell — buy — rent — hire — find

Local Rates Include Online

only \$5.50 for the first three lines, \$1.00 each additional line
Bargain Basement - Items under \$100 - 3 lines, half price
Yard Sale Ads - 1 Day \$5.00 - 3 days \$12.00 (30 words or less)

"For Sale Special"
 3 lines/
 3 days only

\$16

5 Easy ways to place your ad:

1. **Call:** (606) 886-8506, LeighAnn Williams
2. **Fax:** (606) 886-3603
3. **E-mail:** classifieds@floydcountytimes.com
4. **Stop by:** 263 S. Central Avenue, Prestonsburg
5. **Mail:** P.O. 390, Prestonsburg, KY 41653

Our hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

DEADLINES:
 Wednesday's paper @ Mon., noon
 Friday's paper @ Wed., 5 p.m.
 Sunday's paper @ Thurs., 5 p.m.

Visa - MC - Discover
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The Best Way To Write An Ad:

- Begin with a key word (item for sale, etc.)
- Use descriptive words to identify your items
- State your price or terms
- Include a phone number and/or e-mail address

NAME _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 PHONE #: _____

Write your ad here:

(approximately 18 letters per line)

CREDIT CARD: _____

Our CLASSIFIEDS Will WORK For You!!!

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

AUTOMOTIVE

130 - Cars

HICKS AUTO SALES
David Road
 93' Chevy Shortbed 4x4 automatic V8. 120,400 miles. \$3,995.
 96' GrandAm 2 door V6 80,000 miles. \$1,795
 92 Pathfinder, automatic, \$2,495
 96 Jeep Grand Cherokee Limited Edition. \$3,495.
 01 Chevy Ventura 80,000 Miles. \$5,500
 886-2842
 886-3451.

150-MISC

FOR SALE
 1996 Dodge Grand Caravan And a 1982 Voltswagon Rabbit Convertable stored since 1991 call 874-2421 if no answer please leave message.

FOR SALE
 1999 Ford F-150WD PK Ext. Cab w/4 door fiberglass cab. Super sharp and clean maroon with tan interior. Asking \$8,500. RUNS GOOD. Call 606-791-6052, if no answer please

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

IN THE SPIRIT OF GIVING: EF Foundation for Foreign Study is seeking coordinators to facilitate high school exchange program. Mentor foreign exchange students, find and screen host families, and build relationships with high schools. Applicants must be at least 25 y/o. Position is not paid, but expenses are reimbursed, and training and travel opportunities are available. For more information, call Brenda and Neil Kendrick at 866-329-4546!

JOB OPENING
 Welding positions available. Excellent pay. Call between 8a-5p Mon-Fri. Drug screen required. 285-9358.

JOB OPENING
 Mountain Manor of Painstville is now taking applications for Dietary position. Excellent wages and benefits. Apply in person at 1025 Euclid Avenue, Painstville, Ky.

From Monday - Friday between 8a-4:30p.

LOOKING FOR
 RN OR LPN TO WATCH OVER 7 YEAR OLD BOY WITH CEREBRAL PALSY. CALL 874-5473 OR 432-2111.

JOB OPENING

Local Home Oxygen company is seeking a full time CRT/RTT/ Must be organized, self motivated, reliable and results driven. Must poses good communication skills. Must have the ability to lift 75lbs. Please fax resume to 606-218-6131.

JOB OPENING

Mountain Manor of Painstville is taking applications for a LPN position. Excellent wages and benefits. Apply in person at 1025 Euclid Avenue, Painstville, Ky from Monday thru Friday between 8a and 4:30p.

JOB OPENING

Renos Roadhouse in Prestonsburg is now hiring for all positions. Shifts- Day and Night. Apply in person only.

MERCHANDISE

410-Animal
 Chinese Shar-Pei Puppies Ready for

Christmas! 1st shots and first wormings! Red, brown, white, and black. Already potty trained. Well socialized. Please call 606-886-0397 or 226-3543 for more information. Or email at syp_king@msn.com

445-Furniture

FOR SALE
 Exquisite antique Player Piano, Rare find. Pump or electric, 37 scrolls. Colored glass with lead, as sliding doors. Great for large foyer, or large grandroom. Elegance to the eye, pleasure for the ear. Call after 7p only! 874-3285 or 791-7558. \$3,500

480-Misc.

ATTENTION BALL ROOM DANCE PARTNER NEEDED!
 Must have previous experience OR have interest in taking dance classes. Must be capable of going to dance class. Ages 50-70. If this applies to you please call LeighAnn at 886-8506 to apply.

