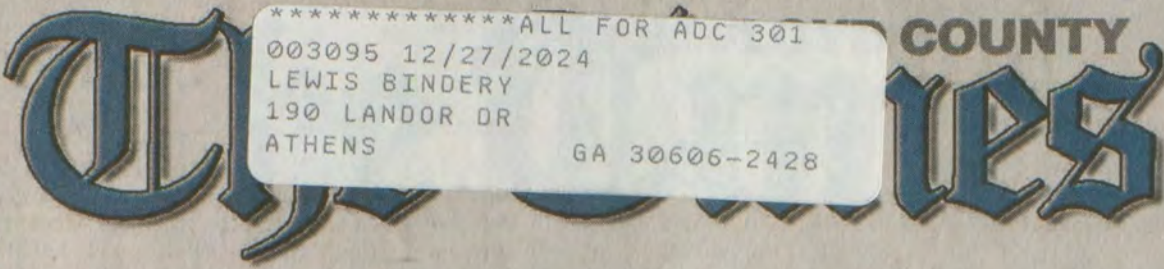




**Bobcats,
Rebs advance**
page A7



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briefs

Panel predicts smaller surplus

The Associated Press

FRANKFORT — State government's expected surplus this year will be smaller than the \$279 million Gov. Ernie Fletcher has been advertising for months, a panel of economists predicted Friday.

The Consensus Forecast Group estimated the state will collect an extra \$231.9 million, about \$47 million less than Fletcher has touted.

The panel estimated the state would have a \$169 million surplus in 2008.

State Budget Director Brad Cowgill said he was "exceedingly pleased" by the panel's prediction.

Kentucky state budgets run on two-year cycles. Last year, state lawmakers passed an \$18.1 billion two-year budget, which expires in June 2008.

In an effort to limit the state's debt, Fletcher cut about \$370 million in various projects across the state, including millions of dollars from state universities.

In October, however, his administration predicted a surplus, and since then the governor has been touring the state asking for ideas on how to spend it. Lawmakers, who return to business in Frankfort next month, have indicated a willingness to restore some of the vetoed university projects.

Fletcher has said several other ideas are being considered.

2 DAY FORECAST

Today



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Tomorrow



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inside

- Regional ObituariesA2
- Opinion.....A4
- Lifestyles.....A5
- Sports.....A7
- Classifieds.....A11



Suspects arrested in roundup named

by ALEX SMITH
STAFF WRITER

PIKEVILLE — Eleven of 15 targeted drug dealers were arrested Thursday during a roundup of suspected drug traffickers in Pike and Floyd counties.

All 15 names of the alleged drug traffickers were contained in sealed indictments from a Pike County grand

jury. Two additional suspects who were not targets of the roundup but were found to be in possession of controlled substances and drug paraphernalia were arrested, including one who was found with cocaine.

The 11 suspects who were arrested all allegedly sold drugs to undercover agents during a 12-month sting operation conducted by several agencies,

including the Kentucky Bureau of Investigation, Operation UNITE and HIDTA (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area). The arrests were made by officers working for all three agencies as well as officers working for the Pike County Sheriff's Department.

"We have a drug epidemic in the commonwealth," said Attorney General Greg Stumbo. "Making push-

ers pay is our top priority, and Pike County Sheriff Fuzzy Keese has done a great job on this bust. This type of joint operation is critical to protect all Kentuckians."

All individuals arrested during the raid are currently being held at the Pike County Detention Center awaiting

(See **ROUNDUP**, page three)

DRUG FIND



photo by Alex Smith

Sheriff John K Blackburn looked over several pill bottles and plastic bags filled with marijuana and various other drugs on his desk Thursday preparing them for their trip to Frankfort to be tested at their drug laboratory. "We have a few bags, including a bag containing some sort of powder which we don't know for sure what it is yet," Blackburn said.

Drug suspect re-arrested after more drugs found in search

by ALEX SMITH
STAFF WRITER

McDOWELL — A 52-year-old McDowell man who agreed to warrantless searches by law enforcement as part of an order that allowed him to remain out on bond pending his drug trafficking and possession case was arrested Wednesday after a search of his home uncovered a

large amount of cash and drugs. "We had several complaints on him that he was selling prescription pills," said Floyd County Sheriff John K Blackburn. "He had other people's pills and pill bottles that didn't belong to him."

A search of the residence of Anthony Salisbury turned up several bottles of prescription pills, many which had labels

showing they were prescribed to someone else, something Blackburn said his department is investigating. Sheriff's department officers also found \$546, marijuana and two drugs they were unable to identify, including a powder substance, which will be sent to a lab for testing.

(See **SEARCH**, page three)

Cops plan extra effort for big game

by JESSICA HALE
STAFF WRITER

FRANKFORT — Almost everyone who follows any type of sport will be watching the Super Bowl on Feb. 4 and law enforcement agencies across the state are urging sports fans to play it safe during their celebrations.

The Kentucky State Police, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet and other law enforcement agencies throughout the state are joining together to help make the roadways safe the weekend of the Super Bowl.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports that during recent years, almost 50 percent of all traffic fatalities during the Super Bowl weekend were caused by drivers impaired by alcohol. In Kentucky there were 51 total crashes that involved the use of alcohol during the Super Bowl weekend in 2006. One person was killed and 44 were injured.

"If consuming alcohol is part of your Super Bowl game plan, pass your keys to a sober, designated driver before kickoff," said Transportation Cabinet Secretary Bill Nighbert. "It's the best way to avoid a tragic crash or an arrest for impaired driving."

KSP Captain Tim Lucas says alcohol affects different people in different ways. "The less a person weighs, the faster and more intense their reaction. Women have stronger reactions than men and first-time drinkers will have greater reactions. Often a person can become impaired after consuming just one drink."

According to KSP, impaired drivers can lose their licenses, time from their jobs and lose money due to fines, car towing and high court costs. They can also face higher insurance rates and possible imprisonment for repeat offenses, assault and vehicular manslaughter.

"Driving impaired or riding with someone impaired by alcohol is just not worth it," said KSP Commissioner Jack Adams. "The consequences are serious and real, including potential death, disfigurement and disability. Be responsible during your Super Bowl activities. Avoid alcohol or hand off your keys to a sober, designated driver. You don't want to face a sudden death situation or be penalized for illegal procedure."

KSP says citizens can contribute to highway safety by reporting erratic drivers to law enforcement officials.

Fletcher defends his administration in forum

by BRUCE SCHREINER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOUISVILLE — Republican Gov. Ernie Fletcher stoutly defended his accomplishments at a political forum Friday while his political rivals argued that Kentucky still lags behind in education and economic expansion.

Fletcher and five gubernatorial challengers had their first face-to-face meeting at the forum sponsored by the Kentucky Press Association in Louisville.

Notably absent from the discussion was any direct mention

of Fletcher's political baggage — an investigation of whether his administration illegally rewarded political supporters with state jobs.

"We're not perfect," Fletcher said. "But I will say this, we brought the state out of some very difficult times."

Fletcher, the first Republican governor elected in more than 30 years, said when he took office he inherited a massive budget deficit, a broken Medicaid system and an outdated tax system. Fletcher took credit for more jobs, more roads and education

(See **FORUM**, page three)



Cub Scout Pack 877 of the First Presbyterian Church conducted a "Space Race" on Jan. 14. The Scouts constructed rockets that are propelled by a rubber band and propeller, then raced them down a 40-foot stretch of fishing line. There were three race winners — Gregory Shepherd, Bradley Woods and Isaac Owens — and three design winners — Ryan Goodman, James Isaac and Zachary Patrick. The Scouts are scheduled to go on to the Lonesome Pine District Space Race at the East Kentucky Science Center.

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Regional Obituaries

FLOYD COUNTY

■ Barbara Ann Akers, 56, of Dana, died Monday, January 22, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, Bobby Curtis Akers. Funeral services were conducted Thursday, January 25, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Lloyd Ronald Blackburn, 81, of Little Paint, East Point, died Tuesday, January 23, 2007, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Loretta Burchett Blackburn. Services were conducted Thursday, January 25, under the direction of Carter Funeral Home.

■ Lillie Mae Davidson, 68, of Wolcottville, Indiana, a native of Hazard, died Monday, January 22, at her residence. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 25, under the direction of Young Family Funeral Home.

■ Artie "Doll" Epley, 75, of Mooresville, Indiana, a native of Cow Creek, died Saturday, January 20, at her residence. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 24, under the direction of Jones Family Mortuary, Mooresville, Indiana.

■ Delmer Hunter, 81, of Harold, died Sunday, January 21, at Pikeville Medical Center.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 24, under the direction of Hall Funeral Home.

■ Frederick Allen James, 79, of Prestonsburg, died Thursday, January 18. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 20, under the direction of Carter Funeral Home.

■ Michael Lee Justice, 40, of Sevierville, Tennessee, died Monday, January 15, at Ft. Sanders Sevier Medical Center, in Sevierville. Funeral services were held Friday, January 19, with burial in the Branham Cemetery, Mud Creek, under the direction of the Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Barbara Marie Labugen, 82, of Prestonsburg, died Monday, January 22, at the Prestonsburg Health Care. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 25, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Ronald Ray Shepherd, 52, of Hippo, died Tuesday, January 23, at his residence. Funeral services were held Friday, January 26, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

■ Ethel Woods, 90, of Melvin, died Wednesday, January 10, at Highlands

Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 13, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

PIKE COUNTY

■ Simpson Randolph "Randy" Adams, 74, of Cincinnati, Ohio, formerly of Pikeville, died Tuesday, January 2, He is survived by his wife, Alma Lenora Adams.

■ Eva Belcher, 83, of Elkhorn City, died Friday, January 19, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 24, under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

■ Wennis Gail Moore Boggs, 65, of Toledo, Ohio, formerly of Hardy, died Sunday, January 21, at her home. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 27, under the direction of Hatfield Funeral Chapel.

■ Jane Anne Blevins Colley, 59, of Hanceville, Alabama, formerly of Pikeville, died Sunday, January 21, at the Baptist Medical Center-Princeton in Birmingham, Alabama. She is survived by her husband, Tom Colley. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 24,

under the direction of Hanceville Funeral Home.

■ Bobby Dean Daniels, 50, of Freeburn, died Sunday, January 21, at South Williamson Appalachian Regional Hospital. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 25, under direction of Phelps Funeral Services.

■ Della "Blossom" Hunt Elliott, 83, of Pikeville, died Sunday, January 21, at Pikeville Medical Center.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 24, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

■ Tabitha Gibson, 36, of Douglas Park, Robinson Creek, died Wednesday, January 24, at the University of Kentucky Medical Center. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 27, under the direction of Pikeville Funeral Home.

■ Ira Gillespie, 70, of Louisville, a Pike County native, died Tuesday, January 23, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Anita Louise Shoemaker. Funeral services were held Friday, January 26, under the direction of Lucas & Son Funeral Home.

■ Lonzo Johnson Jr., 61, of Oasis Fork, Letcher County, formerly of Long Fork, died Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2007, at his home. He is survived by his wife, Francis Ann Meade Johnson. Funeral services were held Friday, January 26, under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

■ Palmer "Pell" Little, 82, of Jonancy, died Monday, January 22, at Pikeville Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Hazel Roberts Little. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 25, under the direction of Hall & Jones Funeral Home.

■ Mary H. Maynard, 74, of Campton, formerly of Detroit, Mich., and Sidney, died Monday, January 22, at Wolfe County Health Care, Campton. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 25, under the direction of R.E. Rogers Funeral Home.

■ Mildred Laughlin McVey

of Pikeville, died Monday, January 22, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Friday, January 26, under the direction of J.W. Call & Son Funeral Home.

■ Connie Lee Meade, 55, of Regina, died Wednesday, January 24. He is survived by his wife, Patricia Meade. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 27, under the direction of Thacker Funeral Home.

■ Callie Newsome died Wednesday, Jan. 24. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 27, under the direction of Polly & Craft Funeral Home.

■ Jewell Justice Stratton, 71, died Monday, January 22, at Pikeville Medical Center. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 25, under the direction of Thacker Funeral Home.

■ Mary Magdeline Sperry Tessner, 58, of Casar, North Carolina, a Pike County native, died Sunday, January 21, at Cleveland Regional Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Wesley Joe Tessner. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 24, under the direction of Stamey Funeral Home of Fallston, North Carolina.

■ James Lonis Williamson, 80, of Sidney, died Tuesday, January 23, at Trinity Healthcare Center in Logan, W.Va. He is survived by his wife, Dixie Young Williamson.

Arrangements are under direction of Hatfield Funeral Chapel.

JOHNSON COUNTY

■ Hubert Davis Jr., 59, formerly of Paintsville, died Tuesday, January 23. Memorial services will be held at a later date. Arch L. Heady Cralle Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

■ Golda Mae Estep, 93, of Springfield, Ohio, a Johnson County native, died Wednesday, January 24. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 27, under the direction of the Jackson Lytle Williams Funeral Home in Springfield.

■ Barbara Fraley, 68, of West Van Lear, died Thursday, January 18, at Paul B. Hal Regional Medical Center. She is survived by her husband Bob Fraley. Funeral services were held Sunday, January 21, under the direction of the Phelps & Son Funeral Home.

■ Lucille VanHoose Gullett, 80, a Floyd County native, died Sunday, January 21, at Paul B. Hal Regional Medical Center in Paintsville. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 24, under the direction of the Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Michael Lee Justice, 40, of Sevierville, Tennessee, died Monday, January 15, at Ft. Sanders Sevier Medical Center

(See OBITUARIES, page three)

Obituaries

Ralph Akers

Ralph Akers, age 61, of Teaberry, died Wednesday, January 24, 2007, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg.

Born August 6, 1945, in Floyd County, he was the son of the late Vernon and Love Parsons Akers. He was a disabled coal miner.

Survivors include a daughter, Shella Akers of Teaberry; a brother, Daniel Akers of Teaberry; two sisters: Vonda Lee Oney of Columbus, Ohio, and Brenda Hall of Teaberry; two grandchildren: Cody Lee and Makayla; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by three brothers: David Akers, Glen Ray Akers, and Randall Akers; and two sisters: Lois Krinn and Dorothy Sue Akers.

