

Rebs, David finally play
page A7

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briefs

Lowe's to hold local job fair

by ALEX SMITH
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — The Prestonsburg Office of Employment and Training will be hosting a job fair next Thursday for Lowe's Home Improvement Center of Paintsville in hopes of finding people to fill more than 50 positions available for the spring through fall season.

A representative from Lowe's will be at the Employment Service Office in Prestonsburg from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Feb. 15, to conduct interviews. Positions available include telephone operators, customer service associates, garden center personnel, load pullers, loaders, cashiers and assemblers.

Anyone interested is encouraged to attend on the day of the fair. For more information contact the Employment Office at (606)889-1772.

Bills aims to protect mountain streams

by JESSICA HALE
STAFF WRITER

FRANKFORT — Local Floyd County residents are teaming up with state legislators to try to save the areas streams and rivers from the drastic effects of mining wastes.

House Bill 385, or the "stream saver" bill, if passed would prohibit the

dumping of mining wastes into any stream in the state.

According to the citizens group Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, not only are the immediate streams close to the mines affected, but areas much further downstream are seeing negative impacts of heavy sediment pollution caused by the release of overburden soil and wastes being pushed

into nearby streams by strip mining companies.

For communities downstream, heavy sediment pollution means increased costs for treating municipal water supplies and the loss of recreational and economic return from the rivers and lakes fed by Eastern Kentucky headwaters. Most of HB 385's cosponsors represent districts

downstream from the coalfields.

Representative Don Pasley (D-Winchester), HB 385's chief sponsor, says the issue will directly impact the lives of future generations.

"To me this issue is about our children's future," Pasley said. "It's obvious to me this (pollution) is coming

(See STREAMS, page three)

CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE

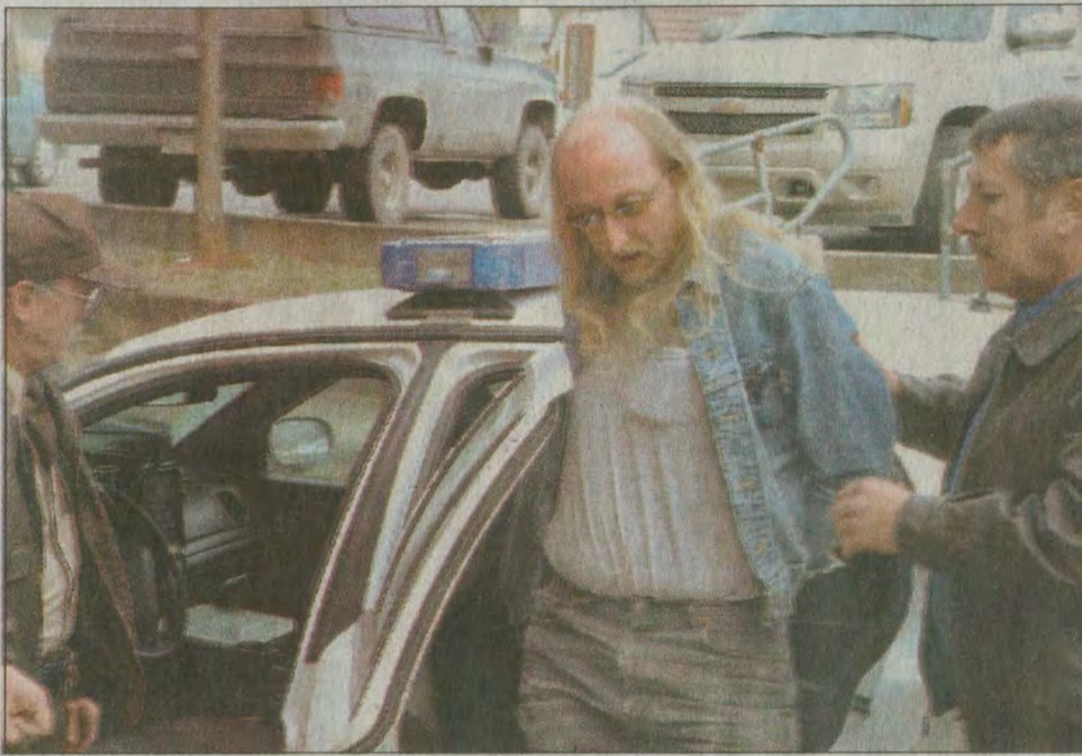


photo by Alex Smith

Louisville native Ezrael Allen was in the wrong place at the wrong time Friday afternoon when he was arrested as part of a drug bust that originally targeted four people in Floyd County. Allen was stopped and charged with driving under the influence and possession of marijuana and contraband after he pulled into the driveway while the drug bust was taking place. His passenger was one of the raid's targets and was also arrested.

Man gets six years for selling cocaine

by ALEX SMITH
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A Beaver man will spend six years in prison after he pleaded guilty on Thursday to four counts of trafficking cocaine.

Thirty-four-year-old John Robinson Jr. also pleaded guilty to two additional counts of trafficking controlled substances, which included several prescription pills as well as ecstasy, which netted him two 12-month sentences. All six guilty pleas Robinson agreed to will run concurrent with one another, and will also run concurrent with a sentence he is currently serving in federal prison.

A sentencing hearing has been set for March 16.

Robinson was indicted in November 2005 after agents working for Operation

UNITE raided his home July 29 and found a variety of drugs scattered throughout the dwelling. Xanax, ecstasy, plastic bags of cocaine and scales, cutting devices and other paraphernalia were found on tables, shelves and even in a back-pack.

Robinson was not home during the raid but was arrested a few days later. When he was arrested over \$1,000 was found in his pants, \$60 of which had serial numbers matching money used by UNITE to purchase drugs from Robinson.

Robinson sold cocaine the first time to a UNITE detective on July 26 at his home. Two days later an informant was used to perform a second buy, both of which had been recorded for later prosecution on audiotape.

Top lawmakers say spending will be selective this session

by BRUCE SCHREINER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — House and Senate leaders said Friday that lawmakers will likely be selective in spending a \$401 million budget surplus that spurred Gov. Ernie Fletcher to propose a broad range of initiatives.

House budget chairman Harry Moberly said the governor outlined some good priorities, but said action will likely be limited to matters needing

urgent attention before 2008, when lawmakers put together the next two-year state budget.

"We will not open up the budget to the extent that the governor has proposed," Moberly, D-Richmond, said in an interview.

Leaders from both chambers met Friday to discuss their priorities for the current 30-day General Assembly session, including to what extent lawmakers might tinker with the current \$18.1 billion budget passed by lawmakers last year.

"What should or should not be open, or what rises to the level of compelling, is what we're talking about," Senate President David Williams said of the budget talks.

Williams, R-Burkesville, said there appeared to be a sentiment not to reopen the budget "anymore than absolutely necessary."

In his State of the Commonwealth speech this week, Fletcher proposed using

(See BUDGET, page three)

Trucker pleads guilty to selling methadone

by ALEX SMITH
STAFF WRITER

PRESTONSBURG — A former truck driver who sold methadone while he was driving a coal truck pleaded guilty to two

counts of drug trafficking Thursday.

Wornald David Slone, 35, of Auxier, entered a guilty plea to two counts of trafficking in a controlled

(See TRUCKER, page three)

Bill would require schools to provide physical activity

by BRUCE SCHREINER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — Baretta Casey, who treats plenty of overweight children at her eastern Kentucky medical practice, offered a prescription Thursday to make youngsters leaner and healthier — more exercise.

Casey, president of the Kentucky Medical Association, was among health advocates who endorsed legislation that would require public elementary and middle schools to include 30 minutes of physical activity daily, or 150 minutes each week.

A bipartisan group of lawmakers

took up the cause of making physical fitness part of the school routine. They said it could prolong lives and cut health care costs.

"It's preventive medicine at its finest," Rep. Robin Webb, D-Grayson, said at a Capitol news conference.

The proposal is a follow up to legislation passed two years ago that put restrictions on the types of food and drinks sold at Kentucky schools to promote healthy eating and curb childhood obesity. It also required elementary schools to have a wellness plan that includes daily physical activity but gave no time

(See ACTIVITY, page three)



photo by Jessica Hale

The frigid temperatures in the area this week left little room for swimming, but didn't deter these geese at Dewey Lake boat dock from taking a dip in one of the few areas of water that wasn't frozen over.

