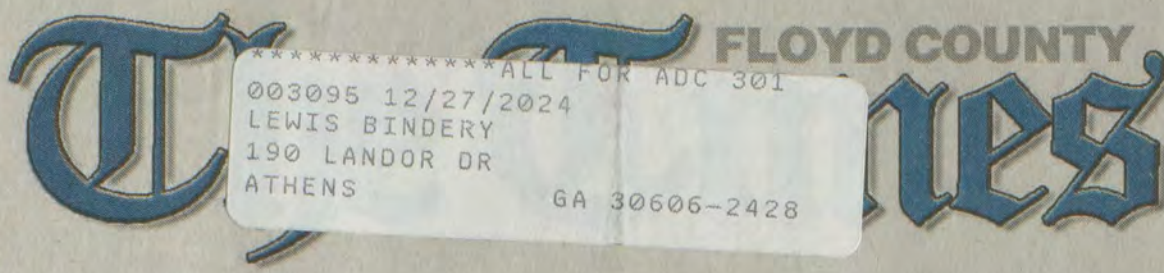




Blackcats get first win page A7



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briefs

Harper enters governor's race

by JOE BIESK ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — A former ally of Gov. Ernie Fletcher is now an official political challenger.

Paducah businessman Billy Harper filed candidacy papers Friday to run against his old friend, who is a first-term Republican governor.

"As I've said before, first off the starting line, first to the finish," Harper, who also races cars, said. "That's how I race, that's what I want for Kentucky."

The move on Friday wasn't unexpected. Harper has already spent nearly \$2.5 million on his campaign for governor, primarily on television advertising.

Harper had raised a little over \$2.5 million. More than \$2.4 million of that has come from his own loans to the campaign, according to a report Harper filed Tuesday with the Kentucky Registry of Election Finance.

Harper, saying Fletcher is too politically weak to win a second term, is running on a slate with fellow Paducah businessman Dick Wilson.

Fletcher was indicted last year during an investigation of state hiring practices, but charges against him were dropped in a deal with prosecutors.

Once the chief fundraiser for Fletcher, Harper had been setting the groundwork for months to challenge the incumbent governor he helped get in office three years ago.

The Harper campaign began running television ads late last year in effort to increase name recognition.

Record number of felonies tallied in '06

by ALEX SMITH STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — Floyd County saw the number of felony charges filed in 2006 reach its highest number ever, with 545 cases being brought against residents of Floyd County.

The number of misdemeanor cases filed in Floyd County was 1,656, just 30 higher than the number of misdemeanors filed in 2005. The number filed last year was significantly lower than the average number of cases filed each year since the beginning of the new millennium, which has seen an average of 1,896 filings per year since

2000.

The 545 felony charge filings were 73 more than were filed in 2005, a 6 percent increase from 2005 to 2006. Between 2000 and 2005 there were an average of 472 felony charge cases filed each year.

Floyd County Sheriff John K Blackburn said although the number of

people arrested this year was higher than in previous years, he believes it can be attributed to stepped up patrolling and officers working even harder to reel in the number of people who drink and drive and deal drugs.

"It could be we are working harder

(See FELONIES, page three)

SKATER'S PARADISE



photo by Jessica Hale

The official opening of the Prestonsburg Skate Park will take place Monday at 5 p.m. A reception will follow a brief introduction of the new "skater's paradise" and Archer Park's newly appointed director, David Baldrige, will be introduced. Prestonsburg City Council members will also be present and a meeting will take place in City Hall at 6 p.m.

Lawmaker calls for more mine inspections

by ROGER ALFORD ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — Inspectors would double the number of visits they make to underground coal mines under legislation introduced Friday by a coalfield lawmaker.

The initiative follows one of the deadliest years in recent history for coal miners in Kentucky. In all, 16 miners were killed on the job in 2006.

Rep. Brent Yonts, D-Greenville, said the current law, which requires inspectors from the Kentucky Office of Mine Safety and Licensing to per-

form three inspections a year at each underground mine, is insufficient. His legislation calls for at least six visits per year.

The more visits state regulators make to coal mines, Yonts said, the greater the chance they'll find hazards that could endanger miners.

"Something is inherently wrong in the system," Yonts said after filing the legislation. "I think there is a need to be on constant vigilance in the coal mines, which are inherently dangerous for a lot of reasons."

The 2006 death toll in Kentucky coal mines was the

worst since 1993, when 18 miners died. Five miners in Harlan County died from the same explosion and fire in an underground mine in May.

The U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration reported 47 coal miners killed on the job nationally in 2006, up from 22 in 2005.

The General Assembly passed a tougher mine safety law last year, but Yonts said he believes the spike in workplace fatalities shows the law needs to be modified.

State law now requires more

(See SAFETY, page three)

Inmate charged in stabbing at Martin Co. prison

by ALEX SMITH STAFF WRITER

PIKEVILLE — An inmate lodged in the United States Penitentiary Big Sandy in Martin County was indicted in federal court Thursday for attempting to murder another inmate last year at the prison.

Muhammad Abdul-Rahman, a 25-year-old Washington D.C. native, was charged in the Oct. 24 stabbing of inmate Terrell Johnson with a six-inch piece of metal designed to be used as a weapon.

Abdul-Rahman was indicted on one count each for assault with the intent to murder, assault with a dangerous weapon and possession of a prohibited object by a federal prisoner. If convicted, Abdul-Rahman faces up to 20 years in prison for count one, up to 10 years on count two and a maximum of five years on count

three. Each charge also carries a \$250,000 fine and three years of supervised release, in addition to a mandatory assessment of \$100 per count.

Abdul-Rahman is currently serving a 19-year sentence for armed robbery, aggravated assault and possession of a firearm during a crime of violence.

A motion for arraignment was filed in U.S. District Court in Pikeville on Thursday and was set for Jan. 16 in Ashland.

Abdul-Rahman was one of more than 350 inmates transferred to the prison from Lorton Penitentiary in Washington, D.C., in 2001 after the prison there was shut down.

Two other men at the prison were stabbed to death within three weeks of Johnson being stabbed, but no one has been indicted in connection with those deaths as of yet and no link has been found between the three incidents.

Sandy Valley Water to dissolve

by JESSICA HALE STAFF WRITER

BETSY LAYNE — An estimated 2,300 customers served by Sandy Valley Water District in Floyd and Pike counties may soon see their water service taken over by the city of Pikeville and the Southern Water and Sewer District.

Sandy Valley Water District, which holds its headquarters in Betsy Layne, has 2,368 retail customers in Floyd and Pike counties. If the transfer should occur, Southern Water and Sewer District would take over Sandy Valley's customers in Floyd

(See WATER, page three)

David game with ACHS back on

by JESSICA HALE STAFF WRITER

DAVID — A recently canceled basketball game between The David School and Allen Central High School has been reviewed by the David School Board of Directors and the decision to cancel the game has been declared invalid.

Previously, the players on David's basketball team voted to not participate in a Jan. 19 game at Eastern, based on Allen Central's

use of the Confederate flag and alleged taunting towards the David School's only African American player.

According to a press release from The David School Board of Directors, the decision to cancel the basketball game with Allen Central was made without the consent of the appropriate school administrators. Upon this discovery, directors declared the decision to cancel the

(See GAME, page three)



The David Falcons are once again scheduled to play Allen Central High School, following a decision by the school's board of directors last week. The team had originally canceled the game with the Rebels, based on Allen Central's use of a Confederate flag. However, the board found the team did not follow proper channels in cancelling the game.

file photo

inside

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# Regional Obituaries

## FLOYD COUNTY

■ June Dillon Collins, 85, of Prestonsburg, died Wednesday, December 27, at Our Lady of the Way Hospital, in Martin. Funeral services were held Friday, December 29, under the direction of Carter Funeral Home.

■ Denver Hall, 65, of Hi Hat, died Friday, December 29, at McDowell Appalachian Regional Healthcare. He is survived by his wife, Peggy Bryant Hall. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 31, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Sadie Sturgill Hunter, 71, of Martin, died Thursday, December 28, at Central Baptist Hospital, Lexington. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 31, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Mary E. Johnson, 79, of Prestonsburg, died Friday, December 29, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 31, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Mae Mann, 71, of Albion, Michigan, a native of Printer, died Friday, December 29, at Foote Hospital, in Jackson. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 3,

under the direction of J. Kevin Tidd Funeral Home.

■ Juanita C. Reid, 76, of Newnan, Georgia, formerly of Prestonsburg, died Friday, December 29, at the Newnan Hospital Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 3, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

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

## PIKE COUNTY

■ Zettie Thacker Adkins, 84, of Webster, Florida, formerly of Pike County, and Akron, Ohio, died Sunday, December 31, in Webster. Funeral services were held Friday, January 5, under the direction of Justice Funeral Home.

■ Blane Baker, 70, of Greenup, formerly of Pike County, died Sunday, December 31, at his residence. Funeral services were held Friday, January 5, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ Otta Clevinger Danburg Barton, 95, of Pikeville, died Monday, January 1, at her residence. Funeral services were held Friday, January 5, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

■ Jackie Ray Blankenship, 30, of Stopover, died Wednesday, January 3. Arrangements, under the direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

■ Martha Jean Coleman, 73, of Raccoon, died Wednesday, January 3, at Central Baptist Hospital. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 6, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ Margaret Dotson, died Thursday, January 4, in South Williamson, Appalachian Regional Hospital. Arrangements, under the direction of Chambers Funeral Services.

■ Madonna Glee Hall, 83, of Pikeville, died Monday, January 1, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 4, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

■ Gustie Swiney Hawkins, 87, of Ashcamp, died Tuesday, January 2, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Friday, January 5, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ Ellene Hunt, 72, of Pikeville, died Saturday, December 30, at Pikeville Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Ovil Hunt. Funeral services were held Tuesday, January 2, under the direction of Lucas and Son Funeral Home.

■ Okie Mounts Hurley, 81, of Phelps, died Sunday, December 31, at Good Shepherd Community Nursing Center, Phelps. She is survived by her husband, Elize Hurley. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 4, under the

direction of R.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home.

■ Eunice Justice, 82, of Irving, Texas, formerly of Phyllis, died Sunday, December 31, in Irving. Funeral services were held Friday, January 5, under the direction of Justice Funeral Home.

■ John Michael "Mikey" Keen, 26, of Regina, died Thursday, December 28, in Pikeville. Funeral services were held Tuesday, January 2, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ Mary Francis Lambert, 34, of Lenore, West Virginia, a native of South Williamson, died Wednesday, January 3, at Belo, West Virginia, along with her husband, Willard "Clyde" Lambert, from injuries sustained in an automobile accident. Joint funeral services were held Saturday, January 6, under the direction of Hatfield Funeral Chapel.

■ Gusta Lawhorn, 98, formerly of Pikeville, died Wednesday, January 3, at Manatee Memorial Hospital, Bradenton, Fla. Arrangements, under the direction of Thacker Funeral Home.

■ Billie Lee, 74, of Beach Creek, W.Va., a Pike County native, died Monday, January 1, at the South Williamson Appalachian Regional Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Bertha Rose Justice Lee. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 4, under the direction of Chambers Funeral Services.

■ Zuelma Osborne, 80, of Virgie, died Saturday, December 30, at her home. Funeral services were held Monday, January 1, under the direction of Roberts Funeral Home.

■ Letha Geneva Rasnick, 69, of Wolfpit, died Tuesday, January 2, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 6, under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

■ Loretta S. Ratliff, 73, of Wolfpit, died Wednesday, January 3, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, James Forest Ratliff. Funeral services were held Friday, January 5, under direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ Kenneth L. Reed, 52, of Pikeville, died Thursday, January 4, at his home. Funeral services were held Sunday, January 7, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home of Pikeville.

■ Elza Lane Tackett, 67, of Virgie, died Monday, January 1, at Mission St. Joseph Hospital, Asheville, N.C. He is survived by his wife, Lorena Tackett. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 4, under direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

## JOHNSON COUNTY

■ Leonard "Bud" Burton, 80, of California, a native of Nancy, died Wednesday, December 20, in Torrance, California. He is survived by his wife, Phyllis Ward Burton. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 3, under the direction of the Preston Funeral Home.

■ Wathalene Cantrell, 72, of Keaton, died Monday,

January 1, at King's Daughters Medical Center in Ashland. She is survived by her husband, Woody Cantrell. Arrangements, under the direction of Paintsville Funeral Home.

■ Jason Scott Daniel, 21, of Flat Gap, died Saturday, December 30, at Staffordsville. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 3, under the direction of the Paintsville Funeral Home.

■ Connie Rose Hall, 37, of Paintsville, died Saturday, December 23, in Lawrence County. She is survived by her husband, Bruce Hall. Funeral services were held Thursday, December 28, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

■ Opal Hayden, 79, of Meally, died Sunday, December 3, at Highlands Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were held Wednesday, December 6, under the direction of the Childers Funeral Home.

■ Gregory Steven "Fuzzy" Rowland, 44, of Fort Myers, Florida, a Paintsville native, died Sunday, December 31, at Bay Pine VA Health Care System in Bay Pines, Florida. Arrangements, under the direction of E. Dale Gunter Funeral Home and Cremation Services of St. Petersburg, Florida.

■ Joyce Ann Pruitt Stambaugh, 60, of Nippa, died Monday, January 1, at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center, in Paintsville. She is survived by her husband, Charles Tilford Stambaugh. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 4, under the direction of the Preston Funeral Home.

■ Cecil "Punk" Tackett Jr., 28, of Sitka, died Thursday, December 28. He is survived by his wife, Jennifer Ferguson Tackett. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 31, under the direction of Phelps & Son Funeral Home.

## MARTIN COUNTY

■ Ronnie Lee Hensley, 51,

of Inez, died Sunday, December 24, at his residence. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, December 27, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

■ Melvin Mullins, 66, of New Plymouth, Ohio, died Saturday, December 23, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Mahalia Brewer Mullins. Funeral services were held Thursday, December 28, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

■ Everett Loren Perry, 74,

of Tomahawk, died Friday, December 22, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 26, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

■ Barbara Gail Block Pinson, 99, of Kermit, died Saturday, December 23, at her home. Funeral services were held Wednesday, December 27, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

■ Bessie Scott, 74, of

(See OBITUARIES, page three)

## Obituaries

### Pearl Frasure

Pearl Frasure, 93, of North Manchester, Indiana, formerly of Prestonsburg, died Wednesday, January 3, 2007, at her residence.

Born May 2, 1913, in Magoffin County, she was the daughter of the late Jasper Hicks and Millie (Hale) Hicks. She was a homemaker, and an Avon representative. She did housecleaning, and was a self-employed nurses aid.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Kelly Frasure, in February, 1970.

Survivors include a son, Jimmie (Mary) Frasure of North Manchester, Indiana; three grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by four brothers and three sisters.

Funeral services will be held Sunday, January 7, at 2:30 p.m., at the South Pleasant United Methodist Church, 5064W 1400 N. North Manchester, Indiana, with Pastor Nikki Marker officiating.

Burial will be in Oaklawn Cemetery, North Manchester, Indiana, under the direction of DeLaughter-McKee Mortuary.

Visitation, Sunday, January 7, from 12:30-2:30 p.m., at the church.

Memorials may be made to Wabash-Miami County Home Healthcare & Hospice, 710 N. East St., Wabash, Indiana 46992.

Arrangements, entrusted to DeLaughter-McKee Mortuary, North Manchester, Indiana.

Condolences may be emailed to the Frasure family at delaughtermckee.com

(Paid obituary)



### 50th Anniversary

Ernest Graham and Yvonne Burchett of Emma, will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on January 8. The couple were married in 1957, in Catlettsburg. They have four children, eight grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

## New Beginnings



### This "Special Section"

will be published in

**The Floyd County Times**

January 31, 2007 edition.

Tabloid in size, and will feature information and helpful hints from the **Beginning of Preparing for a Newborn**, to things needed as your child reaches the toddler stages.

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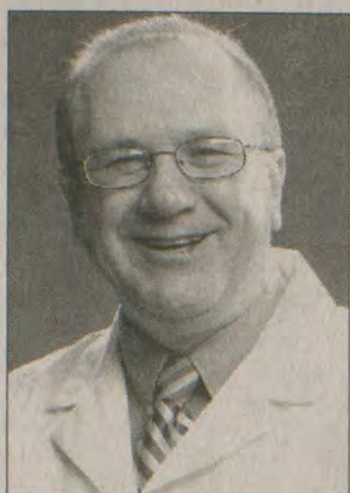
KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

THE JOINT APPLICATION OF SANDY VALLEY WATER DISTRICT, SOUTHERN WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT, AND THE CITY OF PIKEVILLE FOR APPROVAL OF THE TRANSFER OF FACILITIES AND FOR THE ASSUMPTION OF DEBT BY SOUTHERN WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT

CASE NO. 2006-00327

The Public Service Commission will hold a public meeting on January 11, 2007, at 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, at Betsy Layne Elementary School, 256 School Street, Betsy Layne, to receive public comment on the application of Sandy Valley Water District, Southern Water and Sewer District, and the city of Pikeville for authority to transfer Sandy Valley's existing water assets and customers to Southern District and Pikeville.