Funeral services were held Saturday, January 27, at 11 a.m., at the Samaria Old Regular Baptist Church, in Teaberry, with Old Regular Baptist ministers officiating.

Burial was in the Newsome Cemetery in Craynor, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home, in Martin.

Visitation was at the church.

(Paid obituary)

□□□

Lucy F. Adams Campbell

Lucy F. Adams Campbell, age 70, of Prestonsburg, died Monday, January 22, 2007, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg.

Born January 19, 1937, in Floyd County, she was the daughter of the late John

Adams and Vina Patton Hale Hatfield; and a step-father, the late Tandy Hale. She was a homemaker, and a member of the Third Avenue Freewill Baptist Church, in Prestonsburg.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ernest Campbell.

Survivors include two sons: Ernest Jr. Campbell (Patty) and Tandy Campbell, both of Prestonsburg; six daughters: Vina Branham (Dallas), Sandy Carroll (Gary), and Wilma Campbell, all of Prestonsburg; Brenda Bentez (Chris) of Mascot, Florida; Amy Campbell of Ashland, and Ella Campbell of Lexington; a stepson, Estill Campbell of Grethel; a sister: Edna Music of Prestonsburg; 11 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; seven step-grandchildren; several step-great-grandchildren; a nephew, Kenneth Music; and several other nieces and nephews.

In addition to her mother, husband, and step-father, she was preceded in death by a son, Ellis Joe (Bo) Campbell; and a stepson, Bennie Campbell.

Funeral services were held Thursday, January 25, at 1 p.m., at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home in Martin, with Shane Powers and Bill Marsillett officiating.

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

Visitation was at the funeral home where church services were held Wednesday night, at

7 p.m. (Paid obituary)

□□□

Anna Mae Parker

Anna Mae Parker, 88, of Bellefontaine, Ohio, formerly of Minnie, died Thursday, January 25, 2007, at her residence.

Born June 12, 1918, in Morgan County, she was the daughter of the late Kenton and Mima Wolfenbarger Smith. She was a retired custodian at McDowell Appalachian Regional Hospital; and a member of the Drift Freewill Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, C. C. (Lum) Parker.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law: Wilma Faye and Bobby Bradley of Bellefontaine, Ohio; a daughter-in-law, Rita Parker of Mt. Sterling; two sisters: Mavery Kennard of Miamisburg, Ohio, and Evaleen Dotson of Warren, Michigan; five grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by a son: Lowell Parker; a brother, Charles Boggs; and three sisters: Florence Boggs, Ida Watts, and Sebra Caudill.

Funeral services will be held Sunday, January 28, at 10 a.m., at the Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home in Martin, with Steven Williams officiating.

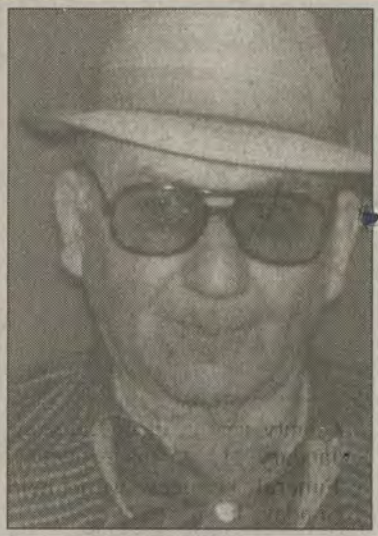
Burial will be in the Davidson Memorial Gardens in Ivel, under the direction of Nelson-Frazier Funeral Home.

Visitation is at the funeral home.

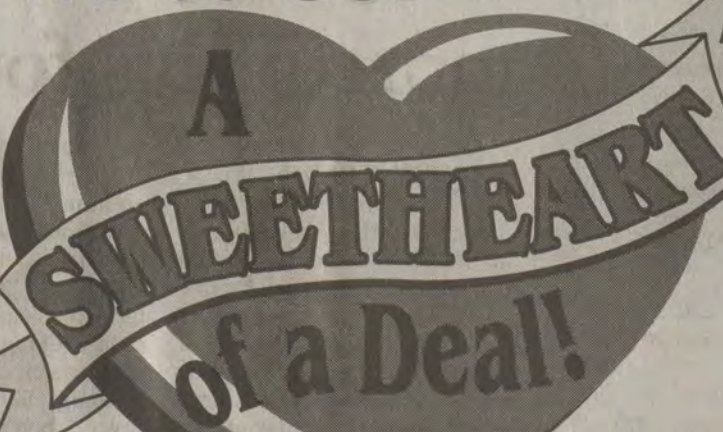
(Paid obituary)

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initiatives in Kentucky.

Democrat Steve Beshear, who is seeking the Democratic nomination, said Kentucky has failed to turn around its historically low national rankings in job creation, education and

health under Fletcher's stewardship.

"We're not gaining any ground," Beshear said. "Actually, we're losing ground."

Candidates who took part

Roundup

Continued from p1

arraignment.

Those arrested so far include:

- Tiffany Carol Thacker, 33, Pikeville
- Avery Newsome, 42, Pikeville
- Gary Hall, 47, Elkhorn City
- Tammy Hall, 43, Elkhorn City
- Eddie Helton, 50, Elkhorn City
- Michael Wayne Justice, 56, Elkhorn City

■ Donnie Kinder, 74, Mouthcard

■ Patrick Wolford, 40, Phelps

■ Steve Hackney, 44, Belfry

■ Carl Rayburn Jr., 56, Majestic

■ Judina Ann Blankenship, 29, Stopover

■ John Lewis Hurley, 56, Stopover

■ Roy C. Blankenship Jr., 29, Stopover

Obituaries

Continued from p2

in Sevierville. Funeral services were held Friday, January 19, under the direction of the Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ Walter Calvin Pack, 50, of Leander, died Saturday, January 20, at his residence. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 24, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ LeOra Jayne Skaggs, 96, of Pompano Beach, Florida, formerly of Paintsville, died Monday, January 22, in Pompano Beach. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 27, under the direction of the Steen Funeral Home of Ashland.

■ Rexford Stapleton Sr., 78, of Flat Gap, died Wednesday, January 17, at Paul B. Hall Regional Medical Center, Paintsville. He is survived by his wife, Jean Sisco Stapleton. Funeral services were held Friday, January 19, under the direction of Jones-Preston Funeral Home.

■ James L. Sturgill, 63, of Hazelhurst, Georgia, a Johnson County native, died Thursday, January 11, at his residence. Funeral services were held Sunday, January 14, under the direction of the Miles Funeral Home of Hazelhurst.

■ Helen Marie 'Mama Bear' VanHoose, 69, of Falcon, a Van Lear native, died Friday, January 19, at her residence. Funeral services were held Monday, January 22, under the direction of the Magoffin County Funeral Home.

MARTIN COUNTY

■ Phyllis Ann Chapman, 46, of Louisville, formerly of Inez, died Saturday, January 20, at Norton Audabon Hospital. Funeral services were held Tuesday, January 23, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

■ Gary M. Goble, 64, of Inez, died Thursday, January 18, at King's Daughters

Medical Center, in Ashland. Funeral services were held Sunday, January 21, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

■ Jennifer Hodge, 33, of Kermit, died Sunday, January 28, at her residence. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 25, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

■ Riley (Tootsie) Horn Sr., 76, of Inez, died Saturday, January 13, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 17, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

■ Billy June Copley Loy, died Friday, December 14, in Florida. A memorial service was held Monday, December 18, at Hardage Giddeus Edgewood Chapel, Jacksonville, Florida.

■ Everett (Ebb) Maynard, 84, of Inez, died Thursday, January 11, at Highlands Regional Medical Center, in Prestonsburg. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 13, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

■ James Kelly Meeks, 45, of Fallsburg, a Martin County native, has died at Fallsburg. Funeral services were held Sunday, January 14, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

■ Nannie L. Ward, 83, of Williamsport, died Saturday, January 13, at Mountain Manor Nursing Home, in Paintsville. Funeral services were held Monday, January 15, under the direction of Phelps and Son Funeral Home.

■ Jackie Lorraine Ward, 31, of Beauty, died Saturday, January 20, at her residence. She is survived by her husband, Ronnie Ward. Funeral services were held Monday, January 22, under the direction of Richmond-Callahan Funeral Home.

in the forum discussed a broad range of issues, from education to transportation to the environment.

Beshear, a former lieutenant governor, said Kentuckians are "crying out for leaders with experience and character."

Fletcher has maintained that the investigation into his administration's hiring practices was politically motivated and gave a blanket pardon in 2005 to anyone except himself who could be charged in the probe.

A Franklin County special grand jury indicted Fletcher on misdemeanor charges that were eventually dropped last year in a deal with prosecutors. The grand jury's report found that Fletcher had approved a "widespread and coordinated plan" to skirt state hiring laws.

Fletcher faces a GOP primary against former U.S. Rep. Anne Northup and Paducah businessman Billy Harper.

The other Democrats running in the May 22 primary are House Speaker Jody Richards,

State Treasurer Jonathan Miller, former Lt. Gov. Steve Henry, Lexington attorney Gatewood Galbraith and demolition contractor Otis Hensley Jr. of Harlan.

Northup, Richards and Hensley did not attend the forum.

In another development Friday, Attorney General Greg Stumbo, whose office was involved in the investigation of the Fletcher administration's hiring practices, said he will not run for governor. Fletcher contended during the investigation that Stumbo was trying to improve his chances in the governor's race.

However, Stumbo said Friday that wasn't the case.

"The only person who ever said I was going to run for governor was the governor," Stumbo said.

Stumbo said he will either run for re-election as attorney general or enter the race for lieutenant governor with a potential Democratic gubernatorial candidate who he declined to identify.

"I'm leaning toward the

attorney general's race," he said.

Kentucky is one of three states that will elect a governor in 2007.

The forum's participants offered broad policy outlines with a few specifics sprinkled in.

All the candidates said they would oppose raising taxes.

Henry, who officially filed as a candidate Friday afternoon, said if elected he would create the job of state surgeon general to lead efforts to reverse Kentucky's health woes, including high rates of cancer and cardiovascular disease. Henry, an orthopedic surgeon, said he also would push for health coverage for every Kentucky child.

Beshear touted a proposed constitutional amendment to let voters decide whether Kentucky should expand gambling. He said any ambitious initiatives need funding, and said broader gambling would be such a source.

"It is time to quit educating Indiana children with Kentucky money," he said.

Harper, a Paducah businessman who got an early start with TV commercials promoting his campaign, stressed the need to improve education and bring a business approach to state government.

"We need business leadership in Frankfort, not more of the same," he said.

Miller talked about making government more open to public scrutiny, which he said would help restore faith in government.

"They say that sunlight is the great disinfectant," he said.

Galbraith, a perennial candidate, said Kentucky is in decline and that both major political parties share the blame. Galbraith said his Democratic rivals have "all been a part of the problem."

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Guilty

Continued from p1

Salisbury was arraigned Thursday on three drug possession charges and a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia. Bail was set at \$7,500 but a hold on his release was put in place in both circuit and district court until a bond revocation hearing in his previous case is held. Commonwealth's Attorney Brent Turner said he plans to ask for his bond to be revoked based on the new charges because he had agreed less than two weeks ago to the conditions he was under at the time of his arrest.

Salisbury was indicted in December 2005 for three drug trafficking charges, including one for marijuana. A \$20,000 surety bond was set and posted in that case last February, and after he was charged with additional drug charges Jan. 10, the cases were merged into one case to be prosecuted by the commonwealth.

At his latest hearing on Jan. 12, Turner said he asked that the bond he had previously posted be raised because of the additional charges, but Circuit Judge John David Caudill told

Salisbury if he agreed to placed on home incarceration with the stipulation that his home or person could be searched by any law enforcement officer at any time, he would be allowed to remain out on bond prior to his case going to trial.

Sheriff Blackburn said after receiving several complaints, his department executed a search of his residence and found the drugs. A preliminary hearing has been set for Jan. 30 for Salisbury for the new charges.

Economist: Tax credit
would help working poor

The Associated Press

FRANKFORT — A University of Kentucky economist says giving the working poor an income tax credit would be more helpful than raising the minimum wage.

"The argument is frequently made that raising the minimum wage would help the working poor," but a tax credit would put more money in the hands of those who need it most, Ken Troske, director of the UK Center for Business and Economic Research, told the Lexington Herald-Leader.

Troske believes increasing the state's current minimum wage of \$5.15 hour to \$7 or more would cause the loss of up to 6.4 percent of the state's jobs.

An article on the minimum wage versus tax credit issue is in the 2007 Kentucky Annual Economic Report, which was released Thursday at an economic conference in Frankfort.

An earned income tax credit, like those offered by other states and the federal govern-

ment, would allow workers who earn less than a certain amount, depending on the size of their household, to reduce their state tax bill or even claim a refund.

The issue has lost some of its early steam, Troske noted, because Congress is discussing an increase in the federal minimum wage to as much as \$7.25 an hour.

Troske said about one in four minimum-wage workers in Kentucky are students under the age of 25 who live with parents or relatives.

More than 60 percent of all minimum-wage workers will work for that wage for "less than a year," he said. They "will grow out of the minimum wage very quickly."

But the state's lowest income workers tend to be older and single, often with children, and they work an average of only 33 hours a week, Troske said. They might be unable to work more because of health problems, poor transportation or child-care demands.

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expression

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

— Felix Frankfurter

Guest view

Advances in law enforcement

Technological advances in law enforcement and policing that make it harder on law breakers and safer for everyone else are always welcome, and this community has seen its share lately.

First, the federal Drug Enforcement Administration has established a national online registry of methamphetamine labs across the nation by address. Similar to a sex offender registry, anyone can go to the agency's Web site and see all methamphetamine lab and dumpsite locations reported by local law enforcement. Although the registry is still in the startup phase, 22 former meth sites are listed for Daviess County.

The idea of the registry is to allow people, including prospective buyers or renters, to know if a property has been contaminated by the chemicals and waste associated with a meth lab, and to help make sure those properties are cleaned properly. It might make a homeowner think twice before setting up a meth lab in his or her home.