3 DAY FORECAST

Today
Partly cloudy
High: 35 • Low: 32

Tomorrow
Showers
High: 46 • Low: 28

Tuesday
Wintery mix
High: 40 • Low: 23

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Coal mines must provide four days of air

by **TIM HUBER**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — Underground coal mines must provide up to four days of breathable air to keep miners alive in emergencies such as an explosion or a tunnel collapse, federal regulators announced Thursday.

A law enacted last year after a string of deadly accidents, including the deaths of 12 miners at the Sago Mine in January 2006, required mine operators to provide enough air to keep miners alive in an emergency but did not specify how much.

On Thursday, the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration gave mine

operators several options to comply with the requirement.

Among the options were providing a 96-hour supply of air in a shelter or an area of the mine designated for barricading against contaminants or drilling boreholes to provide a constant flow of fresh air to a designated area or shelter.

Mine operators have 30 days to submit plans to the agency, which has been criticized by the United Mine Workers labor union and members of Congress for not implementing the law quickly enough after it took effect in June.

If miners cannot evacuate in an emergency, "they need a safe location that maintains an adequate supply of breathable

air for them to use while they await rescue," said Richard Stickler, MSHA's director.

A National Mining Association spokesman had not heard of the new requirement and declined to comment.

Bill Raney, president of the West Virginia Coal Association, said he was concerned the rule would disrupt similar efforts by the state.

The state Office of Miners' Health, Safety and Training is in the process of approving underground shelters that can provide 48 hours of air. Mine operators have until mid-April to submit plans for installing the shelters.

"We're on a very thoughtful, practical path here in West

Virginia," Raney said. "Now all of a sudden we seem to get a press release that dictates different times, different dates, different things."

In the Sago accident, one miner was killed in an explosion and 12 others were unable to escape. Eleven died of car-

bon monoxide poisoning and only one, Randal McCloy Jr., was rescued after more than 40 hours trapped underground.

A company trying to get a mine shelter approved in West Virginia said it supported the 96-hour rule from the beginning.

Ed Roscioli, chief executive of Allentown, Pa.-based ChemBio Shelter Inc., said he wants to give rescuers plenty of time so they don't risk their own lives out of fear that trapped miners have only a few hours of air.

Trucker

substance and received five-year sentences for each count. Slone will serve two years while the remaining three years will be suspended and probated for three years.

Slone received a call Feb. 13, 2006, from an informant working with a detective for Operation UNITE to arrange a drug deal. Slone told the infor-

mant that he was driving a black coal truck and that he would meet them near the parking lot of Highlands Regional Medical Center in Prestonsburg. The informant and detective were both present and purchased methadone from Slone and recorded the transaction on audiotape, which took place inside the coal truck.

A second drug deal was scheduled for the next day at Slone's residence in Auxier. Both the informant and detective were present during the second drug deal, which occurred inside of Slone's car and was recorded on audio and videotape.

Slone will be formally sentenced March 16.

Budget

\$50 million to protect retirement systems for teachers and state employees from financial problems that could put their health care and pensions at risk in coming years.

The proposals by Fletcher, who is seeking re-election this year, also included:

- \$25 million to supplement financial aid for needy college students.

- \$10 million to pay for retraining of workers at two Ford plants in Louisville.

- \$5.8 million to purchase antiviral drugs to guard against bird flu.

- \$4.1 million to cover the cost of voluntary vaccines against a sexually transmitted

virus known to cause cervical cancer.

Fletcher recommended putting \$151 million into a trust fund used in emergencies.

"We didn't open up the budget and start doing a lot of new projects, only what we felt was essential and has short-term needs," Fletcher told reporters Friday.

Moberly said his priorities include reinforcing the retirement systems for teachers and state employees and hiring more social workers and making their jobs safer. Moberly said he also supports putting money toward the anti-cervical cancer vaccinations.

House Speaker Jody

Richards, a Bowling Green Democrat who is running for governor, said that taking care of the pension systems and the rainy day fund were priorities.

One Fletcher proposal with widespread support is restoring more than \$351.6 million in construction projects that he vetoed last year, primarily at the state's public colleges and universities. Moberly estimated the projects would cost the state's general fund about \$11 million, and the rest would be paid for with agency bonds.

"Everybody is looking at restoring the projects," Richards said. "Not adding anything, not subtracting anything."

Activity

requirement.

Now, the so-called "Healthy Kids Act 2007" would require elementary and middle schools to include a half hour of moderate to vigorous physical activity each day by the 2008-09 school year.

Schools would have the flexibility to tailor their physical activity programs.

The proposal, introduced this week in both the House and Senate, drew criticism from the Kentucky School Boards Association.

Alicia Sells, the group's director of governmental relations, agreed that good health habits should be promoted to students. But she said in an interview that the proposal would eat into classroom time and weaken local school officials' authority to make decisions about curriculum.

"This is a mandate that not only diverts a phenomenal amount of time from instruction, but also erodes local decision-making authority," she said.

Sen. Katie Stine, R-Southgate, said it's time for

stronger action to promote healthy lifestyles among Kentucky's children.

"We have studied this issue enough to know that the time has come to make a firm commitment, to save our children from this epidemic and to improve the quality of life for the next generation of Kentuckians," she said.

Supporters cited statistics indicating large numbers of Kentucky children are overweight, saying it was part of a larger national health problem.

"Kentucky's children are in appalling condition," said Boone County Republican Rep. Addia Wuchner.

Stine noted that Kentuckians

spend \$1.1 billion a year on medical expenses resulting from being overweight.

Casey said a pilot research project in Perry County in eastern Kentucky showed that 64 percent of children in the first through fifth grades were obese. She said obesity is linked to a host of medical problems, including diabetes and heart disease.

"Those are preventable diseases for our children," she said.

She said physical activity can lead to better performance in the classroom.

"An unhealthy mind cannot learn," she said.

Streams

from Eastern Kentucky, where they are taking off the tops of mountains and pushing the overburden into the streams below."

Hueysville resident Rick Handshoe says he is very concerned about all of the areas that are being affected and, like some others, he places all of the blame on the coal companies themselves.

"The coal companies above me have killed everything in the streams," said Handshoe. "It's time our elected officials fix the problem."

Federal and state law requires that the impacts of surface mining operations be kept at least 100 feet from a stream, an area known as a "stream buffer zone." But according to Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, state and federal officials routinely

ignore this law and allow coal companies to dump their mining wastes into massive valley fills that are sometimes hundreds of feet high and up to a mile long. In 2005, there were 79 new stream buffer zone waivers granted by the Department of Mining Reclamation and Enforcement that allowed mining waste to bury 146 named streams. Across the state, valley fills have buried more than 420 miles of mountain streams.

Handshoe is confident the state legislature will correct the problem.

"It's clear the legislators who are sponsoring the Stream Saver Bill care about our future," said Handshoe. "Water runs downhill and what happens here is affecting everything downstream to the Ohio River. I hope the Stream

Saver Bill gets passed. It will protect our streams and wildlife for everyone."

According to data presented by the Kentucky Division of Water at a meeting of the Environmental Quality Commission in Pikeville, 87.5 percent of the streams in the Big Sandy basin are "impaired" by human activity. This encompasses mining, logging and oil or gas drilling. These types of human activity reported to be impairing the streams account for three times more pollution than any other source.

Reps. Brandon Spencer and Hubert Collins, who both sit on the Natural Resources Committee, will have the first vote on the HB 385. Floyd Countians can express opinions concerning the bill using a toll free legislative message line, (800) 372-7181.

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Bradley Thomas Moore, DO

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ARH welcomes Bradley Thomas Moore, DO, who has begun his practice at the McDowell ARH Professional Clinic.

Bradley is the son of John and Wilma Moore of McDowell. He and his wife, Crystal (Jones), have three children, Trey, age 7, Dylan, age 2, and Ashley, age 1.

He was a member of the first graduating class of South Floyd High School, is a graduate of Alice Lloyd College in Pippa Passes and the Pikeville Osteopathic School.

Dr. Moore is a Family Practice physician who has been practicing at the Hope Medical Center in Salersville, and is looking forward to retuning to his hometown in McDowell.

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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

Governor counting chickens too soon

There are practical reasons some expressions we use frequently in our daily lives become clichés: Though trite, they work. Sometimes there’s no better way to say what you mean.

Take for instance the admonition, don’t count your chickens before they hatch.

Since November, Gov. Ernie Fletcher has been touting a projected \$279 million surplus the state will collect by the end of the fiscal year June 30, as a result of his tax modernization plan. He even has been asking taxpayers how they would like to spend the leftover money projected by his budget director, Brad Cowgill.