## HRMC welcomes new ENT specialist



Dr. Mark Veronneau

PRESTONSBURG — Highlands Regional Medical Center has added ear, nose and throat specialist Dr. Mark Veronneau to its staff.

Dr. Veronneau earned his medical degree from Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine, completed an internship at Doctors Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, and a fellowship in advanced rhinology and facial plastic surgery at Rush Presbyterian St. Luke's Medical Center in Chicago, Ill.

Dr. Veronneau is certified by the American Osteopathic Board of Ophthalmology and

Otolaryngology — Head and Neck Surgery and is a member of the American Osteopathic Association.

Dr. Veronneau's Office is located in the old Social Security office at 5322 Route 321, in Prestonsburg. For an appointment call 886-2712.

Highlands Regional Medical Center is a 184-bed (154 acute care, 18 skilled nursing, and 12 geriatric psychiatric) not-for profit, community owned and operated health care facility that is fully accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations.

## Mongiardo engaged to marry girlfriend

The Associated Press

FRANKFORT — State Sen. Daniel Mongiardo, who is running for lieutenant governor this year, is engaged to marry his girlfriend of three years.

No wedding date had been set for Mongiardo and Allison

Patrick, 21, of Frankfort.

Mongiardo, a 46-year-old surgeon from Hazard, is running for lieutenant governor on a Democratic ticket with former Lt. Gov. Steve Beshear. He has served in the Senate since 2002.

Patrick is working toward a degree in communications at

the University of Kentucky.

"Our age is not a problem for us," Mongiardo said Tuesday. "My mother was 17 when she married my father, who was in his 30s, and their marriage worked just fine."

It will be the first marriage for both.

## Game

game as invalid and the basketball schedule stands. The board said all decisions that affect the activities of the school need to be made within the legitimate lines of authority of the school.

The Board of Directors said

administrators with the school will take the necessary steps to ensure respect at any games in which its players participate.

The Floyd County Board of Education is expected to discuss the use of the Confederate

flag at Allen Central at its regular meeting later this month.

According to directors for The David School, the school supports all dialogue between the Board of Education and the Allen Central Administration.

Continued from p1

## Safety

oxygen supplies to be stored along underground escape routes in case of emergency, better communications between the surface and underground work areas, and a directional cord or lifeline to make it easier for miners to find their way to exits.

Yonts' measure requires additional oxygen supplies in escape routes, and requires the lifeline to be made of fireproof material so that it wouldn't be destroyed in an explosion.

Bill Caylor, president of the Kentucky Coal Association, has recommended that lawmakers not rush ahead with new legislation without first

weighing the possible consequences.

"I think we've got enough laws," he said earlier this week. "We need to enforce what we've got."

Yonts bill would allow the Office of Mine Safety and Licensing to undertake disciplinary proceedings against mine officials accused by federal inspectors of violating safety laws. It would also disqualify miners and mine officials from working in Kentucky if their credentials have been revoked or suspended in neighboring states.

At least two mine emergency technicians would be

required to be on duty during each work shift, under the bill. And the legislation calls for mine rescue teams to be available within a 30 minute drive of every underground coal mine.

Yonts is also calling for all underground miners to be equipped with methane detectors while underground so they would be aware of any buildups of the explosive gas.

The legislation also would require mine companies to have a vehicle available at all times in underground work areas to transport miners to the surface in the event of an accident.

Continued from p1

## Felonies

and finding more than in the past," Blackburn said.

According to Roger Webb, jailer of the Floyd County Detention Center, the population at the jail on an average day last year was 146, up three from 2005. The jail averaged eight prisoners either being booked or released every day last year.

"We've been pretty busy this year," Webb said. "It (population) tends to go up more and more each year, but I think what we're seeing is a trend as it keeps going up all over the nation."

Theft and forgery crimes were the most filed felony charges in Floyd County last year, with 251 individuals being arrested for a complaint of theft, forgery, robbery, burglary or receiving stolen property. The second-most popular

felony charges filed were for drug or alcohol related offenses, with 122 separate filings including either drug possession and trafficking charges, as well as several people being arrested for multiple driving under the influence of alcohol charges, which becomes a felony offense on a person's fourth arrest in a five-year period.

The third-most filed felony charges involved assault, terroristic threatening or menacing charges, which occurred on 49 occasions last year. Ten cases were brought against individuals on charges of either rape, sexual abuse or failure to comply with sex offender regulations. Three people were charged with murder, with the remaining 136 felony cases involved a myriad of charges ranging

from fleeing or evading police, flagrant nonsupport (which means a person fell behind at least \$1,000 in child support obligations) to one case where a woman was captured attempting to escape from jail.

One out of every 78 people living in Floyd County was charged with a felony last year based on data from the 2000 U.S. Census, which lists the population of Floyd County at 42,441. One in 26 were charged with a misdemeanor in 2006.

Continued from p1

## Water

Continued from p1

County, while Sandy Valley customers in Pike County would be served by the city of Pikeville.

In exchange for assets acquired by Sandy Valley, Southern Water and Sewer District and the city of Pikeville would assume Sandy Valley's \$1.4 million in debt.

The Kentucky Public Service Commission will be holding a meeting Jan. 11 in order to receive public comment on the proposed transfer of services. The meeting will be held at 5 p.m. in the Betsy Layne Elementary School cafeteria.



Paula Goble

## Judge Barber Joins Kirk Firm

David A. Barber, recently a Judge, Kentucky Court of Appeals, is now a member of Kirk Law Firm, a firm with offices at two Floyd County locations: Prestonsburg and McDowell. Immediately prior to his Term on the Appellate Court, David was a partner with Attorney General Greg Stumbo (STUMBO & BARBER). Prior to formation of STUMBO & BARBER, David served as a Workers' Compensation Administrative Law Judge. Before that, he was elected and served as Floyd County Attorney.

David invites his friends, former clients and others in Floyd County and elsewhere to contact him with their various legal needs. At Kirk, David will engage primarily in Civil Litigation and Workers' Compensation. "I have been honored to serve as your Judge, Kentucky Court of Appeals," David said. "At the same time, I eagerly look forward to working with John Kirk and all the others at Kirk Law Firm. I have long admired what this firm has done and feel that we will work well together."

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## A Message From John Kirk

Judge Barber was an excellent Judge at the Workers' Compensation Board. After serving there, it was very impressive the way he and Greg Stumbo established and built one of Kentucky's leading law firms. I admired that David left that thriving firm to serve Kentucky at the Court of Appeals, where he served honorably and admirably.

His Broad Knowledge of the Law and his Excellent Litigation Skills can now be utilized on behalf of Injured and Disabled People, and Others who seek Legal Help at our Firm.

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## Obituaries

Continued from p2

Lawrence County, formerly of Martin County, died Friday, December 29, at Three Rivers Medical Center, in Louisa. Funeral services were held Sunday, December 31, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

■ Eugene R. "Skeeze" Ward, 89, of Inez, died

Saturday, December 23, at King's Daughters Medical Center, in Ashland. He is survived by his wife, Gaynell Ward. Funeral services were held Wednesday, December 27, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

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PSA

# expression

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

— Felix Frankfurter

Guest view

## Teens are getting it

A state report that didn't get as much attention as it deserved during the Christmas holiday hustle and bustle was full of good news for those who understand the value of preventing teenagers from getting hooked on the deadly addiction of cigarette smoking.

The 2006 Kentucky Youth Tobacco Survey of 3,000 students in 65 high schools and 3,700 in 74 middle schools found that decline in youth smoking rates in the state continues despite the obvious efforts of tobacco companies to make smoking appealing to young minds.

That's good news. The decline has been attributed to the efforts of the state's public health programs and other organizations to reduce youth smoking, the state's first hike in the tobacco tax in decades that increased the cost of tobacco products for normally cash-strapped teens and the adoption of smoke-free policies in schools.

In addition, the growing number of bans on smoking in public places that has produced documented influence on adults quitting should get some of the credit for discouraging teens from taking up the dirty, stinky habit, too.

Whatever the reason, or reasons, smoking among middle school students dropped from 21.5 percent in 2000 to 12.1 percent this year. Among high school students, the decline was from 37.4 percent six years ago to 24.5 percent this year. There was a 3-percentage-point drop among all students in the last two years.

Significantly, the percentage of high school students who said they have tried smoking at least once declined from 63 percent in 2004, the last time the survey was conducted, to 57 percent this year. For middle school students, the number fell from 44 percent in 2002 to 36 percent this year. (There are no middle school statistics for 2004).

The use of smokeless tobacco also is declining.

Despite these statistically significant improvements in the youth smoking rates, state and unofficial efforts can't let down their guards. The temptation will not go away. The increased use of tobacco in movies and on TV are witness to that.

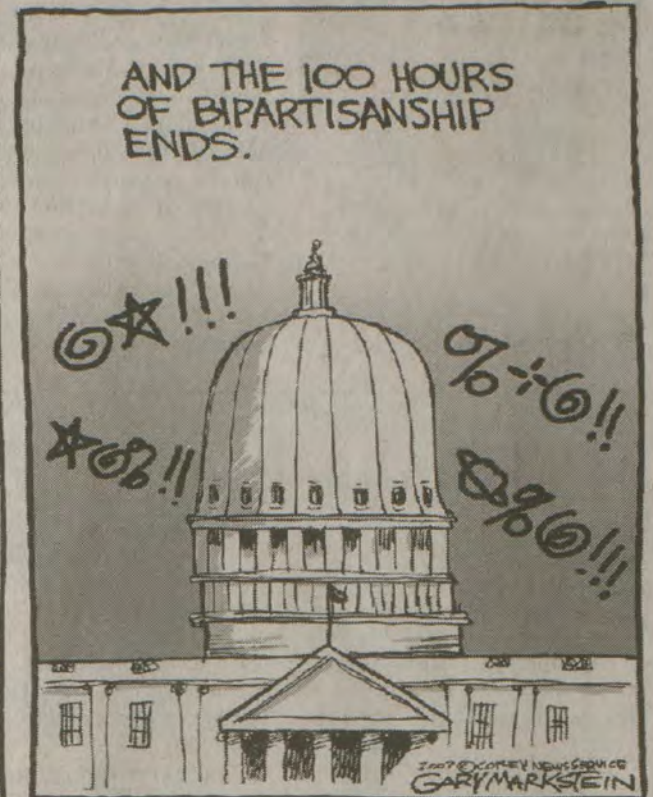
Teenagers can't buy cigarettes legally, and adults can't buy them for underage smokers, either. But listen to how teen smokers say they get their cigarettes. In each of the last two surveys, high school and middle school smokers said they get their cigarettes by giving money to older people to buy tobacco for them, by borrowing or bumming from someone or getting them from an older person.

Fortunately, smoking seems to be losing its "in" appeal to high school students as only 1 in 5 agree young people who smoke have more friends. Only about 1 in 10 think smoking looks cool; and the percentage has been declining.

Among middle school students, however, 1 in 5 think smokers have more friends.

One of the most encouraging statistics revealed by the 2006 survey: Almost 9 in 10 high school and middle school students understand that tobacco smoking is addictive. Among the nonsmoking high school and middle school students, more than 90 percent believe smokers get addicted to tobacco use the same as people get addicted to heroin or cocaine. And the percentages of teens catching on are rising. Kentucky teenagers get it. We're proud of them.

— The News-Enterprise, Elizabethtown



— Rich Lowry Column

### The Obama opening

There are four words that even the most devoted Clinton haters probably never want to have to utter again — the Rose Law Firm. And there is one word that, after eight years, even the most committed Bush haters will grow tired of — Halliburton.

The Rose Law Firm was Hillary Clinton's firm back in Arkansas that was the focus of a little criminal activity and a lot of obsessive right-wing conspiracy-mongering. Halliburton is the former Dick Cheney energy firm that Democrats in Congress will spend the next two years investigating. Both entities represent, more than anything else, the putrid partisanship and malicious monomania that have characterized the 14, going on 16, years of the Clinton-Bush era.

After all this, who doesn't hunger for a clean break? Thus the energy behind the possible presidential bid of Illinois Sen. Barack Obama. He is the only presidential candidate from either party about whom there is a palpable excitement. And that is because everything about him says, "I'm not a Bush, I'm not a Clinton, and can we please talk about something else?"

It will be manifestly good for the country if it elects a president in 2008 who doesn't elicit yowling hatred

from the other side. Hillary Clinton probably will, and that's a mark against her. But even on the left there's a certain weariness with Clinton.

On the Republican side, the most talented and accomplished officeholder in the country, Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, is sitting '08 out precisely because of the baggage that currently attaches to his last name.

At the moment, nothing but sweetness and light attach to the last name Obama. Skeptics note that he is a creation of the media, as if this speaks badly of him. The more serious, related objection is that Obama has no record of accomplishment during his two-year stint in the Senate. There's a political trade-off here, though. By the time he does anything in the Senate, he will probably be thoroughly acclimated to the institution, making him just as unappealing as the dozen other senators who consider running for president every four years.

The genius of Obama is that he has a pure liberal voting record — a 100 percent rating from the liberal Americans for Democratic Action in 2005 — at the same time he appeals

to independents and avoids seeming noxiously partisan. No doubt, some of this sheen will be lost the day he were to announce for president. But it also reflects something real.

Obama is willing to say that Republicans are wrong, not evil — a very basic concession that nonetheless takes some bravery in the blog-besotted fever swamp that is much of the left right now. He has shown that he can speak the language of religious

believers in a non-focus-group-tested, genuine way. And he has charisma, an invaluable asset that can't be bought or faked.

In the 1990s, the phrase "move on" became a way to try to keep President Clinton from suffering any consequences from the Lewinsky affair. Then, it became the name for the Bush-loathing outfit MoveOn.org, which carried the partisan warfare of the 1990s into this decade. Among the public, there is much sentiment in favor of actually moving on, creating Barack Obama's opening on the national stage.

□□□

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

— beyond the beltway

### I'm afraid we're losing, Mr. President

by DONALD KAUL  
MINUTEMAN MEDIA

You know the president has had a bad year when he winds up with a lower approval rating than Congress. You usually have to be a journalist or bank robber to rate below Congress.

Yet George W. Bush, mid-way through his second term, was outscored by Congress, 57 to 31, on the question of who was trusted "to do a better job coping with the main problems the nation faces." This was the new, freshly elected incoming Democratic Congress, mind you, not the old, disgraced Republican Congress slinking out the back door. (The poll was conducted by the "Washington Post" and ABC News so I suppose the screaming heads on Fox (ha-ha) News will say "Oh sure, the liberal media would say that." Don't pay any attention to them. They're nuts.)

There are a lot of reasons for voters' lack of faith in President Bush but in reality only one counts. It's the war, stupid.

For those of you who haven't noticed — and where have you been living, Dick Cheney's cave? — the wheels have come off Mr. Bush's War. Not one wheel, not two, all four wheels — and the Bush administration is skidding on its belly toward disaster at the next curve in the road.

The scathing Baker-Hamilton report put an exclamation point on Mr. Bush's War record. Not in modern times has a sitting president been

forced to endure so devastating a rebuke from a prestigious, credible source. The fact that the co-author (Baker) was the man who gave the Bush presidency legitimacy in the first place (with his machinations in Florida in 2000) only rubbed salt into the wound.

Finally, even the Great Decider had to admit that we were not winning the war. "We're not winning," he said in an interview with the "Washington Post," but he added, "We're not losing."

In other words, the Great Decider can't decide what's happening in his war. Such ambivalence is uncharacteristic of him. I think I can help him:

"Mr. President, you are the Commander-in-Chief of the greatest military machine in the history of the world. It is the smartest, best-trained, best-equipped force ever sent into battle. Also the most expensive.

"Moreover, it is an army of volunteers — every man-Jane of them — patriotic, motivated troops.

"They are fighting an enemy that has no air force, no navy, no Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles, no nuclear weapons, an enemy with no artillery worthy of the name, almost no armored vehicles and few helmets. In addition, they are badly outnumbered.

"Against such an enemy, Mr. President, if you are not winning, you are losing."

There is very little evidence of anything but imminent ignominious defeat in Iraq. Pentagon reports show that from early August of last year through early October, there were 960 attacks against Americans and

Iraqis (begin ital) every week, (end ital) the highest number yet recorded for a comparable period.