FOR SALE
 Miniture Dotson 8 1/2 weeks old. Call 874-8322 or 226-3211.

FOR SALE
 2 Hank Williams Jr. tickets at Expo Center. Call 285-4827.

LOST

Womans gray wallet in parking lot beside of Nursing home. If found, please call 226-0378. Just want pictures and drivers license back please.

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.

REAL ESTATE

570-Sale or Lease

FOR SALE

RN Unit Manager
 Salyersville Health Care Center is recruiting for a qualified candidate to fill our RN Unit Manager position. The qualified candidate must be a Kentucky Registered Nurse, have knowledge of long term care and have at least 3 yrs. experience.

Responsibilities:
 • Care management of 50-bed skilled wing
 • Supervision of staff
 • Follow policies and procedures
 Qualified applicants apply to:

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

Property for sale between Prestonsburg and Painstville. Also, double wide for rent. \$500 plus deposit. Call 606-789-6721 or 792-792-6721. No pets.

FOR SALE
 REDUCED! Property for sale at Frasure Creek. Septic and water ready. \$22,500. Call 377-9221 Bobby Caudill.

FLOYD COUNTY. Lum DeRossett Branch 75 acres more or less. Level land. Sloping / timber. Call 606-325-2809 or 606-325-4430

RENTALS

610-APARTMENT

FOR RENT
 1 BR furnished apt on Rt. 1210 Five miles from

Martin. W/D hookup. \$375 per month. \$125 deposit. All utilities except electric included. Call anytime 285-3641.

APT FOR RENT
 2 BR Townhouses at Prestonsburg. \$600 with \$600 deposit and \$650 with \$650 deposit. Call 886-6186

Spring Into Your New Home This Year. Park Place Apartments. First month rent FREE W/ Deposit paid in Full. Rent starting at 1 BR - \$280, 2 BR \$304. Offer valid thru 01/31/07. All electric HUD accepted. Call 886-0039. Equal Housing Opportunity.

FOR RENT
 for lease 1500 Sq. feet with garages. New townhouses 3 BR \$700 per

Treatment Nurse

Salyersville Health Care Center is recruiting a high paced, organized, and resourceful nurse to perform treatments.

Responsibilities include actual physical care, skill performance, and maintenance of records.

Monday-Friday
 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Qualified applicants apply to:
Salyersville Health Care Center
 571 Parkway Drive
 Salyersville, KY 41465
 E.O.E./A.A.P.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Executive Assistant for a medical office is needed. Must be:

- Energetic, efficient person with accounting experience and general office skills.
- Ability to handle multiple tasks, pay attention to details & have excellent organizational skills.
- A strong working knowledge of Microsoft Office plus accounting software.
- Excellent written communication skills are necessary.
- Medical office experience preferred.
- College degree welcome.

Position offers benefit package and salary commensurate with experience. This is a non-smoking facility. Send resume along with three references & phone numbers to:

Medical Offices
 P. O. Box 3128
 Pikeville, KY 41502

GREAT CAREER OPPORTUNITY AT THE REGION'S FASTEST GROWING MEDICAL FACILITY

Physician Services Coordinator

Physician Services

An Associate's Degree in Business Administration, Communications, Public Relations, or a related area is required. Three to five years of experience in working with the public at a professional level, as well as excellent written and verbal communication skills are required. The ideal candidate will be organized and detail oriented.

The ideal candidate should be able to operate general office equipment. Should possess knowledge in word processing and spreadsheet software.

Contact:
 Brian Mullins
 Pikeville Medical Center
 911 Bypass Road • Pikeville, KY 41501
 Ph: (606) 218-3504 • Fax: (606) 437-9708
 brian.mullins@pikevillehospital.org



Equal Opportunity Employer

Apply in person:
 Human Resources, located on the second floor of the May Tower. Hours: M-F, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

GREAT CAREER OPPORTUNITY AT THE REGION'S FASTEST GROWING MEDICAL FACILITY

Full Time Housekeepers Needed

Pikeville Medical Center has vacancies for **Housekeepers paying \$9.04 / hour**, with excellent health insurance and many more benefits.