Encouraged by December’s general fund receipts of \$900.3 million, the largest in the commonwealth’s history, the governor has been promising people around the state he would consider spending the surplus on their suggestions and pet projects. He said he would restore some of the \$350 million in projects approved by the General Assembly but vetoed by the governor too late for the lawmakers to override.

Budget Director Cowgill, at Fletcher’s direction, asked the Consensus Forecast Group, an independent group that formulates the official revenue estimates for the state budget, to update its last forecast, December 2005. The group said state revenues would exceed the year-old estimates by \$401 million by June 30, 2008, the end of the state’s two-year budget cycle.

Eight paragraphs later, a press release pointed out that revenues for the current fiscal year ending in about six months would be \$232 million. That’s about \$47 million less than the governor’s budget director estimated in his Quarterly Economic and Revenue Report in November. Revenue for the Oct. 1, 2007-June 30, 2008, budget year would be an additional \$169.3 million above previous estimates.

Cowgill told The Associated Press he did not see the \$47 million difference as a “significant reduction.” Hmmm.

Sounds as if legislative leaders were right to suggest that any surplus be retained in the state’s rainy day fund to balance the next state budget. The rainy day fund today is at a level only slightly more than half of the statutory target of 5 percent of the state’s general revenues.

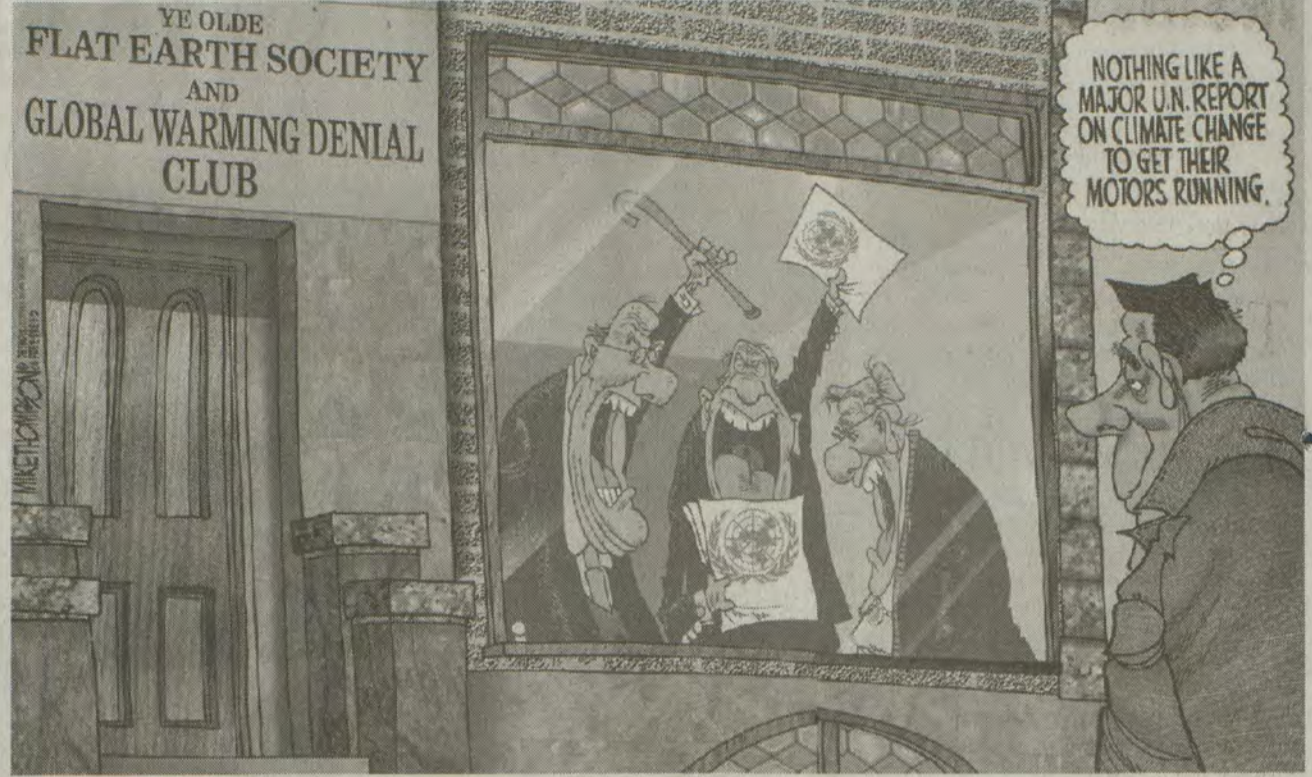
Of course, we have to excuse the governor for being so enthusiastic about any unanticipated budget surplus. He is seeking re-election this year under the dark cloud of a state hiring scandal, for which he was indicted, and abuse of his pardon privileges hanging over his head. And his biggest threat to date is not those scurrilous Democrats, but challengers from within his own party.

Important to remember also is that the governor does not have the authority to spend one penny that has not been authorized by the General Assembly has gathered for a brief session in Frankfort.

Regardless of the final revenue figure, touting a surplus and asking the public how to spend it puts the governor in the position of being able to tell voters later this year that he tried to get the General Assembly to spend the money the way their constituents wanted, but the lawmakers declined.

That might be good politics for the governor, even if he is counting his chickens too soon.

— *The News-Enterprise, Elizabethtown*



FOSSIL FUEL

— Rich Lowry Column —

A campaign for order

President Bush didn’t talk about the yearning of the human heart for freedom in his latest Iraq speech. Such reductive anthropology used to be a staple of his pronouncements — everywhere human hearts were hungering for freedom, and the global mission of the U.S. was to release this pent-up desire for liberty.

Bush still talked of advancing liberty, but his key claim about the hearts of Iraqis was a stripped-down (but still somewhat dubious) one: “Most of Iraq’s Sunni and Shia want to live together in peace.”

If this is the case — and it becomes ever less so as the civil war intensifies — it speaks less to a hunger for freedom than for order, which the Bush administration has foolishly neglected at both the conceptual and practical levels.

Calls for order do not make for stirring lines in poetic presidential speeches. It is a cliché to say we take freedom for granted, but it is not so. Freedom is constantly invoked by all sides of the American political debate. It is order — the underpinning of freedom — that is taken for granted.

In his book “The Roots of American Order,” the conservative intellectual Russell Kirk explained that “justice cannot be enforced until

a tolerable civil social order is attained, nor can freedom be anything better than violence until order gives us laws.”

This is why Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld’s infamous statement during the rioting after the fall of Saddam Hussein that “freedom is untidy” was so wrong-headed. Freedom ultimately has to be tidy, because it depends on boundaries and rules — a societal consensus — that have existed for so long in the West that we often forget about them. The historian Theodore Von Laue called them “the invisible substructures of individual and collective discipline.”

Iraq had few such substructures. In the Saddam era, it had only the top-down coercive power of the state. When that was removed, there was chaos, without the U.S. ever substituting enough force to give the Iraqi people the blessings of order — an order that obviously would be more just and free than that imposed by Saddam.

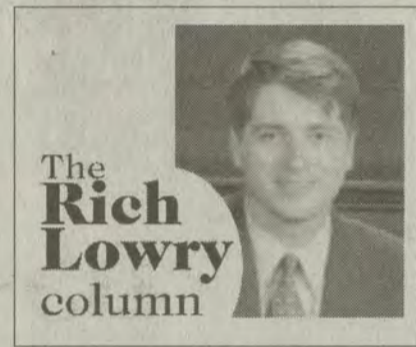
As Fred Kagan of the American Enterprise Institute — the intellectual godfather of the Bush “surge” — has noted, the absence of order is fatal to any government: “Continual violence

and death eliminate the people’s support for the government, leading to an increase in violence, as individuals and groups undertake to protect and avenge themselves independently of state structures, legal institutions or government sanction.” In other words, they cling to militias, insurgents and all the other forces bedeviling us in Iraq.

The surge is meant finally to check this process. But American troops won’t be able to do it alone. There is a reason that so many democracies have been created out of reforming authoritarian governments. They provided the “prerequisite of order,” but with enough breathing space so that eventually freedom could flourish.

Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki already has a kind of democratic mandate. Now, he needs to act with enough strength to hold his country together. So far, he simply has been demonstrating Edmund Burke’s insight that “nothing turns out to be so oppressive and unjust as a feeble government.”

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.