As the Baker-Hamilton report said:

"The level of violence is high and growing. There is great suffering, and the daily lives of many Iraqis show little or no improvement. Pessimism is pervasive."

If that's not losing, I hope losing never shows up.

The president does not lack for advice on what to do about the situation. Some want him to start withdrawing troops and leave the Iraqis to their fate, others to send in

more troops and "stabilize" the situation. Still others think that the troops already there should be redeployed to areas of crisis, like Baghdad. Then there are those think we should concentrate on training Iraqi troops to fight, rather than do the fighting for them.

The Sunnis want us to crack down on the Shiite militia and the Shia want us to do the same to the Sunni gangs.

All of these suggestions have some merit and eventually the president will have to choose among them. I wish him luck.

It remains a question, however, whether someone dumb enough to get us into this mess has the wisdom to extricate us gracefully.

I doubt it.

□□□

Don Kaul is a two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning Washington correspondent who, on his own account, is right more than he's wrong. Email him at dkaull@verizon.net.

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### Add vapor lock to problems faced by military

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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.

Add similes: As spineless as a snowman in a warm rain.

### PREDICKSHUNS

Woodrow Burchett is the "Ole Man Mose" of the Prestonsburg Kiwanis Club, and it is he who comes through with predickshuns for the year to come at the end of each 12 months. We have a complete list of his predictions, made for 1962 at the Kiwanis Club meeting here, and print some of them for your guidance as well as entertainment.

In 1962 it will cost a nickel to mail a letter.

There will continue to be a shortage of doctors. They will all get into the TV business.

You will see a new dance. The first time you see it, you will think the bathroom door is stuck. The second time, you will think somebody has the hives or the seven-year itch. They act like a dog just after it gets out of the water. It won't go in Prestonsburg—we don't have a chiropractor.

Dresses won't get any shorter. Women just won't be in them, as far. Women's fashions will change but their designs will be the same. With all the changes in their fashions, there will be no change in the men's pockets. They will still face disgrace or disaster, getting in and out of automobiles, and doctors will have a time trying to find a place where the scar won't show. The first frost next fall will come the week of October 14.

### WEATHER PREDICKSHUNS

I'm glad he made that fearless prediction about the first frost. It gives me courage to pick up the gauntlet where somebody threw or dropped it after I had asserted. I could consult my pet corn and predict the weather as accurately as the Weather Bureau does. So this column goes plumb modern and gives with a seven-day weather forecast:

Friday, January 26—Cloudy; snow turning to rain, or vice versa.

Saturday, clearing and cool, if the wind doesn't shift and swing through the Nancye P. Gap.

Sunday—Enough precipitation to keep some folks from Sunday School and church.

Monday—Unsettled weather but not bad enough to keep home those who couldn't get out, the day before.

Tuesday—Warming trend—in some places, if not here.

Wednesday—Colder weather following rain.

Thursday, Feb. 1—Clearing and cold.

We suggest you step outside and look around before dressing for the weather as here predicted. If, however, we're right 50% of the time, we'll be ahead of the scientists, meteorologists, hoot-owls

(See ALLEN, page six)



photo by Kathy J. Prater

Unlike the corner deli Dr. Puffer visited in South Africa, this one, located within the new Food City on University Drive, is decidedly American.

## The deli in the corner

by PHYLLIS PUFFER

The deli was as I had remembered it from my previous trip two years ago. It was set in one corner of a square of small, artsy shops arranged around a courtyard. This island of upper middle class commerce was set in the Broadhurst section of the capital city of Botswana, a section zoned "industrial." Light industry production was everywhere making an unexpected setting for expensive European delicacies.

The deli was brightly lit, filled with small tables and chairs leaving a corner free for specialty groceries such as square tin cans of olive oil. The center of activity was a glass counter displaying salads, sandwiches, and pastries. At one end of the counter was a pile of boxes of tea, among them Twinings Irish Breakfast Tea. Behind the counter a man somewhere in his 30s, and a man and a woman probably in their 20s, took orders.

The shop was comfortably familiar and I looked forward to the wonderful difficulty of deciding what to order, but at the same time something seemed strange. I couldn't quite put my finger on it.

At two tables pushed together, two middle aged couples held husband/husband and wife/wife conversations. A stocky, little-bit-older man sat across the table from a little younger man. The slightly older man alternately crossed his arms over his chest and threw them out to gesture emphatically as he spoke. His English was in a heavy Afrikaans accent which sounded British and German at the same time. The slightly younger, also stocky, man listened intently.

I walked slowly down the deli counter looking at the offerings. The young, attractive worker noticed my interest and explained each dish as I passed, "Vegetables

with quiche. Sandwich with honey mustard, Chocolate on top, cream in the center." She showed me to a table and handed me a menu.

I looked at the menu and happened to glance to my left. A late thirtyish woman was sitting by herself watching me. I felt a little uncomfortable. It seemed that she had marked me as a newcomer who didn't quite know the ropes. Everyone there had the air of habitués. These were people who came often and were accustomed to the place and to each other.

I tried to straighten out the meaning of "pita bread" and "panini" on the menu. The waitress couldn't seem to explain the difference between them. I finally concluded that the one either wasn't the Middle Eastern pita we know in the US or the waitress really didn't know what it was, and the conversation was getting so confused I didn't try to understand the other. At any rate, panini seemed the thing to order.

"It doesn't impact you.... It doesn't impact you. It's like planting a garden and telling your neighbor he can't smell the flowers."

The tone was soft and gentle but persistent. The accent was American, with flat, even, low-pitched sounds rather than the high-pitched, sharp, pointed British-accent tones of every English speaking country in the world except the US and Canada. She wore a raspberry/rose colored, tight fitting top with a deep V neckline. She wore tight blue jeans and sandals. Her body was magnificent. Thin, good chest, tan. An upper class body of tennis and walks with high protein and vegetable diet in small portions. She and her partner were drinking coffee with whipped cream on top, but not a pastry crumb could be seen between them. There was something about her that was different, but I couldn't put my

finger on it.

She did not notice that I was watching her. The whole time she looked only and exclusively at the man opposite her. He, like her, was an attractive mid-forties appearing person. He was rather large and his hair was cut short in a businessman's cut. It was grey, nearly white. He wore a short sleeved, medium blue t-shirt and blue jeans. Equally good body. He was turned away from me and I couldn't hear how he defended himself.

My order arrived. Delicious. A sandwich of warm, European, crusty, square "roll." It had melted mozzarella with many sliced black olives and something herbal with orange/mango juice to drink.

"Cheese." A young man had come to the counter. He was blond, self confident, attractive with an athletic body and broad shoulders. He looked like the high school football hero in his first year of college in premed.

"Cheese," repeated the manager person.

"Cheese," repeated the waiter/assistant.

The young man rattled off other ingredients, "Anchovies.... You understand."

The two men behind the counter nodded, smiled, and the customer walked out. I finally concluded he had ordered pizza.

Ohhh, the sandwich was good.

A mid-teens boy had joined the first woman. They were both rather rounded. The woman's hair was cut short and kind of wavy. They talked together companionably and had a mother-son air.

"Are they similar or are they different?" The raspberry/rose top continued her conversation. Her hair was dark brown, cut straight all around and turned under. Her face was angular. There was something

(See DELI, page six)

### MOVIES FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

## 'Shaolin Chastity Kung Fu'

by TOM DOTY  
TIMES COLUMNIST

Cutesy children's humor and bone crushing violence combine for primo martial arts entertainment in this effort from the outlandish Robert Tai.

Mr. Tai had previously churned out an excellent series of Ninja movies ("Ninja vs. Mafia" and "Ninja in Deadly Trap") that moved like lightning, better to disguise the plot holes, and always featured plenty of bizarre weapons, outlandish costumes and copious bloodshed. All of those elements are here as well as a passel of children must train with a Shaolin monk in order to rescue their town from a band of colorful villains.



Tom Doty  
Times Columnist

The film begins in scenic Sun Valley with your standard training sequence which sees several adults putting children through their paces. Though there's not much martial arts on display, the kids seem to be having a ball performing some whacked out acrobatics that could easily land them gigs with Cirque du Soleil. The tots then gather and cheer for one of their instructors as he puts some moves on a bull in an open field.

Meanwhile, a gang called "The Nine Devils" has gathered outside the village. Turns out they are planning to lay in wait for a caravan that is escorting their captured leader, Golden Tiger. It appears that Golden Tiger got nabbed while scouting a gold shipment that came from, wait for it, Goldenberg. The gang decides to invade the town and take it over before the caravan arrives and this leads to the first fight sequence, which is a whopper.

Each member of the gang has a special talent or weapon and they proceed to whomp on the villagers with iron maces, armored gauntlets and brute strength (their resident Samson rips one guy in half at the torso). Next they attack the caravan for more carnage and are able to free their leader, who dresses like a Damon Runyon character and sports a derby that would be more in keeping with an episode of "The Bowery Boys." Tiger tells the group that they will ride out the monsoon season in the village and then nab the gold shipment when it passes through.

They decide to guard all paths into the valley and run into a pair of Shaolin Monks who politely kick the snot out of them and disappear into the woods after offering blessings from Buddha. Next they jump a Japanese visitor and his two sons who are en route to meet up with the monks for a little cultural exchange, which amounts to combining ele-

(See LAGOON, page six)

## Love is in the air

by LYNETTE BAKER HELMS

"CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE BRIDE'S SOUL"

John and I were on our way to St. Louis for a quick trip of job interviews and apartment hunting. His job promotion required him to move, and, even though we weren't engaged yet, he asked me to move with him.

We had discussed getting married and already looked at rings. John even asked my parents for their blessing (a little old-fashioned, but it scored points with the soon-to-be in-

laws). Everything was set, though we weren't officially engaged.

As we boarded our plane, I found our seats and put my bag into the overhead bin. Behind schedule, we sat waiting for departure and noticed one of the pilots leave the plane. When he returned we were ready for takeoff.

About 20 minutes into the flight, the captain made the usual announcements: altitude, weather, arrival time, my name.

What? Did I just hear my name?

My heart started pounding. Did I do something wrong? Did my bags not make the flight? What was going on? Even with all of these thoughts racing through my mind, I somehow heard every word:

"Attention please. Attention Lynette Baker. Lynette, John Helms would like to know if you would spend the rest of your life with him. If you accept, please press the 'call' button, and the attendants will be with you shortly."

My heart continued its thumping,

and my eyes filled with tears. When John opened a small ring box and smiled, I whispered, "Yes."

He placed the ring on my hand, and we embraced as the other passengers cheered. But wait ... I was supposed to push the call button. I couldn't reach it with my seatbelt still fastened, so my new fiancee gladly pressed it for me. All three attendants responded, one carrying a bottle of champagne.

As we landed and approached our

gate, the captain again included us in his announcements.

"Congratulations to the newly engaged couple. On behalf of the entire crew, let me wish you the best."

As we exited the plane, John thanked the flight attendants for helping with his plan. It was then that we learned that the pilot had left the plane earlier to get our bottle of champagne!



# Add vapor lock to problems faced by military

by TOM and RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:

I'm a soldier in Iraq, and I have a problem with what I suspect is vapor lock on a 2005 Polaris Rover all-terrain vehicle. Frequently (although usually occurring during the hot parts of the day and after driving about 2-4 miles), the Rover stalls out. If we let it sit and cool off (although that's wishful thinking around here) for about 20 minutes, it starts and runs fine until it gets hot again. I know new cars don't have vapor-lock issues anymore (as a rule), but this is not a typical vehicle with PCV and other improvements, and I'm fairly sure that's the problem. Before you laugh me off, I should mention that here in Southern Iraq (Camp Bucca), the average daily mid-afternoon temperature is 120-145 degrees Fahrenheit! We've cleaned the carburetor and the air filter. There is no fuel filter. We also checked the cooling system and electrical system. My mechanics can't seem to find anything specific for a cause. And most of them are so young, they've never heard of vapor lock. I remember the late '60s and early '70s, when this was a big summer rush-hour problem.

However, I don't remember a specific remedy for this problem. Can you help prove me wrong or help rectify this problem? My soldiers and I would appreciate that, because if you think 145 degrees sounds hot, try walking 2-4 miles in it in full body armor! Thanks! — Major Rick

TOM: I think we can help, Rick. Since it's 145 degrees out, I agree that it's vapor lock.

RAY: I assume you've tried wrapping the fuel lines to try to insulate them. If not, do that first. But the real solution is to add a booster fuel pump near the tank.

TOM: Modern cars prevent vapor lock because their fuel pumps are inside the gas tank. That keeps the fuel under constant pressure from the tank all the way to the fuel injectors, and never gives it a chance to vaporize. But in the Polaris, you probably have a mechanical fuel pump, which is pulling the fuel to the carburetor rather than pushing it.

RAY: So you need to push it. To do that, you install an electric pump as close to the fuel tank as possible. Sure, it'll have to pull the fuel a short distance out of the tank, but then it'll pressurize the fuel line and send it the

rest of the way under positive pressure, leaving no room for vapor.

TOM: I don't know how strong a pump you'll need, but just a few PSI might be enough to fix the problem.

RAY: If that doesn't work, you'll have to load up the ATV with bags of ice. Then, when it vapor-locks, you can either lay the ice bags over the fuel line to cool it down, or put them on your head for the walk back! Good luck, Rick, and I hope you and your fellow soldiers return home safely, and soon.

## Water a possible cause of right-headlight blowouts

Dear Tom and Ray:

For many years, I've enjoyed your column, with its unflinching good humor. Now I have a problem I've never seen, and my brother-in-law — usually my Great Guru — is stumped by it. We have a 1993 Ford Taurus wagon with almost 300,000 miles on the odometer. Almost everything has been replaced four times over. About a year ago, it started blowing right headlights. Just the right, always the right, AND the bulb actually shatters. We know you can't touch a quartz bulb when putting it in, and we're always

extra careful, handling the bulb with a clean rag. The car is not run on rough roads. But put a new headlight in, and after a just a few hours of use, it pops, the glass is splintered and we're one-eyed again. It occurs winter and summer, in any kind of weather. Any ideas as to what could cause this and how we can stop it? — Charles

TOM: Well, the first thing you've got to do is buy stock in Sylvania. It's making a fortune selling you light bulbs.

RAY: I think you have some water in the fixture, Charles. We see it a lot. You replace the bulb, but the plastic lens that protects the bulb is 300,000 miles old and has small cracks in it. When you drive in the rain, water gets in, and it can't get out.

TOM: It might not be easy to see the water, but my guess is that the bulb heats up, a bump causes the water to



slosh or spray, a drop or two hit the white-hot bulb and kaplow! The bulb shatters.

RAY: Have a closer look and see if you notice any moisture in there.

TOM: Or goldfish. Swimming goldfish are a sure sign of the presence of water.

RAY: And then replace the whole headlight fixture. You can buy aftermarket fixtures for relatively little money. I think that'll solve the problem, Charles.

In their pamphlet "Should I Buy, Lease, or Steal My Next Car?" Tom and Ray break down the strategies for buying a car, so you can make the most of your money. 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](http://www.cartalk.com).

## Odds & Ends

■ RURAL RETREAT, Va. — One of the newest arrivals at Kirk Heldreth's dairy farm is drawing freaked-out crowds.

A calf with two faces was born Dec. 27 at Heldreth Dairy Farm, and word has spread in southwest Virginia as residents flock to his farm.

The calf breathes out of two noses and has two tongues, which move independently, according to Heldreth. There appears to be a single socket containing two eyes where the heads split.

"It's the craziest thing I've ever seen," the dairyman said.

During the calf's birth, Heldreth said he first thought there were two calves. It has two lower jaws, but only one mouth. Heldreth feeds her through a tube, and acknowledges he probably can't maintain that feeding schedule for long.

The calf was the product of artificial insemination, which was supposed to create a genetically superior specimen. "Genetically, this is one of my better calves," he said.

Bob James, a professor in the dairy science department at Virginia Tech and Heldreth's former teacher, said such births are unusual. "In my 25 years, I've seen it maybe two or three times, but it's pretty rare," he said.

The animal is normal from its tail until its unusually large head. Heldreth said the calf doesn't appear to have any other physical ailments or complications.

"It's as healthy as can be," he said.

■ DES MOINES, Iowa — A poster promoting a girls' high school basketball team has been shot down because it shows the players holding toy guns.

The "Mission: Impossible" themed posters were yanked this week before they hit businesses.

Al Graziano, principal at Des Moines Lincoln High School, said the image of the 10 varsity players holding guns was unacceptable.

"They posed as 'Mission: Impossible' agents and if it stopped there, it would have been OK, but each held a toy revolver in their hands and that's what's objectionable," he said.