Contact:
 Brian Mullins
 Pikeville Medical Center
 911 Bypass Road • Pikeville, KY 41501
 Ph: (606) 218-3504 • Fax: (606) 437-9708
 brian.mullins@pikevillehospital.org



Equal Opportunity Employer

Apply in person:
 Human Resources, located on the second floor of the May Tower. Hours: M-F, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

GREAT CAREER OPPORTUNITY AT THE REGION'S FASTEST GROWING MEDICAL FACILITY

Layout Designer

Medical Leader

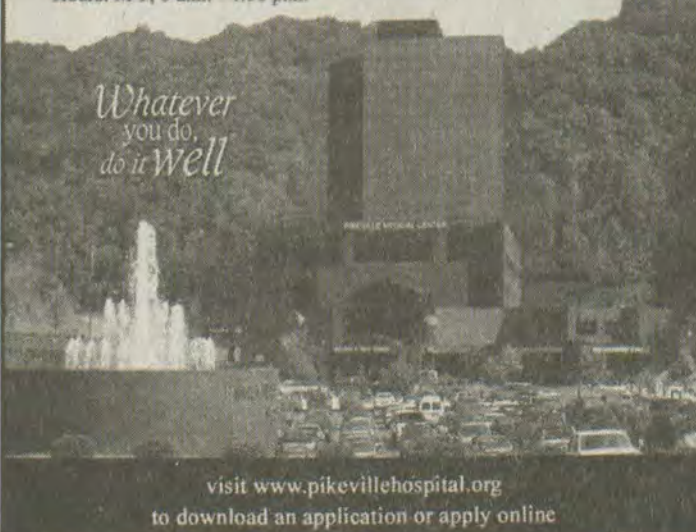
Bachelor's degree is required. A degree emphasized in journalism or graphic design and two to three years of newspaper layout/design experience is preferred.

Contact:
 Brian Mullins
 Pikeville Medical Center
 911 Bypass Road • Pikeville, KY 41501
 Ph: (606) 218-3504 • Fax: (606) 437-9708
 brian.mullins@pikevillehospital.org

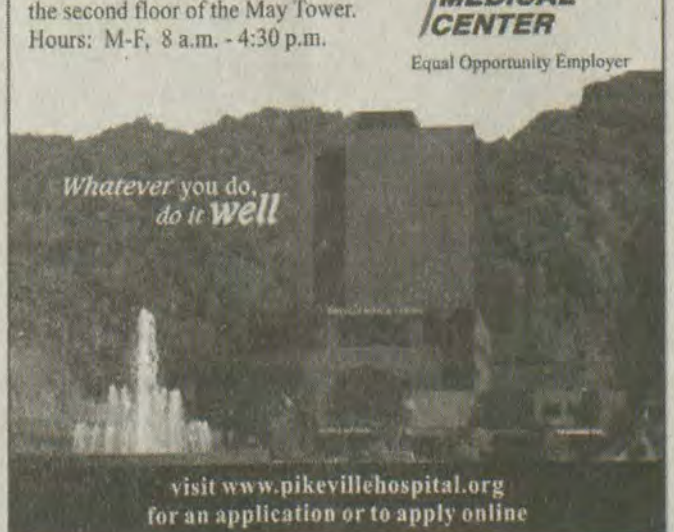


Equal Opportunity Employer

Apply in person:
 Human Resources, located on the second floor of the May Tower. Hours: M - F, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.



visit www.pikevillehospital.org to download an application or apply online



visit www.pikevillehospital.org for an application or to apply online



visit www.pikevillehospital.org to download an application or apply online

month. \$700 deposit. Half mile from Highlands Regional Hospital. Call 606-886-8100 or 606-434-7715

1-2 BR FURNISHED Apt. Clean. In Prestonsburg. 886-8366.

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.

APT FOR RENT
Newly remodeled unfurnished ground floor apartment. Located across from Floyd County Technical center on Route 122 at Martin. \$500 per month plus utilities. Must furnish references. Call 285-9112.

QWIKSILVER TOWNHOUSES
2 BR 1 1/2 Bath townhouse and hardwood floors & carpet. \$575 monthly plus utilities. No pets. Call 606-447-2192 or 606-434-6576 or 606-226-1925

FOR RENT
New one BR apt with all new amenities in peaceful setting near HRMC. Comes with electric and water prepaid. Must see to believe. Call 886-6343. Call for more info. 12/29 1 wk

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

630-House

HOUSE FOR RENT
In Prestonsburg. Two bedroom, living room, dining area, kitchen, Washer and dryer hookup. The house has refridgeration and stove. Heat and air. Please call 886-6184 between 8 - 10am. and 3-7pm.

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

650-Mobile Homes

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. 11/29 1 wk

FOR RENT
2 BR MH. Minutes from Prestonsburg. W/D hookup. \$375 and \$375 deposit. Water, Sewage, and trash included. 889-0036.