Second, a new system to track arrest warrants across Kentucky will allow law enforcement to instantly know warrant information from every county in the state. The E-Warrant system is a product of 10 years of work by several state agencies to create a program to keep track of warrant information electronically, preventing those records from becoming lost or unavailable.

The system promises to prevent offenders from remaining free simply because the warrant naming them has been misplaced or stuck in a backlog. For instance, if Owensboro police stop an individual for a traffic violation, they may discover through the E-Warrant system that an arrest warrant for the individual is in place in Jefferson County. The big payoff would be if a most-wanted criminal is nabbed far from the county in which the crime occurred.

Finally, the new GPS Automatic Vehicle Locator system implemented in Kentucky allows dispatchers to instantly know where law enforcement vehicles are, by each vehicle's Mobile Data Terminal. The system has a map of every road in the state to enable local dispatchers or supervisors to pinpoint the location of police vehicles. The advantages are obvious. At a glance, dispatchers will know which officer is closest to an emergency call, or where to send help if an officer needs it, or simply to give the officer driving directions.

Advances in technology have been part of law enforcement for generations. These latest ones continue the trend and we're glad that officers in this area are able to take advantage of them.

— Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer



Rich Lowry Column

When the media's right

First lady Laura Bush spoke for many conservatives when she excoriated the media's coverage of Iraq recently. She complained that "the drumbeat in the country from the media ... is discouraging," and said "there are a lot of good things happening that aren't covered."

What are those things, one wonders? One can only imagine how Mrs. Bush can figure that they outweigh the horrors in Iraq. The United Nations' High Commissioner for Refugees estimates that more than 1.6 million Iraqis have fled the country, about 7 percent of the population. But that means that an overwhelming 93 percent haven't left. Why doesn't the liberal media ever report that? About 120 Iraqis are killed per day, nearly 4,000 a month. But most are still living. Couldn't one of the morning shows do a soft feature on this heartwarming fact?

The mainstream media is biased, arrogant, prone to stultifying groupthink and much more fallible than its exalted self-image allows it to admit. It also, however, can be right, and this is most confounding to conservatives.

In Iraq, the media's biases happen to fit the circumstances. Being primed to consider any military con-

flict a quagmire and another Vietnam is a drawback when covering a successful U.S. military intervention, but not necessarily in Iraq. Most of the pessimistic warnings from the mainstream media have turned out to be right — that the initial invasion would be the easy part, that seeming turning points (the capture of Saddam, the elections, the killing of Zarqawi) were illusory, that the country was dissolving into a civil war.

Partly because he felt it necessary to counteract the pessimism of the media, President Bush accentuated the positive for far too long. Bush allowed himself to be cornered by his media critics. They wanted him to admit mistakes, so for the longest time, he would admit none. They wanted him to fire Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, so for too long he kept him on. They wanted him to abandon "stay the course," so he stuck to it. In so doing, he eroded his own credibility and delayed making the major strategic readjustment he needed to try to check the downward slide in Iraq.

The "good news" that conservatives have accused the media of not reporting has generally been pretty

weak. The Iraqi elections were indeed major accomplishments. But the opening of schools and hospitals is not particularly newsworthy, at least not compared with American casualties and with sectarian attacks meant to bring Iraq down around everyone's heads in a full-scale civil war.

In their distrust of the mainstream media, their defensiveness over President Bush and the war, and their understandable urge to buck up the nation's will, many conservatives lost touch with reality on Iraq. They thought they were contributing to our success, but they were only helping to forestall a cold look at conditions there and the change in strategy and tactics that would be dictated by it. Conservatives need to realize that something is not dubious just because it's reported by The New York Times, and that the media ultimately will be wrong about Iraq only if — fully acknowledging how bad it is there — the Bush administration takes bold steps to reverse the tide.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.



The Rich Lowry column

beyond the beltway

If you can't win, get out

by DONALD KAUL
MINUTEMAN MEDIA

At the risk of being thought a bigot, I must confess I'm beginning to suspect that deep within the dark recesses of the collective Arab/Muslim mind, there is a loose wire.

My first intimation came when I noticed that people in an Arab country often express extreme happiness by running into the street and firing guns in the air. They also do this when they are angry, making it very difficult at any given moment to judge their mood.

Then there is the civil war gene. They have one.

Take Palestine for example: Palestinians pretty much agree that they have a common enemy — Israel. They believe Israel the devil incarnate, the source of all their problems. You would think they could put aside individual differences long enough to form a common front against this enemy.

Wrong. The two dominant political parties have decided instead to wage a modest civil war against each other. Fighting Israel can wait. (Isn't it amazing how often life imitates "West Side Story"?)

Finally, there's Iraq. At considerable cost in blood and treasure, we have liberated Iraq from the iron rule of its cruel dictator, Saddam Hussein. You would think that grateful Iraqis would take the opportunity to

embrace freedom, rebuild their nation and make it the democratic beacon of the Middle East so we could all live happily ever after.

Wrong. The various religious sects, tribes, political parties and gangs of Iraq have instead decided to duke it out for control of the country. This is why President George W. Bush's plan for Iraq (which he's been hawking everywhere this side of Sesame Street) is almost certain to fail. There is no Iraq, there are only warring groups, each of whom wants justice, a word they use interchangeably with revenge.

Thus, expecting that a Shiite Prime Minister like Nuri Kamal al-Maliki will go after Shiite insurgents, like Moktada al-Sadr and his Madhi army, is futile. You might as well expect George Bush to get rid of Dick Cheney. The Madhi are Maliki's shock troops. He can't get along without them.

What Maliki would really like, what he's proposed, as a matter of fact, is for us to stay out of the way so that he and his friends can cleanse Baghdad of its unhealthy Sunni influence. We might be able to jam a contrary policy down the Prime Minister's throat for a time, but its chances of working in the long run are virtually nil.

In the face of this ongoing foreign policy train wreck, the Democrats are milling around, getting their act together. Some, like John Edwards, are for abandoning the Bush plan and beginning an immediate pullout. He'd be for withholding funds for Bush's escalation.

Barack Obama, who has been against the war from the beginning, isn't quite so bold. He wants a pull-out, but he's not willing to cut off funds and face charges of failing to support the troops. Hillary Clinton, meanwhile, is at the brink of opposing the war, inching towards courage. She's not nearly as good at being on both sides of an issue as her husband was, but she's trying.

The fact is the Democrats have no place to go other than being the anti-war party in the next election. The Republicans have the war-mongering vote sewed up. If the Bush plan, against all odds,

works, the Democrats aren't going to cash any chips anyway. They might as well unite against the war. The wild card in this game is Iran. Each day Bush officials bring new expressions of alarm at Iran's intentions. The suggestion is that it's trying to develop a — gulp — Weapon of Mass Destruction.

Preemptive war, anyone? This is getting scary. Republicans are fond of saying that the Democrats don't have an alternate plan that will yield victory and they're right. There is no easy way out of this mess and precious few hard ones. This much seems clear, however:

Taking on a third war won't make things better.

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

Tracking the national debt
U.S. national debt increase from December 13, 2006 through today: **\$15,957,634,526**
The new total is: **\$8,679,997,321,414**

■ The national debt is debt owed by the federal government. It is made up of debt obligations such as Treasury bills, Treasury notes and Treasury bonds.

Your share of the federal debt is **\$28,850.77**

SOURCE: U.S. Treasury Department
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INSIDESTUFF

- Sportspage A7
- Classifieds.....page A11

CAR TALK:

Dealer took reader for a ride

see pg. A6

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**This Town,
That World**

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

Let me write this next paragraph now, for I will grow more unpleasant, further down in the column.

THE PLEASANT

A number of pleasant things have happened to me this week, and one of the most pleasant was a chance meeting on the street, here, with the Rev. Isaac Stratton, of Banner, on Monday, which was his 88th birthday. It did a poor sinner good to hear this man tell how "the Lord took hold of me, and has never let me go." And to know how real that experience has been for him all these years, while he walked mostly country roads to the sick and dying, to homes where death had come, answering every demand on the strength of body and spirit.

"He has given me some pretty tough jobs, but I've been happy with them, every one. He has never let me go, and he has never let me down." So Faith spoke as we stood on a Prestonsburg sidewalk last Monday.

The years have been kind to this preacher. He ages little. He simply says, "God has been good to me." His voice is a little weaker, a few more crow's feet are about the eyes, but his face is almost unlined.

And the few lines there—not one of them was written by a frown.

THE RIDICULOUS

Now the Gripe Department speaks.

I do not propose to go, in detail. Into this postal bill which has passed the House and is to go to the Senate, except to say that it means a five-cent stamp for mailing a letter, and one cent extra postage on every newspaper mailed. We will not harangue the reader with the woes of the weekly newspaper, with postal costs, materials and everything else in orbit. Permit us, instead, to point out just how ridiculous lawmakers, the post office department, et cetera, can get.

At this very time when the Postmaster General and President Kennedy are busy convincing the Congress that the poor P.O.D. must balance the budget and show a profit—even if every other department of the National Government shows a deficit; at this hour, when newspapers and other publications, large and small, are being afflicted with extra postal charges and the ordinary citizen is taking another beating, this same Post Office Department permits recordings, all kinds of recordings, to be mailed as "educational material."

What's so ridiculous about that? Don't be ridiculous.

Can you imagine an Elvis

(See ALLEN, page six)



Cathy Neeley, of the East Kentucky Science Center, prepares ancient Adena culture artifacts, excavated from Paintsville's C&O Mounds in the late 1930s, for display at the East Kentucky Science Center's "Earthworks: Virtual Explorations of the Ancient Ohio Valley" exhibit, now open at the center for public viewing.

photos by Kathy J. Prater

East Kentucky Science Center's new exhibit brings lost heritage to life

Among the tributaries of the Ohio River lies one of the most spectacular concentrations of ancient architecture in the world. Earthen effigies, embankments, mounds, roadways and enclosures of astonishing size and precision were constructed by prehistoric native cultures that once flourished in Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana and West Virginia, eight to 24 centuries ago. Some of these earthworks are astronomical markers that often rival Stonehenge in their astronomical accuracy. Others stretch over several miles while rising to heights of 15 feet or more.

Yet these ruins are little known today. A few of them are still visible, such as Serpent Mound in Adams County, Ohio. However, most of the region's ancient architecture were either gouged out or plowed under in the 19th century or paved over for development in the 20th.

This lost heritage from the Adena, Hopewell and Fort Ancient cultures is now returning in the form of "Earthworks: Virtual Explorations of the Ancient Ohio Valley," a traveling exhibit from the Cincinnati Museum Center at Union Terminal. This exhibit features new techniques of visualization and interactive design, bringing these sites and cultures into the public consciousness as never before with vivid imagery and multiple interpretations.

The exhibit includes topographic models, virtual artifact kiosks and virtual reconstruction's of earthworks from 39 sites in the Ohio Valley. These reconstruction's represent nearly ten years of work by



Dr. Thomas Matijasic, a history professor at Big Sandy Community and Technical College, assisted EKSC Director Eric Thomas in preparing the center's current exhibit for public viewing. Dr. Matijasic will present periodic informational sessions for visitors at selected times while the exhibit is on display at the center.

an extensive team of architects, archaeologists, historians, technical experts and Native Americans and are displayed through an interactive video navigation system developed by the Center for Electronic Reconstruction of Historical and Archaeological Sites (CERHAS).

Earthworks will be open to the public at the East Kentucky Science Center from January 27 until May 6. During this time, the Science Center will also be displaying various Adena culture artifacts from the C&O Mounds, Paintsville, in Johnson County. The artifacts were excavated from the mounds in the late 1930s. Pictures taken during the excavation of the mounds will also be on display. The artifacts and photos will be on loan to the

Science Center from the University of Kentucky Department of Anthropology.

For more information, call the East Kentucky Science Center at 889-0303, or visit www.wedo-science.org. The East Kentucky Science Center and Planetarium are located on the Prestonsburg campus of Big Sandy Community and Technical College. The Science Center is a nonprofit educational organization.

The Earthworks exhibit is provided in part by grants from Olin and Muriel Prather Charitable Foundation, Berea College Appalachian Fund, First Commonwealth Bank, and Equitable Resources.

**MOVIES FROM
THE BLACK LAGOON**

'1990: The Bronx Warriors'

by TOM DOTY
TIMES COLUMNIST

Italian drive-in movie specialist Enzo Castellari strikes again with this homage (that's film geek for "rip-off") to several popular (read, profitable) films of the 1980s. Here he blends elements of three flicks ("Escape from New York," "Mad Max" and "The Warriors") and manages to deliver an okay time waster that's much longer on style than substance.

The story posits that New York City has written off the Bronx and shut it off from the other four boroughs. The region has been left to several gangs who occasionally rumble and dress in all manner of exquisite costumes. The Riders sport leather and ride motorcycles, the Zombies prefer plastic helmets and drape bath mats over their shoulders and the Elite favor disco clothes while driving 1950s style autos.

The story begins when a young woman named Ann ventures into the area and is promptly set upon by the Zombies. She is rescued by members of the Riders, who happen upon the scene and are delighted for an opportunity to separate the Zombies from their snoot with a righteous beating. The lead Rider, Trash, takes an interest in Ann and she reciprocates by telling him she is on the run from the Manhattan Corporation, which runs 60 percent of the planet. She is about to turn 18 and would rather live in squalor than inherit the business. This lady is no Paris Hilton, folks.

Conflict arises when the Manhattan Corporation opts to send in a mercenary to bring Ann back and turns to an ex-cop called "The Hammer." Turns out that this guy isn't big on protocol and his methods include igniting a gang war in the Bronx that will make all the groups turn on the Riders and thus make it easier for him to swoop in and grab Ann. To accomplish this goal, Hammer enlists the aid of a guy named Hot Dog and the pair set Trash against the prince of the Bronx, a guy named Ogre.

It all comes down to Trash outwitting Hot Dog to win over Ogre, or it's gonna be Hammer time. He sets out to do this by sneaking into Ogre's castle via the sewers, but his plan isn't helped by mutants who live in the sewers or a rival gang that grabs Ann while she is enjoying a stroll on the deadly streets that once played home to the New York Yankees.