"It's inappropriate in today's climate of school violence and shootings," he said. "It's also inappropriate with Des Moines discipline policy, which prohibits displays or possession of weapons, toy or otherwise."

School officials will contact sponsors and reimburse them if necessary. The school also will look at redoing the poster or possibly editing it to replace the guns with basketballs.

■ HOOPESTON, Ill. — No one around here wanted the volunteer fire department's old hook-and-ladder truck when it was put up for sale last year, so the chief came up with a modern solution.

Auction it on eBay, figured

Chief Greg Shipman. It worked.

The \$5,000 winning bid came from Middletown, N.Y., where Andrew Leider plans to open a museum and put the truck on display.

Shipman said Wednesday he had hoped to get more money for the department out of the old truck, which was given to Hoopston by the city of Watseka, Ill.

The chief figures the department spent about \$7,500 on the truck's restoration, while he and the other volunteer firefighters put in several thousand hours of labor.

"We no more got it done than we found another one we were happier with," he said.

But Shipman said he is happy the old truck has a new home. Until it heads to New York, "it's sitting outside, and it's hurting," he said.

■ SPARTANBURG, S.C. — Norman Rattliff Jr.'s cell phone gave him away, police said.

Authorities were able to arrest Rattliff on Wednesday night by using the global positioning system in his cell phone to track the fleeing suspect, Sheriff Chuck Wright said.

Rattliff, who was wanted in West Virginia for forgery and failing to register as a sex offender, ran from officers trying to arrest him at a Spartanburg home where he had been staying for about six months, Wright said.

But he didn't get far, the sheriff said.

"The GPS locator on his cell phone told us about where he was, so we went and started knocking on doors," Wright said.

Deputies found Rattliff in the back bedroom of one of the homes and arrested him, the sheriff said. Rattliff is awaiting extradition back to West Virginia.

■ CHICAGO — Cook County Board President Todd Stroger has lost his private elevator.

It hasn't gone missing — but it's now open to the public, just a few weeks after it was set aside for Stroger's private use.

When staff members commandeered the elevator closest to Stroger's fifth-floor office at the county building last month, they said it was needed to keep the chatty official on schedule.

"It's really for expediting his schedule so we can get him places and get everything completed," spokesman Bill Figel said at the time. "It's one of many features to modernize county operations, but it also speaks to his inclination to stop and talk to everybody."

But spokesman Steve Mayberry said the elevator "simply isn't seen as necessary and was stopped not long after it was put in place."

"The president takes whatever elevator comes first," Mayberry said.

■ DYERSBURG, Tenn. —

A Texas man wanted on an outstanding warrant turned himself in to police so he could start 2007 with "a clean slate," police said.

Christopher Lee Torres, 29, was wanted on a probation violation warrant for assaulting a police officer in Kleburg County, Texas, in April 2006.

Torres called police from a Dyersburg motel on New Year's Day and told them he wanted to be taken into custody.

Torres "said that he'd thought about this all night and decided he wanted to start the new year off on a clean slate," officers wrote in their report.

Torres was being held in Dyer County Jail pending extradition to the Texas county's seat of Kingsville, about 37 miles southwest of Corpus Christi.

■ SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, Texas — It wasn't quite the kind of deposit employees of the International Bank of Commerce were expecting Wednesday morning when Ramanbhai Patel showed up.

Patel's car crashed into the bank's lobby, going through a window and part of a wall before stopping. No one was injured.

Police Chief Robert Rodriguez said Patel, who lives on the island, apparently put his foot on the accelerator instead of the brake while trying to park.

"He stepped off the brake, panicked, and the next thing he knew, he was inside the bank," Rodriguez said. Police are still investigating and no citations were issued Wednesday.

■ ATLANTA — Po Biddy Crossroads will be back on the map. So will Hopeulikit and Doctortown.

The 488 communities wiped from this year's version of the state highway map will be restored, the Georgia Department of Transportation said Wednesday.

"These communities are as much a part of the fabric of our state as our major metropolitan areas," said Vicki Gavalas, the department's spokeswoman.

The towns were erased from the map after the transportation department decided it wanted a clearer, more legible version of the map to hand out for free at visitors centers and tourism hotspots.

The move led to an outcry among some small-town officials, who said the erasure of places like Cloudland, Poetry Tulip and Chattoogaville were an insult to rural residents.

News of the cartographic change prompted a flood of map-related letters and phone calls to the governor's office, as well as a number of complaints from legislators.

"We're glad that they've seen the light and put it back on there," said Dennis Holt, who led an effort to restore the name of western Georgia's Hickory Level. "Our concern is: Will they do this again? We'll be waiting, we'll be watching."

## Lagoon

Continued from p5

ments of their fighting styles to improve their ability to pound on people. The father is killed but his sons make it to a remote part of the jungle where the monks are now training the village's children to take back their town.

Here, we are treated to yet another training sequence, which includes tips from the Shaolin Abbott. His recipe for building a better butt kicker starts with immersing them in cold water and then rubbing their bodies before tossing them back into water. Then he has them beaten with bamboo poles to toughen them up. Any spots on their bodies that are spared a beating are then smacked with sand bags.

The idea appears to be to make them resilient to pain before putting them through more acrobatic routines, which

include building human pyramids. The kids get spared any future indignities when the gang corners the Abbott in the woods and gives him a sound thrashing, which comes to an abrupt end when they drop a huge boulder on his head.

Though it was not clear how the training was supposed to make the kids better fighters it still pays off with the finale which finds the children, accompanied by several adults, ripping into the nine devils and thrashing them in several well choreographed battles that, once again, feature oodles of gore.

This one moves so quickly that you are better served to just sit back and ignore the plot inconsistencies. Try to forget that it's a remote village since everyone in the region appears drawn there. Ignore

talk of monsoons since you never get one and accept that in this film's world gold comes from Goldenberg, so maybe leave your common sense in senseberg while you enjoy the antics on display.

While you're at it don't bother adjusting your set every time their is a dramatic change in lighting. It appears that they used a well worn print to record this one and it often feels like you're watching a film that was shot through a glass of milk.

The good news is that you can find this for \$3 just about anywhere kung fu movies are sold, so it won't put a hole in your budget, though your sanity is another issue.

Best line: "The most difficult thing in learning kung fu is to have pliable bones." 1981, rated R.

## Allen

and other prophets used by the Weather Bureau.

### TROUBLE ON THE FARM

Have you heard the story of the young fellow who worked in town but lived in the country, and wound up four hours late for work, one morning? His boss was in something of a dither and an explanation was in order, he indicated. This was the young man's version

of the case:

"I'm sorry about bein' late, but we had an awful time, out on the farm last night. Something got in the chicken-house, and you never heard such squawkin' and cacklin' and thrashin' around in your life, Pa, he grabbed the old double-barrelled shotgun and lit out for the chicken-house in his long underwear, a-swearin' he'd git that varmit, and I took

Continued from p5

off after him. I got there in time to hold up the flap at the bottom of the door for Pa, and he started crawlin' through holdin' the old double-barrel ahead of him, and both barrels cocked. Just then Old Beaver run up and stuck his cold nose against the part of Pa that hadn't got inside. Pa finched, and both barrels went off...I tell you, boss, we been cleanin' chickens ever since.

## Deli

about her....

"They are different."

Directly across from me on the other side of the dining area was a glass display case. On the top shelf was a carrot cake straight out of California. On the shelf beneath it was a flat-topped chocolate torte straight out of Paris. How to decide between them.

"Are they going to the same college or different ones?" The magnificent body was talking again. They were discussing the man's daughters. She tilted her head a little as she talked. Her hair... Her face.... Her face. The face was long rather than round. The cheeks were thin rather than full and round. Her nose was straight rather than round. Her nose was very straight. Thin cheeks... Thin chin.... That was it! She was WHITE! Then I got it. I was white!

I had not seen so many whites in one place in six weeks. All the professors in the department of sociology were black Africans. The five bi-lingual interviewers with whom I worked night and day, seven days a week were black Africans. All the people we interviewed day after day were black Africans. My two roommates in university housing were black Africans. Everyone in the stores, on the buses, on the streets were black. Goodness gracious.

These people were different. They were white Africans and the deli was one of their

hangouts. They and their great-grandfathers, grandfathers, and fathers were born in Zambia, the Central African Republic or here in Botswana just as we and our ancestors were born in America. They are not English or French or German any more than we are English or French or German. They are South African, Botswanan, Namibian, and Senegalese just as we are American. They are a tiny minority on the continent and we think of them only as the bad guys, but here they looked pretty innocuous.

It had warmed up a bit. The short, southern-hemisphere, cold season of May through July was ending. It was about noon and was warm enough so nearly all the deli diners had moved outside.

Raspberry/rose and her friend had left. I slowly and most reluctantly decided there was no space left for either carrot

or chocolate cake. As I walked through the crowd of white people who were now under the awning outside, I overheard a white man talking to the white football hero. "You can buy one over they (southern African English for "there") for eight cents, then sell for...."

A white man with white beard and abundant but well trimmed, wavy, grey/white hair was standing just outside the awning. He was on a cell phone. Presumably he was another business man.

We do not often get the opportunity to see ourselves as others see us, to refer to Robert Burns' famous poem. From some points of view, we look a little odd.

Editor's Note: Phyllis Puffer is a professor of sociology at Big Sandy Community and Technical College. As such, she enjoys observing the people and places around her.

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A public service message from the U.S. General Services Administration.

# FLOYD COUNTY Sports

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## Hall hits late shot, Blackcats beat Leslie for first win

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

**BUCKLEYS CREEK** — Prestonsburg broke into the win column for the first time in the 2006-07 season Thursday night. The Blackcats posted their first win over a fellow boys' basketball program that had a 20-win season last winter. Prestonsburg junior Jordan Hall knocked down a shot to go before the buzzer Thursday night as the Blackcats edged Leslie County 60-58. The defending WYMT Mountain Classic Champion, Leslie County put together a 20-10 record last season, reaching the 14th Region

Tournament Semifinals.

Prestonsburg's win snapped this season's eight-game losing streak.

Leslie County, which features one of Eastern Kentucky's top backcourt tandems in Ryan Howard and Brian Hubbard, struggled to keep up inside with the bigger Blackcats. In the second half, Prestonsburg went strictly to a man-to-man defense. The Blackcats ultimately reaped the rewards of the defensive decision.

"We kept Trevor (Patton) in the lane and he was able to clean up anything that got past our guards," said Prestonsburg Coach Jackie Day Crisp. "Our man-to-man (defense) was better than our zone."

The two teams swapped leads throughout the tournament game. Leslie County led 14-12 at the end of the first quarter. Prestonsburg outscored the Eagles in the second quarter and took a 30-27 lead into the break.

The Blackcats were ahead 44-42 at the end of the third quarter.

Crisp saw his team get its first win of the season. The Blackcats (1-8) have been able to shake slow starts and finish strong in previous seasons.

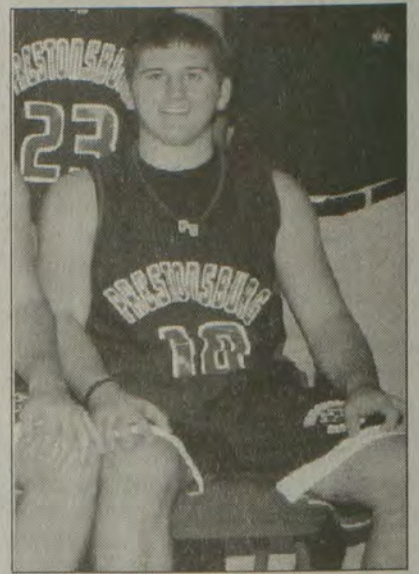
"Now, we know what it feels like to win," added Crisp. "We were able to close out and win a close game against a good team."

The Prestonsburg scoring was bal-

anced. Bobby Hughes and Nathaniel Stephens led the Blackcats with 12 points apiece. Hall added 11 points for the winning team, while Trevor Patton narrowly missed double figures, scoring nine. Chayse Martin and Mason Vance finished with seven and five points, respectively.

Taylor Clark and Austin Gearheart rounded out the Blackcat scoring with two points apiece.

Ryan Howard scored a game-high 17 points for Leslie County. Brian Hubbard added 15 points and Jimmie Joe Morgan pushed in 13 for the Eagles.



Jordan Hall

(See HALL, page eight)

## Five Wildcats to play in All-Star Game

TIMES STAFF REPORT

**LEXINGTON** — Kentucky head coach Rich Brooks, offensive coordinator Joker Phillips, offensive lineman Michael Aitcheson, center Matt McCutchan and defensive end Durrell White are scheduled to participate in the inaugural IntaJuice North-South All-Star Classic on Jan. 13 in Houston.

Brooks and Phillips will guide the offense for the North team. The players' team assignments have not been made as of this writing.

The Wildcats are coming off an 8-5 season, capped by a win over Clemson in the Gaylord Hotels Music City Bowl. Aitcheson was a two-year starter in the offensive line and earned second-team All-Southeastern Conference honors as a senior. McCutchan was a three-year regular at center, twice being named SEC Offensive Lineman of the Week during his career. White was a four-year starter, totaling 153 tackles as a Wildcat, including 22.5 tackles for loss.

Returning its top offensive players for next season, Kentucky could grab a spot in one or several preseason Top 25 polls.

■ The UK men's basketball team has been playing well as of late — and individual honors haven't been scarce.

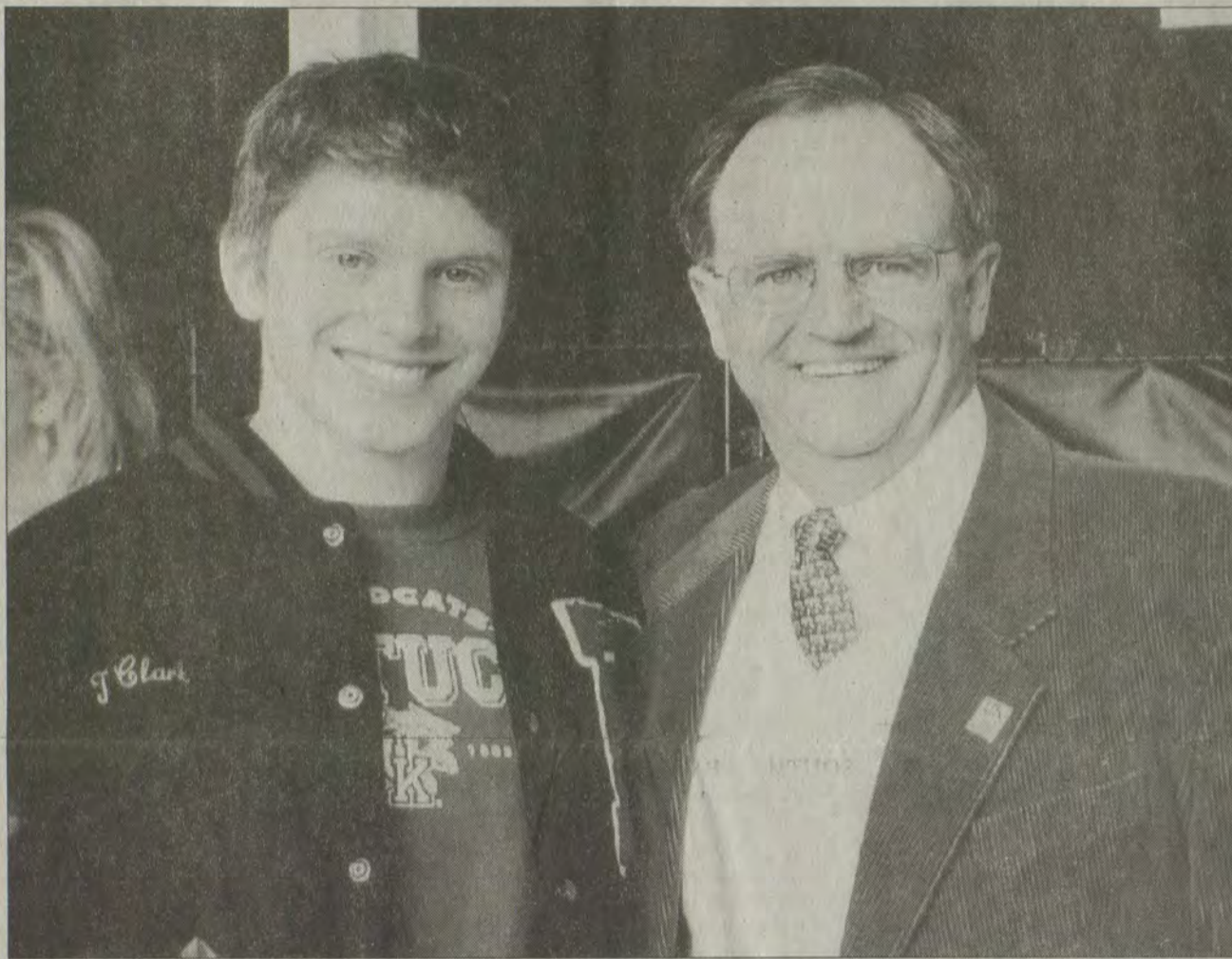
Kentucky junior center Randolph Morris was named the SEC Player of the Week this past week.