— beyond the beltway —

Consolidating control of the Titanic

by DONALD KAUL
MINUTEMAN MEDIA

Is it safe to come out now? Is the Super Bowl finally over? Of all the over-hyped works of our hype-weary society, the so-called “Super Bowl” tops the list. It’s a football game, for crying out loud. What’s the big deal? Somebody wins; somebody loses. So what?

The best thing about it is that it means Baseball isn’t far behind. Good riddance to it. But on to more substantial fare:

Admit it, you were fooled. You listened to that wimpy State of the Union address and you thought President Bush was in full retreat before an angry electorate.

Yet again you underestimated the man. The retreat was merely tactical.

Less than a week after the speech, he returned to the fray, guns blazing. He signed a Presidential directive that, in effect, grants him effective control over all federal rules and policies developed to protect public health, safety, the environment, civil rights and privacy.

The directive, which does not need Congressional approval, requires regulatory agencies to have a policy office run by a political appointee who makes sure proposed regulations don’t cost the regulated industries too much. (And by “too much,” I would imagine, they mean

“anything.”)

In the past such regulations have been the responsibility of career civil servants and scientists. From now on, political hacks will be running the show, preferably ones who don’t believe in abortion, stem cell research or evolution. If you liked Katrina, you’re going to love the next two years.

As Rep. Henry Waxman (Dem.) said: “The executive order allows the political staff at the White House to dictate decisions on health and safety issues, even if the government’s own impartial experts disagree. This a terrible way to govern, but great news for special interests.”

It occurs to me that what President Bush is doing, in his way, is resurrecting the administration of Richard Nixon. Like Bush Nixon tried to put his political operatives at key positions in virtually every department of the government, better to exercise power. Like Bush he wiretapped his enemies, opened their mail and spied on them. He also had a burglary team working for him and we don’t know whether President Bush has one of those — yet.

The genius of Bush, however, is that while Nixon had to resign his Presidency and nearly went to jail for his crimes, Bush commits them openly and no one lays a glove on him.

It’s the War on Terror, don’t you know. Everything he does is legal because he’s a war president and he says it’s legal.

It’s a terrific hustle and you have to give him credit for pulling it off. So he’s down in the polls a little, so what? The people he’s taking care of

now will take care of him down the road.

I do worry about our Vice-president, however. He seems to have gone a little...I don’t know...soft in the head I guess you’d call it.

A couple of weeks ago Mr. Cheney sat down with CNN’s Wolf Blitzer and answered critics of the war in Iraq.

“Hogwash.” That’s what he called the criticisms. The war, far from being a failure, has been a string of “enormous successes,” he said. We got rid of Saddam, we got rid of his sons, we established a democracy in the Middle East, we gave

Iraqis a constitution.

“The world is much safer today because of it,” he said.

I don’t know what else he said because I had to get lie down and put a cold cloth on my forehead.

He reminds me of Saddam’s Minister of Information, Muhammad Said al-Sahhaf. All through the invasion he scoffed at reports of American successes. He rejected the validity of telecasts, showing American tanks on Baghdad streets. His last press conference featured American tanks advancing on him in the background, even as he denied their existence. That’s our boy Dick.

People worry about Iran getting the atom bomb. Not me. I worry about Cheney getting it.

□ □ □

Don Kaul is a two-time Pulitzer Prize-losing Washington correspondent who, by his own account, is right more than he’s wrong. Email him at dkaul1@verizon.net.

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CAR TALK:

No mechanical damage; what about marital damage?

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.

The Ides of March once was a time of foreboding. To us in Floyd County, the time of dread is the "tides" of February.

□ □ □

At a time such as this, when so many are facing property damage and deep discouragement from the ravages of floodwaters, we struggle harder than usual to come up with a column that is neither dreary nor over-carefree. But we can find solace in the fact that things could be, and have been, worse...that better days are ahead, and the clouds will part.

□ □ □

The busiest woman in Floyd County, during times of flood or other disaster, is Dame Rumor. Some of the tales we've heard are lulus.

□ □ □

Now comes one to contribute something of a lighter nature, saying, "George Washington, I will agree, never told a lie—but he never had to fill out Form 1040."

□ □ □

IT WORKS!

Here's a little formula this column may have printed, years ago, but lest you have as much trouble as I do remembering it, we hurry to get it down in print again. Try it!

- Put down your age.
- Double it.
- Now add five.
- Multiply by 50.
- Subtract 365, the number of days in the year.
- Add the amount of loose change in your pocket, less than \$1.00.
- Add 115.

The first two figures of your answer will be your age, and the last two will be the amount of loose change in your pocket.

□ □ □

I'M STRUGGLING

Temptation appears in the most unusual forms, and so pleasing. This week's tempter is Walter Hall, who spoke at length of the strippers in the Ross-Santee reservoir, down in South Carolina, of the big bass, the record crappie, et cetera, of how little it would cost a fellow to go fishing there if he camped out — and then extended the invitation...I appreciate the invitation, but to tempt a fellow after a long, hard winter, and just when the fishing fever has him in its grip, is sort of slipping up on his blind side, so to speak.



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Tickets go on sale now.

Get your tickets now for BSCTC's BIG SANDY IDOL

This year, Big Sandy Community and Technical College (BSCTC) launched its new music scholarship program for high school students. Big Sandy Idol, sponsored and organized by the Music Department of BSCTC, is a talent and scholarship competition that offers two winners from 14 high schools in Pike, Floyd, Johnson, Magoffin, and Martin Counties, a chance to compete for a demo CD recording, an album recording, a \$1,200 vocal scholarship to attend BSCTC, along with a cash prize and a spot with the Big Sandy Singers who are directed by Laura Ford Hall.

Clayton Case, BSCTC's Music and Drama Assistant Director, serves as the coordinator of the Big Sandy Idol Program. Case, Hall and Technical Director Timothy Cooley, have worked to organize sign-ups, auditions, recordings, and shows for each high school.

Through the sign-ups and audition process, approximately 10 to 15 students were chosen to compete at the local high school level — in front of the student body at their own high school. Now, all of the winners have been chosen and two winners from each high school will compete

at the Mountain Arts Center for the Big Sandy Idol Regional Competition, held Friday and Saturday, March 16 and 17 at 7 p.m. each evening.

The Friday night show will feature the runners-up from each school and the Saturday night show will feature the first place winners.

The students who will be competing in the BSI Regional competition are:

Friday Night

James Greer — Allen Central High; Hillary Keesee — Belfry High; Carni Baxter — East Ridge High; Ashley Hall — Johnson Central High; Lindsey Carty — Magoffin County High; Tyler Childers — Paintsville High; Trusonda Dotson — Phelps High; Daniel Zienkiewicz — Pike Central High; Kara Hall — Pikeville High; Katie Lemaster — Prestonsburg High; Holly Pack — Prestonsburg High; Britta Hall — Shelby Valley High; Candace Preece — Sheldon Clark High; Savannah Bartley — South Floyd High

Saturday Night

Josh Martin — Allen Central High; Caleb Tackett — Belfry High; Brennan Case — Betsy Layne High; Waylan Nelson — Betsy Layne High; Isaac Thacker — East Ridge High; Kristina Pescosolido — Johnson Central High; Nathan Arnett — Magoffin County High; Katelyn Webb — Paintsville High; Ryan Lester — Phelps High; Eric Madden — Pike Central High; McKinzie Carter — Pikeville High; Holly Rice — Prestonsburg High; William King — Shelby Valley High; Daniel Tungate — Shelby Valley High; Allison Daniels — South Floyd High; Tierra Davis — Sheldon Clark High

Tickets go on sale Friday, Feb. 9 and are \$5 each. 50 percent of sales will go to promote the Music and Drama Community Outreach Program at BSCTC and further scholarship opportunities for vocal music students.

In addition to the Big Sandy Idol program, the college also offers the following community programs: Children's Music and Drama Summer Camp; The Big Sandy High School Singers; InHarmony Community Women's Chorus; Serenade Community Women's Ensemble; Community Theatre Troupe; and the college's elite student singing ensemble The Big Sandy Singers.

"We are so excited about the Big Sandy Idol Regional Competition," said Case. "We hope everyone will come out to support the representatives of their school and to see the show. It would be hard to beat the talent we have among our eastern Kentucky high school students. It is amazing!"

Out of the 14 students competing on Friday night, one will be crowned the "wild card." The "wild card" will receive a recording contract for a ten song album from BSCTC Productions Studio and then go on to Saturday's competition to compete for the other prizes.

"We hope the community will come out and support these kids," Case concluded. "We are excited to provide an opportunity for our high school students to receive performance and recording experience, and ultimately a college scholarship."