Meanwhile, Hammer calls in an air strike on the Ogre and happily sprays gang members with napalm while Trash finally gets his act together and

(See LAGOON, page six)

Discovery

by EUGENE E. BEASLEY
"CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE TEENAGE SOUL II"

My class was two weeks away from the opening night of our play when Sherry walked into my classroom and, in a hesitant voice, announced that she would have to quit.

Hundreds of reasons for such a declaration rushed through my mind — tragic illness, death in the family, a terrible family crisis.

The expression on my face

prompted a further explanation. Sherry stammered: "My boyfriend Dave wants me to quit. The rehearsals are taking too much time away from our being together. I bring him sandwiches after football practice."

Her boyfriend was a football player who later went on to play in the pros. He was the opposite of his brother Dan, who also played on the high-school team. While Dan was easygoing, had a terrific sense of humor and was liked by nearly everyone, Dave seemed to always be angry and in need of someone to boss

around.

"Sherry," I said, "we're only two weeks from opening. You're outstanding in your role. I'd never be able to replace you."

"Really?" She beamed.

"Really," I said, and I meant it. "Everyone should be allowed to do the things he or she is good at. You're a good actress. Dave should realize that. I know you know how much he loves football."

"Yes," she agreed. "But I still have to quit."

"I'll bet you're his best fan."

She measured her words, "I am," she said.

"Has he ever been to a Saturday morning rehearsal to see how good you are?"

"No."

"He should," I told her.

"He should be your number one fan."

The next day after sixth hour, my door flew open with a thud. Dave thundered toward me, looking twice as big as his 260 pounds. His arms dangled by his side, his large fists clenched as if around my neck.

He leaned across my desk, veins popping, face red as a beet. "You ... you ... you ..." he stammered.

"Can I help you, Dave?" I asked,

hoping that my voice wouldn't shake the way my knees were.

He never got beyond "you" before he turned and stomped out the door. I listened until the heavy footsteps started down the stairs to the first floor.

Sherry did continue with the play, and I can honestly say she starred in her art. I also noticed that she smiled more, and I occasionally saw her interacting with other students with a great deal of poise.

Dave, I heard, found another girlfriend.



Dealer took reader for a ride with unnecessary service

by TOM and RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:

We purchased a new 2005 Jeep Liberty for our daughter last year and have faithfully taken it in to the dealership where we bought it for routine maintenance. At the time of the last maintenance checkup (11,784 miles), the repair shop performed rear and front differential service, at a cost of \$240. They said it should be performed every 12,000 miles. I've never had routine differential service performed on any car I've ever owned. Is this legitimate? — Federico

TOM: Hmm. How to put this gently, Federico? Did the service manager have binoculars hanging around his neck? Because he definitely saw you coming.

RAY: Most cars never need differential service. That's a component that, under normal driving conditions, should last for the life of the car without needing any attention.

TOM: If you do what manufacturers call "severe duty driving," then Jeep does recommend changing the fluid in both differentials every 12,000 miles. But severe duty means you're doing things like extensive

off-road driving, using the vehicle as a taxi, driving mostly in extreme hot or cold temperatures, or regularly towing around a couple of Angus bulls.

RAY: If that describes your daughter's driving, then the dealer is doing the service that Jeep recommends. But if your daughter is like 99 percent of America's drivers and uses the Liberty to go to school or work, or take road trips with her friends, then the dealer took you for a ride. And you should go back and ask for some money back.

TOM: For future reference, if you look in the back of your owner's manual, the recommended services for each mileage interval are listed there. So you can see for yourself what the manufacturer actually recommends at 12,000 miles. Look under Schedule A, which for Jeep is normal use.

RAY: If your daughter's Liberty doesn't do severe duty, and you don't get satisfaction from this dealer, remember that you can take the car to any mechanic you like for its regular service — it does not have to be done at a dealership. Simply hand them the owner's manual, point to your mileage interval and say, "These are

the services I'd like you to perform." Keep the receipts, and it will have absolutely no effect on any free warranty work you need to have done by the dealer.

An idle question about oil changes

Dear Tom and Ray:

You guys are great. Thanks for all your knowledge and insights. My question: My vehicle's manufacturer suggests changing the oil every 5,000 miles. If I were averaging a speed of 60 mph for that 5,000 miles, it would take just over 83 hours to reach that mileage. I have installed an hour meter on my vehicle so that I know to change my oil every 83 hours. Does the manufacturer figure in idle time (caused by heavy traffic and such)? I drove an 18-wheeler for 11 years, and idle time on a big rig is astronomical. That is when I came up with this crazy question. Am I actually crazy, or overprotective, or do I simply have too much free time on my hands? — Dale

TOM: All of the above, Dale.

RAY: Actually, you're not crazy. Five thousand miles is the manufacturer's estimate of when the oil will need changing, based on the average

person's driving and idling time. But it's just that: an estimate.

TOM: And you're right. The time your engine spends idling certainly does contribute to the breakdown of the oil. Which is why vehicles that idle a lot, like 18-wheelers, taxis and police cars, get their oil changed more frequently than your car does.

RAY: If you look in your owner's manual, you'll see that they change the estimate if you use your car abnormally.

TOM: Does living in your car constitute using it abnormally?

RAY: Yes, but not with regard to oil life. Your owner's manual probably lists two different oil-change intervals. One is for "normal" duty, the other is for "severe" duty. Severe duty is defined as operation in extremely hot or cold weather, towing or using the vehicle like a taxi



CLICK & CLACK
Talk Cars

(stopping, starting and idling a lot). And the severe-duty oil change is more frequent, to account for that extra wear and tear.

TOM: Even better than those estimates, a number of cars' computers now actually calculate when the oil needs to be changed. They do it based on an algorithm that takes into account idling time, engine temperature and driving conditions. So your idea is

perfectly logical, Dale. It's just another way to estimate oil life.

RAY: But you might be overdoing it a bit. It would take you 83 hours to reach 5,000 miles IF you were driving at 60 mph. But you're not driving at 60 mph all day, every day. If you were, you'd have a hell of a time getting out of your driveway without wiping out your mailbox and your neighbor's prized Uzbeki tulips.

TOM: Assuming you do a normal mix of highway and city driving, it would probably take you more like 100 to 125 hours to reach 5,000

Odds & Ends

■ COVINGTON, La. — Police said they caught a 16-year-old robbery suspect who previously eluded them after his baggy pants fell down, causing him to stumble as officers chased him.

"We literally caught him with his pants down," Lt. Jack West said.

The teenager, who was not identified because he is a juvenile, is suspected of robbing a man at gunpoint and stealing another man's car after beating him with a brick, West said. The suspect had run away from police several times in recent weeks, he said.

An officer spotted the teen standing on a street corner Monday, called in for two backup officers, then tried to make an arrest.

"They all converged on him from different directions," West said. "He started to run, but his low-riding pants fell down and he stumbled to his knees."

The teen was booked on warrants for armed robbery, carjacking, two counts of aggravated battery and being a child in need of supervision.

■ AUBURN, Ind. — Nicole Cramer had little idea when she went to the hospital to see her twin sister's newborn son that within hours, she would give birth to a son of her own.

Her sister, Naomi Sale, had scheduled a Caesarean section on Tuesday morning and gave

birth to Ethan Alexander at 8:29 a.m. Cramer, also nine months pregnant, visited Sale and her new nephew in the hospital but was having contractions and didn't stay long.

"I thought, after I did the C-section, on my way home, 'I wonder if her sister would go into labor?'" said Dr. Thaddeus Weghorst, the obstetrician for both women.

Within hours, Cramer was in the delivery room of DeKalb Memorial Hospital.

After 90 minutes of labor, Cramer delivered Carter Nathaniel Birchfield.

"This solidifies the theory on the bond between twins," Weghorst said. "Even their uteri have a bond."

Cramer and Sale turn 23 on Monday. They were due to give birth within a day of each other at the end of the month, but Weghorst's office didn't figure out they were twins until they were eight months along.

The sisters explained, in unison, that they usually had their appointments on the same day, but at different times.

Weghorst, who has been in practice for eight years, said the close deliveries were a first for him.

"I've delivered two sets of twins in the same day, but never this," he said.

■ TAIPEI, Taiwan — A man has been sentenced to four months in jail for cutting

down more than 40 trees planted by a neighboring apartment complex, claiming they would undermine the geomancy of his house, a newspaper reported Friday.

Geomancy — also known as feng shui — is an ancient Chinese practice of arrangement of space to achieve harmony with the environment. People in Chinese communities frequently consult feng shui experts on the locations of their homes and placement of household objects to improve their livelihoods.

Lo Pu-yi, a feng shui expert, was convicted by the Taipei District Court of cutting down the trees in a complex next to his home on a hill in suburban Taipei, the Apple Daily reported.

Lo's neighbors accused him of cutting down the banyans, willows and bamboos, saying the trees blocked the flow of air and could undermine his livelihood, the newspaper said.

A separate court will handle his neighbors' claim for \$12,000 in damages, the paper said.

Lo could not be reached for comment.

■ SARATOGA, Calif. — Who was that undressed man?

That's the question startled hikers, bikers and horseback riders are asking about a jogger seen streaking through an open space preserve wearing nothing but sneakers, glasses

and a black tam hat.

"He passed me and said 'Good evening,'" said Sue Bowdoin, who spotted the naked man — middle-aged and sporting a pale paunch — while riding her horse on a trail in Fremont Older Open Space Preserve last summer. "I thought: Ugh!"

Although numerous park users have reported seeing the exhibitionist over the last year and a half, rangers have been unable to identify and arrest him for exposing himself, said Gordon Baillie of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District.

By most accounts, the man is polite and does nothing other than run in the buff.

A woman who saw him said he looked scared and backed away after she cornered him with her horse and told him he was offending people.

People who use the park regularly have not reported recent sightings in the cold weather, theorizing he may be unrecognizable because he is clothed. With dark hair, sweaty red skin and lack of body hair, he wouldn't be hard to spot, Bowdoin said.

"He's frumpy. Plain. Not in good physical shape," Bowdoin told the San Jose Mercury News in Thursday editions. "It's not a pretty sight."

■ DULUTH, Ga. — The story of runaway bride

Jennifer Wilbanks is becoming a rock opera.

The show is scheduled to open in October at Duluth's Red Clay Theatre and Arts Center.

Mark Pitt, the theater's owner, says the show will not spoof Wilbanks' infamous disappearance before her scheduled 2005 wedding. Instead, it will show how the community came together and bonded over the experience, which included a massive search for Wilbanks before she turned up a few days later.

Wilbanks and her then-fiance, John Mason, will only be minor characters, Pitt said. "The story is more about the city and the tenacity and camaraderie of its citizens," he said.

Initial reactions to the upcoming show have been mixed, ranging from laughter to shock.

"When some people hear about the show, their chins drop to the floor," Pitt said. "Other people, they just laugh. Some people worry that it will be harmful to the family, but that is not at all our intention."

Wilbanks got her nickname "runaway bride" after fleeing before her wedding and making up a story about being kidnapped and sexually assaulted. Actually, she got cold feet and fled to New Mexico. She later recanted, saying she ran away because of personal issues, and pleaded no contest to telling police a phony story.

She was sentenced to two years' probation and performed community service that included mowing the lawns at public buildings.

Wilbanks and Mason later ended their engagement and filed lawsuits against each other, which were dropped last month.

■ SALT LAKE CITY — Firefighters have been forced to abandon a busy station because it's infested with bedbugs.

The pests were first discovered in November after two firefighters reported bites, spokesman Dennis McKone said.

Station House No. 2 downtown was vacated for a week and sprayed, but that didn't solve the problem. Four subsequent sprayings still have not killed the bugs, McKone said.

The department is removing carpets from living quarters and installing linoleum. All beds and bedding have been swapped out.

Officials believe a nearby homeless shelter, where firefighters and paramedics are often sent, may be the source.

"Our understanding is they've had quite a problem with bedbugs," McKone said.

Bedbugs hide in mattresses, bedding, crevices and even behind loose wallpaper. The flat, wingless creatures get no larger than ladybugs and do not carry disease.

Lagoon

figures out that the time for talking is over. The ensuing aftermath includes a ton of well choreographed battles and a heap of bloodshed as everybody turns on each other.

The finale sees just about everyone with a speaking role get deep-sixed in creative fashion and employs a nihilistic coda that probably didn't go down too well with 1980s audiences who weren't ready for the return of a 1970s-style ending.

All in all, this is a fun time waster that gets by on more sizzle than steak. There isn't a whole lot of plot but the action sequences are plentiful and Castellari proves to have a great eye for decrepit locations. He filmed most of the

exteriors in the Bronx but all of the dialogue scenes were finished in Italy where a dollar went a longer way in 1984.

That said, the best way to appreciate this one is to sit back and count everything about this enterprise that is woefully inept.

The biggest boners belong to the cinematographer, who manages to film scenes in the worst sections of the South Bronx but always captures a highway in the background. It's kind of hard to accept that the Bronx has become a prison when viewers can plainly spot tons of commercial trucks moving through the background. The locations also include generous use of a bridge spanning the Hudson

River. Unfortunately it's the Brooklyn Bridge, which destroys any semblance of credibility (like they had a whole lot of it in the first place).

Things only get worse when you spy the costumes on display here. Most characters seem to be sporting way too much make-up, but that's nothing compared to the gang of chorus boys who attack Trash and company while performing a musical revue. Most of the costumes appear to have been fashioned from throw rugs, except for the Riders, who appear to be wearing leather products fresh off the back of a truck that never made it to the warehouse.

The best bit here though is

the cast, which includes several Americans such as Fred Williamson, Christopher Connelly and the late Vic Morrow. Connelly and Williamson ham it up a bit but kudos should go to Morrow, who clearly enjoys playing the evil hammer. Unfortunately, he is badly dubbed by another actor as he was killed on the set of the "Twilight Zone" movie before he could do post-production work and sync his own voice.