Morris helped lead the Wildcats to a 78-65 win over

(See WILDCATS, page two)



# UK PREPPED



Prestonsburg High School student-athlete Taylor Clark, a junior, was part of the 2006 Class of Kentucky. At PHS, Clark excels in the classroom and in the sports of football, basketball and track and field. Above, Clark is pictured with UK President Lee Todd.

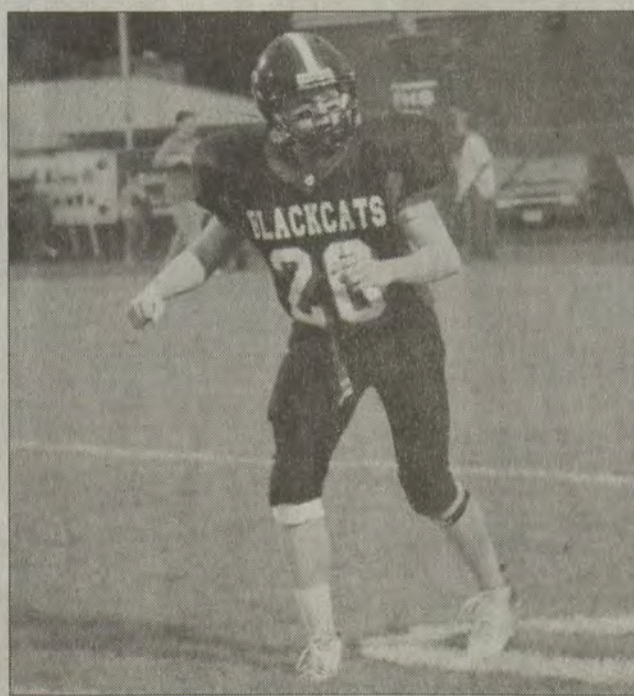
## Clark part of 2006 Class of Kentucky

TIMES STAFF REPORT

**PRESTONSBURG** — Prestonsburg High School junior Taylor Clark was chosen to represent his school last July in the 2006 Class of Kentucky. The program was developed to encourage Kentucky's best and brightest students to attend the University of Kentucky. The students were honored at a luncheon in which several community leaders, including University of Kentucky President Lee Todd, spoke. The 2006 Class of Kentucky was recognized at a UK football home game at Commonwealth Stadium, Nov. 18, 2006.

Clark was chosen to participate in the HOBY Youth Leadership seminar this past summer at Transylvania University. HOBY is a three-day seminar with many activities and speakers involving the importance of leadership. The seminar is to motivate students to make a difference in society through excellent leadership qualities.

Clark is the son of Eddy and Robin Clark of Prestonsburg.



## Clint Stepp leads JBS over Owsley

TIMES STAFF REPORT

**PIPPA PASSES** — Visiting Owsley County could do little Thursday night to combat host June Buchanan School's outstanding long-range shooting. Freshman guard Clint Stepp set a JBS record with eight three-pointers as the Crusaders defeated Owsley County 101-51. Stepp tossed in a game-high 24 points in the home win over Owsley County.

With the win, June Buchanan broke a two-game losing streak. The Crusaders lost to Lexington Catholic and Louisville Trinity one week earlier in the Fifth Third Invitational.

June Buchanan (8-3) never let Owsley County get close. The Crusaders led 32-7 at the end of the first quarter. June Buchanan took a 54-27 lead into the half. In the second half, June Buchanan picked up right where it had left off, outscoring the Owls in each of the last two quarters.

(See JBS, page eight)

## WYMT Mtn. Classic tips off Tuesday

by STEVE LeMASTER  
SPORTS EDITOR

**HAZARD** — One of Eastern Kentucky's most storied high school boys' basketball tournaments will tip off in Perry County Tuesday when the WYMT-Whayne Supply Mountain Classic gets its start Tuesday.

The Leslie County High School boys' basketball team will have a chance to win back-to-back Mountain Classic championships.

This year's tournament also includes Pineville, June Buchanan, defending 14th Region champion Hazard, Shelby Valley, Bell County, Perry County Central and Pikeville.

At press time, Shelby Valley remained as the state's only undefeated boys' high school basketball team.

Tuesday's opening round

(See CLASSIC, page eight)

## Winter bass? Think warming days, small waters, slow retrieves

by STEVE VANTRESE  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**PADUCAH** — On one hand, this is not a great time for bass fishing.

On the other, if it scratches an itch you can't reach any other way, it makes more sense than doing without.

Bass are cold-blooded creatures that match the temperature of their surroundings and slow down accordingly in the cold. Bass are even more sluggish in winter than some other fish species.

From the fisherman's perspective, most discouraging is that the bass' winter metabolism doesn't require it to eat often.

Nevertheless, there are anglers who feel trapped by the present "offseason." Their sanity may hinge on fishing, and

bass fishing at that. They may long for spring but aren't willing to wait for it.

For them there may be relief in bass fishing right now. The catch might not rival that of spring, but there is potential for positive results as well as the safety valve to diffuse cabin fever.

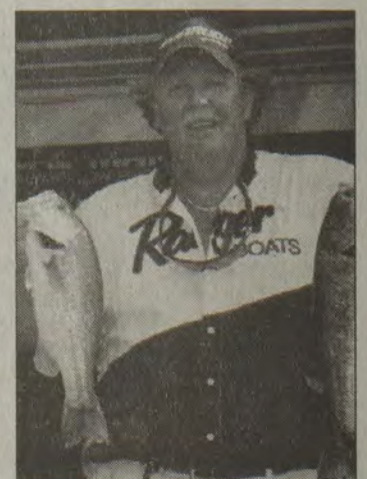
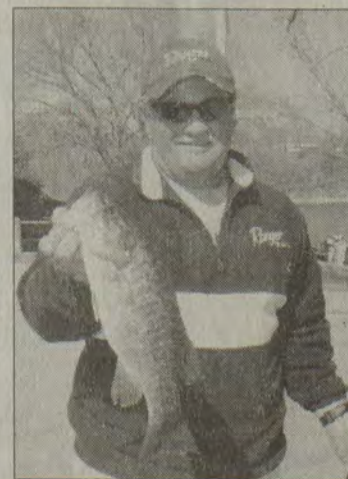
There is certainly potential for winter bass fishing on the state's big reservoirs. Most of that would involve slow, deep fishing on a typical winter's day.

A key toward turning fortunes around on a winter day is milder weather, air temperatures and sunshine that can raise the water temperatures. Even a rise of a couple of degrees can affect fish to the plus side of the equation. That might be experienced on a big impoundment, but no place warms and improves more quickly than a small body of water.

Small lakes, watersheds and farm ponds are recommended choice for winter bass fishing during a warming trend merely because small waters, especially those of modest depth, respond favorably to a warm-up more quickly.

Direct sunlight is a detriment to the bass fisherman most of the time, but solar exposure is the angler's friend now. A combination of mild air temperatures plus direct sun can have a warming effect on small waters, especially along northern and eastern shorelines of a lake or pond that get the most direct exposure.

Choice banks are those with riprap, gravel or any other stone material that can absorb the sun's energy and leach the heat into the water surrounding it. Water that is three or four degrees warmer than sur-



photos courtesy of flwoutdoors.com  
Eastern Kentucky fishermen Tee Watkins (left) and Tim McDonald (right) have teamed up to fish together in 2007.

(See BASS, page eight)

Hall

In Thursday's other Coca-Cola Hoops Classic game, Lawrence County defeated Cordia 72-60. Lewis Michael scored a game-high 19 points for Lawrence County. Michael was one of four different Bulldogs to produce double figures in the scoring department. The Bulldogs outscored Cordia in three of four quarters. Josh Mosley had 16 points and Zach Hurt added 15 for Cordia.

■ Continued from p7  
 PRESTONSBURG 60, LESLIE COUNTY 58  
 LESLIE COUNTY (58) – Poloni 4, Roberts 7, Hubbard 15, Howard 17, Browning 2, Morgan 13.  
 PRESTONSBURG (60) – Hall 11, Hughes 12, Patton 9, Stephens 12, Martin 7, Clark 2, Vance 5, Gearheart 2.  
 Leslie County.....14 13 15 16-58  
 Prestonsburg.....12 18 14 16-60

Classic

matchups will have Pineville taking on June Buchanan at 6:30 and Hazard playing Shelby Valley at 8:15.  
 Leslie County is scheduled to meet Bell County in the opening round of the  
 WYMT Classic on Wednesday at 6:30. The final opening round matchup has Perry County Central paired up against Pikeville.  
 Perry County Central High School is hosting this year's tournament.  
 All WYMT Mountain Classic games will be played at the John C. Combs Arena at PCCHS.  
 Leslie County captured last season's Mountain Classic championship, defeating Harlan 78-72 in overtime last season at Knott County Central.

■ Continued from p7  
**2007 WYMT-Whayne Supply Mountain Classic**  
*Sponsored by Food City.*  
 Presented by Kentucky Farm Bureau.  
 At Perry County Central High School/John C. Combs Arena  
 Tuesday, Jan. 9, 6:30 p.m.  
 June Buchanan vs. Pineville  
 Tuesday, Jan. 9, 8 p.m.  
 Hazard vs. Shelby Valley  
 Wednesday, Jan. 10, 6:30 p.m.  
 Leslie County vs. Bell County  
 Wednesday, Jan. 10, 8 p.m.  
 Perry County Central vs. Pikeville  
 Friday, Jan. 12  
 Semifinals  
 Saturday, Jan. 13  
 Consolation and championship games  
 (Games will be televised on WYMT)

JBS

Clark Stepp followed with 22 points for the Crusaders. Tate Cox also reached double figures for June Buchanan, adding 16 points. Senior guard Brock Childers chipped in 10 points for the winning team.  
 Ten different June Buchanan players provided scoring.

■ Continued from p7  
 For Owsley County, Trey Congleton and Adam McIntosh each had 19 points.  
 Following the loss, Owsley County dropped to 5-9. The Owls had put together a two-game winning streak before falling Thursday night.

Jets QB Pennington wins AP Comeback Player of Year award

by DENNIS WASZAK Jr.  
 ASSOCIATED PRESS

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. — Chad Pennington spent two nerve-racking weeks at home in Tennessee last fall wondering if his right shoulder would ever be the same.  
 "That was the lowest point, not knowing what direction I would go in, whether it was good or bad or whether it was with football or without football," the New York Jets quarterback said. "I had no idea."  
 Pennington overcame a second torn rotator cuff in as many years — and incredible odds — to win The Associated Press NFL Comeback Player of the Year award Thursday.  
 The seven-year veteran acknowledged that dark thoughts passed through his mind in the days following the injury in Week 3 of last season.  
 "Not having a goal, not having a challenge, not having a carrot out in front of you as an athlete is a bad place to be," Pennington said. "It's sort of like 'The Twilight Zone.' You have no drive, you have nothing to go for."  
 His outlook improved after he had surgery and the Jets' medical team helped him focus on his rehabilitation.  
 "Then I had a challenge ahead of me," he said. "I had a goal, I had something to go after and my total mind-set and attitude changed. I was starting to get back to normal."  
 And he came back, maybe even better than before. The seven-year veteran has led the Jets to a surprising 10-6 record and a wild-card berth one season after they went 4-12 — most of it with him sidelined — and changed coaches. He started all 16 games in a season for the first time, finished second in the AFC with a 95.7 passer rating and threw for a career-high 3,352 yards, along with 17 touchdowns and 16 interceptions. Most importantly, he re-emerged as a leader.  
 "No situation rattles him," receiver Jericho Cotchery said. "I've never seen him rattled. Obviously, when you have your leader like that, you feel the same way he feels, that we can't get rattled out there."  
 Pennington earned 27 votes in balloting by a nationwide panel of 50 sports writers and broadcasters who cover the NFL. He finished ahead of two other quarterbacks, Drew Brees of New Orleans (8 1/2) and Cincinnati's Carson Palmer (5 1/2). Pennington, the fifth quarterback to win the award in its nine years, is the first Jet to receive the honor.  
 Last year's recipients were New England linebacker Tedy Bruschi and Carolina receiver Steve Smith.  
 "It does mean a lot to me because I've put in a lot of hard work and there's been a lot of people that have

supported me throughout the entire process and have put in a lot of hard work with me," Pennington said. "To me, it's a group award and it involves so many people in so many different areas in so many different places that have taken time out of their schedules that have helped me get back to being the player I want to be, and to have a chance to play the game that I love to play."  
 Pennington came to training camp determined to win a four-man competition at quarterback.  
 "When you're put in difficult situations, I think you have to fight human nature sometimes and human nature sometimes wants to feel sorry for itself and come up with excuses and look for ways to get out of a situation," he said. "I just chose not to listen to my own human nature."  
 Or to the naysayers, of whom there were plenty.  
 After all, how could an NFL quarterback who already had a reputation for not having a strong arm possibly come back from two operations on his shoulder in consecutive years? There was no precedent for it.  
 "In Chad's mind, there was never any doubt," coach Eric Mangini said. "He was extremely committed to doing everything he could possibly do to put himself in a position to come back from those injuries."  
 The latest occurred last season in Week 3 when Pennington was sacked by Jacksonville's Paul Spicer, who hit the quarterback from behind and pulled his right arm behind his back as he was about to throw. Pennington keeps a picture of the play on his desk at home as a framed reminder of how far he's come.  
 "I would say that at some times during the rehab and at some times during the competition, I think I had to look at it as if the slate was wiped clean," he said. "What I had done in the past didn't matter anymore."  
 Once he was medically cleared to practice, Pennington was ready to run the offense instituted by Mangini and new coordinator Brian Schottenheimer.  
 "It didn't matter what time I was passing through (the training room), if Chad was getting rehabbed, he was multitasking with his playbook," Mangini said. "It was like a mobile study center where he was getting worked on and working at the same time."  
 Pennington easily beat out Patrick Ramsey, Brooks Bollinger and Kellen Clemens for the starting job, and proved he was back with consecutive 300-yard games to start the season. He has also routinely bounced back from hard hits to the shoulder.  
 "If this situation did anything for me, it showed me how important staying in the present and staying in the now is, because that's the only part of your life that you can control at that moment," Pennington said. "You can't control the past and you have no idea what the future holds."

Wildcats

instate rival Eastern Kentucky, recording his fourth double-double of the season, sixth of his career and his third in the last five games. The last Wildcat to achieve such a stretch was Chuck Hayes in the 2004-05 season.  
 Morris' 25 points tied a career

high for the 6-11 junior. He also recorded a 20 point-10 rebound game for the second time this season. He is the first Wildcat to have two 20-10 games in the same season since Taysaun Prince in 2001-02. Morris has scored in double figures in every game but one this season.

■ Continued from p7  
 It is the first SEC weekly honor in Morris' career and the second this season for the Wildcats. Freshman Jodie Meeks was named the conference's SEC Freshman of the Week on December 18.

Bass

rounding areas well might attract bass, and bass that lounge in the warmer water may feel a bit more frisky — perhaps enough to seize a bit to eat.  
 The winter fisherman's chore is to put something near the bass that looks edible and, of vital importance, is easy to catch. Cold water bass are less apt to move far or fast to take a lure.  
 Consequently, winter bass fishing calls for slow-moving lures and not necessarily the largest of them. Bass appetite, after all, remains modest as long as metabolism and energy use remain low.

Winter bass trying to soak up warmth along a sunny shore may suspend near the bank, often in little water, and they often bask where there is no visible wood cover that they prefer for shelter most of the year.  
 One of the preferred cold-water lures is the minnow-shaped jerkbait, especially the neutral-buoyancy suspending variety that can be twitched along below the surface, with sluggish pauses in which the lure can be allowed to "hang" without rising or sinking. A tempted bass may softly take the jerkbait during a pause, simply being "there" when the fish-

erman again moves to twitch the lure.  
 Similarly a shallow- to mid-depth crankbait, especially a suspending model, can probe warming banks. A stop-and-go retrieve may be the ticket, but a slow retrieve is most critical.  
 Some winter bass, especially those in a slight warming mode, can be taken on a spinnerbait by slow-rolling it through basking areas. A spinnerbait can be modified by upsizing the spinner blade or blades to provide more "lift" at a slower-than-normal retrieve speed — a plus in the cold water.