FOR RENT
2 BR trailer for rent call 886-9931 after 5.

FOR RENT
2 BR MH, total

electric, 3 miles from Prestonsburg. No pets. 886-9007 or 889-9747

FOR RENT
Large mobile home. Covered porch 14x82. Newly painted, remodeled. Call 874-2720.

LEGALS

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY FLOYD CIRCUIT COURT CIVIL BRANCH DIVISION II CIVIL ACTION No. 06-CI-00963 HSBC Mortgage Services, Inc. Assignee of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., nominee of Executive Mortgage, LLC Plaintiff V. NOTICE OF LEGAL ACTION

Blake E. Campbell aka Blake Campbell, Melissa Campbell, the Unknown Occupants/Tenants, If any, of 75 Hatfield Estates, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653, and Commonwealth of Kentucky, County of Floyd, by and on behalf of Secretary of Finance and Administration Defendants
On October 27, 2006, I was appointed warning order attorney to notify Melissa Campbell and/or the Unknown Occupants/Tenants, if

any of 75 Hatfield Estates, Prestonsburg, Kentucky, of a lawsuit filed in Floyd Circuit Court. A copy of the complaint in this action may be obtained from the Floyd Circuit Court, Floyd County Justice Center, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653. In the complaint, the plaintiff claims that the Defendant, Melissa Campbell, executed and delivered to Executive Mortgage, LLC, a Note, and in order to secure the Note they executed a Mortgage upon a certain parcel of real property, more commonly known as 75 Hatfield Estates, Prestonsburg, Kentucky, 41653, located and lying in Floyd County, Kentucky, which mortgage is of record in Mortgage Book 489, Page 99, in the office of the Floyd County Clerk, which is now in default. If you are Melissa Campbell and/or the Unknown Occupants/Tenants, if any, of 75 Hatfield Estates, Prestonsburg, Kentucky, then you may want to make an entry of appearance in this action.

Under our civil rules, you must answer the complaint within 50 days of October 2, 2006. If you fail to file an answer, you might forfeit your rights to challenge these allegations. You may need the services of a local attorney. Please understand that I

am the warning order attorney and do not and cannot represent you. My function is to attempt to notify you and report my findings to the court. Should you decide to answer the complaint yourself, your answer should be mailed to Floyd Circuit Clerk, Floyd County Justice Center, 127 S. Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky, 41653.

This warning order notification is being made by publication in the Floyd County Times, and this notification will be published for two consecutive weeks beginning 12/31/06. Ralph H. Stevens Warning Order Attorney P.O. Box 466 142 West Branham Street Prestonsburg, KY 41653

Call Jenny to get a subscription to the Floyd County Times. 886-8506.

Call LeighAnn 886-8506

PREMIER ELKHORN COAL COMPANY, Myra, KY is now accepting applications for the following position:

Personnel Assistant

Provide support in functional areas of the human resources department which may include employee records, recruitment and employment, employee benefits, affirmative action and HR generalist duties. Computer skills required. Excellent interpersonal skills required. College degree (bachelor's) preferred. Prior HR experience preferred.

Applications will be accepted at:
Kentucky Department for Employment Services
138 College Street
Pikeville, KY 41501
Premier Elkhorn Coal Company is an EOE.

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Your ad could be here! Just \$16.00 Per week! Contact LeighAnn Williams today to find out more information! 886-8506

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Contact Matt Setser. 788-1474 (Home) Leave message. OR 226-2237 (cell)

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Licensed: ME6643, CE8644

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• Small Excavating
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Become a Kentucky organ & tissue donor. For information contact: 1-800-525-3456, or www.trustforlife.org

Let it stand for all Americans still **DISTRESSED** by poverty

Once, she needed care. And Americans united to restore her as a symbol of freedom. Today, nearly 35 million Americans are still working to stand tall and free themselves from poverty. You can help light the way and rekindle a spirit of community with those in need. Find out how at www.povertyusa.org.

Poverty In America **WE CAN END IT.** www.povertyusa.org
Catholic Campaign for Human Development 1-800-946-4243



Be A Disaster Relief Hero

Victims of the recent hurricane need help immediately. The American Red Cross is on the scene—providing shelter, food and counseling. But your help is urgently

needed. Your contribution will help the victims of the recent hurricane and thousands of other disasters across the country each year.

Make a financial contribution to the Disaster Relief Fund. Please contact the Red Cross at **1-800-HELP NOW** redcross.org



American Red Cross
Together we can save a life