The real find here is newcomer Mark Gregory, who was all of 17 when he landed his role. He cuts an imposing figure at 6 feet, 5 inches tall with a smashed in nose and rippling muscles. Unfortunately his facial

expressions are severely limited and he has the most awkward gait ever seen on screen since John Hurt played the Elephant Man. His stiff backed lops was so distracting that I made a mental list of what factors could affect a man's perambulation so intensely and came up with the following:

A. In all his 17 years he never encountered footwear.

B. He was planning to smuggle a Louisville Slugger back to Italy and was walking quite naturally for a man with a bat in his rectum.

C. He was suffering from the onset of an anal fistula.

The real answer, according to Fred Williamson in an interview included on the DVD, is

even more bizarre, if it's true, and makes the Williamson interview required viewing if you still decide to rent this one.

All this and Gregory looks more like a Cher impersonator than a gang leader, though he handles the action sequences well.

This actually inspired a sequel that landed on Mystery Science Theater 3000 and was ripped to shreds by the Peabody winning writers of that show whose plan to also roll this movie was thwarted when the morons at the Sci-Fi Channel canceled the series.

Best line: "You've gotta be kidding. You've got your gray matter in your butt." 1984, rated R.

Allen

Presley record being educational material? Rock-and-roll, the blues, the howlings and mowlings — all are lumped, along with classics, as "educational material," and carted off, hither and yon—storm and sleet, the mails must go through, notwithstanding — to those poor dealers who need to sell those records to an uneducated public, at the usual profit.

Amos, I've regusted...

THE ZANY

The temperature outside got into the 70's, and the fishing fever inside some of us who don't know any better, went still

higher, Tuesday. Who can explain what fascination the sport holds for some people? Bernard Venable, an Englishman puts it this way:

"When you start to fish it is simple enough. The sense of wonder that never entirely dies in all but the dullest of men, is seized and transfixed. That sense of wonder that holds the small boy in a dream on the bank of a small pond, staring into the water, guessing at the mystery of it, seizes the grown man with an intensity that is the stronger for long keeping.

"There he is, rod in hand, a boy again, staring at the water that is utter mystery, in

an intense delight of fascination. He knows almost nothing of the glinting, shadowed, weed-fretted life that lies below the water's surface.

"The casting of a line, the watching of a float, is something of deep significance, a probe into the mystery. If that still bright float top should dip, actually dip, dip from the pull of something unseen below—well, that has the nature of a miracle.

"And if that should be followed by the pulsing pull, the vibrance of unseen life at the other end of the line, it is perhaps the most wonderful and strangely stirring experience that life has given."

Continued from p5

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FLOYD COUNTY Sports

Inside

- PC Bowling • A9 South Floyd Cheer • A9 Reds • A10 Sunday Classifieds • A11

Bristol Dragway releases '07 event schedule

TIMES STAFF REPORT

BRISTOL, Tenn. - The return of Thunder Valley's most popular events, as well as a few exciting new additions have the 2007 season at Bristol Dragway poised to be one of the best.

The O'Reilly NHRA Thunder Valley Nationals presented by Q returns for the seventh year and headlines the 2007 Bristol Dragway schedule. The event, scheduled May 18-20, will see NHRA's top drivers in Top Fuel, Funny Car and Pro Stock come to Bristol in an attempt to beat the track, and each other, to claim top

honors in Thunder Valley. Among the drivers coming to Bristol Dragway are defending Top Fuel champion Tony Schumacher, last year's race winner Doug Kalitta, and 14-Time Funny Car Champion John Force.

Street Fights returns for its seventh season and kicks off the 2007 Bristol Dragway schedule on Saturday, March 3. Nineteen Street Fights events will take place on Tuesday and Thursday nights, with the remainder scheduled for Friday nights. The Street Fights Finale takes place Friday, Sept. 21.

The Sunoco Bracket Racing Series

returns with a new name, and a new attitude, for 2007. The Sunoco Thunder Valley Shoot Outs begins with an Open House on Saturday, March 10, with the first of 15 point-paying races set for March 31. A special non-points "King of the Track" race will close the Shoot Outs season on Sunday, Sept. 9. Themed nights and special promotions planned for Street Fights and Sunoco Thunder Valley Shoot Outs are scheduled to provide spectators and participants even more fun and excitement.

Bracket racers will have a chance to break the bank and take home part of a \$100,000 purse in one of Bristol

Dragway's newest events, the World Footbrake Challenge. The 1/8-mile event, scheduled for April 13-15, will see footbrakers from across the country attempt to put their car in victory lane. In footbrake competition, drivers are not allowed to use electronic equipment to help them achieve a perfect start. The reward will be worth the effort, as Saturday's winner will take home the top prize of \$50,000. Winners on Friday and Sunday will pocket \$10,000 each.

On April 28, Bristol Dragway will play host to the ultimate high-school rivalry, the Inaugural High School Nationals. High-school students will

represent their schools as they race for bragging rights and scholarships. To participate, students must be 16-19 years old and have a valid driver's license.

Jr. Dragsters will hit the track in July with two events that will keep Bristol hopping for more than a week. The Sixth Annual Mike Bos Chassis Craft Jr. Dragster Nationals kicks things off with action July 7-8. Beginning on Monday, July 9, Bristol Dragway will be the home of the Fourth Annual NHRA O'Reilly Auto Parts Jr. Drag Racing League Eastern

(See BRISTOL, page eight)

Floyd NWTF banquet set for Saturday

by STEVE LeMASTER SPORTS EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG - The Floyd County Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation will have its Sixth Annual Hunting Heritage Banquet Saturday (Feb. 3) at the Wilkinson-Stumbo Convention Center.

The National Wild Turkey Federation is a national, non-profit, educational conservation organization comprised of state and local affiliates working for the restoration and wise management of the American Wild Turkey and other valuable natural resources. It supports scientific wildlife management on public, private, and corporate lands. It also supports traditional American sport hunting and every citizen's right to enjoy clean air and water and an esthetically pleasing outdoor environ-

(See NWTF, page eight)

PC looking for academy, training school athletes

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE - Pikeville College is looking to its past, and to the community for help.

Pikeville College is searching for student-athletes from the Pikeville College Training School and Pikeville College Academy in an effort to honor them later this season.

"It's very important that those who attended those schools know they have a place here," said Ron Damron, vice president for student services and director of athletics. "We will honor them later this season, but we're needing help locating them."

Anyone who attended the training school or the academy or knows someone who did can contact Pikeville College by phone at 606/218-5224 or via email at HYPERLINK "mailto:athletics@pc.edu" athletics@pc.edu.

"We hope to find as many of our former student-athletes as possible," Damron said. "We'd love to have every one of them at our event."

WINNING WAYS



photo by Jamie Howell

Alex Hammonds passed over the Sheldon Clark defense Thursday during the 15th Region All "A" Classic.

Rebs, Bobcats advance to All 'A' Semis

by STEVE LeMASTER SPORTS EDITOR

PAINTSVILLE - After ending the first quarter in a 13-13 tie, Allen Central put some distance between itself and opponent Sheldon Clark in the first round of the 15th Region All "A" Classic Thursday night at Paintsville. The Rebels put together a run just before halftime and pulled away in the final two quarters, winning 70-53.

The Rebels led 32-24 at halftime of their small-school regional tournament opener.

Junior Alex Hammonds led Allen Central with a game-high 17 points. Seniors Ryan Collins and Tyler Slone followed with 13 points apiece for Allen Central. Josh Martin added 10 points, giving Allen Central four players in double figures. Josh Prater narrowly missed double digits for Allen Central, finishing with nine points.

Allen Central stretched its lead over Sheldon Clark out in the second half, leading the Cardinals 54-32 at the end of the third quarter.

Robbie Cole and Justin Robinson rounded out the Allen Central scoring

with five and three points, respectively.

Brady Horn paced Sheldon Clark with a team-high 14 points. Bigman Millard Workman scored 13 points and Damon Hensley added 11 for the Cardinals.

Point guard Garrett Stroud contributed six points for Sheldon Clark.

Betsy Layne 85, Piarist 41: In the nightcap, Betsy Layne punched its ticket to the semifinals, beating former 58th District rival Piarist.

The Bobcats sprinted out to a 12-0 lead before Piarist answered with any scoring. Betsy Layne led 24-10 at the end of the first quarter and owned a 54-24 lead at halftime.

Justin Collins scored 14 points as the Bobcats leveled the Knights. Trai Witt added 11 points as Betsy Layne jumped out in front and never trailed en route to the win over Piarist.

Betsy Layne led Piarist 70-27 at the end of the third quarter.

Brennan Case and Jarod Newman netted 10 points apiece for the Bobcats.

Matt Doyle led Piarist with 14 points. Caleb Hoskins and Chris Baker each had seven points for the

Knights. Piarist defeated David 75-44 in the tournament's opening game Monday night.

With the win, Betsy Layne set up a semifinal meeting against Floyd County rival Allen Central.

Editor's note: Look for a recap of the 15th Region All "A" Classic, including the semifinals and championship game in Wednesday's edition.

STATE ALL 'A' CLASSIC

The Kentucky Touchstone Energy All "A" Classic basketball tournament will begin Wednesday and run through Sunday, Feb. 4. The tournament will include one boys' and one girls' basketball team from each of the state's 16 regions. WYMT-TV in Hazard will carry each of the state championship games. Paintsville captured the girls' 15th Region All "A" Classic title. Last night's boys' championship game ended too late to make this edition.

Tigers too much for Bears, 78-57

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE - Georgetown College ran its win streak to nine straight with a 78-57 win over homestanding Pikeville College Thursday night.

In addition, the 10th ranked Tigers improved to 2-0 in Mid-South Conference play and knocked Pikeville to 1-1 against league competition.

Georgetown (18-3) fell behind 5-0 after Pikeville sophomore Bo Harris opened the game with a dunk and three-point shot, but quickly tossed in 10 straight points to take the lead. The Bears bounced back with five to tie the game, but the Tigers scored seven unanswered to regain control at 17-10 with 10:14 left in the half.

Pikeville went on an 8-3 run to pull back within two, but would get no closer, stretching the lead to 10 (36-26) by the half.

(See BEARS, page eight)

Lady Tigers edge Pikeville

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE - This one stung a little.

When the no. 17 team in the country comes to your house, not many people are going to give you much of a chance. But the Pikeville College women's basketball team put up a fight against the Lady Tigers of Georgetown College, only to fall by the 58-51 score.

Early on it seemed that the no. 17 Lady Tigers would have no trouble handling the Lady Bears, opening the game on a 7-0 run over the first four minutes. Still, the Lady Bears, who opened the game by going 0-12 from the field, managed to claw back into the game with a 6-0 run of their own, capped off by a jumper from freshman Heather Martin (Kite), which cut the lead to 7-6.

The Lady Bears would eventually tie the Lady Tigers when Martin went in for a layup and was fouled. The ensuing free throw made it an 11-11 game,

(See PIKEVILLE, page eight)



ONE OF THE BEST: South Floyd senior Heather Dean remains one of the state's top girls' high school basketball rebounders.

Martin named top A-Team player

by STEVE LeMASTER SPORTS EDITOR

BETSY LAYNE - Following his team's championship win in the Floyd County Grade School A-Team Tournament, Betsy Layne Elementary eighth-grader Nathan Martin was named Floyd County Conference Player of the Year. Martin played a pivotal role for a Betsy Layne A-Team that put together one of the best seasons in Floyd County grade school history. Betsy Layne defeated South Floyd 59-37 in the A-Team title game.

Conference champion Betsy Layne had a total of five players honored. Adams, the conference runner-up, placed three players on the team. A list of the players chosen from each school follows.

BETSY LAYNE: Nathan Martin, Derek Tackett, Dylan Maldonado, Casey Adkins, Nick Conn. ADAMS: Alex Griffith, Warren Blackburn, Joseph Jamerson. SOUTH FLOYD: Brandon Marson. ALLEN CENTRAL: Micah Harlow. MOUNTAIN CHRISTIAN ACADEMY: Alex Hartgrove. WESLEY: Brandon Jarrell. JOHN M. STUMBO: Donovan Salyers. ALLEN: Mickey Parsons.

The Bobcat A-Team never lost to a Floyd County foe during the regular-season.

Betsy Layne mentor Harold Tackett was named the Floyd County Conference A-Team Coach of the Year.



Nathan Martin

Roberts, Jamerson share B-Team player honor

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

BETSY LAYNE – Andrew Roberts hit big shot after big shot for the Betsy Layne Bobcats throughout the the 2006-07 Floyd County Grade School basketball season. When awards were handed out at the conclusion of the Floyd County B-Team Tournament earlier in the month, Roberts and Adams seventh-grader Joseph Jamerson shared the Floyd

County Conference Player of the Year Award.

Betsy Layne and Allen Central were Floyd County Conference co-champions. Adams was the conference's runner-up. The Floyd County Conference B-Team honorees, broken down by schools, follow.

BETSY LAYNE: Andrew Roberts, Kory Jarrell, Dylan Hamilton, Chase Hall, Joey Fitch. ALLEN CENTRAL: Micah Harlow, Jacob Prater, Braxton

Tackett, Sheldon Rice, Jon Ross Gibson. ADAMS: Joseph Jamerson, Wes Robinson, Blake Goble. SOUTH FLOYD: Cartney Conn. ALLEN: Adam Crisp. WESLEY: Cody Bentley. JOHN M. STUMBO: Justin Reynolds.

Allen Central won the Floyd County Grade School B-Team Tournament, edging Betsy Layne 38-36 in the championship game.



Joseph Jamerson (left) and Andrew Roberts.



The Floyd County Conference C-Team All-Conference Team is pictured above.

Bristol

Continued from p8

Conference Finals. The event, which concludes on Saturday, July 14, will host more than 700 racers from all states east of the Mississippi River.

The 2007 Bristol Dragway schedule features many special events that will please everyone. The 27th Annual Super Chevy Show will come to Bristol June 22-24, with the exciting Night of Fire on June 22. Fans of the blue oval have their weekend August 3-5 during the 16th Annual O'Reilly

Thunder Valley Fun Ford Weekend. Bristol Dragway plays host to drag racing on two wheels when the S & S Cycle Thunder In The Valley Nationals presented by Smith Brothers Harley-Davidson roars into town August 10-12. Mopar fans will want to visit Thunder Valley Sept. 28-30 when the Eighth Annual Hensley Performance Mopar Thunder presented by Parts Depot/Bumper to Bumper visits Bristol.