Gators use underdog role as motivation to beat the Buckeyes

by RALPH D. RUSSO  
 ASSOCIATED PRESS

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — The Florida Gators are feeling unappreciated and they're not happy about it.  
 There's no doubt the Gators are the underdogs heading into the BCS championship game against top-ranked Ohio State on Monday night.  
 The unbeaten Buckeyes have been No. 1 all season and rarely challenged, outscoring opponents by 26 points per game. They've got the Heisman Trophy winner in Troy Smith and a coach in Jim Tressel with a national championship on his resume and a reputation for being as good it gets in big games.  
 The Gators have an imperfect record, several too-close-for-comfort victories and their only All-American is safety Reggie Nelson.  
 In Las Vegas, Ohio State is a seven-point favorite.  
 To hear the Florida Gators tell it, the 'O' and 'H' have already been engraved into the championship trophies.  
 "Every time you pick up a paper or magazine you see Ohio State, then you see one page of Florida or just the title, Florida Gators," Gators defensive tackle Joe Cohen. "And you know, we fought to get here, too. We want a little credit that we're here. At least acknowledge that we're in the game. I guess Jan. 8 we'll show that we're in the game."  
 Football players are always looking for an opportunity to feel disrespected. It can be a powerful motivational tool. Just ask Texas, which rode Vince Young's need for redemption to a national title last year. Or the 2002 Buckeyes, who pulled off one of the biggest BCS upsets.  
 And the Gators really have been on the defensive for months, first trying to prove they deserved to play for the national title, then defending their selection for the big game over Michigan.

Thanks to USC, the Michigan problem went away in the Rose Bowl. Still, the Gators know many skeptics remain.  
 "The way the talk is we don't deserve to be here really," receiver Dallas Baker said. "We played a lot of Top-25 teams and defensive teams and they're still saying that we don't deserve to be here, so this is an opportunity to prove everyone wrong."  
 Even back home in New Smyrna Beach, Fla., for Christmas, Baker heard the Gators being badmouthed. As he walked around the mall, he overheard a couple of kids predict gloom and doom for the Gators.  
 "A kid didn't even know I was standing there and I heard him tell another little kid — they were probably like in sixth or seventh grade — they were saying 'I can't wait 'til the game to watch Ohio State beat up on Florida,'" Baker said. "I'm like this is a Florida guy not even giving us an opportunity. He had on a Florida Gator hat but was saying we were going to lose."  
 Ohio State can relate, at least a little.  
 The Buckeyes' fifth-year seniors were part of Ohio State's '02 championship team.  
 Those Buckeyes were unbeaten, but their opponent was a Miami team that had won 34 consecutive games and was looking for its second straight national title.  
 "Our mind-set was that we wanted to play the best we could. We wanted to shock the world," Ohio State defensive lineman Joel Penton said Thursday. "Miami had some weaknesses."  
 Not many, but Ohio State exploited them and beat Willis McGahee, Jonathan Vilma, Andre Johnson, Ken Dorsey and the rest of the Hurricanes, 31-24 in double overtime.  
 Just like the Gators are doing now, the Buckeyes played the no-respect

card.  
 "I remember we got a little flier about a victory party in Miami for when they got back before the game," Penton said. "We did feel slighted. I think it definitely helped."  
 There's been comparisons made between that Ohio State, Tressel's second, and these Gators under second-year coach Urban Meyer.  
 "The obvious similarity is that they're in the second year of their building process and that you have a mix of guys that you've just grown to get to know and a mix of guys that you recruited," Tressel said.  
 Like the current Gators, those Buckeyes were good, not great, offensively. Their approach was very different from the Gators. Ohio State used the power running of freshman Maurice Clarett and some clutch play from quarterback Craig Krenzel to score. Florida's offense has sputtered at times because it lacks an inside running game and appears too reliant on its fast perimeter players such as freshman Percy Harvin, Andre Caldwell and Baker.  
 Both teams played stingy defense and lots of close games. Half of Ohio State's 14 wins were by seven points or fewer. Half of Florida's victories have been by 10 points or fewer.  
 The Buckeyes have been careful not to feed Florida's us-against-the-world attitude by throwing nothing but praise at the Gators.  
 "I don't look at ourselves as a huge favorite," Penton said. "We're looking at (the Gators) on film and they're as good as anybody we've faced."  
 Besides, how much of an underdog can a team playing for a national championship really be.  
 "People say we are (the underdog) but we really don't feel like that," defensive tackle Ray McDonald said. "The top two teams in the country are playing. Why should there be an underdog? Why shouldn't it be even?"



SHOOTING FOR A GOOD CAUSE: Prestonsburg businessmen competed in this year's free throw contest for the PHS boys' basketball team.

Annual free throw contest a success for Blackcat program

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PRESTONSBURG — Prestonsburg High School held its annual Meet the Blackcats Night Nov. 18, 2006. Part of the program was the annual businessmen's free

throw contest in which local businessmen helped to raise money for the Prestonsburg High basketball program. This year's participants were Wimpy Clark, John Thomas Clark, Barry Crum, Thomas Nairn, Les Stapleton and Marty Minix.

Nairn was this year's winner, making 24 of 25 free throws. The PHS Fast Break Club, the PHS boys' basketball team and coaches expressed their appreciation for the time, hard work and entertainment the contest participants provided.



# Louisville Cardinals eager to take next step

by WILL GRAVES  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIAMI — Bobby Petrino needs to find a new motto to drill into the heads of his Louisville players. The Cardinals, it seems, are finished with "finish."

Petrino's players showed during their remarkable 2006 season that they were listening when the coaching staff chanted "finish" over and over during every workout, practice and game.

The Cardinals' 24-13 victory over Wake Forest in the Orange Bowl capped a breakout year in which the school enjoyed its first 12-win season and perhaps finally proved it has arrived.

"In the near future, if not now, we're going to be a powerhouse," running back Kolby Smith said. "Coach Petrino is building a program that is fighting to be one of those top schools."

The Cardinals may already be there. Only a second-half meltdown at Rutgers on Nov. 9 prevented Louisville from finishing the season undefeated and earning a shot against Ohio State in the BCS title game.

Not bad for a team that lost star running back Michael Bush to a broken right leg in the opener against Kentucky and played parts of three games without quarterback Brian Brohm, who injured the thumb on his throwing hand in a win over Miami in September.

Louisville persevered without its stars and showcased the depth of talent Petrino has cultivated during his four years at the helm. Backups and role players like quarterback Hunter Cantwell and running back Anthony Allen made vital contributions for a team aching to show it belonged among the nation's elite.

"We showed that we're a team, not just one guy or two guys," said wide

receiver Harry Douglas. "It takes all of us to get it done."

Whether the Cardinals enter the 2007 season with legitimate national title hopes could depend on what happens over the next two weeks. Brohm and Bush have until Jan. 15 to decide whether they will return in the fall.

Brohm, who was named the Orange Bowl's Most Valuable Player after throwing for 311 yards, was non-committal about his intentions after the game. Bush, who has applied for a medical redshirt from the NCAA, said he'd wait to get feedback from NFL scouts before making his decision.

If they do return, the Cardinals could find themselves in the spot Petrino promised they'd be in when he took the job. Four years ago Petrino challenged his staff and his players to dream big. The Cardinals delivered this season with the kind of electric play that's made them one of the most dynamic teams in the country.

After beating the mantra "finish" into his players' heads all offseason, the Cardinals showcased the killer instinct they lacked at crucial times in years past. Louisville beat rival West Virginia on a national television audience to briefly enter the national title picture, then rebounded from the upset at Rutgers to run the table and win their first Big East title.

Playing in their first-ever Bowl Championship Series game, the Cardinals drew on the lessons they'd learned, dominating the fourth quarter against Wake Forest and erasing any doubt about their ability to play their best when the game is on the line.

"That's what we'd been working on all year, finishing games, playing all four quarters," said center Eric Wood. "To go out like this and win it the way we did just shows the strides we've made."

The strides may continue, with or without Brohm and Bush.

Petrino — regarded as one of college football's most innovative playcallers — has had little trouble finding ways to move the ball no matter who is under center. And the injuries to Brohm and Bush provided players like Cantwell and Allen invaluable playing time.

Cantwell showed promise in relief of Brohm, while Allen proved to be Bush-lite. He finished with 14 touchdowns and became the team's go-to option at the goal line.

Wide receivers Harry Douglas and Mario Urrutia will be also back, as will most of the offensive line. The defense will take some hits, notably defensive tackle Amobi Okoye and linebacker Nate Harris, two of the unit's leaders.

"We've got some holes to fill," Petrino said.

But the Cardinals won't lack for volunteers.

"Next year, nothing less than the national championship (will do)," Douglas said.

## Brian Brohm shines, mulls return

by WILL GRAVES  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIAMI — Brian Brohm's poise helped make him one of the top quarterbacks in the country.

So even in the giddy aftermath of No. 5 Louisville's 24-13 win over No. 15 Wake Forest in the Orange Bowl on Tuesday night, the junior quarterback wasn't ready to make a hasty decision about the NFL.

"We'll let everything settle down," Brohm said. "I'll sit down with my parents and my family and see what the best thing to do is. Right now, coming back trying to win a national

title looks very appealing."

Considering the way Brohm shredded the Demon Deacons in the second half, it should be.

Brohm threw for 311 yards — the third-highest total in Orange Bowl history — and was at his best in the fourth quarter. He completed 9 of 11 passes on back-to-back touchdown drives that gave the Cardinals the lead and served as an exclamation point on a season Louisville hopes will propel it to the upper echelon of college football.

It's a neighborhood the Cardinals could live in comfortably if Brohm returns. He said last month he would almost certainly come back for his senior season, but was more vague in the days leading up to the game. Some NFL experts are predicting Brohm could be a first-round selection in the NFL Draft in April.

But after helping the Cardinals to their first 12-win season in school history, and with a majority of starters

returning on both sides of the ball, Brohm knows he has a chance to do something special at his hometown school next year.

"We've got a great team coming back and it would be very hard to pass that up," Brohm said.

Wake Forest did its best to ruin what may be Brohm's final bow. The Demon Deacons frustrated the nation's second-ranked offense for three quarters. The Cardinals had little trouble moving the ball, but were hurt by dropped passes and turnovers in Wake Forest territory.

Trailing by three early in the fourth quarter, Brohm and his teammates held an impromptu pep talk on the sidelines, with the normally quiet Brohm right in the middle of it.

"Basically, we just all got together and we got into each other's faces and said 'Let's go win this game and not

wait around and wait for somebody else to do something. Let's go make some plays right now,'" Brohm said.

And like he has over much of the last three seasons, when the plays needed to be made, it was Brohm who made them.

He was at his efficient best over the game's final 15 minutes, guiding Louisville on a pair of methodical touchdown drives that secured the win and likely assured the Cardinals of a top-five ranking in the final polls.

"He just has a knack for the game," receiver Harry Douglas said of Brohm. "Some guys are just born with it, and he's one of them."

Brohm, whose older brothers Jeff and Greg and father Oscar all played at Louisville, has plenty of reasons to return. He knows all about the history of the program and how important

football has become to a community long hooked on basketball.

"This is huge," he said. "It's just another step in the direction of ultimately reaching the goal of a national title. We not only got to a BCS Bowl game but I think it's huge that we came in here and won it. It's good for all the guys on the team to come back. We all know how to do it now."

Brohm laughed when asked if the "we" he was referring to meant he'd already made up his mind about returning.

While his teammates respect the position he's in, there's little doubt where their hopes lie. Brohm has until Jan. 15 to decide.

"It'll be exciting to see what he does and hopefully he'll come back because I like our chances with him back there," center Eric Wood said.

So do the Louisville fans. The thousands at Dolphins Stadium chanted "one more year" to Brohm as he ran off the field.

## UK Women defeat USC in SEC opener

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — Junior guard Samantha Mahoney (Detroit) scored a game-high 19 points and junior center Sarah Elliott (McKee) added 16 as Kentucky held off a late South Carolina charge to post a 59-55 Southeastern Conference opening win over the Gamecocks Thursday. The Cats, who won their eighth consecutive game, played in front of a season-high 6,010 in Memorial Coliseum.

In a matchup between two of the league's top defensive teams, the

Wildcats (12-3, 1-0 SEC) and Gamecocks were nearly even in every statistical category. Kentucky, which has now won five of its last eight league openers, led the entire game and held a 10-point lead (55-45) with 1:51 remaining before the Gamecocks began a late rally.

South Carolina (10-5, 0-1 SEC) fought to the very end by scoring five consecutive points to pull within five, 55-50, with 59 seconds remaining in the game. After a pair of free-throws by senior guard Jenny Pfeiffer (North Vernon, Ind.), a three-pointer by USC's Brianna Dickerson brought Carolina as close as four points, 57-53, with 13 seconds left. A pair of clutch charity shots by Mahoney allowed UK to hang on for the win.

Mahoney's 19 points, 14 scored in the first half, came on 6-of-14 shooting from the floor and 6-of-8 from the free-throw line. She notched double

figures for the 51st time in her career. Elliott's 19 points helped her reached the 900-career point plateau as she now has 902 points as a Wildcat.

Senior forward/center Jennifer Humphrey (Memphis, Tenn.), who played a career high 37 minutes, brought down a game-high 10 rebounds for the Wildcats, who were out-rebounded (41-31) for just the third time this season. It marked the fourth consecutive game with double-figure rebounds for Humphrey. Sophomore point guard Carly Ormerod (Louisville) had a career-high eight rebounds to complement three steals in a season-high 38 minutes of action.

The Cats were forced to combat an obvious size disadvantage as the Gamecocks have seven players 6-foot or taller. Free-throws proved to be advantageous for the Wildcats, who connected on 13-of-21 (61.9

pct.) from the charity stripe, while South Carolina was just 3-of-6. Despite shooting just 40 percent from the floor (21-of-52), Kentucky continued its solid defensive play, holding South Carolina to 39.1 percent (25-of-64) from the field. It marked only the sixth time in 15 games the Gamecocks have been held under 40 percent shooting.

The Wildcats broke to a 9-4 advantage to begin the game thanks to four points from Mahoney during that stretch. With Kentucky leading 13-8, back-to-back baskets by the Gamecocks allowed them to whittle their deficit down to one, 13-12. From there, Kentucky outscored South Carolina 20-9 over the remaining 9:00 of the first half to take a 33-21 lead to the locker room. Kentucky held South Carolina without a basket for 3:27 during the run.

The Wildcats went into the locker

room ahead 33-21 after shooting 44.4 percent (12-of-27) after limiting the Gamecocks to just 34.5 percent (10-of-29) from the field and scoreless from beyond the arc. Kentucky has allowed 25 points or less in the first half in seven of the last eight games.

The two teams traded baskets for much of the early part of the second half before consecutive baskets by senior guard Nastassia Alcius (Lexington) and Elliott put the Wildcats ahead by 13, 46-33, with 10:51 remaining in the game. Kentucky was able to keep its distance before the Gamecocks sparked a late rally.

Lakesha Tolliver led the way for USC with 14 points as one of three Gamecocks averaging double-figure point totals. USC's leading scorer Iva Sliskovic, who entered the game averaging 10.2 ppg, was held scoreless.

## Tennessee Tech tops Colonels, 75-53

TIMES STAFF REPORT

COOKEVILLE, Tenn. — The Eastern Kentucky University men's basketball team netted a season-low three three-pointers and missed 17 free throws allowing host Tennessee

Tech University to earn a 75-53 win Thursday night in Eblen Center. The Golden Eagles (6-8, 2-3 OVC) broke a four-game losing skid while the Colonels (8-6, 3-3) have now dropped three straight contests.

Senior Julian Mascoll led the Colonels with 16 points on 75 percent (6-of-8) shooting, his 12th straight game shooting at least 50 percent from the field. Freshman Adam Leonard was the only other EKV player in double figures, scoring 13 points while hitting 2-of-8 three-pointers.

Four TTU players tallied at least 10 points, led by forward Amadi McKenzie's 16 points. McKenzie also hauled in a game-high seven rebounds. Belton Rivers added 15 points and six assists.

Tennessee Tech led from start to finish for its eighth straight home win over Eastern dating back to 1997-98. After Leonard connected on a three-pointer to level the game at 8-all, the Golden Eagles responded with the next five points and never looked back. With a little over five minutes left in the half, Leonard had the

chance to even the score at 23, but missed the front end of a 1-and-1 situation. Tennessee Tech then put together a 13-3 run to end the half and took a 36-24 lead into intermission.

Eastern stepped up its defense early in the second half, forcing numerous TTU turnovers which led to a few EKV fast break opportunities. The Colonels would close the gap to six points, 41-35, but four missed free throws kept them from getting even closer. Tennessee Tech finally ended any thoughts of an

Eastern Kentucky comeback by recording 12 of the next 13 points to establish a 53-36 cushion with 9:48 remaining.