For more information on Big Sandy Idol, contact Clayton Case at 886-3863 or ccase0005@kctes.edu.

MOVIES FROM THE BLACK LAGOON

'Rapid Fire'

by TOM DOTY
TIMES COLUMNIST

Chicago gangsters, Hong Kong drug runners and a corrupt FBI agent learn that it's never wise to mess with an art student in this action fest from seasoned director Dwight Little ("Hard to Kill").

The film opens in China during the student protests that led to the Tiananmen Square massacre. Jake Lo can only watch in horror as his father is ground into the pavement by a tank while several fellow students pull him to safety. The scene then shifts to Los Angeles, where he is continuing his art studies.

Meanwhile, a Chicago mobster, Tony Serrano, legs it to Hong Kong to try and shake down his cocaine connection, Tau, for more bucks by appealing to his sense of nostalgia. Turns out he helped give Tau his start but that doesn't stop Tau from taking memory lane off his travel itinerary. A rebuffed Serrano heads back to the States with a plan to wipe out Tau's middleman.



Tom Doty
Times Columnist

This all comes together when the middleman is revealed to have a political bent. He hosts a student gathering to protest Tiananmen Square and Jake attends the meeting after being lured in by a comely artist's model. Lo is still in denial about the incident but stays on and rues that decision when Serrano crashes the party and shoots the Hong Kong connection in front of him.

This gives Lo a bird's eye view of Serrano and makes him an ideal witness for the FBI team charged with investigating Serrano. They are totally taken with Lo, who produces a sketch of Serrano, drawn from memory, that is spot on. They quickly induce him to fly to Chicago to testify before a grand jury. Lo reluctantly takes the trip but becomes downright opposed to working with the feds when he learns that the officer in charge of the investigation is deep in Serrano's pocket and plans to have him killed.

Lo winds up on the run in the windy city, with no one to trust until a rogue cop convinces him to play a deadly game of cat and mouse in which they plan to turn the FBI agent to their side and use him to deliver Lo to Serrano while recording the meet alongside a trigger-happy SWAT team.

Well, everyone knows how the best laid plan of mice and men turn out, but things get even worse when one of the mice is a major rat. Covers get blown and a lot of bullets fly as Lo must take out the armed mobsters from inside an Italian restaurant while lead flies through the air from both sides. Lucky for Lo he is an adept martial artist and his fists of fury level the playing field considerably.

Unfortunately, Serrano isn't a very helpful witness, which leads to an excellent finale during which Lo must infiltrate Tau's drug laundering site.

(See LAGOON, page six)

The princess and the toad

by JOAN SUTULA

"CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE CAT & DOG LOVER'S SOUL"

Some years ago, our family expanded to include a 1-year-old Siberian husky named Princess Misha. Like all Siberian huskies, Misha had an innate love of the outdoors, and, of course, the cooler the better. She would lie curled up in a ball on top of a snowdrift on the coldest of winter days; with her tail flicked over her only vulnerable spot — her nose. When fresh snow fell, she would lie so still that she soon

disappeared under a blanket of snow and became part of the landscape. Every so often, she stood up, shook off, turned in a few circles, and then laid back down to keep watch over her domain.

On warm summer days, she found the coolest corner in the house and spent her days napping. Then after her nightly walk, she'd spend the rest of the evening stretched out on the cool cement of the front patio. All through the hot summers and into the fall, this was her nightly ritual.

One summer evening, as we sat out on the front patio relishing a late-

evening breeze, we saw a small toad hop out of the grass, then down the sidewalk to a few feet away from where Misha was lying. Suddenly, Misha stood up, walked over to the toad, picked it up in her mouth and then walked back to her resting place and lay back down. She then put her chin down on the walk, opened her mouth and let the toad hop out while we watched in astonishment. The toad sat there in front of Misha's eyes, the two seeming to stare at one another for some time. Then the toad hopped down the walk and back into the grass.

On other nights that summer, we noticed this same ritual. We commented on the fact that Misha seemed to have a fondness for toads.

We worried because some toads can be poisonous, but since she never experienced any ill effect and never hurt them, we didn't interfere. If she spotted a toad in the street on one of her walks, she would actually run over to it and nudge it with her nose till it had safely hopped off the street and back onto the grass, out of harm's way.

The following summer was the same. Misha enjoyed cooling off by lying out on the front patio after nightfall. Many times, we noticed a

toad within inches of her face. At other times, we watched as she walked into the grass and came back to her resting spot with a toad in her mouth, only to release it. The toads always stayed near her for some time before hopping off into the night. The only difference from the previous summer was that she spent more nights in this manner, and the toads were bigger. A toad always seemed to be close at hand.

(See SOUP, page six)





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FLOYD COUNTY Sports

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Rebels dismantle David in front of small crowd

by **STEVE LeMASTER**
SPORTS EDITOR

EASTERN — In a much-debated boys' basketball game played in front of a sparse crowd Thursday night, host Allen Central didn't have any trouble prevailing over the visiting David School. The Rebels cruised to their 16th win of the season, defeating the Falcons 95-41.

Allen Central and David finally met for the regular-season matchup that was originally scheduled to be

played earlier in the season, but under protest, postponed.

No fans nor members of the media were allowed inside the gym for Thursday night's game.

Floyd County Schools Superintendent Dr. Paul W. Fanning made the decision to not allow the public to attend the boys' basketball game. Only parents, team players and school district employees were allowed to



attend the regular-season game held at J.E. Campbell Arena, home to the Allen Central Rebels.

Fanning and additional school district officials wanted to avoid any problems that might arise from individuals and organizations who had expressed concerns about Allen Central's use of the Confederate flag and "Rebel" mascot.

In the game, Allen Central jumped out in front early on and never trailed.

The Rebels outscored David 33-9 in the opening quarter. Allen Central held a commanding 64-23 lead at halftime.

"Glad the game is over," said veteran Allen Central Coach Johnny Martin. Clearly relieved to have the game behind him and his program, Martin added, "this has been a major distraction in what has been a wonderful season."

Allen Central held a convincing 75-29 lead over David at the end of the third quarter. Eleven different Allen Central players played and scored in

the non-district contest.

The win was Allen Central's third straight and seventh in eight games. Allen Central came into Thursday's game knowing a key Floyd County Conference/58th District game against longtime rival South Floyd loomed. The Rebels and Raiders were doing battle Friday night at J.E. Campbell Arena. In the loss to Allen Central, Andrew Conn accounted for the majority of David's scoring. Conn hit seven three-pointers and led the Falcons with a game-high 36 points.

Eagles edge Cavs

TIMES STAFF REPORT

WISE, Va. — UVA-Wise let go of a 13-point lead early in the second half before the Alice Lloyd College Eagles scored twice in the final 40 seconds for a 76-73 men's basketball victory. The Highland Cavaliers had two three-point attempts in the final 12 seconds but neither fell.

The Eagles finished the season series with two wins, improving to 9-13 overall. The Highland Cavaliers dropped to 8-20.

Jarred Soles paced UVA-Wise with 27 points on 10-of-20 attempts with five three-point field goals. Zydrunas Rackauskas turned in a double-double, scoring 24 points on eight-of-12 shots to go with a game-high 17 rebounds. Cassidy Vaughn handed out five assists for the host Cavs.

Alice Lloyd had five double figure scorers. Rodney Mitchell made six of 12 shots for 17 points before fouling out for the Eagles. Eric Mullins had 14 points while Chris Hurt and William Dillard

(See **EAGLES**, page eight)

Helton leads UVA-Wise over Lady Eagles

TIMES STAFF REPORT

WISE, Va. — For the second time in three nights, the University of Virginia's College of Wise claimed a women's basketball victory on the strength of Sara Helton's 33 points over Alice Lloyd, 88-79.

The Lady Cavaliers swept the season series with the victory and improve to 8-19. The Lady Eagles, following the loss, fell to 13-10.