Bears

Continued from p8

The second half belonged to the Tigers as well. Pikeville got within seven twice but Georgetown led by as many as 26 twice before settling with the 21-point win.

Senior Kevin Reinhardt had 24 to lead Tiger scorers, doubling his average for the season. Senior Brian Silverhorn tossed in 20, while sophomore Eric Fields flipped in 10.

Senior Will Holloman

paced Pikeville with 21 points, and also handed out five assists in the loss. Senior Donald Thomas added 11.

Georgetown, which leads the country in rebounding margin at plus-14.7 per game, won this battle 41-36, getting nine from senior Chris Lee off the bench. Pikeville was paced by Harris, a sophomore from Winchester, with eight.

NWTF

Continued from p8

ment.

The NWTF supports youth programs such as an annual scholarship award to an outstanding graduating senior pursuing an education in conservation, 4-H programs, Archery in Schools Programs, an annual Jakes (juniors acquiring knowledge, ethics, and sportsmanship) Event for members 17 years of age and under. The group also supports Wheelin' Sportsmen programs

and Women in the Outdoors programs.

The Floyd County Chapter of the NWTF holds regular meetings at Martin City Hall the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m.

The 2007 Floyd County NWTF scholarship applications are due before Thursday. Applications are available through school counselors.

Banquet tickets are available now by calling 606/285-

Pikeville

Continued from p8

and from there the two teams were deadlocked, with neither leading by more than four points for the remainder of the half. With Georgetown up 30-29 and only three seconds remaining, sophomore Alice Daniel (Meally), who had missed the last five games due to a broken finger, connected on a three as time expired, giving Pikeville the 32-30 half-time lead.

With the momentum on their side, the Lady Bears stormed out to an eight point lead quickly. But the Lady Tigers proved why they're so dangerous; going on a 13-4 run over seven minutes and taking the 43-42 lead on a pair of Megan Gray free throws.

But the Lady Bears would not fall. Pikeville re-took the lead on a jumper from senior Tonya Amburgey (Pinetop) with 9:16 to go.

For the next eight minutes the lead changed hands six times. Georgetown led 54-41 with 2:00 left, when Gray picked up a key offensive rebound, put it back in the hoop, and picked up the foul. Gray missed her free throw attempt, but Meek was there for the rebound. She dished the ball off to Katie Filatreau, who

was promptly fouled. After both free throws were sunk, Georgetown held a 58-51 lead with only a minute left to play. The Lady Bears could edge no closer, and the Lady Tigers managed to leave with the victory.

"If we box out, we win," said Pikeville coach Bill Watson, referring to the 18 offensive rebounds the Lady Bears surrendered. "We had that game, and we let it slip away."

But there was at least one bright spot. "We competed tonight," added Watson. "We took a good team to the limit."

The Lady Bears were led by Amburgey's 15 points and seven assists. Martin also pitched in a double-double, pulling down 12 rebounds and putting up 11 points.

Georgetown (16-5, 2-0) was led by a game-high 17 points from Gray, the top-ranked shooter in the Mid-South Conference. Kim Ingle also provided 12 points and seven steals, while Jayme Gilbert had 10 points in the win.

The loss drops Pikeville to 7-14 overall and 0-2 in the MSC.



Floyd County Conference A-Team All-Conference Team is pictured above.

Hamilton named C-Team Player of the Year

by STEVE LeMASTER
SPORTS EDITOR

BETSY LAYNE – Dylan Hamilton enjoyed significant playing time on each of the Betsy Layne Elementary School's boys' basketball teams during the 2006-07 season. At the conclusion of the Floyd County Grade School C-Tournament, Hamilton claimed the Floyd County Conference C-Team Player of the Year

Award. The Betsy Layne C-Team beat Wesley 34-7 for the county championship. Wesley finished as the conference's runner-up.

Five different Betsy Layne players were named all-conference. Runner-up Wesley had three different players named to the all-conference unit.

C-Team All-Conference honorees were as follows.

BETSY LAYNE: Dylan Hamilton, Brian Watkins, Chase Hall, Blake Rogers, Dustin Rogers. WESLEY: Dylan Meade, Kannon Newsome, Tyler Lewis. OSBORNE: Weston Little. ADAMS: Bryson Williams. MCDOWELL: Corey Thornsberry. ALLEN CENTRAL: Brian Handshoe. MOUNTAIN CHRISTIAN ACADEMY: Matthew Ison. JOHN M. STUMBO: Tyler Daniels.



Dylan Hamilton



Floyd County Conference B-Team All-Conference Team is pictured above.

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Pikeville College bowlers continue solid season

TIMES STAFF REPORT

PIKEVILLE — The Pikeville College bowling teams returned home this week after participating in their fourth tournament in as many weeks. The men came away with finishes of fourth (Las Vegas Invitational), second (Collegiate Shoot-Out), fifth (Hoinke Bearcat Classic), and second (Eagle Classic). Meanwhile, the lady bowlers finished in third (Las Vegas Invitational), first (Collegiate Shoot-Out), second (Hoinke Bearcat Classic), and third (Eagle Classic) in their respective tournaments.

The first stop for the Bears bowlers was Las Vegas, Nev., where the teams competed in the Las Vegas Invitational and the Collegiate Shoot-Out. For the Las Vegas Invitational, held Dec. 17-19, the men had strong

performances from Gerald Richardson (Raleigh, N.C.), who finished sixth and averaged 213.5, and Michael Marisco (Owings, Md.), who averaged 204.4 and finished 16th in the 50-man tournament. While none made the all-tournament team, the squad did manage a solid fourth-place finish.

The ladies, meanwhile, were led by Jamie Foster (Mesquite, Texas) who finished second overall and earned a spot on the all-tournament team with an average of 204.1. Sarah Germano (Rochester, N.Y.) placed seventh, finishing with a 195.2 average in her nine games. The strong performances helped the Lady Bears finish third in the 14-team tournament.

Vegas was also the site of the Collegiate Shoot-Out, held Dec. 20-21. The men captured second place in

the tournament, led by Marisco, who averaged 207 during his six games and placed eighth overall, and Nathan Hause (Charlotte, Mich.), who placed ninth and finished with an average of 206.

But this tournament belonged to the Lady Bears, who captured their fifth tournament championship this season. Once again, Foster made the all-tournament team with a second place finish, while averaging 206.2 in her six games. Germano placed sixth with a 194.2 average, Michelle McKay (Guelph, Ontario) took seventh place with her 193.2 average, and Becky Sulligan (Greenville, S.C.) earned an eighth place finish with her average of 191.

On to Cincinnati, Ohio for the

Hoinke Bearcat Classic hosted by the University of Cincinnati and held Jan. 13-14. The men did have a great outing, as they could only muster a fifth place finish overall. Aaron Love (Dayton, Ohio) was the only Pikeville player to finish in the top ten, earning a ninth place finish with a 218.1 average.

Once again, the Lady Bears had a strong showing, finishing second overall. Kayla Bandy (Danville, Va.) had the best showing for the Lady Bears, finishing third and earning a spot on the all-tournament team with a 218.1 average over her nine games. Foster also finished in the top ten, placing ninth with a 205 average.

Last weekend the Bears traveled to Lexington for the Eagle Classic.

There the men had their best outing in a month, finishing second overall. Dakota Jordan (Anderson, S.C.) finished fifth, averaging 207 over his six games and earning a spot on the all-tournament team. Josh Burkhardt (Beavercreek, Ohio) also placed in the top ten, finishing seventh with an average of 203.

Meanwhile, the Lady Bears earned their second third-place finish in the last month. Bandy again had a strong showing, finishing fifth overall with a 177.5 average, and earning another all-tournament team selection. Germano was the only other Lady Bear to finish in the top-10, placing ninth and averaging 175.6 over her six games. The teams will return to action on Saturday, Feb. 3, when they travel to Fairview Heights, Ill. for the weekend-long McKendree Baker Challenge.



Gerald Richardson

Lofton looks doubtful for Tennessee's game at Kentucky

by ELIZABETH A. DAVIS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Tennessee guard Chris Lofton appears doubtful for the Volunteers' game Sunday at rival Kentucky because of a sprained right ankle.

Lofton, the Southeastern Conference's top scorer, sat out Tennessee's 83-69 loss at Mississippi on Wednesday. He hurt his ankle during the game against South Carolina last Saturday.

"If you're asking me in my non-medical opinion, he's doubtful," coach Bruce Pearl said Thursday.

Lofton, however, said it's too early to say.

"I don't know. We're taking it day by day right now," he said after prac-

tice.

Lofton was averaging 21.5 points a game and is one of the best 3-point shooters in the country.

The Maysville native made seven 3-pointers and scored 31 points in Lexington last year when the Vols won 75-67.

"It's feeling a lot better. I'm walking real well on it today," Lofton said. "This is probably the first time I've ever missed games and stuff. I'm just trying to get my ankle back to 100 percent and just try to come back and play as soon as possible."

He would love to play in his home state this weekend, but he's not willing to play too soon.

"I want to go bad, but I don't want to take a chance of re-injuring it again," Lofton said.

Pearl has said Lofton could be out anywhere from one to three weeks depending on how quickly his ankle heals.

The Vols could certainly use him after losing four of their last five games. Tennessee played well in the first half against Ole Miss and were ahead by 10 at halftime, but they could not keep it up in the second half.

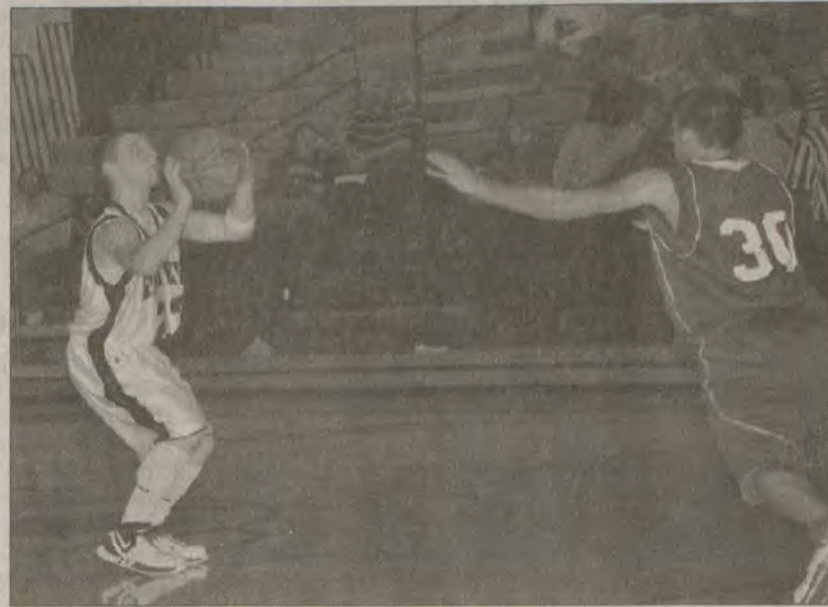
"Look at the way our kids responded. Andy Kennedy told me that was some of the best basketball somebody has played against him for 20 minutes. We did well," Pearl said.

Lofton said it was difficult to sit on the bench and just watch.

"It's the worst feeling right now, especially last night sitting on the bench," Lofton said. "It was hard, but hopefully I will get back as soon as possible."



Chris Lofton



THREE-POINT THREAT: South Floyd's Wes Akers ranks as one of the state's top three-point shooters. Akers and his South Floyd teammates favor the long-range attempts.

Cardinals to name Freedom Hall court in honor of Denny Crum

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LOUISVILLE — The University of Louisville will name its basketball court in Freedom Hall in honor of former men's basketball coach Denny Crum, who guided the Cardinals to 675 victories and a pair of national titles in his 30 years with the university.

The Cardinals' playing surface in Freedom Hall will be named "Denny Crum Court" in a pregame ceremony

when U of L faces Georgetown on Feb. 7 at 7 p.m.

"For three decades, U of L Basketball was Denny Crum," said Vice President and Director of Athletics Tom Jurich. "It's a fitting tribute to honor him with this unique distinction for his success and years of hard work in guiding our men's basketball program consistently on a national level. We had envisioned honoring him within the new arena, but Rick Pitino and I were talking

and thought 'Why wait?' Let's not wait any longer in getting his name on the court in Freedom Hall, where he coached for 30 years."

The man admirably labeled "Cool Hand Luke" by former commentator Al McGuire was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame on May 9, 1994.

Crum directed Louisville to the 1980 and the 1986 NCAA Championships, ranking him as one of only 11 coaches in NCAA history

to win two or more titles. Six times he guided the Cardinals into the NCAA Final Four, including four times in the decade of the '80s. Only three coaches all-time have coached more Final Four teams than Crum.

Crum directed the Cardinals to 23 NCAA Tournament appearances, ranking as the sixth highest all-time. Three of his squads participated in the NIT, reaching the NIT semifinals in 1985. The Cardinals captured or shared 12 Metro Conference regular

season titles and 11 post-season tournament championships under Crum's guidance. Crum's teams won 20 or more games in 21 of his 30 seasons, the 11th most all-time.

Crum's 675 victories rank him 26th all-time, holding a 675-295 career record. His NCAA Tournament mark is 42-23. He retired at the conclusion of the 2000-01 season and continues to work as a special assistant to the U of L president.

Louisville to open '07 season against Murray State

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LOUISVILLE — The University of Louisville football team will open its 2007 season against in-state rival Murray State on Thursday, Aug. 30 at Papa John's Cardinal Stadium.

The game was originally scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 1, but both institutions have agreed to move the

contest to Thursday night. The contest will be the first between the two universities since 1990, a 68-0 win by the Cardinals.

Louisville finished the 2006 season with a 12-1 record, its first Big East Championship and a victory over Wake Forest in the FedEx Orange Bowl. U of L finished ranked sixth in the final AP Poll and seventh

in the final USA Today Coaches Poll. The Cardinals also return 21 starters, who started at least one game, from last season's squad.