The Colonels were 3-of-23 (13 percent) from behind the arc and only connected on one three-pointer in the final 34 minutes of action. Meanwhile, Eastern struggled at the free throw line, hitting just 14-of-31 (45.2 percent) attempts.

Eastern Kentucky will host OVC rival Morehead State on Tuesday. ESPNU will be covering the game live beginning at 7 p.m.

## UK ranked 30th in Baseball America Preseason Top 50

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — The Kentucky baseball team has been ranked 30th in the 2007 Baseball America preseason Top-50 poll, the magazine announced Thursday.

The ranking is the first such honor for the Wildcats this preseason and a major change from a year ago when UK was picked to finish last in the Southeastern Conference. Kentucky eventually won a school-record 44 games and claimed the school's first Southeastern

Conference Championship during a historic 2006 campaign. UK's 2006 squad became the only team in conference history to go from worst-to-first in the course of a year, behind an explosive offensive philosophy which translated into UK plating a school-record 500 runs and blasting 99 home runs.

Kentucky finished the 2006 season ranked 20th in the final Baseball America poll, its highest final ranking in 18 years.

Several Kentucky players have garnered preseason honors so far,

including catcher Sean Coughlin and outfielder Collin Cowgill, both of whom were named to the Brooks Wallace Award Watch List, annually given to the best college baseball player in the nation. Coughlin also was named a first-team preseason All-American while Cowgill and right-handed ace Greg Dombrowski earned third-team preseason honors from the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association.

Joining Kentucky in the top-50 were nine other SEC teams, including nine of UK's 2007 opponents — South Carolina (No. 6), Arkansas (No. 7), Vanderbilt (No. 8), Tennessee (No. 11), Evansville (No. 21), Ole Miss (No. 25), Georgia (No. 27), Auburn (No. 36) and LSU (No. 50).

The 2007 Kentucky baseball season starts with a three-game road trip (Feb. 16-18) to Greenville, S.C. to face off with the Furman Paladins. The home slate begins with a Feb. 21 matchup against cross-state rival Murray State at Cliff Hagan Stadium.



The David School basketball team is still looking for its first win in the 2006-07 season.

photo submitted

# Cincinnati Bengals at an 8-8 crossroads

by JOE KAY  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI – Coach Marvin Lewis was widely praised for turning the woeful Cincinnati Bengals into an average team in his first season.

Three years later, the Bengals are stuck at average.

Significant offseason changes are needed if Lewis wants his team to be anything more than an also-ran. The Bengals have finished 8-8 – and out of the playoffs – in three of Lewis' four seasons.

Fans who survived one of the longest stretches of futility in NFL history are starting to get antsy. An 0-3 finish that cost the Bengals a playoff spot this season left players with a sense that something is seriously wrong and needs to get fixed in a hurry.

"There's definitely some things that need to change," quarterback



Carson Palmer said.

The changes have to start at the top. No, Lewis isn't going anywhere. He still has more sway over the front office than any of his recent predecessors. But Lewis acknowledged on Tuesday that he got too lax with discipline this season, something that he plans to change.

Eight Bengals were arrested and two suspended during 2006, drawing the concern of commissioner Roger Goodell.

The misbehavior raised questions about the type of players that the Bengals were choosing and whether they were being tough enough on them when they got into trouble.

Several veterans have urged Lewis to take a tough line on everything the way he did during his first season in Cincinnati, when the Bengals made that sudden turnaround.

"I think there's an outcry from our guys to go back that way," Lewis said. "I hear it and see it, so that's my chal-

lenge to go back to that.

"We've tried to allow guys to grow both as men and mature as players. But the thing we continue to find is they've got to be constantly coached, policed and corrected so that at times of adversity, we can do the right things."

For better or worse, Chad Johnson was the face of the '06 Bengals.

He was on a self-promotion kick to open the season. He had a new look – a golden Mohawk – got Degree deodorant to sponsor his who-covered-me list, and renamed himself "Ocho Cinco" for one game.

He did a touchdown dance in front of a cornerback teammate when he scored during a training camp practice, and proclaimed that the defending AFC North champions would dominate.

Lewis hated it.

When Johnson got double coverage and his numbers dropped during a 4-5 start, the Pro Bowl receiver

grouched that he wasn't getting the ball enough. It started a trend. Running back Rudi Johnson also complained about his lack of carries, and right tackle Willie Anderson suggested the Bengals weren't tough enough.

The team pulled together, won four in a row to get into playoff contention, then fell apart in the last three games. Ultimately, Cincinnati missed out on a wild-card berth because of a botched extra-point in Denver and a missed field goal in the final game against Pittsburgh.

"We have enough talent to win games," Anderson said. "We, as a team, will never get over the hump with the selfishness."

No one mentioned Johnson by name, but his free-spirited ways rubbed teammates the wrong way. Lewis pointed out that Johnson had his best games after he got rid of the antics – he ended up leading the league's receivers with 1,369 yards.

"After we got through the whole

Mohawk, Degree thing and Ocho Psycho and all that stuff, we were good," Lewis said. "And you know what? Things went up."

"He's just got to make sure that all the time he's being the right guy for his teammates – all the time. And I think that's important to them. It's important to them that I don't have a double standard for Chad."

Lewis and the front office can keep the core of the team together, if they choose. Guard Eric Steinbach, tight end Reggie Kelly, defensive end Justin Smith and cornerback Tory James are starters who can become free agents.

The biggest changes have to come from within. Those are sometimes the toughest.

"We're a very average football team," Palmer said. "We have the potential to be a good team. We should be 10-6. It's a whole lot more than selfishness. From the coaches to the players, some things need to change."

"Marvin's in for a long offseason."

## Pollack undergoes surgery for cracked bone in neck

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI – Bengals linebacker David Pollack underwent surgery Wednesday in Cincinnati for a bone he cracked in his neck in a game nearly four months ago.

There were no complications in the surgery performed by spine specialist Dr. Anthony Guanciale, and Pollack was resting comfortably, the Bengals

said in a statement released Wednesday.

Pollack was expected to remain in the hospital for a few days, the Bengals said.

"No forecast of Pollack's eventual return to football will be made at this time," the Bengals said.

Pollack cracked the bone while tackling Cleveland running back

Reuben Droughns during the second game of the season on Sept. 17. He was placed in a halo brace that immobilized his neck.

Doctors told him that if the fracture healed without surgery, he could resume his career.

During an interview in October, Pollack said that his career would most likely be over if he had to have

surgery.

"If it heals by itself, then I'm fine," he said at the time. "It's just like anything else. I'll be fine to play again. It's just a matter of how it heals."

Pollack was a first-round draft and 17th pick overall in 2005 out of Georgia, where he played defensive end.

## Vince Young: Associated Press Offensive Rookie of Year

by BARRY WILNER  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK – Vince Young looks as if he'll make the NFL his personal playground, too.

The dynamic quarterback for the Tennessee Titans won The Associated Press Offensive Rookie of the Year Award on Wednesday. He did it in the same fashion he turned around the Titans' season – running away from the rest of the field.

Young, who led Texas to the 2005 national championship and was the third overall pick in last April's draft,

overwhelmed one of the strongest rookie classes in NFL history. He received 23 votes from a nationwide panel of 50 sports writers and broadcasters who cover the league.

That easily beat New Orleans wide receiver Marques Colston and Jacksonville running back Maurice Drew, who had nine apiece; San Diego tackle Marcus McNeill (6); and Saints running back Reggie Bush (3).

Running back Carnell "Cadillac" Williams of Tampa Bay won the award last year. Young is the third member of the Tennessee-Houston franchise to take top rookie honors: Earl Campbell in 1978 and Eddie George in 1996 did it for the Houston Oilers.

Young was the catalyst in Tennessee' rally from 0-5 to 8-8, at times looking as unstoppable for the Titans as he did with the Longhorns. A starter from Week 4, Young sprinkled all kinds of spectacular big plays with a growing maturity in joining Ben

Roethlisberger (2004) as the only quarterbacks to win top rookie honors in the 49-year history of the award.

He became the first rookie quarterback to rush for more than 500 yards in the Super Bowl era, and his passing skills improved all year under coach Jeff Fisher and offensive coordinator Norm Chow.

"I like to go out there and play the game and show that I can deliver the ball down the field, and that I can use my legs at the right time, when its time to use my legs, and checking the ball down, just being a quarterback," Young said. "I want to change the game a little bit."

He's already helped change the perception of what a first-year quarterback can do given playing time. Young sat and learned for barely a month while Kerry Collins started and the Titans struggled. Then Fisher turned to the youngster well before he'd planned.

And Young delivered as the Titans

threatened to become the first team to lose its opening five games and then make the playoffs. They were in contention until the final weekend, thanks greatly to a six-game winning streak that included a remarkable comeback from 21-0 down in the final 10 minutes to beat the Giants.

"He was very prepared when he got here because of the experience he had in college," said Fisher, who along with Tennessee's scouts and general manager Floyd Reese chose Young over Matt Leinart and Jay Cutler in the draft. "We knew that he had a chance to improve and obviously that's why we went ahead and started him when we did. We felt like he was ready."

Chow, who worked with Heisman Trophy winners Leinart and Carson Palmer at Southern California, is considered one of the finest teachers of quarterbacks in the business. What does he like most about Young, who left Texas after his junior season?

"Besides the physical skills, it's the

will and the strength inside, the 'it' factor that a quarterback either has or doesn't have," Chow said.

"Obviously, he has it. The quickness in which he won the team over and the quickness in which he became the leader, the guy everybody looked up to, that was special."

"Vince Young has this great ability to lift others around him. To see him do it so quickly, that wasn't a surprise, but it was certainly good to see."

Perhaps Young's finest moment was a 39-yard TD run in overtime to beat Houston, his hometown team which bypassed the Lone Star State hero to take defensive end Mario Williams atop the draft. There seemed to be as many Titans No. 10 jerseys in Reliant Stadium as any Texans shirts.

"It was a great ending," Young said. "Being from Houston and being in front of my family and the fans that respect me as a player and a person, as well, it can't get any better than that."

# Finley named crew chief for Mayfield, No. 36 team

TIMES STAFF REPORT

HIGH POINT, N.C. – Bill Davis Racing announced on Thursday that Derrick Finley will serve as crew chief for the No. 36 OTC 360 team and driver Jeremy Mayfield. In addition, the team has added several key employees to its organization.

"Derrick has been an important part of the Bill Davis Racing organization for several years," owner Bill Davis said. "We look forward to once again giving him the opportunity to utilize his abilities both as an engineer and as a leader. He and Jeremy have had the chance to get to know one another over the past couple of months and we think the two of them will make a powerful and successful combination."

Finley, 35, began his tenure at Bill

Davis Racing near the end of the 2003 season and was chosen to become the crew chief of the No. 22 Caterpillar team for the final two races of the 2004 campaign. Finley spent 2005 calling the shots for that team before moving to the No. 55 team for the 2006 season.

Midway through 2006, Finley returned to his engineering roots and became a key part of both the No. 55 and No. 22 teams' efforts.

"This is a great opportunity to work with a driver who is as experienced as Jeremy," Finley said. "He's worked with some of the best teams out there and I've been impressed with his talent, attitude and ability. We've spent a lot of time together with the rest of the team testing and getting the chance to know each other and I think we have a ton of potential."

"Kevin Hamlin [crew chief of the No. 22 team] and I worked closely last year and there's no doubt we'll continue that relationship, which will make both of the Bill Davis Racing Cup teams stronger in the process. I'm looking forward to the challenges ahead of us."

Finley, a native of Albuquerque, N.M., and a 1996 graduate of the University of New Mexico, began working in NASCAR right out of college when he was hired by Dale Earnhardt Inc. He remained at DEI until moving to Travis Carter Racing in 1999 and it was there that he was given his first opportunity to move into the crew chief position in NASCAR's premiere series in 2003.

Finley called the shots for driver Todd Bodine at BelCar Racing for 17 races before moving to the Bill Davis

organization.

In addition, Bill Davis Racing has added several key employees to its roster. Gene DeHart has been called upon to oversee the team's speedway program. DeHart most recently was involved with DeHart Inc., using his expertise hanging bodies and building chassis for various Nextel Cup, Busch and Truck series teams. Prior to that he was with Kevin Harvick Inc.

Gary Grossenbacher has also joined BDR and will function as the Cup program aerodynamicist. Grossenbacher spent the past three years working as the Technical Director for Synergy Racing in the Grand American Sports Car Series. Before that, Grossenbacher worked for G2 Inc., on its General Motors Motorsports Technology Group contract, which included engineering

design, manufacturing, application and support of NASCAR suppliers and race teams.

Veteran crew chief Gene Nead has also been hired by Bill Davis Racing. Nead comes to BDR from KHI, where he guided the No. 77 Busch Series team. At BDR, Nead will oversee research and development as well as lead the ARCA Re/Max and Busch series programs for BDR driver Bobby Santos.

The engine department has added the knowledge and skills of Dr. Andrew Randolph. Dr. Randolph received his Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from Northwestern University in 1985. During a 22-year career at General Motors and in NASCAR, Dr. Randolph's work has ranged from fundamental engine research to mass-production engine

## SPEED announces its preseason testing lineup

TIMES STAFF REPORT

SPEED will begin its NASCAR season with coverage of Preseason Thunder testing days at 7 p.m. ET on Jan. 8. The 30-minute highlight shows will feature testing coverage from the

Nextel Cup, Busch and Craftsman Truck series sessions at Daytona International Speedway, giving NASCAR fans their first looks at new drivers, new teams and new racecars.

"This is going to be a huge year for SPEED and NASCAR fans," said Hunter Nickell, SPEED Executive VP and General Manager. "High-profile events, including the Duel 150's and the NASCAR Nextel All-Star Challenge come to SPEED for the first time."

"SPEED continues as the home to the NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series and we'll continue to deliver the most experienced and entertaining NASCAR event coverage every weekend of the entire season."

NASCAR testing coverage will lead into SPEED's 12-day Daytona Speedweeks program schedule, highlighted by live coverage of the Gatorade Duels repeated in prime time, the Truck Series season opener, the inaugural SPEED Performance

Awards, the Bud Shootout Drawing, the ARCA season opener and the return of popular SPEED shows, including NASCAR RaceDay, Trackside, NASCAR Live!, Wind Tunnel, Tradin' Paint, NASCAR Performance, Inside Nextel Cup, NASCAR Victory Lane, The SPEED Report and the debut of the SPEED Road Tour Challenge.

"NASCAR RaceDay was a big hit for SPEED last year," Nickell added. "We took a big-event, fan-first

approach to our live, at-track programming and people responded in a big way. Ratings for the show were up 16 percent overall and nearly 30 percent with the younger audiences."

"We can't wait to introduce the first SPEED Performer of the Year, the four fans participating in the Road Tour Challenge and some new wrinkles to our SPEED stage shows."

Beginning Jan. 29, SPEED also will cover NASCAR test sessions from Las Vegas Motor Speedway.

## Kentucky Speedway tickets go on sale Monday

TIMES STAFF REPORT

SPARTA – Kentucky Speedway will place tickets for its 2007 race and Fanfest events on sale Monday at 9 a.m. ET. The nine-event Kentucky Speedway season will span five weekends from May 12 to Aug. 11.

The speedway's high-profile NASCAR Busch Series Meijer 300 Presented by Oreo weekend will be June 15-16, where last year saw David Gilliland pull off an upset and become the first non-Cup driver in 2006 to win a Busch race.

The 66,089-seat venue will open its eighth season of operation with the

ARCA RE/MAX Series Buckle-Up Kentucky 150 on May 12. The track's first street stock Frank Kimmel Enduro Invitational will be held on June 2.

After the Busch Series race, the track will host the ARCA RE/MAX Series for the Channel 5-150 and the Craftsman Truck Series for the Built Ford Tough 225 Presented by the Greater Cincinnati Ford Dealers during the weekend of July 13-14.

It will close the campaign with the first Indy Racing League IndyCar and Indy Pro series twilight and night races in track history, to be held Aug. 10-11.

Fan-friendly promotions for the season include the June 15 Clearchannel Cincinnati Fanfest and Aug. 10 Indy Racing League Fanfest.

Guests will be able to see series practice sessions, meet drivers, enjoy live music and be entertained by interactive displays in garage areas during both days.

Season ticket plans also are on sale and will save fans an average of 20 percent off single ticket rates. Plans include the same reserved seats for four main race events, membership in the new VIP Rewards Program, one VIP parking pass for each race, admission passes for both Fanfest events, one race day cold pit pass with each ticket purchased, a 15 percent discount on the purchase of additional race tickets and the option to purchase admission to the June 16, July 14 and Aug. 11 Outback Steakhouse Tailgate Parties for a combined total of \$60. Each party will include complimentary

ry Outback Steakhouse catering selections and Coca-Cola beverages, visits by competitors and race celebrities, games, music and more.