Helton connected on 12 of 20 points for 33 points, 22 of which came in the first half, to go with a game-best eight rebounds. Chelsea Lee hit for 16 points and Terri Ann Hill added 14. Rachel Helton dished out a

(See **HELTON**, page eight)



Becky Thomas

RACING HISTORY

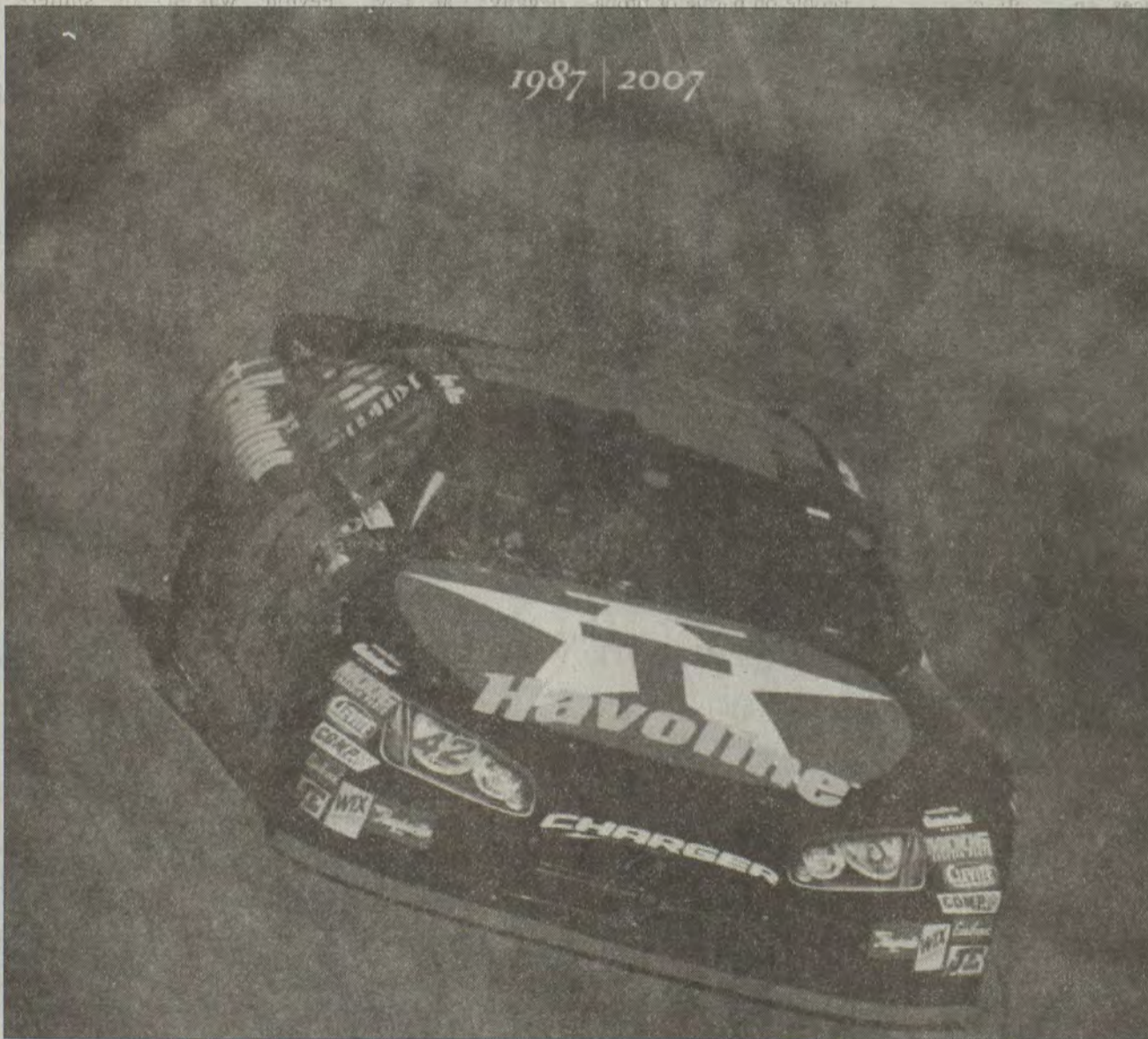


"A major oil company brings huge resources and depth of knowledge to racing. Lubricants. Fuel science. Technology. Even metallurgy. You can learn from a sponsor like that."

LORIN RANIER ★ Head of Driver Development
Chip Ganassi Racing with Felix Sabates

DRIVING ON A FULL TANK

Texaco/Havoline is currently celebrating 20 years in racing. The company has produced a new book which chronicles its past 20 years in racing. Included in the book is Prestonsburg native Lorin Ranier and information on the Ranier family and its involvement with Texaco/Havoline and NASCAR. Lorin Ranier, who is now heavily involved with Chip Ganassi Racing, met with Texaco Havoline officials in Prestonsburg last fall. Copies of the Texaco/Havoline racing book are available inside the Prestonsburg Tourism Building, which also houses the Ranier Racing Museum.



Floyd Youth Soccer holding signups

by **STEVE LeMASTER**
SPORTS EDITOR

PRESTONSBURG — Floyd County Youth Soccer Association has announced that registration for the Spring 2007 season will be held on Saturday, Feb. 17 and Saturday, Feb. 24 at the Prestonsburg McDonald's. League volunteers will be present at McDonald's to accept registrations between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. The fee, which covers uniforms and the other costs associated with the soccer program, is \$40 per child.

Parents may also register their children online by accessing the league website at HYPERLINK <http://www.kysoccer.net/ekysa>, www.kysoccer.net/ekysa. The registration form posted online should be printed, completed by the parent, and mailed to Robin Simpson Smith, Registrar, P. O. Box 746, Prestonsburg, Ky. 41653. A check or money order in the amount of \$40 should be included for registration fees. Floyd County Youth Soccer is

(See **SOCCER**, page eight)

MSU releases '07 football schedule

TIMES STAFF REPORT

MOREHEAD — A renewal of a series with Western Kentucky and games against Northeast Conference members St. Francis (Pa.) and Robert Morris highlight the non-conference portion of Morehead State University's 2007 football schedule released Thursday. Seven Pioneer Football League games and a home contest against West Virginia Tech complete the 11-game slate.

"We open the season with three non-conference games that should prepare us well for our PFL schedule," said MSU Coach Matt Ballard. "Then, after seven consecutive league games, we will face a truly outstanding Western Kentucky program.

"It's a challenging schedule as always, but also one we believe we can have success with. The PFL will be more balanced than ever. It will be a battle every week."

Prestonsburg native John Gilliam guides the MSU defense as its coordinator.

(See **MSU**, page eight)

Driver boycott at Talladega kills NASCAR union

by **MIKE HARRIS**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

In September 1969, NASCAR's best-known drivers formed the Professional Drivers Association, an organization they hoped would make their jobs safer, guarantee their futures and raise their paltry incomes.

Just weeks later, the PDA was dead, victim of the iron hand of NASCAR founder William Henry Getty "Big Bill" France and genuinely bad timing.

"The week before Talladega we had a meeting in Detroit," explained Richard Petty, one of the biggest names in racing and a key union organizer. "Everybody sat down and said, 'It's time we did something like this.'"

That included drivers such as David Pearson, Cale Yarborough, Buddy Baker and Bobby Allison.

An earlier attempt to organize drivers — by NASCAR pioneer Curtis Turner and the Teamsters Union — was crushed by France in 1961. He banned Turner for "life," which wound up being four years.

But eight years later, the drivers were talking union again.

NASCAR ran 54 races in 1969, some paying as little as \$1,000 to the winner. In a far more dangerous era, drivers were insured for a maximum of \$15,000.

"When you go back to me and Allison and Pearson and all of them, we was just making a living," said Petty, who was elected president of the PDA. "I drove 35 years and didn't take in but \$7 1/2 million dollars. It took me 15 years to win the first million.

"These guys today start out with \$2 or \$3 million dollars in their hand before they ever get in the race car. Then they go out and win another \$2 or \$3 million dollars or whatever. ... If they can't take care of themselves with the money flowing through their hands now then nobody could look after you."

Today's drivers appreciate the fact that NASCAR and the Frances, the founding family, have given them the

(See **NASCAR**, page eight)



RACING RELICS: Memorabilia of Cale Yarborough — a former driver for Ranier Racing — is on display inside the Prestonsburg Tourism Building as part of the Ranier Racing Museum.

photo by Steve LeMaster

Pelphrey-coached Jags hold off Western Kentucky University

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

MOBILE, Ala. — The University of South Alabama Jaguars held off a furious second half rally by Western Kentucky University Hilltoppers on Thursday night and needed overtime for a 73-71 victory at the Mitchell Center. With the win, the Jags improved to 18-7 overall and 12-2 in conference play, while extending the nation's fourth best winning streak to 11 games.

"This was an unbelievably exciting basketball game," Jaguar head coach John Pelphrey, a Paintsville native said. "I thought we played well for much of the game and you have to give WKU a lot of credit coming back like they did in the late stages of the second half."