The Cardinals lead the all-time series, 10-6.

The remainder of the Cardinals' 2007 schedule will be released at a later date.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Mississippi State edges Wildcats in 2nd OT

TIMES STAFF REPORT

LEXINGTON — Senior forward/center Jennifer Humphrey (Memphis, Tenn.) recorded her second consecutive double-double, but it wouldn't be enough, however, as Mississippi State outscored the Kentucky women's basketball team 8-0 in the second overtime to notch an 83-75 double-overtime win in Rupp Arena Thursday.

Kentucky (14-7, 3-3 Southeastern Conference) was playing its second overtime game this season and its fifth game in the last six decided in the waning minutes. Humphrey notched a career-high 22 points to complement 16 rebounds and in a career-high 43 minutes of action. The Wildcats managed just 39.2 percent (29-of-74) from the floor and were a mere 2-of-20 from long distance.

Junior guard Samantha Mahoney (Detroit) became the 25th member of UK's 1,000 point club. Mahoney had 12 points to improve her career total to 1,010 in a career-best 48 minutes, while sophomore point guard Carly Ormerod (Louisville) added 13 points in a career-high 42 minutes.

The two teams were nearly even in every statistical category

and were tied after every period until the Bulldogs outscored the Wildcats 8-0 in the second overtime. Kentucky drops to 4-3 all-time in double-overtime, playing its first 2OT contest since the semifinals of the 2005 Women's National Invitation Tournament against West Virginia.

With the Wildcats trailing 66-64 after an Imesia Jackson basket, Mahoney scored consecutive buckets - her last jumper coming with 27.8 seconds remaining in regulation. After Mississippi State nearly ran the game clock out, a scramble on the floor led to a jump ball with the arrow pointing toward the Lady Bulldogs. Off an inbounds play, Bethany Washington found the basket with 0.2 seconds left to send the game into overtime at 68 apiece.

Kentucky fell behind by three, 71-68, with 4:18 remaining in the first overtime period before tying the score at 71 with 3:48 left. After another tie, Washington's jumper with 1:01 left put the Lady Bulldogs ahead 75-73. Elliott notched a jumper in the paint with 44 seconds left to send the game into a second overtime.

Out of halftime, the Wildcats stormed out of the halftime locker room with four consecutive baskets to go up 43-36 with 16:46 left, as Kentucky held the Lady Bulldogs scoreless for the first 4:28 of the second half. Elliott had four points during that stretch. After Mississippi State came within two, 43-41, at the 15-minute mark, Ormerod nailed a basket and Humphrey knocked down a pair of free throws to go back ahead by six, 47-41, with 14:06 remaining. With UK leading 43-

41, the Wildcats used an 11-2 run to take a 54-43 advantage with 10:17 left in the game. The run included six points from Humphrey.

The Lady Bulldogs knocked down four consecutive free throws to come as close as five, 59-54, with 6:12 remaining before a three-point play by Ormerod pushed the UK lead out to 61-54. Mississippi State would not give up, going on an 8-0 run over the next 2:19 to tie the score at 62-all.

Mississippi State took an early 8-4 lead and extended their advantage to 15-10 on a three-pointer by Alexis Rack at the 12:35 mark of the opening period. From there, Kentucky scored five consecutive points to knot the score at 15 after a three by Mahoney and a jumper by Ormerod at the 11:49 mark.

MSU extended its advantage to 23-19, but Pfeiffer was fouled shooting a three-pointer and knocked down each of her three free-throws to bring the Cats within one, 23-22, with 6:06 left. Kentucky then used a 12-3 run over the next 3:45 that included five points from Watkins. The two teams entered intermission tied at 36 as the Lady Bulldogs shot 53.6 percent (31-of-78) from the floor in the opening period.

Jackson led Mississippi State with 22 points, while Robin Porter added 18.

Kentucky will return to action today when it travels to Columbia, S.C., for a re-match with the South Carolina Gamecocks. UK defeated USC earlier in the season in Memorial Coliseum, 59-55. Tip-off in the Colonial Center is set for 3 p.m.

SOUTH FLOYD CHEER



RAIDER SPIRIT: The South Floyd High School cheerleaders cheered their team on during games earlier in the season.

Homer Bailey named Reds' Minor League Player of the Year

TIMES STAFF REPORT

CINCINNATI — Right-handed pitcher Homer Bailey has been named winner of the Sheldon "Chief" Bender Award as the Cincinnati Reds' Minor League Player of the Year for 2006. 1B Joey Votto was named the organization's Hitter of the Year and RHP Johnny Cueto Pitcher of the Year.

Reds minor league field coordinator Tim Naehring presented Bailey his award at Wednesday's LaSalle High School sports stag. General manager Wayne Krivsky, manager Jerry Narron, pitcher Todd Coffey,

infielder Brandon Phillips and outfielder Chris Dickerson were also in attendance at the dinner. Hall of Fame third baseman Brooks Robinson was this evening's guest speaker.

Bailey, Krivsky, Narron, Coffey, Phillips and Dickerson, along with broadcasters Marty and Thom Brennaman, are participating in the 26-stop Reds Winter Caravan, in partnership with Cincinnati USA Regional Tourism Network and cincinnatiusa.com. Two separate legs of the caravan will make 26 stops in 21 cities and towns in four states covering four days and more than 1,300

miles. At reds.com, fans can listen to selected radio station Caravan stops. See the web site for that schedule. At every stop, the Reds are raffling off two tickets to Opening Day against the Cubs.

Bailey, 20, has been rated the top prospect in the organization since he was selected in the first round (seventh overall) of the June 2004 first-year player draft. Last season he went 10-6 with a 2.47 ERA in 26 starts split evenly between Class A Sarasota and Class AA Chattanooga. He was a Baseball America Minor League and Class AA All-Star, and in an in-season poll of that publication he was

voted Best Pitching Prospect and Best Fastball in the Florida State League. Following the season, Bailey was voted the top prospect in both the Southern League and Florida State League.

Votto, 23, at Class AA Chattanooga was the Southern League's Most Valuable Player and batting champion and TOPPS' Southern League Player of the Year. He led the SL in hitting (.319), hits (162), doubles (46), on-base percentage (.408), slugging percentage (.547), extra-base hits (70), total bases (278), runs scored (85) and walks (78) while finishing second in

homers (22). He fell 1 double shy of the Southern League single-season record.

Cueto, 21, last season went 15-3 with a 3.00 ERA in 26 starts at Class A Dayton and Sarasota. He led all Reds minor league pitchers with 15 wins and finished second in the organization with 143 strikeouts.

The organization's minor league player of the year award is named after Sheldon "Chief" Bender, who spent 64 years in baseball. He spent his last 39 years in the game with the Reds in their scouting and player development departments.

Bristol putting down new surface after March race

TIMES STAFF REPORT

BRISTOL, Tenn. — NASCAR's most popular track, known for its rousing thrill-a-second action, will be getting a new look this summer that should make for even more exciting racing as the .533-mile oval at Bristol Motor Speedway receives a new concrete surface after the March 25 run-

ning of the Food City 500.

And just like the one-of-a-kind racing fans get at Bristol Motor Speedway, officials commissioned a one-of-a-kind machine to do the job.

Baker Concrete Construction Inc. of Monroe, Ohio, developed the Gomaco Slope Paver, an all-new machine to handle the specifications of Bristol's high-banked oval. A pair

of unrelated Baker Construction companies (Baker Construction Services of Bluff City, Tenn., is the other) head the project that should be completed by mid-July.

SMI's development team hopes the new surface promotes even closer racing and a much smoother ride for the drivers.

Bristol's 36-degree banking in the

corners will remain the same.

Crews plan to begin demolition of the entire racing surface, track apron, pit road, inside retaining walls and 80 percent of the outside walls on March 26, the day after the Food City 500.

This project marks the first time since 1992 that the entire track will undergo a complete resurfacing. In the summer of that year, then-track

owner Larry Carrier created NASCAR's first all-concrete racing surface.

Project specifications call for more than 14,520 square yards of concrete to be used for the track surface alone.

Bristol's resurfacing project will employ a crew of 130 and cover in excess of 30,000 worker hours.

Texas Motor Speedway fixes dip in turns after Earnhardt Junior's comments

TIMES STAFF REPORT

FORT WORTH, Texas — Texas Motor Speedway concluded a special track renovation process Thursday that is expected to help alleviate a dip that has formed between Turns 1 and 2 on the 1.5-mile superspeedway, Texas Motor Speedway president Eddie Gossage announced.

The delicate process, known as "concrete lifting by structure urethane," will in essence "pump" up the surface below the track and ultimately raise targeted areas in the affected 200-foot stretch over the South Tunnel that is situated in the middle of the two turns. The depth of the dip varies throughout, but it is at a maximum of 2 inches at any given point.

The track work is being addressed

in response to the comments made by Nextel Cup driver Dale Earnhardt Jr. during the Dickies 500 race weekend in November and the previous week at the race in Atlanta. Earnhardt said that the dip was an issue for drivers and the speedway further investigated his claim. Speedway officials, known for being proactive to drivers' suggestions over the years, spent the time since his comments consulting with a variety of surveyors and going as far as having structural X-rays taken of the area.

"While Junior's comments at the time surprised me since he never mentioned it before, it was a concern and we thought it would only be appropriate to investigate the issue further and determine if it warranted any action," Gossage said. "We spoke with several drivers, team owners and NASCAR

officials in carrying out our due diligence. After further consultation, we decided it would be beneficial to alleviate the dip as much as possible through this process. We've been proactive since Day 1 to the suggestions of the drivers and fans of this facility and we will continue to do so in the future."

Earnhardt spoke in positive tones in November about Texas Motor Speedway being a fun track to race at, but also discussed the need to address the dip to enhance the racing.

"Texas is a fun racetrack," Earnhardt said in November. "We've had a lot of success here and it is a fun track so I'm glad it is in it [the Chase for the Nextel Cup]. It [the track surface] is starting to age a little bit and it is starting to move the grooves up a

little bit so you can race side by side through the corners a bit. It's really starting to come into its own. The asphalt or the dirt underneath the asphalt has settled over the tunnel, which it does at every racetrack they build, but it seems to be a little more pronounced here. And that will hold this place back for a few years to come until they repair that. As far as being able to run two- and three-wide through that corner, it will hold it back a little bit."

The two-day process was done by Uretek ICR of Arlington, Texas. The method employed high-density special polymers to lift, realign, under-seal and fill voids under the concrete slabs, which are resting directly on base soils. As the resin mixture expands, voids are filled and a con-

trolled mold pressure is exerted on a limited area of the slab. Uretek uses multiple-pattern drilled injection locations to resupport and accurately realign the slab. The composite material quickly cures into a strong, stable and long-lasting replacement base material.

This process involves drilling roughly 15 to 20 half-inch holes in the area, inserting a three-eighths-inch copper tube through the asphalt and into the soil below in each hole, and then injecting a special structure urethane through the tubing. The urethane is expected to raise the different surfaces that exist between the track and the soil — an 8-inch thick drainage mat, a 12-inch thick concrete slab and 4 inches of asphalt — and help alleviate the dip.

Keller to drive for Brewco Motorsports at Kentucky Speedway

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

SPARTA — NASCAR Busch Series veteran Jason Keller will be behind the wheel of the No. 27 Kleenex Ford for five races during the 2007 season including the Meijer 300 Presented by Oreo at Kentucky Speedway June 16.

"I'm excited for the opportunity to work with Brewco again, and with a sponsor like Kleenex® and Kimberly-Clark," said Keller. "I'll be

driving at tracks where I have a lot of experience, and have had some success, so I'm really looking forward to the challenge."

Keller has teamed-up with Brewco previously, making his 400th career NASCAR Busch Series start driving for the team last year at O'Reilly Raceway Park. He also had prior seat time in Brewco's No. 66 Ford Fusion, having stepped in for Greg Biffle. In five previous starts at Kentucky Speedway, Keller has had two top-5s

and led laps in 2003 and in 2005. He finished second in 2003 to Bobby Hamilton, Jr.

Keller made his NASCAR Busch Series debut in 1991 and ran the series full-time from 1995-2005. In those 11 full-time seasons, he finished in the top-10 in final driver's points nine times.

The nine-event Kentucky Speedway season will span five weekends from May 12 to Aug. 11. The 66,089-seat venue will open its

eight season of operation with the ARCA RE/MAX Series "Buckle-Up Kentucky 150" May 12, co-promote its first street stock "Frank Kimmel Enduro Nationals" May 26, follow up with its high-profile NASCAR Busch Series "Meijer 300 Presented by Oreo" weekend June 15-16, play host to the ARCA RE/MAX Series "Channel 5-150" and NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series "Built Ford Tough 225 Presented by the Greater Cincinnati Ford Dealers" July 13-14,

and close the campaign with the first Indy Racing League IndyCar and Indy Pro series twilight and night races in track history Aug. 10-11.

Fan-friendly promotions for the season include the June 15 Clear Channel 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 both days.

Doug Williams basks in landmark day for NFL

by **DAVE GOLDBERG**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Doug Williams almost two decades ago became the first black quarterback to start a Super Bowl. He says this past week advanced the cause of blacks in the NFL as never before.

Williams cited not only the

matchup of Tony Dungy and Lovie Smith in the Super Bowl, the first two black coaches to get there, but the promotion by the New York Giants of Jerry Reese to general manager and the hiring by Pittsburgh of Mike Tomlin as its head coach.

"What happened in New York on Monday, what happened in Indianapolis and Chicago on Sunday and what happened in Pittsburgh the next Monday may make it the most significant week ever for African-Americans in football," Williams told The Associated Press by phone from Mobile, Ala., where he is attending the Senior Bowl as a personnel executive for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

"It shows what people can do if you just give them the opportunity."

Williams threw for a 340 yards, then a Super Bowl record, and four touchdowns in the Washington Redskins' 42-10 win over Denver in the 1988 Super Bowl and was the game's MVP.

That followed a week in which he was asked question after question about his role as the first black quarterback to play in the NFL's championship game, including the now-storied query: "How long have you been a black quarterback?"