Season ticket members also will be eligible to receive special event-relat-

ed giveaways following all weekends. Season plans can be reserved through the official Kentucky Speedway Web site, speedway ticket offices and by phone at 859-578-2300.

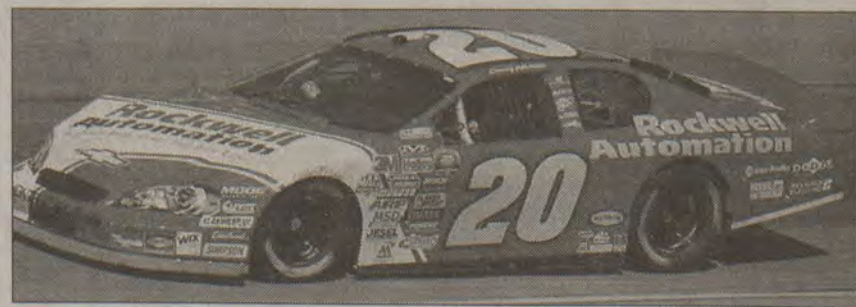


photo courtesy of Kentucky Speedway  
Denny Hamlin found success at Kentucky Speedway during the 2006 race season. Kentucky Speedway tickets go on sale Monday.

# The Times FLOYD COUNTY CLASSIFIEDS work for you!

sell — buy — rent — hire — find

Over 18,000 Readers every issue!

**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**

**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.

**FOR SALE**  
 '79 Dodge Power Wagon. 4x4, works-runs great. Some rust. \$1,200. Call 226-5812 or 886-6219.

**MISC.**

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

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

**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.

**Job Listings**

**JOB OPENING**  
 Timer cutters, Dozer operators. Experience preferred. Call after 5:30. 285-2654.

**HELP WANTED**  
 100 Positions available. Customer service. No experience needed. Call 778-892-4356.

**JOB OPENING**  
 Cost Cutters

located inside of Pikeville Wal-Mart is seeking part time/full time hair stylists. Benefits include: Paid vacations, Health insurance, ect. Apply inside or call kay @ 606-432-6629.

**JOB OPENING**

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

**MERCHANDISE**

**Animal**

**AKC**  
 Registered Golden Retriever male. 10 Weeks old. Asking \$250.00. Call 874-4330.

**Furniture**

**FOR SALE**  
 3 Pc Cherry Slate top Brunswick pool table with red cloth top + Leather top covering 4 sticks with rack- Set of chalk and balls. Asking \$1,500  
 OBO. Also, Sunvision Pro 28 LXT Wolf tanning bed with face tanner. Asking \$1,200  
 OBO. Call 606-874-9352 or 606-874-9548

**ALLEN FURNITURE ALLEN, KY**

Furniture, used appliances, living / bedroom suits, bunk beds, and lots more! Call 606-874-9790.

**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

**REAL ESTATE**

**Houses**

**HOUSE FOR SALE**  
 1 1/2 Story 3 BR 2 Bath, 2700 Sq. Ft. New red metal roof on house and 27x32 unattached garage. 13 acres, located at Allen. Call 205-4425.

**Sale or Lease**

**FOR SALE**  
 16 Acres of land for sale on left fork of Little Paint, East Point, KY. All mineral rights go with it. Call 886-3060.

**FOR SALE**  
 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.

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

**FOR SALE**

1978 Mobile Home 12 x 70, 3 BR bath and 1/2. Refrigerator, stove, washer and dryer. Standard appliances include a new furnace. Very good condition for model. Underpinning included. Need a home? Look here! \$3,800. Must be moved. Call 606-886-9544 days or 606-886-3386 nights.

**RENTALS**

**APARTMENT**

**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**

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

1 BR Apartment for rent located at Ivel. Call 478-8100

**FOR RENT**

1 BR APT. (Fully furnished). With washer and dryer, \$425 per month. References required. \$175 deposit. Utilities included, no pets, no HUD. 285-3140.

**APT FOR RENT**

Newly remodeled unfinished 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.

**QUIKSILVER**

Town houses now available large 2

BR house, over sized garage, hardwood floors. extremely nice \$750 per month plus \$750 deposit. No pets. Call 606-434-6516 or 606-226-1925 or 226-0324 or 886-0035.

**Furnished 1 bed room Apt.**

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

**House**

**HOUSE FOR RENT**

2 BR could be bought on land contract, with good down payment. Located at Bevinville, Ky. Call 478-9623

**HOUSE FOR RENT**

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

**HOUSE FOR RENT**

At Rt. 23 Allen intersection. Less than 100 yards off 23. Carport, garage, fenced in back yard, new kitchen. Immaculate inside and out! Call 606-886-2444.

**HOUSE FOR RENT**

**EXCELLENT NEIGHBORHOOD**  
 1600 Sq ft house 3 BR 2 bath, kitchen, utility room, heat pump, built in vacuum. Gated community, references and deposit required. Located in Knott County. No pets, available 12/29 call 438-6104.

**Mobile Home**

**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**

2 BR MH. Minutes from Prestonsburg. W/D hookup. Water, Sewage, and trash included. 889-0036.

**TRAILER**

for rent. 3 BR. Call 874-2818.

**FOR RENT**

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

**LEGALS**

**COMMON-WEALTH 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, 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 41653, 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

**NOTICE**

**RE: Heirs of Earsel Webb**  
 I have been appointed by the Greenup Circuit Court to inform the heirs of Earsel Webb that a lawsuit has been filed by the City of Raceland in regard to property in which the heirs of Earsel Webb may have ownership interest. The property has the legal description of Lots 133, 134 and part of Lot 132 in the West Russell Addition to the City of Raceland, Kentucky. The property has the

common address of 911 Greenup Avenue, Raceland. The lawsuit seeks that the property be sold at courthouse auction, or otherwise conveyed by the Master Commissioner of the Greenup Circuit Court to the City of Raceland. The City claims that the property should be condemned, because it is dilapidated, unsafe and constitutes a fire hazard. The lawsuit was filed pursuant to KRS 99.700, and all other applicable law. Under the Kentucky Rules of Civil Procedure, any person owning or claiming interest in this property has 50 days from the date of this Notice in which to answer or otherwise respond to the lawsuit. If any such person fails to answer or respond within 50 days, the lawsuit may proceed without further notice. This the 27th day of December, 2006.

**Be an Angel.**  
 Become a Kentucky organ & tissue donor.  
 For information contact:  
 1-800-525-3456, or  
 www.trustforlife.org

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

**Wildfire Beware & Prepare**  
 Prepare your home, family & community for survival.  
 Call 9-4-1, your local fire department or your local Division of Forestry office

Call LeighAnn to place your ad today!  
 886-8506.

common address of 911 Greenup Avenue, Raceland. The lawsuit seeks that the property be sold at courthouse auction, or otherwise conveyed by the Master Commissioner of the Greenup Circuit Court to the City of Raceland. The City claims that the property should be condemned, because it is dilapidated, unsafe and constitutes a fire hazard. The lawsuit was filed pursuant to KRS 99.700, and all other applicable law. Under the Kentucky Rules of Civil Procedure, any person owning or claiming interest in this property has 50 days from the date of this Notice in which to answer or otherwise respond to the lawsuit. If any such person fails to answer or respond within 50 days, the lawsuit may proceed without further notice. This the 27th day of December, 2006.

Katherine K. Kendall  
 Warning Order Attorney

**Wildfire Beware & Prepare**  
 Prepare your home, family & community for survival.  
 Call 9-4-1, your local fire department or your local Division of Forestry office

Call LeighAnn to place your ad today!  
 886-8506.

Call LeighAnn to place your ad today!  
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\* No refunds

Write your ad here: (limit 4 lines)

Ad must be submitted on this coupon and with \$5.00 Cash or Check. Offer expires on 2/1/07

Our CLASSIFIEDS Will WORK For You!!!

**Nurse Practitioner**

Hazard ARH Regional Medical Center is currently seeking a Nurse Practitioner.

Requirements include graduation of an accredited school of professional nursing, a successful completion of a nurse practitioner training program with a certification or degree. Meet all requirements in Kentucky to function as a nurse practitioner.

We offer competitive salaries, an excellent benefits package. Please send resume to: Debbie Fugate, 100 Airport Gardens Road, Hazard, Kentucky 41701. 606-487-7532.

email dfugate@arh.org  
 Or apply online at www.arh.org. EOE

www.arh.org

**IMMEDIATE OPENING:**

Local Industrial Distributor requires the services of a warehouse attendant for its Pikeville area operation. 2-3 years warehouse experience preferred. Qualified individual should have forklift experience. High School grad preferred and computer knowledge is helpful. This is a full-time position (M-F) with excellent benefits, including health, dental, life insurance, 401(k) and bonuses.

Send resume or letter detailing experience to:

**Employment P.O. Box 8300 Bristol, VA 24203-8300**

EOE, M,F,D,V

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that Straight Creek Gathering, L.P., has filed an application with the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet to construct a 60-mile long natural gas pipeline traversing Carter, Lawrence, Johnson and Floyd Counties. The 60-mile pipeline will begin in Maytown, KY at KY Hwy 80, and extend north to CR 773 in Denton, KY. The pipeline will cross main branches and tributaries to Straight Creek, Cook Creek, Lost Creek, Bells Trace Creek, Dry Fork, Caney Fork, Blaine Creek, Hood Creek, Paint Creek, Big Lick Fork, Abbott Creek, Middle Creek, and Conley Fork. Any comments or objections concerning this application shall be directed to: KY Division of Water, Water Resources Branch, 14 Reilly Road, Frankfort Office Park, Frankfort, KY 40601. Phone: (502) 564-3410.

**PHYSICIANS FOR WOMEN CENTER**

seeks candidates for

**Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT)**

or

**Phlebotomist**

MLT candidates must have a MLT degree. Desired qualifications include ASCP certification, and ability to demonstrate knowledge of CLIA regulations.

Phlebotomist candidates must have a high school diploma and successfully completed phlebotomy school.

Mail or fax resume to:  
**Attn: Jessica Conn, BBA**  
**Big Sandy Health Care, Inc.**  
 1709 KY Route 321, Suite 3  
 Prestonsburg, KY 41653  
 Fax: (606)886-8548  
 E-Mail: [j.conn@bshc.org](mailto:j.conn@bshc.org)

*A proud tradition of providing access to quality health care!*

Big Sandy Health Care, Inc.  
 is an Equal Opportunity Employer

*Service*  
**IS OUR BUSINESS**

**Lasting Memories Photo Slide show**

Your photo images become memories of a lifetime. Custom DVD slide shows for all occasions. Weddings, Anniversary, Memorial Tribute, Valentines Day, and family gatherings. Add music to your photos! You can also have your photos repaired & color retouched. Call 558-2741 or [randy\\_bentley@yahoo.com](mailto:randy_bentley@yahoo.com)

*Calligraphy Creations by Brenda!*  
 Need something written?  
 Favorite poem, quote, verse?  
 Call 886-3662

**Bates Builders**  
 Quality Post Frame metal buildings.  
 Horse barns, garages, storage.  
 Free estimates!  
**December special!**  
 24x40x8 \$5,660.  
 Call 1-800-530-9697

**WildCat Seamless Guttering**

Winter Sepcial!  
 2.4 Ft. 5' • 4.45 Ft. 6' .75 ft 6'

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

**Mine Safety & First Aid Training**

Newly Employed  
 24 hr. Class (surface)  
 40 hr. (underground)  
 8 hr. refresher (surface & underground)  
 Also Electrical Classes  
**285-0999**  
 Train at your convenience.

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Serving Floyd and surrounding counties for over 40 years.

Owned and operated solely by Forrest E. Porter

Licensed and insured for your peace of mind.  
  
**874-2794**

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No Job Too Big or Too Small!  
 RESIDENTIAL OR COMMERCIAL  
 606-265-3336 or 606-265-4678  
 New Construction • Remodeling  
 Vinyl Siding • Window Replacement  
 Hardwood Flooring  
 Shingle/Tin Roofing  
 Decks/Porches/Garages  
 Concrete Work  
**FREE ESTIMATES**

**THE ELECTRIC WORKS**

Residential • Commercial  
 Installation & Maintenance  
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 James Warrix (Licensed)  
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**G & E Electrical Contractors**  
 Licensed and insured **CALL TODAY!** 377-0707  
 OR 791-6142  
**RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL**

**J & L Electrical Contracting**  
 Residential & Commercial Electrical Services  
 Home Improvements and Repairs  
 Free Estimates • Reliable  
 Ph: (606) 886-2785  
 Pager: (606) 482-0229  
 John K. Lewis, Master Electrician  
 Licensed: ME8643, CE8644

**FRASURE'S RENTALS**  
 Office Space, Retail Space, Houses, Apartments, Mobile Homes and Lots.  
**CALL 606-886-8366**

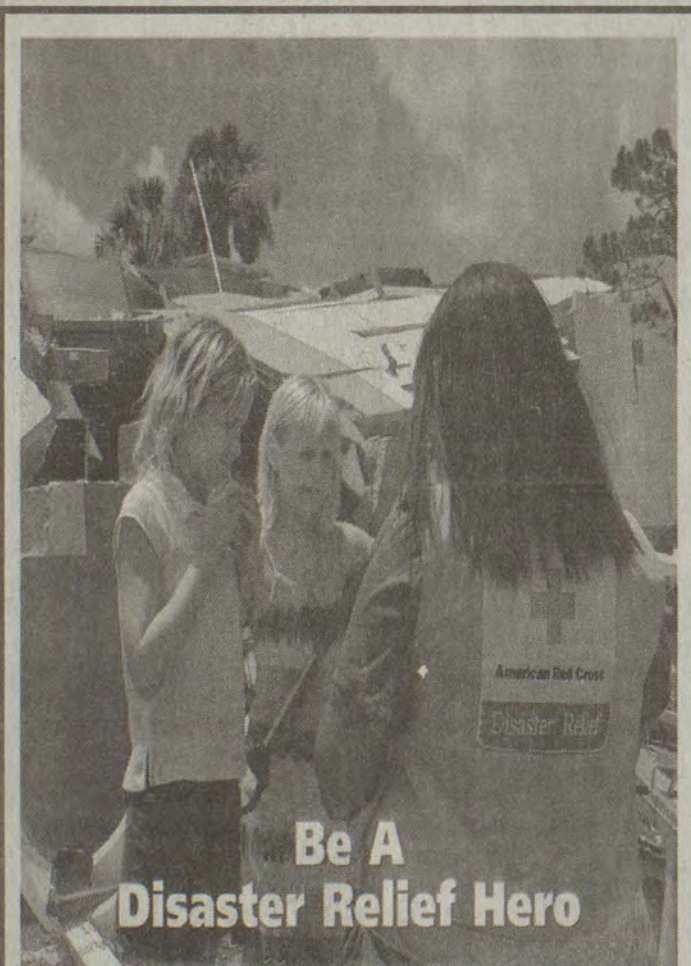
*Finishing Touch*  
**Professional Painting**  
 Finishing Touch offers interior and exterior painting, pressure cleaning, and light drywall repair.  
 DEPENDABLE SERVICE  
 Christian owned & operated.  
 SERVING FLOYD AND SURROUNDING COUNTIES.  
 Get It Done Right The First Time!  
**889-8640**

**J&M Seamless Guttering, Siding and Metal Roofing**  
 Located at Weeksbury, Ky.  
 14 Years Experience  
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**SHEPHERD'S PLUMBING**  
 Residential & Commercial  
 • Gas Lines  
 • Roto-Rooter  
 • Install Septic Tanks  
 • Small Excavating  
**24-Hour Service 886-0363**

**Valentines Day Special!**

Show someone how much you really care about them, in our February 14th edition, in Classifieds we will have a special section dedicated to those who want to send a special message to their sweetie! The cost is only \$10.00. Just imagine the look on your significant other's face when they see you've put such thought into this Valentines Day. Guys- This is a great idea! Trust me! Call LeighAnn today to find out more, I can even help you compose your ad! If you would like to add a picture, it's \$10.00 more. Call today to reserve a spot! 886-8506



**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](http://redcross.org)



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

---

**NEW ADDITION TO CLASSIFIEDS!!!!**

---

*Announce Happy Birthday Wishes*

---

*Announce Your Engagement/Wedding.*

---

*Wanna send your sweetheart that perfect line?*  
 DO IT through the line ads.

---

*Congratulate that special someone's achievements in the newspaper!!*

---

*Send someone a get well message!*

Call LeighAnn, today,  
 to take advantage of this cool new deal!  
**886-8506.**  
 All announcements \$10.00