"I am really proud of how our guys persevered tonight, we hung in there and got the job done."

In the second overtime game of the season for the Jaguars, USA took the early one point lead on a free throw by junior Daon Merritt. WKU's Courtney Lee put the Hilltoppers up one with a putback, but senior

Leandro Buboltz hit a big time 3-pointer in the corner to put USA back up 67-65 with just over two minutes left. Junior Demetric Bennett drove to the hoop on the ensuing possession to put the Jags up four with 90 seconds left.

WKU's Jeremy Evans cut the deficit in half with another putback and two free throws by Evans evened the game at 69 with 56 seconds left. Junior Daon Merritt drove to the hoop and was fouled putting him at the line where he made both free throws with 34.4 seconds left.

The Hilltoppers went for the quick score by A.J. Slaughter giving the Jags the final possession with 17.2 seconds on the clock. Merritt drove to the hoop for the go-ahead score with 2.2 seconds left.

WKU had one last chance as it put the ball in play and had to go the length of the court. Lee heaved a ball from just inside halfcourt to no avail.

The Jaguars built a 26-16 on a layup by Merritt with just over five minutes to play in the first half. A trey by Hilltopper Orlando Mendez-Valdez cut the deficit to 26-19 with

four minutes to play and another trey by Tyrone Brazelton cut the deficit to five points at 27-22 with two minutes left in the half.

Bennett countered with two treys in the final minute of the half to put the Jags up 35-25 at halftime.

For the half USA shot 43.8 percent from the floor on 14-of-32. The Jags were five-of-13 from beyond the arc and two-of-four from the line. Bennett had 10 points to lead the team, while Merritt and Davis each had eight.

WKU was led by eight points from Brazelton as the Hilltoppers shot 10-of-26 from the floor for 38.5 percent, after starting the half making just two of their first 12. WKU was four-of-12 from beyond the arc and 1 of 2 from the line.

WKU held a 20-16 lead in rebounds. The Jaguars played much of the first half without junior Ernest Little who had two quick fouls early in the game.

Each time WKU cut the deficit under ten, the Jags responded and pushed the lead back to nine or 10. Little hit two free throws to put USA

up 53-42 with 11 minutes to play in regulation.

WKU rallied from a 60-48 deficit to tie the game at 60 with two minutes and change left. Courtney Lee hit a key bucket as the shot clock was winding down to put the Hilltoppers up 62-60 with 33 seconds left. USA ended the 14-0 run by WKU with a 3-pointer by junior Daon Merritt to tie the game with 21.8 seconds left. It was in just about the exact spot where he hit the game-tying 3-pointer against North Texas to send that game to overtime.

For the game, USA was led by Merritt who tied his career-high with 24 points on seven-of-nine from the floor and eight-of-11 from the line. Also in double figures was Bennett with 14 and Davis had 10 points off the bench.

Lee led Western Kentucky with 21 points. Brazelton scored 15 points and Evans added 11 for the Hilltoppers.

"I am very happy for our kids," Pelphrey added. "It is not every day that you are fourth in the nation in something. I am very happy for our school and our fans were awesome tonight."



photo courtesy of South Alabama

Paintsville native John Pelphrey guided his University of South Alabama Jaguars to a close win over the Western Kentucky University Hilltoppers Thursday night.

Cardinals, Wildcats try to reload on National Signing Day

By WILL GRAVES
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOUISVILLE — Steve Kragthorpe was in a mall somewhere in California recently when the new Louisville coach realized he didn't have to worry so much about selling the Cardinals to prospective recruits.

There, in a store a thousand miles away from Papa John's Stadium, was a Louisville hat mixed in with gear from more traditional college football powers.

"It's all over. People know about Louisville football now," Kragthorpe said. "When you look at all four corners of the country, you look at all 50 states, you ask somebody who is a football fan or who follows football, 'Tell me about Louisville football,' they'll tell you about Louisville."

The challenge for Kentucky coach Rich Brooks on the recruiting trail was a little different. Rather than convince recruits that better days are ahead, as he's had to do the past, Brooks went into living rooms trying to build on the momentum the Wildcats created after going 8-5 last season and winning a bowl game for the first time in 22 years.

Brooks didn't lack for volunteers.

The Wildcats signed 28 players on National Signing Day on Wednesday, splitting the class evenly between offensive and defensive players.

"I think this class is as talented as last year's class, if not more talented," Brooks said. "There are guys in this class that are clearly an upgrade for us."

The Cardinals signed 15 players Wednesday, including former University of Miami linebacker Willie Williams and quarterback Matt Simms, son of former NFL quarterback Phil Simms.

While not a large class in terms of numbers, Kragthorpe said the Cardinals got the players they wanted. Not bad for a coach who's been on the job less than a month.

"It was tough, I spent a lot of times in planes and rental cars (and places) I didn't know existed," Kragthorpe said. "It's been fast. It's been furious, but I do my best work under the crunch."

Many of the signees may have to wait to make an impact on a team that returns plenty of starters from a squad that went 12-1 and finished sixth in the final Associated Press poll. Williams, who will be a junior next fall, is expected to play right away.

Kragthorpe said the off-the-field troubles that followed Williams to Miami three years ago — he was arrested 11 times during his high school career — are gone. Kragthorpe and Louisville Athletics

Director Tom Jurich spoke extensively with Williams and his family during the recruiting process, and both believe Williams has put his legal troubles behind him.

"He's had some challenges in his life, but he's distanced himself from those things," Kragthorpe said. "It's been three years since he's had any issues come up."

Kragthorpe also hopes he continued a tradition started by former Louisville coaches Bobby Petrino and John L. Smith: keeping the city of Louisville's best players close to home.

Running back Doug Beaumont, who won the state's Mr. Football Award last fall after rushing for 1,169 and 24 touchdowns as a senior at Louisville Male, will play wide receiver for the Cardinals, while St. Xavier star Victor Anderson will play running back and return kicks.

The Wildcats focused on bolstering a defense that was the team's Achilles' heel last season. Kentucky signed four defensive backs and four linebackers, including La Grange (Ga.) High teammates Mychal Bailey and Randall Burden. The two are among eight players from Georgia the Wildcats brought in, one more than the number of players they signed from Kentucky.

Brooks credited the Georgia pipeline to current Wildcats like linebacker Wesley Woodyard, who is also from La Grange.

"It just makes it a lot easier when you have someone who is having success in your program and can turn right around and tell them, 'Yeah, that's what it is, it is what they are telling you it is,'" Brooks said. "They bring a pretty good work ethic, and they are not shy from contact."

Brooks hopes this class has the kind of speed that will allow the Wildcats to keep up with the likes of Florida and Georgia in the Southeastern Conference.

"I think there are guys in this class — not only from the linemen but from the skill, DB-type guys — that when

they get off the bus they look more like the type of player you see in the SEC," Brooks said. "There is speed in this class, quite a bit of speed."

Things at Louisville have been moving so fast for Kragthorpe since he took the job on Jan. 9, he admits he's dizzy. But the Cardinals kept nearly all the recruits who committed when Petrino was still the coach, including Simms, who originally wavered after Kragthorpe took the job.

"I don't know if I actually changed his mind, but I think I reassured him that this situation was going to be very positive for him," Kragthorpe said. "He was kind of back and forth for quite a bit of time there but ... (assistant head coach) Jeff Brohm did a great job during the recruiting process with Matt and with the family."

Kragthorpe will wait until training camp begins to determine whether Simms will redshirt. But with quarterback Brian Brohm returning next fall, there's no rush to get Simms on the field. In fact, Kragthorpe said his biggest recruit was the one he got a week into the job, when Brohm chose to return for his senior year rather than enter the NFL Draft.

"Brian will be included in this class," Kragthorpe said with a laugh.



Steve Kragthorpe

UK women top Ole Miss

TIMES STAFF REPORT

OXFORD, Miss. — The Kentucky women's basketball team used a big second half Thursday to overcome a 16-point first-half deficit and notch a 69-61 win against Ole Miss in C.M. "Tad" Smith Coliseum. Senior guard Jenny Pfeiffer (North Vernon, Ind.) scored a team-high 16 points, including 8-of-8 free throws, to lead four Wildcats in double figures as the Cats posted their second consecutive win.

Kentucky (16-9, 5-5 Southeastern Conference) out-rebounded the Rebels by 20 (47-27) — its largest

rebounding edge in a conference game this season — and had two players tally double-figure rebound performances for the first time since Nov. 18, 2006. The Wildcats, who dropped a 67-65 overtime decision to Ole Miss (18-7, 7-3) in Lexington earlier this season, have now won five of the last seven meetings between the two teams and two consecutive in Oxford.