Black quarterbacks have since become prevalent in the NFL — as many as a dozen have started in a

given week. And the likes of Steve McNair, Donovan McNabb and Daunte Culpepper have become perennial Pro Bowl players whose race is secondary to their accomplishments.

Williams had a successful career as the coach at historically black Grambling, his alma mater. He left coaching three years ago to join the Bucs.

He noted that while NFL rules require that minorities be interviewed for head coaching vacancies, the rule does not apply to front offices. He was especially happy the 43-year-old Reese and the 34-year-old Tomlin were hired by the Giants and Steelers,

noting those teams and the Mara and Rooney families who run them have the NFL's deepest roots.

"If the Giants step up like that and the Steelers step up like that, it sends a message around the league," Williams said. "It's as important as Tony and Lovie winning because those two teams are among the storied franchises in league history. If they can do it, the other owners can at least give minorities a chance."

As for the conference championship victories by Dungy and Smith, Williams said: "Winning the Super Bowl that day wasn't as significant to me as this past Sunday. I didn't see it then. I can see this. I can feel this."



photo by Jamie Howell

MOTORIN': Cameron and Christian Crider, the sons of Ricky and Rachel Crider of Dwale, competed inside the Eastern Kentucky Exposition Center when the Toyota Arena Cross visited Pikeville recently.

Ali, wife buy home in eastern Jefferson County

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOUISVILLE — Muhammad Ali and his wife, Lonnie, have bought a \$1.8 million home in eastern Jefferson County.

The move will bring the three-time heavyweight boxing champ closer to his native Louisville.

Mike Fox, president of the Muhammad Ali Center, told The Courier-Journal that the Alis have tried to come to Louisville to visit the center every two or three months, but that travel is becoming increasingly difficult for the 65-year-old Ali.

Although it is uncertain when the Alis will move, "it is our understanding that at certain times of the year they intend to spend extended time in the community they love," Fox said.

The Alis were deeply involved in construction of the Ali Center, which is a museum and education center, and in development of its programs.

The couple closed on the \$1,875,000 home, according to Jefferson County property valuation records. They own a home in Berrien Springs, Mich., that has been for sale and a residence in Phoenix.

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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.

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 99' Eddie Bauer Explorer, loaded. \$5,495.
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 886-2842
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MISC.

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 We are interested in finding people with excellent communication skills, 1 yr retail experience in furniture sales, delivery & installation, valid driver's license with good driving record, and criminal background check. We offer paid holidays, vacation, and 401-K with company match, health, cancer and life insurance, and Christmas Club Savings Account. Apply in person at A-Plus Rentals 144 Collins Circle Prestonsburg, KY or online at shopaplusrentals.com

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 Part time house

keepers needed. Must have experience and work weekends. Come by and apply at Microtel Inn.

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CDL Drivers needed. Apply in person at The HT Hackney Company. Harold, KY. Benefits available. Call 478-9591.

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

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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

House

HOUSE for sale at Drift. 3 BR, 1 Bath, multi level deck and porch, paved driveway, detached garage, large fenced in yard. Includes all appliances. \$82,000. Call 377-0251.

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Only minuets from Pikeville, Prestonsburg and Painstville. \$167,500. Call 874-2972 or 454-4579.

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HOUSE FOR SALE New four bedroom three and 1/2 bath, 3,500 sq. ft. house on half acre lot located on Crestwood Drive, Stone Crest Golf Course, Prestonsburg. 606-886-9331.

HOUSE FOR SALE 2 Bedroom 1 Bathroom, GREAT DEAL \$10,000 Located at Cornfork near Jenny Wiley Lake Road. call 226-6392 or 886-0726. Land Contract possible. Call today!!!!!!

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.

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1428. Call 874-2421. \$300 monthly

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 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.

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RENTALS

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FOR RENT
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FOR RENT
 New 1 BR near HRMC most utilities furnished. \$500 per month. \$250 deposit. 886-6343.

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

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LEGALS

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MINE Pursuant to Application No. 836-0316
 Operator Change
 In accordance with 405 KAR 8:010, notice is

hereby given that Lightsource Mining Company, P.O. Box 3601, 142 Roberts Circle, Pikeville, KY 41501, intends to revise permit number 836-0316 to change the operator. The operator presently approved in the permit is the permittee. The new operator will be Mountain Source Energy LLC, P.O. Box 416, 702 E. Main Street, Apt. A, Grayson, KY 41143.

The operation is located 0.2 mile east of Minnie, in Floyd County. The operation is located on the McDowell U.S.G.S. 7 1/2 minute quadrangle map at latitude 37°28'21" and longitude 82°44'12".

The application has been filed for public inspection at the Department for Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement's Prestonsburg Regional Office, 3140 South Lake Drive, Suite 6, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653.

Written comments or objections must be filed with the Director, Division of Permits, #2 Hudson Hollow, U.S. 127 South, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. All comments must be received within fifteen (15) days of today's date.

BLASTING SCHEDULE

This is notice that Genesis Coal Corporation, 268 East Friend Street, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653, Permit No. 836-5490, will be blasting at Little Mud Creek, Latitude 37°28'01", Longitude 82°41'41". Blasting will be done daily. No Blasting will be conducted before sunrise or after sunset. At least ten (10) minutes before the blast, access to the area will be controlled by company personnel. Before each blast is detonated, the following type(s) of audible warning will be given: WARNING SIGNAL — A one (1) minute series of long blasts five (5) minutes prior to the blast signal; BLAST SIGNAL — A series of short blasts one minute prior to the detona-

tion. The all-clear signal(s) after blasting will be: one long blast of a siren. Blasting will not be conducted at times different from those given above, except in emergency situations where rain, lightning, other atmospheric conditions, or operator or public safety requires unscheduled detonation. Prior to these detonations, the following audible warning will be given: WARNING SIGNAL — A one (1) minute series of long blasts five (5) minutes prior to the blast signal; BLAST SIGNAL — A series of short blasts one minute prior to the detonation. The all-clear signal(s) after blasting will be one

long blast of a siren. Also prior to detonations in emergency situations the permittee, using audible signals, shall notify all persons within one-half (1/2) mile of the blasting site.



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 119 College Street
 Pikeville, KY 41501

The Mine Safety and Health Administration is seeking candidates for Coal Mine Inspectors throughout District 6. Candidates with Underground and/or Electrical experience are strongly encouraged to attend.

A minimum of one-year of mining experience performing a full range of tasks and operating a variety of equipment is required. After passing math and writing tests, interviews will be conducted for possible employment. Specific requirements and online registration for MSHA-07-030-KY-D6 is located at www.doors.dol.gov. Online advance registration closes February 16, 2007.

For more information about MSHA's Inspector Career Intern Program, and what to expect, please visit our website at www.msha.gov. Equal Opportunity Employer

Career Opportunity

I am looking for a particular type of person.
 One who will take a personal interest in my local business.
 If you're willing to work and follow instructions you will have the ability to experience advancement limited only to your own ability.
 We offer \$40k-\$60k 1st year potential
 Cash bonuses
 Incredible Incentives
 Great retirement plans
 5 days work week
 If you are teachable and driven, we will match this career against anything you see in this paper.
Call Monday only, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. (866) 534-6174
 Contact Marty Wilhoite

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS & SPECIFICATIONS

Sealed Bids will be accepted by the Floyd County Fiscal Court, until Thursday, February 8th, 2007, at the hour of 9:30 a.m., for the following:
Lease(s) for Three (3) Dump Trucks, Tandem Axle

Any additional specifications for the above-listed item may be obtained at the Office of the Floyd County Judge/Executive, on the Second Floor of the old Floyd County Courthouse, 149 South Central Avenue, Suite 9, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653, (Telephone (606) 886-9193), during regular business hours, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. General specifications are as follows:

- Three (3) Dump Trucks, Tandem Axle, with:**
- a) Sixteen foot (16') dump beds with forty-eight inch (48") sides
- b) Fifty-six inch (56") two-way air tailgates
- c) Electric tarps
- d) One (1) year lease term for each truck
- e) Delivery date within 30 days from award of bid, or by date negotiated at time of any bid award

The bid will be awarded to the lowest and/or best bidder at the Special Meeting of the Floyd County Fiscal Court, to be held on Thursday, February 8th, 2007, at the hour of 10:00 o'clock a.m., in the County Courtroom, located on the Second Floor of the old Floyd County Courthouse, 149 South Central Avenue, Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653.

The Floyd County Fiscal Court has the right to accept and/or reject any/all bids.

Robert D. Marshall
 Floyd County Judge/Executive

SALES / SALES MANAGER

Due to our company growth in Eastern Kentucky and South West Virginia, we need sales manager trainees at once. If you have an athletic or rural background and enjoy meeting people, don't miss this opportunity. We are a forty-year-old national company marketing a unique product. We offer leads, complete training, advancement opportunities, and outstanding fringe benefits. Our average reps earn \$35,000-\$45,000 first year. You may earn more.
 For a personal interview, call 605-254-8876.

FOR SALE Commercial property 12 acres next to Walmart & McDonald's in Prestonsburg. 886-3023 after 5pm.

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

Service
IS OUR BUSINESS

STUMBO PAINTING

If You Need Professional interior or exterior painting call Stumbo Painting 25 Years experience. Call 886-3184 or 793-3003

PORTER PLUMBING

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**

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**

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Residential & Commercial
 • Gas Lines
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24-Hour Service 886-0363

J&M Seamless Guttering, Siding and Metal Roofing
 Located at Weebury, Ky. 14 Years Experience
Free estimates, call anytime 226-2051 606-452-2490, 606-424-9858

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.

Bates Builders Quality Post Frame metal buildings. Horse barns, garages, storage. Free estimates! December special! 24x40x8 \$5,660. Call 1-888-530-9697

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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**

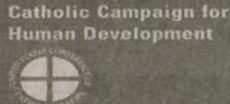
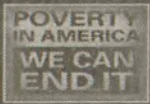
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FRASURE'S RENTALS
 Office Space, Retail Space, Houses, Apartments, Mobile Homes and Lots.
CALL 606-886-8366

Picture this: Soon, a lucky few seniors will move into beautiful new low-income apartments in San Francisco. No more living in garages. No more choosing between medicine, food and a place to live. All because neighbors are uniting and saying yes to affordable housing. Today, 37 million people live in poverty. But hope is building. For easy ways you can help, visit www.povertyusa.org.



One in ten seniors lives in poverty. One neighborhood said no.



San Francisco Organizing Project, San Francisco, CA

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

"V" for Valentines Day CONTEST!

Think of as many words as you can that begin with the letter "V". Send your responses to the Floyd County Times PO Box 390 Prestonsburg, KY 41653 Attention: LeighAnn All entries must your name and phone number. The deadline for this contest is Feb 9.

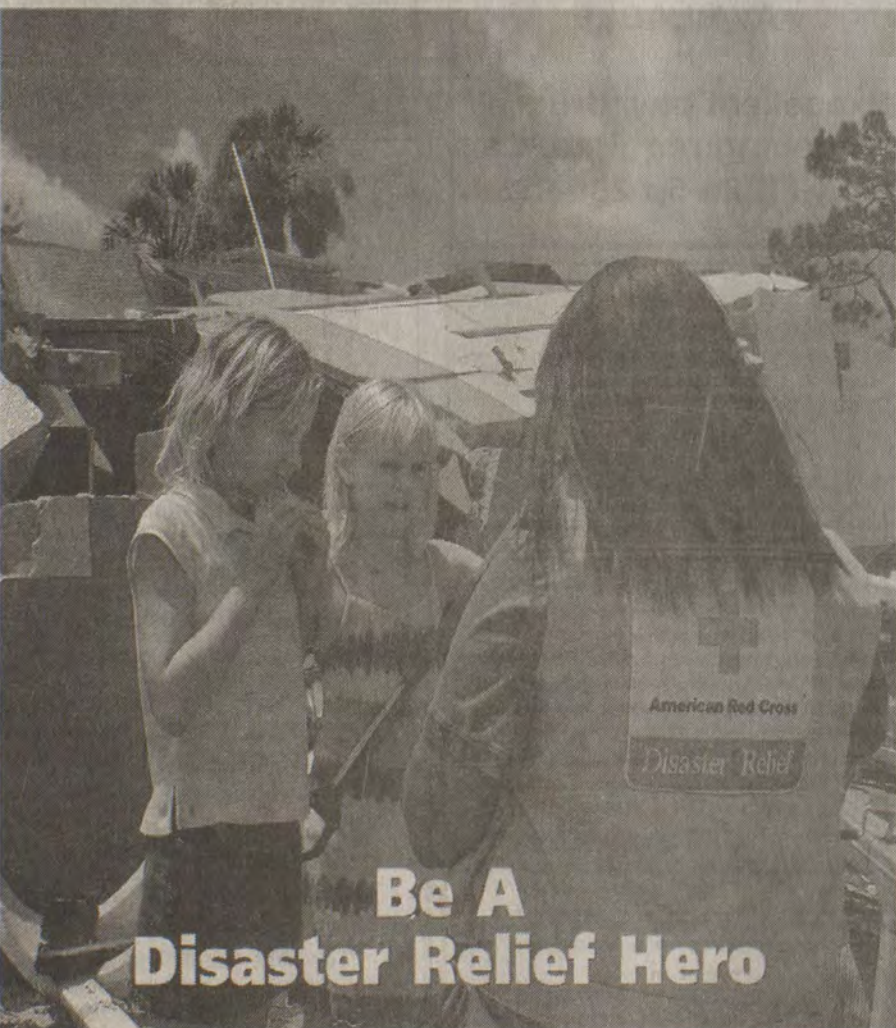
IF YOU WIN:

You will get a FREE Valentines Day ad in the classifieds with a picture!!!!!!! You can dedicate this to your Husband, Wife, Mom, Dad, Friend.. Whom ever you want!

Remember there are 3 WAYS to enter!

1. Come by the Floyd County Times and drop off your entry.
2. Mail in your entry.
3. Fax it 886-3603.

Remember, you can also reserve a spot of your own for \$10.00 if you don't win!!!



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