Senior forward/center Jennifer Humphrey (Memphis, Tenn.) led the UK rebounding effort for the 15th time this season with a game-high 16 boards, while junior center Sarah Elliott (McKee) charted her fourth double-double this season with 14 points and 11 rebounds. Elliott also tallied a double-double against the Rebels earlier this season. The Cats held Ole Miss, the league's leader in offensive rebounds at 20.0 per game, to just 12 offensive rebounds and

seven second-chance points.

Junior guard Samantha Mahoney (Detroit) scored 13 points, all in the second half, brought down a season-high eight rebounds and dished out five assists. Sophomore point guard Carly Ormerod (Louisville, Ky.) scored in double figures for the fifth time in the last six games with 11 points to complement six assists.

Kentucky, which trailed by 16 points at 24-8 with 6:51 remaining in the first half, began employing a stifling 3-2 zone that allowed the Wildcats to close the period on a 15-3 run to enter the locker room down just four, 27-23.

Kentucky stormed out of the locker room after intermission and quickly knotted the score at 30-30 on a lay-up by Ormerod at the 17:11 mark of the second half. After another tie at 32-all, Ole Miss went back in front 36-33

after a pair of free-throws by Danetra Forrest with 14:17 remaining. From there, the Wildcats used a 9-0 run and held Ole Miss scoreless for more than three minutes to take a 42-36 advantage after back-to-back baskets by Elliott and Mahoney. A pair of free-throws by Pfeiffer pushed the Wildcats ahead by seven, 46-39, with 6:54 left, but Ole Miss would not go away.

A basket by Shawn Goff and a three-point play from Alliesha Easley allowed the Rebels to get back into the game at 46-44 with 6:09 remaining. With UK leading 50-48, the Wildcats went on a 9-0 run that was capped off by a three-pointer from Pfeiffer to take an 11-point lead at 59-48 with 1:47 left in the game. Ole Miss began fouling, but the Cats were clutch. Kentucky made 10-of-11 charity shots in the game's final 1:08 to seal the vic-

tory.

The Wildcats shot an impressive 63.6 percent (14-of-22) from the floor in the second half to finish with a 47.9 percent (23-of-48) mark from the field for the game. Ole Miss shot just 33.3 percent (11-of-33) in the final period and connected on 36.5 percent (23-of-63) of its shots for the game.

Ashley Awkward scored a game-high 22 points to lead Ole Miss. Senior Armintie Price, who is second in the SEC in scoring at 18.9 ppg, was limited to 13 points to complement 10 rebounds.

Kentucky will return to action Sunday when it travels to Knoxville, Tenn., to face the No. 3 Tennessee Lady Vols. Tip-off is slated for 5:25 p.m. EST in Thompson-Boling Arena. The game will be carried live on ESPN2 and the Big Blue Sports Network (radio) with Neil Price.

Redhawks too much for MSU women

TIMES STAFF REPORT

CAPE GIRARDEAU, Mo. — Junior Tarah Combs scored a career-high 25 points, hitting on a career high seven three-pointers, and senior center LaKrisha Brown posted her second 20-point game of the season, but the host Southeast Missouri Redhawks outscored the visiting Morehead State women's basketball team, 30-5, at the free throw line, as SEMO outlasted MSU 84-70 Thursday at the Show Me Center. Despite the setback, MSU remains in a tie with SEMO and Murray State for first place in the OVC at 11-4.

Combs was 4-of-6 from beyond the arc in the first half, leading to a team-best 14 points. She nailed three more three-balls in the final 20 minutes as she now has 128 career treys in less than three seasons. That figure moved Combs past former Eagle Kelly Downs and into sixth place in career treys at MSU. She now needs just eight more to eclipse former Eagle and last season's teammate

Megan Gearhart. Combs also connected on a pair two-pointers, giving her a career-high nine field goals made.

Brown had by far her most productive OVC game so far with 20 points as she hit 9-of-14 from the field in 35 minutes. She also collected a team best six rebounds. As a team the Eagles tied a season high with 11 three-pointers, but were able to hit just 5-of-12 on free throws. Meanwhile, Southeast Missouri, which improved to 16-7 overall, hit 30-of-38 at the charity stripe on its own floor.

For the Redhawks, Missy Whitney had a game high 28 points and had 10 of the Redhawks' 39 rebounds. Whitney shot as many free throws (12) by herself as MSU did for the game. Lachelle Lyles also had a double-double of 12 points and 12 rebounds. MSU was able to hold her five below her nationally-leading 17-rebound-per-game average. Ashley Lovelady and Tarina Nixon also added 14 each as well as SEMO improved to 12-1 in its own facility.

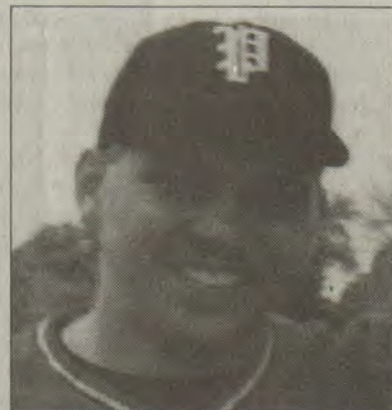
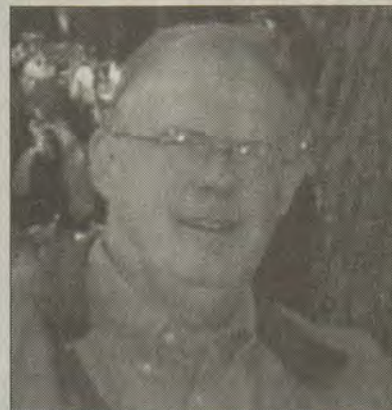
For the game, Morehead State out-shot the hosts as it hit 48 percent (27-of-56) from the field. SEMO shot 44 percent from the floor.

MSU trailed throughout the first half but took its first lead with 1:02 left before the break after a Strayer

trex. Lovelady though hit jumper on her end of the floor and SEMO held a 35-34 halftime advantage. The Redhawks pushed their lead to 43-38 with 16:42 left, but the Eagles put together an 8-0 run and moved ahead 46-43 with 15:02 left. Combs' seventh three-pointer put her team on top 56-55 with 11:10 left, but the hosts strung together a 12-0 run to seal the game. At the 7:54 mark, SEMO held a 67-56 lead it never relinquished. Morehead State was only able to climb to within as low as eight the rest of the way.



PC HALL OF FAME



HONORED: David Collier (top left), Craig Delong (top, right), Johnnie LeMaster (bottom, right) and Claire Fuller West (bottom, left) were inducted into the Pikeville College Athletics Hall of Fame on Saturday during a ceremony held in the Booth Auditorium.

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Job Listings

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JOB OPENING
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JOB OPENING
 Foster Care Recruiter. Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children has an immediate opening for the right candidate who will recruit and train Foster care Families, as well as coordinate the Foster Care marketing program in the Big Sandy and Kentucky River area. Masters degree in the communications or marketing field preferred, but will consider a Bachelors degree. Four years or related experience is required. Fax resume to 502-538-1141, or email to jobs@kbhc.org or mail resume indicating position applying for and salary requirements to Kentucky Baptist Homes for children. PO Box 1429 Mt. Washington, Ky 40027. EOE Females ad minorities encourages to apply.

JOB OPENING
 Mountain Manor of Painstville is taking applications for a LPN (7a-7p) position. Excellent wages and benefits. Apply in person at 1025 Euclid Avenue. Painstville, Ky from Monday thru Friday between 8:00am to 4:30pm.

JOB OPENING
 The Housing Authority of Prestonsburg has an opening for an Assistant Property Manager/Intake Worker. The Assistant Property Manager/Intake Worker must have a high school diploma or equivalent plus at least three years office experience including basic computer skills. General requirements include the ability to communicate orally and in writing, organizational skills, the ability to work with confidential information and to work well with the public. Applicants must have a valid KY Drivers License. This is a full time position with health insurance, retirement and other benefits. Applications will be taken at the Green Acres Office in Prestonsburg from 10:30 am to 3:30 pm each day through February

23, 2007.
JOB OPENING
 Employee needed for Dental Office. Could be full time part time. Computer experience would be helpful but not necessary. Send resume to 415 N. Lake Drive Ste. 201 Prestonsburg, Ky. 41653.

JOB OPENING
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